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WESTLAND Observer

SUNDAY
April 17, 2005

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TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Taft-Galloway Elementary first-grader Riana Hardyniec (right) plays the Realtor in the first-grade skit, 'Our Community,' presented at the Realtors Luncheon. Playing role of the family buyer is fellow first-grader Sarah Penner.

Baracy: District as 'good' as others

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Greg Baracy had a message for the more than 100 people in the audience: The Wayne-Westland schools are "as good as any schools in the state."

The message was aimed at the Realtors in the audience and aimed at dispelling the perception that the district is of lesser quality than its neighbors to the north and west.

"I want to share with you that we have outstanding schools," said the Wayne-Westland superintendent. "We're right there at the state average overall, but many of our schools are above state average."

"Our grades are as good as any other school district and that should be shared with parents."

Baracy made his comments during the district's annual Realtors luncheon, held at Taft-Galloway Elementary School in Wayne.

Realtors from throughout the district were invited to Taft-Galloway to see and hear about the Wayne-Westland schools. They also were entertained by a skit, *Our Community*, presented by first-graders, and third-grade musical performance of *Home on the Range*.

While Baracy reported that the state of the school district is "excellent," he expressed disappointment about its perception, noting that school officials over the last several years are hearing from more and more par-

PLEASE SEE BARACY, A5

Cicirelli: '... no gloom or doom here'

Mayor touts budget surplus, promises 'big plans' in 2005

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

The city of Westland is continuing to improve services, trim spending, boost its budget surplus and lure new businesses, despite cuts in state revenue, rising fuel bills and higher costs for employee health insurance.

That's the message Mayor Sandra Cicirelli delivered Wednesday to a crowd of 350-400 people who gave her a standing ovation during her fourth State of the City address at the city's Friendship Center.

"There's no doom and gloom here in Westland," Cicirelli said, giving an upbeat, 30-minute speech just seven months before she hopes to win re-election to a second, four-year mayoral term.

Cicirelli reflected on a year of positive accomplishments despite tough economic times, and, she pledged, "we have big plans for the year ahead."

She touted her administration's ability to trim spending and boost a general budget surplus that is projected to reach



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

City of Westland Mayor Sandra Cicirelli reflects on a year of positive accomplishments in her fourth State of the City Address Wednesday evening at the Friendship Center.

PLEASE SEE CICIRELLI, A4

Excellence award winners amaze and inspire

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

In a city of 86,000 people, it's not easy being chosen as one of Westland's top six residents. That's why Yvette Mays, Joseph Buda, Tony Paquette, Kimberly Hagelthorn, Mary Rickkers and Patricia Barr can be especially proud.

Each one received a Salute to Excellence Award from Mayor Sandra Cicirelli as 350-400 people watched during her State of the City address Wednesday at the city's Friendship Center.

TEACHER OF YEAR

Paquette, a culinary arts instructor, is undoubtedly one of the most popular teachers at the William D. Ford Career & Technical Center, in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools.

He won the Salute to Excellence Award for

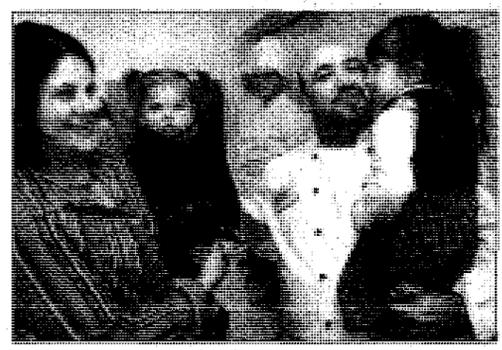
Teacher of the Year.

His students prepared the hors d'oeuvres for Wednesday's State of the City address, and he called his pupils on-stage with him after they yelled enthusiastically as his award was announced.

Paquette was nominated for his award by Principal Ginny Kowalski, who remarked that his award could just as easily have been for Chef of the Year. Paquette inspires his students, she said. "They just blossom."

Said Paquette: "I truly believe that teaching is my passion." He urged his students, "Find the passion that's inside each and every one of you, and then make it happen."

Paquette's achievements include leading the only culinary arts school to serve food at the latest North American International Auto Show charity preview in Detroit.



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Westland's Teacher of the Year Anthony Paquette - Chef Tony - gets a kiss from daughter Katelyn, 5. Also joining him at the Salute to Excellence are wife Meredith and daughter Kimberly, 18 months old.

PLEASE SEE AWARDS, A3

Westland motorcyclist dies in collision with car

A 31-year-old motorcyclist from Westland died as a result of injuries suffered in a Friday night crash at Telegraph and Schoolcraft Road in Redford.

Police say it appears Brandon Jaynes, driving a Kawasaki motorcycle, ran a red light while heading south on Telegraph about 10:45 p.m. The motorcycle struck the passenger-side rear fender area of a westbound 1998 Pontiac Grand Am, said Redford Capt. Kraig Brueck.

The Grand Am was driven by a Detroit woman who was heading through the intersection on a

green light, Brueck said.

Jaynes was thrown from the motorcycle. He was taken by ambulance to Garden City Hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

There were no indications at the scene that drugs or alcohol played a role in the crash, but police are awaiting toxicology tests, Brueck said.

The Grand Am's driver was not under the influence, Brueck said. There were no passengers in the car, and the driver was not hurt.

Police are also trying to determine the speed of

Jaynes' motorcycle at the time.

No charges are expected in the case.

The victim appeared to be traveling with another motorcyclist who also ran the red light but didn't stop after the crash, Brueck said. Police are trying to find that person, but the only description they have is of someone on a racing-style motorcycle.

Anyone who knows the identity of the second motorcyclist can call Redford's police traffic bureau at (313) 387-2560.

By Matt Jachman

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Coming Thursday in Filter



The Boss is Back!
His fans are hugely loyal

Today's forecast: typical Sonny

Weathercaster Sonny Eliot joins journalism hall of fame

BY PAUL R. PACE
STAFF WRITER

He's a Detroit area icon who lives in Farmington Hills. And, yes, Sonny Eliot still makes the Motor City giggle with his unique style of broadcasting the weather.

After more than 50 years in the business, he's still, unquestionably, Sonny — big smiles with quips and anecdotes delivered in lightning speed.

And now Eliot will be honored among his peers as he was scheduled to be inducted into the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame this weekend.

For Eliot, who still forecasts the weather for WWJ-AM (950), the honor is touching.

"This has more meaning to me than any other award I've been given," he said. "I really am humbled by it. I'm delighted and grateful."

Eliot, who has lived with his wife, Annette, in Farmington Hills for the past 15 years, took a moment at the WWJ studios in Southfield to talk about his career, weather forecasting and what he thinks of TV news today.

WHEN TV WAS NEW

Eliot was around when television was a brand-new medium and news broadcasts were a novel concept. He managed to finagle his way in to host a golf show even though he never picked up a club before.

One thing led to another as local television started to blossom and news segments were born. He eventually landed the weather forecasting job for then WWJ-TV.

Back then, weather segments were considered throwaway items to fill up space, he said. "I try to give it a little personality," Eliot said of his



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sonny Eliot is still providing weather and the giggles on WWJ radio.

patented style. "It's a dull numbers game otherwise."

For the broadcaster, doing anything besides reading temperatures was necessary to keep the listener paying attention.

The bottom line, he wanted to make it interesting and give people a reason to smile.

"I'd throw in lines and lead it to something regarding the weather," he said of his unmatched talent to segue bits into a forecast.

It took a while for station managers back in the early 1950s to realize that people really were interested in weather after all.

"Suddenly it became sellable," Eliot said.

His years of experience being a pilot in World War II made him knowledgeable of weather

forecast charts and the like. In the early days, forecasts only went up to three days at best.

He worked for former WWJ, now WDIV-TV (Channel 4), from 1949-81 then went to WJBK-TV (Channel 2) for a couple of years.

FUN IN THE PRODUCT

Roger Sherman, an account manager at WWJ, said people still love hearing Sonny deliver the weather forecast because he doesn't take it so seriously. "He makes something fun out of 72 degrees and sunny," Sherman said. "He puts fun in the product."

Sherman said there aren't too many Detroit legends left. And Eliot is right up there with famed Detroit Tigers broadcaster Ernie Harwell and former news broadcaster Bill

Bonds. Not surprising, all three are friends.

Sherman also said he considers Eliot a true American hero as he was a B-24 bomber pilot during World War II. Eliot spent 18 months as a prisoner of war after he was shot down on a mission.

But for Eliot, the past is the past.

He'd rather talk about how news has changed since the good old days.

"They blur the line between entertainment and news," Eliot said of today's television news formats.

Nonetheless, he said he's glad he's in radio, where real news still lives on.

"It's an enjoyable job," he said.

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First Citizen of the Year

NOMINATION FORM

Co-sponsored by the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and the Westland Chamber of Commerce

Purpose of the Award

The First Citizen of the Year Award was created to recognize an individual for outstanding local volunteer community service. The winner will be honored at the Westland Chamber of Commerce Spring Awards Dinner May 24.

Nominee

Name _____

Title/Position _____

Company/Organization _____

Business Address _____

Nominator

Name _____

Company _____

Outline of Service - Include the impact on the community, length of time and offices held. Use additional sheet if necessary.

Notice - Deadline for nominations is April 29, 2005. Local residency is not required. Those currently holding or seeking public office are not eligible. Mail: Westland Chamber of Commerce, 36900 Ford Rd., Westland, MI 48185 or Fax: 734 326-6040

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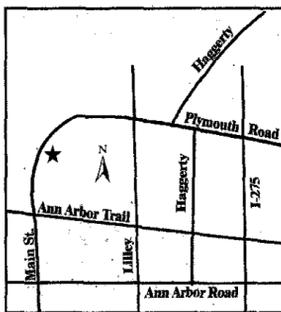
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O&E, Buddy's salute Westland resident

Pamela Olweean knows the importance of caring for family.

When the spouses of two elderly aunts died, she knew that someone would have to step in and help out with things that couldn't be done by phone. One aunt lives in Gregory, the other in Bloomfield Hills. Olweean and her husband, Alan, live in Westland.

Her dedication to family in a "loving and unselfish" way is why Pamela Olweean was recently honored with the Buddy's Pizza/Observer & Eccentric Random Acts of Pizza Award.

"Neither of the aunts have ever driven a car," said Alan Olweean. "The idea of these ladies stranded was unimaginable to my wife. There are doctor visits, dentist appointments, grocery shopping and so many other miscellaneous visits - I can't count," he said. "She's the most loving and unselfish person I know."

"It does my heart good to see



Pamela Olweean hugs Rod McGraw as a thank you for the pizza dinner.

how close these three ladies have become," wrote Olweean in nominating his wife for the award. "My wife is truly one of a kind and I am so proud to be her husband."

The Olweeans of Westland shared their Buddy's dinner with two friends who were just returning home from a hospital stay and had also lost their

spouses.

Tell us about your great neighbor, the new family down the street or someone you think deserves a home-delivered pizza dinner courtesy of Buddy's Pizza. Send nominations by e-mail only to: Ken Abramczyk at kabramczyk@oe.hometownlife.com et.

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AWARDS

FROM PAGE A1

STUDENT OF YEAR

Hagelthorn won the Salute to Excellence Award for High School Senior of the Year. She attends John Glenn High School.

"I've had an amazing high school career," she said, in accepting her award.

Hagelthorn has participated in cheerleading, the Spanish and French clubs, the Distributive Education Club of America and the National Honor Society, and she has been a YMCA camp counselor and served in an anti-drunken driving and drugs student organization, SADD.

Hagelthorn has worked to help the Muscular Dystrophy Association, adopt-a-family programs for holidays and has volunteered at the Marquette House assisted living facility for senior citizens.

She is planning a career in education because "it would be a very fulfilling career to plant the seed of knowledge in our younger generation."

She was nominated as High School Senior of the Year by Glenn Principal Joan Sedik.

MOTHER OF YEAR

Mays, a Head Start teacher and 40-year Westland resident, earned this year's Mother of the Year award. She was nominated by her 10-year-old daughter Natalie.

Mays, married to husband Michael, has said that she strives to instill a strong work ethic and a thirst for education in Natalie and her other daughter, 14-year-old Ashley.

"My first commitment is to my children so that they know they are loved and have two parents who are active in their lives," Mays wrote, when asked by the city to explain in writing why she believes she was selected as Westland's top mother.

Accepting her award Wednesday, Mays said a good mother should be upfront with her children and let them know emphatically what is expected of them.

She partly attributed being a good mother to her own parents, who were "wonderful role



Senior of the year Kimberly Hagelthorn has had an 'amazing' career at John Glenn High School.

models, each other's best friend, companion and soul mate." She said she tries to spend as much time as possible with her own children, whether being involved in Girl Scouts or emphasizing the importance of her daughters getting to know their grandparents, aunts, uncles and other relatives.

FATHER OF YEAR

Buda, a bartender at Red Robin in Westland and seven-year Westland resident, won this year's award for Father of the Year. He was nominated by 8-year-old son Zachary, and he and wife Michelle also have two daughters, Ashley, 15, and Erica, 5.

Buda's parents owned a catering service, and he received his culinary arts degree from Schoolcraft College. He has worked jobs ranging from dishwasher to restaurant general manager.

Buda is highly involved in his children's activities, and he and his family spend time together piecing together scrapbooks that reflect their lives.

"I enjoy all the time I have with my kids and my family,"

he said Wednesday. "I wouldn't give it up for the world."

Buda's job allows him to be at home during the day, which becomes particularly significant when his children aren't in school.

"Although being with the kids can be very trying, a lot of people know, it has also been the best time of my life," he wrote, explaining why he believes he won the award.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP AWARD

Rickkers won the Salute to Excellence award as the Senior Citizen of the Year for Leadership.

"I'm so happy that I can do for others," she said.

She has done volunteer work at her church, and she visits the sick in hospitals and nursing homes. She also routinely sends cards and calls those who are ill at home.

Peggy Ellenwood, director of the senior Friendship Center, said Rickkers always has a smile as she helps others. Rickkers serves on the center's advisory council and is a member of the travel club. She always attends the morning exercise program.

She also has volunteered in

the senior Weight Watchers program and regularly donates hats, gloves and toys to the Goodfellows, an organization that helps needy families at Christmastime.

SENIOR SERVICE AWARD

Barr won the Salute to Excellence award for Senior Citizen of the Year for Service.

"I do feel that people owe society a little something," she said.

Barr started a career in banking, then married and had four children. After her fourth child started school, she went to Wayne County Community College to earn her accounting degree. She then worked for companies as an accountant and bookkeeper.

Barr volunteered as a PTA mother, a scouting den mother and Brownie leader. After her husband died in 2000, she joined the Friendship Center. She is known for helping out at the center's parties and special events. She also helps with Bingo events, using her skills as a bookkeeper.

Barr commended the senior center and said, "I've formed some very deep friendships here."



Mother of the Year Yvette Mays above is joined by her family Natalie, 10, (from left), husband Michael and Ashley, 14.



Celebrating with Westland's Father of the Year Joseph Buda is his family - Zachary, 8, Ashley, 15, wife Michelle and Erica, 5.



Senior of the Year for Leadership Mary Rickkers and Senior of the Year for Service Patricia Barr can't help but smile at the Salute to Excellence program.

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CICIRELLI

FROM PAGE A1

\$1.5 million during the next year, rebounding from the \$200,000 mark early in her first term.

City employees will be implementing a new water meter-reading system that will streamline the service and help to pinpoint problem areas plagued by unusually high usage and costs, Cicirelli said.

Moreover, she has proposed a water-sewer rate increase of only 4 cents per 1,000 gallons, just enough to cover increases passed on to Westland from the city of Detroit. The minimal increase is smaller than rate hikes imposed in recent years.

Cicirelli pledged that residents will have a few more dollars in their wallets under her plan to reduce the city's garbage-disposal tax by a quarter-mill. Disposal costs have dropped from \$63 a ton to \$47 as Westland has shifted from incineration to a landfill.

"I think we should share these savings with our residents," the mayor said, drawing applause from her audience.

Cicirelli predicted that the old Cooper School, closed since 1991 on contaminated land on Ann Arbor Trail east of Middlebelt, will be demolished

this summer. She said state officials have approved a work plan to remediate the 37-acre site and prepare it for new development, including a senior citizen apartment complex, a medical office building and a golf driving range.

"We want to ensure that the cleanup is done properly and safely," she said, adding later, "We believe we are headed for a major success here."

On health care, Cicirelli lauded a discount prescription drug program, offered through the city, that she said has helped 900 residents save an average of 33 percent. She said the plan will be expanded this year to help small businesses.

In efforts to spruce up the city, the mayor will soon propose a blight-control ordinance intended to help officials tackle the problem of empty buildings. She said citations will be issued to delinquent property owners, and a review board will be established to resolve cases.

Cicirelli has proposed beefing up the public safety departments by buying 10 new police cars, refurbishing two emergency medical units and buying several new vehicles for the public service and building departments.

In another public safety measure, she vowed to jumpstart a citizens neighborhood watch program.

The mayor voiced pride that more than 60 new businesses chose to locate in Westland during the last year, and she said she is optimistic that the trend will continue. The Target store, on Warren Road west of Wayne, plans to add a pharmacy and grocery line in a vacant storefront next door.

Cicirelli pledged that efforts to improve roads will continue. One of the next projects will be resurfacing Henry Ruff Road between Cherry Hill and Palmer, she said.

Although Westland became one of Michigan's cities hardest hit by diseased ash trees, she praised Public Services Director Tom Wilson's department with an untiring effort to cut down all 3,200 city trees plagued by the disease.

To help the frail and elderly, the city already has benefited from a federal government program that provided vouchers to help seniors with housing and other needs. She said another 40 seniors will be helped during the coming year.

Westland will continue to face many of the problems it has weathered, the mayor said, including tight finances and rising expenses.

Even so, she said, "we have made a lot of progress, and we plan to keep that momentum going."

cdlem@oe.homecomm.net | (734) 953-2110

PLACES AND FACES

Free seminar

Kate Ferrett, hospital liaison for Arbor Hospice and Home Care, will speak about such issues as advanced directives in a presentation 5-6 p.m. Thursday, May 19, at Westland Convalescent Center.

Ferrett will discuss such topics as what are advance directives, when is it time to think about advance directives, who needs advance directives, what is the difference between advance directives and a living will and how to get started.

The seminar is free of charge and open to the public. Contact Judy Bianchi at (734) 728-6100 to sign up for this very special event.

Curtain call

The City of Wayne Arts and Entertainment Department Actors Community Theatre will present Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella* at 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 6-7, 13-14 and 20-21, and 2 p.m. 2 p.m. Sunday, May 8 and 15, at the State Wayne Theater, 35310 Michigan Ave, Wayne. Tickets cost \$15 for adults, \$13 for students and senior citizens and \$8 for children.

There also will be a Mothers Day Lunch - *Cinderella* Spectacular at noon Sunday, May 8. There will be a full lunch buffet, served at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe, followed by the matinee performance of *Cinderella* at 2 p.m. at the State Wayne Theater. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for children 12 years and under. Package fees are available. Call (734) 721-7400. The Community Theater is hosting auditions for Jesus

Christ Superstar 4:30-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 27, at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe, Wayne. Call (734) 721-7400 to reserve a time slot for an audition.

Spring bazaar

The Edison Elementary PTO will have its Spring Bazaar 6-9 p.m. Wednesday.

The bazaar will feature a collection of 25 vendors, mostly direct-sell businesses like Tupperware, DK Books and Party-Lite candles along with a few cash-and-carry vendors selling jewelry, denim purses, stamped greeting cards and other fun items. There will also be a bake sale held in conjunction with the bazaar, which will be held in the gym.

No children will be allowed in the gym, however, baby-sitting will be available. Edison School is at 34505 Hunter, Westland.

Power Soccer Clinic

The Westland Parks and Recreation Department will host a Power Soccer Team Clinic 2-5:30 p.m. Saturday, April 23, at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford.

Power soccer is a team sport for individuals with disabilities who use power wheelchairs. The clinic is designed to build a Westland power soccer team.

Call Margaret Martin at (734) 722-7620, Jerry Frick, power soccer executive in Atlanta, Ga., at (770) 654-0715, Alan Pomranka of Michigan Wheelchair Veterans at (517) 490-3893 or Ken Britton at (734) 595-4157.

Garage Sale

It's like having more than 80 garage sales all in the same

place at the same time. The Westland community garage sale will take place 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 7, in the parking lot west of Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, next to the Police Department. For further information about reserving a spot, call Margaret Martin at (734) 722-7620.

Vendor fair

St. Damian Church is inviting parishioners and their friends who have home-based businesses to participate in a vendor fair 1-4 p.m. Saturday, April 30, at the church on Joy Road east of Merriman.

Vendors that will have exhibits and/or products include Arbonne International, Logenberger, Princess House Crystal, DK Books, Pampered Chef and Party Light & Creative Memories.

For more information, call Ritaanne Felczak Otto at (734) 425-8970.

Parent seminar

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools' Family Resource Center in collaboration with Hegira Prevention is offering a parent seminar on Positive Discipline 5-6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 5, 12 and 19, at Vandenberg Elementary School, 32101 Stellwagen, Wayne.

The seminar will cover the difference between punishment and discipline, how parenting styles affect how children learn and more. Each participant will receive a copy of Jane Nelson's *Positive Discipline*.

Participants can attend one session or all three. For more information, call (734) 419-2709.

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FOR THE RECORD

DEATHS

- B**
William Dale Brown, 66, of Plymouth, died April 11.
- C**
Clifford J. Call, 85, of Oxford, died April 13.
Margaret Agnes Churchman, 79, of Plymouth, died April 11.
Dr. Philip Cohen, of Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., formerly of Detroit.
- D**
Gay Janet Johnson Drew, of Osage Beach, Mo., died April 7.
- E**
William A. "Bud" Engelhart, of Bloomfield Hills, died April 14.
- G**
Ruth M. Griffin, 89, of Bloomfield Hills, died April 8.



For the Record appears in every edition of the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*. Complete paid obituaries can be found inside today's Community Life in *Passages* on page C5.

- H**
Helen L. Hall, 89, of Waterford, died April 12.
Linda L. Hutchinson died April 12.
- L**
Marian E. Lange, 91, of Plymouth, died April 4.
- S**
Ruby Elizabeth Salmon, 94, of Plymouth, died April 7.
- T**
Betty Jane Talmadge, 77, of Westland, died April 11.
Paul Turley, 79, formerly of Westland, died April 3.
- W**
Philip John "P.J." Wehrheim Jr., 34.
Robert E. Wilkinson, 80, of Lafayette, died April 3.

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Our team of professional, clockwise: Jan, Brenda, Linda, Chaz, Cheryl, Sazan (not pictured: Audrea)

In Memory of Leon...

We the staff of Sazan's In-Style Salon would like to offer our deepest sympathy to the Goonis Family during this time of the passing of Leon. He will be missed by stylists and clients alike.

We would like to take this time to offer his clients our services at In-Style.

Once again, our deepest sympathy to Patricia and Family.

Chaz



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Helen Glandon (left) of Coldwill Banker Preferred in Canton talks with Gail Hodge (right) of Real Estate One in Westland before the luncheon.



Taft-Galloway Elementary third-graders perform a medley of 'Home on the Range' and 'There's No Place Like Home' for Realtors.

BARACY

FROM PAGE A1

ents about being encouraged by Realtors to send their children to private or charter schools rather than Wayne-Westland schools.

"Children have a great opportunity to excel in Wayne-Westland schools," he said. "We feel Wayne-Westland is a great place to learn, a great place to work and has great home values. Granted we don't have the \$500,000 homes, we don't have that affluence, but we do have good homes with supportive parents."

Baracy provided Realtors with an overview of the district from its finances to its MEAP scores.

He pointed out that: Every building has been totally renovated in the last five-six years because of the 1998 bond approved by residents and that a 10-year \$30



Wayne-Westland Superintendent Gregory Baracy talks to Realtors about the quality of the district during the annual Realtors Luncheon.

million sinking fund tax is allowing the district to continue improvements.

Baracy added that the district continues to improve its athletic fields and sports stadi-

ums which match up with what's available at a junior college.

Every building, classroom and instructional media center is equipped with state-of-the-art technology, "second to none in the state."

The district offers a full regular academic program and full extracurricular program. It still has class reduction and Reading Recovery programs in place.

"We don't have any pay-to-play," he said.

Every Wayne-Westland school has North Central accreditation, "something we're all proud of and something parents should look for when looking for a home."

The district has 12 Golden Apples and a Michigan Blue Ribbon Award. Both awards are state honors recognizing student achievement.

Wayne-Westland's MEAP scores are high with several schools exceeding state average. Walker-Winter Elementary, located in Canton Township, "is right at the top" with scores that are 93 percent or higher. The scores also are "above the average of Plymouth-Canton Schools," Baracy said.

"These are solid numbers, from the state," he added. Noel Dorr agreed with Baracy. While one Realtor told Baracy that it's "about safety and class size, not MEAP

scores," she said it is a matter of perception, pointing out that it was one of the top-rated districts in the '70s-early '80s.

"It's a matter of getting the word out that these schools are great and good," said Dorr, a Realtor with Century 21 Dynamic in Westland.

Broker Chris Peterson agrees.

"These are wonderful schools," she said. "Shame on the Realtors who tell people where to buy. They're there to market the home. If a client wants information, they should provide it. What's important to one client isn't important to another."

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JOHN GLENN HONOR ROLL

Named to the honor roll for the fourth marking period of the 2004-05 school year at John Glenn High School were:

Jessica Abner, James Abraham, Ashley Acosta, Kyle Acuna, Ryan Acuna, Curtis Adams, Asia Agnew, Hammed Ajerunmobi, Nicholas Ajlouny, Latasha Albert, Nazjel Alexander, Qurat Ali, Elyse Allard, Jamie Allen, Maria Allen, Darnell Alleyne, Tarra Anderson, Eric Arakelian, Jeremy Armstrong, Borislav Atansov, Eric Austin, Tia Authier, Victoria Awosika, Anita Azeta, Jesse Backman, Stephanie Bader, Melissa Ballard, Sean Barone, Linda Barrett, Rebecca Barrett, Eric Barry, Shannon Barton, Andrew Bartrum, Dominique Battle, Jeremy Bean, Nathan Beard, Marion Beattie, Jacob Bee, Melissa Begarowicz, Laura Belanger, Caitlin Belisle, Navjot Benipal, Joshua Benko, Bridget Berg, Ashley Bess, Kevin Bessinger, Gregory Bevel, Stephanie

Beveridge, Jessica Biglow, Bradley Billingsley, Timothy Bingham, Brandon Bise, Chelsea Blake, Catherine Blanck, Alexis Bland, Patrick Blay, Kathleen Blight, Joseph Blouse, Kaitlyn Boczar, Sara Boczar, Brittany Bojanic, Anthony Bolen, Elizabeth Bomya, Jennifer Bone, Duane Bonner, April Borda, Jennifer Boris, Zachary Borromeo, Samantha Bosman, Nathan Bou, Alisha Boucher, Natalie Bower, Nicole Bower, Sarah Bowers, Jarret Bozigan, Zachary Bozigan, Stefan Bozman, Michelle Bradshaw, Alexandra Brandt, Johanna Brandt, Melissa Braunstein, Adrian Brazier, Jason Brendel, Emily Brennan, Stephanie Brennan, Brittany Brincat, Kaylie Brincat, Stacey Britt, Olivia Brooks, Mallory Brosious, Brittany Brown, Christopher Brown, Tiffany Brown, Elizabeth Brozek, Mary Bruce, Cody Bryan, Amanda Buelow, Kaan Buluc, James Burger, Jaclyn Burgess, Caitlin Burns, Nicole Burns, Jessica Burton, Derrick Bush, Virginia Butler, James Byberg, Alexander Cabildo, Cristina Calbajos, Garrett

Camilleri, Scott Campenella, Amanda Campbell, Adrienne Camunag, Samantha Cannon, Ryan Carlington, Heather Caron, Orlando Carswell, Amber Rose Cassidy, Michael Caudill, Lorraine Caulkins, Elijah Cavender, Rebecca Ceseki, Jonathan Celmer, Angela Cetrone, Justin Chadwick, Jeffrey Chambers, Veronica Chambers, Shardaé Champagne, Brandy Chaston, James Chave, Angelica Cheeks, Ashley Cherry, Situniye Chirunga, Kayce Choate, Jamel Chokr, Thomas Cichowski, Gary Cingel, Anna Clark, Brandon Clark, Joye Clenney, Monica Clenney, Jessica Coatney, Jacquelyn Brincat, Erica Coka, Kallei Coleman, Evan Collins, Sarah Collins, Julie Colon, Nicole Colon, Alexander Colosimo, Anthony Colosimo, Kija Coits, Amanda Colwell, Brittany Colwell, James Compton, Sarah Conley, Anya Straka-Conway, Gregory Copeland, Jonathon Copland, Jennifer Corney, Kimberly Costello, Cameron Couch, Hope Cover, Christina Cox, Jeffrey Cox, Kandace Cox, Rachelle Cox, Stevie Crase, Sabrina Cristofaro, Brandon Crooks, Sharonda Crump, Ashley Curtidor, Gabriel Curtidor, Richard Curyio, Mathew Dameron, Megan Daniel, Christopher Daniels, Lorenc Dashi, Jonathon Daugherty, Shantel Davenport, Brandon Davis, Christopher Davis, Dalonna Davis, Megan Davis, Michelle Davis, Sara Davis, Larry Dawkins, Andrew Dean, Jana Dean, Jonathan Dean, Megan Dean, Rebecca Debono, Bruce Debruhl, Andi Dede, Joslyn DeGroot, Julia DeGroot, Michelle Deguzman, Cynthia Deitert, Jessica Delaforce, Salina Delarosa, Vincent Deluca, Donald Demiri, Christopher Deron, Stephen Derosia, Amy Deverich, Melanie Dervio, Brisida Dhembi, Ashley Dobos, Latifah Donald, Tina Donall, Justin Dorosh, Jennifer Dotson, Amber Downing, Kayla Downing, Ryan Downs, Sarah Drum, Melissa Dudash, Jessica Duncan, Shawn Dunford, Jonathan Dunn, Kristin Dutchak, Jessica Dwyer, Jerin Eapen, George Easter, Jessica Easter, Justin Easter, Kathryn Eby, Amanda Eck, Amber Edens, Matthew Edwards, Laura Eiben, Brandon Eldred, Stephanie Elsey, Hillary Emmons, Vernon Emmons, Heather Ennis, Ashlee Erickson, Jill Erikson, Mary Erwin, Michelle Erwin, David Espinoza, Matthew Espy, Jonathan Estep, Marilyn Estrada, Mason Eubank, Amber Evans, Sara Evans, Daniel Fabrey, Fiona Murphy-Fahlgren, Natasha Falkiewicz, Corey Farris, Amanda Femat, Hilary Fenton, Jonathon Fenton, Joseph Ferguson, Amber Fernitz, Frank Ferrera, Aaron Figurski, Kali Fishaw, James Fisher, Kacy Fisher, Chelsea Fitt, Alicia Fitzpatrick, Julie Flacks, Collin Fleissner, Marissa Flores, Marissa Flores, Jasmine Flowers, Zina Flowers, Casandra Floyd, Tarrar Forbes, Andrea Fountain, Shawn Fournier Ashley Fowler, Karyn Fowler, Zachary Franka, Dana Fraser, Michael Fraser, Melissa Frederick, Nicholas Freeman, Aaron Freese, Roy Frettenborough, Kory Frost, Amanda Gagern, Ashley Gallaheer, Michael Galunas, Andrew Galuszka, Shamir Garcia, Brittany Gardner, Michael Gardner, Jaqueline Garrett, Amy Garrow, Devin Gartz, Ashley Gatesy, Kristina Gece, Belinda Gee, Taira Gee, Danny Georges, Gordon German, Kayla Gibbs, Rachael German, Ryan Gibbs, Tenisha Gill, Amanda Gillies, Jonathan Gillis, Justin Girard, Jeffrey Girgen, Cassandra Gizel, Rowdy Glasgow, Canensha Glaze, Ashley Glenn, Love Goba, Dafina Goci, Dayna Goldstron, Ava Gomez, Abigail Gordon, Jessica Grabowski, Sara Grabowski, Kevin

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Bobby Magyarosi, Mara Magyarosi, Lori Mallon, Ric Daniel Mamuyac, Nkari Mandisa, Leonard Manfre, Johnnie Manier, Collin Mark, Jenna Mark, William Marshall, Kasheena Martin, Lonnie Martin, Natasha Martinez, Oscar Martinez, Raquel Martinez, James Mateas, Patrick Mateas, Kyle Maxwell, Stacey Mayers, Brandon Mayle, Daniel McCallih, Jonathan McCallih, Barbara McClung, Karie McCollum, Katie McCollum, Stacy McConnell, Samantha McFalls, Tramaine McGill, James McGinnis, Ashley McGovern, Stephanie McGuire, Shánekia McIntosh, Sarah McLean, Jacqueline McMaster, Laurin McMichael, Kiara McMillian, Casey McNeill, Kyle Meister, James Meldrum, Jamie Meilas, Edjola Merdani, James Meyer, Jonathan Meyer, Joseph Michalek, Annette Mihailovich, Micki Mihailovich, Champain Milhouse, Adrienne Miller, Alexandria Miller, Allianna Miller, Marelee Mills, Amanda Mirabatur, David Mitchell, Dimonique Mitchell, Rachel Mlynar, Brian Money, Kaiya Montague, Christopher Moody, Jason Moody, Chantal Moore, Jeremiah Moore, Rebecca Morawsky, Anthony Morello, Holly Morello, Erin Moreno, Kady Morgan, Taylor Morgan, Roslyn Morris, Shajan Morton, Razan Mosharbash, Hollis Moss, Shardaé Moss, Kaylei Motz, Malcolm Muhammad, Mandy Mulka, Melissa Mulroy, Jacob Murawski, Kimberly Murdock, Shawn Murphy, Ashleigh Murr, Gerald Murrey, Dujua Musico, Irla Mydini, Saif Naber, Jacob Nabozny, Nicole Nadasen, Matthew Nardone, Amelia Nash, Joshua Neidon, Salam Neshewait, Brandon Nikula, Calvin Nobles, Jeffrey Novak, Derek Novakovich, Bradley Noyes, Jessica Noyes, Brittany Nugent, Patricia O'Neil, Brandon O'Sullivan, Amanda Oboza, Thomas Offer, Amarachi Ogbuaka, Chidinma Ogbuaku, Olushola Olojo, Jonathan Oliver, Enea Onuzi, Hayley Orzech, Kyle Osborn, James Oswell, Brittany Owen, Timothy Owens, Julie Pack, Clifford Palac, Derek Palac, Megan Palka, Melissa Paika, Michael Palmer, Shawn Palmer, Janelle Pangilinan, Melissa Pankow, Sophie Pappas, Brandon Parker, Jasmine Pasley, Samantha Passalacqua, Tawnie Passalacqua, Ankit Patel, Piyush Patel, Sachiben Patel, Sheena Patel, Sonal Patel, Tanesha Patton, Stephanie Paul Silvia Pavlova, Kate Pearce, Lisa Pecorelli, Crista Pena, Adriana Perez, Lauren Perry, Jill Peteron, Larry Peterson, Andy Phagoo, Aranda Phare, Benjamin Phillips, Lauracindy Plague, Deborah Podorsek, Penina Polocoser, Grant Porter, Maegan Porter, Brandilyn Powell, Michael Powers, Kimberly Prendergast, Darrius Pringle, Jeremy Proffitt, Brett Prokopchak, Alexander Provenzano, Jeremy Proffitt, Brett Prokopchak, Alexander Provenzano, Sarah Pruett, Joshua Pugliesi, Dana Quattlander, Kristin Queen, Anna Quioic, Kimberly Raley, Jessica Randolph, Carolyn Rasak, Hailey Rasmussen, Sharrod Rawls, Ryan Rawson, Andrea Reames, Anthony Reaume, Madina Reaume, Brittany Redden, Jessica Redden, Sean Redington, Stephanie Rees, Kyle Reichert, Amanda Reid, Justin Reid, Steven Reini, James Restum, Jessica Reuter, Sierra Richardson, Stacey Richardson, Maribeth Richmond, Kathryn Riddle, Jessica Riggs, Rund Rihani, Eric Roberts, Samuel Robertson, Lauren Rochette, Joshua Rockwell, Alison Rodriguez, Emily Roe, Zachary Rogers, Charles Rose, Devin Ross, Linda Ross, Stephanie Rothwell, Brandi Rowe, Cynthia Roza, Holly Ruark, Asia Rush, Christina Rushlow, Kimberly Rutkowski, Amanda Ryder,

Jacob Samborski, Justin Samland, Teri Samland, Derek Sample, Allison Sanders, Ashley Sanders, Victor Sanders, Jessica Sanford, Teresa Sanford, Jonathan Sanow, Sumitha Santhanam, Bernadette Savard, Katherine Savoy, Nathaniel Scarlett, Bobbi Scheffer, Jeannine Schmitt, Elmer Schneider, Vanessa Schrock, Sara Schroeder, David Schultz, Sequia Scott, Suzanne Seidel, Stephanie Sellers, Aimee Sexton, Hari Shah, Justin Shay, Jessica Shippe, Kyle Shoemaker, Joshua Sholler, Margaret Shupe, Curtis Siczkowski, Rachel Sienko, Alan Siepierski, Melissa Silva, Martez Simpson, Jordan Singh, Ravinder Singh, Antonio Smith, Courtney Smith, Kristina Smith, Rachael Smith, Rachel Smith, Shannon Smith, Timothy Smolen, Brandon Sneed, Ashley Snyder, Pawanpeet Sohi, Whitney Sonak, Ashley Sorensen, Donna Soulliere, Sean Southard, Veronica Southard, Taryn Sparks, Christine Speer, Cody Stacy, Richard Stanek, Heather Stanfel, Holly Stanfel, Natalie Starbuck, Paul Starks, Shannon Starks, Anastasia Stawkey, Jessica Steltzriede, Phillip Stephens, Jennifer Sternal, Jennifer Stevenson, Paul Stewart, Melissa Stokes, Bridget Stoliker, Brittany Stoliker, Ashley Stone, Nicholas Stone, Stephanie Stoot, Collin Strachan, Joseph Stulock, Zachary Stutz, Matthew Suchan, Kathryn Suich, Britney Sumlin, Kaitlyn Sutton, Kyra Swan, Jennifer Swartz, Amber Sweet, Anastasia Swasey, Felina Swasey, Amber Sweet, Leah Sweeting, Jessica Syria, Christopher Szynoluch, Kristein Tabangcura, Kinjal Talati, Daniel Tamarogio, Christopher Taylor, Deidre Taylor, Jesse Taylor, Derek Tedders, Alissa Telling, Lela Terrell, Joseph Terry, Louis Terry, April Thomas, Brandee Thomas, Chrystal Thomas, Gerald Thomas, Tiffany Thomas, Carly Thompson, Chelsea Thompson, Courtney Thompson, David Thompson, Megan Thornberry, Ian Thornton, Markeisha Thurman, Charmane Thurmond, Joshua Thurmond, Sarah Thurmond, Stephanie Tieppo, Frank Toarmina, Leah Tobin, Crystal Tolentino, Catrina Trader, Britsilda Triepshi, Toni Trout, Darrian Tucker, Kevin Turner, Erik Tuttle, Dessislava Tzankova, Angela Uhlman, Megan Uch, Tiffany Underwood, Alexander Valentine, Jennifer Vanderklipp, Michael Vandusen, Bryan Vantoli, Jessica Vantoli, Jessica Vaughn, Krista Vella, Brent Verrot, Gina Veittrano, Susan Vivier, Bianca Wade, Charles Wade, Ryan Wakeford, Geoffrey Walchak, Stephanie Waldon, Gary Walker, Karlye Walker, Malika Walker, Megan Walker, Rebecca Walker, Patrick Wall, Samatha Walling, Samantha Ward, Jeffrey Warner, Tarrick Warra, Alfred Washington, Chelsea Weaver, Megan Weaver, Amber Webster, Josef Webster, Robert Weck, Marika Wegiel, Jonathan Wejroch, Amber Wells, Shelby Wells, Tara Westergard, Renee White, Theresa White, Nicole Whitney, Lauren Whitt, Amber Widmer, Lindsay Wietcha, Jimmy Wilburn, Kristen Wildt, Tanya Wildt, Christine Williams, Deandre Williams, Dovona Williams, Jessika Williams, Krystal Williams, Nathaniel Williams, Samuel Williams, Tarnieca Williams, Alison Wilmoth, Tess Wilmoth, Bryan Wilson, Joshua Wilson, Bradley Wilton, David Wood, James Wood, William Wood, Charles Woodford, Marion Woods, Robert Worth, Kara Wright, Jasmine Wynn, Tonia Young, Sha Vaughn Young, Tanya Zahodne, Rebecca Zarbaugh, Michelle Zenner, Jennifer Zuccaro and Bailee Zuke.

CITY OF GARDEN CITY Street Sweeping will begin in Section 1 and Section 2 on Monday, April 18, 2005. This will affect the streets with curb and gutters only. Section 1, Ford to Warren and Venoy to Merriman. Section 2, Ford to Warren and Merriman to Middlebelt Publish: April 17 and 21, 2005

CITY OF GARDEN CITY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING APRIL 28, 2005 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, April 28, 2005, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan. At the hearing, all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to solicit public comments on the following proposed Special Land Use: ZA 05-003, Zoning Text Amendment, Proposed Text Amendment to 154.117, Wireless Communications Facilities, and 154.386, PR Public Recreation District. The amendment would allow Wireless Telecommunication uses as a Special Use within all districts. Written comments may be submitted prior to the public hearing and should be addressed to: The Office of Community Development, City of Garden City, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, MI 48135. G. PALMER, Community Development Director

CITY OF GARDEN CITY ORDINANCE NO. 05- AN ORDINANCE RENEWING A CABLE FRANCHISE WITH MACLEAN HUNTER CABLE TV INC., WHOSE NAME HAS CHANGED TO COMCAST OF TAYLOR, LLC. WHEREAS, in July, 1982 the City of Garden City ("City") awarded a cable franchise to Maclean Hunter Cable TV, Inc., a Michigan corporation whose name has now changed to Comcast of Taylor, LLC ("Comcast"), which franchise now includes the Cable Communications System Franchise Agreement by and between the City and Maclean Hunter Cable TV, Inc. effective July 26, 1982; the Agreement between the City, Comcast MH Holdings, Inc. and Maclean Hunter Cable TV, Inc. entered into on December 22, 1994; the Agreement and Release between the City, Rogers Communications, Inc., and Maclean Hunter, Ltd. entered into on December 22, 1994; the letter from Thomas Nathan on behalf of Comcast Cable Communications, Inc. to the City dated December 13, 1994; The City's 1994 Resolution consenting to a change of ownership and control; and the City's Ordinances 97-005, 98-015, 02-010, 03-006, 03-013, 04-001 and 05-001 extending the term of the preceding (collectively, the "Franchise"); and WHEREAS, the Franchise was originally due to expire on July 26, 1987 and its term has since been extended to July 31, 2005; and WHEREAS, Comcast wishes to continue to provide cable service in the City and has requested a renewal franchise agreement in order to do same, and WHEREAS, the City is authorized to grant or renew one or more non-exclusive franchises for the provision of cable service within the City by means of a cable system, and WHEREAS, the City has determined that renewing the Franchise on the terms set forth in the City of Garden City, Michigan, Nonexclusive 2005 Cable Television Franchise Agreement with Comcast of Taylor, LLC attached hereto is in the public interest and in the interest of the City and its residents and will assist in meeting the cable related needs and interests of the community, and WHEREAS, the City has allowed the public adequate notice and an opportunity for comment on this renewal franchise. THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY HEREBY ORDAINS: Section 1. Renewal of Franchise. Pursuant to Section 5.02 of the City Charter and Chapter 123 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Garden City, the City Council of Garden City hereby authorizes the renewal of a non-exclusive cable television franchise with Comcast of Taylor, LLC, pursuant to the terms set forth in the City of Garden City, Michigan, Nonexclusive 2005 Cable Television Franchise Agreement with Comcast of Taylor, LLC ("Renewal Franchise") attached hereto. Section 2. Effect. The Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to sign the Renewal Franchise, and the Manager, Mayor, Clerk, Attorney and Special Counsel and other City officials are hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to place the Renewal Franchise into effect and implement it. Section 3. Date to Sign. This ordinance shall be null, void and of no effect if by July 31, 2005 Comcast has not signed the Renewal Franchise as provided for therein. Section 4. Conflicts. In the event of any conflict or inconsistency between this ordinance and the provisions of any other ordinance, the provisions of this ordinance shall prevail. Section 5. Effective Date. This ordinance is declared to be effective upon publication as required by law. JAYLEE LYNCH, Mayor ALLYSON BETTIS, Treasurer/City Clerk Adopted: May 9th, 2005 Public Hearing: May 9th, 2005 Publish: April 17, 2005

CANTON CINEMA Ford Rd 1 Mile W. of I-275 (734) \$6.75 Kids all shows 8:44-FILM \$7.25 Students & Late Show Fri & Sat \$6.25 DAILY Matinees til 6pm No Passes Unlimited Free Drink & 25¢ Corn Refills ALL STADIUM SEATING / DIGITAL STEREO FREE SPRING MATINEES FOR EVERYONE SATURDAY & SUNDAY 10 & 11 AM GOOD BOY (PG) SHOWTIMES 4/15 - 4/21 TITLES & TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE STATE PROPERTY 2 (R) 1:20, 3:20, 5:20, 7:25, 9:25 FRIS/SAT LS 11:30 SAHARA (PG-13) (SAT/SUN 11:10) 1:40, 4:15, 7:00, 9:30 FRIS/SAT LS 11:55 BEAUTY SHOP (PG-13) 1:00, 3:15, 5:25, 7:35, 9:50 FRIS/SAT LS 12:00 UPSIDE OF ANGEL (R) (SAT/SUN 11:00) 1:30, 4:10, 7:10, 9:35 FRIS/SAT LS 11:50 ICE PRINCESS (G) (SAT/SUN 11:05) 1:05, 3:10, 5:15 MASS CONGENIALITY 2: ARMED AND FABULOUS (PG-13) (SAT/SUN 11:25) 1:55, 4:25, 7:05, 9:20 FRIS/SAT LS 11:35 THE RING TWO (PG-13) 7:15, 9:40 FRIS/SAT LS 11:50 ROBOTS (PG) (SAT/SUN 12:00) 1:50, 3:40, 5:30, 7:20, 9:10 FRIS/SAT LS 11:00 COUPON FREE 25¢ DRINK with \$2.50 purchase of 10¢ or more food or beverage. BEST DEAL in Newburgh at WWW.CANTONCINEMA.COM

Hair Sublime 5991 N Wayne Road • Westland 734-641-0910 Leon the Barber... We the staff at Hair Sublime who worked side-by-side with Leon Goonis, want to thank his customers for their patience and support during his illness. We'll miss you Leon. In memory of Leon, during the month of April we will be donating \$5.00 per customer to the Goonis family. Starting April 18th, a new barber will be joining our staff. \$5.00 OFF BODY WAXING (does not include eyebrows) With Coupon • Expires May 17, 2005 FREE PARAFFIN HAND DIP with any service With Coupon • Expires May 17, 2005 \$10.00 OFF LOWLIGHTS or HIGHLIGHTS With Coupon • Expires May 17, 2005 \$5.00 OFF ANY SALON SERVICE With Coupon • Expires May 17, 2005 Please recycle this newspaper

Maybe now kids will know lighting up isn't 'cool'

"Smoke, smoke, smoke that cigarette Puff, puff, puff until you smoke yourself to death. Tell St. Peter at the Golden Gate That you hate to make him wait, But you just gotta have another cigarette."

- Merle Travis

On June 15, Wayne County's "Clean Indoor Air Regulation" smoking ban goes into effect. The regulation is part of a trend toward eliminating second-hand inhalation of tobacco smoke by setting restrictions on where people can smoke (though bars, restaurants and other exceptions somewhat dilute the purpose).



Hugh Gallagher

On Wednesday, students at Garden City Middle School paraded around with signs against smoking as part of a Kick Butts campaign. One sign read "There's cooler ways to die."

The verdict seems to be unanimous — smoking isn't good for you or the guy next to you, either.

Once upon a time, smoking was thought to be "very cool." I've been listening to some old radio programs (TV without the pictures), complete with commercials. One program was sponsored by Camel cigarettes ("preferred by four out of 10 doctors who smoke"). Medical endorsements and claims of "smoothness" were the primary themes in the late '40s and early '50s.

Later television advertising emphasized smoking as part of happy times. Young people playing games, frolicking on the beach, enjoying dinner at a swinging night spot. In some of the old Salem ads, the young people looked suspiciously like teenagers, though the tobacco companies always denied using underage models.

Camel, the medically preferred puff, also created a mascot, Joe Camel, a cartoon with an obvious appeal to children (or the child in all of us), complete with a line of nifty, active lifestyle toys (for adults of course). But, they never marketed to children, never... really, never.

Tobacco was a big industry and for a long while it was able to buy a fair share of politicians, the way energy companies buy them today (no, I'm sorry, that doesn't happen, does it?). But time, medical science and a coughing nation finally turned the tables of tobacco.

Tobacco companies can't sell their poison on radio and television. Cigarettes and other tobacco products carry a warning label. Even the tobacco companies have to hold seminars on the dangers of their product.

The tentative first steps taken by Wayne County might help these young people understand just how dangerous and definitely un-hip smoking is.

Philip Morris is practically a crusader in the fight against smoking.

That's OK, they just take the product overseas. While adult smoking in the United States has declined, Europeans and Asians still smoke with abandon.

And yet, while the students at Garden City Middle School are doing their part to warn their classmates (and any adults who haven't gotten the word), young people continue to start smoking at still alarming rates.

Data from the Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion shows that in 2003, 22.9 percent of high school students were cigarette smokers, with boys only slightly higher than girls — 24.6 percent to 21.6 percent. Among middle schoolers, 10.4 percent are smoking, about evenly divided between boys and girls.

Go around any school or afterschool hangout and you'll see many students puffing away. No doubt they've seen the pictures of the rotted lungs and the deformed lips, they've gotten the facts on how many years will be burned away for every cigarette they light and they've been told by numerous celebrities that tobacco "stinks."

And still they smoke. They still think it's "cool." The Center points to such factors as low socio-economic status, use of tobacco by peers or siblings, lack of parental support.

The tentative first steps taken by Wayne County might help these young people understand just how dangerous and definitely un-hip smoking is.

At least they don't have the example of Tiger Woods following in the footsteps of Ben Hogan, who enjoyed the smooth taste of a Camel whenever he lit up after a big tournament.

Tiger's cool, he knows better. And so do they kids at Garden City Middle School. Kick Butts!

Hugh Gallagher is the managing editor of the *Observer Newspapers*. He can be reached by phone at (734) 953-2149, by e-mail at hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net, or by fax at (734) 591-7279.

This house belongs to all who need it

Randy Narowitz knows something about the trauma inflicted on a family when a member is seriously ill.

As chief operating officer for Total Health Care, the Bloomfield Hills resident has made a comfortable living dealing with clients who count on his firm's insurance to help with at least the financial strain caused by illness and injury.

But it was a medical crisis involving his own child nearly a decade ago that brought Narowitz to understand how a good deed and a kind gesture can make an otherwise unbearable experience at least a little more tolerable.

"We used the Ronald McDonald House while our child was recuperating from major surgery and it made all the difference in the world," Narowitz said.

"Having that supportive environment, and being able to interact with others who were going through the same thing you were and understood what you were feeling, was a real blessing."

So grateful was Narowitz to the organization for the help and support his family received, he decided shortly after his experience to return the favor and began volunteering for the group. Today, that desire to give back has grown to the point where Narowitz now serves as president of the board of directors for the Ronald McDonald House of Detroit.

"I believe in the organization because of my personal experience," Narowitz said as he guided a tour of the Detroit house, located next to Children's Hospital on Beaubien. "It truly is a remarkable facility."

There are four Ronald McDonald Houses in the state of Michigan. The Detroit house, which serves families who have a loved one being treated at Children's Hospital, is celebrating its 25th anniversary.

Narowitz said the board and staff is working hard this year to spread the word about the House, and make sure it has the necessary finances to keep its doors open for another 25 years and beyond.

The mission of each Ronald McDonald House is simple: To provide a "home away from home" for the families of seriously ill children. The Detroit house provides aid and comfort for about 1,000 families per year, which use its 25 bedrooms and communal kitchen, laundry and living areas.

Each family is asked to pay a nominal fee of \$10 per night, but no one is turned away because of an inability to pay. Guests can be from a couple of miles away or from another state.

Narowitz said there is no minimum or maximum length of stay. Some families have stayed for nearly a year, while others simply stop by for a hot shower and nap.

Like all nonprofit entities, the backbone of the Detroit Ronald McDonald House is its volunteers, Executive Director Jennifer Litominsky said.

People like Pat Cooper, who like Narowitz first learned of the organization by using its services, and who for the past 10 years has returned the

favor by serving on the Detroit chapter's board of directors. Cooper "lived" at the Detroit house for months while her daughter was being treated for a critical illness. On weekends, she would be joined by her husband and other children, which maintained some normalcy during a very difficult time. Cooper said she has no idea how her family would have survived without the facility, which provided not only a place to sleep and eat, but most importantly, a caring environment. "The support system was the most important part of being here," she said. "Just having someone else to cry with who knew exactly what you were going through was an unbelievable help."

There are four Ronald McDonald Houses in the state of Michigan. The Detroit house, which serves families who have a loved one being treated at Children's Hospital, is celebrating its 25th anniversary.



Joe Bauman

Locally, a good chunk of the support comes from area owner-operators of McDonald restaurants. Folks like Teresa Saputo, who finds time to help spearhead fund-raisers for the House, despite having the day job of running nine area restaurants with her husband.

Saputo is on the planning committee for the House's most ambitious fund-raiser to date. Co-sponsored by the Southeastern Michigan McDonald's Operators Association and presented by Spirit Airlines, the first Aviator's Ball will transform an airport hangar at Metro Airport into an elegant, black-tie dinner and auction.

Through the sale of sponsorships, dinner tickets and both silent and live auctions, organizers hope the May 14 event will raise enough funds to offset at least part of the operating costs for both the Ann Arbor and Detroit Ronald McDonald Houses.

Details of the event are available by calling (248) 336-8612 or by visiting the group's Web site at www.Aviatorsball.com

As a parent, I am thankful to never have gone through an experience like Pat Cooper and Randy Narowitz did, but I am grateful for the way they dedicated themselves to turning a personal crisis into a blessing for the rest of us.

Joe Bauman is managing editor of the *Eccentric Newspapers*. He welcomes comments at (248) 901-2563 or via email at jbauman@oe.homecomm.net.

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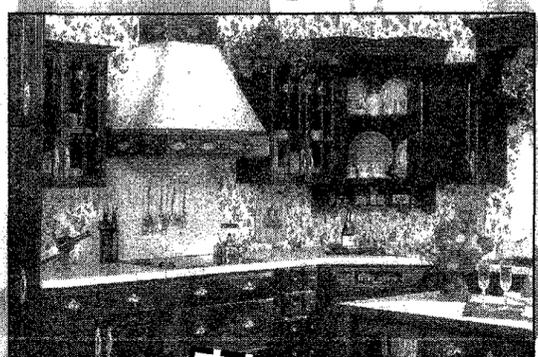
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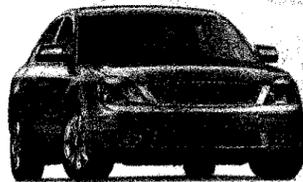
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