



FANS CATCH PRICELESS SOUVENIRS
SPORTS, B1

Canton street repairs moving ahead

Residents must share in cost

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Residents facing street repair costs topping \$1.4 million for two neighborhoods now have a better idea of their

share of the price tag, after Canton officials revealed more precise figures.

Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said 155 property owners in the Wethersfield condominium complex, southwest of Palmer and Haggerty, are facing asphalt repairs totaling \$846,473 – or \$5,461 each – to fix streets that resident Betty Gagneau said “are

simply falling apart.”

Faas said 126 homeowners in Lexington Square, a subdivision southeast of Cherry Hill and Sheldon, are looking at concrete repairs totaling \$592,000, or \$4,702 each, for work that resident Dave Vogeweide has said “desperately needs to be done.”

The latest costs marked an increase over preliminary

estimates from mid-May, yet none of the 40-45 residents voiced opposition Tuesday evening as they had their final say during a public hearing before the Canton Township Board of Trustees.

Faas said the street repairs are expected to start sometime in August and be completed this construction season, signaling a much-needed fix to

crumbling streets that prompted property owners to petition the township for the work.

Supervisor Phil LaJoy said streets in Lexington Square, built in 1989-90, had deteriorated and convinced Canton to move forward with creating a special assessment district to pay for repairs. He said Weth-

See REPAIRS, Page A3

Library kicks off annual summer reading program



Mom and daughter work on a bookmark at the Canton Public Library's Connect Your Summer program Monday.

Children and adults can participate in variety of reading adventures

Nearly 2,900 people flooded through the doors of the Canton Public Library to sign up Monday for the third annual Connect Your Summer program and check out materials to get started on summer reading.

Library-goers enjoyed a photo-booth, played Giant Scrabble, sat for a blood pressure check from Walgreens, attended a bike safety program with experts from Canton Public Safety and the Trading Post, created bookmarks, munched on some cookies and learned all about the summer program.

Library users of all ages can participate in Connect Your Summer, which rewards patrons for reading, attending library programs or completing activities, with one of 12 badges. Every badge earned increases a patron's chance at prizes; badges may be earned multiple times.

Throughout the summer, the library offers entertaining and educational programs, including a writing seminar for teens, seed and plant exchange, Monday Movie Madness, a drawing contest, Zombie Survival Boot Camp and many others. There is at least one program scheduled every day during Connect Your Summer, which ends Aug. 17 with a big outdoor party.

Participants may join the program any time before Aug. 16 by logging into MyAccount to claim badges, share their experiences and view programs and activities. Also, the library is using Pinterest to share reading and activity ideas.

For more information, visit www.cantonpl.org/connect-your-summer or ask any library staff member. The Canton Public Library is located at 1200 Canton Center.



Participants on the first day of the Canton Public Library's summer reading program had fun with the giant Scrabble game.

Canton Grub Crawl offers deals for meals

Annual event to draw hundreds of patrons

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Imagine paying just \$35 for an opportunity to dine at 16 restaurants.

The price tag amounts to just over \$2 per eatery – not a bad deal, right?

That's the offer for hundreds of food lovers as the Canton Chamber of Commerce rolls out its 12th annual Grub Crawl, 6-10 p.m. Tuesday, July 16.

Deana Brotherton, manager of 4 Friends Bar & Grill on Warren near Sheldon, said the popular neighborhood spot has signed on for the chamber event, also hosted by Canton Township and its Downtown Development Authority.

"It's a wonderful opportunity to get new people to come to the restaurant," Brotherton said. "They can come in, look over the menu, taste the food and enjoy the camaraderie of it all. It's a wonderful thing the chamber does. It's a hoot."

Grub Crawl patrons wear a special T-shirt that serves as their admission to the 16 restaurants. They can ride shuttles that make the rounds to the restaurants or drive themselves. Some groups have been known to rent limos.

To sign up, call the chamber at 734-453-4040, stop by the office at 45525 Hanford west of Canton Center, or go to www.cantonchamber.com to print out an order form and drop it off at the chamber office.

Organizers say Grub Crawl is a mouth-watering deal for food connoisseurs, age 21 and older, or those simply looking to try new restaurants without depleting their pocketbooks.

"Last year, we actually sold 600 tickets," chamber President Thomas Paden said.

See CRAWL, Page A3

Canton child predator case heads to trial

Suspect accused of soliciting sex with mother and 3-year-old daughter

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Barring a last deal, a 34-year-old man accused of trying to have sex with a Canton woman and her 3-year-old

daughter has been scheduled for trial in August in Wayne County Circuit Court.

Jesse Hermann of Walled Lake could face 20 years in prison if he is convicted of two counts each of child sexually



Hermann

abusive activity and using a computer and the Internet to communicate with the girl's mother to commit a crime.

Hermann, a former truck driver and self-employed artist, has been jailed with a \$100,000 cash

bond as he awaits the outcome of his case. A Wayne County Jail spokesman said Hermann remained jailed late in the week.

Hermann is facing trial Aug. 13 after Canton authorities say he befriended a Canton woman through Facebook instant messages and arranged to meet her and her daughter Feb. 13 at the Holiday Inn

Express near Lotz Road and Michigan Avenue. Police arrested him near the scene.

The girl's mother had contacted authorities, prompting an investigation that led to an online conversation between Hermann and Canton police posing as the mother, police have said.

See PREDATOR, Page A2



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INDEX

Crossword Puzzle	C3	Jobs	C1	Services	C2
Health	B9	Life	B5	Sports	B1
Homes	C2	Obituaries	B8	Wheels	C4

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District expects to OK '13-14 budget, add to fund balance

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

When Plymouth-Canton Board of Education trustees gather Tuesday to adopt the district's 2013-14 budget, they'll be looking at a balanced budget that actually adds nearly \$45,000 to the fund balance.

Executive Director of Business Services Brodie Killian told board members last week the proposed budget has some \$2 million in additional revenue from original projections and some \$334,000 fewer expenses. The district is expecting some \$150 million in revenue.

The budget is required to be passed by June 30.

Killian noted the budget would be bal-

What: Plymouth-Canton Board of Education meeting
When: 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 25
Where: E.J. McClendon Educational Building, 454 S. Harvey, in Plymouth

anced without having to dip into the fund balance (commonly referred to as the "rainy day" fund). He said there were several factors that contributed to that success.

School aid funding, he said, would be going up a net of some \$48 per student after adjustments, while the district would benefit from another \$52 per student for meeting seven of eight best practice categories set forth by the state and another \$70 in student

performance bonuses.

"We're seeing some positive factors in school aid funding," Killian said.

Based on a new formula for determining school funding and the student count, Plymouth-Canton is projecting to lose some 345 students, although Killian said he expects that to be offset to some degree by a positive influx of students in the district's alternative education program.

The loss of students led to some of the more dramatic cuts in expenses for the district, which sliced 12 teachers out of its elementary school ranks and another three more at the middle school level. Those losses will be offset, at least in part,

by the addition of a middle school world languages teacher. The district will also add four teachers at the high school level to deal with a huge waiting list for the district's new Science, Technology, Engineering and Math academy.

The district has also added a dean at the Starkweather school and some additional staffing to help get started on the new 1:1 technology program, Killian pointed out.

Killian also had praise for the teachers and other unions, pointing out concessions from the Plymouth-Canton Education Association and other unions helped reduce expenses significantly.

In the end, Killian said, the district did what it needed to do for its budget.

"By state law we are required to pass a balanced budget," he said. "Through the hard work of the board and the administration, we were able to get to a balanced budget without the use of our fund balance."

Local family named Salvation Army's top volunteers

The Salvation Army Eastern Michigan Division recently presented its 2013 Volunteer of the Year Awards, and a local couple nabbed one of the big ones.

Canton residents Greg and Jean Stachura, who volunteer with the Salvation Army Plymouth Corps, were named the division's Family Volunteer of the Year.

The Stachuras were recognized for their help on several projects.

"They've helped with the annual National Letter Carriers Food drive for the past several years."

The owners of a trucking company, the Stachuras donated the use of two trucks the last two years of the program, during which postal carriers collect food donations left near the mailboxes of residents along their routes.

Greg Stachura also provided the manpower to both drive and unload the trucks.

"Jean Stachura is the co-coordinator for scheduled volunteers to count the money donated at kettle locations around the corps' service area during the annual Red Kettle Campaign, which runs from November through Christmas Eve every year."

Stachura is one of the best of volunteers who works six days a week during the campaign.

"They help, along with friends and members of their church, to box food baskets for the corps' annual Thanksgiving support program."

Jean Stachura is on the corps' Advisory Board (she's a past chair of that board) and is the corps' representative to the Metropolitan Detroit Advisory Board.

PREDATOR

Continued from Page A1

Canton Detective Andrew Kelley testified during a preliminary hearing in May in 35th District Court that police waited in an unmarked car for Hermann to arrive in Canton, then arrested him as he drove away.

Kelley said Hermann told him that he left because he "had a really bad feeling" about the situation.

Defense attorney David Cripps has argued in court that Hermann abandoned his plans and shouldn't be punished for thoughts or fantasies he didn't carry out.

However, Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Keith Calk said Hermann committed

crimes from the moment he began communicating online with the mother and asking if he could have sex with her and the 3-year-old girl.

Clark said authorities "don't have to wait" for a sexual assault to occur for a defendant to face charges.

Clark has said in court that Hermann made statements that he has long had a desire to act out the situations he described on Facebook, revealing how he wanted to kiss, fondle and have sexual contact with the mother and her daughter.

Kelley has testified that Hermann confessed that "his intention was to have sexual relations with the mother and her 3-year-old daughter."

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Enjoying a past Canton Grub Crawl were (clockwise, from left) Becky Blackburn, Jessica Roland, Holly Schumde, Alaska Peck, Liz Gurgel, Wendi Southwick and Yvonne Lawson. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



CRAWL

Continued from Page A1

"That's what we're shooting for this year. It's a benefit for the restaurants because it's an event where they can showcase their specialty items to the rest of the community. If people like it, they might come back. It's a great deal and it's a great night out."

Rose's Restaurant, an

Italian eatery northwest of Canton Center and Cherry Hill, has participated in Grub Crawl since the beginning.

"It's a good, community-based event and people come in and laugh and enjoy the food," Rose's co-owner Richard Costantino said. "It's always good to get your food out to new people to taste it and people who have been coming here for years bring some friends. People of Canton

are pretty loyal customers and we see new faces every year."

Other than 4 Friends and Rose's, other participants this year include Bailey's Pub & Grille, bd's Mongolian Grill, Buffalo Wild Wings, Carabba's Italian Grill, Carvell Ice Cream, Crow's Nest, Chili's, Hayden's, Olga's Kitchen, Szechuan Restaurant, TC Gators, T.G.I. Friday's and Vintner's Canton Winery. Vintner's will

share its space with Twisted Rooster of Belleville.

Major sponsors for this year's Grub Crawl are Atchinson Ford Sales Inc., Conrad Insurance Agency, Jack Demmer Ford, Republic Services, Schoolcraft College and the Tammy Brown Agency for Farm Bureau Insurance.

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REPAIRS

Continued from Page A1

ersfield, constructed in 1995, faced a similar situation.

Faas said residents may choose to pay their tab in full by mid-August or have it placed on their next winter taxes. Property owners also may opt to pay over a 10-year period, though they will face interest rates totaling 4 percent to 5 percent.

In another decision to support the projects, the township board voted Tuesday to hire Hartwell Cement Co. for the work at Lexington Square, while Cadillac Asphalt LLC was chosen as the contractor for Wethersfield.

Faas has said Lexington Square repairs are to include replacing portions of streets and patching of other areas. He has said work in Wethersfield involves a complete replacement of streets.

In other action Tuesday, the board:

» Approved \$350,969 in Community Development Block Grant projects, with the largest projects involving \$118,131 for Americans with Disabilities Act projects and \$110,000 for housing rehabilitation efforts.

» Gave thumbs up for a special land use to

accommodate an expansion of the parking lot and, eventually, the building at St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church, southeast of Cherry Hill and Lilley.

» Approved a new five-year contract with Canton's assessor, Wayne County Assessing LLC.

» Gave final site plan approval for the first phase of the Corners at Cherry Hill Village, allowing 50 of the proposed 96 new homes. Howard Fingerroot, representing Pinacle Homes, said the site condominiums are expected to bring sale prices starting in the high \$200,000 mark, with many topping \$300,000 depending on amenities chosen by buyers.

» Approved a site plan for a new auto service and small shopping center on the northeast corner of Michigan Avenue and Lilley.

» Agreed to buy 10 Tasers for the Canton Police Department using drug forfeiture money totaling \$12,500.

» Approved a special land use request for a commercial kennel, All American Pet Resorts, on an existing parcel southeast of Haggerty and Koppernick.

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Burger students celebrate summer with fun-filled carnival

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

Not one, but nine ELMOs are coming to the Burger Center for Students with Autism, thanks to a donation from the Noella and Jack Russo Foundation.

Noella Russo and members of her family were at the Garden City school earlier this month to attend a summer carnival her late husband Jack started years ago. She also brought along nine ELMO visual presenter systems that will augment several ELMOs the school already has.

The staff and students also got good news from Larry Berman, Jack Russo's friend and business partner, who also made a commitment to the program.

"It was a lovely day, seeing the family members and the outpouring of support," said teacher Colleen Polin, who helps plan the school's winter and summer carnivals. "It shows their belief in us as a program and in our providing a good educational program and memories that will last a lifetime for our students."

Themed as "A Day in the Park," students munched on popcorn and snow cones and enjoyed a barbecue lunch complete with hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, a beverage and ice cream Dippin Dots. They tried their hand at activities like a water table play, Skee Ball, sidewalk drawing, whipped cream pie toss, watermelon roll and sack relay race.

There were special appearances by Thomas the Train, Smiggins the Clown-Face, who did face painting, the Balloon

Balloon and Farmer Dave and his animals. DJ Tullio from 98.6 radio donated his time and talent to present music for "Dancin' in the Streets." A teaching assistant at the school and his father provided the audio equipment, Polin said.

And playing off the park thing, the call of "play ball" was heard at junior varsity and varsity baseball games.

"Joy can't be measured with these kids, but with the help of the Russo and Berman families, we were able to provide wonderful activities on behalf of the kids," Polin said.

Staff and students also took time to launch 23 balloons, including a special one for Jack Russo, to recognize the 23 years the Russos have been involved in the Burger program.

Jack Russo learned about Burger Center during a trip to his barber. The conversation led to his involvement with the school where he helped raise funds for a playscape, basketball court, reflective garden, science room and a host of other amenities that otherwise wouldn't have been possible without the family's support and guidance, Polin said.

They also set up the Noella and Jack Russo Family Foundation last year to continue support of the center.

The school held a special program in December to honor Jack Russo, who died last October. At the time, they presented the Russo family with a tree to plant in Jack Russo's name.

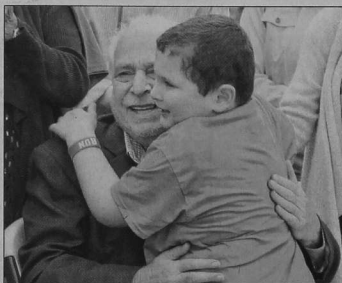
Noella Russo brought photographs of the tree to show that it has been "planted in a prominent place at their home," Polin said.

Polin added that the carnivals were a favorite of Jack Russo, who would walk around and ask his wife, "Isn't this the best?"

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Vincenza Vitale of Woodhaven grabs some lunch. He's proud of his "Fish Man" face painting, which he designed himself. ALL PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Andre Galagarza of Garden City read a speech, then thanked Larry Berman, whose donation made the day possible.

Teacher Donna Miller is retiring after 37 years, so this washer last Berger School gathering. She lives in Farmington Hills.



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CITY OF PLYMOUTH
ORDINANCE #2013-02

Division III shall be added to Article V of Code of Ordinances, Chapter 54 - Offenses And Miscellaneous Provisions, which shall take effect ten (10) days after the final passage thereof, and read as follows:

Sec. 54-1 - Sale or use of fireworks.

Definitions:

As used in this Ordinance:

Act means the Michigan Fireworks Safety Act, MCL 28.451 et seq., as that statute may be amended from time to time, which is hereby adopted by reference as part of the ordinance from which this section derives.

Agricultural and wildlife fireworks means fireworks devices distributed to farmers, ranchers, and growers through a wildlife management program administered by the United States Department of the Interior or the department of natural resources of this state.

Articles pyrotechnic means pyrotechnic devices for professional use that are similar to consumer fireworks in chemical composition and construction but not intended for consumer use, that meet the weight limits for consumer fireworks but are not labeled as such, and that are classified as UN0431 or UN0432 under 49 CFR 172.101.

Consumer fireworks means fireworks devices that are designed to produce visible effects by combustion, that are required to comply with the construction, chemical composition, and labeling regulations promulgated by the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission under 16 CFR parts 1500 and 1507, and that are listed in AFA standard 87-1, 3.1.2, 3.1.3, or 3.1.5. Consumer fireworks does not include low-impact fireworks.

Display fireworks means large fireworks devices that are explosive materials intended for use in fireworks displays and designed to produce visible or audible effects by combustion, deflagration, or detonation, as provided in 27 CFR 556.11, 49 CFR 172, and AFA standard 87-1, 4.1.

Firework or fireworks means any composition or device, except for a starting pistol, a flare gun, or a flare, designed for the purpose of producing a visible or audible effect by combustion, deflagration, or detonation. Fireworks consist of consumer fireworks, low-impact fireworks, articles pyrotechnic, display fireworks, and special effects.

Low-impact fireworks means ground and handheld sparking devices that as phrase is defined under AFA standard 87-1, 3.1, 3.1.1 to 3.1.1.8, and 3.5.

Noisemakers means that term as defined under AFA standard 87-1, 3.2, 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.2.3, 3.2.4, and 3.2.5 and all of the following:

- (1) Toy plastic or paper caps for toy pistols in sheets, strips, rolls, or individual caps containing not more than .25 of a grain of explosive content per cap, in packages labeled to indicate the maximum explosive content per cap.
- (2) Toy pistols, toy cannons, toy cazoos, toy trick noisemakers, and toy guns in which toy caps as described in subparagraph (1) are used, that are constructed so that the hand cannot come in contact with the cap when in place for the explosion, and that are not designed to break apart or be separated so as to form a missile by the explosion.
- (3) Flitter sparklers in paper tubes not exceeding one-eighth-inch in diameter.
- (4) Toy snakes not containing mercury, if packed in cardboard boxes with not more than 12 pieces per box for retail sale, and if the manufacturer's name and the quantity contained in each box are printed on the box; and toy smoke devices.

Special effects means a combination of chemical elements or chemical compounds capable of burning independently of the oxygen of the atmosphere and designed and intended to produce an audible, visual, mechanical, or thermal effect as an integral part of a motion picture, radio, television, theatrical, or opera production or live entertainment.

Sec. 54-2 - Use of consumer fireworks prohibited.

- (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to ignite, discharge or use consumer fireworks, as such term is defined in section 54-1 except for the use of consumer fireworks on the day preceding, the day of, or the day after the following national holidays in accordance with the listed prohibited hours of use:

Holiday	Prohibited Hours of Use
New Year's Day, January 1	12:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, the third Monday in January	12:00 Midnight - 8:00 a.m.
Washington's Birthday, the third Monday in February	12:00 Midnight - 8:00 a.m.
Memorial Day, the last Monday in May	12:00 Midnight - 8:00 a.m.
Independence Day, July 4	12:00 Midnight - 8:00 a.m.
Labor Day, the first Monday in September	12:00 Midnight - 8:00 a.m.
Columbus Day, the second Monday in October	12:00 Midnight - 8:00 a.m.
Veterans Day, November 11	12:00 Midnight - 8:00 a.m.
Thanksgiving Day, the fourth Thursday in November	12:00 Midnight - 8:00 a.m.
Christmas Day, December 25	12:00 Midnight - 8:00 a.m.

- (b) A person shall not ignite, discharge, or use consumer fireworks on public property, school property, church property, or the property of another person without that organization's or person's express permission to use those fireworks on those premises. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a person who violates this subsection is responsible for a civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than \$500.00.
- (c) Consumer fireworks shall not be ignited, discharged or used by a person under the influence of alcoholic liquor or controlled substance or a combination of both.
- (d) Low-impact fireworks shall not be ignited, discharged or used by a person under the influence of alcoholic liquor or controlled substance or a combination of both.
- (e) Unmanned free-floating devices. Any unmanned free-floating device (sky lantern) which requires fire underneath to propel it and is not moored to the ground while aloft, have an uncontrolled and unpredictable flight path and descent area so as to pose a potential fire risk and are therefore prohibited.
- (f) Novelties. This section does not apply to novelties.
- (g) No person shall recklessly endanger the life, health, safety, or well-being of any person by the ignition, discharge, or use of consumer fireworks.
- (h) If a police officer determines that a violation of this ordinance has occurred, the officer may seize the consumer fireworks as evidence of the violation.
- (i) Unless otherwise provided in this section, if a person knowingly, intentionally, or recklessly violates this section, the person is guilty of a crime as follows:
 - (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 30 days or a fine of not more than \$500.00, or both.
 - (2) If the violation causes damage to the property of another person, a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not more than \$500.00, or both.

Sec. 54-3 - Display and articles pyrotechnic fireworks.

- (a) Pursuant to MCL 28.451 et seq., (the "Act") the city may grant a permit, upon application in writing on forms provided by the department of licensing and regulatory affairs, for the use of the following:
 - Agricultural or wildlife fireworks (as defined in the Act);
 - Articles pyrotechnic;
 - Display fireworks; or
 - Special effects manufactured for outdoor pest control.
- (b) Such a permit granted by the city shall be subject to payment of a fee to the city, and shall be for either public or private displays within the city by the city, fair associations, amusement parks, or other organizations or individuals approved by the city, as long as the applicable conditions and requirements of the Act are complied with.
- (c) Before a permit for display fireworks or articles pyrotechnic firework ignition is granted, the person, firm, or corporation applying for the permit shall furnish proof of financial responsibility by a bond or insurance in an amount, character, and form deemed necessary by the city to satisfy claims for damages to property or personal injuries out of an act or omission on the part of the person, firm, or corporation or an agent or employee of the person, firm, or corporation, and to protect the public.
- (d) The city shall not approve or otherwise grant a permit for display fireworks or pyrotechnic fireworks ignition to a nonresident person, firm, or corporation until the person, firm, or corporation has appointed in writing a resident member of the bar of this state or a resident agent to be the legal representative upon whom all process in an action or proceeding against the person, firm, or corporation may be served.
- (e) Pursuant to the Act, the city shall rule on the competency and qualification of articles pyrotechnic and display fireworks operators as required under NFPA 1123, as the operator has furnished in his or her application form, and on the time, place, and safety aspects of the display of articles pyrotechnic or display fireworks before granting permits.

DANIEL DWYER,
MAYOR

LINDA LANGMESSER,
CITY CLERK

Published: June 23, 2013

401-979-5000

Farmers Market scoring record crowd numbers

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

After shattering a one-day record by drawing more than 1,000 people for the season's first Canton Farmers Market in May, hundreds of patrons shopping for produce and Michigan-made products have continued to swarm the site on Canton's far west side.

Market manager Tina Lloyd is expecting another large crowd from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, as farmers begin hauling larger supplies of fresh produce to the market, at Preservation Park on Ridge north of Cherry Hill.

"After a month of cooler temps that slowed down the produce, it's finally starting to roll in," Lloyd said.

Farmers are set to sell sugar snap peas, turnips, scallions, garlic scapes, leeks, kale, strawberries and other homegrown foods. One popular vendor, Ida-based Parn's Greenhouse & Farm, joins this season's lineup



Canton Farmers Market returns 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday to Preservation Park.

Sunday, Lloyd said.

Among the highlights of Sunday's market:

- » Learn why to replace white rice for healthier grains as chef Kristi Zebrowski offers tips on what grains to look for, the health benefits and cooking guides. It happens from 10:30 a.m. to noon.
- » Master gardeners will be on hand for demonstrations and to answer questions.
- » New vendors include Woolsey's Wonders, selling items such as children's apparel; Lucid

Fields, for organic and wild-harvested herbal

salves; and Onyonet studios, offering photographs, note cards and greeting cards.

As usual, vendors also plan to sell a wide array of produce and plants; food such as farm eggs, jam, honey, Great Lakes fish and cheeses, mustards and fudge; and arts and crafts items such as jewelry, pottery and soap and skin care products.

dclcm@hometownlife.com
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Credit union hosts shred day

Community Financial Credit Union is encouraging its members and other consumers to recycle their sensitive financial documents and keep their identities safe at the same time.

Community Financial is hosting its annual "Shred It Day" event, 2-4:30 p.m. Saturday, June 29, at the Community Financial branches in Plymouth, located at 500 S. Hwy. 10 and Canton, at 6355 N. Canton Center. Local residents are encouraged to bring their sensitive materials to shred safely and securely.

There is a limit of two shopping bags or bankers boxes of materials per car at the event.

"More and more people are looking for ways to protect not just the environment, but also their identities from thieves," said Sarah Cousineau, marketing manager for Community Financial. "By providing a place to safely destroy and recycle their documents, we are helping them to accomplish both goals."

In recent years, Community Financial has continued to invest in environmentally respon-

sible banking options, including eStatements and eReceipts, which deliver transaction receipts and statements via email instead of paper; offering members online and mobile banking options; online bill pay (ePay), so members may pay their bills without writing checks or using stamps; and establishing an eClub for members who make transactions electronically.

More information is available on Community Financial's Facebook page at Facebook.com/CommunityFinancial.

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- **Runner-up:** 4 Toledo Zoo admission passes and a year's membership to the Toledo Zoo
- **Third Prize:** 4 Toledo Zoo admission passes

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One entry per person Official rules at hometownlife.com

Sponsored by the Observer & Eccentric Media and the Toledo Zoo.

Free concert kicks off Fourth of July festivities

Observer area residents planning a staycation for the Fourth of July holiday week are in for a hometown treat.

The holiday-week festivities begin Saturday, June 29, with a free concert in Plymouth's Kellogg Park featuring the Michigan Philharmonic.

Presented by the Plymouth Merchants Association in cooperation with the Wilcox Foundation, Observer & Eccentric Media and The Grand Traverse Pie Company, the free concert, "An American Salute," begins at 7:30 p.m. in downtown Plymouth.

Come early, bring a lawn chair or blanket and get ready to enjoy the outdoor pops concert. In addition, the first 500 concertgoers will receive a special coupon for a slice of pie courtesy of Grand Traverse Pie Company.

The Kellogg Park concert will feature patriotic favorites, the music of John Williams and John Philip Sousa, and The 1812 Overture by Peter Tchaikovsky, with its signature cannon blasts.

The Michigan Philharmonic, formerly the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra, was founded in 1945 and since 1999 has been directed by Nan Washburn.

On Wednesday, July 3, fireworks shows in Plymouth Township and Farmington Hills will light up the sky.

Plymouth Township presents a fireworks show in township park, at 46640 Ann Arbor Trail just east of Beck Road. Come early and stake out a spot for the show which begins at 10:15 p.m. The 80-acre park features walking paths, children's PlayScape area, fishing pond and



Plymouth's annual Good Morning U.S.A. parade will be one of the highlights of the Fourth of July holiday around Observerland. FILE PHOTO

dock.

The city of Farmington Hills will host a "F4ortyworks" Celebration 7-10 p.m.

Wednesday, July 3, at Founders Sports Park, 36000 W. Eight Mile, two miles east of I-275. Fireworks begin about 10 p.m. at the park.

The "F4ortyworks" Celebration will feature bouncers, games, food, and live music from Steve King and the Ditties.

Area residents can enjoy the Plymouth and Northville parades on Thursday, July 4.

The Northville Parade begins at 10 a.m. Thursday, July 4, at the corner of Griswold and Main Street in downtown Northville. The parade, which the Northville Community Foundation will be hosting for the 14th year, will feature dozens of floats, children's characters including Paws from the Detroit Tigers and Shooter from the Whalers, and numerous bands including the Plymouth Fife and Drum Band and the Northville High School Band. The festivities begin with the playing of the national anthem. St. Mary Mercy Hospital is the event

sponsor. For more information, visit northvillecommunityfoundation.com/parade.html.

Plymouth's annual Good Morning USA Fourth of July parade is set for a 9 a.m. start at the corner of Theodore and Main. The parade runs to Hartsoff. For more information, visit www.ci.mi.us.plymouth.org. The event is sponsored by the Plymouth Kiwanis Club.

After the parade, head over to Plymouth Township Park and The Good Ol' Fashioned picnic featuring food (for 5 cents), games and entertainment from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The fireworks show and picnic are sponsored by Plymouth Township and funded by private sponsors and donations.

Fireworks fans have another chance to view a local show on Sunday, July 7. The Westland Summer Festival fireworks start at approximately 10:15 p.m. at the festival site behind Westland City Hall at 36601 Ford Road, west of Wayne Road, Westland. For more information, visit www.westlandfestival.org. Events are sponsored by the Westland Festival Committee.

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FAMILY

Continued from Page A8

where they'd do their dating. A Kmart employee in New York at the time, Allen soon took advantage of an opening at Kmart headquarters in Troy and moved to Michigan. The couple married in May 2008.

Allen said he made the move to be near Shannon. She has a different take on the reason: "Destiny."

"He didn't have a choice," Shannon said, laughing. "I'd been praying for him for so long, that God finally wrapped him up, put a little bow on him and dropped him on my porch."

He acknowledges if Shannon had told him about the handicaps from the outset, those meetings might never have happened. As things played out, Allen didn't let it get in the way.

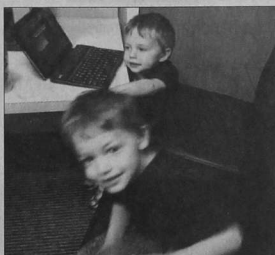
"By then I knew her and it just didn't bother

me," Allen said. "We got along really well. She sent me her picture and I said, 'Whoa, she's really pretty.' For us, what worked was taking the time getting to know each other. I knew there was something there "that was worth it."

It still is. The couple has two children — 4-year-old Noah and 2½-year-old Elijah — who keep stay-at-home-dad Allen's life busy. The decision to have the children was easy — they both wanted kids and they simply decided not to worry about whether Shannon would pass on her deformities to her children.

Deal with it

"We talked about it, and we thought if we did pass it on, who better to know how to handle it?" Shannon said. "Knowing bad things can happen, you have to decide if you're willing to do what it takes to deal with that. If you're not, then don't get pregnant. We made the decision."



Shannon DeWall didn't worry about passing her handicap to sons Noah (front) and Elijah. "Who better to handle it?" she asked.

Allen's life revolves pretty much around Shannon. Right now, Shannon's modified handicap van is out of commission, so Allen has to take her everywhere. He helps her into and out of the car and has to help her other times, as well.

When she was pregnant, for instance, it was

harder to navigate the stairs leading up to the bedroom, so Allen had to carry her. Sometimes, he admitted, it gets to him.

"I'd be lying if I said I don't have moments when I wonder why," he said. "Then I remember I have a pretty good life. I wouldn't have it any other way."

There are times when Shannon wonders "Why?" too, but days like the one she had just Wednesday set her straight. A student at Cooley Law School in Auburn Hills, Shannon was waiting for class after a particularly trying day and it was turning into one of those "Why?" days for her.

As she waited for class, a man approached her and introduced himself. "I just wanted to meet you," the man told her. "I wanted to tell you how impressed I am with you. You always seem to keep going and you always have a smile on your face. You inspire me."

It's moments like that that keep her going.

"That was exactly what I needed to hear at exactly the right moment," she said. "If I can show someone else some encouragement, some inspiration, that's God's mission for me."

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CHURCH

Continued from Page A8

dinner, beverage and dessert.

The event includes a silent auction, prizes and "fun for the family," organizers said. Donations have come from Plymouth, Canton, Livonia and Farmington for the silent auction.

Shannon needs the vehicle because she works full time as a genetics consultant and she's over to Cooley Law School in Auburn Hills. But the whole fundraising thing left the DeWalls humbled.

"I feel incredibly loved and valued," Shannon said. "I had no idea people would care so much. Everyone has some challenge, something to overcome. To think they'd put those challenges aside to help us is overwhelming."

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Pie-eating contest, Livonia Spree on tap for next week

By Karen Smith
Staff Writer

Kids, are you ready for a sweet time?

The Livonia Observer will hold its annual pie-eating contest for children ages 7-12 next week during Livonia Spree, the city's annual birthday bash.

The contest takes place at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Bright House Networks Tent at Ford Field, at Farmington and Lyndon roads. Livonia Spree opens at 4 p.m. Tuesday and runs through Sunday night.

The pie-eating contest is co-sponsored by the Observer, Blazo's Pie Shoppe and the Livonia Family YMCA. Prizes will be awarded to the first, second- and third-place winners in each of three age divisions.

Blazo's president Larry Nygard is donating 80 six-inch

vanilla and chocolate pies for the contest. He wanted to give the contestants an option on flavors, but he was also thinking of photo ops for parents and grandparents. "Chocolate makes a bigger mess on someone's face, so it makes for better pictures," he said. "Those are classic pictures."

This year's Spree features more entertainment options and two new thrill rides, along with the ever-popular pig races, petting farm and grand finale fireworks at 10:20 p.m. Sunday.

Admission to Spree is free. There is no charge for the pie-eating contest, band performances and most other Spree events.

For more information, read the Observer's special Spree section online at www.hometownlife.com or call the 24-hour hotline at 734-427-8190.

LIVONIA SPREE 63 Pie Eating Contest

Wednesday, June 26 6:30 p.m. in
Bright House Networks Tent

Registration 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Ages 7-8, 9-10, 11-12

Bring this form to the tent.



Name: _____ Age: _____ Full date of Birth: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
Phone (evening): _____



Jesse Overstreet, Gabriel Gjernes
and Andrew Wozniak took 1st,
2nd and 3rd in the 9-10 year old
competition. BILL BRESLER | STAFF
PHOTOGRAPHER



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Mac Graham
comes up for air
after a big start at
last year's
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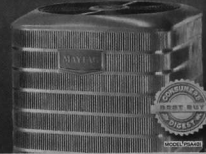
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Michigan Political Leadership Program:

MSU fellowship helps bridge partisan gap

By Jill Halpin
Correspondent

Three area residents are among 24 participants in the 2013 Fellows of Michigan State University's Michigan Political Leadership Program which aims to bridge the bipartisan gap and train future leaders for effective policy-making.

Kathleen McIntyre of Livonia, Paul Cusick of Northville Township and Jeremy Moss of Southfield have been selected to the prestigious statewide program. They met as a group for the first time in mid-February, getting to know each other and learning about the MPLP which is considered one of the nation's top political leadership training fellowships.

McIntyre is manager of the Ford Employee Assistance Program. Cusick is an assistant attorney general for the state of Michigan. Moss is a member of the Southfield City Council. They represent a wide-range of talent from across the state, according to Anne Mervenne, one of MPLP's co-directors who served 12 years in the administration of former Gov. John Engler.

"We are really excited about this group of Fellows," said Mervenne, CEO of Mervenne & Company governmental relations consulting firm. "Many of them have already served in grassroots positions. Some have been elected to local office and all are ready leaders." Started in 1992, MPLP is a 10-month program that covers personal leadership development, public policy process and analysis, effective governance, and practical politics while exploring a variety of issues facing the state of Michigan.



Jeremy Moss and Kathleen McIntyre shake hands in Livonia on June 5. The pair, along with other local residents, have been admitted into MSU's Michigan Political Leadership Program as fellows. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Throughout the program, Fellows work with presenters from across the state representing both the private and public sector to explore public policy debates, how issues are addressed, and look at new ways of bringing people together to find workable solutions.

Each MSU MPLP fellowship is valued at \$12,000, and covers the participants' lodging, meals and program costs.

Accepted Fellows, however, are asked to pay a \$1,000 administrative fee.

Kathleen McIntyre: Livonia

McIntyre, 50, grew up in Livonia and graduated from Stevenson High School in 1981. She currently resides in the city with husband Brian Culliton and their two sons. She holds a bachelor's degree in business from MSU. She also earned a master's of business administration in finance and marketing from MSU's Eli Broad School of Business and was the recipient of a Broad fellowship.

After joining Ford in

1995 at the Wisconsin Assembly Plant finance department, she has worked in a variety of capacities for the company including state, local and international government affairs, leading to her current position with the Ford Fund.

She said she relishes the opportunity to "dig in and explore different facets of state and local government and citizen activism." McIntyre said working with local municipalities illustrated the impact of government on both citizens and businesses.

"My exposure drove home the importance of both good government and good governance for both citizens and businesses. Good city management is crucial," McIntyre said.

McIntyre serves on the board of the Livonia Community Foundation and the Livonia Zoning Board of Appeals.

She is eager for the opportunity to become more engaged in her community. The fellowship, she said, has provided her with an invaluable opportunity. Although she has no immediate plans to

run for public office, she is certain she will continue to seek opportunities to be active locally.

"I have a compelling interest in local government. This program has allowed me to see there are many opportunities to become involved politically on a variety of different levels," she said.

Paul Cusick: Northville Township

Growing up in Plymouth, Cusick, 32, said his interest in politics "goes way back."

"I can remember my mom taking me to vote with her and it was a big thing," said Cusick, who graduated from Detroit Catholic Central High School in 1999. "My family taught me that I was lucky to grow up in America."

A 2004 graduate of Notre Dame with a degree in political science and history, Cusick received a law degree from Wayne State University in 2007. After law school, he spent four years as an assistant prosecuting attorney for Wayne County.

Currently working in the criminal division of

the State Attorney General's office, Cusick lives in Northville Township with his wife, Fernanda.

As chair of the Wayne 11th Congressional District Republican Committee, Cusick said the fellowship is a great opportunity to meet people on opposite sides of the political spectrum.

One of the strengths of the program, he said, is the opportunity to build relationships with others interested in shaping policy.

"It is important to be able to debate and find agreement with people with different political philosophies," Cusick said.

The fellowship opportunity is "a great opportunity to get people that are interested in public policy to speak their minds; we can all learn from each other," he said.

Although he currently does not have any specific plans, he does have political aspirations that may take shape in the future, he said.

For the present, he is enjoying the opportunity to talk with others across the country about the important issues "our state is facing."

Cusick said, "I enjoy that the MPLP gives us the chance to vigorously debate issues and still be able to sit back and be friends."

Jeremy Moss: Southfield

As the youngest city council member ever elected in Southfield, Moss, 26, is no stranger to politics.

A lifelong Southfield resident, Moss marks the beginning of his interest in politics during the summer between kindergarten and first grade.

"My family took a trip to Washington, D.C., because I was interested

in what was going on. When my friends were watching the Lions or the Tigers, I was watching the news. I remember watching the 1992 presidential campaign and I was fascinated by it," he said.

The son of Elaine and Barry Moss, he also served as a 2004 graduate of Birmingham Groves High School went on to attend MSU, majoring in political science and graduating with a degree in journalism.

Prior to his election to city council in 2011, he was involved in Southfield government working in the offices of Mayor Brenda Lawrence and former State Rep. Paul Condy. He also served as district director for State Rep. Rudy Hobbs.

He believes the fellowship cultivates good relationships across party lines that in turn, helps create good policy.

"If you want to go to Lansing and be a flame-thrower, then this program isn't for you," he said, "but if you want to be a peacemaker and work together to create really good policy that requires both Democratic and Republican votes, this is where you want to be. This is what the MPLP program is all about."

Steve Tobocman, MPLP co-director and former House Majority Floor Leader, agrees.

"In this time when there is such tremendous partisanship and frustration in dealing with various issues, the MPLP provides space to train bipartisan groups of folks and give them tools to tackle the issues of the day and produce the best outcomes," Tobocman said.

To learn more about the program visit <http://jppst.msu.edu>

Video art festival returns to Livonia, free to the public

PAH-fest returns to the Franciscan Center at Madonna University for the sixth year this July, bringing a variety of activities that celebrate visual storytelling and digital media arts.

July 8-14, the public is encouraged to participate in several themed cinematic challenges in which the contestants will be able to shoot and produce their own short videos. There will also be live music performances, presentations by industry professionals, and opportunities to learn about editing and movie making.

Created by Christopher Coppola, this free, digital media festival travels to cities throughout the Midwest States and internationally, engaging

everyday people in the art of movie making and digital storytelling. No prior experience is necessary. Madonna University faculty and students, along with Coppola and the PAH-fest volunteers will provide tips, coaching, and equipment for all of the contests. The keynote speaker at PAH-fest this year is Robbie Thompson, writer and co-producer of the show *Supernatural*, currently in its eighth season on the CW Network. Thompson will show an episode he wrote for this year, and he'll discuss the writing process.

New this year is a Coffee House, sponsored by Biggby Coffee, where the public will enjoy free coffee and listen to local musicians.

Sec. 54-46. Definitions.

(The words, terms and phrases, when used in this division, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning.)

Alarm system is defined as a device or an assembly of equipment or devices arranged to signal the presence of a hazard requiring urgent attention and to which police officers and/or firefighters are expected to respond.

Alarm user is defined as any person on whose premises an alarm system is maintained within the City of Plymouth, except for alarm systems on motor vehicles. If, however, an alarm system on a motor vehicle is connected with an alarm system at a premises, the person using such alarm system is an alarm user. Also, excluded from this definition and from coverage of this division are persons who use alarm systems to alert or signal persons within unauthorized intrusion or hold-up attempt. If such a system, however, employs an audible signal emitting sounds of flashing lights or beacon, designed to signal persons outside the premises, such system shall be within the definition of an alarm system and shall be subject to this division.

False alarm shall be defined as any alarm condition which is registered at the police department, fire department or elsewhere not resulting from the activity for which the alarm was intended.

Sec. 54-47. - False alarm fines.

(a) The alarm user shall be required to pay a fine, as set forth in subsection 54-47(c), for each false alarm in excess of three false alarms occurring within the calendar year. The calendar year shall be defined as January 1st to December 31st of any given year. Upon the occasion of the second false alarm occurring within any one-year period, the alarm user shall be advised in writing by the city police department of the city recording of the occurrence of the two false alarms and shall be advised of the existence of this division. For purposes of the year 2009, the calendar year will begin October 1 to December 2009.

(b) Alarm conditions caused by the following extenuating circumstances shall not constitute a false alarm and no false alarm fine shall be charged by the city:

- (1) Alarm conditions being activated by persons working on alarm system with prior notification to the police department of the city, or the community fire department.
- (2) Alarm conditions being activated by severe weather.
- (3) Alarm conditions being activated by disruption or disturbance of telephone or other communication systems.

(c) Notwithstanding any penalties provided for in the event of a conviction for violation of this division, and notwithstanding whether or not a prosecution has been commenced, any person, corporation, partnership or other legal entity who uses, leases, installs or directs the installation of an alarm system described in this division shall be subject to the following fines:

False Alarms Within Calendar Year	Response By Police Department	Response By Fire Department
1st and 2nd	No fine	No fine
Third	\$50	\$300
Fourth	\$100	\$500
Fifth	\$200	\$500
Sixth	\$300	\$500
In excess of Six	\$500	\$500

Fine monies collected by the Charter-Township of Plymouth on behalf of the City of Plymouth shall be shown as a credit on monthly billings for dispatching services.

Sec. 54-48. - Interference with telephone communications systems.

No person shall sell, operate, adjust, arrange for or contract to provide a device or combination of devices that will upon activation, either mechanically, electronically, or by other means, initiate the automatic interstate calling, dialing or connection to any telephone number assigned to any subscriber thereof by a public telephone company for the purpose of delivering a recorded message without the prior written consent of such subscriber.

DANIEL DWYER
MAYOR

LINDA LANGMESSER, CMC
CITY CLERK

Published June 23, 2013

05/27/1301 - 05/27/1302

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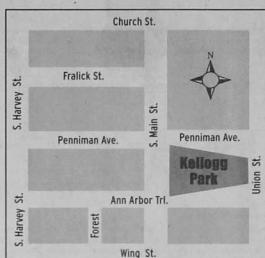
conducted by Nan Washburn

7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 29, Kellogg Park, downtown Plymouth

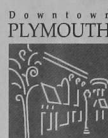
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File an amended return to fix error

Q: Dear Rick: I was at a talk you gave and it got me thinking that I may have made a mistake on my tax return. A few years ago my significant other passed on. We were not legally married but for all intents and purposes we were husband and wife. When she died I inherited all her property including a significant amount in Apple stock. I sold the Apple stock and reported a substantial gain. I used her cost basis of Apple stock for gain purposes. After listening to you I think I made a mistake. I should use the fair market value of the stock at the date of her death. If I did that my gain would have been substantially lower. I didn't think I was entitled to use the date of death because we were not legally married. Did I make a mistake? If so, what should I do? I do my own tax return.

A: Yes, you did make a mistake. When you in-



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

herit property you receive what is known as a transfer basis. The transfer basis in your situation would have been the fair market value of Apple stock on the date of death.

The fact that you're not legally married has no bearing. Therefore, you ended up paying significantly more in taxes. There is, however, a chance to correct the mistake.

When you discover a mistake on your tax return (whether it's to your favor or not), file an amended return. Typically, you can file an amended return within three years of when the return you are amending was due. Therefore, since you sold the stock

within the last three years you still have an opportunity to file an amended return. Use Form 1040X.

In addition, since your gain on the stock would be significantly lower, there would also be an impact on your state tax return so file an amended return for Michigan as well.

Many people believe that if you file an amended return it automatically means you get audited; that is not the case. Of course, that doesn't mean that the IRS will not scrutinize your amended return. However, if you attach the necessary documents you should have no problem.

It may pay to have a professional do your amended return. Although, they are not that complicated, if you've never filed an amended return before it could get a little confusing. It's not unusual that

people discover that they've made mistakes on their tax return. If it is a material number, I always recommend filing an amended return. Even if filing the amended return results in having to pay additional taxes and interest, it's something to consider. After all, if the IRS discovers the mistake there is a greater likelihood that they will assess penalties.

By filing an amended return and voluntarily reporting an error, you have a much better chance of the IRS waiving penalties. In addition, let's not forget that it is our responsibility as Americans to file accurate tax returns.

Good luck.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is www.bloomassetmanagement.com. Email rick@bloomassetmanagement.com

Schoolcraft patching to prepare for freeway closure

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Schoolcraft Road in Livonia will see some improvements later this year in preparation for the I-96 reconstruction project expected to begin in 2014.

The city council is expected to approve an intergovernmental agreement with the Michigan Department of Transportation at its July 1 meeting that will allow state funding to go toward patching Schoolcraft between Inkster and west of Newburgh.

The work is expected to cost the city about \$121,650, or about 18 percent of the project, funds that have been budgeted for the construction. MDOT is picking up the tab on the rest of the construction.

The construction will be done in phases: phase one will take place be-

tween west of Newburgh and Farmington; the second phase will go from Farmington to Inkster. The roadwork is expected to begin in late August if approved by the city council.

It is expected the work would be complete before the I-96 closure next year. The I-96 reconstruction project calls for closing the freeway between Telegraph in Redford to Newburgh in Livonia most of 2014, another key reason repairs are being made to Schoolcraft.

The roadwork is expected to begin in late August if approved by the Livonia City Council. Zilnick said MDOT is hosting another public meeting on the I-96 project in the fall, currently scheduled for 5 p.m. Sept. 18 at Livonia City Hall. It will be the third public meeting of the project.

SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Attorneys J.B. Bleske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 42 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear personally at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced attorneys to your case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and only fly the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Bleske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.



Attorneys Bleske and Alfonsi can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary they have won several hundred cases before a court date is even set.

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

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

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

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

Bleske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-275. Their Novi office is located on Hagerty Road just north of 12 Mile Road. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

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Canton hosts annual arts exhibit

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is now accepting entries for the 21st annual Canton Fine Arts Exhibition, set for Oct. 3-28.

Entries for this exhibition are being accepted through Aug. 26. Organizers are encouraging Michigan artists to enter online at www.cantontownvillage.org. Interested artists may also request an entry form hard copy by calling the Village Theater at Cherry Hill at 734-394-5300, ext. 8.

All media is accepted for this exhibition. Only digital image files on CDs will be accepted for review. No slides will be accepted for consideration. Paintings and hangings should not

exceed five feet wide or six feet high or 40 pounds in weight and must be properly and appropriately framed and prepared for hanging. Sculpture dimensions must not exceed 5' x 5' x 6' and 200 pounds in weight.

Original works of art must have been completed in the last three years. A non-refundable entry fee of \$15 for each submitted piece is required.

This year the competition will award \$1,950 in cash prizes:

- » Best of Show, \$750
- » Second Place, \$500
- » Third Place, \$300
- » Two honorable mentions of \$100 each
- » Four Merit Awards of \$50 each

The deadline for entries is Aug. 26. Juried result notification will be mailed by Sept. 15.

This year's distinguished juror will be Gilda Snowden, a graduate of Cass Technical High School and Wayne State University, where she received a BFA, MA and MFA in painting.

Snowden is currently interim chair and professor of the Fine Arts Department at the College for Creative Studies, and is also gallery director of the Detroit Repertory Theatre.

A reception will be held for the selected artists at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 3, with a special program starting at 7:30 p.m.

Program helps W-W cut utility costs

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

Nicholas Thornton would like to "erase utility bills altogether," but knows that's not going to happen. So he's decided that he will work on reducing the Wayne-Westland Community Schools energy consumption year by year.

"We're looking at reducing utilities by 1 percent a year and get better and better at energy conservation," said Thornton, the district's supervisor of Energy and Facility Services. "It's a lofty goal, I'll admit that."

Thornton oversees the district's I-SAVE program, which aims at reducing energy consumption with the involvement of students and staff. I-SAVE is short for Individuals Save and Vie for Efficiency, an in-house energy conservation program launched five years ago.

Thornton went before the school board earlier this month to report on the progress of curbing the district's utility costs. That report contained good news.

Since energy conservation began five years ago, Wayne-Westland has seen its gas cost drop 18 percent, electricity 24 percent and water 47 percent, according to Thornton. The I-SAVE program has shaved \$1.8 million annually off the district's utility bill. Where it once paid \$4.1 million a year, Wayne-Westland now pays a little more than \$2.1 million.

Group effort

Thornton pointed out that those figures reflect the efforts of both students and staffers who receive a portion of the savings for use in their schools.

"Those people in the buildings have been doing the lion's share of the work and get to share in the fruits of their labors," he said.

The district also has received some \$100,000 in rebates from utility companies over three years by replacing light fixtures, boilers and chillers. The district documents the work with the utility and receives a rebate on its bill, he said.

"There's a capital cost up front, but we're looking for the lowest hanging fruit on the tree, where it's easy to recover costs," he said.

The I-SAVE program provides the building staffs with a startup package or incentive for participating in the program. There's also energy conservation posters or fliers, containing in-

The I-SAVE program has shaved \$1.8 million annually off the district's utility bill.

formation on how to reduce consumption.

Each participating building has an energy consumption goal and an online method to track utility consumption and compare it to previous years.

Currently, the district has 17 buildings that have an ENERGY STAR certification. Wildwood and Roosevelt elementary and Wayne Memorial and John Glenn high schools are the latest to earn the certification, which aims to reduce energy consumption, improve energy security and reduce pollution.

Thornton has "about a half dozen to go" to have every building in the district certified.

Increase involvement

"I want to continue to make program improvements. We want to find out what works and what's not working," Thornton said. "I want to increase student involvement. That's the key to what we are doing."

"We had third- and fourth-graders do artwork and each got scanned and put into a mosaic artwork. They can go online to find where their artwork is in the mosaic," he added.

He noted that he is looking at several federal grants and partnering with vendors.

"It's one of the things we're vying for, but haven't secured yet," he said. Trustee Charles "Trav" Griffin praised Thornton and expressed amazement for the size of the savings that have been achieved.

"I thought it would be \$500,000, but it's \$1.8 million," Griffin said. "That \$1.8 million is a very significant savings and it allows us to maintain programs. I commend you for that."

School board President Carol Middel noted that the district has tried to do energy conservation several times, but those efforts "lasted a year."

"This is the longest sustainable program and obviously it's working," she said. "I'm impressed."

Trustee Sally Madison added that when she has been in schools, she has seen the excitement from students about energy conservation.

"I had students light up when they shared with me their ways of saving energy," she said.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS THURSDAY JULY 11, 2013 6:00 P.M.

PLEASE NOTE that the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold its Regular Meeting on Thursday, July 11, 2013 commencing at 6:00 p.m., to consider:

1. ZBA application 1509, 51130 Powell RD: the applicant is an R-1-H zoning district and is requesting ZBA approval for 4-5 chickens on 1.12 acres, owner occupied, non commercial use.

The meeting will be held at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road in the Towns Hall Meeting Room.

For further information contact Plymouth Township Building Department 734 354-3210.

Published: June 23, 2013

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH PUBLIC NOTICE

To all residents and other interested parties: Agendas and Minutes for the Charter Township of Plymouth Board of Trustees Meetings are available for review under the Reference Desk Page of the Township Website: www.plymouthtwp.org. They are also posted in the Clerk's Office at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road Plymouth, Michigan for public perusal.

Meeting dates in 2013: June 25, July 23, August 20, September 10 & 24, October 8 & 22, November 12 and December 10.

The public is invited and encouraged to attend the Board of Trustees Meetings.

Nancy Conzelmann
Township Clerk

Special meetings should be scheduled for Tuesdays, unless otherwise posted.

*Published: June 23, 2013

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Priceless souvenirs

Catching a ball at an MLB game fulfills lifelong dream for area fans

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The baseball that rocketed off Detroit Tigers outfielder Andy Dirks' bat and into the stands beyond the right field fence at Comerica Park the afternoon of May 17, 2012, weighed just five ounces.

But the spinning sphere was jam-packed with a lifetime full of memories for Livonia's Reed family.

The ball ricocheted off the hands of a fan sitting in front of the Reeds — father Casey and sons Michael, Ben and William — and into the palms of Casey Reed, whose sure-handed grab transformed a fabulous day at the ballpark with his sons into an unforgettable one.

"That morning my wife (Sara) laid out Tigers gear for the boys to wear to school, but they had no idea they were going to a baseball game," Casey Reed said. "I surprised them by picking them up at their schools around lunch time. We bought some tickets right before the game started and sat in right field.

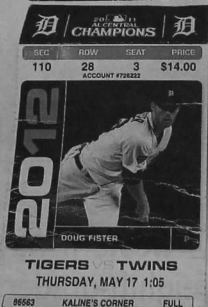
"We were having a great time watching the Tigers on a sun-shiny day, but catching that ball made it an amazing experience. Every 10 seconds, one of us would say, 'It's my turn to look at it.' We couldn't get enough of it."

Rare prize

You can purchase an official MLB baseball at a Comerica Park gift shop for around \$15, but there is no price tag that can be placed on a ball that finds its way into the stands after crashing off a professional player's bat.

Rawlings, which provides MLB with all of its baseballs, estimates anywhere from 100 to 120 balls are used during a typical game. When you consider there are close to 25,000 fans at an average game, the odds of nabbing a ball are longer than a Miguel Cabrera moon-shot home run.

The rarity factor is why fans like Livonia's Randy Knight remember every detail of their foul ball catching experience. "I'm a lifelong Tigers fan who had been to countless games over the years, but I had never caught a foul ball until the game I attended against the Minnesota Twins on Aug. 15,



Livonia's Reed family had Andy Dirks sign the Dirks home run ball dad Casey caught during a game they attended in 2012.



Livonia's Randy Knight, pictured with Tigers mascot Paws, collected a bruise and a ball during a game at Comerica Park in 2011.

2011," the 51-year-old Knight said. "I still remember every single detail about it."

In the fifth inning, as Knight recalled, Minnesota's Joe Mauer

fouled off a 1-0 pitch directly up the steps behind the Tigers' dugout.

"A young lady had just started her descent down the steps

with a tray of nachos and pop," Knight said. "The ball was still on the rise and I saw it coming, but I didn't see the young lady until my hand was in front of her face.

"She screamed, the ball hit my hand and deflected behind her. I don't think I have ever moved faster in the last 20 years to get to that ball. My hand took a bruise, but it was well worth it."

Going way back

Catching a foul ball was the last thing on the mind of Westland's Hershel Parris when he took his seat along the first base line at Tiger Stadium on Sept. 19, 1961. The biggest appeal that day for Parris was watching the Tigers take on the legendary New York Yankees, whose power-packed lineup included Mickey Mantle and Roger Maris, both of whom were in pursuit of

See SOUVENIRS, Page B3

Hall of Fame for Berryman

Livonia Stevenson's Rick Berryman will be among six inductees in the 2013 class for the Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame as part of the East-West All-Star game starting at 7 p.m. Monday, July 1, at Comerica Park.

Berryman will be joined by Walt Gawkowski (Muskegon Catholic Central), Tim McDonald (Bay City Western), Dave Pullen (Grand Rapids Kenowa Hills), Mike Zimmerman (Frankfort) and Warren Zweigle (Whitehall).

Berryman guided Stevenson to a 24-13 record this season, including Division 1 district and KLA Central Division titles this spring.

Hills duo all-stars

A pair of Farmington Hills players will participate in the MHSBCA's East-West All-Star game at 7 p.m. Monday, July 1, at Comerica Park.

Neighborhood friends and former summer-league teammates Connor Mohr (Farmington High) and Harrison Wenson (U-D Jesuit) will play for the East team. Mohr is a center fielder and Wenson is a catcher. Mohr will play next season at Michigan State and Wenson at Michigan.

Admission at the gate is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children.

Rams end losing skid

Griffin Harms proved to be the catalyst Wednesday as the Michigan Rams snapped a four-game losing skid with a 6-5 Livonia Collegiate Baseball League triumph over the Michigan Monarchs at Ford Field.

Harms pitched 3 1/3 innings of scoreless relief and went 2-for-3 with a solo homer as the Rams evened their LCLBL record at 6-6-1. Harms allowed just one hit and struck out four after taking over for starter Luke McCarty in the fourth inning.

Chris McDonald (Livonia Stevenson/Hillsdale College) went 2-for-2 with a double and two RBI, while Ben Yax and Tyler Barnes each knocked in a run.

Will Swartz went 3-for-3, while Matt Priebe added two RBI for the Monarchs (8-5). Brian Goike took the loss.

Flying Irish: Yanik runs to success at N.D.

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Notre Dame women's track and field coach Joe Piane had an inkling preferred walk-on Megan Yanik was scholarship-worthy coming out of Livonia Ladywood.

"She was a good runner in high school, somebody we really encouraged, but she's truly developed into an outstanding national class runner," said Piane, who just completed his 39th season. "She's the whole package. She's a great student, a wonderful young lady and a very, very fine runner. There's not a program in the country that wouldn't love to have Megan Yanik."

The Plymouth native, who

has since earned an athletic scholarship, has proved to be more than a bargain recruit after excelling this season. She helped the Irish win the Big East championship and qualified to compete in two events at the NCAA Championships earlier this month at the University of Oregon's historic Hayward Field.



Yanik

Yanik was an individual qualifier in the 400-meter hurdles after taking 10th in the NCAA East Preliminary Regional in Greensboro, N.C., with a time of 58.66. The junior also teamed



Notre Dame junior Megan Yanik, a Plymouth native and Ladywood grad, qualified for the NCAA Championships in the 400 hurdles and 1,600 relay.

See YANIK, Page B2

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YANIK

Continued from Page B1

up with Margaret Banghose, Jade Barber and Michelle Brown for first place in the 4 x 400 relay (3:32.43).

Although Yanik wound up 19th in the 400 hurdles (59.56) and 19th in the 4 x 400 relay (3:38.22) at the NCAAs, it proved to be a productive season.

"It's been a long season," Yanik said. "We've been running since August with indoor starting in December, so there wasn't much of a point where we were broken down because all of our runners in the 4 x 400 had qualified for nationals as individuals also."

But getting a chance to run at track and field's holy grail - Hayward Field - proved to be rewarding in itself. "It was really exciting just to be in a place that obviously has so much history of running," Yanik said. "Just being a part of the surroundings ... and everybody has such a good attitude about running there. It's just awesome. There was a ton of fans there and it was crowded."

Yanik's highlight of the season was earning a trip to the NCAA Indoor Championships, where the Irish placed 12th in the 4 x 400 relay. And after transitioning to the outdoor season, she

took runner-up honors in the 400 hurdles (58.65) and first in the 4 x 400 relay at the Big East meet.

"I think it was a pretty good season," Yanik said. "I had strong races in the hurdles and the 4 x 400. We improved our time by three seconds, which was a big difference. The 400 hurdles was about the same time."

Yanik, who began running track as a seventh-grader at Plymouth's Our Lady of Good Counsel, certainly had the credentials coming out of Ladywood, where she was the MHSAA Division 1 champion in the 100 and 300 hurdles as a senior.

After making incremental improvements as a freshman and sophomore at Notre Dame, she enjoyed a breakout season as a junior.

"She had a wonderful year," Piane said. "She did very well indoors and very well outdoors. She's a hard worker and wants to compete. When she races, whoever beats her has to work hard."

Competing in the 400 hurdles can be a demanding event. "It's hard, but it's pretty fun," Yanik said.

Yanik, a Big East All-Academic honoree, is a pre-med and Spanish major. She is currently working during the summer at a health clinic in Grand Rapids.

"We get a few weeks off and take a

break, then we'll set up training again," Yanik said. "I'll take a year off (after her senior year) and apply to med school. It's really, really exciting working up towards that."

Yanik also considered going to Michigan or Miami (Ohio), but felt the best fit was being in South Bend. "I love it there, it's awesome," Yanik said of Notre Dame. "It's the atmosphere of the school and the camaraderie. The student-athletes care for each other and it's exciting to be a part of an institution that has such high stan-

dards, both academically and athletically. I'm just glad to be a part of that."

And entering her senior year, Yanik hopes to surpass her junior achievements.

"My goal is to qualify for indoor nationals and in the 400 hurdles and 4 x 400 at outdoor nationals and bring down my times a little bit," she said.

Not bad for a preferred walk-on.

benmons@hometownlife.com | 734-222-6851

Photo by Matt H. for HometownLife.com



The Western Wayne Wolfpack eighth-grade girls' team recently won a pair of AAU tournaments. The team includes (front row, from left) Rebekah Carnes, Emily Marsh, Grace Jaquaniello and Morgan Brietzke (back row, from left) coach Rob Stewart, Lilly Lepper, Stephanie Miller, Emily Stewart, Claire Murray, Katie Coe and Lydia Chapel. Not pictured is Jayna Lenders. All are from the Canton or Plymouth communities.

Western Wayne Wolfpack eighth-graders on the prowl

The Western Wayne Wolfpack eighth-grade girls' basketball team is on quite a hot streak.

The team, coached by Rob Stewart, recently won the championship in back-to-back tournaments this spring and then finished as runner-up in the state Amateur

Athletic Union tournament in Burton.

In March, the Wolfpack, composed of girls from the Plymouth and Canton communities, finished first in the Southeastern Michigan Championships. The team followed that up in April by winning the

Saline Super Shootout.

Members of the team include Morgan Brietzke, Rebekah Carnes, Lydia Chapel, Katie Coe, Grace Jaquaniello, Lilly Lepper, Jayna Lenders, Emily Marsh, Stephanie Miller, Claire Murray and Emily Stewart.

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Area tennis players serve up excellence

FIRST-TEAM SINGLES

Winnie Karoub, Mercy: A repeat member of the all-area first team, Karoub played No. 1 singles again this year and helped the Marlinis to a runner-up finish in the Division 2 state tournament. The sophomore won the Catholic League championship was a regional semifinalist and reached the state quarterfinals. Karoub, who compiled a 12-10 record, is an all-state and all-Catholic player. Mercy also won the league tournament and was second in the regional at Rochester.

"Winnie is a fantastic player," coach Joe Stafford said. "She is so athletic and she gives us a chance to win every time out. She won the Catholic League tournament, 6-0, 6-0, in the championship match. Winnie loves high school tennis and is a great teammate. Her team loves her and I believe that Winnie can do anything she puts her mind to."

Ashley Walker, Salem: The senior captain finished an outstanding career by going 18-5 this season, including regional competition. Walker won the KLA conference championship at No. 2 doubles as a freshman and began moving up the singles lineup as a sophomore. Over the past two seasons, she moved up the singles lineup until becoming one of the best No. 1 singles players in the ultra-competitive KLA conference.

Among her accomplishments this season were first-place finishes at the Monroe Invitational, Salem Quad and Oakley and the Bay County Open. "She is an excellent player with very aggressive ground strokes, but also a player who can just as easily come to the net and finish a point," said "She will be a walk-on at Wayne State next year in the tough Division II GLIAC conference."

Aimee Moccia, Stevenson: The junior finished 23-2 this season while making her second straight trip to the Division 1 state finals.

After losing a close game during third sets, 7-5 and 7-6, Moccia was Livonia Public Schools, Howell, Kensington Conference 'B' and regional tournament champion.

Her career record is 62-15, all at No. 1 singles. "Aimee is the most dedicated and focused athlete I've ever coached," Stevenson coach Don McCathney said of the two-time KLA scholar-athlete. "Her commitment to tennis includes diet, strength training and a year-round playing schedule. She exemplifies the highest levels of sports-



Winnie Karoub
Mercy



Ashley Walker
Salem



Aimee Moccia
Stevenson



Carolyn McCullen
Franklin



Arti Vaishnav
N. Farmington



Carmen Gaddis
Harrison



Sarah Tobin
N. Farmington



Maria Vicini
N. Farmington



Arryn Dochenez
Stevenson



Sam Di Giovanni
Stevenson



Andi Kopitz
N. Farmington



Maura Ehrlich
N. Farmington

manship and is a pleasure to watch play."

Carolyn McCullen, Franklin: The junior earned honorable mention Division 1 all-state honors for the second straight year after going 20-5 while reaching the round of 16 in Midland.

The three-time All-Observer player was runner-up at the Woodhaven regional and also won the Woodhaven Invitational at No. 1 singles.

"Carolyn worked on her game during the off-season to improve from a very good 2012 to a much stronger game in 2013," Franklin coach Rick Clark said. "She is hard worker in practice, did not miss a game the past two years and continues to be very competitive against the top players in the state."

"Lots of players have trouble handling the heavy topspin from her forehand. Once she makes the backhand side even more consistent, I believe her game will really peak next year and she will have an even better year in 2014. She is hungry for all-state outright in 2014."

Arti Vaishnav, N. Farmington: In her first season of high

school tennis, Vaishnav moved to the top of the lineup and replaced her older sister, former all-area player Akanksha, as the No. 1 singles player for the Raiders. Vaishnav played well in that role, finished with a winning record and earned all-league recognition. She was undefeated in the OAA White Division and a regional semifinalist, finishing behind Mollie Fox of Lahser (the eventual state champion) and Kerry Hu of Andover (the No. 4 seed at the state tournament).

"Arti was a great addition to the team this year," coach Whitney Wasielewski said. "She did an excellent job, stepping in and playing a very difficult No. 1 singles position. Although she was only a freshman and had no experience as a high school player, her mental toughness and athleticism carried her through many tight matches."

"She is a hard worker and improved consistently throughout the season. I'm looking forward to her future three seasons as a Raider."

Carmen Gaddis, Harrison: Gaddis had an outstanding high school career in which she compiled a 51-20 record.

2012 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS TENNIS

FIRST-TEAM SINGLES
Winnie Karoub, Soph., FH, Mercy
Ashley Walker, Sr., Salem
Aimee Moccia, Jr., Stevenson
Carolyn McCullen, Jr., Liv. Franklin
Arti Vaishnav, F., North Farmington
Carmen Gaddis, Sr., Farm. Harrison
SECOND-TEAM SINGLES
Sarah Tobin, Sr., North Farmington
Arryn Dochenez, Soph., Liv. Stevenson
Sam DiGiovanni, Soph., Liv. Stevenson
Maura Ehrlich, Soph., N. Farmington
Chelsea Yu, Jr., Salem
Kathryn Dunleavy, Jr., F.H. Mercy
Rachel Grigoras, Jr., North Farmington
Caroline Guidi, Jr., Liv. Stevenson
Bridgett Carroll, Jr., F.H. Mercy
Jessie Guidi, Sr., F.H. Mercy
Giles Toles, Jr., F.H. Mercy
Anna Hirschi, Sr., F.H. Mercy
T. F.H. Mercy
Mackenzie Zierka, Soph., F.H. Mercy
Christy Snyder, Jr., F.H. Mercy
Julia Shaw, Jr., F.H. Mercy
HONORABLE MENTION
Charrith Torres Andujar, Junior, Bantol
Michele Stevenson, Laura Shurt, Batool
Hudson, Joyce Abdukh, Shelby Sore, Salem
Kylie Enright, Soph., Harrison
Stephanie Wagnere, Sheryl Carter, North Farmington
Jana Vase, Alyssa Cudde, Kyrin Cudde, Sharon Kerry, Dana Abdukh, Farmington
Julie Hagan, Sarah Hirsch, Mercy
Trey, Tara, Sahithan, Bedford
Unkles, Sarah Waller, Sarah Bayart, Thurston
Katie Lupton, Kaitlan Akish Madia, Sasha Gil, Plymouth, South Ockley

2012 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS TENNIS

THIRD-TEAM SINGLES
Winnie Karoub, Soph., FH, Mercy
Ashley Walker, Sr., Salem
Aimee Moccia, Jr., Stevenson
Carolyn McCullen, Jr., Liv. Franklin
Arti Vaishnav, F., North Farmington
Carmen Gaddis, Sr., Farm. Harrison
SECOND-TEAM SINGLES
Sarah Tobin, Sr., North Farmington
Arryn Dochenez, Soph., Liv. Stevenson
Sam DiGiovanni, Soph., Liv. Stevenson
Maura Ehrlich, Soph., N. Farmington
Chelsea Yu, Jr., Salem
Kathryn Dunleavy, Jr., F.H. Mercy
Rachel Grigoras, Jr., North Farmington
Caroline Guidi, Jr., Liv. Stevenson
Bridgett Carroll, Jr., F.H. Mercy
Jessie Guidi, Sr., F.H. Mercy
Giles Toles, Jr., F.H. Mercy
Anna Hirschi, Sr., F.H. Mercy
T. F.H. Mercy
Mackenzie Zierka, Soph., F.H. Mercy
Christy Snyder, Jr., F.H. Mercy
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Stephanie Wagnere, Sheryl Carter, North Farmington
Jana Vase, Alyssa Cudde, Kyrin Cudde, Sharon Kerry, Dana Abdukh, Farmington
Julie Hagan, Sarah Hirsch, Mercy
Trey, Tara, Sahithan, Bedford
Unkles, Sarah Waller, Sarah Bayart, Thurston
Katie Lupton, Kaitlan Akish Madia, Sasha Gil, Plymouth, South Ockley

The senior was 14-5 this year and the OAA White Division champion. She had a slow start with losses to North Farmington and Troy Athens, but she rebounded, won both rematches and "really showed her stuff," coach Janice Maxey said. Gaddis was third at the Lakeland Invitational and was a Division 2 regional semifinalist.

"She's one of the strongest, most consistent No. 1 singles players I've had the pleasure to coach," Maxey said. "She's a great competitor; she's focused and has a great attitude; she never gives up. Even as a freshman, there was a maturity to the way she played and she continued that through all four years."

"She's been a great leader and positive influence on the other kids on the team. She had a very positive, professional attitude toward playing and being competitive, but she was always having fun." "I stayed with coaching because I really enjoyed working with this group of seniors and she was the No. 1 player. It's been a pleasure to work with her."

FIRST-TEAM DOUBLES

Sarah Tobin and Maria Vicini, N. Farmington: Tobin and Vicini repeat members of the all-area first team, compiling a 25-6 record this year as the Raiders' top doubles team. They were 42-12 over the past two seasons. They won the OAA White Division and Division 2 regional championships.

Tobin and Vicini were the fourth seed at the D-2 state tournament, losing a tough match in the quarterfinals in the third set, 7-5. They had good wins over West Bloomfield, Lahser, Andover, Groves, Stevenson and others.

"Sarah and Maria had a phenomenal season at No. 1 doubles," Wasielewski said. "Their senior leadership, commitment and dedication was vital to the success of our entire team. Both girls worked hard to improve their games and worked specifically on being good doubles players. All of this hard work paid off as they developed into one of the best No. 1 doubles teams in the state over the past two years. They will be greatly missed next season."

Arryn Dochenez and Sam Di Giovanni, Stevenson: The sophomore tandem compiled a record of 16-5 overall while earning a runner-up finish in the Division 1 regional at Woodhaven.

Dochenez and Di Giovanni also captured the Livonia Public Schools and Howell tournaments.

"Arryn and Sam played very well together," McCathney said. "They were truly a team. They had many big wins against some great teams. Even though both were only sophomores, they played with a lot of confidence and exhibited a great deal on experience."

Andi Kopitz and Maura Ehrlich, N. Farmington: Kopitz and Ehrlich were the OAA White Division champions and Livonia's top players, who were the eventual champions at that flight. Kopitz and Ehrlich had good wins over Lahser, Groves and West Bloomfield during the season.

"Andi and Maura played so well together and really meshed as a team to have a very successful season," Wasielewski said. "The main reason for this team's success was their chemistry and the way they worked together on the court. They did an excellent job of complementing each other to construct points and win matches."

"Their level of play just continued to improve throughout the season, and they grew into a very solid and competitive No. 2 doubles team. Both are very coachable and smart players who work hard and want to improve on a daily basis."

SOUVENIRS

Continued from Page B1

60 home runs.

"I don't remember what inning it was, but Yogi Berra hit a foul ball that bounced around the field, hit a railing and came right to me," Paris said. "It felt good when I snatched it."

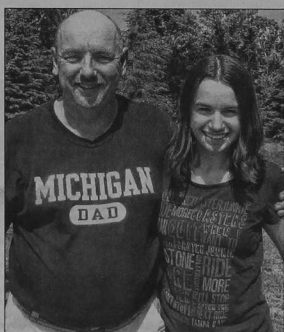
The Yankees tied the game up in the ninth on an error and Roger Maris hit his 58th home run in the 10th to win it for the Yankees. "I'll never forget that day."

Northville resident David Jerome's over-the-ear catch of a foul ball at a Washington Senators game July 19, 1970, caught the eye of a couple of rural onlookers.

It turned out that Prince Charles and Princess Anne were at the game, "Jerome said. "I leaned over the railing and caught a foul ball with my bare hands."

The next day, my wife read in the paper that the prince and princess thought the game was pretty boring, but when a fan reached over a railing to catch a foul ball. That was me."

Westland resident Bud Somerville's estimates he has caught about 20 "bummers" of balls at MLB games — the first coming when he was a 12-year-



Jeff Jackson nearly hauled in a foul ball for his daughter Sarah six years ago.

old attending a Tigers game in 1966.

"Every summer, just about every day, my friends and I would jump on the bus in Wayne and take it down Michigan Avenue to Tiger Stadium," Somerville said. "We knew where to stand during batting practice and during the games to get the balls. After the game, we'd take the balls outside the stadium and sell them so we'd have bus fare to get back home."

Valuable ... then not

While attending a game at Tiger Stadium

late in the 1987 season, Garden City resident Ron Pummil thought he had reeled in a home run ball that held special meaning — not just for him, but for a longtime Tigers hero.

"My friends and I were sitting in the lower deck in right field when Lou Whitaker hit a home run that landed about eight to 10 seats away from us," Pummil said. "We were all like, 'awww man.' Two batters later, Kirk Gibson steps up and hits one right to me."

The following off-season, Gibson signed a free-agent contract to play for the Dodgers,

adding significance (at least for a while) to the ball Pummil caught.

"I thought, I own the last home run that Kirk Gibson was ever going to hit in Tiger Stadium," Pummil said, chuckling. "I thought that ball was going to be worth quite a bit of money. But then Gibby re-signed with the Tigers in 1993 and he hit about 10 to 12 more home runs in Detroit, so my ball suddenly wasn't worth much anymore."

Glove story

All foul ball stories don't have a happy ending, as Livonia's Jackson family discovered the hard way.

To help celebrate his daughter Sarah's birthday, Jeff Jackson took her and his mom to a game in 2006.

"Sarah was determined to catch a foul ball that day," Jackson said with a smile. "The problem was we were sitting pretty high up in the handicapped section. I told her not too many balls came up that far. Plus, I told her I had been to a lot of games and had never come close to catching a foul ball."

"That didn't deter Sarah, who insisted on staying until the final out in her quest to take home a priceless souvenir."

"The Tigers were getting beat like 7-1 or 8-1 and it was the bottom of the ninth," Jackson said. "All of a sudden, Pudge Rodriguez hit a hard line drive that was curving right toward me."

"The funny part was,

I had brought my glove, but I had set it down on the floor below our seats before the inning started. Here comes this ball right at me—waist high—that I would have caught easily with my glove, but it hit my palms, bounced a few feet up and a little kid got it. I don't think Sarah talked to me the entire ride home. She kept saying, 'Why didn't you have your glove on?'"

Jackson said the incident still generates chuckles between him and his daughter.

"I'm thinking about getting one of those fancy glass containers you put valuable baseballs in and giving it to her—emphatically," he said. "I'll tell her, 'Here's the ball I didn't catch for you that day.'"

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING NOTICE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN (734) 453-1234

A regular meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals will be held on Thursday, July 11, 2013 at 7:00 P.M. in the Commission Chambers of the City Hall, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI, to consider the following:

Z 13-06 1298 Sheridan
Non-Use Variance Requested
Rear Addition Setback
Zoned: R-1, Single Family Residential
Applicant: Rodney & Kim Thompson

All interested persons are invited to attend.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audiotapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting/hearing, to individuals with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:

Maureen Brodie, ADA Coordinator
201 S. Main Street
Plymouth, MI 48170, (734) 453-1234, Ext. 206

All-Park girls lax team mirrors sport's growth

By Tim Smith
Staff writer

Girls lacrosse at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park continues to grow by leaps and bounds, with plenty of promising players making the grade at Canton, Plymouth and Salem high schools.

That growth is underscored by the players who were named to the 2013 All-Park Girls Lacrosse Team. To be sure, just a few years after the original PCS United combined team broke off into three individual school squads, the 2013 season featured offensive firepower, strong defensive work and team success — enough for coaches to be optimistic about what next spring might bring. Salem finished third in the KLAAC Kensington Conference and moved on to postseason play for the first time. Plymouth went 7-7 and Canton enjoyed its best season with a 10-6 record overall (8-3 in the conference, good for second). The Chiefs also swept Salem and Plymouth to capture their first Park championship.

Canton began the year with a win over South Lyon, the first time any Park team managed to do so.

Unfortunately, we couldn't beat them when it really mattered in the first round of the regionals, losing 16-9." Canton coach Dave Bower said. "But still, we were satisfied with finishing well above .500 for the season."

According to Plymouth coach Bob Hill, he was "really happy in how we played despite having our first time varsity players. Part of the learning curve in young players is preparing for the grind that comes with practicing every day, dealing with weather and being ready to play every game and we made big strides as the season progressed."

Veteran Salem coach Dave Medley cited the Rocks first win against Plymouth and making the regionals as highlights of the year. Also noteworthy, he continued, was the addition of 20 players and debut of Salem's first varsity team, an indication of the sport's growth in the area.

Following is a look at the 2013 All-Park team, with players listed by team:



The 2013 All-Park girls lacrosse team features the following. Front row (from left): Jamie Dottavio, Plymouth; Natalie Nowicki, Plymouth; Bridget Kerwin, Plymouth; Megan Wiesloch, Canton; Cassidy Tucker, Canton; Back row (from left): Megan Wiesloch, Plymouth; All Holmquist, Plymouth; Bridget Kerwin, Salem; Kiersten Vala, Salem; Rose Krasofsky, Salem; Kelly Harris, Canton; Annika Nuler, Canton; Laura Murphy, Canton.

Canton

Annelise Niernmann, senior midfielder: The four-year varsity winner led the Chiefs with 39 goals, total points (49) and was named to the all-KLAA first team and to the Michigan Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association All-State team as an honorable mention. She also was the first Park girls lacrosse player to sign with a Division I college (University of Detroit Mercy).

Kelly Harris, senior captain, attack: A three-year varsity winner tallied 12 assists (first on the team) and was second in points and goals with 39 and 27, respectively. She was named to the all-KLAA and MWLCA All-State teams. She will play ice hockey at the University of Connecticut.

Laura Murphy, senior captain, defense: Another three-year varsity winner was second in ground balls (30) and was a plus-22 as she anchored the Canton defense. She was named to the all-KLAA first team and to the MWLCA All-State team as an honorable mention. Murphy will be attending the University of Michigan.

Cassidy Tucker, senior captain, midfielder: Team MVP and a three-year letter winner,

Tucker led the Chiefs in draw possessions (26), ground balls (31) plus-minus (plus-33) and was second in goals (27) and third in points (31). She was named to the all-KLAA first team as well as to the MWLCA All-State team as an honorable mention. Her plans are to attend Princeton University.

Annika Nuler, junior midfielder: In her second year of the varsity, Nuler was a plus-22 and contributed 18 ground balls as well as "being the fastest girl on the team and being able to run the end zone without so much as breathing hard," Bower said. She was named an MWLCA All-State Scholar-Athlete.

Plymouth

Haley Swanson, senior attack: The co-captain led the Wildcats in goals, assists, shooting percentage, draw controls and was named MVP. In her Plymouth career, she finished with 104 goals and 56 assists (first all-time for the program). She received a scholarship to play women's lacrosse at Tiffin University.

Jamie Dottavio, senior defense: Another co-captain, Dottavio led Plymouth with 31 ground balls, snagged 13 draw controls and was named the

team's top defensive player. She will attend Grove City College.

All Holmquist, senior defense: Holmquist, who will attend All-Macau, caused 15 turnovers, grabbed 29 draw controls and 29 ground balls for the Wildcats. She also was second on the team with a .476 shooting percentage.

Megan Wiesloch, junior goalie: She had career highs with 125 saves, a .488 save percentage and a 9.36 goals-against average. She ranks first in all categories for Plymouth.

Natalie Nowicki, freshman midfielder: She was second with 43 goals and chipped in with 17 draw controls, 29 ground balls and was named the team's best offensive player.

Salem

Bridget Maul, senior center-midfielder: The three-year varsity winner, who also competed at defender, tallied 16 ground balls, 23 caused turnovers and scored nine goals while winning a KLAAC Athletic and Academic Achievement award. She also was Salem's women's athlete of the year for 2013. Her plans are to attend Grand Valley State University.

Bridget Kerwin, junior center-midfielder: Another versatile player for coach Medley, she set a Salem record with 295 draws, contributed 12 goals and 14 loose ground balls. She won a KLAAC Athletic and Academic Achievement award.

Jenna Carter, junior midfielder: For the second year in a row, Carter was named to the all-KLAA first team and all-state honorable mention. The 27-goal scorer set Salem marks in the following categories: caused turnovers, 27; ground balls, 45; assists, 12. She earned MWLCA first-team honors and collected a KLAAC Athletic and Academic Achievement award.

Kiersten Vala, junior midfielder-attack: The three-year varsity winner scored 11 goals along with eight assists and was named to the first all-KLAA team for her efforts. She also earned MWLCA first-team honors and a KLAAC Athletic and Academic Achievement award.

Rose Krasofsky, junior attack: In her third season with the Rocks, Krasofsky set a school record with 45 goals — good for all-KLAA first team and all-state honorable mention kudos. She won a KLAAC Athletic and Academic Achievement award and was named to the MWLCA first team.

SPORTS CAMPS

GC boys hoops

All incoming fourth- through ninth-grade boys interested in attending the Garden City High School Basketball Camp should register by sending an email to Garden City varsity basketball coach at RonPummill.pummill@gardencityschools.com.

Include the player's name and grade in the email. The fee for the camp is \$80 per camper, or \$75 for groups of five or more. The camp runs Monday, June 24, through Friday, June 29, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Confirm registration through email and bring payment on the first day of the camp.

Tennis clinic

The Jack Kingsbury Tennis Clinic for Livonia Franklin players (incoming grades 9-12) will be from 9-11 a.m. each Tuesday and Thursday at the high school tennis courts.

The USA Pro, a Franklin grad, will offer instruction on serve, forehand, backhand, volleys and court strategy for singles and doubles.

The cost is \$15 per session. For more information, call (734) 945-5762.

Glenn football

Westland John Glenn will stage a football camp starting for freshman and sophomores, 5-8 p.m., Monday through Thursday, June 24-27, at the high school.

For more information about registration and cost, call coach Tim Hardin at 734-419-2329; or email hardin@wccsd.net.

Canton camps

Canton Leisure Services will be hosting several youth basketball and baseball camps during July and early August for boys and girls ages 7-14.

Basketball camps will take place 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. from July 8-12, July 22-26 and July 29 through Aug. 2, at Summit on the Park, 6000 Summit Parkway in Canton.

The cost is \$40 for residents and \$50 for non-residents. There will be a pre-camp shootaround from 8-9 a.m.

The camp will focus on drills and skills for offensive strategies

and defensive plays in game situations. Head coach Pat Watson brings over 16 years of high school experience.

The baseball camp is slated to run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. the week of July 15-19 at Canton Sports Center, 46555 W. Michigan Ave. Cost is \$140 for residents and \$150 for non-residents.

For more information, call 734-483-5600.

CHS boys hoops

The 2013 Livonia Churchill boys summer basketball camp (incoming grades 9-12) will be from 9 a.m. to noon, Monday through Thursday, June 24-27, at the high school. The cost \$50.

For more information, email Churchill coach at Salata@atl@taylor.k12.mi.us or call 313-303-7101 or call 734-946-6657.

Future Stars

Livonia Franklin will hold its Future Stars summer basketball camp (grades 2-8) from 9 a.m. until noon, Monday-Thursday, June 24-27, at the high school.

The cost is \$60 (includes T-shirt). The registration deadline is Friday, June 27.

For more information, call Franklin coach Matt Fournier at 734-968-0499 or email mfournie@livoniapublicschools.org.

MU volleyball

Madonna University will be offering a variety of summer volleyball camps including:

» Advanced (elite) and general all-skills — Monday through Thursday, June 24-27.

» Setters and hitters camp (session 1) — Sunday through Wednesday, June 30-July 3.

» Hitters (session 2) and defensive — Monday through Thursday, July 8-11.

To obtain a camp brochure, visit madonnacrusaders.com.

For more information, call MU volleyball coach and camp director Jerry Abraham 734-432-5612 (office) or 734-254-0698 (evenings). There is also email jbraham216180@comcast.net.

Kelser hoops

The Gregory Kelser basketball camp (boys and girls ages 7-17) will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mon-

day through Friday, June 24-28, at Franklin High School, 31000 Joy Road, Livonia.

The cost is \$225 per camper. (Bring a sack lunch Monday through Wednesday. Lunch will be provided by Kelser, Inc. on Thursday and Friday.)

To register online, visit www.ljal.com/basketball/camps. For more information, email 248-342-2735; or email greg.kelser3@gmail.com.

Churchill soccer

The Livonia Churchill boys and girls soccer camp (ages 10-16) will be from 9-11 a.m., Monday through Friday, June 24-28 at the turf field. The cost is \$49. (Checks should be made payable to Churchill High School.)

Apparel needed include soccer cleats, shin guards, soccer ball (under 12 years bring a size 4).

For more information, email Matt Grodzicki at mgrodzic@livoniapublicschools.org.

Churchill hoops

The 2013 Livonia Churchill girls basketball camp for incoming grades 5-9 will be from 3-6 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, July 16-19 at the high school gym.

The cost is \$50. For more information, call Churchill coach Matt McConaw at 248-761-9201; or email mmccow@454@gmail.com.

Franklin hoops

The Livonia Franklin basketball camp (grades 4-9) will be from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, July 8-11 at the high school.

The cost is \$65 (pre-registered) or \$75 (walk-up). For more information, visit franklinbasketball.com; or email franklinball@gmail.com.

Churchill football

The Livonia Churchill Offensive and Defensive Skills youth football camp for incoming grades 9-12 will be from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Wednesday through Friday, July 24-26, and 6-8 p.m., Monday, July 29 at the high school.

The cost is \$100 (if registered by July 19) or \$125 (sibling discount available). For more information, call Allen Fiegel at 734-718-4987.

BOYS BEST TRACK TIMES

SHOT PUT Rob Veld (N. Farmington) 51.5 Alan Hutter (Franklin) 49.75 Vern Peltier (Farmington) 48.9 Danev O'Connell (Canton) 48.75 Kyle McMillan (Plymouth) 48.25 Michael Hoover (Salem) 44-10.75 Benjamin Tapp (Salem) 44-10.75 Tony Vella (Franklin) 44-12.25 Isaac Johnson (Redford Union) 44-9 Jon Grafton (Farmington) 44-9	DISCUS Justin Smith (N. Farmington) 159-10 Vern Peltier (Farmington) 146-10 Jon Grafton (Farmington) 142-6 Danev O'Connell (Canton) 136-5 Tony Vella (Franklin) 132-10 Demarco McKinney (Churchill) 127-0 Tom Kroyger (Litch. Westland) 126-10 Koby Nance (Harrison) 123-2 Mark Lowry (Harrison) 122-1 Brett Galt (Franklin) 114-5	HIGH JUMP Jamal Dixon (Canton) 6-6 Abel Galt (Canton) 6-6 Terry Todd (Plymouth) 6-6 Mick Todd (Plymouth) 6-6 Nathan Niles (Plymouth) 6-1 Chris Dierker (Salem) 6-1 Dobert Dierker (Salem) 6-1 Kevin Brown-Bayko (Garden City) 6-0 Austin Doherty (Livonia) 6-0 Drew Kelly (Livonia) 6-0	LONG JUMP Shakeel Williams (Thurston) 21-5 Gabe Coleman (Harrison) 20-10 Drake Jordan (Salem) 20-8 Michael Farmer (Livonia) 20-6 Zach Zolovick (Churchill) 20-6 Brent Pilgion (Plymouth) 20-4 Josh Cohen (Farmington) 20-4 Jordan Berch (Salem) 19-11.5 Jordan Berch (Franklin) 19-11 Brett Galt (Franklin) 19-8.5	POLE VAULT Jack Hage (Churchill) 13-4 David Middleton (N. Farmington) 13-4 Michael Farmer (Livonia) 13-4 Alex Rosdale (Churchill) 12-10 Stephen Field (Churchill) 12-0 Kyle Zander (Canton) 12-0 Austin Tucker (N. Farmington) 12-0 Justin Larkins (Franklin) 12-0 Danev O'Connell (Canton) 12-0 Matt Bortis (Livonia) 12-0	110-METER HURDLES Mac Simbuto (Litch. Westland) 38-3 Zach Zolovick (Churchill) 38-3 Michael O'Connell (Harrison) 38-3 Josh Cohen (Farmington) 38-3 Jon Mims (Livonia) 38-3 Marcus Reed (Harrison) 38-3 James Hildert (Canton) 38-3 Kellen O'Connell (Livonia) 38-3 Lamar O'Connell (Livonia) 38-3 Kerri Jefferson (Churchill) 38-3 Avery O'Connell (N. Farmington) 38-3	200 HURDLES Mac Simbuto (Litch. Westland) 38-3 Zach Zolovick (Churchill) 38-3 Jon Mims (Livonia) 38-3 Michael O'Connell (Harrison) 38-3 Josh Cohen (Farmington) 38-3 Marcus Reed (Harrison) 38-3 Kevin Nance (Harrison) 38-3 Kurt Johnson (Harrison) 38-3 Nathan Fael (Livonia) 38-3 Chris Hatcher (Livonia) 38-3	100 DASH Don Duncan (Franklin) 10-8 Justin Johnson (Churchill) 10-9 Steven Harrison (Salem) 10-9 Nathan Rodgers (Franklin) 10-9 Alexander Rogers (Plymouth) 10-9 Kevin Williams (Thurston) 10-1 Shakeel Williams (Thurston) 10-1	Colby Morris (Canton) 11-1 Matus Lane (Redford Union) 11-2 200 DASH Sean Davis (Salem) 22-1 Colby Morris (Canton) 22-1 Alexander Rogers (Plymouth) 22-1 Shakeel Williams (Thurston) 22-1 Nathan Rodgers (Franklin) 22-6 Justin Johnson (Churchill) 22-6 Steven Harrison (Salem) 22-6 Kevin Williams (Thurston) 22-6 Jacob Mallet (Canton) 22-9 Don Roberts (Litch. Westland) 23-2 300 DASH Lucas Meyer (Plymouth) 29-7 Michael Hood (Windsor) 29-7 Andrew Bink (Salem) 29-6 Michael Solon (John Glenn) 31-5 Brett Galt (Franklin) 31-6 Andrew Bink (Salem) 31-8 Sean Davis (Salem) 32-0 Jacob Mallet (Canton) 32-1 Zach Zander (Canton) 32-1 Zach Zander (Canton) 32-1 400 RUN Blair Morris (Plymouth) 2:00.5 Mac Ropy (Plymouth) 2:00.5 Andrew Bink (Salem) 2:00.5 Theresa Johnson (Garden City) 2:00.5 Jesse Jones (John Glenn) 2:00.5 Andrew Bink (Plymouth) 2:01.1 Matt Cohen (Churchill) 2:00.9 Zach Zander (Canton) 2:01.1 Nathan Ely (N. Farmington) 2:01.8 Mac Ropy (Plymouth) 2:02.8 1,600 RUN Theresa Johnson (Garden City) 4:21.7 Keesan Jones (Franklin) 4:24.9 Zach Zander (Canton) 4:30.9 Drew Lindman (Franklin) 4:32.3 Mac Ropy (Plymouth) 4:33.0 Jordan Cohen (Plymouth) 4:34.0 Mac Ropy (Plymouth) 4:35.1 Zach Zander (Canton) 4:36.3 Mac Ropy (Plymouth) 4:37.4 Zach Zander (Canton) 4:42.4 3,200 RUN Zach Zander (Canton) 9:40.4 James Weckley (Harrison) 9:49.58 Theresa Johnson (Garden City) 9:49.7 Steven Maltby (Salem) 9:51.98 Steven Maltby (Salem) 9:54.36 Zane Berlingue (Plymouth) 10:02.0 Keesan Jones (Franklin) 10:04.0 Brandon Dalton (Franklin) 10:10.1 Drew Lindman (Franklin) 10:10.2 Erik Gibson (Livonia) 10:17.9 400 RELEY Salem 47 Farmington Harrison 48.1 Redford Thurston 48.4 Livonia Franklin 48.9 800 RELEY Salem 1:30.7 Livonia Harrison 1:30.9 Canton 1:31 Livonia Churchill 1:32.0 1,600 RELEY Plymouth 3:28.5 Livonia Harrison 3:31.6 Livonia Harrison 3:31.6 Westland John Glenn 3:31.79 Salem 3:31.98 3,200 RELEY Plymouth 8:03.82 Livonia Harrison 8:05.58 North Farmington 8:14.8 Livonia Harrison 8:14.9 Plymouth Christian 8:23.23
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GUTS GIRLS HELP

'Butt disease' patients get outreach

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

When Jackie Zimmerman learned she had ulcerative colitis four years ago, she kept the diagnosis a secret.

"I was mortified. I was humiliated. I didn't tell anyone until I had to. I didn't want anyone to know because it's a butt disease and you don't talk about butt diseases," said Zimmerman, 28.

Facing surgery to remove her colon in 2010, the Livonia woman began blogging about her journey which took her through five operations, including an ostomy and J-Pouch construction. Her blog, "Blood, Poop and Tears" landed a finalist spot in the 2011 Wego Health Activist Awards, Hilarious Health Activist category. She also won Wego's "Most Entertaining Blog Post" honors last year.

Now, as president of Girls With Guts, a nonprofit designed to teach girls and women they can be confident and "beautiful with a butt disease," she can't stop talking — or joking — about her battle with ulcerative colitis, one of several conditions that fall under the umbrella of inflammatory bowel diseases, (IBD). "If you don't have a sense of humor about it with these diseases, you'll never get to the other side. They are diseases that revolve around the butt. It's a topic that makes people incredibly uncomfortable. If you can't learn to laugh at it, it makes the process difficult. You need to laugh at some of the situations you get in. If you don't, you'll cry all the time."

"One of the things I take

pride in on my blog is that I didn't sugar coat any of the journey. I put it out there clearly and honestly because people going through this need to know what to expect."

Creating community

Zimmerman's blog and Facebook page helped her to cement online relationships with a handful of other women who also were blogging about their IBD experiences. Five of them came together in March 2012 for a "giant girly sleepover" in Chicago to meet in person for the first time. That led to ways they could help other women with IBD, and Girls With Guts was born.

"We were just going to be a website but then we got such a huge response from the community," said Zimmerman, adding that other women wanted in on the next overnight gathering. "So we decided to do a retreat. But we needed to be an entity to do that. We decided to become a nonprofit."

The group created its girls-withguts.org website in April 2012 and filed paperwork for 501(c)3 status in September last year. Zimmerman serves as president and CEO and Charis Kirk, a North Carolina resident is vice president. Board members also include other bloggers from across the country and Zimmerman's mother volunteers as treasurer.

In little over a year, the group has developed a program that distributes unused ostomy supplies to individuals in need; created support groups called "Butt Buddies," including a chapter at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak;



Girls with Guts founders are Charis Kirk (left) who lives in North Carolina, and Jackie Zimmerman of Livonia.



Charis Kirk and Jackie Zimmerman show off their Girls With Guts gear.

and planned its first retreat, a camp that will be held Sept. 27-29 at YMCA Camp Copneconic in Fenton.

Camp experience

Over the past few years, Zimmerman has volunteered as a counselor at Camp Oasis, a summer camp for children with IBD. She wanted Girls With Guts' first gathering to be more like a summer camp for women than a "stuffy" retreat inside a hotel.

"I want people to leave there feeling comfortable and confident. There will be the usual camp activities — zip lines and team building — but

there will also be built-in talk time, ample time to connect with each other."

Dr. Lori Gawron, M.D., an instructor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, and Stephanie Horgan, who earned her master's degree at Loyola University in Chicago, will lead sessions. Horgan counsels individuals suffering from chronic illness. Nurses will be on site to answer questions about stoma care.

Zimmerman, who also has multiple sclerosis, said she found few support sites on the Web when she was diagnosed.

After her colon and rectum were removed, she underwent ostomy surgery to create an opening in her abdomen that enabled body waste to drain into an external bag. Surgeons used her small intestines to create a J-Pouch that collects waste and passes it through the body "normally." Her first pouch surgery failed. Her second was successful. While healing between surgeries, she obtained her master's degree in library science from Wayne State University. She works in dealer digital support at General Motors.

Zimmerman said the online IBD community has grown "by leaps and bounds" since she was diagnosed, making the disease less "isolating and lonely." She hopes Girls With Guts will help women build a support network.

"When I was there (undergoing surgeries) I knew there wasn't anything, but it would have been nice to have that 'you're not alone' feeling. Even if we deliver that and nothing else, and it helps people feel supported, then we've done our job."

Register for the camp, get Butt Buddies times and meeting dates, and read member blogs at www.girlswithguts.org.

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Class act: Lessons help consumers learn



Joe Gagnon
APPLIANCE
DOCTOR

the American kitchen. I worked for the Amana Company in those days and it was their parent company Raytheon that invented the microwave and brought it out into the market. Now here was a brand new product which was cleared to be the greatest invention since fire. The big problem would be getting the homeowner to buy into the concept. At a price of \$850 for those first new models, it would be a chore to increase production at the Amana factory in Iowa.

George Forester the founder of Amana always said: "Go out and build up the demand before you produce the product," and that is exactly what

he did. He gave away the new Amana Radarange to every giveaway show on television and had cooking shows produced to show how wonderful this product was. Before long, the microwave oven was being sold nationwide and the prices were dropping to make it affordable for all.

To add to the marketing effort, Amana hired home economists and put them to work across the nation. These wonderful ladies taught the world how to cook with a microwave oven. When a consumer purchased a new microwave they were given an invitation card with three dates on it. You could go to a free cooking class of your choice and learn all about how to properly use this brand new product. Sale of the product was going through the roof and we all know what happened. You don't know many people today who haven't got a microwave in their home. Old George knew

what he was doing!

The other night I had a dream that I was standing in front of every appliance salesperson in America and they were voicing their complaints about their customers' complaints. It seems I was known as America's Complaint King. The sales force was telling me that appliances today are made different than yesterday. So much different, that unless a consumer reads the specific instructions in the manual, they are going to have problems with the product's performance. Too much detergent, not enough of it, the wrong kind of soap, improper loading, the wrong cookware and the list went on and on. It was stated that appliances have been used the same way since day one, children were taught the old way and all of a sudden new directions came along on how to use the product. This is the main factor in why so many homeowners are not

happy with performance. Then the question was asked of America's Complaint King, "What are you going to do about it, Joe?"

In my dream I decided that because new products operate much differently than those of old I would go back to the principle of how people learned to use a microwave oven.

Each appliance retailer in America would have free classes with experts teaching people how to use the product properly.

You would be given a test based on what is written in the operating manual and you must pass it to receive a sheepskin diploma. From that day on, complaints about performance came to a standstill. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAM 1600. You can e-mail your problems and questions on appliances to appliance@waam1600.com.

RELIGION CALENDAR

JUNE FEMININE ARCHETYPES

Time/Date: 1:48 p.m. Saturday, June 29

Location: Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Highway, Southfield

Details: Rev. Kim Riegel and Kathy Igoe, life coach, will lead a "Crone Rave," a gathering of women, who come together in a ritual experience to explore sacred feminine archetypes and societal female stereotypes. The event will include a labyrinth walk and a celebration of community with dance, words, music and food. Attendees will receive a golden book with sacred feminine archetypes by Jean Shinoda Bolen, MD, a

Crone Rave Journal and a Wise Crone photograph. They'll also have an opportunity to create a Maiden-Mother-Crone keepsake artwork.

Contact: Register at www.ligoewalk.com. Call the church at 248-354-4488.

FINE ARTS CAMP

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. June 24-28

Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market Road, Farmington Hills

Details: Registration has begun for this camp for children entering grades 2-8. The theme of the week is "Joseph: from the pit to the palace." Youngsters will participate in fun-filled drama, art, music, hand bells and Bible time. They'll each choose one class to

"specialize" in. The final day of camp will include an evening celebration when campers will show family and friends what they learned during the week. Lunch will be included in the camp. To register or for more information call the church or visit its website.

Contact: 248-553-3380, www.princeofpeacephills.org

SUMMER JAM

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m. to noon, June 24-27

Location: Livonia Church of Christ, 15431 Meridian, Livonia

Details: Aimed at children who have just completed K-6th grades. Children will do crafts, sing, play games, do sign language and learn a Bible lesson daily. Free.

Contact: 248-427-8743

Get creative at summer art classes

The Visual Arts Association of Livonia is accepting registration for summer classes and workshops.

Classes are offered in basic drawing, oil painting, acrylic painting and creative painting in all media.

Lin Baum will teach a six-week portrait painting class Tuesdays and Thursdays, June 25 through July 30. Students will work in their chosen medium, but should bring Nos. 2 and 3B pencils and a kneaded eraser to the class. In addition to classes, students can sign up for workshops in human figure, acrylic techniques, summer flowers and gardens in watercolor, paper mache and watercolor monotypes.

Youth programs include a one-day workshop for children and a five-day session for teens. Children ages 5-12



Youngsters in a VAAL summer class last year show off their art.

will create a personalized book and will have the opportunity to try a variety of techniques, including printing, stamping and collage, 1-4 p.m. Monday, July 29. Cost is \$7 per child.

Teens will have the opportunity to create three to five artistic projects during Anime Cartooning and Comic Book Art, Aug. 12-16. Projects will include trading cards, cover art, character

design, a mini-poster, calendar page or a jigsaw puzzle. Methods also include the transfer of drawings and perspective drawing. Cost is \$55 per student. All materials will be provided.

The VAAL classroom is at 37653 Five Mile, at Newburgh, in Livonia. For information on registration, call 734-838-1204 to get a free catalog of classes or visit the website at www.vaal.org.

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maurices dots dressbarn rue21 ULTA Golfsmith

The possibilities are endless...

Novi Town Center www.novitowncenter.com

Look for the Summer Sidewalk tables for great deals, big discounts and extra special savings!

SIMON

The All New Don Massey Cadillac
In Plymouth

Come see our brand new state-of-the-art repair facility at
40475 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI

Introducing... SAME DAY SERVICE

<p>FREE SPRING SAFETY INSPECTION</p> <p>Includes: Battery & Charging System, Check & Fill all Fluid Levels, Brake & Suspension Systems, & Condition of Tires. Call today for an Appointment.</p> <p><small>Expires 6-30-13.</small></p>	<p>20% OFF ANY SERVICE, REPAIR, PARTS, ACCESSORIES & BOUTIQUE ITEMS</p> <p><small>Up to \$100 in Total Savings. Valid at Don Massey Cadillac Plymouth only. Must be presented at time of write up. Not valid with any other offers or in-store specials. Excludes tires. Does not include sales tax, hazardous waste fees or shop supplies. See dealer for details. Expires 6-30-13.</small></p>
<p>\$99.00 POT HOLE SPECIAL</p> <p>Includes: Tire Balance & Rotation, & Front End Alignment</p> <p><small>Valid at Don Massey Cadillac Plymouth only. Must be presented at time of write up. Valid on most cars and light duty trucks. See dealer for details. Expires 6-30-13.</small></p>	<p>FREE LOANER CARS</p> <p><small>With any collision center repair. We service all makes and models. We are a direct repair facility for many major insurance companies. Full warranty on all repairs. Expires 6-30-13.</small></p>

Hours of operation: Mon., Thurs. 7:30 am - 7:00 pm; Tues., Wed., Fri. 7:30 am - 6:00 pm; Sat. 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Call Today for an Appointment
(734) 453-7500
www.donmasseycadillac.com

See 10 gardens at Garden City walk

Tickets are still available for the 19th annual Garden City Garden Club's Garden Walk, set for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 29.

The walk, which is held rain or shine, will include double the number of gardens that were on the walk last year. Visitors will see a variety of gardening styles, plants and accessories, including 18 flags and five emblems in a yard that honors the armed forces.

Tickets are \$8 and are available for sale at Bar-

son's Greenhouse, 6414 Merriman, Westland.

"This is the main fundraiser for our club and enables us to continue to make a difference in our wonderful community," wrote Cheryl Partin, club secretary, in an e-mail.

The group spruces up public spaces in Garden City with plantings.

For more information about the Garden City Garden Club, visit gccc.weebly.com, see its Facebook page at facebook.com/gccc or call Partin at 734-788-1319.



Bobby Somerville will show off his neat, colorful planting beds during the Garden City Garden Club walk. His yard also includes a vegetable garden.

GARDEN & NATURE CALENDAR

Send material for the Garden & Nature Calendar to Sharon Dargay, sdargay@hometownlife.com, 615 W. Lafayette, second level, Detroit, MI 48226.

In the moonlight

Listen for nocturnal animals, observe the night sky, and heighten your senses during a hike on Friday Night Hike in Heritage Park, 24915 Farmington Road, between 10 and 11 Mile Roads, Farmington Hills. The hikes are from 9:30-10:30 p.m. July 19 and 9:10 p.m. Aug. 23. Hikes are designed for families and children 5 and up. No flashlights are needed.

Hikes will meet at the Nature Center at Pre-K, cost is \$3 per person. Pre-register for the hike at recog.hogwarts.com. You also can pay at the event, however space is limited. In case of inclement weather, the hike will be canceled and refunds given. The Nature Center also will offer a campfire from 7 to 9 p.m. Fridays through July 23. Muffins, smoothies and beverages will be sold. Call the Nature Center at 248-477-1135.

English Gardens

Garden experts will share their list of best garden per-

ennials and will provide tips on selecting plants and caring for them throughout the season, during "Perennial Gardening 101," a free presentation at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 26 and 10 a.m. Saturday, June 29.

Learn to learn critters at bay in the garden, at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 6.

Kids can make leaf and flower prints at a free workshop, 10 a.m. Tuesday, July 9.

Learn to attract birds and butterflies to your garden at a free presentation, 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 10 and 10 a.m. Saturday, July 13.

Get tips on selection and care

of hydrangeas at a free presentation, 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 17 and 10 a.m. Saturday, July 20. Area stores are at 155 N. Maple, Ann Arbor, 334-323-7900; 22650 Ford Road in Dearborn Heights, 313-278-4433; 4901 Coolidge Highway, Royal Oak, 248-285-9500; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, in West Bloomfield, 248-851-7506.

Kids and nature

Free summer nature programs are designed for kids of all ages through Aug. 23 at Heritage Park, 24915 Farmington Road,

in Farmington Hills. Programs include a nature movie, 2 p.m. Monday; story and a craft, 2 p.m. Tuesday; a scavenger hunt, 2 p.m. Wednesday; nature hike, 2 p.m. Thursday; and family campfire, 7-9 p.m. Friday.

Master Gardener

Interested in becoming a master gardener? Classes will run 5-9 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 3 to Dec. 3, at the Wayne RESA Auditorium, 5454 Venoy, Wayne. Cost for the training is \$300. To register, visit mse.ann.msu.edu and click on events to navigate to the master gardener program.

REUNIONS

Send information to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

BELLEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1963

50th reunion will be held Sept. 28. Contact Kathy (Thoth) Hay at khay@reunionshard.com or Dianna (Basaw) McDaniel at djmcDaniel45@comcast.net.

CLASS OF 1973

40th reunion will be held Sept. 28. Send inquiries to Belleville1973.40@comcast.net or call Laura (Kingsley) Delsh at 734-485-2744 or Sterling at 734-265-6132.

DETROIT CENTRAL CLASS OF 1953

The class will celebrate its 60th reunion at 6 p.m. Sunday, July 21, at Glen Oaks Country Club, 13 Mile at Orchard Lake Road, in Farmington Hills. For more information call Bernice Medelmar Betman at 248-737-5773 or Marcia Sussman King at 248-661-3422.

DETROIT CODY CLASS OF 1963

The 50th reunion is set for Friday, Aug. 16, at Joy Manor, 28999 Joy, Westland. Tickets \$40. Contact Jerry Marszalek at 313-532-0134, jmars@globalnet.net, or Phil Varlane at 313-562-3579, varlane@wowway.com.

CLASSES FROM 50S AND 60S

Annual picnic, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 18, at Edward Hines Park, Nankin Mills Pavilion, at Ann Arbor Trail and Hines Drive, will include music, memorabilia, door prizes, hot dogs, chips, bottled water, baseball hats, T-shirts, etc. Special parking will be available for classic cars along with regular parking. Bring cars. No need to register, just show up. Question? Call Phil Varlane at 313-562-3579, varlane@wowway.com or Jerry Marszalek at (313) 532-0134, jmars@globalnet.net.

CLASSES FROM THE 1970S

Anyone who attended school at Cody during the '70s may bring photos or yearbooks, non-dark, July 20 at Nankin Mills in Hines Park, Westland. Bring own food or drink. Information at <http://www.facebook.com/group493604553984271>.

Labrador mix available for adoption

Casey, 7, is a very affectionate girl and always has a smile on her face, according to volunteers at Guardian Angel Animal Rescue, in Livonia.

A Lab mix, Casey has a solid build, velvety fur and is house trained. She is good with older children. She is playful and loves to run around the yard until she's so tired that her tongue wags. She doesn't like

share her space, but with the right introduction, she can learn.

She is fixed and up to date on all of her vaccines.

Guardian Angel Animal Rescue's standard adoption fee is \$175; \$275 for small breeds or \$225 for puppies with \$50 returned upon proof of spay/neuter.

The adoption process includes an application, vet reference checks,

and a home visit.

All of Guardian Angel Animal Rescue's dogs are fostered in private homes. Interested in meeting Casey? Call 734-516-2171, or email to guardian_animal_rescue@hotmail.com.

The organization also shows its adoptable animals, 1-3:30 p.m. Saturdays at the Commerce Petsmart, located on Haggerty, just north of 14 Mile.



Casey is available for adoption through Guardian Angels Animal Rescue in Livonia.

Guide to Employment

To place your ad here contact us at careers@hometownlife.com, or call 1-800-574-7355

Help Wanted - General

APARTMENT MAINTENANCE TECH
Full-time for Westland, Garden City and Plymouth areas. Applicants must have PFI-00 apartment experience. Applicant must know basics of plumbing, electrical, and general maintenance. Must be able to work independently. Requires on-call rotation for after hours emergencies. On-site apartment complex is a great benefit. HVAC is helpful. Applicant must have good driving. Accepting applications at the Westland Park Apartments in Westland. Please call and send resume to: apartment@westland.com. We are a team. If we are a good fit, we will negotiate all terms accordingly.

ASSISTANT BRANCH LIBRARIAN

City of Livonia

For complete information visit our website at www.clivonia.mi.us or apply in person at Livonia City Hall, 1st floor, 13000 Oak Center Dr., Livonia, MI 48150.

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For private Ambulance Service. Experienced biller/coder. Full time with benefits. Fast paced environment. Good growth with room for advancement.

Call: (734) 481-0077 or Fax: (734) 481-0077

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Need for anyone who can get out to work from home. Full time, 9-5, 30-35 hrs/week. Paid training. Call: (734) 734-4232 or email: customer@hometownlife.com

DIRECT CARE

Need for care program/ residents for developmental disabilities. Competitive wages and benefits. Apply now. For info, call: (734) 734-4232 or email: directcare@hometownlife.com

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LABORER

City of Farmington Hills, Parks Division. See posting: www.hgov.com

LANDSCAPE LABORERS

To work in the Midwest area. Please contact the Lansing Division for additional info at landscaping@hometownlife.com or (734) 341-3000.

MACHINE & TOOL ASSEMBLY TRAINEE

Technical Education preferred. PFI/00, no license. MI. Email resume: lukas@hgov.com

DIRECT CARE STAFF

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Help Wanted - General

DRIVER/ ROUTE MERCHANT
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GENERAL LABOR

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GROUP HOME MANAGER

For senior 20 residents. Available for on-call. 24/7. Prior experience in group home and/or in the field. Must have a valid Michigan driver's license. Full time. Send resume to: group@hometownlife.com. We are a team. If we are a good fit, we will negotiate all terms accordingly.

HVAC SERVICE/TECH

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JOE'S PRODUCE

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Help Wanted - General

MEMBER SERVICE REP
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Help Wanted - Medical

CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL COOKER (CPC)
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DIRECT CARE WORKERS & HOME MANAGER

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ENHANCE, INC.

For all areas in South Lyon, Ann Arbor. Applicant must have a valid Michigan driver's license. Must be able to work independently. Requires on-call rotation for after hours emergencies. On-site apartment complex is a great benefit. HVAC is helpful. Applicant must have good driving. Accepting applications at the Westland Park Apartments in Westland. Please call and send resume to: apartment@westland.com. We are a team. If we are a good fit, we will negotiate all terms accordingly.

FRONT DESK

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Junior League marks 60 years

Margaret Newton (left) of Royal Oak and Wendy Doer of Farmington Hills, Junior League of Birmingham members, enjoy the organization's 60th anniversary celebration, held recently at Oakland Hills Country Club. The organization's major initiative is combating childhood obesity through its many health-awareness programs, including Kids in the Kitchen, Girls on the Run, and Little Green Gardeners. PHOTO BY JULIE VOLLES

Passages

View Online
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1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • eoebits@hometownlife.com

Deadlines: Friday 4:15 p.m. for Sunday • Wednesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday

BIDWELL, MARGARET RUTH,
Age 74 of Plymouth, June 19, 2013. Loving mother of Tracy Sharkey and Rob (Mary) Stevens. Proud Grandmother of Lindsey and Kyle Stevens, Jena and Megan Williams and Great Grandmother of Ethan Feller and Kereny Falk. Dear sister of Jean VanBoven, Larry Duiter and the late Terry Verme.

VERMEULEN, FREDERICK HOME

BUCHANAN, SANDRA KAE,
Age 62 of Royal Oak passed away June 2, 2013. Sandy was born in Wayne, Michigan to Richard Howard "Bud" and Mary Madeline Buchanan on December 20, 1950. Sandy is survived by her father Bud, daughters Erin Lemma and Bethany Say (Lemman), grandchildren Ainsley Say and Lachlan Say, sisters Julie Leonard (Buchanan), Stephanie Buchanan, brother Steve Buchanan, and many nieces and nephews. She is preceded in rest by her mother Wilma and brother Richard "Ric" Buchanan. Sandy was a nurse by profession for over 34 years and was admitted as a leader in her field. In her free time she enjoyed reading and frequenting the theater with friends and family. Sandy also enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren and was known to them as their loving and devoted "Buddy". Sandy was proud to be an avid animal lover and advocate. She will be laid to rest in her family's graves at Oakwood Cemetery.

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BURNS, DEBRA CORT
Of Indianapolis, died peacefully at home on June 10, 2013 following a long and courageous battle against cancer. She fought that battle the same way she lived her life - with strength, perpetual optimism, grace, and determination. Debi was born in Detroit, Michigan on July 18, 1952 to the late Robert F. and Betty J. (John) Cort. She was a graduate of Rochester Adams High School in Rochester, Michigan, and Michigan State University. After Michigan State, Debi embarked on a long and successful career in business. Her first job was as a sales executive at Dow Chemical in Michigan, where she was the first woman to hold that position. She transitioned to human resources where she is remembered as being a hero for fellow women because she demanded equality and respect in the workplace. After more than twenty years at Dow, Debi moved to Mercer where she was a partner and senior client manager responsible for business development. Throughout her career, Debi was an excellent mentor and admired as intelligent, thoughtful, patient, and an intent listener, who excelled at everything she attempted. While she enjoyed a distinguished career, Debi's greatest joy was her family. She is survived by her husband of 31 years, John (Jerry) Edward Burns III and daughter Jennifer Cort Burns. Together they also walked, travelled, played golf, and shared the adventure of a well-lived life. Her brother, Jeffrey Marshall Cort, and stepmother, Jane Elizabeth Cort-Hare, also survive. A celebration of Debi's life was held at Woodstock Club on Saturday, June 22nd. Contributions in her memory may be made to the Eagle Creek Park Foundation or the Women's Fund of Central Indiana. Arrangements are entrusted to Flanner Buchanan to Plummer and Bonadonna Zionsville, and online condolences may be left at www.flannerbuchanan.com

FLANNER BUCHANAN
FUNERAL CENTERS

GRAY, JACK EMMETT JR.
Age 45, went to be with the Lord on Saturday, June 15, 2013. Mr. Gray was born December 16, 1967 in Greenville, to Jack E. Gray, Sr. and the late Gwen Esie Smith Gray. Jack was a certified litigator in the U.S. Federal District Court and an attorney with the law firm of Driggers, Schultz & Herbst in Michigan. He was a member of the American Bar Association and the Michigan Bar Association. He was an alumnus of the Thomas Cooley School of Law and the University of South Carolina. Jack was a husband and a father of three children: a son, Jacques Gray, and his extended family in Michigan, and Peter and Camille (Klusk) Sr. and Peter Ecklund Jr. Mr. Gray's services will be 11 a.m. Wednesday at Cannon Memorial Park, officiated by Rev. Ferrell Mixon. The family will receive friends in the cemetery immediately following the service. Memorials may be made to American Heart Association, 3535 Pelham Road Suite 101, Greenville, SC 29615.

FLANCHER

LANNEN, DICK E.
Age 76 June 16, 2013. Beloved husband for 56 years of Janet. Dear father of Joan M. (Christopher) Sinner, Lannen, Richard J. (Barbara) Lannen, James E. (Terry) Lannen, and Ann M. (Lee) Kenderski. Cherished grandfather of Richard, Ryan, James, Jessica, and Kimberly Lannen and Morgan and Lily Kenderski. Brother of Herbert Lannen and the late Thomas Lannen. Also survived by nieces and nephews. Friends may visit at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 1368 N. Crooks Road (between 14-15 Mile Rds.) Monday 2-8pm. Funeral Mass at Holy Name Church, 630 Harmon, Birmingham, Tuesday 10am. Friends may visit at church beginning at 9:00am. Immediately following Mass there will be a luncheon in Dick's memory from 11am-2:30pm at the Birmingham Country Club, 1750 Saxon Drive, Birmingham 48009. Memorials appreciated to Angela Hospice.

Obituary and condolences at lynchfunerals.com

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LASSALINE, DR. WILLIAM
June 19, 2013, Age 81. Beloved husband of Johanne for 57 years. Loving father of Bill (Bernadette), Patty, Mary (Tom) Utter, and Jenny (Bryan) Slaughter. Dear grandpa of 11. Survived by his little Lucille (The late Leo) Smilges and his brother Larry (Mary) Visitation, Fr. June 28 3-5pm with a 7pm Scripture Service at Harry J. Will Funeral Home 3700 S. State, Livonia, MI 48152. Funeral Mass 12:00pm on Sat. June 29, (In State 11:30am) at St. Colette Catholic Church, 17609 Newburgh, Livonia, MI 48152. For more information please visit: www.harrywillfuneralhome.com

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MOSES, JEFFREY G.
Age 42, suddenly passed away at home in Westland on June 17, 2013. Jeff was born to Susan E. Moses and George D. Moses on November 21, 1970 in Dearborn, Michigan and spent the majority of his childhood in Plymouth, Michigan. He is survived by his loving sisters Shelley (Gregory) Martinez and Stefanie (Brian) Holland, his dear niece, Charlotte Holland, and stepmother Patricia L. Moses and by many devoted aunts, uncles, cousins and relatives. Jeff was cherished by and preceded in death by his grandparents, George A. and Vivienne L. Moses and Lewis and Violet Mahals.

Services have been held. To leave a condolence www.schrader-howell.com

THARP, REBECCA A.
Age 28 of Irvine CA, formerly of Bloomfield Hills, MI, passed away suddenly from a heart defect on June 14, 2013. Loving daughter of Charlotte and the late Allan, dear sister of Timothy, Stephen (Jessica) and Kimberly, proud aunt of Donovan. The funeral service will be 11:00 a.m. on Monday, June 24, 2013 at the Friday Funeral Home, 2904 Orchard Lake Rd. Keego Harbor, MI 48031. Visitation will be on Sunday from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and on Monday from 10:00 a.m. until the service at 11:00 a.m. in the funeral home. Interment will be in Franklin Cemetery. Please visit: godhardtmonlinsonchapel.com

WOODY SHIRLEY (MAINLAND)
July 16th, 1929 - June 15th, 2013. Age 83 of Milford, formerly of Bloomfield Hills, passed away on June 15th, 2013. She now joins her beloved husband of over 50 years, Alfred Royce Wood, Sr. known to his family and friends as "Woody". Shirley is survived by her children: A. Marie Wood (Mary Ellen), Bruce C. Wood, Missy M. Chobot and Laura W. Wameley (James). She was a grand children Abby, Hannah and Emma Wood, Robbie (Lauren) and Christopher Skinner, Jessica and Jenna Czarnesky and her very first great grandchild, Jas Robie Skinner. All of whom she loved fiercely, inspired greatly and made laugh uncontrollably. A teacher of many lessons, Shirley's wisdom has touched many lives and brightened many days. A constant source of wisdom, enthusiasm, charm and cheer, she will be deeply missed by her family and friends. Services will be held privately. Memorials may be made in her honor to your favorite charity, or by simply opening a door for a stranger, sharing a smile or telling a joke to someone in need of a good laugh. For further information please contact Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 248-684-6645.

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MILESTONES

Celebrating 30 years

Robert and Kelley (Cavanaugh) Mahnske of Redford Township will mark their 30th wedding anniversary June 25. They were married in 1983 in the backyard of her father's North Rose-dale home. The couple has two children, Caitlin and Connor, both of Redford Township. Kelley has spent the last 30 years at the Bank

ANNIVERSARY

of America, formerly Michigan National Bank, in the legal division. Robert has worked at numerous Detroit area hospitals for the past 35 years and currently is in the IT dept at Henry Ford Health System. Robert and Kelley enjoy traveling and supporting area sports teams and Detroit attractions, including Belle Isle, Eastern Market, and Pewabic Pottery. They will celebrate



Kelley and Robert Mahnske of Redford Township

their anniversary on Mackinac Island where they honeymooned.

ANNIVERSARY

Celebrating 60 years

Al and Shirley Burke, Garden City residents since 1955, will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on June 27. The couple married in 1953 at the home of the bride's parents in Mass City. Al, a Korean War veteran, served in the U.S. Navy for four years and in the U.S. Army for two years. He retired from Bentley Tool in 2000, but continues to do home improvements with his son, Bryan. Shirley retired from Feblo in Livonia.



Al and Shirley Burke on their wedding day

The couple has four children: Sharon and Arvo Parkila, Bryan and Jeanette Burke and Kris and Will Will, all of Garden City, and Gary and Gail Burke of New Hudson. They have 11 grand-



Al and Shirley Burke of Garden City

children and eight great-grandchildren, with another one due in November. They plan to celebrate their anniversary with family and close friends at a dinner.

BIRTHDAY

Celebrating 100 years

John Bendick celebrated his 100th birthday at a Detroit Tigers-themed family party Sunday, June 16. "It was a grand celebration with a 100-year time line, Paws appearance, strolling magician and ballpark food," Bendick's daughter, Carole Kubitsky of Farmington Hills, wrote in an email. Bendick, born John Ignatovich on Friday, June 13, 1913, in Detroit, later took his step-father's last name. His biological father, William Ignatovich, was buried the same day he was born. Bendick attended Cass Tech High School, Wayne State University and the Detroit Institute of Technology, where he received a bachelor of science degree in me-



John Bendick at 100 years

chanical engineering in 1950. For financial reasons, war time and then marriage, he took college night classes for 11 years - while holding down a day job - in order to earn a degree. Bendick worked at Chrysler from 1934-46 and at Ford from 1946-50. He recently was honored for his 60-year membership with the Society of Automotive Engineers. Bendick, who lives in West Bloomfield, was happily married for 64 years and has three chil-

dren: Bob (Mireille) Bendick of Rochester, Jim (Nancy) Bendick of Farmington Hills and Carole Kubitsky (Jerry Witkowski) also of Farmington Hills. Bendick has nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. He enjoys the Detroit Tigers and the Michigan Lottery.

"He used to listen to the Tiger games on his crystal set, starting back in 1927 with the first WWJ broadcast by 'Ty' Tyson," Kubitsky wrote. "Now he watches them on a flat-screen HD color TV. Amazing. He still plans to 'win big' on the lottery, but honestly, I think by living to 100, he has!" Kubitsky said her father offers this secret to a long life: "Don't smoke. Don't drink. Don't go out with wild women. Any one of them can kill you!"

BIRTHDAY

Celebrating 95 years

Dorothea Elizabeth Ross turned 95 years old June 8. She was born in 1918 in Winnipeg, Canada. When she was 6 years old, her father and mother, Peter and Margaret Walker, moved her and her brother John to Windsor, Ontario. Dorothea and her husband Wilfred Sycamore moved to Detroit in 1951. Dorothea retired from A&P Supermarket chain in 1952.



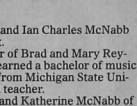
Ross

and 10 great-grandchildren. Her family plans a 95th birthday party over the Fourth of July weekend in Brooklyn.

ENGAGEMENT

Reynolds-McNabb

Kimberly Ann Reynolds and Ian Charles McNabb announce their engagement. The bride-to-be, daughter of Brad and Mary Reynolds of Farmington Hills, earned a bachelor's degree in music education from Michigan State University. She is a music/band teacher. Her fiancé, son of Hugh and Katherine McNabb of Grand Rapids, earned a bachelor of science degree in packaging from Michigan State University. He is a second lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps. An April 14 wedding is set in Farmington.



Kimberly Ann Reynolds and Ian Charles McNabb

WEDDING

Stevens-Bishop

Samantha Stevens of Farmington Hills and her fiancé, the son of Bishop of Troy were married May 25, 2013, at St. Thomas More, Troy. The Rev. John Zenz officiated. The bride, daughter of Philip and Barbara Stevens of Bloomfield Hills, is a 2008 Lahser High School graduate. She graduated in 2012 from the University of Evansville and is employed as a signoff analyst at Ford Product Development Center in Dearborn. The groom, son of Thomas and Rosanne Bishop of Troy, is a 2008

graduate of Troy High School and plans to graduate in 2013 from Michigan State University. He's working as an intern at Detroit Public Schools before student teaching in Bloomfield Public Schools. The bride's attendants were Heather Breh, Leah Thomas and Andrea Solomonson. The groom's attendants were Michael Bishop, Matthew Bishop and Kevin Stevens. A reception was held at Kilgus Scottish Centre, Troy. The newlyweds took a honeymoon trip to Cancun, Mexico, and plan to live in Farmington.



Samantha Stevens and Jaimison Bishop

May you find comfort in Family and Friends

U-M polio finds few adults get pertussis vaccine

Pertussis, also known as whooping cough, can be fatal to newborns who haven't received vaccinations.

Yet a new University of Michigan poll shows that 61 percent of adults say they don't know when they were last vaccinated, which could mean they are unwittingly exposing vulnerable babies to the disease.

Only 20 percent of adults reported that they received the pertussis vaccine less than 10 years ago in the recommended time frame, while 19 percent said they were vaccinated more than 10 years ago.

"Pertussis is a very preventable disease," said Matthew M. Davis, M.D., director of the C.S. Mott Children's Hospital National Poll on Children's Health. "But many adults may think their childhood vaccinations still are protecting them against pertussis. Findings from this poll show that few adults have received a booster shot within the recommended 10-year time frame and, in fact, two-thirds told us they were not aware of their vaccination status."

Pertussis easily spreads within households, day care facilities, schools and neighborhoods and is most often serious in infants and young children. The majority of deaths from pertussis occur in children less than 3 months old.

The poll also found broad support for parents to insist that their newborns not be exposed to those who might not be current on their pertussis vaccine.

The majority — 72 percent — strongly agree or agree that parents have the right to insist that visitors receive the pertussis vaccine before visiting a newborn baby in the hospital.

Nearly two-thirds — 61 percent — of adults strongly agree or agree that parents should make sure all adults receive the pertussis vaccine before visiting a newborn baby at



According to a U-M poll, many adults think their childhood vaccinations still protect against pertussis. A booster shot is recommended.

GETTY IMAGES/BRAND X

home.

Pertussis vaccines are recommended for teens and adults (known as the "Tdap" vaccine), including pregnant women. Boosting immunity against pertussis among teens and adults is especially important for protecting newborns. Most infants who fall sick with pertussis got the illness from an older child or adult with pertussis.

"Welcoming a baby to the family is a wonderful time, and no one would want to put an infant at risk. So the results of this poll are encouraging because they indicate some awareness that visitors need to be protected against this disease," Davis said.

Davis said he hopes the awareness among parents will increase the numbers of people seeking a booster vaccine.

"Expectant parents should have a conversation about pertussis vaccine with their family and close friends before the baby is born, to allow time for them to get their pertussis vaccine up to date."

"If parents begin to take this approach, it may have a very positive impact decreasing the number of newborns who become severely ill or die as a result of pertussis."

JUNE JOINT REPLACEMENT

The Center for Joint Replacement at St. Mary's Hospital offers free monthly educational seminars from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, June 27 and Wednesday, July 24, in Classroom 10 at the hospital, located on Five Mile at Levan, Livonia. David Mendelson, MD, will speak at the session next month and Jeffrey Mendelson, MD, is the guest speaker for the July meeting. They'll talk about St. Mary's comprehensive group approach to joint replacement, including pre-surgical classes, choosing a personal "coach" to assist patients through the process, and what to expect post-surgery and discharge from the hospital. To register for the free seminar, call 734-655-2345.

LUPUS SUPPORT

The Michigan Lupus Foundation will hold a support group meeting, 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 26, at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, Livonia. Meetings are designed to assist people with lupus, to help their family and friends to get connected with each other, and to help them get a better understanding of the disease and how to fight it. Support group meetings are offered free of charge to anyone interested in participating. For more information visit www.milupus.org, or call 800-705-6677.

JULY CANCER SURVIVORSHIP

Living With, Through and Beyond Cancer, is a free program that offers information from leading oncology experts to help those coping with cancer. Presentations will be followed by a question and answer period with doctors and health care providers. The four-part series will be held July-October at Josephine Ford Cancer Institute (JFCI) sites. The first session, Communicating with Your Health Care Team, is set for 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 10, at Henry Ford Medical Center-Columbus, 39450 W. 12 Mile, Novi. For more information about the series, call Ted Varkas at 734-779-1007, Mary Reuters at 586-263-2237, or Gwen Roediger at 248-344-6696.

CONTROLLING JOINT PAIN

Henry Ford Health System's Joint Preservation Program offers free classes on ways to slow down the progression of joint pain without surgery. The focus is on the knee and hip joints. Participants learn how the joints work, self-management of pain, medical treatments, physical therapy, and exercises to strengthen joints. Classes run 10 a.m.-noon July 11 and 13 p.m. Aug. 15 at Henry Ford Medical

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Center - Fairlane, 19401 Hubbard Drive, Dearborn, and 1-3 p.m. Aug. 22, at Henry Ford Medical Center - Columbus, 39450 W. 12 Mile, Novi.

ONGOING AQUATIC CLASSES

The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit and the Arthritis Foundation have partnered to offer aquatic classes designed to ease the pain of arthritis. Classes are held 11 a.m.-noon Tuesday and Thursday at the Farmington branch; 11:45 p.m. Monday and Wednesday at the Livonia branch; and 2-3 p.m. Wednesday and Friday at the Birmingham branch. All classes are offered to members and nonmembers of every age and participants do not need to know how to swim to participate. To join or for more information, interested individuals can contact their local YMCA branch or visit www.ymca-detroit.org.

BLOOD PRESSURE

Garden City Hospital offers free blood pressure testing, cholesterol (55), and lipid panel (110) testing, 10 a.m.-noon, the first Tuesday of every month in the main lobby of the hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. No registration is required. Senior citizens can have their blood pressure tested monthly, free of charge, at 8:30 a.m. the first and third Tuesday and second and fourth Thursday of the month at Westland Mall, 35000 Warren Road, Westland; 9 a.m. the second and fourth Monday at the Berwyn Senior Center, 26155 Richardson, Dearborn Heights; and 10:15 a.m. every other Wednesday at Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood, Garden City, and every second Tuesday at the Redford Community Center, 12121 Hemingway, Redford Township. For information, call 734-458-4330.

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT

Meets 6:30-8 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month in the Atrium of Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center, St. Mary's Hospital, 36475 Five Mile (use south entrance off Levan Road), Livonia. Call 734-655-1100, or visit www.stmaryshospital.org.

BIPOLAR SUPPORT

Depression Bipolar Support Alliance meets 6-7:30 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday at Lincoln Behavioral Services Center, 14500 Sheldon, Suite 1608, Plymouth. It is accessed through the Plymouth Executive Park driveway north of M-14. It is a self-help group for people suffering from depression and bipolar disorders. Meetings open to families. All leaders are professionally trained and attend two trainings for every year to update their skills in leading the group. Call Nancy at 734-536-3457 for directions.

Caregivers support

St. John's Support Group for the Caregivers of Alzheimer's Patients or patients with other forms of dementia meet the first and third Friday of each month at 10 a.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 5745 Sheldon, Plymouth. Respite care will be provided. Call Connie McNutt at 734-895-1426 for information. Authorized by the Alzheimer's Association.

Wayne Metro's Caregiver Support Group offers assistance to those struggling to find or give quality care to loved ones. Meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month, 10 a.m. to noon, at the Kay Beard Building on Michigan Avenue, Westland. Meetings are also held at the Village of Redford on Six Mile. The morning group meets 10 a.m. to noon on the second Thursday of the month; the evening group meets the fourth Thursday of the month from 6-8 p.m. Adult care may also be available. Call Nancy Coman at 313-883-2550. Ext. 233.

CHOIR THERAPY

The Therapy Chorus of Michigan extends an invitation to individuals with any kind of special needs or disabilities and their able-bodied family and friends to participate in singing. Times and dates of sessions in January vary. Call Lan McCullough at 248-474-2763, Ext. 22. Or visit www.therapychoir.org.

CPAP/BIPAP

The Sleep Disorders Center of Michigan offers a free CPAP/BIPAP mask fitting clinic, 5-6 p.m. every Wednesday, at 35500 Central City Parkway, Suite 103, Westland. Most insurances cover new supplies. No appointment needed for information, call 734-458-7251.

CPR CLASSES

Classes range from basic CPR for people who want to know how to help save a life to certification for those who need CPR for work and state licensure, at DMH Union Valley-Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Drive, Dearborn. First aid classes also available. Classes offered weekday evenings and Saturday mornings. Price varies. Pre-registration required at www.hivh.org/physician/calendar or call 248-937-3314.

DIABETES SUPPORT

An adult diabetes support group sponsored by the Plymouth Lions Club meets 2-3:30 p.m. the second Thursday of the month, at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, in downtown Plymouth. Free training, a registered nurse, certified diabetes educator and Plymouth Unit will facilitate. Discussion topics will focus on understanding diabetes and self-management strategies. Call 734-454-0859.

Here Comes the Sun

...take a little extra time and protect your skin!

Ask A Garden City Hospital Health Expert

Vitamin D is important to our health. There are several ways to enjoy the benefits of Vitamin D, without the damaging effect of the sun or the risk for skin cancers. Board Certified Dermatologist and GCH Health Expert, Dr. Farid Nasser, provides insight on a number of common skin issues.

Dr. Nasser
Dermatology

Q: Do I need to be more vigilant against the sun during the summer?

A: Protection from ultraviolet (UV) radiation is important not only during the summer or at the beach, but all year round. While UV rays are stronger in the summer, UV rays can reach you on cloudy days just as easy as sunny days. UV rays also reflect and intensify off of surfaces like water, cement, sand and snow. The hours between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. are the most hazardous for UV exposure. Try to stay in as much as possible during this time and protect yourself by wearing sunglasses, a wide brim hat, more clothing and of course, plenty of sunscreen.

Q: How does chlorine in pool water affect your hair and skin?

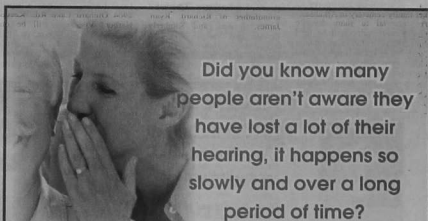
A: Chlorinated pool water removes the natural oils and lubricants from our hair and body. This can cause our skin to dry and flake, while weakening hair and causing split ends. There are also a few things to consider when swimming in fresh or salt water. First, natural bodies of water are alive with parasites and other living creatures which can be harmful and cause a rash known as "swimmer's itch". Secondly, it's not uncommon for fresh and salt water to leave a residue on your skin and hair. It's important to rinse off after swimming no matter what type of water you've been in. Don't forget to reapply your sunscreen.

Q: What causes warts and can they be prevented?

A: Warts are caused by direct contact with human papillomavirus (HPV), which is contagious. HPV spreads by person-to-person contact or through direct contact with an object used by a person with the virus. The virus that causes warts can also spread to other places on the body of the person with warts. If you already have warts, you can prevent them from spreading by not picking at them. Consider covering warts with bandages. In addition, keep your hands dry as possible—warts are harder to control in moist environments. You should minimize brushing, combing or shaving areas where warts are present, as the virus can be spread via these actions. You should wash your hands thoroughly after you touch any warts. Warts can be treated by a dermatologist or possibly by using an over the counter product.

Join Garden City Hospital every month at Westland Mall, for our wellness lecture series. At 1 p.m. on the second Saturday of each month, a GCH Health Expert will provide helpful and in depth information on a variety of issues that impact our health every day. The next lecture, "Elderly Care and Fall Prevention", is July 13.

Do you have a health or medical question for one of the GCH Health Experts? Visit GCH.org or call 877.717.WELL.



Did you know many people aren't aware they have lost a lot of their hearing, it happens so slowly and over a long period of time?

Hearing loss, also known as hearing impairment, is a sudden or gradual decrease in the ability to hear. Although hearing loss is especially common in older adults, it affects people of all ages, can range from mild to severe, and can be reversible, temporary, or permanent.

The most common causes of hearing loss are age and exposure to noise over a long period of time. People who have hearing loss are sometimes not aware of it, especially when the loss has developed gradually.

Hearing loss can be conductive or sensorineural.

In conductive hearing loss, the transmission of sound (conduction) is misdirected or blocked from passing into the inner ear. Anything that disrupts the passage of sound through the external and middle ear—such as hardened earwax, a foreign object,

abnormal bone growth, swelling or tumor—can cause this type of hearing loss. Conductive hearing loss usually can be reversed by treating the cause.

In sensorineural hearing loss, sound reaches the inner ear, but a problem in the inner ear or in the cochlear (auditory) nerve or, in rare cases, in the brain itself, prevents proper hearing. Damage to the tiny hair cells in the cochlea, resulting from age-related changes or repeated noise exposure, is the most common cause of sensorineural hearing loss. Conditions such as stroke, multiple sclerosis, or a tumor sometimes cause nerve damage that may result in sensorineural hearing loss.

Hearing loss is sometimes reversible. If it is not, hearing aids and other devices can help the person adapt to reduced hearing and help make communication, social interaction and many daily activities easier and more enjoyable.

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TAYLOR	24474 Goddard Bldg. Telegraph & Beech Daly	(313) 291-2993

LINCOLN PARK
In Sears, Lincoln Park Shopping Center
(313) 383-5587

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PER MONTH
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0% APR +\$500 Financing for 60 months In Challenge Cash
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Financing for Everyone!



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For 24 months for current
A/Z plan lessees!
\$1,036 Cash Due at Signing
\$159
PER MONTH
EPA-estimated rating of
26 city / 36 highway MPG

Buy a 2013 Ford Edge for
0% APR +\$1,750 Financing for 60 months In Customer Cash
OR receive \$3,250 In Customer Cash!³
Financing for Everyone!



Lease a 2013 Ford Edge SE FWD for
For 24 months for current
A/Z plan lessees!
\$1,115 Cash Due at Signing
\$229
PER MONTH
EPA-estimated rating of
19 city / 27 highway MPG

Buy a 2013 Ford Escape for
0% APR +\$500 Financing for 60 months In Challenge Cash
OR receive \$2,000 In Customer Cash!³
Financing for Everyone!



Lease a 2013 Ford Escape SE FWD for
For 24 months for current
A/Z plan lessees!
\$1,128 Cash Due at Signing
\$199
PER MONTH
EPA-estimated rating of
23 city / 33 highway MPG

Buy a 2013 Ford Explorer for
0% APR Financing for 60 months
OR receive \$2,000 In Customer Cash!³
Financing for Everyone!



Lease a 2013 Ford Explorer XLT FWD for
For 24 months for current
A/Z plan lessees!
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\$279
PER MONTH
EPA-estimated rating of
17 city / 24 highway MPG

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For 24 months for current
A/Z plan lessees!
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\$289
PER MONTH
EPA-estimated rating of
19 city / 29 highway MPG

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Car Report

Advertising Feature

Mazda sees sales rise, boosted by Mazda6 and SkyActiv



By Dale Buss

gives in that direction.

The company's 19-percent gain in May sales over a year earlier halted its four-month streak of sales declines and well outpaced the industry's overall 8 percent gain for the month, suggesting that the results might mean Mazda's strategy to become viable as a small, independent automaker are starting to take hold.

The results were "a testament to what Mazda is capable of," Jim O'Sullivan, CEO of Mazda North American Operations, told Automotive News. He's still aiming for more than 300,000 US sales for the brand for the first time since the mid-1990s and to avoid a third straight year of share losses in the American market.

Leading those hopes were May sales of a completely redesigned Mazda6, the brand's bread-and-butter car model, which increased by 72 percent over sales of the previous version a year earlier. Mazda also boosted sales of the Mazda3, its compact sedan, by more than five percent for the month and by nearly 80 percent for its CX-5 small SUV, a worthy entrant in a hot segment.

Other things are afoot besides Mazda coming up with more of the right vehicles for the right segments. The brand is in its third year with a new ad agency, WPP Group, which has created a dedicated operation, Garage Team Mazda, to turn

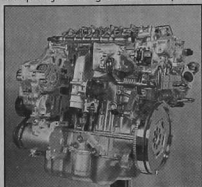
around the brand. New CMO Russell Wager hails from Mazda's old agency, Doner, which created the "Zoom-zoom" tag line that the brand has worn so well.

He has honched the new "Game Changers" TV ad campaign for Mazda that broke with an ad featuring one venerable game changer in sports, Dick Fosbury of the Fosbury Flop high-jump technique.

Mazda also credits its SkyActiv technology cluster for boosting sales, noting that vehicles equipped with SkyActiv—including all of the nameplates mentioned earlier—accounted for nearly 74 percent of the brand's total sales in May.

SkyActiv is a group of elements including fuel-efficient powertrains, "lightweighting" of structural components and safety improvements that Mazda has been promoting consistently as a sub-brand while at the same time retaining the "Zoom-zoom" line as a signature.

However, shaping SkyActiv into a truly galvanizing sub-brand remains a work in progress. No doubt Mazda has been inspired by the success of Ford in working its EcoBoost brand into a significant sub-marque by creating an EcoBoost power-



Mazda's SkyActiv-D clean-diesel engine.

train for just about all of its vehicles and emphasizing the fuel savings and power adequacy of the engines.

But by attempting to cover more ground, and feature and benefits that are more ambiguous than what Ford claims for EcoBoost, Mazda has got a bigger challenge with SkyActiv.

In goals and even the vagueness of the brand name, SkyActiv actually more closely resembles BMW's "Efficient Dynamics" handle than Ford's EcoBoost. And Efficient Dynamics has never really caught on as an effective message for BMW.

Still, Wager told me, "When SkyActiv is explained to consumers and they do understand it, their propensity to put the [Mazda] brand on their shopping list increases dramatically. It's a tough explanation to get across in more detail, but once you start peeling the onion away, it's a pleasant surprise—and it gets people to say, 'We need to check out Mazda.'"

SkyActiv began several years ago as the embodiment of Mazda's strategy in regard to vehicle electrification: It wasn't going to do any.

"Everyone was coming out with EVs or hybrids, and Mazda made the decision that we're not going to try to change the way that people normally drive," Wager said. "Mazda decided to find a way to affect everything in the car in order to get consumers to the same goal: be environmentally conscious as well as get better



The sleek new Mazda6 is slipping the wind—and nothing sales.

fuel economy."

So in addition to boosting the mileage yields in its engines, Mazda focused on making aerodynamic design improvements (evident, for instance, in the new Mazda6), on "lightweighting" vehicles with high-tensile steel that is lighter than conventional steel but stronger, and finally, on making its transmissions even more efficient.

And along the way, Mazda executives realized that all of these technologies would provide benefits beyond more fuel economy, for instance in terms of safety. They looked for a broader moniker to cover what they were doing than something that implied fuel economy alone. They came up with SkyActiv.

"It starts with Mazda's philosophy of how to go to market," Wager explained, "and SkyActiv is the result of that philosophy of better, stronger, safer and more fuel economy—but also more enjoyable to drive."

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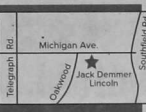
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