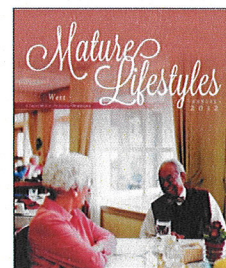




LOCAL NEWS FOR: Allendale, Borculo, Grandville, Georgetown Township, Hudsonville, Jamestown and Jenison

See inside for  
Mature Lifestyles

ADVANCE photo by BRIAN FORDE

## Hooked

Seems moviegoers just can't get enough of the antics of Peter Pan and Captain Hook. The Fusion Film Academy was in town recently to do a remake of "Hook," a movie version of the story. Here Andy Disterheft, 20, of Hudsonville, plays Capt. Hook with a co-star, a Nile crocodile. Action was filmed at the Age of Discovery play center in Hager Park, an Ottawa County Park located in Jenison. For more photos, see Page 3.

## Was Allendale referendum a message to planners?

### Opponents: Put all student housing rezoning on hold

BY CATHY RUNYON  
Cathy\_Runyon@mlive.com

The Allendale Township referendum on rezoning a 14-acre piece of property owned by Stu Becker may have been, in the minds of many voters, a vote on student housing in general.

Although the rezoning would have permitted development of some student housing, no plan to build apartments had been received. The R-4 zoning requested by Becker also would have permitted duplexes; professional offices; and one-, two-, and three-bedroom apartments, with an option for larger units.

Voters Tuesday overturned the decision of the Planning Commission and Township Board to rezone the property. There were 3,403 votes to reject the new zoning, compared with 2,140 votes to approve it.

The property in question is located north of Lake Michigan Drive and west of 48th Avenue,

and west of Sleep Inn Suites, to R-4. The zoning will now revert to the original zoning, planned industrial use. Becker may apply for another type of zoning, if he chooses.

Opponents of the rezoning, including Glenn Turek, owner of Meadows Crossing student housing community, cited too much student housing in the area, and safety issues that would be complicated if apartments were built on the site.

Township Supervisor Jerry Alkema said that regardless of zoning, improvements such as more sidewalks must be determined in conjunction with a development site plan. Also, property owners cannot be responsible for improvements not on their property, such as streets or pathways.

Jeff Seaver, who spearheaded the opposition, said the township should hold off rezoning any more property until such infrastructure improvements are already in place. One plan under consideration by the Ottawa

See HOLD, page 7

## High price has officials deciding to go to voters to fund fitness center

BY KRISTIN AUSTIN  
Kristin\_Austin@mlive.com

Higher-than-expected costs for a new fitness center at Grandville High School could bring another bond proposal before voters.

A committee of parents and

other volunteers will begin meeting next week to discuss a proposed bond issue that will include the new fitness center. The committee was formed after Board of Education members reviewed plans for the new fitness center, which was originally estimated to cost \$1.2 million. But the price tag rose to \$2.1 million after representatives from GMB Architects-Engineers and construction management firm Owen-Ames-Kimball

reviewed the project, including input from teachers, coaches, administrators, and board members on design as well as the firms' recommendation the new fitness center be constructed at the northeast corner of the high school next to the existing gymnasium.

While the board listed the new fitness center as its top priority for upcoming construction projects, citing the cramped conditions of the current weight room

originally built as a storage room, school leaders decided they can no longer go to the district's sinking fund to pay for the new fitness center.

The sinking fund does have enough resources to cover the \$2.1 million project, but would push other needed facility upgrades further into the future, said Debra Reese, assistant superintendent.

Board members agreed the decision on the new fitness cen-

ter, along with other facility improvements, should go before district voters.

The board asked Superintendent Ron Caniff to put together a committee to review what other facility improvements should be included in the bond proposal along with possible technology and bus upgrades. The committee will continue to meet through December and present its recommendation to

See CENTER, page 2

### INDEX

Classified.....	28
Crossword.....	22
Events Calendar.....	22
Recipe.....	11
Social News.....	12
Sports.....	23
More Sports.....	32

www.mlive.com/hudsonville  
www.mlive.com/jenison  
www.mlive.com/grandville

# VETERANS DAY

★ HONORING OUR LOCAL VETERANS — SEE OUR SPECIAL SECTION INSIDE ★



# Faces & Places

Got a question or a comment on our coverage?  
Call Managing Editor Mike Wyngarden at 669-2700  
or e-mail him at [advancenewssubmissions@mlive.com](mailto:advancenewssubmissions@mlive.com).



## Never grow up

The Age of Discovery play center in Hager Park was perfect for a remake of "Hook" by the Fusion Film Academy. Local kids flocked to the production to learn about filmmaking and to play pirate for a day. *Advance* photographer **Brian Forde** kept his camera pointed at the second star to the right. Clockwise from left: Travis Babbitt works the camera and Jaden Fowler checks the script and directs Jordan Ledford, 15, of Hudsonville (foreground), as Peter Pan. Andrea Werema, 10, of Rockford, swings on monkey bars during filming. Connor Dowley, 13, of Cascade, as Rufio, swings onto the set. Jaden Fowler and Travis Babbitt work together as kids watch.



ADVANCE file photo

Alyssa Van Haltsma, 16, marches in the 2011 Hudsonville Holiday Parade with the Unity Christian High School marching band.

## Most wonderful time of year starts with Hudsonville parade

BY CATHY RUNYON  
[Cathy\\_Runyon@mlive.com](mailto:Cathy_Runyon@mlive.com)

It's time for mistletoe and holly, snowmen lights, shopping, land of course, Santa and all the elves as the Hudsonville Holiday Parade steps off Saturday, Nov. 17.

The parade marks the official start of the holiday season in Hudsonville, and is sponsored by the city and the Hudsonville Area Chamber of Commerce. It's the 19th year for the event.

The parade steps off at 10 a.m. at Highland Drive at the Pinnacle Center and proceeds to the Hudsonville Fire Department on Central Boulevard. The parade entries include high school marching bands, horse-drawn wagons, floats, and boats.

Be sure to gather the candy, even if you're on a diet, because Jensen Jewelers is again offering a 1/4-karat diamond as a prize. A certificate for the gem, valued at about \$500, will be inside a wrapped chocolate bar that store employees will give out along the parade route.

Parade spectators and participants are encouraged to enjoy hot beverages, snacks, and fun activities like crafts, games, carolers, a magic show, and a view of live reindeer, immediately following the parade at the fire house. Photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus also will be taken at the fire house.

First- through fourth-graders had the opportunity to participate in a coloring contest, with the winning entries displayed at City Hall. The winning artists will ride on the holiday trolley and will receive a prize from Keegstra's Dollar Store.

This year, entries will be judged by local art experts and the winner will be accompanied by the "judge's favorite" banner. Also they will be awarded the traveling trophy for a year.

Anyone who is interested in participating in the parade should contact Michelle Fare at [mfare@hudsonville.org](mailto:mfare@hudsonville.org) or call 669-0200.

## "How to Protect Your Life's Savings from Being Wiped Out By Nursing Home Expenses or the Cost of Long Term Care"

Here's Just Some of What You'll Learn:

- ✓ Learn about the new changes in the Medicaid laws...and the steps you need to take right now to protect your assets.
- ✓ Some of the biggest mistakes families of nursing home residents make and how you can avoid them.
- ✓ Find out why "traditional" estate planning doesn't work...and find out what does.
- ✓ How retirement plans can be decimated and how you can protect them.
- ✓ Learn how to find the right nursing home and how to get good care there.
- ✓ Learn how gifting money to your children can disqualify you from Medicaid unless it's done just right.
- ✓ Learn how a Living Trust can ruin your planning opportunities for Medicaid.
- ✓ Find out how you can qualify for Medicaid without spending down.
- ✓ Learn one of the legal documents you should probably have in place...and the three things it should contain.
- ✓ Learn how veterans can get up to \$2,019/mo. for in-home care or care in a facility. **✓ And more!**

Speaker Shawn Weera, JD, MFP, is an Elder Law attorney with offices in Grand Rapids, specializing in helping West Michigan families take decisive legal actions to protect their estates and future.

Admission is **FREE**. Seating is limited. Call: **(616) 940-3370** or visit our website: **[www.MichiganElderLaw.com](http://www.MichiganElderLaw.com)** to reserve your seat for this **FREE** workshop.

## FREE Workshop

Tuesday, November 13, 2012  
6:30 pm

**Comfort Suites**

4520 Kenowa Ave. S.W.  
Grandville

RSVP at 616-940-3370