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Last year, Leonard Sabala was in the groove to win the Big Wheel Grand Prix at the Nursery School Olympics.

Go for gold

Bring your youngsters and have a great time cheering them on to victory as they "compete" in games especially designed for them at the annual Nursery School Olympics 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 3, at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford, Westland.

"Events" include the Big Wheel Grande Prix, the Marshmallow Shot Putt and Obstacle Course. Every child will receive a certificate of participation.

The Olympics is for youngsters ages 18 months to 5 years. Pre-registration is encouraged, but not required. The course takes about 30-45 minutes so children can register right up to 11:30 a.m.

The event is free of charge, with all admissions being sponsored by the Wayne Masons 112. Also supporting the event are the Westland Parks and Recreation Department, Westland Civitan Club, Dads' Athletic Club of Westland, Westland Christian Union and Westland Jaycees.

For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

Indoor sale

Space is available for an indoor garage sale that will be held 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday and Friday, March 22-23, at the Westland senior Friendship Center, 1119 Newburgh, south of Ford Road, Westland.

The sale is a fundraiser for the center. Six-foot-long tables are \$10 for two days, available on a first come, first serve basis. Sign up at the center's front desk.

For more information, call (734) 722-7632.

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City's residential property values continue to drop

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Despite reports of improving home sales in the Detroit metro area, Westland's residential property values will be down an average 9.7 percent on assessment notices hitting mailboxes this month.

That drop is slightly higher than the 9 percent average decline in residential property values last year but better than earlier double digit decreases. As a result of the drop, residents can expect to see an average 9 percent decrease in their property taxes unless they are also seeing an millage

rate increase. "We still have the foreclosure issues and that's hurting us," said Westland Assessor James Elrod. "The more stable communities are more affluent and rebounding quicker." Westland's residential property values dropped less than some neigh-

boring communities — a 10.1 percent decrease in Wayne, a 14.7 percent drop in Garden City and 16.3 percent decline in Inkster.

By the numbers

Livonia saw a 4.2 percent decrease in residential property values. Canton also saw a decrease in

property values dropping 2.5 percent while Plymouth Township residential property values actually increased 2.5 percent.

The common denominator among the communities seeing residential property value decreases is the large

Please see PROPERTY, A2

First-time owners find plenty to like with NSP home



Wage and Shirley Jones stand in front of their first home located on Carlson. The couple purchased a foreclosed home that had been rehabilitated and offered for sale through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program.

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

A lifelong Westland resident, Shirley Jones doesn't have to think for long when asked what she likes best about owning her first home.

"It's ours and no one can tell me what to do. I want to get a dog. That will be soon, too," said Jones, who moved into the house on Carlson with husband Wage in December. "We're first-time homeowners — first time everything."

The couple had been renting a house before buying a home that been foreclosed, acquired by the city and rehabilitated through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program.

"It was cheap and a good investment," said Wage Jones, a Wales native who was used to brick homes and slate roofs. "I like the oversize garage. It's my man cave, a hidey hole."

Total rehab

The three-bedroom, 1,200-square foot ranch has an oversize garage and also a large wooden shed in the backyard. Home Renewal Systems, one of the contractors hired by the city to rehabilitate and sell blight-

Please see HOME, A2

W-W construction program receives award from state

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

A collaboration between the Wayne-Westland Community Schools and the City of Westland has been received an Excellence in Practice Award from the Michigan Department of Education.

Construction Technology at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center was one of two programs to be recognized for "a successful exemplary program for its outstanding outcomes and documented success," said School Superintendent Greg Baracy.

"It's phenomenal work the students are doing in the career technical center," he said. "Their hard work has paid off."

Please see AWARD, A2



Mike Koelzer (from left), Construction Technology instructor, Joanne Inglis, Westland Community Development Director, Steven Kay, William D. Ford Career Technical Center principal, and Mark Valchine, instructor, show off the Excellence in Practice Award.

LPS board: No bond proposal on May ballot

By Karen Smith
Observer Staff Writer

The Livonia school board will not ask voters in May to approve a bond to finance school improvements, but it expects to make a decision by December whether it will seek a bond, when it would place the proposal on the ballot, how much the bond would be for and what improvements it would pay for.

The board has agreed that May was too soon to go to voters.

Board Vice President Gregory Oke said a lot of discussion still needs to take place. "We're very much at the starting process of this," he said.

The district conducted a telephone poll Jan. 23-25 of 480 registered voters to gauge their support for \$190 mil-

lion in improvements in three areas: technology and equipment, fine arts and major facility renovations. A \$190 million bond would cost the owner of \$125,000 home about \$150 a year for 30 years.

The majority of respondents said they believe voters would reject a \$190 million bond proposal because it would cost too much. However, the majority also said they personally would support it.

'Take time to listen'

Resident Loyd Romick congratulated board members on not making a quick decision and urged them to thoroughly and completely study the issue. "This is definitely the time to take

Please see BALLOT, A2

PROPERTY

Continued from page A1

stock of vacant and foreclosed homes, often starter homes.

"The loans that caused this crisis were aimed at first-time homeowners — getting them out of apartments," said Elrod. "The foreclosures hit starter home communities harder. It hits us, Garden City, Redford and Dearborn Heights. We have a lot of starter homes."

The assessments are based on a one-year market study covering the period of Oct. 1, 2010, through Sept. 30, 2011.

In Westland, the residential property value decline has at least slowed from double digit drops seen prior to 2011.

"Unfortunately, we are probably going to continue to see residential value decreases," said Elrod. "Foreclosures are still happening and probably will continue for the next couple of years."

County averages

Westland homeowners fared somewhat worse than much of the metro area. Wayne County as a whole saw property values dip an average 6.12 percent. Macomb County's assessments fell an average 7.15 percent; Oakland County dropped 3.38 percent.

For property owners who want to challenge their assessments, the annual Board of Review will be meeting the week of March 12. About 400 people appeared before the board last year with another 200 filing written appeals. Elrod expects similar numbers this year with appointments not being scheduled until after assessment notices are mailed.

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AWARD

Continued from page A1

For many years, construction technology students built single-homes from the ground up, but with the decline in new home construction and a slow housing market, the program found ways to provide hands-on experience by working with Habitat for Humanity and Life Remodeled.

Good partnership

The program also partnered with the Westland to provide the manpower to rehabilitate or build new homes on property city acquired through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program. The city uses NSP funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to

acquire foreclosed and vacant properties and provide for renovation or new construction and sale to first time home buyers.

"This partnership is an outstanding example of a school/community collaboration to provide the opportunity for students to develop construction trades skills while providing service to the community," said Westland Mayor William Wild.

The students are responsible for every detail in the construction of the home, are trained as estimators and work in every trade used to build or remodel a home. Each project culminates in an open house that showcases the student work, and the keys are turned over to the city to help someone own their own home for the first time.

Thankful

Instructors Mark Valchine and Michael Koelzer thanked school officials for their support of the program.

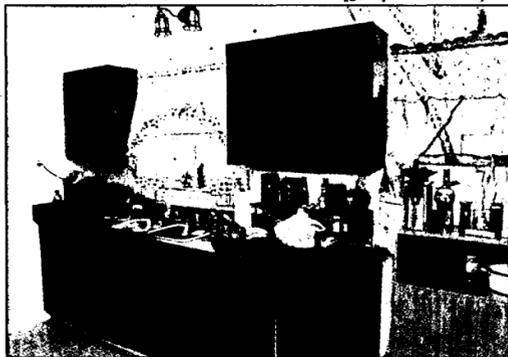
"We couldn't do this without," said Valchine. "I look around this room and I see people come in the room that I know we wouldn't be able to do this work," added Koelzer.

Center Principal Steven Kay said the program has "really hustled" to provide opportunities for the program.

"They recently received a grant from Lowe's to pay for students to become OSHA certified," he said.

Kay added that it appears the city already has a buyer for the house the students are currently building.

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The kitchen has been cabinets and appliances.

HOME

Continued from page A1

ed homes through NSP, did extensive work on the house which was built in 1960.

"It was a total rehabilitation. They lowered the ceiling — it was right up to the roof and there was no insulation," said Westland Community Development Director Joanne Campbell. "The kitchen and bathroom were redone, all the appliances are new, there is a new furnace and hot water tank, a new roof."

Part of the focus with NSP work, along with improving blighted homes and getting them reoccupied, is making the home more energy efficient.

"We definitely made the house more energy efficient, we have cut the energy use by half," said Rick Gowan, Housing and Community Development Department deputy director. "There was some R-3 value insulation in the roof. We put in R-19. It dropped the heating bill dramatically. It would never be built that way today."

About \$100,000 was spent on the Carlson home, which under NSP regulations can't be sold for more than the amount spent on rehabilitation and acquisition. Shirley Jones, a Westland housing assistant for six years, and Wage, who has worked in retail management and is currently unemployed, offered \$65,000 for the home.

A challenge

"But the house was only appraised for \$53,000. That piece of the market continues to be a challenge — appraisals come in low," said Campbell. "But it's great for Shirley and Wage."

One thing the budget couldn't accommodate was replacement of a damaged gas fireplace. As a result, the fireplace located in the rear family room is boarded up for now.

"I'm waiting for my fireplace, it will be done this year," said Shirley Jones. Actually for Shirley Jones, the house on Carlson was her second choice among the NSP program homes the couple looked at — someone else purchased her first choice, a house on Gloria.

Home Renewal Systems has completed work on 10 homes, eight of which have been sold. A second contractor, Guy Construction, has rehabilitated eight homes located mainly in the Annapolis Park subdivision. So far, four of those homes are occupied under a lease/purchase deal.

Additionally, Habitat for Humanity of Wayne County is completing work on its seventh home in Westland working through NSP.

Four other homes, two new construction and two rehabilitation projects, have been completed by students from the William D. Ford Career Technical Center's Construction Technology program. Campbell notes that a new home constructed on Manila sold for the \$79,900 asking price in four days. A second home, a rehabilitation project, located on Columbia is currently being offered for \$45,900.

"Some of the appraisals are so much lower than anticipated. Three houses, including this one (on Carlson), were to close in October," said Campbell. "Two finally closed in December and the third won't close until March."

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BALLOT

Continued from page A1

time to listen to the public," he said.

Resident Don Artushin and Livonia Public Schools bus driver Cheryl Lupu said \$190 million is a lot of money and asked whether the improvements could be financed through existing funds, like the sinking fund.

Voters in November 2009 approved a five-year renewal of the district's sinking fund, which raises about \$5 million annually at a tax rate of 1.12 mills.

"I think we can work with what we have," Lupu said.

Superintendent Randy Liepa has previously said a bond can be used to pay for improvements not permitted under a sinking fund, like equipment.

Oke said he would like the board to make a deci-

sion on a bond by December before two new board members potentially take office and the board has to start the discussion over from scratch. His seat and the seat held by President Patrice Mang both expire Dec. 31.

Board Secretary Mark Johnson agreed. "We definitely have to move forward. We may end up with something that looks totally different in the end, I think only through open discussion and moving through the process can we get to that area."

Board may not go for bond

Oke said the board may decide to postpone going for a bond, as it did a couple of years ago, but that would be a decision.

Trustee Dianne Laura said the board's time and effort in discussing a bond may be wasted if it's too much for the community to afford. "I've just been hearing and hearing from so many people in the community, they'd love to do this, but they can't. The economy is still bad," she said, adding a lot of people are still struggling.

Trustee Eileen McDonnell said she knows the schools need work, but board members need to take the time to decide what improvements are most important. She pointed out that Livo-

nia voters approved tax increases in August 2010 for public safety and cultural and senior services. "We're all looking at our checkbooks too and wondering where we're going to get our next dollar from to make those payments."

However, Trustee Colleen Burton noted that the survey results showed 63 percent of voters saying they would personally approve a \$190 million bond for school improvements. "I personally feel as a board member that I would be being negligent if I turned my back on that information and said we're not going to (seek a bond)," she said. "I think we have absolute needs; they are legitimate." She added that the bond proposal may need some work to refine it.

Oke said, however, that survey respondents sometimes say what they think the survey takers want to hear and that their response to what they think their neighbors would support might be a more accurate reflection of the community's level of support. Just under 40 percent said they thought voters would support a \$190 million bond for all three areas of improvement.

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Helen Rubbo plays Bingo as her granddaughter Isabella Rubbo looks on.

Seniors dress in red for Valentine's lunch

By Sue Buck
Observer Staff Writer

Seniors enjoyed a special Valentine's Day lunch Tuesday at the Maplewood Center in Garden City.

Special Valentine's Day cards were at every table.

Cheryl Stepanian, the senior director, organized the annual event. The majority of attendees were women dressed in red for the occasion, but increasingly men are showing up for the event.

The seniors look forward to these types of events and delivered compliments about Stepanian.

"We come for lunch here everyday," Patricia Jablonski said.

Events like these are important to seniors like Bob Vichinsky, a Westland resident, adding that otherwise, many would just be sitting at home by themselves, he said.

"I come here everyday to use the senior room to exercise," he said.

He added that he is more than happy to assist Stepanian in setting up the room and then cleaning up afterward.

"I have no problems helping," he said.

Those who took time to play some games of bingo won some small prizes.

Stepanian, who likes to make jewelry, also contributed prizes.

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Garden City Senior Director Cheryl Stepanian calls the numbers at the Valentine's Day Bingo. She also provided some of the prizes.



Charlotte Byrd is an early bingo winner at the Valentine's Day party.



Ernest and Ethel Pachelu concentrate on their bingo cards at the Valentine's Day party held at the Maplewood Center.

Family remembers Glenn grad as 'all about being a mother'

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Friends and family members will gather at the Bova VFW Post 9885 in Westland Sunday to celebrate the life of Angela Morris Birdsall, who died Tuesday, Feb. 14, after a lengthy struggle with Ehlers Danlos syndrome.

Family members are remembering the 37-year-old Livonia resident as a "wonderful mother and daughter," who "never gave into EDS," a genetic mutation affecting her collagen levels.

"She was all about being a mother," said her husband, William Birdsall. "She was all about cooking meals and her family eating together at the kitchen table. Anything we ever did was for the kids. She was so special, she loved her children."

"She always wanted to be the same as everyone else," said her mother, Sherry Morris of Westland. "She was the most wonderful daughter and loved her father. She was daddy's girl. She had that tattooed on her arm."

Her husband remembers meeting her through a dating service. They talked on the telephone daily for a month before meeting.

"I felt I was in love with her before our first date," he said. "She said she was going to give me a kiss, but her mother was watching, so we drove to a parking lot where she kissed me."

He recalled that they went to the movies and then dinner and that he met her family and friends at the VFW the next day.



Angela Morris Birdsall

Spider ring

That evening he proposed to her, using a spider ring as an engagement ring. It was close to Halloween and they waited until Jan. 16 to get married.

"I saw a glow on her face when we were at the VFW and I knew I wanted to spend the rest of my life with her," he said. "We knew each other really well."

Mrs. Birdsall was a 1993 graduate of Westland John Glenn High School where she was active in the drama department. She also was a dancer for almost 14 years with the Dance Express program at the Maplewood Center in Garden City, and returned to do a mother-daughter dance with her daughter, Sabrina.

"She was pregnant with (her son) William and only did half the dance," said her mother. "She left and someone filled in until the end, when she came back out. Her father made her a T-shirt that said 'Too Pregnant to Dance.'"

Her favorite play was "Phantom of the Opera," which she saw three-four times.

"The first time was in Toronto," said her mother. "She had quite a collection, all kinds of 'Phantom' things like globes. 'Phantom' was her number one thing."

Mrs. Birdsall was an avid fan of the Detroit Red Wings and wrestling. The thrill of a lifetime came when she was 13-14, she met her favorite music group, Bon Jovi through a friend's uncle.

"She was still excited about that until the day she died," said her mother. "He kissed her, she got to drink from his pop bottle, have lunch with the band and go on the tour bus. She had the biggest crush on Jon Bon Jovi, oh yeah."

was able to hang out with the rock group backstage during a concert in Detroit and on their tour bus.

"I was so blessed to have her," said Birdsall. "She gave me the best eight years I ever had."

In addition to her husband, Mrs. Birdsall is survived by her children — daughters Sabrina and Emily and son William — her parents, Sid and Sherry Morris, brothers Christopher and Michael (Karen), Denise Patterson, several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

She is preceded in death by brother Scott and grandparents Othel and Betty Nutt and Albert and Elva Morris.

The memorial service will be at 2 p.m. at the Bova Post at 6440 Hix, north of Ford Road, Westland. In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to the William Birdsall family at 15120 Garden St., Livonia, MI 48154.

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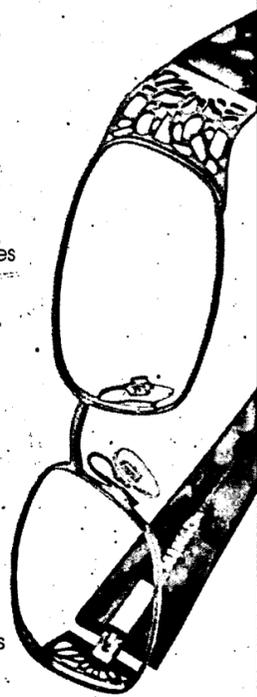
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subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

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In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi offer free phone or office consultation. If they represent you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

Bieske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-275. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of 12 Mile Road. Call them 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.

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Listings for the Community Calendar can be submitted by e-mail at smason@hometownlife.com. They also can be mailed to Sue Mason at 615 W. Lafayette - Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226, or faxed to her attention at fax at (313) 223-3318. For more information, call (313) 222-6751.

Upcoming Events

SHORT SALE WORKSHOP

Time/Date: 6:30-8: p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28
Location: Livonia Public Library 32777 Five Mile at Farmington Road, Livonia
Details: Come with your questions and learn what a short sale is and about the different alternatives available. Panel will consist of a mortgage expert, lawyer, financial advisor, CPA and Real Estate broker. Call by Feb. 24 to reserve a spot.
Contact: Call Sheila Roma at (248) 760-6785 or Debbi McLaughlin at (248) 561-0077.

FLEA MARKET

Time/Date: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 19
Location: Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, Cherry Hill between Wayne Road and Newburgh, Westland
Details: Do you have things you're looking to clear out of your house? Do you have craft items you would like to sell? Do you have antiques you don't want anymore? Do you have a business such as Tupperware, Party Lite or Creative Memories that you would like to promote? This is a great opportunity to cleanup, clear out, and promote your small business. It's an outdoor event, rain or shine. Cost is \$20, non-refundable, to secure you a parking space. Food concessions will be available.
Contact: Call Sharon Garcia to sign up at cackles55@gmail.com or (734) 637-2662.

BLACK HISTORY

Time/Date: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday throughout February
Location: Guardian Building, 500 Griswold St., Detroit
Details: Wayne County is celebrating Black History Month with a series of four kiosks set up on the first level and the promenade inside the Guardian Building. The kiosks recognize African culture, achievements of famous historical and present-day African-Americans, inspirational milestones in black history and Detroit black history makers.



Doo Wop Dinner

Angelo Brothers Banquet Hall is hosting a Doo Wop Dinner, featuring The WhatAbouts, Friday, Feb. 24. Dinner will be at 6:30 p.m., followed by the show 7:30-9 p.m. Tickets are \$20 each and include pizza, salad, rolls and beverage. A cash bar will be available. For reservations, call (734) 216-9451 or Kelly at (734) 377-1745. Angelo Brothers is at 33550 Ford Road, Westland.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT

Time/Date: 7 p.m. second Wednesday of the month
Location: Lower level Classroom 2 of the Allan Breakie Medical Office Building at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City
Details: Sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association, family members, friends and caregivers of persons afflicted with Alzheimer's Disease or related disorders are invited to join the free monthly support group. The group will provide mutual aid, support and the opportunity to share problems and concerns.
Contact: Call (734) 58-4330 for more information.

GHOST HUNTING

Time/Date: 6:30-8:30 p.m. Feb. 21
Location: Henry Ford Community College Center for Lifelong Learning, 22586 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights
Details: Explore the phenomenon of paranormal activity and get a realistic view of what ghost hunting is all about — not the exaggerated TV version. A local, independent investigator will share evidence and experiences while discussing a variety of topics guaranteed to interest and entertain skeptics and believers alike. Content includes the most common types of haunting and causes, equipment and evidence, orb theories, protection, and how to get started. Class participation is encouraged. Bring any photos or other evidence you'd like to share. At the end of class, students will receive a calendar forecasting the best dates to hunt for ghosts in 2012. Content is appropriate for children accompanied by a parent.
Contact: cedena-heidi@sbcglobal.net or www.navelacademy.net/index_files/page0008.htm

BLOOD DRIVE

Time/Date: 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday, Feb. 24
Location: Classrooms 1 and

2 of St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile Road at Levan, Livonia

Details: St. Mary Mercy and the American Red Cross are partnering in a blood drive campaign that begins on Feb. 24, Friday, April 27, Friday, June 29, Monday, Aug. 27, Thursday, Oct. 25, and Thursday, Dec. 27. February's theme is, "Red Wings." Begin the New Year by "scoring a big goal" for the Red Cross. Employees can wear their favorite sports team jersey or logowear on blood drive days.
Contact: To schedule an appointment call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or visit redcrossblood.org. Walk-ins are accepted, but appointments are preferred.

MOM2MOM SALE

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., March 10
Location: Hillside Elementary School, 36801 W. 11 Mile Road, Farmington Hills.
Details: \$2 early admission, \$1 general admission. About 100 tables of gently used baby, maternity and children's clothing, toys, equipment and furniture. A great opportunity to get items you need and save money off of retail prices. Proceeds of the sale will benefit Hillside Elementary and its students. Now accepting resale table registrations.
Contact: E-mail hillside-mom2mom@gmail.com

TAILWAGGERS

Time/Date: 1-5 p.m. Saturday, March 31
Location: UAW Local 182, 35603 Plymouth Road, Livonia
Details: Space is still available for participants that would like to put their chili to the test in Tailwaggers popular Chili, Hoops and Hounds event. Space is still available. Registration is \$30 and includes a Chili, Hoops and Hounds apron. Three prizes will be awarded to those who have the Best Tasting Chili, Best Table Decoration and a People's Choice Award. Pre-registration is required by March

15. The public is welcome to this family friendly event. An All-You-Can-Eat wrist band is \$15 or taste samples for only \$1.
Contact: Sign up today by e-mail at tailwaggers.1990@yahoo.com.

Volunteers

FIRST STEP

Details: First Step, which has been active in the effort to end domestic violence and sexual assault in western Wayne County and Downriver communities for more than 20 years, is looking for volunteers. Interested people must be at least 18, willing and able to travel to the Downriver area and complete a 55-hour training program.
Contact: (734) 416-1111, Ext. 223

VNA HOSPICE

Details: Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan's (VNA) hospice program needs volunteers to comfort and support patients at the end of life. Volunteers can provide companionship, write a memoir, provide respite for family or work as office support. A free 18-hour training program is provided at the VNA headquarters, 25900 Greenfield Road, Suite 600. Registration is required.
Contact: (248) 967-8361, www.vna.org

SEASONS HOSPICE

Details: Seasons Hospice and Palliative Care is looking for volunteers to provide companionship to patients dealing with life limiting illness. No special skills, other than objectivity and compassion, are needed. Training provided. Volunteers are matched with patients in their own community.
Contact: (800) 370-8592

LITERACY COUNCIL

Details: The Community Literacy Council (CLC) is looking for volunteer tutors in Western Wayne County to help adults improve their reading, writing and communication skills. The

CLC will provide training to interested volunteers. Previous experience or a bachelor's degree is not required. The council will provide free training and materials, and then match you with an adult student in your area.
Contact: (734) 416-4906

HEARTLAND HOSPICE

Details: Heartland Hospice is looking for caring and dedicated people with an interest in serving terminal-ly ill patients and their families in Washtenaw, western Wayne, Monroe and Livingston counties. Volunteers provide a variety of services including companionship, light housekeeping, errand running, grief support and clerical services.
Contact: (888) 973-1145

SCHIZOPHRENICS ANONYMOUS

Time/Date: 4:30-5:30 p.m. every third Thursday of the month
Location: Room 124 of Hegira Programs Inc. from in at 8623 N. Wayne Road, Westland
Details: Schizophrenics Anonymous meetings are open to those with this mental illness or related conditions. The remaining days the group will meet are Aug. 18, Sept. 15, Oct. 20, Nov. 17 and Dec. 15.

SUPPORT GROUP

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month
Location: American House III, 35700 Hunter, Westland
Details: Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance is sponsoring a support group that provides support and guidance for families caring for an older person.
Contact: Chris Goldberg at (734) 629-5004. Call to confirm meeting, if coming for the first time.

For Your Health

W-W NAMI

Time/Date: 7 p.m. the first and third Thursday of the

month
Location: St. Johns Episcopal Church, 555 S. Wayne Road, Westland
Details: The Wayne-Westland affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) provides support and information for individuals and families dealing with mental illness.

SAFE PLACE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursdays
Location: Fellowship Hall at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City.
Details: A SAFE PLACE is based on the Alcoholics for Christ program.
Contact: Russ Weathers at (734) 422-1995

ADULT DAY SERVICES

Time/Date: 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays
Location: 570 S Main St., Plymouth MI
Detail: A structured week-day alternative for adults in need of supervision. Program provides activities and discussions to meet social, recreational and personal needs unique to dependent individuals
Contact: Laurie Krause at laurie.lifecareads@gmail.com and (734) 956-2600

METRO FIBROMYALGIA

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. Second and fourth Thursday of each month
Location: Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, just west of Ford in Garden City
Details: The first meeting has a speaker, the second meeting is open to discuss living with our fibromyalgia.
Contact: Lucy at (734) 462-1768, www.MetroFibro-Group.com

MENOPAUSE & MORE

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month
Location: Classroom 2 of the west addition of the Marian Women Center of St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia
Details: A support group for women, no registration is necessary, and the group is free of charge.
Contact: (734) 655-1100

COUNTERPOINT

Details: Counterpoint Shelter and Crisis Center offers free counseling and respite services for people ages 10-17 and their families.
Contact: (734) 563-5005

TOUGHLOVE

Time/Date: 7:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays
Location: Northwest Wayne Skill Center, Ann Arbor Trail between Merriman and Farmington, Livonia.
Details: Support group, newcomers welcome.
Contact: (734) 261-7880 or (248) 380-7748

LIFECARE

Time/Date: 7-9:15 p.m. Thursday
Location: 570 S. Main St., Plymouth
Details: LifeCare is a care/support/recovery groups for everyone facing life's challenges.
Contact: Lillian Easterly-Smith at info.lifecarecc@gmail.com or (734) 956-2109

Location: Fellowship Hall at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City.

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CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

Case #767B, Public Hearing for Proposed Rezoning from R-5, Single Family Residential to CB-1 Low Intensity Commercial Business, Parcel #034-99-0001-703, 6500 N Wayne Road, NE Corner of Wayne Road and Hunter Avenue (Dennis Redmer).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 6, 2012.

Written comments may be submitted to the Planning Commission up until 5:00 p.m. one (1) day prior to the scheduled meeting.

Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman
 Westland Planning Commission

Publish: February 16, 2012

WESTLAND CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSIONS RECORD OF ATTENDANCE 1/12/2011 - 12/31/2011

Pursuant to City of Westland Council Resolution No. 8-85-441, the following record of attendance of Council members at regular and special meetings is published for the year 2011.

Councilperson	No. of Meetings	Meetings Attended	Percentage
Christine Cicirelli Bryant	22	22	100%
James R. Godbout	22	22	100%
Adam Hammons	22	22	100%
Bill Johnson	22	20	91%
Meriem Kadi	22	22	100%
Michael Kehrer	22	17	77%
Dewey K. Reeves	22	21	95%

EILEEN DeHART, CMC
 WESTLAND CITY CLERK

Publish: February 16 & 23, 2012

CITY OF WESTLAND 2012 ANIMAL LICENSES

Licenses must be obtained on or before Thursday, March 1, 2012 for all animals age four (4) months or older. A statement of rabies vaccination must be presented upon applying for an animal license. Starting March 2, 2012, a \$2.00 penalty will be assessed. Licenses may be purchased at:

WESTLAND CITY CLERK'S OFFICE, 36601 Ford Road OR
 MICHIGAN HUMANE SOCIETY, 37255 Marquette

EILEEN DeHART, CMC
 WESTLAND CITY CLERK

Publish: February 16 & 23, 2012

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

Case #767C, Site Plan Approval for Proposed Driveway Access to MJR Theater, Parcel #034-99-0001-703, 6500 N Wayne Road, NE Corner of Wayne Road and Hunter Avenue (Dennis Redmer).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 6, 2012.

Written comments may be submitted to the Planning Commission up until 5:00 p.m. one (1) day prior to the scheduled meeting.

Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman
 Westland Planning Commission

Publish: February 16, 2012

Kroger employees nab would-be shoplifter

WESTLAND

Retail fraud

A Dearborn man, with seven prior convictions, was arrested for shoplifting at Kroger, 7350 N. Middlebelt, Feb. 13. Store security called police after noticing the man in the baby food aisle stacking food in a cart in a manner that is common with people who fill a cart and walk out without paying.

As an employee positioned himself nearby,

he said the man started to push the cart, containing dog food, coffee, corn oil, olive oil and Red Bull, valued at \$450, through the door. When confronted, the man initially told the employee he was waiting for his cousin and going to get windshield washer fluid from the alcove. He then told the employee he needed to return bottles that were in his cousin's car.

While this was going on, the employee said

the man kept trying to push the cart outside. After struggling with two employees, the man was eventually taken to the ground and handcuffed just before officers arrived.

The suspect had no cash or credit cards, the officer noted, but kept offering to pay for the merchandise.

The man was arrested and later arraigned for retail fraud and being a fourth-degree habitual offender. Along with

his prior convictions, the man was also on parole for retail fraud.

Break-in

On Feb. 2, a resident of an apartment in the 8500 block of North Hix told police that someone had broken into his apartment. Reported missing were a 46-inch high definition plasma television valued at \$973, an Xbox 360 with two sets of headphones valued at \$551 and a laptop computer.

The officer noted there were pry marks on the front door.

Larceny from a vehicle

Residents in the 600 block and 800 block of Karle told police Feb. 1 that someone had stolen items from their vehicles. One resident, who lives in the 800 block of Karle, told the officer that someone had stolen the stereo from his 2001 Dodge Intrepid which

had been left unlocked.

He said about 3:30 a.m. he had looked outside to see a vehicle pulled into his driveway. When he went outside, he said the vehicle was in the street just south of his home. When he yelled at the suspect vehicle, he said someone ran up to the vehicle from the home in the 600 block of Karle.

The second resident reported two gold necklaces valued at \$400 stolen.

By LeAnne Rogers

Reading your spouse's e-mails could be a crime

By Wendy Alton
Guest Columnist

If you haven't been following the Oakland County criminal case against Leon Walker, now is the time to do it.

Last year I wrote a blog about the criminal charges pending against Leon Walker: He and his wife Clara Walker were living together, but going through a divorce. Leon logged into Clara's Gmail account on her computer by guessing her password. While logged in, Leon printed a number of e-mails between Clara and a friend, and these e-mails revealed that Walker was having an affair with her second ex-husband. Leon,



Wendy Alton

her soon to be third ex-husband, printed the e-mails and gave them to Clara's first ex-husband, who used the e-mails as a basis to file an emergency motion for custody of their child.

Leon was charged with violating Michigan law MCL 752.795, which states that a person cannot "intentionally and without authorization" access a computer, computer program, computer network, or computer system, to "acquire, alter, damage, delete, or destroy property." The same law prohibits spam and viruses.

Despite the fact that they were married at the time he accessed her e-mail, and despite the fact that the computer was purchased by him and her password was not always kept a secret, Prosecutor Jessica Cooper charged him with a felony that is nor-

Despite the fact that they were married at the time he accessed her e-mail, and despite the fact that the computer was purchased by him and her password was not always kept a secret, Prosecutor Jessica Cooper charged him with a felony that is normally reserved for serious hackers — and Leon Walker now faces a penalty of up to five years in prison.

Leon appealed his charges to the Michigan Court of Appeals. On Dec. 27, 2011, the Michigan Court of Appeals released its opinion, and upheld the charges against him.

The Michigan Court of Appeals determined the following:

1) Leon Walker intentionally accessed the account by guessing her password, and his intention was also revealed by

him printing e-mails and distributing them to a third party.

2) Leon Walker accessed the account without authorization because Clara Walker testified that she never shared her password with him, and he didn't even use her computer.

3) By accessing Clara Walker's Gmail account, Leon Walker did access a computer (Gmail e-mail is stored on Gmail servers), did access a computer network (Gmail e-mails are sent to the user over the internet),

did access a computer program (Gmail itself is a program), and did access a computer system (Gmail servers act as a computer system).

4) Leon Walker acquired the e-mails by viewing, printing and distributing them, which is essentially acquiring the property of someone else.

The Michigan Court of Appeals ruled that the criminal charges against Leon will stand, as his actions satisfy the elements of the criminal statute. The case is now sent back to Oakland County so that a jury trial date can be set. It is unknown if Leon will appeal to the Michigan Supreme Court, and even if he does, even more unknown if the Michigan Supreme Court will hear the case.

What are the practical consequences of this case and this Michigan Court of Appeals ruling? Your

personal e-mail is absolutely private unless you share your password with someone else or authorize them to check your e-mail. If you do not share your password or permit someone access, it is a crime for them to access your account without your permission. This is equally true for strangers as well as for spouses — there is no spousal exception.

If you are going through a divorce, it is best to leave your spouse's e-mail and facebook accounts alone. The Michigan Court of Appeals has made it very clear that unless permission is given, it is a crime and it will be prosecuted.

Wendy Alton is a attorney and mediator with Fausone Bohn, LLP, focusing on family law. She can be reached at (248) 380-9976 or walton@fb-firm.com.

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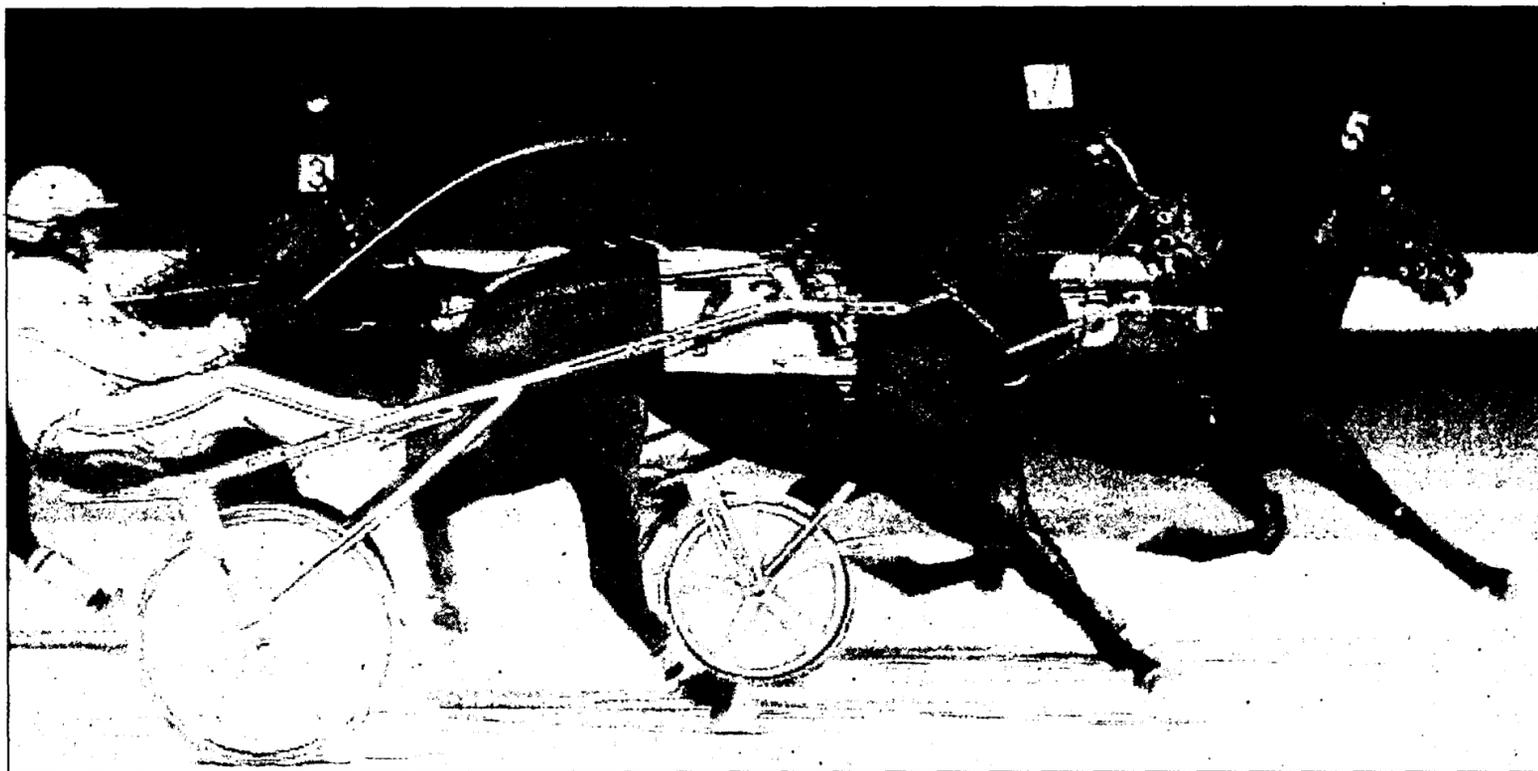
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Winning the race



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Horses race around the track at Northville Downs on Jan. 21.

Northville Downs survives changing times

By Brad Kadrach
Observer Staff Writer

Severino "Bags" Bagozzi worked at Northville Downs for decades, right up until the day he died.

Ron Bondie of Plymouth Township has been there since 1964, and really doesn't see himself leaving any time soon, despite the fact he's moved into his 70s.

Much of the rest of the staff has been around 35-40 years, according to Michael Carlo who, along with his brothers, now runs the track, started more than 100 years ago when a group bought the property and started the Wayne County Fair.

That kind of longevity, and loyalty, is part of what Carlo said makes Northville Downs successful.

"We've got a great core of people who've been with us a long, long time," said Carlo. "We've got families who've been racing with us for 40-50 years."

Long-time staffers

Bondie is one of those lifers. He's worked race tracks since the mid-60s, when his father was a mutual clerk at Hazel Park Raceway and took him to work. His father's boss eventually offered him a job as a messenger. His work pleased the boss, who told him to leave an application while he went off to enlist in the Army, and there'd be a job waiting for him when he got out of the service.

"I enjoyed what I was doing; the public is always interesting to talk to," Bondie said. "Pretty soon I went from working the thoroughbreds, and they asked me to work at the harness tracks; so I was working the afternoon tracks (post-time 3:30), and then at 8:30 for the harness tracks."

The Downs got started shortly after the turn of the 20th century, when a group of people bought the property — the track sits on about 50 acres, according to Carlo — and carved out a track.

"We used to have farmers bring their horses down to the oval to race them before it was a company, before it was legal, before it was anything," Carlo said with a smile.

That's when it was the Northville Driving Club, before a group led by Carlo's great uncle, John Carlo, came along in the mid-1940s and started the company that has run racing there ever since.



Northville Downs driver Donald Gribbin leads his horse, Promiscuous, to a stall in the track's paddocks after the fourth race on Jan. 21. Northville usually has 14 races on the race nights, Fridays and Saturdays



Visitors to Northville Downs watch races from other race tracks on Jan. 21. Bettors can place bets on any race that simulcasts to Northville Downs.

Family style

The family business passed on to Lou Carlo (Mike's dad), and is now run by brothers Mike, John and Edward. Mike came back to the family business after a few years doing sales and marketing for horse racing publications in New York.

"It's in the blood, it's what we know, it's what we do, it's what we love," said Carlo, who grew up at the track. "The attraction for my brothers and me is the on-going legacy, keeping it going."

Business was good. The track would run six days a week and used to race in the summer, when the weather was good and the economy was OK. The state Legislature then passed legislation that forced Northville Downs into winter-only racing, with the larger Hazel Park Raceway allowed to keep its summer schedule.

"In some ways it's been a little better," Carlo said.

"In the 80s and 90s it was better, because you weren't fighting a nice golf day or summer baseball. In January-April, there's not a lot going on. We became something to do."

There were easy years, and there were difficult years. The establishment of the lottery, and casinos, hurt business — "It didn't seem like it at the time, but the lottery really was competition," Carlo said — and Northville Downs was, according to Carlo, on the verge of closing its doors in the late 1990s.

Good timing

Then came a break, when the Detroit Race Course closed down. "We got all their business the next year," Carlo said. "We were right back in business."

And right back in business pretty well. Northville Downs runs live racing Fridays and Saturdays from January through April, and simulcasts from other race tracks —

a practice that became legal in 1995 and started at Northville Downs in 1996 — 12 hours a day, seven days a week year-round. Last year, some \$53 million was bet at Northville Downs.

Carlo said the track still remains a popular attraction because the staff makes sure it's a "fun night out" for people. You can still make a minimum bet of \$1, which means it doesn't have to be an expensive night. And in-track promotions — for instance, one person every live racing night gets a shot at winning \$100,000 — keep it interesting for the patrons.

"This is just a great night out," Carlo said. "You can come here with \$20 and watch four hours of racing, bet on every race, and still not spend your \$20."

Players who don't want to bet on the horses have other attractions at Northville Downs. The track runs a charity poker room and roulette, among other things.

"The poker player is different, and that's good for us," Carlo said. "The more products I can give you, the better it is."

The Carlo family has ridden the ups and downs of the roller-coaster existence of horse racing over the years.

"Horse racing is an industry that has taken a beating the last 10-15 years, with the proliferation of on-line and casino gambling," Carlo said. "It's been a struggle to keep the track going, and keep it going for the families here who've made

THE MONEY TRAIL

A look at annual breakage fees paid by Northville Downs to the City of Northville (NOTE: Fiscal 2012 only counts July-December 2011):

Fiscal Year	Monthly Total	Avg
2007	385,879	32,156
2008	327,923	27,326
2009	259,504	21,625
2010	243,055	17,754
2011	220,392	18,366
2012	106,039	8,836

Track, city maintain good partnership

By Brad Kadrach
Observer Staff Writer

A certain amount of breakage out at Northville Downs Race Track is actually a good thing, for the track and for the City of Northville.

That's because the "breakage" — revenue from racing that comes from the odd pennies to the dime of winning bets — is actually money that goes into the city's general fund budget.

And the city is glad to have it.

"It's revenue we can use as we see fit," Northville City Manager Patrick Sullivan said. "The state intends it to offset some of the costs we have for police/fire protection and traffic. It's a pretty big geographic area."

The breakage revenue was established by the state in the early 1990s. Northville uses it largely to provide police service at the race track. All other costs or service to the track, such as police, fire, department of public works are paid for by other General Fund revenue, primarily property tax.

In Fiscal 2011, Northville Downs paid the city more than \$220,000 in breakage revenue an average of some \$128,366 per month. Between July-Decem-

ber 2011 (the first six months of Fiscal 2012), breakage revenue has averaged just under \$8,900 a month, for a total of \$106,039.

Both those totals are far removed from Fiscal 2000, when the city received a whopping \$641,000 in breakage revenue. But it's still a profit.

"We work hard to maintain our profitability, but everyone is getting their money," said Mike Carlo, who runs the track with brothers John and Edward. "Whether we make money or not, the city makes money. It's good for the city, and it's good for us."

The money isn't the only factor in the relationship between the city and the race track. Northville Downs contributes to the city in a number of other ways, hosting events such as the Farmer's Market, the Summer Solstice and Jingle Bell Runs and other charitable events.

The track is also a staging area for the Fourth of July parade, and Mike Carlo, who runs the track with his brothers, John and Edward, sits on the Northville Chamber of Commerce.

They've been a good neighbor," Sullivan said. "It's been a pretty good partnership."

Northville Downs their lives. That's the allure for us."

Bondie, for one, is grateful they've succeeded, and he doesn't see himself, despite his age, giving it up any time soon.

"I love what I'm doing, I love the people I get to meet," said Bondie, who

counts actors Mickey Rooney and Ann-Margaret among the people he's met. "I love what I'm doing ... I want to be around to enjoy it. They'll probably have to take me out of here on a gurney."

bkadrach@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-8899

Constan supports ethics, campaign finance bills

State Rep. Bob Constan, D-Dearborn Heights, has voiced his support for an ethics and campaign finance reform package that would close the revolving door between the public and the private sectors and provide citizens with greater transparency and accountability from elected and appointed officials.

"We as lawmakers are entrusted with the well-being of Michigan workers, families, schools, businesses and commu-

nities, so it is very important that the public has confidence in our ability to make sound policies without questionable pressure or influence," said Constan. "There is a time and place for everything, but running a campaign on the public's time cannot be allowed and using the House as a rest stop on the road to personal financial gain must stop."

The package contains 16 bills and one constitutional amendment and

looks to address corporate accountability, campaign finance and ethics reform. Among other things, the House Democrats' package of bills would:

- Create a two-year "cooling off" period for elected officials and a one-year period for department directors who attempt to move directly into lobbying to close the revolving door between public and private work.
- Require personal

financial disclosure from appointed and elected officials. Michigan is one of only three states with no financial disclosure requirements.

- Strengthen conflict of interest provisions for legislators, prohibit state elected officials from applying for or accepting state grants, and make it illegal for individuals to solicit or accept campaign contributions while in a state facility.
- Toughen campaign finance disclosure and

corporate accountability after the U.S. Supreme Court lifted limits on corporate spending in campaigns and prevent state contractors, companies that accept federal bailout money and foreign-controlled corporations from spending money in Michigan elections.

- Increase transparency by forcing corporations making expenditures in campaigns or for lobbying purposes to comply with the law and publicly disclose

fundors.

- Eliminate "Pay to Play" politics by banning the state from awarding any contract over \$100,000 to a contractor or vendor who made campaign contributions to elected officials.
- Require "robo-calls" to clearly state the name and address of the organization paying for them.

"I am committed to doing all I can to see to it that this legislative package becomes law in Michigan," he said.

GARDEN CLIPPINGS

Bowling benefit

The Garden City Firefighters Union 1911 is hosting its fifth annual bowling fund raiser to support the Muscular Dystrophy Association Friday, Feb. 24, at Oaklanes, 8450 Middlebelt, in Westland.

The cost is \$25 per person which includes two games with shoes, pizza and bread provided by Jets pizza of Garden City. There will also be raffles, a 50/50, and a red pin game. Registration starts at 6 p.m. and bowling will start at 7 p.m.

Call the MDA at (734)416-7076 to reserve a spot.

East reunion
The Garden City East High School Classes of 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972 and 1973 are holding a combined reunion Saturday, Sept. 22, and organizers looking for former classmates is the easiest part. The hardest part is finding those old classmates.

Information can be found or posted on the Facebook reunion page, Garden City High School (East) Reunion 2012. It also can be e-mailed to the Reunion Committee - Cindy Eads Frens at irish4200@hotmail.com, Debi Cassidy Haller at debi.haller@gmail.com, Doris Fugaban Williams at doris1226@wowway.com, Lee A. Gilligan at ee.gilligan@att.net, Sue Cook at stasselmyer@charter.net, Suzie Wright Rogiero at suzierogiero@yahoo.com, Jackie Kalifut at jackieideson@gmail.com and Jeff Fordell at jeffreyfordell@comcast.net.

Child ID

The Wayne Masonic Lodge 112, in conjunction with the Garden City Rotary Club Family Day event, will provide a free child identification program 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday Feb. 25, at Henry Ruff School, 30300 Maplewood, Garden City.

Each child that goes through the process will receive a dental impression kit that can be done at home as well as a CD containing a photo, video, dig-



Sharpening up

Master gardener Denise Kora of Garden City is getting her tools ready for the spring planting season after attending the Taylor Conservatory Foundation's Super Tool Sharpening and Cleaning Party at the Heritage Park Petting Farm Feb. 5. Kora, who was part of the team that planted Garden City's community garden, Gardenville, was among 40 participants who learned how to properly sharpen, clean and keep garden tools in tip-top shape from garden experts Janet Macunovich and Steve Nikkila. Kora grew some organic plants from seed and helped prepare the soil for planting for Gardenville. "Now thanks to the Tool Party, my tools will be ready to help with the pruning this year," she said.

ital fingerprints and their vital information.

Parents or guardians of children who participate must be present and fill out a permission slip for the child to receive this service. Children who have already received the service are encouraged to repeat the process every two years to keep the information in the completed packets current.

The Michigan Child Identification Program provides the family with everything needed for the Amber Alert System. Since 2005 several thousand Michigan families have received the service, considered one of the most comprehensive programs of its kind by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

For more information, call (989) 466-3087 or consult the Michigan Child ID website at www.michigan-childid.org.

Zumba Fitness

Try calorie-burning fitness workout with Zumba Fitness classes at Merri-man Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merri-man, Garden City.

The class features feature rhythms set to high-energy Latin, international, and Christian music. The classes are on Thursdays through May. Registration is at 7:30 p.m., and the class begins at 8 p.m.

Attendees must be 18 years or older. Wear comfortable workout wear and bring a sweat towel and a bottle of drinking water. A donation will be taken at the door for every class to

cover the cost of the certified Zumba instructor.

Enter the building through the gym doors on the north side of the facility. Arrive at 7:30 p.m. the first night of class to get registered.

For more information, visit www.MRBC.us and click on Women's Ministries, Girlfriends of Grace and Zumba Fitness for Women or send an e-mail to info@mrbc.us. Or call (734) 421-0472

Each attendee will be required to sign a liability waiver releasing the church and the class instructor from any and all liabilities related to the attendee's participation in the exercise class.

Travel show

Party Animal Travel is having a Senior Free Travel Fair 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, March 14, at Joy Manor, 8999 Joy Road, Westland.

There will be a meet-and-greet for seniors who may want to travel, but need a travel buddy. Party Animal has museum, casinos, restaurants and summer tours set up for the older and still active

crowd. The cost of the fair is free and seniors could win a trip at the show.

Ready to Relay

It's time to fight back against cancer.

The sixth annual American Cancer Society Relay for Life of Garden City has set the 2012 event date from 10 a.m. Saturday, June 2, to 10 a.m. Sunday, June 3, at the Garden City Middle School track on Radcliff south of Ford Road.

A kickoff celebration will be held Thursday, March 8, in the gymnasium of Farmington Elementary 5-6 Campus, 33411 Marquette. Registration and refreshments will be at 6:30 p.m., with the program at 7 p.m.

So far, 16 teams and 84 participants have registered for the Garden City Relay for Life. Participants can start a team by visiting relayforlife.org or calling (800) 227-2345.

Kent Morton benefits

• A dinner buffet and raffle 2-6 p.m. Sunday, March 4, at Albert's on

the Alley. The Friends of Fawn Salvatore are holding a buffet with food and a raffle, and kids are welcome. Tickets are \$20 per person and are available by pre-sale only. No tickets will be sold at the door the day of the event. Tickets are available in the office at Memorial Elementary 1-2 Campus, at the corner of Brandt and Marquette in Garden City. They're on sale 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday through Feb. 29.

• A bowling benefit at 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25, at Westland Bowl, 5940 N. Wayne Road, north of Ford Road, Westland. Tickets cost \$20 per person for three games, shoes and pizza. Non-bowlers welcome. There will be 50/50, mystery games and raffle prizes. Check-in is at 8 p.m.

Space is still available, reserve a spot by Feb. 18, by calling Mike Lesperance at (734) 536-6066 or by e-mail at rock91316@hotmail.com or Will Hamilton at (734) 716-3329 or by e-mail at will.hamilton@ibsa.com. Or go online to www.facebook.com/kentalexorton.

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Pinterest offers quicker social sharing

By Jon Gunnells
 Guest Columnist

In the past decade, social media has evolved from long form blogging to shorter Facebook posts to even shorter 140 character tweets. And if you've been paying attention, you've noticed social sharing becoming even shorter and quicker thanks to new sites like Pinterest.



Tech Savvy
 Jon Gunnells

Pinterest is a self-described online pin-board where users can share the things they love with just one click of their mouse. When users sign up, they can select categories they are interested in such as movies, or music.

These interests help the folks over at Pinterest decide what type of content to show you. So a fan who has movies listed as an interest will log in to Pinterest and see content relating to movies. When that fan stumbles across something they like, they can "pin it" to their virtual tack board or share it among their friends.

Despite being an invite-only website, Pinterest has already been making waves by becoming a very powerful e-commerce tool for retailers. Many retailers have

already used Pinterest to successfully share pictures of clothing or accessories for their new collections.

When fans that have listed clothing or accessories as one of their interests are exposed to the new content, they often times make the content spread rapidly.

But Pinterest's success extends far beyond the virality of retailers' new clothing lines. Pinterest is also becoming a favorite website of women of all ages to share recipes, crafts, artwork and more.

Because Pinterest's membership is about 70 percent women, the bulk of the shared content appeals to women. And if most of your friends on Pinterest are women (as is my case) you will be exposed to said content in your streams when you log in.

Of course, as more men join the site, the content will begin to even out. One of the reasons Pinterest is female-dominated is because the early adopters were mostly all women, who in turn invited their women friends to join the site.

But men shouldn't be fooled, there's plenty of chest-pounding, manly content on Pinterest — you just have to refine your settings first. When I logged into my Pinterest account today the first two pictures in my stream were a picture of fried onion rings and a picture of Eli Manning.

Still, for those men who need even more chest-pounding, manliness there's a male-dominated sharing site similar to Pinterest. The site is called Gentlemint and works just like Pinterest.

Content can be shared with one click of a button — much easier than writing a Facebook update, sending a tweet, or creating a blog post.

And the results are much more fun. If you haven't had the opportunity to join Pinterest or even Gentlemint, get in contact with your nearest Millennial.

If you can pry them away from their compulsive "Pinning" and "Minting" long enough, they might be able to teach you how to set up and use the next big social network.

Pinterest on the go

You can also "pin" from your smartphone or tablet by downloading the Pinterest app from the Apple iTunes store. Sorry, Droid, BlackBerry and Windows Phone users, Pinterest doesn't have a compatible app for your device yet, but stay tuned.

Jon Gunnells, a Northville Township resident, is a social media planner at a Detroit-based advertising agency. A 2007 graduate of Michigan State University, he holds a B.A. in journalism. He can be reached at jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter @GunnSh0w.



Promoting Wayne County Community College district's new option for financial aid and administrative information for students are Donnell Mason (from left), Tamara Pruitt, Roland Stamps, Sheena Hines, Willma Harris, Angela Acosta, Tawi Moore, Judith Smouter, Samantha Dillion and Ronele Johnson.

WCCCD adds one-stop option for financial aid

Students of Wayne County Community College District have a new, convenient one-stop option for financial aid and administrative information with the creation of the District's "Student Solutions Team."

The team centralizes information and administrative resources that were previously spread across several district departments. The team will rotate daily between the district's five campuses to provide an efficient way for students to answer basic questions about everything from financial aid payment schedules to registering for classes.

"There are many ways students can access information — whether

in person, online or by phone — but providing a helpful personal interaction is vital to helping some students navigate the college experience," said WCCCD Chancellor Dr. Curtis Ivery. "We want every student to have a positive experience, and providing friendly, efficient service is an important part of ensuring that happens."

Team members will be on hand at the District's five campuses according to the following schedule:

- Downriver - Mondays and Thursdays.
- Downtown - Tuesdays and Fridays.
- Eastern - Mondays and Thursdays.
- Northwestern - Mon-

days and Fridays.

• Western- Tuesdays and Thursdays. As the front line to answering student questions, the Student Solutions Team will also help the district's administrative offices work faster towards creating services to further enhance its growing student population. The district will track student satisfaction with its overall service periodically to ensure it is providing the best platforms available to serve their needs.

"Our goal is to help everyone who comes through our doors create a better life," Ivery said. "Giving them the best possible service only helps us, and them, realize that goal."

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Red Cross honor

On January 25, the American Red Cross and Trinity Health gathered at Laurel Manor Banquet and Conference Center to celebrate the success of their 2011 blood drive campaign. St. Mary Mercy was recognized as the top Trinity Health facility with the highest number of units collected, 405 pints from its five blood drives.

"Our associates really rally behind this worthwhile effort," said David Spivey, president and CEO, St. Mary Mercy Hospital. "We look forward to taking this to another level in 2012."

Trinity Health also ranked No. 1 in pints donated as compared to other local health systems. The 2012 blood drive goal for St. Mary Mercy is to increase donations by 11 percent.

St. Mary Mercy will be hosting blood drives on six days in 2012. The American Red Cross encourages area residents to join St. Mary Mercy Hospital employees and volunteers to donate blood. It takes approximately one hour to donate.

The donation dates are:

- 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24, in Classrooms 1 and 2.
- 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, April 27, in Classrooms 1 and 2.
- 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, June 29, in the auditorium.
- 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, Aug. 27, in the auditorium.
- 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 25, in the auditorium.
- 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 27, in the auditorium.

To make an appointment, call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or visit redcross-blood.org, click on "Enter a Sponsor Code" and enter "stmarmercy." An appointment sign-up sheet also is available in the St. Mary Mercy cafeteria.



At the recognition ceremony at Laurel Manor Banquet & Conference Center were, from left, Carol Furlong, Director, Donor Services, American Red Cross Southeastern Michigan Region; Garry Faja, President and CEO, Saint Joseph Mercy Health System; David Spivey, President and CEO, St. Mary Mercy Hospital; Jan Searight, senior HR consultant, St. Mary Mercy; Jeannie Cox, administrative assistant, Marketing/PR, St. Mary Mercy; Marianne Simancek, director, Community Outreach, St. Mary Mercy; Sally Santoni, operations manager, Radiology, St. Mary Mercy; Trudy Smith, site coordinator, American Red Cross; Cyndi Niva, HRIS coordinator, St. Mary Mercy; and Jim Aldrich, performance improvement specialist, St. Mary Mercy.

Scholarship deadline

For the fourth consecutive year Community Choice Credit Union announced that its 501 (c)(3) foundation is offering \$100,000 in scholarships to high school seniors in southeastern Michigan.

To be eligible for a scholarship, students must write an essay that explains why they have decided to remain a Michigan resident and how their college course work and intended degree will allow them to enrich Michigan, its communities, or a Michigan industry.

Since its inception, the Community Choice Foundation has granted \$305,000 in scholarships to 61 students, supporting their higher education goals at Michigan-based colleges and universities. Recipients of the scholarships represent multiple counties including: 22 students from Wayne, 22 students from Oakland, 13 students from Macomb, three students from Livingston, and one student from Lenawee. Nearly 33 percent of those students are pursuing their studies at the University of

Michigan, while roughly 20 percent of the students are pursuing their education at Michigan State University.

"We are thrilled to announce that the credit union will again donate \$100,000 in scholarships to Michigan high school seniors," said Community Relations Director, Molly Shor. "The credit union is making a long-term commitment to local students, an investment in future leaders who will help ensure the home-grown success of the state of Michigan."

Additional eligibility requirements include students must graduate with at least a 3.0 grade point average from high schools within the Community Choice charter counties of Genesee, Lapeer, Livingston, Macomb, Oakland, St. Clair, Washtenaw, or Wayne counties. Students also must show acceptance into an accredited community college, college or university in the state of Michigan, pursuing an associate's or bachelor's degree.

The deadline for application is March 1. For more information, visit www.communitychoicecu.com/scholarships.

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Nutritious meals*	Continental breakfast and choice of lunch or dinner are included
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Full cleaning service	We vacuum, mop, dust and change linens every week
Transportation	Scheduled chauffeured transportation for doctors appointments, dinner and casino trips
Security	We provide 24-hour staffing, medical monitoring and the reassurance of a full facility generator
Professional care	Medicare certified services, physician visits, physical therapy, podiatry, hair salon available
Warm & friendly caregivers	From morning housekeeping to evening dinner service, your parents are attended by our caring staff
An active social life	Full time activity directors offer trips, games, and entertainment
Friendship	A vibrant community of seniors enjoy ice cream socials, movies, Happy Hour and live entertainment

For more information, please call:

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3221 E. Baldwin Rd.
Grand Blanc, MI
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Lyon Township

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Wild urges eligible residents to file for earned income credit

Westland Mayor William Wild is urging residents to apply for their share of millions in Earned Income Tax Credit money available to eligible families and individuals from the Internal Revenue Service.

Wild is reaching out to help raise awareness of this federal program. The program goes unused by about 20 percent of qualified workers entitled to receive a check for up to \$5,751.

"Every year there is money available to working families and individuals that does not get claimed," Wild said. "File your 2011 tax return and take advantage of this tax credit, which puts money in your pocket and into our local economy."

Many working families and individuals in Westland fail to apply for the credit each year, missing out on their share of the money. Seniors, individuals with low incomes, and non-English speaking taxpayers account for much of the unclaimed credits because they don't realize they are eligible.

The Westland Community Development Department, Senior Resource Center and the William P. Faust Library are teaming up with the IRS, AARP Tax Aide and Community Action agencies to remind people that they must file a 2011 federal income tax return to receive the EITC, even if they owe no tax.

Groups promoting the EITC have a simple message: "Your Money. You Earned It. Now Claim It! - file it, claim it and get it." Any individual or couple who worked in 2011 should file for the EITC. The amount of the credit depends on family size and gross income.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act provided a temporary increase in EITC for taxpayers with three or more qualifying children. This increase was extended for 2011 and 2012 by the Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2010.

EITC eligibility requirements are:

- With three or more qualifying children, income less than \$43,998 or \$49,078, if married filing jointly. Maximum refund: \$5,751.
- With two qualifying children, income less than \$40,964 or \$46,044, if married filing jointly. Maximum refund: \$5,112.
- With one qualifying child, income less than \$36,052 or \$41,132 if married filing jointly. Maximum refund: \$3,094.
- With no children, income less than \$13,660 or \$18,740, if married filing jointly. Maximum refund: \$464.

In addition to other requirements, people must be under the age of 65 to qualify.

Free tax preparation services are available to low and moderate income families and seniors now through April 17 at the Westland Friendship Center.

For more information visit www.irs.gov or call the Friendship Center at (734) 722-7628, the Community Development Center at (734) 595-0288 or the William P. Faust Library at (734) 326-6123.

AROUND WESTLAND

Doo Wop Dinner

Angelo Brothers Banquet Hall is hosting a Doo Wop Dinner, featuring The WhatAbouts, Friday, Feb. 24.

Dinner will be at 6:30 p.m., followed by the show 7:30-9 p.m. Tickets are \$20 each and include pizza, salad, rolls and beverage. A cash bar will be available.

For reservations, call (734) 216-9451 or Kelly at (734) 377-1745. Angelo Brothers is at 33550 Ford Road, Westland.

Olympic challenge

Bring your youngsters and have a great time cheering them on to victory as they "compete" in games especially designed for them at the annual Nursery School Olympics 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 3, at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford, Westland.

"Events" include the Big Wheel Grande Prix, the Marshmallow Shot Put and Obstacle Course. Every child will receive a certificate of participation.

The Olympics is for youngsters ages 18 months to five years. Pre-registration encouraged, but not required. The course takes about 30-45 minutes so children can register right up to 11:30 a.m.

The event is free of charge, with all admissions being sponsored by the Wayne Masons 112. Also supporting

the event at the Westland Parks and Recreation Department, Westland Civitan Club, Dads' Athletic Club of Westland, Westland Christian Union and Westland Jaycees.

For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

H.Y.P.E. clinic

The Westland Parks and Recreation Department is offering children ages 6-14 some H.Y.P.E. during their mid-winter break.

The department is partnering with the H.Y.P.E. (Helping Youth Progress and Excel) Athletics Community to offer four-day basketball clinic 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday, Feb. 20-24, at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford, Westland.

The clinic will focus on athletic improvement, individual and group drills, contests, and organized games. Coaches include a former NBA player and a two-time basketball national champion. The clinics cost \$30 each. Registration can be completed at the Bailey Recreation Center. Call (734) 722-7620 for more information.

Red Wings raffle

How would you like a suite for 10, including beer, pop and food, and a chance to watch the Detroit Red Wings take on the Nashville Predators at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 30?

You could have it if you buy a \$10 raffle ticket

that currently being sold by the Westland Rotary members to benefit the organization's scholarship fund and other charities.

Tickets are available at the Westland Chamber of Commerce Office, 36900 Ford Road, west of Wayne Road, or any Rotary members. The drawing to be held at 1 p.m. Thursday, March 22, at Joy Manor, 28999 Joy Road, Westland.

For more information, call Mary McGaw at (734) 748-8515.

Cigar Fest

Firing Line Indoor Gun Range and Gun Shop is holding its 10th annual (smoke free) Cigar Fest to benefit the Westland Police Department's Tactical Response Team Saturday, Feb. 25, at the Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road, Westland.

Doors open at 5 p.m., with dinner at 6 p.m. The Vegas Room opens at 7 p.m. There also will be a silent auction and live entertainment by Rusty Lunchbox and D.J. Raffles will be conducted throughout the night and include handguns, rifles and a trip to Las Vegas. Smoking will be available in outdoor heated tents.

Event and raffle tickets can be purchased at the Firing Line, 33000 Ford Road, the Westland Police Department, 36701 Ford Road or the Westland Chamber of Commerce, 36900 Ford Road. For more information, call the chamber at

(734) 326-7222 or Officer Jeffry Kavanaugh at the police department at (734) 722-9600.

Flea Market

Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church is holding a flea market 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 19, at the church on Cherry Hill between Wayne Road and New-

burgh, Westland.

Do you have things you're looking to clear out of your house? Do you have craft items you would like to sell? Do you have antiques you don't want anymore? Do you have a business such as Tupperware, Party Lite or Creative Memories that you would like to promote? This is a great

opportunity to cleanup, clear out, and promote your small business. It's an outdoor event, rain or shine. Cost is \$20, non-refundable, to secure you a parking space. Food concessions will be available.

Call Sharon Garcia to sign up at cackles55@gmail.com or (734) 637-2662.



CITY OF GARDEN CITY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING March 19, 2012

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Garden City Council will hold a Public Hearing at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan on Monday, March 19, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. regarding the proposed ordinance making the Garden City Downtown Development Authority's proposed third amendment to the DDA Development and Tax Increment Financing Plan.

CITY OF GARDEN CITY
COUNTY OF WAYNE
STATE OF MICHIGAN

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES TO ADD A NEW SECTION 33.173(C) TO CHAPTER 33 TITLED BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS OF TITLE III: ADMINISTRATION TO AMEND THE SECOND AMENDED AND RESTATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN OF THE GARDEN CITY DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TO PERMIT THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY AND THE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT TO EXEMPT FROM CAPTURE A PORTION OF THE CITY'S MILLAGE LEVY RELATING TO RUBBISH COLLECTION PURSUANT TO MCL 125.1664(4).

THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION 1: AMENDMENT TO CITY CODE.

The Code of Ordinances of the City of Garden City is hereby amended to add a new section 33.173(C) to Chapter 33 titled Boards and Commissions of Title III: Administration to read as follows:

§33.173 APPROVAL; AMENDMENTS.

(C) Section 3 of the Tax Increment Financing Plan contained in the Second Amended and Restated Development Plan and Tax Increment Financing Plan of the Garden City Downtown Development Authority dated November, 2006 is hereby amended to read as follows:

3. Maximum Amount of Bonded Indebtedness to be Incurred.

The DDA is currently repaying bonds issued to finance the Ford Road streetscape. Those bonds are due to be retired in 2019, as reflected in Table 4. Other than the streetscape bonds, at this time the DDA has no plans to incur any bonded indebtedness to finance the improvement program. Most improvements will be implemented on a pay-as-you-go basis as tax increment revenues are transmitted to the DDA, or as may be accumulated over more than one year, and held in reserve to allocate for projects.

The DDA may obtain a loan to fund purchase of the library site, depending upon the favorability of terms, availability of other funds, and its decision on whether to purchase the site.

Taxing Jurisdiction*	Projected Captured Millage Rate (2006 Rates)*
City of Garden City	16.5218
Schoolcraft Community College	1.7967
Jail	0.9381
HCMA: Huron-Clinton Metro Authority	0.2146
WCTA	0.5980
Wayne County	6.6389
Wayne County Parks	0.2459
Total Applicable Millage	26.9531

Notes:

- Garden City Schools, State Education Tax and Intermediate Schools are not included because the tax levies of these jurisdictions are exempt from capture.
- Rates are per \$1,000.00 of taxable value.

Under this TIF plan, the tax levy on the entire captured assessed valuation is planned to be utilized by the DDA. The tax increment revenues will be expended in the manner as set forth in this Plan. Estimates of the projected growth in taxable value, the revenue captured by taxing jurisdictions and the tax increment revenues to be received by the DDA are included in Tables 3 and 4.

The DDA may enter into an agreement with the City of Garden City to share a portion of the captured assessed value of the district, pursuant to MCL 125.1664(4). Commencing in fiscal year 2012 through the duration of this TIF Plan, the DDA may exempt a portion of the City of Garden City's millage levy directly proportionate to the millage captured for rubbish collection. Such exemption from capture shall be in accordance with a written agreement between the DDA and the City of Garden City pursuant to the authority of MCL 125.1664(4).

SECTION 2: REPEAL.

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

SECTION 3: SEVERABILITY.

Should any section, subsection, clause, or phrase of this ordinance be declared by the courts to be invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any part thereof other than the part so declared to be invalid.

SECTION 4: EFFECTIVE DATE.

This ordinance shall become effective upon publication as provided by law.

Publish: February 16 and 26, 2012

020708503 - 3x14.8

WESTLAND CITY COUNCIL RECORD OF ATTENDANCE 1/1/2011 - 12/31/2011

Pursuant to City of Westland Council Resolution No. 8-85-441, the following record of attendance of Council members at regular and special meetings is published for the year 2011.

Councilperson	No. of Meetings	Meetings Attended	Percentage
Christine Cicirelli Bryant	26	24	92%
James R. Godbout	26	25	96%
Adam Hammons	26	26	100%
Bill Johnson	26	24	92%
Meriem Kadi	26	26	100%
Michael Kehrer	26	24	92%
Dewey K. Reeves	26	26	100%

EILEEN DeHART, CMC
WESTLAND CITY CLERK

Publish: February 16 & 23, 2012

020708503 - 3x2.1

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On February 21, 2012, the Westland Police Department will conduct a public auction of impounded, abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin promptly at 11:00 am at Westland Car Care, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder.

YEAR	MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	VIN
2002	FORD	FOCUS	SILVER	1FAFP36302W168302
1999	MAZDA	626	BLACK	1YVGF22C0X5893181
2002	CHEVROLET	PRIZM	BLACK	1YSK52852Z417417
1995	MERC BENZ	C280	BLACK	WDBHA28E1SF121467
2005	JEEP	LIBERTY	BLACK	1J4GL48K15W539714
1996	FORD	TAURUS	BLUE	1FALP52U9TG119933
1993	HONDA	CIVIC	WHITE	JHMEG8643PS036711
1996	FORD	CONTOUR	GREEN	1FALP6530TK215973
1996	CHEVROLET	TAHOE	BLACK	1GNEK3R4TJ99839
1993	HONDA		BLACK	JHMEH626XPS015153
1993	HONDA	ACCORD	BLACK	1HGCB7693PA166136
2002	CHEVROLET	MALIBU	WHITE	1G1NE52JX2M644202
1996	FORD	ECONOLINE	LT BLUE	1FDEE14H0THA78129
2001	DODGE	CARAVAN	WHITE	1B8GP45G91B109419
1996	CHRYSLER	CONCORDE	GREEN	2C3HD56T7TH178644
1994	JEEP	GR CHER	BLACK	1J4GZ58S2RC268982
2004	CHEVROLET	CLASSIC	GOLD	1G1ND52F34M520421
1997	TOYOTA	CAMRY	TAN	4T1BG22K9VU777819
1998	DODGE	CARAVAN	WHITE	2B4FP25B1WR838819
1994	FORD	RANGER	GREEN	1FTCR14X7RCP50274

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. Bidding on all vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Due to unknown ownership, 30 day notice is hereby given that the vehicle(s) listed below will be auctioned after March 16, 2010 unless it is claimed by the owner prior to that time.

YEAR	MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	VIN
1997	FORD	EXPLORER	PURPLE	1FMDU35P8VZB54273

OUR VIEWS

Election 2012

Residents should start now if interested in elected positions

While potential Republican presidential candidates have dominated national political news for months, there are still nine months until voters throughout the country decide who will serve as U.S. president for the next four years.

The decisions made at the ballot box won't be limited to the person who will sit in the Oval Office. Positions for U.S. Congress and U.S. senators, as will candidates for the state senate and House of Representatives and Wayne County Commission have terms expiring at the end of the year.

There's always strong turnout at the polls for presidential elections, but the local races have a greater impact on families and businesses. It is state lawmakers who passed sweeping changes last year, cutting business taxes and taxing pensions. State elected officials decide how much money goes toward schools, prisons, recreation and more. Local government manages such things as the library, police and fire services, senior center and land use.

As the region works its way out of its economic slump, these next few years will be key in setting the communities up for the future. Who we elect to make the decisions is important. But this election season its like going to a baseball game. You will need a program to know the players. Redistricting has changed how Westland will be represented from Congress on down to the county commission. It's very western Wayne County focus will shift north, south and west.

As the region works its way out of its economic slump, these next few years will be key in setting the communities up for the future. Who we elect to make the decisions is important.

A case in point: the 11th Congressional District. For a decade, Westland has been represented by Thaddeus McCotter. Westland will move into the 13th District with Garden City, Redford, Wayne, Romulus, Inkster, Melvindale, River Rouge, Ecorse and a portion of Detroit.

The same is true at the state level. The good news is the entire city will remain in the 6th Senate District, but the boundaries will shift to south and southeast. And while it is currently in the 18th House District, come the general election, the city will be divided. A majority of it will be in the 16th District with Wayne, but a northwest portion of the city will be in the 11th District with Garden City, Inkster and portions of Dearborn Heights and Livonia.

And the split goes on. The city will have two Wayne County Commission Districts. The southern portion will be added to the 11th District while the rest will remain in the 12th District. See what we mean about a program? Going forward we will work on educating residents about the changes. And with more opportunities to serve, our hope is that strong, serious, community-minded folks willing to take a more active role in their community will get involved.

For those interested in any of these full-time elected positions, we urge them to start the process now. The filing deadline is just three months away, May 15. Public office is a big commitment, and one we don't want to see people make on the eve of the filing deadline. Take the time to do your research and then decide. The last thing we need is people who are candidates in name only.

western Wayne County focus will shift north, south and west.

A case in point: the 11th Congressional District. For a decade, Westland has been represented by Thaddeus McCotter. Westland will move into the 13th District with Garden City, Redford, Wayne, Romulus, Inkster, Melvindale, River Rouge, Ecorse and a portion of Detroit.

The same is true at the state level. The good news is the entire city will remain in the 6th Senate District, but the boundaries will shift to south and southeast. And while it is currently in the 18th House District, come the general election, the city will be divided. A majority of it will be in the 16th District with Wayne, but a northwest portion of the city will be in the 11th District with Garden City, Inkster and portions of Dearborn Heights and Livonia.

And the split goes on. The city will have two Wayne County Commission Districts. The southern portion will be added to the 11th District while the rest will remain in the 12th District. See what we mean about a program? Going forward we will work on educating residents about the changes. And with more opportunities to serve, our hope is that strong, serious, community-minded folks willing to take a more active role in their community will get involved.

For those interested in any of these full-time elected positions, we urge them to start the process now. The filing deadline is just three months away, May 15. Public office is a big commitment, and one we don't want to see people make on the eve of the filing deadline. Take the time to do your research and then decide. The last thing we need is people who are candidates in name only.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Where's your favorite place to gather with friends and family?

We asked this question at the William P. Faust Public Library in Westland.



"Downtown Plymouth at place called Nico and Vali. My other favorite is the Electric Cheetah in Grand Rapids. It has to do with the food served and atmosphere. It's comfortable and relaxed."

Karen Kehoe
Westland



"Any large lake. We gather to watch the ice fishing. We watch them go through the ice."

Diane Goers
Novi



"At our house."

Dianna Scram
Westland



"Maybe Panera Bread. It's a really nice place to go."

Crystal Givens
Westland

LETTERS

Renew sinking fund

On this Feb. 28, there is an important issue on the ballot I believe every voter should be aware of. There is a renewal of the sinking fund for the Wayne-Westland schools.

The Sinking Fund was originally voted in in 2003 and is used by the Wayne-Westland school district for school building repairs and replacement of equipment. The Sinking Fund is about to expire and Wayne-Westland school district is asking its voters once again to renew it. This is a RENEWAL, it will not result in new taxes. This is a tax you already pay.

It is basically less than a mill per \$1,000 your house is assessed for. This money can only go for what it says building repairs and replacement of equipment. It does not pay a SINGLE SALARY or BENEFIT package for any individual or group of people.

The Wayne-Westland school district was hit harder than any other school district in the state by the state funding cuts to schools. Please do not let them take another unfair hit by not voting for the Sinking Fund Renewal. Please I am asking everyone to go to the polls on Feb. 28 and vote yes to renew the Wayne-Westland Schools Sinking Fund.

Julie Briese
Westland

Support standards

From the threat of more extreme weather fueled by global warming, to the billions of dollars we spend at the gas pump each year, our addiction to oil has real consequences for our environment and our economy.

Fortunately, the Obama administration is working to tackle this problem by proposing strong new pollution and fuel efficiency standards for cars and trucks sold in 2017 through 2025. The standards, also supported by UAW and 13 major auto manufacturers, would cut gasoline use by as much as 23 billion gallons per year nationally. These standards will be the largest step the U.S. has ever taken to get off oil — and tackle global warming.

The Obama administration wants to know what citizens think about the new standards, and they're holding a public comment period through Feb. 13 to find out. I urge citizens to make their voices heard by submitting a public comment to a-and-r-Docket@epa.gov (include "Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0799" in the subject

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters by the following formats:

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Deadline: Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

(line) in support of strong clean car standards.

Sheelagh McCarthy
Environment Michigan

Better us of money

Right to Life-LIFESPAN is encouraged by the Susan G. Komen Foundation's recent announcement that they have ceased their financial partnership with Planned Parenthood. Some Komen affiliates have been sending dollars donated by individuals and participants in area Race for the Cure events to that organization.

Planned Parenthood is the largest provider of abortion in the United States and while the scientific link between early abortion and breast cancer is debated, the inconsistency of an organization dedicated to finding a cure for breast cancer — Komen — donating to an organization determined to ignore this possible link — Planned Parenthood — is profound.

Komen has indicated that their sharing of donations with Planned Parenthood will cease because Planned Parenthood is under federal investigation for a number of issues and Komen's new partnering criteria prohibits donations to organizations under such investigation. Last year, such donations amounted to \$680,000.

"We are hopeful that such monies can now be used for finding the cause, and the cure, for breast cancer. This is a day of victory for women and their health."

Diane Trombley,
media relations director
Right to Life-LIFESPAN

Perfect Republican

With Newt Gingrich shaking things up in the republican campaign it is obvious he should be their nominee. He

is a perfect example of the double standard and hypocrisy that is present in the current Republican Party. Newt's outrage that the moderator would dare to ask at a presidential debate that he respond to statements made by a jilted former wife is another example of that hypocrisy.

A Democrat presidential candidate with a background like Gingrich would be totally unacceptable. On the Right you can claim overwork or patriotism, or, in Gingrich's case blame the media. Newt was applauded for his hostility of the media and went on to win the primary in South Carolina with most saying they made their choice based on electability.

I must say Gingrich is a very inspirational politician though. After Republicans won a majority in the '94 elections and Newt became Speaker of the House and proclaimed President Clinton irrelevant and that Republicans were now in charge I was convinced to never vote republican again. Newt was not elected in a nationwide vote but was claiming to be our country's leader through a legislative move. His actions as speaker and hostility of our duly-elected Democrat president helped me to see that Republicans do not believe in democracy. And, like most leaders of radical takeovers, a few years later he was thrown out by his own party.

I do agree with him that the negative attacks by some of the media make it very hard to govern in this country. This could easily be seen by the attacks on President Obama with one cable network in particular, Fox (owned by a man also of questionable ethics). The attacks began even before Obama took office and continue everyday. No matter the lack of proof, this network and its highly paid political commentators put out false and misleading information attacking our democratically-elected president on a daily basis.

Yes, Newt is the right candidate for a party that claims family values but is run by finger-pointing hypocrites that practice "do as I say not as I do" — just like him.

But I believe in democracy; that is why I am a Democrat and will always vote for Democrats. Most that vote for Democrats understand that we are in this together, and working together we all will succeed.

Chuck Tindall
Novi

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Grin and bare it: The worldly women of 'Whose Wives ...'

By Tony Targan
Correspondent

It is often said that nervous actors relax by imagining the audience in their underwear. But does this tactic still work when you are the one actually in your underwear on stage?

In the Farmington Players farce, *Whose Wives Are They Anyway?* — presented Feb. 17 through March 3 at the Barn Theatre — several characters appear in various states of undress, and one is supposedly nude, at least under the covers.

So how do the actresses prepare physically and mentally for being underdressed on stage? And how do they deal with other "compromising situations" in the play?

Alisha Gellin of West Bloomfield plays Tina, the receptionist at the Oakfield Golf and Country Club. While she starts off very businesslike, Tina loses her inhibitions when she starts imbibing champagne. As the play progresses, Tina has a hard time keeping her clothes on.

How does Gellin feel about Tina's onstage antics?

"As far as appearing on stage partially nude, I'm more nervous about that than forgetting a line," said Gellin. "When I first got the part I said I would work out all the time. ... I keep trying to tell myself that it's more clothing than a bathing suit and that seems to help a little."

Maureen Mansfield of Farmington Hills plays D.L. Hutchison, the new



From left, Geoff Wehner Boufford, of Northville

president of the Ashley Maureen Cosmetics Company.

Mansfield said she's "eating nothing but carrots and celery stalks" months before the show. "Mentally, I have convinced myself that seeing a lady in her underwear make the audience laugh and that is exactly what we want to do," said Mansfield.

'Absolutely mortified'

...the end to enjoy ... on the other ... always enjoys the ... physical comedy. "I will do whatever it



Mary Ann Tweedie, of Novi, under the bed in "Whose Wives Are They Anyway?"

convinced by the projectionist that Martians had indeed landed, and that she would die a virgin unless operated."

trolling

...though the female ... ctors in *Whose* ... are often involved ... ual situations, these. ... rful women are usu- ... the ones initiating the ... on and generally exert ... rol over the male char- ... rs.

Tina uses her sexuality ... duce John Baker, but ... just too darn faithful," ... in said.

Maureen McSweeney of Farmington Hills plays ... McGachen, and ... definitely a take- ... e gal when she goes ... reme lengths to make ... husband jealous.

Tina said Karly is ... sed on trying to push ... David's buttons instead of ... really understanding the ... situation. Her one minded- ... ness sets her up for outra- ... geous behavior."

Laurel Stroud of Red- ... ford plays Laura Baker ... and goes along with Karly's

schemes but Stroud said, "She really cares about her marriage and her husband and takes steps to get him back. She is very trusting, even though it gets her in some sticky situations."

And Tweedie describes Mrs. Carlson as "one tough cookie who takes no BS from anyone. She is very proud of her club and will not have its sterling reputation compromised. Anyone who tries had better get out of her way! She doesn't have time for any nonsense and she has very little sense of humor. She takes everything literally, including many of the very odd phones calls that the club is receiving, which makes for some very humorous misunderstandings."

Whose Wives Are They Anyway? is sponsored by Weinstein Jewelers and runs Feb. 17 - March 3 at the Farmington Players Barn Theatre, 32332 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills Michigan 48334. Tickets are available now at www.farmingtonplayers.org or at the box office (248) 553-2955.

Check credentials, fees for preparer, adviser

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

I was talking to a client the other day and he told me that for the first

time he was going to hire a professional to do his tax return. He was somewhat distraught that he could no longer do his return himself. It was almost like it was a personal failure on his part that he could no longer prepare his own return. I told him there was no way he should feel distraught or disappointed and went on to explain that everything in life, particularly personal finances, is more difficult.



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

Take tax law. We have seen literally hundreds of tax law changes over the last few years. It's not just federal tax law changes that consumers need to be concerned with, but also state of Michigan tax laws.

The bottom line, taxes have become much more complex and the penalties and consequences for making a mistake

are more severe. Because of this no one should feel inadequate by having to hire a professional.

Many people also may need to hire a professional to help with their investments. This is an area that is constantly changing and more people are recognizing that they cannot do it themselves.

I always ask people when was the last time they've rebalanced their portfolio. Rebalancing a portfolio is the general maintenance need to keep a portfolio balanced and diversified. If they don't remember the last time you rebalanced, then it means they need the assistance of a professional.

Another sign that the assistance of a professional is needed is if you are afraid to make a move in your portfolio without causing great anxiety. I know many people that literally cannot make a move in their portfolio because they get paralyzed by analysis. It seems that they want to look at every piece of information before they make a move. If this sounds like you, once again, you need the assistance of a professional.

I recognize that when it comes to investing, many people are reluctant to

use a professional. That same person wouldn't hesitate about using a doctor to resolve a medical situation. Why should they be leery about using a professional financial person to assist with their finances?

I suggest one reason — particularly in the investment world — is because of the horror stories that they have heard. The bottom line is just because it may be a little more difficult to find the right person, don't avoid looking.

When it comes to hiring someone to assist with your investments, there are questions to ask. One

of the most important areas to discuss with a professional adviser is fees. I have always preferred financial advisers who charge a fee for their service as opposed to those who work for commission. I've always found that the more you can take conflict of interest out of the equation, the better it is for the customer. That doesn't mean that all commission salespeople are only concerned about their commission, because the best commission salespeople I know never worry about commissions, they just worry about taking care

of their clients. However, unfortunately, there are too many commissioned people in the financial world who are incompetent.

Whether you deal with a tax person or a professional financial adviser, one of the keys to a successful business relationship is communication. If you feel intimidated or you don't feel comfortable asking questions, it's a sure sign that you're dealing with the wrong person.

Life in general — and particularly personal financial planning — has become more difficult

and more complex. The fact that you have decided you need professional advice and assistance is a sign of maturity. Remember that hiring the right professional will not only put your affairs in better order, but it also can give you peace of mind, something we all should strive for.

Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at moneymatters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit his website at www.bloomassetmanagement.com.

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Roll model

Masters bowler, 62, cashes in

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Bowling is in Rick Capaldi's blood. His father, grandfather and uncles built Westland Bowl in the early 1960s when he was a teenager attending Redford Union. "I was 14 years old, that's when I and where I actually started bowling," said the Canton resident, now 62. "My grandfather, my father (the late Henry) and his brothers they built that place. I'd bowl a lot of games, practice and go after school, especially after I got my driver's license." Other than a 20-year respite from competitive bowling to raise his own family and raise his own bowling alley (Oak Lanes on Middlebelt in Westland), the sport has been

THE CAPALDI FILE

Who: Rick Capaldi, 62, Canton resident and owner of Westland's Oak Lanes.

What: He captured the Metro Detroit USBC Association Masters Bowling Tournament on Jan. 29 with a 734-691 match win over Corey Miller at Century Bowl in Waterford Township. Capaldi averaged 231.1 for the entire tournament (which began Jan. 21) and 233.7 in match play. He topped

a field of 32 players of all ages.

Prize: Capaldi, who graduated from Redford Union, won a \$4,000 check. Co-sponsoring the tournament were Turbo 2-N-1 Grips, Red Robin Restaurants of Michigan and Ansara's Big Boy Restaurants.

Family: His wife is Pam. They have four adult children (Christy, Rico, Kelly and Matt) and seven grandchildren.

an integral part of his adult life, too.

An late last month (Jan. 29), Capaldi defeated a bowler half his age to capture the Metro Detroit USBC Association Masters Tournament at Cen-

tury Bowl in Waterford Township. His match score of 734 eclipsed the 691 tallied by Grand Blanc's Corey Miller. Earlier that day, he rolled

Please see CAPALDI, B3



Bowling's been a big part of Canton resident Rick Capaldi's life since he was a youngster. Capaldi, shown this week at Oak Lanes in Westland (which he owns), won his first-ever tournament on Jan. 29.

MU baseball salvages split

The Madonna University baseball team ended its West Coast trip with a 1-4 record after earning a split Saturday in its double-header with Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego, Calif.

After losing game one in 12 innings, 6-5, MU bounced back to win the nightcap, 3-2, at Carroll B. Land Field.

Newcomer Josh Vandemark pitched all seven innings to give Madonna the victory.

The junior right-hander allowed two earned runs on six hits while striking out seven and walking four.

The Crusaders rallied for two runs in the top of the seventh thanks to a pinch-hit double by Billy Hardin III (Livonia) to score Drew Adamiec, who led off the inning with an infield single.

Pinch runner Austin Delmotte went to third on an infield bunt by Logan Curtis and scored on a wild pitch for the go-ahead run.

Losing pitcher Just Lawrence (1-1) gave up just three earned runs on five hits. He struck out eight and walked only one in seven innings.

Lucas DiDiccio went 2-for-3 with two RBI for the Sea Lions (6-4).

In game one, Adamiec collected three hits, while Spencer Sarel and Hardin III each added two. Sarel also knocked three runs.

MU used four pitcher with Josh Deeg, who worked the final 4.2 innings, suffering the loss.

Matt Cook started and gave up four earned runs in six innings. He was followed by Erik Wright (Canton) and Randall Stempel in the seventh.

Point Loma reliever Nolan Stouder pitched three scoreless innings to pick up the win.

Shortstop Clint Harwick went 4-for-5 and Brian Burkhead homered for the Sea Lions.

The Crusaders return to action Friday and Saturday with four games at the Tennessee Valley Invitational in Dayton, Tenn.

Spartans hold off Churchill

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Livonia Stevenson used a big first half to win the inaugural Hoops for Heart boys basketball game Tuesday night against rival Livonia Churchill, 56-47.

The host Spartans, who improved to 10-5 overall, led 11-2 after one quarter and 30-9 at halftime before Churchill roared back with a 24-11 third-period run.

Junior guard Josh Campbell, who led all scorers with 20 points, scored 13 in the second half, but none were than his two baskets after the Chargers had closed the gap to 46-41 in the final quarter.

"We were blocking out, the helpside defense was there and we turned their missed shots into points the first half," Stevenson coach Brandon Sinawi said. "It was a great defensive effort for us the first half to hold them to nine points."

"The second half it kind of flip-flopped. Churchill got offensive put-backs and hit 'threes.' The flow of the game was theirs. It was the offensive tale of two halves for them."

"We were fortunate to hang on."

Senior forward Carey Cobb added 14 points for the Spartans, who made



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stevenson's Josh Campbell (22) knifes through the lane against Churchill defender Chad Evans during Tuesday's Hoops for Heart game.

Please see HOOPS, B2

SC women notch 20th win vs. OCC

The Schoolcraft College women's basketball team secured its ninth straight 20-win season with their ninth straight

COLLEGE HOOPS

victory Saturday at home over Oakland Community College, 80-66.

The Lady Ocelots, who overcame a 43-39 half-time deficit, improved to 20-4 overall and 11-2 in the MCCA's Eastern Conference.

Diamond Tolliver and Shawnicka Thomas each scored 14 points to pace Schoolcraft, while Courtney Dyer-Grove and Domonique Jones contributed 12 and 11, respectively.

Thomas also grabbed a team-high 13 rebounds, including 10 on the offensive end.

Tolliver added eight assists an only two turnovers as Schoolcraft grabbed its first lead of the second half, 52-51, with 11:42 remaining.

OCC (12-12, 9-4) got a game-high 24 points from Jillian Carland.

Meagan Heiden added 22 points, while Brittany Alston grabbed 12 rebounds.

Please see SC, B2

MSU runner sets record

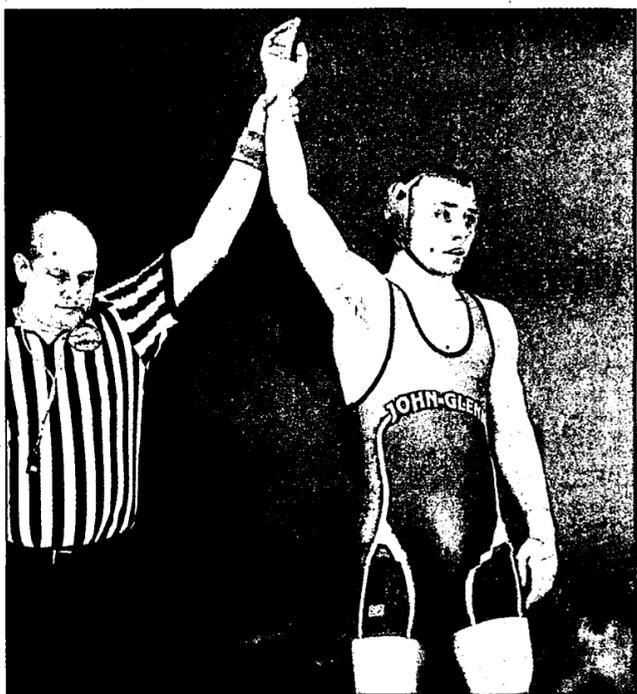
Michigan State University redshirt sophomore Sara Kroll (Livonia Churchill), running the 3,000 meters for the first time at the Spire Invitational Saturday in Geneva, Ohio, broke the school record with a clocking of 9 minutes, 12.25 seconds to eclipse the mark by 3-100ths of a second held by Nicole Bush.

Kroll, who took fourth in the event, currently ranks first in the Big Ten and 15th nationally.

Clarenceville bowlers star

In Sunday's Novi Invitational bowling tournament, Livonia Clarenceville's Bridget Moricz posted the second high series for girls with 630 on games of 195, 180 and 255 (also high tournament game).

On the boys side, the Trojans' Tyler Fox finished fourth overall with a 597 series on games of 199, 217 and 181.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Westland John Glenn's Travis Mann added to his Observerland Invitational title by winning the 152-pound class over teammate Anthony Long in the Division 1 individual district tourney last Saturday at Canton.

Rocket grapplers take nine to regional

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Bill Polk calls it an "exciting time of year for the sport of wrestling."

And the Westland John Glenn coach had reason to be pleased following the first leg of the MHSAA Individual Tournament as the Rockets qualified nine grapplers for the upcoming regional, including three district champions last Saturday at Temperance Bedford.

"The kids showed some guts Saturday winning several key matches," Polk said. "The district tournament is always one of the toughest in the state. This year I felt very confident that our guys were ready and getting nine of 14 out is proof that we were ready."

Among those headed this Saturday to the Saline regional are first-place finishers Kyle Gillies (103) pounds, Travis Mann (152)

and Danny Croft (171).

Gillies, a junior, improved to 42-4 after winning on a default over Jarad Fernandez of Southgate Anderson.

Meanwhile, the 152-pound final featured two Glenn wrestlers in the finals with junior Travis Mann (36-4) winning on a technical fall over senior Anthony Long (30-13).

Danny Croft, a senior, added a title at 171 with an 8-5 decision over Leo Antrassin of Monroe. Croft enters the regional at 42-10 overall.

Senior Keven Wacker was runner-up to Lincoln Park's Ed Nuttall in the 145 pound finals. Wacker is 36-13.

Also head to Saline for the Rockets are third-place finishers Dylan Morantes (285), who is 32-11, and Quinn Dupraw (125), who is 27-18.

Please see GRAPPLERS, B3

HOOPS

Continued from page B1

13-of-19 free throws. Churchill (6-10) got 12 points from senior Jaylin Freeman and 11 from Dwayne Scott.

The Chargers made 7-of-15 free throws.

The charity, which raised money for the Stevenson and Churchill Need Family Fund, drew 659 spectators.

"It was a great turnout on both sides and we appreciated the support," Sinawi said. "We hope to do it again next year."

WAYNE 72, NOVI 65: A 51-point first half carried Wayne Memorial (8-8) to a KLAAs crossover win Tuesday over the host Wildcats (4-12).

Wayne hit six 3-pointers in the opening quarter to lead 31-19 and went up 52-27 at the half.

"We didn't need any offensive rebounds because everything went in," Wayne coach Mike Schuette said of the first half. "We took great shots and they all went in. I've never seen anything like it." Junior forward Juawn Snipes paced the Zebras with 22 points and 12 rebounds. He accounted for four of Wayne's 12 triples on the night.

Michael Cooper and Dezmon Burleigh each chipped in with 11 points.

Novi, which close the deficit to 58-48 after three quarters, got 16 points from Kyle Clemmons and 13 from Scott Kempa.

JOHN GLENN 72, S. LYON EAST 39: Senior forward Eric Covile showed the way with 23 points and 10 rebounds to propel Westland John Glenn (14-2) to a KLAAs crossover win Tuesday at South Lyon East (1-14).

The Rockets, who led 31-18 at halftime, also got 10 points and 12 assists from junior guard Nick Daniels.

Isaac Everette and James Pruitt chipped in with nine and eight, respectively, as Glenn made 14-of-20 foul shots.

Jack Leckner scored 10 for the Cougars.

SOUTH LYON 48, FRANKLIN 35: Livonia Franklin



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Churchill's Jaylin Freeman (11) snatches the rebound in front of teammate Austin McDermott (left) and Stevenson's Chris Haldane (32) during Tuesday's Hoops for Heart game.

(2-14) couldn't parlay a 13-4 first-quarter lead into a win Tuesday as the visiting Lions (10-6) roared back for a KLAAs crossover victory with a 20-9 fourth-quarter run.

Connor Weidman and Luke Short scored 13 and 12 points, respectively, for South Lyon.

Senior center Jake Barham scored a team-high 11 points and grabbed six rebounds for the Patriots. Junior guard Jake Erme dished out five assists and had four steals.

Franklin shot 13-of-35 from the field (36 percent) and 7-of-13 from the foul line (53 percent).

LUTH. WESTLAND 57, BAPTIST PK. 42: Sophomore A.J. Seltz paced a balanced scoring attack with 13 points Tuesday as host Lutheran High Westland (9-6, 8-4) overcame a poor second quarter to beat Taylor Baptist Park (9-4, 8-3) in a Michigan Independent Athletic Conference Red Division game.

The Warriors led 15-6 after

one period, but got outscored 24-8 in the second to trailed 30-24 at halftime.

Lutheran Westland regrouped by outscoring the Wildcats 17-10 in the third quarter and 17-2 in the fourth.

Nick Andrzejewski, Matt Sylvestor and Dawson Davenport each added eight points for the Warriors, who went 4-of-8 from the foul line.

Noah Gruck and Anthony Kiminski tallied 12 and 10 for the Wildcats, who shot only 6-of-19 from the line.

"The first, third and fourth quarters were the best we played all year, but the second was the worst," Lutheran Westland coach Doug Haller said. "We made some turnovers and they got some easy points. They went with a 1-3-1 trap and it caught us off-guard, and it just snowballed. But the second half we stepped up it defensively. I was pleased overall for a majority of the game."

SC

Continued from page B1

MADONNA 70, LOURDES (OHIO) 62: Behind double-doubles by juniors Shantelle Herring and Kaylee McGrath, Madonna University (10-15, 7-9) withstood a late rally Saturday by host Lourdes University (5-23, 0-16) to hang on for a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference win on at

the Tam-O-Shanter Center in Sylvania, Ohio.

"Lourdes made us work very hard to get a win today," MU coach Carl Graves said. "McGrath and Herring stepped up in a big way for us, and we needed them. As a team we are going to make a concerted effort to finish well and prepare for the WHAC Tournament."

Herring led all scorers with 19 points and a career-high 13 rebounds for her second double-double of the season.

She also added a game-high four assists and five steals to go along in 38 minutes of action.

McGrath, who hails from Livonia Stevenson, nearly matched Herring with 18 points and 11 rebounds for her fourth double-double of the season.

Tiffani Blackman and Lauren Tilden scored 12 points apiece for the Gray Wolves, who pulled within four, 63-59, with 2:34 remaining after trailing 33-18 at halftime.

Charger icers snap losing streak

Three first-period goals lifted Livonia Churchill to a 3-2 victory over Grosse Pointe North in the Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League Showcase Saturday afternoon at Trenton's Kennedy Arena.

"We played pretty well," said Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni, whose team snapped a four-game losing streak and improved to 15-6 overall. "A quick start really help set the tempo for us. It was a good ending to a pretty good weekend for us."

"Grosse Pointe North is a very good team and they move the puck very well."

Tommy Carey scored just nine seconds into the game for the Chargers

with Jake Otto and Devin Smyth the drawing assists.

Charlie Yost made it 2-0 at the 9-minute mark from Luke Otto and Justin Reinholtz followed by Kevin Louwers' goal at 11:45 from Riley Brown and Matt Sinclair.

At 39 seconds of the second period Joe Aluia scored for the Norsemen and Brad Werenski cut the deficit to one at 7:50 of the final period.

But Churchill netminder Alex Estes, who made 24 saves, kept North off the board during the final 9:10.

Chip Wujek also made 24 saves for the Norsemen (8-12).

PORT HURON 5, LADYWOOD 4 (OT): Alyssa Ayers

scored in overtime from Courtney Harris to give Port Huron (11-5, 11-5) a Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League victory Saturday night over Livonia Ladywood (7-11, 7-11) at Plymouth's Arctic Edge.

Ladywood led 3-2 after two periods before Port Huron forged ahead 4-3 on goals by Ayers and Jalissa Zuege (from Ayers).

But Virginia Matherly's goal from Hannah Pereira sent the game into OT for the Blazers.

Port Huron led 2-1 after the first period on goals by Andrea Rumley and Heather Weiss (from Sarah Hall), while Pereira scored for Ladywood from Jackie Kristofik.

In the second period, goals by Pereira (from Rana Freij and Kristofik) and Erin Doyle (unassisted) put the Blazers on top 3-2.

Port Huron goalie Kayla McIntyre made 16 saves, while Sarah Koch had 12 for the Blazers.



Precision skaters

The Livonia Iceetti captured first place in the Open Juvenile division in ISI competition held Feb. 4 at Modano Ice Arena in Westland. Members of the precision figure skating team, coached by Angela Pawlowski and Karen Ostalcki, include (back row, from left) Brianna Harris, Alyssa Burgess, Lauren McAlinden, Natalie Menestrina, Mary Fredendall, Erica Burgess, Katie Henderson; (front row, from left) Nicole Grover, Hillary Menestrina, Lauren Karnesky, Haley Szpara, Sarah Bartoszyk, Brenna Wallace and Kaeleigh Kerpet.

Blazers get 3rd crack at Mercy

Junior forward Kiley Gorski pumped in 19 points and grabbed 17 rebounds as Livonia Lady-

GIRLS HOOPS wood opened the Catholic League girls basketball playoffs Saturday with a 57-46 win over Warren Regina at Madonna University.

The Blazers, who improved 8-7 overall, will play Central Division nemesis Farmington Hills Mercy (13-4) in an A-B Division semifinal beginning at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at Warren DeLaSalle. Ladywood, which led 35-16 at halftime, also got 12 points and seven boards from senior center Morgan Chops.

Junior point-guard Andie Anastos chipped in with 11 points, five steals and four assists, while junior guard Sara Even

contributed nine points.

Senior forward Cathy Jaboro tallied nine points for the Saddlelites (5-11).

BERKLEY 43, CVILLE 36: Diamond Wilford scored 15 points and Lucy McNally added 15 to lead the Bears (10-7) to a non-league win Tuesday at Livonia Clarenceville (4-14).

Sophomore Ayanna Buckley paced the Trojans with 17 points, while Mikala Kieling added nine.

Ashley Murphy also contributed eight rebounds, four blocks and two steals for the Trojans, who trailed 25-21 at halftime.

Clarenceville made only 6-of-18 free throws, while Berkley hit 4-of-12.

LUTHERAN SOUTH 37, HVL 32: Westland Huron

Valley Lutheran (2-13, 2-10) held down Newport Lutheran South's top scorer Molly Roebke to six points, but still came up short Tuesday at home in a Michigan Independent Athletic Conference Red Division game.

Sophomore Kristen Smrcka paced the victorious Saints (9-9, 6-9), who led from start-to-finish, with 10 points.

"Defensively we were inconsistent," HVL coach Kris Ruth said. "At times, we were aggressive, and then at other times we let South do what they wanted. We knew we needed to shut down their big girl, Molly Roebke. We held her to six points, which was good. However, we lacked communication and let other girls get easy looks at the basket."

Sophomore Brooke Kuehn scored eight to lead the Hawks, who trailed 20-15 at halftime and 27-24 after three quarters.

"On the offensive side, I thought we showed much more patience," Ruth said. "We got some good shots, we just did not put them in. We had lots of opportunities."

CVILLE 50, HAMTRAMCK 20: Ayanna Buckley's 11 points and 10 rebounds sparked Livonia Clarenceville (4-13) to a victory Monday night over the host Cosmos (2-15).

The Trojans, who led 12-5 after one quarter and 28-11 at halftime, also got nine points from Mikala Kieling added nine points, while Erica and Lauren Katz each contributed six.

Wildcats get past Spartans, 34-32; Rockets blast South Lyon

Plymouth High stayed alive in the KLAAs girls' basketball playoffs Tuesday with a 34-32 victory over visiting Livonia Stevenson.

Jada Woody and Alyssa Burris scored seven

KLAAs GIRLS HOOPS and six points, respectively, for the victorious Wildcats, who improved to 11-6 overall.

Stevenson (11-5) got 14 points from senior guard Molly Knoph, while fellow senior guard Jordan York added seven.

"It's all on the offensive end," said Stevenson coach Jen Knoph, whose team trailed 13-9 at halftime and 21-16 after three quarters. "Defensively we had no issues. To hold them to 34 points is great. We're missing opportunities, just not shots. We're not utilizing the talent we have and not playing as a cohesive

unit. We're not getting it together on the offensive end."

Stevenson also struggled at the foul line (5-of-13), while Plymouth made 11-of-17.

Plymouth advances to the Kensington Conference semifinals to play 7 p.m. Thursday at KLAAs South Division champ Westland John Glenn, which has won the previous two meetings.

JOHN GLENN 72, SOUTH LYON 39: Junior guard ShaKeya Graves poured in 24 points with a pair of triples Tuesday as host Westland John Glenn (15-2) opened the KLAAs playoffs with a victory over the Lions (8-9).

Senior forward Joslyn Massey added 12 points as the Rockets outscored South Lyon 21-6 in the first quarter.

Jessica Mehr tallied eight points for the Lions. Glenn made 8-of-12 free throws, while South Lyon hit 6-of-9.

NOVI 58, WAYNE 26: In a KLAAs playoff game Tuesday, the host Wildcats (14-3) used a 16-2 first-quarter spurt to

down Wayne Memorial (5-12). Kerri McMahan, a sophomore point-guard, led Novi with 16 points. Junior forward Jade Antolec chipped in with 12.

Wayne, which fell further behind at halftime (37-6), got 11 points and 13 rebounds from Tiara Childers.

S.L. EAST 37, CHURCHILL 23: Willow Cohn's 11 points lifted South Lyon East (8-9) to a KLAAs consolation round victory Tuesday at Livonia Churchill (5-11).

Churchill led 9-5 after one quarter, but was outscored 8-0 in the second period and 15-3 in the third.

Senior center Erin Menard scored 15 for the Chargers, who hit 9-of-17 foul shots. Meanwhile, East went 12-of-22 from the line.

SALEM 50, FRANKLIN 27: Bri Berberet scored 17 points and Breanne Beaver added 15 as the Rocks (4-13) pulled away in the second half for a KLAAs consolation bracket victory Tuesday at Livonia Franklin (1-16).

The Patriots, who trailed 25-18 at halftime, got eight points from Alexis Smith. Franklin was 3-of-14 from the foul line, while Salem went 7-for-10.

No. 9 OCC fends off S'craft men

Upset-minded Schoolcraft College fell just short Saturday in its

COLLEGE HOOPS attempt to down national-

ly-ranked Oakland Community College in a men's basketball game.

The host Ocelots led 46-41 at halftime, but OCC rallied in the second half for a 90-86 win.

Aaron Hayes scored 26 points as the Raiders (No. 9 in NJCAA Division II) improved to 20-3 overall and 12-1 in the MCCAAs Eastern Conference (tied

with Mott CC).

Anthony Welch, Jr. and James Campbell chipped in with 14 points apiece.

LenDerrick Witcher paced Schoolcraft (14-10, 6-7) with 20 points.

Lydell Mason (Westland John Glenn) and Daniel Hill (Wayne Memorial) chipped in with 16 and 15, respectively, while Karl Moore, the team's leading scorer, was limited to 11.

LOURDES (OHIO) 74, MADONNA 65: A career-high 30 points from sophomore guard Bobby Naubert (Livonia Stevenson) went for naught Saturday as Madonna University (16-12, 10-6) fell

to host Lourdes (14-13, 8-8) at the Tam-O-Shanter Center in Sylvania, Ohio.

Naubert hit 11-of-16 shots from the floor, but the Crusaders could not over 20 turnovers and a 14-6 deficit in offensive rebounds in Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference encounter. He also dished out five assists.

Sophomore guard Travis Schuba added 12 points, while Derek Lennen and Fred Williams came off the bench to add 10 and nine, respectively, for the Crusaders, who lost to Lourdes for the fourth straight time.

John Willhite paced Lourdes with 23 points and 13 rebounds, while Corey Harvey and Elvin Butler contributed 18 and 16 points, respectively.

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL Friday, Feb. 17

HVL at Luth. W'sld, 5:30 p.m. Cville at Melvindale, 7 p.m. Churchill at Novi, 7 p.m. Franklin at S.L. East, 7 p.m.

(KLAAs Playoffs-1st round) Wayne at Salem, 7 p.m. Glenn at Stevenson, 7 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL Thursday, Feb. 16

Churchill at Salem, 7 p.m. Franklin at S.L. East, 7 p.m. Wayne at Northville, 7 p.m. S. Lyon at Stevenson, 7 p.m.

(KLAAs Semifinals) Plymouth at John Glenn, 7 p.m. **(Catholic League Semifinals at Warren DeLaSalle)** Ladywood vs. Mercy, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 17 HVL at Luth. Westland, 7 p.m. **PREP HOCKEY** Thursday, Feb. 16 Franklin vs. St. Clair

at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18

Ladywood vs. Mercy at O.L. St. Mary, 1:30 p.m. Franklin vs. W.L. Western at Kensington Valley, 7:30 p.m.

PREP WRESTLING (Individual Regionals) Saturday, Feb. 18

Division 1 at Saline, 10 a.m. Div. 3 at Williamston, 10 a.m. Div. 4 at Manchester, 10 a.m.

BOYS SWIMMING Friday, Feb. 17

KLAAs South Division prelims at John Glenn, 5 p.m. KLAAs Central Division prelims at Novi H.S., 6 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 18 KLAAs South Division Meet at John Glenn, noon. KLAAs Central Division Meet at Novi H.S., noon. **GIRLS GYMNASTICS** Saturday, Feb. 18

KLAAs Conference Meet at EuroStars Gym, 2 p.m.

PREP BOWLING Friday, Feb. 17 KLAAs Tournament at 300 Bowl (Waterford), 9 a.m.

PREP SKIING Thursday, Feb. 15 MHSAA Regional, TBA.

GIRLS COMPETITIVE CHEER Saturday, Feb. 18 (MHSAA Districts)

Division 3 at Grosse Ile, 10 a.m. Division 1 at Southgate, 11 a.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS Saturday, Feb. 18 Aquinas at Madonna, 3 p.m. Schoolcraft at Alpena, 7:30 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS Saturday, Feb. 18 Madonna at Aquinas, 5 p.m. S'craft at Alpena, 5:30 p.m. TBA - time to be announced.



JOHN.KEMSKI | PHOTO

Squaring off in the 140 finals at Saturday's Division 1 individual district finals at Canton are Livonia Franklin's Jordan Atienza (left) and Plymouth's Said Youssef.

Regional-bound Martinez brothers lead way for Pats

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

There's no denying that Novi-Detroit Catholic Central continues to be a mega power in wrestling. The top-ranked Shamrocks racked up first-place finishes in nine of 14 weight classes at Saturday's Canton-hosted Division 1 individual wrestling district finals. Livonia Franklin also made a strong showing and will send eight to the Division 1 individual regional this Saturday at Saline.

According to Franklin coach Dave Chiola, whose individual champions included the Martinez brothers (Gabe at 119; Danny at 112), the next test will be getting them ready for the Saline regionals.

Danny Martinez (52-1) earned a 7-4 decision over Canton's Griffin (41-

5) in the 112 final, while Gabe Martinez handled CC's Evan Toth in the 119 final, 9-2.

"You don't take anyone lightly," Chiola said. "You see a lot of rematches this time of year, so if you've seen a kid before and beat him you can't take him lightly. "And if you lost to him before you got to believe you can beat him."

In addition to the Martinez brothers, other regional-bound Patriots include Jordan Atienza (second, 140); Avery Opperman (second, 152); Ryan Derry (third, 145); Allen Steele (third, 160); Omar Haymour (third, 285); and Nick Frazier (fourth, 152).

"Eight was probably the most I could have hoped for," Chiola said. "Overall we wrestled pretty well. I thought we could have gotten a couple more in the finals, but as long as they qualified, it doesn't

really matter how." Chiola added that quickly getting over a defeat is essential for wrestlers to be successful at the regionals.

"Next week at regionals, some of these guys have got to learn to wrestle after a loss," Chiola said. "If you take a loss and you got to wrestle back, an hour later to qualify for the state meet, if you're not able to rebound after a loss. "I've seen a lot of good kids lose to a kid they should beat because they can't rebound."

Three wrestlers from Livonia Stevenson made it through including Jake Range (second, 215); Joe Scott (second, 189); and Kody Roy (third, 135). Livonia Churchill's Manny Haddad added a fourth at 285.

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PREP WRESTLING RESULTS

INDIVIDUAL DISTRICT WRESTLING RESULTS (all Saturday Feb. 4) (top 4 advance to regional)

DIVISION 1 at TEMPERANCE BEDFORD CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS

119 pounds: Jordan Markey (Ypsilanti Lincoln) d. Cade Barwig (Wyandotte), 2-0; **3rd place:** Mitch Pawlak (Bedford) d. Logan Parks (Southgate), 6-2.

125: Jake Jones (Lincoln Park) d. Raven Schmitt (Southgate), 9-5; **3rd:** Quinn Dupraw (Westland John Glenn) d. Ryan Boxeth (Southgate), 5-1.

130: Alex Molloy (Southgate) d. Nate O'Sullivan (Saline), 8-2; **3rd:** Tito Sanchez (Woodhaven) d. Jesse O'Neal (John Glenn), 7-1.

135: Quinton Santiago (Wyandotte) d. Jacob Lohr (Bedford), 6-3; **3rd:** Marcel Mrech (Woodhaven) d. Dustin Funk (Saline), 9-8.

140: Al Regnier (Bedford) d. Steve Johnson (Monroe), 9-7; **3rd:** Alex Cornelius (Saline) d. Allen Parker (Wayne Memorial), 13-7.

145: Ed Nutall (Lincoln) won by technical fall over Keven Wacker (John Glenn), 17-2; **3rd:** Daries Davis (Wyandotte) d. Joshua Lockwood (Southgate), 16-9.

152: Travis Mann (John Glenn) won by tech. fall over Anthony Long (John Glenn), 18-3; **3rd:** Derrick Hillman (Woodhaven) d. Scott Grishaber (Lincoln), 7-2.

160: Shames Delahaye (Belleville) d. David Lijewski (Bedford), 6-4; **3rd:** Mickey Sutton (Woodhaven) d. Sam Ekanem (Wayne), 5-4.

171: Danny Croft (John Glenn) d. Leo Antrassian (Monroe), 8-5; **3rd:** Jon Prajzner (Bedford) pinned Zachary Juchartz (Belleville), 2:55.

189: Devon Bronson (Southgate) d. Brandon Sunday (Bedford), 6-5; **3rd:** Christ Gutmann (Woodhaven) p. Devin Korzetki (Wayne), 2:46.

215: Bryan Smith (Bedford) d. Dimitrus Renfroe (Wayne), 6-1; **3rd:** Benjamin

Dominques (Southgate) d. Jordan Brandon (John Glenn), 3-1. **285:** Logan Rimmer (Bedford) p. Vincent Pizzo (Wyandotte), 0:40; **3rd:** Dylan Morantes (John Glenn) won by major dec. over David Velez (Southgate), 11-3.

103: Kyle Gillies (John Glenn) won by default over Jarad Fernandez (Southgate); **3rd:** Tyler Rogaliner (Bedford) p. Devin McClain (Woodhaven), 2:17.

112: Mitch Rogaliner (Bedford) won by major dec. over Taylor Ticknor (Saline), 7-4; **3rd:** Dylan McLeod (Lincoln Park) won by default over Austin Koehler (Belleville).

at CANTON CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS

119 pounds: Gabe Martinez (Livonia Franklin) d. Evan Toth (Novi-Detroit Catholic Central), 9-2; **3rd place:** Cody Korpus (Salem) won by technical fall over Imad Soukar (Dearborn Fordson), 21-5.

125: T.J. Fagan (CC) d. Chase Kallil (Plymouth), 6-1; **3rd:** Immanuel Govantes (Farmington) pinned Austin Pilmer (Canton), 4:00.

130: Ken Bade (CC) won by tech. fall Alec Breckenridge (Plymouth), 18-2; **3rd:** Jon Conn (Plymouth) won by major dec. over Alejandro Albuerno (Novi), 11-1.

135: Alec Pantaleo (Canton) d. Malik Amine (CC), 3-2; **3rd:** Kody Roy (Livonia Stevenson) d. Travis Compo (Northville), 2-0.

140: Said Youssef (Plymouth) d. Jordan Atienza (Franklin), 8-6; **3rd:** Riley Hanson (CC) p. Ali Saad (Dearborn), 3:39.

145: Logan Marcicki (CC) d. Zach Marsh (Canton), 8-3; **3rd:** Ryan Derry (Franklin) major dec. over Arlan Khathem (Dearborn), 10-1.

152: Alec Mooradian (CC) won by tech. fall over Avery Opperman (Franklin), 18-2; **3rd:** Yahya Talab (Dearborn) won by major dec. over Nick Frazier (Franklin), 11-2.

160: Nick Mason (CC) d. Tyler Gross (Salem), 9-5; **3rd:** Allen Steele (Franklin) won by major dec. over Shehab Natour (Fordson), 14-4.

171: Drew Garcia (CC) maj. dec. over Trevor Maresh (Northville), 16-6; **3rd:** Jake

Dobras (Novi) d. Alex Brown (Salem), 8-1. **189:** Kevin Beazley (CC) p. Joe Scott (Stevenson), 1:08; **3rd:** Jacob McCabe (Salem) p. Dajon Raheem (Southfield), 1:36.

215: Antonio Echols (Southfield) d. Jake Range (Stevenson), 5-3; **3rd:** Adam Druzc (Garden City) p. Andy Boyd (Northville), 2:32.

285: Bob Coe (CC) d. Jimi Keller (Novi), 4-2; **3rd:** Omar Haymour (Franklin) d. Manny Haddad (Livonia Churchill), 1-0.

103: Trevor Zdebski (CC) p. Brandon Harris (Plymouth), 1:48; **3rd:** Mohamad Youssef (Plymouth) d. Dan Denova (Novi), 11-6.

112: Danny Martinez (Franklin) d. Ben Griffin (Canton), 7-4; **3rd:** Trey Berry (Plymouth) won by injury default over Myles Amine (CC).

DIVISION 3 at RICHMOND

125 pounds: Dustin Pitcel (Richmond) d. Jacob Engle (Armada), 5-2; **3rd place:** Austin Cattera (Richmond) pinned Mikey Weiss (Livonia Clarenceville), 2:33.

130: Santo Alvarez (Algonac) d. Kenny Brohl (Armada), 6-3; **3rd:** Joe Walker (Clarenceville) d. Chris Okler (Romulus Summit Academy), 5-0.

152: Aaron Bibik (Clarenceville) d. Mike Church (Grosse Ile), 4-2; **3rd:** Christian Lalone (Summit) d. Brandon Balogh (Algonac), 7-1.

DIVISION 4 at BLISSFIELD

125 pounds: Zachary Francis (Lutheran High Westland) p. Caleb Richter (Lutheran Westland), 3:31; **3rd place:** Bryan Durbrow (Madison Heights Bishop Foley) p. Daniel Barta (Blissfield), 2:30.

152: Nick Garza (Sand Creek) d. Masen Moore (Sand Creek), 4-0; **3rd:** Martin Kemp (Lutheran Westland) d. Michael Golding (Manchester), 6-3.

160: Sam Mehan (Sand Creek) p. Justin Ryst (Manchester), 3:58; **3rd:** Matt Sankey (Lutheran Westland) won by major dec. over David Ghesquire (Erie Mason), 19-5.

GRAPPLERS

Continued from page B1

Earning fourths and staying alive for Glenn include Jesse O'Neal (130), who 25-17, and Jordan Brandon (215), who is 42-9.

"We have been banging heads with the best all season so I hope that tough competition pays off for them next week in the regional," Polk said.

Wayne sends 4

Wayne Memorial earned four qualifying berths for the Saline regional led by senior Dimitrus Renfroe (215), who suffered his first loss in 45 matches to Bryan Smith of Bedford in the district finals, 6-1.

Also making the cut for Wayne with fourths included Allen Parker (140), 34-10; Sam Ekanem (160), 36-14; and Devin Korzetki (189), 34-6.

Bibik champ

Livonia Clarenceville, paced by district champion Aaron Bibik, secured three spots in this Saturday's upcoming Division 3 regional at Williamston.

Bibik, a junior, ran his season record to 36-7 overall when he captured the 152-pound title with a 4-2 decision in the district finals at Richmond over Grosse Ile's Mike Church.

Joining Bibik at the regional are third-place finisher Joe Walker (130), a sophomore who is 32-10

overall, along with fourth-place finisher Mikey Weiss (125), a junior who is 32-8 on the year.

Francis 1st

In the Division 4 district at Blissfield, Lutheran High Westland senior Zachary Francis ran his season record to 39-1 by when he pinned teammate Caleb Richter, a freshman, for the 125-pound title.

Also moving on to the regional this Saturday at Manchester with Francis and Richter (24-15) are third-place district finishers Martin Kemp (152), a junior who is 39-10, and Matt Sankey (160), a senior who is 33-9.

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GIRLS GYMNASTICS

DUAL MEET RESULTS LIVONIA RED 135.80 NORTHVILLE 131.35

Feb. 14 at Churchill H.S.

Vault: 1. Maggie McGowan (Red), 8.65; 2. Jackie Dzuirgot (Red), Morgan Price (N) and Victoria Clay (N), 8.6 each; 5. (tie) Sydney Grenier (Red) and Julia Twigg (Red), 8.5 each. **Uneven bars:** 1. Shannon Diaz (Red), 8.6; Daisy Ference (N), 8.45; 3. Taylor Dempsey (N), 8.25; 4. (tie) Mallory Dorton (Red) and Dzuirgot (Red), 8.0 each. **Balance beam:** 1. McGowan

(Red), 8.9; 2. Rose Prebola (Red), 8.65; 3. Dempsey (N), 8.6; 4. Price (N), 8.5; 5. Sarah Godzinski (Red), 8.35.

Floor exercise: 1. Ference (N), 9.4; 2. Diaz (Red), 9.0; 3. McGowan (Red), 8.75; 4. Dorton (Red), 8.6; 5. Grenier (Red), 8.55. **All-around:** 1. McGowan (Red), 34.25; 2. Dempsey (N), 33.8; 3. Dorton (Red), 33.15; 4. Grenier (Red), 33.05; 5. Price (N), 32.30.

Dual meet records: Livonia Red, 4-8 overall, 1-3 Kensington Division; Northville, 2-5 overall, 0-4 Kensington.

TRI-MEET RESULTS Feb. 14 at High Flyers Gym

TEAM SCORES: 1. Howell, 143.25; 2. Brighton, 141.60; 3. Livonia Blue, 139.75.

Blue's top scorers
Alex Kitz: 5. (tie) vault, 9.0; 2. uneven bars, 9.25; 3. balance beam, 9.4; 1. floor exercise, 9.7; all-around, 37.35.

Haley Olson: vault, 8.85; uneven bars, 8.25; balance beam, 8.95; floor exercise, 8.0; 1. all-around, 34.025.

Sarah Hogan: vault, 8.1; uneven bars, 7.95; balance beam, 7.35; floor exercise, 8.5;

CAPALDI

Continued from page B1

a 300 game and 815 series against Joseph Krajenke and defeated Miller 773-759 en route to the final match.

After Miller bested him 659-635, that forced a deciding set in the double-elimination tourney.

Sweating it out

Qualifying games began the weekend of Jan. 21-22 and Capaldi made the 32-player cut for the championship weekend.

"I bowled 31 games and it went down to the last

frame," he emphasized. "I said that to my wife and she said 'It should have.'"

"I'd say maybe if you're watching back there it should have, but when you're bowling, you'd like it to be over in the fifth frame, not the last frame. There was a lot of pressure all the way to the end."

According to Capaldi, it was the first tournament victory of his life.

"I'm really happy, but there's a lot better bowlers than I am," Capaldi said. "They've accomplished more than I have. I just happened to win this tournament and I feel

fortunate that I did that." Capaldi smiled when recalling the big day, which ended with a \$4,000 first-place check.

He said there were people back at Oak Lanes following his progress via Facebook. He opened Oak Lanes in 1979 as a 34-lane facility. It was expanded to 50 lanes in the early 1990s.

"Everybody here (Oak Lanes) went crazy," Capaldi said. "... It was on Facebook while I was bowling to people here who were bowling."

He noted that he got into the groove and stayed there. "I just kept doing the

same thing every time I got out of the chair, just repetition," Capaldi explained. "I'm not even talking about when I picked up the ball and went to the foul line. You sit in the chair while somebody else is bowling, right?"

"The moment I stood up, I got into a rhythm where I did everything exactly the same. I got real superstitious. I'd wait until the guy got off the approach and I'd get up at that point. Nothing to change the rhythm."

It works for him

Another thing that didn't change is the way

Capaldi throws the ball. He calls it a "down and in" ball that depends on accuracy more than anything else.

"It's old-school, not a lot of revs (revolutions) on the ball," said Capaldi, noting that new-school bowlers "just turn the ball, they get so many revolutions on the ball it's unbelievable. We have some young talent here, they can get those revs. When they hit the pocket, when they hit the pins they destroy the pins. I just try to knock them down. I'm too old to try to do all that arm motion."

But experience trumps muscle. With years of

bowling, whether in more laid-back house leagues with friends or on the tournament circuit, Capaldi knows how important it is to stay on an even keel.

"The mental aspect is on every ball you have to go through your routine," he said. "And keep your head in the game on every ball you throw."

"When I do that it seems like I perform better. You can't just walk up and throw the ball. There's much more to it." That's a spot-on assessment to be sure.

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Church members create centennial banners

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Colorful, handmade banners will enhance the worship service this Sunday as St. John's Episcopal Church in Plymouth wraps up a yearlong cen-

ennial celebration. It's not the first time St. John's has integrated fabric art into its services or used it to decorate the church, but the new pair of 10-foot-tall banners are the first designed and

made by members. "We had a woman from the Chicago area — for a number of years she made banners professionally for churches — and we invited her to come and do a workshop last

February," said Betsy Sole, chairwoman of the church banner committee. "She showed us how to do this."

Church members brainstormed designs, shopped for fabric, crafted letters, cut, sewed and constructed the final product, working for nearly a year to ready the banners for Sunday's Centennial Festival Eucharist service.

"A lot of people helped. People did all sorts of things," Sole noted. "I've never done anything like this and everything we did was like a new problem we had to figure. It has been interesting. A couple of people said why not just buy them? But it needed to come from us, what's important to us."

One banner references the centennial, with letters arranged on an iridescent blue-green fabric. The other piece incorporates a cross and streamers in the colors of the church seasons — blue for Advent, purple for Lent, white for Easter, red for Pentecost and green for the rest of the year — on satin fabric.

Working on the slippery satin and slightly stiffer iridescent fabric "wasn't too bad," Sole said.

"The thing that was difficult was sewing on something so big. That was a challenge, getting all that fabric under the sewing machine."



Betsy Sole (left) and Mary Alice Brunner work on a banner at St. John's Episcopal Church, Plymouth. They'll use the new banners, marking the church's centennial, in a worship service Sunday.

Banner procession
Sole said the group proceeded carefully and slowly, avoiding most mistakes.

"We didn't really have to rip anything out. The cross wasn't the right proportion and we had to fix it," she said. "Our next challenge is to get them into the church and have the kids walk with them."

Youngsters will hold the streamers as the banners are carried into the church on Sunday. Sole said the streamers, when unfurled from the cross-adorned banner, seem to represent the roofline of the church. The cross on the banner is prominent, like its counterpart stationed in front of St. John's.

Sole suspects that the new banners will be used periodically for church events.

St. John's centennial celebration continues this weekend with the gala dinner at 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18 at the Summit in Canton. The event will include dinner, a video on church history, music gift drawings and a ticket for a chance to win a centennial quilt. Tickets are \$40 per person.

The Centennial Festival Eucharist starts at 10 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 19. Bishop Wendell Gibbs will participate in the service that will include special music and a procession with the new centennial banners. A celebration reception will follow the service.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • oeobits@hometownlife.com
Deadlines: Friday 4:15 p.m. for Sunday • Wednesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday

BUSCHLEITER, FRED "Harley"
Passed away Monday, February 13, 2012, of Westland, Ypsilanti and Canada. He was a good friend, former employee of Northwest Airlines, and served in the U.S. Army. Per his request no funeral/burial services will be held.



PERRY, GEORGE ROBERT
Formerly of Westland, passed away Feb. 9, 2012, reuniting with his beloved wife Mary Lou (Owens) and eldest David (Jamie). Born Sept. 8, 1927, to John Henry and Claire (Reilly) Perry, George had a brother, John "Jack" Perry and sister Miriam Bauley. He will be missed by his survivors: Douglas John (m. MaryCarole) Perry and daughters Meaghan and Erin; daughter Denise Perry (m. Paul) Donavin and sons, Daniel and Craig; and David's son Robert (m. Brittany) and their children: Jack, Brock, and June. George joined the Army in 1945, served as the Chief Clerk of the Military Government of post-WW II Japan. A U. of Detroit law school graduate and a judge for 10 years, he was honored in 2004 as a Bar Association Golden Member. A Master Tax Planner in Tucson, where he relocated 20 years ago. He was an avid traveler, golfer, bowler, bridge player, and Gold Medal Senior Olympian. Visitation will be Mon., 2/13 at Adair Funeral Home, Dodge Chapel from 5-8 p.m.



TUCKER, MADELINE E.
Age 87, February 13, 2012. Loving wife of over 70 years to Edward "Tom" Tucker. Beloved mother of Fran (Jim) Griffith, Nancy Clarke, Thomas, Timothy, Stephen, James (Jeanette), Barbara (Jeff) Baker and Mary Tucker. Grandmother of 15 and great-grandmother of five. Sister of Robert, Richard (Eileen) and William (Marcy) Haney and the late Raymond Haney and Mary Haney-Roach. Loving aunt of numerous nieces and nephews. She was a long time resident of Livonia, Michigan and retired with her husband to Roscommon in 1985. Madeline will be laid to rest at Richardson Cemetery in Roscommon, Michigan on Saturday, February 18, 2012 at 1:30 pm. Memorials may be made in her honor to the Fr. Solanus Guild of the Capuchins or the charity of your choice. Please visit www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com



GELINAS, KATHERINE DANA (GROM)
After a short, but courageous battle against Pancreatic Cancer, Katherine, peacefully passed with her loving family by her side on February 12, 2012 at 46 years of age. Loving wife of Ken Gelinas. Cherished mother of Amber and Trevor Gelinas. Loving step-mother of Michael and wife Mel Gelinas and Ryan and wife Joany Gelinas. Beloved daughter of Joseph and Mary Grom. Dear daughter-in-law of the late Helen and Alvin Gelinas. Dear sister of Michael, Marilea and husband Patrick Rogers, Steven and wife Erin. Many loving aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins survive. Will be sadly missed by her companion pets Chloe, Copper and Mace. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to LaSalle Minor Hockey Association and or the LaSalle Turtle Club Soft Ball League. Visiting Tuesday 7-9pm and Wednesday 3-5 & 7-9pm. Prayers Wednesday 8pm at Families First 3260 Dougall Ave. South Windsor, Canada 519-969-5841. On Thursday family and friends are invited to meet at Sacred Heart Church LaSalle Canada (219 Sacred Heart Dr) after 9:30am followed by Funeral Mass at 10:30am. Interment Greenlawn Memorial Gardens. A memorial luncheon will take place on Friday February, 17th from 12:30pm-2:30pm at Mama Mia's on Plymouth road in Livonia.

May you find
comfort
in Family and
Friends

RELIGION CALENDAR

- Send items for the religion calendar to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. Photos must be in jpg format, attached to the e-mail.
- February**
- BLACK HISTORY**
Time/Date: 11 a.m., Sunday, Feb. 19 and 26
Location: First Baptist Church of Detroit, 21100 Southfield Road, Southfield
Details: Observe Black History Month at 11 a.m. services. Ardis Cazeno will present "Tuskegee Airmen" Feb. 19 and the church's Praise Dance Group and Children's Church will present dance and music selections. Light refreshments will be served after the services. United Voices in Christ, a male singing group, also will perform at 3 p.m., Feb. 26
Contact: (248) 569-2972 or firstbaptist@fbc-detroit
- BOOK SALE**
Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 18
Location: Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Merriman, Livonia
Details: Teen youth group will sponsor a used book sale that includes DVDs, CDs and VHS tapes. Gourmet cookies also will be sold.
Contact: (734) 522-3570
- BOWLING FUNDRAISER**
Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26
Location: Westland Bowl 5940 Wayne Road, Westland
Details: For Good Hope Lutheran Church in Garden City; tickets are \$20 for adults; \$15 for children and include three games, shoes, pizza, and pop
Contact: (734) 427-3660
- BREAKFAST**
Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 19
Location: St. Theodore, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland
Details: Pancakes, French toast, ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, coffee, tea, juice, milk; \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children, 2-10
Contact: (734) 425-4421

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<p>ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH Tridentine Latin Mass St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8 38100 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-3200</p> <p>Mass Schedule: First Friday Mass 7:00 p.m. Saturday Mass 11:00 a.m. Sunday Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m. Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.</p>	<p>ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 30450 Farmington Road • Farmington Hills www.orchardumc.org 248-626-3620</p> <p>Worship: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. Christian Education for all ages Pastors: Carol J. Johns, Jim Braid, Margo Dexter</p>	<p>ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.) (734) 422-0494</p> <p>Friends in Faith Service 8:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am</p> <p>Visit www.rosedalegardens.org For information about our many programs</p>	<p>Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96 www.christsaviorsavior.org</p> <p>Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional Staffed Nursery Available</p> <p>Sunday School/Bible Class 9:45 am Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413</p> <p>Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ Pastors: Davenport, Bayer, & Creeden 734-522-6830</p>
CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE	PRESBYTERIAN	EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN	LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD
<p>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196</p>	<p>Fellowship Presbyterian Church Adult Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church 16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org</p>	<p>WARD CHURCH 4000 Six Mile Road Northville, MI 48166 www.wardchurch.org</p> <p>Traditional Worship at 8, 9:30 & 11 a.m. Contemporary Worship at 9:30 & 11 a.m. Children's Programs available at 9:30 & 11 a.m.</p> <p>The Traditional Service is broadcast on the radio each week at 11 a.m. on 560 AM</p>	<p>ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL 17810 FARMINGTON ROAD LIVONIA (734) 261-1360</p> <p>WORSHIP SERVICES SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M. website: www.stpaulsilivonia.org</p>
ASSEMBLIES OF GOD	For Information regarding this Directory, please call Karen Marzolf at 313-222-2214 or e-mail: kmarzolf@hometownlife.com		CONGREGATIONAL
<p>OPEN ARMS CHURCH Worship: Sunday 10:30 am Children's Programs Available Kid's Stop Preschool Now Enrolling 248.474.0001 Meet our New Pastor Grady Jensen & Assoc. Pastor Abe Fazzini</p> <p>33015 W. 7 Mile Rd. • Livonia 48152 Between Farmington & Merriman Across from Joe's Produce 248.471.5282</p>			<p>North Congregational Church 36520 12 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills (bet. Drake & Halsted) (248) 848-1750</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School Fath - Freedom - Fellowship</p> <p>Rev. Mary E. Biedron Senior Minister</p>



The Gentlemen Songsters Chorus will sing songs that are out of this world at its annual concert Feb. 18 in Livonia.

Chorus takes listeners to the stars and beyond

By Sharon Dargay
 O&E Staff Writer

This Saturday, The Gentlemen Songsters Chorus will boldly go where no local barbershop singers have gone before. The singers will perform their annual concert looking like crew members of the Starship Enterprise in a *Star Trek*-themed show at Clarenceville High School in Livonia.

"It should be fun," said Stephen Sutherland, a Canton resident and director of the 45-member group. Sutherland suggested the theme after watching a California-based barbershop quartet called Hi-Fidelity, perform a *Star Trek* routine in competition last summer. The quartet, along with a collegiate group called Prestige, will perform during the Songster's upcoming concert.

"The audience was in stitches.



Captain Kirk and crew a.k.a. Hi-Fidelity, a national a cappella champion singing group, will perform songs in four-part harmony at "Barbershop in Space...The Final Frontier," Feb. 18 in Livonia.

They act out Kirk, Spock, Scotty and Dr. McCoy roles. It's really a hoot." Although Hi-Fidelity includes

a few *Star Trek*-related songs in its repertoire, the Songsters will harmonize standards that focus on the stars and the moon.

"We wove a story through it, of our starship heading home and the stuff we run into on the way. Without the script, it sounds like a regular barbershop show. We try to do songs that get some audience recognition."

But it will look a little different from most Gentlemen Songsters shows. Singers will wear red, blue and yellow shirts that fans of the 1960s science fiction television series will recognize as *Star Trek* crew and officer uniforms.

"The joke that has been going around is that if you wear the red shirt, you don't get to come

Please see CHORUS, B6

BARBERSHOP IN SPACE ... THE FINAL FRONTIER

What: The Gentlemen Songsters Chorus annual concert
When: 1:59 p.m. and 7:29 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18
Where: Schmidt Auditorium at Clarenceville High School, 20155 Middlebelt, Livonia
Details: The concert takes on a "Star Trek" theme with the Chorus singing tunes about the heavens. Special guest quartets are Hi-Fidelity and Prestige
Tickets: \$18, available at the door or with credit card by phone
Contact: (248) 559-7082

Pottery show benefits food bank

Pewabic Pottery will present its 18th annual Empty Bowls fundraiser from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25, at 10125 E. Jefferson, Detroit.

Visitors who buy an artist or student bowl, ranging from \$5-\$20, will receive soup and bread donated from local restaurants including Polish Kitchen, Vivios, Russell Street Deli, Sindbad's, St. John's Hospital, Beverly Hills Grill and Lunchtime Detroit. There is a limit of two bowls per person.

"This event is a wonderful way for the community to bring delicious food and art together for a good cause," stated Terese Ireland, executive director of Pewabic Pottery. "The need is still great in metro Detroit and we are proud to do our part to help fill some of those Empty Bowls."

All of the proceeds from the event will go to Gleaners Community Food Bank.



Buy a bowl and benefit Gleaners Community Food Bank at Pewabic Pottery, in Detroit.

For each dollar raised, Gleaner's can provide three meals to an individual in need. Last year, Pewabic's Empty Bowls event raised \$5,000, which helped provide 15,000 meals.

The concept of Empty Bowls began in 1990 when a Michigan art teacher wanted to come up with a way for his

students to help out with the issue of hunger in local communities. Since then, the Empty Bowls project has grown into an international initiative. Pewabic Pottery has offered its annual Empty Bowls fundraiser since 1994.

For more information call (313) 626-2000 or visit www.pewabic.org.

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All entries must be received by Saturday, February 25, 2012 11:59 p.m. to be considered.

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Art

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

Time/Dates: 2 p.m. Sundays
Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit

Details: Target Family Sundays, storytelling, performances, free with admission
Exhibits: Detroit Revealed: Photographs 2000-2010, an exhibit of 50 photos through April 8; Gift of a Lifetime: The James Pearson Duffy Collection of drawings, paintings, prints, sculptures and photographs through March 18

Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org

DIRTY SHOW

Time/Date: 7 p.m.-2 a.m., Feb. 17-18, 18 and over
Location: Bert's Warehouse Theatre, 2739 Russell Street, Detroit

Details: Exotic art exhibit with art by more than 300 artists, priced \$10-\$10,000. The show includes a film screening, burlesque performance, and more. Tickets are \$20 in advance at www.dirtyshow.org and \$25 at the door

Contact: (313) 393-3233

FARMINGTON HILLS CITY GALLERY

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, through Feb. 24

Location: Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: The work of Patrice Erickson, all original oils, is on exhibit. Erickson is inspired by nature and strives for landscapes that are rich in color

Contact: (248) 473-1856

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, through Feb. 18

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: "6th Annual Member Exhibition," includes work by more than 70 artists; free admission

Coming up: Sell or donate "used art" for "Art from the Attic," 2-7 p.m. Feb. 21-22 or by appointment. Opening sale and reception is 6-9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24; public art sale is 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25 and noon-4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26. Opening reception tickets are \$10; public sale is free admission

Contact: (248) 344-0497

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, noon-5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 25-May 20

Location: University of Michigan Museum of Art, 525 S. State, Ann Arbor

Details: "Fluxus and the Essential Questions of Life," includes more than 100 works by major artists, such as Yoko Ono, Nam June Paik and George Maciunas; admission is free



John Boufford of Northville Township and Geoff Wehner of Bloomfield Hills rehearse a scene from "Whose Wives Are They, Anyway?," a comedy that runs through March 3 at the Farmington Players.



Artifacts such as this coffin are on display at Kelsey Museum of Archaeology in Ann Arbor.

Contact: (734) 764-0395

VILLAGE THEATER

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday through Feb. 24

Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: "Lest We Forget: Legends of Detroit Gospel," celebrates the history of Gospel music in Detroit

Contact: (734) 394-5300 or visit cantonvillage theater.org

Comedy

GO COMEDY!

Time/Date: Various showtimes Wednesdays thru Sundays

Location: 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale

Details: Improv most nights. Open mic/jam session show for improvisers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays

Contact: (248) 327-0575; gocomey.net

JD'S HOUSE OF COMEDY

Time/Date: Various showtimes Wednesday-Saturday evenings

Location: 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex,

Southfield

Details: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday

Contact: (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster.com

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB OF LIVONIA

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Mondays, open Mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays

Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Basile, through Feb. 11; Mikey Mason, Feb. 15-16; Rich Guzzi, Feb. 17-19; Coco, Feb. 22-25; Glen Wool, Feb. 29-March 3; John DeBoer, March 7-10; Tracy Smith, March 14-17; Horace HB Smith, March 21-24; Dave Landau, March 28-31

Contact: (734) 261-0555, www.kickerscomplex.com

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

Time/Date: Rocky Laporte, Feb. 16-18; Ted Alexandro, Feb. 23-25; Justin McKinney, March 1-3; Dave Attell, March 8-10; Michael Malone, March 15-17; Tom



Carol Lipinski (left), Beth Brooks, Lana Collins, Barbara Bloom and Marian Busa portray "ladies of the night" in the Still Got It Players production, "The Oldest Profession," March 1-4 in Canton.



Kristin Heitmeier of Northville (left), Jenessa Hubbard and Drex Morton, both of Canton, portray members of a large family in the comedy, "Cheaper by the Dozen," starting Feb. 17 at the Village Theater in Canton.

Papa, March 22-24; Gary Valentine, March 29-31; Jay Black, April 5-7

Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak

Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com

Dance

DANCE MONTH

Time/Date: Through Feb. 18
Location: Berman Center for the Performing Arts, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: Ballet Folklorico de Antioquia, 8 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 18. Ticket prices are \$30 for members and \$40 for non-members for all other programs. Call the box office for student and workshop prices
Contact: (248) 661-1900; www.theberman.org

MOON DUSTERS

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 p.m. every Saturday; dance lessons 7-8 p.m.

Location: Livonia Civic Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Singles and couples dance to music of the '30s, '40s and '50s; free refreshments. Dance lessons cost \$6;

dance and lessons are \$11; dance only is \$7 for guests, \$6.50 for associates and \$6 for Moon Dusters members
Contact: Joe Castrodale, club president, (248) 968-5197

Film

MARQUIS THEATRE

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Feb. 18

Location: 135 E. Main, Northville

Details: "It's a Mad, Mad, Mad World," tickets \$3
Coming up: "Bye, Bye, Birdie," Feb. 25

Contact: (248) 349-8110

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 16, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 17-18, and 4:15 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 19

Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

Details: "Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows," \$3

Coming up: "Hugo," 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24; 4:15 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 25-26 and 7 p.m. Thursday, March 1

Contact: (734) 453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Feb. 17 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Feb. 18

Location: 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Ave., in Detroit

Details: "The Apartment," tickets \$4

Coming up: "Gone With The Wind" 8 p.m. March 2-3 and 2 p.m. March 4, includes an appearance by "the Gone With The Wind answer lady," Kathleen Marcaccio

Contact: (313) 537-2560

Museums

CHARLES H. WRIGHT

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday

Location: 315 E. Warren Road, Detroit

Details: Regular museum admission is \$8 for adults, 13-61; and \$5 for youth, 3-12, and seniors, 62 and over. Members and children 2 and under are admitted free. "Moving to His Own Beat" celebrates the life and music of Fela Anikulapo-Kuti, who fused traditional African high life music with classical jazz and funk, a unique sound he called "Afrobeat" The exhibit runs through April 1

Contact: (313) 494-5800

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday and Friday-Sunday; current exhibit runs through June 17

Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: "Ration Stamps & Bombers, WWII at Home" is the current exhibit. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for students, 6-17.

Contact: (734) 455-8940

U-M KELSEY MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY

Time/Date: The museum is open 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Tuesday-Friday, and 1-4 p.m., Saturday and Sunday

Location: 434 S. State, Ann Arbor

Details: Part II of the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology's special exhibition - "Karanis Revealed: Discovering the Past and Present of a Michigan Excavation in Egypt" - will run through Sunday, May 6. This special exhibition explores the story of the site's excavation, which was initiated by the University of Michigan in the 1920s and 1930s.

Special event: Ancient Egypt Family Day runs 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18 with hands-on activities such as hieroglyphic writing, mummy wrapping (with a doll filled with candy organs), crown making, jewelry crafting, and flower wreaths, like the one found on King Tut.

Contact: www.lsa.umich.edu/kelsey; (734) 764-9304

Pistons seek singers for national anthem

The Detroit Pistons are looking for talented, devoted, and open-minded performers who would feel comfortable singing the *Star Spangled Banner* at the team's home games.

Interested applicants must submit their headshot along with a DVD, CD or link of them singing the National Anthem to the attention of Game Operations, National Anthem, at 6 Championship Dr., Auburn Hills, MI 48326 or by e-mail at nationalanthem@palacenet.com.

CHORUS

Continued from page B5

back from the away mission," Sutherland said, referring to the series' expendable characters.

Sutherland, a retired Northville teacher, watched the original *Star Trek* series as a high school student and followed all of its subsequent spin-off shows as an adult. He hopes the recognizable television theme will draw a mix of ages, including some barbershop music newcomers, to the Songsters' concert.

"We have attempted to contact some *Star Trek* clubs, but it all depends on the members and who they are trying to sell tickets to."

Two clubs unite

The Gentlemen Songsters Chorus is a part of the Detroit-Oakland Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society. The Detroit and Oakland chapters were separate organizations until they merged in 1986. The Detroit group, first chartered in 1938, claims to



Prestige, collegiate quartet champ, will sing Feb. 18 in Livonia.

be the first chapter established east of the Mississippi River. The Oakland chapter was chartered in 1941.

The Gentlemen Songsters rehearses from 7:30-10:30 Mondays, at Starr Presbyterian Church, located at 13 Mile and Crooks in Royal Oak. The group meets all year and participates in spring and fall competitions, in addition to singing throughout southeastern Michigan. Venues have included Nar-

don Park United Methodist Church in Farmington Hills, Greenfield Village and Henry Ford Village, among others.

Three assistant directors give Sutherland a chance to sing at least a few songs when the chorus performs in concert. A vocal coach helps members hone their skills.

"We're always looking for new singers and now is the perfect time to join," Sutherland said, adding that prospective singers should be able

to carry a tune and must audition. "It's not a formal audition. It's an audition with one guy in a room and it's mostly to check their range and to recommend the (vocal) section they should sit in

"We have a lot of ways to help people acclimate themselves. We have part recordings and sheet music and that helps a lot."

For more information about joining or hiring the group, visit detroitokland.org.

Boats & Fun!

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King Cake Cupcakes

Celebrate Mardi Gras with food, family

Bring the spirit of Mardi Gras to your table this season by creating your family's very own "Big Easy" flavorful and festive celebration.

Revel in the true meaning of celebrating Mardi Gras in the comfort of your home, with good music and good friends, as well as a wide-ranging menu, including everything from classic dirty rice to a twist on jambalaya and the traditional King Cake for dessert.

Jazz up your celebration

The Mardi Gras tradition is steeped in family celebrations and food. Bring the party home and focus on spending time together and enjoying flavorful dishes that are easy to prepare. Tap into the traditional way of celebrating with these tips:

- **Lead the Potluck Parade:** Create a potluck-style party and ask everyone to bring their favorite Mardi Gras dishes like Jambalaya Maque Choux, Red Beans & Rice Tortilla Casserole and Mardi Gras Dirty Rice. Make sure to have guests bring copies of their recipes so they can swap secrets with friends and find new favorites.

- **Don't Forget the Kids:** Welcome young Mardi Gras revelers to the celebration by inviting them to create their own bead necklaces or use shoe boxes to craft parade floats by adding construction paper, feathers and glitter. • **Get Your Dancin' Shoes On:** New Orleans jazz isn't just for listening — it's also for dancing. Keep lively music playing throughout the gathering.

- **Satisfy Your Sweet Tooth:** Put a tiny twist on the traditional King Cake dessert by making King Cake Cupcakes. Kids can get in on the decorating fun by adding traditional Mardi Gras colored frosting, sprinkles and candy in purple, green and gold.

For more information on how to jazz up Mardi Gras celebrations, visit www.facebook.com/zatarains and follow Zatarain's on Twitter (@MyZatarains) for party tips.

Mardi Gras Dirty Rice

Flavorful and versatile, serve this dirty rice as a one-skillet main dish or as a filling for tacos or lettuce wraps. Makes 7 (1-cup) servings

Prep Time: 5 minutes
Cook Time: 35 minutes

1 tablespoon oil
1 medium red bell pepper, thinly sliced
1 medium yellow bell pepper, thinly sliced
1 pound bulk pork sausage
1 package Zatarain's Dirty Rice Mix, Original

Heat oil in large skillet on medium-high heat. Add bell peppers; cook and stir 3-5 minutes or until tender-crisp. Remove from skillet. Add sausage to skillet; cook and stir 5 minutes or until no longer pink.

Stir in rice mix and water. Bring to boil. Reduce heat to low; cover and simmer 20 minutes. Return bell peppers to skillet. Cover and cook 5 minutes longer or until rice is tender. Remove from heat. Let stand 5 minutes.

Tips:

Dirty Rice Tacos: Serve rice mixture in warmed corn or flour tortillas. Top with shredded cheese, lettuce, salsa or sour cream, if desired. For Dirty Rice Taco Salad, serve rice mixture on shredded lettuce with desired toppings.

Dirty Rice Lettuce Wraps: Serve rice mixture on Bibb, Boston or iceberg lettuce leaves. Top with shredded carrots, chopped pecans, chow mein noodles or chopped green onions, if desired.



Jambalaya Maque Choux

Jambalaya Maque Choux

This recipe offers a fun Cajun twist on New Orleans-style Jambalaya. Corn maque choux is a traditional south Louisiana dish with corn and peppers, usually served as a side or over rice. Add some andouille sausage to kick up the flavor!

Prep Time: 10 minutes
Cook Time: 30 minutes
Makes 6 servings

1 tablespoon oil
½ pound andouille sausage, cut into ¼-inch slices
½ cup chopped celery
½ cup chopped green bell pepper
½ cup chopped red onion
2½ cups water
1 can (14½ ounces) diced tomatoes, undrained
1 package Zatarain's Jambalaya Mix
1 cup frozen corn

Heat oil in large skillet on medium-high heat. Add sausage; cook and stir 2 minutes.

Add celery, bell pepper and onion; cook and stir 3 minutes or until sausage is browned and vegetables begin to soften.

Stir in water, tomatoes and rice mix. Bring to boil. Reduce heat to low; cover and simmer 20 minutes. Stir in corn; cover and cook 5 minutes longer or until rice is tender, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat. Let stand 5 minutes. Fluff with fork before serving.

Red Beans & Rice Tortilla Casserole

Turn leftover cooked chicken into a Mexican-style casserole by layering with red beans and rice, cheese and tortillas. Or, skip the chicken and make a great Meatless Monday dish.

Prep Time: 10 minutes
Cook Time: 45 minutes
Makes 8 servings

1 package Zatarain's Red Beans and Rice Mix
1 can (8½ ounces) whole kernel corn, drained
1 can (4½ ounces) chopped green chiles, undrained
6 flour tortillas (8-inch)
2 cups shredded cooked chicken
2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese

Assorted toppings, such as sour cream, salsa and chopped green onions (optional)

Prepare rice mix as directed on package. Add corn and green chiles; mix well.

Spread ½ cup of the rice mixture on bottom of 13- by 9-inch baking dish sprayed with no-stick cooking spray. Top with 3 of the tortillas, overlapping as needed. Layer with ½ each of the remaining rice mixture, chicken and cheese. Repeat layering with remaining tortillas, rice mixture, chicken and cheese.

Bake in preheated 350°F oven 15 minutes or until heated through. Let stand 5 minutes before serving. Serve with assorted toppings, if desired.

King Cake Cupcakes

Chef John Besh of the Besh Restaurant Group takes the traditional King Cake and turns it into a miniature form with these cupcakes.

Makes 12 (1 cupcake) servings

Cupcakes:

1¼ cups cake flour
1¼ teaspoons baking powder
½ teaspoon salt
½ cup (1 stick) butter, softened
½ cup granulated sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
2 eggs
¾ cup milk

Creole Cream Cheese and Root Beer Frosting:

8 ounces Creole or regular cream cheese, softened

½ cup (½ stick) butter, softened

½ cup confectioners' sugar

½ teaspoon Zatarain's Root Beer Extract

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. For the cupcakes, mix flour, baking powder and salt in medium bowl. Set aside.

2. Beat butter in large bowl with electric mixer on medium speed 30 seconds or until softened. Add granulated sugar and vanilla; beat until light and fluffy, scraping down sides of bowl frequently. Beat in eggs, 1 at a time. Alternately beat in flour mixture and milk on medium-low speed just until mixed. Spoon batter into 12 lightly greased or paper-lined muffin cups, filling each cup ¾ full.

3. Bake 12 to 14 minutes or until toothpick inserted into cupcake comes out clean. Cool in pans on wire rack 10 minutes. Remove from pans; cool completely.

4. For the frosting, beat cream cheese and butter in large bowl with electric mixer on medium speed until smooth. Add confectioners' sugar and extract; beat until fluffy. Set aside.

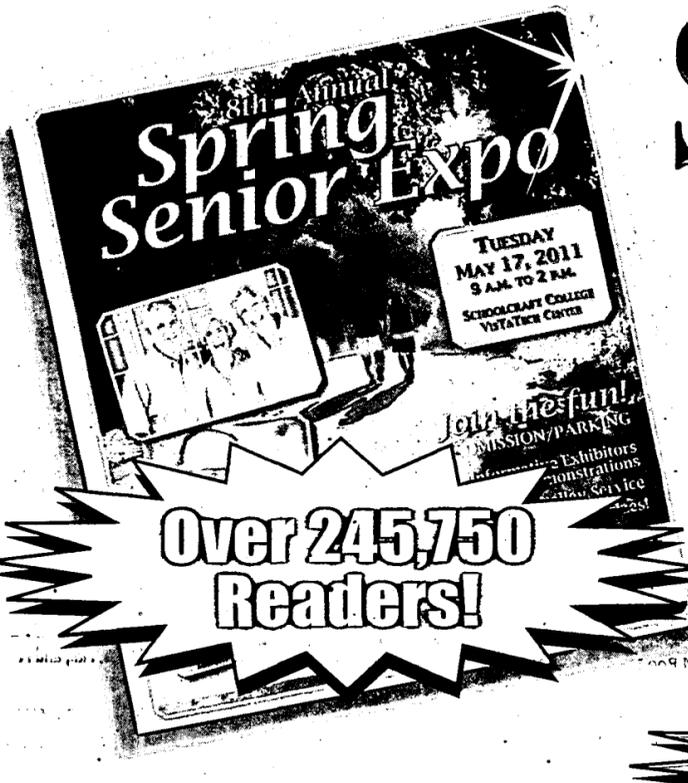
5. Make an indentation in the center of each cupcake using the handle of a wooden spoon or a straw, making sure not to break through bottom of cupcake. Spoon frosting into resealable plastic bag or piping bag fitted with star tip. If using plastic bag, cut a small piece off one of the bottom corners of bag. Pipe a small amount of frosting into each cupcake. Pipe remaining frosting onto each cupcake. Sprinkle with colored sugar, if desired.

Tip: Insert a dried fava bean into the indentation of each cupcake before piping in filling. The fava bean is for decoration only and should not be eaten.

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- **Feature Vendor Deadline:**
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- **Registration Deadline:**
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Building Industry Association lauds leaders in business, government

Court mulls economic limits in case

By Robert Meisner
Guest Columnist

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan presented its annual Industry Leadership Awards to Immediate Past President Adorno Piccinini, Walbridge, Detroit, and the other distinguished awards honorees on Feb. 15 at the Sterling Inn & Banquet Center in Sterling Heights, in conjunction with the Builders & Remodelers Trade Show and BIA's Economic Forecast Luncheon.

- Award honorees include:
- Hall of Fame to Al Kligman, Superb Homes
 - Builder of the Year to Anthony Lombardo, Lombardo Homes
 - Young Builder of the Year to Tim Capaldi, CGR, Capaldi Building
 - Samuel Kreis annual Award for Distinguished Service to the Building Industry to Norman Finkelstein, Norwood Homes, Ltd.
 - Distinguished Service Award to Government to Lannie Young, supervisor, Lyon Township
 - Thomas Ricketts Award to the Region's Outstanding Building Official to Michael Taylor, deputy director, City of Detroit, Building, Safety Engineering & Environmental Department
 - Distinguished Service Award for Urban Home Building to Mark D. Lewis, Community 1st Development
 - Don Mailho Memorial Award in Banking to Huntington Bank, Mike Fezzey and

- Deborah Herdman
- Distinguished Service to BIA's Charitable Endeavors to Richard Cherkasky, CAPS, The Richard Group Inc.
 - Distinguished Service to the Housing Industry to Forrest M. Wall, CAE, Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan
 - Distinguished Service to the Building Industry Association to Lynne Pratt, CGB, CAPS, CSP, Pratt Building Company
 - Outstanding Subcontractor of the Year to Spencer Roed, Multi Drywall & Partition, LLC
 - Associate of the Year to Pat Baker, Kohler Company
 - Remodeler of the Year to Gordy Oliva, CGR, CAPS, Gordy Oliva Remodeling/Go Barrier Free
 - Distinguished Service to the Remodeling Industry to Bob Veresan, AIA, DTE Energy
 - Professional Women in Building Council Leadership to Katie Hallett, TK Design & Architecture
 - Membership Growth Honoree to Robert M. Tedesco, Silverado Custom Homes, Inc.
 - Membership Connection Honoree to Cathy McLeod, The Huttenlocher Group, Inc.
- Industry awards were given recently at a luncheon featuring David Crowe, chief economist of the National Association of Home Builders in Washington, D.C., and Edsel Charles, chairman, MarketGraphics Research Group in Franklin, Tenn.



Hall of Fame to Al Kligman, Superb Homes



Builder of the Year to Anthony Lombardo, Lombardo Homes



Young Builder of the Year to Tim Capaldi, CGR, Capaldi Building



HAL GOULD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Lyon Township Supervisor Lannie Young, Distinguished Service Award to Government

Q: We believe that our developer knowingly sold condominium units to individuals who presented a high risk of foreclosure and abandonment of their homes, provided them with financing, and really didn't give a true story of the nature of our neighborhood. Is there anything we can do against our developer?

A: In the past, I would have said you were out of luck, but in a recent 9th Circuit federal decision, the court held that the purchaser's decreased economic value and desirability were cognizable injuries which could be pursued against the developer, and if they can establish a sufficient causal connection between any decreased value and desirability in the developer's actions, they should be able to pursue the matter. This is certainly, therefore, worth something to consider and developers should be clearly put on notice of their potential exposure for selling units to people who have no business buying these units because of economic limitations.

Q: I am still thinking about buying a condominium in Naples, Fla., and I am wondering if the market has bottomed out, in your opinion?

A: As of the end of 2011, the market appears to have reached bottom as there has been a lot of activity in sales and not necessarily scavengers attempting to buy out properties at ridiculously low levels. Once again, the beachfront property has remained steady and the exorbitant appreciation which occurred for 10 years is not likely to come back for a considerable period of time.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit brmeisner@meisner-associates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE

These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential real-estate closings recorded the week of Oct. 31 to Nov. 4, 2011, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON

1866 Aberdeen St \$121,000
42115 Addison Ave \$136,000
2052 Arcadia Dr \$95,000
998 Bristol Ct \$247,000
46761 Camelia Dr \$180,000
386 Constitution St \$380,000
41880 Coventry Way \$128,000
2483 Cranbrook Rd \$153,000
7400 Emerson Dr \$199,000
50240 Geddes Rd \$63,000
46755 Maidstone Rd \$196,000
6628 Marshall St \$235,000
568 McKinley Cir \$258,000
50483 Monroe St \$256,000
43443 Proctor Rd \$90,000

47501 Raminder Ct \$435,000
41250 Southwind Dr \$52,000
49515 Taft Ln \$359,000
45192 Thornhill Rd \$270,000
47533 Vistas Circle Dr N \$185,000

GARDEN CITY

32700 Bock St \$40,000
32439 Donnelly St \$42,000
30965 Maplewood St \$72,000
32164 Maplewood St \$50,000
32109 Sheridan St \$43,000

LIVONIA

14795 Arcola St \$90,000
11425 Auburndale St \$180,000
37354 Bennett St \$175,000
11402 Berwick St \$133,000
27445 Buckingham St \$94,000
11894 Chase Blvd \$140,000
18146 Gable St \$49,000
9900 Garvett St \$65,000
18454 Golfview St \$210,000
9593 Inkster Rd \$67,000

18230 Mayfield St \$235,000
38807 Meeting House Ln \$180,000
14574 Melrose St \$93,000
18255 Middlebelt Rd \$80,000
39023 Pinetree St \$120,000
32922 Southgate St \$170,000
34993 W Chicago St \$103,000
20251 Wayne Rd \$299,000
17429 Westbrook Dr \$162,000
28662 Westfield St \$104,000

NORTHVILLE

16342 Brookwood Ct \$215,000
16145 Homestead Cir \$255,000
20465 Lexington Blvd \$285,000
50676 Livingston Dr \$365,000
16109 Maplewood Ct \$342,000
15858 Portis Rd \$175,000
46992 Red Oak Dr \$443,000
39692 Rockcrest Ln \$145,000
319 S Rogers St \$450,000
41738 Waterfall Rd \$269,000

17247 Willow Ridge Ct \$472,000
16506 Winchester Dr \$285,000
PLYMOUTH
39663 Birchwood Dr \$151,000
40420 Newport Dr \$68,000
13928 Oakwood Ct \$384,000
51240 Plymouth Lake Cir \$473,000
364 Roe St \$187,000

REDFORD

13478 Arnold \$43,000
9251 Brady Ct \$60,000
9658 Centralia \$50,000
10031 Crosley \$37,000
9039 Dale \$31,000
15592 Fox \$15,000
9974 Garfield \$83,000
11724 Hazelton \$22,000
15886 Kinloch \$40,000
25122 Lyndon \$60,000
11727 Nathaline \$43,000
13011 Nathaline \$65,000
9906 Seminole \$65,000
12761 Tecumseh \$61,000

23607 W Chicago \$44,000
14207 Winston Westland \$34,000
32516 Anita Dr \$91,000
30758 Avondale St \$34,000
7305 Bison St \$89,000
35891 Booth St \$24,000
7840 Donna St \$89,000
348 Ethan Dr \$220,000
2401 Hawley Blvd \$91,000
31535 Hazelwood St \$61,000
8243 Huntington St \$11,000
29730 Julius Blvd \$25,000
2034 Minerva St \$82,000
8221-N Henry Ruff Rd \$90,000
8206 Pickering Pl \$190,000
1365 S Karle St \$21,000
7324 S Kingston Ct \$60,000
2227 Stieber St \$7,000
6272 Twin Oaks \$84,000
8400 Vista Ln \$30,000
7345 Woodview St \$20,000
7360 Woodview St \$28,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Oct. 24-28, 2011, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS

32210 Arlington Dr \$218,000
32320 Bell Vine Trl \$350,000
16321 Birchwood Ave \$192,000
BIRMINGHAM
730 Chester St \$285,000
724 Lakeview Ave \$450,000
1651 Latham St \$240,000
263 Ravine Rd \$400,000

BLOOMFIELD HILLS

2332 Devonshire Rd \$176,000
2468 Hickory Glen Dr \$270,000
1451 Ravineview Ct # C-10 \$128,000
800 Trailwood Path \$130,000

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

1968 Bent Tree Trl \$160,000
2757 Brady Dr \$215,000
4378 Compton Way \$366,000
5935 Crabtree Rd \$329,000
666 E Fox Hills Dr \$34,000

1987 Eagle Pointe \$133,000
2316 Greenlawn Ave \$105,000
1418 Inwoods Cir \$660,000
1900 Lone Pine Rd \$725,000
3544 Maxwell Ct \$520,000
5859 Miller Way E \$415,000
3555 Shallow Brook Dr \$105,000
3330 Sunnyhill Ct \$230,000
4730 Tullamore Dr \$320,000
784 Wooddale Rd \$300,000

COMMERCCE TOWNSHIP

1721 Applebrook Dr \$343,000
5305 Inverry Ln \$206,000
3211 Newton Rd \$128,000

FARMINGTON

34015 Glenview Dr \$120,000
35560 Lark Harbor Ct \$122,000
34052 Moore Dr \$130,000
33436 Shawwassee St \$103,000
35875 Smithfield Rd \$148,000

FARMINGTON HILLS

35365 Blue Spruce Dr \$115,000
21349 Boxwood Ct \$134,000
33964 Brittany Dr \$243,000
39016 Empire Ct \$335,000
23051 Fox Crk \$280,000
28700 Independence St \$60,000
21329 Inkster Rd \$87,000
36847 Kenmore Dr \$290,000

36571 Martel Ct \$135,000
26305 Middlebelt Rd \$90,000
29612 Nova Woods Dr \$112,000
36356 Old Homestead Dr \$180,000
29717 Pendleton Club Dr \$40,000
28016 Quail Hollow Rd \$118,000
34055 Quaker Valley Rd \$333,000
34462 Ramble Hills Dr \$410,000
38251 Remington Park \$136,000
31914 Trestain St \$110,000
30610 W 10 Mile Rd \$45,000
32005 W 12 Mile Rd Unit 313 \$28,000

LATHRUP VILLAGE

18154 Redwood Ave \$134,000
MILFORD
1794 Bristol Dr \$311,000
590 Hill St \$123,000
2941 Katie Ln \$135,000
1714 Milford Hts \$150,000
1640 S Garner Rd \$315,000

NOVI

22728 Cortes St \$49,000
22655 Cranbrooke Dr \$75,000
26385 Crestwood Dr \$588,000
24844 Davenport Ave \$260,000
46535 Galway Dr \$385,000
26576 Glenwood Dr \$420,000
27663 Harrington Way \$45,000
26990 Maxwell Ct \$45,000

51134 Mayfair Ter \$45,000
44410 Midway Dr \$243,000
22679 Penton Rise Ct \$215,000
27595 Sloan St \$45,000
25242 Sutton Ct \$50,000
45564 Violet Ln \$352,000

SOUTH LYON

25016 Carriage Ln \$40,000
440 Chester Ct \$130,000
25596 Coach Ln \$70,000
166 Easton Dr \$235,000
569 Graefield Dr \$155,000
426 Jean Rd \$136,000
23739 Lyon Ridge Dr \$61,000
25345 Meadow Ct \$30,000
23832 Prescott Ln E \$61,000
401 Princeton Dr \$124,000

SOUTHFIELD

21960 Concord St \$70,000
30524 Fairfax St \$132,000
28466 Inkster Rd \$70,000
15638 Jeanette St \$28,000
15858 New Hampshire St \$100,000
15638 Stone Crossing Dr # D \$31,000
20515 Westhampton Ave \$25,000

WHITE LAKE

9909 Palmoor St \$59,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Career Seminar

Learn about the \$50,000 income guarantee Thursday, Feb. 16, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Keller Williams Realty, 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. For more information, contact: Lesley Aiello at (734) 459-4700 or laiello@kw.com.

BIA courses

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will present all three courses needed for Certified Aging-in-Place designation by the National Association of Home Builders. Don Pratt, CAPS, CGB, CGR of CECS

of Michigan, LLC will be the instructor for all three courses. He will cover the technical, business management and customer service skills essential for competing in this fast growing segment of residential construction.

CAPS I, Marketing and Communication Strategies for Aging and Accessibility, will be held on Monday, March 12. CAPS II, Design/Build Solutions for Aging and Accessibility, will be held on Tuesday, March 13. Business Management, the third course required for this designation, will be held on Wednesday, March 14. Each session runs from

8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Association Offices, 2075 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield.

Registration for each course is \$195 per person for BIA members and \$225 per person for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at www.builders.org.

Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia. No obligation. Learn about reverse mortgages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

Free Foreclosure Tours

Free Foreclosure Tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96. E-mail Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.

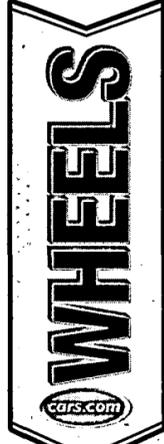
On Facebook

RE/MAX has launched a new Facebook page for customers and the public to get direct answers for their real estate questions from RE/MAX experts. The new site is a chance for the public to ASKREMAX and get clear, expert answers in real time. Visit www.facebook.com/

ASKREMAX.

Finance Seminar

Learn how to finance your purchase and rehab projects in and around Detroit. Hear from an expert in the lending business, Trent Dalrymple, who has more than 25 years of experience. Real estate and investment professionals are welcome. Seating is limited so call (248) 547-3006, or sign up at www.metro-mi.com. These free one-hour seminars will be 6-7 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of the month at Metro Mortgage Investments, 26711 Woodward Ave., Suite 301, Huntington Woods.



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187K miles, 5.4L, body in great shape, well maintained, \$5,000/best. (734) 341-6629

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