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Wayne-Westland district to tear down vacant Inkster middle school building

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

The former Blanchett Middle School in Inkster will be torn down by its new owner, the Wayne-Westland Community Schools.

The school board approved a resolution authorizing Wayne RESA to select a contractor to demolish the building at Palmer and Henry Ruff.

Wayne-Westland acquired the build-

ing following the dissolution of the Inkster School District in July 2013. The district was divided among four school districts. Wayne-Westland was given the portion of the former district that was west of Middlebelt and north of Michigan Avenue and included the former school.

"When we received the building, it was in very rough shape," said Jim Larson-Shidler, deputy superintendent for business services. "It deteriorated fur-

ther due to the harsh winter. At the time we estimated the basic mechanical and structural repairs at \$1.5 million."

Larson-Shidler said Wayne-Westland maintained the heat and water in the building, plowed the parking lot and maintained security at the building, but hasn't made any repairs.

"To occupy Blanchett, it would take at least one year of sinking fund budget to bring it up to acceptable standards," he said. "The current enrollment of

Wayne-Westland doesn't support the operation of Blanchett."

The demolition will cost an estimated \$515,000, with a bulk of the money — \$372,000 — being used for asbestos removal. The demolition will be done at no cost to the school district. The money will come from \$5 million that the state has provided to cover operational costs related to the dissolution of the Inkster

See DEMOLITION, Page A2



The Westland Police Honor Guard march to flag poles, where they raised flags from the old city hall on Ford Road.

TOM BEAUDOIN

Officials 'treat' residents to new Westland city hall

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

More than 100 youngsters in Halloween costumes waited patiently for the speeches to end so they could experience the new Westland City Hall their way — trick-or-treating at stations around the 64,000-square-foot building.

"I hope you don't mind if I walk around and smile all

night," said Mayor William Wild who was praised for his foresight and leadership in getting a new city hall. "My proudest moment has to be here, tonight. This is something that has been needed for a long time."

A standing-room-only crowd — which included elected officials from five other cities, past and present Westland officials and residents — filled the lobby

of the new building, located on Warren Road east of Central City Parkway.

The purchase of the former Circuit City building and the retrofit cost \$10 million, which is being covered by money generated by the city's Tax Increment Finance Authority.

The hour-long ceremony featured live coverage of the lowering of the flags at

the former city hall on Ford Road by the Westland Police Department Honor Guard, which brought them to the new building on Warren Road where they were raised to close the program.

'Transparency'

Pointing out that he wanted the new building to

See CITY HALL, Page A2

Westland man facing hearing on murder charge

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

A 38-year-old Westland man faces a Nov. 6 preliminary hearing in Westland's 18th District Court on a charge that he murdered a 30-year-old Westland woman Oct. 23.

Jaime Allen Pearson, the recent ex-boyfriend of Rachel Watson, was arraigned Sunday by video on a charge of first-degree murder before Out-County 34th District Court Judge Meletios Golematison. A not guilty plea was entered on his behalf.



Pearson

Pearson, father of Watson's 1-year-old child, had been in police custody since Thursday morning as a person of interest after being apprehended as he left his apartment complex in Detroit.

According to Westland Police Sgt. John Torolski, co-workers at the Heartland Health Care Center in Ann Arbor became concerned when Watson failed to show up for work Wednesday evening. They contacted another co-worker, who lived in Westland and some-

See HEARING, Page A2

Wayne-Westland uses online auction to sell surplus goods

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

Need a school bus? A pick-up truck? Maybe some playground equipment?

Those are some of the items being sold in an online auction being conducted today (Oct. 30) by biddergy.com for the Wayne-Westland Community Schools.

The 12-hour auction is taking place from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. online at www.biddergy.com

Available to the highest bidder are seven school buses with mileage in excess of 150,000 miles and in need of repairs. The district also is getting rid of old and outdated cafeteria tables, dump trucks, plow trucks, vans, plows, salt spreaders, equipment and golf carts.

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TOM BEAUDOIN

Gary Sebach, architect from Orchard, Hiltz and McCliment, talks about the new Westland City Hall that he designed.



TOM BEAUDOIN

Bishop Luke McClendon from Christ Temple Apostolic Church delivers the invocation at the dedication ceremony.



TOM BEAUDOIN

Mayor William Wild tells the audience his proudest moment as mayor is the dedication of the new city hall.



TOM BEAUDOIN

Ashe' Lewis sings "America the Beautiful" to open the dedication of the new Westland City Hall on Monday.



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HEARING

Continued from Page A1

times did babysitting for Watson, around 7:45 p.m. and asked her to check on Watson.

The co-worker went to the home in the 6400 block of Avondale and discovered Watson's four children in the house. She did a cursory check of the main floor of the ranch-style home and left, taking the children with her, according to police Sgt. John Torolski.

"She called the father of her three older children who came and picked them up. The victim's sister came to get the 1-year-old and asked the co-worker to take her to the house," Torolski said. "They

discovered her body in the basement."

The discovery was made about four hours after the co-worker initially visited the home. "It was evident that foul play was suggested," he said.

The Wayne County Medical Examiner's Office ruled Watson's death a homicide, with the cause of death strangulation. The findings included signs of bruising around the neck and broken blood vessels in her eyes.

Pearson faces a sentence of life in prison without parole, if found guilty of the charge. He is currently being held in Wayne County Jail in lieu of bail.

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DEMOLITION

Continued from Page A1

schools. School board trustees expressed sympathy for the residents of Inkster who are fighting to regain their school district.

When questioned by board Secretary Carol Middel about repurposing the school, Larson-Shidler said it would take \$1.5 million-\$2 million to make repairs. The school has a leaky roof and is "in terrible disrepair."

"I'm not sure the community was made aware

of the condition of the buildings, and that's truly unfortunate because of the emotional attachment," Middel said. "It needs to go, and we are the bearers of bad tidings — we have to tell them it's going to be torn down."

"I understand there's an attachment to this building, they're going through the same thing in my hometown and it makes me very sad," board Vice-President Thomas Buckalew said. "My school is in disrepair, and it makes good common sense not to maintain the building and bring it up to code, and that's

where we are at with Blanchett. This is the only course that makes any sense for the school district."

Acknowledging that Inkster residents are still "hoping to one day have a district of their own," Trustee Cindy Schofield asked Larson-Shidler what the chances were that that might happen.

"In my opinion, zero," he said.

"I feel for the Inkster community," Schofield said. "That community has been hard hit, and the loss of the school district was another blow. This is the second year since the

district was dissolved and there's still a great loss. They're not going to get over it, it's going to continue."

"I recognize that this is not necessarily the right decision for the community, and we face the challenge of providing an opportunity for their community to feel complete," she added.

Once the building is demolished, the district will be able to sell the property. The proceeds from the sale will go to pay off the Inkster schools debt.

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CITY HALL

Continued from Page A1

be about "connectivity and transparency," Wild praised the leadership of the TIFA Board led by Marsha Bianconi and Bill Ziemba and the "great working relationship" with the city council.

Designed by architect Gary Sebach of Orchard, Hiltz and McCliment, the new building features enhanced technology and security, is energy efficient, and provides new meeting rooms, replacing those lost when the Bailey Recreation Center was closed several years ago.

"The mayor wanted this building to be about connectivity and trans-

parency. He wanted an ease of access for the community," Sebach said. "If you look around at all the glass, you will see that. This building is flexible and can grow with the community."

According to Wild, the new city hall offers one-stop shopping for residents with the relocation of 11 city departments under one roof. By consolidating offices and closing several buildings, the city will realize a savings of \$250,000 a year.

Wild used the ceremony to thank residents for their patience.

"There was a lot of talk and criticism, but at the end of the day, it worked out well," he said. "I believe this is a game changer. It raises the

image of Westland inside and outside the city. We got 50 years out of the first building, this sets us up for the next 50 years."

Council President James Godbout, who was praised by Wild for his involvement in the project, thanked his fellow council members for putting aside their personal and political agendas to support the TIFA Board in the undertaking.

"Finally we have a facility residents and employees can be proud to call home," he said.

'The best'

Bishop Luke McClenon of Christ Temple Apostolic Church, provided the invocation, but took a moment to tell the crowd that he "tweeted

my followers that I have lived here 35 years and, my apologies to the previous mayors, the last seven years have been the best under the current administration."

"Congratulations to the mayor and his staff on the completion of this beautiful edifice to meet the needs of this great city in the years to come," he said.

The ceremony ended with the singing of the National Anthem by Robert Cassidy.

Ziemba had a message for guests who toured the facility following the ceremony: "This is your city hall, it belongs to the residents of Westland."

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AUCTION

Continued from Page A1

Also available to the highest bidder are playground equipment, three lighted signs and several flagpoles from Madison, Kettering, Lincoln and Vandenberg Elementary schools, which were closed in 2010.

Minimum bids on the vehicles start at \$100, while minimum bid is \$5 for the other items.

"This is equipment that is no longer in use,

is obsolete or in need of repair," Deputy Superintendent Jim Larson Shidler said.

The lose furnishings stored at Madison have been inventoried and have been moved to the Biddergy warehouse in Livonia."

Individuals who want to participate but don't have access to a computer can contact Biddergy.com at 866-260-1611 for more information.

The winning bidders will be able to pay for and pick up their items between 10 a.m. and 7

p.m. Friday, Oct. 31. People who buy the playground equipment will have seven days to remove it from the four schools.

According to Larson Shidler, the proceeds from the auction will go into the district's general fund and will be used to offset the purchase of new buses and trucks recently approved by the school board.

This is the second time the district has used biddergy.com to liquidate surplus property.

Headquartered in Kalamazoo, biddergy.com specializes in helping school districts, municipalities, corporations, court officers, the general public and others recapture the maximum return on surplus and/or obsolete assets.

It recently opened a new location at 35901 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia.

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McKenzie hopes dad's lessons lead to Washington

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

When Bobby McKenzie was in high school, people told him he was never going to play basketball.

Remembering the lessons his father taught him — “Don’t let anything stand in your way” — McKenzie was a team captain at Crestwood High School and walked on for Tom Izzo at Michigan State University.

Now embroiled in a race for the U.S. House 11th District seat against Republican multimillionaire David Trott, McKenzie, a Canton Democrat, is hearing the same message: “You can’t do it.”

He’s hoping history repeats itself and he’s counting on the influence of his father, a polio survivor and longtime small-business owner, to get him there.

“He’s one of the pillars of my life,” McKenzie said during a recent interview. “He imbued in me the idea you fight, don’t give up and you don’t let things get in your way.”

Learning lessons

They were lessons forged as he grew up in Dearborn Heights, after his grandfather brought the family north from Alabama. His father has owned the same small vacuum cleaner sales and repair service in Westland for 50 years.

And his dad thinks, despite the polls and the pundits who say otherwise, his son makes an excellent candidate.

“He’s a unique individual in a very positive sense,” Bobby McKenzie Jr. said. “He knows what it takes to make things happen. In direct sales, you have to make it happen. Everyone wants to make things happen, but not everybody is willing to do what it takes. Bobby is willing.”



SHIRIN KHAN

Bobby McKenzie, who now lives in Canton, grew up in Dearborn Heights, earned a bachelor’s degree from Michigan State and was a walk-on for the Spartans basketball team.

McKenzie, who worked part time for his dad’s business as a youngster, had his eyes on bigger prizes growing up. While studying economics at Michigan State, McKenzie, not the tallest player in the world, walked on for Izzo’s Spartans.

Last guy

He remembers asking Izzo once if there was “any chance” he was ever going to see game action and Izzo’s matter-of-fact response: No. “I was the last guy on the bench,” McKenzie said with a smile. “In (Izzo’s) mind, I was probably the last guy on all of his benches.”

Still, McKenzie prepared, and eventually saw 9.6 seconds during mop-up time against Central Michigan in a Thanksgiving tourna-

ment in 1997.

“For me, it was the idea of getting in the game,” McKenzie said. “It was something I wanted to do. It was being on the team, being able to compete in practice. Being in that environment was an experience. I was humbled.”

McKenzie went on to earn a master’s degree in security studies from Georgetown University and eventually earned a graduate fellowship in the CIA. At the tender age of 19, McKenzie was an analyst focused on the politics of the Middle East.

Dreams realized

McKenzie had fulfilled two dreams. “Two things I wanted to do as a kid — play basketball at MSU and go into the FBI,” he said. “(The CIA fellowship)

was another extraordinary opportunity and I was grateful to get it.”

When the two-year fellowship ended, McKenzie went into the private sector, though he continued to be a political analyst.

Most recently, McKenzie was a senior adviser in the Bureau of Counterterrorism at the U.S. Department of State. Before that, he worked on African refugee issues and taught courses at Wayne State University as an adjunct lecturer.

Not surprisingly, his dad thinks that varied experience makes his son a perfect candidate.

World views

“He’s been all around the world. I think that experience will have a great impact (on his ability to be effective), particularly with everything happening on the planet Earth at this time,” the elder McKenzie said. “It’s a very unique time, especially in the Middle East. It sure won’t hurt having

the kind of experience he has.”

McKenzie notes the influence his family has had. His grandfather, with only an eighth-grade education, brought the family to Dearborn Heights and found work on the docks. His dad has plugged away for five decades as a small-business owner.

And his mother has been behind a lot of the success. To this day, she’s both his biggest fan and biggest critic. McKenzie remembers being interviewed by Chuck Stokes of WXYZ-TV (Channel 7) recently and the phone call he got from his mother afterward.

Sitting up

“She called to tell me I was slouching,” McKenzie said, laughing. “Here I am on TV, running for Congress and my mom is telling me to sit up straighter. She’s my biggest critic, but she’s a great supporter.”

Ever the optimist — and perhaps fueled by his father’s notion that

you don’t let things stand in the way — McKenzie believes he can win, despite the millions Trott can spend and despite the perception the district is too conservative for a Democrat to win.

McKenzie takes issue with that last notion. “I don’t think it’s as partisan as people think,” McKenzie said. “At the end of the day, people want to know their kids can find a job here. They want to find people who will look beyond the labels.”

While McKenzie said he hasn’t been surprised by much on the campaign trail, he has been struck by the amount of involvement voters are willing to give him.

“It’s far more engaging and interesting than I thought,” McKenzie said. “I like being out talking to people. The part I enjoy the most is being out with the voters and hearing what they think.”

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We are ending the contest Nov. 11 so don’t wait too long to enter. The photo can be of just about anything related to Halloween. You may also go directly to the contest at this link: <http://woobox.com/mevtp>

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WESTLAND COP CALLS

Larceny

A resident of Minerva Avenue reported a Sears leaf vacuum taken from in front of his home on Oct. 26. The man told police he had left it sitting in the street next to his trash cans when he walked to the garage to meet a friend who had come over to get something. When he returned five minutes later, the vacuum was gone. He valued it at \$500.

Stolen cell phone

A resident in the 6200 block of North Farmington reported an Apple iPhone 6 and an iPhone 6 case were stolen sometime between Oct. 23-25. The woman had ordered the phone and case from Sprint and it was shipped to her home on Oct. 21 by UPS. On Oct. 25, she was working in her yard when she spotted a box in the shrubs by her porch. She presumed it was her order, but when she

looked the box had been opened and the contents were missing. The packing slip indicated that it was for the phone case.

She said she talked to Sprint and was told the phone and case were shipped in separate boxes and both were delivered to her home Oct. 23.

Larceny from a vehicle

An Inkster resident reported that the catalytic converter had been removed from her vehicle while it was parked in the lot of the MJR Theaters on Oct. 26.

Fraud

A Westland resident told police she was notified by Downriver Community Credit Union that her debit card had been used on Oct. 23 in Chicago, Ill., to make \$163 in purchase. The woman said the charges were fraudulent.

A resident of Flamingo Street told police that in checking her bank statement on Oct.

13, she noticed a \$106 charge at Meijer that she hadn't authorized. She told police she had the VISA card in her possession.

Stolen property

The owner of R&A Tooling and Engineering, 39127 Ford Road, reported that three large metal storage bins had been stolen from the north side of the building between 5:30 p.m. Oct. 23 and 9 a.m. Oct. 24. He also suspects scrap metal also was taken. He valued the bins at \$2,000 each.

Attempted theft

A resident living in an apartment on North Fountain Park reported that overnight Oct. 20 someone broke a rear passenger door window and ransacked her vehicle. Nothing appeared to be missing.

Another resident living on North Fountain Park also had the passenger side rear window

broken overnight Oct. 20. The officer reported that the interior compartment had been searched and the glove box emptied in what looked like an attempt to find the wheel lock key.

» A resident living on Fountain Park Circle reported that someone shattered the driver side window on her SUV while it was parked overnight Oct. 20. There was nothing missing from the car, but the police officer surmised that the suspects were searching for the vehicle's wheel lock key.

The woman said she carries it in her purse because she had had her tires and rims stolen the previous week.

Stolen tires

A resident living in an apartment on Mackenzie Drive had the tires and rims stolen Oct. 20 from a vehicle she had borrowed from a friend. The woman said her neighbor knocked

on her door at 6 a.m. to tell her about the theft. The vehicle, which belonged to an East-pointe man, was left sitting on cinder blocks.

The tires and rims were stolen from a second car parked in the lot on Mackenzie drive overnight Oct. 20. The vehicle also was left sitting on cinder blocks and the lug nuts were found in the grass near the vehicle.

Attempted break-in

The director of Inspire Theatre, 5767 Executive Drive, told police that sometime overnight Oct. 15 someone attempted to force open the back door of the theater.

He said he was leaving the theater Oct. 16 when he noticed that the lock on the door had been tampered with and that there was a large gap near the door handle. No entry was gained into the theater and nothing was missing.

GARDEN CITY COP CALLS

Property damage

A man who lives in the 30000 block of Bock found his 2002 Pontiac Sunfire damaged about 4:30 a.m. Oct. 28. It was parked on the street in front of his house.

When the car owner went to his car in the morning, he found his driver's side door damaged and the rear panel on the driver's side of the car was dented.

Nothing was taken from the inside of the car. The police were unable to lift any fingerprints as evidence.

Larceny

A new resident moving into her home in the 1500 block of Lathers reported about 2 p.m. Oct. 27 that someone stole her camera and two lenses from a pile of stuff that she left out in the open on the porch.

She told the police that she knew that she should have been quicker about getting things inside of the house.

The woman explained that she heard a knock on the door and when she came to the door, she saw a man holding the camera and two lenses. She saw the man drive off in a

white van parked on Lathers near Hennepin.

About an hour later, an employee said that a man came in to pawn the camera and lenses. Both the female resident and the employee had noted that there was no charger in the case.

The resident described the suspect a black man, between 40-50 years of age, about 6 feet tall, 150 pounds and wearing a white long-sleeved shirt, jeans and a hat.

Break-in

Several tools were reported stolen from a detached garage about 8:30 a.m. Oct. 22. The owner found his fence and garage side door open.

The stolen items included an edger, stereo, drill, chainsaw, lawnmower and mountain bike.

Fraud

A 45-year-old Garden City woman came to the police station Oct. 22 to report fraudulent use of her credit card on a credit union account.

She said that someone fraudulently charged \$123.99 Oct 21 at a Meijer store in Madison Heights.

The account was later shut down.

Suspended license

After a driver was stopped for reportedly speeding in the Henry Ruff and Hennepin area about 8:30 p.m. Oct. 24, he was arrested for driving with a suspended license.

The driver caught the police officer's attention when he was reportedly clocked driving 50 mph on Henry Ruff in a 25 mph area.

» Garden City Police cited a 25-year-old Detroit woman for speeding 37 mph in a 25 mph zone in the area of Henry Ruff and Marquette about noon Oct. 24.

Because she had two small children with her, the officer allowed her to arrange to be processed later at the station where she was cited and released.

The officer locked her car on the street and she was told that she wasn't allowed to drive it with a suspended license.

» A driver who was stopped in the area of Middlebelt and Bock Oct. 22 was arrested after the police learned that he was driving with a suspended license and had an outstanding warrant out of Westland.

WAYNE COP CALLS

Break-in

A generator and power washer were reported stolen Oct. 24 from a mobile home used by the Wayne Exchange, 32413 Michigan Ave.

The owner told police that he had secured the business at 6 p.m. Oct. 23 and when he returned at 3 p.m. Oct. 24 he noticed the mobile home had been broken into and the equipment, valued at \$800, missing.

Police were back at the business on Oct. 24, when the owner discovered someone had broken into the mobile home again sometime between 6:30 p.m. Oct. 24 and 10:30 a.m. Oct. 25. The owner wasn't sure what was missing in the second break-in.

Larceny

A 30-inch lawn mower and several backpack blowers were reported stolen from an enclosed trailer belonging to Double H Lawn Care.

The owner told police he had parked the trailer in the driveway of the business, 31671 Carlisle, at about 4 p.m. Oct. 23.

When he returned at 4:35 p.m. Oct. 24, he found a weed trimmer on the ground near the trailer.

The man told police he may have left the trailer unlocked. He also said he had spoken to neighbors who had not seen anything during the time in question.

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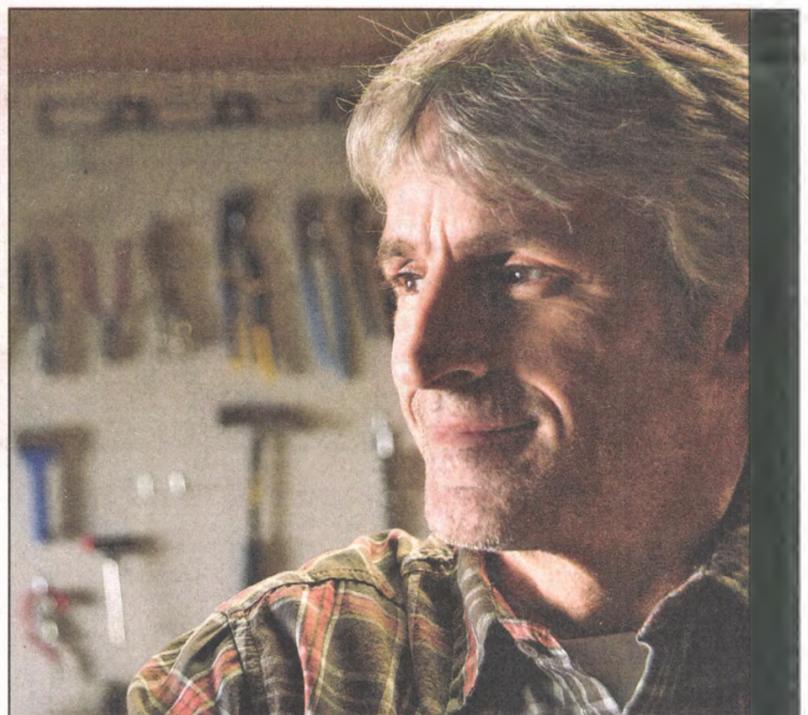
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NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED
ORTHOPEDICS TEAM
OFFERS FREE
BACK PAIN 101.**

Anyone struggling with back pain knows it can become unbearable over time and rob you of enjoyment whether you're standing, sitting,

lying or walking. Oakwood recognizes that every back pain condition is unique, so we offer Back Pain 101 – a FREE and informative class hosted by a panel of Oakwood orthopedic spine specialists who explain what causes back pain and the variety of treatment options available, from medical treatment to physical therapy to surgery.

If you or someone you know is struggling with back pain, we'll answer your questions personally at Back Pain 101. Class size is limited, so please register by calling **800.543.WELL** or visiting the Classes and Events section at oakwood.org.

Visit oakwood.org or call **800.543.WELL (9355)** to register for a date and time that works for you.



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GARDEN PARTY

Volunteers help First Step families with healing process

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

When Theresa Bizoe spoke to a group at a Plymouth Rotary Club lunch more than a year ago, she probably couldn't have realized it would lead to the completion of a dream.

On Saturday, volunteers from that same club — along with landscaping crews and other workers who came with them — took giant steps toward making Bizoe's dream a reality.

Dozens of volunteers worked all day Saturday at the First Step shelter in Wayne, putting the green touches on what will be, according to its designer, one of the largest playground/healing garden facilities in the country.

First Step is a shelter serving the victims of sexual and domestic violence in western Wayne County.

The facility now includes 60 shade trees, a variety of playground equipment and four healing gardens, each with its own identity, to help First Step families recover from the trauma they've faced.

Stress relief

"We're putting together all the green parts of our playground and healing garden for all the families that come to us for help," said Bizoe, First Step's associate director. "Play and relaxation are an essential part of the healing process, especially for children. The kids who come to First Step leave their homes, their schools, sometimes their families, their friends, their

toys, and they come into a shelter. That can be very stressful for kids." Jonathan Dreyfuss of Ann Arbor-based Greenscape Systems, who designed the playground, called it "perhaps the most comprehensive playground ever developed in the United States for this application."

In addition to several pieces of pretty standard playground equipment, the facility will include four different play areas, crafted for infant/toddlers, preschoolers, school-age kids and teenagers.

Garden party

The healing gardens will include one garden near the building, another that includes an 80-foot retaining wall — "The wall basically wraps its arms around people sitting there," Dreyfuss said — and a rock garden and water garden, with a water wall that provides a peaceful setting for families who want to listen to the water rushing.

"The healing gardens are really the component that separates this space from other spaces people go to visit in public parks," Dreyfuss said. "These are places for people to go to lessen the stress of the experiences they've been subjected to."

The playground is expected to be "95 percent complete" this fall, Dreyfuss said, with total completion expected in the spring.

Saturday's volunteer effort blossomed out of Bizoe's appearance at the Rotary meeting. Club membership includes a couple of landscaping contractors and, according to Bizoe, a challenge was issued: For every Rotarian who volunteered to help, a professional landscaper would



Dozens of landscapers and other volunteers helped to finish the project at the First Step shelter in Wayne.

TOM BEAUDOIN

be added to the volunteer group.

Right thing

Paul Opdyke of Plymouth-based Serene Surroundings, was among them.

"Rotarians are putting in the effort and the resources," Opdyke said. "I wanted to do the same. It was the right thing to do."

Plymouth Rotary Club member Eric Joy, the son of club president Tim Joy, said he was moved by Bizoe's presentation at that lunch meeting so many months ago.

"I told her at the end of the meeting I'd like to help," Eric Joy said. "First Step is for victims of domestic violence, but it's mostly for the kids. My mom is a retired teacher, so kids and I are kind of tight. I just wanted to do it for the kids."



Landscaping volunteers helping put the First Step playground together took time out for a group photo.

TOM BEAUDOIN

When it's done the playground, which covers more than an acre, will include a splash pad, a bucket-swing set, a large sandbox and a variety of playground

equipment Bizoe said was "rescued" from another facility. All of it is designed, she stressed, to aid families who seek First Step's help in the healing

process. "What we envision this playground to be is a place where people can relax, to be able to heal from all the trauma they've seen," Bizoe said.

WHAT QUALITIES ARE YOU LOOKING FOR IN OUR NEXT CONGRESSMAN?

BOBBY MCKENZIE
FOR U.S. CONGRESS



1. Spent the past 15 years working in the CIA and State Dept fighting terrorism
2. Son of a small business owner
3. Proud public school graduate
4. Supports women's reproductive rights and equal pay for equal work

DAVE TROTT
FORECLOSURE KING

1. Earned over \$60 Million foreclosing on Michigan families in the past 6 years
2. Attended elite private schools
3. Would ban abortion even in cases of rape, incest, or the mother's health
4. Wants to eliminate the Departments of Education and Energy

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Westland dispatch team wins state APCO award

Four Westland dispatchers earned state recognition for their work related to a fatal fire and hostage situation in Westland in May 2013.

Randi Sloan-Demetriou, Dale Massa, Diane Musulin and Tondria Harris were awarded the Michigan-APCO Public Safety Communications Team Award of the Year. "I couldn't be prouder of the Westland Police Department's dispatchers," Police Chief Jeff Jedrusik said. "They play a key role in keeping our police officers, firefighters and citizens safe. The call volume they handle, and the stress they face, too often goes unrecognized."

The dispatchers were lauded for their work related to the May 8 fire at Marvaso's Italian Grille/Electric Stick — which claimed the life of Wayne-Westland Fire-fighter Brian Woehlke — and their work during his funeral when a hos-

tage situation occurred at Westland City Hall on May 13.

According to the nomination, the four dispatchers not only handled the details of the fire and subsequent search for Woehlke — whose body was found in the building's burnt-out remains — but all the other emergency requests with the help of mutual aid from other departments.

According to the nomination, "because of their experience and dedication to providing the best service possible, they were able to anticipate requests that the WWFA would need handled, such as calling the utility companies, setting up traffic control, contacting key holders (not just for Marvaso's, but to the surrounding businesses that could be affected) and proper notifications to various city government officials, to name just a few of the tasks they handled



Showing off the Michigan-APCO Public Safety Communications Team Award of the Year are dispatcher Dale Massa (from left), dispatcher Tondria Harris, Deputy Police Chief Todd Adams, dispatcher Diane Musulin and dispatcher Randi Sloan-Demetriou.

without being asked to do so. By anticipating these requests, these dispatchers allowed the WWFA to concentrate on the scene and their recovery efforts."

The team also worked during Woehlke's funeral procession on May 13, which required the coor-

inated closure of several major intersections in Westland and other cities by the Westland Police Department. They also handled the transmittal of the broadcast about a hostage situation involving a bomb at Westland City Hall as the funeral service was end-

ing as well as a request for the broadcast of one last tone for Woehlke.

The nomination noted that the dispatchers "not only maintained their composure and professionalism, but as a team they were flawless with their execution of the various tasks they need-

ed to perform." They never once used a tone of voice that indicated on the radio that they were over-stressed. They assisted each other to make sure that not one radio transmission, emergency or non-emergency phone call or request was missed.

The nomination also noted that had the four dispatchers not come worked as a team, phone calls would have gone unanswered and radio transmissions would have been missed.

"While handling all of these tasks, the cities still had emergencies that needed to be dispatched. These dispatchers worked together calling various fire departments for mutual aid assistance, handling all LEIN requests, dispatching runs, answering phone calls and handling all special requests made by the Westland Police Department to help secure the fire scene from contamination."

Wayne library adds business resource center to its collection

In order to encourage collaboration between local businesses and libraries and to bolster economic recovery in southeast Michigan, The Library Network has placed an emphasis on business enterprise. Business resource centers have been developed throughout the Network, as well as throughout the nation.



Wayne Public Library now has its own Business Resource Center. Please "check it out" from our homepage at www.wayne.lib.mi.us or directly www.wayne.lib.mi.us/business-resources.html. We provide portals to industrial strength business organizations like the U.S. Small Business Administration, Michigan Economic Development Corporation, SCORE and the Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center. These organizations really want you to succeed and have the business expertise to back them up.

The "Request for Business Assistance" form can be downloaded, and we will help you with your search. Our brochure can be printed as can a library card application for business use. Patrons can request a face-to-face appointment with SCORE mentors — retired businessmen with vast experience in many, if not all aspects of business enterprise.

You can find out when and where local business seminars will be held. Also we have a long list of essential business websites; for example, the "IRS Starting a Business," "Business Plans and Financial Statements Templates" or "Guide to Starting and Operating a Small Business."

Finally, and not least, we have books. These books contribute an understanding of business concepts and philosophy as well as practical applications. A button allows access to a specific catalog of business-related

books, which can be borrowed for perusal at home.

We also want you to succeed; we want to foster an awakening of economic independence and confidence. We want you to find your dream.

A note from the library co-director:

This is an exciting time for Wayne. Thanks to new technologies and resources gained through cooperation with fellow libraries, Wayne citizens have access to more information through their library than ever before. Through Overdrive, the library's digital content system, library cardholders have access to a wealth of information. It's not just eBooks, but also audiobooks, music, streaming video and, coming soon, newspapers and magazines, thanks to a new partnership between Overdrive and NOOK.

Access to both print and electronic library resources has been significantly expanded. This has been made possible by providing cardholders with access to the Michigan eLibrary Catalog (MeLCat). This service links users to both print and digital collection items from across the state, as well as a number of helpful research databases. It can be accessed from the library's website at www.wayne.lib.mi.us.

Do you own a small business, or are thinking of starting one? Then make sure you take a look at our small business research collection, located near the library's reading room. We also have a considerable number of online business resources on our website that can keep you informed and help provide a competitive edge.

If you still haven't found the answer you're looking for, feel free to submit a business research assistance form. Our knowledgeable and well trained staff will track the answer down for you. Forms are available at the adult reference desk, or you can print it from the business

resource section of the library's website and submit it at the reference desk.

We at the Wayne Public Library encourage everyone to enjoy these free online services. We also welcome you to come to your library and make use of our free public computers.

Upcoming Events

Halloween Trick-or-Treat, 3-5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 31 — Children age 0-18 are welcome to visit the library on Halloween to Trick-or-Treat. Visit the different desks to receive special treats. Costumes are required. Need a costume idea or on a tight budget? Stop by the Youth Desk prior to Halloween for ideas and books to put you in the spirit of the season.

Family Fun Storytime, 2 p.m. Tuesdays, multi-age storytime for the whole family — Join us for stories, rhymes, movement, and crafts intended to engage children and caregivers of all ages. An adult caregiver must remain with the child during the entire program. Approximately 30 minutes long. Registration is required for this free program. Sign up begins two weeks prior to event.

For the fall storytime sessions we are lucky to have a grand prize "Arthur" basket to give away. Every time a child attends a storytime they will receive an entry to win the basket! The drawing will take place on Nov. 18 at the end of storytime.

Session 2 is Oct. 28 (Halloween costumes encouraged), Nov. 4, 11, 18.

Parents in Action, 6-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Nov. 12 — Parent and child workshops presented by Starfish Family Services. To register, contact Starfish at 313-937-2458 or starfishelc@sfish.org.

Information Central was compiled by Carola Fisher and Steve McGladdery. The Wayne Public Library is at 3737 S. Wayne Road, Wayne. For more information, call 734-721-7832 or go online to www.wayne.lib.mi.us.

AROUND WAYNE AND WESTLAND

Christmas Fair

The First Congregational Church of Wayne, 2 Towne Square, is hosting its 68th annual Christmas Fair, "Magical Christmas," from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Nov. 6-7, at the church.

A la carte lunches are served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and dinners from 5-7 p.m. Turkey dinners with all the trimmings are \$9 for adults and \$4 for children.

Shops are open all day and include the Country Store, Attic Treasurers, Boutique, Christmas Shop, Used Books Store, Hand Made Goods, Coffee Shop, Specialties Shop and Home Made Candy Booth. Shoppers will find Christmas decorations, canned fruits, jams, jellies, and more along with plenty of Christmas gifts.

Parking is on the west side of the building with elevators available at the south entrance.

Historical Society

The Wayne Historical Society will have Westland historian Jo Johnson as its speaker when it meets at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 13, at the Wayne Historical Museum, 1 Town Square, Wayne.

Johnson will talk about the Wayne County General Hospital and Infirmary, which is better known as Eloise. All are welcome, and no reservation is needed. For more information, call 313-605-0821.

Craft-Vendor Fair

A Family Fun Holiday Craft and Vendor Fair will be held from 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 23, at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe at Annapolis in Wayne. There will be holiday shopping, face painting, raffles, games, treats and more. Admission is free, and drinks and snacks will be available for purchase.

Be a Star

The Stars Cheer and Dance team is starting up again for children interested in dance — jazz, pompon, lyrical/modern, hip-hop and prop/novelty. Cheer technique — cheers, chants, tumbling and stunting — is also taught.

Stars dance classes start Monday, Nov. 3, in

the gym of the Tinkham Center, 450 S. Venoy, Westland. The cost for each four-week session is \$33 per member. Classes run from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays and are open to girls and boys in grades 5-8 from Westland and surrounding communities. Cheer technique is also taught.

For more information, call Tinkham Community Education at 734-419-2425.

Trivia Night

Ss. Simon and Jude Parish is holding a Trivia Night on Saturday, Nov. 8, at the church, 32500 Palmer, east of Venoy, Westland.

Space is limited to 35 teams. The cost is \$20 per team (maximum four people) in advance or \$30 at the door. It includes 10 rounds of questions, popcorn and four hot dogs and four chips for each team.

There will be mystery prizes, additional food items and beverages (beer/coolers, water, coffee) available for purchase and a 50/50 raffle — one ticket for \$1, three for \$2, five for \$10 and 25 for \$10.

To register, go online to stssimonandjude.com/newsandactivities/trivianight.html. For more information, call Kathy Hansen at 734-716-4436. All proceeds will go to the Ss. Simon and Jude Building Debt Reduction Program.

Railroadiana

Ss. Simon and Jude Ushers Club will sponsor a buy and swap, toy and train show from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 30, at the church hall, 32500 Palmer Road, west of Merriman, Westland.

Admission is \$2 per person, \$4 per family. Food is available and parking is free. There will be operating train layouts and more than 100 dealer tables.

Tables are available at \$10 per table. To reserve tables, call 734-595-8327. Dealer set-up is at 9 a.m. on the day of the show.

American Legion

The American Legion Westland Post 251 meets on the first Wednesday of each month at the VFW Post 3323 located on Wayne Road and Avondale. The meeting is called to order at 7 p.m. Veterans male and

female who are interested in attending our meeting or want more information are welcome. Information also is available at www.post251.org or by calling 734-326-2607 or 734-455-3415.

Toastmasters

Looking for a job promotion or perhaps a new and better career? Toastmasters International can help you land the job of your dreams by improving your speaking ability, self-confidence and leadership skills.

Toastmasters Westland Easytalkers currently has openings for new members. The group meets 7 p.m. every Thursday at 35613 W. Michigan Avenue, Wayne, two blocks west of the State Wayne Theater.

Call Luddie Connor for more information at 734-414-0034.

Pasta dinner

The Dyer Senior Center in Westland is holding its monthly pasta dinner from 4-7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 21. Enjoy spaghetti, salad and dessert for \$8 for adults, \$4 for children age 12 and under. Children age 3 and under are free.

The Dyer Center is at 36745 Marquette, east of Newburgh, in Westland. For more information, call 734-419-2020.

Wayne Rotary

Wayne Rotary meets for lunch at noon every Tuesday at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe at Annapolis in Wayne, except the last Tuesday of the month, when the club meets at 6 p.m. at US12 on Michigan Avenue for dinner. Be their guest to see what the Wayne Rotary is all about. Call Trish Hampton at 734-890-6934.

Ripple Effect

The Wayne Ripple Effect, a volunteer downtown revitalization group, meets at 6 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at the Wayne Public Library, 3737 S. Wayne Road, in downtown Wayne. Anyone interested in volunteering or getting involved is welcome.

For more information, visit the Ripple Effect website at downtownwayne.org or email Sherrie at waynerippleeffect@gmail.com.

GARDEN CLIPPINGS

Learn to skate

The Garden City Civic Arena will be offering Learn-to-Skate beginning in November.

Thursday classes are from 5-5:50 p.m. and offered for seven weeks, Nov. 6 to Dec. 18. Saturday classes are from

1-1:50 p.m. and offered for six weeks, Nov. 8 to Dec. 20. The cost is \$70 for the seven-week class and \$60 for the six-week class.

Each lesson is 25 minutes, followed by a supervised practice session. Skate both days and get 50-percent off the second day. Also get \$10 off for a

second skater in the family. Register upstairs at the Garden City Ice Arena in Garden City Park on Cherry Hill east of Merriman, noon to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday. Cash and check accepted.

For more information, contact the Garden City Figure Skating Club at

gardencity.fsc@gmail.com.

Coffee Hour

Wayne County Commissioner Richard LeBlanc, D-12th District, and State Rep. David Knezek, D-DeARBorn Heights, will be hosting Coffee Hours in Garden

City at 11 a.m. Monday, Nov. 10, in the Michigan Room of the Maplewood Center on Maplewood west of Merriman.

Citizens who have questions or concerns and are unable to attend the coffee hour can contact LeBlanc by mail at 500 Griswold St., 7th

Floor, Detroit, MI 48226, by phone at 313-224-8855 or email at district12@waynecounty.com.

Contact Knezek at PO Box 30014, Lansing, MI 48909, by phone at 488-4KNEZEK or by email at DavidKnezek@house.mi.gov.

LPS high schools present fall plays

The Livonia Public Schools community will be treated to three student theater productions next month.

Starting off the fall season will be *Inherit the Wind*, a play performed by students in the Drama Department at Stevenson High School Nov. 6-8. This is a story based on the 1925 Scopes Trial involving a teacher who was jailed for teaching the theory of evolution. The play takes the audience through the legal battle that ensues between the deeply religious, famed orator and three-time presidential candidate Matthew Harrison Brady, on the prosecution side, and equally famed agnostic Helen Drummond, who is scorned by the townspeople, on the defense side of the table.

The shows are at 7 p.m. Nov. 6, 7, 8 at Stevenson High School, 33500 Six Mile. Tickets are \$7. Next on the calendar is the famed musical, *Hairspray*, to be performed

by students in the Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA) program at Churchill High School Nov. 13-15. This is a first-ever production of *Hairspray* in Livonia Public Schools.

Audiences will follow and cheer on Tracy Turnblad as she journeys through the struggles of being a "chubby" teenager who loves to dance but can't seem to catch a break. Along the way, she finds others who have similar struggles being accepted, because of their skin color. Through humor and some truly poignant moments, Tracy and her new friends break the barriers of color and teach people the importance of using their voices for positive change.

All shows are at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 13, 14, 15 and are \$10 presale or \$12 at the door. Reserve at capaboxoffice@gmail.com or by calling 734-744-2650 ext. 70463. All performances will take place in the audi-

torium at Churchill High School, 8900 Newburgh Road, between Joy Road and Ann Arbor Trail.

Finally, top off the season with a murder mystery, as Franklin Players presents *Thirteen Past Midnight*, Nov. 20-22. This story unfolds when powerful millionaire TV producer Victor Winslow invites members of the cast and crew of his TV soap opera to his mansion for a party. Guests are informed that their help is needed in developing a new murder mystery game he has invented. But before the game begins, a real murder is committed! The guests must try to trap the murderer before he or she can strike again.

Thirteen Past Midnight will be performed at 7 p.m. Nov. 20, 21, 22 by students in the Franklin Players, at Franklin High School, 31000 Joy Road. Tickets are \$8 and can be purchased by calling 734-744-2655 ext. 73088 or emailing cmeyer4@livoniapublicschools.org.

Thrift Stores hold Harvest Sale on Saturday

Winter is around the corner, so gear up for the cooler weather and prepare for the holiday season during The Salvation Army's annual Harvest Sale. All 34 metro Detroit Salvation Army thrift store locations will offer 50 percent off clothing from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 1.

"As the community prepares for the winter weather, we're pleased to offer savings on the cold weather essentials families will need to stay warm this year," said Merle Miller, administrator of The Salvation Army Southeast Michigan Adult Rehabilitation Center.

Enjoy great deals on coats, scarves, gloves and hats, among other winter essentials. In addition to the clothing

sale, hourly bonus deals will be announced in various departments throughout the day, giving guests even more value.

Local thrift stores include: 403 Joy, Canton, 734-416-1925; 28982 Ford Road, Garden City, 734-261-7175; 3600 Plymouth Road, Livonia, 734-425-7573; and 27170 Grand River, Redford, 313-255-0777.

All thrift store merchandise is donated by community members. Help the ARC continue its work by dropping off gently used clothing, accessories, housewares, furniture and toys to the nearest Salvation Army thrift store donation center. For specific hours of a Salvation Army thrift store and donation center near you,

visit www.salarmythrift.com.

The ARC is an integral part of TSA's mission and offers substance-abusing adults the opportunity to rebuild their lives through a voluntary, short-term residential self-help program designed to establish a sense of dignity, self-esteem and personal strength that will allow them to resist the desire to abuse a substance and regain their rightful place as contributing members of society.

Completely self-funded, the ARC draws its entire operating budget from the revenue of the 34 Salvation Army Thrift Stores located in southeast Michigan.

For more information, visit salarmythrift.com or call 313-965-7760.



YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

In your life and the lives of others with type 2 diabetes.

Millions of people are living with type 2 diabetes. Like you, many of them know that diabetes is not an easy disease to manage.

Over time, new medications will also be needed to maintain good blood sugar control and avoid complications. People with diabetes also have a 2-4 times higher risk of dying of heart diseases compared to people who do not have diabetes.

Detroit Clinical Research Center is now seeking people with type 2 diabetes and heart disease or risk factors for heart disease or chronic kidney disease to take part in the DEVOTE trial. This trial is conducted to confirm that the new investigational basal insulin degludec does not cause risk of heart disease compared to insulin glargine.

The trial will start in late 2013 and run for up to 5 years. More than 7,500 people in approximately 20 countries will participate.

To join the DEVOTE trial you must:

- Be 50 years old or older
- Have type 2 diabetes and heart disease - or risk factors for heart disease or chronic kidney disease
- Be able to come for regular site visits and have telephone contact in between

If you take part in this trial, you will receive comprehensive diabetes care, such as regular health checks and medical testing.

You will also get trial medication at no cost and blood sugar testing equipment, as well as compensation for your travel time [adapt as appropriate].

For more information with no obligation, please call the DEVOTE trial team:

Dr. Steven Katzman
Detroit Clinical Research Center
248-716-7010

References: 1. International Diabetes Federation. IDF Diabetes Atlas Update 2012 5th edition. www.idf.org/diabetesatlas/5e/Update2012. Accessed May 2013.



Medicaid Expansion and the Costs of Grandstanding

Under the Affordable Care Act, Medicaid was to be expanded to include the working poor. The U.S. Supreme Court declared the states could opt in or out of the expansion. Here in Michigan, the legislature and governor opted in for Medicaid expansion. Yet some Republican state senators led by Patrick Colbeck were able to block the legislation from taking immediate effect and thereby cause a three month delay in the expansion of Medicaid to the working poor.

There were four reasons for states to go with the expansion. The first is the Golden Rule one. If you were poor and could not afford health insurance, wouldn't you still want to have it?

The second was that it would save the state government money even after the state had to eventually start contributing 10% of the cost. It relieved the state of much of the cost it was already paying for indigent health care.

The third reason was that the expansion would bring a lot of money into the state economy that would not come if expansion was rejected.

Lastly, hospital reimbursement rates for the uninsured were lowered a lot because it was expected that there would be a lot less uninsured people. The failure to expand Medicaid would mean that there would be a lot more uninsured people than planned for. This could give hospitals major fiscal problems.

On the other side, legislators could selfishly show their disdain for Obamacare by voting against the expansion. Colbeck and the other Republican state senators used this opportunity to grandstand against Obamacare. This caused the three month delay that hurt both the working poor and our state government's finances. Michigan lost at least \$630 million in federal dollars for those three months. This is money that would have come into our state's economy. This was a very high price to pay for state senators grandstanding.

These Republicans apparently saw this vote as being about themselves and how they looked, not about the working poor or the taxpayers. Should you reward their bad behavior with your vote?

Who to Believe on School Spending

Democrat Mark Schauer claims that Governor Snyder and the Republicans in the Legislature cut education spending by nearly a billion dollars to help compensate for the revenue lost by their large tax cut for business owners. His claim is based on the cut of \$960 million in the 2011-12 budget for K-12 and higher education the Legislature passed and the governor signed. Some have criticized this figure because K-12 spending was not quite as bad as budgeted for. The nation pulled out of the Great Recession a little faster than expected so the 2% sales tax income dedicated to education was a bit higher than expected. Still, it was the original intent of the Republicans that supported this figure.

Governor Snyder and Republicans such as State Senator Patrick Colbeck claim they actually increased K-12 spending. This claim is based on the fact that if you add pension contributions to classroom spending, this fiscal year's spending is higher than Governor Granholm's last budget year of 2010-11. Classroom spending by itself is still lower than it was in 2010-11. Granholm's last budget was itself much lower than the 2008-09 which was passed before the Great Recession hit.

The reasons why pension costs to the state are up are twofold. First, while the employees have made their required contributions, the state has not. This goes back to the Engler Administration when tax cuts were more important than pension contributions.

The second reason is that many teachers retired earlier than they otherwise would have because all the budget cuts made teaching more difficult and less rewarding. Class size went up and there was the elimination of many of the support teachers who saw students who needed more individual help than the classroom teacher had time to give them.

It is my belief that the added cost of pensions is a debt owed by the Legislature to the pension fund and should be paid like any other bill that has come due. The school districts did not cause the Legislature to underfund pensions. There really are no grounds for calling this money school aid. The school districts are not receiving a penny of this money.

The Republicans' claim that they actually increased education spending is very misleading because it implies that they increased classroom spending. It also implies that they increased spending for the prior three years which they clearly have not.

You can check at kidsnotceos.com to see how much your school district has lost since 2010-11 because of state budget cuts. For the Livonia School District it is \$14,268,912. For the Northville School District it is \$5,070,767. For the Clarenceville School District it is \$1,500,144.

One question not often asked is why our classroom funding is not back to where it was before the Great Recession hit. The Livonia school district is receiving \$495.00 less per student for operations than it received in the 2008-9 school year. And this is not adjusted for 6 years of inflation.

Regardless of how you may have voted in the past, if you believe that our schools are way underfunded, you must decide whether or not you want to reward with your vote those who cut school funding.

www.OneilForCommissioner.ruck.us

Patrick O'Neil
Democrat for
Wayne County Commissioner
District 9



Livonia, Northville and Northville Township

Paid for by the Patrick O'Neil for County Commissioner Committee
36693 Munger, Livonia, MI 48154

Certified Pre-Owned Lincoln MKZ vehicles are hot sellers at Varsity Lincoln

By Greg Mullin
Staff Writer

Varsity Lincoln of Novi's Lincoln MKZ-A-THON — which offers no gimmicks, no gifts, just great deals — takes place during business hours these next three days:

- » Monday, Nov. 3, 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- » Tuesday, Nov. 4, 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- » Wednesday, Nov. 5, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

More than 50 Lincoln MKZs will be on-site — with Certified Pre-Owned vehicles for sale for as low as \$8,995.

Certified Pre-Owned Lincoln MKZ vehicles come with:

- » A meticulous 200-point inspection by factory-trained technicians.
- » Complimentary roadside assistance.

"There are numerous benefits of purchasing a Lincoln MKZ, including the outstanding warranty that comes with the vehicles," conveyed Jere Law, Varsity Lincoln's General Sales Manager and Pre-Owned Director. "The 100,000-mile FREE bumper to bumper warranty that comes alongside all Certified Pre-Owned purchases is better than a new car warranty! Additionally, any time the vehicle is in for a service visit, you can receive a loaner for no cost exclusively at Varsity Lincoln!"

Loaded with features, the Lincoln MKZ will satisfy any customer, Law explained.

"The Lincoln MKZ provides a combination of sporty and luxury. Benefits include FWD or AWD, dual-zone climate control, Bluetooth®, SYNC, an adaptive suspension, a panoramic roof, and heated and cooled seats for comfort, just to name a few," Law detailed.

This model defines luxury that is incomparable in this price. With Lincoln most premium luxury features come standard, as opposed to paying additional for similar features on other comparable brands.



More than 50 Lincoln MKZs will be on-site for Varsity Lincoln of Novi's Lincoln MKZ-A-THON.

COURTESY OF VARSITY LINCOLN

"The Lincoln MKZ stands alone in its class of vehicles," Law emphasized.

Drivers will also enjoy peace of mind knowing that the Lincoln MKZ will hold its value.

"This model holds its value more than other models for many reasons," Law said. "Any depreciation has already been taken on by the previous owner. Plus, the advanced styling and dependability are advantages that add to the Lincoln MKZ's value."

The MKZ-A-THON event includes the Lincoln MKZ Hybrids in inventory, which

"The Lincoln MKZ stands alone in its class of vehicles."

JERE LAW
Varsity Lincoln's General Sales Manager

get an EPA-estimated MPG 41/39 (city/highway) and can drive in electric-only mode up to 85 mph.

"The Lincoln MKZ Hybrid's gas mileage, dependability and warranty make for a solid modern vehicle and overall excellent experience," Law stated.

"The warranty is the key with all these cars; with Certified Pre-Owned, you get the best from Varsity Lincoln — gas model or Hybrid." Certified Pre-Owned financing is available for as low as 0.9% APR*.

Varsity Lincoln is the number one dealer in the nation, based on 2013 Total New Retail Sales and Service Customer Satisfaction, per a Lincoln sales report.

"Leasing or buying from the number one dealer in the country gives you the best selection, price and service," Law expressed. "Our dealership is

ready for any situation that may arise, whether it is special financing or a specific request. We can handle every unique situation."

"Our customers speak for themselves and how their experience is. When you read the reviews our customers write online, you can see how happy they are, before, during and after the sale," Law concluded.

*0.9% APR for 36 months on select vehicles for qualified customers with Tier 0-1 approval through preferred finance source. Offer subject to change at any time. See Varsity Lincoln for details.

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LET'S SCARE HUNGER.



PICK UP SHELF-STABLE FOOD TODAY FOR COLLECTION BY GOOD HEARTED GHOSTS AND GOBLINS THIS FALL.

SPREAD THE WORD!
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(800) 240-8730 | VarsityLincoln.com



**#1 Certified Pre-Owned
 Lincoln Dealer in the Nation.
 Find Out Why!****

**LINCOLN
 CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED**

**Huge Lincoln MKZ-A-THON!
 Over 50 MKZ's on-site for this event.
 Incredible Savings.**

- Meticulous 200 point inspection by factory trained technicians
- 6-year / 100,000-mile comprehensive warranty coverage
- Complimentary 24/7 roadside assistance

2012 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate FWD
Certified!
 • Rear Park Assist
 • Navigation
 • Only 7,840 miles
NOW ONLY \$21,995*
 STK #: 38932

2012 Lincoln MKZ Hybrid FWD
Certified!
 • Rear Park Assist
 • Navigation
 • Only 24,686 miles
NOW ONLY \$22,995*
 STK #: 38888

2012 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate FWD
Certified!
 • Rear Park Assist
 • Power Sunroof
 • Only 17,707 miles
NOW ONLY \$19,995*
 STK #: 39079

2012 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate FWD
Certified!
 • Rear Park Assist
 • Heated Front Seats
 • Only 16,151 miles
NOW ONLY \$20,995*
 STK #: 39088

*Financing
 as low as*
0.9%
*APR!**

2012 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate FWD
Certified!
 • Rear Park Assist
 • Bluetooth Connection
 • Only 14,742 miles
NOW ONLY \$18,995*
 STK #: 39020

2012 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate AWD
Certified!
 • Heated Mirrors
 • Navigation
 • Only 21,113 miles
NOW ONLY \$21,995*
 STK #: 39124

2012 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate FWD
Certified!
 • Leather Seating
 • Navigation
 • Only 39,421 miles
NOW ONLY \$15,995*
 STK #: 39051

2013 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate FWD
Certified!
 • Mirror Memory
 • Navigation
 • Only 22,444 miles
NOW ONLY \$27,995*
 STK #: 39119

2012 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate FWD
Certified!
 • Rear Park Assist
 • Power Sunroof
 • Only 18,195 miles
NOW ONLY \$19,995*
 STK #: 39128

Varsity Lincoln's MKZ-A-THON!

**No food. No gimmicks. No gifts.
 JUST GREAT DEALS.**

2012 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate FWD
Certified!
 • Rear Park Assist
 • Navigation
 • Only 34,491 miles
NOW ONLY \$17,995*
 STK #: 39133

**Complimentary
 6-year/
 100,000-mile
 comprehensive
 warranty on
 every Certified
 Pre-Owned
 Lincoln at
 Varsity Lincoln.**

2012 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate FWD
Certified!
 • Performance Tires
 • Navigation
 • Only 28,084 miles
NOW ONLY \$17,995*
 STK #: 39025

2012 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate AWD
Certified!
 • Rear Park Assist
 • Power Sunroof
 • Only 13,434 miles
NOW ONLY \$19,995*
 STK #: 39017

2012 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate FWD
Certified!
 • Heated Front Seats
 • Navigation
 • Only 32,829 miles
NOW ONLY \$17,995*
 STK #: 39027

2012 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate AWD
Certified!
 • Rear Park Assist
 • Heated Mirrors
 • Only 47,092 miles
NOW ONLY \$15,995*
 STK #: 39015

2011 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate FWD
Certified!
 • Rear Park Assist
 • Power Sunroof
 • Only 40,670 miles
NOW ONLY \$16,995*
 STK #: 38991

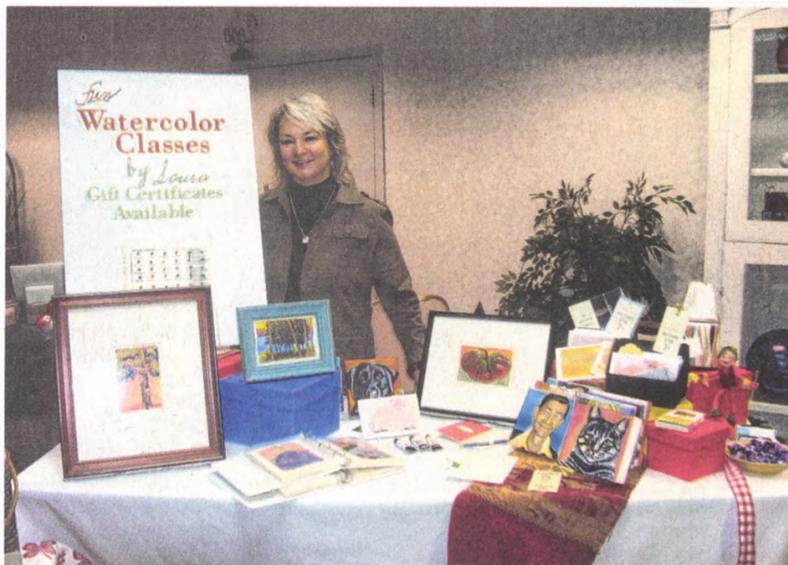
2011 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate FWD
Certified!
 • Mirror Memory
 • Navigation
 • Only 42,792 miles
NOW ONLY \$15,995*
 STK #: 38550

2012 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate FWD
Certified!
 • Rear Park Assist
 • Heated Front Seats
 • Only 17,809 miles
NOW ONLY \$19,995*
 STK #: 39024

2012 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate FWD
Certified!
 • Leather Seating
 • Navigation
 • Only 19,563 miles
NOW ONLY \$19,995*
 STK #: 39089

Event Hours: Thursday 10/30/14 8:30am-9pm • Friday 10/31/14 8:30am-6pm
 Saturday 11/01/14 8:30am-5pm • Monday 11/03/14 8:30am-9pm

**Based on 2013 Total Certified Pre-Owned Sales and Service Customer Satisfaction per Lincoln Sales Report. *As low as 0.9% APR for up to 48 months on select vehicles for qualified customers with Tier 0-1 approval through preferred finance source. Offer subject to change at any time. See Varsity Lincoln for details. †Price does not include tax, title, license and dealer fees due at point of purchase. Inventory and pricing subject to change. See Varsity Lincoln for details. Offers end 11/30/14.



Laura Jannika of Livonia is owner of Paint & Picnic.



Owner/author Lonna Baum of Livonia with Alan Baum and customers Kathie Pfander of Livonia and Carol Willey of Redford.

Good crowd turns out for O&E craft show

Some 450 people got an early — and crafty — start on their holiday shopping Saturday at the first *Observer & Eccentric Arts & Crafts Show*. Quality Inn Suites in Livonia played host to a variety of vendors, local artists, crafters and home businesses. The event featured things like a stress reduction workshop and raffle prize drawings every 30 minutes.

O&E officials were happy with the results of the company's first craft show.

"We had a great turnout," publisher Susan Rosiek said. "The artists and crafters were very good and the people who came out really enjoyed the show."

Visitors got to enjoy free refreshments and the first 100 visitors received movie passes to Emagine Theater and a coupon to Buddy's pizza.



Bruce Ford (Redford)



Jessica Pace of Redford is from From Us to You.

Oakwood Hospital – Wayne Presents Asthma, Emphysema, Chronic Bronchitis (COPD) Signs, Symptoms & Treatment

Hosted by

Oakwood physicians and clinical experts

Brian A Vinton, MD
M. H. Raslan, MD, FCCP
Sandy Wright, RRT

Join us to learn about managing symptoms, medication utilization and home therapies.

To register for this **FREE** event, please call
800.543.WELL (9355)

Seating is limited and registration is required.

DATE: Wednesday, November 5, 2014

TIME: 6 – 8 p.m.

LOCATION: Oakwood Hospital – Wayne
Conference Room 2
33155 Annapolis Street
Wayne, MI 48184

Enter at the West Entrance
Valet parking will be available at no charge

A complimentary light dinner will be served.



Brian Vinton, MD completed his medical education at Wayne State University School of Medicine. He completed his Family Medicine Internship and Residency at Oakwood Hospital – Wayne.

Dr. Vinton will be discussing signs, symptoms and daily management of early stage disease.



M. H. Raslan, MD, FCCP is Board Certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine, American Board of Internal Medicine (Pulmonary Diseases), and American Board of Internal Medicine (Sleep Medicine). He completed his medical education and Internal Medicine Residency at University of Damascus School of Medicine, Internal Medicine Residency at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital and Pulmonary Fellowship at Sinai Hospital/DMC.

Dr. Raslan will be discussing signs, symptoms and management of chronic lung disease.



Sandy Wright, RRT is a graduate of Ferris State University with an Associate's Degree in Allied Health. She is a Registered Respiratory Therapist and started the Pulmonary Rehabilitation program here at Oakwood Wayne. She has been Manager of Respiratory Care at OH-Wayne for the past 16 years.

Sandy Wright will be discussing pulmonary rehabilitation.

Visit oakwood.org to learn more about other classes and events or to make an appointment with an Oakwood physician call **800.543.WELL**.



Oakwood
We specialize in you.™

Focus on bright spot no matter how small

As the season turns to fall I'm reflecting on a year full of ups and downs; hopefully, more ups than downs for all of us.

Within it all, there are moments that remind me of the pure joy of being alive. Like last weekend when I was having a great time setting up balloons for an event with a friend's child about half my height. We tied a giant bunch of balloons to a car and he kept a close



eye on them while I stepped a few feet away to grab some more. A moment later I heard a little voice behind me say: "I have good news and bad news. The bad news is that the entire bunch of balloons came loose. The good news is that I

was able to save one." Looking at his earnest face, the only thing I could say was thank you.

So often when it seems like almost everything is lost, the most important thing to do is focus on the bright spot, no matter how small. Sometimes it takes a small child to remind us.

Have a sunny day.
Clarity
P.S. "Keep your face to the sunshine and you

cannot see a shadow."
— Helen Keller

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 facebook.com/sunnynotes.

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Food collection

For the sixth consecutive year, Art Van Furniture and WXYZ-TV/Channel 7 are teaming with Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan, a non-profit organization feeding the hungry for over 37 years, for the Together We Can Food Drive.

Art Van Furniture will collect donations of non-perishable food items from guests at its 17 locations in metro Detroit, including its Westland store at 8300 N. Wayne Road, Nov. 1-24 to help families in need this holiday season.

For the past five years, the Together We Can food drive collected 70,000 pounds of food for rural, suburban and urban communities throughout metro Detroit.

This year's goal is to collect more than 14,000 pounds to help put food on family tables.

"Every little bit helps, whether it's a can of soup or package of pasta, and we encourage everyone to participate," said Gary Van Elslander, president of Art Van Furniture.

"The holidays should be a time for celebration, not struggle, for families. Art Van Furniture and WXYZ-TV plan to do all that we can as partners in the Together We Can program to feed the hungry which in turn, feeds the spirit of both recipients and generous donors."

One out of every four households in Michigan faces hunger. Gleaners Community Food Bank makes a tremendous difference, distributing 41,000 pounds of emergency food each year to more than 550 soup kitchens, shelters and pantries in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Livingston and Monroe counties.

For more information, visit artvan.com.

Marketing seminar at Schoolcraft

The Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) of Schoolcraft College will host a seminar on marketing to the government customer from 9 a.m. to noon Thursday, Nov. 6, at the Jeffress Center on Schoolcraft College campus in Livonia.

The marketing topics covered will help enhance and improve a new or existing government contractor's strategies, according to procurement counselor Alexander Masters.

"Marketing to the government is different than that of B2B or B2C strategies in many respects. We have to look at the overall messages a firm is conveying, build on traditional marketing methods, and strategize for marketplace positioning," Alexander said. "We also discuss how agencies and contracting officers are conducting their own market research, an element that many firms overlook when determining their marketing tactics."

The course fee is \$45 per individual, and pre-registration is required. For more information, contact the PTAC of Schoolcraft College team at 734-462-4438 or by email at inforeq@schoolcraft.edu.

The Procurement Technical Assistance Center of Schoolcraft College is funded through a cooperative agreement with the Department of Defense, State of Michigan and Schoolcraft College. PTACs provide free government contracting assistance to businesses in marketing products and services to federal, state and local government agencies.



Cutting the ribbon to open the Center for Business Development and Community Vitality are Ernest Nolan (left), provost and vice president for Academic Administration, and Cleamon Moorer Jr., dean of the School of Business.

Madonna launches Center for Business Development and Community Vitality

Members of the Madonna University community, along with business leaders from across metro Detroit, recently came together for a ribbon cutting to launch the Center for Business Development and Community Vitality at the Madonna's School of Business.

Following the ceremonial ribbon cutting, some 50 guests toured the center and listened as Dean Cleamon Moorer Jr. outlined its mission, vision and goals.

"Through this center, we aspire to develop an engaged citizenry equipped to foster and sustain economic growth in Southeast Michigan and beyond," Moorer said. "We've organized the center's strategies under three pillars: education, en-

gagement and entrepreneurship."

Moorer outlined several programs and activities that will aid in achieving the center's mission, including guest lectures, research and service-learning projects, consulting and student internships with area businesses.

"As a graduate student, 12 years ago, I could only imagine and hope to be a student in a business school that would enable me to connect with CEOs and work on real-world business problems and projects," Moorer said. "Today, this hope and vision are a reality for the School of Business students at Madonna University."

The center also will be a repository of resources for students and

faculty, from books and videos, to software and research publications. Funding for the center will come from event sponsorships, conference registration fees and focused solicitations for matching grants.

During the event, the dean presented the Business Education Excellence Award to Sherif Afifi, professor of international business.

Guests at the event included several members of the newly formed Business Advisory Board. Each of the members brought a special gift from their company or organization to be displayed in the center, including a framed Detroit Tigers picture, a General Motors display and a Chamber of Commerce banner.

AirTime to open trampoline, game park in Westland

AirTime Trampoline & Game Park has announced that Westland will be the site of its third indoor trampoline park, opening in November.

The extreme park will provide fun and excitement where teens, kids and adults can experience AirTime while jumping on wall-to-wall trampoline playing structures.

AirTime has selected the 32,000-square-foot former Value City facility on Warren Road west of Westland Shopping Center. The indoor park will include trampoline areas divided by age groups, trampoline dodgeball, slam dunk basketball and a foam

pit for maximum airtime.

The trampoline experience will be powered by music, including live DJ performances. AirTime will provide jumpers an exhilarating way to bounce to great music, test their tumbling skills and have fun with family and friends. With private party areas able to accommodate up to 120 party guests, AirTime will be a unique destination for birthday parties, school fundraisers and corporate events.

"We are so excited to bring this indoor trampoline phenomenon to Westland with state of the art facilities unlike any other," said Jimmy

Nafso, owner of AirTime Trampoline and Game Park. "AirTime was founded in Detroit and we are proud to be a part of the city's bounce back. We are thrilled to bring 75 new jobs to the Westland area."

AirTime Trampoline and Game Park is a Detroit-based business with parks in Troy and Sterling Heights. AirTime Trampoline and Game Park will open its Westland location next month with plans to open a fourth location in Novi in 2015. AirTime is dedicated to supporting local music while offering a family-friendly, safe and exciting place to jump and experience airtime.

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

CITY OF WESTLAND SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES MTG. 21 10/20/14

Presiding: President Godbout
Present: Bryant, Coleman, Hammons, Johnson, Kehrer, Reeves
199 Appr. minutes of regular meeting held 10/6/14.
Traffic Control Order: 2014-07:
Install (1) "Handicapped Parking" sign in front of 534 Vansull.
- 1 yr. contract ext. w/Statewide Security Transport.
- 1 yr. contract ext. w/JGHS for Police Officer Liason.
- IGA w/Wayne County for improvements to Lions Pavilion, Central City Park.
- Proclaimed 11/1/14 (Extra Mile Day) in the City of Westland.
201: Appr. Site Plan for prop. parking lot addition to Harvest Bible Church, 6420 N. Newburgh w/contingencies.
202: Appr. changes to DDA By-Laws.
203: Appr. checklist: \$3,052,409.48.
Mtg. adj. at 8:28 p.m.
Minutes available in the Clerk's Office.

James Godbout
Council President
October 30, 2014.

Eileen DeHart-Schoof, CMC
City Clerk

LO-000218476 3x3

NOTICE OF SCHEDULE OF REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE WESTLAND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS TO BE HELD DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 2015 COMMENCING JANUARY 21, 2015 AND ENDING DECEMBER 16, 2015.

To all persons interested in the meetings of the Westland Zoning Board of Appeals:

PLACE: Westland City Hall
36300 Warren Road
Westland, MI 48185

TIME: 5:30 P.M.

REGULAR MEETING DATE **DEADLINE:**

January 21, 2015 December 26, 2014

February 18, 2015 January 23, 2015

March 18, 2015 February 20, 2015

April 15, 2015 March 20, 2015

May 20, 2015 April 24, 2015

June 17, 2015 May 22, 2015

July 15, 2015 June 19, 2015

August 19, 2015 July 24, 2015

September 16, 2015 August 21, 2015

October 21, 2015 September 25, 2015

November 18, 2015 October 23, 2015

December 16, 2015 November 20, 2015

The minutes of each meeting of the regular meetings listed above will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the City Clerk's Office of the City of Westland not more than eight (8) business days after the date of said meeting.

Approved minutes of each meeting will be available for public inspection during regular business hours, at the same location, not more than five (5) business days after the meeting at which the minutes of the meeting are approved.

This notice is given in compliance with Act. No. 167 of the Public Acts of Michigan 1976.

Eileen DeHart-Schoof, CMC
City Clerk

OUR VIEWS

Let your voice be heard; vote on Nov. 4

Millions of dollars have been spent this election cycle to convince people to vote for particular candidates and issues. The airwaves, telephone lines and mailboxes have been peppered with information aimed to sway voters.

But midterm elections, so called because they come in the middle of the four-year presidential term, generally don't attract a large volume of voters. The perception is that picking the commander-in-chief is the most important election.

That's wrong. Every election, whether it's to pick a president or a member of the local school board, is important. Each and every election deserves the same serious consideration that the presidential election does.

In next week's election, voters will select a new governor, an attorney general, secretary of state and state senators and representatives, judges and college trustees. They also will decide on representation at the county level and pick members of school boards, township board and village council.

While political parties and special interest groups are touting their messages in the waning days of this election cycle, we'd like add one. It's short and to the point: Get out and vote.

Voting is a way to be heard. Your vote is your voice. When you vote, you're telling elected officials and lawmakers how you feel about the issues. You're telling them what you think about education, public safety, Social

Security, health care and other important issues.

If you don't vote, you're letting someone else decide what's best for you. Local races directly affect your pocketbook, your life, and the lives of your family. They set public education policy and have sway over the budget. Who do you want making those decisions for your kids, decisions that will have consequences well into the future?

Voting is your chance to make a difference. Don't sit back and say it doesn't matter. Every vote matters and every vote can make a difference. If you don't vote for what you believe in, others will — and you may not like the outcome.

If you're between the ages of 18 and

25 and can vote, do it. Prove the political analysts wrong. They say young voters don't care about the elections. And if you're a woman, vote to honor Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton. Women weren't able to vote in the U.S. until 1920 — more than 70 years after Mott and Stanton argued that American women deserved equal rights under the law.

There is really no excuse not to vote. You can do it at the polls or by absentee balloting. And if you can't make to the clerk's office during regular business hours, clerk's offices will be open Saturday until 2 p.m. to obtain an absentee ballot.

Your opinions do matter. It's time to be heard. Get out and vote on Tuesday, Nov. 4.

LETTERS

Enjoyed story

We liked the story on Buck. I went to West ('68) and I met him, Ro, and Dale back in the early '70s, which was shortly after my last tour in Vietnam. What some folk may not know, Roy and Dale also would visit local area churches, and Buck just happen to be there at the one where I went to see Roy and Dale. It was the Baptist Church just off Greenfield Drive in Dearborn.

Even a good Catholic can be drawn to other churches to see their western heroes.

Alan Waitkus
LTC, Engineer
US Army (Retired)

Ward voting proposal

Proposition 1 on the ballot for the Nov. 4 election is to provide the City of Wayne with six wards. Currently the city council members are all considered "at large."

Wards are used across the United States from small cities like Wayne to large cities like Chicago and Houston as well as around the world in Canada, New Zealand, Monaco, Australia, Japan and many others. It is an advance in democracy — moving us forward and not keeping the City of Wayne in the dark.

The United Kingdom uses sub-municipal wards — in a majoritarian system. That means the smaller unit of ward increases the likelihood that different parties will hold seats across the municipality. Not just a chosen few. It also facilitates personal contact between the elected member and his or her constituents.

Unfair attention has been given to remarks from the Mayor of Inkster against wards. It seems he is unhappy with them because he can't do whatever he wants to.

Laughably, David James, councilman of the City of Wayne, put down Proposition 1 and whined about how it would not allow people to choose who they want for council. He was,

SEND US YOUR VIEWS

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

Web: www.hometownlife.com

Mail: Letters to the Editor, Wayne-Westland and Garden City Observer Newspapers, 29725 Hudson Dr., Novi, MI 48377-1736

Email: smason@hometownlife.com

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

If I am not mistaken, appointed to his seat by the council members after having been recalled from city council in the City of Westland.

The Wayne council members seem to oppose setting up wards because they might actually have to run for office rather than walk into it.

Hasn't the free ride gone on long enough?

Alfred Brock
Wayne

Opposes fire authority

As a Wayne resident, any time that Bill Wild is involved in anything, it must be bad. Wild and (Mayor Al) Haidous are nothing but self-serving politicians. I will continue to join with my fellow residents of the great City of Wayne to fight this "authority" from becoming a reality!

Mark Blackwell
Wayne

Support Colbeck

Reporter Matt Jachman's article "Incumbent Colbeck taxpayer in state Senate race against Slavens" described Pat Colbeck as leading the contributions in our state Senate race. No real surprise to those of us who know him. Rarely in

local elections do candidates have appeal sufficient to get the financial support from the local folks as he has done.

Mr. Jachman did point out Slavens, as Senator Colbeck's competition, easily doubled Colbeck's performance in securing large contributions from partisan political action interests. When receiving support from many people it must be used well, respecting those committing their belief with real trust and confidence. May-be shocking for those of thinner resume and limited for recognition leaning on mere party endorsement by the un-wavering faithful and predictable ideological resources.

Sen. Colbeck is unique and most well-equipped from a broad vocational background among those in political office. More than being a very smart guy he has more than fulfilled his responsibilities as our Senator. No lag for him as a valuable resource of good ideas and respected voice for us in the Senate. Some may find it too easy to throw off the nightmares of the Granholm administration. With a new awakening the impediments of Michigan's business opportunities, education lessened and the migration has changed with new possibilities in improved leadership. Colbeck remains close to the interests and needs of our several communities and deserves the strongest support.

Jim Nowka
Northville

Snyder has 'cooked the books'

I would like to ask Gov. Snyder why on several key issues he has signed into law. The governor said taxing pensions was about making our tax system fair. Then why is the tax leveled differently for different ages? Younger seniors pay more. Isn't that age discrimination?

On "right to work" he said it was about letting workers decide to be in a union or not. Why then do we not allow our

first responders this choice? State and local governments still sign agreements with police and fire unions that require all to be members of those unions.

This law forbids business from signing any such agreements with unions, isn't that government interference in free enterprise?

In the construction industry some contractors want to sign with unions so they can be assured they will get trained and qualified workers. And that the workers and their families will receive health care benefits and pensions.

Why is it good for government to do this but not business?

With the motorcycle helmet law Snyder said it was about individual freedom of choice of the rider. Why is this choice to not use a safety device not given to car drivers? Drivers in cars are already safer just by being in a car and yet we must wear seat belts or be ticketed and pay a fine. Was this law passed to pacify the insurers because death cost less than lifetime disability?

On school funding Snyder took money out of the classroom and used it in teacher's pension fund to cover a shortage created by Lansing. So why does he still claim he did not cut education? I know the answer to that one. Because he is an accountant and knows how to "cook the books" so he can say one thing when the truth is something completely different.

Chuck Tindall
Novi

Don't decriminalize marijuana

So, lately, we have heard the term "decriminalization" as it relates to marijuana in the cities of Berkley and Huntington Woods — basically, this proposal asks the voter to take the criminal aspect away from the use or possession of a small amount of this drug. Frequent smokers of marijuana are very

much in favor of this proposal — letting us believe that it will now make it legal to smoke it in our cities. Let's be perfectly clear — it will not make it legal in any sense of the word. It only provides a safety net against any harsh punishment. But is there really any harsh punishment associated with possessing a small amount of marijuana?

Not at all. As a matter of fact, our judges are careful to equate the punishment with the crime and therefore give the defendants some community service and educational opportunities to learn about the dangers of addiction, etc., rather than being extremely punitive. By that I mean, tossing the offender in jail and throwing away the key, which is not very likely to happen. But more than the punishment from our local judges, one must remember that the possession, use and carrying of marijuana is still illegal in the Michigan and under federal law. Our police officers are sworn to uphold state and federal laws above local ordinances that are in direct opposition to them.

I believe that it's important to send a clear message to our youth and to all who are thinking this proposal might not be such a bad idea that until the law of the State of Michigan and the Law of the Land accepts the legality of marijuana, that we view it as an illegal substance.

Passing of this proposal may have unintended consequences by signaling to our youth that marijuana use is acceptable. It is not. I know many folks think of marijuana as harmless, but it is a gateway drug to more potent drugs. No one starts out being a drug addict by thinking it's cool to stick a needle in his/her arm and shoot up heroin or sniff crack or cocaine up their nose.

Think about it before you vote, then vote no on the proposed amendment.

Judy Rubin
Oak Park

GUEST COLUMN

Afghanistan offers reasons for optimism, pride

Recently I had the honor of speaking to the United States Institute of Peace as that institution celebrated its 30th anniversary. I was a cosponsor of former Sen. Sparky Matsunaga's legislation establishing the USIP, which Congress passed in 1984. Last April, I saw firsthand one example of the value of the institute's work, when the institute's staff in Kabul, Afghanistan, hosted briefings for me with civil society leaders, women, young people and human rights activists.

At USIP, I focused my remarks on the pursuit of peace in Afghanistan and the wisdom that has aided us in that pursuit.

I am hopeful about



By Sen. Carl Levin
GUEST COLUMNIST

Afghanistan's future because of the progress we have helped bring about over the last several years. And I am hopeful because of the recent peaceful and democratic transition of power, a first in Afghanistan's long history. That transition offers increased reason for optimism that we have an essential ingredient for success in place there, perhaps the essential ingredient — a unity government of Afghans whose own goals are in harmony with our goal of a free, peaceful

and unified Afghanistan.

Afghanistan faces immense challenges — from Taliban terror to corruption to poverty to ethnic and political tension. But the progress the country has made is also immense.

Too many people forget what Afghanistan was like before coalition intervention in 2001. Even in major cities, access to food, clean water and employment was limited. Women were barred from attending school, working outside the home, or even leaving their houses unless accompanied by a male relative.

Today, by contrast, there is vibrancy in Afghan society. In just one decade, life expectancy in Afghanistan has increased by 22 years and child mortality has decreased by 62 percent. Under the Taliban there were just 900,000 students in school, all boys. Now, student enrollment is more than 8 million, including about 3 million girls. In 2001, Afghanistan had 20,000 teachers,

all male; today, there are 200,000 teachers, including 60,000 women.

The Afghan security forces have exceeded our military commanders' expectations, successfully responding to Taliban attacks and safeguarding two rounds of elections. I have always believed that our principal mission in Afghanistan is to help establish Afghan forces so they can protect their people and their hopes for a free nation. That is the Taliban's worst nightmare.

Afghans now have hope for better governance as well, as President Ghani and Chief Executive Officer Abdullah, who competed in a hotly contested election, have resolved their differences over the election and formed a unity government. That gives the Afghan people reason to hope that the nation's new leaders are more interested in building Afghanistan's future than in pursuing partisan or sectarian or corrupt agendas.

While public opinion

polls show that the Afghan people think we have accomplished much and are glad we came, polls in the United States show that Americans believe our involvement in Afghanistan has failed.

I believe that the American public's failure to understand what we have accomplished in Afghanistan is due, in large part, to the constant, almost totally negative portrayal of events in Afghanistan in the American press.

The press understandably reports on negative events. A Taliban truck bomb in Kabul does make a more dramatic story than a million girls going to school. But it would be tragic if this negative focus deprived the American people, our men and women in uniform, and their families of the sense of accomplishment they deserve to feel about our effort in Afghanistan.

While Afghanistan's gains have been impressive, they remain reversible. Afghans continue to fear that the United

States will abandon them, as they believe we did after the Soviets left in the early 1990s. The Afghans have assumed responsibility for their own security and for their own political affairs, but they continue to depend on international funding, training and institution-building, in particular, for sustaining the Afghan Army and police.

If the public continues to believe that Afghanistan is a lost cause, it may become a self-fulfilling prophecy. Simply put, if we don't understand what we and our coalition partners have gained in Afghanistan, we risk losing it. Much remains to be done, but I believe if the Afghan people remain united, and if we remain constant in our support of them, Afghanistan will take its place among the achievements of which our nation can be proud.

Carl Levin is the senior U.S. senator from Michigan and chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mark Schauer speaks to local people at the home of Natalie and Bob Mosher of Canton.

Schauer joins Democratic rally in Canton

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Mark Schauer, declaring he is "in fighting mode" during a campaign stop Tuesday night in Canton, implored supporters to ratchet up efforts to defeat Gov. Rick Snyder by getting out the vote.

"I'm asking you to close the deal," he told a group of supporters gathered inside the home of Canton precinct delegates Bob and Natalie Mosher. "I'm asking you to finish the job."

Despite some polls indicating he is trailing Snyder, Schauer pointed to a CBS/New York Times survey and his campaign's internal polling as giving him a razor-thin edge over the incumbent. He also shrugged off a decision by the *Detroit Free Press*, a Democrat-

leaning newspaper, to endorse Snyder.

"It's voters who will decide it," Schauer said during a post-speech interview.

Schauer made a campaign stop in Canton for a Democratic pep rally that also included 11th Congressional District candidate Bobby McKenzie, 7th District state Senate hopeful Dian Slavens, 20th District state House nominee Nate Smith-Tyge, Michigan Supreme Court candidate Richard Bernstein and Plymouth-Canton school board hopefuls Kate Borninski and Michael Siegrist.

Candidates who sent campaign representatives to speak at the rally included Wayne County executive nominee Warren Evans, Michigan attorney general hopeful Mark Totten, Secretary of State candidate Godfrey Dillard and 14th

Congressional District nominee Brenda Lawrence.

Standing inside the Mosher home, Schauer said he has taken his campaign to living rooms, churches, mosques, temples and other stops as he rallies for education, worker rights, women's issues, job growth and LGBT, or lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender, equality.

"This is how we do it as Democrats," he said, adding later, "We have built this moment. This really is about creating our best Michigan."

Schauer continued to accuse Snyder of slashing \$1 billion from public education and said the Republican incumbent shifted taxes from big corporations to working people and retirees.

"I will be the education governor and mean it," he said. "That will be

the No. 1 priority of our state."

Schauer vowed to cut taxes for the middle class by restoring the child tax credit, increasing the earned income tax credit and eliminating tax hikes on retirees. He said he would make up the lost revenue by investing in an educated workforce and providing incentives for small businesses and manufacturers to create high-tech jobs, as long as they stay in Michigan. He said he would audit every state-level department and eliminate wasteful spending.

Moreover, Schauer said efforts to rebuild Michigan's crumbling infrastructure — specifically by fixing roads — would create jobs and generate new tax revenues.

"Fixing roads really is the single best jobs program we have," he said.

Among other developments during Tuesday's rally:

» McKenzie, a Canton resident, said he can defeat Republican rival Dave Trott and fight in Washington, D.C., for issues such as public education and gender-based pay equity.

"If we get out the vote, we're going to be all right," he said, adding later, "We've got to fight for equality in every sense of the word."

» Slavens continued to portray incumbent state Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, as "a Tea Party extremist" and said she will fight for Democratic ideals.

» Smith-Tyge called for an end in Lansing to efforts he said infringed on women's health decisions and vowed to fight back against lame-duck, late-night legislative

sessions he said have subverted the intent of the Open Meetings Act.

» Bernstein continued his campaign pitch for the Michigan Supreme Court by vowing to fight for justice for all.

» Borninski and Siegrist touted their long-time involvement in the Plymouth-Canton school district and vowed to work to ease the district's budget woes while fighting cuts to public education.

Meanwhile, Natalie Mosher said she and her husband organized the Democratic rally and invited their neighbors to help them learn more about the candidates.

"This is our contribution to getting the vote out," she said.

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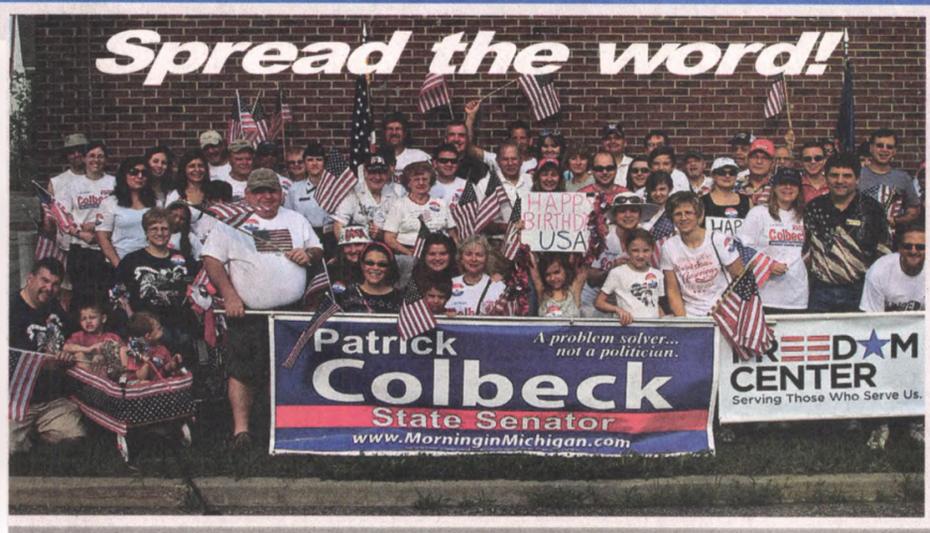
ABOUT PATRICK

Patrick Colbeck is currently serving his first term in elected office as the State Senator for MI's 7th District which will include Livonia starting in 2014 along with the communities of Northville, Plymouth, Canton and Wayne. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan with Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Aerospace Engineering as well as a graduate of the International Space University in Strasbourg, France. Included among his over **20 years of engineering and management** work in a variety of industries, he has worked on systems for the International Space Station and instructed students at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center's Space Camp.

While currently residents of Canton, Patrick and his wife, Angie, have *deep roots in Livonia*. Patrick attended Hoover Elementary School and Holmes Junior High School before graduating from Catholic Central High School. His parents were founding members of St. Colette. His late mother, Barbara, was the organist at St. Colette and later the music minister at St. Edith. His dad, Bill, was an active member of the Livonia Chamber of Commerce of which Patrick is a member. Angie attended Dickinson Junior High School and graduated from Stevenson High School. Angie and Patrick's parents live in Livonia.



Patrick received the Good Citizenship Award from the Daughters of the American Revolution while in high school



"Like many of you, I dearly love our country but I am very disappointed by our current political environment. I am disheartened by attempts to transform our nation from one of a free and independent people to one of increasing government control and dependence. How do we change this course? Well, my wife Angie and I left the comfort of a relatively obscure private life and successful small business to change the direction of the state we love. With your support, we have made a significant difference by focusing on actual solutions to the problems that we face rather than politics as usual. I am working hard to faithfully represent your voice in Lansing. I will need your vote to continue to provide your voice of common sense."

- Senator Patrick Colbeck



Grand Opening of the MI Freedom Center November 11, 2011

JOBS	EDUCATION	SENIORS	VETERANS	ROADS	PUBLIC SAFETY
There are over 19,000 job openings within 30 miles of the 7th Senate District. The Assoc. Builders & Contractors recognized Senator Colbeck as Legislator of the Year <i>See MorninginMichigan.com for link to job openings</i>	Total funding per pupil by the state for the Livonia school district has increased by \$1,450 . Over \$1.9B has been dedicated statewide to protect the public school retirement system alone. <i>See MorninginMichigan.com for school funding facts</i>	Senator Colbeck has been awarded The Senior Alliance Legislator of the Year Award for his work to safeguard our seniors. He voted NO on the Senior Pension Tax. He passed bill to protect seniors in nursing homes	In 2011, Senator Colbeck co-founded the Michigan Freedom Center to "serve those who serve us". As Chair of the MI Veterans Agency budget, he has helped to improve MI veteran services to #3 in the nation!	Did you know Michigan already spends 27% more per mile and 7.3% more per lane-mile for our roads than the national average? We can fix our roads without raising taxes. <i>See MorninginMichigan.com for plan to fix roads</i>	Senator Colbeck has been awarded the Police Officers Assoc. of MI Legislator of the Year . As Chair of the State Police budget, he added more police, more truck weight enforcement officers, and grants to keep our schools safe.

ENDORSEMENTS

- The Detroit News
- Police Officers Assoc. of MI
- Fraternal Order of Police
- Retired Detroit Police and Fire Fighters Association
- National Rifle Association
- Right to Life of Michigan
- National Federation of Independent Businesses
- Small Business Assoc. of MI
- Michigan Chamber of Commerce
- Michigan Manufacturers Assoc.
- Michigan Aerospace Mfg Assoc.
- Associated Builders and Contractors PAC
- Greater Metropolitan Association of REALTORS
- REALTORS PAC of Michigan
- Medical Doctors PAC
- Docs4PatientCare
- MI Farm Bureau Agri PAC
- MI Restaurant Association
- MI Retailers Association
- Great Lakes Education Project
- Michigan Twp Association
- Citizens for Traditional Values
- Jack Kirksey, Mayor of Livonia
- Plus elected officials throughout the district

MORE INFORMATION

Elect Patrick Colbeck to be your state senator and you will be among the best informed citizens in the state. His Senate website at MorninginMichigan.com contains links not only to his editorials, press releases, office hours, and floor speeches, it also provides links to what he calls the "Solution Center" and "Data Center". His Senator Patrick Colbeck Facebook® page provides almost daily updates on events, issues, and votes happening in Lansing and throughout the district.

Colbeck's views on the issues

JOBS "I started my public service in January 2011 at a time when Michigan was suffering from the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression. Our unemployment had skyrocketed and our auto industry was struggling. Many referred to this downturn as our "lost decade". During that decade, Michigan was the only state in the nation to have lost population. Times are better now. *Michigan is coming back!* I am happy to report that Michigan has created over 275,000 private sector jobs. In fact, there are now **over 19,000 job openings** within a 30 mile commute of the 7th Senate District. Our population is growing again and our youth no longer have to seek employment in other states."

HEALTHCARE "As one of a handful of legislators who have *actually read* the federal Affordable Care Act (aka Obamacare), it is obvious that this act is neither affordable nor caring. Putting 159 new organizations between a doctor and patient does not lower costs or improve care. This is why I strongly opposed Obamacare and applied my experience in the healthcare and IT industries to develop a free market alternative called "Patient-Centered Care". This approach has been described by Forbes.com as "**Two parts Marcus Welby, M.D. and one part Steve Jobs**". Not only would this solution lower costs, it would also improve care by providing patients of all income levels access to life-saving, preventive care. My solution keeps healthcare decisions between you and your doctor. See MorninginMichigan.com for more info."



Sharing biography of Neil Armstrong with students

profession has been reduced to following a script rather than allowing teachers to tailor instruction to suit the individual student. Furthermore, we have no objective proof that these new standards will actually improve student performance. That is why I have been the most outspoken opponent of Common Core in the Senate and will continue to be if re-elected."

SENIORS "As a kid I was blessed to grow up surrounded by both sets of grandparents. They helped teach me the value of hard work, integrity and responsibility. I have worked hard to repay their loving guidance with my public service. During the past four years, I have passed legislation to protect seniors in nursing homes and have been an outspoken advocate for retirees including my passionate **NO** vote on the Senior Pension Tax (Senate Journal #41, Roll Call Vote #170 on HB 4361, May 12, 2011). My **opposition to Obamacare** is driven in large part by the federal government's push to cut Medicare services for the elderly by over \$700B in order to pay for other services such as the expansion of Medicaid. I am committed to caring for those who spent their entire lives working to leave this nation stronger than they found it and that is why I am honored to have received **The Senior Alliance Legislator of the Year** award for my work on behalf of all of the seniors right here in our community."

VETERANS "Serving those who serve us is a passion of mine. Active duty, veterans and their families have sacrificed much to preserve our freedom. And it is our duty to honor those sacrifices. As the chairman of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs budget, we brought Michigan from one of the worst performing states for veteran benefit claims processing, to **3rd in the nation**. *Public service does not always require legislation*. In 2011, I teamed up with a group of service-minded veterans to co-found the MI Freedom Center at Detroit Metro Airport. To date, the MI Freedom Center has welcomed over 100,000 active service personnel, veterans and their families with open arms during their travels."



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EDUCATION "Like many parents, my parents were always passionate about ensuring that their kids received a quality education. A quality education is a team effort that requires hard work from students, parents and teachers. In Michigan, we helped students and parents by expanding dual enrollment programs that significantly lower the cost of higher education. We also changed teacher tenure law to reward educators on the basis of performance not length of service. We have gone on to provide **over \$1B in additional funding** during my tenure, but we still need to remove roadblocks to innovation like Common Core. The Common Core Standards Initiative adopted by the State Board of Education in 2010 not only micromanages our state standards and assessments, it also micromanages the classroom by mandating not only what kids are taught but also how they are taught. The teaching

PREP PROFILE

Hunter makes best of tough situation

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

When the doors of Inkster High School were locked for good in the summer of 2013, Tyrikh Hunter was forced to confront a dilemma no 16-year-old kid should have to face: choosing where to finish his final two years of high school.

But the Westland John Glenn senior free safety handled the difficult situation just like he brings down running backs that outweigh him by 50 to 60 pounds – without flinching.

“Yeah, it was hard when my school closed, but I had to take it

on the chin and move on,” said Hunter. “There was nothing I could do about it, so I tried to make the best of it.”

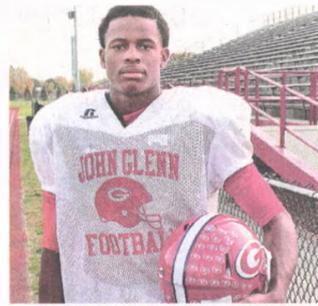
“Most of my friends went to other schools; my cousin went to [Dearborn Heights] Robichaud and my two best friends went to Oak Park, but I chose to come here, and I’m glad I did.”

Hunter is excelling at John Glenn, both on and off the football field. Selected to serve as a captain for this year’s playoff-bound squad, the 6-foot, 170-pound hard-hitter has already intercepted three passes – one of which he returned for a touchdown against Ann Arbor Skyline.

Despite his wiry frame, Hunter is not afraid to truck opposing ball-carriers. That was never more evident than in the closing seconds of the first half of Friday’s 48-13 victory over Southfield Lathrup when he brought down Charger speedster Eldrada Meeks on a fourth-and-goal play from the Rockets 2-yard line and the game’s final outcome still in doubt.

“My coaches told me that if he gets the ball on a jet sweep, go up and get him on the edge,” recounted Hunter. “I made the read and did what I was sup-

See HUNTER, Page B2



ED WRIGHT

Senior Tyrikh Hunter has excelled for Westland John Glenn’s defense since enrolling at the school after Inkster High School was shut down in 2013.

MU kickers prevail

In a match that was as balanced as could be on the score sheet, the Madonna University women’s soccer team had the advantage in the one stat that mattered – goals – in Saturday’s 1-0 win over host Cornerstone in Grand Rapids.

The Crusaders, who captured their second straight victory improved to 10-6-1 overall and 4-3-1 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference.

Neither side could find the back of the net during the first 45 minutes as Cornerstone and MU each had a pair of shots on goal.

The match remained scoreless until MU senior Katelyn Krysiak who worked past two defenders and directed a shot to the lower left corner, tallied her team-leading 11th goal of the season in the 59th minute.

The Madonna defense then held Cornerstone without a shot over the final 31 minutes to preserve goalkeeper Blaire Schmalenberg’s sixth shutout of the year.

Schmalenberg finished with three saves, while Allison Snowden had three as well for the Golden Eagles (9-3-3, 4-3-1).

Both Schmalenberg and Krysiak were named WHAC Defensive and Offensive Players of the Week.

Madonna wraps up the regular season 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1 in Southfield against Lawrence Tech in a WHAC encounter.

LJAL hoops programs

The Livonia Junior Athletic League is offering a pair of programs for first- and second-grade boys and girls.

With the assistance of the Livonia high schools, the Lil’ Dribblers Basketball Camp is designed to teach and develop individual fundamentals for first- and second-graders who are interested in learning about the sport of basketball.

The camp incorporates a kids-teaching-kids approach in which high school coaches and players lead the campers through drills that focus on basic ball-handling, dribbling, passing and shooting techniques. Life-building values like teamwork, character and leadership will also be emphasized.

Held in the Livonia Stevenson field house on Nov. 22, Dec. 6 and Dec. 13 (10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.), the cost for the camp is \$40.

Register online at ljal.com/basketball.

PREP FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS



ED WRIGHT

Pictured (clockwise from top left) are Livonia Churchill football team key contributors Tim Dulin, Nick Davis, Brian Alsobrooks, Jacob Weiss, Matt Skibinski, Paul Romain, Nick Najarian and Zach Reschke.

NEVER A DULL MOMENT

Churchill’s season highlight reel saturated with Hollywood-caliber drama

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

When it comes to providing edge-of-your-seat thrills, the series of *Halloween* and *Friday* the 13th movies have nothing on Livonia Churchill football team’s recent string of games.

On Friday, Brian Alsobrooks’ 1-yard

quarterback sneak with no time on the clock lifted the Chargers over Livonia Stevenson, 37-35. One week earlier, the Spartans prevailed, 30-27, over Churchill when Alsobrooks’ 50-yard field goal attempt as time expired (what’s new?) hit the cross-bar.

Earlier in the month, Churchill dropped a 40-35 nail-biter to eventual KLAA South

Division champion Canton, but only after it marched to the Chiefs’ 5-yard-line before stalling out with less than a minute to play.

The prequel to those three barn-burners came in the season’s second week when Churchill used a fourth-down-and-forever touchdown pass from Alsobrooks to Tim

See CHURCHILL, Page B2

DIVISION 1 PLAYOFF PRIMER: STEVENSON AT WEST BLOOMFIELD



MIKE IVEY

Livonia Stevenson running back Frank Carlin looks for a seam in the Livonia Churchill defense during Friday night’s thriller.

Lakers pose strong challenge for Spartans

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

After squaring off against neighborly rival Livonia Churchill the past two weeks, Livonia Stevenson head coach Randy Micallef is looking forward to the refreshing challenge of playing a new opponent.

Ironically enough, the Spartans’ opponent in Friday’s 7 p.m. Division 1 district opener – 8-1 West Bloomfield – is in some

ways a Churchill clone.

“They’re a very, very good football team with a lot of speed and size on both sides of the ball,” said Micallef. “Of all the teams we’ve played this season, they remind me the most of Churchill because they’re so balanced on offense. Their only loss this year was to [defending Division 1 champion] Clarkston, and from I understand that game was a track meet.”

Micallef emphasized that

Friday’s game will boil down to the simplest aspects of football.

“At this point in the season, a lot of it boils down to eliminating mistakes, not beating ourselves,” said Micallef. “You can’t dig a hole for yourself when you’re playing a quality opponent like we’re playing because they’ll make you pay.”

The Lakers’ offense is led by senior quarterback Trishton

See STEVENSON, Page B3

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PREP CROSS COUNTRY

Churchill perseveres through illness, injuries to qualify for D-1 state meet

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

What made the Livonia Churchill girls cross country team's state-qualifying effort at Saturday's Division 1 regional meet at Willow Metropark so compelling was that the Chargers didn't even come close to following their pre-meet script.

With key runners slowed or sidelined altogether by illness or injury, Churchill (123 points) was invigorated by a few clutch, breakout performances to place third in the 14-team field, behind only first-place Northville (41 points) and runner-up Salem (46).

The top three teams in each region advance to the state meet along with the 15 fastest individuals.

"After we missed the state meet altogether last year, it felt good to get the team back to its high standards," said four-year varsity performer and captain Lauren Bernhardt. "We were pretty confident going into the



ED WRIGHT
Pictured (from left) are Livonia Churchill varsity cross country runners Christina Murphy, Kathleen George, Caroline George, Addison Mussen, Gabby Swider, Hailey Pampreen and Lauren Burkhardt.

meet, but we didn't have really high expectations, which is good because we totally exceeded them.

"What made it special was that because of some girls getting sick or dropping out due to illness, we had a totally different order of finishers than normal. It just showed that we are a true team with girls who can step up when they need to."

The Chargers were led by freshman Addison

Mussen, who placed 11th with a time of 19 minutes, 45.06 seconds.

"I was very nervous before the race," Mussen admitted. "But as soon as the gun went off, my nerves went away. I started out fast and then I settled into my pace. Some girls dream about getting to the state meet their entire high school career, so to be able to go as a freshman feels great."

The front-runners in

the Chargers' "Stepping Up Big Time Club" were Hailey Pampreen, who placed 17th in 20:29.02, and Bernhardt, who turned in a stellar 22nd-place showing with a time of 20:46.25. Christina Murphy (33rd in 21:13.79) and Kathleen George (40th in 21:41.19) also scored for the state-meet bound squad.

"It's been an up-and-down year for us, but the girls really poured it on when they needed to at the end," said Churchill head coach Sue Tatro. "We struggled a little on Saturday, but we had some girls really step up when we needed them. Lauren had mononucleosis this summer and couldn't even start training with us until late August, so I'm extremely proud of her."

"I knew Addison was going to do well. She's the complete package; she's level-headed, has a lot of heart and works hard. Hailey stepped up and finished 17th, which was huge."

ewright@hometownlife.com

PREP PREVIEW: THURSTON AT MUMFORD

Eagles' riding 5-game streak into post-season

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Fueled by a five-game, season-ending winning streak, Redford Thurston's football team will travel to Detroit Mumford on Saturday afternoon (2 p.m. kick-off) for a first-round Division 3 match-up against the 6-3 Mustangs.

For the second consecutive season, the Eagles began the season 1-3 - due in large part to a brutally-tough schedule - before closing hard and fast.

"You'd much rather go into the playoffs with a winning streak like we have than by losing your last game or two and getting in," said Thurston head coach Bob Snell, whose teams have qualified for the post-season six of the past seven years. "We're at the point where the kids know what they have to do to be successful. We've been playing very fundamentally-sound football lately, and that's very important in the playoffs."

"I'm confident we'll play well on Saturday. If we play well but they outplay us, you congratulate them and move on."

The Mustangs' potent offense is engineer by 6-foot-1, 195-pound senior quarterback Monte Stewart, who Snell said is a handful for opposing defenses.

"He's very elusive; he makes a lot of plays by scrambling and buying time," said Snell. "Their receivers are fast and dynamic. It's going to be a challenge for us on both sides of the ball."

"Defensively, they



TOM BEAUDOIN
Senior Isiah Crofford has been a two-way contributor for Redford Thurston's football team this fall.

blitz either one, two or three linebackers every play, so we're going to have to be able to handle the pressure. Whenever you're in the playoffs, you know you're going to be facing a very good team, and Mumford is a very good team."

You just roll with the punches and see where they put you."

The Eagles have been bolstered by strong offensive play from senior quarterback Travis Wesenberg, who has developed a smooth chemistry with receivers Isiah Crofford and Aaron Griffin.

Thurston's running game features the smash-and-dash duo of Laymon Giddings-Whately, who does his best work between the tackles, and Chris Johnson, who excels around the edges.

Defensively, several players have excelled during the five-game streak, including Giddings-Whately, Griffin, Dionte Jones, and cornerbacks Robert Thomas and Emmanuel Parker.

ewright@hometownlife.com

HUNTER

Continued from Page B1

posed to do. They didn't score the rest of the game, so it was a big momentum changer for us."

The ferocious nature of football never fazed Hunter, who said he enjoyed pads-crunching contact the minute he pulled on his first pair of shoulder pads when he was just 5 years old.

"I've always played defense and I've always loved to hit," he said, smiling. "I remember my first big hit when I was 5. I was playing for the Inkster Raiders and we were in the championship game. The other team had a fourth-and-2 on our 17-yard line and I tackled their running back for a loss."

Hunter credited his off-the-field work ethic for much of his on-the-field success.

"You have to work hard in the off season with weight-lifting and conditioning if you ever want to see the field in high school," he said. "There are times I have to tackle a 230-pound running back, so if I'm not strong and if I don't want it more than him, he's going to beat me."

Hunter and the Rockets will travel to Saline on Friday for a 7 p.m. Division 1 first-round playoff game against the 8-1 Hornets.

"They're a very good team," he said. "They're a spread team that passes a lot, so me and the other defensive backs are going to have to be up to the challenge."

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CHURCHILL

Continued from Page B1

Dulin to force overtime against Brighton, who they eventually defeated 21-14.

Heading into Friday night's Division 1 playoff opener against Plymouth, it's safe to say the Chargers don't get fazed when the pressure cooker gets turned up a notch or two.

"The teams we've been playing lately have given us some really good challenges," said Alsobrooks, who enters the post-season with close to 1,800 yards passing. "But we've shown some pretty good composure on the sidelines mainly because we have good senior leadership. We've been pretty calm and relaxed for our final drives, which is good because playoff games are usually pretty tight."

Even though the Chargers dismantled Plymouth, 42-0, in the teams' first encounter on Sept. 19, they know the Wildcats are going to bring an

amped-up intensity level into Friday's showdown.

"Our coach said it best when he told us that we need to prepare this week at practice like we're the underdog," said Dulin. "Even though we blew them out 42-0 the first time we played them, it's playoff time now. It's win or go home, so nobody is going to be bowing down to us."

Friday night's game at Churchill (7 p.m. kick-off) is a playoff rematch from 2012 when the Wildcats sidelined the 10-0 Chargers with a 20-14 district final victory.

"They're going to be motivated to beat us because of what happened earlier this year, but we're going to be motivated by them ending our season two years ago," said senior offensive lineman Matt Skibinski, a starter as a sophomore on the 2012 team.

The winner of Friday's game will advance to play the survivor of the Northville-at-Canton district semifinal.

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PLAYOFFS PREVIEW: PLYMOUTH AT CHURCHILL

THEY MEET AGAIN

Chargers, Wildcats clash five weeks after lopsided regular-season match-up

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

For Livonia Churchill's thrill-a-minute football team, the most daunting task it may face during the days leading up to Friday's 7 p.m. Division 1, opening-round playoff game against Plymouth (7-2) is forgetting how it man-handled the Wildcats, 42-0, just over a month earlier.

Second-year head coach Bill DeFillippo insists over-confidence will not be an issue for the 7-2 Chargers, who return to the post-season with a chip on their shoulders after finishing 2-7 in 2013.

"One of the first things we talked about with the team after we found out we'd be playing Plymouth

is just how dangerous of a football team they have," said DeFillippo. "We played very, very well the first time we played them, especially on defense. We had a couple big plays in the first half and led 28-0 at halftime. They have talented kids all over the field and I guarantee you they're going to be looking to get even with us."

DeFillippo knows first-hand how the tables can turn once the playoffs arrive.

"When I was coaching at Ann Arbor Huron, we beat Ann Arbor Pioneer 37-0 during the regular season, but they came back and beat us in the playoffs that year," he said. "If you have any kind of let down this time of year, you're not going

to advance."

The four-team district bracket the Chargers were placed in is strong and deep – just what DeFillippo expected. Canton (7-2) will host Northville (6-3) in Friday night's other district semifinal.

"I was a little surprised when I saw we were playing Plymouth in the first round," DeFillippo said. "I thought there was a good chance Westland John Glenn or Dearborn would be in our district and that Plymouth would be put in with Saline and Monroe. But it just shows you that even if you know the 32 teams that are in, there are a lot of different ways you can draw it up."

The Chargers' offense has been lights-out good for the second straight

season as it averaged 41 points a game during the regular season.

"What I like best about our offense is that we averaged over 200 yards passing and 200 yards rushing this season," DeFillippo said.

Senior quarterback Brian Alsobrooks has enjoyed a stellar season engineering the Chargers' offense. His primary weapons are senior running back Paul Roman, and a deep receiving corps led by Tim Dulin, Steve Szymanski, Shakur Lockett and Antonio Alexander.

Defensively, the Chargers have been spearheaded by seniors Armon Perham, Aaron Kerr, Tyler Melow, Szymanski and Armonde Yetts, among others.



Livonia Churchill's Armon Perham registers a sack during Friday night's victory over Livonia Stevenson.

BOB PADGET

The Chargers' defense's No. 1 priority will be containing Plymouth's mobile and multi-talented senior quarterback Deji Adebisi and speedy junior running back Cameron Stella.

"Their quarterback is the kind of player who can extend plays," said DeFillippo. "And their

running back is a very good athlete. This is the fifth time in three years we will have faced them, so both coaching staffs know what the other likes to do. Whichever team executes the best and eliminates mistakes will move on."

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PREP CROSS COUNTRY REGIONALS

Hard work pays off for several area harriers

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

One local high school cross country team and several individual runners cashed in countless hours of diligent training at Saturday's various Division 1 regional meets by qualifying for this weekend's state meet at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn.

The lone team heading to the coveted high-banked course is Livonia Churchill's girls contingent, which placed third at the competition held at Willow Metropark (see related story on B2).

In a talent-laden region, the Chargers registered 123 points to finish behind only Northville (41 points) and Salem (46). The top three teams and first 15 placing individuals at each region earn state-finals berths.

The Chargers were led by freshman Addison Mussen, who placed 11th overall with a time of 19:45.1, just over a minute off the pace set by Farmington medalist Maddy Trevisian, who was clocked in 18:41.5.

Livonia Franklin placed fifth overall with 168 points while Stevenson was 12th with 295.

Led by state-qualifier Korey Szymaniak, Garden City accumulated 340 points. Szymaniak placed 14th with a time of 19:54.

Franklin senior Mandy Pokryfky extended her high school career by one week by turning in an inspiring 14th-place show-

ing in 20:03.6 to earn her first trip to MIS. Also scoring for the Patriots were Ellary Marano (32nd in 21:13.5), Natalie Douglas (37th in 31:33.1), Riley Shine (39th in 21:36.8) and Natalie Martinez, who finished 47th in 21:51.1.

"As a team, we did not have the day we were hoping for," said Franklin head coach Dave Bjorklund. "However, Mandy Pokryfky really stepped up and accepted the challenge of being an individual state-qualifier. She has done nothing but improve each year and her hard work paid off for her senior year with a chance to go run at MIS. I couldn't be more proud of her efforts."

Stevenson was led by 34th-place Julia Cercone, who covered the course in 21:17.77. Also scoring for the Spartans were Emily Lauzon (48th in 21:55.0), Emily Zwicker (67th in 22:44.40), Abigail Zwicker (71st in 23:06.59) and Diana Graham, who placed 75th in 23:20.81.

In addition to Szymaniak, Garden City received strong efforts from Gabby Castillo (68th in 22:50.71), Angie Dimopoulos (81st in 23:47.68), Hayley Plummer (87th in 24:26.34) and Caitlyn Hynek, who was 91st in 25:07.15.

Division 1 boys regionals

Wayne Memorial boys' team just missed a shot at qualifying for the state meet as it placed fourth



Franklin's Mandy Pokryfky earned an individual berth in Saturday's D1 state meet.

ED WRIGHT



Pictured are Wayne's Malik Jordan and Devin Gibson.

ED WRIGHT

with 128 points, behind only Saline (42 points), Temperance Bedford (105) and Ann Arbor Pioneer (112).

The Zebras' one-two punch of seniors Malik Jordan and Devin Gibson qualified as individuals thanks to fifth- and sixth-place finishes, respectively.

"The boys ran a good race, not a great race," said Wayne head coach Tom Gibson. "I was disappointed for the boys because it was one of their team goals to qualify for the state meet as a team again this year."

"They have had a very successful season and can hold their heads up high on their achievement this year."

Also scoring for the Zebras were Michael Gibson (17:24.5), John Gaton (19:14.0) and George Ferguson (20:47.6), all of whom ran their personal-best times on the Lake Erie Metropark course.

In the boys regional race held at Willow Metropark, Livonia Franklin's Keenan Jones and Tony Floyd turned in state-qualifying efforts as did Stevenson's Erik Grisa. Floyd, a junior, placed seventh in 16:07.9, while Jones was 10th in 16:21.5.

Warriors playoff-bound despite rash of injuries

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Lutheran Westland football coach Paul Guse' received the ultimate birthday present early Sunday evening – and it wasn't even wrapped.

Despite losing their final three games, the 5-4 and injury-ravaged Warriors found out they snuck into the MHSAA Division 8 playoffs against 6-3 Ottawa Lake-Whiteford.

The first-round match-up is set for Friday at 7 p.m. at Ottawa Lake-Whiteford, which is located just north of the Michigan-Ohio border.

"We didn't have a selection show get-together because we really didn't think we were getting in," admitted Guse'. "It's been such a tough three-week stretch for us, with all the injuries, and losing three in a row. I went to Frankenmuth with my family to celebrate my birthday and I was elated when I heard the news. It was one of the best birthday presents I ever could have received."

"Even though the regular season didn't end like we wanted it to, I'm very proud of the boys for the way they have battled through adversity. They've never given up and this is their reward."

The Warriors were surging through one of the best seasons in the school's history after the first six games when they racked up a 5-1 record. However, serious injuries to key players – most notably start two-way

players Jacob Davenport, Austin Olson and Nick Garber – started piling up faster than hill of raked-up autumn leaves.

As expected, the Warriors will be facing a daunting opponent. The Bobcats are big, strong and athletic, Guse' noted.

"They're a really good team that plays power football – they're a lot like us when we're healthy," he said. "It's going to be a real test for us. They run a Wing-T offense and their linemen are big and fast for their size. We had a good practice [on Monday] so hopefully we can give them a good game."

The Warriors missed a chance to become an automatic six-win post-season qualifier on Saturday when they dropped a 56-0 decision to Class B Center Line, which improved to 3-5.

Lutheran Westland fumbled on the second play of the game, but bounced back quickly when Cleveland Tarp picked off a Center Line pass in the red zone.

"Then we put together a 16-play drive that took the ball to their 24-yard line, but we had two penalties that stalled the drive. We didn't score, but we were feeling pretty good about ourselves."

Center Line seized the momentum on its ensuing drive and scored on a short pass to make it 7-0. From that point forward, the game started imploding on the Warriors, who found themselves trailing 34-0 at the half.

OBSERVER FOOTBALL PREDICTIONS

ALL GAMES 7 P.M. UNLESS NOTED

Friday, Oct. 31

	Ed Wright	Dan O'Meara	Tim Smith
Farmington (7-2) at Oak Park (7-2), 6 p.m.	Oak Park	Oak Park	Oak Park
Liv. Stevenson (6-3) at West Bloomfield (8-1)	Stevenson	W. Bloom.	W. Bloom.
Northville (6-3) at Canton (7-2)	Canton	Canton	Canton
Plymouth (7-2) at Livonia Churchill (7-2)	Churchill	Churchill	Plymouth
Westland John Glenn (6-3) at Saline (8-1)	John Glenn	Saline	Saline
Luth. Westland (5-4) at Ottawa Lake Whiteford (6-3)	Whiteford	Whiteford	Whiteford

Saturday, Nov. 1

Redford Thurston (6-3) at Det. Mumford (6-3), 2 p.m.	Thurston	Thurston	Mumford
Farmington Harrison (7-2) at Fenton (9-0)	Fenton	Harrison	Fenton
Last week's record	11-2	11-2	9-4
Overall record	88-26	97-17	75-39

STEVENSON

Continued from Page B1

Jackson, who is a dual threat. Jackson's favorite target is 5-foot-7, 165-pound wide receiver Michael King, who Micallef compared favorably to his own senior dynamic threat C.J. Weiss.

"[King] has speed to burn," said Micallef. "They get him the ball a lot of different ways, similar to what we do with C.J."

Micallef said he's been pleased with the first two days of this

week's practice sessions. "The kids are excited and focused," noted Micallef. "We're stressing to them that they're one of just 32 teams left in Division 1. They're eager to go out and play somebody new, somebody we haven't faced."

A victory would propel the Spartans into next week's district final against the winner of Friday night's Walled Lake Central-Waterford Mott game.

"All four teams in our district are 'high-quality teams,'" Micallef said. "Whoever comes out of it is going to have to play very well."

Weiss enjoyed a record-breaking season for the Spartans, setting the Stevenson record for most receptions in a nine-game season (59). He's accumulated 725 yards receiving.

Junior running back Austin Petrie has also excelled, eclipsing the 1,000-yard mark last week while averaging 7.3 yards per carry.

Sophomore quarterback Chris Tanderys has played like a veteran for the Spartans, completing 68 percent of his passes for over 1,600 yards and 14 touchdowns.

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ABSTRACT WAYNE CITY COUNCIL MEETING NO. 2014-30 OCTOBER 21, 2014

A Regular Meeting of the City Council was held Tuesday, October 21, 2014 at 8:00 p.m. at WABC, 35000 Sims Ave. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT. APPROVED: minutes reg. mtg. of Oct. 7; Site Plan #2014-03 Fresh Choice Food Center, 35400 Michigan Avenue East & Site Plan #2014-04 Construction Station, 39115 Michigan Avenue; amend to FY '14/15 P & R fee schedule; appoint Al Maciag as interim Police Chief; request from BBC Wayne Property LLC to relinquish the reverter provision held by the City pursuant to a land contract between the City and Nortside Management Company; appoint Carrie Venus as Personnel Director/Ex. Assistant; consent calendar. Received and filed Communications and Reports. Adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Matthew K. Miller
City Clerk

Publish: October 30, 2014

LO-000218536 3/2

NOTICE

Call for a Public Meeting

Attention: All interested residents of South Redford School District community and parents of children who attend the South Redford School District schools

Please take notice that the South Redford School District Sex Education Advisory Board, in accordance with PA 165 and 166 of 2004, has been meeting during the past year to evaluate and revise the curriculum and instruction provided to our students in human sexuality education and HIV/AIDS education. In accordance with §380.1507, two public meetings have been planned. The purpose of these meetings is to report to the public the progress of the South Redford School District Sex Education Advisory Board and to obtain input from the public regarding the proposed videos to be used in the sex education curriculum and instruction in our schools.

The Advisory Board is recommending the addition of 4 videos to be shown to middle school and high school students, as an amendment to the current curriculum. The videos will be shown during these two meetings.

Meeting Dates and Times: Wednesday, November 12, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.
Friday, November 21, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

Meeting Place: Jan W. Jacobs Educational Services Center
Board Room
26141 Schoolcraft
Redford, MI 48239

Meeting Facilitators: Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction:
Dr. Kristina Harmon

Advisory Board Co-Chair: Darrin Brown

Publish: Thursday, October 30, 2014

LO-000219031 3/4.5

Zebras finish season with two-game winning streak

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

It took Wayne Memorial's football team five years to win one game and one week to win a second.

Role models for downtrodden athletes everywhere who need proof that no mountain of adversity is too high to overcome, the Zebras trounced visiting Dearborn Edsel Ford, 55-14, Friday night to win their second straight game after suffering through an agonizing five-year, 46-game losing streak.

The catalyst of the Zebras' turn-around was 6-foot-5 junior quarterback Joe Bob Walker, who piled up an astounding 507 total offensive yards and six touchdowns.

Walker, a transfer from California, ran for 239 yards

and two scores on 24 carries, and completed 17 of 27 passes for 268 yards and four touchdowns.

Wayne outgained the Thunderbirds, 634-218, in total yards.

Jarvis Martin had a solid game running the ball for the Zebras as he picked up 76 yards on 19 carries.

Angelo Wiggins was Walker's favorite target, catching six spirals for 107 yards and a TD.

Similar to the Zebras' 47-28 victory at South Lyon East one week earlier, Edsel Ford jumped out to a 7-0 lead when Grant Rathwell hit Austyn Ramos for an 8-yard TD pass.

The Zebras then closed the quarter with 21 unanswered points thanks to a 4-yard scoring run by Walker, a 16-yard pass from Walker to Wiggins

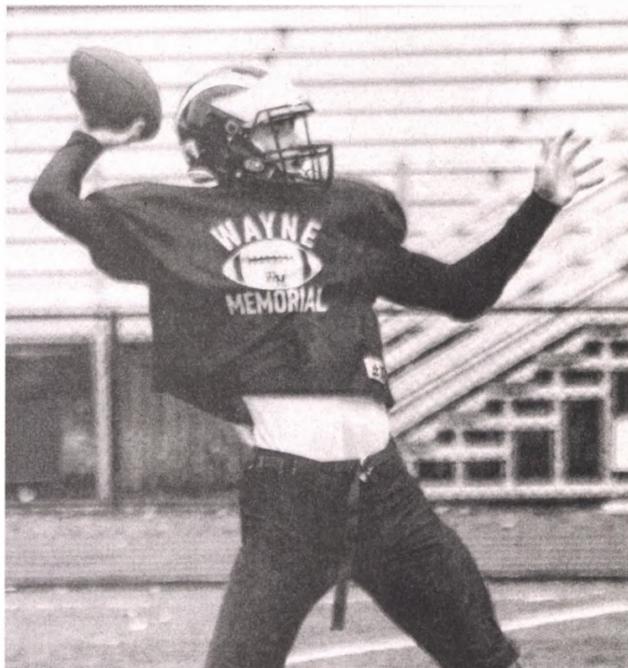
and a 6-yard six-pointer by Martin.

After the T-Birds drew to within 21-14 on another Rathwell to Ramos hook-up, this time from 4 yards out, Wayne retaliated with back-to-back TD's: a 41-yard Walker-to-Mike Hill scoring pass followed by an 11-yard pass from Walker to Gray Anthony to widen the gap to 35-14 at the half.

Austin Cross was perfect on all five of his first-half extra-point attempts and he was 7 of 8 for the game.

The Zebras owned the final 24 minutes, getting a pair of touchdowns from Malik Bryant, who caught an 11-yard TD pass and scampered into the end zone from 12 yards out, and a 2-yard run by Walker.

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Wayne Memorial junior quarterback Joe Bob Walker accounted for four touchdowns (two passing and two running) in the Zebras' 55-14 victory over Dearborn Edsel Ford.

ED WRIGHT



Westland John Glenn junior outside hitter Ryan Clemmons was a hitting machine at Saturday's KLAA volleyball tournament at Lakeland High School.

ED WRIGHT

PREP VOLLEYBALL ROUNDUP

John Glenn takes third in KLAA conference tourney

Clemmons shines as Rockets excel in silver brackets

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Westland John Glenn's volleyball team did a lot of good things during Saturday's KLAA volleyball tournament hosted by Lakeland, but not quite enough good things to win the silver brackets.

Led by junior outside hitter Ryan Clemmons, the Rockets went 2-0 in pool play by defeating Livonia Stevenson and Waterford Kettering to earn a No. 2 seed - behind only Brighton - in the elimination round of the event.

Following a quarterfinal victory over Waterford Mott, the Rockets fell to the eventual silver champion Mustangs in straight sets.

John Glenn earned the third-place trophy due to the fact they were ousted by the eventual champion and because it defeated the other semifinal loser, Howell, earlier in the season.

"We played really well in pool play," said John Glenn head coach Andrew Walker, whose team will take a 32-15 record into Saturday's Ann Arbor Invitational. "We struggled a little bit in bracket play. We missed too many serves, which we've talked about a lot this season. We just weren't clicking on all cylinders."

Walker had high praise for Clemmons, who led the Rockets in both kills and serving percentage.

John Glenn will host a Division 1 district tournament that runs Monday through Friday.

Eagles fall to Trojans

Redford Thurston dropped a 25-10, 25-13, 25-23 decision to host Livonia Clarenceville Monday night.

Leading the Eagles were Ronay Peguies, who racked up five assists, two blocks, one kill and one service ace; Jordan Cook (two kills and 10 blocks), Gabrielle van Well (one kills, two aces, three digs and two blocks), Megan Abela (seven digs), Dasia Johnson (six digs, one kill, one ace), Dedee Welch (two assists, two digs), Maya McKinney (three blocks, one kill, one ace) and Kayla Oliver, who contributed one kill.

Thurston head coach Scott Gray said sophomore setter Peguies played well while replacing injured Lauren Gar-char.

"Freshman Dedee Welch played very well in her first varsity match," added Gray. "Our entire team played without reservation to attack the ball. Clarenceville has tremendous firepower. I am most proud that we never backed down."

GC topples Pioneers

Garden City improved to 26-9-1 overall and 10-0 in the Western Wayne Athletic Conference's Blue Division Tuesday night with a 25-16, 25-20, 25-13 victory over host Dearborn.

The Cougars set the tone early as they bolted to a 6-0 advantage in the opening set. Dearborn played feisty in the middle set, knotting the stanza at 8-8 before GC pulled away late.

The Cougars never trailed in the final game.

Senior libero Taylor Bejma was outstanding for the winners, handling seven of eight serves, serving at a perfect 8-for-8 clip and digging out

eight balls.

Senior Holly Sayger also played well, going 18-for-18 on serves with four aces. Sayger also chipped in with seven digs and eight kills.

Junior Allie Lynn was 16-for-16 on serve-receive in addition to leading the Cougars with 12 kills.

Hanna Vera-Burgos (11 assists) and Alex Roffi (10 assists) both distributed the ball accurately for GC.

"We needed this win to finish undefeated in conference play, which was one of our goals," said GC head coach John Pace. "We started very fast, leading 14-2 while playing with a ton of ball control. We really wanted to battle for points. We did not want to give up an easy point."

"There were some great plays and incredible saves."

Warriors triumph

Lutheran Westland improved to 16-19-2 on Monday with a 3-0 victory over Redford Thurston.

"Our team played solid volleyball tonight," said LW head coach Tom Lange. "Our juniors are growing up and playing the parts we need to be successful."

Emily Fairbairn led the winners' offensive attack with 11 kills and one block. Setter Bethany Hoehne quarterbacked the offense expertly by distributing 26 assists to accompany four aces, three digs and two kills.

Allie Lange also turned in an excellent all-around effort, picking up seven aces, six kills and four digs.

Other key contributors were Emily Hahn (three aces, four digs) and Vivian Quitmeyer, who had two aces and six kills.

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COLLEGE BASKETBALL PREVIEW

Madonna men's hoops gets makeover

Owens only full-time starter who returns

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Name tags might be the most appropriate thing when the Madonna University men's basketball team launches its 2014-15 season Saturday in Boston, Mass., against Fisher College.

The Crusaders will be missing five players who logged a total of 116 starts last season, including the potent backcourt of NAIA Division II All-American Bobby Naubert (18.1 points, 6.1 assists) and Travis Schuba (14.2 points, 109-for-226 3-pointers, 40.1 percent).

The dynamic pair of four-year starters tallied 1,914 and 1,673 career points, respectively.

The Crusaders, who finished 20-12 overall and 15-7 last year in the WHAC, were tabbed fifth in the preseason coaches poll.

"Anytime you're picked lower in the conference, you feel like you're a bit of an underdog," said Madonna coach Noel Emenhiser, who guided the Crusaders to a 25-9 record, a WHAC title and an national tourney berth in 2012-13. "Our mentality will be that every night. We're going to show them great respect in our preparation when we step on the court. And I believe we have a group that is capable of finishing in the top couple in the conference."

Also gone is forward Fred Williams, who averaged 11.9 points per outing in 14 games before being lost for the season with an injury. Forwards Matt Jenkins (4.7 ppg, 29 starts) and Derek Lennen (7.2 ppg, 12 starts) also graduated.

That means there will be a lot of new faces and untested talent in the starting lineup.

The only exception is 6-foot-8 senior center Donald Owens (Inkster), who averaged 7.8 points and 5.4 rebounds per contest while starting 30 games.

Jeff Schmitz (South Lyon), a 6-4 senior forward, started 11 games last year and averaged 4.6 points per game, but has been slowed during the preseason with an ankle injury.

"It's easy to look at everything that graduated and how important they were to our program," said Emenhiser, who is 78-90 six seasons at MU. "By those players leaving, it hurts. But they really left a legacy on how to be successful. We certainly appreciate what that entire group did for this program."

Joining Owens in the starting lineup Saturday will be 5-9 sophomore point guard Khalil Malone (Waterford Mott), 6-4 junior guard Tyler Stewart (Salem), 6-7 freshman red-shirt forward Chris Dierker (Salem) and 6-4 junior guard Zak Lewis (Petoskey).

Stewart, who appeared in all 32 games last season, can score in a variety of ways, according to Emenhiser.



Dierker

Stewart

"Tyler is somebody that we would have loved to have play more over the last couple of years," he said. "He's really grown as a person and as a player. He's got a great skill set. He can score at the basket, he can score from 'three.' Very athletic player, somebody you almost call a little bit too nice at times. I'd like to see him have that killer mean streak and that's something he's developing. We're expecting a lot out of him. He's played well in the preseason. He's a great young man and somebody we feel is going to be fantastic the next two years."

Dierker is a former all-Observer standout who could be MU's trump card this season.

"Ability-wise, he's got everything you want if you're going to dial up a power forward," Emenhiser said. "He's got the size, the athleticism, so we're trying to put him in positions that he can be successful. He runs the floor great, attacks the offensive glass hard. He attacks the basket well and is a good shooter."

Malone, meanwhile, played in 28 games last season primarily as Naubert's back-up, while Lewis appeared in 31 games.

"We look like we've got pretty good balance," Emenhiser said. "Khalil Malone is somebody we're expecting. We need him to be aggressive, not only scoring for himself, but create for others. Zak Lewis has always been a dependable player."

Freshman guards Austin Johnson (Spring Lake), his high school's all-time leading scorer, and Grant Smith (Davison) could also pick up valuable minutes in the early going.

"Johnson will certainly contribute right away," Emenhiser said. "He's an attacking-style guard, gets into the paint, excellent ball handler and improved shooter. We expect a lot from Grant Smith as well."

Backing up Owens at center will be Nigeria native C.J. Ezeani, a 6-8, 240-pound sophomore from Detroit Consortium, along with 6-6, 225-pound sophomore Dan Hall (Trenton), who played in all 32 games last season.

Returning senior guard Zach Wedesky (Fowlerville) has been plagued by lingering knee issues, while freshmen Ricky Rojas (Dearborn Heights Crestwood), Nick Owens (Clarkston) and mid-year senior transfer Shaun Duncan (Detroit Pershing/Wayne County CC) will also vie for playing time.

MU's home opener is at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 4, against Great Lakes Christian College.

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Real estate firms upbeat on future, survey says; local Realtors agree

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Real estate firms are confident about the future growth and profitability of their industry, according to the 2014 National Association of Realtors® Profile of Real Estate Firms.

Local Realtors agree with that assessment.

"Absolutely. I think this'll be our best year. We're on track to sell 150 homes," said Diane Remer of Diane Remer & Associates/Keller Williams Realty in Plymouth. She has nearly 20 years in the field.

"I think it's picked up all over," said western Wayne County resident Remer, including prices. "They definitely picked up earlier this year. Our average price has gone up."

Agreeing is Realtor Richard Eisiminger of RichRealty in Plymouth. "The third year in a row that our market has picked up," he said. "Real estate's once again being a great investment."

Canton, Plymouth and Northville are strong, Eisiminger said. "They are hot markets."

Canton resident Eisiminger has been in the field going on 25 years. "Very encouraging," he said of the current housing market. "When the housing market is doing well everybody is doing well. Obviously it spins on all types of purchases. Everything just kind of falls underneath that," Eisiminger said, including more cars selling in a better housing market.

"The real estate industry is competitive, and Realtors know that to be successful they must have a strong entrepreneurial spirit and the know-how to make a business thrive, even in a difficult market," said NAR President Steve Brown, broker/owner of Irongate, Inc. Realtors in Dayton, Ohio. "Despite continued challenges, real estate firms expect market growth in tandem with the ongoing recovery."

Most residential firms have a positive view of the future, with 66 percent of firms expecting to see profit from all their activities to increase in the next year. Lawrence Yun, NAR's chief economist, says that commercial firms also



Most residential firms have a positive view of the future.

have a confident outlook for the coming year. "Commercial real estate firms are even more optimistic, with 71 percent expecting profitability to improve," said Yun.

According to the survey, 81 percent of firms specialize in residential brokerage, with commercial brokerages and residential property management as the most popular secondary functions. Eighty-four percent of firms are independent, nonfranchised firms, while 14 percent are independent, franchised firms. The remainders are subsidiaries of a national or regional corporation.

"We've always been busy," said Remer, but in earlier years many were short sales where people had to relocate. "I used to carry Kleenex in my briefcase," Remer recalled. "Now it's a happy time. Now it's because they want to" move on and/or up.

"I'm very blessed in the industry," Remer said. "It's been a great business, a great team."

The typical residential real estate firm's brokerage sales volume was \$4.7 million in 2013, while the typical commercial real estate firm's brokerage sales volume was \$4.3 million. Firms reported that 35 percent of their sales volume typically comes from past client referrals, 30 percent from repeat business from past clients, 10 percent from their website and 5 percent through social media.

The average residential firm has been in business for 12 years, and the average

commercial firm has been operating for 17 years. Eighty-one percent of all brokerages have one office and two full-time real estate licensees, while 7 percent have four or more offices with 92 full-time real estate licensees.

The most common concern cited by firms (59 percent) was Millennials' ability to buy a home due to stagnant wage growth, a slow job market and their debt-to-income ratios. Profitability, keeping up with technology, maintaining sufficient inventory, and local or regional economic conditions are the next most reported concerns firms see themselves facing in the next two years.

Despite those concerns, firm growth has not slowed. Forty-five percent of firms reported they are currently recruiting sales agents, with 87 percent of those firms reporting business growth as their primary reason for recruiting.

Firms also expect industry competition to increase in the next year. Forty-eight percent predict this will come from nontraditional market participants, 41 percent predict it will come from virtual firms, and 16 percent expect competition from traditional brick-and-mortar firms.

Eighty-one percent of firms offer errors and omissions/liability insurance to independent contractors, licensees and agents, making it the most common benefit firms offer their employees. However, many firms share the cost of the insurance with their employees. Twenty-one percent of firms offer their independent contractors, licensees and agents health insurance, and in most cases the employee pays for the benefit.

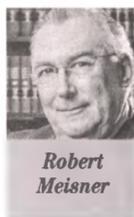
The 2014 National Association of Realtors Profile of Real Estate Firms was based on a questionnaire mailed in August of this year to a national sample of 134,108 executives at real estate firms. This generated 7,081 usable responses with a response rate of 5.8 percent.

The 2014 NAR Profile of Real Estate Firms can be ordered by calling 800-874-6500, or online at www.realtor.org/prodser.nsf/Research. The study is free for media and NAR members and costs \$149.95 for nonmembers.

The NAR website contributed to this report.

Flying of U.S. flag on property could fall under state condo law

Q: We have a gentlemen in our townhouse who is displaying the American flag outside the door to his townhouse. The board advised him that the flag violated the covenants and restrictions. He has refused to take down the flag. The co-owner is threatening to sue the association, claiming that the association's efforts to force him to take down the flag are improper under federal law. Do you think he has the right to do so?



Robert Meisner

A: Probably not based upon a recent interpretation of the federal statute which says that a condo association, cooperative association or residential real estate management association may not adopt or enforce any policy, or enter into any agreement that would restrict or prevent a member of the association from displaying the flag of the United States on residential property within the association if each member has a separate ownership interest or right to exclusive possession or use of the property in question. However, the U.S. Court of Appeals of the Fifth Circuit found that there is no private right of action with respect to the statute, saying it was not Congress's intent to create a private cause of action because there is nothing in the text to support such a private claim. Of course, if this were in Michigan, there may be a basis under the State Condominium Act to allow him to display an American flag in certain locations, which may have a different result.

Q: We are a same sex couple married out of state and I am wondering if the Register of Deeds in Michigan will record a deed on a home we purchased together, and what is the effect of the deed?

A: Tenancy by the entirety exists only if persons are married at the time the deed is recorded. If unmarried people attempt to take property by the entirety, a court will typically declare them to be tenants in common. Their subsequent marriage will not create a tenancy by the entirety. In fact, if two people take title today in Michigan as tenants by the entirety, that status will prevail only if the subsequent action determines that the couple was legally married at the time of the conveyance of the deed. It is not enough that a later court determines that same sex owners can now legally marry. A Michigan court would probably deem the owners tenants in common. Therefore, a creditor of one property could reach the property, title would not automatically vest in the survivor, and the "surviving spouse" could be a tenant in common with the deceased spouses heirs. It is suggested, therefore, that same sex couples in Michigan may prefer to hold property as joint tenants with rights of survivorship since this form of co-ownership limits the ability of a co-tenant to convey an interest free of the right of the remaining joint tenant, and provide some protection from claims of the other co-tenant's creditors. Obviously, getting a legal opinion on this is necessary depending upon the state of the law at the time.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling and Operating a Condominium." It is available for \$24.95, plus \$5.55 for tax, shipping and handling. "Condo Living 2" is available in both print and e-book editions. The e-book is available for download through iTunes, Amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of June 16-20, 2014, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS

15748 Birwood Ave \$131,000
18851 Devonshire St \$325,000
18469 Hillcrest St \$585,000

BIRMINGHAM

1641 Birmingham Blvd \$460,000
1739 Croft Rd \$191,000
1638 E Melton Rd \$247,000
1155 Emmons Ave \$218,000
1130 Fairfax St \$650,000
1431 Fairway Dr \$640,000
283 Lake Park Dr \$1,150,000
475 N Eton St # C5 \$120,000
1255 Villa Rd \$424,000

BLOOMFIELD HILLS

33 Brady Ln \$2,220,000
728 Briar Hill Ln \$232,000
542 E Fox Hills Dr \$65,000
862 Shady Hollow Cir \$365,000
2264 Sudbury Way \$525,000
2725 Turtle Shores Dr \$350,000

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

7400 E Greenwich Dr \$220,000
1085 Fox Chase Rd \$495,000
1285 Greenglen Ct \$249,000
190 Hadsell Dr \$240,000
2985 Lahser Rd \$533,000
1176 Lone Pine Woods Dr \$600,000
646 N Glengarry Rd \$873,000
1835 Spring Grove Rd \$215,000

COMMERCE TOWNSHIP

3245 Estate View Ct \$402,000
9511 Garden Ter \$145,000

1907 Golfcrest Dr \$308,000
222 Harpham St \$93,000
6108 Strawberry Cir \$369,000
9558 Trace Hollow Ct \$304,000

FARMINGTON

23247 Hawthorne St \$129,000
33254 Slocum Dr \$136,000

FARMINGTON HILLS

37789 Baywood Dr \$336,000
31914 Bella Vista Dr \$178,000
32943 Biddestone Ln \$322,000
23201 Canfield Ave \$226,000
29277 Chenwood Ct \$165,000
29914 Fox Club Dr \$328,000
37127 Fox Glen \$335,000
31128 Harmony Ln \$70,000
28583 Kendallwood Dr \$222,000
29254 Laurel Dr \$115,000
34436 Mayfair Ct \$292,000
29660 Middlebelt Rd # Apt2101 \$98,000

HIGHLAND

31276 Misty Pines Dr \$157,000
39101 Oxbow Ct \$270,000
21506 Oxford Ave \$125,000
29945 Ravenscroft St \$180,000
21480 River Ridge Ct \$245,000
38214 Saratoga Cir \$176,000
24887 Springbrook Dr \$165,000
31993 W 12 Mile Rd Unit 311 \$50,000
31035 Westwood Rd \$275,000
35018 White Pine Trl \$204,000

4950 Strathcona \$185,000
LATHRUP VILLAGE
28511 Lathrup Blvd \$182,000
MILFORD
564 Dorchester Way \$282,000
536 E Liberty St \$390,000
223 Franklin St \$132,000
1174 Marjorie St \$140,000

NORTHVILLE

52350 Ferndale Dr \$430,000
21845 Novi Rd \$135,000
42192 Pellston Dr \$90,000
42227 Pellston Dr \$132,000
37922 Rhonswood Dr \$271,000

NOVI

24380 Amanda Ln \$425,000
24215 Bashian Dr \$111,000
24403 Bramblewood Dr \$315,000
39611 Burton Dr \$204,000
28247 Carlton Way Dr \$199,000
28341 Carlton Way Dr \$195,000
41884 Cherry Hill Rd \$210,000
50708 Chesapeake Dr \$809,000
28075 Dixon Rd \$110,000
45434 Emerald Forest Dr \$360,000
230 Endwell St \$155,000
26562 Glenwood Dr \$675,000
27551 Harrington Way \$328,000
22508 Heatherbrae Way \$180,000
40327 Oak Tree \$206,000
24646 Olde Orchard St \$80,000
25596 Portico Ln \$200,000
22799 Randall Ct \$360,000
45865 Sheffield Dr \$269,000
24419 Simmons Dr \$140,000
41320 Singh Blvd \$328,000
23647 Stonehenge Blvd \$104,000
21995 Sunflower Rd \$231,000
25336 Sutton Ct \$419,000
24570 Terra Del Mar Dr \$608,000

27279 Victoria Rd \$350,000
27327 Victoria Rd \$303,000
22915 Woolsey \$87,000

SOUTH LYON

25934 Carriage Ln \$320,000
1104 Chestnut Ln \$299,000
61004 Evergreen Ct \$185,000
935 Hidden Creek Dr \$315,000
24116 Meadowcreek Cir E \$393,000
1053 Paddock Dr \$241,000
964 S Parkwood Dr \$258,000
61387 Saddlecreek Dr \$334,000
322 Stanford Ave \$154,000
54465 Villagewood Dr \$395,000
24520 Wedgewood Dr \$400,000
58477 Well Cress Ct \$81,000
58505 Well Cress Ct \$93,000

SOUTHFIELD

23262 Grayson Dr \$68,000
15872 Harden Cir \$127,000
21495 Independence Dr \$120,000
25620 Lois Ln \$163,000
15801 Providence Dr # 02f \$40,000
15801 Providence Dr # 07c \$105,000
27466 Shagbark Dr \$56,000

WHITE LAKE

950 Denbar Ct \$331,000
10595 Emwood Ct \$410,000
8616 Highland Rd \$65,000
440 Rosario Ln \$280,000
926 Sloane Ct \$200,000
9120 Sussex St \$172,000
8212 Timberhurst St \$175,000
11172 Windthrust St \$125,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of July 7-11, 2014, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON

43172 Applewood Rd \$162,000
7999 Brampton Dr \$450,000
855 Burlington Rd \$177,000
49204 Castleside Dr \$433,000
42834 Colling Dr \$210,000
445 Constitution St \$283,000
7554 Corbett Dr \$235,000
1340 Crowndale Ln \$364,000
265 Edington Cir \$195,000
44312 Fair Oaks Dr \$195,000
7263 Green Meadow Ln \$166,000
48171 Greenwich Ln \$305,000
46400 Hanford Rd \$283,000
7303 Hillsboro Ct \$170,000
48267 Inveraray Rd \$425,000
405 Lenox Dr \$412,000
43575 Lyme Ct \$274,000
175 Marsala Ct \$425,000
50119 Monroe St \$116,000
3923 Ravensfield Dr \$201,000
231 Robert Ct \$320,000
46595 Saltz Rd \$161,000
51014 Sleepy Hollow Ln \$241,000
46894 Spinning Wheel Dr \$260,000

720 Suttan Dr \$195,000
GARDEN CITY
31925 Balmoral St \$74,000
29886 Dover St \$109,000
6936 Gilman St \$67,000
33725 John Hawk St \$85,000
31325 Marquette St \$112,000
27636 Windsor St \$88,000

LIVONIA

33045 Barkley St \$196,000
9625 Blackburn St \$210,000
31837 Bretton St \$145,000
36221 Curtis Rd \$205,000
39383 Donald St \$184,000
10880 Edington St \$222,000
29655 Edward Pl \$175,000
28114 Elmira St \$135,000
19402 Fairlane Ct \$340,000
18681 Fairway St \$205,000
15559 Golfview St \$205,000
18260 Heatherlea Dr \$385,000
36545 Joanne St \$112,000
36429 Ladywood St \$230,000
18500 Laurel Dr \$211,000
15504 Laverpool St \$213,000
20159 Maplewood St \$121,000
29944 Mctyres St \$130,000
37468 N Laurel Park Dr \$148,000
29536 Nottingham Ct \$118,000
28483 Pickford St \$129,000
17303 Rougeway St \$109,000
16643 S Laurel Park Dr \$224,000

19639 Saint Francis St \$114,000
16737 Savoie St \$240,000
32811 Summers St \$185,000
14405 Westmore St \$160,000
18915 Westmore St \$123,000
19027 Whitby St \$158,000
34637 Wood St \$191,000

NORTHVILLE

44527 Aspen Ridge Dr \$373,000
18872 Bayberry Way \$660,000
44873 Broadmoor Cir S \$383,000
18657 Clover Hill Ct \$585,000
575 East St \$473,000
616 Fairbrook St \$395,000
16650 Forest Dr \$528,000
17125 Maple Hill Dr \$415,000
18561 Steep Hollow Ct \$665,000
16859 White Haven Dr \$324,000
PLYMOUTH
1450 Ann Arbor Rd W \$85,000
50016 Cooke Ave \$680,000
13970 Oakland Ct \$392,000
182 Pinewood Dr \$95,000
1199 S Sheldon Rd \$40,000
51071 W Hills Dr \$400,000
13058 Westbrook Rd \$508,000
391 Windmill Dr \$280,000
REDFORD
20411 Centralia \$56,000
11758 Columbia \$75,000
11396 Crosley \$84,000
25544 Graham Rd \$42,000

17380 Macarthur \$72,000
18277 Macarthur \$67,000
26517 Margareta \$65,000
16152 Negaunee \$135,000
20077 Poinciana \$22,000
9271 Rockland \$96,000
9403 Salem \$50,000
26745 Santa Maria \$80,000

WAYNE

4651 Elizabeth St \$101,000
35211 Glover St \$62,000
4803 Moore St \$88,000
4523 Williams St \$54,000
WESTLAND
39317 Armstrong Ln \$115,000
35330 Bakewell St \$77,000
34821 Blackfoot St \$90,000
30766 Burlington St \$74,000
7900 Donna St \$140,000
2480 E Rhead Cir \$110,000
2112 Emerson St \$21,000
466 Forest St \$70,000
35236 Glen St \$55,000
30459 Grandview Ave \$80,000
8238 Hugh St \$58,000
5689 N Walton St \$71,000
1787 Surrey Hts \$103,000
36063 Traditions Dr \$165,000
2030 W Williams Cir \$120,000

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RENTALS

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HomeFinder

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Adam: 734-620-8870
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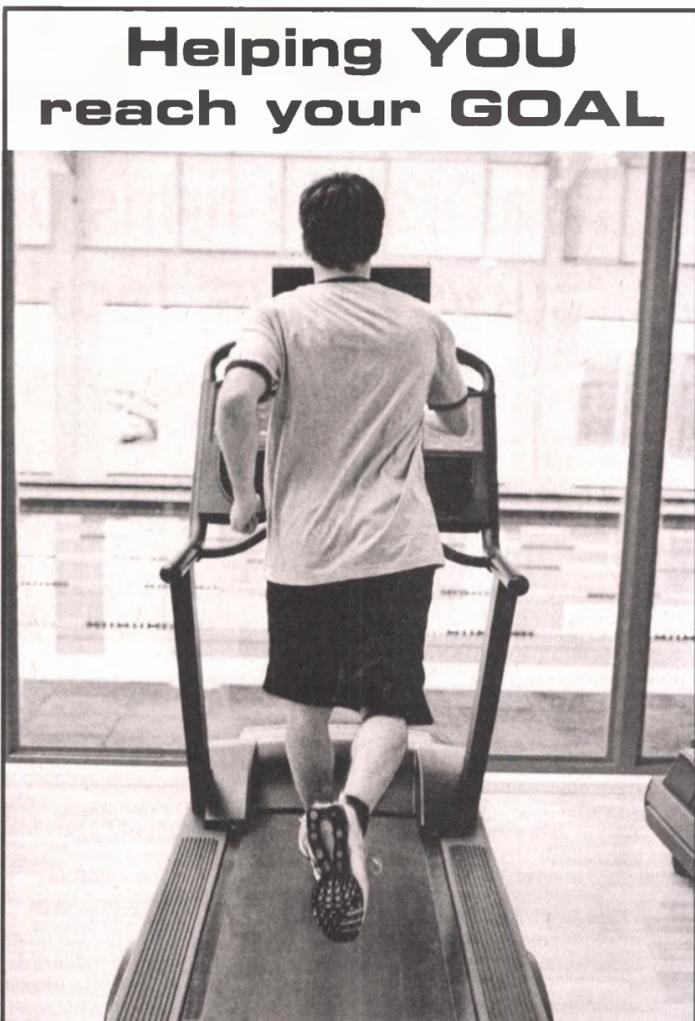
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*WAC. Deposits start at \$699 per mo. 15 mo lease. Community owned homes. Offer expires 10-31-14

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Must pass drug screen & background check. Ability to work with customer on a daily basis & complete all aspects of cleaning. Must have own transportation.
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Help Wanted - Medical

MEDICAL ASSISTANT

25-30 hrs/wk Excellent Salary and Health Benefits
MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST
Experience Preferred Full-Time, Exc. Salary and Health Benefits
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Paint Decorating Paper

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Interior/Exterior. Work myself. Reasonable. (248) 225-7185

MECHANIC LARGE EQUIPMENT

RAM
Exp'd. MECHANIC for Livonia warehouse. Email resume: mkaspan@ramservices.com or fax: 734-793-1934

MEDICAL BILLER

For a growing medical billing company. At least 5 yrs. exp. needed. Knowledgeable all scripts, ECW, E-Thomas is a plus
Email resume:
Bmat123@comcast.net

MILL HAND,

Toolmaker for precision detail milling. Must have minimum 2 years' experience in milling for gage shop in S. Oakland Co. Not a production facility. Top Wages, day shift, good benefits. You must have own precision tools & be proficient in math. This is a great opportunity for right candidate. Drug Test.

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Are you an experienced Roofer but tired of roofing every day? Would you like weekends off? Would you like good pay, nice company & benefits? Do you have a driver's license? Apply Mon-Fri, 9-11 & 1-4
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Washer Maytag 3 yrs old. Dryer Admiral Gas. \$300 excel cond. 313-434-0843

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2 bedroom 2 bath home
All appliances, washer/dryer, central air, large deck
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FREE RENT until November 1, 2014!

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Rentals starting at \$799 for 3 bed, 2 bath homes. All appliances including washer & dryer
4377 Old Plank Road, Milford
248-820-5835
www.childslake.com

*WAC. Deposits start at \$699 per mo. 15 mo lease. Community owned homes. Offer expires 10-31-14

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Accounting Manager/Construction

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MECHANIC LARGE EQUIPMENT

RAM
Exp'd. MECHANIC for Livonia warehouse. Email resume: mkaspan@ramservices.com or fax: 734-793-1934

MEDICAL BILLER

For a growing medical billing company. At least 5 yrs. exp. needed. Knowledgeable all scripts, ECW, E-Thomas is a plus
Email resume:
Bmat123@comcast.net

MILL HAND,

Toolmaker for precision detail milling. Must have minimum 2 years' experience in milling for gage shop in S. Oakland Co. Not a production facility. Top Wages, day shift, good benefits. You must have own precision tools & be proficient in math. This is a great opportunity for right candidate. Drug Test.

MAYA GAGE
Email resume to:
sales@mayagage.com

ROOFING SERVICE PERSON

Are you an experienced Roofer but tired of roofing every day? Would you like weekends off? Would you like good pay, nice company & benefits? Do you have a driver's license? Apply Mon-Fri, 9-11 & 1-4
Tallon Construction
25407 Van Barn Rd.
Taylor.

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11027 Blackburn St. Thurs - Sun 9-5pm (S. off Plymouth Rd. W. of Merriman Rd.) Collectibles, Furniture, & More! pics @ actionestate.com 586-228-9090

Plymouth MI Estate Sale
Sat. Nov. 1, 9-4pm & Sun. Nov. 2, 10-3pm. Lift chair, furniture, collectibles, Ergo stroller, household items & more. 1070 York St. 48170

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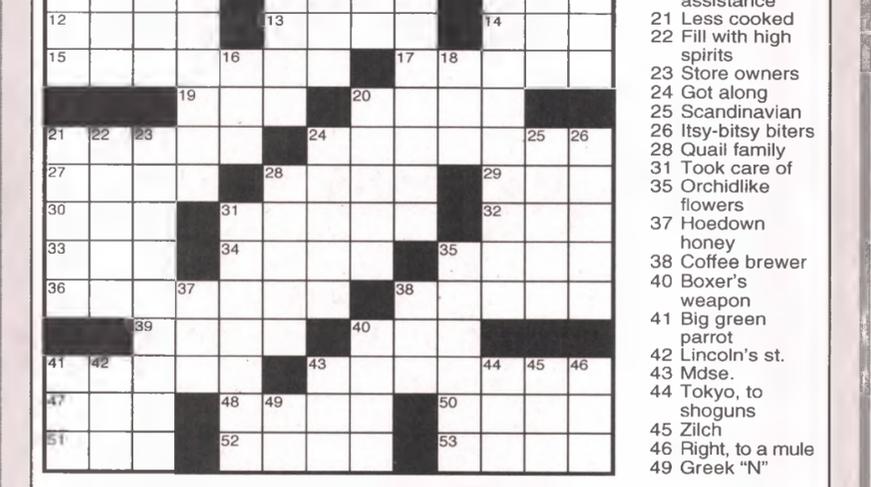
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DOWN 1 Liquid meas. 2 Employ for a purpose 3 — Holm of "Alien" 4 Czech capital 5 Type of synthesizer 6 Boat implement 7 Diamond loc. 8 Take up, as a cause 9 Tolerant 10 Slip up 11 Publishing execs 16 Non-rusting metal 18 And, for Wolfgang 20 Gives assistance 21 Less cooked 22 Fill with high spirits 23 Store owners 24 Got along 25 Scandinavian 26 Itsy-bitsy biters 28 Quail family 31 Took care of 35 Orchidlike flowers 37 Hoedown honey 38 Coffee brewer 40 Boxer's weapon 41 Big green parrot 42 Lincoln's st. 43 Mdse. 44 Tokyo, to shoguns 45 Zilch 46 Right, to a mule 49 Greek "N"



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Check your answers here. Sudoku grid and word search grid with solutions.

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On the Rise Bakery, sponsored by the Capuchin Soup Kitchen in Detroit, will sell baked goods at the annual Alternative Christmas Fair in Farmington Hills.

Alternative Christmas fair benefits charitable work

The 14th annual Alternative Christmas Fair, Nov. 8 at Hope Lutheran Church in Farmington Hills, gives charitable organizations an opportunity to sell products and educate others about the services they provide.

The event runs 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the church, 39200 12 Mile. Admission is \$1 and all proceeds benefit participating charities.

Products include pottery, clothing, jewelry, baskets, mugs, fleece blankets and pillows, kids' crafts, lighted wine bottles, votive lights, coasters, Christmas

wreaths, aprons, soup and bakery mixes, bread, purses, totes, treat mixes, cocoa mix, scarves, water bottles, cards, books, carvings, puzzle lights, lap quilts, potholders, knit hats, pet items, baked goods, mosaic art tiles, coffee, ornaments and more.

Participating charities are ACT Uganda, A Beautiful Me, American Cancer Society, American House Foundation, Angela Hospice, Angels' Place, Apparent Project, Blessed Birthdays, Church World Service, Covenant House, Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries, Disaster Relief at

Work, Donate Life Coalition, Dr. Paws Pet Therapy, Faith Covenant Women Ministries, Family Adoption Consultants, Friends of John Paul School, Gideons International, Gilda's Club Metro Detroit, Giving Hope and Nurturing Abroad, Grace Centers of Hope, Heifer International, Helping Hands Touching Hearts, Hope Endeavors, Hope's Lap Quilt Group, Institute for Education of Women in Africa & the Diaspora, Key of Hope, Kids 4 Afghan Kids, Maya-Works, National Grange, On the Rise Bakery, Pal Craftaid, Project Linus,

Providence Hospital Assarian Cancer Center, Red Dirt Road, Inc., St. Joseph Parish Food Pantry, St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School, Sts. Peter & Paul Jesuit Warming Center, Salvation Army, Servant Ministries, Song and Spirit Institute for Peace, Southeastern Michigan Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, Tree of Life, Warm Hearts Organization, Wellspring/Lutheran Child & Family Services, Women of Hope, Women at Risk.

For more information, visit www.alternativechristmasfair.org.



The shrubs are trimmed and mulched at Redford Interfaith Relief, thanks to members of Lola Valley #583 Masonic Lodge.



Lola Valley members Tom Arutoff (left), Fred Polena, Gary Franklin and Jim Eastman show off the results of their hard work. Volunteers Kevin Doran and Rob Tripp also helped.

Masons spruce up landscaping at Redford Interfaith Relief

Members of Lola Valley Masonic Lodge #583 recently completed a landscaping project for Redford Interfaith Relief.

Lodge members weeded, placed landscaping fabric and wood chip mulch, which was donated by Home Depot, on a shrub bed by the building's front entrance. Redford Interfaith Relief is a 501(c)3 community-based charity that provides food, clothing and other assistance

to area residents in need. It is a volunteer organization sponsored by Redford-area churches, and it is funded by donations.

Lola Valley earlier this year organized a one-night Mark Twain show, starring Pat Tucker of Brighton Masonic Lodge #247, to benefit Redford Interfaith Relief. It raised more than \$1,200 with an additional matching grant of \$1,200 from the Michigan Masonic Charitable Foundation.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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

ANDREWS, EUGENE
Beloved husband of Mary Jane for 57 years. Dear Father of Brian and Christopher. Grandfather of Ryan and Kelsi. He will also be missed by many loving family and friends. Eugene was a World War II Vet. Memorial Gathering at Fred Wood Funeral Home-Rice Chapel, Livonia. Sat. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM with a service at 4:00 PM Memorial Contributions made to Angela Hospice Alzheimer's Association.



BAZAKIS, JAMES

October 23, 2014. Age 73 of Canton. Beloved and darling husband of Marisa for 49 years. Loving father of Dr. Andrew (Annie) and Debora (Christopher) Lutzenkirchen. Proud grandfather of Ryan Hunt, Anna-Marie Bazakis, Sophia Lutzenkirchen, Evelyn Bazakis, and Christopher Lutzenkirchen. Brother of George Bazakis and Eva (Nick) Spyrtos. Preceded in death by siblings Mary Mazarakis, Georgia Samolis, Harry Bazakis, and Sophia Sokaris; and his parents Michael and Anna. Jim served his country faithfully in the Navy. He retired from Ford Motor Company after 32 years of service. He was an avid University of Michigan fan. His Greek Orthodox faith was very important as he was devoted to his parish. Jim was a master of all things, including professional pastry chef, artist, musician, played violin and was a member of the Elk 100 of Watervliet, New York. Visitation was held Sunday at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Road, (between Sheldon and Beck), Plymouth. Funeral Service was held on Monday at Nativity of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church, 39851 W. Five Mile Rd., Plymouth, MI 48170. Memorials may be made to Nativity of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com.

VERMEULEN-SAJEWSKI
FUNERAL HOMES CREMATION SERVICES

FORSHEE, EDSSEL J.
of Mesa, Arizona passed away on October 24, 2014, at the age of 96. He was born June 18, 1918 in Plymouth, Michigan to Cub and Mary Forshee. Edsel is survived by his four children: Judy (Jim) Abraham, Mary (Don) Carlson, Eddie II (Kareese) Forshee and Cathy (Newell) Cooper, 16 grandchildren, 37 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandson. His wife Geraldine, married 67 years, two grandsons Brian Abraham and Eddie J. Forshee III preceded his death. Private graveside services will be held November 1, 2014, 2:00 p.m. Meldrum Mortuary handled the arrangements.



MINARD, WILLIAM F.

Of Warner Robins, Georgia. 87, passed away Wednesday, October 22, 2014. Services will be private. Mr. Minard was born on November 17, 1926, to the late Ray and Lepha Minard in Detroit, Michigan. He is also preceded in death by two sisters. Mr. Minard, a graduate of Michigan State, proudly served our country in the United States Navy during World War II. He later retired from General Dynamics as an Electrical Engineer. William was a member of First United Methodist Church of Birmingham, MI, and Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity. Mr. Minard is survived by his loving wife of 66 years Barbara Minard, Warner Robins; two sons, Bill Minard, MI; Steve Minard (Nancy), MI; three daughters, June Wise (Cres) Bonaire, Nancy King, MI, and Carol Potrzuski (Bob), Alaska. Please go to www.heritagememorialfuneralhome.com to sign the online guestbook. Heritage Memorial Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

HUTCHESON, GRACE

October 25, 2014. Beloved wife of Carl E. Mother of Lynn, Tony (Kelly), and the late Keith (Marietta). Grandmother of five. Services entrusted to L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, 734-981-1700.



JONES, WAYNE H.

Founder of Plymouth Nursery, passed away peacefully on October 26 after a long illness. He is preceded in death by his wife Nancy L. (Fisher) Jones. Children are Nancella (Christopher) Johnson, Linnea (Keith) Garvey, Jeff, Kathy (Doron) Bronshtein. Grandchildren: Nathan, Marisa, and Andre Johnson, Lindsey (DaSilva) and Jim Garvey, Shai and Jordan Bronshtein. Great-grandchildren Jacoby and Luka DaSilva. Memorial service to follow in the spring.



RELIGION CALENDAR

OCTOBER FALL HARVEST PARTY

Time/Date: 5:30-8:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 31
Location: St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 N Sheldon, Canton
Details: Attendees may wear non-scary costumes to this family-oriented event that will include a kid-friendly dinner, trick or treating throughout the church, games, bounce houses, contests and prizes. Captive Free, will perform skits, music and puppet shows
Contact: 734-459-3333; office@connectingwithGod.org

PHOTO EXHIBIT

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Wednesday and 1-4 p.m. Sunday through Oct. 30
Location: Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Highway, Southfield
Details: "Pioneering Voices" consists of photos and stories of transgender persons
Contact: 248-354-4488; www.northwestuu.org.

NOVEMBER BODY, MIND SPIRIT FEST

Time/Date: Festival, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., concert, 6 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15

Location: Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: More than 40 vendors will have products aimed at helping body, mind, and spirit. Learn about conscious living, wellness, natural healing, personal growth, organics, holistic health, metaphysics and more. Tatiana Scavnick performs rock, pop, world beat and mystical music with Mark Watson. Admission, \$5, admission and concert, \$10. Children with an adult admitted free. All proceeds go toward replacing the church roof

Contact: 734-421-1760 or email office@unityoflivonia.org

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1

Location: St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 26701 Joy, Dearborn Heights

Details: Handmade items for Christmas giving, bake sale, cookie walk, attic treasures
Contact: 313-274-8145

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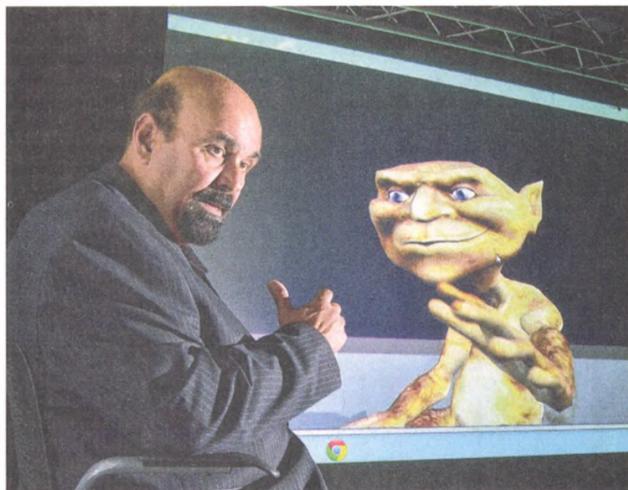
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Sight to see: College mixes animation, live action in 4-D children's play



PHOTOS BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

George Popovich, Ph.D., talks about Henry Ford College's Virtual Theatricality Lab.

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Joanna Uhrig won't even break a sweat as her massive character moves across the stage in *Dinosaurus!*, a children's play opening this weekend at Henry Ford College, Dearborn.

The Westland woman likely will be in the audience, hearing her voice, watching her moves and wearing 3-D glasses that will help bring her animated dinosaur character to life as it interacts with two live actors on stage.

More than two years ago, she and other Henry Ford students who were cast as dinosaurs, worked out voices, walks, dance steps and personalities for their prehistoric animal characters. An animator videotaped their moves as they rehearsed the script and used it as a guide to animate the story about two explorers who discover an underground colony of dinosaurs. Students later recorded the script, giving a voice to their animated counterparts. The result is a 3-D animated story that will be projected on a 20- by 30-foot screen at the rear of the stage. Scenery on stage will be painted to match the virtual environment inhabited by the animated dinosaurs. Two actors, who portray the explorers, will interact with the virtual cast members, making the production a 4-D experience.

"I want to see the finished product. I am looking forward to seeing what they took from what I did and how they incorporated it into the finished product," Uhrig said. "You can compare it to a movie, but at the same time, it is theater. The cool thing is that there are live actors."

Special effects

The show has been in the making for five years through Henry Ford's Virtual Theatricality Lab (VTL), founded and run by George Popovich, Ph.D.

'DINOSAURUS!'

What: 3-D animated dinosaurs interact with live actors in this play for grades 1-5

When: 7 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 1-22

Where: Adray Auditorium on the Henry Ford College main campus, 5101 Evergreen, Dearborn

Details: *Dinosaurus!* tells the story of two oil explorers who discover a lost colony of dinosaurs deep beneath the earth's surface. One wants to exploit the dinosaurs, the other wants to keep their underground habitat untouched by civilization. Performance time is approximately 50 minutes

Tickets: \$5 for children under 12; \$8 for everyone else

Contact: 313-845-6478; theatre.hfcc.edu/productions/2014/dinosaurus

Students and professionals involved in the Lab use advanced cinema technology, such as virtual reality, motion-capture and animation to enhance live stage productions.

Uhrig, who says her first role is as a mom to her children, got a taste of theater in 2002 when she played Ariel in *The Tempest* at Henry Ford College.

"We put it in outer space but used Shakespeare's language," said Popovich, whose version paid homage to the 1950s sci-fi film, *Forbidden Planet*, even modeling the Ariel character after a robot. The production used game developer software to create effects, manipulating virtual props in real time during the play. It was a regional winner at the Kennedy Center's American College Theatre Festival in 2004.

A production of Caryl Chur-



Actor Mike Cochran interacts with 3-D animation, making it 4-D. The scene is from *Dinosaurus!*, Henry Ford College's upcoming show.

chill's *The Skriker* followed. The Lab created the Celtic demons in the play using motion capture, a process that records the actor's live motion and transforms it into a digital performance (think *Avatar*).

"We created the demons digitally. This does not supplant the actor. As a matter of fact, it makes the actor more accountable. One of the things we train with in acting is called the neutral mask. This thing is like a neutral mask. It totally lets you see what your body is doing," Popovich said. "If you don't support this stuff, if you don't create a character, it doesn't work."

The Skriker was a finalist for the National Bellwether Award, which recognizes innovative programs at colleges.

Creating Dinosaurus!

From 2008-09, as Popovich began to envision his next play, *Dinosaurus!*, he created a VTL teaching curriculum, along with certification for students who complete 18 credits in motion capture technology studies. There's also an acting class in motion capture available to theater students.

After two years of experimenting with motion capture, Popovich decided to animate the creatures in *Dinosaurus!*



Deron Porter works the animation program, advised by instructor Alan Contino, chief engineer.

"We found out motion capture wasn't going to work with the dinosaur show because there is something about four-legged things and then there is something about two-legged animals like us, trying to translate that motion, the physics fall apart," he said.

Uhrig initially joined the project to create choreography for a dinosaur dance. That led to creating character movements and voicing one of the animals.

"When you are on stage and being videotaped, you want to make it as animated as pos-

sible," said Uhrig, recalling early rehearsals for the show. "My character was a more curious character and kind of scared. You're dealing with prehistoric characters that come into contact with human beings. I remember mine was very deliberate and slow."

"It was a lot of fun. And I always enjoy working with George. I love his vision and the fact that he has taken theater and made it a bigger entity with motion capture and virtual reality. It's something to pay attention to in this area."

GET OUT! CALENDAR

ANIMALS

DETROIT ZOO

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily
Location: I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak
Details: Admission is \$14 for adults 15-61, \$10 for senior citizens 62 and older, and for children ages 2-14; children under 2 are free. Parking for cars and vans is \$5. Detroit Zoological Society members get free admission and parking.
Contact: 248-541-5717

ARTS AND CRAFTS

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

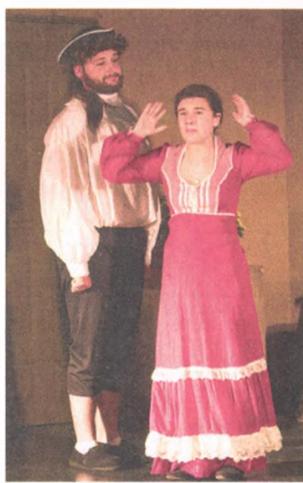
Time/Date: 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, through Nov. 1
Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville
Details: "Art Quilts: Then and Now," featuring works by local fiber artists
Coming up: 2014 International Mosaic Exhibit and Auction, Nov. 7-Dec. 6
Contact: 248-344-0497

PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Thursday; opening reception is 7-9 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 8
Location: 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth
Details: "Levels," a solo exhibit of works painted in acrylics, by Charles Stout
Contact: plymoutharts.com; 734-416-4278

VILLAGE THEATER AT CHERRY HILL

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-



Andrew Petrylka of St. Clair Shores is Ichabod Crane and Brianna Facione of Livonia is Katrina in Motor City Theatre's production of *Sleepy Hollow*, Oct. 31-Nov. 2, in Livonia.

Friday, through Nov. 1
Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton
Details: 22nd annual Canton Fine Arts Exhibition includes works by 61 artists
Contact: 734-394-5308

COMEDY

FORD COMMUNITY & PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1
Location: 15801 Michigan Ave., Dearborn
Details: Scottish comedian Danny Bhoj, tickets \$25 in advance and \$28 at the door
Contact: ticketmaster.com

FESTIVAL

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15
Location: Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton
Details: The event celebrates Canton's cultural diversity with music, dance and drama from around the world. Cultural exhibits and a sweets table will be stationed in the lobby. Admission is \$2
Contact: 734-394-5300; cantonvillage-theater.org

FILM

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Nov. 1-2
Location: 760 Penniman, Plymouth
Details: *Guardians of the Galaxy*, admission \$3
SHOCK-tober Series: *Abbott & Costello Meet the Invisible Man*, 7 p.m. Oct. 30; \$3 admission
Contact: 734-453-0870; www.penn-theatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 31
Location: 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Ave., in Detroit
Details: *Ghostbusters*; \$5
Late show: *Evil Dead 2: Dead by Dawn*, 11:30 p.m. Oct. 31; \$5
Contact: 313-898-1481

HISTORY DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, through Dec. 28
Location: Second floor in the Community Gallery at the museum, 5401 Woodward Ave., Detroit
Details: Fourteen stained glass windows that were installed at the original St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center, built in 1929 and closed in 2005 in Farmington Hills, will be on display. Admission is free
Contact: 313-833-7935

KELSEY MUSEUM

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 1-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, through Dec. 21
Location: 434 State St., Ann Arbor
Details: The exhibit, "Pearls of Wisdom: The Arts of Islam at the University of Michigan," consists of 82 artifacts, including ceramics, glass, metal, textiles, paintings, illuminated manuscripts and wood
Contact: 734-764-9304

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday-Sunday
Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth
Details: Wheels of Summer, an exhibit of toys with wheels, runs through Nov. 2. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for ages 6-17
Contact: 734-455-8940

LEARN DULCIMER

Time/Date: 9-10:30 a.m. beginner; 11 a.m.-1 p.m. applying chords; 2-4 p.m. adding embellishments; 6-7:30 p.m. concert; 7:30-9:30 p.m. open jamming, Saturday, Nov. 15

Location: Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill Road, Garden City
Details: Rick Thum, a hammered dulcimer performer and instructor from Missouri, will lead workshops and perform. Fees are \$25 for the beginner workshop, \$30 for each of the remaining workshops, \$12 for the concert, \$6 for the concert if registered for a workshop
Contact: Rick Thum, 314-406-0690; rthum@rthum.com

FARMINGTON PLAYERS

Time/Date: Noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 2
Location: Farmington Players Barn, 32332 12 Mile, Farmington Hills
Details: The Broadway Channel (Sirius-XM) radio host, Seth Rudetsky, will hold an audition workshop for 15 actors. Tickets are \$25, www.farmingtonplayers.org
Contact: 248-553-2955

PUMPKIN SPICE

ALL SEASON LONG

Fall has arrived, and with it comes the king of all seasonal flavors —pumpkin pie spice.

A versatile blend of comforting ingredients like nutmeg and cinnamon, pumpkin pie spice can flavor a lot more than Thanksgiving pie. Add it to a savory pasta dish, like Fettuccine Pumpkin Alfredo.

"It's the perfect dish for a chilly night," said Mary Beth Harrington of the McCormick Kitchens. "Pumpkin pie spice and chipotle chili pepper add a smoky warm taste to the Alfredo sauce, which is easily made from canned pumpkin and milk. Bacon is the perfect crispy topping."

Try these other ideas for using pumpkin spice in everyday favorites:

- » Stir into cream cheese for an autumn-flavored bagel spread.
- » Sprinkle on ground coffee for an at-home fall-inspired brew.
- » Mix with nuts and roast for a great party nibble or snack.
- » Blend with canned pumpkin and coconut milk for a delicious smoothie.

For these recipes and more fall ideas, visit www.McCormick.com, www.Facebook.com/McCormickSpice or www.Pinterest.com/mccormickspice.

Courtesy of Family Features



FETTUCCHINE PUMPKIN ALFREDO

Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 20 minutes
Servings: 8

1 package (16 ounces) fettuccine
3 cups milk
1 cup canned pumpkin
½ cup grated Parmesan cheese
2 tablespoons flour
1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
½ teaspoon McCormick Chipotle Chili Pepper
½ teaspoon salt
8 slices bacon, chopped
1 small onion, chopped

Cook pasta as directed on package. Drain well. Meanwhile, mix milk, pumpkin, Parmesan cheese, flour, pumpkin pie spice, chipotle chili pepper and salt in medium bowl until well blended. Set aside. Cook bacon in large skillet on medium-high heat until slightly crisp. Remove bacon. Drain on paper towels. Set aside. Remove all but 2 tablespoons bacon drippings from skillet. Add onion; cook and stir 3 minutes or softened. Stir in pumpkin mixture. Reduce heat to low; simmer 10 minutes or until thickened, stirring occasionally. Place pasta in serving bowl. Add pumpkin sauce; toss to coat well. Top with crisp bacon.

PUMPKIN PIE SPICED COFFEE

Prep time: 4 minutes
Serves: 6 1-cup servings

¾ cup ground dark roast coffee
1 tablespoon pumpkin pie spice
6 cups water

Place coffee and pumpkin pie spice in filter in brew basket of coffee maker. Add water to coffee maker; brew as directed. Pour into serving cups. Serve as desired with cream and sugar.



PUMPKIN SPICE SPREAD

Prep time: 5 minutes
Serves: 14 2-tablespoon-size portions

1 container (8 ounces) whipped cream cheese
¼ cup canned pumpkin
2 tablespoons firmly-packed brown sugar
2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice
¼ cup finely-chopped pecans

Beat cream cheese, pumpkin, brown sugar and pumpkin pie spice in medium bowl with electric mixer on medium speed until blended. Stir in pecans. Cover. Refrigerate until ready to serve.

PUMPKIN AND APPLE SOUP

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 15 minutes
Serves: 6 1-cup servings

3 tablespoons butter
1 cup finely chopped onion
2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice
1 teaspoon ground ginger
1 can (15 ounces) pumpkin
1 cup chunky applesauce
3 ½ cups chicken broth
¼ cup heavy cream



Melt butter in large saucepan on medium heat. Add onion; cook and stir 5 minutes or until softened. Stir in pumpkin pie spice and ginger. Stir in pumpkin, applesauce and broth until well blended and smooth. Bring to boil, stirring occasionally. Reduce heat to low; simmer 5 minutes. Remove from heat. If a smoother soup is desired, place mixture in batches in blender container; cover and blend until smooth. Stir in cream. Heat gently before serving, if necessary.

CITY BITES

Hotcakes for heroes

Nationwide — All Bob Evans restaurants will serve free all-you-can-eat hotcakes to veterans and active duty military members who present a valid military ID on Veterans Day, Tuesday, Nov. 11. Eligible identification includes a US Uniformed Services (current or retired) Identification Card, a current Leave and Earnings Statement (LES), or a card from a veterans organization, such as American Legion or VFW. Guests wearing a military uniform on Veterans Day also are eligible. Company founder Bob Evans was a veteran who served in the U.S. Army during World War II. Local Bob Evans restaurants include 13911 Middlebelt, Livonia;

41190 Ford Road, Canton; and 46080 Michigan Ave., Canton.

Beer and chocolate

Plymouth — Sample beers brewed in the Rouge River watershed at the sixth annual Friends of the Rouge Rouge Brew, 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 2, at Liberty Street Brewing Company, 149 W. Liberty. Rex Halfpenny of the Michigan Beer Guide will lead the tasting, which will pair beer with chocolate. Admission includes beer samples, chocolate and a souvenir Friends of the Rouge pint glass. Tickets are \$40 in advance from therouge.org or by calling 313-792-9900. If any tickets remain, they will be available for an additional \$5 at the door. Rouge Brew is an adults-only event and all guests must be at least 21, with identification.

Thanksgiving harvest

Canton — Canton Farmers Market, which closed for the season on Oct. 19, will reopen 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 23, for a one-day Thanksgiving Harvest Market. Featured vendors will include Agricola, Bobilin Honey, Cakes by Penny, Cellular Door Soap, Classique Bakes and Gifts, Farmington Soap Works, Good Times Kettle Corn, Grace Savory & Sweet, Intu Specialty Tea, Jen's Gourmet Dressings, Kapnick Orchards, Lula Bre's Sweet Eats, Parran's Greenhouse & Farm, Paw-la's Pantry, Prochaska Farm, Pure Pastures, Qais Truck, Sansonetti Sauces and Steinhäuser Farm. Chef Paul Penney will demonstrate a recipe using seasonal produce. For more information, email Tina Lloyd at cantonfarmersmarket@canton-mi.org or visit Cantonfun.org.

