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# WAYNE-WESTLAND OBSERVER

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SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2015 • [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)

## Wayne council splits on ward voting plan

By LeAnne Rogers  
Staff Writer

In 2014, Wayne voters overwhelmingly approved the establishment of a system to elect council members by wards, leaving only one position to be filled through citywide voting: mayor.

That provision and voter-approved term limits are effective for this year's city elections. However, the implementation of ward voting has hit a hurdle.

Resident Ron Roberts, who initiated both charter amend-

ments, threatened a legal fight over recommendations from a subcommittee that he argued went against the clear intent of the ward voting measure.

Specifically, it was a recommendation that after ward voters made selections of council candidates in the primary, voting would be citywide in the general election.

"My one complaint is that the petition language abolishes at-large voting. Only the office of the mayor is to be at-large," Roberts said.

That language was also included in the resolution ap-

proved by council placing the question on the ballot, Roberts said, along with the wording approved by the Michigan attorney general and the governor.

"You can't take my language and change it. If the council takes this unprecedented step, there will be a (Wayne County) circuit court battle," Roberts said. "I'll collect more signatures to put it on the ballot and make it clearer. If you go against the majority of voters, it is a sad day in the city."

Along with Roberts, the committee members included

Councilmen Skip Monit and John Rhaesa, Margaret Harlow and Buddy Shuh. Wayne City Clerk Matthew Miller and City Attorney Keith Madden served as ex officio members.

At the council meeting, Madden said at-large was something the attorney general had questioned for clarity. There is at-large referring to who is eligible to run for office, he said, but also who is eligible to vote for the candidates.

Roberts suggested that council approve the other five recommendations and allow

time for the at-large voting issue to be resolved. Citing the ballot language, media coverage, mailing and robo calls to voters, Roberts said there was no confusion about the intent that council members would run from wards and be elected by ward residents.

With Councilwoman Susan Rowe absent, a motion to approve the six recommendations as presented failed on a tie vote. Voting for approval were Monit, Rhaesa and Councilman Albert Damitio.

See WARDS, Page A2



Showing off the bibs they made are students Ahsha Gillium (seated, from left), Caitlyn Gabrys, Isabella Selgado, Kayla Theus (center row, from left), Autumn Thaxton, Aleah Robinson, Kyara Watson, Elaina Cotton, Amanda Laird (back row, from left), Ciara Casey and Lydia Derr.

## Wayne council rejects LOCC's pay suggestion

By LeAnne Rogers  
Staff Writer

Wayne City Council members have rejected a recommendation that their salaries remain unchanged but say it isn't about getting a raise.

At their meeting every other year, Wayne's seven-member Local Officers Compensation Commission reviews pay for elected officials.

After their recent meeting, the LOCC forwarded a recommendation to council that the pay remain at \$3,192 annually for mayor and \$2,850 for council members.

"We need to vote it down. Has any council member been interviewed by the group?" said Councilman John Rhaesa, who called on council to reject the recommendation. "They should talk to the council to see how to better equip the council in the future."

The LOCC needs to understand what the elected officials do, said Rhaesa, who commented he wasn't looking for elected officials' pay to be increased.

"The mayor goes to other cities for a meeting, he picks up the costs," Rhaesa said. "The LOCC needs to be made aware of all the meetings we attend."

Councilman Albert Damitio agreed, adding that the mayor absorbs gas and other vehicle costs without being compensated. Many years ago, Damitio said he served on the LOCC and interviewed council members.

"It costs us more than we are compensated (to serve on council)," added Councilman David James, adding that he voted to reject the recommendations for information, not to get a raise.

See LOCC, Page A2

## Wayne clothing class uses sewing skills to benefit other students

By Sue Mason  
Staff Writer

Teacher Martha Ware points to school nurse Laura Gillis in coming up with what they call a win-win for students in the Clothing II class at Wayne Memorial High School.

The students used their sewing skills to turn bath towels into oversized bibs for students in the school's SXI special education classrooms. The bibs cost substantially less and are much larger than ones available for purchase.

"It was a win-win," Gillis said. "The girls got to do something for the benefit of

other students, and our students win because they have no food on their clothing."

"It was a good experience for my kids, and those kids were so excited to see us," Ware said. "When we were done, we walked down there and delivered them. When the girls were walking back, they were talking about how it felt to do something good."

Previously, staff members made the bibs, but there was no one available to do them this time. Gillis approached Ware about having the class make the bibs. The ones they were using were several years old and the Velcro was getting "icky."

Ware teamed with her mother to work out a template, and the students spent two weeks creating 20 towels.

"My mom and I figured out the pattern, we took an old design and made it better," Ware said. "We used an old towel as a pattern and bias tape for the ties."

The special education program provided the supplies, and the students selected aesthetically pleasing color combinations. The students basted once and then did two seams so the bias tape was secure.

"We had to make sure everything was straight and looked nice, so it didn't look

sloppy on them," Kayla Theus of Westland said.

Most of the students agreed that the hardest part of the project was doing the neckline curve.

"I had to rip it out a couple of times," Aleah Robinson of Westland said. "I made two, so by the second one I had it mastered. It was better."

Robinson admits she was a bit confused about making bibs. The students take their finished projects home and she couldn't figure out why they were making bibs for themselves.

"I didn't know they were

See SEWING, Page A2

## Westland probationers fare well in St. Patrick's Day alcohol testing

Probationers with Westland's 18th District Court stayed on the straight and narrow for St. Patrick's Day.

In a continued effort to protect the public and ensure compliance with probation orders, the 18th District Court conducted random alcohol testing for the St. Patrick's Day holiday. According to Chief Probation Officer Eric Lange, there were 542 tests

administered to 426 probationers throughout St. Patrick's Day and the next morning with only one participant testing positive for alcohol.

There also were zero repeat drunk driving arrests among the testing participants, Lange said.

That's good news for Lange who believes probationers are getting the message after last year when one young woman

who was on probation for drunken driving had boasted about passing a random Breathalyzer test on Facebook, a post that was caught by Westland Police.

The probation department under the leadership of the Judges Mark A. McConnell and Sandra Ference Cicirelli, perform the increased testing over specific holidays associated with excessive drinking.

"Keeping our residents and everyone else safe from drunken drivers is another consideration," Cicirelli said. "The increased testing program began 14 years ago, and the court strongly believes that it has worked as a deterrent for repeated drinking and driving behaviors."

"We use this program as an incentive and reminder to our probationers to stay away

from alcohol," McConnell said.

The probationer who tested positive for alcohol was taken into custody and awaits a show cause hearing in front of Cicirelli. Those who failed to appear without a valid excuse can expect a court date where they will face jail time, work program, additional fines and increased treatment or have their probation terms modified, Lange said.



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## SEWING

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for the special-education students," she said. Lydia Derr of Westland thought they were making little bibs. "I didn't think they'd be that big and definitely not made of towels," she said. "Sewing around the curve was hard; I had to tear one out completely." Derr learned hand-sewing from her grandmother when she was younger. That's why she wanted to take the clothing class. Once the class is over, she said she'll probably start doing her own stuff. Ware has had her students make pin cushions, pillows and pajama pants. Of all the projects,

the pillow was Amanda Laird's favorite. "We're working on quilts now, they've been pretty easy so far," she said. "I think the bibs were that hardest because of the curves. One bib I had to take the seam out three-four times. I didn't think I'd ever finish it." Gillis likes the longer bibs for the students with severe multiple impairments. Not all need them, but for those in wheelchairs, the bibs cover them completely. "They wash beautifully," Gillis said. "We're hoping to make it an annual project. It was a great project."

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## CORRECTION

A story in Sunday's paper, "Community Foundation to award \$27,500 in grants, honor founder," should have

said the program will take place at 7 p.m. Monday, March 23, in the Livonia Civic Center Library Auditorium.

# Church moves forward after fire

By LeAnne Rogers  
Staff Writer

A Feb. 25 fire that destroyed administrative and meetings rooms and damaged the sanctuary hasn't stopped the congregation at Christ Temple Apostolic Faith Church from continuing to worship.

On a temporary basis, the congregation is holding Sunday services and Wednesday-evening Bible study at Sharon Seventh Day Adventist Church, 28537 Cherry in Inkster.

"I'm told the overall project to rebuild will be an 8-10-month project," said Suffragan Bishop Luke McClendon, pastor at the church. "They may be able to get us back into the sanctuary in four months. It just has smoke and water damage."

A faulty furnace was identified as the cause of the fire, which started around 9:15 p.m., about 45 minutes after Wednesday-evening Bible study had ended.

"We're very grateful that they had all left. It was myself, my wife and the deacon who closes up," McClendon said. "Before I even



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Suffragan Bishop Luke McClendon, pastor of Christ Temple Apostolic Faith Church, with his wife, the church First Lady Mary McClendon.

got home, I got the call (about the fire). I turned around and went back. I couldn't believe my eyes. A neighbor who was asleep said he heard a loud explosion."

The sanctuary, which is on the south side of the church along Eton east of Middlebelt, didn't receive damage from the fire, which destroyed the north side of the building that houses a community room and administrative offices.

"Our guys did a great job stopping the fire. The way the church was built, they will be able to clean the sanctuary and utilize it," Wayne-Westland Assistant Fire Chief/Fire Marshal Kelly Eggers said. "The other half of the building will have to be demolished and rebuilt."

The sanctuary and the building that was destroyed were built at different times, McClendon said.

"The building that was destroyed was built in 1955. The church started as a small building facing east under the founding pastor," McClendon said. "The next pastor, Samuel B. Ware, extended the building north."

The dining center was originally a community center, named for Ware, aimed at providing more outreach and services to the community, McClendon said.

The current sanctuary was constructed in 1988 and seats 430 people. In recent years, the sanctuary had been the scene of Westland's Martin Luther King Jr. Day ceremony.

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## LOCC

Continued from Page A1

"I would like to take a look at their qualifications (LOCC) members," Mayor James Hawley said. "We get invited to

all kinds of events. We have to pay for it. That should be taken into consideration. They mentioned the budget and we don't have a budget yet."

The 2015-16 budget hasn't been presented, but the city is expecting

about a \$2 million deficit.

Council isn't required to approve the salaries and a two-third majority is required to reject the pay rate. The council is asked to vote to accept and file the recommendation. That's what the

council rejected, with only Damitio opposed. "I'm not sure how to proceed," City Clerk Matthew Miller said.

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## WARDS

Continued from Page A1

Voting against adopting the recommendations, Councilman Anthony Miller said the charter amendments were something he wrestled with understanding the intent, if not entirely thinking they were necessary. "But upholding the intent of the people is part of this job. I was ready to vote for this," Miller said. "Council was aware of the intent of the proposal. The resolution (putting it on the

ballot) was approved. It should be upheld."

Council members initially voted against placing the charter amendments on the ballot despite legal advice that they had no option. Rhaesa change his vote to allow the measures to go forward and stop the council from violating state law.

"What concerns me is the denial of rights. Voters will not be able to vote for five of six council members, and they make decisions for the whole city," Monit said. "I feel the presentation of the proposal was not fair. If it had been, it

would have been more clear."

Rhaesa expressed concern that not allowing all voters to select candidates in the general election would create divisions in the city.

"A division of the city would be dangerous for the city. It's like the pool," Rhaesa said. "If you're for your ward, you have to vote to keep it open. If you are for the city-good, you close it."

Mayor James Hawley supported pulling out the ward voting proposal for more discussion and allowing the other five recommendations to

move forward.

"Whether you like it or not, the people knew what they voted for," Hawley said. "We have not been overwhelmed by candidates. This might stimulate that if a ward knows it needs one, two or three candidates."

After the tie vote, Hawley said he wouldn't recommend sending the matter back to the ad-hoc committee.

The filing deadline to run for council and mayor is April 21.

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## WESTLAND OBSERVER

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# Under the sea: Marine archaeologist shares stories of shipwrecks across globe

By David Veselenak  
Staff Writer

James Delgado has taken two dives to the Titanic, the most famous shipwreck of the 20th century. It's the most studied, well-known sunken ship in modern history, but even with all the knowledge society has on the vessel, seeing the ship's rusty decks had an impact he'll never forget.

"You move along those silent decks," he said. "It's as if time stands still."

"It takes your breath away."

Delgado was the season's final speaker at the Livonia Town Hall series, speaking March 18 to a full room at St. Mary's Cultural Center. He works with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration as the director of maritime heritage. He spoke of the studies of many shipwrecks during his presentation, including some along the coast of Turkey that had traces of ancient Egyptians and Canaanites found by divers.

He talked about seeing where lifeboat No. 8 deployed, which is infamous for the exchange that took place between a crew member and Ida Straus, the wife of Isidor Straus, a co-owner of Macy's department store. There, Ida Straus refused to get into a lifeboat without her husband, Delgado said, opting to remain on the ship as it sank. The two perished that night.

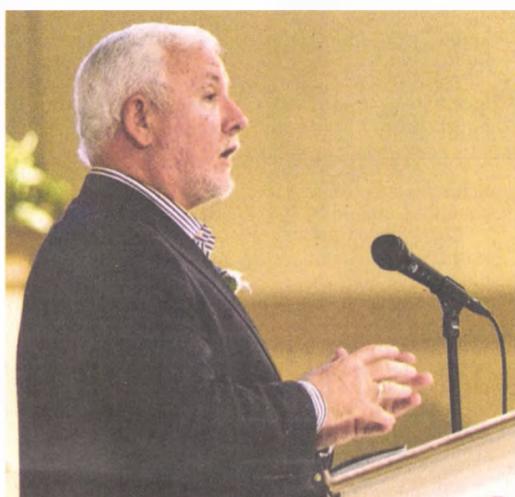
He said upon seeing the station, emotions began to take over.

"That place makes you cry," he said.

The Great Lakes also have a rich history under



James Delgado is a marine archeologist with NOAA. The broken glass vessels on the screen were recovered from the site of an ancient old-world shipwreck. Speculation is that the glass was headed for recycling. Melting down old glass was easier than creating new from raw materials.



Marine archeologist James Delgado speaks at the Livonia Town Hall gathering.

the waves as well, Delgado said. He talked about several ships that had

gone down in the Midwest, including the Rouse Simmons, which sunk in

Lake Michigan off the coast of Wisconsin in 1912 en route to Chicago, carrying a cargo of Christmas trees.

That ship contains the remains of all 17 crew members who lost their lives in a gale, as well as the Christmas trees still in the hull to this day.

"All 17 of them went down, with one man's wallet washing up on shore," he said.

He also spoke of the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary, the lone such sanctuary on the Great Lakes. Off the coast of Alpena, the sanctuary has several shipwrecks based in its waters that are protected. Tours are available to view the shipwrecks via a glass-bottom boat.

#### Local ties

Jeff Gray, superintendent of Thunder Bay

National Marine Sanctuary since 2002, is a former Livonia resident and *Observer* carrier. He said he helped bring Delgado to his hometown to deliver the speech and inform residents of his background.

Gray, who attended school at St. Michael the Archangel and graduated from Dearborn Divine Child High School, said it's important for Michigan residents to learn more about the history of the Great Lakes, even if they don't live near one.

"The Great Lakes are one of the most important resources, not just for the state of Michigan but for our country," he said. "It's amazing how much we've lost a connection to the Great Lakes."

Gray said he originally wanted to become an engineer working for



Jeff Gray, a native of Livonia, is superintendent of the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary. He helped bring Delgado to the Livonia Town Hall.

Ford in Dearborn, but took an archeology class in college and became hooked.

He's worked elsewhere, including Wisconsin, before coming back to his home state and said he's happy to be back.

"It's great to be home in Michigan," he said.

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## Wayne High band sports green for St. Pat's parade

In a tradition dating back more than five years, the Wayne Memorial High School Zebra marching band put on green to march in Detroit's annual St. Patrick's Parade last Saturday.

The marching band was one of three participating in the parade, which is sponsored by the United Irish Societies. Wayne Memorial placed second in the judging, losing out to the Southfield-Lathrup High School Marching Chargers.

Also performing was the Ecorse Public Schools Mighty Marching Raiders Band, which placed third.

The parade is a popular attraction for St. Patrick's Day revelers who line Michigan Avenue in Corktown to the event. Jim Dewan served as the 2015 grand marshal for the parade, which also included floats, pipe bands and Irish dancers.



Bill Bresler | Staff Photographer  
 Dakewah Stone plays cornet for the Wayne Memorial High School Zebra marching band, which appeared in Sunday's St. Patrick's Day Parade in Detroit.



Tom Beaudoin  
 Wayne Memorial band member Noah Blake decorated himself and his instrument for the parade.



Tom Beaudoin  
 Wayne Memorial High School and members Audrey Sabal and Gina Gunter lead the marching band at the annual St. Patrick's Parade last Sunday in Detroit.



Tom Beaudoin  
 Wayne Memorial band instructor Matthew Diroff is pleased with the band's performance at this year's parade.

## 2 Westland students featured in EMU's annual symposium

Two Westland residents will be spotlighted for exceptional student research during Eastern Michigan University's Undergraduate Symposium on Friday, March 27.

The Undergraduate Symposium is an annual

one-day program centered on giving students a chance to showcase the results of their research and creative projects. The UGS features more than 450 students who will share the results of their research through oral presentations, poster

displays and projects in the design expo.

Jamal Alhabeil of Westland will present "Identification of Adherence Mechanisms in Human Gut Microbes," and Angela Blay, also of Westland, will present "Influence of Exemplars

and Role Models on Women's Stereotype Threat: It's a Matter of Focus."

The event runs from 8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. in the EMU Student Center at 900 Oakwood, Ypsilanti. The event is free and open to the public.

Other research topics include "Child Soldiers: An Innocence Lost,"

"Chaminade's Flute Concertino: A Glimpse at Women's Rights in Music," "Near-Space Exploration using a High-Altitude Weather Balloon," "Greenhouse Gases and Global Warming" and "Racism Is Not Dead, Just Redesigned."

The design expo features display exhibits, such as "LOMO: A Col-

lection of Wearable Wood," "Hydraulic Bike Wheel" and "Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels: Branding and Identity Package."

For more information about the Undergraduate Symposium, visit the Undergraduate Symposium homepage, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

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# Fund for wounded soldiers helps veteran who's helping others

By Karen Smith  
Staff Writer

Josh Krajewski, 28, of Livonia has struggled with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder since serving as a military police officer in Iraq and Afghanistan, where he was in numerous fire fights, shot at with rockets and heavily mortared. Discharged in 2009 from the U.S. Army, he has had seven or eight jobs, ranging from working as a laborer to selling insurance, but he wasn't able to hold onto any of them.

"It's a hard transition," he said of returning to civilian life. The military changes people into what is normal for the military but "doesn't translate into when you come back home," he said.

The divorced father of one received financial help recently from the Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund, an all-volunteer nonprofit organization that helps Michigan veterans unable to work because of injuries suffered in the Iraq and Afghanistan campaigns.

The fund paid his \$1,300 property tax bill, and helped with some utility and car payments. Krajewski receives disability compensation, but it's not enough to live on, he said. "Sometimes people just need a hand to get back up on their feet, and that's what they did for me."

## Bond of brotherhood

The 2004 Stevenson High School grad is slowly adjusting — with the help of the Michigan Warriors Hockey Program he started in Royal Oak last May for disabled veterans or veterans who have a Purple Heart.

He hopes to expand the program statewide. The program is run at no



Josh Krajewski, 28, of Livonia with his 3-year-old son, Oliver.

cost to the vets. The ice time, coaching and equipment are provided through donations.

"I found being in a team sport — especially hockey being so fast-paced and the competition can be rough — is very similar to being in the military," he said. "I figured it's helping me; it sure can help other people too."

"The camaraderie we have on the ice, in the locker room and off the ice, that brotherhood that we had in the military is still very alive in this program."

While looking for other disabled veterans like

himself to play hockey last year, Krajewski stumbled across the Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund. It was only recently that he asked for financial help from the fund. "I found myself in a little bit of a struggle," he said. "Instead of doing the easy thing and taking on more debt, I reached out for help."

Now the fund is also helping the Warriors Hockey Program, which does community service projects, said Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund executive director Lynn Phillips. "We are working with him on a Vets Helping Vets initiative where

FWSF covers the materials and he and the hockey team do repairs for disabled vets for free."

Phillips said FWSF has provided money for small projects, but it wants to do more. "It is a win-win — the FWSF saves on labor costs and we know the job is done properly."

## FWSF fundraiser

The Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund has two major fundraisers a year: a dinner and a golf outing. The dinner, the 10th annual, is at 5 p.m. Saturday, April 25, at the MGM Grand Ballroom in Detroit. The speaker is



Josh Krajewski, 28, of Livonia suffers from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder since serving as a military police officer in Iraq and Afghanistan.

## 10TH ANNUAL FALLEN AND WOUNDED SOLDIERS FUND DINNER AUCTION

**When:** 5 p.m. Saturday, April 25.  
**Where:** MGM Grand Ballroom in Detroit.  
**Why:** Raises money for Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund, an all-volunteer nonprofit organization that helps Michigan veterans unable to work because of injuries suffered in the Iraq and Afghanistan campaigns.  
**Tickets:** \$150 each. To order, visit [fwsf2015.eventzilla.net](http://fwsf2015.eventzilla.net).

## 5TH ANNUAL GUNS AND HOSES CHARITY HOCKEY GAME

**When:** 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 18.  
**Where:** Lindell Ice Arena, Royal Oak.  
**Why:** Proceeds from the annual match between the Royal Oak Police and Fire departments will be donated to the Michigan Warriors Hockey Program this year.  
**Tickets:** \$10, available at the door. Contact Pat Stanton at [royaloakgunsandhoses@gmail.com](mailto:royaloakgunsandhoses@gmail.com) for more information.

Robert O'Neil, former member of Seal Team Six. Tickets are \$150 each and include a silent and live auction and entertainment and dancing with the Jerry Ross Band. Tickets can be purchased online at [fwsf2015.eventzilla.net](http://fwsf2015.eventzilla.net).

In 2013, the fund distributed \$287,750 to disabled veterans, including \$91,851 for housing, \$74,355 for transportation and \$55,984 for utilities.

Krajewski said the Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund kept him

from falling behind on his property taxes, and possibly losing his house. "It's meant everything," he said of the financial assistance he received.

For more information on the FWSF, visit [FWSF.org](http://FWSF.org)

For more information on the Warriors Hockey Program, visit Michigan Warriors Hockey on Facebook or email [michiganwarriorshockey@gmail.com](mailto:michiganwarriorshockey@gmail.com)

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# Conference addresses baby boomer dilemma: What's next?

Oak Pointe Church will host a baby boomer conference from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 18, in conjunction with the city of Novi and other surrounding communities.

Boomer University-Dream Again will have something to offer all baby boomers, including live music with Michael King and The Boomer Band and Ken Calvert of WCSX-FM (98.7) and

former Detroit Pistons PA announcer.

Chuck Gaidica from Oak Pointe Church will lead the conference and share a bit of his story and encourage other boomers in transition or thinking about transition to dream again. The conference promises to be inspirational, informational, helpful and entertaining.

Various speakers will share their own baby

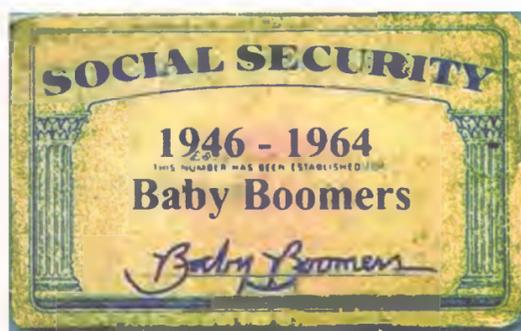
boomer stories, how to transition in life and how to re-fire when life changes or it gets changed for you.

How to move life from Success to Significance will be the main topic presented by keynote speaker Rhonda Kehlbeck from The Half Time Institute in Dallas, Texas.

Each attendee will receive a complimentary copy of the book *Half Time, Moving Life from Success to Significance*.

For fun there will be muscle cars and cool motorcycles on display, lots of free coffee and grab-and-go snacks. There will be plenty of parking and friendly faces.

The first part of the conference brings in live music, videos and the nationally recognized speakers: Craig DeRoche, executive director of Justice Fellowship; Bob Shirock, senior pastor at Oak Pointe; Gaidica, pastor of Outreach at



Oak Pointe: Robert Wertz from Mission Next; and Blaine Dennison on money issues.

All of the speakers will address the question of "What could be next for me" and will also discuss the milestones of reaching the halftime part of life. These milestones include issues of the heart and soul, financial planning, health screenings and many more life issues. The goal of this conference is to help baby boomers make

a plan for their transition from success to significance.

The rest of the conference will provide attendees with a free medical health fair with free health screenings and dozens of info-tables set up to encourage and help guide boomers to think or dream about what's next in life; how to change careers; where to volunteer locally and beyond; learn to fly an airplane; strengthen their marriage; and

## DETAILS

Oak Pointe Church is located 50200 W. 10 Mile, in Novi. Tickets are \$10 and are available online at [www.oakpointe.org](http://www.oakpointe.org); seating is limited. For more information, go to [www.oakpointe.org](http://www.oakpointe.org) or call 248-912-0043.

where to travel with a purpose.

There is more after the conference, too. Each Tuesday night for six weeks, starting May 5, at Oak Pointe Church, Gaidica will lead additional sessions along with additional speakers and Oak Pointe staffers who will continue to encourage and guide boomers to plan for and dream about their future. A book study of the *Half Time* will be included each week. Everyone who attends the main conference and/or the additional sessions will help design a new "baby boomer movement."

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**WHAT IS A WEAK BACK**

It is not unusual for a person to see a doctor because of a "weak back." By that phrase patients mean that the back hurts and they walk stooped, being told over and over again to "stand straight."

People with weak backs often think that the reason for their problem is that they have osteoporosis, causing their bones to hurt and leaving their spine too porous to hold the weight of their body.

However, the fact is that osteoporosis is silent, giving no clue of its presence until striking with a sudden and intense pain that announces the back is experiencing an insufficiency fracture. It is because osteoporosis hides itself so well, that the medical community sets the standard of a Bone Mineral Density Test for individuals at age 65.

Nor is a weak back the result of poorly conditioned back muscles. The musculature of the back consists of groups of muscles that in part lay over each other and in part cross hatch in bundles like the weave of a wicker basket. Weakness of all these muscles is unlikely and strengthening any muscle set is difficult.

What causes a weak back is rarely due to impairment of the bones and discs of the spine or deficits in the vertebral musculature. The most common cause is spinal cord impingement, either of the cord itself as in spinal stenosis or of the nerve roots coming off the spine as in sciatica. Impingement to the cord or nerve root causes pain; the stooped posture is an effort by the body to find a position that lessens that impingement.

The doctor's work is to find ways to end that problem. LO-0000234831

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## Local doctor charged in Medicaid fraud

By David Veselenak  
Staff Writer

A Livonia doctor faces felony charges after the attorney general's office said he was involved in a Medicaid fraud scheme with three other Metro Detroit individuals.

Murtaza Hussain, 51, was arraigned on four counts of Medicaid fraud and two counts of health care fraud Wednesday in Ingham County's 54B District Court.

The attorney general's office states that Hussain and three other individuals engaged in a scheme that billed the Medicaid program and private insurance companies for services that were supposed to be done by a physician but were instead done by someone without a license.

In addition to evaluating and diagnosing patients, the state alleges that Hussain and others, who worked for Detroit-

based Livernois Family Medical Services, P.C., made treatment decisions and wrote prescriptions for medications without the proper licensing.

"Medical professionals should be the protectors of their patients' care," Attorney General Bill Schuette said in a statement. "We will continue to aggressively prosecute anyone attempting to compromise the integrity of our health care system at the expense of patient safety and taxpayer dollars."

Livernois Family Medical Services' website states Hussain is the president of the facility and is involved in primary care, and that he is also a board-certified internist.

Others charged with other various counts in the case include: Ali Hazim-Fathulla Alateya, 31, of Dearborn Heights; Jyoti Rohit Shah, 64, of Southfield; and Xun

Wang, 39, of Troy.

If convicted on the charges, Hussain could face up to four years in prison.

Hussain and the three others charged in the complaint surrendered to authorities and had a personal bond set for each of them. A preliminary examination in the case is scheduled to take place at 9 a.m. April 1 in the district court in Ingham County.

The charges were filed after a complaint was referred by the Inspector General for the Michigan Department of Community Health.

"I would like to thank the DCH Inspector General's Office for their valuable and ongoing assistance in bringing these cases," Schuette said in the statement.

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

## Wish you were here



SUBMITTED

A group of Madonna University students visited the Galapagos Islands (with the Observer) during a Study Abroad trip over spring break Feb. 27-March 6. The group flew into Quito, Ecuador, and then flew to the Galapagos Islands where they snorkeled with penguins, visited a volcano and took their picture with land tortoises.

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# Conservation Club holds annual NRA Foundation banquet

By Sue Mason  
Staff Writer

With a change of venue and a late spring date, Bob Haviland is looking to increase the crowd for the Western Wayne County Conservation Association's annual Friends of the NRA banquet at Hellenic Cultural Center in Westland.

This is the seventh year the organization has put on the banquet to benefit the NRA Foundation. It started at the clubhouse on Napier Road in Plymouth Township and, after three sellout years, moved to Fox Hills in Plymouth Township. The move to Westland will allow the club to continue to expand the event and raise more money, 50 percent of which is returned to the state through grants.

"We just plain outgrew Fox Hills," said Haviland, a member of the WWCCA Friends of the NRA Committee that

is putting on the event. "They did a nice job for us. They're sad to see us leave and we're sad to go, but we had to change to a location that was larger."

The banquet will be Friday, May 1, at the Hellenic Center, 36375 Joy, Westland. Doors open at 5 p.m. to view prizes and silent auction items. Games start at 6 p.m., with a sit-down dinner served at 7 p.m. In addition to a live auction, there will be special drawings and door prizes. Banquet tickets are \$40 each and include entry in a drawing to win a .22 caliber rifle.

Last year's event was held in April and, had the club stuck with it, this year's banquet would have been on Easter weekend. That prompted a move to May. Another change is the sit-down dinner, as opposed to a buffet-style meal.

"It'll save people standing in line and everybody will eat pretty



KAREN ABROMOWICZ

Among the activities the Western Wayne Conservation Club sponsors are Air Gun Fun Shoots.

much at the same time," Haviland said.

## Early bird special

There club is offering an early bird special. Purchase tickets by Friday, April 10, and automatically be entered in a

special early bird drawing. There also are two sponsor packages – the Megashooter Dry Box and the Super Megashooter Dry Box – as well as Big Shooter and Super Shooter packages.

Both Megashooter and Super Megashooter packages include dinner tickets and a guarantee of a winner of one gun per package. The Megashooter package costs \$1,250 and includes four dinner tickets, \$400 worth of bucket raffle tickets four NRA hats and the only four tickets in a Strum/Ruger gun drawing. The Super Megashooter package costs \$2,500 and includes eight dinner tickets, \$800 worth of raffle bucket tickets, eight NRA hats and the only eight tickets in a Kimber gun drawing.

The Big Shooter package allows the purchase of \$160 worth of raffle tickets for \$100 and includes one ticket for the special Big Bang Handgun drawing. The Super Shooter includes \$400 of raffle tickets for \$200 and three tickets for the Big Bang Handgun Drawing. Purchase the packages by April 10 and get a second package of

the same value.

Tickets must be purchased in advance. No tickets will be available at the door.

Haviland, a Livonia resident, knows that firearms are popular at the banquet and is looking to add up to 20 as prizes in the raffles and drawings.

"People spend good money for those buckets and we want a good item," he said. "We've found that wherever we put out a gun, we need to put out a big bucket."

## High Caliber Club

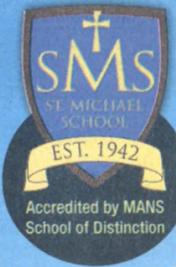
The banquet is the club's main fundraising event for the partnership the WWCCA formed with the NRA Foundation in 2009. The club has earned the foundation's High Caliber Club designation that past three years by raising more than \$25,000 each year. Last year, it raised almost \$34,000. Fifty percent of the money raised at Friends banquet around Michigan is returned to the state to support public shooting programs for youth and women and range development. The WWCCA has received more than \$30,000 in grants.

The 50 percent that stays at the national level goes for programs like the NRA Foundation's Shield Our Schools program, in which matching funds are provided to help fund security improvements like locks and camera at schools.

"That's a marvelous benefit that's come out of this partnership," Haviland said. "It's those shootings in schools we want to stop. We know it's not some crazy with a crazy gun doing it. It's some crazy that's just crazy."

The WWCCA was organized in 1937 in Westland and moved to its current location – 80 acres of land at Napier Road in Plymouth Township – in 1965. Its members hail from Wayne County communities such as Plymouth, Canton, Livonia, Westland and Redford and as far away as St. Clair Shores and the Grosse Pointes. The club also attracts shooting enthusiasts from Farmington, South Lyon, Northville, Novi and Milford.

For more information about tickets, contact Nancy Garneau at 734-259-3341 or Haviland at 734-516-7921.



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**NOTICE OF LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION FOR THE ELECTION TO BE HELD MAY 5, 2015**  
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To the qualified Electors of the Charter Township of Redford:

Please take notice that an election will be held in the Charter Township of Redford on Tuesday, May 5, 2015. The last day to register to vote in the election is Monday, April 6, 2015. Persons residing in the Charter Township of Redford registered after the deadline will not be eligible to vote at the election. Voters may register by mail using a mail-in voter registration form, in person at any Secretary of State branch office or at the Clerk's office for the Charter Township of Redford located in the Redford Township Hall, 15145 Beech Daly, Redford, MI 48239, phone (313) 387-2650, during the hours of 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday thru Friday.

The following proposal shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the Charter Township of Redford at the Election to be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2015:

A proposal to amend the State Constitution to increase the sales/use tax from 6% to 7% to replace and supplement reduced revenue to the School Aid Fund and local units of government caused by the elimination of the sales/use tax on gasoline and diesel fuel for vehicles operating on public roads, and to give effect to laws that provide additional money for roads and other transportation purposes by increasing the gas tax and vehicle registration fees.

Full text of the ballot proposal may be obtained at the Redford Township Clerk's office, 15145 Beech Daly, Redford, MI 48239, phone (313) 387-2650, Monday thru Friday between the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm, or on the Township website at www.redfordtwp.com/clerk-election.php.

Persons entitled to be registered voters in the Charter Township of Redford must possess the following qualifications on or before the day of the election: (1) a citizen of the United States; (2) not less than 18 years of age; and (3) a resident of the State of Michigan and Redford Township for not less than 30 days prior to the election (MCL 168.4979).

**GARTH J. CHRISTIE, CLERK**  
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Persons with special needs as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Clerk's office (313) 387-2650.

Publish: March 22, 2015

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# Lottery winner buys ticket from his own store in Livonia

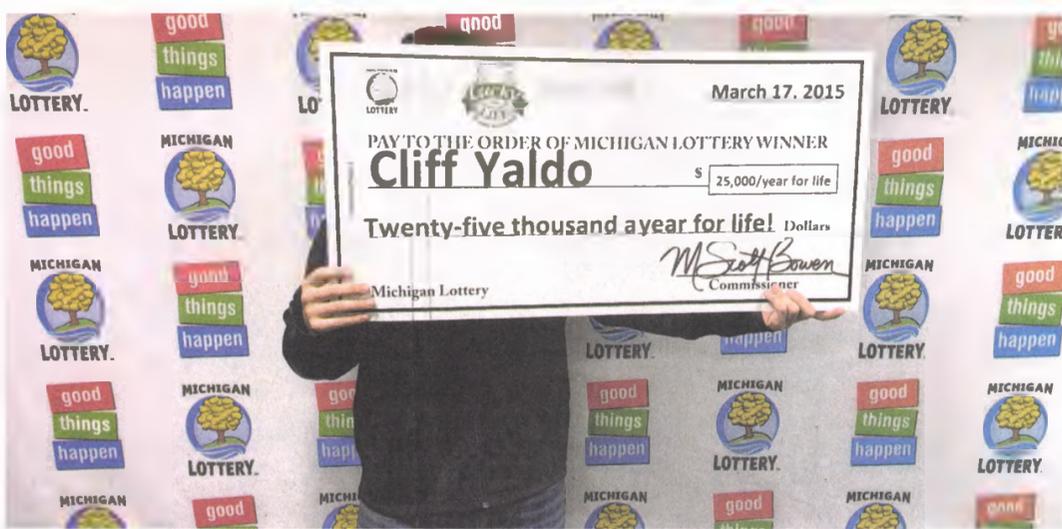
Cliff Yaldo didn't have to go far to buy his winning lottery ticket, which will pay out \$25,000 a year to him for the rest of his life.

The 26-year-old bought his Lucky For Life ticket from Livonia Liquor Shop in Livonia, the store his family has owned and operated for the past 11 years.

"As a family business, we all work very hard at the store and do a lot of Lottery business," Yaldo said. "All three of my brothers and my parents were very excited for me when I won."

Yaldo credits the store's customers with alerting him that he might be the big winner.

"On Friday, players were coming in and telling us that the store had sold a winning Lucky For Life ticket," Yaldo said. "I never in a million years expected it to be mine. I checked my ticket when I got home and went crazy. It's such a surreal feeling to have



Cliff Yaldo, 26, bought his Lucky For Life ticket from Livonia Liquor Shop in Livonia, the store his family has owned and operated for the past 11 years.

won." Yaldo will receive payments of \$25,000 annually for 20 years or for life, whichever is greater. He could have chosen a one-time lump

sum cash payment of \$390,000. He matched the five white balls drawn — 08-28-35-38-45 — in the March 12 Lucky For Life drawing to win his big

prize. A West Bloomfield resident, Yaldo plans to use his winnings to take a trip and start saving for a wedding and possibly a new home.

He described winning \$25,000 a year for life as "the biggest relief of my life" when he visited Lottery headquarters to collect his prize. "Knowing I have

\$25,000 coming each year is just such a relief. It's hard to put into words what it means for me and my family, but it takes so much stress off my shoulders," Yaldo said.

The Yaldo's family business, at 28225 Five Mile Road, will receive a \$2,000 bonus commission for selling the winning ticket and that money will be invested into the business, Yaldo said.

"Our store is well known in the area for carrying plenty of Michigan wine and craft beer products," Yaldo said. "Word of our store selling a big winning ticket traveled fast, and we've had more people playing Lucky For Life at our store than ever before."

Lucky For Life gives Lottery players a chance to win prizes ranging from \$3 to a lifetime of cash.

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### One Of The Most Effective Pain Relievers In The World Is Now Being Released To The United States

Doctors Never Thought They'd Find The Answer To Joint Pain

Australia is now releasing the #1 all-natural pain-relieving product in the world to the United States. Experts agree that Americans are now ready for this amazing pain reliever and are in desperate need for something natural with no side effects that they can use on a daily basis.

The reason this pain reliever has only been used in Australia thus far is because the ingredients it contains can only be found in that country.

Currently known as **Outback Pain Relief**, this amazing new product is the top seller in Australia in over 4,000 pharmacies. Out of 20 million people in Australia, this is what they choose for pain relief.

Outback Pain Relief has been in the market for almost 10 years now and was created after 50 years of in depth knowledge of essential oils. This pain reliever is so safe, you can use it to help get rid of your pain each and every day... and if needed, several times a day. In fact, clinical trials prove new Outback Pain Relief works for all types of muscle and joint pain.

You can find Outback Pain Relief at a fine pharmacy or retailer near you. Or call 1-877-581-1502. Call now as supplies are limited.

**Walgreens** and **meijer**

## Emergency funds are important elements for investing

**Q: Dear Rick: I'm in my mid 50s and recently divorced. I was married for over 25 years and the divorce was pretty contentious. In addition to alimony, which I will receive for the next 10 years, I also received \$500,000 in cash. I eventually want to hire someone to help manage my money, but before I do that I want to know what you would recommend for an emergency fund. I was planning to set aside 20 percent of the \$500,000. Is that too little or too much?**

**A:** I love the fact that before you consider investing your money you are establishing an emergency fund. Emergency funds are ex-



**Rick Bloom**  
MONEY MATTERS

tremely important and I recommend that all investors have one.

An emergency fund is important because it protects your portfolio. After all, if 100 percent of your money was invested and an emergency occurred and you needed resources, you could be forced to sell at the wrong time. Having an emergency fund allows you to be in control of your resources, protecting you through market volatility.

Establishing an emergency fund of money is

not based on a percent of your portfolio but rather, on your living expenses.

Determine what it costs you to live a month — not what it costs you to exist, but what it actually costs you to live. All too often when people calculate their living expenses they forget to factor things such as vacations, holiday gifts and other things that happen a few times a year. It is important that you do take those items into consideration because it is part of your lifestyle.

Once you have determined what it costs you to live a month, set aside three to six months of living expenses for an emergency fund. For someone who is more on

the conservative side, six months of living expenses should be sufficient for an emergency fund. On the other hand, for an aggressive investor, a three-month emergency fund may be appropriate.

Knowing what it costs to live a month not only helps you establish your emergency fund but it will also help you determine how to invest. For example, if alimony is the only source of income for the next 10 years, you need to know if it covers your living expenses. If alimony covers your living expenses, you could afford to look long term with regard to investments.

Knowing monthly living expenses is also

important for retirement planning. Whenever I am asked, "can I afford to retire?" my first question is "what does it cost you to live a month?"

One last note. When you do eventually hire someone to manage your money, make sure to ask questions, including how they charge. If they don't want to talk about fees and costs, then you know you're dealing with the wrong financial advisor.

Good luck.

*Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial advisor. His website is bloomassetmanagement.com. If you would like him to respond to your questions, please email rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.*

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# A new eye in the sky for law enforcement

By Lisa Roose-Church  
Michigan.com

The Michigan State Police has a new eye in the sky as it begins using a drone to enhance law enforcement efforts.

State police pilots provided media a demonstration of its Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) — an Aeryon SkyRanger, more commonly called a drone — at the department's Precision Driving Unit track on Canal Road in Lansing.

Sgt. Matt Rogers flew the drone over a simulated crash on the test track while Sgt. Jerry King stood by as the safety officer.

"It can be frightening to people," Chief Pilot Lt. Patrick Lawrence said, acknowledging the public's concern about privacy with the use of drones.

"We know it has the potential to improve the services we provide to our fellow officers ... and also to provide better service to the citizens of the state," he added.

State police has already flown its first mission with the drone when it flew over a suspected arson fire in Jenison.

Rogers said the drone also could have benefited investigators at the massive tanker fire on Interstate 94 in Dearborn last week because it can hover over a potentially hazardous scene and capture it in picture and video.

Lawrence said those images would then be "seamed together to get one continuous" photograph that could assist investigators at hazardous-material scenes, in search-and-rescue efforts, or crime and crash investigations.

### Federal approval

The state police is the first law enforcement agency to receive Federal Aviation Administration approval to use the

### SEE THE DRONE ONLINE

Visit an online photo gallery and video of the drone being used by the Michigan State Police at [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com).

drone for public safety efforts. The authorization allows the state police's Aviation Unit to support requests for service from any law enforcement agency within the state.

First Lt. Christopher Bush, field support aviation commander for the state police, said the unit's No. 1 goal is transparency in how the department will use the device and safety.

Lawrence, who served 30 years as a pilot with the National Guard, said the device will only be flown in law enforcement situations, and a chain of command will determine the legitimacy of requests for the drone's use.

"We are only going to be flying this device for law enforcement purposes," he said. "Any aircraft going over your house can be capturing you."

Inspector Matt Bolger with the department's special-operations division noted that department officials consulted with the American Civil Liberties Union, or ACLU, to address any potential privacy concerns for the public, and policy developed through that collaboration requires video not related to the specific investigation be "discarded or destroyed in a timely fashion."

### Safety measures

The state police's policy also calls for the device to remain below 400 feet and always be within the sight of the



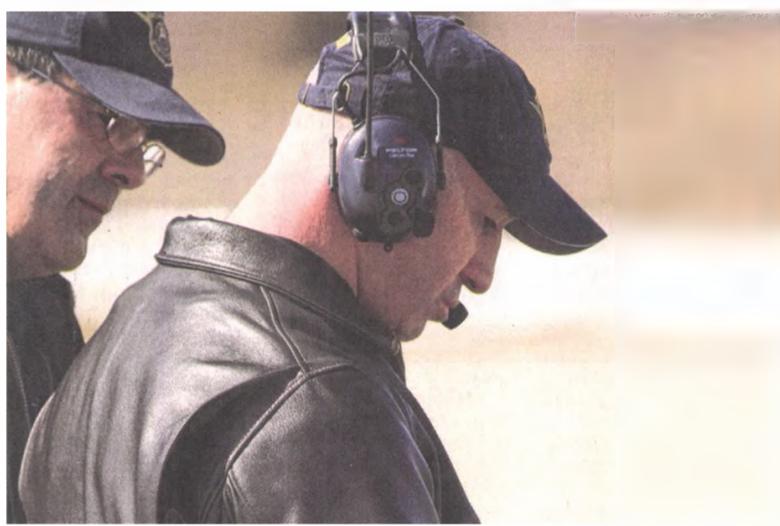
The MSP's Aeryon SkyRanger Unmanned Aircraft System, commonly known as a drone, sits on the MSP Training Academy's training lot after a demonstration of its capabilities in front of area media on Wednesday afternoon.

crew. The two-person crew includes a pilot and a safety observer. Both crew members are certified pilots with the state police.

The pilot operates the drone with a tablet that uses a Global Positioning System that includes programmable variables, such as boundaries set by altitude and longitude. When the pilot touches the tablet with a stylus, the drone will hover over that spot identified on the tablet.

The device, which was funded through a \$160,000 federal grant, has added safety features, including when the battery is low or loses its link, the drone will automatically return to prevent crashes. It also operates in temperatures ranging between minus 22 degrees to 122 degrees.

When asked whether use of the drone required a search warrant, Lawrence said it depended on



MSP Sgt. Matt Rogers (right) flies the Aeryon SkyRanger during a demo Wednesday afternoon at the MSP Training Academy in Dimondale. Pilot Sgt. Jerry King looks over Rogers' shoulder.

the circumstances of investigation. "It has the same requirements as our manned aircraft," he explained. "If there's no search warrant required, it won't be required; but if a search warrant is

required, then it's required." So far, the state police has purchased only one drone to see if it meets law enforcement's expected needs. Where the department goes, however, depends on the times,

Bush said. "We're going to be taking baby steps because it's new technology," he said.

Lisa Roose-Church is a Livingston Daily reporter. [lrchurch@gannett.com](mailto:lrchurch@gannett.com)

## Spring into Better Hearing



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# Police crackdown focuses on tourney time

Fans excited for the National Collegiate Athletic Association men's and women's basketball tournaments are reminded to enjoy the madness with a designated driver otherwise they will foul out as police step up impaired driving patrols.

Law enforcement officers from police departments, sheriff's offices and the Michigan State Police in 26 counties are taking part in the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over campaign through April 7. This time period includes the NCAA tournament, many high school and college spring break periods.

ing safety, the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning is partnering with the Michigan Licensed Beverage Association to distribute basketball-themed drink coasters with a designated driver-related message. Patrons at more than 1,100 MLBA member locations will use the coasters as they root for their favorite teams.

"You don't need to be a star basketball player to make a nice assist this tournament," Michael L. Prince, OHSP director, stated in a release. "Just remember to pass the keys and make the right choices about getting

home safely because law enforcement officers are experts at stopping and arresting drunk drivers."

In 2014, 2,279 people in Michigan were arrested for drunken driving during the NCAA tournament time period. Of those, 691 were charged under the state's high blood-alcohol content law with BACs of .17 or higher. More than 450 of those arrests were made by grant-funded law enforcement agencies during last year's stepped up drunk driving patrols.

OHSP is coordinating the enforcement effort which is supported with federal funds. Extra

patrols are planned in Allegan, Berrien, Calhoun, Chippewa, Delta, Eaton, Genesee, Grand Traverse, Houghton, Ingham, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Kent, Livingston, Macomb, Marquette, Monroe, Muskegon, Oakland, Ottawa, Saginaw, St. Clair, Van Buren, Washtenaw, Wayne and Wexford counties.

In Michigan, it is illegal to drive with a BAC of .08 or higher, although motorists can be arrested at any BAC level if an officer believes they are impaired. Motorists face enhanced penalties if arrested for a first-time drunk driving offense with a .17 BAC or higher.

# 'Choose Life' license plate passes Senate

The Michigan Senate passed Senate Bill 84 on Wednesday to create a "Choose Life" specialty license plate for Michigan motorists, said bill sponsor Sen. Patrick Colbeck.

Under the measure, funds raised from the sale of the plates would go to support organizations and projects that promote abortion alternatives.

"With this legislation, our citizens will have the ability to choose to support services on behalf of some of the most vulnerable members of our society — women facing unplanned pregnancies and their unborn babies," said Colbeck, R-Canton.

"The passage of SB 84 would provide the mother, the baby and those who look after

them with the resources they need to meet their material needs as well as give them the priceless resource of hope."

Proceeds from the Choose Life plate will go, in part, to support pregnancy resource centers that provide maternity clothing, baby clothes, diapers, cribs, car seats, toys and other items, and also teach parenting skills.

Funding will also provide opportunities to promote adoption and educate the public and at-risk groups about abortion alternatives. Special outreach efforts to teens and college students will be an important aspect of community education.

Twenty-nine states and the District of Columbia have authorized Choose Life license plates, generating more than \$21 million for life-promoting activities.

SB 84 will now go to the House for consideration.



Colbeck

# 4-part series focuses on retirement planning

Future retirees can learn about life before, during and after retirement in attorney Gary F. Allen's Retirement Planning Series that will be offered on Mondays, March 23-April 13, at Northville Community Center, 303 W. Main St., Northville.

The series, based on four distinct topics, will be presented at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. They are designed to cover key areas focusing on before, during and after retire-

ment. For 13 years, Allen has been presenting seminars with the goal of educating and arming individuals with the knowledge to plan for their retirement effectively.

The Estate Planning seminar covers how to protect you and your estate, including the use of wills, trusts and powers of attorney.

The Outliving Your Assets seminar identifies that three out of four

people will need long-term care in the future; you will learn the different types and how to pay for it via insurance, VA benefits, Medicaid or assets.

The Retirement Accounts seminar explains the complex regulations and taxes imposed on IRAs and other retirement accounts, and how to avoid penalties.

The Taxes seminar will focus on understanding income tax, estate tax, inheritance tax and

gift tax implications in an estate plan.

The seminar is free. Advance registration is required.

Call the Northville Community Center at 248-349-4140 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Indicate if you prefer the morning or evening session.

For more information, go online to [www.retirementprotectionstrategies.com](http://www.retirementprotectionstrategies.com) or [www.gfalawfirm.com](http://www.gfalawfirm.com), and on Facebook at Allen Elder Law.

# Wayne County Conservation District holds annual tree sale

The Wayne County Conservation District is offering great prices on trees as part of its annual tree sale.

Formed in 1969, the Wayne County Conservation District works with residents to address conservation issues related to soil, water, air, plants, wetland and wildlife habitat preservation and improvement and environmental quality concerns.

This year's tree sale

will feature varieties of maples, oaks, black cherry, hybrid poplar (new), conifers, native trees to attract birds and wildlife and fruit trees — honeycrisp and other apples, plums, peaches, pears and cherries.

Prices are for orders from 10 to 100 for conifer seedlings and transplants and small trees and shrubs. Fruit trees are 5-7 feet tall and individually priced.

Due to the cold weath-

er or seed quality, there may be limited quantities of some offerings.

The deadline for ordering is Friday, March 27.

For more information or to order, go to [waynecd.org](http://waynecd.org) or call 313-418-0700.

Tree pickup will be from noon to 6 p.m. Friday, April 17, or Friday, April 24, if ground is still

frozen. Fruit tree pickup will be April 24.

Pickup will be at the barn at the RESA/MSU Extension, at 5454 Venoy, north of Van Born, in Wayne. Special pickup arrangements also can be made.

For more information, call the conservation district at 313-418-0700 or email [waynecd2005@yahoo.com](mailto:waynecd2005@yahoo.com).

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The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned in the Township of Redford by the Redford Township Police Department and are to be sold, as is, at open auction on Saturday, the 28th day of March, 2015, at North Redford Towing, 25215 Glendale, Redford, MI 48239. Vehicles can be viewed on the auction date. Registered owners will be allowed to pick up their vehicles prior to the start of the auction. Check [www.nrtowing.com](http://www.nrtowing.com) for the current list.

2000	CHEVROLET	4D	1G1NE52J9Y6327279	MALIBU	FORFEITURE	1403088	1
2007	FORD	4D	1FAHP34N07W260014	FOCUS	FORFEITURE	1407539	2
1999	CHEVROLET	2D	2G1WW12M6X9162917	MONTECARLO	ACCIDENT	1500168	3
2005	PONTIAC	4D	2G2WP522251135899	GRAND PRIX	ACCIDENT	1500652	4
2013	CHRYSLER	4D	1C3CCBAG8DN728402	200	ARREST	1500745	5
2003	CHEVROLET	2D	2G1WX12K739126546	MONTECARLO	FIRE	1500824	6
2002	SATURN	4D	1G8ZK52792Z237734		ABANDONED	1500957	7
1999	FORD	SW	1FMZU34E1XU34147	EXPLORER	ARREST	1500989	8
2003	CHEVROLET	SW	1GNNT13S832368129	TRAILBLAZE	ABANDONED	1501012	9
1997	PONTIAC	2D	1G2WP12K3VF245846	GRAND PRIX	ABANDONED	1501025	10
1999	DODGE	PU	1B7GL22X0XS285227	DAKOTA	ABANDONED	1501060	11
1999	MERCURY	2D	1ZWFT61L7X5677307	COUGAR	ABANDONED	1501114	12
1999	PONTIAC	4D	1G2NE52T7XM927340	GRAND AM	ABANDONED	1501118	13
2005	CHEVROLET	4D	2G1WF52E759325054	IMPALA	ABANDONED	1501151	14
2004	KIA	4D	KNAFE121245033501	SPECTRA	ABANDONED	1501174	15
1999	FORD	4D	1FAFP53U6XG215178	TAURUS	ABANDONED	1501180	16
2002	OLDSMOBILE	4D	1G2WH52H82F171825	INTRIGUE	ABANDONED	1501182	17
1998	CHEVROLET	SW	1GNFG15R6W1059096	EXPRESS	ABANDONED	1501183	18
2002	CHEVROLET	4D	1G1ND52J32M649079	MALIBU	ABANDONED	1501188	19
2001	CHEVROLET	4D	1G1JC524917203432	CAVALIER	ARREST	1501191	20
2004	DODGE	4D	1B3EL36XX4N380042	STRATUS	ABANDONED	1501209	21
2002	JAGUAR	4D	SAJDA03N42FM36874	S TYPE	ABANDONED	1501228	22
1997	DODGE	2D	4B3AU52N3VE193169	AVENGER	ABANDONED	1501242	23
2000	GMC	SW	1GKDT13W5Y2302600	JIMMY	ARREST	1501247	24
1994	MERCURY	4D	2MELM74W6RX697812	GRAND MARQUIS	ABANDONED	1501257	25
2003	CHEVROLET	4D	1G1ND52J23M568222	MALIBU	ABANDONED	1501266	26
2003	CHEVROLET	SW	1GNDX13E43D303099	VENTURE	ABANDONED	1501359	27
2009	DODGE	SW	3D4GG57V99T177786	JOURNEY	FIRE	1501379	28
1999	CHRYSLER	4D	2C3HE66G2XH612920	300	ABANDONED	1501390	29
2001	DODGE	4D	1B3ES46C61D244840	NEON	ACCIDENT	1501466	30
1997	FORD	2D	1FALP42XXVF130288	MUSTANG	ABANDONED	1501505	31
2004	OLDSMOBILE	4D	1G3NL52F84C125425	ALERO	ABANDONED	1501522	32
2000	GMC	SW	1GKDT13W2Y2402377	JIMMY	ABANDONED	1501593	33
2002	JAGUAR		SAJEA51C12WC59190		COURT SEIZURE		34

Publish: March 22, 2015

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Community Calendar runs in the *Observer* as space permits. Nonprofit groups and community organizations are welcome to submit news of upcoming events. Include a daytime telephone number and contact person. Email address is: [ksmith@hometownlife.com](mailto:ksmith@hometownlife.com)

WIDOWED FRIENDS

**Time/date:** 10 a.m. Sunday, March 22.  
**Location:** St. Simon & Jude Church, 32500 Palmer, Westland.  
**Details:** Widowed Friends, a peer support group, will meet for Mass at St. Simon & Jude Church, then have brunch afterward at Mr. Mike's Restaurant, 6047 Wayne Road, Westland. Learn about its other social activities. RSVP for brunch at 734-728-6967.

COTTAGE FOOD LAW

**Time/date:** 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 24.  
**Location:** Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile Road, Livonia.  
**Details:** Michigan State University Extension will offer a presentation on the Michigan 2010 Cottage Food Law that allows individuals to manufacture and store certain types of foods in an unlicensed home kitchen.

SPRING CAREER FAIR

**Time/date:** 3-5 p.m. Thursday, March 26.  
**Location:** Madonna University, Livonia.  
**Details:** College students and Madonna alumni are encouraged to dress for success and bring copies of their resume to a career fair in the Activities Center at Madonna. Hosted by Career Services, this event features more than 40 employers who are seeking interns and part-time and full-time employees. For a list of participating employers or to register to attend the Career Fair, visit [www.madonna.edu/careerservices](http://www.madonna.edu/careerservices).

**Time/date:** 3-5 p.m. Thursday, March 26.  
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A NIGHT OF HOPE

**Time/date:** 6-11 p.m. Friday, March 27.  
**Location:** Laurel Manor, 39000 Schoolcraft, Livonia.  
**Details:** Benefit for Cure HHT, an organization dedicated to finding a cure for HHT disease, a genetic blood vessel disorder. Tickets, \$150 each, include open bar, dinner and dancing.

ANNUAL TREE SALE

**Time/date:** Order deadline is March 27.  
**Pickup location:** The "Barn" at the end of the drive into 5454 Venoy Road, Wayne, or make special pickup arrangements.  
**Details:** The Wayne County Conservation District is hosting its annual Tree Sale, serving residents for over 45 years with low-cost trees in an effort to preserve and improve the soil, air and water. Trees available include varieties of maples, oaks, black cherry, hybrid poplar (new!), conifers, native trees to attract birds and wildlife, and fruit trees (honeysuckle and other apples, plums, peaches, pears, and cherries).

COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT

**Time/date:** 1-2:30 p.m. Saturday, March 28.  
**Location:** St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile Road, Livonia.  
**Details:** Come for crafts, stories and cookies, followed by a big Easter Egg Hunt. There is no charge for this event, and all are welcome. Come rain or shine!

ST. GENEVIEVE OPEN HOUSE

**Time/date:** noon to 2 p.m. Sunday, March 29.  
**Location:** St. Genevieve Catholic School, 28933 Jamison St., Livonia.  
**Details:** St. Genevieve offers preschool for 3- and 4-year-olds and elementary school for grades K-8. Meet the teachers, tour the school, see the students work and learn about the countries they are studying. The theme is Travel Around the World.

SPRING COIN SHOW

**Time/date:** 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, March 29.  
**Location:** Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, 15128 Farmington Road, Livonia.  
**Details:** The Northwest Detroit Coin Club is hosting its 53rd annual Spring Coin Show. Coins, currency, medals, tokens and other numismatic items will be for sale, barter or trade. Admission is free. There are raffle drawings for gold and silver coins, free appraisals, free parking and more. The NWDC meets from 7:30-9 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at the Livonia Civic Park Senior Center. New members are always welcome.

TRI COUNTY CELIAC

**Time/date:** 7 p.m. Monday, March 30.  
**Location:** The First Presbyterian Church, 26165 Farmington Road, Farmington.  
**Details:** Tri County Celiac Support Group will have Kelly Dorfman — an expert on using nutrition therapeutically to improve brain function, energy and mood — as guest speaker at its general meeting. The title of her presentation is "Beyond Celiac: When Removing Gluten Is Not Enough." The doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting begins at 7 p.m.

SPRING COMEDY KICK START

**Time/date:** 6 p.m. cocktails and dinner; 7:30 p.m. showtime Saturday, April 4.  
**Location:** American Legion Post 32, 9318 Newburgh Road, Livonia.  
**Details:** Sponsored by the American Legion Post 32 Riders, this comedy event features special guest host Mike Neubecker, a primo pasta dinner, salad and dessert buffet; door prizes and 50-50 raffle. Ticket sales after expenses support Post 32 American Legion Riders. Tickets are \$30 per person. Tickets are available from the post bar until April 2 or when sold out. No ticket sales at the door.

WIDOWED SUPPORT GROUP

**Time/date:** 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 8.  
**Location:** Corsi's Italian Restaurant, 27910 W. Seven Mile Road,

**Time/date:** 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, March 29.  
**Location:** Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, 15128 Farmington Road, Livonia.  
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TRIVIA NIGHT

**Time/date:** 6 p.m. Saturday, April 11.  
**Location:** Lapeer County Michigan State University Extension offering Manager Certification classes through the ServSafe program developed by the National Restaurant Association. The cost is \$145. Upon successful completion of an exam, managers will receive a certificate verifying they are a certified ServSafe Food Protection Manager. Participants must attend both sessions.

LIVONIA NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS

**Time/date:** 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 14.  
**Location:** Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 34567 Seven Mile Road, Livonia.  
**Details:** Master Gardner Margot McCormack, an award-winning member of the Master Gardner Association of Wayne County, will offer tips on how to grow a successful garden. Livonia Neighbors and Friends, a women's club, is open to women who live/work in Livonia and its surrounding communities. New members are always welcome. General meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of every month September through May. Special activity groups continue to meet year-round.

PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

**Time/date:** 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 18.  
**Location:** McKinley Cooperative Preschool, 555 S. Wayne Road, Westland.  
**Details:** Open house for McKinley Cooperative Preschool.

SERVSAFE TRAINING

**Time/date:** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, April 23 and April 30.  
**Location:** Holy Cross Church, 30650 Six Mile Road, Livonia.  
**Details:** Lapeer County Michigan State University Extension offering Manager Certification classes through the ServSafe program developed by the National Restaurant Association. The cost is \$145. Upon successful completion of an exam, managers will receive a certificate verifying they are a certified ServSafe Food Protection Manager. Participants must attend both sessions.

CRAFT-VENDOR SHOW

**Time/date:** 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 16.  
**Location:** Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Church, 9600 Laverne, west of Beech Daily and north of West Chicago, Redford  
**Details:** The Garden City American Legion Auxiliary Unit 396 will hold a spring craft and vendor show. Admission is \$1. There will be food available and a bake sale. All proceeds will help local military and their families, including veterans. Table space is \$30 for an approximately 8x10 space, with an 8-foot table and two chairs. Indicate on application if electricity is needed. If electricity is needed, there will be an additional \$5 charge.

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**Details:** Doors open at 6 p.m. and trivia begins promptly at 7 p.m. Preregister for \$20 per team (maximum of four persons). At the door the cost is \$30, if space available. It includes 10 rounds of questions, popcorn, and one food choice for each team. Food choices are four hot dogs and four chips or one pepperoni or cheese pizza from Marina's. Additional food

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Clarenceville students show math skills at computer conference



Clarenceville Middle School students demonstrated their math skills using the LEGO Movie Maker software program and Minecraft educational program on March 19 at the Math and Computer Users in Learning Conference at Cobo Hall in Detroit. From left are Trinity Williams, Anna Denny, McKenna Phillips, Lia Kerman, Ashlyn MacIver, Christa Greenwald, Ben Shute, Chase Kluesner. Standing: Superintendent Paul Shepich, math teacher Sarai Stetson and science/robotics teacher Erica Sowders.

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**Location:** Holy Cross Church, 30650 Six Mile Road, Livonia.  
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**Antonio's**  
CUCINA ITALIANA



**Roman Village**  
CUCINA ITALIANA est. 1964

# 2015 Italian Film Festival



italian film festival *usa*  
[www.italianfilmfests.org](http://www.italianfilmfests.org)



All films are **FREE** and open to the general public.  
Films are shown in Italian with English subtitles.

For program and sponsorship information, please visit the festival's website:

[www.italianfilmfests.org](http://www.italianfilmfests.org)  
or call 248-930-6017

**Come join us and celebrate the 11th Annual Italian Film Festival USA.**

Again, this year Antonio's is pleased to collaborate with the Detroit Italian Film Festival in support of bringing the best line-up of 11 recent premieres of contemporary, award-winning Italian films to venues around the metro area.

## April 1st – April 26th

## 7th Annual Opera Day at Antonio's Cucina Italiana

### Thursday, April 2nd

This is our 7th year supporting the arts in Michigan with OPERA DAY. When you dine at Antonio's on Thursday, April 2nd a portion of the proceeds will be donated to The Michigan Opera Theater.



MICHIGAN OPERA THEATRE

Sung in English

### Pick up your Discount Voucher March 2nd – April 2nd

Receive a 25% Discount Opera Voucher to purchase tickets for any opera performance of THE MERRY WIDOW, April 11th-19th when you dine with us.

**Antonio's**  
CUCINA ITALIANA

37646 W. 12 Mile Rd.  
Farmington Hills  
(Corner of Halsted)  
248.994.4000

**Antonio's**  
CUCINA ITALIANA

2220 N. Canton Ctr. Rd.  
Canton  
(Corner of Ford Road)  
734.981.9800

**Antonio's**  
CUCINA ITALIANA

26356 Ford Rd.  
Dearborn Heights  
Shopping Center  
313.278.6000

**Roman Village**  
CUCINA ITALIANA

9924 Dix Ave.  
Dearborn  
(Between Miller and Lonyo)  
313.842.2100

[www.antoniosrestaurants.com](http://www.antoniosrestaurants.com)

# BE THE FIRST TO TRY

## NEW Starkey Z Series wireless hearing aids today **FREE** for 30 days



### Welcome to the next generation of wireless hearing technology.

Z Series™ hearing aids lead the way in performance, comfort, personalization and connectivity. They are designed to:



✓ Help you hear and understand conversations better in noisy environments like restaurants



✓ Make loud sounds more comfortable while boosting soft sounds

✓ Stream TV, phone calls and more, directly to your Z Series hearing aids



### Z series



### HEAR BETTER • LIVE BETTER

## SPECIAL EVENT - 3 DAYS ONLY!

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday March 24, 25, & 26 | 10a.m. to 5p.m

# \$500 OFF

## any pair of Z Series wireless hearing aids!

Offer expires 3-26-15

- ✓ **FREE** 30-day trial\*
- ✓ **FREE** Hearing screening & consultation
- ✓ **FREE** Preview of the latest technology
- ✓ **SPECIAL** financing available\*

To schedule your appointment please call 888-601-3256 today!

# BG HEARING

Inside Macy's - 2nd Floor  
Westland Mall

Corner of Wayne & Warren Roads

LIKE US ON | FOLLOW US ON

\*Deposit may be required. \*\*Subject to credit approval or see store for details.

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PREP PROFILE

## Burke springboards to diving success

Churchill junior captures All-State honors at D1 state meet

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

Livonia Churchill junior Ethan Burke's ascension to the rank of Division 1 All-State diver has been relatively short and extremely sweet.

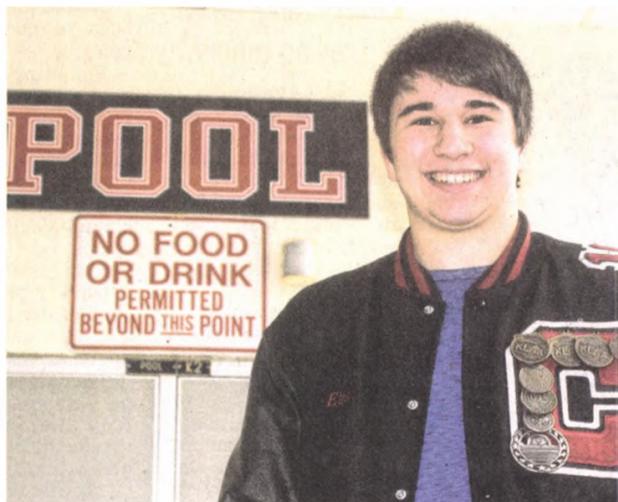
The Charger's path to springboard success didn't start in elementary school, at a country club pool or with a personal diving coach – it began just a few days prior to his freshman year at Churchill, ignited by the suggestion of a

close friend of the family.

"I had done some gymnastics when I was younger, so a neighbor and close friend of ours, Joan Saltzman, told my parents I should try diving at Churchill because her two older sons dove and they enjoyed it," reflected Burke, who placed eighth at last weekend's MHSAA Division 1 state meet hosted by Eastern Michigan University.

"So before school even started my freshman year, I met my coach at Churchill, Rob Moore, and he said he'd love for me to try diving. I was a little nervous at first because I was always used to diving in a pool feet first. Once I adjusted to that, I focused on learning things I needed to improve, and, now, here I am."

See PROFILE, Page B2



ED WRIGHT

The medals that hang from Ethan Burke's varsity letter are testaments to the success he has experienced during his brief diving career.

## MU pitchers sharp

Madonna University pitchers yielded a total of just seven hits over 16 innings Wednesday as the Crusaders opened Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference play by sweeping host Siena Heights in a baseball double-header.

Junior right-hander Evan Piechota (Livonia Stevenson) raised his record to 3-1 with a four-hit shutout as MU mounted a 17-hit attack en route to a 13-0 triumph in nine innings.

Piechota struck out six and did not allow a walk.

Offensively, Levi Lamour and John Lauro each went 3-for-6 with three RBI, while Taylor Grzelakowski also went 3-for-6 with an RBI.

Zach Byron also knocked in two runs, while Ryan Lambrecht and Matt De-neau each collected two hits.

In Game Two, lefty Alex DeYonker (Livonia Franklin) allowed just one earned run on five hits over 5½ innings as the Crusaders posted a 3-1 victory. DeYonker allowed just one walk in improving to 2-1.

Bobby St. Pierre earned his second save by retiring four batters in order, including a pair of strikeouts.

Shane Dokey belted a solo homer, his second of the year, while Laura and Grzelakowski each added an RBI. Cole Rize also contributed two hits as MU improved to 12-7 overall and 2-0 in the WHAC.

Siena Heights slipped to 4-8 and 0-2.

The Crusaders return to WHAC action beginning at 1 p.m. Friday and Saturday at Ilitch Ballpark with a pair of double-headers against Marygrove College.

## MU's Hayes All-American

Madonna University junior guard Michele Hayes (Inkster) was recently named to the second-team National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Division II All-America team following a vote of the NAIA-Women's Basketball Coaches Division II All-America committee.

The 5-foot-6 Hayes, a transfer from Oakland University via the University of Toledo, set the MU single-season scoring mark with a total of 615 points en route to Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Player of the Year and first-team All-WHAC honors. She also set the Madonna single-game scoring record with 39 points against Indiana Tech on Jan. 3.

The Southfield-Lathrup grad is MU's first All-America since Kaylee McGrath (Livonia Stevenson) in 2012-13.

## Reporting results

Local high school athletic coaches are encouraged to report results of their contests to *Observer* sports editor Ed Wright, who can be reached at 734-578-2767 or ewright@hometown-life.com.

The deadline for Thursday editions of the *Observer* is Tuesday at 10 p.m. The deadline for Sunday editions is Friday at 10 p.m.

NATIONAL ATHLETIC TRAINING MONTH



ED WRIGHT

Pictured from left are Livonia high school athletic trainers Shannon Siira (Franklin), Jennifer Kramer (Stevenson) and Carly Gunterman (Churchill).

## HELPFUL HEALERS

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

Livonia high school trainers work to keep athletes on the field

For the trio of Livonia public high school athletic trainers, many days start with the early-morning buzz of an alarm clock and end several hours later with the buzz of a fourth-quarter or third-period game clock.

Packed in between the blar-

ing buzzers are a steady stream of healing-related maneuvers that keep the trainers on their toes and the athletes they treat on the field (or court, or ice, or track ...).

"There are some days that

are pretty long and exhausting, but we're doing what we love, so we don't complain," said Livonia Churchill athletic trainer Carly Gunterman, who along with Franklin's Shannon Siira and Stevenson's Jennifer

Kramer form a terrific triumvirate of health professionals for the Chargers, Patriots and Spartans.

All three Livonia athletic trainers are employed by Med-Sport, a branch of the University of Michigan Health System that specializes in sports medicine and physical therapy,

See TRAINERS, Page B2

HOCKEY FUNDRAISER

## Coaches vs. Cancer game set for April 11

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

The only checking that will occur during the hockey game to be played April 11 at Eddie Edgar Arena will involve checking *accounts*, not checking into the boards.

Inspired by a similar program orchestrated in Walled Lake, 40 current and former coaches of the Livonia Hockey Coaches Association will square off in the inaugural Coaches vs. Cancer hockey game at 6 p.m. Saturday, April 11.

Divided into teams of 20 each, one squad will wear pink



ALSAAC • Danny Thomas, Founder

jerseys, the other purple uniforms in recognition of the primary colors used to promote cancer awareness.

While the game is expected to be highlighted by several goals, the primary goal of the event is to raise as much mon-

ey as possible for St. Jude's Children's Cancer Research, said Maryann DeMarco, the business manager at Eddie Edgar Arena.

"We'd be very happy if we could raise \$5,000; we think that's a doable number," DeMarco said. "There will be no admission charge at the door, so all the money we raise will come from donations, plus a 50/50 raffle and silent auction."

"The ice time has been donated by the Livonia Civic Arena and the Livonia Hockey Association has donated money for the teams' jerseys, so all of the money raised that night will go straight to St. Jude's."

Each player who participates in the game will be representing a person who has been affected by cancer. Eddie Edgar's own Jason Bruce has been battling colon cancer and DeMarco said she knows of at least five to 10 people who are close to the LHA who are fighting the disease.

"This is the first time we're doing this, but we'd like to make it an annual event," DeMarco said.

The opening face-off is set for 6 p.m. The game is scheduled to run two hours, which gives attendees plenty of time to display their checking (account) skills.

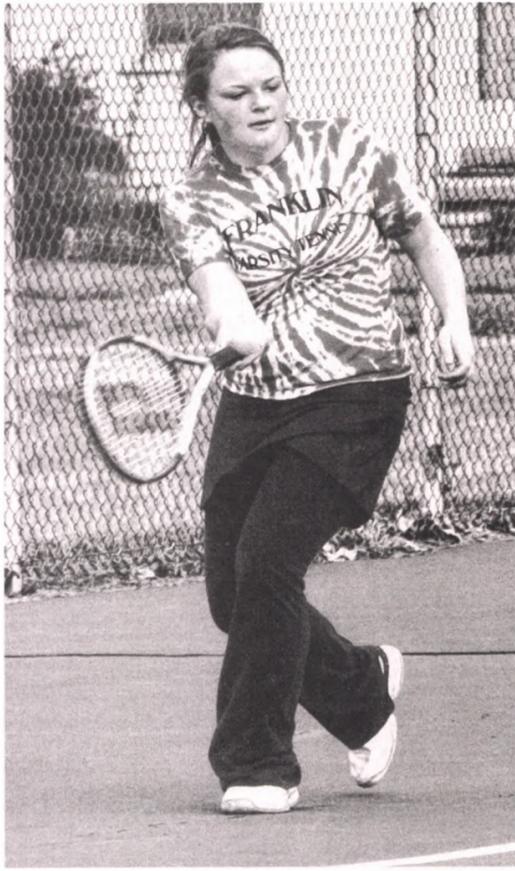
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Livonia Franklin senior singles player Chelsea McWilliams returns a shot during Thursday's match against Ladywood. ED WRIGHT

PREP PROFILE

# McWilliams in swing of things on tennis court, in classroom

Franklin senior co-captain enjoys everything about playing tennis

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

In addition to being a stellar student and a solid tennis player, Livonia Franklin senior Chelsea McWilliams is also a glass-is-always-half-full optimist.

When asked about how she deals with Michigan's challenging early-season weather conditions, McWilliams served up a typically positive response in the moments after Thursday's match against Livonia Ladywood.

"The way I look at it, the wind can be tough, but it blows in half of my

shots that would have been out, so I don't worry about it," she said. "And I'd rather have it be a little cold than really hot because you warm as you play."

Following three seasons as a Patriots doubles contributor - her freshman year on the junior varsity - McWilliams has embraced her role as the team's No. 2 singles player this spring.

"I'm more of an independent player, so I'd say I prefer playing singles, although I enjoyed doubles," she said. "I like it that everything is up to me - win or lose, it's my fault. There's no one else to take the blame, no one else to take the glory."

McWilliams started playing tennis in elementary school, but stepped away from the sport gradually in middle

school, "because there were no teams to play on."

Her passion for the sport was reignited once she started her freshman year at Franklin.

"I like tennis because it's a sport that's easy to have fun with," she said. "I'm not a super-competitive person, but it can get competitive and it's also fun. I've met a lot of great people, too."

A busy schedule, which includes working at Senate Coney Island, prevents McWilliams from playing tennis year-round, but she still brings a potent skill set to the net.

"I'm pretty consistent; I can usually get the ball back," she said, when asked about her strengths.

"I'm not real good at the trick shots or I don't have a super-fast serve, but I can make my

opponent work for the points."

One of four senior captains for Franklin, McWilliams thrives in her role as team leader.

"I like having a say in what the team does and helping to run stuff," she said. "Like today, the captains all brought food. Plus, we're in charge of things like ordering spirit wear - things that help unify the team."

McWilliams is an exemplary student who has a 4.27 grade point average. Her ultra-bright future includes attending the University of Michigan, although it's undetermined whether that will be at the Ann Arbor or Dearborn campus.

"I'll be a Wolverine, one way or another," she said, smiling.

ewright@hometownlife.com

## TRAINERS

Continued from Page B1

and are contracted to serve the high schools.

A typical week - although given their profession, there are very few typical days - for the trainers includes three mornings that start with the treatment of patients at MedSport's Northville office.

Sometimes after noon, the trainers head to their respective high school offices to prepare for a busy day ahead, which often includes everything from taping ankles to treating season-ending injuries.

"Once school gets out, athletes start lining up outside my office for either injury rehab, injury evaluations or to get taped up for that night's game," said Siira. "Once the games start, we all say that a good night for us is a boring night because that means there are no serious injuries to treat."

Not surprisingly, all three trainers participated in at least one sport in high school.

Kramer, whose fiancée is the head trainer for the University of Michigan softball team, played softball and basketball

while growing up in LaGrange, Mo., which is located about two hours north of St. Louis.

"I loved playing sports all through high school, and I knew I didn't want to leave athletics completely after I graduated," said Kramer, who was hired as Stevenson's athletic trainer earlier this year. "I chose this profession because it gives me a chance to stay around athletics and I wanted to get into a field where I could help people."

Gunterman, who played softball at Churchill before earning a degree at Eastern Michigan University, enjoys the rare distinction of working at the same high school she graduated from.

"It's nice working at the school I attended because the athletes know I can relate in a way to what they're experiencing," she said. "I've always enjoyed sports and I wanted to get into the health profession, so this job is the best of both worlds."

Siira excelled in basketball, volleyball and track-and-field at Hartland High School before earning an athletic training/sports medicine degree at Central Michigan University.

"I didn't decide until

my senior year of high school that I wanted to get into the athletic training field," said Siira. "Fortunately, I never suffered a serious injury while playing sports in high school, so I didn't get to know our high school trainer well, but I wanted to stay involved in sports and be able to help people, so this job is perfect. I love it."

All three trainers agreed that the most difficult part of their job is delivering somber news to an athlete who suffers an injury that is season- or career-ending.

"A lot of times, we're the ones who have to break the news to the athletes and the parents that an injury is severe enough that they'll have to sit out the rest of the season, or worse," said Gunterman. "It's hard because you know how hard these athletes have worked to get to where they are."

"There really isn't a class you can take that teaches you how to deliver the [season-ending] news," Siira agreed. "It's just something you learn to do over time, but it's never easy."

On the flip side, the trainers also get to let an athlete know that his or her rehab has paid dividends.

"Giving an athlete

clearance to start playing again is very satisfying," Kramer said.

Over the past decade or so, high school athletic trainers have been given the added responsibility of determining if an athlete who has displayed concussion-like symptoms can return to a game. During a recent hockey game at Eddie Edgar Arena, Gunterman periodically met with a Churchill player to assess his progress.

"Ever since I started at Franklin, concussion-like injuries have always been treated with great care, but I think over the past couple of years the awareness about concussions has increased, not only with the training staffs and coaches, but with the athletes and parents," said Siira.

"While it's hard to have to keep an athlete out of a game, the large majority of them understand that we're doing it for their own good and for their long-term health."

All three trainers agreed that it's impossible not to become fans of the teams they work for.

"You really develop strong relationships with the athletic directors, the coaches and the athletes," Gunterman said. "So you definitely root for them and hope they do well."

## GIRLS SOCCER

# Riga, Huggins lift Blazers to 6-0 win

Senior Sam Riga notched a hat trick and Conner Huggins added four assists as last year's Division 2 state semi-finalist Livonia Ladywood opened its 2015 girls soccer season Thursday with a 6-0 victory at Farmington.

The Blazers jumped out to a 3-0 halftime lead on goals by Riga, third minute (from Huggins); Taylor Bullard, ninth minute (from Huggins); and Riga, 16th minute (from Taylor Bullard).

Ladywood scored three more times in the second half on goals by Riga, 42nd minute (from Kennedy Bullard); Taylor Bullard, 43rd minute

(from Huggins); and Kennedy Bullard, 68th minute (from Huggins).

Ladywood (1-0) outshot the Falcons (0-1) by a 12-6 margin as Holly Cusick (five saves) notched her first shutout in goal for the Blazers.

Mya Douse made one save for Farmington.

"Nice opening game for us," Ladywood coach Ken Shingledecker said.

"I thought the pace of our attack was good and our back line did a nice job from start to finish."

Ladywood returns to action 2:30 p.m. Tuesday against Garden City at Total Sports in Wixom followed by a 7 p.m. Thursday match at Livonia Churchill.



Riga

## YOUTH SPORTS

# Wanted: Umpires for GCYBSA

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

There's always a need for young baseball and softball players to get involved in those sports.

But, according to Joe Bottorff of the Greater Canton Youth Baseball and Softball Association, the league's future very well could be jeopardized down the line unless there is an infusion of new umpires.

An umpiring clinic is taking place from 1-3 p.m. Saturday, March 28, at the Cherry Hill School (corner of Cherry Hill and Ridge roads in Canton) to help umpires with three years or less of experience.

"This is a great job for high school and college students," said Bottorff, also baseball coach at Plymouth Christian Academy. "Last year, we were short umpires so there are plenty of games and opportunities to earn money."

According to Bottorff, it is essential to replenish the pool of available umpires, which shrinks every year because of retirements.

"We do have a shortage of umpires," he said, "and the reason is that the growth of the leagues has outpaced the recruiting of new umpires."

And it doesn't matter if young men and women don't have a ton of experience, as long as they are willing to learn through events such as the umpiring clinic.

Bottorff said game fees range from \$25 to \$50 per game depending on the age group out on the field.

Those who would like to come out to the March 28 clinic are encouraged to email Bottorff at cantonumps@gmail.com for more information or to register.

## PROFILE

Continued from Page B1

Following a solid freshman season on the board, Burke joined the highly acclaimed Legacy Diving program based at EMU. It was there that he started to realize his potential may have a high ceiling.

"After one year of diving at Legacy, I started to see a big difference in how I was doing," said Burke. "My sophomore year, I'd go to big meets for Churchill - the Wayne County meet, the confer-

ence meet - and I'd see a lot of familiar faces, so I felt more comfortable, like I belonged."

Burke's gymnastics background played a significant role in helping him learn some of the sport's more challenging maneuvers.

"The technical term for my best dive is the 5134 D, which is a front one-and-a-half somersault with two complete revolutions," said Burke. "A lot of kids opt out of this dive because there's a lot of twisting and and one of the biggest things with diving is seeing where

you're at in the air, so my gymnastics background definitely helped."

"Being a part of the Legacy program, with coach Buck Smith, who is the coach at Eastern, has been very helpful for me in terms of learning some of the tougher dives. They have the resources and the equipment that most high schools don't have the money or space for, so I'm able to learn a lot of cool new dives."

Burke will head into his senior year at Churchill with an eye on a state diving title and with an opportunity to showcase

his ample skills to college coaches.

"I'd love to dive in college," said Burke, who owns a spectacular 4.25 grade point average. "I'm going through the testing process now. I'm doing everything I can to make myself look appealing to college coaches."

Burke is also a stand-out pole vaulter for the Chargers. After clearing a personal-best height of 13 feet, 6 inches as a sophomore, he heads into this spring's season as one of the front-runners in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association.

"There are a lot of similarities between diving and pole-vaulting," he said. "Turning in the air and getting upside down - things I do a lot in diving - come easier for me when I'm pole vaulting because of my diving experience."

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### CITY OF WESTLAND INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, Michigan 48185, on or before **April 7th, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.** (no exceptions will be made for late filings) for the following:

#### RELOCATE MEMORIALS

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Proposals must be submitted by the time stated above or they will be returned. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Devin J. Adams  
City Controller

Publish: March 22nd, 2015

LC-0000226911 3/22



### CITY OF GARDEN CITY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on **Thursday, April 9, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.**, in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan. At the hearing, all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard.

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

- Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment** to §154.032, Standards for Trash Dumpsters, to permit administrative approval of modifications within the approval process for trash dumpster enclosures and screening requirements.

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

Publish: March 22, 2015

LC-0000236184 3/22.5

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2006	Chevrolet	1G1ZT51876F162013
1997	Pontiac	1GMDX03E7VD267927
1996	Ford	1FALP52U9TG201287
2005	Ford	1FAFP34N25W140770
2004	Mercury	2MRDA20234BJ18508
2003	Dodge	1D4GP24343B291284
2005	Ford	1FAFP53U45A279560
1976	Mercury	6K31F503324
1996	Ford	1FTEF15Y53TLB94360
2001	Ford	1FAFP56S31A244710
1999	Ford	1FTRX18L2XNA73553
2008	Pontiac	2G2WPS52881141156
2000	Ford	1FAFP55S8YA146574
2001	Chevrolet	2G1FP32K612128600

Publish: March 22, 2015

LC-0000226203 3/22



Stevenson sophomore shortstop Chris Tanderys fires a throw to first base during a Friday afternoon fielding drill. ED WRIGHT

PREP PROFILE

# Pressure positions don't faze unflappable Tanderys

Spartans sophomore thrives where the spotlight's the brightest

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

If you're ever looking for Livonia Stevenson three-sport standout Chris Tanderys at an athletic venue, chances are you'll find him where most of the action unfolds.

And that's just the way the sophomore likes it.

Following a highly productive season as the starting Stevenson varsity quarterback, Tanderys played both guard positions for Stevenson's 19-1 junior varsity basketball team.

Beginning next week, he'll take over the reins at shortstop for the school's baseball team, which is loaded with potential following a district championship finish to last year's season.

"I like taking on the leadership role and being where the

action is at," Tanderys said. "I also understand my role with the team, with the seniors providing a lot of the leadership, but I like stepping up when I can, too."

Tanderys admitted he wouldn't feel comfortable going through a season without a sport occupying his after-school hours, although he'd probably feel a little more rested.

"The toughest part about playing three sports is the fatigue factor," he said. "I do get tired at times, but I love competing, so I'd miss the competition and being part of a team if I didn't play three sports."

Tanderys said the only way he's able to play multiple sports is with the cooperation of his teams' coaching staffs.

"Luckily, I play for coaches who understand I'm playing other sports," he said. "I play on a summer baseball team and at the same time I'm trying to get in five-on-five and seven-on-seven football. Both sides understand that I need to be different places at different times,

so I'm lucky."

Tanderys was one of three starting freshman infielders on Stevenson's district championship baseball team last spring. He carved out a stellar .306 batting average, which is more than respectable for a senior, let alone a ninth-grader.

"I give a lot of credit for last year to our senior shortstop Billy Bonnano, who helped me a lot in my development as a varsity player," Tanderys said. "He'd always pick me up when I'd make an error and my head was down and he helped me outside of baseball, too."

Tanderys started playing baseball as a first-grader for the Livonia Junior Athletic League. He started playing travel baseball for the Michigan Bulldogs in fifth and sixth grade before moving on to the Michigan Mustangs in middle school.

He currently competes for the Michigan Bulls during the summer months.

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PREP BASEBALL PREVIEW

## Excessive youth not a bad thing for rising Spartans

Defending district champions should be even better in 2015

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

The fact that there are only two 12's listed under the "grade" column on the Livonia Stevenson baseball team's 18-player roster could be problematic ... if the players listed to the left of all the 9's, 10's and 11's weren't so talented.

For the second consecutive season, head coach Rick Berryman's diamond squad will be front-loaded with underclassmen, but considering four freshmen started during the Spartans' Division 1 regional semifinal game against University of Detroit Jesuit last June, youth can be a good thing.

"I tell the boys every year at tryouts that I don't care what grade they're in, as long as they can play," said Berryman, whose only two seniors this season are big-time contributors C.J. Weiss, a speedy center fielder, and Jack Ferguson, a left-handed pitcher/first baseman/outfielder.

"The thing I like about this year's team is that everything is coming quicker to the younger kids because they have a higher teaching point. We were very young last year and we got better and better, leading up to winning the district. Our sophomores have already played in a regional game against a very good U-D team and lost 5-2, so we didn't embarrass ourselves."

The Spartans finished with a modest 17-18 record last year, but the team that finished the season was much more polished than the one that started, Berryman emphasized.

"We struggled early, losing a lot of early leads like young teams will do, but the growth the players showed was impressive," he said.

Of the 10 pitchers on the Spartans' roster, Ferguson is the most accomplished. He has signed to play at the next level for Saginaw Valley State University.

"Jack's pitching and velocity have improved immensely," Berryman said. "He's a very competitive athlete and he'll help us wherever we put him, whether it's on the mound, at first base or in the outfield."

Weiss, who is one of several Spartans who also excelled for Stevenson's playoffs-qualifying football team, is a top-of-the-order catalyst who has incredible range while playing center field.

"C.J. covers a lot of ground out there," Berryman said. "Hitting-wise last year, he started out like a ball of fire. It was his first year on varsity, so he tapered off a little bit, but when he gets on base, he's dangerous because of his speed."

Handling the bulk of the



Stevenson senior first baseman Jack Ferguson looks in a throw during Friday afternoon's practice. ED WRIGHT



Stevenson junior catcher Frank Carlin fires a throw down to third base Friday afternoon. ED WRIGHT

catching duties will be junior Frank Carlin, a running back on the football team and a guard on the hoops squad.

"Frank has a very strong arm, he blocks well and he's fast for a catcher," Berryman said.

Sophomore Nick Poulos will also see plenty of time behind the dish.

The Spartans are loaded at first base, thanks to the presence of Ferguson and the return of sophomore Mark Pettersson, who started last year as a freshman and hit a respectable .259.

Sophomore C.J. Breen has locked down the second base job after leading Stevenson in hitting last year at a .358 clip. Berryman said Breen will likely serve as the team's No. 3 or 4 hitter.

Sophomore Chris Tanderys will handle the bulk of the shortstop duties after playing primarily third base as a freshman.

"Chris will also do some closing for us on the mound; he's very poised for such a young player," Berryman said.

Junior Gordon Ferguson, the younger brother of Jack, will play some third base, outfield and can pitch. Freshman Danny Morris will man the hot corner when Ferguson is elsewhere.

"Danny, who is six-foot and 200 pounds, showed up at all of our off-season workouts and he proved that he belongs on varsity," Berryman said. "He's very sure-handed."

Junior Nate Bunton can play just about anywhere. He'll see a lot of time in the infield in addition to serving as one of the team's top pitchers.

The outfield change depending on who's pitching and other factors, Berryman said. Center fielder Weiss will be the anchor and he'll often be flanked by a combination including Jack Ferguson, Austin Petrie, Vince Jenaway, Dan Bos and Nick Beers, among others.

Other key contributors will include freshman Devin Dunn, sophomore Dan Bullard and juniors Nick Cotter and Joe Dupuie.

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GIRLS HOCKEY

## Mercy girls win state hockey title

By Dan O'Meara  
Staff Writer

Farmington Hills Mercy's hockey team proved once again defense is indeed the key to winning a championship.

The top-seeded Marlins blanked both opponents in the recent Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey tournament and won their second Division 2 state title in three years.

Mercy eliminated the defending champion P-C-S Penguins in a March 12 semifinal at Eddie Edgar Arena, 2-0, and they routed second-seeded Bloomfield Hills in the final game two days later on the same ice, 7-0.

Looking at the list of Michigan Metro scoring leaders, the Marlins should have lost decisively to the Black Hawks in the title match. From an offensive standpoint, that is.

Bloomfield Hills had the league's top four scorers and five of the top eight, led by senior Carolyn Andonian with 27 goals and 24 assists.

The five Black Hawks had a combined total of 94 goals and 187 points, but the Marlins managed to hold them scoreless in the big game.

"Our team defense has been really good all year," Mercy coach Joe Jones said. "It starts with our goaltenders. We have two excellent goaltenders. I'm not sure which one is best. They're equally capable."

"We were fortunate this year to have a lot of depth on the blue line. We have seven defensemen and a real deep corps. One is a junior and the rest are sophomores and freshmen. They really stepped up."

Top-notch goalies

Caitlin Somerville is the Mercy goalie who pitched the shutout in the final game, and Katy Kouvaris kept the Penguins off the scoreboard in the semifinal. Both are juniors.

"Katy made some big, big saves early in that game when it was 0-0," Jones said. "She was the difference maker in that game. Caitlin was just as outstanding in the final game. She had to make some big saves in that one as well."

Somerville and Kouvaris were the second- and third-best goalies in the league, statistically. Among those with substantial minutes played, they would be Nos. 1 and 2, respectively.

Somerville had a .900 goals-against average with 448 minutes of game time. Kouvaris allowed an average of one goal per game through 497 minutes.

The Mercy defensemen include juniors Riley Ruffing, sophomores Hannah Hamilton, Natalie Masopust, Amelia Bartels, Cassie Roberts and Maddie Jones and freshman Taylor Mackenzie.

Roberts was injured and didn't play in the champi-

onship game. Sophomore Sophie Van Acker dropped back from her forward position to help on defense, too.

"They have some girls on that (Bloomfield Hills) team that can really score," Joe Jones said. "We were relentless with our defensive pressure, but I didn't feel comfortable until halfway through the final period."

"Even with a 5-0 lead after two, I was still concerned, because I knew they could score a lot of goals in a hurry. I wasn't fully comfortable until the final buzzer went off."

Good offense, too

The Marlins also had some offense of their own. Balanced scoring was a team hallmark throughout the season, and the statistics from the final game reflected that as six girls scored goals.

Senior captain Anna Julien scored two goals and had one assist for three points. Jones (one goal, one assist) and freshman Cara Hodgins (two assists) notched two points each.

Sophomores Emily McCann and Mary Reeber, freshman Makena Duval and Van Acker contributed one goal apiece.

Seniors Ana Kiafoulis and Julia McAree, sophomore Natalie Vaitas and freshman Maddie Rennie also assisted on single goals.

McCann, the only Mercy player among the Michigan Metro leaders with 18 goals and 31 points for sixth place, and Julien scored goals in the semifinal win.

"We played a minimum of three lines, sometimes four and even a fifth for some games," Jones said. "In the championship game, all 22 girls played and contributed to the outcome."

"We had some very balanced scoring. Even though our team was the best team in the league, we didn't have anybody at the top of the leader board in points. We were definitely a team and not a couple of individuals."

"We gave up 22 goals in 23 games. With our depth at forward, we tend to have the puck a lot, and the other team can't score if we have the puck."

Jones thought the Marlins had a chance to be successful at the start of the season. With such a young team, he wasn't sure how it would perform, however.

"We got better and better as the year went on," he said. "We didn't play very well in the semifinal. We played like we were nervous. We got the bugs out of the system going into the final game and played really well."

"Scoring the first goal in the final was huge for us, because I think it gave us a confidence boost. We were consistent throughout the game."

Twitter: @domeara5

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

# Second-half woes cost Schoolcraft

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Seemingly since the start of 2015 the Schoolcraft Ocelots' men's basketball team has been invincible, riding a hot streak to the MCCA championship and taking on all comers in the subsequent NJCAA District 10 tournament.

But after starting the NJCAA Division II national tournament in Danville, Ill., with a victory on Tuesday against Genesee Community College, the Ocelots met their match Thursday night against John Wood Community College.

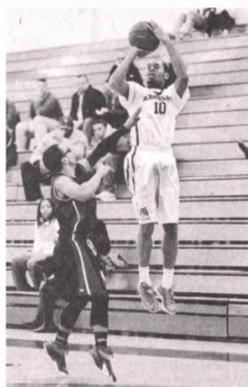
Schoolcraft imploded in the second half, being outscored 50-30, and wound up falling 89-66 to end hopes of winning a national championship.

The Ocelots did respond Friday with a 81-74 win over Kishwaukee College and will advance to Saturday's contest for fifth place.

That win came one day too late, however, as Schoolcraft looked to reach the semifinals with a victory against John Wood. At halftime, the Ocelots only trailed 39-36.

Unfortunately for the Ocelots, now 31-4, only one of the teams on the court had it going offensively in the second half and it wasn't Schoolcraft.

"We just didn't move the ball well offensively, and they did a very good job of making their shots," said Mashhour,



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO  
Schoolcraft College's Ja'Christian Biles (No. 10), shown from the regular season, was an offensive force for the Ocelots both Tuesday and Thursday at nationals.

summing up the telltale second half. "They got out on transition against us."

The Ocelots made just 10-31 from the floor in the second half (32 percent) while John Wood blistered the nets at a .556 clip (15-27), also draining nine of 15 tries from behind the 3-point arc.

Doing much of that damage was Paxton Harmon. He registered 24 points, but tallied 18 of those on treys (6-10). Also in double figures for John Wood were Brody Gronewold (16 points), Peter Odia and Jordan Johnson (15 points each).

### Rushing it

After John Wood expanded its lead early in

the second half, Schoolcraft players fell into the trap of trying to "match them," Mashhour stressed.

"We can make three too, we've done it all year," Mashhour said. "But at the same time we do it when we pass the ball, when we move the ball."

"Guys came down and tried to go 1-on-1 and get it back right away, and it was a little sign of our immaturity."

Tuesday's scoring star for Schoolcraft, guard Ja'Christian Biles, had another strong game Thursday with a team-leading 16 points.

Chipping in with 12 points was Lito Brown while Javan Taylor added 11 points along with six rebounds.

The top rebounder for the Ocelots was Anthony Wartley-Fritz, with seven.

Westland John Glenn product Dre Black tallied six points while Canton alum Davon Taylor helped out with two points and three rebounds in just under 10 minutes of action. Taylor fouled out, however.

Friday against Kishwaukee, Taylor was one of the standouts. He scored 12 points and grabbed six rebounds in 18:36 of playing time.

Booth and Tyler Johnson (Howell) tallied 18 and 16 points, respectively.

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ED WRIGHT  
Pictured from left are Livonia Franklin senior tennis captains Chelsea McWilliams, Kaity Swenson, Ki-Jana Malone and Ashlee Mahoney.

### PREP TENNIS PREVIEW

# Pats' rebuilding season off to strong start

Franklin wins first two matches in wake of graduation losses

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

Judging by its early season results, 2015 may not be a rebuilding season after all for the Livonia Franklin girls tennis team.

After losing nearly half of its 2014 starting lineup to graduation, the Patriots have opened their spring slate with a pair of victories over Dearborn High (in a scrimmage) and Livonia Ladywood.

Head coach Rick Clack attributes the Patriots' early success to a number of factors, including a diligent off-season training regimen.

"Probably about one-third of our team plays year-round, including over the winter at the Fairlane Racquet Club in Dearborn," Clack said. "It's an excellent group of girls who are very dedicated to the sport."

The Patriots will be led by No. 1 singles player Kendall Payne, a junior who displayed a wide range of skills during her 6-4, 6-1 victory over her Ladywood opponent on Thursday at Shelden Park.

"Kendall is a very good player who is ranked in the 20s by the USTA," Clack said. "Even though three of our four singles players are new to singles, three of them are 2-0, so we're off to a good start."

Senior Chelsea McWilliams has earned the No. 2 singles spot following two solid



ED WRIGHT  
Livonia Franklin's No. 1 singles player Kendall Payne connects on a forehand shot Thursday afternoon during her straight-sets victory against Ladywood.

years as a varsity doubles player, while junior Carla Yanez and senior Ashlee Mahoney start the season at the 3 and 4 singles positions, respectively.

Yanez won 6-1, 6-0, on Thursday while Mahoney outlasted her Blazer opponent, 4-6, 6-4, 7-4.

The Patriots' five doubles contingents are anchored by the No. 1 tandem of seniors Kaity Swenson and Snigdha Thyagaraj, who won 7-6, 6-4, on Thursday.

The No. 2 doubles duo of Ki-Jana Malone and Haley Griffin offer a mix of experience and youth, as Malone is a senior and Griffin a sophomore.

The future is as

bright as the present for Franklin given that two of its other starting doubles teams include freshmen. The No. 3 twosome consists of senior Janki Patel and freshman Yasmeen Freeman, while the No. 4 duet is made of ninth-grader Grace Mathews and junior Estela Ochoa.

"Both the freshmen are year-round players, so they should provide us with a lot of talent for years to come," Clack said.

Thursday's No. 5 doubles duo of sophomore Elaine Homer and junior Emma Fogle swept their match, 6-0, 6-0.

ewright@hometownlife.com

**City of Livonia: Regular Meeting Synopsis: 03/02/2015**  
**Present:** Pastor, Meakin, Toy, Scheel, Nash, Kritzman, Brosnan  
**Absent:** None  
 New Data announced and filed.  
**#44-15** Approving the minutes of meeting on 2/18/15.  
**#45-15** Granting a waiver of the Noise Ordinance to O'Malley's Bar & Grill for their St. Patrick's Celebration on 3/17/2015.  
**#46-15** Approving an increase in senior golf fees at Fox Creek, Idyl Wyld, and Whispering Willows Golf Courses for the 2015 season.  
**#47-15** Approving an increase in greens fees at Fox Creek, Idyl Wyld, and Whispering Willows Golf Courses for the 2015 season.  
**#48-15** Authorizing the purchase of a refurbished golf course irrigation pump station for the Whispering Willows Golf Course from budgeted funds.  
**#49-15** Authorizing the purchase of a Cardiac Monitor/Defibrillator for the Fire Department from budgeted funds.  
**#50-15** Authorizing the purchase of (3) vehicles to be utilized by the Fire Inspectors/Investigators from budgeted funds.  
**#51-15** Approving the purchase of (1) Fire Engine Pumper to replace a 2003 Pumper from budgeted funds.  
**#52-15** Accepting a grant from DTE and authorizing an additional expenditure from budgeted funds to retrofit 229 Mercury Vapor Streetlights to LED.  
**#53-15** Refer the question of total city street light replacement with LED's to Committee.  
**#54-15** Authorizing the City to execute an agreement with MDOT for the rehabilitation and reconstruction work along Levan Road from budgeted funds.  
**#55-15** Authorizing extending Contract 14-C with Hard Rock Concrete, Inc to cover all work required in connection with the 2015 Concrete Road Repair Program.  
**#56-15** Approving the site plan for Petition 2015-01-0-01 submitted by John Verdouniotis (Mama Mia).  
**#57-15** Refer the matter of a request for a contract extension between the City of Livonia and Waste Management to Committee.  
**#58-15** Accepting cash and gift donations from various contributors for the purposes designated by the donors. (Community Resources)  
**#59-15** Accepting cash and gift donations from various contributors to pay for Nehasil Park construction and ongoing maintenance.  
 Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.  
 Full text of the official minutes available in the Office of the City Clerk.  
 Susan A. Hoff  
 Livonia City Clerk  
 Published: March 22, 2015

**CITY OF LIVONIA  
 NOTICE OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE  
 NOXIOUS WEED AND REFUSE ORDINANCE**

TO: All owners, occupants or possessors of subdivided lands or lots:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with Title 8, Chapter 40 of the Livonia Code of Ordinances, as amended, of the City of Livonia, all noxious weeds, or other weeds, grass, brush or deleterious, unhealthy growths exceeding a height of nine (9) inches, or any refuse or debris growing, standing or lying upon any property in the City of Livonia, shall be cut down, destroyed or removed as the case may be, by May 1 of each year and as many times thereafter as may be necessary. If any noxious weeds or other weeds, grass, brush or deleterious, unhealthy growths exceeding a height of nine (9) inches, or any refuse or debris, growing, standing or lying upon any property in the City so ordered to be cut down, destroyed or removed by May 1, as aforesaid, have not been removed by the owner or occupant of the premises, then the City of Livonia is hereby authorized to enter upon the land and destroy, cut down or remove said noxious weeds, grass, brush or deleterious, unhealthy growths exceeding a height of (9) inches, or any refuse or debris growing, standing or lying upon any property in the City at the expense of the owner or occupant of said land. The City may cut down, destroy or remove noxious weeds, or other weeds, grass, brush or deleterious, unhealthy growths exceeding a height of nine (9) inches or any refuse or debris, growing, standing or lying upon any property in the City as many times as is necessary and charge the costs to the property owner.

In the event the owner or occupant, or any person or persons, agent, firm or corporation having control or management of any subdivided land in any subdivision in which buildings have been erected on sixty percent (60%) of the lots included in that subdivision and where such subdivision has a residential zoning classification of R-1, R-2, R-3, R-4, R-5, R-6 or R-U-F, or the owners or occupants, or any person or persons, agent, firm or corporation having control or management of any property, regardless of zoning classification, which abuts or is adjacent to the aforementioned subdivisions for a depth of two hundred (200) feet, or the owners or occupants, or person or persons, agent, firm or corporation, having control or management of any property, regardless of zoning classification, which abuts or is adjacent to any developed public park or any developed school or college grounds, whether public, private or parochial, for a depth of two hundred (200) feet, or the owners or occupants, or person or persons, agent, firm or corporation having control or management of any property, regardless of zoning classification, along all improved streets in common usage for a depth of two hundred (200) feet or the depth of the property, whichever is less, shall fail, refuse or neglect to comply with the above mentioned ordinance, the City shall cause said noxious weeds, grass, brush, or deleterious, unhealthy growths exceeding a height of nine (9) inches, or any refuse or debris growing, standing or lying upon any property in the City to be cut down, destroyed or removed. Provided, further, that any lands which are situated within the floodplains of any natural streams or watercourses, or any area between the lower or upper banks of such streams or watercourses, shall be exempted from the provisions of this ordinance. All expenses incurred by the City in the cutting, destruction or removal of same will be levied and collected against such property in the manner provided by law. The expenses incurred in cutting, destruction, or removal of all noxious weeds, or other weeds, grass, brush or deleterious, unhealthy growths exceeding a height of nine (9) inches, or any refuse or debris growing, standing or lying upon any property shall include, but are not limited to, an administrative charge of seventy-five (\$75.00) dollars for each of the first two instances in a calendar year of cutting, destruction, or removal, which administrative charge shall increase to one hundred twenty-five (\$125.00) dollars for the third and each subsequent instance of cutting, destruction, or removal required in the same calendar year.

Failure to comply with the requirements set forth in Title 8, Chapter 40 of the Livonia Code of Ordinances, as amended, may also result in the prosecution for same, and liability to the extent of the penalty therein provided.

A. Alexander Bishop, CBO  
 Director of Inspection  
 City of Livonia

Publish: March 12 and March 22, 2015

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS  
 CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN  
 2015 DWRP PROJECT# 7356-01: PHASE II - WATER MAIN  
 REPLACEMENTS**

Sealed proposals for the 2015 DWRP PROJECT #7356-01: PHASE II WATER MAIN REPLACEMENTS will be received at the Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154 until 2:00 p.m., Local Time, on April 7, 2015 at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

A mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held in the West Conference Room at the Department of Public Works Building, 12973 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan (734) 466-2655 at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 31, 2015. Bids will not be accepted from those bidders who do not attend.

The City of Livonia seeks proposals for the following:  
 2015 DWRP Project #7356-01: Phase II Water Main Replacements with associated restoration at several locations within the City of Livonia.

The following approximate quantities are for some of the major items of work for this project:

Water Main, HDPE, 8 inch, Directional Drill	27,350 FT
Water Main, HDPE, 8 inch, Pipe Bursting	13,750 FT
Water Main, Class 54, DI, 8 inch, Tr Det G, W/Polywrap	3,100 FT
Gate Valve and Well, 8 inch	89 EA
Fire Hydrant	102 EA
1" Copper Water Service and Curb Stop Box	1,145 EA

Instructions to bidders and specifications will be available starting March 23, 2015 and may be obtained by registering with the Michigan Inter-Governmental Trade Network (MITN) at [www.govbids.com/scripts/mitn/Public/home1.asp](http://www.govbids.com/scripts/mitn/Public/home1.asp).

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a certified check in the amount of five percent (5%) of the proposal, payable to the City of Livonia, as security for the acceptance of the contract. A bid bond on the Michigan Standard Form, issued by an approved Surety Company, may be furnished in lieu of a certified check. No electronic bids will be allowed.

All bids shall be opened publicly at the date and time specified. Each bid shall be recorded together with the name of the bidder. Bids shall be in accordance with the requirements of this notice in order to be deemed "responsive."

Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope, plainly marked "BID - 2015 DWRP PROJECT #7356-01: PHASE II WATER MAIN REPLACEMENTS" and received by the City Clerk on or before the time and date given above.

No bidder may withdraw his proposal within one hundred twenty (120) calendar days after the date set for opening thereof. The right to accept any bid, to reject any or all proposals and to waive irregularities in bidding is reserved by the City of Livonia. Portions of this Contract may be deleted due to unforeseen circumstances without compensation. Acceptance of any bid does not constitute a binding agreement until a written contract is signed by both parties.

This project will be partly funded through the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's State Revolving Fund Program. The Bidder must comply with all federal regulations as detailed in the Instructions to Bidders.

Todd J. Zilincik, P.E.  
 City Engineer

Jack E. Kirksey  
 Mayor

Publish: March 22, 2015

# Madonna professor promotes the positives of aging well

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

Sue-Anne Sweeney lives what she teaches.

Assistant professor and chair of Madonna University's Aging Studies program, Sweeney has cared for elderly relatives for 24 years, serving as patient advocate, direct caregiver, care coordinator, and respite provider. She worked as a hospital nurse's aide and for an Area Agency on Aging before joining the Madonna faculty in 2005. She signed up for Medicare two years ago when she turned 65 and she's not afraid to use the "O" word.

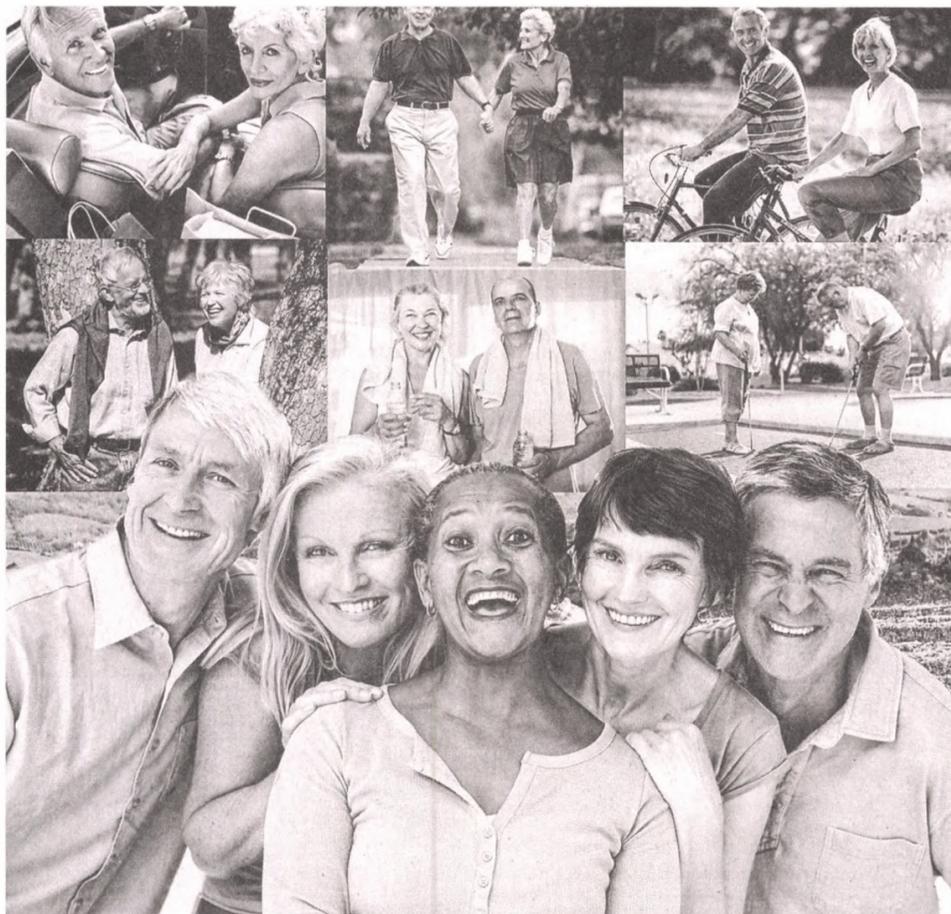
"Rather than saying I'm not old, I say, yeah, I'm old. And I'm active, I'm contributing. I'm taking care of myself," said Sweeney, who shared her views on aging with the *Observer* last week. "I think that promoting positive aging and the potential of later life, creativity in old age, encore careers and continuing to make a contribution, is going to change aging. It's going to change the way we age."

Sweeney's personal journey as a senior and elder care provider to grandparents, in-laws and parents has helped inform her teaching in a program that is celebrating its 40th anniversary through September. In honor of the gerontology department's 40th year, the university reviewed and revised programs, changed the department's name and added online courses that lead to certificates in dementia care, aging and older adults, and end-of-life care.

"I think we used to focus somewhat more on recreation and that kind of thing. Now we're focusing more on social trends, policy and health care which is changing radically," Sweeney said.

Madonna University offers the only bachelor's degree in aging studies in Michigan and it's researching the potential for a graduate credential. Majors include aging studies and long-term care administration. Students can concentrate on care management or nursing home administration within the long-term care major.

Like Sweeney, for whom aging studies has included



SUBMITTED  
Sue-Anne Sweeney heads Madonna University's Aging Studies program, which is celebrating its 40th anniversary.

real-life experience as well as academic research, students in the bachelor's degree program are expected to engage in the community by visiting elder care environments and volunteering there if possible.

"We don't want them to learn it all from a textbook." Students in the program are "older" and some have returned to school for "encore" careers.

#### New image needed

"We tend to have an older student population because younger people don't think so much about aging. We try to make the point that there are jobs out there, but we have such an ageist society. We can reinvent aging if we really made an effort, a communications effort, a health promotion effort.

"I think we need to stop thinking about the rocking chair. Nobody is sitting in that rocking chair any more. We're out doing stuff with our grandkids. Sometimes we're raising our grandkids. We're volunteering. We just need to change our perception. I think the media need to understand that older adults control a great deal of money and they aren't just buying medical equipment and over-the-counter medication. A lot of older adults keep up with fashion and are interested in (electronic) devices. A whole lot of people have tablets and smartphones. And if we're not buying them for ourselves, we are buying them for grandchildren."

Sweeney urges young adults to begin planning for their middle and twilight years by investing in savings and retire-

ment plans, maintaining a healthy diet, exercising, and stopping tobacco use. She's encouraged by the proliferation of employers who offer benefits with built-in incentives for losing weight, stopping smoking and decreasing cholesterol levels. Some companies even maintain a walk-in clinic on site.

"One-quarter to one-third of your life may be spent as an older adult. How do you want to live that? Do you want to be on a walker or needing oxygen or do you want to be vigorous and enjoy life? I think that's the kind of message we need to be telling them. People need to start thinking about aging rather than the mass denial we do."

**Health care transparency**  
Sweeney sees positive pro-

gress in the coalitions and networks that have formed among hospitals, community services and long-term care facilities. They're working together in the effort to provide elderly patients continuous care and to prevent hospital readmissions.

"But there is an awful lot of money that goes into administration," she said. "I think understanding the transparency movement around the cost of health care is important. We have this notion — I can always get a knee replaced or a hip replaced. But if we knew what the cost was, then we'd realize it's never as good as what God gave us."

Read more about Sweeney's views on aging at her blog, *Aging is Serious Business*, [madonnaagerontology.wordpress.com/](http://madonnaagerontology.wordpress.com/).

Hear Roger L. Myers, CEO and president of Presbyterian Villages of Michigan, talk about "Entrepreneurial Ventures for the Senior Market," 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 14, in Kresge Hall at Madonna University, 36600 Schoolcraft, Livonia. Admission to this McManus Distinguished Business Lecture is free, although an RSVP is requested. Contact Lori by April 7 at 734-432-5589 or [lgatt@madonna.edu](mailto:lgatt@madonna.edu). The lecture is presented by Madonna's Aging Studies Department and the School of Business.



Some of the more than 800 dresses that will be sold for \$20 each March 28 at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Livonia.

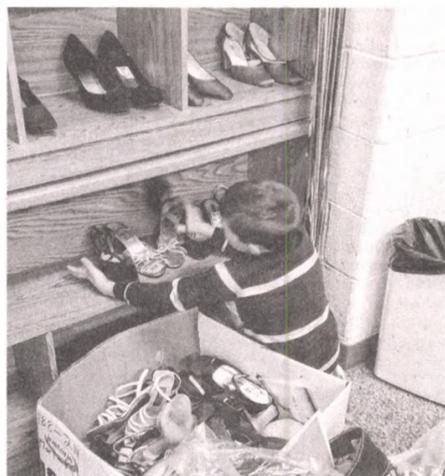
## Prom dresses sell for \$20 each at annual church event

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Livonia will offer more than 800 prom gowns for \$20 each at its annual 2nd Life Prom Dress Sale, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 28. Doors will open at 8 a.m.

This year's sale is bigger than ever. In addition to the gowns — some with original sale tags up to \$999 — the sale will include dozens of shoes, wraps, purses, and jewelry. Accessories will be sold for less than \$5.

The church plans for the event throughout the year, dedicated to the idea that every girl should go to prom without worrying about the cost. Girls also buy the dresses for other formal events.

Callie Gross-Johnston, the brainchild and leader of the event, contacts stores for donations and then personally collects them. Dresses are evaluated and sorted. Some need cleaning because they've been used as try-on samples. Others need repairs, such as zipper replacements, beading and re-tacked shoulder straps. Church volunteers also create fitting rooms with curtains and mirrors, set up jewelry, accessory and shoe racks, along with seam-



SUBMITTED PHOTOS  
Howie Gross, 5, helps sort and match shoes donated for the 2nd Life Prom Dress Sale in Livonia.

stress areas where minor alterations will be done on site.

The money the church receives from the sale goes toward other community outreach projects, including a food pantry that gives out hundreds of bags of food to those in need, youth mission work, backpacks and school supplies for children.

The church is located at Five Mile and Inker Road. Visit the sale's Facebook page at [facebook.com/events/841344182593060/](https://www.facebook.com/events/841344182593060/) or call Pam Phillips at 734-634-2445 or Callie Gross-Johnston at 734-634-2446.

## Will U.S. follow France on product quality?

I understand that France has mandated a new law directed at the manufacturers of appliances to help frustrated homeowners take a stand on the poor quality of appliances being produced in their country. Manufacturers will put a two-year warranty on the products. If a problem occurs, the consumer can receive a new product within that two-year period. Manufacturers must give a customer the average life span and they must state how long parts will be available for a particular product. Noncompliance will mean a \$1,600 fine for each occurrence.

All of this is being done because there is a known built-in obsolescence in products that creates more and more sales for manufacturers in the end. When I read this recent news story, all I could think about is the need in this country for such a law. Just three years ago, the appliance giants cut back their warranties to a one-year period. In my opinion, appliances are made so cheap today that any warranty over one year would cripple the bottom line of any P & L. The recent announcement by Speed Queen that its washers now have a five-year full warranty is a sure sign that they must have a lot of confidence in how they build them.

The above information is just another statement to verify what this old appliance doctor has been saying and writing about for the past several years. How can we get the quality back into the production of major appliances and give all consumers the quality that they expect when they



Joe  
Gagnon  
APPLIANCE  
DOCTOR

purchase one? Will it take an act of Congress here in this country? Maybe it should.

#### Poor quality

I come from an era when things were a lot better than today, but we still had defects that needed correction and we took care of it pronto. From the flaws, we learned how to do it right and the appliance industry was great in customer satisfaction and people bought our products because we created brand loyalty. That is not the case today. Start looking at appliance reviews and you will read for hours and in the end, you won't know what to purchase because you will be confused. In just plain old English, the quality of many appliances today is nothing but pure junk.

Now this part of my column is dedicated to the very people in Washington who are responsible for the word junk. That is our energy department that makes decisions on energy consumption without any thought in regards to the consequences. These people have to live with the same products we do but I guess their important, dictating jobs take precedence over the quality of a wash load. Oh no, they are not done yet. They are going after the furnace motor, the clothes dryer and before long, probably the hair dryer. Come this April 15, hot water heaters will

See GAGNON, Page B6

## GARDEN & NATURE CALENDAR

Send material for the Garden & Nature Calendar to Sharon Dargay, sdargay@hometownlife.com.

### Tree, shrub sales

» The Wayne County Conservation District holds its annual tree sale through March 27. Trees include varieties of maples, oaks, black cherry, hybrid poplar, conifers, native trees to attract birds and wildlife, and fruit trees, such as honeycrisp and other apples, plums, peaches, pears, and cherries.

Learn more and order online at waynecd.org or call 313-418-0700. Orders due March 27.

» ReLeaf Michigan is taking orders through Friday, April 17, for trees, shrubs and evergreens. Cost is \$15 for evergreens, \$18 for shrubs, \$50 for specialty trees, and \$36 for trees including honeycrisp apple, sugar maple and American linden. Proceeds from the sale support ReLeaf Michigan's statewide tree education and planting program. For descriptions, photos and online ordering, visit ReLeafMichigan.org. Pickup is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 2, at seven locations, including Handy Park, 26590 Capitol, Redford Township, Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Road, Ann Arbor, and Goldner Walsh Nursery, Inc., 559 Orchard Lake Road, Pontiac.

### Bug hunters

Friends of the Rouge needs volunteers to help look for stoneflies, mayflies and other aquatic insects at the annual Spring Bug Hunt on April 18. Volunteers must pre-register by April 3. Children are welcome when accompanied by a participating adult. The event starts at 9 a.m. at the University of Michigan-Dearborn's Environmental Interpretive Center. Volunteers are assigned to teams that each travel to two sites where they look for living things in samples collected from the river under the direction of a trained team leader. Sign up at therouge.org

### Livonia Garden Club

Sue Grubba will talk about which plants are worth buying and which plants to avoid, at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 7, at the Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia. Grubba is an Advanced Master Gardener, president of the Association of Professional Gardeners, Michigan School of Gardening instructor, landscape designer and owner of Creative Scapes in Rochester Hills. Visitors are welcome. For more information, visit livonia-gardenclub.org or email rmo78jsa@aol.com.

### English Gardens

» Garden Party weekend, Saturday-Sunday, March 28-29, of-

fers a variety of free presentations. Learn about organic gardening, cacti, landscape design, hydrangeas, flowering bulbs, preventing animal and insect damage, growing a beautiful lawn, container gardening and more. For a complete schedule, visit englishgardens.com.

Classes are held at all stores unless noted. Area stores are at 155 N. Maple, Ann Arbor, 734-332-7900; 22650 Ford Road in Dearborn Heights, 313-278-4433; 4901 Coolidge Highway, Royal Oak, 248-280-9500; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield; 248-851-7506.

### Educational conference

Tickets are available for the Master Gardener of Oakland County third annual Educational Garden Conference, "Gardening and All That Jazz - Innovation and Sustainability For Your Garden." Tickets \$80. The event runs 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. April 25 at the Oakland Schools Conference Center, 2111 Pontiac Lake Road, Waterford. It will include a garden market, presentations by Will Allen, CEO of Growing Power; Matthew Benson, photographer, writer and organic farmer; and Kerry Ann Mendez, who teaches low-maintenance perennial gardening. Entertainment by Kerry Price and The Dave Bennett Quartet. Pay online or download a form for mailing. Visit mgsoc.org. No registration at the door.

## Families of dementia patients can get home care grants

The Alzheimer's and Dementia Care Relief Grant Program awarded its first grants last week to more than 130 families, including two in Michigan.

The program, offered by Home Instead Senior Care and Hilarity for Charity, gives grant recipients free in-home care services. Grants range from short-term periods of 25 hours to long-term care, based on each family's needs.

"Sometimes, just a few hours a week can provide a welcome break for family caregivers," said Jeff Huber, Home Instead Senior Care president. "Having the peace of mind that your loved one is being cared for by a highly skilled caregiver can allow families to focus on the other

areas of their life that they may have neglected since an Alzheimer's diagnosis."

Hilarity for Charity, an Alzheimer's awareness and fundraising campaign led by actors and writers Seth Rogen and Lauren Miller Rogen, funds the grant program. Hilarity for Charity, which aims to inspire the millennial generation, raised nearly \$1 million last year through its annual variety show fundraiser. It supports research, offers Google Hangout support groups for caregivers under age 40, telephone support groups, and awareness videos.

Learn more about the program and apply for an in-home care grant at www.HelpForAlzheimersFamilies.com.

## Benefit funds new beds for children at First Step

Giving Hope, Women's Giving Circle will hold its annual charity event 6:30-9 p.m. Wednesday,

April 1, at Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton.

"Give the Kids a Bed" will include food by Katherine's Catering and a cash bar; shopping and a fashion show from local shops and boutiques; and a variety of silent auction items, such as a one-week stay in a Florida condo, a condo in Traverse City and an autographed Calvin Johnson Detroit Lions jersey.

Cost is \$35 and pre-registration is required at www.cantonfoundation.org.

Proceeds from the event will be used to buy beds for children residing in First Step Temporary Emergency Housing. First Step provides emergency, short-term housing for victims of domestic and/or sexual violence and their children. The organization also offers individual and group counseling, safety planning, medical attention, housing referrals, and educational and recreational activities for children.

The "Give the Kids a Bed" event is Giving Hope's third annual fundraiser. Its previous events in 2013 and 2014 raised more than \$10,000 to assist the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools' Clothing Bank and Early Childhood programs.

For more information, visit the Giving Hope web page at www.cantonfoundation.org or call Beth Meade at 734-495-1200.

## GAGNON

Continued from Page B5

also have to meet new energy guidelines. They'll be much bigger in size which will cause tons of problems for homeowners with space restrictions, new types of venting causing a need for drilling holes in walls to the outside and the addition of drain lines to accommodate the new system of some heaters. Oh yes, I almost forgot about the price increase. You can anticipate spending from \$600-\$1,000 more for a replacement heater that will save you the average of \$14 per year. You see what I mean when I say that the energy department does not have a clue of the consequences of their actions?

I don't really think we need an energy department; just let the market take care of itself. All this over a hot water heater and yet the blooming product still maintains a life span of only seven to 10 years. I repeat, it makes as much sense as putting a screen door on a submarine. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m. Saturdays on WAAM 1600. You can email your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twmi.rr.com.

# Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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### BARTH, IRENE C.

Age 91, of Fenton, formerly of Farmington Hills, died Thursday, March 19, 2015. Funeral services have been held. Irene was born November 26, 1923 in Chicago, Illinois, the daughter of Borgild and Marie (Petersen) Christensen. She married Donald F. Barth August 31, 1946 in Marlette. She was a member of First Presbyterian Church of Farmington. Irene loved flowers and gardening. Surviving is her husband of 68 years, Donald; four children, Douglas and wife Janet Barth of Clarksville, Maryland, Dennis and wife Dolores Barth of Mt. Pleasant, Christine and husband Mark Barton of Fenton, and Steven and wife Cindy Barth of Madison, Mississippi; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Vernon and Bruce Christensen; and sister, Evelyn Shoup. Online tributes may be posted on the obituaries page at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



### BROWN, DYMUNA (DEE)

The world lost a remarkable woman when Dee Brown passed away in her sleep on March 12, 2015 at the age of 96. She was born on June 9, 1918 in Belding, Michigan with the beautiful Irish name of Dymuna Amata Byrnes and grew up on a farm with eight brothers and sisters. In 1940, she married James Hill from Lowell, Michigan and started a family of her own. Eventually, they settled in southeastern Michigan. After many years together in Wayne, James passed away. In 1990, Dee married Thomas Brown, a very popular Westland mayor and State Representative.

Dee, who also had the nickname "Dimples", was well known for her sparkling blue eyes, endless energy and zest for life. She loved words, music, gardening and was a devoted Detroit Tigers fan. Dee always looked forward to going to the casino or playing cards with her family. At 96 years old, she still lived independently, drove her own car and surfed the Internet.

Dee will always be remembered with love by friends and family. She is survived by her beloved children, Thomas Hill (Karen), William Hill (Susan), Gerald Hill (Sharon) and Linda Hill-Lindsay (Joe) as well as nine cherished grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren. In accordance with her wishes, no funeral is planned. A Mass will be held in her honor at St. Mary's Church in Wayne on Friday, April 10 at 10:30 a.m. An informal Celebration of Life will follow at 11:30 a.m. in Haney Hall at the adjacent St. Mary's School.



### LOUVIERE, JR., LEVIS JOSEPH "JAY"

Born January 11, 1929; passed 8:35 p.m., March 14, 2015. Born and raised in Port Arthur, Texas, Jay was an outstanding student and high school Texas State Latin Champion. He began attending the love of his post-secondary educational career, Texas A&M University, at the age of 16, later transferring to Rice University, from which he graduated in 1951. He could be heard screaming "Gig 'em, Aggies!" at the television whenever an A&M game was on. If the Aggies weren't playing, a University of Texas game would do as a substitute, when "Hook 'em, Horns!" would be the battle cry. A not-so-promising baseball career was cut short during his college years when, while playing catcher, he and the pitcher collided while attempting to field a foul ball. Jay left his top four front teeth in the pitcher's forehead, but the upper plate he ended up with as a result could be removed on occasion for practical jokes, often around Halloween, and usually accompanied by a pirate-like "Arrrrrr!" He met the love of his life, Mary Matilda "Tootsie" Domico, in 1947 on a blind date arranged by his soon-to-be brother-in-law, Basil Coats, who was her classmate in nurses' training. Not initially charmed by the Naval ROTC cadet, and having a hole burned in her stocking by Jay's cigarette, Tootsie continued to date Jay, who was hopelessly smitten with her. Tootsie was soon diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis and bedridden shortly thereafter, but Jay would make the two-hour drive from Port Arthur to Alexandria, Louisiana, most weekends to see her during her seven-year illness, and told her, "Babe, when you get well, we're gettin' married." They walked down the aisle in 1955, and had their sons Tony in 1958, and Thad in 1961. Tootsie passed on August 3, 2012. Jay was assigned as a gunnery officer to the destroyer U.S.S. Shelton, DD-790, during the Korean Conflict, where he was known by his nickname "Frenchy". On February 22, 1952, while shelling the coast, the fire director he was commanding was hit by 210mm mortar fire from shore, and he took shrapnel across his forehead, for which he was awarded the Purple Heart. His father, Levis Sr., commented "Thank God he got hit in the head. If it would have been anywhere else, it would have killed him." He recovered from his injury and returned to his ship, completed his tour of duty, and was discharged May 31, 1954. He began his career in plumbing products sales as a representative of American Standard, for whom he worked for 20 years, then for distributors

in the northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan areas, and moved to life insurance and investing, retiring from professional life in 1991. A lifelong Catholic, Jay was active in the parishes of the churches where he attended Mass, often ushering, distributing communion, or lecturing, and was a member of the Knights of Columbus while in parishes in Sylvania and Maumee, Ohio. While living in Dexter Township, Michigan, Jay became aware that he had a problem with alcohol, and began attending meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous. After a brief amount of "research", he sobered permanently in February of 1993, and soon became a founding member of new meetings in the Dexter area, and later in Bella Vista, Arkansas, where he carried the moniker "Mr. Compassion" for his brusque counsel to new and returning members. Jay moved from his home on Kirkcaldy Lane in Bella Vista to the Concordia community there, where he became known as "The Cookie Man" for his high-volume production of cookies and scones, which he freely and happily distributed to all. He realized that living on his own was becoming too great of a challenge, and proposed moving in with his son Tony and wife Loretta, who lovingly welcomed him into their home in upstate New York in late January. It wasn't possible to be a stranger to Jay. His gregariousness and humor were irresistible attractants, and his pithy observations, some original and some passed along from others, known as "Jayisms", were legendary, some examples being: "I'm gonna be on you like a rooster on a Junebug"; "He was grinnin' like a 'possum eatin' yellowjackets"; "I'm off like a prom dress"; "He had a grin like a wave on a slop jar"; and many too colorful to be recorded here. Jay is survived by his sons Jude Anthony "Tony" Louviere and Thaddeus Louviere; daughters-in-law Loretta and Miel Louviere; grandchildren Michelle, Michael, Andre, and Lydia Louviere; great-grandson Alex Louviere; sisters Helen Wojcik and Gertrude Coats; and his dozens of lifelong friends, who will miss him fiercely. A memorial service will be held in the Bella Vista, Arkansas area in June, with specific time, date and location to be announced. The family can be contacted at jalouviere@gmail.com and papathad@sonic.net, or at 607.533.1007 and 707.778.8477. Donations in Jay's name can be made to your local Hospice organization.



### NITZ, ALICE MAE (NEE COWLES)

March 18, 2015. Age 77. Cherished wife of William for 57 years. Loving mother of Sandra (Tom) McKibbin and David (Toni) Nitz. Proud grandmother of Jennifer (Bill) Thrumman, Laura (Brian) Webster, Christopher McKenzie, Amanda Nitz, and Alaina Nitz; and great-grandmother of MaKayla Thrumman and the late MacKenzie Shyann. Also survived by dear sister Carolyn Dix. Visitation today 3-8 p.m. and Monday 10 a.m. until time of Funeral Service 11 a.m., at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 Six Mile Rd. in Livonia.

Hany J Will Funeral Homes



### ORR, CLIFFORD RAY

March 13, 2015, age 81 of Westland. Beloved husband of Ethel. Loving father of Jeff (Mary Jo) Orr and Diane Robertson. Proud grandfather of Stephanie, Brad and Kelly Orr, Kaitlyn and Kyle Robertson. Funeral Service held at Westland Free Methodist Church arranged by Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home in Westland. Clifford was an outstanding athlete who enjoyed hunting and fishing at his cabin in Northern Michigan. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfh.com



### ZGLINIEC, LAWRENCE J., M.D.

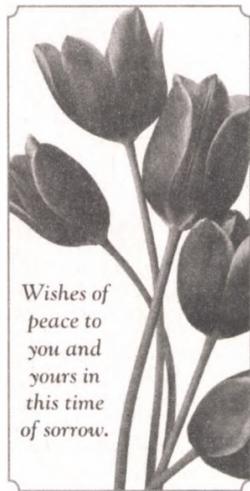
March 13, 2015, age 72. Devoted husband of Cheryl for 44 years. Loving father of Sarah and Jason. Proud grandfather of Harry. Dear brother of Robert (Julia). Services were held Monday, March 16th at St. Benedict Church in Waterford. Memorial tributes to American Heart Association or charity of donor's choice. A.J. Desmond & Sons, 248-549-0500. View obituary and share memories at DesmondFuneralHome.com

AT DESMOND SONS

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Wishes of peace and yours in this time of sorrow.

## Awareness times increase our knowledge of social causes

To be aware of something is the necessary first step in knowing something which can lead to change for the better. Ignorance is the lack of awareness, i.e., lack of knowledge about something. Some have said, "Ignorance is bliss" or "The less I know about something the better." I think most agree that these lines of thought do not lead to favorable changes in anything.

When a cause or an interest develops, there is a way to identify that entity (most often a medical malady), and bring it to the attention of the masses. The concept here is called "awareness times." One may apply to our state or federal legislature to request a specific time period (usually a day or a week or a month) be proclaimed as an awareness period.

This month of March 2015



has many specific days, weeks, or the entire month designated as an awareness time. Some are: American Red Cross Month, Epilepsy Month, Brain Injury Awareness Month, Cerebral Palsy Awareness Month, and Problem Gambling Awareness Month.

Awareness weeks have been declared legislatively during March. They include Pharmacy Awareness Week and Choir Therapy Awareness Week during the first week and Crisis Line Awareness Week during the third week, and so forth.

Some awareness days have been registered as: World

Glaucoma Awareness Day, March 12, Down Syndrome Awareness Day, and World Tuberculosis Day, both on March 24, and the list goes on.

The designation of awareness times is important because they help expand our knowledge, understanding, and support of individuals or social causes. Awareness times help provide resources, research, and lead to the creation of support groups. For some non-profit charities, the awareness designations coincide with raising monetary funds.

### Designating a time

Pursuing an awareness time is not as difficult as one might think. You see, elected officials such as state representatives, senators, governors, and members of the U.S. Congress work on these issues a great deal. They want to help their constitu-

ents by passing resolutions, proclamations, and designations of awareness times. It is a "win-win" situation for them to have their names attached to causes which ultimately benefit a large number of citizens.

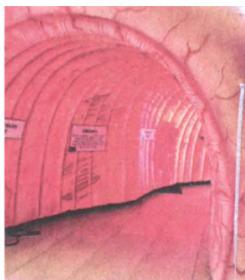
Recently, Feb. 28 came and went. That date is called Rare Disease Awareness Day, worldwide each year. Feb. 28 is especially important because it champions the causes of many individuals affected with rare and neglected disorders. Some of these are also sometimes referred to as orphan diseases. These conditions are said to be so rare that they do not get the amount of awareness and research funding as do more common entities such as, diabetes and cancer. However, did you know there are at least 7,000 separate rare diseases? Due to lack of awareness, these disorders often go undi-

agnosed and untreated. Most often they are attributed to a genetic abnormality. Feb. 28 shines a spotlight, or for some a flashlight, on rare disorders in order to raise our awareness of thousands of devastating, rarely mentioned disorders.

So, with greater awareness comes greater knowledge. I suggest that these two ingredients plus hope increase the odds of changes for the better among the numerous rare and nonrare disorders which make up the human condition.

**Len McCulloch** is a diplomate of the American Psychotherapy Association. He is credentialed in mental health, addictions, trauma, brain injury, and social work. More than 200 publications of his monthly column "Our Mental Health" are archived at [www.farmlib.com](http://www.farmlib.com). McCulloch can be reached for consultation at 248-474-2963, Ext. 22.

## MEDICAL DATEBOOK



SUBMITTED

Walk through an inflatable colon display at an educational event on colon cancer, Tuesday, March 31, at St. Mary Mercy Livonia.

### Big colon

In recognition of National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, St. Mary Mercy Livonia and the American Cancer Society have teamed up to hold an educational event on colon cancer, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 31 in the south lobby at the hospital, Five Mile and Livonia.

and open to the public. The event includes a 20-foot-long inflatable "super colon" display which visitors may walk through and see the progression of colon disease. Hospital cancer services staff will be on hand to answer questions. [stmarymercy.org](http://stmarymercy.org)

### Blood drive

Garden City Hospital will host an American Red Cross Blood Drive, 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, March 26, in Classrooms 1-4 in the Allen Breakie Medical Office Building, located on the hospital campus, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. Call 734-458-4259 to schedule an appointment. Walk-ins are welcome.

### Celiac support

Kelly Dorfman, an expert on using nutrition therapeutically to improve brain function, energy and mood, will speak at the next meeting of the Tri County

p.m. Monday, March 30, at the First Presbyterian Church, 26165 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. Her topic will be "Beyond Celiac: When Removing Gluten Is Not Enough." [tccsg.net](http://tccsg.net)

### Colorectal cancer awareness

Tadd Hiatt, M.D., a gastroenterologist from the University of Michigan Health Center, will present a program for National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 25, in Rooms B and C, at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, Livonia. The program is free. For more information, call 734-466-2490.

### Dementia

Oakwood Healthcare will sponsor a free program about managing symptoms, treatment and physical therapy of dementia from 6-8 p.m. April 15 at Oakwood Hospital, Wayne, 23155 An-

Oakwood physicians will lead the free program. Valet parking will be available at no charge at the West Entrance and a complimentary light dinner will be served. The session is expected to fill fast. Early registration is recommended. Call 800-543-9355 or visit [Oakwood.org](http://Oakwood.org).

### Diabetes management

Link Up with Diabetes, a Garden City Hospital support group with a focus on living a healthy lifestyle, will focus on Internet health literacy, 2 p.m. April 1, at Westland Shopping Center, 35000 W. Warren Road, Westland. For more information, call the hospital at 734-458-4330.

### Healthy veins

Marshall Medley, D.O., will talk about the symptoms, complications and treatment of venous

disease and wound care, 1-2 p.m. Saturday, March 28, in the east court at Westland Shopping Center, 35000 W. Warren Road, Westland. Call 734-458-4330.

### Health fair

Oakwood Healthcare and the Michigan Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (MAPI), along with the Hindu Temple of Canton, will host a free diagnostic blood screening, 9 a.m. to noon, April 12 at the Hindu Temple of Canton, 44955 Cherry Hill Road in Canton. Although all tests are free, a \$10 cash deposit is required and will be returned when participants pick up their results on April 26. The first 250 people who register will get the test. Registration is required; walk-ins will not be accepted. To register before the March 31 deadline, go to the Hindu

Temple of Canton or visit [www.mapiusa.org](http://www.mapiusa.org).

### Hearing loss

The Hearing Loss Association of American will focus on the topic, "What is aural rehabilitation and how will it help with my hearing loss?" 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, April 8, at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. Contact Tony at 734-664-3297, [afcrack@comcast.net](mailto:afcrack@comcast.net).

### Muscle walk

The Muscular Dystrophy Association presents its annual Muscle Walk, 11 a.m. March 28, at Ford Field in downtown Detroit. The event brings together families and friends of those battling muscle disease with donors and sponsors for games, food and a victory lap. To register, visit [musclewalkmda.org/detroit](http://musclewalkmda.org/detroit) or call 734-416-7076.



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10:00 - 11:00 a.m. - Thursday, April 2, 2015

### Story Time & Craft with Your Toddler

10:00 - 11:00 a.m. - Friday, April 24, 2015

Registration is required. Please call the school to register over the phone. 734-464-2789



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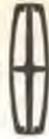
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