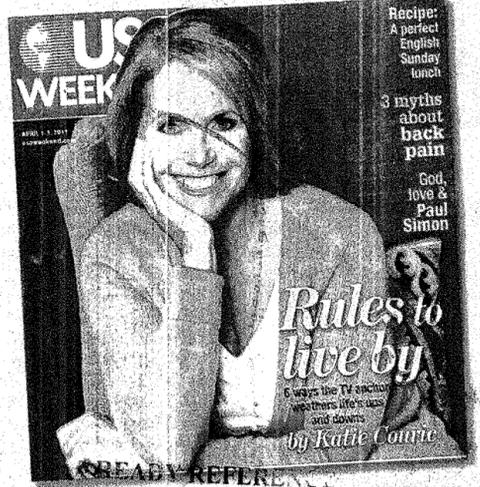


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INSIDE



**SUNDAY**  
April 3, 2011

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Volume 46  
Number 90

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## IN BRIEF

### Compost collection

Westland's compost season with curbside collection begins Monday.

Compost is grass clippings, leaves, yard and garden waste (excluding pumpkins), pruning debris and brush. It can be placed in up to five clearly marked garbage cans or up to 10 compost bags. The total contents of any can or bag cannot exceed 60 pounds. Material from tree removal will not be accepted, as well as food scraps, animal waste, chemicals or sod.

Compost will be picked up the same day as regular trash. Compost must be in cans with a yard waste sticker attached or Kraft-type brown bags. Plastic bags will not be accepted. It must be separated from regular household garbage by 10 feet. Mixed compost and garbage will not be picked up. A separate truck will be picking up compost.

Brush or limbs must not be longer than four feet nor larger than three inches in diameter and must be tied in small bundles with strong cord - no tape. A maximum of eight bundles per week are allowed. No stumps or roots will be accepted.

Cardboard boxes containing compost will not be picked up. Sod, dirt, wood chips or landscaping material, such as wood chips, mulch, gravel, stone, cement and vines of any sort, also will not be collected. Bundles of hay or straw must be broken down and put into cans or paper bags.

Residents will have the responsibility of disposal of unacceptable materials. For more information, call the Department of Public Service at (734) 728-1770.

### Car seat check

The Westland Police Department, in partnership with the Westland Fire Department, is holding a Car Seat Inspection Event from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 9, at the Westland Fire Station 1, 36435 Ford.

The event is registered and certified by Safe Kids Metro Detroit and Children's Hospital of Michigan. Certified Child Passenger Safety technicians will be provided by these institutions. Several replacement seats from the Grosse Ile Police Department and Children's Hospital will be provided to families in need.

### Mum's the word

The winner is anonymous, but where he or she bought that winning lottery ticket isn't.

According to the Michigan Lottery, the Meijer store at Warren Road in Newburgh in Westland sold an easy-pick ticket that was one of the winning tickets in the March 26 Classic Lotto 47 game.

The lucky winner traveled to Lansing last Monday to claim his or her share of the jackpot - more than \$2.5 million.



Kory Kalnasy plays Sonny (from left), Jake Ferguson is Doody, Brett Bratcher Danny, Steve Goldberg is Putize and Cody Buege is Kineckie in the John Glenn High School production of the musical "Grease" this weekend.

## 'Grease' is the word for Glenn thespians

BY SUE MASON  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Sarah Mellas remembers when and where she was when she heard *Grease* mentioned. She was backstage at John Glenn High School. The group was in the midst of performing *High School Musical* when a teacher mentioned the musical and said she'd be a good Sandy Dumbrowski.

Three years later, Mellas is wearing her hair in a ponytail and learning the lines for that specific role in John Glenn High School's production of the smash Broadway hit.

"This really was the role I wanted," said Mellas. "It was always in the back of my mind, and when I watched a little bit of *Grease* on TV last week, it was, 'wow, this is really happening.'"

Mellas is playing the female lead opposite junior Brett Bratcher who plays Danny Zuko and who is appearing in his first theatrical production at Glenn. In addition to acting, she also is one of three assistant directors, sharing the honor with senior Cody Buege and Kelsie Yax. Her second time helping direct a production, she readily admits that after doing the job for

### IN THE FOOTLIGHTS

**What:** "Grease"  
**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 7-9  
**Location:** John Glenn High School, 36105 Marquette, Westland  
**Details:** Rydell High School's T-Birds, the gum chewing, hubcap stealing, hot rod loving guys and their wise cracking girls, the Pink Ladies in their bobby sox and pedal pushers, capture the looks and sounds of the 1950s in this year's

fall play, she "likes putting her ideas out there." In fact that's what she and Shannon Salisbury did when it came time to pick the musical.

"We didn't look at the list, Shannon (Salisbury) and I started spreading the word about," she said. "We figured it would bring more kids into the drama program."

"The kids wanted to do this play," said drama teacher and director Sheri Grove. "They really wanted to do it, and do it well. We did it in 2000 and it was sold out, they're all motivated into exceeding those expectations."

musical presentation.  
**Directors:** Sheri Grove and Belinda Walakonis-Semak  
**Assistant Directors:** Seniors Cody Buege, Sarah Mellas and Kelsie Yax  
**Technical Director:** Daniel Fowler  
**Stage Managers:** Sherry Green, Cory Kelly and Alex O'Jibway  
**Tickets:** \$12 for adults and \$10 for students and children and are available in advance in the school office or at the door.

According to Grove, there are many likenesses and many differences between the popular John Travolta-Olivia Newton John movie and the stage play. All of the favorite songs are still there, including the popular *Hand Jive*.

"They had a lot of fun learning the classic dance moves and singing to old time rock'n'roll," she added. "Casting was a huge surprise for all involved, but they've all accepted the challenge."

"I've known this group, I've seen them come through

Please see **GREASE, A4**

## Man charged in killing Westland teen found competent to stand trial

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A man charged with murdering a Westland teenager has been found competent to stand trial.

At a hearing Friday morning, Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Ulysses Boykin accepted a psychologist's report that Justin Lee Yoshikawa, 19, is criminally responsible and competent to stand trial.

Yoshikawa is charged with first-degree murder in the death of Carlee Morse, 16.

Boykin scheduled a final pre-trial conference for May 20, with Yoshikawa scheduled for a jury trial Wednesday, July 13. The attorneys esti-



Yoshikawa

mated the trial - with an expected 18 prosecution witnesses and six witnesses for the defense - would last six days.

Co-defendant Nicholas Cottrell, 22, earlier entered a guilty plea to second-degree murder and is serving 25-50 years in prison. Cottrell is currently housed at the Carson City Correctional Facility, with his earliest possible release date in 2035.

Part of Cottrell's plea agreement was that he testify against Yoshikawa, a former Wayne Memorial High School

student. In his testimony in 18th District Court, Cottrell described Yoshikawa as planning and carrying out a plan to strangle Morse, his former girlfriend.

Morse was reported missing after she disappeared shortly after midnight Aug. 20. The teen's family and friends searched for her, but the police investigation and statements from the defendants were that Morse was killed shortly after leaving her apartment to take a ride with Cottrell.

Both men told police similar stories about Cottrell inviting Morse to take a ride and smoke marijuana while Yoshikawa

Please see **HEARING, A2**

## Mayor's budget balanced without layoffs, tax hike

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Despite a projected 3-percent revenue decrease, Westland Mayor William Wild has presented his proposed budget without layoffs or any increases in city millage rates.

Wild presented the budget document and an overview to council Thursday - one day before the April 1 deadline set by the city charter.

The \$54.5 million general fund budget does have 17 fewer full-time city employees due to attrition and reorganizations that will allow employees to move into existing vacant positions. The proposed budget projects \$1.6 million less revenue - \$1.4 million from the elimina-

tion of statutory state shared revenue, a 9-percent reduction in property values and \$800,000 less revenue from 18th District Court.

A nearly \$1.3 million fund balance is projected for the end of the 2011-12 fiscal year. Last year, Wild had presented a two-year balanced budget - council adopted still adopted a one-year budget - and had planned to do the same this year.

"At this time there are too many uncertainties at the state level to include the second-year budget," Wild said.

A major change proposed by Wild is continuing the reorganization of the Building Department, including closing of the Economic Growth

Please see **BUDGET, A4**

## W-W host forum on state budget with lawmakers

BY SUE MASON  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Lawmakers whose respective districts include the Wayne-Westland Community Schools will have an opportunity to talk about the crisis in education funding at a legislative forum planned for Thursday, April 7.

The forum, sponsored by the Wayne-Westland school board and the all of the district's bargaining units, will be held at 7 p.m. at the Dyer Senior Center at the district's administrative offices, 36745 Marquette, west of Wayne Road, in Westland.

Participating in the forum will be state Sens. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, and Hoon-Yung Hopgood, D-Taylor, and state Reps. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, Bob Constan, D-Dearborn Heights, and Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth, who will "be able to talk to parents and stakeholders in the district about Michigan govern-

ment and the proposed cuts," Wayne-Westland School Supt. Greg Baracy said.

"We want to let them express their views and possibly where they believe cuts, reforms and revenue can be, because those three things will be necessary to bail Michigan out of this crisis," Baracy said. "We hope this will enlighten parents, give them an understanding of the problem and a first-hand snapshot of what they're really thinking and how this can be solved."

The forum will be structured with presentations by the lawmakers and questions from the audience that are submitted in writing. Jenny Johnson, the district's media liaison, will serve as the moderator.

Wayne-Westland is facing a loss of \$14 million, if Gov. Rick Snyder's proposed school budget is approved as presented. In addition to the \$470 cut in per pupil school aid, the

Please see **FORUM, A2**

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## INDEX

APARTMENTS ... C3  
AUTOMOTIVE ... C4  
CAREER BUILDER ... C1  
COMMUNITY LIFE ... B5  
CROSSWORD PUZZLE ... C2  
OBITUARIES ... B9  
HEALTH ... B10  
REAL ESTATE ... C2  
SPORTS ... B1

# Council says no to charges for local channel on U-Verse

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When it comes to cable television providers, Westland residents have three choices - Comcast, WOW! or AT&T's U-verse.

All three companies collect franchise fees as part of their bills - money paid to Westland. However, U-verse customers are missing something available to other cable customers - a local government channel that includes telecasts of city council meetings.

"You're not supposed to charge a franchise tax for services we're not getting. We've been taxed for it," said resident Judy McKinney. "I've contacted the Public Service Commission and the Attorney General. Both

said I had a good case for a class action lawsuit but no attorney wants to take it."

The city does collect the franchise fee but due to technology that is different from the other cable companies, a machine is needed to convert a council meeting DVD for transmission over a T-1 or DSL broadband line. That means Westland would have to buy the necessary equipment and pay a monthly charge for the broadband line.

Council has voted unanimously not to pay those charges leaving U-verse customers in the dark when it comes to city council meetings.

"They (AT&T) want \$7,500 up-front. We're not paying it to Comcast and WOW!. We're looking for every dime in our budget. It's money we won't

have to spend," said Council President James Godbout. "WOW! and Comcast provide the service at no cost."

WOW! provides a schools channel in addition to the municipal channel WLND along with a community bulletin board and public access channel, Godbout said, none of which will be provided by U-verse.

"I'd be more than willing to give U-verse the city channel - council voted it down 7-0. We're not paying WOW! or Comcast, why do we need to pay AT&T?" he said. "It's not good business sense. Then we'd open the door to have the others (cable providers) ask to be paid."

**VALID POINT**  
When it comes to complaints

from residents like McKinney about being charged for a franchise fee but not receiving the municipal channel, Mayor William Wild said the residents have a valid point.

"Mrs. McKinney is absolutely right. She pays the franchise fee each month but does not get the service," said Wild.

The only cost, Wild said, is \$5,000 for a machine to convert the DVD of the meeting used by WOW! into the format needed to send to U-verse through a DSL line. The cost for that DSL line is \$500 per month, he said, with U-verse providing a \$5,000 credit for the monthly charge.

Comcast wouldn't add that charge, Wild said, since they wouldn't want to send the program over a DSL line.

U-verse also has had an incredible increase in the number of subscribers from the time the franchise was first awarded, he said, now representing perhaps as much as one-third of Westland's cable customers.

**A LOT OF CALLS**  
"We take a lot of phone calls and e-mails on this. It's been 1-1/2 to two years since we looked at it," said Wild. "Jim (Godbout) feels that this gives an unfair advantage to U-verse. I understand the council's reluctance to do it before but based on the sheer number of residents who have made the switch, I'd be in favor of it. We have the money in the cable fund."

No Westland municipal channel can be a make or break point for residents consider-

ing U-verse television services, said Donna Jackson, who signs up customers at her My Link AT&T authorized retail store on Wayne Road near Cherry Hill.

"It's a huge issue. It's ticked me off for years. I actually have people who won't sign up for U-verse without the municipal channel," said Jackson, who serves on Westland's Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals. "Why are you taking a fee, if you're not going to provide the service. A lot of people want to have U-verse and to have the city channel."

Unless council decides to revisit the issue, the lack of a municipal channel on U-verse will continue.

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## FORUM

FROM PAGE A1

governor has proposed eliminating the \$6 million the district receives in lieu of millage disallowed under Proposal A. Adding to the pain is a jump in the retirement rate to almost 25 percent of payroll.

The large number of lawmakers at the meeting is reflective of the size of the Wayne-Westland Community Schools. The district takes

in portions of Westland, Dearborn Heights, Romulus, Inkster and Canton, as well as all of the city of Wayne.

There also will be information provided on the governor's budget, as well as one a Senate version. There also will be an updated version of the Legislative Tool Kit that explains the budget crisis and ways parents can let lawmakers know how devastating the cuts would be to the school district.

"We want this forum to be civil and informative. It'll



LeBlanc Anderson Colbeck Heise

focus on education," Baracy said. "We have to work together to address these draconian cuts."

For more information about the forum, call the district's administrative offices at (734) 419-2010.

A similar forum, involving Anderson, LeBlanc and Reps. John Walsh, R-Livonia, and

and the current legislative action on school funding in Lansing. Attendees will then have an opportunity to submit questions to the legislators. Written feedback forms will be provided for attendees to share their opinions and suggestions with the lawmakers.

"This is a great opportunity to recognize our Livonia Public Schools legislators for their past efforts in supporting education and to listen to their analysis of the current budget proposals in Lansing," said Donna McDowell, communications administrator.

The Legislative Hour is being held in conjunc-

tion with the LPS District Communications Team.

Stevenson High School is on Six Mile Road just west of Farmington Road. Attendees can enter via the main doors. The program will be held in the cafeteria, which is next to the lobby.

For more information, contact the Livonia Public Schools Communications office at (734) 744-2522, dmcowell@livoniapublicschools.org or visit www.livoniapublicschools.org.

Staff Writer Karen Smith contributed to this story.

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**HEARING**  
FROM PAGE A1

hid in the back seat. Yoshikawa and Cottrell told police that they smoked marijuana, then drove around aimlessly before placing Morse's body in a Dumpster outside a church. Her body has not been located. Cottrell's mother Tina

Lowe, 49, is also scheduled for trial July 13 on charges of being an accessory after the fact and interfering in a police investigation in the murder. Lowe is charged with telling a witness not to come forward with information about the murder.

A witness eventually did provide police with information about Morse's murder that resulted in Yoshikawa and

Cottrell being arrested. Family and friends of Morse were in the courtroom, as were members of Yoshikawa's family. Both the victim and the accused are represented on Facebook with pages such as Do Not Free Justin Yoshikawa and Nicholas Cottrell and the Justin Yoshikawa Support Page.

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# Reservist nominates manager for Patriot Award

If you asked John Cargill, manager of the emergency department at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital in Wayne, he'd say one of his paramedics is the true patriot.

Yet it was Cargill who received a Patriot Award from the Department of Defense, Employer Support of Guard and Reserves last week. Cargill was nominated for the award by Jeremy Johnston, a paramedic at OAH for more than five years.

Johnston is also a staff sergeant with the 948th Forward Surgical Team, an Army Reserve unit based in Southfield. In his current role, as non-commissioned officer in charge of the unit, he is frequently called away from his home - and job - with very little warning.

"I know it puts a strain on our facility, but (Cargill) has been very supportive," said Johnston, 30, a Wayne resident. "There's never been any problems."

The awards are handed out to employers who go above and beyond to ensure that employees who serve in the National Guards or through other branch of armed services don't



Deborah Schneider, chair of the southeastern region of the Michigan Committee for Employer Support, National Guard and Reserve, along with Eric Widner, western division president of Oakwood Healthcare Inc., presented a Patriot Award to John Cargill, manager of the emergency department at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital (center). Staff Sgt. Jeremy Johnston (left) nominated Cargill. Johnston, a Wayne resident, is a paramedic technician at Annapolis.

have to worry about the status of their employment while they are deployed overseas or away

on training. "It's very, very important to be able to come and go and

not have the stress back home, worrying about the kind of support you will receive at work,"

said Deborah Schneider, chair of the southeastern region of the Michigan Committee for Employer Support. "It's important to have an employer who will be there for them and not question everything they do."

Cargill was not in his current position the first time Johnston was deployed. That was in December 2007. Combined with the training he needed prior to being sent to Iraq, he was away from his home and job for nearly 14 months. While Johnston was deployed at a place with no running water and he said he was dodging bullets on 125-degree days, Cargill took the position of manager of the emergency department.

"I didn't know what to expect," said Johnston. "But there was no problem. I was welcomed back; it was a great feeling."

Cargill said he was humbled to receive the award, but added that he thought he was just doing his job and showing support for the armed services. "It's people like Johnston, he said, who travel to dangerous lands leaving friends and family behind, that do the hard work. When Johnston is deployed to

Afghanistan in the fall, he'll leave behind a wife and daughter who just turned 10 months old.

"Choice of military service is a voluntary commitment to do a job that is often unrecognized, thankless; yet it is one of the most dangerous jobs in the world, and one in which they may be seriously injured or even killed while protecting the freedoms and lives of citizens here at home," said Cargill. "Regardless of our views on politics or government, our support for our troops should be steadfast and certain."

Eric Widner, president of the western region of Oakwood Healthcare Inc. and the top administrator at Annapolis Hospital, said he wasn't surprised that Cargill was so humble about the award. Widner was also recognized for Oakwood Annapolis Hospital's commitment in support of the National Guard and Reserve by fully recognizing, honoring and enforcing the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act.

"He's pretty modest," said Widner of Cargill. "He wanted to get out of it, but I wouldn't let him. I think it's a big deal."

# Accident sidelines one of city's two street sweepers

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

One of Westland's two street sweepers is out of commission after being rear-ended by another vehicle Thursday.

The 2005 street sweeper was southbound on Newburgh at the viaduct between Cherry Hill and Palmer about 11:20 a.m. when it was hit by a Lincoln MKZ driven by a Wayne man. "The driver told the police he looked down for a minute and looked back up and there was

the street sweeper," Westland Department of Public Services Director Kevin Buford said. "Thank God no one was seriously injured. He hit the street sweeper full blast — that Lincoln is a tough vehicle."

The Wayne man was ticketed for failing for stop in safe distance. DPS Senior Equipment Operator Thomas Sharp was taken to the hospital to be checked out after the accident. "He was banged up pretty good with pain in his back and arm. He was seat belted, the

rear arrow board and in service light was on. It was just an accident," Buford said.

The whole rear enclosure of the street sweeper was pushed in, Buford said. The \$150,000

vehicle, which has a Freightliner chassis, was hauled to Lake Orion, where the street sweeping equipment was installed.

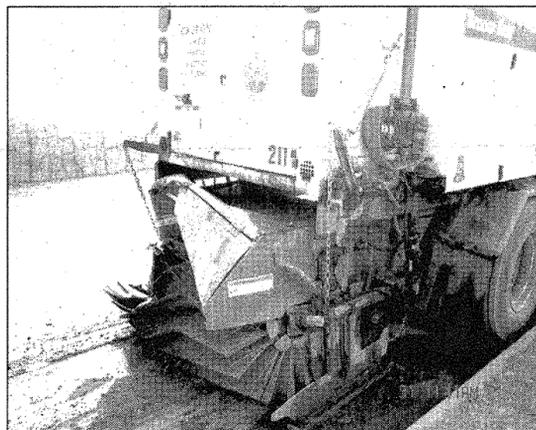
"I don't know yet, but I think it can be fixed. There is proba-

bly \$40,000-\$50,000 damage," Buford said. "We only have two street sweepers, so this will put us behind. We just started back after the winter."

Street sweeping to keep

debris and other material out of storm sewers is required as part Westland's storm water permit, he said.

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Damage to the rear end of Westland street sweeper is pegged at \$40,000-\$50,000 after it was hit by a car on Newburgh Road Thursday.

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# W-W students improving on state tests

BY SUE MASON  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Wayne-Westland school officials are continuing to analyze the results of last fall's state standardized tests, which they say show the district closing in on the state average.

"We're continuing to analyze them before making a more formal comment, but early indications are that we are continuing to close the gap with the state," Supt. Greg Baracy said. "At first glance it looks like a drop in the scores, but with the closing and consolidation of schools, the results show we did quite

well. This reflects much better achievement."

Student math and reading rose statewide on the MEAP in all grades since K-8 Grade Level Content Expectations were implemented in 2004 and assessed in 2005. Wayne-Westland students were below state averages in most areas; however, Baracy said that students who were with the district the full academic year and three years previously did better on the tests than partial-year students.

"Those students were at state level; they performed very well," he said. "That's the data we

need to focus on, that's the data we need to use, to make good decisions on educating our students."

Wayne-Westland has a higher transient rate, students who move in and out of the district, than other districts, he said.

Students in grades 3-8 were tested in reading and math; science in grades 5 and 8; social studies in grades 6 and 9, and writing in grades 4 and 7. MEAP scores are divided into four performance levels: not proficient, partially proficient, proficient and advanced. Students who place in either the proficient or advanced levels are

considered to be "proficient or above" in that subject.

Overall percentage scores for Wayne-Westland students (with state averages in parentheses):

- Third-graders — 81 (86.8) in reading, 92.4 (95.3) in math.
- Fourth-graders — 74.4 (84.1) in reading, 84.5 (91.5) in math.
- Fifth-graders — 80.3 (85.1) in reading, 68.5 (79.9) in math, 63.9 (78.1) in science.
- Sixth-graders — 76.4 (84) in reading, 74.2 (84.5) in math, 65.7 (75.3) in social studies.
- Seventh-graders — 79.8 (79) in reading, 78.8 (84.6) in math.
- Eighth-graders — 69.4

(81.9) in reading, 66.7 (78) in math, 61.5 (78.1) in science.

• Ninth-graders — 56.5 (72.8) percent in social studies.

Proficiency measures a student at a basic level of knowledge in a given curriculum area. The state is in the process of adjusting the scoring for the MEAP tests to ensure students move beyond a basic skill level to becoming career and college ready. The changes will likely cause the proficiency rates to decline.

"We want to provide an authentic view of where students are academically," Supt. of Public Instruction Mike

Flanagan said. "We wanted to give schools the opportunity to fully implement the more rigorous content expectations, then properly adjust the achievement standards' cut scores' to reflect whether students are on-track to career- and college-readiness."

"Increasing the achievement levels of all students will level the playing field for education attainment and employability," he added. "This progress is due in large part to talented teachers who expect all students to achieve."

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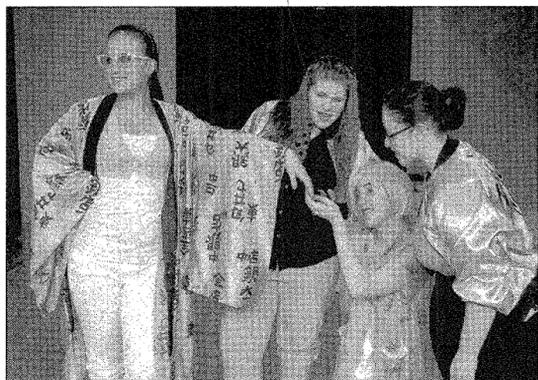
## GREASE

FROM PAGE A1

from ninth- to 12th-grade and they're more comfortable with what they're doing," added Walakonis-Semak. "It's nice to see the group come to fruition."

Kelsie Yax and Cody Buege are also helping with the assistant directing duties. This is Yax fourth year doing musicals and her second year as an assistant director. Buege is doing his fourth stint as a director.

"It's great for me to be in a leadership role for kids who have the same passion and to think what motivated me and show my skills, but I didn't realize how hard it would be," said Yax, who also appears as Marty in the musical.

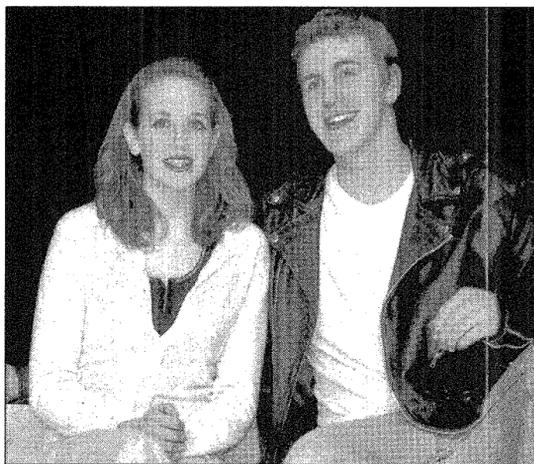


The Pink Ladies include Marty (Kelsie Yax), Rizo (Shannon Salisbury), Frenchy (Juliana Stewart) and Jan (Megan Ferguson).

"To put on a play with such a big name, Travolta and Newton John put some pressure on us," added Buege, who plays Kenickie. "I don't think we've ever done such a big

show, it's one of the biggest of all time. We're definitely feeling the pressure."

The students began rehearsing for the play in February and their usually eight weeks



Sarah Mellas is pulling double duty as an assistant director and Sandy, the romantic interest of Danny, played by Brett Bratcher.

was trimmed to five weeks. The biggest challenge,

according to Buege, has been the time constraint and keep-

ing on track.

"They're such a great cast," he said. "There's so much talent and everyone fits their character so well."

Mellas admits there's a lot of pressure, especially considering her singing was relegated to about 30 seconds in last spring's production of Wizard of Oz. For Grease, she has two solos and is in three other songs.

"It's been a confidence boost," she said.

"This is really a great group," said Walakonis-Semak. "They're thoughtful and hard working. The work together and they help each other. Sheri does a nice job of giving them control of the play. It gives them a sense of ownership. They're literally in it together."

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## BUDGET

FROM PAGE A1

building on Marquette.

The city had already contracted for some inspections and will seek a Request for Quotes for building services, including inspections done by the current contractor. The current inspectors would no

longer perform inspections and would have the ability to bump into other vacant funded positions.

Due to the slow economy and the continuing trend of falling revenues, Wild said that the need for full-time inspectors has continued to decrease.

The plan calls for Building Director Roger Shifflett to be reassigned as a supervisor in

the Community Development Department, a UAW bargaining unit position. He would continue to be the city's building official of record with the state and plan reviewer for the city. Planning Director Bruce Thompson would assume the day-to-day duties of the building director. These changes will reduce spending by \$373,572.

- The 18th District Court

budget would be reduced by \$165,255, with three full-time positions eliminated due to retirements.

• Assessing Director James Elrod will be allowed to buy generic time and retire. Assessing service would be obtained through a professional services contract for a \$121,841 reduction.

• The budget for sanitation has been reduced \$501,730 due to negotiation of a new contract with the trash hauler and largely from elimination of a second phase in the city's curbside recycling program. The second phase was to expand the residential recycling program to multiple-family developments, such as

condominiums.

There was little discussion as council members received the large budget document at the study session Thursday. Council is expected to hold a couple of study sessions, the first likely Saturday, April 16, to discuss the budget.

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## 2011 Partners in Family Caregiving Conferences



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Redford, 48239

**Tuesday, May 3, 2011**  
5:30 pm – 9:00 pm  
Summit on the Park  
46000 Summit Pkwy  
Canton, 48188

**Saturday, May 7, 2011**  
12:00 pm – 3:30 pm  
Booker Dozier Recreation Center  
2025 Middlebelt Rd.  
Inkster, 48141

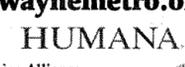
**Wednesday, May 18, 2011**  
5:30 pm – 9:00 pm  
Flat Rock Community Center  
1 Maguire St.  
Flat Rock, 48134

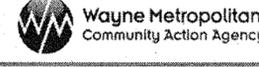
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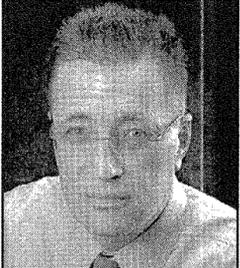
## SOCIAL SECURITY

Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security Disability benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits.

The tragedy is that less than half of those persons who are denied benefits file an appeal. Thus, many thousands of people who deserve benefits never receive them.

Those denied can appeal on their own, but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet.

Attorney J.B. Bieske has represented only Social Security Disability clients for over 20 years. That is the only type of law he practices. And, he personally meets with all clients and appears himself at all court hearings. Many large firms assign clients to young associate attorneys with much less experience.



eligible for these benefits. He offers free phone or office consultations. If Bieske represents you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

In a recent radio interview attorney Bieske explained that many people are not even aware that they are eligible for Social Security Disability benefits. These are not the same as Workers' Compensation benefits. It is possible to receive both benefits at the same time. If you have an illness or injury (whether or not related to your work), are under 65 and unable to work full-time you may be eligible. Social Security Disability benefits are based on your work record or your deceased spouse's work record (Widow's/Widower's benefits).

Bieske represents clients from all over the state of Michigan. Call him at 1-800-331-3530 for a FREE consultation if you have been denied. Or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits call him for FREE advice.

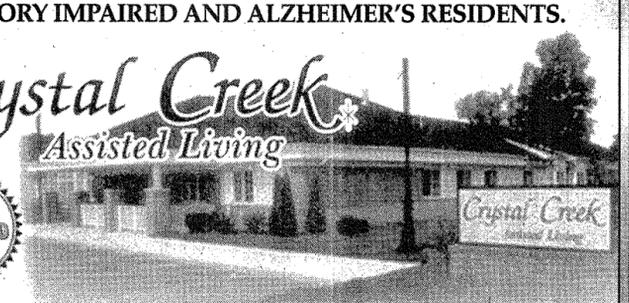
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# Businessman recounts 'surreal' Tokyo earthquake scene

BY MATT JACHMAN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Nich Imamura is home in Plymouth Township with wife Jennifer after going through the "surreal" experience of last month's earthquake off the eastern coast of Japan.

Imamura is an executive for Jabil Circuit Inc., a worldwide electronics manufacturer, and was in his 16th-floor office in a Tokyo skyscraper when the struck about 2:45 p.m. local time March 11.

The T hoku earthquake, named for the region of the country closest to its underwater epicenter, was a magnitude 9.0, the largest ever recorded in Japan. Nearly 12,000 people have been confirmed killed by the quake and resulting tsunami, and thousands are still missing.

Imamura and Japan are accustomed to earthquakes.

"It happens frequently, but it's usually very minor," Imamura, who goes by the name Fred, said Thursday. "This one continued to build up."

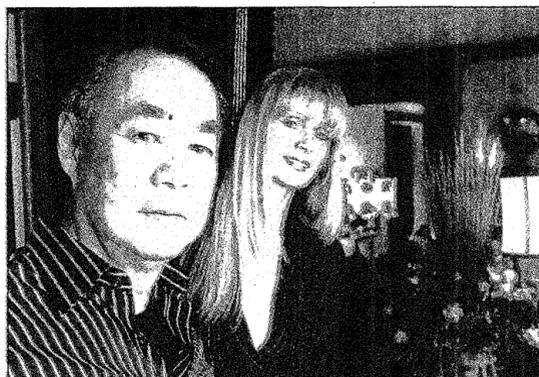
The building started shaking and things started falling off the walls. Imamura and his colleagues looked outside to see a nearby 30-story skyscraper swaying with the quake — something many Japanese buildings are designed to do.

### 'SHAKING LIKE CRAZY'

"We could actually see it moving back and forth," Imamura said. "It was pretty amazing to see those buildings sway like that."

At about the 25th floor was a window-washer on a platform that "shook like crazy," Imamura said. The man lay flat on the platform and hung on for dear life, he said.

Things calmed down — the earthquake officially lasted six minutes, but hundreds of aftershocks were recorded — and Imamura and colleagues evacu-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Fred Imamura is back in town after experiencing the Japan earthquake in downtown Tokyo. Jennifer Imamura spent some anxious time trying to contact Fred in the aftermath of the disaster.

ated the building via the stairs, noticing cracks in the walls all the way to the ground floor.

Outside, thousands of people had gathered, many flocking to a nearby park to stay away from the tall buildings, Imamura said. Trains, the primary means of transportation in Tokyo, were not functioning and electricity was out for a while in parts of town.

But people were calm and patient — there was no panic, looting or extreme emotion, "a very Japanese" reaction, Imamura said.

"I think the whole thing was sort of surreal to a lot of people," Imamura said.

With no trains, and taxis scarce because of high demand, Imamura used his iPhone and Google maps to plot the way to his apartment. What is normally a half-hour train ride took him more than two hours to walk, in part because the streets were flooded with people. "It's like a traffic jam except with the people," Imamura said.

### COOPERATIVE SPIRIT

Others in Tokyo, who couldn't

catch a cab or a train and whose homes were too far away to walk, spent the night in the center city, sleeping where they could.

"For a great many of them, they were just stuck," Imamura said.

There was a spirit of cooperation, though, with hotels opening their doors to the stranded, serving water and snacks, letting them sleep in the lobbies, and making television news available if they had electricity.

There was minor visible damage at Imamura's fourth-floor apartment.

Later, Jennifer Imamura, back in Plymouth Township, called in a panic, having been awakened by a 6:30 a.m. call from a neighbor who wondered if her husband was OK. "What are you talking about?" was her reaction, she said.

Her first call to Fred didn't go through, she said, but he answered the second.

"If I hadn't been able to reach him I probably would've had a heart attack," said Jennifer, who owns The Velvet Plum, an interior design studio in Plymouth. The couple has two daughters,

Tatiana, who recently moved to New York City, and Sabrina, a student at the University of Michigan.

The quake occurred on a Friday; the next day, Fred Imamura went to a popular Tokyo entertainment district during the day, finding it nearly deserted, with many businesses closed. But there wasn't a lot of outwardly visible quake damage, Imamura said, and he didn't hear of any fatalities in Tokyo.

### 'TIME TO GO HOME'

He returned to work the following Monday, but by that Wednesday, a windy day, Imamura and co-workers heard creaking noises in their skyscraper that they didn't normally hear.

"We just cleared out and said, 'OK, time to go home,'" he said. Doing business had also been

made difficult, he said, because Tokyo was subject to rolling power blackouts and his office was losing communications capabilities.

Imamura flew out of Tokyo March 17; reports in Japan on the aftermath of the earthquake, the tsunami and the affected nuclear power plants had been confusing, he said, and the situation was starting to become clearer by the time he left the country. But, "When I left, there was still a lot of shock," he said.

For now, Imamura is working at home, using Skype, e-mail and the phone, and taking it week by week, uncertain if or when he'll return to Tokyo. His relatives in the Tokyo area are concerned about radiation contamination, he said, and his company is not allowing employees to travel to Japan.

"I guess I'm not sure how

normal it's going to be," he said. His biggest concern, he added, is the long-term affect of the radiation.

Despite early confusion, Imamura said, the Japanese are handling the disaster "remarkably well right now." But even a high level of preparedness for earthquakes, he said, didn't brace the country for the tsunami's devastation. "I'm not sure how you prepare for that," he said.

Imamura had been through a major earthquake before, in Los Angeles in the early 1970s, and also a tsunami, while attending college in Hawaii, also in the 1970s.

"I don't think disaster is following me, but I seem to have gone through some of them," he mused.

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- ▼ Cartier
- ▼ Breitling
- ▼ Movado
- ▼ Patek Philippe
- ▼ Vintage Wristwatches
- ▼ Pocket Watches

*Working or broken*



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- Baume & Mercier
- Bell & Ross
- Blancpain
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- Bulgari
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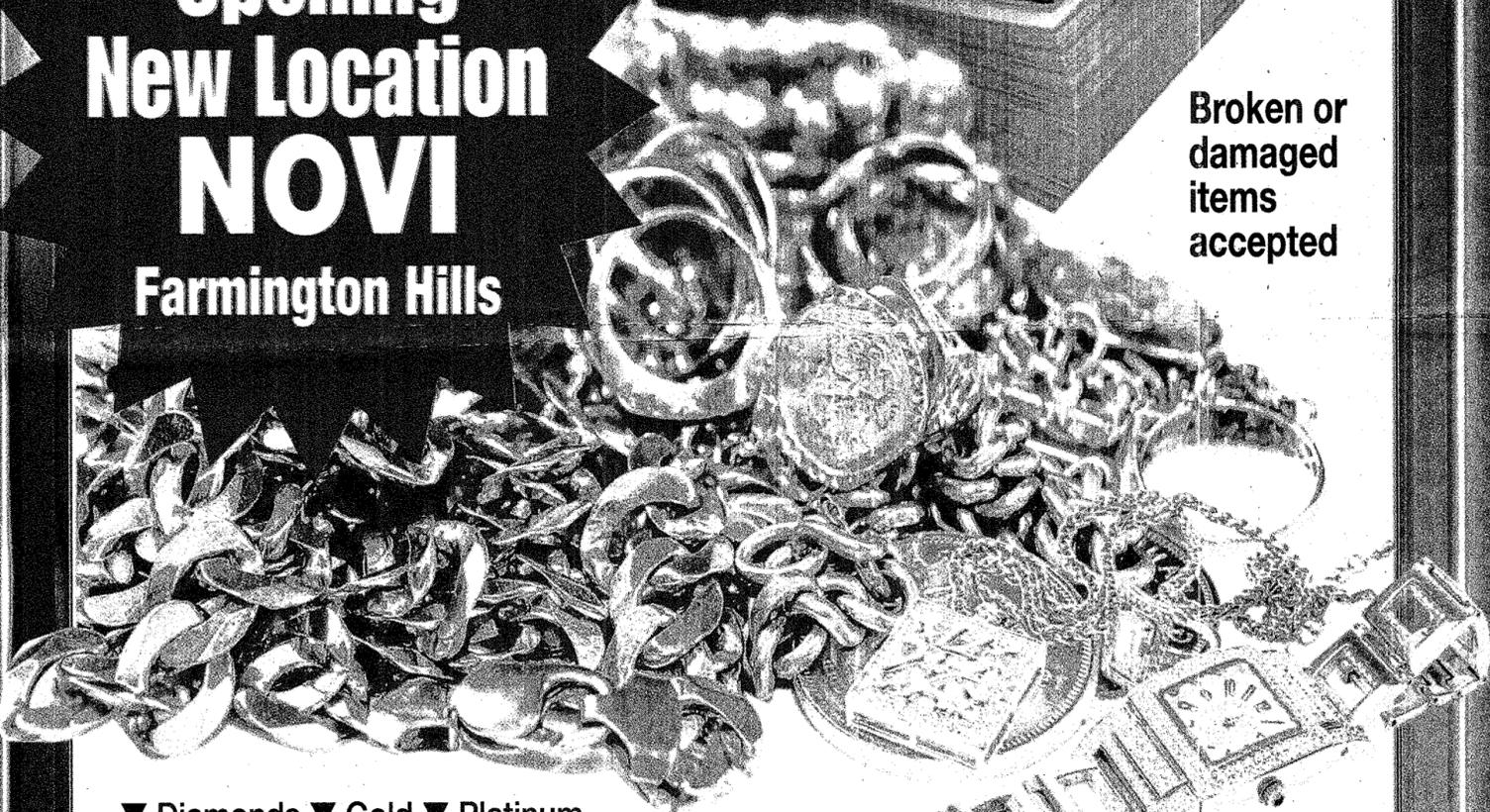
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*(33 Years Same Location)*  
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**313-584-7430**

IN BRIEF

**Weatherization help**

Weatherization Assistance is a home energy conservation program providing services to low-income residents. Families receiving weatherization services can expect heating costs to

be reduced 20-25 percent, amounting to about \$300 saving per year.

Eligible projects include such things as floor insulation, storm windows, window repair/replacement, programmable thermostat, furnace and duct repair or

replacement and roof repairs.

Wayne-Metropolitan Community Action Agency manages the Weatherization Program for Wayne County, including the city of Westland. Contact Jeff Boyd, weatherization director, at (734) 284-6999.

# Down the ... aisle?

## Couple plans wedding walk to Vegas

BY DARRELL CLEM  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Most couples are content to walk down the aisle when they get married.

Joseph Crist and Laura Brunett hope to walk from Canton to Las Vegas, stopping to wed before they trudge on to Los Angeles to visit friends.

Toting two backpacks stuffed with clothing, water dispensers, a small tent, lightweight sleeping bags and a miniature gas stove, Crist and Brunett, both 24, intend to start their journey April 15 and follow a path Brunett has estimated at nearly 2,600 miles.

Crossing mountains, rivers, prairies and deserts, they hope to arrive in Las Vegas by late September, marry near Lake Mead, spend a couple of nights at a resort, continue their walk to Los Angeles and return to Michigan — by plane — by late October.

They've pondered a flight from Los Angeles to Hawaii for an adventure-crowning honeymoon, but they're not certain.

Crist, a Canton Public Library page, and Brunett, an Outback Steakhouse employee, plan to quit their jobs. These free spirits have known each other since they were middle school age. They attended Eastern Michigan University and have been a couple for three years.

They have saved \$4,500 for their walk, and they expect to spend most of it on food along the way. They say their parents will help them if they need more money.

"We don't like the idea of spending thousands of dollars



Laura Brunett and Joseph Crist say they plan to leave Canton on April 15 for a months-long walk to the West Coast, stopping to marry in Las Vegas.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

on one day for a wedding when we can do something like this," Brunett said.

The couple talked about their cross-country trip as they paused from a much shorter walk along the Lower Rouge River Recreation Trail in Canton. Placing their large backpacks on the ground, they ate apples and nuts as Crist held a book, *The Lost Art of Walking* by Geoff Nicholson, he has been reading.

Crist and Brunett have walked as far as Warren, but they've never tried a journey like their wedding walk. They plan to set out from Cherry Hill Village, where Brunett lives with her mother and stepfather, Ann and Tom Beard. Crist also lives in Canton, with parents Doug and Deborah Crist.

Crist and Brunett already had discussed walking across the nation before they decided to cement their three-year relationship with marriage — a decision that put Vegas on their must-see list.

"Vegas is where people get married," Crist said.

The couple has a portable shower bag they can fill with water, heat with the sun and use

along the way — obviously in the more rural areas. They also plan to pare down by shaving their heads, and Crist said he is cutting off his beard.

Brunett already has mapped out their trip. After leaving Michigan, the couple plans to walk through Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico and Arizona before reaching their marriage destination in Nevada. Along the way, they intend to visit Crist's aunt, Karen Gilbert, who lives in Broken Arrow, Okla.

In what is certain to be a welcome relief from the road, the couple plans to spend a couple of nights after their wedding in a timeshare resort arranged by Brunett's stepfather. During their travels, they say they will see places such as St. Louis, the Grand Canyon and the Mojave Desert.

And they hope to find that perfect place where, after their travels have ended and they have decided to settle down, they might call home.

"We're looking for a place where we might want to live," Crist said.

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AROUND WESTLAND

Law Day contest

The Westland City Attorney's Office is holding the 15th annual Law Day Essay Contest for students in grades nine-12 who live in Westland, attend John Glenn High School and are enrolled in a civics/social studies class during the 2010-11 school year.

This year's topic will be: Why is John Adams's role in the Boston Massacre trial significant today? Entries should be typed and double spaced and be a minimum of two to a maximum of three 8 1/2- by 11-inch pages.

The entries should contain the student's name, home address, city, state, home telephone number, school and name of civics/social studies teacher.

Entries can be submitted to Michele Anderson at John Glenn High School by 3 p.m. Wednesday, April 13. The winner will receive the award at the Monday, May 2, Westland City Council meeting.

Sell\*A\*Bration

A vendor and shopping expo to benefit the Salvation Army's Girl Guards and Rangers has been scheduled for 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 30.

It will be second annual Sell \*A\* Bration and feature more than 30 independent business consultants and business owners from all over southeast Michigan representing a vast array of goods and services.

The vendor and shopping expo will be held at the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army, 2300 S. Venoy, Westland. Admission is \$1.50 per adult and includes coffee and hot tea.

This is a fundraiser that will help support the Girl Guards and Rangers, scouting type groups, in their plans to attend Jamboree 2011 in July. The Jamboree will be held at the Salvation Army Northwood Camp in Finlayson, Minn.

For more information, call Sandy Kollinger at (734) 722-3660.

Baby shower

The Wayne-Westland Salvation Army and Warm Hearts are again hosting their annual Community Baby Shower for women who are pregnant or the mother of an infant under 1 year old.

The shower will be held 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, May 6, at the Corps Community Center at 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer in Westland. A continental breakfast and lunch will be served, and all moms will receive prizes and gifts. No children will be allowed at

the event.

To reserve a seat, moms can call (734) 722-3660, Ext. 107.

Metro Fibro Group

The Metro Fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Support Group is hosting a seminar/workshop 1-5 p.m. Thursday, April 14, at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, south of Ford Road, Garden City.

Dr. Howard Schubiner from Providence Hospital, and author of *Unlearn Your Pain*, and Dr. James Dowd, rheumatologist and author of *The Vitamin D Cure*, will be the speakers. The seminar/workshop costs \$40 per person.

The group has no dues but donations are accepted and appreciated. For more information, visit the website at [www.MetroFibroGroup.com](http://www.MetroFibroGroup.com) or call Ruthann at (734) 981-2519.

Healing Hearts

Hope 4 Healing Hearts, a grief support group for adults who have lost a loved one to the prison system provides a safe environment allowing members to share in a nonjudgmental atmosphere. Individuals share ideas, resources and experiences that are helpful to one another.

Meetings are 6:30-8:30 p.m. the second and fourth Monday of every month at the Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland. Donations only.

For more information, contact Bonnie at (734) 646-2237, by e-mail at [bonnie@hope4healinghearts.com](mailto:bonnie@hope4healinghearts.com) or visit the website at [www.hope4healinghearts.com](http://www.hope4healinghearts.com).

Singles skate

Looking for a great way to meet new friends and enjoy a fun atmosphere? Look no further, come and enjoy a great night out at the Mike Modano Ice Arena, 6210 N. Wildwood. Singles Skate Night is every Tuesday 9-10 p.m.

Rates for residents are \$4 and nonresidents are \$4.50. Skate rental is \$3. This event is for ages 18 and older. For more information, visit the city website at [www.cityof-westland.com](http://www.cityof-westland.com).

Car seat check

Westland police and firefighters are joining forces to offer a free car seat inspection program on Saturday, April 9. The inspections will be offer 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Westland Fire Station 1, 36435 Ford, just east of Westland City Hall.

Several replacement seats from the Grosse Ile Police

Department and Children's Hospital will be provided to families who are in need.

Lenten Fish Fries

The Men's Auxiliary of the Romanowski VFW Post 6866 is holding fish fries on Fridays during Lent.

Hours are 4-7 p.m. Dinners cost \$7 each and include fish (baked or fried), potato (fries or baked) or macaroni and cheese, homemade coleslaw and bread and butter. There will be a cash bar with beverages. Carry-outs also will be available.

The post is at 28945 Joy Road, east of Middlebelt, Westland.

• St. Saint Damian Parish in Westland is holding Lenten fish fry on Fridays now through April 15.

Church members will be serving fish dinners 5-7 p.m. Fridays, April 8 and 15. There will be no fish fry Good Friday, April 22.

A one-piece fish dinner is \$4.50, two pieces for \$6 and three pieces for \$7. Baked fish or shrimp (five pieces) dinners cost \$7, with a pierogi (five pieces) dinner costing \$6. Dinners include fries, tartar sauce, coleslaw, roll and drink. Side orders include macaroni and cheese, \$2.50, and fries, \$2; desserts also are available.

St. Damian Parish is at 30055 Joy Road, east of Merriman.

AARP Tax Preparation

The Westland Friendship Center is now taking appointments for anyone in the community who wishes to have their taxes prepared free of charge. The center is an E-file site only. Appointments are necessary.

Generally, the tax return service offered through AARP is for simple returns. Those individuals with lengthy returns, many rental properties or investments are encouraged to have a CPA or professional firm complete their returns. There is no age or income requirement. The site manager has discretion over what returns they are willing and able to complete.

Taxes this year will be done on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Call for an appointment. Unfortunately, the preparers are only on site during the day the center offers the service so any tax question regarding a return must be taken by a staff person, and returned by a preparer at their convenience.

For more information, or to make an appointment, call (734) 722-7628.

Fine Arts meeting

The Garden City Fine Arts Association will have Betty Felts talk about some of the new techniques she learned in Florida over the winter when it meets at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 6, at Maplewood Center, 31735 Maplewood, west of Merriman.

The meeting is free and open to any interested persons. For more information, call Susan Trotter at (734) 261-1804.

Open house

Garden City Co-Op Preschool is holding an open house 6-7 p.m. Monday, April 11, at the preschool, housed in the Garden City Presbyterian Church at 1841 Middlebelt, south of Ford.

Parents can bring their children to meet the teacher and see what will be offered for the 2011-2012 school year.

Mom 2 Mom Sale

Do you have a whole bunch of clothes your kids have outgrown or maybe never got to wear? Are there toys laying around the house that haven't been touched in years? More books than shelves or baby stuff, but your babies are all grown up?

Consider selling your new and gently used items at our Mom 2 Mom Sale at Garden City Middle School 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 9. Or come shopping to get great deals on baby and kids clothes as well as toys, games, videos/DVDs, books, strollers, cribs, bouncers and more.

There will be 100 tables, a large item area, bake sale and concessions. Tables are \$20 for a 6-foot table, including rack space. For table availability/agreement or more information, e-mail Mary at [marysawyer70@yahoo.com](mailto:marysawyer70@yahoo.com).

Admission is only \$1. All proceeds go to the Garden City Middle School PTSA. Garden City Middle school is at 1851 Radcliff, south of Ford.

Moms luncheon

The Garden City American Legion Post 396 Auxiliary Unit is putting out an invitation to any Garden City resident who is a Blue Star or Gold Star mother.

The auxiliary is holding a luncheon Sunday, April 3, for mothers who have a son or daughter who is on active duty with the military or who has lost a son or daughter while protecting the United States.

The luncheon will be held

GARDEN CLIPPINGS

at the American Legion Post at 6860 Middlebelt, south of Warren Road, Garden City. Mothers should call Gail Truesdell at (734) 261-9085 or Kim Dold at (734) 536-0373 for reservations by April 25.

Lenten Fish Fries

St. Raphael Parish is holding Lenten Fish Fries every Friday during Lent. Hours are 4:30-7 p.m. or until dinners are sold out and 3-7 p.m. or until dinners are sold out on Good Friday.

The menu includes the church's own recipe for hand battered Icelandic Haddock. Available are fish, shrimp or fish and shrimp combo dinners for \$8.50, a fish sandwich plate for \$7, a kid's two-slice pizza meal for \$4, a kid's one-slice pizza meal for \$3.

Dinners include choice of mashed potato or french fries, coleslaw, roll and butter and choice of coffee, hot tea or milk. Diners are available for carry-out, but do not include a beverage.

St. Raphael is on Merriman, just north of Ford Road.

• St. Saint Damian Parish in Westland is holding Lenten fish fry on Fridays now through April 15.

Church members will be serving fish dinners 5-7 p.m. Fridays, April 8 and 15. There will be no fish fry Good Friday, April 22.

A one-piece fish dinner is \$4.50, two pieces for \$6 and three pieces for \$7. Baked fish or shrimp (five pieces) dinners cost \$7, with a pierogi (five pieces) dinner costing

\$6. Dinners include fries, tartar sauce, coleslaw, roll and drink. Side orders include macaroni and cheese, \$2.50, and fries, \$2; desserts also are available.

St. Damian Parish is at 30055 Joy Road, east of Merriman.

Garden City Rotary

The Garden City Rotary Club is on the hunt for new members.

The local club was chartered in 1940 as part of the worldwide Rotary International organization and is guided by the Rotary motto "Service Above Self." Charitable involvement covers the spectrum from local activities, such as college scholarships, literacy training, coats for needy elementary children, to projects including school construction and orphanage support in Latin America, as well as pure water, polio vaccination, and other international humanitarian efforts.

Rotary offers a wonderful opportunity for people to provide service for others on many different levels and to the extent they feel comfortable doing so. At the same time, it offers the availability for weekly contact and socialization with other, like-minded, nice people.

The club meets at noon on Thursdays at Amantea's Restaurant on Warren Road just east of Venoy in Garden City. Individuals interested in more information about the club can call Steve Kelly at (734) 748-1345.

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**CITY OF WESTLAND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC NOTICE**

The following appeals will be heard at a public hearing to be held in the Council Chambers of Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI on Wednesday, April 20, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. at which time comments may be directed to the Board during audience participation. If you wish to reply by mail, send your comments to the above address. All property owners whose names appear in our tax rolls located within 300' of this property are being notified pursuant to this statute.

**Petition #2725-Sunoco Station-1716 S. Merriman**  
Request for one variance from Ord. 248 in order to replace the existing non-conforming price sign panel on the east side of the existing non-conforming free-standing sign located at the corner of the site, with a non-conforming 28.5 sq. ft. LED price sign; whereas Sec. 15.3.6(b)(5) states that a non-conforming sign cannot be changed to any extent without being brought into conformance with current Zoning Ordinance standards.

**Petition #2726-Sunoco Station-1716 S. Merriman**  
Request for one variance from Ord. 248 in order to replace the existing non-conforming price sign panel on the south side of the existing non-conforming free-standing sign located at the corner of the site, with a non-conforming 28.5 sq. ft. LED price sign; whereas Sec. 15.3.6(b)(5) states that a non-conforming sign cannot be changed to any extent without being brought into conformance with current Zoning Ordinance standards.

**Petition #2727-Townsend Sign Company/SS Simon & Jude Parish-32500 Palmer Road**  
Request for a 23.5 sq. ft. sign area variance and a 2 ft. sign hgt. variance from Ord. 248 in order to install a new 55.5 sq. ft., 8 ft. high free-standing sign along the Palmer Rd. side of the site; whereas Sec. 15.4.5(a) allows a maximum 32 sq. ft. sign, and Sec. 15.4.5(c) allows a maximum hgt. of 6 ft. for church signs.

**Petition #2728-Ford Road Investors LLC/Westland Gasoline-37400 Ford Road**  
Request for a 24'11" bldg. hgt. variance, and a 27'11" side yd. setback variance from Ord. 248 in order to demolish the existing service station building and construct a new 2,800 sq. ft. service station building in the same location that would be 27' in hgt.; whereas Sec. 9:7.6(a) requires that the hgt. of the building be a minimum distance of the proposed building to the nearest property line, and would be constructed 2' from the west side lot line whereas Sec. 9:7.5(a) requires a minimum side yd. setback of 30' and a request for a 23' front yd. setback variance and a 21' rear yd. setback variance from Ord. 248 to replace the existing canopy bricking up the existing metal columns-the proposed canopy would be located 12' from the front lot line and 9' from the rear lot line; whereas Sec. 9:7.5(a) requires a minimum front yd. setback of 35' and a minimum rear yard setback of 30'.

**Petition #2729-Northwestern Energy Investments LLC/AFG Gasoline Inc-8008 N. Middlebelt**  
Request for a 23' bldg. hgt. variance, a 28'rear yd. setback variance, and a 27' north side yd. setback variance from Ord. 248 in order to demolish the existing service station building and canopy and construct a new 2,505 sq. ft. service station bldg. and a new 1,633.5 sq. ft. canopy at the site; the building would be constructed at a hgt. of 25' whereas Sec. 9:7.6(a) requires that the hgt. of the bldg. be a minimum of the distance of the proposed bldg. to the nearest property line and would be constructed 2' from the rear lot line and 3' from the north side lot line; whereas Sec. 9:7.5(a) requires a minimum rear yd. setback of 30' and a minimum side yd. setback of 30'the new canopy would be located 12' from the front lot line and 13' from the side lot line; whereas Sec. 9:7.5(a) requires a minimum front yd. setback of 35' and a minimum side yd. setback of 30'.

Publish: April 3, 2011

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**CITY OF WESTLAND INVITATION TO BID**

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland, 36601 Ford Rd., Westland, Michigan 48185, on or before **April 11, 2011 at 11:00 a.m.** for the following (no exceptions will be made for late filings):

**Onsite Medical Evaluations - Fire Department**

The Medical Evaluations shall be compliant with NFPA 1582 and 1583. Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office at 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan, 48185, or at the City's website at [www.cityofwestland.com](http://www.cityofwestland.com). Please direct questions pertaining to specifications to Martin Reddy, Deputy Fire Chief at (734) 467-3252. Proposals must be submitted by the time stated above or they will be returned. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

WILLIAM GABRIEL  
Controller  
Publish: Sunday, April 3, 2011

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**NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2011-12 BUDGET**

In compliance with "Act No. 43," State of Michigan Public Act of 1963, and "Act No. 2," State of Michigan Public Acts of 1968 ("Section 16" of the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act), Schoolcraft College publishes this notification of a public hearing on the proposed 2011-2012 College budget. This hearing is to take place at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 27, 2011, at the Grote Administration Center, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia, Michigan. A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection at the above address during normal business hours.

**The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.**

Glenn Cerny  
Vice President and Chief Financial Officer  
Publish: March 31 & April 3, 2011

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## Both parties liable on joint tax return

**Q:** Dear Rick: My divorce was finalized in February 2009. When it came to filing our 2008 tax return in April 2009, my ex-husband convinced me we should file a joint return because it would save us money in taxes. I figured it was a good thing to do. I just received a letter from the IRS saying that because of mistakes on the return, I owed taxes, interest and penalties. All the additional tax is due to my ex-husband's business and not mine. At this point I have no contact with my ex and I don't know where he is. I contacted the IRS and they said it doesn't matter. They are threatening to garnish my wages if I don't pay. Can the IRS do this and can I fight them on my own?



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

**A:** I wish I could give you good news, but I can't. The fact that you signed a joint return makes you liable for any additional tax liability.

When someone signs a joint return, the general rule is that

they are fully liable for any additional taxes, penalties or interest. However, as is typical with our tax laws, there are exceptions to the rule. If you can prove to the IRS that the unreported income was your ex-husband's and that you were totally innocent and had no involvement in the additional tax, avoiding liability may be possible. However, this is a difficult burden to prove. There is no doubt you need a professional, someone who is experienced in dealing with the IRS, to assist you in this matter.

Many couples who are separated or divorced have tax issues that are not always addressed. They must be. From the IRS standpoint, if you sign a tax return, you are liable for any additional taxes, penalties or interest. They don't necessarily have to go after both spouses. They can go after just one. Unless a spouse can prove they are an innocent spouse, there is liability.

In most situations where a divorce or a separation occurs, I recommend filing individual returns. I recognize that there could be an additional tax liability; however, I never want to let the tax tail wag the dog. What I factor into the equation is what additional risk my

client is assuming by signing a joint return.

If all the deductions are straightforward and all the income comes from W-2s and 1099s, there certainly is less of a risk associated with filing a joint return. However, before you sign a joint return — in a situation of divorce or separation — seek professional advice from someone who is independent from your spouse.

Many people are under the mistaken belief that if someone prepares taxes professionally, they must be competent to deal with the IRS. That is just not the case. Preparing returns and dealing with the IRS are two different things.

When dealing with the IRS, never ignore them and never assume that they are correct. As a taxpayer, you do have rights. It's just sometimes hard for the average individual to know exactly what those rights are. That is why in most cases, when you get a notice from the IRS, it pays to have someone on your side to protect you.

Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at [moneymatters@hometownlife.com](mailto:moneymatters@hometownlife.com). For more information, visit Rick's Web site at [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com).

## Wayne-Westland accepts schools of choice requests

The Wayne-Westland Community School District will be accepting applications from non-resident families for Intra-County Schools of Choice for all of the elementary schools grades kindergarten through fourth for the 2011-2012 school year.

Students must be residents of Wayne County.

Applications will be accepted between April 26 and Aug. 26 at the district's Administrative

Offices at 36745 Marquette, west of Wayne Road, in Westland.

Wayne-Westland Community School District's elementary schools provide up-to-date technology and resource centers, completely renovated buildings and 100 percent Highly Qualified Teachers. All-Day kindergarten is offered at every K-4 elementary school which have achieved Adequate Yearly

Progress under the U.S. Department of Education's No Child Left Behind Act.

Applications are available to download by clicking on the district's website link at [www.wwcsd.net/intra-county-schools-of-choice/](http://www.wwcsd.net/intra-county-schools-of-choice/) and clicking on Intra-County Schools of Choice application link under Resources.

For more information, call Wayne-Westland Community Schools at (734) 419-2083.

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<b>Oldani Imported Hard Salmi</b> \$7.69 lb.	<b>Parma Imported Prosciutto</b> \$15.99 lb.	<b>Premium Roasted or Smoked Turkey Breast</b> \$4.59 lb.

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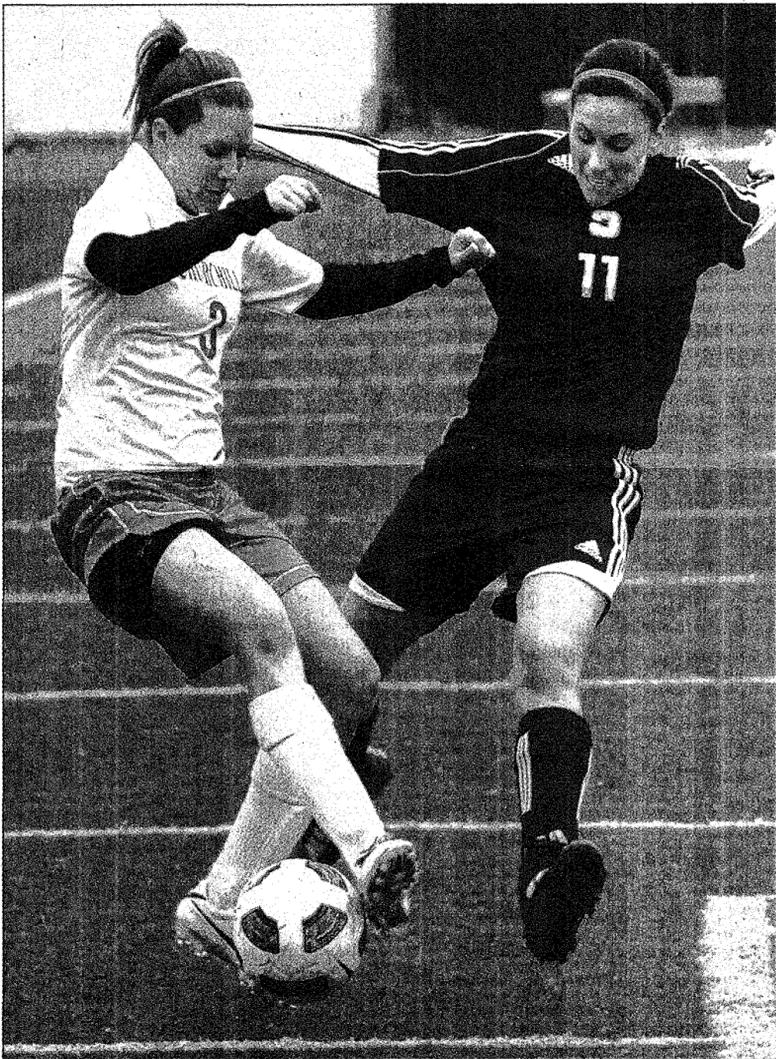
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Churchill's Rachel Zukowski (3) tries to fend off Stevenson's Avory Pawlak (11) during Thursday's soccer clash.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Many happy returns

### Vellucci's 2 goals spur Spartans past Churchill

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Just getting Kelly Vellucci back healthy again on the soccer field this spring proved to be a victory in itself for Livonia Stevenson.

And the junior forward staged her own coming-out party Thursday night by scoring both goals as the Spartans toppled rival Livonia Churchill, 2-0.

"It was a stress fracture - on the top of my foot," said Vellucci, who is also a standout on the Spartans' volleyball team. "I was training on my own - soccer and volleyball. I was out for spring, came back for a month or two in the summer, and then I was out all fall."

Vellucci's goal with 18:30 left in the first half gave Stevenson a 1-0 lead. Teammate Emily Chrzasz took the initial shot, which was cleared off the goal line by a Churchill defender. But the 6-foot Vellucci was there for the header as she popped the ball past Churchill goalkeeper Kaylie Secord.

Battling the foot injury for nearly a year, Vellucci admitted she was a bit rusty...

"The whole rivalry thing got me pumped," she said. "I just went out there and played. I

surprised myself completely." Churchill found itself on its heels for much of the first half before getting untracked.

"The second half they (Churchill) made some adjustments that we weren't ready for," said Stevenson coach Chris Grodzicki, whose team improved to 2-0 overall. "And shame on me for not getting the team ready at halftime. He (Churchill coach Dave Hebestreit) came out with an extra forward and had seven attacking the whole time."

"We couldn't get out from under ourselves. When we did, we were fortunate. We got some good chances in the second half. That next goal was huge."

Secord's diving stop off a direct free kick from 21 yards out by Stevenson's Krista Kane at the 68-minute mark kept the score at 1-0.

But the insurance goal came with only 16:50 to go in the match when Vellucci worked a perfect two-on-one play with junior Kaitlynn Reamer to give the Spartans a 2-0 cushion.

"I thought we weathered that first storm and Kelly was running when it was time to run," Grodzicki said. "Making it 2-0 just changed everything for us."

Please see **SPARTANS, B2**

## SIDELINES

### MU baseball sweeps

Madonna University opened Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference baseball action Wednesday by sweeping visiting Davenport University in a twinbill, 6-0 and 4-1.

The Crusaders, playing in their home opener at Ilitch Ballpark, improved to 16-9 overall and 5-1 in the WHAC.

Jeremy Gooding (Livonia) pitched a complete-game, three-hit shutout in the opener to improve to 4-0. The Dearborn Divine Child grad struck out seven and walked only one.

Alex Charles paced MU's six-hit attack going 3-for-3 with an RBI, while Jeff Bultinck and Steve Pelletier (Farmington Harrison) also knocked in runs.

MU took the nightcap as well as lefty Tom Hansen (3-2) allowed just four hits in 8.2 innings. Hansen walked only two and gave up just one run, while Travis Schuba came on to get the final out and his third save of the year.

MU collected eight hits with shortstop Mike Gansser going 2-for-3 with three RBIs.

Bultinck and Drew Adamiec each added two hits, while Victor Barron also had an RBI.

Dan Brown went 2-for-4 with an RBI for the Panthers (16-9, 4-2).

### MU golfers 3rd

The Madonna University men's golf team was third after Friday's inaugural round of the 16-team Purple and White Invitational held at Foxfire G.C. in Lockbourne, Ohio.

Malone University (Ohio) led the team standings with a five-player total of 299.

Rounding out the top five was Adrian College (306), Madonna (314), Bethel College of Indiana (319) and Columbus State Community College of Ohio (326).

MU individual scorers included Austin Stillman (Livonia Franklin) and Vince Carango, tied for seventh (77 each); Brett Quitiquit and Nick Sears, tied for 14th (80 each); and Tommy Lucko (Livonia Churchill), tied for 34th (84).

Malone's Justin Lower shot a 5-under 32-35-67 on the par-72, 6,891-yard Foxfire course to lead the field individually.

### Senior golf meeting

The Livonia Senior Men's Golf Association will stage its annual registration and business meeting at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 16 at the Livonia Senior Center, located at the southeast corner of Farmington and Five Mile roads.

The LSMGA is open to all men ages 59 and up regardless of residency.

The \$25 membership fee includes lunch at the awards banquet. Single golfers are welcome.

For more information, call Tony Amadori at (734) 261-4718.

## 'Take your marks:' Area teams ready

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Livonia Clarenceville boys track coach Brady Gustafson hopes there is a carryover from the success his team achieved during the 2010 season.

That's because the Trojans are coming off a Division 3 regional title and a runner-up finish in the Metro Conference.

### PREVIEW

Clarenceville, however, is now an independent after the Metro dissolved for the 2010-11 school year.

Junior Kassius Kelly returns as one of the area's top sprinters, a regional champion in both the 100- and 200-meter dashes.

Kelly and senior returnee Moses Hobson also helped Clarenceville cap-

ture the coveted 4 x 200 relay state title after sweeping both sprint relays at the regional.

Throwers DeOndre Hogan and Anthony Giordano, along with middle distance runner Chavis Dooley, give the Trojans optimism to repeat as regional champs.

Lutheran High Westland placed third in last year's Division 4 regional meet and captured the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference in its first season as a member.

"Our main goal is to have everyone improve from last year and then we could have a shot at repeating," said coach Mike Unger, who is in his 24th year with the Warriors and 39th overall as a high school track and field coach.

Please see **PREVIEW, B2**



PHOTO BY THOMAS BEAUDOIN

Senior Chavis Dooley returns in the sprints for the Livonia Clarenceville boys track team, which captured a Division 3 regional last year.

## Ladywood loses early showdown

Defending Division 2 state girls soccer champion Birmingham Marian tallied a pair of late goals Wednesday to upend Livonia Ladywood, 3-0, in a Catholic League Central Division match at Ultimate Soccer Arena in Pontiac.

### GIRLS SOCCER

It was a rematch of last year's state semifinal and Catholic League championship match as Marian improved to 3-0 overall and 2-0 in the Central.

The Marlins got a pair of goals from Elizabeth Tresnak in the

Please see **SOCCER, B2**

## Clarenceville hopes spring eternal with 3-0 start

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Some baseball teams might welcome spring break, but not Livonia Clarenceville.

The Trojans are off to a 3-0 start to the 2011 season after downing Redford Thurston on Friday, 7-1.

Damien Sanchez threw a complete-game two-hitter. The junior right-hander struck out 11 and walked only one in

### PREP BASEBALL

seven innings for visiting Clarenceville.

"Damien did a very good job mixing his pitches," Clarenceville fourth-year coach Dan Miller said. "He got his curveball over early on and it made him that more effective. He kept them from getting swings off the barrel of the bat."

Thurston (0-1), playing its season opener, scored its lone run in the fourth inning

when Ben Baker doubled and later scored on a Clarenceville infield error.

Clarenceville, meanwhile, collected 10 hits led by Ben Gehan's 3-for-3, three RBI outing.

Damien Quarles also added a hit, scored three runs and added two stolen bases, while Eric Trotter and Zac Rosen also knocked in runs.

Thurston starter Damin Harris, who went the first four innings allowing all seven runs, took the loss.

"We have a couple of kids out, so we've had to shift guys around," Miller said. "But it shows we're winning as a team because we're getting key hits up-and-down the lineup. There really haven't been any holes in the batting order."

Because Oakland County schools are off next week, Clarenceville doesn't return to action until 4:30 p.m. Monday, April 11 at home against Southfield-

Please see **BASEBALL, B4**

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SPARTANS

FROM PAGE B1

Churchill's best scoring chance of the night came with 13:20 remaining when freshman Kelsey Parrinello's header was denied by the outstretched arms of Stevenson senior goalkeeper Michelle Krawczyk.

"That was such a wonderful ball into the box," Grodzicki said. "That girl (Parrinello) headed that thing. That's a professional header. She (Krawczyk) was just fortunate to be lucky on that. She held it, was in the right spot. Good for her. She's a senior leader. That's what we needed out of her."

The loss dropped Churchill to 0-2 overall, but coach Dave Hebestreit saw some encouraging signs.

"We really did snap out of it, but we did not start out

strong," Churchill coach Dave Hebestreit said. "The second half we dominated possession, but we were not dangerous as far as corners or throw-ins. There were 12-or-14 minutes where we really went at them."

"But it was a lack of being dangerous behind defenders. We did some nice things and got out of trouble with good soccer. Our ability get out of pressure was good. We were combining nicely. But the ability to do the hardest thing - score a goal and complete action - we're not doing it yet. But we'll continue to work on it."

Meanwhile, Vellucci's healthy return is certainly a bonus for the Spartans. She also scored a goal in Monday's season-opening 4-0 win over Livonia Franklin.

"She's huge part of our puzzle," Grodzicki said. "She didn't know what she'd be

able to commit to us this year with volleyball, and I know volleyball is her first love. But I told her, whatever she can give us is going to be valuable to this team. If it's one day a week, if it's half the games, if it's every day, but only for an hour. Whatever she gives us, I know what she brings to the team concept. She's extremely coachable. She has that perfect balance of confidence and nervousness. She's confident in herself, but she is nervous to want perform the next time."

And Grodzicki was glad to have her contribute again in such an important match. "I asked the team if they were ready to go, and she (Vellucci) had a look in her eyes of a seasoned varsity athlete," the Stevenson coach said. "She said she was ready to go today. And she was right."

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SOCCER

FROM PAGE B1

28th (unassisted) and the 76th minutes.

Danielle Mazur added a goal as time ran out for the Mustangs, who also got two assists from Erin Ring.

Marian outshot the Blazers 14-7 as goalkeeper Makenzie Larson made four saves to post the shutout.

Ladywood keeper Maddie Reed recorded six saves.

"I thought our effort was excellent," said Ladywood coach Ken Shingledecker, whose team fell to 0-1 overall and 0-1 in the Central. "We got better and better as the game went on. They scored a couple goals in the last five minutes when we were pressing to tie the game."

LADYWOOD 5, TRENTON 0: Five unanswered second-half goals carried Livonia Ladywood (1-1) to a non-conference victory Friday over the host Trojans (1-1).

Kelly Capoccia's goal in the 47th minute from Dominique Sarnecky proved to be the game-winner.

Other Ladywood scoring came from Sarnecky, 49th minute (from Paige Brennan); Megan Riethmiller, 63rd minute (from Deyana Walker); Walker, 65th minute (from Riethmiller); and Walker again, 80th minute (from Becca Rhoder).

Ladywood outshot Trenton, 34-3.

"I was concerned coming in because they had just beat a solid Dexter team on Wednesday 1-0," Ladywood coach Ken Shingledecker said. "We knew they were strong in the back but I thought we had enough weapons to score goals. I thought our bench did a great job creating and finishing chances in the second half."

Blazers goalkeeper Maddie Reed made only one save

en route to the shutout, while Trenton's Laura Bacso had 12 stops.

CABRINI 4, LUTH. WESTLAND 1: In a non-conference game Friday, host Lutheran High Westland (0-1-1) fell to Allen Park Cabrini (2-0).

Julia Yancy scored the lone goal for the Warriors, while goalkeeper Angela Morrison made 20 saves in the setback.

LUTH. WESTLAND 1, REDFORD UNION 1: In a non-conference game Thursday, host Lutheran High Westland (0-0-1) and Redford Union (0-1-1) battled to a draw.

Angie Mancini scored for the Panthers during the first half, but Lutheran Westland's Julia Yancy tied it in the second half off an assist from Taylor Wiemer.

Angela Morrison also stood out in goal for the Warriors.

FRANKLIN 3, THURSTON 0: Senior newcomer Chelsea Williams tallied a pair of goals and junior goalkeeper Alexis Smith made six saves en route to the shutout Wednesday as Livonia Franklin (1-1) blanked visiting Redford Thurston (0-2).

Sophomore Natalie Desautel, who sparked the defense along with Colleen Anthony, also scored for the Patriots, who led 1-0 at halftime.

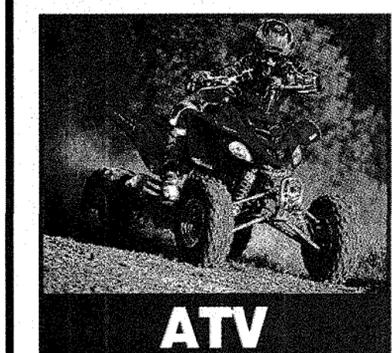
Assists went to Jenna Michniewicz and Jessica Maurer, while Breanne Koc also proved to be a defensive catalyst.

GARDEN CITY 9, CLARENCEVILLE 0: On Wednesday, two goals apiece by Beverly Beveridge, Shannon Melvin and Alexis Solomon propelled the host Cougars (1-0-1) to a mercy-rule win over Livonia Clarenceville (0-1).

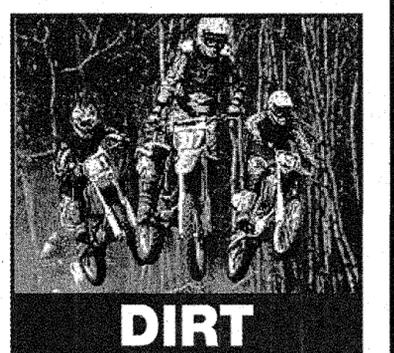
Garden City scored all nine goals in the opening half to stop the match. Clarenceville got a sterling effort by sophomore goalkeeper Rachel Kirschweg, who made 14 saves filling in for the injured Brianna Tuuri-Cesarz.

The loss spoiled the debut of new Clarenceville coach Amanda Moody.

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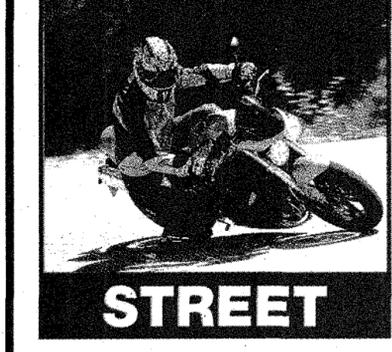


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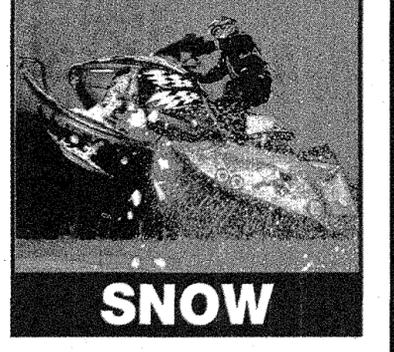


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BOYS TRACK CAPSULE OUTLOOK

Notable losses to graduation: Will Burek (third-team All-Area); Travis Gosselin, Jr. (third-team All-Area, 800); Adam Chludzinski, Sr. (third-team All-Area, 1,600); Pat Smith, Sr. (distance); Joe Urso, Sr. (distance); Jon Aneed, Sr. (throws); Nick Podulka, Jr. (long jump); Adam Duncan, Sr. (sprints-relays); Ryan Lackey, Sr. (sprints-relays); Scott Brewer, Sr. (high jump); Brandon Cicala, Sr. (distance).

Promising newcomers: John Lynch, Jr. (distance); Kenning Britchford, Jr. (sprints-relays); Joe Mims, Soph. (hurdles); Jeremy Kozler, Jr. (hurdles); Ben Lambert, Jr. (distance); Dylan Dunn, Jr. (sprints-relays); Carlton Beauford, Jr. (shot put); Zaid Shareef, Soph. (sprints-relays).

Shaw's 2011 season outlook: "It seems to be promising. We have a solid core of returning long and middle distance. Matt Williams, Adam Chludzinski, Pat Smith and Joe Urso all qualified to state meet in the 4 x 800 and 4 x 400 relays minus Travis Gosselin in both events. John Aneed should do well in the shot put and discus, while the younger throwers are improving. The sprinters are improving and should be able to put together some solid sprint relays. The loss of Will Burek in the hurdles and long jump hurt, but Joe Mims and Jeremy Kozler ended the season strongly and Nick Podulka had a good season in the long jump. There may be some opportunities for some younger athletes to possible break into the varsity lineup in other events."

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN Head coach: Jess Shough, 25th season. League affiliation: KLAAs Kensington Conference (South Division). Last year's finish: fourth (conference); fifth (South Division); seventh (Division 1 regional).

Notable losses to graduation: Jeremy Langford (second-team All-Area); Anthony Blair (second-team All-Area); Luciano Kenle, Steve Shak, Khari Stargell, Aaron Smith.

Leading returnees: Stefan Anthony, Sr. (third-team All-Area, 100); Rico Cole, Sr. (sprints); Dane Foster, Sr. (middle distance); Donnell Brewer, Sr. (middle distance); Anthony Johnson, Sr. (jumps-hurdles); Cameron Orr, Sr. (hurdles-middle distance); Jason Suarez, Jr. (distance); Ruben May, Jr. (distance); Patrick Cahill, Jr. (throws); Brandon Benson, Jr. (sprints); Ainsworth Orr, Jr. (throws); Jewell Jones, Soph. (middle distance-pole vault); Marcus Beeman, Soph. (sprints); Carlo Tejada, Sr. (middle distance).

Promising newcomers: Deonte Austin, Sr. (hurdles-jump); Jacob Blackburn, Soph. (throws); Christian Covile, Sr. (middle distance-long jump); Eric Covile, Jr. (throws); Quin Dupraw, Soph. (pole vault); Ronald Hill, Jr. (throws); Mark Layne, Sr. (sprints); Eduardo Maya, Jr. (distance); Brandon Ogden, Jr. (throws); James Williams, Jr. (sprints); Nick Taylor, Fr. (pole vault); Sean Taylor, Fr. (pole vault). Shough's 2011 season outlook: "We have a good group of returning athletes and a couple of outstanding competitors. We also have quite a number of newcomers with little or no track experience and a small number of coaches to coach them. So in order for us to move from good to great this season depends on the leadership and how the group matures. We obviously have fewer numbers than a lot of the teams in the conference so this lack of depth will be a factor in the conference championship. We are looking forward to warmer weather to start the season."

WAYNE MEMORIAL Head coach: James Thomas, first season. League affiliation: KLAAs Kensington Conference (South Division). Last year's finish: sixth (South Division); 12th (conference); tied for 16th (Division 1 regional).

Notable losses to graduation: Alexander Ball; Christopher Bowie, Joshua Bradford, Corey Davis, Kevante Grimes, Nicholas Hounshell, Kyle Janes and Kyle Michael.

Leading returnees: Tyler Gendron, Sr.; Matt Hansen, Sr. (captain); Donte Senters, Sr. (captain); Kevin Newborn, Sr. (captain); Travis Klein, Sr. (captain); Robert Parker, Sr.; Corey Stewart, Sr.; Corey Wright, Sr.; Quinton Davis, Jr.; Etroy Bell, Jr.; George Kirkpatrick, Jr.; Daniel Malcolm, Soph.

Promising newcomers: Andrew Lalowski, Sr.; David Osborne, Sr.; Barry Banks, Sr.; Aaron Kuhn, Sr.; Jemal Meadows, Sr.; Dean Caldwell, Jr.; Nick Williams, Jr.; Nicholas Barbee, Soph.; Jevon Scott; Soph.; Tim Flores, Fr.; Joseph Gatton, Fr.; Micah Orr, Fr.; Zack Williams, Fr.; Marcin Puczykowski, Fr.; Martin Ballah, Fr.; J'onte Cook, Fr.; Davonte Cooper, Fr.; Emmanuel Enechukwa, Fr.; James Hall, Fr.; Duane Lewis, Fr.; Christian Phillips, Fr.; Jamal Mosley, Fr.; Joshua Jordan, Fr.; Cody Olive, Fr. Thomas' 2011 season outlook: "Last season's top sprinters Donte Senters and Quinton Davis should get good support from a variety of talented underclassmen and first year junior and senior runners. Top returning distance runners Tyler Gendron and Daniel Malcolm should also get help from the many young hard-working distance runners. Though the team is young, it has solid senior leadership, and the team looks forward to competing and achieving personal bests in each relay and individual events this season."

LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE Head coach: Brady Gustafson, second season. League affiliation: Independent. Last year's finish: first (Division 3 regional); second (Metro Conference).

Titles won last year: Division 3 regional champs.

Notable losses to graduation: Ben Watts (second-team All-Area); Antonio Hawk (third-team All-Area); Levonte Brooks, Leonard Hogan.

Leading returnees: Kassius Kelly, Jr. (third-team All-Area, 200); Moses Hobson, Sr. (sprints); DeAndre Hogan, Sr. (throws); Anthony Giordano, Sr. (throws); Shawn Cummings, Jr. (throws); Chavis Cooley, Sr. (middle distance); Alec Jones, Soph. (distance).

Promising newcomers: Jalyn Banks, Fr. (sprints-relays); MaSambou Jatta, Soph. (middle distance); Adrian Myers, Sr. (sprints-long jump); David VanDeckerkhove, Fr. (distance); Joey Walker, Fr. (distance); Deavon Wilson, Jr. (throws); Derrill Woods, Sr. (sprints-relays).

Gustafson's 2011 season outlook: "Led by a strong group of sprinters and throwers, the boys team have a solid group to defend their regional championship. Seniors DeAndre Hogan and Tony Giordano (middle distance-pole vault); Marcus Beeman, Soph. (sprints); Carlo Tejada, Sr. (middle distance).

Promising newcomers: Deonte Austin, Sr. (hurdles-jump); Jacob Blackburn, Soph. (throws); Christian Covile, Sr. (middle distance-long jump); Eric Covile, Jr. (throws); Quin Dupraw, Soph. (pole vault); Ronald Hill, Jr. (throws); Mark Layne, Sr. (sprints); Eduardo Maya, Jr. (distance); Brandon Ogden, Jr. (throws); James Williams, Jr. (sprints); Nick Taylor, Fr. (pole vault); Sean Taylor, Fr. (pole vault).

Shough's 2011 season outlook: "We have a good group of returning athletes and a couple of outstanding competitors. We also have quite a number of newcomers with little or no track experience and a small number of coaches to coach them. So in order for us to move from good to great this season depends on the leadership and how the group matures. We obviously have fewer numbers than a lot of the teams in the conference so this lack of depth will be a factor in the conference championship. We are looking forward to warmer weather to start the season."

LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE Head coach: Mike Unger, 24th season. League affiliation: Michigan Independent Athletic Conference. Last year's finish: first (conference); third (Division 4 regional).

Titles won last year: MIAC champs.

Notable losses to graduation: Ethan Haller, Josh Andrzejewski, Dave Moldenhauer.

Leading returnees: Zach Musial, Sr. (hurdles-long jump-relays); Derrick Mocham, Sr. (sprints-relays); Micah Kempf, Sr. (hurdles-relays); Matt Erickson, Sr. (sprints-relays); Jake Fairbairn, Jr. (high jump-300 hurdles-relays); Dawson Davenport, Jr. (throws); Caleb Kempf, Jr. (400-relays); Jake Buffone, Jr. (throws); Nolan Edwards, Jr. (high jump); Eric Smith, Soph. (middle distance); Dan Bunge, Soph. (distance); Pete Silanpa, Soph. (distance).

Promising newcomers: Evan Shirkey, Fr. (pole vault-sprints); Mike Martin, Fr. (high jump-hurdles); Newman Harper, Fr. (pole vault).

Unger's 2011 season outlook: "We would like to repeat as conference champions, but Southfield Christian, (Auburn Hills) Oakland Christian, Plymouth Christian and (Rochester Hills) Lutheran Northwest will present a tough challenge for us. Our main goal is to have everyone improve from last year and then we could have a shot at repeating."

PREVIEW

FROM PAGE B1

The Warriors will be led by senior Zach Musial, a third-place finisher in the 110 hurdles at last year's state meet.

In the KLAAs South Division last year, Plymouth captured the dual-meet title and placed runner-up in the Kensington Conference meet behind Novi.

Livonia Churchill's 17th-year coach Rick Austin hopes his team can improve from a year ago despite hit heavily with graduation losses.

The Chargers' top returnee is senior distance runner Tom Windle, a state qualifier in the 3,200 run.

Livonia Franklin, another member of the KLAAs South,

lost first-team All-Area discus thrower Nate Coleman.

But the Patriots do return sprinter Ryan Hurt, a senior, who was a member of the 4 x 400 state meet qualifying quartet.

Distance runner Austin Jones and 6-foot-9 thrower-sprinter Jay Woolfork also return for Franklin.

Westland John Glenn, a KLAAs South member, will miss sprinter Jeremy Lankford, who was lost to graduation, but the Rockets return a pair of top-notch sprinters in Stefan Anthony and Rico Cole as coach Jess Shough enters his 25th season.

Wayne Memorial hopes to avoid the cellar of the KLAAs South as James Thomas takes over as head coach for Lee

Grizzell.

Thomas has 16 years of track coaching experience, including 12 years at the middle school level.

Livonia Stevenson, a member of the KLAAs Central, took seventh in last year's Kensington Conference meet and fourth at the Division 1 regional.

Eighth-year coach Scott Shaw will bank on middle distance runner Matt Williams along with fellow seniors Adam Chludzinski, Joe Urso and Pat Smith.

Meanwhile, senior Jon Aneed surpassed the 50-foot mark last year in the shot put and could be one of the area's top throwers.

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PREP TRACK RESULTS

BOYS TRACK RESULTS LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE 96 GARDEN CITY 28 March 31 at Clarenceville Shot put: 1. Anthony Giordano (C'ville), 39 feet, 8 inches; 2. Shawn Cummings (C'ville), 39-5; 3. DeAndre Hogan (C'ville), 39.45. Discus: 1. Giordano (C'ville), 100-1; 2. Cummings (C'ville), 98-10; 3. Deavon Wilson (C'ville), 98-3. High jump: 1. Austin Douglas (C'ville), 5-6. Long jump: 1. MaSambou Jatta (C'ville), 16-5; 2. Douglas (C'ville), 16-2; 3. A. Burek (C'ville), 16-1. 110-meter hurdles: 1. Langford (GC), 17.82; 2. Jatta (C'ville), 20.21; 3. Kendall Wesley (C'ville), 21.77. 300 hurdles: 1. Sam Brown (C'ville), 45.36; 2. Jatta (C'ville), 47.65; 3. Langford (GC), 50.32. 100 dash: 1. Kassius Kelly (C'ville), 10.98; 2. V. Frederick (GC), 1.33; 3. Biebins (GC), 11.49. 200: 1. Kelly (C'ville), 23.12; 2. Kalinowski (GC), 24.83; 3. Jalen Bryant (C'ville), 25.43. 400: 1. Kimani Dooley (C'ville), 1:00.42; 2. Douglas (C'ville), 1:02.77; 3. J. Little (GC), 1:04.91. 800: 1. Alec Jones (C'ville), 2:18.7; 2. Chavis Dooley (C'ville), 2:19.31; 3. E. Hinkle (GC), 2:31.85. 1,600: 1. Jones (C'ville), 5:19.68; 2. W. Whitaker (GC), 5:27.86; 3. A. Murphy (GC), 5:44.32. 3,200: 1. David Vandekerckhove (C'ville), 11:37.5; 2. Whitaker (GC), 1:57.5; 3. Matthias Hoffman (C'ville), 1:59.35. 400 relay: 1. Clarenceville (Bryant, Denzale Leonard, Hogan, Kelly), 46.88; 2. Garden City, 47.01; 800 relay: 1. Garden City, 1:38.32; 2. Clarenceville (Bryant, Leonard, Brown, Kelly), 1:39.24; 1,600 relay: 1. Clarenceville (Jatta, K. Dooley, Brown, C. Dooley), 4:01.26; 2. Garden City, 4:05.47; 3. 200 relay: 1. Clarenceville (Jones, Vandekerckhove, K. Dooley, C. Dooley), 9:31.33; 2. Garden City, 9:49.32. Dual meet records: Clarenceville, 1-0 overall; Garden City, 0-1 overall. GIRLS TRACK RESULTS GARDEN CITY 80 LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE 29 March 31 at Clarenceville Shot put: 1. C. Teadorscu (GC), 29 feet, 4.25 inches; 2. S. Jo Gauthier (GC), 26-11.5; 3. S. Taylor (GC), 26-9. Discus: 1. Teadorscu (GC), 90-8; 2. Emily Jasmir (C'ville), 79-9; 3. L. Gazley (GC), 69-5. High jump: 1. S. Taylor (GC), 4-2. Long jump: 1. K. Barker (GC), 11-1; 2. D.

Collier (GC), 10-8; 3. N. Pettit (GC), 10-5. 100-meter hurdles: 1. Evangelia Daniels (C'ville), 19.27; 2. Fiona (GC), 21.8. 300 hurdles: 1. Daniels (C'ville), 56.31; 2. Micah Willingham (C'ville), 56.88; 3. F. Greenshields (GC), 1:06.52. 100 dash: 1. K. Whitlow (GC), 13.87; 2. Collier (GC), 14.13; 3. Tangelia Dooley (C'ville), 14.89. 200: 1. Whitlow (GC), 28.9; 2. Taylor (GC), 29.61; 3. Kamaaria Sanders (C'ville), 30.69. 400: 1. Ayanna Buckley (C'ville), 1:07.35; 2. L. Ehrhiet (GC), 1:07.76; 3. B. Grant (GC), 1:13.46. 800: 1. Melani Kieling (C'ville), 3:04.02; 2. A. Wilamowski (GC), 3:09.28; 3. Barker (GC), 3:13.58. 1,600: 1. Szczembara (GC), 6:33.16; 2. Wilamowski (GC), 6:45.31; 3. S. Zachos (GC), 6:45.48. 400 relay: 1. Garden City, 56.76; 2. Clarenceville (Amber Bell, Sanders, Kayla Dumas, Mya Banks), 57.94; 800 relay: 1. Clarenceville (Willingham, Sanders, Dumas, Buckley), 1:56.35; 2. Garden City, 1:59.69. 1,600 relay: 1. Garden City, 4:46.94; 2. Clarenceville (Dooley, Bell, Banks, Buckley), 5:11.45. Dual meet records: Garden City, 1-0 overall; Clarenceville, 0-1 overall.

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# Net appraisal of All-Area cagers: outstanding

## FIRST TEAM

**Kari Schmitt, Sr., F, Canton:** For the second straight season, the Chiefs reached the Final Four and the outstanding all-around play of Schmitt had plenty to do with that.

Schmitt scored 12.4 points per game and contributed 6.5 rebounds per contest, along with three steals and assists.

The All-KLAA South Division selection helped spark Canton to a record of 24-3, including championships in the division, conference, district and regional.

"Kari had an outstanding year," Canton coach Brian Samulski said about the 6-0 senior. "The thing that makes Kari so good is she does everything well. She did everything for us: scored, rebounded, guarded the post or perimeter and she was a great leader."

Kari and twin sister Sara will play Division I women's hockey next year at Ohio State University.

**Kayla Bridges, Sr., F, Canton:** Another key component of Canton's juggernaut of recent seasons is the 6-0 senior forward.

Bridges was strong in the paint and could knock down outside shots when called upon. She finished with 12.8 points and 5.8 rebounds per game.

"Kayla's ability to score around the rim is outstanding," Samulski said. "She was relentless when it came to offensive rebounding. Kayla also did a great job of guarding opponents' inside players."

Also on the All-KLAA South Division team, Bridges will continue her basketball career at Wayne State University.

She currently is playing for Canton's varsity girls soccer team as a goalkeeper.

**Janelle McQueen, Sr., G, Farm. Hills Mercy:** The senior guard led the Marlins to an 18-6 record, the Catholic League championship and a Class A regional final.

She averaged 13 points per game, as well as three rebounds, two assists and three steals. McQueen, who is going to Texas Southern University to play basketball, was frequently on the finishing end of the fast break and played a key role in the Mercy defense.

"Janelle really became a complete, consistent player this year," coach Gary Morris said. "She had shown flashes last year, but really took her overall game to another level. She was a better shooter, driver and defender. Janelle was our go-to player on offense, and she was a big part of our tremendously successful season this year."

**Chelsea Williams, Sr., PG, Liv. Franklin:** The three-year starter and team captain averaged 22 points, eight assists, five steals

**2010-11 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS BASKETBALL FIRST-TEAM**  
 Kari Schmitt, Sr., F, Canton  
 Kayla Bridges, Sr., F, Canton  
 Janelle McQueen, Sr., G, Farm. Hills Mercy  
 Chelsea Williams, Sr., PG, Liv. Franklin  
 Erica Covile, Jr., G-F, Westland Glenn  
 Andie Anastos, Soph., PG, Liv. Ladywood

**SECOND-TEAM**  
 Jasmine Harris, Jr., G, N. Farmington  
 Sara Schmitt, Sr., F, Canton  
 Heidi Schmidt, Sr., G, Salem  
 Teresa Wojnarowski, Sr., F, Liv. Ladywood  
 Bri'janae Durrough, Fresh., G, Red. Thurston  
 Joslyn Massey, Jr., F, Westland Glenn

**THIRD-TEAM**  
 Robyn Mack, Jr., G, Canton  
 Cherrish Willis, Jr., G, Farmington  
 Eman Hubbard, Jr., C, Farm. Harrison  
 Sam Fischer, Sr., G, Garden City  
 Kate Watson, Jr., G, Plymouth  
 Jordan York, Jr., G, Liv. Stevenson

**FOURTH-TEAM**  
 Candice Leatherwood, Fr., G, Mercy  
 Brianna Harris, Sr., G, Ply. Christian  
 Aaron Howell, Soph., G, Farmington  
 Andrea Gordon-McClain, Sr., F, Westland Glenn  
 Amanda Borico, Sr., F, Liv. Franklin  
 Molly Knopf, Jr., G, Liv. Stevenson  
 Melanie Pickert, Sr., G, Canton

**CO-COACHES OF YEAR**  
 Dave Browne, Farmington  
 Gary Morris, Farm. Hills Mercy

**HONORABLE MENTION**  
 Canton: CarolAnn Sexauer;  
 Plymouth: Alex Roberts, Kylie Robb, Alyssa Dillon; Salem: Katelynn Krause, Breanne Beaver; Plymouth Christian: Emily Gerulis, Karen Windle, Bethany Hale, Jenny Malcom; Farmington: Lida Baur, Tamara Anthony, Raven Williams; Harrison: Marissa Cotton, Joslyn Wilcox, Emma Williams, Lisa McFarland; Thurston: Taylor Hunt, Arielle Paris; Redford Union: Jordan Heber; Garden City: Carley Shattleroe, Hillarie Werda; Mercy: Alexa Bahoura, Lauren Reinhold, Abbey Lovat, Sarah Benson, Elena Viachos, LaRae Prater, Sam Bauer; North Farmington: Emily Ancona, Halleie Kansman, Stevie Jones, Kaitlyn Kendall; Churchill: Erin Menard, Sydney Anderson; Franklin: Jessica Emery; Stevenson: Kristen Balhorn, Charlesann Roy, Monika Rudis; John Glenn: Kaira Barnes, Shakeya Graves; Wayne Memorial: Holland Boertje, Ashley Bland; Ladywood: Alyssa Anastos, Briana Combs; Kiley Gorskit; Clarenceville: Jenna Burgess, Brittany Tallman; Lutheran Westland: Amanda Terranelia, Aldreanna Fikes; Huron Valley Lutheran: Katie Nell.

Covile, an All-KLAA selection, is already a coveted college recruit.

"Eric is a smart and unselfish player," Glenn coach Mark Anderson said. "She can do it all on the court and has a great understanding how to play basketball. She's a quiet leader that gets things done. She led our team in scoring."

**Andie Anastos, Soph., PG, Liv. Ladywood:** The 5-9 sophomore point guard led the Blazers to a Class A district crown and a share of the Catholic League's Central Division regular season title after averaging 14.3 points, 4.8 rebounds, 4.5 assists and two steals per game.

"In my opinion, she was the best player on the floor in every game she played in and we played an extremely tough schedule," Ladywood coach Anthony Coratti said. "Andie is a true 'gamer' as she shine in the biggest games we played in."

Anastos, an all-Catholic League selection, also carries a 3.87 grade-point average.

"Some of the performances she put on throughout the year just left me smiling and saying, 'Wow,'" Coratti added. "Andie's high level of natural talent, coupled with her unrelenting passion to compete and get better, will provide for a very fun couple of years to coach."

**Sara Schmitt, Sr., F, Canton:** The 5-11 senior provided superb defense and leadership for the Division 1 semifinalist Chiefs.

Schmitt chipped in on offense, with 8.2 points per game. She averaged 5.5 rebounds and 4.3 assists, plus 2.2 steals nightly.

But the All-KLAA South Division choice really was a thorn in the side of opponents' top offensive players, helping Canton keep scores low and thus roll through the schedule and postseason.

"Sara's defense and vision on the floor was huge for us this year," Samulski said. "Sara did a great job of defending some of the state's best players. Her ability to find the open player and get them the ball was terrific."

Schmitt will play D-I women's hockey at Ohio State University with twin sister Kari. Both also were varsity swimmers at Canton.

**Heidi Schmidt, Sr., G, Salem:** Veteran Salem head coach Fred Thomann can't stop praising the sweet-shooting 5-8 guard, and for good reason. Schmidt tried to jump-start the Rockets in the districts against Plymouth, scoring 11 fourth-quarter points — although her yeoman efforts weren't quite enough.

"She just had a wonderful senior season," Thomann said. "She's just an outstanding ath-



Kari Schmitt  
Canton



Kayla Bridges  
Canton



Janelle  
McQueen  
Mercy



Chelsea  
Williams  
Franklin



Erica Covile  
John Glenn



Andie Anastos  
Livonia  
Ladywood



Sara Schmitt  
Canton



Heidi Schmidt  
Salem



Teresa  
Wojnarowski  
Ladywood



Jasmine Harris  
North  
Farmington



Bri'janae  
Durrough  
Thurston



Joslyn Massey  
John Glenn

lete who truly was the leader of our club this year. As the only senior on our club, she really gave us the leadership we needed to be competitive in many of the games we played."

She led the Rocks (9-12) in scoring with an average of 12.3 points, and contributed 5.4 rebounds per game (second on the team).

Schmitt's third year on the Salem varsity and second as a starter was rewarded with selection to the All-KLAA Central Division team.

**Teresa Wojnarowski, Sr., F, Liv. Ladywood:** The 5-10 senior forward averaged 12.2 points, 7.1 rebounds and 1.7 assists as the Blazers finished 18-6 overall.

"She was a rock of consistency throughout the year with her relentless effort on both ends of the floor," Coratti said of the all-Catholic League pick. "She was asked to play basically every position for us and shine in every role she played — often times shutting down an opposing team's best player. She is the epitome of my ideal basketball player — a high-character kid that has a tireless desire to compete. There was never a player on the floor that played harder than her."

**Jasmine Harris, Jr., G, N. Farmington:** The 5-foot-10 junior guard averaged 19.1 points and eight rebounds while competing against top competition in the OAA Red Division.

Harris, a three-year varsity player, also averaged 2.2 steals and one block. She has 840 points in her prep career. Harris had a career-high 34 against Pontiac, surpassing her previous best of 29 vs. OAA Blue Division champion Farmington.

"For her to have the season she had statistically, considering most teams knew about her and put their best defender against her, it was a great year for her in our division," coach Tim Carruthers said. "Her role had to change this year with the kids we lost last year. We

looked for her to be more of a scorer and leader, and I think she stepped into those roles nicely."

**Bri'janae Durrough, Fr. G, Red. Thurston:** The freshman guard played well beyond her years, earning the Eagles' starting point guard duties from Day 1 and not disappointing. She led her team in scoring (15 points per game), assists (7.0) and steals (3.0).

"It took a while for the rest of the team to adjust to having a freshman point guard, but once they did, we went 8-2 at the end of the season," Thurston head coach Marvin Essix said. "She was never fazed by playing against bigger, older girls. The older she gets, the better she'll get."

**Joslyn Massey, Jr., F, Westland Glenn:** The 6-0 junior forward became eligible midway through the season after transferring from Detroit Renaissance, where she played on the Class A state runner-up team as a sophomore.

Massey wasted little time, averaging 10 points, 13 rebounds, three assists and two blocks per game for the Rockets.

"She joined the team late and started to contribute right away," Anderson said of the All-KLAA choice. "She's very athletic with so much potential. Joslyn works hard every day at making herself into a better player. She loves to defend and rebound."

## CO-COACHES OF YEAR

**Gary Morris, Farm. Hills Mercy:** The Marlins played well down the stretch, winning seven straight games to claim their

first Catholic League championship since 1983. Mercy defeated Class B state champion Divine Child in the semis and Ladywood in the final. The Marlins were



Gary Morris  
Mercy coach

district champs and regional finalists for the fourth time in six years, division champs and league finalists for the second time in five years.

"We've been able to achieve all of this and build a solid program because of many hard-working, coachable players and dedicated parents," Morris said. "I've been fortunate to have an outstanding coaching staff, too."

Dennis Janer (varsity), Bob Uhrin (JV) and Rich Mardeusz (freshman) have been on staff for the seven years Morris has been at Mercy. Varsity assistants Jim Lovat and Nuverre Naami have been with the program four years. Kristin Porubsky and Kaitlyn Mardeusz, both former Mercy players like Naami, joined the staff for the 2010-11 season.

"These coaches are talented and so very committed to our program and players," Morris said.

**Dave Browne, Farmington:** In his second season at Farmington, Browne guided the Falcons to the OAA Blue Division championship with a 14-0 record. They also set a school record for single-season victories with a 17-4 overall record.

Farmington finished the regular season with an 11-game winning streak.

"I had a good feeling going into the season," Browne said. "I didn't know we were going to be

17-3. That was a result of the girls working hard. It's a great group of girls, and it was great to see their efforts pay off."

"We thought we had a chance to be in (contention for the title). We thought we could be good, but a lot of things needed to go our way. The girls dug in and did a good job. They worked hard in practice and made my job easy."



Dave Browne  
Farmington coach

# Fielding miscues cost Wayne dearly; Churchill triumphs in season opener

Wayne Memorial unraveled on Friday, committing seven errors as Dearborn Heights Crestwood rolled to a 18-8 baseball win over the host Zebras.

Myles Jordan and Ben Sniezek each collected two hits for the victorious Chargers, who improved to 3-0 overall.

Nick Gruz was the winning pitcher, while Wayne's Brandon Harnos suffered the loss.

Wayne out-hit Crestwood, 12-8, with Kyle Casey going 2-for-4 with two RBI.

Zach Lankton, Jeremy Brown, Tom Briggs and Harnos also added two hits apiece.

The loss drops Wayne to 1-1 overall.

**CHURCHILL 6, HARRISON 2:** On Thursday, senior catcher Joe Williams went 2-for-2 and knocked in three runs to lead host Livonia Churchill (1-0) to a season-opening victory over Farmington Hills Harrison (0-2).

Ben Matigian also added two hits and two RBI for the Chargers, who broke a 1-1 deadlock with four runs in the fourth inning.

Winning pitcher Troy Bogenschutz went the first five innings, allowing one run on four hits. He struck out six and walked only one before Matigian finished up.

The Hawks used four pitchers with Nick Congemi taking the loss in relief. Hunter Henderson and Dallas

## PREP BASEBALL

Sutton each collected two hits for Harrison.

**BELLEVILLE 6, JOHN GLENN 4:** Scott Powell's 2-run triple sparked a 3-run sixth inning uprising Friday as the Tigers (1-1) downed host Westland John Glenn (0-2).

Powell went 2-for-4 with three RBI, while Brendan Temple added two hits and scored two runs for Belleville.

Zack Quinn went 2-for-4 with an RBI and two runs scored for John Glenn. Rob Schurig added three RBI, including a 2-run single in the third inning.

Jesse Smitherman, who worked the final four innings in relief of starter Colton Lipinski, was the losing pitcher. Belleville stater Ryan Fitzpatrick worked the first five innings to earn the victory. He allowed three runs on six hits, walked two and struck out four.

On Wednesday, host Milford beat the Rockets in the first game of a twinbill, 9-7.

Glenn led 3-2 in the nightcap before the game was suspended because of darkness.

**FRANKLIN 8, DEARBORN 2:** Winning pitcher Joel Trudell had a double and added a solo homer Thursday as Livonia Franklin (1-1) downed the Pioneers (0-1).

Trudell went five innings, allowing six singles and just one run. He struck out six and walked two before giving way to Josh Gorman, who went two

innings, allowing two hits and two walks while fanning three.

Travis Barnes added two hits for the Patriots, including a double and two RBI. Gorman contributed a 2-run single.

Ryan Hansen collected two hits for Dearborn, including a solo homer in the top of the seventh.

Caleb Abston, who went three innings, was the losing pitcher. **WAYNE 6, REDFORD UNION 5:** Chris Bailey made a successful debut as Wayne Memorial coach Wednesday as Wayne Memorial (1-0) pulled out a dramatic win at home against Redford Union (0-2) in the season opener for both teams.

Shane Kommer, who had struck out in his first four at-bats, came through with an RBI single to score Jordan Lowry with the game-winning run in the bottom of the seventh and nice way to get the season started," Bailey said.

Wayne led 5-2 through five innings before RU tied it with three runs in the top of the fifth.

Wayne out-hit the Panthers, 13-3, as Lefler led the way going 3-for-5 with an RBI and three stolen bases. Wilson and Tom Briggs each added two hits.

Senior Kyle Casey was the winning pitcher in relief. Shane Wilson and Jacob Lefler went three innings apiece as the Wayne trio combined for 13 strikeouts.

## THE WEEK AHEAD

**PREP BASEBALL**  
 Tuesday, April 5  
 Lake Orion at Stevenson, 3:30 p.m.  
 Churchill at Garden City, 4 p.m.  
 Wayne at Ypsilanti (2), 4 p.m.  
 Flat Rock at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.  
 Ypsi Calvary at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m.  
 Wednesday, April 6  
 Crestwood at John Glenn, 4 p.m.  
 Thursday, April 7  
 Churchill at Dearborn, 4 p.m.  
 Franklin at Lincoln Park, 4 p.m.  
 Novi-Detroit CC at Stevenson, 4:30 p.m.  
 Friday, April 8  
 Wayne at Taylor Truman (2), 4 p.m.  
 Saturday, April 9  
 (all double-headers)  
 Franklin at Edsel Ford, 11 a.m.  
 Woodhaven at Stevenson, 11 a.m.  
 Annapolis at Luth. Westland, 11 a.m.  
 Huron Valley at Franklin Road, 11 a.m.  
**GIRLS SOFTBALL**  
 Monday, April 4  
 Harper Woods at Luth. Westland, 5 p.m.  
 Tuesday, April 5  
 Macomb Christ. at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.  
 Wednesday, April 6  
 Crestwood at John Glenn, 4 p.m.  
 Thursday, April 7  
 Churchill at Dearborn, 4 p.m.  
 Oak Christian at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m.  
 Friday, April 8  
 Wayne at Taylor Truman (2), 4 p.m.  
 Saturday, April 9  
 (all double-headers unless noted)  
 Redford Union at Stevenson, 11 a.m.  
 Annapolis at Luth. Westland, 11 a.m.  
 Huron Valley at Franklin Road, 11 a.m.  
 Ladywood at Boardman (Ohio), TBA.  
**GIRLS SOCCER**  
 Monday, April 4  
 Salem at Churchill, 7 p.m.  
 Crestwood at Franklin, 7 p.m.  
 Tuesday, April 5  
 Parkway at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.  
 Ladywood at Warren Regina, 5:30 p.m.  
 Wednesday, April 6  
 Belleville at Wayne, 4 p.m.  
 Franklin at Garden City, 7 p.m.  
 Thursday, April 7  
 Ladywood at Mercy, 5:30 p.m.  
 Friday, April 8  
 Belleville at John Glenn, 4 p.m.  
 Garden City at Wayne, 4 p.m.  
**BOYS & GIRLS TRACK & FIELD**  
 Tuesday, April 5  
 John Glenn at Churchill, 3:30 p.m.  
 Franklin at Wayne, 3:30 p.m.  
 Salem at Stevenson, 4 p.m.  
 Mercy at Ladywood, 4 p.m.

Luth. Westland at Annapolis, 4:30 p.m.  
 Saturday, April 9  
 Shrine Inv. at Ladywood, noon.  
 Carleton Airport Invitational, TBA.  
**GIRLS TENNIS**  
 Monday, April 4  
 John Glenn at Canton, 4 p.m.  
 Tuesday, April 5  
 Wayne at Churchill, 4 p.m.  
 Franklin at Plymouth, 4 p.m.  
 Monroe at Stevenson, 4 p.m.  
 Ladywood vs. Grosse Ile at Schoolcraft College, 4:30 p.m.  
 Thursday, April 7  
 Churchill at John Glenn, 4 p.m.  
 Canton at Franklin, 4 p.m.  
 Northville at Stevenson, 4 p.m.  
 Ladywood vs. B.H. Cranbrook at Schoolcraft College, 4:30 p.m.  
 Friday, April 8  
 John Glenn at Garden City, 4 p.m.  
 Belleville at Wayne, 4 p.m.  
 Saturday, April 9  
 Livonia Inv. at Stevenson, 9 a.m.  
**BOYS GOLF**  
 Thursday, April 7  
 Huron Valley vs. Franklin Road at Warren Valley G.C., 3:30 p.m.  
 Saturday, April 9  
 MIAC Tune-up Meet, TBA.  
**GIRLS LACROSSE**  
 Monday, April 4  
 Warren Regina at Ladywood, 6 p.m.  
 Wednesday, April 6  
 Mercy at Ladywood, 6 p.m.  
 Saturday, April 9  
 Ladywood vs. Plymouth, noon.  
**MEN'S COLLEGE BASEBALL**  
 (all double-headers)  
 Sunday, April 3  
 Siena Heights at Madonna, 1 p.m.  
 Wednesday, April 6  
 Madonna at Walsh (Ohio), 1 p.m.  
 Thursday, April 7  
 Bethel (Ind.) at Madonna, 1 p.m.  
 Saturday, April 9  
 Indiana Tech at Madonna, 1 p.m.  
 Sunday, April 10  
 Indiana Tech at Madonna, 1 p.m.  
**WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOFTBALL**  
 (all double-headers)  
 Sunday, April 3  
 Notre Dame (Ohio) at Madonna, 1 p.m.  
 Wednesday, April 6  
 Madonna at Concordia, 4 p.m.  
 Saturday, April 9  
 Madonna at Indiana Tech, 1 p.m.  
 Sunday, April 10  
 Madonna at Aquinas College, 1 p.m.  
 TBA — time to be announced.

# Crusaders romp to 4 WHAC wins

Chalk up two quick victories Friday afternoon for the 20th-ranked Madonna University softball team.

The host Crusaders improved to 23-4 overall and 4-0 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference with a pair of five-inning, mercy-rule triumphs over Cornerstone University, 9-1 and 8-0.

Both Hallie Minch (Garden City) and Tara LaMilza homered for MU in the opener. LaMilza went 2-for-3 with three RBI, while Jackie Barley was 2-for-3 with two RBI.

Kelly Lesko, Carlee Meek and Erin Mayes also knocked in runs as the Crusaders put it away with five runs in the fifth inning.

Winning pitcher Jess Irwin (12-3) struck out 10, walked two and allowed just three hits, one a solo homer by Melanie Creager in the third inning.

In the nightcap, Minch threw five scoreless innings to improve to 11-1 overall. She struck out six and did not allow a walk.

LaMilza, the right fielder, went 2-for-3, including her third homer of the year, with three RBI.

Catcher Ashley Shay (Garden City/Dearborn Divine Child) went 3-for-3 with an RBI.

## COLLEGE SOFTBALL

Erica Landess also knocked in two runs, while Barley collected three hits.

The loss dropped the Golden Eagles to 9-7 overall and 0-2 in the WHAC. MADONNA 10-10, CONCORDIA 2-1. Despite being off for nine days, there was no rust as the Crusaders (21-4, 2-0) opened WHAC play with a double-header sweep over host Concordia University (1-11, 0-2) at Cardinal Field.

MU collected nine hits in opener as winning pitcher Hallie Minch helped her own cause with a 3-run homer.

Erica Landess also belted her fourth homer of the year, a 2-run shot, while Amber Rafko added a 3-run blast, her fourth of the season as well.

Jackie Barley and Tara LaMilza each contributed two hits in the win.

Minch improved to 10-1 as she scattered six hits over six innings. She walked three and struck out three.

In the nightcap, Erin Mayes clubbed a 2-run homer, while Kelly Lesko and Minch also knocked in two runs apiece in the five-inning mercy rule win.

Other RBI went to Ashley Shay, Barley, Arielle Cox and Landess.

Winning pitcher Jess Irwin (11-3) gave up just two hits, while striking out nine and walking one.

# Patriot bats scorch Dearborn, 11-1

Sophomore Caitlin Milican went 3-for-3 with an RBI double as Livonia Franklin rolled to a season-opening 11-1 girls softball victory Thursday over visiting Dearborn.

Senior Mariah Barcus also added two hits, including a double and four RBI, while senior shortstop Chelsea Williams went 2-for-4 with two runs, a stolen base and three assists.

Junior pitcher Tiffany Lambie allowed one earned run on just three hits and one walk in the five-inning mercy to pick up the win.

Losing pitcher Kristy Krawczyk gave up all 11 runs on 12 hits and six walks for

the Pioneers (0-1).

**JOHN GLENN 8-12, LINCOLN 6-6:** On Thursday, Rachel Romanek collected five hits on the day Westland John Glenn (2-0) took both ends of a double-header at Ypsilanti Lincoln (0-2).

Freshman pitcher Lexie Lester won both ends of the double-header. She struck out five and walked two in seven innings in the opener.

Brandi Hollbrook, Kailey Vowles and Romanek had two hits apiece in the first game. Holbrook also knocked in a pair of runs.

In the second game, Romanek contributed three hits, including a triple, while Vowles added two. Nicole Quaine also tripled.

**GREENHILLS 11, CLARENCEVILLE 7:** Ann Arbor Greenhills (1-0) jumped out to a 4-0 lead and never looked back to spoil the season opener

Wednesday for host Livonia Clarenceville (0-1).

Each team collected nine hits, but the Trojans committed five errors as senior pitcher Stephanie Bishop took the loss. In seven innings, Bishop allowed seven earned runs, walked five and struck out three.

"Bishop did enough for us to win, but we did not play defense," Clarenceville coach Joe DeCaire said. "It's disappointing, but it definitely gives us something to work on and get better at for later on in the season."

Bishop and senior Brittany Tallman each went 2-for-4 with two RBI apiece, while senior Joanna Burling added an RBI double in the first inning.

Winning pitcher Lauren Abbott, a freshman, went all seven innings, allowing seven runs. She struck out seven and walked five.

## BASEBALL

FROM PAGE B1

Lathrup.

"We got a nice roll going, you kind of hate to stop," Miller said. "But we'll keep going in practice to stay sharp."

**CLARENCEVILLE 9, REDFORD UNION 4:** Livonia Clarenceville (2-0) spotted Redford Union (0-2) an early 2-run lead before storming back Thursday for a victory.

The host Trojans collected a total of 13 hits with Damien Quarles leading the way going 4-for-4 with a double, four runs scored and

three stolen bases.

All nine Clarenceville starters collected hits including Dan Blacker, 2-for-3 with two runs and a stolen base; Eric Trotter, double and five RBI; and Jimmy Moody, two RBI.

Trotter, the winning pitcher, gave up four runs on four hits over six innings. He walked four and struck out six. Reliever Ben Gehan fanned two and did allow a hit to close out the game.

RU led 3-1 after one inning on a 2-run triple by Jimmy Blatchen.

Clarenceville answered with a run in the first, four more in the second and two each in the fourth and fifth innings.

**CLARENCEVILLE 8, GREENHILLS 0:** Junior Damien Quarles was sharp on the mound and potent

at the plate Wednesday as host Livonia Clarenceville (1-0) blanked Ann Arbor Greenhills (0-1) in the season opener.

Quarles, a junior, reached his 75-pitch count as he struck out nine, walked three and allowed just three hits in five innings.

Reliever Ben Gehan pitched two scoreless innings in relief while fanning four and not allowing a hit.

Quarles also went 3-for-3 offensively with a double, two RBI and two stolen bases.

Jimmy Moody also went 3-for-3 with a double and two RBI, while Eric Trotter doubled, tripled and knocked in three runs.

Tyler Weed added a double for the Trojans, who scored one run in the first, three in the fourth and four more in the fifth.

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# Meaningful gift

## Moms bond by giving, receiving breast milk for adopted babies

BY SHARON DARGAY  
O&E STAFF WRITER

Allie and Jenavieve are "sisters," but they are related by breast milk rather than by blood.

Allie's mom, Kathryn Rusak of Farmington Hills, was among the donors who gave breast milk to Jasmine Sovel-Charnesky's adopted daughter, Jenavieve, two years ago.

"In Islamic law, children who share the same breast milk are considered siblings. Even though we aren't Islamic, we consider all of the donors' babies Jenavieve's milk siblings and are very grateful to them, because without them, we wouldn't have the milk," said Sovel-Charnesky, also of Farmington Hills.

She and her husband are now in the process of adopting two children, age 3 and 1, from Ethiopia. They won't need breast milk, but if they adopt an infant in the future, they'll "definitely seek donated breast milk again."

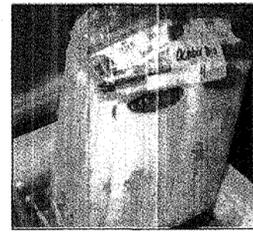
"I know that breast milk is so much better than formula. It is natural and has more health benefits. I didn't want my daughter to miss out on that just because I couldn't produce milk for her."

Sovel-Charnesky found donors through Milkshare.birthingforlife.org, a Web site that educates women about donating and receiving breast milk. It serves as a more personal alternative to milk banks, allowing women to post their needs and share information at an online forum.

One of Sovel-Charnesky's donors led her to Rusak, who had donated twice — a total of 490 ounces of breast milk — to Bronson Mother's Milk Bank in Kalamazoo while she was nursing



Kathryn Rusak of Farmington Hills meets "Claire," a baby she nourished with breast milk.



Kathryn Rusak of Farmington Hills says donating breast milk is the most meaningful donation she has ever made. Here, the bagged milk awaits shipping.

### DONATED BREAST MILK

**Jasmine Sovel-Charnesky's advice for recipients:** Trust your instincts.

"We didn't ask (the donor) to get tested or anything. She wasn't asking for compensation and we went to her house and met her and her daughter. If I had felt suspicious about anything, I wouldn't have given the milk to Jenavieve."

**Kathryn Rusak's advice to donors:**

Do your homework. Visit online sites and decide if you prefer a milk bank or more personal experience. Be honest about your diet, lifestyle habits, health and medication. Rusak is willing to answer questions from other potential donors at karusak@hotmail.com

**Kate Dunham's experience:** "I learned that there are so many deserving families and babies out there that need breast milk. And that you don't have to donate to a milk bank to help them. In fact, I think the way I donated is better. I would never want a family to have to pay thousands of dollars for breast milk when there are people like myself and Katie (Rusak) out there to help them. We just need to get more education out there to new mothers."

**Helpful Web sites:** Eats on Feets Facebook page; Milkshare.birthingforlife.org; thebump.com (pregnancy, new moms); hmbana.org (Human Milk Banking Association of North America); bronsonhealth.com

Please see **BREAST MILK, B6**

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\*Rate quoted is applicable to a one bedroom, one bath apartment. This grand opening rate includes a special discount of \$400 applicable for first 12 months of residence. This rate does not include fees for additional occupants or optional services. Prices and incentives valid at Lyon Township location only.



# Bugs offer clues about river water quality

Registration deadline for Friends of the Rouge's Spring Bug Hunt is Friday, April 15. The Spring Bug Hunt is part of a long-term monitoring program that enlists the help of local residents to collect information about the health of Rouge streams. Volunteers who register for the hunt will look for bugs in samples taken from the river on Saturday, April 30. Children are welcome when accompanied by a participating adult. The event will begin at 9 a.m. at the University of Michigan-Dearborn's

Environmental Interpretive Center. Volunteers are assigned to teams of 4-8 individuals and will travel to two sites along the Rouge. The number and type of bugs found is used to assess each site and data are submitted to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources & Environment and Rouge communities. It is coordinated by Friends of the Rouge and supported by the Erb Family Foundation. For more information or to sign up, visit [www.therouge.org](http://www.therouge.org).

# Restaurant helps hunger initiatives

"Las Palapas Authentic Mexican Restaurant," one of Livonia's newest eateries, will donate half of its net proceeds from food and beverage sales on Tuesday, April 5 to United Way for Southeastern Michigan's food programs. "The community has shown us tremendous support in the weeks since we opened," stated proprietor Cesar Ochoa. "This is a family business, and we serve food to patrons as if they were members of our own family. We also know we have a responsibility to support people in the community who are struggling to get enough food. With this fundraiser, we are eager to support United Way's food work." The restaurant, which opened in February, serves authentic Mexican cuisine, including dishes made from Ochoa family recipes. The fundraiser will include prizes, lively music and other specials. "Las Palapas" is open seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. and is located at 33308 Plymouth Road, Livonia. (734) 762-7003.

# Jump and raise autism awareness

Pump It Up of Canton will offer two special jump programs April 7 to raise awareness of autism. Sensory Jump Time, developed in conjunction with Autism Speaks, will run from 3-5 p.m. for children with autism and their families. The Great Open Jump, designed to raise money for Autism Speaks, will run from 6-9 p.m., and give families a chance to play on giant, inflatable structures while donating to a good cause. During Sensory Jump Time, Pump It Up's trained staff will lead games that have been deemed appropriate for children with autism. The facility's lights, music and procedures will be altered to provide the most safe and fun sensory environment for guests on the spectrum. The debut event is free to children with autism and their families. Pump It Up, located at 46090 Michigan Ave., offers indoor, gigantic inflatable-filled arenas and private party rooms. (734) 495-1222

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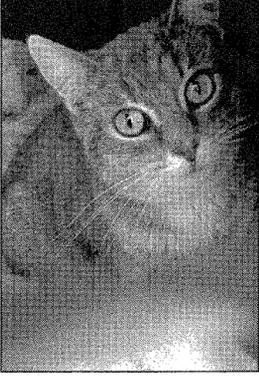
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Guardian Angel Animal Rescue nursed this cat back to health after her leg was caught in a snare trap and subsequently amputated. She's ready for adoption.



Volunteers at Guardian Angel Animal Rescue in Westland have helped "Bear" through a sad start in life. He's now ready for adoption.

# Rescue features special needs cat, puppy for local adoption

BY SHARON DARGAY  
O&E STAFF WRITER

## PETS OF THE WEEK

Prayers and lots of TLC helped Baby Girl and Bear overcome life-threatening injuries to become the featured adoptable animals this week from Guardian Angel Animal Rescue (GAAR) in Westland.

Baby Girl was caught in a snare trap and Sandra Mezza, president of GAAR, suspects she suffered for a week before a neighbor alerted them. The neighbor told GAAR that the cat had roamed her Commerce Township neighborhood and lived outside for about two years.

"One of the residents did not want her around anymore so they sent a trap, a snare. She was able to wiggle her way out of it before they could get to her. By the time we were called it was too late — the leg was infected and damaged beyond repair so we had to have it amputated," Mezza said, noting that Jeffrey Vet in Livonia performed the surgery. "She was so frightened and in so much pain. I can't imagine how horrible that was for her."

Mezza said the cat is learning to walk on three legs and is doing well. She uses a litter box with no problems.

"She is so loving and purrs the loudest when you are rubbing her tummy. She is looking for a family to love her and show her what it is like to be a spoiled indoor princess kitty."

Bear was only 3 weeks old when GAAR rescued him. He had a hole in his stomach and his outlook was grim, but vet tech Joan Hawkins and volunteer Brittney Shute nursed him back to health and now, at 8 weeks, he is ready for adoption.

Mezza said Bear came from a Detroit home, where his mother delivered a litter of puppies in a backyard doghouse.

"The mom had chewed the belly cord off too close to the skin of the tummy and it became infected, the man (owner) started pouring straight peroxide on the injury, and the peroxide ate right through the skin so you could see his insides,"

Mezza said. "When the man realized that this puppy was going to die — at this time the pup was only 3 weeks old and fit into the palm of my hand — the man somehow found our number and told us if we did not come get him asap, he would kill the puppy."

GAAR works with a family in Detroit that rescues pets from some of the worst circumstances in the city. The family retrieved Bear for Mezza's organization and tried to convince the owner to give up the mom and her puppies.

Mezza said he declined "because that was how he made his living, on selling the puppies."

"We did leave our number with him just in case."

Bear, whose body temperature was so low that Mezza didn't think he'd survive, now is up to date on his baby vaccines and is micro-chipped.

"He is a German Shepherd and is going to be a big boy."

Potential adopters can make an appointment to meet Baby Girl or Bear by calling (734) 516-2171, e-mailing to info@gaarmichigan.org or visiting www.gaarmichigan.org.

# Cat show, animal welfare brunch planned

## ALL ABOUT CATS

The Cat Fanciers' Association (CFA) will hold an all breed, specialty and household pet cat show, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. April 9-10, at the Allen Park Community Center, 15800 White Street Allen Park.

The show will feature two days of judged competition. Visitors also will get a chance to ask exhibitors and breeders questions about their cats and they'll see cats close up, including Persians, Maine Coons, Orientals, Birmans, Tonkinese, Ragdolls, Siamese, Bombays and more.

The show is sponsored by the Just Cat-In-Around Cat Fanciers, a local non-profit cat club. Internationally qualified CFA judges will evaluate the cats.

Admission is \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors, \$4 for children, 6-12 and free for children, 5 and under. Parking is free.

For more information visit www.cfa.org or e-mail to cihawley@comcast.net or hodos@aol.com.



## BOW WOW BRUNCH

Eight of metro Detroit's prominent community members have volunteered to be in the "doghouse," to raise funds for the Michigan Humane Society (MHS). Each will try to raise \$5,000 in donations to get out of the "dog house" and earn the title "Top Dog" at MHS's upcoming Bow Wow Brunch, April 10 at the Dearborn Inn.

Participants include Patrick Eaves, Detroit Red Wings right wing; Robert A. Ficano, Wayne County executive; Carol Hutchins, University of Michigan softball coach; Jean Jennings, editor-in-chief and president of *Automobile Magazine*; Peter Karmanos, Compuware chairman and CEO; Bob Lutz, former vice chairman, General Motors; James Peabody, a physician with Henry Ford Health Systems; and Jay Towers, morning show host on 100.3 WNIC and weekend anchor on Fox 2 Detroit.

Donations are accepted through their fundraising pages at www.michiganhumane.org.

MHS' 22nd annual Bow Wow Brunch begins at 11:30 a.m. on April 10 with a champagne reception, silent auction, and the opportunity to mingle with adoptable animals. A gourmet brunch and live auction will follow. The live auction will feature a variety of exclusive items, including a trip to Chicago; a Detroit Tigers package that includes 4 tickets, a chance to take batting practice and throw the first pitch out at Comerica Park; Breakfast with the Giraffes at the Detroit Zoo and more.

Tickets to the Bow Wow Brunch begin at \$200 and seating is limited. To reserve tickets, call (866) MHUMANE, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday or buy tickets online at www.michiganhumane.org.

Proceeds from this year's Bow Wow Brunch will assist MHS in finding homes for all adoptable animals, furthering innovative community outreach efforts, and supporting critical sterilization programs.

**HSV EARN KUDOS**

The Humane Society of Huron Valley (HSV) was honored for its innovative animal welfare programs and its efforts to reduce euthanasia of homeless animals, at the Michigan Pet Fund Alliance conference, "Getting to the Goal," Friday, March 25 in Ann Arbor. HSV serves Washtenaw County, Plymouth and Canton.

Representatives from the organization joined staff and volunteers from other animal shelters and rescues from around the state at the event, which included workshops on a variety of animal welfare topics.

# Exhibit focuses on artwork showing Michigan's beauty

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See a new exhibit, meet the artists and attend an arts fundraiser this week at the Plymouth Community Arts Council.

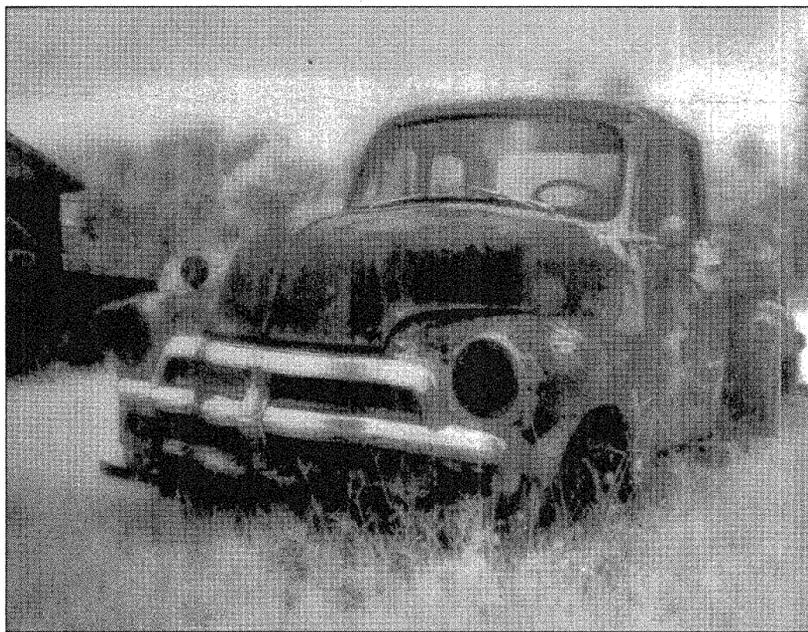
The fun begins Monday, April 4, with the Council's open exhibition, Pure Art Michigan, which drew almost 100 submissions from approximately 50 artists from metro Detroit.

The Council invited artists to submit work that highlights the unique beauty of the state. It received photography, oil paintings, watercolors, acrylics, pastels, colored pencil art, mixed media and wood block prints. Themes ranged from recognizable Michigan landmarks to more personal perceptions of the state's beauty around us.

Most of the pieces will be for sale.

A reception for the artists is planned from 3-5 p.m. Saturday, April 9. Refreshments will be served and visitors can vote for their favorite piece to receive the People's Choice Award, which will be announced at the end of the month.

The Council's annual gala reception, "Its Arts - Pure &



"Da Yooper Mobile," an infrared digital photo by Allen Brooks, is on display at the Plymouth Community Arts Council.

Simple," runs 6:30-10 p.m. Friday, April 8. In addition to viewing the "Pure Art of Michigan" exhibit, visitors will enjoy cocktails and desserts from the PCEP culinary program. Local musicians will perform, and items from Plymouth-area merchants and artists will be available through raffles, door prizes and auctions. Potential bid-

ders may view auction items at www.plymoutharts.com. The highlight of the evening will be the raffle of a new iPad valued at more than \$800. Guests also may enter to win a painting by PCAC artist and instructor Pam Grossmann, or purchase limited, one-of-a-kind pottery plates by PCAC artist and instructor Jeff Burda.

The PCAC hopes to raise \$20,000 to continue its community art programs, such as Music in the Park, the Art Volunteer Program in conjunction with Plymouth Schools, Saturdays@the Penn, art classes and summer art camps, children's theater, concerts, art exhibits and more. Admission cost is a free-will donation of any amount. To RSVP, donate or sponsor the event, call the PCAC at (734) 416-4278 or e-mail to amy@plymoutharts.com by April 5.

The "Pure Art of Michigan" exhibit runs through April 28. It's open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, in Plymouth. Call (734) 455-4681 for more information.

# SOCIAL SECURITY

Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security Disability benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits.

Attorney J.B. Bieske can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary Bieske has won several hundred cases before a court date is even set.

Those denied can appeal on their own but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet.

Attorney Bieske has represented only Social Security Disability clients for over 27 years. That is the only type of law he practices. And, he personally meets with all clients and appears himself at all court hearings.

Many large firms assign clients to young associate attorneys with much less experience; and often these firms aren't even based in Michigan.

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject. He also has been interviewed on various radio and television programs and has given speeches to many groups.

Bieske's office staff consists of paralegals and secretaries who are extremely helpful in answering questions with regard to the status of client's cases and administrative procedure.

Attorney Bieske welcomes you to

call him to determine if you may be eligible for these benefits. He offers a free phone or office consultation. If Bieske represents you, there will be **no fee charged until after the case is won.** The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

In a recent radio interview attorney Bieske explained that many people are not even aware that they are eligible for Social Security Disability benefits. You may be eligible even if you have retired and are receiving a pension. If you have an illness or injury (whether or not related to your work), are under 65 and unable to work full-time you may be eligible. Social Security Disability benefits are based on your work record or your deceased spouse's work record (Widow's/Widower's benefits).

Call attorney J.B. Bieske at **1-800-331-3530** for a FREE consultation if you are considering applying for Social Security Disability Benefits or if you have been denied. His Livonia office is located on Six Mile Road just West of I-275 and his Novi office is on Haggerty just North of 12 Mile Road.

**www.ssdfighter.com**

# In Loving Memory

**Remember the mother you have lost by placing a Special Remembrance Tribute.**

The Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Weekly Newspapers will be publishing a special "In Remembrance" page for Mother's Day 2011. Here's the perfect opportunity to honor the memory and celebrate the life of your beloved mother who holds a special place in your heart.

Prices start at **\$15.00** for a photo "In Remembrance" ad

**Publication Dates:**  
Thursday, May 5th...in the Hometown Weekly Newspapers  
Sunday, May 8th...in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

**Deadline for both issues: Thursday, April 28th**  
Please specify in which group of newspapers you would like your "In Remembrance" to appear:

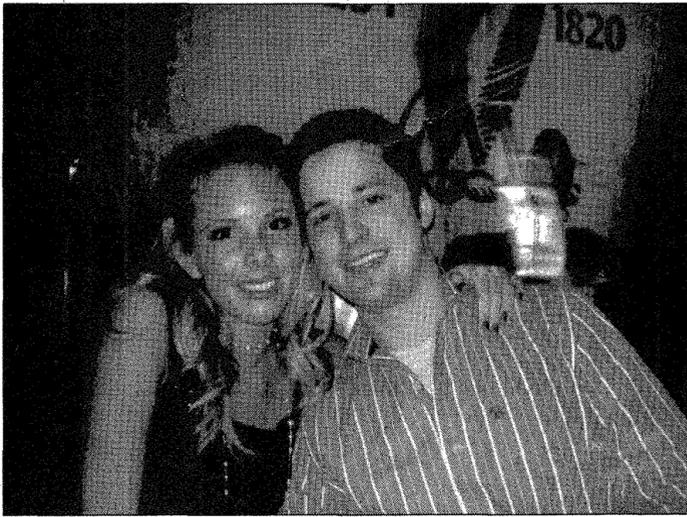
**Group 1: Observer & Eccentric Newspapers** serving the Canton, Farmington, Garden City, Livonia, Plymouth, Redford, Westland, Birmingham, Royal Oak, Clawson, Berkley, Ferndale, Huntington Woods, Pleasant Ridge and Southfield communities.

**Group 2: Hometown Weekly Newspapers** serving the Milford, Northville, Novi and South Lyon communities.

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2012 WEDDING PLANNED



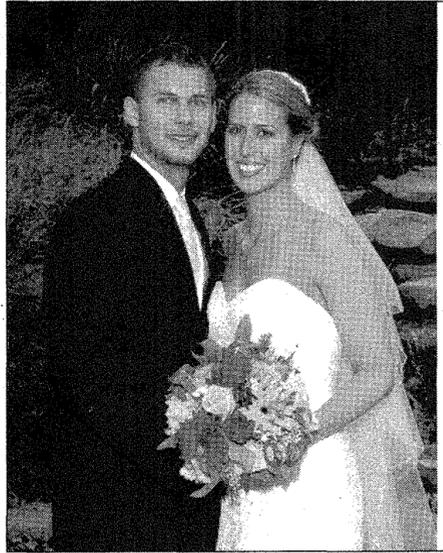
Rogg-Ramas

Brian and Erin Rogg of Novi are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Rachael Rogg to Kevin Ramas, son of Linda and Tim Ramas of Farmington Hills.

The bride-to-be is a 2009 Michigan State University graduate with a degree in advertising. She works as a business development representative doing sales and marketing.

Her fiancé is a 2008 Michigan State University graduate with a bachelor's degree in finance. He works as a law clerk and is scheduled to graduate from Wayne State University Law School next month.

The couple met more than three years ago inside the MSU library. A February 2012 wedding is planned at The Townsend in Birmingham.



Geverink-Miller

OCTOBER WEDDING

Laura Christine Geverink and Lee Henry Miller were married Oct. 2, 2010 at St. John's Chapel, in Plymouth. Deacon Ric Misiak officiated at the ceremony.

The bride, daughter of Todd and Diane Geverink of Livonia, is a speech therapist at Children's Therapy Corner, in Midland.

The groom, son of Kimberly Miller of Lansing and Paul Kennon of Holt, is a graduate student in recreation and parks administration at Central Michigan University. He also is employed at Greater Midland Community Center.

Emily Ketterer served as Maid of Honor. Bridesmaids were Erin Welch, Jackie Coch, Sarah Mathews, Lenore Bank, and Natalie Bank.

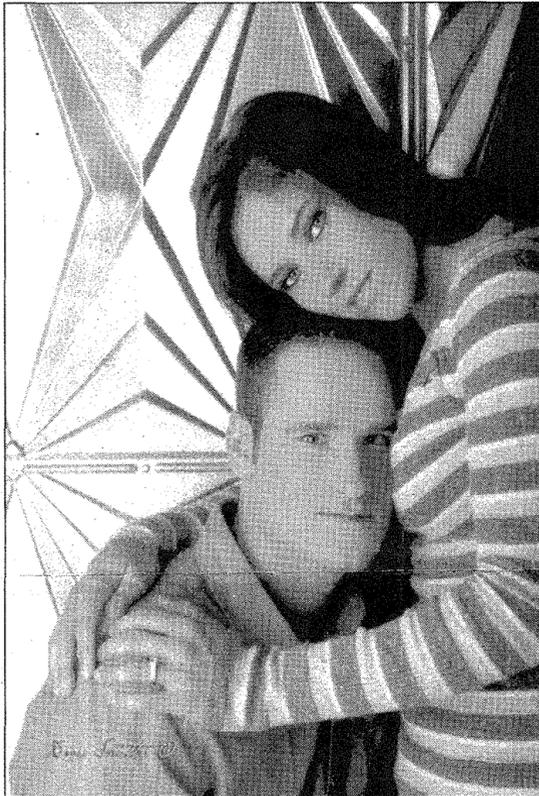
Best man was Nick Dunkle. His attendants were Brian Psenski, Scott Pocan, and Jeff Egeland.

Ushers were John Geverink and Scott Geverink.

A reception was held at the Italian American Club. The couple plans a honeymoon to Jamaica this spring.

They plan to make their home in Midland.

OCTOBER WEDDING PLANNED



Auld-Carignan

Debby Auld of Clio, is pleased to announce the engagement of her daughter, Sarah Auld, to Anthony Carignan, son of Dan and Daisy Carignan of Redford.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of University of Michigan-Flint and Central Michigan University. She is a physician assistant for Independent Emergency Physicians, P.C. in Southfield.

The groom is a graduate of Schoolcraft Community College and is a public safety officer for Oak Park as well as a member of Oak Park's Special Response Team.

An October 2011 wedding is planned.

MATTHEW ARRIVES

Matthew Earle Layman was born March 4, 2011 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor.

He joins his parents, Timothy and Michelle Layman and brother Benjamin, 2, at home in Canton.

Grandparents are Fred and Catharine Layman of Northville and William and Marjory Sherburn of Ludington.

LENTEN FISH DINNERS

GARDEN CITY

• 4-7 p.m. all Fridays of Lent, at Saint Dunstan Catholic Church, 1515 Belton, west of Inkster Road and south of Ford Road. Fish may be ordered fried or baked. Dinners cost from \$5.25-\$8. Dessert and pop also are available. (734) 425-6720

• 4:30-7 p.m. or until sold out Fridays, at St. Raphael, 31530 Beechwood, west of Merriman, north of Ford Road. Good Friday hours are 3-7 p.m. or until sold out. Prices are \$8.50 for dinners. A la carte items available. (734) 427-1533

LIVONIA

• 4:30-5 p.m. is senior early bird; 5-7 p.m. is regular serving time, every Friday before Good Friday, at St. Genevieve Church, 28933 Jamison Ave. All-you-can-eat baked or fried fish dinners. Prices are \$6 for the senior early bird; \$10 for weekly specials; \$8 for all-you-can-eat fish for adults; \$7 for seniors; \$5 for children, 12 and under. A la carte items available. (734) 425-4420

• 4:30-7 p.m. Fridays of Lent except for Good Friday at St. Michael the Archangel, 11441 Hubbard. All-you-can-eat fried or baked fish dinners. Prices are \$8 for adults, \$7 for

seniors and take-out orders, and \$4 for kids, 3-11. Children under 3 eat for free. (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200, or visit www.livoniastmichael.org.

REDFORD

• 4-7 p.m. every Friday during Lent, Our Lady of Loretto Catholic Church, corner of Six Mile and Beech Daly. Seven different dinners ranging from \$4 for macaroni and cheese to \$8.50 for shrimp. A la carte menu, side orders and beverages are available. (313) 534-9000

• 4-7 p.m. or until dinners run out, every Friday during Lent, at St. Robert Bellarmine, located at W. Chicago Road and Inkster Road. All-you-can eat baked or fried fish dinners cost \$8. Seniors, 60 and older pay

\$7 and children under 12 pay \$4. Weekly specials are \$10. A la carte items available. Carry-out dinners don't include a beverage. (313) 937-1655

WESTLAND

• 5-8 p.m. every Friday in March and April, at Sts. Constantine & Helen Church's Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy, west of Wayne Road. The buffet dinner costs \$8.95 for adults and \$4.95 for children under 10. (734) 525-3550

• 4:30-7 p.m. every Friday through April 15 at The First United Methodist Church of Wayne-Westland, 3 Town Square, in Wayne. Baked and fried fish available, served with sides. Pop and dessert available. (734) 721-4801

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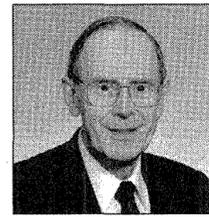
Age 77, of Redford Twp. March 31, 2011. Beloved wife of Phillip L. Dearest mother of Jan deMontigny, Phillip Mark (Cindy) deMontigny & Herald Joseph deMontigny. Loving grandma of four & great-grandma of three. Funeral service Tuesday 11:30 am at the Fisher Funeral Home, 24501 Five Mile (btw Beech Daly & Telegraph), Redford Twp. (313)535-3030. Visiting Monday 3pm until 8pm.

ROBERT NORMAN ELLIOTT, M.D.

March 21, 2011, Age 89. Resident of Troy, formerly of Birmingham, MI. He was Captain in the US Army, and did two year tour of duty during Korean War. He was a psychiatrist in the Detroit area, and practiced about 40 years. He pioneered use of psychotropic medication at Pontiac State Hospital. Beloved husband of Blanche for 66 years. Dear father of Laurel and Robert (Luanne). Caring grandfather of Jack and Nicky. Memorial service will be held at a later date. Memorial tributes to Beaumont Foundation.

DORIS ELIZABETH KANGAS

Unexpectedly passed away on March 20, 2011. She was born in Detroit in 1927, the daughter of Charles and Anna (Hakala) Kangas and is survived by her brother Charles of Glendale, AZ, sister-in-law Lana Heinonen of Laurium, seven nieces and nephews, 28 great and great-great nieces and nephews and many cousins and friends. Preceding her in death were her parents, brother Donald, sister-in-law Phyllis, and nephews Eric and Glen Kangas. Doris earned her Master's in English from the University of Michigan and spent most of her career teaching English at Franklin High School in Livonia. She was the founder and sponsor of Amos, Franklin High School's student literary magazine; a task which gave her great joy and pride. For many years Doris had a petting zoo with which she would delight youngsters of all ages at various community functions. Many neighborhood children gained an education not available from books by helping Doris at the "Kangas Bioplat" in Farmington Hills. A lover of animals, Doris rescued her fair share. She was an avid reader and her interests covered an amazing range of topics. Doris read Emily Dickinson every day of her adult life. When circumstances dictated that she give up her zoo, Doris turned to writing poetry. She has left us with a wonderful collection of poems, again on a wide variety of subjects. Doris was a member of The Detroit Finnish Summer Camp Association, Ridge Writers of Farmington, and a member of Hobby Greenhouse for many years. A memorial service will be held at Unity Church of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile Road, <http://www.unityoflivonia.org>, on May 7, 2011 at 1 pm. Please join the family in celebrating her life. Memorial gifts may be made to any of these charities that were near to Doris's heart: D.F.S.C.S.A. (Finn Camp) 2524 Loon Lake Rd, Wixom MI 48393; Turtle Creek Farm 6205 Cooley Lake Rd, Waterford MI 48327; Farmington Hills Public Library, National Public Radio or Public Television.



JOHN H. HAGEMAN M.D.

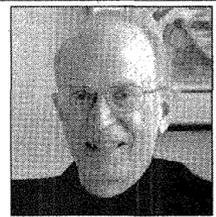
Of Toledo, Ohio, passed into God's hands March 30, 2011. He cared deeply for his wife and family, his patients, his church, community and his profession. Dr. Hageman was born January 25, 1935 in Gloversville, NY to Nancy Ramona (Downer) and Dr. Herbert Hageman. He graduated from Gloversville High School, and received his BA at Rochester University majoring in chemistry. Dr. Hageman went on to earn his MS in Physical Chemistry and his MD at Yale University, New Haven, CT in 1962. From 1962 to 1968, he completed a general surgery residency and cardiovascular fellowship at Yale-New Haven Community Hospital. During this time, Dr. Hageman practiced at the Hospital Albert Schweitzer in Haiti for a three month period. The people of Haiti and the hospital remained very special to him throughout his professional life. In 1968 Dr. Hageman completed a Peripheral Vascular Surgery Clinical Fellowship at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, MI. For the next 18 years, he served as a member of the Vascular Surgery Division in the Department of Surgery at Henry Ford Hospital. In 1984, he accepted a position at the Medical College of Ohio (now known as The University of Toledo College of Medicine) as Chief of Peripheral Vascular Surgery in the Department of Surgery. In 2003, he became a partner in Gorman, Afridi, and Hageman, Inc. where he continued to practice until his retirement at the age of 73 years. For over 40 years, Dr. Hageman has been an influence in the practice, education and advancement of Vascular Surgery. A caring physician, Dr. Hageman emphasized the value and respect of each human being to medical students, medical residents and vascular surgery fellows. A lifelong learner and teacher, he also mentored high school and college students in their pursuit of health care careers. Dr. Hageman dedicated his life to taking care of people both professionally and personally. His was a spirit of selfless service. He was a loving son, brother, husband, father, grandfather, friend and physician who will be missed greatly. Dr. Hageman was preceded in death by his parents, his sister, Margaret L. Hageman and his former wife, Suzanne Hageman (Volgyesi). Dr. Hageman is survived by his loving wife, Dr. Patricia Donahue; his four daughters, Margaret Petrovich (Edward), Dr. Martha Hageman (Dr. Donald Kirk), Diane Wickcliff (Richard), Dr. Kimberly Hageman (David Felcan); eight grandchildren, sister Nancy Ulloa (James) and several nieces and nephews. Funeral services for Dr. Hageman will be held on Tuesday April 5, 2011 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. The Coyle Funeral Home is assisting the family with services. Please view and sign the on-line guest registry at [CoyleFuneralHome.com](http://CoyleFuneralHome.com). In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to: Hospital Albert Schweitzer, PO Box 81046 Pittsburgh, PA 15217; Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 2255 Central Grove, Toledo OH 43614 or charity of choice.



IVA JUNE MYNATT

Age 90, of Redford, died Friday, April 1, 2011 at Genesys Health Park. Services will be held 11 AM Monday, April 4, 2011 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 W. Silver Lake Rd. with Rev. Dale Swihart officiating. Interment will be held at Grand Lawn Cemetery in Detroit. Visitation will be held 2-9 PM Sunday at the funeral home. Those desiring may make memorial contributions to First Presbyterian Church of Fenton. Mrs. Mynatt was born June 25, 1920 in Detroit the daughter of William and Martha Elizabeth (McGarity) Havens. She married Robert O. Mynatt in 1942 and he preceded her in death in 2001. Mrs. Mynatt was a Girl Scout Leader for many years. She enjoyed reading, gardening, playing cards and fishing. Mrs. Mynatt was very close with her friends and was the caretaker of her family. Surviving are: daughter, Jacqueline L. (Lawrence) Arrol of Fenton; two grandsons, Lawrence (Melissa) Arrol, Jr. and Matthew (Brandy) Arrol; four great-grandchildren, Brynna, Jackson, Sydney and Lauryn Arrol; niece, Linda Wilson; "adopted" daughter, Jade Smith. Her brother, William Havens, also preceded her in death. Friends may share an online tribute on the obituary page at: [www.sharppfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharppfuneralhomes.com).

May You Find Comfort in Family & Friends



RICHARD C. WELLS

Age 68, of West Bloomfield, passed away on March 19, 2011. Born in Detroit to parents Lauren and Myra Wells. Richard graduated from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. He would become a marketing manager for I.B.M. Richard became an accomplished author and was able to have four of his books published. An avid U of M football fan and golfer. His greatest love in life was his family. Survived by his loving wife Joan (Briegleb) of 46 years. Together they were blessed with two loving children: David Wells and his wife Mary Campbell and Anne Steinhauer and her husband Matthew. Proud "Grampa Nut" of Eric and Mia. A memorial reception will be held at the Edgewood Country Club, 8399 Commerce Rd, Commerce Twp, MI 48382 on Sunday, April 10, 2011. There will be an open house from 1:00pm - 5:00pm, with a service at 3:00pm. Family and friends are invited to attend any part of the afternoon. Memorials may be made to the Special Days Camp 2232 S. Main St., Suite 161 Ann Arbor, MI 48103. [www.specialdays.org](http://www.specialdays.org) or Forgotten Harvest. 21800 Greenfield Rd. Oak Park, MI 48237. [www.forgottenharvest.org](http://www.forgottenharvest.org) Arrangements entrusted to the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth, MI. Share memories at [schrader-howell.com](http://schrader-howell.com)

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# HEALTH

Sunday, April 3, 2011

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## E-mail alerts notify family of patient's mood changes

A new program at the University of Michigan aims to help patients with depression manage their symptoms by making a caring friend or family member a part of their treatment.

Patients enroll with a partner — a best friend, grown child or any trusted person from outside of the home. Each week, after the patient completes a short, automated telephone assessment, the partner receives an e-mail with updates about how the patient is doing. It includes specific suggestions for how the partner can help.

If the patient is feeling down or not taking medication regularly, the partner can encourage them to stick to their treatment plan. Patients and partners are encouraged to establish a routine and talk for 10-15 minutes on the same day each week. Spouses are allowed to be partners, but it's

discouraged because they're often already involved in the patient's care.

"The program gives patients an opportunity to talk about feelings that they wouldn't have otherwise shared," says John D. Piette, professor of internal medicine at the U-M Medical School. "It gives the partners an opportunity to show the patient that someone does care about them and is paying attention to how they're doing."

In addition to keeping their partner updated, the automated system gives patients immediate feedback about changes in their depressive symptoms, enabling them to access additional support tools.

If a patient reports an urgent health problem, their doctor also is notified.

Initial results have been positive, with a strong majority of patients reporting improve-

ment in managing their depression symptoms, taking their medication and staying active, says Piette, who is also a senior research scientist with the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System. Patients also reported the program had strengthened their relationship with their partner.

The CarePartner Program is an initiative by the Quality Improvement for Complex Chronic Conditions group, which is directed by Piette and supported by the VA and U-M. The group's mission is to improve health outcomes and lower costs by finding ways technology can be used to help patients self-manage chronic diseases. The group's other programs have addressed management of diabetes, heart failure and cancer.

Potential patients can call Liz Kaselitz at (734) 845-3673 or e-mail emaccorm@med.umich.edu.

### NEW FACES

Dan Cornwell, KC Crain and Jay Farner are new members of the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute's Board of Directors and Buzz Thomas has been appointed to the Karmanos Cancer Center's Board of Directors.

Each are serving a three-year term to help support the ongoing work and mission of Karmanos. They'll provide strategic direction to help move the organization toward becoming one of the nation's top 10 National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer centers.

Cornwell is president of Cambridge Consulting Group, one of Michigan's largest independently owned insurance agencies in Michigan. A graduate of Walsh College of Accounting and Business Administration with a Bachelor of Science degree in finance, Cornwell is a long-standing member of the Karmanos Cancer Institute's Partners Group and recently completed his second year commitment as executive co-chair for Partners.

Crain is the vice president of Crain Communications, Inc. and a graduate of Denison University, where he earned a



Crain



Thomas



Farner



Cornwell

Bachelors of Art degree in communications. He also mentors students through the partner program of Cornerstone Schools, serves on the steering committee of the Detroit Historical Society, and is a member of the Young Presidents Organization.

Farner is president and chief marketing officer of Quicken Loans. He also lends support to Bizdom U, serving on the entrepreneurial boot camp's appropriations board which determines funding for proposed startup businesses located within the city of Detroit. He has a bachelor's degree in finance from Michigan State University.

Thomas served eight years in the State Senate and six years in the House of Representatives and co-chaired the 2008 Michigan campaign for President Barack Obama. He is

president of the Thomas Group Consulting, offering public relations, strategic planning,

### Male Urinary Incontinence: An Embarrassing Problem (No Longer)

Springtime has many men thinking about golf. Consistent errant golf shots on the course may not be the only reason some men hang up the clubs. Many men may silently experience the frustration and embarrassment of leaking urine upon exertion with simple activities such as laughing, coughing, walking, swinging a golf club, etc.

The inability to control urine is a common problem affecting many men in America. When looking specifically at men over 60, 17% reported having an incontinent episode. There are many potential causes of incontinence in men but most stem from the gland associated with the male reproductive system—the prostate. As many as 30% of men who have undergone treatments for prostate cancer report some incontinence.

The positive news—male urinary incontinence is a treatable problem. Although pads to collect urine are an option, some medications or a minimally-invasive procedure can provide a permanent resolution to most individual's problems.

Now's the time to seek the answers and treatment you need. Believe it or not, an active summer is right around the corner!



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### MEDICAL DATEBOOK

#### Bariatric surgery

The Michigan Bariatric Institute presents an educational seminar 6-8 p.m. Thursday, April 7 at St. Mary Mercy Livonia, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. Dr. Tallal Zeni, director of Minimally Invasive and Bariatric Surgery, and Dr. Jacob Roberts, a bariatric surgeon, will make presentations. For more information, call the Michigan Bariatric Institute at (877) WHY WEIGHT.

#### Teens and drugs

"Teens Using Drugs: What To Know and What To Do," a free, ongoing, two-part

workshop series, will be presented in two parts next month in the St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Drive, Ypsilanti. Part one, "What To Know," runs 7:30-9 p.m. Tuesday April 5. It will provide information on understanding and recognizing teen substance abuse problems. Part two, "What To Do," runs 7:30-9 p.m. Tuesday April 12. It will provide information on what should and should not be done when a teen substance abuse problem is suspected or identified, and will include a recovering teen speaker. The programs are free and open to the public. (734) 973-7892; www.teensusingdrugs.org

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The Health Care Association of Michigan (HCAM) would like to congratulate Four Seasons Nursing Center's recent CITATION FREE SURVEY.

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**Compassionate, quality care at Four Seasons begins with education**

**Meet Evangelina Pescasio.** It's her job to give nursing staff the tools they need to provide quality care. As In-Service Director, she trains RNs and Certified Nursing Assistants by presenting educational sessions 6 to 10 times a month in small groups. CNAs require 12 hours annually of in-service training.

"I talk about attitude and sensitivity, compassionate care and how to motivate staff to be exceptional in our care," said Pescasio, a Registered Nurse. "It's very important to give proper care. Employees need to be trained. Knowledge is not enough. We have to be conscientious, dedicated, diligent and always willing to learn, and to help others." Pescasio invites dietitians, physical, occupational and speech therapists, physicians, and psychologists to share the latest information.

Much has changed since she became a nurse in 1992. Today, more than ever, infection control, safety and fall prevention, abuse, communication and confidentiality make the list of important training in the facility. "I believe in continuing learning," said Pescasio. "Nursing changes based on research."

**"...I talk about attitude and sensitivity... how to motivate staff to be exceptional in our care..."**

Before coming to Four Seasons Pescasio worked as an RN for transplant and the surgical medical floor at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. Her manager called her an ambassador for safety at Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital. Everyone called her "Angel" for a reason.

"I got the inspiration from nursing and caring for the whole person, not just the physical being, but spiritual and emotional. I go and spend time with residents, eye to eye, give them a hug. I don't look at nursing as a job but a calling. We're caring not only for residents, but families and co-workers."

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