Frank Turner offers his own story of

had a bad attitude. And God

### TURN FROM PAGE AS

although his road to a changed life happened much more publicly.
Orphaned at a young age.
Orphaned at a young age.
Turner was raised by his grandmother, who was illequipped to deal with raising a teenaged boy. He talked about a love-hate relationship with her, because she was abusive.

with ner, because she was abusive.

The conflicts and emptiness in his life, Turner said, led him to experiment with marijuana and alcohol at age 14. He was soon hooked and, at age 17, was introduced to crack

cocaine.

Despite his addiction, he was able to finish high school early and graduated from col-

early and graduated from col-lege.
"I was not only an abuser of drugs, but I was abused by drugs," he said. "So many times, the grace of God was extended in my life to save me from myself."
A successful television jour-nalist, Turner took over the position of another troubled local celebrity, Bill Bonds, and watched his star rise.

iocal celebrity, Bill Bonds, and watched his star rise.

"I was the No. 1 news anchor in Detroit, I was No. 1 at five oclock," he said, "I was doing a remarkable job. Still, his addictions took ar enermous toll on his life.

Suddenly, in 1999, he was unable to even get himself to work. As a result, Channel 7 fired him, a move that was not only broadcast, but published in metro area daily newspapers.

"It was the worst time in my life," Turner said, "But it was the course I had set." What turned him around a year later, he said, was his



This year's Turn Around honorees include Mick Bissett James Cook, Toby Eldnes, Tierra Garrett, Andrew Graham, Shubura Irwin, Michael Juncaj, Jonathan Marmo, Relly Monthel, Shelly Konchel, Jake Klotz, Danlelle Kubln, Trenner Larzelere, Casey Matteon, Sean Dwadd, Danny Preston, Cory Richards, Amy Rosenfeld, Danlelle Sanders, Erin Shapiro, Peter Shear, Kourtey Slack, Doug Troyer, and Whitney Wallen. Not pictured are: Scott Campbell and Alex Patrus.

Christian faith,

The greatest gift of that,
other than salvation, was
deliverance from 29 years of
addiction, Turner said.

It's not enough to turn away
from the wrong direction, he
added. You must turn toward
something.

Like Turner, Danny
Preston's life changed when he
found a deeper faith. How
for the greatest and the
found a deeper faith. The
freat, he ended up in summer
school after his sophomore
year at Farmington High year at Farmington High School.

"I had nothing to do but go to church and summer school," said Preston, now a senior. "I got really into God." He said one Bible verse in particular shapes his view of life: "This is the day the Lord hath made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it."
"I live every day like that," Preston said, "I try to be harms."

happy."
His mother, Joy, also credits His mother, Joy, also credits high school administrators with encouraging Danay to turn his attitude and life in a different direction. Now, he's taking seven classes at FIIS, an apint class and a correspondence class, doing well in all areas. This fall, he plans to attend Grand Rapids Junior College, with the goal of becoming a teacher.

\*\*T feel the same way he did.\*\*Danny said of Turner.\*\*T just

around successes, using the analogy in a New Testament verse that speaks to knowing a tree by its fruit.

"The fact that your life has turned around should show you that you have all you need in your life to succeed, he said." Let the essence in your reots go up through your trunk... and your branches will drip with fruit.

"That fruit, he added, is not produced for the tree, but for others to nurture and combers."

thers to nurture and comfort

them.
Turner also pointed up the contributions that parents and other adults can make in children's lives.
"You cannot find life in chil-

changed my attitude. My char-acter changed. I just didn't care, and now I care about everyone. Everything matters."
A change in attitude also
helped Power Middle School
eighth-grader Whitney Wallen

rors lives.

You cannot find life in children if you do not speak life into them. He said. "Speak what you know and believe is their ability, even if they don't believe it of themselves."

The lunchon event was held at Farmington Hills Manor, which offered its catering and farifities at a reduced cost to support the program. Focal Point Studios photographers also provided their services to ensure each participant had a special memento—a photograph with family and teacher nominators. helped Pover Middle School eighth-grader Whitney Wallen turn her school career around At age 13, she was following in the footsteps of an older sister who is an academic standout. Whitneys somether Mary saw that her daughter was having a tough time, but realized she couldn't solve the problem. "You're sorry about how things are going, but at 13, you can't sit her down and say. You have to do this," she said. Whitney eredits her teachers with putting her on the right road. They talked to me and offered to help, she said. Improvement in her grades led to a whole new outlook for the ten. Once quiet and shy, she's now an active participant in class activities and helps those around her. In addition, he have because in the recheck at the rehuech, Ward Presbyterian. "Now I'm better at everything," she said.

Turner told students to take advantage of their turn

nators.

In addition to the four major spensors, the Turn Around Awards were made possible through donations from the Farmington Area YMCA. Farmington Fexhange Club, Farmington Lills Special Services Department, Farmington Opinion Club, Henney-Opinion Club, Hen Optimist Club, Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Jarvis, Metrobank, Oakland Community College, Re/Max Affiliates, Wesley Berry Flower and Sue Zdyrski.

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■ Euchre Party
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playing euchre. The program mus. 740
pin at the Herdiage Park Victor
Center. The cost is \$50 per person.
Scheduled intolly a left for the Art of the Art

bers will take off in their vehicles to bers will take off in their vehicles to search for wild and carpy predetermined dems to photograph. After the proto portion fears will meet back at the Cotock Center for pizza and salad. Entire fears must promote a Polaronal Entire fears must promo a Polaronal Emera and film for at least 15 pictures. The cost is 500 per secon. Preregization is required and space is limited. If then in the Mills.

required and sooke is limited. If fain in the Hills. Before registering for any program, be sure to see what the farmington Hills Special Secrect. Fin in the Hill Passbook has to offer free passes greeners, huge sarray, puss more. The passbook is subject of over \$50 and sets for \$5.P associals can be purchased at the Codick Center and participation businesses.

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