

STORY TELLERS
PERFORM FROM
THE HEART, B5



WISE TAX
SERVICE

BUSINESS, A8

An elegant
Easter feast

FOOD B9

Anniversary

The Westland Chamber of Commerce is celebrating its 50th anniversary at a gala Friday, April 20, at the Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road.

It begins with a cocktail hour at 6 p.m., then family-style dinner with chicken cordon bleu and roast beef at 7 p.m., and entertainment by Steve King and the Dittilies from 8 p.m. to midnight.

Tickets — \$40 per person and \$320 for a table of eight — are available at the chamber office, 36900 Ford Road. Businesses interested in being sponsors have until April 6 to sign up. Call the chamber office at (734) 326-7222.

Share memory of grandma

On Thursday, May 3, *Hometown Life Woman*, a special section delivered monthly to Observer subscribers, will publish "A Salute To Women."

As part of this edition, we invite readers to add your words and photos to this special edition. Tell us about a special memory you have or of your grandmother (in 50 words or less, if possible). Whether you call her bubbe, nana, nona, babcia, or just plain grandma, share your favorite memory and photograph (jpeg format attached to the e-mail). E-mail your photo and special memory to Sue Mason at smason@hometownlife.com.

Be sure to include your first and last name and identify your grandmother with a first and last name, too. Be sure to tell us where you live. Don't forget to provide a daytime phone number where you can be reached. Then look for your photo and/or memory in the May edition of *Hometown Life Woman*. Deadline to submit memories and photos is Friday, April 13.

Ticket contest

Enter our Facebook contest for a chance to win two tickets to Opening Day to watch the Detroit Tigers and the Boston Red Sox Thursday, April 5, at Comerica Park.

Our website, Hometownlife.com, is giving away two prime tickets but you must act fast. Share the contest link with a Facebook friend and get five extra chances to win, if they also enter the contest. The winner will be selected at random April 2.

Enter by clicking on the contest link in our Don't Miss module at Hometownlife.com or by visiting our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/OEHometown.

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Council to vote on new city hall

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

The process of building a new Westland City Hall to be located behind the William Faust Library and funded through Tax Increment Finance money could officially get started Monday.

"This will be an excit-

ing time for the city. It's a much-needed facility — 20 years ago this building needed to be replaced," said Council President James Godbout.

At a study session Monday, the council reached a consensus to place the matter on the agenda for a vote at its April 2 meeting. If the council OKs

the concept and starts the process, it is likely construction could get under way in May 2013 with the building to be completed in November 2014.

"It might seem like we are moving fast for some in the room who haven't heard this before," said Mayor William Wild,

after a review of the proposal. "We didn't have the ability to pay a couple of years ago without impacting the general fund. There are historic low interest rates. The project will be a boost in the arm for the construction trades in our area. The timing is coming together."

Enhance community

Along with replacing the antiquated building, which pre-dates the city's incorporation over 45 years ago, the proposal takes advantage of land already owned by the city and would require no money from the general fund

Please see CITY HALL, A2

Three-peat: Red Wings alum crush Wild Wings in annual hockey game



Wild Wings Joe Burton and Craig Cobetto during the charity hockey game.

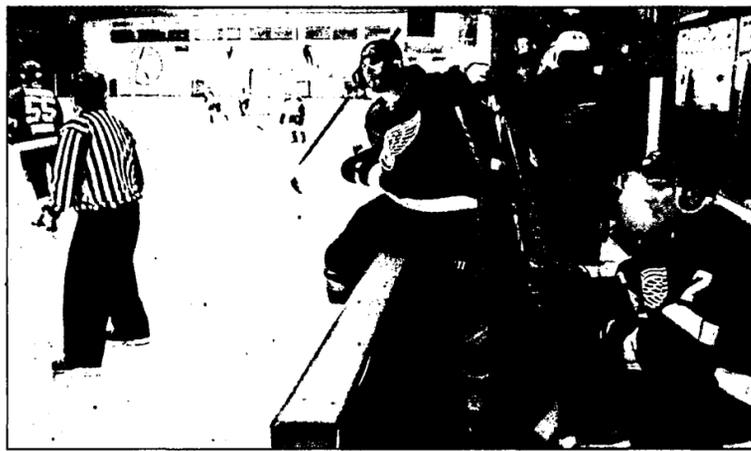
By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

In their third outing against the Detroit Red Wing Alumni team, the Westland Wild Wings had the same result as last year — losing by a lopsided score and raising more than \$20,000.

Coached by Alex Delvecchio, the Red Wings team which included John Ogrodnick, Darren McCarty and Petr Klima, won the game 10-3.

The Mike Modano Ice Arena was filled to capacity for the game Saturday evening.

"Petr Klima is the guy who killed us, he did most of their scoring. It was scoreless after 13 minutes. Our goalie Jeff Reed stopped all the shots," said Westland Mayor William Wild, who



Darren McCarty comes off the Red Wings Alumni bench to join play a Mike Modano Arena. Former Wings John Ogrodnick (center) Paul MacKinnon are on the bench.

scored on a penalty shot. Ogrodnick ended the scoring drought on a shot hard enough to break Reed's goalie stick as the puck went into the net. Joining Wild on the Wild

Wings were former University of Michigan hockey player Chris Frescoln, an attorney with city attorneys Fausone Bohn, and Westland's assistant arena/golf course man-

er Joe Burton. A Garden City resident, Smokin' Joe was honored with a dasher board commemorating his induction

Please see GAME, A2

Vote clears way for Warren Road work

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

It may make for a bit more difficult Christmas shopping this year, but the reconstruction of a section of Warren Road near Westland Shopping Center is set to move ahead later this year.

"I know the council has received a lot of suggestions on this. It will be a really nice project when it is finished," said Westland Mayor William Wild. "This work ties in with the work that Wayne County already did on Warren Road."

Last week, the council approved the inter-governmental agreement with Wayne County for the project which will resurface Warren Road from Wayne Road to Newburgh. The nearly \$810,000 project will be largely funded with federal money along with a \$72,000 match from Westland and an equal amount from the county.

Wild credited the efforts of Westland Department of Public Services Director Kevin Buford and Wayne County Commissioner Joan Gebhardt, D-Livonia, in getting the project moving forward after years of attending meetings on the funding.

"This stretch of Warren Road runs right through the heart of Westland's famous 'Shop & Dine District' adjacent to the Westland Shopping Center," said Wild. "Residents and shoppers alike will benefit from this much-needed repair."

The project is scheduled to begin later this year.

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Family prepares to say goodbye to Kent Morton

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Fawn Salvatore is certain of two things: She is proud to call Garden City her home and immensely thankful for the businesses and people who came to the aid of her family after her son, Kent, drowned in the Detroit River Jan. 11.

"I'm so proud to be a resident of Garden City," said Salvatore. "The people complain about their little complaints, but I

wouldn't want to live anywhere else. I want to thank the whole community around here. The people came in and helped us so much. I helped me a lot with the support we got from them."

The family is preparing to say their final goodbyes to Morton after his body was finally found in the river last Friday. A private graveside ceremony will be held in about nine weeks at Cadillac Memorial Gar-

dens West in Westland after a monument to hold his remains has been engraved with the words "beloved father, son, brother and friend."

Salvatore was en route home from a three-day trip to Amelia Island, Fla., when the body of her 28-year-old son was recovered from the Detroit River. Her daughter waited until she had gotten off the plane to call and tell her. In her heart, Salvatore knows her son waited to be found.

"He waited until momma came home, he knew I needed that time," said Salvatore. "I think he knew I needed the rest. I just sat by the beach and be at peace. I needed the time to think about him."

Hard to leave

Admitting that it is hard to leave her family — "I'm always worrying about something happening" — Salvatore had accepted a close friend's offer to be her guest on the Florida trip. Ironical-

ly, she arrived in Florida on Tuesday, the same day a body of an unidentified man was pulled from the river, and left the day her son's body was found.

The discovery came more than 10 weeks after he fell from the Ambassador Bridge and drowned. An employee of Seaway Painting in Livonia, he had been working on scaffolding underneath the bridge 150 feet above the river when it gave way.

Please see MORTON, A3

Residents ask about status of rec center

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

The purpose of the study session was to discuss the construction of a new City Hall, but much of the public comment focused on the anticipated closing of the nearby Bailey Recreation Center. Some residents noted no room rentals are being accepted after June 30 — the last day of the current fiscal year — and questioned council members

about whether the building was closing. "We have made no decision on the recreation center. More and more cities are doing private-public partnerships," said Council President James Godbout. "Part of the reason we partnered with Wayne (for Good Neighbor recreation services) was the condition of the Bailey Center." An answer on the possible Bailey Center closing will be included in the

proposed 2012-13 fiscal year which Mayor William Wild will present to the council by April 1. A budget study session is scheduled for 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 4. "We basically use the Bailey Center for room rentals," said Wild, adding the center is again having problems with its boiler and there are ongoing problems with the swimming pool. No one disagreed with the need for a new

City Hall. Resident Bud Somerville was concerned about baseball fields lost in the remediation of Central City Park and the high cost of gymnasium rentals at Wayne-Westland schools. Resident Mark Rodriguez called for a new city hall to be constructed on the current Ford Road location, adding voters would support a millage request to fund the project. "The recreation center

is outdated, too. What will be built first?" he said. "City hall, not a recreation center for the children or the people." Other residents questioned what would happen to current City Hall and its site once a new building was constructed. "The Bailey Center and City Hall buildings are both obsolete, we have gotten 45 years out of both buildings. They weren't built for the growth of the city," said

Wild. "I would say demolish both City Hall and the Bailey Center, then look at the entire campus. It's prime commercial property." Another resident, Robert Foreich, suggested that if both city hall and the recreation center are obsolete, the council might think about a combined facility when a new building is constructed.

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GAME

Continued from page A1

into the Central Hockey League Hall of Fame. Burton was the league all-time scorer from his days with the Oklahoma City Blazers minor league hockey team. It had also been declared Joe Burton Day in Oklahoma City.

In a twist on Score-o, a dozen local celebrities, including Council President James Godbout, Councilman Dewey Reeves, Councilwoman Meriam Kadi, Wayne-Westland school board member Shawna Walker, state Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, 18th District Court Judges Sandra Cicirelli and Mark McConnell, paid \$100 each after not scoring.

"They got one shot. Some of them said it was a carny game and that the opening in the board wasn't big enough for the puck," said Westland Parks and Recreation Director Robert Kosowski. "They hadn't seen the board until we brought it out. The hole was big enough. The point was to raise money." Money raised at the



The Red Wing Alumni waiting to take on the Westland Wild Wings at Mike Modano Arena.



Red Wing alum Dave Huntzicker defends as Wild Wing Rob Martin moves the puck down the ice.



Westland Mayor William Wild during the National Anthem before the charity hockey game began at Mike Modano Arena.

event will go toward construction of new locker room facilities at the ice arena — a project with an estimated \$500,000 price tag. The capital

improvement fund has about \$25,000 already earmarked for the project, which is also receiving a \$5 per hour fee added to ice time.

"We've been asked why this will cost so much. The problem is where we have to build the HVAC and plumbing," said Wild. "We have to update the

electric and trench out the DTE service from the road." rogers@hometownlife.com (313) 222-5428

CITY HALL

Continued from page A1

or any millage increase by using TIFA funds to repay the bonds. "Throughout the years, the TIFA board always has looked for projects that will enhance the community," said TIFA Board Chair Marsha

Bianconi. "The (Faust) library was our biggest project and I like to think our most successful. It's not the first time we have discussed City Hall." The TIFA board began looking at existing vacant buildings within the TIFA district around the Westland Shopping Center in 2010. Wild noted that one building considered was the former Circuit City

building on Warren Road which has since been sold. If the council decides to move ahead with the project, a specific design and engineering will be developed. Based on recommendations from Plante Moran CRESA, the building would need to be 30,000 to 50,000 square feet, depending on which satellite departments are brought into the build-

ing. The estimated cost based on square footage would range from \$8 million to 13 million, funded through a bond and repaid with TIFA funds. "I congratulate you on being able to talk about fixed assets rather than just the fund balance. You started on that years ago right-sizing the budget," said auditor Michael Swartz of Plante Moran. "City Hall at this point is an inefficient building. It can't be made more efficient without significant cost."

One earlier proposal that had been considered was to demolish the existing City Hall and rebuild on the existing site. That would have required temporarily relocating City Hall operations and moving back into the new building, which had an estimated \$400,000 price tag. Additionally, City Hall is located in the Downtown Development Authority which currently would have one-to-one funding for the project and require general fund money, if there are additional property tax revenue decreases.

"Destroying area" Conceding City Hall, with its long-standing flooding problems, had needed to be replaced for 30 years, former Councilman Ken Mehl said he disagreed with the proposal for a new building behind the library. "Years ago, the council and mayors talked with the people who started Nankin Township who put the building here," said Mehl. "What was the idea of developing this building? The idea was a municipal complex. For what reason are you destroying this area? Why destroy the pristine area behind the library?" If presented correctly, Mehl said voters would support a millage increase to fund the construction of a new city hall. Godbout responded that he couldn't see going to voters asking for a millage increase to rebuild on the existing site when there was an alternative that would not require a tax increase. "I'm a pretty good salesman, but I don't know that I could spin it well enough to sell it," Godbout said. "I wouldn't put a millage before anyone, especially when we can build it without millage," said Councilman Dewey Reeves.

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MORTON

Continued from page A1

He survived the fall and even managed to swim briefly before being carried off by the current. He was last seen near the Bob-Lo docks south of the bridge.

His family had spent four days at river's edge, hoping searchers would recover his body. It wasn't found until March 23 in the shallows of the river near Zug Island and at the mouth of the River Rouge, further down river.

Found on him was his cell phone, which Salvatore had called many times after the accident to tell him she loved him, and his wallet with his diver's license and a movie ticket from when he and fiancée Kristi Waltsgott had gone to see *Twilight*.

"You could still read the day and time, his wallet must have been inside his Carhartts," said Salvatore. "His phone must have been on the outside, it was filled with mud."

Salvatore had her children involved in swimming growing up, and she believes that experience saved her son from serious injury in the fall. However, it was the weight of his clothing that dragged him down.



Kent Morton, with his daughter Makayla, is remembered for his smile and his jokes.

"What's really ironic is that there wasn't one broken bone in his body," she said. "That's what hurts so bad. He knew how to land in the water and if there had been a boat or a

life jacket, he could have survived. That's what bothers and hurts me."

Community support
Her family is amazed at the outpouring of sup-

port. The Garden City community has rallied around the family, attending a prayer vigil at Morning Star Church two days after Kent Morton disappeared and then filling John Santieu and Son Funeral Home to capacity for a Jan. 22 memorial.

Businesses and individuals, even strangers, have made donations to help them. Some of the money has been used for funeral expenses and some has been used for Morton's 7-year-old daughter, Makayla. Money also has been in a trust fund for Makayla and the unborn child of fiancée Kristi Waltsgott, according to a post on the In Honor of Kent Alex Morton Facebook page.

"I need to thank everyone, but I'm afraid I'll forget someone," said Salvatore. "It has meant a lot to us. I can't list all of them, but they know

who they are. They have helped us out so much."

One of those people is the woman whose brother fell off the bridge on the Canadian side 11 years ago. She has called repeatedly to find out how Salvatore is doing. A TV cameraman also has called weekly to check on the family.

She also praises the staff of Memorial Elementary 1-2 Campus where MaKayla is a first-grader and where Salvatore has returned as a volunteer.

"The school has been wonderful in helping my granddaughter," she said. "We have received so much support from everyone. I want to thank everyone for everything they have sent. It has truly helped tremendously."

She acknowledges that she was in shock and denial after the accident,

but with the recovery of her son's body, the tragedy has hit home. Easter will be a difficult time just as it was a few weeks ago when the family got together to celebrate one of his brother's birthday.

"Kent always was the one to make the jokes, he wasn't there to do that," she said. "It was different without him there. It really hit me hard."

While the family is preparing for his burial, the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration is investigating the incident. It's unclear if Morton's crew had life jackets, a life-saving buoy and a rescue boat, which are required, according to a MIOSHA official. The investigation could take months to complete.

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AROUND WESTLAND

Keep walking

In the mood to walk, but don't like the weather? Westland Shopping Center has the answer — mall walking.

Westland Shopping Center opens its doors before usual operating hours for people who want to walk for exercise. Walking begins at 7 a.m. Monday through Saturday. Enter through Arcade 2

by Olga's Kitchen on the northeast end of the mall. All other doors are locked until approximately 8.30 a.m. On Sunday all doors are opened at 10 a.m.

Westland Walkers also hold a meeting at 9:30 a.m. Wednesdays in the Community Room on the lower level. Call (734) 425-5001 to check when a meeting has been scheduled.

It's easy to become a member of Westland Walkers. Just fill out a registration card available at the Customer Service booth in East Court. Return it to the Customer Service associate or put it in the Walkers Box located on the side counter.

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Police find 'scrapper' with stolen auto parts

Westland

Stolen property

A Westland man has been charged with receiving stolen property and could be facing theft charges in Plymouth.

An officer was sent to a home in the 6000 block of North Walton just before 11 a.m. March 24 about a loud disturbance by a possible scrapper. When the officer arrived, he said he could hear loud metal-on-metal noise from over 50 feet away which seemed unreasonably loud for a residential area.

The suspect was inside the bed of a large enclosed rental truck throwing heavy exhaust

manifolds forward in the truck. The officer said the man was startled by the officer's presence. The man denied living at the home and told the officer his boss lived at the address.

The man told the officer that he was loading the parts, which came from his boss' shop and were defective, so they could be disposed of at a scrap yard. The officer noted an additional 15 manifolds in the garage which hadn't been loaded yet.

The man was arrested on a warrant as police sent a message to area police departments about possibly stolen auto parts. CMAI Industries

in Plymouth had reported iron exhaust manifolds, described as weighing eight tons and valued at \$5,000, stolen.

A representative of the business came to the home on Walton and identified the parts which had been placed in a bin overnight to be collected by a scrapping company.

The representative also identified the suspect as an employee of his business. Witnesses also told police the man had been living at the home for a couple of months.

Carjacking

Just before 11 p.m. March 26, a Westland man told police he was getting into his car in the

parking lot of 7-Eleven, 970 S. Wayne Road, when a man armed with a handgun approached. The gunman told the man to get out of the car and the resident said he complied.

The suspect then drove away in the 1999 purple Pontiac Grand Am heading south on Wayne Road. A store clerk told police the suspect had been inside the store asking customers, including the victim, to buy him cigarettes. The suspect was described as approximately 18 years old and left when the clerk refused to sell him cigarettes.

Robbery

A Westland resident

told police he was robbed March 25 just before 8 p.m. while walking behind Holiday Plaza, 8623 N. Wayne Road. The man told police he met two men in the alley and asked if they wanted to buy some cologne, which he sells.

The men were talking about pricing when the resident said one of the suspects pulled out a handgun. Reported stolen were \$178, a backpack and 15 bottles of various types of cologne.

Robbery

On March 26, officers on patrol on Elmwood near Yale reported seeing a vehicle pulled onto the lawn near the inter-

section. As the officers approached, a Westland man got out of the passenger side of the vehicle.

The man had a bruised and bloody right eye. He told police that as he walked south on Yale he had been assaulted by two males who struck him in the face. The assailants took his backpack when he fell, the man said, then tried to grab his cell phone.

Officers located the backpack on Elmwood near Linville and returned it to the man. He said that a silver necklace, valued at \$50, had been inside the backpack and was missing.

By LeAnne Rogers

Lawn equipment, tools found missing from garage

GARDEN CITY

Shoplifting

A 47-year-old Garden City resident was arrested about 3 p.m. March 20 for shoplifting, oblivious to the fact that police were watching her inside of the Rite Aid store at 29447 Ford.

An employee had called the Garden City police to tell them that there was a larceny in progress.

An officer saw the suspect facing the cosmetic aisle when he arrived. When she saw the officer, she picked up the items that she placed on the floor and asked him to hold them for her.

The store supervisor saw her place some of the items in her purse and asked her if she had money to pay for the products. She responded that she had \$4 when in reality

she had no money.

The police also found about \$30 of merchandise with tags on them in her purse. They believed that these items were taken from the Target store in Dearborn Heights.

Break-in

Someone broke into a garage in the 2000 block of Garden sometime before 1:30 p.m. March 27. The resident said that the garage was locked but found an open slider door.

The homeowner said that he left his home at 6 a.m. and when he returned he noticed a variety of tools and equipment were missing from the garage. They included a \$2,100 riding lawn mower, a \$1,600 snowblower and a variety of other tools valued at

more than \$1,100.

The police found no sign of forced entry.

Stolen car

A resident in the 33000 block of Hennepin reported that someone stole her 1983 Chevrolet sometime before 7:45 a.m. March 23 from her driveway. She said that the bulletproof vest that her husband uses for his armored car job was inside the vehicle.

The woman added that she has all of the keys.

Theft

An employee at Elite Eyecare at 29316 Ford reported a display case of 30-40 "high end" sunglasses stolen from the store about 11 a.m. March 24.

She said that a man came into the store but had left after she

returned from the back of the store.

He again returned a short time later and said that he left abruptly previously because he had received an emergency phone call from his family. He then left again and drove away.

The employee noticed that the sunglasses were gone.

Property destruction

An employee of Redbox, a movie rental service, reported damage to box when she came to service it at noon March 20. The box is located on the east side of the Walgreens store at 31415 Ford on the outside of the building.

The touch screen was damaged and smashed with an unknown object.

Theft

A resident in the 31000 block of John Hawk reported that his GPS unit was stolen from his unlocked vehicle glove box sometime before 10:30 a.m. March 21.

The vehicle was parked in the driveway.

No license

Doing a security check in the area, a police officer noticed that a Pontiac Aztec was parked in a no parking area near the Rite Aid store at 11:30 a.m. March 20.

The officer arrested the driver, an 18-year-old Westland woman, who said that she didn't have a license and that she didn't see the no parking sign.

Fraud

A Taylor man came to the Garden City police station March 26 to

report fraud.

He told police that though he hadn't lived at his parents address at 6800 Lathers for more than 20 years, he received notification at that address that he owed \$3,500 for a bill through PayPal that was used to purchase something on ebay.

Suspended license

A cracked windshield on a Pontiac Grand Prix caught the attention of a police officer in the Inkster and Cambridge area about 4 p.m. March 23.

The 21-year-old Inkster driver was arrested when the police found out that he had a suspended license and a fail to appear warrant from the Plymouth District Court.

By Sue Buck



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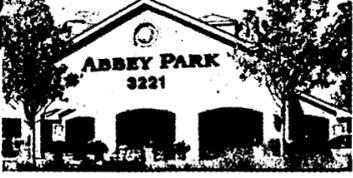
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Gemini, the musical duo of twin brothers Laz and San Slomovits, will perform a concert 2 p.m. Sunday at the William Faust Library in Westland.

Gemini concert features classic music of '60s

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

To celebrate their new collection of peace-related materials, Westland's William Faust Library will be hosting a concert 2 p.m. Sunday. Gemini, twin brothers San and Laz Slomovits, will perform an hourlong concert "If I Had A Hammer — Songs and Poems of Peace and Social Justice," featuring songs of the 1960s folk revival. Nationally known for their music for children and families, they return to the roots of their music — the classic songs of Pete Seeger, Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, Peter, Paul and Mary, Joni Mitchell and Malvina Reynolds, as well as traditional songs associated with the '60s. "We've done a program on music of the '60s for several years, I'm part of that generation and love the songs," said Laz Slomovits. "We pulled songs out of our repertoire. We wanted to focus on peace and jus-

"The '60s is the era I grew up in personally and musically. It was also a time when people really made a change in awareness of issues," Slomovits said. "People felt that they could do something about those issues. Music was a crucial part of that. The songs are useful again."

LAZ SLOMOVITS
musician

The concert will include songs like *If I Had a Hammer*, *Blowin' in the Wind*, *Where Have All the Flowers Gone?* and sing-along with them. The concert also will include poems by ancient as well as contemporary poets on the themes of peace and social justice which the brothers have set to original music. Featured poets will include William Stafford, E.E. Cummings and Naomi Shihab Nye. "The '60s is the era I grew up in personally and musically. It was

also a time when people really made a change in awareness of issues," Slomovits said. "People felt that they could do something about those issues. Music was a crucial part of that. The songs are useful again." The Slomovits brothers both sing and play instruments, including the guitar, mandolin, violin and a variety of folk flutes. Laz Slomovits performed at the library last fall at a program for Homelessness Awareness Month. "These are also great songs to perform and for people to join in, it's powerful for people to join together to sing," he said. The Peace Collection was established with a \$500 grant the library received in November from Citizens for Peace. Three other area libraries — Redford, Livonia and Commerce Township — also received grants.

lrogers@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-5428

AROUND WESTLAND

Doo Wop Dinner

Angelo Brothers Banquet Hall is hosting a Doo Wop Dinner, featuring The WhatAbouts, Friday, April 27. 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 soft drink or coffee. 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.

Class reunion

Wayne Memorial High School class of 1957 is looking for classmates for its 55th class reunion which will be held May 19. For more information, contact Wanda Putman Boice at boice@aol.com or pollygirl219@aol.com or Richard Smith at (248) 747-6817.

Free Zumba

Put on your comfortable clothes, grab a water bottle and head over to the Bailey Recreation Center where Westland Youth Assistance is offering free Zumba fitness classes 6-7 p.m. April 13 and April 20. Space is limited. To reserve a spot call (734) 467-7904. The Bailey Center is at 36651 Ford, behind Westland City Hall.

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 Newburgh, 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 clean up, 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.

American Legion

The American Legion, Westland Post 251, meets at 7 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Harris-Kehrer VFW Post, 1055 S. Wayne Road, Westland. All veterans, male and female with an honorable discharge are welcome to join. Visit the post Web site at www.post251.org or call (734) 326-2607 for more information.

Free workshop

Westland residents at risk of losing their homes can attend a free Loan Modification and Short Sale Workshop held 6-7 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Dorsey Community Center, 32715 Dorsey east of Venoy. Annette Compo of WJR Real Estate 411 and Linda Miller, an MSHDA-certified foreclosure counselor with National Faith Homebuyers, will be on hand to meet with residents one-on-one to do an overview of the foreclosure process and present them with various options for their situation.

The city of Westland is working with developers to assist residents that lose their home to foreclosure to try to remain in the same neighborhood.

To register for the workshop, call (313) 378-5418 or send an e-mail to lindamiller@national-faith.org.

Healing Hearts

Hope 4 Healing Hearts, a grief support group for adults who have lost a loved one to the prison system provides a safe environment allowing members to share in a non-judgmental atmosphere. Individuals share ideas, resources and experiences that are helpful to one another. Meetings are 6:30-8:30 p.m. the second and fourth Monday of every month at the Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland. Donations only. For more information, contact Bonnie at (734) 646-2237, by e-mail at bonnie@hope4healinghearts.com or visit www.hope4healinghearts.com.

Weatherization help

Weatherization Assistance is a home energy conservation program providing services to low-income residents. Families receiving weatherization services can expect heating costs to be reduced 20-25 percent, amounting to about \$300 saving per year. Eligible projects include such things as floor insulation, storm windows, window repair/replacement, programmable thermostat, furnace and duct repair or replacement and roof repairs. Wayne-Metropolitan Community Action Agency manages the Weatherization Program for Wayne County, including the city of Westland. Contact Jeff Boyd, weatherization director, at (734) 284-6999.

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On April 3, 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
1992	PONTIAC	TRANSPORT	GREEN	1GMDU06L2NT212097
1999	MITSUBISHI	MIRAGE	GREEN	JA3AY11A3X4037345
1999	FORD	ESCORT	BLACK	3FAKP1133XR145648
1998	FORD	ESCORT	SILVER	3FALP1138WR146572
1995	MERCURY	SABLE	SILVER	1MELM501J15G611729
1997	CHEVROLET	ASTRO VAN	GREEN	1GNEL19W3VB203848
2001	BUICK	CENTURY	WHITE	2G4W552J511251914
1994	HONDA	ACCORD	BLACK	1HGCD5631RA161725
2001	FORD	ESCAPE	WHITE	1FMYU02161KA47600
2000	FORD	RANGER	BLACK	1FTZR15V77TA81564
2003	CHRYSLER	SEBRING	TAN	1C3EL48X73N527571
1998	FORD	TAURUS	WHITE	1FAPP52UXWG198756
1997	PONTIAC	GRAND-AM	SILVER	1G2NE12M2VM530696
1999	FORD	EXPLORER	BLUE	1FMYU24E5XUA6914

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.

Publish: March 29, 2012

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Easter Festival

Kirk of Our Savior will hold an Easter Festival Egg Hunt 10:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 31, at the church at 36660 Cherry Hill, south of Wayne Road, Westland.

There will be an Easter egg hunt, creative activities, health snack and service project. The event is open to the public and a free will donation will be accepted.

For more information, call (734) 728-1088.

Easter Egg Hunt/Drama

Warren Road Light and Life Free Methodist Church will hold an Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, March 31, at the church, located at 33445 Warren Road, east of Wayne Road, Westland.

The festivities will held 10 a.m. to noon and will include an Easter egg

hunt, face painting, a petting zoo with pony rides and clowns with free pictures.

The church also is partnering with Garden of Eden Church to present the Easter drama, "Journey to the Cross," 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 30-31 and April 6-7, and 4 p.m. Sunday, April 1. The drama will present the life of Christ from birth to death and will be staged as a traveling show with participants going from room to room to see depictions of his life.

Warren Road Church will have its Easter service at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, while Garden of Eden which also worships there will gather at 12:30 p.m.

Marshmallow Drops

Wayne County Parks and the Westland Civitan Club are sponsoring the annual Marshmallow Drop at 11 a.m. Friday, April 6, at the Nankin Mills area on Hines Drive, just east of Ann Arbor Trail in Westland.

Thousands of marshmallows will be dropped from a helicopter for youngsters to pick up and turn in for a prize. Regardless of how many marshmallows are collected, each child will receive one treat. There will be three separate age groups - 4 years and younger, 5-7 years and 8 years and older.

For more info, call (734) 261-1990 or visit www.waynecountyparks.org

The Wayne Parks and Recreation Department



FILE PHOTO

The Westland Civitan Club and Westland Parks and Recreation are holding their annual Bunny Brunch 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 31, at the Harris Kehrer VFW Post 3323, 1055 S. Wayne Road at Avondale, Westland.

The Westland Civitan Club will hold its 33rd annual Marshmallow Drop 10 a.m. to noon Friday, April 6, at the Anderson ballfield in Goudy Park on Howe south of Annapolis.

The first drop will be at 10 a.m. for walking toddlers to age 4 and children with a disability. The second drop will be for children age 5-7 and the third drop for children ages 8-10.

The Marshmallow Drop is being sponsored by Cross Pointe Community Church

Bunny Breakfast

The Wayne Parks and Recreation Department will hold its Bunny Breakfast, starting at 10:45 a.m. Friday, April 6, at the Wayne Community Center, located at the corner of Howe and Annapolis.

The breakfast includes pancakes, sausage, juice, arts and crafts and balloons. Pictures with the Easter Bunny are available for \$3 each.

The cost is \$4 for residents and \$5 for non-residents. Children age 2 and under are free. Tickets are on sale now and only 200 tickets sold for the breakfast. For more information, call the Wayne Community Center at (734) 721-7400.

Bunny Brunch

The Westland Civitan Club and Westland Parks and Recreation are holding their annual Bunny Brunch 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 31, at the Harris Kehrer VFW Post 3323, 1055 S. Wayne Road at Avondale, Westland.

The cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children for all-you-can-eat, homemade, hot off the griddle pancakes with butter and syrup, breakfast sausage, juice, coffee, tea and milk will be served.

Besides the brunch, there will be a special visit by the Easter Bunny. Children are encouraged to make and wear an Easter Bonnet or hat and have their picture taken with the Easter Bunny. Parents, need to bring their own cameras.

Bunny Brunch tickets are available at the Bailey Recreation Center.

Easter Egg Scramble

The Westland Jaycees will sponsor the 15th annual Easter Egg Scramble 1-4 p.m. March 31, at Jaycee Park, at the corner of Hunter and Wildwood in Westland.

The scramble will be broken up into age groups. It's a free event, is for children age 14 and

under in the Westland community.

In addition to the scramble, there will be pictures with the Easter Bunny and other activities for kids to choose from while they are waiting for their turn on the field.

"In the past we've had activities like finger-printing, a bouncer and fire trucks for the kids to check out," said Jennifer Sroczyński, Westland Jaycees president. "I'm really excited to see what this year's committee does to step things up."

For more information, call (734) 626-0067 or visit www.westlandjaycees.org.

Easter Delight Night

Kids can visit the Bailey Recreation Center to make ceramic Easter ornaments and their very own Easter Basket at an Easter Delight Night 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 3.

Sponsored by D & M Art Studios and the Westland Civitan Club, the activity is for children age 3-12. The cost is \$15 per child and includes the supplies.

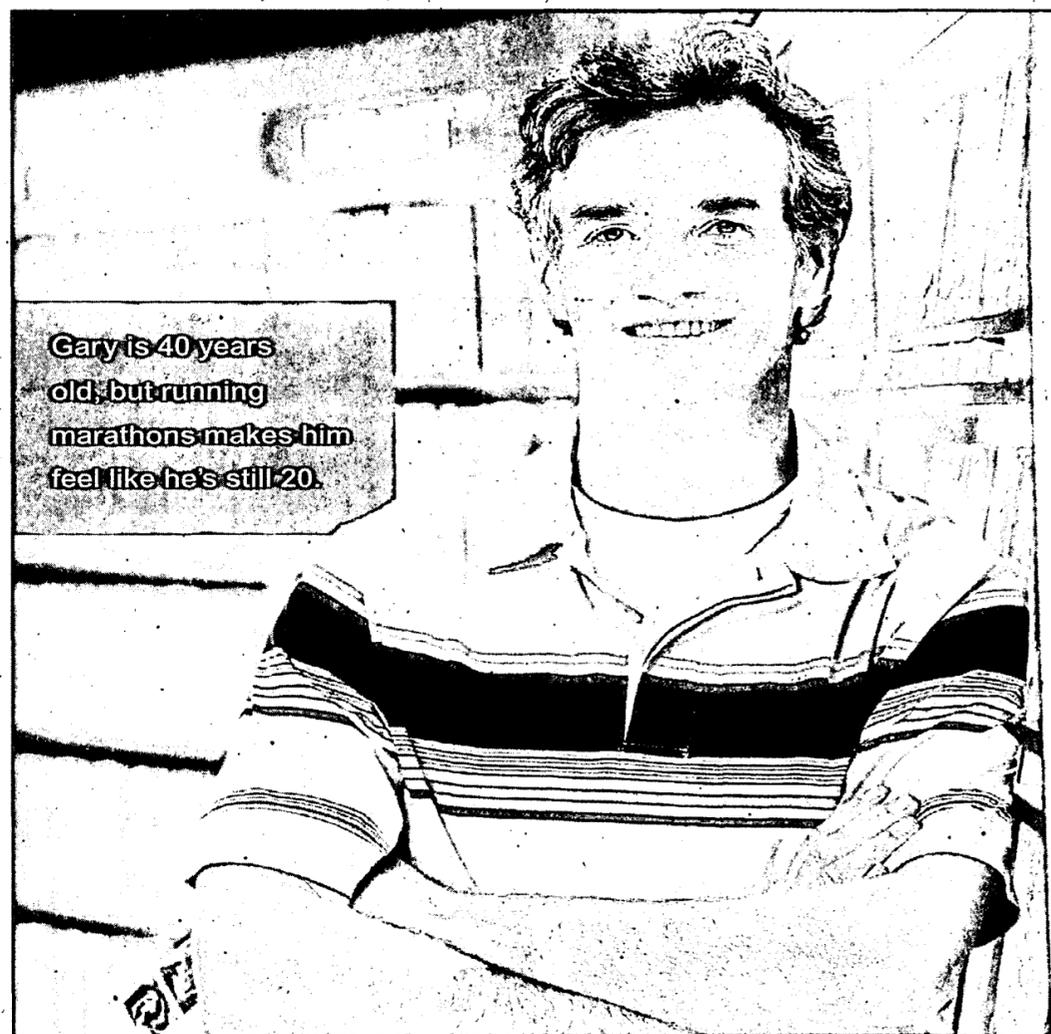
The Westland Civitan Club has arranged for the Easter Bunny to visit briefly on his way to decorate his own eggs. Parents should bring a camera, if they would like a picture of their child with the Easter Bunny.

Pre-registration required by March 29 and can be completed at the Bailey Recreation Center. No registrations will be accepted without payment. Supplies for the projects will not be available, if a child isn't pre-register.

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

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CITY OF GARDEN CITY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that the Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, April 12, 2012, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan. At the hearing, all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to solicit public comments on the following:

- 12-001 Special Land Use. 130 Middlebelt is proposing a used car dealership. The property is zoned C-3, General Business. Used car dealerships are a special land use in the C-3 zoning district.

Written comments may be submitted prior to the public hearing and should be addressed to: The Office of Community Development, City of Garden City, 6000 Middlebelt Rd., Garden City, MI 48135.

Publish: March 29, 2012

OR0877212024

CITY OF WESTLAND SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES MTG. 6 03/19/12

Presiding: President Godbout
 Present: Bryant, Hammons, Johnson, Kadi, Kehrer
 51: Appr: minutes of regular meeting held 3/5/12.
 - Appr: Knights of Columbus "Tootsie Roll Drive" 3/30-4/1.
 - Appr: Kroger "Garden Center" 4/15/12 - 6/21/12.
 - Traffic Control Order 2012-01: Install "CROSS TRAFFIC DOES NOT STOP" on existing stop sign on sb Hanover @ Julius.
 - Traffic Control Order 2012-02: Install "CROSS TRAFFIC DOES NOT STOP" on existing stop sign on nb Gladys @ Carrousel.
 - Bid for Key Scan Security System Upgrade for PD to Actron Security Systems, amt. \$15,855.60.
 - Bid for portable toilets to Brendel's Septic Tank Service; amt. \$70/month rental & \$15/additional weekly service.
 - Grant app. from MDNRTF for funding from Trust Fund; City's share \$200,000.00.
 - IGA w/Wayne Co. for resurfacing of Warren Rd. btwn. Newburgh & Wayne; City's estimated cost \$40,857.
 - JAG Agrmnt. w/Wayne County; amt. \$34,080.
 - WWCS Building Trades Program Resolution/Agrmnt.
 - Reprogramming of prior fiscal yr. CDBG funds.
 52: Set Public Hearing Date of 4/2/12 @ 6:30 p.m. for Amended Brownfield Plan for MJR Theatres.
 53: App. from BR Restaurant Holdings LLC to transfer all interest in 2011 Class C Licensed LLC located at 36601 Warren Road.
 54: Rev. Site Plan for White Tail Run Condos, PID #010-01-0571-000, n. side of Ann Arbor Tr., e. of Farmington Rd.
 55: Rezoning from R-5 to CB-1, PID #034-99-0001-703, 6500 N. Wayne Road.
 56: Site Plan for prop. Driveway Access to MJR Theater, PID #034-99-0001-703; 6500 N. Wayne Road.
 57: Rev. Site Plan for prop. Parking Lot Reconfiguration, Hunters Plaza, 6510-6594 N. Wayne Rd., PID #034-99-0001-002.
 58: Appr. checklist: \$542,625.61 & Prepaid: \$2,773,160.25.
 Mtg. adj. at 8:24 p.m.
 Minutes available in the Clerk's Office.

James Godbout
 Council President

Eileen DeHart
 City Clerk, CMC

Publish: March 29, 2012

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Tuesday, May 22, 2012

9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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Invest in transportation for a strong future

By State Sen.
Glenn S. Anderson
Guest Columnist

Business leaders, manufacturers, environmental advocates and labor all agree that investing in public transportation and infrastructure is a must for transforming our state into an economic leader and making our state more business friendly. Our current transportation funding models are outdated and falling dras-



Sen. Glenn Anderson

I am closely monitoring legislation that was recently introduced to implement recommendations laid out by Gov. Snyder in his infrastructure message last year. The bills, and many of

tically short. We need an immediate plan for action in the long term, to provide stable funding for our roads.

the proposals contained in Snyder's infrastructure message, resemble findings of the Transportation Funding Task Force of 2008 – a bipartisan, bicameral group of legislators and industry leaders, of which I was a member, tasked with suggesting policies to improve economic activity and personal mobility through infrastructure investment.

Some of the specific proposals include changes to vehicle registration

fees, altering the collection of gas tax to percentage-based rather than cents-per-gallon and tying road funding to traffic volume. While I am excited that the broad support of this package of legislation might mean we finally take a step forward, I am concerned that we may be at the onset of another cycle of recycling ideas without taking action.

The fixes and ideas proposed by Gov. Snyder have been floating

around the legislature for years. Simply rehashing these debates does nothing to help Michigan drivers who spend an average \$300 a year on car repairs related to the poor conditions of our roads. As we continue to debate these ideas, counties are pulverizing paved roads and turning them back into dirt roads to save on maintenance costs. We have known for years that bold changes are needed to move Michigan's transportation sys-

tem into the 21st Century. It is time to take decisive action.

I hope that the introduction of this legislation marks a positive step forward, and that the bipartisan support will result in a strong and reliable transportation infrastructure for Michigan businesses.

Glenn Anderson serves Westland and Garden City in the Michigan Senate. He welcomes feedback at sen-GAnderson@senate.mi.gov.

Wize Tax Service has local focus

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Contact: Call (734) 729-WIZE or visit www.wizetaxservice.com.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WAYNE DISPATCH

Odainke Harris and Joseph Evans are providing a full CPA service at their Wize Tax Service in Wayne.

Observer: Tell us about your business, including the types of services and/or products you feature?

Wize Tax Service: We area full service CPA firm. We offer payroll and bookkeeping services in addition to tax services for individuals, small businesses, corporations and LLCs. It can also represent clients with the IRS.

Observer: Why did you choose the Wayne-Westland area?

Wize Tax Service: Wayne was an easy choice because of its community atmosphere. It has a home-type feeling.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

Wize Tax Service: We started Wize Tax Service 10 years ago and today run 10 offices in Lansing, Phoenix, Indiana and California. We offer payroll

and bookkeeping services, in addition to tax services for individuals, small businesses, corporations and LLCs as well as free electronic filing discounts for seniors. Mondays also are senior citizens days.

When people come to get their taxes done they want experience, integrity and honesty. They need somebody

with wisdom.

Observer: What's in store for your business?

Wize Tax Service: We want to impact the community, one way is by hiring local people. We also plan to support local charities. Every customer who makes a donation in the office, we'll match it.

We want to be part of bringing festivals, picnics and other events back to Wayne.

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Premier honor

As business leaders and involved citizens in the Westland area, Allstate Insurance Company is recognizing local Allstate agency owners Barney Knorp and Bradley Trombley who have earned the designation of Allstate Premier Service Agent for 2012.

The Premier Service Agency designation is awarded to Allstate agency owners who have consistently demonstrated excellence in delivering an accessible, knowledgeable and personal customer experience, and in achieving outstanding business results. The honor is bestowed upon less than one-third of Allstate's agency force.

Knorp has his office at 38545 Ford Road, Suite 204, while Trombley's is at 5836 Wayne Road.

The Allstate Corporation is the nation's largest publicly held personal lines insurer. Consumers access Allstate insurance products (auto, home, life and retirement) and services through Allstate agencies, independent agencies and Allstate exclusive financial rep-

resentatives in the U.S. and Canada, as well as via www.allstate.com and 1-800-Allstate®.

PATH workshop

St. Mary Mercy Hospital will offer a free, six-week diabetes workshop called "Diabetes – PATH (Personal Approach Toward Health)" at 1-3:30 p.m. Mondays, April 16 through May 21, in the Marian Professional Building's Classroom 10 on the fourth floor.

Diabetes – PATH is designed to provide the skills and tools needed by people living with type 2 diabetes to improve their health and manage their symptoms. It does not replace traditional patient education with the doctor or health professional; it is complementary and reinforces such education.

Two trained leaders conduct the workshop, one or both of them have diabetes themselves. Participants will make weekly action plans, share experiences, and help each other solve problems they encounter in creating and carrying out their self-management programs. As a result, par-

ticipants are better equipped to face the daily challenge of living with diabetes.

Family members, friends and caregivers are also encouraged to attend.

The program will include:

- How to deal with the challenges of living with diabetes.
- Managing symptoms of diabetes such as hyper/hypoglycemia, fatigue, stress and emotional problems such as depression, anger, fear and frustration.
- Appropriate exercises for maintaining and improving strength and endurance.
- Healthy eating and meal planning.
- Appropriate use of medication.
- Monitoring blood glucose.
- Communicating more effectively with your health care team and family.

The workshop is free, but registration is required. Call Community Outreach at (734) 655-8950 or visit www.stmarymercy.org and click on "classes and events."

St. Mary Mercy Hospital is at 36475 Five Mile, a Levan, in Livonia.

Daily habits can impact success

By Clarity Patton
Newhouse
Guest Columnist

Is happiness a choice? According to Harvard researcher Shawn Achor, his research shows scientifically the answer is yes.

Shawn says, "It is a choice about where your single processor brain will devote its finite resources as you process the world. If you scan for the negative first, your brain literally has no resources left over to see the things you are grateful for or the meaning embedded in your work. But if you scan the world for the positive, you start to reap an amazing advantage."

Change your mind, change your world. "Our daily decisions and habits have a huge



Clarity Patton Newhouse

SUNNY NOTE

impact upon both our levels of happiness and success," Shawn's research showed, which you can read about online at CNN: <http://bit.ly/xDuJmG>. Choosing to be more positive creates a tremendous advantage personally and professionally.

According to Shawn, "A decade of research in the business world proves that happiness raises nearly every business and educational outcome: raising sales by 37 percent, productivity by 31 percent, and accuracy on tasks by 19 percent, as well as a myriad of health and quality-of-life improvements."

However, making the change from viewing things negatively to viewing them positively takes practice. To help make the change, Shawn shared five tips in his CNN article, starting with this: write down three new things you are grateful

for each day. Happy writing - and have a sunny day!

Clarity

P.S. "Most folks are about as happy as they make up their minds to be." Abraham Lincoln

P.P.S. Please join Sunny Notes at www.Facebook.com/SunnyNotes. You can also help spread the sunshine by forwarding Sunny Notes to others. New readers can visit this link to add their e-mail address to receive Sunny Notes.

Clarity Patton Newhouse is president of Sunny Media Group Inc., located at 39209 Six Mile, Suite 165, Livonia. She writes "A Sunny Note" to brighten the day with encouraging insights for business and life. "A Sunny Note" also is published online at ASunnyNote.com for readers across America and beyond. To reach her call (734) 855-4728 or find her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/sunnynotes.

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Guest readers share stories with students

Each year, John Glenn football coach Tim Hardin selects 15-20 of his players, mostly seniors, to be on his Leadership Council. He works with them to become leaders and to do community service.

And the players did just that last week, stopping by Elliott Elementary School in Westland, where they treated students to stories and in turn were treated like super stars.

The players have been visiting elementaries for several years during Reading Month, visiting with students and serving as guest readers. Hardin credits Elliott paraprofessional Mary Konopka with the idea of the players coming in to read to students.

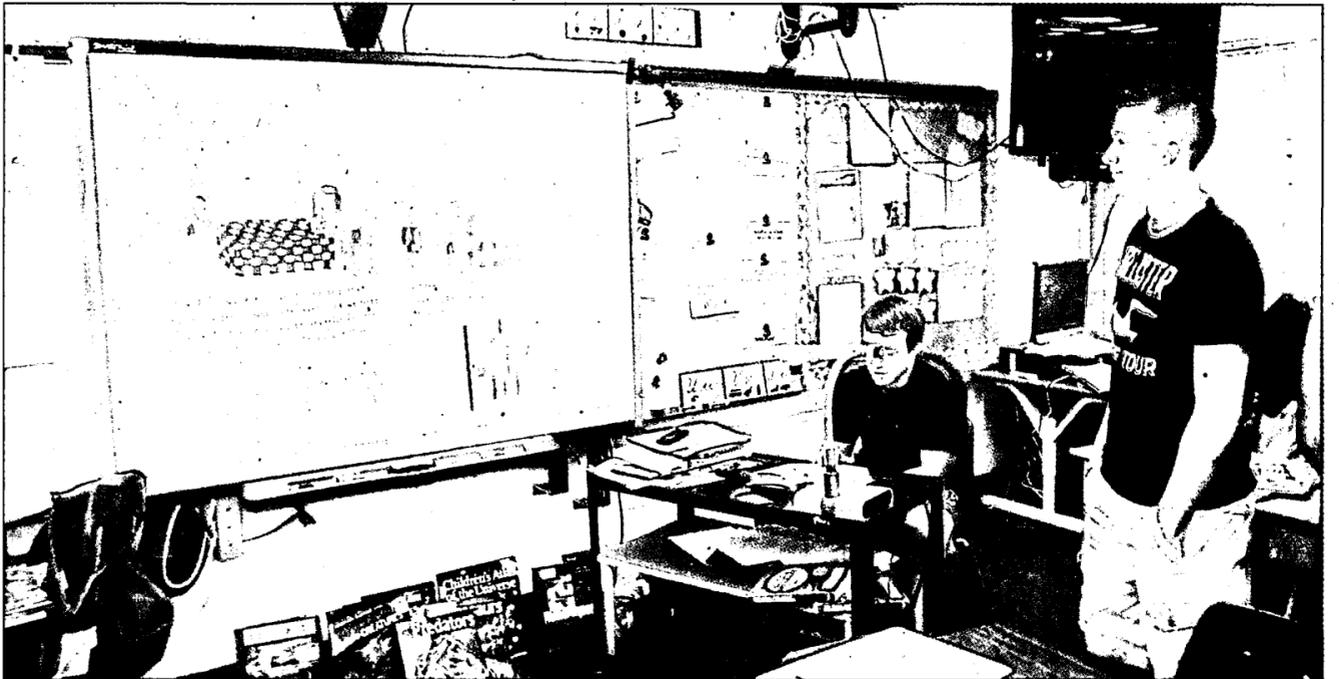
It was an easy fit, since Konopka is in the football booster club, he has said.

Hardin makes the school visit mandatory, but doesn't have a problem getting players to participate. He always gets more than he needs.

"The players love it," Hardin has said about the activity. "They walk into the school so big and proud."

Elliott also is having a family reading night this evening with Maria Dismody, author of *Spaghetti in a Hot Dog Bun* and *Pink Tiara Cookies for Three*, visiting the school.

Guest readers are one of the many activities taking place in Wayne-Westland schools as part of March Is Reading Month. Schools have held Book Nights, Celebrity Reading Days, Book Parades and Pajama Days. Among the celebri-



John Glenn High School football players Jeremy Gysel and Tyler Dingman use technology to read to students during a visit to Elliott Elementary School.



Elliott student Jeremy Branham listens to the story being read by the football players.



It's hard to say what Elliott student Marctwan Thomas is enthralled with: the story or the readers, members of the John Glenn High School football team.

ty readers at Marshall Upper Elementary School this month have been WDIV-TV traffic reporter Ashlee Bar-

cy and Westland Mayor William Wild who be at the school Friday. And WDIV-TV meteorologist Chuck Gaidica

served as a guest reader Roosevelt-McGrath School. Kindergarten through fourth-grade

teachers at Hick Elementary provided students and their families with a reading car-

nival, featuring real carnival games as literacy stations.

By Sue Mason



PHOTO BY JENNY JOHNSON

Marshall students were all ears as they listened to Baracy, a former Miss Michigan and now TV reporter.



PHOTO BY JENNY JOHNSON

WDIV-TV morning traffic reporter Ashlee Baracy of Westland was center stage when she read to students at Marshall Upper Elementary School last week.

St. Raphael students rack up minutes reading

Reading has been on the minds of students at St. Raphael Catholic School in Garden City, where they celebrated Reading Month with a reading camp-out day, eating green eggs and ham and participating in a reading challenge that has had an astounding result.

The entire student body participated in the March 7 camp-out, bringing their sleeping bags, blankets and pillows to relax in the school's gymnasium and read for more than two hours straight. They came wearing their furry slippers, their softest stuffed animal and their favorite books for the annual event.

On March 12, all students enjoyed a breakfast of "Green Eggs and Ham" after reading the classic Dr. Seuss story. And on March 21, teachers ran from classroom to classroom to read portions of

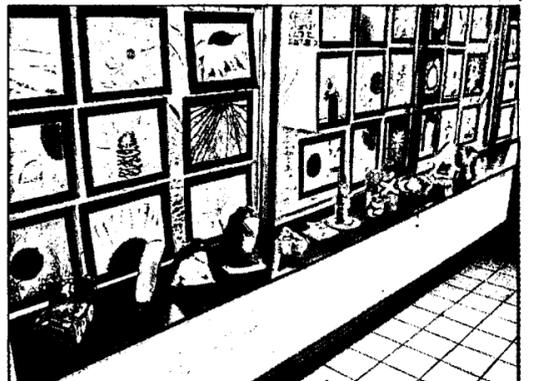


Among Reading Month activities at St. Raphael School was a camp-out in the school gymnasium.

their favorite books out loud to the children in the "Race to Read" event.

The month-long celebration culminated on Tuesday, March 27 at a special

benefit night at Barnes and Noble in Livonia, with Pastor Fr. Ray Lewan-



Artwork by St. Raphael students was on display at the fund-raiser Tuesday evening.

dowski reading a children's story to the crowd. There also were board games to play and student artwork displayed at the fund-raiser.

Throughout Reading Month, St. Raphael students have logged the time they've spent reading in the "Minutes in March Reading Chal-

lenge" to see how many minutes total the school has read for the entire month. The students read 423 and amassed 13,850 minutes of reading.

To learn more about St. Raphael Catholic School, contact the school office at (734) 425-9771 or visit the school website at straphael-gc.org.

OUR VIEWS

Library woes

Cutbacks will hurt, but are necessary for survival

It was painful at best to read that due to a continuing drop in property tax revenues there will be significant cuts in hours and staffing at Westland's William P. Faust Public Library:

In the 15 years since it opened, the library has positioned itself as a cultural hub of Westland. The staff has worked long and hard to meet the needs of the community and as a result the library offers something for everyone.

The Westland library has given residents the opportunity to experience new ideas, explore great minds, and experience great art. It is a community gathering place that is helping to improve literacy, enhance cultural awareness, educate children and engage seniors. It is very much a part of the quality of life in Westland.

Last week's announcement is truly a reversal of fortune. Several months ago, the Library Board was talking about adding on to the library. That plan has been shelved and the talk has switched to a possible millage request on the Aug. 7 primary ballot to increase financial support for the library.

The budget adopted by the Library Board, which must be approved by the Westland City Council, calls for the reduction of the number of hours the library will be open from the current 69 hours per week to 40 hours and the layoff of nine of the current 36 employees.

Library Director Sheila Collins has said that hours of operation and days will be set to allow everyone an opportunity to use the facilities, but patrons will find evening and weekend access limited. And with so much going on there now, we know some activities most likely will be lost.

What is happening at the library is happening all over the state as cities, school districts and entities that rely on tax revenue grapple with the continuing decline in property values. As the value of real estate continues to decline, so does the amount of money generated by taxes. With a dwindling revenue stream, cuts in staffing and services has become the norm.

That problem is just hitting home with the library which is going above and beyond in meeting the needs of patrons, stepping up to provide services not associated with a library. People facing foreclosure and those in need of help with speaking English, learning to read and finding jobs have the Westland library as a resource.

The library also is a social hub, allowing residents to show off their talent at open mic night, expressing their views in any number of book clubs, learning needle arts and honing their skills playing chess. Over the years, library programs have introduced patrons to the women's baseball league of the 1940s, let them meet authors and see documentary films that don't make it to local theater screens.

We have to admit we are not surprised at the announcement and we understand why it is necessary. However, we are saddened at the thought of the loss of the employees who have worked so hard to make the library an important part of the community and come up with the programs that have both educated and entertained us over the years.

The library has informed and transformed us, now it is time for it to transform. We are confident that under the leadership of the Library Board, the Westland public library will handle this change and, when the time is right, it will come back even better than before.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Opening day of baseball is April 3. How do you think the Tigers will do this year?

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



"I think they'll do pretty well. They've got a great lineup, but the question is if they're going to give up anything in the field."

Jerry Dunn
Garden City



"I think they're going to do great, probably about the same as last year, maybe better."

Manny Lentine
Westland



"I think they'll do really well as long as no one gets hurt and the pitchers stay well."

Chris Vogel
Garden City



"I'm not a huge baseball fan, but I hope they do good this year."

Lisa Dest
Westland

LETTERS

Questions for McCotter

I keep hearing our politicians say that the American people want Congress to get rid of entitlements. I wonder how they know what we want. McCotter gets 18 constituent weeks a year to talk to us and discuss his votes. He has not had one town hall meeting since he was elected in 2010. I have called his three offices and been told that he is busy and has nothing is scheduled. I know he voted to make Medicare a voucher system. I want more information about how changing Medicare is going to affect me. I want to know if the voucher will rise with inflation or will it rise with medical costs? What I'm looking for are facts about his votes. It is in the interest of both Republicans and Democrats to expect our elected officials to speak to us and answer our questions on a regular basis. Otherwise the 18 weeks that Congress is not in session is just vacation time.

Terry Cannon
Livonia

Absurd advice

Mr. Bloom,
I am embarrassed that the Observer published such absurd advice in your newspaper in your article "Advice on disinheriting a child."

It's one thing to give this advice to someone one-on-one, it's another thing to shame an entire community and make it appear that bigotry is normal and acceptable behavior in Canton. Hate is not OK with my family, and I know most families wouldn't support or condone his

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

Web: www.hometownlife.com
Mail: Letters to the Editor, Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226
Fax: (313) 223-3318
E-mail: smason@hometownlife.com

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

behavior.

Would you have posted similar advice to a parent who disapproves of interracial marriage in such a public manner? Somehow, I doubt it.

I know for sure I will never use you for financial advising, and I will not be reading the Observer anymore.

Steven Stapleton
Canton

Hope for autism

This is an historic time in Michigan. The deep despair of darkness has been overcome by a new light of hope. This hope shines for the 15,000-plus children in Michigan and their families who suffer under the financial burden of autism.

It is in the form of Bills 414, 415 and 981 that passed in the Michigan Senate on March 13 and now go to the House of Representatives. If these bills are passed in the House, families

of children with autism will finally get the assistance they so desperately need. Currently, an autism diagnosis excludes coverage for all therapies and diagnostic evaluations.

For years I've traveled back and forth to Lansing and listened to pleas for help from people directly or indirectly affected by this catastrophic disability. For years I've watched my own son and his wife try to cope with all the problems autism brings to a family. It's not uncommon for parents to spend all they have and even go bankrupt to give their child a chance for a better life. Sometimes with help, these children become taxpaying citizens. Yet even a family of means has a hard time finding help for their child. This is because almost all Michigan graduates who have degrees allowing them to work with children who have autism usually leave our state and go elsewhere to find a job.

Out of 50 states, 29 have already passed legislation benefiting children with autism. They found that early intervention costs are comparatively low. In fact those upfront costs make even more sense when looking at the millions of dollars they would have to spend if the child eventually became financially dependent on government assistance.

Bills 414, 415 and 981 will be voted on soon. However, many members in our House of Representatives need to be educated before they vote on this important issue. We citizens need to give them a call. The time is now!

Lee M. Douglas
Livonia

GUEST COLUMN

Wind power needs to be bird-smart industry

By Gavin Shire
Guest Columnist

When the young boy in the Hans Christian Andersen fable cried out "The Emperor has no clothes!" the people of the kingdom realized that



Gavin Shire

the ruse was over. They could no longer keep up the pretense that their leader's imaginary new suit was indeed splendid. Had one of the Emperor's aides spoken out earlier, he could have been spared a great deal of embarrassment.

A similar trick to the one played by the tailors in the Andersen tale is being perpetrated on us today by the wind industry. We are being cajoled into ignoring what lies beneath their carefully crafted illusion. They tell us that because wind is carbon-free, smog-free, and acid rain-free, it is therefore guilt-free, and we should embrace it without reservation or restriction. But remove the green veneer and we find the truth: wind power kills birds—lots of them—and it is time someone spoke out before it is too late.

As the U.S. wind power build-out gathers speed, millions of birds are being killed in collisions with turbines, power lines, and a host of associated structures. More birds

are losing breeding, foraging, wintering and migratory stopover habitat to the footprint of these massive developments. While the wind industry keeps up the pretense that there is no problem, others are already proposing a solution.

In a petition to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, ABC has provided a way forward for the continued development of wind power that also reduces the burden on bird populations. It uses a mechanism already well-established to protect birds from over-hunting: "take" permits under one of America's foremost wildlife laws, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

For nearly 100 years, in order to reverse and prevent recurrence of the catastrophic effects of unrestrained market hunting that nearly wiped out many of America's game species, all hunters have had to purchase MBTA hunting permits. The number of permits issued, the numbers of birds that can be killed, and which species each hunter can take are determined by careful scientific assessments of populations and their ability to withstand the take.

A similar permit system for incidental take by wind development would make the industry compatible with wildlife conservation needs. It would allow some take to continue, but would also impose conditions that would limit bird deaths and habitat loss and compensate for any unavoidable bird deaths through new conser-

vation projects. Some wind proposals would be allowed to go ahead relatively unchanged; others would need substantial modification; while permits for the most egregious proposals—those that would site turbines in or near key bird areas for example—would be denied. ABC is even producing a detailed map of the U.S. that identifies many of these sites to aid the industry in making the right decisions from the outset.

In addition to the cost of the permit, the developer will be required to compensate for this mortality. But with a permit in hand, he will be indemnified against prosecution for violation of the law.

Will it cost developers more? Certainly. But in relation to the total cost of a project, not prohibitively so. Will it slow the pace of wind development? Slightly. But ultimately, it will lead to a bird-smart, truly green industry. It will tailor for us a suit of real substance rather than an illusory cloak that leaves us exposed to future regret that we didn't do the right thing when we had the opportunity, just like the dam building frenzy of last century. To see ABC's petition to the government for a wind industry take permit system, or to learn more about bird-smart wind, visit www.abcbirds.org.

Gavin Shire is vice president of the Washington, D.C.-based American Bird Conservancy.

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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

FISH FRY

Time/Date: 4:30-7 p.m. every Friday in March
Location: First United Methodist Church, 3 town square, Wayne
Details: First United Methodist Church is serving fish dinners with baked or fried fish, baked potato or french fries, vegetable, cole slaw and a roll. Kids meals are also available - nuggets or one piece of fish, french fries, vegetable, slaw and a roll. Cost is \$8 for adults and \$2 for the kid's meal. Home-made pies are also available for \$1 a slice.
Contact: For more information, call (734) 721-4801

OPEN ENROLLMENT

Location: St. Mary Catholic School, 34516 Michigan Ave., Wayne
Details: St. Mary School is currently is currently registering students for the 2012-2013 school year. Openings are available in pre-K 3 and 4 and kindergarten-eighth-grade. St. Mary has been recognized as a School of Distinction.
Contact: For more information, call the school office at (734) 721-1240.

WIDOWED MEN AND WOMEN

Time/Date: 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 11
Location: Corsi's Italian Restaurant, 27910 W. Seven Mile, three blocks west of Inkster Road, in Livonia
Details: Widowed of all ages are welcome to attend a social hour at 5 p.m. and an Italian buffet dinner served promptly at 6 p.m. at Corsi's. Cost is \$14 and includes the buffet, beverage, dessert,

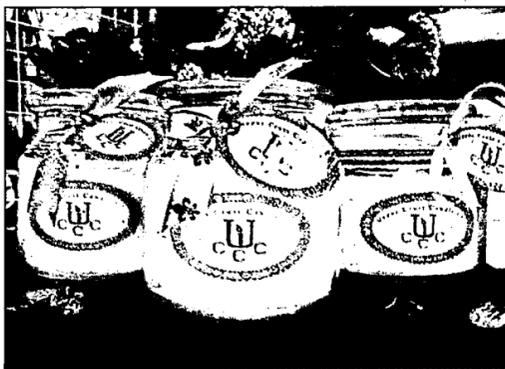
tax and tip. Pay at the door (cash only - exact amount). Stay for cards, games, and conversation in a safe and friendly setting until 9:30 p.m. No walk-ins or late comers as they cannot accommodate for seating or meals without reservations. Respond by April 4. Call again to cancel.
Contact: For reservations, call Cookie at (248) 357-2183, Pat at (248) 545-8348 or Carol at (248) 946-0300.

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.

BOOK SALE

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, April 19, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 20-21
Location: Caroline Kennedy Library, 24590 George St., at the corner of Fenton, across from the Dearborn Heights City Hall, three blocks west of Telegraph and two blocks north of Ford Road
Details: The Friends of the Dearborn Heights Libraries are holding its 2012 Spring Book Sale Thursday-Saturday, April 19-21. Thousands of fiction and non-fiction books, hardcover and paperback, video tapes, CDs, and DVDs are available. All proceeds are to support programs at Caroline Kennedy and John F. Kennedy Jr. Libraries.



Artisan Market

More than 75 juried artists and fine craftspeople, including Lolo Doll, an Indiana doll clothes maker, will showcase their one-of-a-kind pieces of work at the 33rd annual Handcrafters Spring Fling Artisan Market Friday-Sunday, March 30-April 1, at the Northville Community Center, 303 W. Main St. The market will feature distinctive items for all occasions. Show hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$3 per person per day, children age 12 and under are free. Strollers welcome.

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.

Education

WILLOW CREEK

Location: 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland
Details: Willow Creek Co-operative Preschool offers a Parent/Tot, Young 3's, 3-year and 4-year programs.
Contact: (734) 326-0078

ST. DAMIAN

Location: 29891 Joy, Westland
Details: St. Damian Catholic School offers preschool for

3-4-year-olds and full day kindergarten through grade 8.
Contact: (734) 427-1680, www.stdamian.com.

YWCA PRESCHOOL

Details: The YWCA of Western Wayne County's Education Department offers quality preschool programs to children aged 2-5 years old at no cost to most families. There are many locations available throughout the community. Home-based programs are also available.
Contact: (313) 561-4110, Ext. 10

FRIENDS OF ELOISE

Time/date: 7 p.m. third Tuesday of the months of February, April, June, September and November

Location: Collins House in the Westland Historic Village Park, 857 N. Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill, Westland.

Contact: Pat Ibbotson at (734) 331-9291 or by e-mail at pibbotso@aol.com or Jo Johnson (734) 522-3918

WESTLAND ROTARY

Time/Date: 12:15 p.m. Thursdays
Location: Joy Manor, 28999 Joy, east of Middlebelt,

Westland

Details: Community Service programs and planning. CATERED LUNCH; visitors welcome. Check www.westlandrotary.com for more information about meetings, programs and events.
Contact: Jeff at (734) 261-5010

FAMILY CAREGIVERS

Time/Date: 7 p.m. first Monday of the month
Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, Plymouth
Details: For residents of southern and western Wayne County who are caring for family members and/or friends age 60 and older, or who are over age 60 themselves. Offered by Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance. Funded by The Senior Alliance and United Way.
Contact: Helen Streett at 74 629-5004. Call to confirm time and date, if coming for the first time.

CAREGIVERS - SPOUSES

Time/Date: 1 p.m. second Tuesday of the month
Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, Plymouth
Details: For residents of southern and western Wayne County who are caring for a spouse age 60 and older, or who are over age 60 themselves. Offered by Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance. Funded by The Senior Alliance and United Way.
Contact: Helen Street at 74 629-5004. Call to confirm time and date, if coming for the first time.

CAREGIVERS - WESTLAND

Time/Date: 7 p.m. the third Thursday of the month
Location: American House III, 35700 Hunter, Westland
Details: For residents of southern and western Wayne County who are caring for family members and/or friends age 60 and older, or who are over age 60 themselves. Offered by Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance. Funded by The Senior Alliance.

ance and United Way.

Contact: Helen Street at (734) 629-5004. Call to confirm time and date, if coming for the first time.

AMERICAN LEGION

Time/Date: 7 p.m. first Tuesday of the month
Location: Harris-Kehrer VFW Post, 1055 S. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: American Legion Westland Post 251 meets at the VFW hall the first Tuesday of each month. The post welcomes all veterans male and female who have been honorably discharged.

Contact: Bill Acton at (734) 326-2607, Ron Nickels at (734) 455-3415 or visit www.post251.com or www.post251.org.

LIONS CLUB

Time/Date: 11:45 a.m. the second Monday of the month and at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Monday of the month

Location: Big Boy Restaurant at Wayne Road and Hunter in Westland.

Details: The Westland Lions Club holds lunch and dinner meetings on Mondays.

Contact: For more information, call Debbie Dayton at (734) 721-4216.

WRITING GROUP

Time/date: 7 p.m. the second Wednesday of every month

Location: Wayne Public Library, 3737 S. Wayne Road, Wayne

Details: The Story Circle Network is made up of women who want to explore their lives and souls through life-writing, writing that focuses on personal experience through memoirs and autobiographies, in diaries, journals and personal essays. Participants should bring a notebook or laptop computer to each meeting to spend some time writing, and for those who are comfortable doing so, sharing their writing. Membership in Story Circle's National Network is optional. Participation in the group is free.

Contact: www.storycircle.org or send an e-mail to shepry@yahoo.com

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Look at details when refinancing

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

A client called to say that he received an offer that sounded so good that he couldn't believe it. He wanted my opinion as to whether he should pursue the deal which basically dealt with refinancing his home using a home equity loan.



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

The client owes approximately \$50,000 and has about 10 years left on a 6.25 percent mortgage. Currently the house is worth approximately \$200,000 to \$250,000. The client was approached by his bank to refinance the home using a home equity loan and was quoted a rate of 2.5 percent on the home equity loan. The client told me it seemed like a no-brainer that he should refinance because he would be substantially cutting his payments down. The question he had for me was, what was he missing?

Don't rush

I love the fact that he didn't rush into anything and wanted to get a second opinion before he signed on the dotted line. All too often, people hear about a deal and rush into something before they get all the facts. Taking a step back and looking at the details is something that always works in your favor.

I told him to factor fees into the equation. All too often, when it comes to things like refinancing or transferring charge card debt, people forget about what fees are involved.

Check interest rate

The next factor, particularly when dealing with a home equity loan, is the interest rate. Is it fixed? Is it adjustable? Or is it a gimmick rate? The fixed-rate home equity loan, which is unusual, will remain the same throughout the term of the loan. An adjustable rate mortgage is one that periodically adjusts based upon the changing interest rate environment. Some adjustable rate loans will have no cap, which means that there is no limit as to how much the interest rate could rise.

On the other hand, some adjustable rate home equity loans will have a cap which limits how high the rate could increase. Obviously home equity loans without a cap are more risky than those with a cap.

Analyze gimmicks

The third type of loan rate is a gimmick rate. A lot with charge card companies will offer a low rate but unlike an adjustable rate mortgage or a home equity loan where the adjusts based upon changing conditions, a gimmick rate is going to give you a lower rate for a period of time and then automatically adjust upward.

In analyzing whether to accept an offer, knowing how your interest rate can be affected over time is important.

The last factor to consider is a home equity loan which is considered a line of credit and is somewhat different than a traditional mortgage. Typically, in a traditional mortgage once you get the mortgage, that's it. The mortgage company cannot rescind it based upon changing circumstances. That is not the case with home equity loans. Many people unexpectedly found that out,

over the last few years, when they received notices from their bank saying their home equity loan was due.

The problem that many people found was that since the value of their home had dropped so much, they no longer had equity. Therefore, the bank, under the terms of the loan, had the right to call in the loan, which many did. This is something that anyone who gets a home equity loan must consider.

Resolution

In my client's situation, he found that after he looked at the three factors explained here, it didn't make sense for him to refinance using a home equity loan.

He will continue to make the same payment he's making today; consequently, with the lower interest rates he will be able to cut a few years off the back end of his mortgage. This is not necessarily a strategy that will work for everyone.

The bottom line is if you see a deal about transferring your charge card balance or refinancing your home, whether it's via a mortgage or a home equity loan, don't immediately sign on the bottom line. Ask the right questions, understand the product and only then, make the decision that best suits your particular situation. One last note, always remember if someone is trying to pressure you into making a move, that is generally a good sign that you ought to walk away.

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.

Henry Ford teams with Girl Scouts for Journey through Time event

Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan is partnering with The Henry Ford to present A Journey through Time: Girl Scouts Past, Present and Future.

Visitors to Greenfield Village will get an immersive and fun learning experience exploring historic buildings, artifacts and stories that contextually connect to many important events in life of Juliette Gordon Low, founder of Girl Scouts, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 18.

The Henry Ford team is developing a special self-guided itinerary for the event which will help Girl Scouts connect the past to the present and the future. Several special programs and hands-on activities will be available, including a War of 1812 muster, historic strollers, dramatic presentations and more.

"Girl Scouts have been active in southeastern Michigan since 1915 when the first Girl Scout troop was organized in Detroit,

and has continued to grow throughout the region," said Denise Dalrymple, CEO of GSSEM. "The Henry Ford is the only cultural institution that could create such an experience for southeast Michigan Girl Scouts, their families and anyone else interested in this 100 year old movement. We are excited to partner and look forward to a great event."

"The Henry Ford's mission is to inspire people to learn from the traditions of ingenuity, resourcefulness and innovation to help shape a better future," said Patricia Mooradian, president of The Henry Ford. "The Girl Scout Centennial event in Greenfield Village is a perfect mission-fit as it highlights the continuing legacy of the Girl Scout organization and the dedication and 'can-do' example of Juliette Gordon Low."

"Our education and program team has been developing some stellar badge-supporting experiences for Girl

Scout audiences, and we are glad to partner with the Girl Scout Council of Southeastern Michigan on this inspirational event of national significance," she added.

Tickets go on sale Monday, April 2, and can be purchased through The Henry Ford call center at (313) 982-6001. Tickets will be \$13.25 for children and \$18 for adults with a coupon which will be available online along with more details of the day's events and activities at www.gssem.org/100th.

Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan (GSSEM) is the region's premier leadership organization for girls in kindergarten through 12th grade. GSSEM council includes Oakland, Macomb, Genesee, Lapeer, St. Clair, and Sanilac counties, and parts of Wayne, Livingston and Monroe counties.

For more information about GSSEM, visit www.gssem.org.

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SPORTS

'Here's the pitch'

Blazers rely on more than just ace

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

The old adage "Some things change, some stay the same" certainly holds true for the 2012 Livonia Ladywood softball team.

The Blazers' starting lineup remains virtually intact from a year ago, after they reached the Division 2 state semifinals before losing to Stevensville Lakeshore on a walk-off homer in the eighth inning, 3-2.

Fifth-year coach Scott Combs will once again rely on his fourth-year ace — daughter Briana Combs, who finished with 32-3 record a year ago with an earned run average of 0.22. The right-hander posted an impressive 330 strikeouts and only 11 walks in 260 innings.

The first-team All-Stater, who has signed with Cleveland State and was a member of the Ad-

das All-Star team last summer, plans to add to her already potent repertoire of pitches in 2012.

As a freshman she helped the Blazers reach the Division 2 state final (before losing to Niles in the championship final).

The goal is to return to Battle Creek.

"During the winter she worked real hard at improving her spin and her rise (ball)," Scott Combs said. "She also wants to be more consistent with her change-up. Her location has been good, but we want to get late movement even more. That's been the primary goal."

Briana Combs' battery mate once again will be senior Allyssa Kashat, a Findlay (Ohio) University signee. She will be joined by All-Stater infielders Carli SanMillan (second base), Celeste Fidge (third base) and Andria Gietl (first base).

SanMillan, who has signed with Davenport University, hit .470 with six homers and 48 RBI last season, while Fidge batted .398 with six homers and 38 RBI.

Gietl added an impressive .420 average with four homers and 41 RBI.

The biggest question mark surrounds the shortstop position with sophomore Haley Lawrence takes over for first-team All-Area honoree Jenny Rohn (now playing at Western Michigan University).

"She's a good athlete, a basketball player who worked real hard over the winter," Scott Combs said of Lawrence. "She's worked on her footwork and she can handle it. She'll be our lead-off hitter, too, so it's sink or swim."

Meanwhile, sophomore Lauren Hayes anchors

Please see **SOFTBALL, B2**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Ladywood pitcher Briana Combs, who signed with Cleveland State, returns for her final year on the mound for the Blazers.

College Cup at Ultimate

The Michigan Bucks will host the 2012 Men's and Women's College Cup Saturday at Ultimate Sports Arenas, 867 E. South Boulevard, Pontiac.

The first match, starting at 1:30 p.m., features the Oakland University and Michigan State women's soccer teams.

A men's double-header follows with Michigan vs. Michigan State at 3:45 p.m. followed by OU and Butler University at 6 p.m.

Pre-sale tickets are \$7 (before game day). Game day tickets are \$12 (adults) and \$9 (youths) — good for all three games.

To purchase tickets online, visit www.bucksoccer.com.

For more information, call Ultimate at (248) 648-7000 or the Bucks office at (248) 334-7460.

Baseball outlook bright

See capsule outlook of area baseball teams on page B3.

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Five area baseball teams claimed titles of different sorts last season.

Now the trick is to see if the feat can be duplicated.

Livonia Stevenson enjoyed its best season under Rick Berryman, who guided the Spartans to the KLAACentral, Kensington Conference and Livonia City crowns.

The eighth-year coach's biggest task will be replacing first-team All-Observer players Evan Piechota, Mark Wagner and Tyler Lynch off a team that finished 25-10.

But the cupboard is not bare as rangy 6-foot-4 right-handed pitcher Chris McDonald leads a cast of talented returnees.

McDonald, bound for Hillsdale College, went 7-2 a year ago with a 1.86 earned run average and will be joined by battery mate Mike Vomashek, a junior catcher who hit .344.

Livonia Churchill (21-10) got a piece of the KLAACentral South Division crown last year with

Please see **BASEBALL, B3**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Stevenson's Chris McDonald pitched at the end of last season with a broken thumb on his glove hand.

Smash hits: MU cruises to 18-0 win

It didn't take long Tuesday afternoon for Rochester College's baseball team to discover it was out of its element at Ilitch Ballpark on the campus of Madonna University.

The Crusaders scored early and often before **COLLEGE BASEBALL** registering an 18-0 triumph over Rochester (15-9).

The nonconference victory improved the Crusaders to 21-12. Eight difference MU pitchers scattered eight hits while Alex Charles and Logan Curtis spearheaded the offensive explosion with three RBI each.

Starting pitcher Josh Vandemark (3-0) earned the mound win for the Crusaders after yielding just one hit and a pair of walks in two frames of work.

The winners' pitching parade also included stellar efforts from (in order of appearance) Justin Hicks, Tommy Moore, Andy Omilian, Erik Wright, Travis Schuba, Dan Stoney and Randall Stempel. Hicks (two innings) and Wright (one inning) both struck out three

Please see **MU, B2**

Blazers 1-1 in lacrosse

Last year's MHSAA Division 2 state girls lacrosse semifinalist Livonia Ladywood is off to a 1-1 start after falling 12-8 Monday at Ann Arbor Skyline after opening the season Friday with a 16-9 win at Saline.

Jackie Morrow scored four goals and Catie Holmes added three for Skyline.

Senior Emma Ellswood had three goals and one assist for the Blazers, while seniors Kylie Birney and Alyssa Daly each added two goals.

Nina Shahin made 12 saves in goal for the Eagles, while Ladywood junior Stephanie Mackley had five saves.

Ellswood finished with three goals and one assist in the loss against Saline. Birney and Daly also scored twice.

Mackley made 14 saves in the win.

Another Cole nets honor

Allegheny University (Pa.) sophomore Pat Cole (Livonia/University of Detroit Jesuit) posted a 4-0 record at No. 1 singles last week to earn North Coast Athletic Conference Player of the Week honors in men's tennis.

Cole, who plays No. 1 singles, started the week in Hilton Head, S.C., by defeating No. 22 regionally ranked Chris Kuna of Wisconsin Eau-Claire 6-1, 6-0, followed by a 6-4, 6-1 triumph over No. 10 regionally ranked Brian McCarthy of St. Thomas (Fla.).

Cole also teamed up with Kevin Kacer to win a doubles match against the No. 15 regionally ranked tandem from Carleton College (Minn.).

Cole is 13-2 overall and 9-5 in doubles as Allegheny stands 5-6 overall.

Previously, Cole's brother Michael of Grinnell (Iowa) College was named Midwest Conference Player of the Week.

Krug says goodbye to MSU for Boston



MSU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS
Livonia native and Michigan State hockey captain Torey Krug is skipping his senior year after signing an NHL entry level contract with the Boston Bruins.

By Denny Schwarze
Gannett News Service

Torey Krug's father Kyle once told him to play for his high school team (Churchill) instead of club or junior hockey.

A professional future in the game seemed bleak.

Eventually, Krug went on to play in the USHL junior hockey ranks in Indianapolis — he wasn't drafted, but did earn a college scholarship to Michigan State.

Then last spring, after his sophomore season at MSU, the 5-foot-9 defenseman again went undrafted. Closer, yet still far from his dream.

Sunday, it finally came true. Just two days after MSU's season ended in the first round of the NCAA Tournament, the Livonia native signed a con-

tract with the defending Stanley Cup champion Boston Bruins.

"I never thought this day would come and be possible," Krug said Sunday afternoon at Munn Arena. "But with the people that I've been surrounded with over the last three years of my life, it's come true."

Krug will bypass his final season of collegiate eligibility. He played his final game for the Green and White with an assist in Friday's 3-1 loss to Union (N.Y.) in the first-round of the East Regional in Bridgeport, Conn.

Team general manager Peter Chiarelli said Krug will join the Bruins in Boston for Tuesday's morning skate and will be eligible to play in their remaining regular season games, but he will be ineligible

for the Stanley Cup playoffs. Financial terms of the contract were not disclosed.

"Torey has had an outstanding collegiate career at Michigan State," Chiarelli told BostonBruins.com. "He is a very intelligent player who is a terrific skater and shooter. But what stands out the most with Torey is his character. He is a two-time captain and a tremendous competitor. We are thrilled to have signed him and look forward to seeing him contribute to the Bruins."

Krug, who turns 21 on April 12, was named the Central Collegiate Hockey Association Player of the Year this season and also won the league's Best Offensive Defenseman Award for the second consecutive season.

Please see **KRUG, B2**

MU women ground Pilots twice

Eight was enough (twice) Saturday afternoon for the Madonna University softball team, which unleashed some heavy lumber in its double-header sweep of visiting Bethel College (Ind.).

The Crusaders grounded the Pilots twice, 8-4 and 8-0, at University Field to improve their season mark to 14-9. Bethel slipped to 5-9.

Freshman hurler Angela Pavilanis earned a pair of victories, including a complete-

game two-hitter in the nightcap.

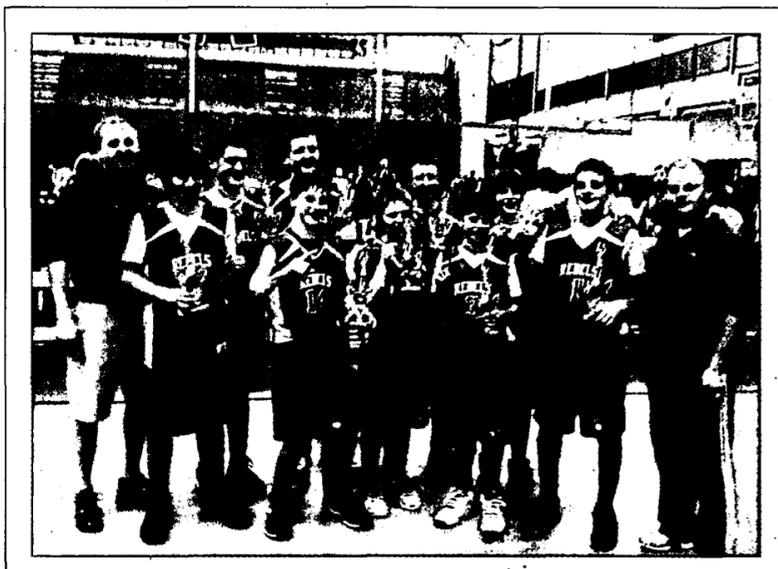
MU freshman second baseman Kasey Trierweiler also sparked, so much so that she earned Wolverine-Hoosier Player of the Week laurels.

In game one, the Crusaders trailed 4-3 until the bottom of the fifth when Jackie Barley was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded to knot the game at 4-4. One out later, sophomore catcher Kristen Drabek reached on an infield single to plate the go-ahead run. MU padded its lead with three runs in the sixth

on an RBI single by Barley and a two-run round-tripper by Erin Mayes.

MU's top-of-the-order hitters Arielle Cox and Trierweiler set the table nicely for the winners, combining for five hits and four runs scored.

Pavilanis dominated the Pilots in the game two, striking out one and walking no one in a sterling two-hit effort. Offensively, the Crusaders were sparked by Carlee Meek (2-for-3, three RBI), Barley (2-for-3, two RBI) and Trierweiler, who added two hits and two RBI.



Runnin' Rebels

The Livonia Rebels, a seventh-grade AAU boys basketball team, captured the Pinckney Tournament last weekend with a 5-0 record capped by a 49-31 victory over the host team in the final. Members of the Rebels include (back row, from left): assistant coach Jeff Ferguson, Chris Tanderys, Spencer Eddings, Michael Grisa, Jacob Redd; (front row, from left): Matt Harding, Nick Poulos, Craig Jakacki, George Ferguson, Spencer Langley and head coach Joe Jakacki.

MU

Continued from page B1

batters each. Stempel whiffed a pair in his lone inning of work.

MU lashed 16 hits while taking full advantage of seven Rochester errors.

In addition to Charles and Curtis, Ryan Lech and Matthew Cook laced a pair of hits for the Crusaders.

Good weekend

MU took three of four weekend games from host Siena Heights to improve its Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference mark to 5-3.

On Saturday, the Crusaders split a pair with the Saints, dropping the opener 2-0 before rebounding to claim the nightcap, 5-3.

The Crusaders' offense was stymied by Siena Heights' starting pitcher Corey Alexander in game one as MU managed just four hits. The Saints scored the game's only runs in the sixth to help Alexander earn his

fourth win in six decisions.

MU junior Jeremy Gooding pitched well in defeat, striking out 10 Saints while yielding just one earned run.

Sophomore lefty Aaron Saarela (2-4) helped the Crusaders salvage a split when he no-hit the Saints for 5.2 innings before getting relief help from Robert Fraser and Stempel, who earned his fourth save of the season.

Siena's Jake Sperry also pitched well, no-hitting the Crusaders for 4.1 innings before yielding four runs in the bottom of the fifth.

Junior outfielder Steve Pelletier delivered a clutch two-run double in the Crusaders' four-run fifth. Cook also ripped an RBI double for the winners. Six different Crusaders notched at least one hit.

On Sunday, MU swept the Saints, 9-3 and 4-1. MU pitchers registered 19 strikeouts in the twin-bill while the offense came to life with 17 hits.

Cook earned the game-one victory after deliver-

ing eight strong innings. Junior second baseman Tyler Cotter (Livonia Churchill) excelled at the plate with the first three-hit game of his MU career.

Pelletier went 2-for-5 with three RBI for the winners. Cook and Curtis also chipped in with two-hit efforts at the dish.

Josh Deeg was brilliant on the mound in Sunday's second game, striking out eight in 5.2 innings to pick up his third victory over the season. Deeg had to leave the game in the sixth after absorbing a line shot to his leg.

Pelletier ripped a key two-run single in the fourth to increase MU's lead to 3-0.

Leading 3-1 in the sixth, the Crusaders plated an insurance run when Charles singled home Drew Adamiec with two outs.

Stempel earned his second save of the weekend when he shut down the Saints (14-11, 4-4) over the final inning and a third.

MU won despite getting out-hit, 7-4.

KRUG

Continued from page B1

He was just the second defenseman in CCHA history and the fifth ever in college hockey history to capture a league scoring title.

He led the Spartans to their first NCAA Tournament berth since 2008.

"I told Torey a year ago when he didn't get drafted what a great day it was, because now — when you really think about it — very few professional athletes ever get the opportunity in any sport to pick their employer," first-year MSU coach Tom Anastos said. "He may never get that again, but he got it this time and that's a great opportunity."

A unanimous All-CCHA First Team selection and one of 10 finalists for the Hobey Baker Award, Krug came back and fin-

ished with a career-best 12 goals and 22 assists (34 points) this season.

"Whether or not there's an opportunity to play, I'll have to earn that, but I will be flying out to Boston," Krug said. "The message that I received from them is that if I'm ready to play in the NHL and when I'm ready to play in the NHL, I will. There's no time limit on that, so it's just a matter of when. And they will give me the opportunity, so it's up to me to take advantage of that opportunity."

Anastos said about half of the teams in the NHL were interested in Krug, who eventually narrowed his choice to about five or six.

"I think it also says a lot about him that he picked a defending Stanley Cup champion," Anastos said. "It's not like he's just looking to go to a place that's struggling to make the playoffs and maybe

there's greater opportunity on their blue line to get in the lineup. He wants to go to a championship-level club, which I think really speaks a lot about him."

On Sunday, Anastos told the *Detroit Free Press* that Krug set the bar for future captains at MSU.

"If I can attract 25 to 27 of those types of players, our program would have an incredible future," Anastos said. "He embodies everything you want in a student-athlete."

The Michigan State coach said he didn't try to persuade Krug to stay.

"Our philosophy is we want to develop people and hockey players and when you're ready to be a pro we want to help you do that," Anastos said. "I think he's ready to go."

Livonia-Westland Observer Sports Editor Brad Emons also contributed to this report.

GIRLS SOFTBALL OUTLOOK

LIVONIA CHURCHILL
Head coach: Steve Gentilia, second year.
League affiliation: KLAAS Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 18-13.
Notable losses to graduation: Natalie Hiser (second-team All-Area), Mackenzie Everson.
Leading returnees: Casey Bias, Jr. C (first-team All-Area, .379, 25 RBI); Rachel Jason, Sr. CF (.324); Abby Jewell, Sr. P-Inf. (51 IP, 1.64 ERA); Nicole Salloum, Jr. SS (.395); Jackie Tolles, Sr. OF; Missy Sidor, Sr. OF-Inf.; Katie Shereda, Soph. Inf.-P; Jordan Lindsey, Sr. OF.
Promising newcomers: Julia Cavagnini, Soph. Inf.-C; Julia Twigg, Soph. OF.
Gentilia's 2012 outlook: "This year we feel we can be a very successful team as long as we continue to stay focused and disciplined on the opponent. Last year we got out of the gates strong, but kind of sputtered towards the end. We had some great wins over some great teams, beating Garden City, Fenton and Southgate Anderson, two of which were state quarterfinalists. Our staff feels we have some very special players that can do some special things as long as we stay focused and don't let distractions get in the way. Our team will be strong up the middle led catcher Casey Bias and shortstop Nicky Salloum. We also feel we have one of the best center fielders in the area in Rachel Jason. Our pitchers are solid. It's very rare in high school softball that you have a team with the two senior pitchers we have in Missy Sidor and Abby Jewell, who can lead us a long way."

LIVONIA FRANKLIN
Head coach: Linda Jimenez, 17th year.
League affiliation: KLAAS Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 21-14.
Notable losses to graduation: Chelsea Williams, Mariah Barcus, Jessica Emery, Audrey Geraghty.
Leading returnees: Nicole Williamson, Sr. OF-P (second-team All-Area, 7-5, .405); Tiffany Lambie, Sr. P (14-9, 2.41 ERA); Katelyn Devers, Jr. SS (.464); Afton DeVyse, Jr. OF; Mackenzie Lukas, Jr. OF; Maggie Leins, Jr. Inf.; Caitlin Milican, Jr. C; Dana Gresock, Soph. Inf.; Colleen Mandrink, Soph. Inf.
Promising newcomers: Courtney Garbino, Soph. P; Morgan Johnston, Fr. Inf.; Megan Chapman, Fr. C; Morgan Larkin, Fr. Inf.-C; Becky Giacobbi, Fr. OF.
Jimenez's 2012 outlook: "We graduated a very talented group, but I am very optimistic. We have two senior pitchers — Tiffany Lambie, who is our ace, and Nicole Williamson, who batted .405. Shortstop Katelynn Devers and second baseman Maggie Leins are working well together in addition to demonstrating much leadership on the infield. I am hesitant to call this a rebuilding season because our freshmen class is very talented, humble, good listeners and a pleasure to coach. Junior outfielders Afton DeVyse and Mackenzie Lukas are much improved. I have been blessed with a hard working, unselfish group of young ladies. Overall, it will be a fun season."

LIVONIA STEVENSON
Head coach: Rob Witherspoon, 10th year.
League affiliation: KLAAS Kensington Conference (Central Division).
Last year's overall record: 22-14.
Titles won last year: Public Schools of Livonia Invitational champions.
Notable losses to graduation: Becca Zarras (All-KLAA).
Leading returnees: Jacqueline Johnson, Sr. P-1B (second-team All-Area, team MVP); Sarah Fier, Jr. 3B (second-team All-Area); Ashley Avery, Sr. SS; Molly Knoph, Sr. 2B-Utility; Alex Ferguson, Sr. OF; Julianne Potvin, Sr. OF; Sarah King, Sr. C; Allie Koestering, Jr. OF-C; Morgan Copperstone, Jr. 1B-P; Kristen Suzio, Jr. OF; Maddie Omietanski, Soph. C-Utility; Erika Randall, Soph. P-Utility.
Promising newcomers: Becca Koestering, Jr. OF; Emily Snitchler, Jr. 1B; Deanna Kluka, Jr. OF.
Witherspoon's 2012 outlook: "We have an experienced team returning, but we will have to

continue to work hard each day to improve our skills, in order to compete. Success this season will depend on the consistency of play at the plate and our ability to make routine plays defensively. We have the potential to be very successful at the plate and athletic enough to manufacture runs; but that is on paper, we have to take care of it on the field. We are returning a veteran group that competed very hard last year, had some success, and learned some tough lessons as the season went on last year. I feel that we have added players to the roster that will compete for starting positions the entire year. The depth of our lineup should prove to be something that we haven't seen at Stevenson in awhile. The key to this season, defensively, is to be patient, make routine plays, and not let one mistake lead to several."

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN
Head coach: Patrick McGrath, first season.
League affiliation: KLAAS Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 11-22.
Titles won last year: Division 1 district champions.
Notable losses to graduation: Brandi Holbrook.
Leading returnees: Nicole Quaine, Sr. SS-C; Kailey Wovles, Jr. 2B-SS; Danielle Saunders, Jr. C-OF; Alexis Lester, Soph. P; Brittany McGrath, Soph. 3B-2B.
Promising newcomers: Cassandra Huren, Jr. CF.
McGrath's 2012 outlook: "We are looking to continue improving over the previous year's success, win districts (three-peat), and have an impressive showing in the regionals. We have a strong core of returning players, and have added several strong girls. With hard work, dedication, and a positive attitude, we'll have a successful season."

WAYNE MEMORIAL
Head coach: Larry Lankton, first year.
League affiliation: KLAAS Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 0-10 (KLAAS South).
Notable losses to graduation: Alyssa Florn, Tawni Kenyon, Jane Thayer.
Leading returnees: Shelby Hooper, Sr. CF; Alicia Nielson, Sr. P; Megan Macek, Soph. C; Julia Johnson, Jr. 1B; Jessica Fisher, Sr. 3B.
Promising newcomers: Megan McCurry, Fr. Utility-1B; Ashley McGeorge, Fr. OF; Chloe O'Rourke, Fr. OF; Raquel Johnson, Soph. OF; Jenessa McCloskey, Soph. P.
Lankton's 2012 outlook: "We lost 13-0 and 15-0 Monday to Ann Arbor Skyline. We have some players that don't have a lot of softball experience. Only two played over the summer. When you're struggling you have to play defense — catch the ball, throw the ball, throw it to the right base. We're working on game-type situations in practice. We're trying to develop another pitcher besides Nielson. Hitting-wise we only struck out three times in the two games. We didn't score any runs, but we hit a lot of balls at people."

LIVONIA LADYWOOD
Head coach: Scott Combs, fifth year.
League affiliation: Catholic League (Central Division).
Last year's overall record: 36-4.
Titles won last year: Division 2 district and regional, Central Division, Catholic League, Michigan Stars and Eaton Rapids tournament champions.
Notable losses to graduation: Jenny Rohn (first-team All-Area).
Leading returnees: Briana Combs, Sr. P (first-team Division 2 All-State; first-team All-Area, 32-3, 0.22 ERA, 330 Ks); Carl SanMillan, Sr. 2B (first-team All-State, first-team All-Area, .470, 6 homers, 48 RBI); Andria Gietl, Sr. 1B (first-team All-State, second-team All-Area, 420, 4 homers, 41 RBI); Celeste Fidge, Jr. 3B (first-team All-State, second-team All-Area, .398, 6 homers, 38 RBI); Lauren Hayes, Soph. OF-P; Brittany DeCamillo, Sr. OF; Michelle Nelson, Sr. Utility; Kristin Eisterhold, Sr. OF; Nicole Payne, Sr. OF; Allyssa Kashat, Sr. C.
Promising newcomers: Haley Lawrence, Soph. SS; Sarah Knapp, Fr.; Anna Lewis, Fr.; Christina Meyer, Fr.
Combs' 2012 outlook: "We have all returning (except Rohn), and hope to challenge for league and district titles. We have excellent sophomores in Lauren Hayes and Haley Lawrence,

and we have high expectations. We hope to 'live up' to the expectations of others as well. We're ranked preseason No. 29 nationally in the ESPN High School Magazine."

LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE
Head coach: Joe DeCaire, 14th year.
League affiliation: Independent.
Last year's overall record: 11-11.
Notable losses to graduation: Joanna Burling, Kellie Ankiel, Reba Bibik, Izzy Sidon, Stephanie Bishop, Kiana Smith and Brittany Tallman.
Leading returnees: Angela McAlpine, Sr. P-Inf.; Lauren Katz, Sr. Inf.; Rachel Grefke, Sr. OF; Nicole Grates, Sr. OF; Jodi Ankiel, Jr. OF; Jaki Bateman, Jr. P; Justin Bateman, Jr. P; Nicole Kurdziel, Soph. C; Erica Katz, Soph. Inf.; Mikala Kielling, Soph. Inf.-OF.
Promising newcomers: Emily Schwartz, Fr. P-Inf.; Ariel Osborne, Fr. Inf.-OF; Mia Sampson, Fr. Inf.-OF; Morgan Cairns, Fr. Inf.-OF; Lindsey Cairns, Fr. Inf.-OF.
DeCaire's 2012 outlook: "It is going to be difficult, like any other program, to replace seven seniors who started or played a key role throughout last season. Every player on our roster will have the opportunity to fill those vacant positions and will have to step up and play. The strength of our team this year will be our pitching. For the first time, our program will potentially have four girls who will take the mound competitively. McAlpine, the Bateman twins and freshman Schwartz have worked hard and look season ready. The coaching staff is excited about our catcher Nicole Kurdziel, who has worked all off season learning the position and the fundamentals of being a strong catcher. Overall we will place a competitive team on the field. I am sure we will take some lumps, but will get better over time. Our depth is going to be a weakness and our starters will have to remain healthy."

LUTHERAN WESTLAND
Head coach: Paul Guse, ninth year.
League affiliation: Michigan Independent Athletic Conference (Blue Division).
Last year's overall record: 13-8.
Titles won last year: MIAC Red Division and Division 4 district champions.
Notable losses to graduation: None.
Leading returnees: Marissa Hahn, Jr. SS (second-team All-Area, Red Division MVP; All-MIAC Red); Hannah Conley, Sr. 3B (first-team All-MIAC Red); Erica Killian, Sr. CF (first-team All-MIAC Red, All-Region); Lindsey Smith, Sr. Inf.; Sam Roberts, Jr. 1B (first-team All-MIAC Red); Aldreanna Fikes, Jr. C (first-team All-MIAC Red); Shannon Abbott, Jr. 2B; Shelby Abbott, Jr. OF; Chandler Davenport, Jr. C-OF; Madison Conley, Soph. Inf.-OF; Lindsey Erment, Soph. P (All-District).
Promising newcomers: Emily Hahn, Fr. P-SS; Vivian Quitmeyer, Fr. Inf.; Rachel Andrzeyewski, Fr. C-OF.
Guse's 2012 outlook: "The Warriors return the same team that went 13-8. We hope to take our game to the next level, moving up to the Blue Division of the MIAC. Our schedule is pretty challenging. We'll have our work cut out for us to match last year's record, but we hope the tougher competition will help us to raise the level of our game. We have a great group of girls. Our seniors provide great leadership, they work hard and are hungry to prove themselves."

HURON VALLEY LUTHERAN
Head coach: Eric Ruth, 15th year.
League affiliation: MIAC (Red Division).
Last year's overall record: 2-14.
Notable losses to graduation: Katie Nell, Abbi Kuehn.
Leading returnees: Meghan Kubinski, Sr. C (first-team All-MIAC Red); Dayna Schroeder, Soph. OF (second-team All-MIAC Red); Sara Setian, Soph. 2B; Lauren Jones, Jr. Utility.
Promising newcomers: Julie St. John, Fr. P; Bethany Schaffer, Fr. 3B; Jessie Strauch, Fr. OF; Anne St. John, Fr. OF.
Ruth's 2012 outlook: "We are very young, but have some girls who have played a great deal of softball. We look to compete and win our conference (Red), but have a very difficult non conference schedule. We open on Thursday against Ann Arbor Huron."

SOFTBALL

Continued from page B1

the outfield and will be a back-up pitcher to Combs.

Ladywood's biggest obstacle in the Catholic League once again will be Farmington Hills Mercy, led by ace Kacey Nieto.

"They have three pitchers and they're that good," Scott Combs said. "They can easily be one of the top three or four teams in Division 1."

But if things fall into place, look for the Blazers to be the favorite not only in the Catholic League, but also in Division 2.

They certainly have the offensive capability.

"If everybody does what they've done in the past, we'll score runs," said Combs, whose team opens its season Saturday, April 14, in the Grand Ledge Tournament in East Lansing.

See capsule outlook of area girls softball teams.

PREP BASEBALL OUTLOOK

LIVONIA CHURCHILL
Head coach: Ron Targosz, ninth year.
League affiliation: KLAA Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 21-10.
Titles won last year: South Division co-champions.
Notable losses to graduation: Ben Matigian (first-team All-Area), Joe Williams (first-team All-Area), Troy Bogenschutz (second-team All-Area), Stephen Foster, Sean Servilish, Drew Macorkindale, Trey Jardine, Drew Loudon.
Leading returnees: Brent Ochodnicki, Sr. P-1B (5-2, 3.08 ERA, 37 Ks, 286 ave.); Connor Dwyer, Sr. OF (402, 25 runs, 22 RBI, .512 slugging); Mike Rybinski, Sr. Inf.-OF-P (.318, 17 RBI); Derek Jakubowski, Sr. Inf.-OF-C (1,000 field ave.); Alex Tsakos, Sr. Inf.-P (.310, 27 runs); Dan Cameron, Jr. C (.311, 22 walks); Tyler Keeter, Sr. OF-P; Jake Otto, Sr. Inf.

Promising newcomers: Ryan Baker, Sr. Inf.; James Targus, Sr. P-1B; Blake Burnette, Jr. 1B-P; Jim Szymanski, Jr. Inf.-P; Chris Lewan, Jr. Inf.-P; Riley Brown, Jr. OF; Cameron Valentine, Jr. C; Nick Misiak, Soph. OF-1B-P.
Targosz's 2012 outlook: "The weather has been a positive for us because we have been able to do many things outside that you really cannot simulate indoors. With some of our inexperience, being outdoors has been a big advantage as far as practice goes. I'm looking forward to scrimmaging and getting into some game type situations in order to see home some of our guys react."

LIVONIA FRANKLIN
Head coach: Matt Fournier, sixth year.
League affiliation: KLAA Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 14-18.
Notable losses to graduation: Dan Muller, Brent Marzion, Adam Michael, Tyler Dewhirst, Brandon Hawkins, Bobby Andrus.
Leading returnees: Joel Trudell, Sr. P-OF (5 wins, 39 Ks, .310, 3 homers); Joe Barczuk, Sr. P-Inf. (.317); Justin Forrestall, Sr. P-Inf. (.300); Kyle Curtis, Sr. OF-P; Josh Gorman, Jr. Inf.-C.

Promising newcomers: Alex DeYonker, Jr. P-OF; Kevin Nisun, Jr. OF-P; Garrett Fetner, Jr. Inf.-C; Kyle Madden, Jr. P-Inf.; Mike Haist, Jr. Inf.-P; Mason Wypych, Jr. Inf.; Dan Johnson, Soph. C-OF.
Fournier's 2012 season outlook: "The varsity looks to make improvements off of last year's 14-win season. We have a strong core of returning players mixed in with a nice group of hard working, talented underclassmen. One thing we do have is a lot of interchangeable pieces at a lot of positions. We are, however, just a little bit shorter on depth than we have been in the past. This group has shown that they are willing to work based on their attendance through the winter. Watching this group come together has made the opening few weeks a lot of fun."

LIVONIA STEVENSON
Head coach: Rick Berryman, eighth year.
League affiliation: KLAA Kensington Conference (Central Division).
Last year's overall record: 25-10.
Titles won last year: Kensington Conference, Central and Livonia City champions.
Notable losses to graduation: Evan Piechota (first-team All-Area); Mark Wagner (first-team All-Area); Tyler Lynch (first-team All-Area); Brendon Hayes.

Leading returnees: Chris McDonald, Sr. P (second-team All-Area, 7-2, 1.86 ERA); Mike Vomastek, Jr. C-Inf. (All-KLAA, .344); Josh DeYonker, Jr. OF (.329); Justin Small, Sr. P-OF-Inf. (.290); Jake Semak, Jr. P-Inf. (4-2, .277); Travis Harvey, Jr. Inf.-C (transfer from Taylor Kennedy, hit over .400).

Promising newcomers: Mike Kanitra, Jr. P-Inf.; Brandon Jurczyszyn, Jr. OF; Nick Lagerstrom, Sr. P-1B; Pete Michalak, Sr. OF; Austin Stevens, Jr. Inf.-P; Alex Anderson, Jr. P-OF; Mike Barill, Jr. Inf.; Cody Coleman, Jr. OF-P; Connor Hayes, Jr. OF; Jason Rakowicz, Jr. P; Matt Hunt, Jr. P-1B.

Berryman's 2012 season outlook: "The outlook for the Spartans looks very promising this season. We feature four pitchers who throw in the 80s (MPH) and a strong hitting lineup. This should keep the Stevenson in the hunt for division and conference titles."

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN

Head coach: Dan Danic, second year.
League affiliation: KLAA Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 10-24.

Titles won last year: Division 1 district champions.
Notable losses to graduation: Rob Schurig (second-team All-Area), Caleb Clenney, Shane Anderson, Kevin Karnick, Colton Lipinski, Mike Pietruszka, Brian Monty.

Leading returnees: Daniel Ammons, Jr. 3B; Adam Singleton, Jr. C; Zach Quinn, Sr. 2B; Danny Croft, Sr. OF.
Promising newcomers: Chase Bovia, Jr.; Brandon Martin, Jr.; Jacob Fox, Jr.; Devon Spalding, Soph.; Brandon Smeltzer, Soph.; Ryan Wheeler, Soph.

Danic's 2012 season outlook: "We have a young team that is hard-nosed, aggressive and willing. We have a lot of young talent that is adjusting to varsity baseball and will have a great shot of winning our district as we develop and improve throughout the season."

WAYNE MEMORIAL

Head coach: Chris Bailey, second year.
League affiliation: KLAA Kensington Conference (Central Division).
Last year's overall record: 13-19.

Notable losses to graduation: Shane Wilson (second-team All-Area), Shane Kommer, Brandon Harnos.
Leading returnees: Chris Briggs, Jr. P-SS; Tyler McCurry, Sr. P-3B-OF; Jacob Lefler, Sr. P-SS; Jordan Lowry, Sr. C; Zach Lankton, Sr. P.

Promising newcomers: Tyler Harnos, Fr. 2B; Josh Lowry, Jr. CF.
Bailey's 2012 season outlook: "Pitching will be our strong suit. Defense will be the key. We're missing some big hitters from last year. We'll have to make up for the loss of Wilson, Kommer and Harnos and I'm not sure where that will come from. We'll have to be more selective at the plate and take better swings to put the ball in play. We've got some work to do with our hitting."

LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE

Head coach: Dan Miller, fifth year.
League affiliation: Independent.
Last year's overall record: 11-9.

Notable losses to graduation: Jimmy Moody, Matt Kurdziel, Dan Blacker, Joe Schiffman.
Leading returnees: Damien Quarles, Sr. P-OF (first-team All-Area; All-District); Ben Gehan,

Sr. 1B (second-team All-Area; All-District); Eric Trotter, Sr. P-SS (All-District); Damien Sanchez, Sr. Utility; Zac Rosen, Jr. 3B.
Promising newcomer: Tyler Howard, Sr. OF.

Miller's 2012 season outlook: "We do still have five kids coming back who have been starting for at least three seasons, so we've got the experience and leadership to continue getting better. Pitching should be our strength, as we return almost all of our innings pitched from last season. A big factor in our success will be filling in losses at catcher, second base, and the corner outfield spots. We have several kids who have paid their dues as backups that are hungry to become major contributors. I'm comfortable with what I'm going to get from our seniors. The key will be how other kids step up and hopefully give us a solid lineup from one through nine, both hitting and defensively."

LUTHERAN WESTLAND

Head coach: Kevin Wade, eighth year.
League affiliation: Michigan Independent Athletic Conference (Blue Division).
Last year's overall record: 13-6.

Titles won last year: Division 4 district champions.
Notable losses to graduation: Marc Rosin (second-team All-Area; All-MIAC Blue; All-Region); Jake Andrzejewski (All-MIAC Blue); Kent Krzyske (All-MIAC Blue);
Leading returnees: Thomas Winterstein, Sr. 1B; Taurrek Fikes, Sr. P-SS; Matt Sylvestre, Sr. OF-P; Nick Andrzejewski, Jr. OF; Nick Flanery, Soph. Utility; Mark Mika, Soph. C.

Promising newcomers: Ed Christensen, Sr. OF; Joe Fuoco, Sr. 1B-DH; Brian Deel, Sr. 3B; P.J. Guse, Jr. Soph. 2B-P; Aaron Rosin, Soph. P-OF; Nathan Abbott, Fr. OF-P; Travis Fry, Fr. 3B.

Wade's 2012 season outlook: "Although we have six seniors, we are very young and inexperienced. We have benefited from the early season weather and have been able to do quite a few things at game speed to bring everybody along. Fikes will anchor our young pitching staff and he will give us a chance to win some games. Our conference schedule is daunting with defending state champ (Grosse Pointe Woods) University-Liggett a preseason favorite to repeat. We have a lot of potential in the younger players and even in our new varsity seniors. It's just a matter of how quickly they come along. We will be very competitive when that happens."

HURON VALLEY LUTHERAN

Head coach: Matt Schaeewe, 10th year.
League affiliation: MIAC (Red Division).
Last year's overall record: 12-2.

Titles won last year: MIAC Red Division champions.
Notable losses to graduation: Shawn Schaffer (second-team All-Area), Andy Barber, Shane Bunde, Ivan Bell.
Leading returnees: Alex Harris, Jr. SS-P; Ryan Schaffer, Soph. P-SS-1B; Justin Howell, Jr. C; Ryan Blackwood, Jr. 2B.

Promising newcomers: Adam Hodgson, Fr. 1B.
Schaeewe's 2012 season outlook: "We're carrying 14 players right now. We're young, but I think our infield is solid. The pitching is pretty good, above average, and our offense should be pretty. We have more speed than we've had other years. I think we'll manufacture a few more runs. We basically have to replace our whole outfield and we lost our whole battery with our four seniors."

Patriot bats sizzle in 20-10 triumph

Livonia Franklin's bats were humming in Tuesday's 2012 baseball season opener as the host Patriots unloaded for 21 hits in a 20-10 mercy-rule win over Dearborn.

Franklin scored three in the first, five in the second and three in the third inning to rake an 11-7 lead before adding four more in the fourth.

Junior Kyle Madden led the hit parade going 4-for-5 with a pair of doubles and three RBI.

Junior Kevin Nisun added three hits and scored four runs, while sophomore Daniel Johnson went 2-for-4 with four RBI.

Winning pitcher Joe Barczuk, Alex DeYonker and Mason Wypych each added two hits.

Barczuk pitched the final four innings in relief

of starter Joel Trudell, who left the game in the second inning with an ankle injury.

Franklin won despite committing four errors and giving up 12 hits.

WAYNE 4-1, SKYLINE 3-7: Wayne Memorial (1-1) settled for a split of its season-opening twilight double-header Monday at home against Ann Arbor Skyline (1-1).

The Zebras edged the Eagles in the opener, 4-3, as Chris Briggs drove home Jordan Lowry with the game-winning run on a sacrifice fly in the bottom of the sixth inning to break a 3-3 deadlock.

Lowry paced Wayne's seven-hit attack going 2-for-3 with a double.

Briggs, meanwhile, started and worked the first five innings before giving way to Tyler McCurry, who picked up the victory by pitching two scoreless innings.

Briggs gave up three runs on three hits over five, while McCurry struck out one, walked one and did not allow a hit.

In the second game, Nick Sponseller pitched six strong innings as Skyline took the nightcap, 7-1.

Sponseller allowed just two hits, struck out eight and walked only one.

Jacob Lefler, who worked all seven innings and allowed 10 hits, took the loss for Wayne.

Joel Frison, Jack Clark, Jared McHenry and Ben Sadis each collected two hits for the Eagles, who scored one in the third, three more in the fourth and three in the seventh.

Lowry scored Wayne's lone run on a fielders choice in the second inning.

BELLEVILLE 13, JOHN GLENN 4: Daniel Ammons went 2-for-4 and two RBI on Monday, but it couldn't prevent host Westland John Glenn (0-1) from falling in its 2012 opener against the Tigers (1-0).

Glenn starter Zach Quinn, who worked the first 2.1 innings, took the loss.

Ryan Wheeler and Devin Spalding also knocked in runs for Glenn.

Scott Powell, the winning pitcher, went the first five innings and allowed three hits and two walks while fanning two. He also helped his own cause going 2-for-4 with an RBI. Teammate Tyler Belant also went 2-for-4.

Each team committed three errors.

BASEBALL

Continued from page B1

Canton and the Chargers were also hard hit by graduation losses as they'll miss first-team All-Area performers Ben Matigian and Joe Williams.

The Chargers, however, have one of the area's top returning pitchers in Brent Ochodnicki, a Madonna University signee. The lanky senior left-hander finished with a 5-2 mark and a 3.08 ERA.

Meanwhile, senior outfielder Connor Dwyer leads the Chargers' offensive attack after hitting .402 with 22 RBI and a .512 slugging percentage.

"This season will come down to how some of our inexperienced pitchers perform," Churchill ninth-year coach Ron Targosz said. "We have quite a few players that are very capable of being very good pitchers, but most of them lack the varsity game experience. If, even a handful of these players can come through, then I believe that we will have a very good year."

Westland John Glenn (10-24) struggled during the regular season in 2011, but rebounded by winning a Division 1 district title.

The Rockets, a member

of the KLAA's South Division, will be led by junior third baseman Daniel Ammons.

Another district champion was Lutheran High Westland (13-8) in Division 4.

Eighth-year coach Kevin Wade is no stranger to postseason runs as he guided the Warriors to the 2010 state quarterfinals and the 2008 championship final.

The Warriors return senior pitcher Taurrek Fikes as they will try and unseat defending state champion Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett in the Blue Division of the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference.

Next-door neighbor Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (12-2) must make up for the loss of four key players who graduated including mainstays Ryan Schaffer and Andy Barber.

The defending MIAC Red Division champions boast a talented sophomore in Ryan Shaffer along with seasoned juniors Alex Harris, Justin Howell and Ryan Blackwood.

Livonia Clarenceville (11-9) will play this spring once again as an independent under fifth-year coach Dan Miller.

Pitcher-outfielder Damien Quarles, a first-team All-Observer pick, returns for the Trojans

after hitting .431 with a .569 slugging percentage. The speedy senior also stole 19-of-20 bases.

"2011 was one of the most successful seasons in recent memory for us, securing a winning record and winning a district game for the first time in at least eight years," Miller said. "But we can't be content with that, especially losing four seniors who were all valuable and reliable assets."

Hoping to move up the ladder this season are Livonia Franklin (14-18) and Wayne Memorial (13-19) both members of the KLAA's formidable South Division.

Franklin sixth-year coach Matt Fournier will rely on seniors Joel Trudell, Joe Barczuk, Kyle Curtis and Justin Forrestall, along with juniors Josh Gorman, Josh DeYonker and Kevin Nisun.

Wayne second-year coach Chris Bailey lost his top three hitters to graduation in Shane Wilson, Shane Kommer and Brandon Harnos.

But the pitching staff remains solid with the return of seniors Chris Briggs, Tyler McCurry, Jacob Lefler and Zach Lankton, along with junior catcher Jordan Lowry.

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Mustangs stride by Churchill, 7-0

Livonia Churchill ran into a buzz saw in its 2012 girls soccer season opener Monday night.

Northville, coming off a 15-3-2 season in 2011, rolled to a 7-0 win over the host Chargers.

Jamie Cheslik and Malory Weber each scored a pair goals and added one assist apiece for the victorious Mustangs, who jumped out to a 3-0 halftime lead.

"They're one of the best teams in the state pre-season and they came out and played like it," said Churchill coach Dave Hebestreit of the Mustangs, who also got goals

from Jenni Borawski, Noelle Kuphal and Emily Bush.

Churchill went without five potential starters, including two who may be out for the season with injuries.

Hebestreit singled out the play of sophomore Kelsey Parrinello, "who battled well in the midfield," along with senior defender Melissa Bird.

CVILLE 8, HARPER WOODS 0: Grace King's goal with 15 minutes left gave Livonia Clarenceville (1-0) the mercy rule win Monday night at home over the Pioneers (0-1).

Tristin Bean led the victorious Trojans, who led 4-0 at halftime, with two goals and two assists.

Jordan See also scored twice, while Sadie Zachos added a goal and assist.

Other Clarenceville goal scorers included Lindsey Fosth and Jeana Mariani, while Ashley Murphy also drew an assist.

Goalkeeper Jillian Bunker, who played the first 50 minutes, got credit for the shutout.

FRANKLIN 1, W.L. CENTRAL 1: Jenna Michniewicz scored with only nine minutes remaining Monday from Raven Travis to give host Livonia Franklin (1-0-1) the tied with Walled Lake Central (0-1-1).

Riquelle Wheeler came off the bench to give the Patriots a spark in the second half, while junior Jane Modes paced the defense.

Franklin goalkeeper Alexis Smith made nine saves. Central tallied its lone goal in the 48th minute when Allison Rettig scored on a corner kick.

THE WEEK AHEAD

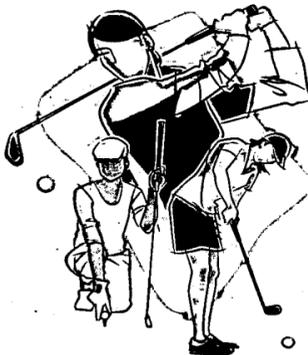
PREP BASEBALL
Thursday, March 29
 Garden City at Franklin, 4 p.m.
Friday, March 30
 Wayne at Dearborn, 4 p.m.
 Cville at John Glenn, 4:30 p.m.
 HVL at Franklin Road, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, March 31
(all double-headers)
 Franklin at Stevenson, 11 a.m.
 W'haven at Thurston, 11 a.m.
GIRLS SOFTBALL
Thursday, March 29
 W.L. Central at Churchill, 4 p.m.
 A.A. Huron at HVL (2), 4 p.m.
Friday, March 30
 Wayne at Dearborn, 4 p.m.
 Cville at John Glenn, 4:30 p.m.

GIRLS SOCCER
Thursday, March 29
 N'west at Luth. W'sld, 4:30 p.m.
 Regina at Ladywood, 6 p.m.
 RU at Clarenceville, 6 p.m.
Friday, March 30
 Glenn at Garden City, 5:30 p.m.
 Franklin at Dearborn Hts. Crestwood, 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, March 31
(Ladywood Tourney at Madonna University)
 Trenton vs. Ladywood, 9 a.m.
 Lamphere vs. Riverview, 10:15.
 Lamphere vs. Trenton, 11:30.
 Lady vs. Riverview, 12:45 p.m.
 Riverview vs. Trenton, 2 p.m.
 Ladywood vs. Lamphere, 3:15

BOYS & GIRLS TRACK
Saturday, March 31
 Franklin Patriot Relays, 9 a.m.
GIRLS LACROSSE
Friday, March 30
 L'wood at G.P. North, 6:30 p.m.
GIRLS TENNIS
Thursday, March 29
 Glenn at S.L. East, 4 p.m.
Saturday, March 31
 G.P. South Invitational, TBA.
COLLEGE BASEBALL
Saturday, March 31
 Lourdes at Madonna (2), 1 p.m.
Sunday, March 31
 Lourdes at Madonna (2), 1 p.m.
 TBA - time to be announced.

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8



BROWN, FRANCES M.

Age 80 of Farmington Hills. Beloved wife of Jim for 60 years. Dear mother of Norman (Brenda), Tom (Kathy) and Vera (Doug) Williams. Cherished grandmother of Angela, Candace, Amy, James, Alex and Jake. Sister of Elizabeth Bandon and the late Robert Rauhauser. Memorial service will be on Thursday, March 29th 11 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church of Farmington 26165 Farmington Rd., Farmington Hills, MI. Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association or First Presbyterian Church of Farmington
www.thayer-rock.com

GREVE, BRUCE ROY

Of Grand Blanc, formerly of Westland, age 85, died Saturday, March 24, 2012.
www.swartzfuneralhomeinc.com

JOHNSON, BEVERLY ANN

March 21 1961 - March 25, 2012. Beloved wife to Barry Hodges, daughter to Jean and David Johnson, step-daughter to Max Pokryfky. Wonderful mother to April, Tom, and Mitchell, B.J. Hodges, and Ashley. Sister to David, Lillian and Colin, Nana to Monique, Crystal, Autumn, Greytan, Chelsie, Colin and his new sibling on the way. Dearest aunt to many nieces and nephews. Beverly lost her fight with cancer, and passed away a remarkable life and last moments with all caring family gathered around.

MCGLINNEN, HELEN MARILYN

February 19, 1924 - March 27, 2012. Helen Marilyn McGlennen passed away peacefully on March 27, 2012 in Farmington Hills Michigan, surrounded by her loving family. Helen was born in Detroit. She and her family moved to Farmington (Hills) in 1960. She graduated from Wayne State University with a BS in science and went on to receive her Master's in Education from the University of Michigan. She taught in the early elementary grades in the Clarenceville School District for 25 years. She was an active member of Delta Kappa Gamma, an international honorary education society. Helen was married for 53 years to Frederick McGlennen, who preceded her in death in 1996. Helen is survived by three children: Paul (Elizabeth), Darby Duke (Lawrence), and Kathleen Kreidler (Charles); granddaughters: Amanda Becker, Sarah Sullivan, Kristen McGlennen, Suzanne Duke-Mancall, and Catherine Ricker; great-grandchildren: Zephany, Mack, Katelyn, Ashley and Jack. Helen enjoyed music, theater and reading. She was a wonderful entertainer and cook and loved to host fun parties for her friends and family in her lovely home. She and Fred loved to travel and enjoyed trips to Europe, Ireland, the Holy Land and California. She was an active member of the First Presbyterian Church. A memorial service will be held Saturday, March 31, 2012 at 11:00 am at the First Presbyterian Church of Farmington.

MOORE (STEPHENS) JOYCE L.

Age 85, passed away peacefully, surrounded by her family, on Monday, March 26, 2012, in Livonia, Michigan. Joyce was born on February 25, 1927 in Cincinnati, Ohio, the daughter of Esta Alice (Marie) and James Stephens. She graduated from Western High School in Detroit, and worked at Detroit Edison until her marriage. On May 14, 1949, she married Chester G. Moore in Detroit, Michigan. After her retirement from Michigan National Bank, and Chester's retirement from Metro Agency, Joyce and Chester divided their time between their homes in Michigan and Naples, Florida. Joyce was preceded in death by her parents, her brother, James Lawrence Stephens, USN, and her grandson, Andrew Moore. Joyce is survived by her loving husband, Chester, five children, Carol (Fred) Baker of Naperville, Illinois, Peggy (Samuel) Townshend of Enon, Ohio, Roger (Rochelle) Moore of Livonia, Patrick (Karen Braun) Moore of Franklin, Michigan, and Kimberly Moore of Lamar, Colorado. She was the beloved grandmother to 14 grandchildren, David Baker, Anne Baker Marechak, Laura Baker Starzec, Lisa Baker Guererro, Steven Townshend, Amy Townshend Volesky, Jennifer Townshend, Aaron Moore, Corey Moore, Adam Moore, Daniel Moore, USMC, Brian Moore, the late Andrew Moore, and 13 great-grandchildren. A celebration of her life will be held in Franklin, Michigan on Saturday, March 31 from 1-4pm. For details, contact Metro Agency 800-522-4030. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to: Livonia Rotary Foundation, c/o Metro Agency, 32646 Five Mile Rd., Livonia, Michigan 48154

MOORE, HENRY E.

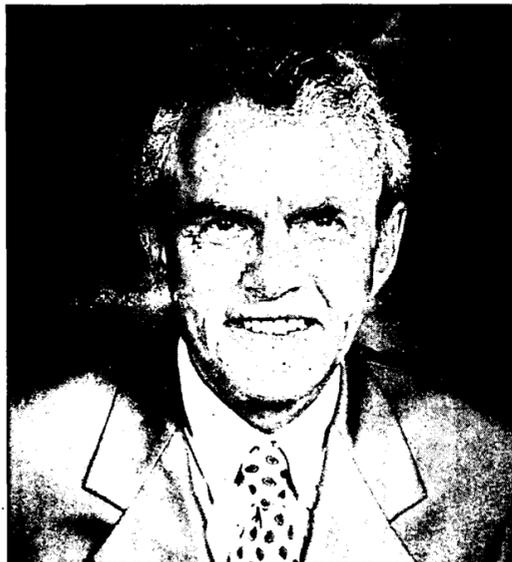
Of Canton, passed away February 27, 2012. Born September 6, 1936, he is survived by his wife of 54 years, Audrey A. Moore and brother, David Moore, sisters Rachel Moore and Kristin Hay, and mother, Rev. Viola Moore. On March 31, 2012, a Memorial Service for Henry will be held at 11 AM from the L. J. Griffin Funeral Home, 42600 Ford Rd., Canton. Memorial visitation will be held prior at 10:00 AM at the same location. Memorial gifts may be sent to Michigan Eye Bank, The National Cancer Society or St. Joseph Mercy Hospice.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF YOUR LOVED ONE



ROTTER, BETTY

March 26, 2012 age 90 of Plymouth. Beloved wife of Felix for 70 1/2 years. Dear mother of Carol (Albert) Sabatini, Susan (Michael) Kalis, and Fred. Proud grandmother of Jeffery (Kristin) Sabatini, Gregory (Trudi) Sabatini, Darren (Sarah) Kalis, and Ryan Kalis. Great grandmother of Serafina and Gabe Sabatini. Dear sister of Frank (Marilyn) Brown. Betty was an avid artist and volunteered for over 25 years for the Detroit Area Council of Camp Fire, where she served in several capacities including Council President. She was also the president of the PTA at Horger School in Lincoln Park, and was a member of the Lincoln Park Choraleers. Her loving ways, kindness, politeness, sense of humor, and witty comments will be dearly missed by her family, and assisted living caregivers. Memorial service Thursday 10:30 AM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W Ann Arbor Road (btwn Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth. Memorial was held Wednesday. Memorials may be made to UoM Brain Bank, Michigan Alzheimers Disease Center, 2101 Commonwealth, Ste. D, Ann Arbor MI 48105. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com



Maier

Livonia prayer breakfast set for May 3

Dr. Paul L. Maier, professor emeritus at Western Michigan University, guest lecturer, and author will be the featured speaker at the 38th annual event Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast on Thursday, May 3.

The annual event is planned for 7 a.m. in Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft, between Middlebelt and Inkster Road. Doors open at 6:15 a.m.

The former WMU history professor is widely known outside the university setting for his lectures, writings, television appearances and newspaper and radio interviews. Maier retired in April 2011 after 50 years as one of the most popular professors and experts in ancient history and early Christianity at WMU.

He is a graduate of Harvard University and Concordia Seminary. He holds a doctor of philosophy degree and also pursued post-graduate studies as a Fulbright scholar at the Universities of Heidelberg, Germany and Basel, Switzerland.

He is the recipient of numerous awards and honorary degrees and his insights and expertise on current events are widely sought after. His message will be "How We Got the Bible."

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students and include a full breakfast and program. Tables of 10 also are available. Ticket orders and information on tables and sponsors are available by calling Sally Butler at (248) 476-9427. Tickets must be purchased by Friday, April 20.

The program also features the Tyndale Artists Ensemble under the direction of Dr. Jerry Smith. Scripture readings by local clergy and local leaders along with audience responsive prayer are part of the annual event which is patterned after the National Prayer Breakfast held annually in Washington, D.C.

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Once upon a time ... Livonia story concert aims to enthrall listeners

By Sharon Dargay
 O&E Staff Writer

Three storytellers will spin yarns for youngsters Saturday, March 31 in the 2nd Annual Once Upon a Time Children's Story Concert at the Livonia Public Library.

"We know kids will have a wonderful time and the adults will have fun, too," said Judy Sima, president of the Detroit Story League, a co-sponsor of the event along with Livonia Public Schools. "Part of what our organization does is public service and our public service is storytelling. We're hoping to fill the auditorium."

This year a hootenanny will start the action at 2 p.m. with Detroit Story League members, Ami Jackson and Margaret Lockard, leading the sing-along. Members Carolyn Graves and Rosie Chapman, along with guest teller, Genot Picor, will entertain listeners until 4 p.m. Barbara Jones Clark will serve as "maestro" for the concert, which is aimed at children, 4-10.

"There will be refreshments," Sima noted. "We'll give every child a gift to take home. It's a nice afternoon for kids."

The storytellers will represent a diversity of storytelling styles and content. Chapman is known for her portrayal of Harriet Tubman. She also tells African folk tales. Picor tells native American tales and stories about Michigan history. Graves is a member of North Oakland Sto-

ONCE UPON A TIME

What: Children's Story Concert presented by the Detroit Story League and Livonia Public Schools

When: 2-4 p.m. Saturday, March 31

Where: Livonia Civic Center Library Auditorium, 32777 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: Storytelling, a sing-along, prizes and refreshments. Each child will receive a gift from the Detroit Story League.

Tickets: \$2 per person or \$5 per family. RSVP to detroitstorytelling@gmail.com and tickets will be held at the door

Contact: (734) 466-2491

rytellers and Parent Tellers in Warren, in addition to Detroit Story League. The parent group performs in classrooms.

"The story she'll tell this time is 'When a Monster is Born.' It's kind of a fun story. The monster has to decide if it's going to become a good student or eat the teacher," Sima said. "She gives (the audience) alternatives."

Live entertainment

All professional tellers perform tales from memory, Sima said. Some use minimal costuming or props. When Chapman portrays Harriet Tubman, for example, she dons a bandana and uses a walking stick. Sima sometimes uses nose



Margaret Lockard will lead the hootenanny at the Detroit Story League children's concert Saturday, March 31, at the Livonia Public Library.

masks — and recruits listeners to wear them — as she tells particular tales. Others may incorporate music.

"One thing we do as storytellers is to teach kids how to listen to a live performer," Sima said, adding that children learn when to applaud, how to behave at a live concert.



Jackson



Graves



Gino Picor will be the guest storyteller at the Detroit Story League's "Once Upon A Time Concert" this weekend in Livonia.



Chapman

what grandpa did ... to share happy and sad stories of the family," she said. "It gives (children) a sense of who they are."

Sima, a retired school librarian, also suggests that parents occasionally create stories with their children.

"It's important to read to kids, but also put the book down and make up stories with them."

The Detroit Story League meets noon-3 p.m. the third Saturday of the month at libraries throughout Metro Detroit. Its next meeting is April 21 at the Chaney Branch Library, 16101 Grand River Ave., at Greenfield, in Detroit. On May 19, the group will meet at the Royal Oak Public Library, 222 East 11 Mile, one block east of Main street, in downtown Royal Oak.

For more information about joining the Detroit Story League, its events and for storytelling resources, visit www.detroitstorytelling.org.

Family stories

Folk tales are the mainstay of professional storytelling, although the trend in personal stories has grown, Sima said.

"I think especially with adults the trend has been toward personal stories from your family or your own life."

She hopes parents will leave the concert this weekend eager to tell their own stories to their children.

"The reason we keep doing this is to encourage people to tell family stories to children. When you've got TV and Game Boy, people don't sit around and talk to each other... to find out

"To know you're going to something live is exciting. I've gotten preschoolers to sit and listen for 45 minutes."

She said a simple story performed live by a skilled teller can mesmerize youngsters — even those who are more accustomed to video and computer entertainment.

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Dave Birchler, (left) Ron Graham, and Keith Birchler rock out at a previous "Jammin' to End Famine."

Family sets annual concert to help hungry children

The Birchler family's fifth annual "Jammin' to End Famine" concert will feature four bands on Friday, April 20, at Monaghan's Knights of Columbus Hall, 19801 Farmington Road, Livonia.

Proceeds will benefit Kids Against Hunger, a nonprofit organization that aims to feed hungry children in the US and abroad. Kids Against Hunger sets up food packaging satellites in the US and worldwide through partnerships with humanitarian organizations, enabling it to deliver its specially-formulated rice-soy casserole to starving children and their families in more than 40 countries.

Jammin' to End Famine will start at 6:30 p.m. and is geared toward all ages. John Birchler will open the show as a mem-

ber of a cappella vocal jazz group, The Grun-yons. Jim Birchler's high school band, The Over-days, will reunite to fire up the dance floor with 50s rock n' roll, followed by 60s tunes by The Paisley Fogg, with Tom, Keith and Dave Birchler. Tom's son, Mark Warren, and 2 Dayz Gone will turn up the heat with energetic 80s rock.

The concert will include free pizza and salad, as well as a cash bar. Tom's daughter, Emily, will offer free face painting for children.

Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$10 for students and are tax deductible. They will be available at the door or in advance from Tom Birchler at (248) 722-1820 or by e-mailing him at tbirchler@mi.rr.com. Make checks payable to Kids Against Hunger.



Circus in town

Richard Curtis, the singing ringmaster, will be on hand when the Shrine Circus swings into town Friday, March 30, at Hazel Park Raceway, located at Dequindre and 10 Mile in Hazel Park. The Circus will feature an all-new show, featuring one of the nation's few tiger acts, Arabian horses, an elephant revue, a bicycle troupe, high-wire artists, performing Dobermans, a freestyle motor show and the Shrine clowns in addition to classic clown comedy from Europe. Seats start at \$25. Show times are 10:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., March 30-April 1 and April 6-8. Tickets are available at www.detroitshrinecircus.com and (866) 992-CIRCUS.

Plymouth stores welcome 'divas'

Divas, mark your calendars. The fourth annual Diva Day is slated for 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, April 21, in downtown Plymouth.

The first 500 Divas will get free DivaGlasses. More than 30 shops, boutiques, salons and restaurants will present special offers, unique refreshments, and chances to win Diva Day prizes.

Participating shops for this day of shopping and pampering include Bella Mía, Candy Trail, Creatopia Pottery Studio, Dear-

born Jewelers, Genuine Toy Co., Gigi's Mode, Hands on Leather, Home Sweet Home, Isabella's Copper Pot, Kilwins, Magnolia - Fresh Flower, Market, Merle Norman, Old World Olive Press, Penniman Gallery, R.S.V.P., Raz-zamatazz, Sharer Design Group, Sun & Snow and TranquiliTea.

The event is free. Look for the balloons in downtown Plymouth. For more information call (734) 453-1540 or visit www.plymouthmich.org/events.

Theater sets auditions for two plays

Two Muses Theatre, a nonprofit, professional theatre dedicated to providing opportunities for female artisans and women in theatre, will hold auditions Monday, April 2, for two comedies.

Auditions will run from 5-9:30 p.m. at the Barnes & Noble Theater Space, 6800 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield. Specific audition times will be scheduled by appointment in half hour blocks.

Two Muses Theatre co-founder Diane Hill, will direct both shows. *Sylvia*, a modern romantic comedy about a marriage and a dog, will be performed Friday and Saturday evenings, June 7-July 1. *A Little Work*, which its author, Anita Diamant calls "a mash-up of *Nip/Tuck* and *The Man Who Came to Dinner*," will run Friday and Saturday evenings, Sept. 6-30.

ward to presenting these two, very funny shows," stated Hill. "*Sylvia* is a huge crowd-pleaser, and it's an honor to be directing the world premiere of *A Little Work*. Collaborating with such a notable author as Anita Diamant is exciting, both for Two Muses and local actors."

Roles are available for four men and seven women to play ages 20-50. No prepared material is required. The auditions will consist of readings from the scripts.

Anyone interested in auditioning should e-mail to Auditions@twomusetheatre.org and specify the half hour block they want. Participants should arrive early to complete the necessary paperwork and review the scene excerpts. Callbacks will be 7:15-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 4, and actors who are called back should be prepared to stay the entire time.

To learn more about the shows and view a complete list of characters, visit www.twomusetheatre.org.

Sip wine at symphony event

The Michigan Philharmonic will wrap up its "Musical Treats" series with "Classical Gas at the Tipping Point," 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 28, at the Tipping Point Theater, 361 East Cady Street Northville.

Guests will enjoy a wine tasting while members of the orchestra play music of the 1960s and 70s in classical style.

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Time/Date: April 6-21
Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville
Details: All-media, juried show from the Ann Arbor Women Artists kicks off with an artist reception 6-9 p.m. Friday, April 6
Contact: (248) 344-0497 or e-mail to arthouseoffice@northvillearts.org

STARRING "THE GALLERY"

Time/Date: Artist reception, 6-9 p.m. Friday, April 6; exhibit runs through April
Location: 118 W. Main St. in Northville
Details: "Titanic: A Century To Remember" features photos by Philip Dattilo of Plymouth. The photographs depict scenes related to R.M.S. Titanic's inception, construction and the epilogue of its short life
Contact: (248) 347-1642; www.starringthegallery.com

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, noon-5 p.m. Sunday, through 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
Contact: (734) 764-0395

Comedy

COMEDY JAM

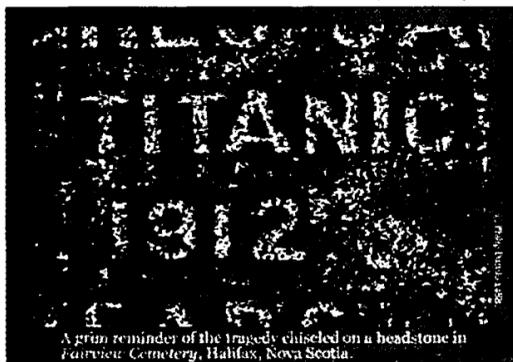
Time/Date: 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Saturday, March 24
Location: Michigan Firehouse Museum, 110 W. Cross, Ypsilanti
Details: Fifth annual jam features Rex Havens in his one-man comedy, "Bidding You A fond I Do" and benefits the museum. Tickets are \$25 for general seating and \$35 for premium seating
Contact: (734) 547-0663

GO COMEDY!

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesdays through 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 show times 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



"Titanic: A Century to Remember" features photos by Philip Dattilo of Plymouth at Starring "The Gallery" in Northville.

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: Dave Landau, March 29-31, JR Brow, April 4-7; Mike Smith, April 11-14; Saints N' Sinners, April 18-21; Michael Kosta, April 25-28
Contact: (734) 261-0555, www.kickerscomplex.com

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

Time/Date: Gary Valentine, March 29-31; Jay Black, April 5-7; Craig Shoemaker, April 12-14; Paul Mercurio, April 19-21; John Caparulo, April 26-28

Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak

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

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 9 p.m. Friday, April 13
Location: Redford Theatre, 17360 Lahser, Detroit

Details: Kevin Smith and Jason Mewes, popular for their roles as Jay and Silent Bob in "Clerks," "Mallrats," "Dogma," "Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back," and "Clerks 2," will perform live, recording their comedy podcast "Jay and Silent Bob Get Old." Presented by The Crofoot, tickets are \$45, \$25, and \$20
Contact: www.thecrofoot.com or www.redfordtheatre.com

Dance

CONTRA DANCE

Time/Date: Beginner instruction at 12:30 p.m.; dance starts at 1 p.m., Sunday, April 22

Location: American Legion Hall, 31775 Grand River Ave., Farmington

Details: Farmington Contra Dance; cost is \$10, \$5 for students, with all proceeds benefitting a charity

Contact: American Legion at (248) 478-9174

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; 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

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday, March 30, 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, March 31 and April 1
Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

Details: "We Bought a Zoo," \$3

Coming up: "Joyful Noise," 7 p.m. and 9:15 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 6-7; and "The Artist," 7 p.m. and 9:10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 13-14 and 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, April 15

Thursday classics: "Pride of the Yankees," April 5; "Field of Dreams," April 12; "Bull Durham," April 19; and "For the Love of the Game," April 26. Box office opens at 6:30 p.m., with screenings at 7 p.m. All seats \$3
Contact: (734) 453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. March 30 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. March 31

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



FILE PHOTO

Youngsters sprint across the field as marshmallows rain from a helicopter during the annual Marshmallow Drop at Nankin Mills in Westland.



"Tiny Warm-up" by Cyril Ruoso is among 108 wildlife photographs on display at the Detroit Zoo.

Details: Shirley Temple's "The Little Colonel," and "The Poor Little Rich Girl," tickets \$5

Coming up: Mary Pickford in "Suds," a silent film accompanied live by Dave Calendine" 7 p.m. Saturday, April 21; tickets \$12 for adults and \$8 for children 12 and under
Contact: (313) 537-2560

Museums

CHARLES H. WRIGHT

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 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

Antique Appraisal: Ernest DuMouchelle of DuMouchelle Art Galleries will appraise antique furniture, art and small items by appointment only, from 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 18. No jewelry will be appraised. Oral evaluations will be given for \$10 per item; written evaluations will cost \$15 per item. There is a maximum of four items to be appraised per 15-minute time slot. Call (734) 455-8940 or sign up at <http://www.plymouthhistory.org/events/dumouchelle-evaluation-clinic.html>.

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 - "Karani 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

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

Music

THE ARK

Time/Date: Brian Vander Ark, March 29; The David Wax Museum, March 30; Justin Roberts & the Not Ready for Naptime Players, March 31; Elephant Revival, March 31; California Guitar Trio & Tony Levin, April 1; A.J. Croce with Teddy Richards, April 4; Peggy Seeger, April 5; Ralph Stanley and the Clinch Mountain Boys, April 6; Seth Glier and Stolen Silver, April 7; Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, April 9; Mississippi Heat, April 10; Galant tu perds ton temps, April 12; Mr. B's Piano Celebration, April 14-15; Shape Note Singing, April 15; The Tannahill Weavers, April 16; Good Old War and The Belle Brigade, April 17; The Guggenheim Grotto, April 18; Anais Mitchell and Cuddle Magic, April 19; Loudon Wainwright III, April 20; The Elders, April 21; James Hunter, April 22; Lambchop and Kelly Jean Caldwell, April 23; Johnny Winter, April 25; Dougie MacLean, April 26; Horse Feathers, April 27; Heywood Banks, April 28; Caroline Herling, April 29

Location: 316 South Main, Ann Arbor
Contact: (734) 763-8587; www.theark.org

BASELINE FOLK SOCIETY

Time/Date: 7-9:30 p.m. the third Saturday of the month; sign up for open mic from 6:15-6:45 p.m.
Location: JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth
Details: The show includes open mic performances and a featured performer. Admission is \$5. Annual memberships are \$25 for individuals and \$50 for families. Members may attend monthly concerts free of charge.
Contact: Mike Mullen at (248) 719-3464 or e-mail to mjmmullen@yahoo.com

JAZZ AT THE ELKS
Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. last Tuesday of the month
Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth
Details: There is a \$10 donation at the door which includes hors d'oeuvres.
Contact: (734) 453-1780 or e-mail to plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com

MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC
Time/Date: 7 p.m. April 30
Location: The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton
Details: "Celebrates the music and dance of China. Tickets are \$8 adults; \$4 for youth
Contact: (734) 451-2112; (734) 394-5300, ext. 3; www.michiganphil.org; www.canton-mi.org/village-theater/

PLYMOUTH COFFEE BEAN
Time/Date: 8 p.m. Monday, Friday, Saturday

Location: 884 Penniman, Plymouth

Details: Open mic on Monday; live music Friday-Saturday. Americana, folk, rock, pop, country and soul by solo singers, duos and bands
Contact: (734) 454-0178

TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE

Time/Date: Most shows start at 8 p.m., doors open at 7:30 p.m. Empty Chair Night starts at 87 p.m., with doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia; Benefit concert on April 20 is at Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, Livonia

Details: Empty Chair Night with Annie and Rod Caps and Joel Palmer, April 1; Chris Trapper, April 13; Grievous Angel, April 14; Trinity House Benefit Concert featuring Jill Jack and Mary Seelhorst, John Latini and Jamie-Sue Seal and the Potter's Field, April 20; Tracy Kash Thomas Trio, April 21; The Choir featuring Derri Daugherty and Steve Hindalong, April 22; Wayward Roots with Adam Plomaritas, April 27. Most shows tickets are \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Empty Chair Night tickets are \$12 and \$9 for subscribers. Only cash and checks are accepted

Contact: (734) 464-6302

VIVACE MUSIC SERIES

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Saturday, April 21
Location: The Birmingham Temple, 28611 12 Mile, between Inkster Road and Middlebelt, Farmington Hills
Details: University of Michigan Gilbert and Sullivan Society perform songs and scenes from Gilbert and Sullivan favorites, such as "The Mikado," "Pirates of Penzance" and "HMS Pinafore." Tickets are \$23 general admission and \$20 for seniors
Contact: Joyce Cheresch at (248) 788-9338 or Ann Sipher at (248) 661-1348

Something different

ACROBATS
Time/Date: 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. March 30
Location: The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton
Details: The Kenya Safari Acrobats perform gravity-defying human pyramids, balancing, tumbling, dancing and more. Tickets for the 10 a.m. show are \$25; for the 7:30 p.m. show are \$25 for adults and \$20 for seniors and youth. Buy tickets online at www.CantonVillageTheater.org or by phone at (734) 394-5460. They're also available at the box office one hour before the show
Contact: (734) 394-5300

DETROIT ZOO
Time/Date: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. daily
Location: I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak
Details: Admission is \$11 for adults 15 to 61, \$9 for senior

citizens 62 and older, and \$7 for children ages 2 to 14; children under 2 are free

Exhibit: The Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibit runs March 31-June 17 and includes 108 photographs chosen from more than 40,000 entries by aspiring amateurs and established professional photographers; free with Zoo admission
Contact: (248) 541-5717

EASTER FUN

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m., Saturday, March 31

Location: Heritage Park Playground and Splash Pad, located on the east side of the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton

Details: Eggstravaganza is aimed at kids, 11 and under, and consists of egg hunts, crafts, games and visits from a puppeteer and Easter Bunny. Treats will be available for purchase during the event. No pre-registration is necessary but \$2 per participant will be collected on site
Contact: www.cantonfun.org or call (734) 394-5460

MARSHMALLOW DROP

Time/Date: 11 a.m., Friday, April 6

Location: Nankin Mills, located on Hines Drive just east of Ann Arbor Trail in Westland

Details: Children will scramble to collect more than 20,000 marshmallows that will be dropped from a helicopter. Youngsters will have the chance to trade the marshmallows they collect for a prize.
Contact: (734) 261-1990; www.waynecountyparks.org

STORY SLAM

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 11

Location: 316 South Main, Ann Arbor

Details: The Moth Grand-SLAM Championship features winners from the last 10 Michigan StorySLAMS in a battle of wits and words; tickets \$16 available at www.themoth.org
Contact: (734) 763-8587; www.theark.org

Theater

INSPIRE THEATRE

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. April 20-21, 27-28 and 3 p.m. April 22 and 29

Location: 33445 Wayne Road, Westland

Details: Neil Simon's "Rumors;" tickets, \$12
Contact: (734) 751-7057; inspiretheatre.com

MOTOR CITY YOUTH THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. March 23-24 and 30-31; 2 p.m. March 25 and April 1

Location: Grantland Street Playhouse, located on Grantland, a half block west of Inkster Road, south of I-96; in Livonia

Details: Cast members, age 5-16, perform the musical "Annie Jr." Tickets are \$10
Contact: (313) 535-8962

OCC

Time/Date: 8 p.m. March 29-31

Location: Smith Theatre on the Oakland Community College Orchard Ridge Campus, located on Orchard Lake Road, south of I-696, in Farmington Hills

Details: "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead;" general admission \$8, seniors and students, \$5
Contact: Ken Faulk at (248) 522-3666

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE

Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. dinner, 8 p.m. show; March 30-31; show only April 13-14

Location: Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia; dinner in the VistaTach Center and show in the Liberal Arts Theatre

Details: "Romeo and Juliet" with tickets available at the campus bookstore or by calling (734) 462-4596. Cost is \$23 for dinner and show and \$12 for show only on the final weekend
Contact: The college theater department at (734) 462-4400, ext. 5270

SPOTLIGHT PLAYERS

Time/Date: 8 p.m. April 20-21, 27-28 and 2 p.m. April 21-22, 28-29

Location: Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton

Details: "Into the Woods," a Stephen Sondheim musical fairy tale; tickets are \$15-\$18
Contact: (734) 394-5300; www.spotlightplayersmi.org



Ham, Bacon, and Caramelized Onion Tart

Serves: 6 to 8
Prep Time: 20 minutes
Cook Time: 1½ hours

- 6 slices thick-cut bacon, cut crosswise into ¼-inch strips
- 4 ounces cooked ham, cut into ¼-inch dice
- 1 onion, halved lengthwise and thinly sliced
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon pepper
- 1 9-inch deep-dish pie shell, homemade or store-bought, chilled
- 1½ cups heavy whipping cream
- 3 large eggs, lightly beaten
- 1 teaspoon ground nutmeg

In large skillet over medium-low heat, cook bacon, stirring occasionally, until crisped, 10 to 12 minutes. Use slotted spoon to transfer bacon to large bowl.

Add ham and heat, stirring occasionally, until browned, 3 or 4 minutes. Use slotted spoon to transfer to bowl with bacon.

Add onion, salt and pepper to skillet and cook, stirring occasionally, until soft, 3 or 4 minutes. Reduce heat to very low and cook, stirring occasionally, until onion is golden brown and very tender, 12 to 14 minutes. Transfer onion to bowl with bacon and ham and set aside to cool.

Meanwhile, preheat oven to 350°F. Place pie shell on rimmed baking sheet and bake until pastry is pale gold along the rim, 20 to 25 minutes.

Add cream, eggs and nutmeg to bowl with bacon, ham and onion, whisking to combine.

Remove shell from oven (leave oven on). Pour cream mixture into shell and bake until top is golden and a knife inserted into center comes out clean, 45 to 50 minutes. Let stand 10 minutes before slicing and serving.

Serving Suggestions: This versatile tart serves as a main dish, or can play a supporting role to a holiday ham. To dress up the presentation, make the tart in an 11-inch fluted tart pan.

Nutrition per serving: Calories: 400; Fat: 31g; Saturated Fat: 15g; Cholesterol: 180mg; Sodium: 550mg; Carbohydrate: 16g; Protein: 13g; Fiber: 1g

— Courtesy Family Features

An elegant Easter feast

Bring ease and elegance to your Easter feast with a classic roast ham served up with a sweet twist. Thyme-Basted Ham with Roasted Grapes is a sophisticated centerpiece that pairs deliciously with inspired brunch ideas.

For time-strapped cooks, this refined recipe is a breeze to create — all that's left to do after purchasing the ham is to prepare a quick grape jelly glaze and finish heating the ham in the oven.

Sumptuous sides celebrating the flavors of the season make it a meal. Ham and Peas with Mint and Tarragon, and savory Ham, Bacon, and Caramelized Onion Tart require less than 20 minutes of prep time in the kitchen, elevating taste and simplicity for an effortlessly elegant Easter brunch.

And for hassle-free leftovers, ham is hard to beat. In addition to sandwiches, toss diced ham into a breakfast scrambler, or sprinkle over a spring salad for a hearty after-Easter meal.

For recipes, tools to help you prepare the perfect ham and more easy leftover ideas, visit www.PorkBeInspired.com or www.Facebook.com/PorkBeInspired. Follow the National Pork Board @allaboutpork for a limited-time chance to win a free Easter ham.

Thyme-Basted Ham with Roasted Grapes

Serves: 15 to 20 (4-ounce servings)
Prep Time: 20 minutes
Cook Time: 2 to 2½ hours

- 6 to 8 pound cooked bone-in ham, trimmed
- Pepper
- ½ cup grape jelly
- 4 tablespoons unsalted butter (½ stick), cut into 4 to 6 pieces
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh thyme
- 3 cups whole grapes, red, green, or a combination
- 4 shallots, halved lengthwise and cut into ¼-inch slices

Preheat oven to 325°F. Position rack in lower third of oven.

Place ham flat side down in large shallow roasting pan and score a diamond pattern about ¼-inch deep into any fat. Season with pepper and bake for 1½ hours.

Meanwhile, in small saucepan over medium heat, combine jelly, butter and thyme, whisking occasionally until jelly and butter melt together and mixture comes to a gentle boil, 1 to 2 minutes. Cover and set aside.

In medium bowl, combine the grapes and shallots. Set aside.

Baste ham with jelly mixture. Continue baking, basting the jelly mixture and/or pan juices about every 15 minutes. When ham temperature reaches 120°F, add grapes and shallots to roasting pan, stirring to coat with pan juices. Continue baking and basting until internal ham temperature reaches 140°F, 15 to 18 minutes per pound total cooking time. Remove ham from oven, transfer to cutting board, and let rest 15 to 30 minutes. (If grapes and shallots aren't tender yet, return roasting pan to oven.)

Slice even ham to serve and arrange on plates or a platter. Season roasted grape, shallot, and pan juice mixture with pepper and spoon some on top of ham. Serve remaining grape mixture on the side.

Serving Suggestions: Serve with roast potatoes, fresh peas or steamed asparagus. If you're cooking for a smaller crowd, use ham steaks instead, basted with a smaller amount of the jelly mixture.

Nutrition per serving: Calories: 280; Fat: 11g; Saturated Fat: 4.5g; Cholesterol: 105mg; Sodium: 2040mg; Carbohydrate: 14g; Protein: 33g; Fiber: 0g

Ham and Peas with Mint and Tarragon

Serves: 4 to 6
Prep Time: 10 minutes
Cook Time: 5 to 10 minutes

- 4 ounces cooked ham, cut into ¼-inch dice
- 3 cups peas, fresh or frozen
- 3 tablespoons unsalted butter (½ stick), cut into 4 to 6 pieces
- ¼ cup coarsely chopped fresh mint, plus sprigs for garnish
- 2 tablespoons coarsely chopped fresh tarragon, plus sprigs for garnish

Salt and pepper
Bring medium saucepan of well-salted water to a boil over high heat. Add peas and cook until tender, 3 to 8 minutes depending on size of peas.

Drain peas, reserving 2 tablespoons cooking water. Return peas and cooking water to saucepan. Add ham, butter, mint and tarragon, stirring until butter melts. Season with salt and pepper.

Transfer to a bowl, garnish with mint and tarragon sprigs, and serve.

Serving Suggestions: Adapt this recipe to your taste by experimenting with other light and delicate herbs — try cilantro, parsley, chives or a combination.

Nutrition per serving: Calories: 200; Fat: 11g; Saturated Fat: 6g; Cholesterol: 40mg; Sodium: 85mg; Carbohydrate: 15g; Protein: 11g; Fiber: 6g



BUILD A BETTER SANDWICH

In America, the ham sandwich reigns supreme. For Easter leftovers, think beyond the classic ham and cheese with these inspired takes:

- Ham and Brie Baguettes: For a French-inspired lunch, cut open a baguette and fill it with sliced ham, sliced Brie, mixed greens, and a mixture of honey and Dijon mustard.
- Ham Reuben: Make your ham sandwich corner-deli style. Combine sliced ham, Swiss cheese, and sauerkraut on rye bread — grill the sandwich if you like.
- Ham, Cheddar and Chutney Quesadillas: For a ham "melt" with familiar flavors, fill a quesadilla with sliced ham, shredded cheddar, and store-bought chutney, and heat through until cheddar is melted.



Honey-Tart Cherry Glazed Salmon with Rustic Tart Cherry Salsa

Tart cherries — today's hottest super fruit

Now more than ever, Americans are aware of health and nutrition and look to their diets as a means to get nutrients naturally. According to top trend forecasters, antioxidants remain a major indicator of health-promoting foods, with nine out of ten of adults aware of antioxidants, and one-third making a strong effort to consume more, according to the study "Mintel 2009; Multi-Sponsor Surveys, 2010."

Known for their powerhouse of antioxidants, tart cherries have emerged as one of today's hottest super fruits. Today there are more than 50 scientific studies specifically on tart cherries, and with the help of Wendy Bazilian, a registered dietician who holds a doctorate in public health, the cherry industry recently launched "The Red Report," a new scientific look at the power of tart cherries.

"The power of this Super Fruit is undeniable," said Bazilian, author of *The SuperFood-Rx Diet: Lose Weight with the Power of SuperNutrients*. Bazilian explains that what is really amazing is how far tart cherries have come over the last few years. "For example, the fruit has long been anecdotally associated with pain relief benefits. Today, there's a strong and significant body of evidence backing that up."

Beyond their health benefits, tart cherries are shaping key nutrition trends.

"A growing body of research suggests that the powerful antioxidants in tart cherries are linked to a broad range of benefits — anti-inflammation, heart health, pain relief, exercise recovery and more. Some of the latest reports call out the tart

cherry as 'the' Super Fruit to watch," Bazilian said.

Good Reasons to Eat Red

Available every day of the year in dried, frozen and juice forms, tart cherries can be a powerful way to boost fruit intake and meet current dietary recommendations of two daily fruit servings. Experts suggest consuming one to two servings of cherries daily can help provide some of the health benefits identified in the research.

Try this flavorful recipe for Honey-Tart Cherry Glazed Salmon with Rustic Tart Cherry Salsa for dinner this week. Add Apple, Pecan, and Cherry Winter Salad. Download "The Red Report," find more recipes and tips, or learn more about the health benefits of cherries at www.chooscherries.com.

Honey-Tart Cherry Glazed Salmon with Rustic Tart Cherry Salsa

Salsa:

Serves: 4

- 1 cup chopped tart cherries (thawed from frozen)
- 1 small red onion, diced (about ½ cup)
- 1 jalapeño, chopped
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 teaspoon grated ginger
- Salt and pepper, to taste

Salmon:

- 1 pound salmon fillet, cut into four pieces
 - ¼ cup tart cherry juice (juice from frozen cherries will work)
 - ¼ cup honey
- In medium bowl, stir together ingredients for salsa until well combined. Cover; chill until ready to serve.

Preheat oven to 350°. Line baking sheet with nonstick aluminum foil or parchment (foil preferred). Rinse salmon

fillets under cool water; pat dry with paper towel. Arrange on baking sheet.

In small bowl, whisk together cherry juice and honey. Spread half of mixture over salmon fillets, reserving second half.

Slide baking sheet into oven; bake for 15 to 17 minutes, until just about cooked through. Drizzle second half of tart cherry-honey mixture over fillets; bake for an additional 2 to 3 minutes, until slightly golden at edges.

Serve salmon fillets on bed of greens with tart cherry salsa on top.

Recipe courtesy of the Cherry Marketing Institute in partnership with www.SarahsCucinaBella.com

Apple, Pecan, and Cherry Winter Salad

Makes: 4 servings

Ingredients:

- 4 cups baby spinach
- 4 cups mixed greens or other winter green/lettuce of choice
- ½ cup pecans, chopped
- 1 cup dried tart cherries
- 1 large apple, thinly sliced
- ½ cup scallions, sliced
- 4 ounces sharp white cheddar, thinly sliced

Directions:

In a large bowl, toss with spinach, lettuce/greens, pecans, dried cherries, apple, scallions, and cheese together. Drizzle with Maple Cherry Vinaigrette dressing, toss together, and serve.



Maple Cherry Vinaigrette

Makes: 1 cup

Ingredients:

- ½ cup olive oil
- 2 tablespoons maple syrup
- 2 tablespoons 100% tart cherry juice

- 1 teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon pepper

Directions: Combine all ingredients in a jar or bowl and whisk or shake together until the dressing comes together.

Drizzle over salad before serving. Keep remaining dressing refrigerated until ready to use.

Canton woman gets creative with Michigan apples

Debbie Chamulak of Canton recently took top honors in the Michigan Apple Committee's 4th Annual Online Recipe Contest.

She won a KitchenAid mixer and her recipe for Michigan Apple Won Ton Cups beat out 147 other entries. The Michigan Apple Committee plans to distribute the unconventional recipe, along with two other winning entries from Ohio and Michigan, on recipe cards at orchards, farm markets, trade shows and select grocery stores.

Chamulak, 60, is married, has three children, a grandchild and "one more on the way."

The *Observer* asked this avid cook about herself and her culinary creation:

Q: What compelled you to enter the apple recipe contest?

A: I read the story in the *Canton Observer* and decided to enter the contest for the creative challenge. I did not already have a recipe in mind. I created the Michigan Apple Wonton Cup recipe specifically for this competition.

Q: Have you entered other recipe contests?

A: Yes, I have entered a

few other competitions in the past. Locally, I entered the Canton Cherry Hill Village Cherry Festival in 2008. I won with my cherry strudel recipe.

Q: What do you think makes Michigan Apple Wonton Cups a winning recipe?

A: Michigan apples are the featured ingredient and utilized in two ways, cider and solid fruit. It's an simple recipe that looks and tastes more complex than it really is.

Q: What are your other specialties?

A: Primarily, I enjoy baking at home more than anything. My specialties are pastries, biscuits, and yeast breads — or so I'm told.

Q: Are you an avid cook?

A: I would consider myself an avid cook. I have always been an advocate for cooking family dinners at home.

Q: Do you have a background in culinary arts?

A: I have never formally studied culinary science. My only experience comes from what I have learned from my 90-year-old mother, 9th grade home economics class, and trial and error.

Michigan Apple Wonton Cups

Makes 24 servings

Ingredients:

- 3 finely diced Michigan Apples, such as McIntosh and Fuji
- ¼ cup sugar
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon
- 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1 ½ cups of Michigan Apple Cider
- 24 wonton wrappers
- (Optional caramel sauce and whipped cream)

Apple Filling Directions:

Combine 1 cup of the cider, apples, ¼ cup of sugar and cinnamon in saucepan. Cook apples for about 5-7 minutes. Take remaining cider and combine with the cornstarch. Add to the apples. Cook and stir over medium heat until thickened. Set aside to cool.

Bake:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit. Lightly spray small size 24 cup muffin pan with cooking spray. Line each muffin cup with 1 wonton wrapper, letting the edges hang over. Fill each cup with apple filling. Sprinkle tops of cups with a little sugar. Bake in oven for 15 minutes or when wontons are brown on the edges. Can be served with optional caramel sauce and whipped cream.

— Sharon Dargay

Celebrate Easter with a brunch or buffet

If you want to spend more time with family — and less in the kitchen — on Easter Sunday, April 8, make a reservation now and plan to eat out.

Many local restaurants offer brunch or lunch and dinner buffets on the holiday. Here's a sampling: • Courtyard Grille, 41661 Plymouth Road, Plymouth: The restaurant will serve plated brunch creations from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., including such items as "Design Your Personal Frittata," \$12; Eggs Benedict, \$12; Crab Cake Melt, \$14; and White Chocolate Strawberry Waffles, \$10. Dinner entrees will be served from 3-7 p.m. (734) 453-2002

• Fiamma Grille, 380 S. Main, Plymouth: 10 a.m.-3 p.m. The four-course meal includes an entree choice of Marinated Flat Iron Steak, Panko Encrusted Alaskan Halibut, Baked Lamb Strudel or Roasted Chicken and Mac & Cheese, \$28, adults; \$10 for children, 9 and under; (734) 416-9340

• Sive Restaurant at The Inn at St. John, 44045 Five Mile, Plymouth: Sive Restaurant offers a prix fixe menu from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Cost is \$47 for adults and \$14 for children, ages 5-12. The four-course meal includes a choice of two entrees. Entree selections include Rotisserie-style Chicken, Quick-Smoked Salmon, Braised Short Ribs, Shrimp Stir Fry, Seafood Crepe, Pork Tournedos, or Tomato-Zucchini-Chevre Clafoutis, and Mediterranean Omelet, Pork Belly Omelet, Green Eggs & Ham, Earl Grey Benedict, Bananas Foster Waffle or Lemon Poundcake French toast. Call (734) 357-5700 for reservations.

• Flemming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar, 17400 Haggerty, Livonia: 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. \$34.95 for adults; \$16.95 for children, 12 and under. Adult menu includes an appetizer; a choice of entrees, including Filet Mignon Benedict, New Orleans-Style French Toast, Flemming's Frittata, Steakhouse Filet Mignon Cobb, and Prime Rib of Beef; Potatoes O'Brien; a choice of desserts. The children's menu includes a fresh fruit salad, French toast, cheese omelet, chicken strips and fries, steak and fries and dessert; (734) 542-9463.

• George Murphy's at The Creek, 36000 Seven Mile, Livonia: Two seatings, 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. are available: \$19.95 for adults; \$8.95 for children, 4-10; free for children under 4. The buffet includes such items as English roast, spiral ham, roast turkey, mashed potatoes, Green Beans Almondine, breakfast favorites, salads, assorted breakfast breads, desserts. (248) 473-1300

• Hickory Creek Golf Course, 3625 Napier, just north of Ford Road, Ypsilanti: Seatings at 10:30 a.m., noon, 1:15 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Features prime rib, honey-glazed ham, walleye, mac and cheese, roasted chicken, red skin potatoes, vegetables, salads, fresh fruit, pasta, appetizers, desserts. \$21.95 for adults, \$9.95 for children, ages 5-10; free for children, 4 and under. Reservations at (734) 454-1850.

• The Inn at St. John, 44045 Five Mile, Plymouth: The Inn at St. John will serve a buffet in the Atrium. The buffet will



include a cheese and bread table, salad table, seafood table, stir-fry table, breakfast favorites, omelet and egg station, entree station, children's station and desserts. \$45, adults; \$38, seniors, 62 and up; \$12 children, 5-12; and free for children, 4 and under. Call (734) 357-5700 for reservations.

• The Longacre House, 24705 Farmington Road, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, Farmington Hills: 1 p.m. Reservation deadline is March 31. Cost is \$30 for adults, \$20 for children under 12, and free for 3 and under. For reservations or for more information, call (248) 477-8404.

• 1 Under Bar and Grill, 35780 Five Mile, Livonia: Brunch buffet with seatings at 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. \$21 adults; \$15.99 seniors; \$7.99 kids, 10 and under; free for age 6 and under. Buffet includes beef tenderloin, oven-roasted turkey, honey-baked ham, herb-roasted chicken, Parmesan-breaded whitefish, mashed potatoes, roasted potatoes, pasta, mac & cheese, chicken salad, chicken fingers and Tater Tots for youngsters, vegetable medley, corn, Caesar salad, fresh fruit, assorted mini desserts, pies, cakes, tortes, and beverages. Omelet and waffle stations available at the 11 a.m. seating. Reservations at (734) 464-5555.

• Panache 447, 447 Forest, Plymouth: The restaurant will begin serving a plated Sunday brunch, 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. April 1. Look for items such as an oversized baked pancake topped with drunken berries, candied pecans and whipped cream, spinach and goat cheese frittata; and stuffed French toast. The restaurant is open to requests from its guests, too. Call (734) 386-8447 for reservations.

• Station 885, 885 Starkweather, Plymouth: Offers brunch from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and dinner from 2-6 p.m. Both are buffets. \$21.99 for adults and \$10.99 for children, 3-10. The brunch buffet includes breakfast favorites, made-to-order omelets, salads, a carving station and chocolate fountain and desserts. The dinner buffet features a carving station, pasta, salads, sides, other dinner items and a chocolate fountain and desserts. Call (734) 459-0885 for reservations.

• Sweet Lorraine's, located in the Livonia Marriott Hotel, 17100 N. Laurel Park Dr., Livonia: 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. \$32.95 for adults; \$9.95 for children, 12 and under; free, children 5 and under. Buffet includes soup, carving station with Herb Roasted Prime Rib and Slow Baked Dearborn Ham, omelet and waffle stations, salads and sides, main course with such entrees as Oven Roasted Atlantic Cod Piccata, Butternut Squash Ravioli Farmhouse Quiche and more, desserts and child's mini buffet; (734) 953-7480.

— Compiled by Sharon Dargay

Veteran policeman: Guard your home against vacation season break-ins

By Julie Brown
O&E Staff Writer

Sgt. Pat Sullivan hasn't seen a huge number of vacation break-ins during his some 21 years with the Canton Police Department.

"It happens occasionally, like any community," said Sullivan, taking a break from recent duties at the Canton Home Expo. "It hasn't been a big problem."

The veteran policeman agreed holding mail through the post office, or having it picked up by a relative, is vital when vacationing. That's true for your newspaper as well.

Sullivan said inexpensive timers for lights should be used throughout the house "so it looks like somebody's moving around the house." Those timers are available at hardware stores.

Good neighbors come in handy during vacations. "It's always a good idea to let your neighbors know," he said. A friend or relative can stop by to check on the house, including for pipes that have burst, a water leak or a hose on the washing machine flooding the basement.

Neighbors shouldn't hesitate to call if they see something unusual, Sullivan said.

"Most people when they see something suspicious they'll call us. It's always best if you're not sure to call. We would much rather be bothered on the front end than have somebody's house broken into."

Sullivan also recommends motion lights for a home's exterior. "It gives the impression that somebody's in the house," he said, a good idea even if you're just away at work or on errands.

Door locks should be checked to make sure they're effective, and windows and doors locked



for safety. Sullivan noted sliding doors in the back of a home are easy targets for thieves, especially in older homes. He recommends putting a sturdy stick or dowel in the track.

"It makes it very difficult to get in," said Sullivan, who also recommends keeping shrubs and trees

trimmed so there's no easy opportunity for a thief to break in undetected.

Sullivan's public safety table was among some 135 at the 11th annual Canton Home Expo at the Summit on the Park. The event is sponsored by Canton Township, the Canton Chamber of

Commerce and the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*.

It draws some 5,000-6,000 people each March, said John Weyer, Canton building official. "It's more family oriented," Weyer said. "We do a lot of activities," including children's workshops courtesy of The Home Depot.

Consult lawyer on mentally ill resident

By Robert Meisner
Guest Columnist

Q: We have a schizophrenic resident in our unit who was put in by her daughter and sort of "warehoused" in our condominium project. She is dangerous in our opinion and may set the place on fire. What can we do?

A: When the family, police and/or social service agencies are unwilling or unable to resolve the problem, injunctive relief from the court looks like the only remedy. Once a lawsuit



Robert Meisner

has been filed against the owners of the unit and/or the daughter and the matter is before the court, the court can bring the social service agency into the case to possibly create an effective solution, whether it be mandatory in-home assistance or caretaking or removal of a resident from the unit. You are best to consult with your attorney in that regard.

Q: We do not have a management company for our homeowner association and I am concerned about whether or not our deed restrictions will continue indefinitely. Do you have any comments on that?

A: Although most newer generation recorded restrictions in the declaration contain automatic rollover provisions regarding the enforceability of the declaration, many of the older ones have a clause that say they would expire on a certain date, usually 30 or 40 years after recordation, unless certain action is taken to extend them. Recently, we have seen several situations in which the board or the managing agent did not pay attention and allowed that expiration period to come and go. That is obviously something that each association should monitor and seek legal counsel if they have, in the sense, legally expired.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and author of *Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track*, second edition, available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping/handling. He also wrote *Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium*, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping/handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-associates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Dec. 12-16, 2011, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON	
47290 Bayview Ct	\$160,000
6657 Brookshire Dr	\$130,000
7860 Capri Dr	\$161,000
6634 Edgewood Rd	\$150,000
245 Edington Cir	\$140,000
39890 Edmunton-St	\$130,000
47178 Glenhurst Dr	\$229,000
45599 Graystone Ln	\$75,000
48266 Greenwich Ln	\$240,000
2448 Hogan Way	\$167,000
48997 Ivybridge Way	\$60,000
49503 Jackson Ln	\$308,000
46416 Killarney Cir	\$170,000
6437 Kings Mill Ct	\$380,000
45672 Larchmont Dr	\$242,000
42583 Lilley Pointe Dr	\$53,000
7287 Memorial Dr	\$145,000
1406 N Sheldon Rd	\$62,000
45599 N Stonewood Rd	\$120,000
3914 Radcliff Dr	\$75,000
41912 Riverwood Ct	\$130,000
45101 Seabrook Dr	\$278,000
1540 Stafford Dr	\$105,000

2071 Vine Way Dr	\$60,000
41016 Westfield Cir	\$144,000
44411 Westminster Way	\$132,000
44119 Yorkshire Dr	\$126,000
GARDEN CITY	
33680 Bock St	\$80,000
31944 Brown St	\$50,000
31507 Chester St	\$40,000
31562 Chester St	\$43,000
30906 Dover St	\$69,000
6928 Gilman St	\$44,000
985 Helen St	\$35,000
30230 Rush St	\$79,000
6540 Whitby St	\$65,000
LIVONIA	
32284 Allen St	\$148,000
30107 Bentley St	\$135,000
19997 Brentwood St	\$65,000
32172 Camborne Ln	\$278,000
36959 Clarita St	\$282,000
29943 Curtis Rd	\$175,000
28546 Elmira St	\$41,000
33895 Gable Dr	\$137,000
31642 Haldane St	\$127,000
32458 Hees St	\$95,000
18872 Hillcrest St	\$96,000
11260 Karen St	\$50,000
19026 Laurel Dr	\$305,000
30840 Lyndon St	\$135,000
31844 Maine St	\$89,000
20224 Melvin St	\$185,000
33050 Myrna Dr	\$190,000
15623 Nola Cir	\$2,000

8914 Parkside Dr	\$205,000
19505 Rensellor St	\$52,000
16232 Riverside St	\$165,000
16261 Southampton St	\$190,000
18018 University Park Dr	\$67,000
33439 Vargo Dr	\$164,000
NORTHVILLE	
39707 Dun Rovin Dr	\$230,000
19818 Irongate Ct	\$93,000
41515 Ladywood Ct	\$210,000
42512 Lake Success Dr	\$60,000
15943 Merion Ct	\$455,000
15986 Morningside	\$117,000
18213 Parkshore Dr	\$513,000
41837 Rayburn Dr	\$206,000
19720 Scenic Harbour Dr	\$206,000
39639 Springwater Dr	\$125,000
132 Walnut St	\$168,000
PLYMOUTH	
41243 Greenbriar Ln	\$188,000
41683 Greenbriar Ln	\$175,000
13080 Haverhill Dr	\$350,000
1641 Lexington St	\$15,000
40805 Newport Dr	\$36,000
343 Red Ryder Dr	\$111,000
13900 Ridgewood Dr	\$272,000
9385 Saddlebrook Ct	\$320,000
345 W Ann Arbor Trl	\$310,000
REDFORD	
9347 Beech Daly Rd	\$45,000
14233 Breakfast Dr	\$143,000
9150 Centralia	\$47,000
25666 Deborah	\$53,000

24937 Dover	\$40,000
17619 Fox	\$45,000
14116 Inkster Rd	\$14,000
26770 Joy Rd	\$13,000
8911 Laverne	\$53,000
11310 Laverne	\$65,000
12880 Laverne	\$30,000
19710 Macarthur	\$50,000
19392 Negaunee	\$16,000
14217 Sarasota	\$40,000
19350 Wakenden	\$15,000
WESTLAND	
36070 Abbey Dr	\$125,000
36088 Abbey Dr	\$110,000
39244 Armstrong Ln	\$92,000
33131 Avondale St	\$61,000
32754 Benson Dr	\$90,000
31176 Cooley Blvd	\$108,000
7430 Donna St	\$104,000
36625 Fairchild St	\$76,000
5640 Farnum St	\$14,000
8513 Haller St	\$80,000
8513 Haller St	\$26,000
7715 Lear Ct	\$96,000
8154 Milburn St	\$53,000
8224 Ravine Dr	\$155,000
37120 Riviera Dr	\$30,000
34369 Rosslyn St	\$79,000
2442 Steiber St	\$12,000
2259 Wilshire St	\$75,000
1232 Windham St	\$75,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Dec. 5-9, 2011, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS	
31804 Allerton Dr	\$270,000
32351 Arlington Dr	\$230,000
32071 Auburn Dr	\$231,000
16313 Birwood Ave	\$220,000
20038 Carriage Ln	\$273,000
31259 E Rutland St	\$120,000
BINGHAM FARMS	
30545 Oakview Way	\$166,000
BIRMINGHAM	
364 Chesterfield Ave	\$905,000
2735 Dorchester Rd	\$178,000
247 E Southlawn Blvd	\$475,000
540 Graten St	\$220,000
857 Redding Rd	\$415,000
510 Westchester Way	\$260,000
1756 Yorkshire Rd	\$275,000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS	
1169 Banbury Cir	\$426,000
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP	
1962 Bent Tree Trl	\$250,000

2760 Bradway Blvd	\$495,000
5275 Brookdale Cir	\$935,000
2426 Sanders Pl	\$158,000
3542 W Bradford Dr	\$240,000
4314 W Orchard Hill Dr	\$233,000
COMMERCE TOWNSHIP	
8425 Arlis St	\$388,000
4575 Commerce Woods Dr	\$199,000
3231 Creekview Ln	\$330,000
2265 Fairgrove Ct	\$228,000
2969 Gabriel Dr	\$110,000
5355 Inverrary Ln	\$153,000
6103 Lochmore Dr	\$178,000
3518 Moberly Rd	\$280,000
2254 Palmetto	\$183,000
5635 Plantation Dr	\$329,000
5060 White Tail Ct	\$198,000
FARMINGTON	
35424 Heritage Ln	\$100,000
23025 Lilac St	\$51,000
FARMINGTON HILLS	
30034 Briarton St	\$167,000
34901 Bunker Hill Dr	\$147,000
22082 Cape Cod Way	\$53,000
22715 Colgate St	\$110,000
31190 Country Way	\$60,000
29542 Eastfield St	\$110,000
35280 Edythe Dr	\$120,000
29242 Glen Oaks Blvd W	\$90,000
39242 Heatherbrook Dr	\$282,000

25989 Kilreigh Dr	\$133,000
37630 Lancaster Dr	\$139,000
29163 Oak Point Dr	\$265,000
29164 Oak Point Dr	\$267,000
23060 Purdue Ave	\$103,000
21402 Riverwalk Ct	\$244,000
21414 Riverwalk Ct	\$250,000
31971 Rocky Crst	\$100,000
21274 Sycamore Ct	\$115,000
28072 Thorny Brae Ct	\$140,000
21650 Waldron St	\$50,000
29199 Wiltton Dr	\$208,000
LATHRUP VILLAGE	
18760 Hampshire St	\$155,000
18180 Lincoln Dr	\$135,000
18641 Rainbow Dr	\$130,000
18130 Ramsgate Dr	\$87,000
17371 Roseland Blvd	\$116,000
MILFORD	
359 N Main St	\$65,000
1835 Wixom Trl	\$170,000
NOVI	
43831 Algonquin Dr	\$171,000
45920 Ashford Cir	\$475,000
27331 Benjamins Way	\$45,000
22511 Brookforest	\$132,000
22883 Cranbrooke Dr	\$81,000
43136 Emerson Way	\$245,000
29601 English Way	\$245,000
41701 Kenilworth Ln	\$120,000

24509 Olde Orchard St	\$39,000
24870 Reeds Pointe Dr	\$312,000
41811 Sycamore Dr	\$158,000
20888 Veranda Dr	\$253,000
SOUTH LYON	
58358 11 Mile Rd	\$145,000
61523 Brookway Dr	\$255,000
229 Brookwood Dr	\$31,000
118 N Reese St	\$65,000
501 N Reese St	\$107,000
61120 Palamino Ct	\$270,000
27210 Pontiac Trl	\$48,000
23851 Prescott Ct	\$61,000
26438 Shumans Way	\$229,000
52798 Trailwood Dr	\$2,000
SOUTHFIELD	
21691 Hidden Rivers Dr N	\$22,000
28800 Inkster Rd	\$100,000
27835 Larkmoor St	\$81,000
29399 McDonnell Ct	\$71,000
19621 Melrose Ave	\$36,000
27035 Nantucket Ct	\$110,000
16051 Pennsylvania St	\$65,000
29730 Pierce St	\$67,000
23664 Rutland Ave	\$120,000
16120 Sherfield Pl	\$55,000
25660 Southfield Rd # A201	\$37,000
White Lake	
5470 Cuthbert Rd	\$163,000
9155 Sandison St	\$45,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

R.E.I.A. of Wayne County

Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne County will meet 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 2, at the Southgate Red Lobster, Eureka Road and Trenton, next to the 7-Eleven.

Matt Bezanson of Sherlock Homes Inspection Ltd. will present facets of mold in buildings. Bezanson's mold education goes back to 2001, and he has done mold inspection and testing all over southeast Michigan.

Oakland Investors

"How To Buy Homes at Auction" featuring Andy Meisner (Oakland County Treasurer's office), Pamela Rose (generic auctions) and Darrell Sanders (buying HUD properties) presented at

the regular meeting of the Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland on Thursday, April 12, 5:30-9:30 p.m. at Club Venetian, 29310 John R. Rd, north of 12 Mile, Madison Heights. Seminar free to members. \$20 nonmembers. www.REIAofOAKLAND.com; (800) 747-6742.

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.

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COMPLETE LANDSCAPING BY LACOURS SERVICES
Clean-ups, landscaping, grading, sodding, hydro-seeding, retaining walls, ins. work, brick walks & patios. Drainage & lawn irrigation systems, low foundations built up. Weekly lawn maintenance. Haul away unwanted items. Comm. Res. 39 yrs exp. Lic. & Ins. Free Est. www.lacourservices.com 248-489-5955, 248-521-8818

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LAWN MAINTENANCE: Good's Nursery, 30+ years exp. Lic./Ins. Free estimates. Ed: (734) 846-3736

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Affordable & Professional. Cut, Edge, Trim, Landscaping, Custom Fences & Decks. Free Est. 313-598-4221

Lawn Mowing & Spring Clean-ups & More! Quality work for a reasonable price. Call for free quotes. Evan: (734) 329-4773

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A1+ Movers & Service
Lic. & Insured-Efficient 3 men, \$75/hr. 866-633-7953

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PAINTING BY ROBERT
• Wallpaper Removal • Int • Ext • Plaster/Drywall Repair • Staining 25 yrs exp. Free est. 248-349-7499, 734-464-8147

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BEST CHIMNEY CO.
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LEAK SPECIALIST Flashings, Valleys, Chimneys, etc. Warr. Member BBB. 30 yrs. exp. Lic / Ins. Call: (248) 346-4321

BUY & SELL

hometownlife.com

Found - Goods

FOUND CASH: Sheldon/Ann Arbor Rd. To claim contact Plymouth Police Dept. Must identify day, time & amount of cash found. 734-354-3232

Absolutely Free

PING PONG TABLE (8 ft)
With pool-pong table top. No cues, has paddles. You pick up. 248-505-8129

Antiques/Collectibles

HUGE COLLECTION For Sale! Coke, Pinocchio, Hallmark Ornaments & Beanie Babies. March 29-30, 9-7pm. 35102 Meadow Lane, Farmington Hills, 48335. (248) 763-4133

Arts & Crafts

WEST BLOOMFIELD
St. Mark's Lutheran Church 7979 Commerce Rd. Outdoor Craft Show & Bake Sale. May 19th, 9-5pm. Crafter's info: 248-363-6316

EASTER CRAFT SHOW:
Fellow's Creek Golf Course, 2936 South Loek Rd., Canton, Sat. March 31st, 10am-6pm.

Auction Sales

ESTATE AUCTION
Sat., Mar. 31, 7pm
Cultural Center
525 Farmer
Plymouth MI
Furniture; Glassware
Collectibles & Antiques
Hummel's;
Royal Doulton's
Toys, Sports Cards
Cash/MS/Visa;
Bank Debit Cards
No Checks
Doors Open 6pm
Joe Carl, Professional
Auction Service
734.451.7444
jcauctionservices.com

Estate Sales

Another Bernard Davis Estate Sale 313-837-1993
16055 Warwick, Detroit
March 29-31, 8:45am-4pm
go to estatesales.net for more info. SEE YOU THERE!!!

ESTATE SALE:
Fri-Sun, 10-5pm.
42024 Greenwood Dr, Canton.
Antiques, furniture,
appliances, etc.

CANTON: ESTATE SALE
Conducted by Jamie's Attic
42138 Echo Forest Dr.
Off Lily, btwn, Michigan Ave & Palmer, W. of 275. Fri & Sat 10-4. Tons of furniture, queen bedroom set, new mattress, trundle bed, dining set, china cabinet, couches, tables, lamps, pictures, glassware, garden decor, Holiday, kitchen items, linen, household, patio set, much more!
www.jamiesattic.com
or (734) 771-2718

Estate Sale - Beverly Hills
20245 Rosedale Dr. Fri. & Sat. 3/30-3/31, 8-5pm. Stained glass & new Pella windows. Handmade chairs. Woodard patio set. French Provincial bdrm set, tools, Schwinn bike & much more!

Garage/Moving Sales

WESTLAND GARAGE SALE:
Sat. March 31, 9am-4pm.
32564 Hazelwood, 48186.
Stamping up items:

SOUTH LYON MOVING SALE
9152 Salem Farms Dr. Fri., 3/30, 10am-4pm, Sat., 3/31, 10am-2pm.

CANTON MOVING SALE
44283 Nowland Drive, E off Sheldon, N of Palmer. Sat., 3/31, 9am-4pm; Sun., 4/1, 9am-12noon. Appliances, furniture, tools, American Girl Dolls, china & much more! EVERYTHING MUST GO!

LIVONIA Moving Sale
38438 Lapham Court (Six Mile & Haggerty). Friday & Saturday, 9am-4pm. Tools, furniture, household, etc.

PLYMOUTH-ESTATE SALE:
Friday, Saturday, Sunday.
March 30, 31 and April 1st.
9am-5pm 15162 Inbrook
Plymouth 48170

NORTHVILLE: Lots of Everything! Piano, organ, furniture, toys, clothes. 17413 Ponvalley Dr. On 5 Mile, off Bradner. Mar. 29-Apr. 1, 9-5.

Garage/Moving Sales

NORTHVILLE: Garage Sale.
Furniture, pool table, art work, china, vintage, wringer washer & much more. Fri., Sat. & Sun. Mar. 30-31, Apr. 1, 10am-4pm. 46880 Pickford St. S. of 7, E. of Beck.

CANTON - Wed-Fri, March 28-30, 8-4. Home goods, children's clothing & toys, greeting cards. 2811 Doncaster Dr., E of Beck, off Newton.

Household Goods

BDRM SETS: Queen sized, walnut, bed, chest, dresser with mirror, \$600. KING SIZED: 2 nightstands, headboard, chest, & dresser w/mirror, \$550. Both in great cond. 313-937-9450

LIVING ROOM FURNITURE: 81" Brodyhill sofa, cream color with red & green accents w/matching pillows. Brodyhill recliner w/ matching ottoman (red & white striped). Blonde entertainment cabinet w/ matching video storage cabinet. Blonde buffet w/ matching hutch. Two round glass top end tables & matching oval glass top coffee table (all 3 w/white accents). Two table lamps. All upholstery freshly cleaned. All pieces in exc cond. Non smoking household w/pets. \$1300/all. 734-261-1029, leave msg

SOFA - FLEX STEEL:
New, 77 inches, cream color, stain guarded, \$1,000/best offer. Call: (734) 522-7084

Hospital/Medical Equipment

HOVEROUND - TECHNIQUE:
Electric wheel chair, new batteries, excellent cond. \$750. Call: (313) 820-9711

Lawn, Garden & Snow Equipment

LAWN MOWER-CRAFTSMAN:
6.75 HP self prop, 22 in cut, rear bag, plus leaf and lawn sweeper, excel. cond. \$175. Call: (248) 943-6124

Miscellaneous For Sale

PORTABLE GENERATOR:
Almost new, 4,000 peak watts, 3,500 running watts, \$250. Call: (248) 335-5472

Storage Shed - Rubbermaid
7 ft. by 7ft. Warrick Village on Joy in Redford. \$400 "firm" 313-587-5172

Musical Instruments

PIANO - CABLE SPINET UPRIGHT:
Good cond, \$475. Plymouth Twp, 734-904-9712

Tools

JET 6" Jointer w/wheels,
\$350. Delta 12" Planer, \$150. Both in excellent condition. 734-674-5305

Wanted to Buy

WANTED - COLLECTIBLES:
Fire arms & knives. Call Richard 248-767-1579

WANTED: Old Fishing Tackle
& related items. Also old boat motors. Call Bill: (734) 890-1047

Cats

CATS:
Fixed, Bathed, Dewormed & Rescued. 248-738-4901, 248-214-9898

KITTENS

Beautiful, to a good home. 1st come, 1st serve. Call: (248) 914-0819

Dogs

NEWFOUNDLAND PUPPIES
AKC, 8 weeks old, 2 females, 1 male, 1 Brown, 2 Black left. Parents on site Farmdale Area. \$800. 248/250-2172

Found - Pets

FOUND DOG: Black lab mix. Puppy. Found 3/22 near Silver Lake Rd & Pontiac Tr by Erwin Ouchard's. 248-939-6463

Looking to buy a new car, but you have to sell the old one first - place an ad & let the classifieds sell it for you!

Call 800-579-7355

JOBS

careerbuilder.com

Software Engineers, Systems Software, Software Developers, Systems Software, Computer Systems Analysts, DBAs & GIS Managers

Need to work in Farmington, MI & at various unanticipated locations throughout U.S./multiple openings. All positions involve use of 1 or more of the following: UNIX, SQL, PL/SQL, SQL Server, Web Server, C++, C#, Visual C++, Oracle, Oracle Applications, MS Access, HTML, ColdFusion, UML, XML, JSP, J2EE, ASP, ASP.NET, .NET, COM+, WebLogic, VB Script, SOL *Plus, Linux, AIX, Java, JavaScript, SAP, ABAP/4, SAP Basis, EDI, DDC, Windows, MS Office, MS Project, MS Visio, MS SharePoint, Rational Rose, Rational ClearCase, Requisite Pro. Each's or Master's (or foreign edu equiv) in related field &/or relev. exp. req'd; depending on position. For some positions requiring exp, applicants must have exp using 1 or more skills listed above. For certain positions, we accept deg equiv in educ & exp or any equally suitable comb. of educ, training &/or exp qualifying applicant to perform job duties. Send resume & specify position seeking to: Technology Consultants-NA, Inc., 33055 State St, Ste 200, Farmington, MI 48335, EOE.

Driver Attention CDL A Drivers

Immediate openings for CDL A drivers. Dedicated runs, home every night. 2 yrs. exp. or 1 yr. w/school certificate. Must be able to qualify for a FAST card. Great Pay & Benefits. Call for more info 877-977-4287 code DK1

Construction: Swim Pool

shotcrete experience required, CDL, year round, benefits. Retail: Swim Pool Supplies, must be 18. Swim Pool Service Dept: Pool Openers, Service, Maintenance and Plumbers 888 POOLS Livonia. 734-427-3242

CARPENTERS

Pay based on experience. Benefits & vehicle allowance. (248) 960-0033

Lawn & Landscape Maintenance

Celtic Lawn & Landscape has openings for Experienced Lawn & Landscape Maintenance crew members. This position requires the ability to use commercial rider/walk-behind mowers, weeding of flower / landscape beds, trimming of bushes & installing mulch. A valid Chauffeur License & Medical Card to drive. Must have reliable transportation to/from work. Fax or email resume to: (734) 838-0205 or: info@celticlawn.com No Phone calls.

TEACHERS & TEACHER'S ASSISTANT

Previous exp. in a learning center needed. Some education preferred. (734) 459-9920

CRITTER CONTROL

Wildlife Management Co. In Livonia is looking for field service technicians. Applicant must be highly motivated, and reliable. Good driving record Mandatory. Pass physical Exam, drug screening. Comfortable on ladders, high roofs in attics and crawl spaces. Repair experience preferred, but not necessary. Will train. Part or Full-Time. Great summer job for college students. SALARY BASED ON EXP. Email resume: employment@crittercontrolwestland.com

Concrete Finisher

Must have exp. and CDL for small crew. Wixom area. 248-884-2500

MASONS

Exp dt only. Must have own truck & van and owl tools. Call: 734-217-4993

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Growing, well established mechanical contracting company seeking to fill immediately available position for Administrative Assistant with exceptional computer and typing skills. Must be experienced in Excel, Word and Power Point. Business degree a plus, organized, reliable and consistent in following procedures. Fax resume to: (734) 287-4011 Email resume to: micheller@ecshvac.com

HELP WANTED-GENERAL

HVAC SERVICE TECHNICIAN
IMMEDIATE OPENINGS
Growing, well established mechanical contracting company located in Detroit metropolitan area seeking HVAC technician experienced in residential and light commercial. Must be familiar with up to 10-ton HVAC systems, electric heat, basic controls and line voltage. Base salary negotiable, fully paid medical benefits, AFLAC, retirement plan, paid holidays and vacation. Strong leadership skills, good customer relations, professionalism and dependability a must. Great clientele base with guaranteed steady year-round work. Fax resume to: (734) 287-4011 or Email resume to: micheller@ecshvac.com

DIRECT CARE WORKER

PT positions avail. Positive attitudes a must. Must have clean driving record. Starting \$7.61/hr. (734) 341-1629

Engineering Manager

40 yr. old custom equip. manufacturer/design-build equip. firm seeks mechanical engineer with broad based exp. Units typically have significant fabrication. Req. knowledge of hydraulics, air and fluid flow, pneumatics, structural design, strong with 3D cad, hands on, good organization & project skills, good communicator. Responsible for a staff of 6. Competitive compensation pkg EOE. Resume: Box 1891 oeresome@hometownlife.com

AUTO SALES

Gordon Chevrolet
Is looking for an exp'd. Auto Salesperson for our Used Car Dept. sales team. Health insurance, 401K, competitive pay plan & a great working environment. This is a great opportunity for the right person. We will respect your privacy. Call Al Denomme for a confidential interview. (734) 458-5242

DRIVER/PERSONAL ASSISTANT:

Primary duty would be as a driver for a local business executive. Must be a licensed driver, experienced in assisting handicapped individual. Pleasant working environment with flexible hours. Excellent driving record & background check. Send resume to: E-mail: resumes@haymanco.com or fax: (248) 879-2430

DELIVERY

Valid Driver's License Req. Car. Vehicle Provided. \$600-\$800/Week Call Mon-Fri, 10am-3pm (248) 471-9444

CERTIFIED BRAKE & FRONT END MECHANIC

Welding & muffler exp. Call btwn 8am-6pm. 734-722-9000

MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR:

Novi 208 units 3 yrs. exp in ext. building maint., plumbing and electrical needed. Require excellent customer skills. Send resume to: jobopen0308@aol.com

DRIVERS/CREW MEMBERS

Quality driven Moving Company looking for self-motivated, teamwork oriented individuals with moving experience a plus (will train). Excellent benefits, profit sharing, 401K, bonus program and room for advancement. Call Brenden at: 734-573-2632 or fax resume to 734-485-8748

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS NEEDED

Twice a week
Thursday mornings & Saturday afternoons

Deliver the Observer Newspapers to homes in Western Wayne County
Must have vehicle, valid driver's license & insurance

Please call 734-582-8690 for more information

MICHIGAN Ad Network Solutions

CLASSIFIED

HELP WANTED

MANAGEMENT - U.S. NAVY RESERVES: Officer rank. Great salary/benefits. \$ for graduate education. Degree required. Call 1-800-371-7456 M-F 9-3.

U.S. NAVY - LAUNCH A CAREER TODAY: Advanced pilot training. Medical/vol. 3 for school. HS grads age 17-34. Call 1-800-922-1703 M-F 9-3.

DENTAL - U.S. NAVY RESERVES: Officer rank. Great salary/benefits. \$ for graduate education. Degree required. Call 1-800-371-7456 M-F 9-3.

UP TO \$5,000 ANNUAL BONUS! Hiring drivers with 3+ ton and heavy pickups, haul low, or semi-trailers. Competitive rates & sign-on bonus. 1-866-784-011 or Foronot@Transport.com.

TRANSFER DRIVERS- NEED 20 CDL A or B to transfer straight trucks, tractors, motor homes, buses, etc. www.mmmotortransportation.com 1-800-501-3783.

NEW TO TRUCKING? YOUR CAREER STARTS NOW! Go to www.CareerCoach.com for more info. Career, FAA approved program. Financial aid if qualified. Job placement assistance. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance.

ADOPTION

ADOPT A HAPPY COUPLE PROMISE YOUR NEWBORN A LIFE OF LOVE, laughter, security and love extended family. Expenses paid. Please call Brian and Jennifer. 888-262-0237.

ADOPT-WE CAN GIVE YOUR BABY LOVE AND SECURITY, you can help please call Denise and Howard at 877-876-1900.

HELP WANTED-GENERAL

CORPORATE CONTROLLER
Livonia insurance agency seeks corporate controller. Candidates must have at least a Bachelor's in Accounting & 3 years previous accounting experience. CPA preferred. Responsibilities include month-end closing, general ledger account analysis/reconciliation, bank reconciliations, cash mgmt, prep of monthly/annual financial statements, managing accounting dept. and internal controls, prep outside auditor schedules, & special projects. Ideal candidates must be extremely organized; have excellent oral/written communication skills; pay prompt attn to management requests; be a team player & self-starter; able to multi-task and pay attn to detail; be able to communicate regulatory/difficult w/mangement and staff. IT and HR experience would be a plus. Qualified candidates please e-mail your resume to: jobs@cambridge-pc.com

AUTO PARTS STORE MANAGER

Full time. Apply at: 43500 Grand River, Novi.

APPOINTMENT SETTER

Ideal for anyone who can't get out to work. Work from home PT, schedule pick-ups for Purple Heart. Call Mon-Fri 9-5: 734-728-4572 or email: phoneworker@aol.com

Immediate Openings For

Lathe Setup Specialist, Machine Programmer, Tool/Fixture Maker and Skilled Assembly Line Workers. Innovative, brand new non-automotive production manufacturing and assembly operation in Livonia, MI, fully equipped with latest MAZAK, HAAS CNC & Lathe for long term business operations. *Skilled Lathe Specialist for Set up, Programming and Optimizing *Skilled CNC Tooling and Fixture Maker with Significant Experiences in Making Effective Tools and Fixtures to Optimize Productivity and Efficiency *Skilled Assembly and Packaging Line Workers Please e-mail your resume to Tina (tding@leapers.com), referencing Job #20120326.

SALES DELIVERY ROUTE DRIVER

Must have clean driving record. Chauffeur's license. Drug screening. Apply in person Mon-Fri. btwn 10-4 at: 38353 Abuzzi Dr., Westland, MI 48185

WAREHOUSE

Summer time help. 40 hrs week till September, \$9/hr. Must be able to pass drug test & be able to lift 50lbs. Apply in person: 8976 W 7 Mile, Northville MI 48167

CASHIER

FT or PT. Southfield Call Sid: (248) 850-4499

CARRIER SERVICES DEPT.

Full-time position available for our carrier services department. Individual will make outbound calls to existing customers, provide back office support by placing carrier orders/repairs. Must be organized, self motivated, type 50 wpm and have computer/data entry skills. Carrier experience desirable, i.e. AT&T, Paetec & X.O. Mon-Fri 8:30am-5pm. \$11-\$13/hr. with benefits. Call: 248-586-2177

ASSISTANT TO CFO

Of large Healthcare Provider. Strong background in accounting, report presentation and extensive computer knowledge using excel. Competitive wages and benefits. Send resume to: ajenkins@glassarpe.com

Auto Dealership Office

Large Metro-Detroit Dealership is seeking an individual for full-time General Office position, with accounting, inventory, and billing experience. We are seeking an energetic, enthusiastic individual with a great work ethic to join our Office team! We are in need of someone who is efficient and accurate and can handle a fast paced work environment. We offer a great work environment, medical, dental, and life insurance, as well as paid vacations and a 401k plan. Anyone who has prior dealership experience and is self-motivated is encouraged to submit their resume. Dealership experience is a must! Resume to: Box 1887 oeresome@hometownlife.com

OFFICE ASSISTANT - Part Time

20-30 hrs/week. Basic office duties. Good communication skills needed. 734-251-9320 felichault@wealthandwisdominc.com

HELP WANTED-DENTAL

DENTAL RECEPTIONIST
Are you dependable, personable, organized, and a good communicator with strong telephone and computer skills? If you also have dental experience, a high quality specialty office is waiting for you to call: (248) 357-3100

Dental Front Office Business Staff

Full-time position for a career minded individual. Must have a minimum of 2 years dental experience. Knowledge of Dentrix, ADA Codes and insurance is required. Superior attention to detail and warmth, caring and expert customer service. If you would like to join a quality team, please send cover letter & resume: moreinfo@preferredentalgroup.com

Help Wanted-Medical

OFFICE STAFF
Part-Time. Downtown & Livonia Podiatry office. Fax resume: 588-486-5175

MANAGEMENT
Position in Podiatric medical office. Must have min. 3 years exp in Front Office, electronic medical records & medical assisting. Send resumes to: hockeydoc@scgllobal.net

OPTICAL

Part-Time for private practice in Farmington. Resume to: jivargovick@gmail.com

GROOMER: Must be reliable, skilled professional & have exc. people & animal skills. Fax resume: 734-328-3234

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST

Full-Time, busy family practice in Livonia. Must be able to work flexible hours, patient friendly and reliable. Fax resume: 734-425-1002

Michigan Orthopaedic Institute is hiring:

- Front Desk Receptionists
- Medical Assistants

MEDICAL OFFICE EXPERIENCE REQUIRED employment@moimd.com

REACH

even more potential employees with an Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Recruitment Package!

For details call 1-800-579-7355

HELP WANTED-GENERAL

TRANSFER DRIVERS- NEED 20 CDL A or B to transfer straight trucks, tractors, motor homes, buses, etc. www.mmmotortransportation.com 1-800-501-3783.

NEW TO TRUCKING? YOUR CAREER STARTS NOW! Go to www.CareerCoach.com for more info. Career, FAA approved program. Financial aid if qualified. Job placement assistance. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance.

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HELP WANTED-GENERAL

DRIVER-TRUCK/LABORER
Must have stick exp. & good driving record. \$9.50/hr. to start. Apply at Nobles Landscaping Supply, 29450 W 5 Mile W of Middlebelt. 248-474-4922

Payroll Controller

Responsible for payroll and benefits processing, will also be responsible for ensuring the over all integrity of payroll while maintaining a professional relationship with management and other employees to ensure proper and timely processing of payroll. Ideal candidate will have the minimum of 2 yrs. exp. in payroll and human resources. ADP & Dealertrack (Arkona) Management Systems exp. preferred. Must have excellent interpersonal communication skills with the ability to forge productive relationships with peers and management. Ability to work in a fast paced, dynamic and self motivated environment. Excellent knowledge of Microsoft Office (Excel). Candidate must have experience handling confidential issues in a professional and discreet manner. Ideal candidate will have exp. processing commission statements for sales professionals. Candidate must pass a background and drug test. E-mail us today for an immediate & confidential interview. Box oeresome@hometownlife.com

SPRINKLER SERVICE TECH

Established landscaping co. seeking an exp'd sprinkler service tech. Min 5 yrs verifiable exp. Must be knowledgeable in all phases of installation, troubleshooting, and repair. O.T. available in the spring and fall. Must pass background and driving record check. Call: (734) 738-0002

CONCRETE LABORER

Min 2 yrs w/valid driver's license. \$10-\$11/hr. 50-55 hrs/wk. Call 313-928-1212

OUTDOOR GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

40hrs/week, \$9/hr, self motivated & hardworking. Experience in using Zero turn mower, John Deer Tractor. Must be able to pass drug test. Apply in person: 8976 W 7 Mile, Northville MI 48167

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Summer time help. 40 hrs week till September, \$9/hr. Must be able to pass drug test & be able to lift 50lbs. Apply in person: 8976 W 7 Mile, Northville MI 48167

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- Medical Assistants

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HELP WANTED-DENTAL

DENTAL RECEPTIONIST
Are you dependable,

JOBS

careerbuilder.com

Help Wanted- Food/Beverage
CAFE HELP (EXP'D)
 Part time in Novi. 10am-2pm Mon-Fri. Call 248-596-6086

Position Wanted
 WE'RE LOOKING FOR A JOB IN PRIVATE DUTY HOME CARE. Over 15 yrs exp. My mission is to improve the quality of life and level of independence for every client and family receiving my services. Shonda's Private Duty Homecare: (586) 329-0091

Attorneys/Legal Counseling
DIVORCE \$75.00
 www.CSRdisability.com
 CS&R 734-425-1074

WHEELS

cars.com

Boats/Motors
FISHING BOAT
 7.5 HP, 12 ft. with trailer, good condition, \$600/best offer. Call: 248-442-9855, leave message

Boat/Vehicle Storage
MIRRORCRAFT - 14FT BOAT
 With Evinrude engine with trailer. Deep V, garaged, \$2,950. Joe: (248) 396-0911

Motorcycles/Minibikes/Go-carts/Off-road
HARLEY SPORTSTER 1200C 1997
 18,000 miles, sharp, good cond., \$3800. 734-751-0967
HONDA 750 SHADOW 2007
 Asking \$4,000/best offer. Please call: (248) 446-1890

Auto Misc.

WE PAY TOP DOLLAR For Clean USED CARS

AVIS FORD (248) 355-7500

Autos Wanted

CAR OR VAN 1998 OR NEWER Some repair okay. Up to \$2500. 734-223-5705
UNWANTED AUTOS LLC
 \$300 & up for cars \$400 & up for trucks/vans/fats models 248-467-0396

Trucks for Sale

FORD F-150 2008
 XLT 2.7K 4x4 \$18,500
BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500
GMC SIERRA 2005
 4x4, ext cab, gray. Runs great \$11,995
BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500
GMC SIERRA 2008 1500
 Extended cab, 4x4, gray, 78K, \$17,949
BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500
GMC SIERRA EXT CAB 2007
 Black, must see \$11,000
BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500
CHEVY COLORADO 2007
 Victory Red, LT, 4WD, and Z71! Ready for adventure! Just \$15,495!
 888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche
CHEVY SILVERADO 2011
 Summit White, LT, 2500HD, and 16K! This truck is a beast! Just \$31,995!
 888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche
GMC SIERRA 2009
 White Heat, 43K, extended cab, and OnStar! Own the road! Just \$17,999!
 888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

Trucks for Sale
FORD F-250 2008
 12C1070A F4X S/CAB red. Auto, full power, boss plow, 12K, certified \$27,988
DEALER 734-402-8774

Mini-Vans
HONDA ODYSSEY 2005
 Touring, Only \$12,995
BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

CHEVY UPLANDER 2006
 Tan Almond, LT, DVD, and remote start! Great family fun! Only \$12,495!
 888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

CHRYSLER TOWN AND COUNTRY 2008
 Candy Apple Red, 31K, touring, and power options! Ready for an adventure! Just \$17,995!
 888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

Chrysler Town & Country 2010
 Touring- Sto-n-go seating, DVD, all electric, black cherry ext, gray int., low mileage. Factory warranty. \$21,500. Original owner. 734-579-6145

Vans
FORD E350 2011
 15 passenger, 43K, \$20,995
BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

CHEVY EXPRESS 2011
 Bright White, G3500, LT, and 15 passenger! Room for everyone! Just \$25,994!
 888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

4 Wheel Drive
GMC SIERRA 2007 4x4
 Single Cab, 34K, red. \$17,995
BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

Sports Utility
BUICK RAINIER 2004
 Burgundy, AWD, only \$9,125
BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

CHEVY EQUINOX LT 2010
 37K, brown. Must see \$23,700.
BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

CHEVY SUBURBAN 2008
 Very nice, Blue-Gray \$25,995
BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

GMC YUKON XL 2008
 Loaded, power 62K \$30,500
BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

GMC YUKON XL 2009
 Loaded, black. Won't last! \$33,199
BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

MERCURY MOUNTAINEER 2008
 73K Premier \$16,995 Black
BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

CHEVY TAHOE 2007
 White Cotton, LTZ, 4WD, and sunroof! Loaded from L to Z! Just \$21,995!
 888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

FORD EDGE 2007
 Summer Sand, SE, and power options! Very sharp edged! Call for price!
 888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

CHEVY TRAILBLAZER 2008
 12T1144A 4 dr, 4WD, dk. cherry, leather, moon, only 29K on odometer, 1 owner \$19,488
NORTH BROS. FORD 734-402-8774

FORD ESCAPE 2009
 12T9192A G2 Redline, auto, leather, moonroof, alloy \$17,998
 Certified PreOwned
NORTH BROS. FORD 734-402-8774

FORD ESCAPE XLT 2009
 12T9057A Red, 4 cylinder, full power, moon, 24K on odometer \$16,988
NORTH BROS. FORD 734-402-8774

FORD ESCAPE XLT 2012
 11C6011A auto, full power, chrome wheels, 15K miles, certified \$22,988
NORTH BROS. FORD 734-402-8774

Sports & Imported
CORVETTE 2005 Coupe
 Magnetic red, 1 owner, winter stored, 27,000 mi, exc. cond. \$29,900. 734-858-2415

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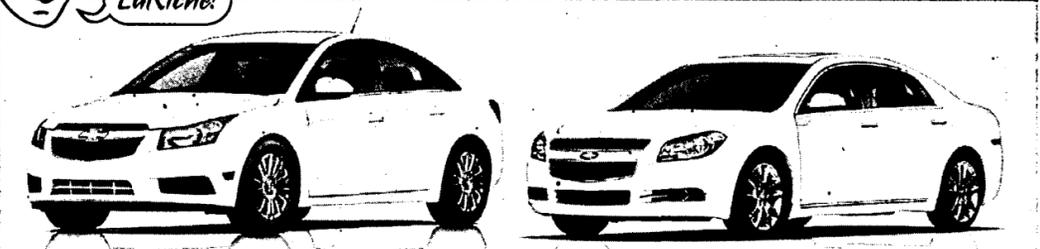
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