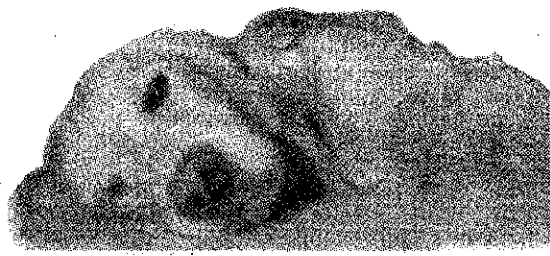


**New leash on life**

OBSERVER LIFE, SECTION C



**Peter's Principles**

Fitness expert answers readers' questions  
**HEALTH, PAGE C6**



Author Meghan Cleary's  
Celebrity **PINK** Picks!

**PINK**  
PAGE C8

**WESTLAND**  
**Observer**

**SUNDAY**  
July 31, 2005

Your hometown newspaper  
serving Westland for  
41 years

75 cents WINNERS OF OVER 100 STATE AND NATIONAL AWARDS SINCE 2001

www.hometownlife.com

**Intersection gets new look with redevelopment**

BY DARRELL CLEM  
STAFF WRITER

A plan to redevelop the near-southwest corner of Wayne and Ford roads could signal a critical turning point for a key Westland intersection - a change long sought by city officials.

"I'm very excited that it's going to be redeveloped and give that whole corner a new look," Mayor Sandra Cicirelli said. "That's one of our main corners in town, and it has always been, in my opinion, an eyesore."

Property owners have demolished much of a dilapidated commercial center that once housed businesses ranging from Kroger to a video store to a carpet outlet.

Big Lots remains on the site but has moved into what was once Kroger. The rest of the shopping center has been torn down.

The demolition will make way for

two mostly brick strip malls, one of them 14,326 square feet and the other 11,808 square feet.

In all, the buildings will be designed to house 18 tenants, Westland Planning Director Bruce Thompson said.

Next-door, Harlow Tire & Service will tear down its northernmost building to accommodate the new development. In turn, the tire business will put a 9,587-square-foot addition on its southernmost building.

Property owners haven't disclosed any potential tenants, but Cicirelli said she believes the key location of the new strip centers will lure businesses.

Moreover, the decorative, brick "streetscape" project that already has spruced up the Ford-Wayne intersection will be extended south, along the perimeter of the new project.

Some businesses, including a gas station, a restaurant and a Radio

Shack, will continue to face the Ford Road side of the property.

It's too soon to say when the single-story strip malls will be built or ready for occupancy, Thompson said, but city leaders are encouraged to finally have a plan to spruce up an area in decline.

On Monday, the Westland City Council will consider rezoning and site plan proposals for the site. City leaders have long sought to get the area redeveloped.

Officials also hope that the project will spur other businesses along the Wayne and Ford road corridors to invest money in sprucing up their properties.

"I think it's definitely a turning point," Cicirelli said. "That's a prime corner. This will clean up and improve the appearance of that corner, and that's extremely important."

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



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Big Lots store will have new neighbors with the construction of two strip malls on the property on the southwest corner of the Ford-Wayne Road intersection.

**Double delight**

**Twins find comfort in being together**

BY SUE MASON  
STAFF WRITER

Eleanor Addison thinks it's time her mother, Eleanore Walsh, and aunt, Blanche Bach, start celebrating their birthdays every year. Her reason is simple: When you turn 80, there may not be that many more left.

And Walsh and Bach agree, celebrating their birthdays at a combined party in Central City Park on June 27. The two Westland women are twins who turned 80 on June 25.

"I'm 45 minutes older, I hold the upper hand," said Walsh.

This is the second time Addison has held their combined birthday party in the park. The first one was on their 75th birthday.



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PLEASE SEE TWINS, A2 Twin sisters Blanche Bach (left) and Eleanore Walsh are happy to again be able to celebrate their birthday together.

**Going to the polls**

**Voters face new system in Tuesday's primary**

BY DARRELL CLEM  
STAFF WRITER

Westland voters will use a different voting system when they go to the polls Tuesday to help decide a Wayne County parks tax renewal.

Rather than casting ballots on a touch-screen computer, local voters will mark paper ballots with a pen and feed them into a digital scanner.

"It's easy," Westland City Clerk Eileen DeHart said. All Michigan communities will have to use the new voting system by 2006.

Westland is among the communities switching early.

"There won't be the large voting booths like before,"

If you have questions about voting, call the city clerk's office at 734-467-3185.

DeHart said. "There will be chairs set up at tables with privacy screens."

Thousands of voters will skip the M-100 optical scan system just as they did the former touch-screen computers, opting instead to cast absentee ballots.

As of Thursday, DeHart estimated that some 3,000 absentee ballots had been returned to her office.

PLEASE SEE POLLS, A6

**Diners find extra charges on debit accounts**

BY DARRELL CLEM  
STAFF WRITER

After making a \$6 debit on her bank account to pay for breakfast at a Westland restaurant, imagine Marilyn Moss' surprise when she learned she was billed another \$672.

"I had gone to my bank a week later to draw some money, and I was told I had insufficient funds," she said. "I couldn't figure out why."

Authorities believe that Moss and at least eight other customers of L. George's Coney Island Restaurant on Ford

Road, near Wildwood, lost as much as \$11,000 during a two-week period ending July 24.

They're not sure who made debits from several banks, but police Sgt. Michael Willard said owners who had access to the restaurant's business accounts came forward after learning of the problem.

Initially, it appears that possibly a disgruntled employee may have made the debits, even though such a suspect couldn't have withdrawn it from L. George's bank account afterward, Willard said.

"We're not sure what the

motive is," he said. "It could be to ruin the goodwill of people in other (L. George) restaurants. It could have been somebody who knew they were going to lose their job. It could be that they wanted to make customers angry."

"It could well be revenge," Willard said.

He conceded that much of his statements are conjecture for now, given that police haven't been able to pinpoint a suspect.

The Westland restaurant closed abruptly about 10 days ago, Willard said, and business

owners even came forward to tell police that their bank account had about \$11,000 more than it should.

"It could be many people doing this," the detective said.

Anyone who has information that could help authorities identify a suspect is urged to call the Westland Police Department at (734) 722-9600.

Moss questioned why the restaurant closed so abruptly. She went by L. George's on July 19 - the day she filed her police

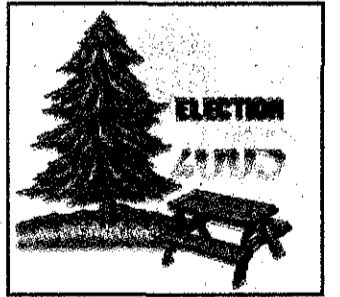
PLEASE SEE ACCOUNTS, A4

**Voters decide fate of parks tax renewal**

On Tuesday Wayne County voters will decide whether to renew a five-year, .25 mill tax for the improvement and operation of county parks. The renewal is projected to raise nearly \$12 million next year.

The tax, first approved by voters in 1996 and renewed in 2000, makes specific reference to major improvements to Hines Park, Elizabeth Park (in Trenton), Chandler Park (in Detroit) and Fort Wayne. The ballot language also requires that the county continue to budget for the parks an amount from its general fund equal to the amount budgeted in 1995-96.

Money raised through the millage has also been used to fund several local recreation projects including repairs to a swimming pool in Garden City and the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.



PLEASE SEE PARKS, A2

© The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers  
Volume 41 Number 19  
For Home Delivery call: (866) 887-2737  
GANNETT

DISCOVER THE DENNER DIFFERENCE!  
2005 MUSTANG COUPE  
Stock #541020 WAS \$22,590  
Now... \$19,588  
JACK DENNER FORD 734.721.8000  
37300 Michigan Avenue at Newburgh - Wayne

**INDEX**

APARTMENTS	E10
AUTOMOTIVE	F3
CLASSIFIED INDEX	E5
COMMUNITY LIFE	C1
HEALTH	C6
JOBS	D1
NEW HOMES	E4
OBITUARIES	A7
PERSPECTIVES	C4
REAL ESTATE	E6
SERVICE GUIDE	E9
SPORTS	B1

**Coming Thursday in Filter**  
The Annual Highland Games features athletic competitions, dancing and entertainers, at Historic Greenmead in Livonia.

# County quells suburban critics of the parks millage

BY KURT KUBAN  
STAFF WRITER

Suburban critics of the Wayne County Parks Millage, including State Rep. Phil LaJoy, are saying they will now lend their support to the measure's renewal, after successful negotiations with county officials last week.

LaJoy, R-Canton, said he would kill his proposed bill in the State House that, if passed into law, would have forced the county to distribute 50 percent of the money raised in each community back to the community for local parks projects. The state lawmaker said he was satisfied county officials had listened to local concerns about the way some of the millage money was being dispersed for local projects.

Alan Helmkamp, the assistant Wayne County executive for government relations, met individually with suburban leaders last week, including Livonia Mayor Jack Engebretson, Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume and Canton Township Supervisor Tom Yack, perhaps

the most vocal critic of the millage.

"We have come to an understanding," Yack said after the meeting.

Yack agreed to support a county proposal that creates a new process for the way millage money is distributed. A five-person review committee, which would consist of the director of parks or a designee, a representative of the county executive's office, a representative of the Wayne County commission, the director of public services or a designee and the representative of the Friends of Wayne County Parks would make recommendations, which would have to be approved by the county commission.

In addition, proposals would be limited to an existing park or related facilities "owned or operated by a governmental unit," Helmkamp said the funds could not be used to create new parks.

The proposal sets a maximum of 25 percent of millage funds raised for these community projects.

The process would go into effect Aug. 3, pending commis-

sion approval, a day after voters will be asked to renew the 0.25-mill parks tax. The millage raises approximately \$11 million a year for parks improvements and maintenance. County parks also receive funding from the county general fund.

Helmkamp said the county has really made an effort to reach out to the local communities on the issue.

"This process is a work in progress. We can revise it if we find it needs tweaking," he said. "We disagreed on some of the details, but we have all agreed on the big picture."

LaJoy said his goal from the beginning was to get county and local officials talking about the process. For the time being, he said he would not go forward with the bill.

"When I proposed the bill, I was strongly encouraging the county to work with communities. They really had no plan before on how money was distributed," he said. "My goal was not to get a new state law. It was to encourage dialogue."

kkuban@a4.gannett.com | (734) 459-2700

## PARKS

FROM PAGE A1

County officials have been criticized for placing the renewal on the Aug. 2 ballot when many suburban communities do not have primary elections. Detroit, which is expected to favor the millage renewal, has a hotly contested mayoral primary.

The millage has also been criticized by suburban leaders over the distribution of funds for local projects. State Rep. Phil LaJoy (R-Canton) had proposed a bill that would have required that the county distribute 50 percent of money raised in each community back to the community for local projects.

Recently Alan Helmkamp, assistant Wayne County executive for government relations,

met with suburban leaders to discuss a new process for distributing millage money. Under the plan, a five-person review committee would make recommendations which would have to be reviewed by the county commission. The process would go into effect Aug. 3, pending commission approval.

LaJoy withdrew his bill after suburban leaders agreed on the new process.

## TWINS

FROM PAGE A1

"It was an idea (the party) I had for their 75th," said Addison. "I thought it would be nice, but where would I put all those people. I work for the city, and I saw a lot of people do that and thought how neat."

"It turned out to be a beautiful day, a real nice day."

The sisters shared birthdays growing up. Walsh remembers when their father made homemade root beer. It was their 16th birthday and they had friends from school come over.

But as they grew older combined celebrations became fewer and fewer, especially when Walsh married at age 16 and had Addison at age 17. Families and children kept them both busy. Bach married when she was 25. They both had daughters as their first born, followed by two sons - not twins.

Walsh became a widow when her husband Raymond died in 1978. Bach's husband Richard died nine years ago. She was living with her daughter when she came back to Michigan for the combined birthday party.

"She hadn't planned to come here and live with me," said Walsh. "She came for the party and decided to stay. Now I have my sister and she has me."

"I think that's a good thing," said Bach.

To look at Walsh and Bach, it's hard to see the family resemblance. Bach is petite with light-colored hair. Walsh is tall with dark hair. Walsh is outgoing, Bach more subdued.

"Blanche looks like my mother and I look my dad. Growing up, she was more laid back, I was more aggressive, but we got along," said Walsh.

Like many twins, the two sisters dressed alike all the way through high school and even today, it might be a different color, but many times they're wearing the same clothes.

And Walsh recalls that if their mother bought a dress for one sister, she bought the same for the other.

They also shared toys. They remember their father asking the people he worked with at Ford to save their Popsicle wrappers for him.



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Blanche Bach (left) and Eleanore Walsh show off a photograph taken when they made their First Communion.

"He saved them all and sent them in and got us our first pair of roller skates," Walsh said. "We never had a bike of our own. We rode our brother's bike. I'd ride Blanche some and then she'd ride me some."

"We'd ride five miles to Rouge Park," Bach added. "We'd roller skate and play tennis on the road."

Growing up, the sisters had each other, but they also had their own friends and lots of them. Even when they went to Fordson High School, they each had their own crowd to hang with.

Bach remembers her sister being in the high school flag corps and waving a purple flag. Walsh remembers her sister as a Rosie the Riveter, working on the airplanes during World War II.

Over the years, Walsh worked at Woolworth's, in the cafeteria at Burroughs, for American Airlines and St. Mary Mercy Hospital. Her first "outside job," she said, was at a candy store next to Alden's

Theater on Ford Road.

In addition to her work, Bach worked for Michigan Bell at an office on Ford Road in Dearborn as well as a carhop for A&W Root Beer. Her first job was pumping gas at age 16.

Addison is glad she had the catered party for about 40 guests and was pleased the sisters received birthday wishes from Gov. Jennifer Granholm and that State Rep. Glenn Anderson and his wife Gayle, and Councilman Richard LeBlanc stopped by.

"It made it a little on the special side," she said. "I thought it was nice of them to take time out of their busy lives for this."

And the sisters also enjoyed the fuss and hope there will be many more.

"I hope we can still celebrate together, we had a few together, but for about 10 years we were apart," said Walsh. "She was going to school, she was having a good time, and I was busy raising kids."

smason@oe.homecomm.net | (734) 953-2112

**NOW THRU FALL 2005**

**FARMER JOHN'S**  
*Greenhouse*

**50% OFF**  
**TREES & SHRUBS**

**GREENHOUSE**  
Full of House Plants

Perennials  
Thousands  
to pick from  
We Grow Our Own!

**IN NOW!**  
**Hardy Mums**  
Great Selection!

26950 HAGGERTY ROAD • FARMINGTON HILLS • 248-553-7141

We now carry U.S. Grade A Amish Chicken

**VINTAGE MARKET & Picnic Basket**

29501 Ann Arbor Trail (Just W. of Middlebelt) 422-0160

MARKET PLACE 49471 Ann Arbor Road (W. of Ridge Road) 459-2227

Prices Effective Monday, August 1st - Sunday, August 7th • Food Stamps & All Major Credit Cards Accepted

U.S.D.A. Select <b>Whole Strip Loin</b> Only \$5.99 LB.	Hamburger from <b>Ground Chuck</b> 5 lb. or more Only \$1.79 LB.	U.S.D.A. Fresh Bone-In Center Cut <b>Pork Chops</b> Only \$2.59 LB.
U.S.D.A. Grade A <b>Whole Fryers</b> Only 89¢ LB.	Lean and Meaty <b>Baby Back Ribs</b> Only \$3.99 LB.	Lean and Meaty <b>Country Style Ribs</b> Only \$1.99 LB.
<b>Polish Ham</b> Only \$3.99 LB.	Dearborn <b>Brown Sugar Ham</b> Only \$3.99 LB.	Shady Brooks <b>Mesquite Turkey</b> Only \$4.29 LB.
Our Own Rotisserie <b>Roast Beef</b> Only \$4.49 LB.	<b>Muenster Cheese</b> Only \$3.99 LB.	Bud & Bud Light <b>24 Pk. Cans</b> Only \$14.99 +tax/dep.
Lipari <b>Hard Salami</b> Only \$3.29 LB.	Low-Fat <b>Lorraine Swiss</b> Only \$4.29 LB.	<b>Buy One Large Square Cheese &amp; Pop., Get 2nd</b> Only \$2.99

**DOC'S**

**Restaurant & Bar**

**GREAT FOOD**

**GREAT SPORTS**

**FREE!**

Great taste w/ every entree

Open for Lunch  
OVER  
80 TV SCREENS!

Wide Variety  
of Menu Choices

**15% OFF**

Take 15% off entire bill excluding drinks.  
Offer expires 09/27/05 • With coupon only

**Banquet & Meeting Rooms Available**

19265 Victor Parkway  
Livonia

(734) 542-8162

Hours:  
Mon-Sat 11 am - 2 am  
Sun Noon - 2 am

GO TEAM

# League's circus attracts crowds and protesters

BY DARRELL CLEM  
STAFF WRITER

The Royal Hanneford Circus will end a five-day run in Westland today amid peaceful protests from animal rights activists.

"The main thing we're trying to do is to raise awareness that exotic animals who spend 23 hours a day confined or isolated do not belong in front of people performing unnatural behaviors," Westland activist Jim McNellis said.

But, children and adults, alike, seemed to enjoy circus performances on the Wayne-Ford Civic League property.

"The performances are absolutely wonderful," league President Vic Barra said. "They've got top-notch performances."

Circus shows could accommodate 1,250 patrons, and Barra said Thursday that ticket sales had started picking up for weekend performances.

"We feel we're doing well, and we're hoping for the best," he said. "We're just hoping to do the best we can, because we want to keep the circus coming back to Westland."

McNellis, a member of ADAPTT (Animals Deserve Absolute Protection Today and Tomorrow), said protests started on opening day Wednesday and would continue through today.

"The circus has no educational value," he said. "It's teaching kids that animals are objects, not living creatures."

Protesters didn't try to block

circus entrances or prevent patrons from seeing the shows.

"We're 100 percent compliant with the law," McNellis said. "We actually talk with the police and let them know what we're doing before we show up."

Activists showed circus-training videos, carried placards and handed out leaflets as part of their protest.

"They have been cordial," Barra said. "They have not interfered with the traffic coming in and out of the civic league, but they have upset some of the neighbors. They parked their vehicles and clogged the parking lot of the Auto Zone (across Wayne Road)."

Even though the circus delighted hundreds of spectators, Barra defended the protesters' right to express their views.

"This is America, and we fight for the freedom to express our views in a peaceful manner," he said. "But I believe that the best way to take care of these animals is to ensure the healthy support of circuses."

Circus performances today were scheduled for 11 a.m., 4 p.m. and 8 p.m., Barra said. Ringside seating costs \$18 for all ages. General admission is \$12 for adults, \$8 for children under 12.

McNellis urged anyone who wants to learn more about circus protests to visit two Web sites: [www.circuses.com](http://www.circuses.com) and [www.adaptt.org](http://www.adaptt.org).

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

# Summer reading isn't just for kids

BY JULIE BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

Joan Elmouchi knows a lot when it comes to summer reading. She's director of the Garden City Library where youngsters are eager to sign up for the annual summer reading program.

But summer reading also is big with adults, many of whom like Elmouchi are engrossed in the latest installment of the *Harry Potter* saga.

"It's great," she said. "It starts off with a bang."

According to Elmouchi, Sue Miller's *Lost in the Forest* is on the adult request list as is Elizabeth Berg's *The Year of Pleasures*.

"They're both contemporary fiction," Elmouchi said of the new books popular with women. Both deal with women who've recently lost their husbands.

*The Historian* by Elizabeth Kostova of Ann Arbor also is hot in Garden City, too.

"It's a Dracula story," she said. The Garden City Library has a lot of books on CD and tape, including titles for the whole family that "are really great for traveling," according to Elmouchi.

"There is no demise of the book," she added. "I think people will always want a book they can hold in their hand."

Over at the William P. Faust Public

Library of Westland, Marilyn Kwik was eager to get to her lunch hour and finish *Life of Pi* by Yann Martel.

"I have about five pages to go," the department head for adult services said of that fiction title by a Canadian author, which tells of a young man trapped in a lifeboat with a tiger.

At Westland's library, popular titles include mysteries *11 on Top* by Janet

Evanovich and *4th of July* by James Patterson. *The Mermaid Chair* by Sue Monk Kidd and *Harry Potter* do well, too, and the new Oprah's Pick titles are requested — William Faulkner's *As I Lay Dying*, *The Sound and the Fury* and *Light in August*.

"All three of those are really popular. We have a pretty brisk business still with *The Da Vinci Code*," Kwik said, adding that *1776* does well too among nonfiction.

*The Survivor: Bill Clinton in the White House* by John F. Harris is doing well in Westland, and patrons also are asking for Kitty Kelley's book on the Bush family.

Kwik agrees with colleagues that books won't die.

"They like a good story," she said. "I think that's never going to stop." That view is shared by Brooke Somerville, head of reference for the Redford Township District Library. "I

think people like to have something tangible to look at," she said.

Popular fiction this summer at Redford includes *11 on Top* and *The Interruption of Everything* by Terry McMillan. *The Historian* also is doing well.

Nonfiction titles requested include *1776*, *Freakonomics* by Steven Levitt and *The World Is Flat: A Brief History of the 21st Century* by Thomas Friedman.

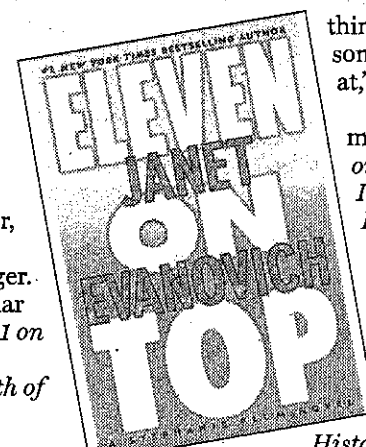
"We are very busy, getting a lot of Internet usage," Somerville said.

Livonia's libraries also are drawing eager adult readers, said Donna Winter, adult services librarian. *The Da Vinci Code* does well, even though it's been out a while. "It's very much in demand still," she said.

Other popular fiction includes *The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd, *11 on Top* and *Honeymoon* by James Patterson and *True Believer* by Nicholas Sparks.

Nonfiction sought at Livonia includes *Freakonomics* and *1776*, along with the Atkins Diet book. Winter agrees the book's not going away, noting that some readers like e-books but many prefer the printed version. Books on CD do well, too.

"People like to listen to them in the car," she said. "People still want to be entertained and it's a good way to be entertained."



**Levy Restaurants**

Our "Family of Passionate Restaurateurs" would like to invite your nonprofit organization to join in the excitement and become part of our Super Bowl winning team at Ford Field!

The Home of the Detroit Lions and Super Bowl XL!

We are interested in dedicated, enthusiastic and friendly civic groups to help us provide "World Class" hospitality and premium food service to our guests.

Please contact Sheila Brown at (313) 262-2174 or via E-mail at [smbrown@levyrestaurants.com](mailto:smbrown@levyrestaurants.com) for information regarding opportunities for unlimited fundraising potential.

**ALL-U-CAN-EAT Fish 'n' Chips**  
Wednesdays 5-9pm  
Served with fries and coleslaw

**\$7.95**

Add Our ALL-U-CAN-EAT Homemade Soup and Fresh Salad for \$2.00 extra

Call and ask about our ALL-U-CAN-EAT weekend specials!

**Great American Grill**

**Hilton Garden Inn Plymouth**  
14600 Sheldon Road Plymouth  
734-354-0001

PURE ENTERTAINMENT!

**Friday** Every Thursday

**YOUR 8-PIECE BONUS GIFT INCLUDES:**

- NEW Colour Surge Impossibly Glossy
- NEW Eye Palette with four shades of Colour Surge Eyeshadow
- High Impact Mascara
- NEW Repairwear Intensive Eye Cream
- Sparkle Skin Body Exfoliating Cream
- Clarifying Lotion 2
- Travel Pouch
- Blue cosmetics bag

**A 50.00 value.**  
IN COSMETICS. ALLERGY TESTED. 100% FRAGRANCE FREE. ONE PER CUSTOMER, PLEASE, WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.

**CLINIQUE GIFT**

LAST WEEK! Yours with any 21.50 or more Clinique purchase.

For your purchase, may we suggest:

**NEW REPAIRWEAR INTENSIVE EYE CREAM**  
Repairs lines and wrinkles around the eye area, moisturizes and protects with antioxidants.  
0.5 oz. 38.50 IN COSMETICS. ALLERGY TESTED. 100% FRAGRANCE FREE.

**PARISIAN**

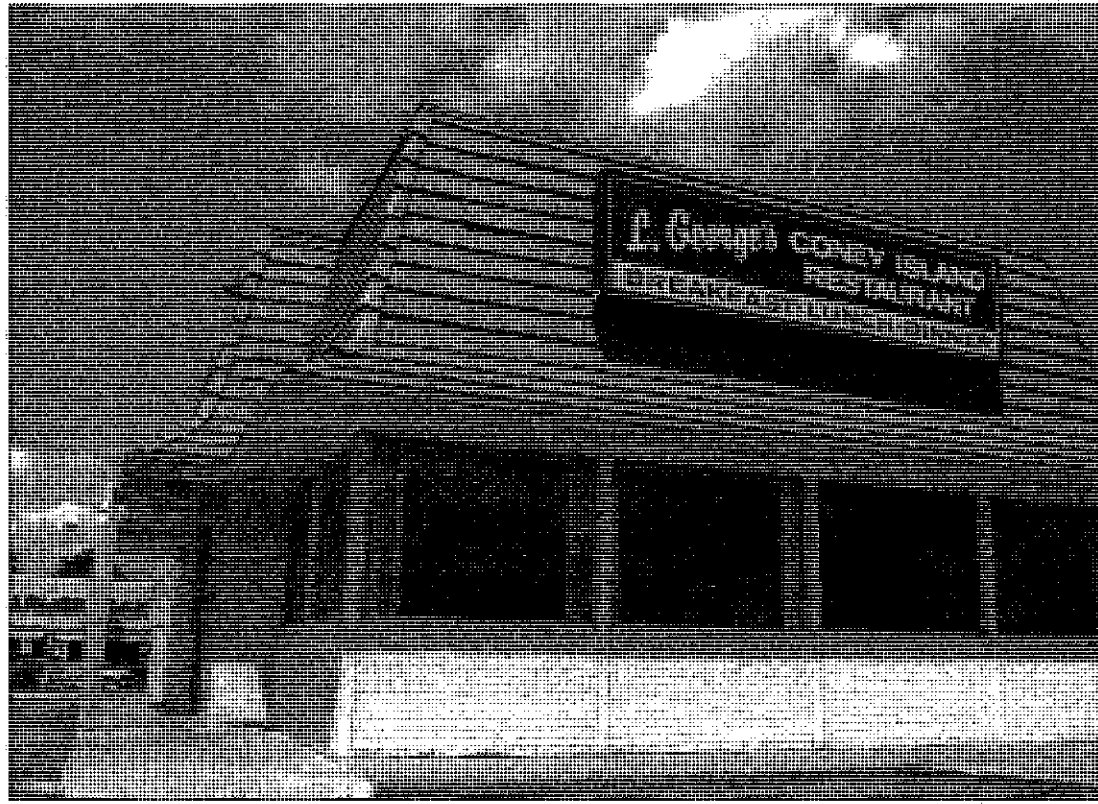
save an extra 10% when you open a Parisian account — no exclusions

VALID ON YOUR FIRST PAY & PARISIAN CHARGE PURCHASE. SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL AND ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS. SEE AN ASSOCIATE FOR DETAILS.

ACCOUNTS

FROM PAGE A1

report - and she said she peered inside and saw that plates had been left on a table. While Moss was there, another victim happened to stop by who told Moss that she had lost more than \$1,007 from her bank account. Business owners from other L. George restaurants have been cooperative, Willard said, and authorities remain puzzled by the case. As the investigation continues, Moss said she had been told by Comerica bank that her account "had been compromised" by a debit from L. George's. The good news is, bank representatives put \$672 back into her account, 16 days after the improper debit was made. "The bank put it back into my account yesterday," Moss said on Friday.



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Police are looking for a motive and suspects in the \$11,000 in debit charges posted to accounts of customers at the now closed L. George's Coney Island Restaurant on Ford Road.

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

DEATHS

- C**  
Gregory Stuart Chipman  
Chipman, 49, of Overland Park, Kan.  
Geraldine M. "Geri" Crist  
Crist, 72, of Pittsford, died July 26.
- F**  
Clara Rose Fandrei  
Fandrei, 96, died July 25.  
Eugene E. Feintheil  
Feintheil, 84, died June 17.
- G**  
Elenore C. Grzywacz  
Grzywacz, 87, of Farmington Hills, died July 24.

**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 C4.

- H**  
Charles Leon Honeycutt  
Honeycutt, 70, of Westland, died July 26.
- J**  
Robert J. Jason  
Jason, 62, of Birmingham, died July 22.
- E**  
Earl "Pete" Jeremy  
Jeremy, 77, formerly of Dexter, died July 23.
- R**  
Russel Johnson Sr.  
Johnson, 68, died July 29.
- K**  
James P. Kauff  
Kauff, of Westland, died July 22.
- R**  
Rosanne C. Korzym  
Korzym, of Livonia, died July 26.
- M**  
Jean Louise Morency  
Morency, of Westland, died July 22.
- P**  
Heather M. Pulliam  
Pulliam, 34, of Plymouth, died July 22.
- S**  
Elizabeth "Betsy" Spisak  
Spisak, 66, died July 26.  
Michelle Robb Stoecker  
Stoecker, 48, Roanoke, died July 23.
- Z**  
Douglas R. Zalewski  
Zalewski, of Plymouth Township, died July 27.

PLACES AND FACES

Info meeting

Train To End Stroke, a marathon training program offered by the American Stroke Association, will hold an information session at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 9, at the Westland Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway. The program is designed for people who want to get in shape, travel and raise money for a good cause. Choose to walk or run a full or half marathon in Arizona or Miami. All fitness levels are welcome. Additional information sessions are scheduled in August. For more information call (248) 827-4214 or visit stroke-association.org

New bingo session

The Metro Wayne Democratic Club will offer a second bingo session at the Wayne-Ford Civic League, beginning Friday, Aug. 5. Door will open at 9 a.m. with bingo starting at 10:45 a.m. An all-you-can-eat breakfast buffet will be available for \$3. For more information, call Cliff Johnson at (734) 729-8681.

Church of Rock

Come celebrate with The Church of Rock as it moves forward in its first Sunday night evening service 6-8 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 7, at 6500 Wayne Road at Hunter in Westland. For more information visit www.thechurchofrock.com on the Internet.

Take off

A program called "Katherine Stinson: the Flying Schoolgirl" has been scheduled for 1 p.m. Friday, Aug. 12, at the Wayne Public Library. Stinson had many firsts in her seven-year flying career, including being the first to fly solo at night and the first pilot to perform skywriting. She was instrumental in establishing a flight school. The program is free. To reserve a seat call (734) 721-7832 by Aug. 11.

Golf outing

The Wayne-Westland Junior Miss Scholarship Program will host its annual golf outing on

Saturday, Aug. 20, at the Gateway Golf Club.

The outing will have a scramble format with an 8 a.m. shotgun start. It includes 18 holes of golf with a cart, hot dog on the turn, door prizes and a barbecue dinner, catered by Chef Tony Paquette. The cost is \$100 per golfer. Sponsorships also are available. For information, call Dennis Hermatz at (734) 728-6151. All proceeds will go to the Wayne-Westland Junior Miss Scholarship Program, a 501c3 not-profit organization.

Summer camp

Children can explore the great outdoors at the YWCA of Western Wayne County's Summer Explorer day camp at Central City Park and the Bailey Recreation Center in Westland.

The camp is from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday through Aug. 19 for children ages 6-15. Activities include swimming, scavenger hunts, science experiments, movies, arts and crafts, pizza parties, field trips, talent show and more.

Children ages 11-15 also can participate in the Counselor in training program which offers the opportunity to learn the basics of being a camp counselor and develop important job skills. Applications for the camp are available at the YWCA, 26279 Michigan Ave., Inkster. For more information, call the camp department at (313) 561-4110.

Gardening program

The William P. Faust Public Library will host a program on earth friendly gardening 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 30, at the library, 6123 Central City Parkway north of Ford. The speakers will be garden consultants Nancy Szerlag and Jeff Ball who will cover such topics as perennial flowers for falls, mulches and compost, managing weeds without chemicals and landscape design ideas. The program is free and sponsored by the City of Westland. To register, call (734) 467-3198 weekdays or register by e-mail at LFDean@aol.com

**Internet Address Directory**  
Put Your Business Online! Call 1.800.989.4614

<p><b>ACUPUNCTURE</b> Acupuncture Institute of Michigan www.drneedles.com</p> <p><b>ANIMAL REMOVAL SERVICES</b> Animal Pro Inc. www.animalproinc.com</p> <p><b>APARTMENTS</b> Can Be Investments www.can-be.com</p> <p><b>ART MUSEUMS</b> The Detroit Institute of Arts www.dia.org</p> <p><b>AUTOMOTIVE</b> Davis Auto Care www.davisautocare.com</p> <p><b>BAKING/COOKING</b> Chelsea Milling Company www.jiffymix.com</p> <p><b>BUILDERS</b> Belanger Builders, Inc. www.belangerbuilders.com Classic Builders, Inc. www.classichomeimprove.com Mitch Harris Building Company www.mitchharris.net Murphy &amp; Marks Construction Co. LLC www.murphyandmarksconstruction.com Tony Van Oyen Builders Inc. www.tonyvanyenbuilder.com</p> <p><b>CHAMBER OF COMMERCE</b> Clarkston Chamber of Commerce www.clarkston.org Garden City Chamber of Commerce www.gardencity.org Howell Chamber of Commerce www.howell.org Livonia Chamber of Commerce www.livonia.org Redford Chamber of Commerce www.redfordchamber.org South Lyon Chamber of Commerce www.southlyonchamber.com</p> <p><b>CHAPELS</b> Historic Village Chapel www.historicvillagechapel.com</p> <p><b>CHIROPRACTORS</b> Brackney Chiropractic www.brackneychiropractic.com Dr. Kevin Venerus www.drkevinvenerus.com</p> <p><b>CLASSIFIED ADS</b> Observer &amp; Eccentric Newspapers www.hometownlife.com</p> <p><b>COMMUNITY SERVICES</b></p> <p><b>CONCIERGE SERVICE</b> Mountain Top II Concierge Service www.mountaintop2conciergeservice.com</p> <p><b>CREDIT BUREAUS</b> Ann Arbor Credit Bureau www.a2cb.com</p> <p><b>DENTISTS</b> Family Dentistry www.familydentist-sinardda.com Novi Dental www.novidental.com Smilemaker www.smilemaker.org</p> <p><b>DIET &amp; NUTRITION</b> Cambridge Diet and Nutrition Products www.2stayfit.com</p> <p><b>ELECTRONIC SERVICE AND REPAIR</b> ABL Electronic Service, Inc. www.ablerv.com</p> <p><b>EYE CARE/LASER SURGERY</b> Greenberg Laser Eye Center www.greenbergeye.com Michigan Eyecare Institute www.micheyecare.com</p> <p><b>FESTIVALS</b> Michigan 50's Festival www.michiganfiftiesfestival.com</p> <p><b>FIBERS</b></p> <p><b>FLOORING</b> Andy's Hardwood Floors www.andyshardwoodfloors.com</p> <p><b>FOUNTAINS</b> Awesome Fountains www.awesomefountains.com</p> <p><b>FURNITURE</b> Amish Country Peddler www.amishcountrypeddler.net</p> <p><b>GIFT SHOPS</b></p> <p>Shade Of The Olive www.olvishade.com</p> <p><b>HEALTH/FITNESS</b> Poise Pilates www.hometownlife.com/ecard/poisepilates</p> <p><b>HOME IMPROVEMENTS</b> Accent Remodeling Inc. www.accentremodeling.com Complete Carpet and Duct Cleaning www.completecarpetandduct.com Sandstone Tile Creations Inc. www.sandstone.tile.com</p> <p><b>IDENTIFICATION AND LAMINATION</b> Identification Lamination Products www.identlam.com</p> <p><b>INSURANCE</b> J.J. O'Connell &amp; Assoc., Inc. Insurance Company www.oconnellinsurance.com</p> <p><b>INTERNET HOSTING</b> Hometown Digital www.hometownlife.com</p> <p><b>To Advertise Your Web site Here, Call 1.800.989.4614</b></p>	<p><b>LAND</b> Oldford-Howell Development, Inc. www.parshallvillepond.com</p> <p><b>LASER HAIR REMOVAL</b> Absolute Skin &amp; Body Care www.absoluteskinandbody.com</p> <p><b>LAWYER SERVICES</b> Law Offices of Judith Blumeno www.blumeno.com</p> <p><b>MANUFACTURER/WELDING WIRE</b> Cor-met Inc. www.cor-met.com</p> <p><b>MANUFACTURERS REPRESENTATIVES</b> Electronic Sources www.esirep.com Hamlett Environmental Technologies www.hamlettenvironmental.com</p> <p><b>MEDICAL SUPPLIES</b> Innovative Laboratory Acrylics www.innovativelabacrylics.com</p> <p><b>MUSIC MEMORABILIA</b> Classic Audio Reproduction www.classicaudiorepro.com</p> <p><b>PAINTING SUPPLIES</b> Flo-Rite Paint www.flo-ritepaint.com</p> <p><b>PARKS</b> Huron-Clinton Metropark Authority www.metroparks.com</p> <p><b>PUBLICATIONS</b> Camden Publications www.club50news.com Equine Times www.equinetimes.com</p> <p><b>REAL ESTATE</b> ERA Alliance www.eraalliance.com Karen Ryan Enterprises www.karenryan.com Langard Realtors www.langard.com One Way Realty www.onewayrealty.com Remerica First www.remericafirst.com Sellers First Choice www.sfcrealty.com</p> <p><b>REALTORS</b> Chris Karapatsakis www.chrisksellshomes.com</p> <p>Dan Klavitter www.michiganfinehomes.com Fred &amp; Karen Ryckman www.darngoodagent.com</p> <p>Marie Schires www.marieschires.com</p> <p>Scott Omron www.scottomron.com Francine Willingham www.hometownlife.com/realtors/francinewillingham-heritage/SMAC/index.htm</p> <p><b>RECYCLING SERVICES</b> Resource Recovery and Recycling Authority of Southwest Oakland County www.rrasoc.org Southeastern Oakland County Resource Recovery Authority www.socrra.org</p> <p><b>REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH</b> Center for Reproductive Medicine &amp; Surgery www.reproductive-medicine.com Midwest Fertility and Sex Selection Center www.selectgender.com</p> <p><b>RESORTS</b> Sandcastles on the Beach Resort www.sandcastlesonthebeach.com</p> <p><b>RESTAURANTS</b> Albans Bottle &amp; Basket www.albans.com Bistro 127 www.bistro127.com Pasquale's Restaurant www.pasqualesrestaurant.com Stillwater Grill www.stillwatergrill.com</p> <p><b>RESUME SERVICE</b> Advantage Staffing www.voiceraeume.net</p> <p><b>STAFFING</b> Advantage Staffing www.astaff.com</p> <p><b>SURPLUS FOAM</b> McCullough Corporation www.mcfoam.com</p> <p><b>SURPLUS PRODUCTS</b> McCullough Corporation www.mcsurplus.com</p> <p><b>TAX SERVICES</b> Karen Ryan Enterprises www.karenryan.com</p> <p><b>THERMOGRAPHY</b> RB Thermal Imaging www.rbthermalimaging.com</p> <p><b>WEDDING SERVICES</b> Jewel Occasions www.jeweloccasions.com</p> <p><b>WELL SERVICES</b> Keller Well Drilling www.kellerwelldrilling.com</p> <p><b>WORSHIP</b> First Presbyterian Church Birmingham www.fpcbirmingham.org Our Shepherd Lutheran Church www.oursshepherd.net Rochester First Assembly Church www.rochesterfirst.org Unity of Livonia www.unityoflivonia.org</p> <p><b>YOUTH ATHLETICS</b> Westland Youth Athletic Association www.wyaa.org</p>
---	--

**CITY OF GARDEN CITY**

To all residents and interested parties, The Council minutes will be available for review on the internet at [www.gardencitymi.org](http://www.gardencitymi.org)

You can access this information at the Garden City Library or City Hall during regular Business hours or in the Police Station Lobby 24 hours a day.

ALLYSON M. BETTIS, Treasurer/City Clerk

Publish: May 1, 15, 22, 29, June 12, 19, July 3, 17, 24, 31, August 7, and 21, 2005

**WESTLAND Observer**  
WHERE HOMETOWN STORIES UNFOLD  
GANNETT HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

**HOW TO REACH US**

**Susan Rosiek**  
Executive Editor  
(734) 953-2100  
srosiek@oe.homecomm.net

**Frank Cibor**  
Retail Sales Manager  
(734) 953-2177  
fcibor@oe.homecomm.net

**Hugh Gallagher**  
Managing Editor  
(734) 953-2149  
hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net

**Cathy White**  
Retail Advertising Rep.  
(734) 953-2073  
cwhite@oe.homecomm.net

**Sue Mason**  
Community Editor  
(734) 953-2112  
smason@oe.homecomm.net

**Newsroom** ..... (734) 953-2104    **Fax** ..... (734) 591-7279  
**Sports Nightline** ..... (734) 953-2104  
**Circulation/Customer Service** ... 1-866-88-PAPER (866-887-2737)  
**Classified Advertising** ..... 1-800-579-SELL (7355)  
**Display Advertising** ..... (734) 953-2153

To purchase page and photo reprints go to [www.hometownlife.com/oe/reprints](http://www.hometownlife.com/oe/reprints). For more information contact 1-866-88-PAPER.

**Circulation Business Hours/Subscription Rates**  
Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Sunday 8 a.m. to noon

If you missed a delivery please call by 6 p.m. Thursday and 11 a.m. Sunday.

<b>Carrier Delivery</b> Sunday/Thursday	<b>Mail Delivery</b> Sunday/Thursday
One year ..... \$59.95	One year (in county) \$83.95
6 Month ..... \$29.95	6 Month ..... \$41.95
3 Month ..... \$14.95	3 Month ..... \$20.95
For senior citizen rate, please call 1-866-887-2737	One year (out of county) \$108.95
	6 Month ..... \$54.45
	3 Month ..... \$27.25

**POSTAL PERIODICAL REQUIREMENTS**  
The Westland Observer - Publication NO. USPS 663-530 Published every Thursday and Sunday. Periodical postage is paid at Livonia, Michigan 48150.

36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150

QUALITY AUDITING  
**CBC MPA**  
MARK OF EXCELLENCE

**SNY GDMN**  
Greater Detroit Newspaper Network

Named to the final honor roll of the 2004-2005 school year at Wayne Memorial High School are:

Amanda, Abulawi, Nur Abulawi, Amanda Adams, Anthony Adams, Jennifer Adkins, Wendy Adkins, Ammer Ahmad, Zohaib Ahmad, Jamie Altman, Jessica Amburgey, Samantha Anderle, Melanie Anderson, Nicholas Anderson, Allison Areeda, Mark Arnold, Kimberly Artuso, Autumn Askew, Cynthia Aslanian, Rachel Atkins, Ashley Atterberry, Gideon Ault, Amanda Bailey, Anthony Bailey, April Bailey, Georgia Baker, Kelsey Baker, Courtney Ball, LaTanya Ball, Jeremiah Bauder, Jamie Bauer, Joshua Bayer, Melanie Beard, Monica Beeson, Dorcas Bell, Katherine Bellenir, Hailey Benton, Blake Berry, Angela Berthet, Ryan Bies, Ryan Bird, Fawna Black-Cicotte, Kimberley Blessing, Joseph Bonetti, Shayna Bono.

Lisa Booterbaugh, Danielle Borg, Nicole Bouren, Jasmine Bowles, Ashley Bowman, Joshua Boyce, Adrielle Bradford, Joshua Bradley, Victoria Bradley, Brittany Brady, Bruce Brewer, Ashley Brooks, Daniel Brooks, Taylor Brooks, Jacqueline Brown, Jessica Brown, Jason Brown, Joshua Brown, Amber Browne, Katie Brumfield, James Bryant, Brett Burns, Corisa Butler, Dakota Butler, Rena Butler, Nathaniel Byberg, Brooke Cabe, Chelsea Cahill, Cassandra Campbell, Corey Campbell, Elizabeth Campbell, James Capraro, Jorge Carmelo, Steven Cates, Benjamin Chalupka, Jared Chatterton, Lorina Clardy, Douglas Clarke, Robin Clarke, Travis Cleveland, Jessica Closs, Doyle Colaianni, Michael Cole, Joseph Coleman.

Sareesa Coleman, Justin Collop, James Congdon, Karen Contreras, Charles Cooney, Karen Cooney, Timothy Cornett, Matthew Cretens, Ruth Cuevas, Linette Cuevas-Zuniga, Christina Curtis, Terry Curtis, David Czerwinski, Laura D'Arcy, Clifford Daniels, Heather Daniels, Stephanie Davidson, Brittney Davis, Dean Davis, Mark Davis, Michael Davis, Oriana Davis, Richard Davis, Jennifer Dawson, Amber Day, Nicholas Dayton, Amber Decker, Brittany Demaray, Sarah Demse, Katie-Lyn Dennis, Christopher Dewaelesche, Briana Dewey, Dallas Dewey, Kyra Dewey, Desart Dinkollari, Erina Dinkollari, Erica Dishon, Bryan Dixon, Kelly Doerr, Kevin Dombrowski, Andrew Doss, Jordan Dottor, Logan Drennan.

Amy Dunham, Amanda Dye, Tynikka Edwards, Regina Ellis, Kevin Erdmann, Kyle Erdmann, Kenneth Ester Jr., Kherre Fairbanks, William Fallow, Marianne Farmer, Jeremy Ferack, Cody Ferguson, Amanda Fill, Garrett Fischer, John Fisher, Jeremy Flatt, Celso Flores III, Baily Floyd, Kevin Folster, Amanda Ford, Joshua Ford, Dustin Franklin, Nicole Franklin, Danny Frantjeskos, Leslie Freedle, David Freeman, Daniel Frey, Stephen Frost, Lindsay Funk, J'naï Fuqua, Kia Fuqua, Jacob Fyfe, Roneisha Gale, Heather Galvan, Cory Gamsjager, Allison Gardiner, Melia Garris, Alvin Geddis, Heather Gendron, Felicia George, Daniel Gill, Jaikar Gill, Melissa Gill, Justin Girouard, Nilton Gjecl, Angel Glaspie.

Natassia Goines, Jennifer Gonzalez, Julie Good, Adam Gorrington, Patrick Gorrington, Molly Grace, Thomas Grandowicz, Timothy Grandowicz, Michelle Grassmyer, Angel Graybill, Mason Green, Michael Green, Jennifer

Greenshields, Meridith Griggs, Danielle Grimes, Ellen Grutta, Brandon Gunther, Justin Gunther, Nichole Gulliver, Thomas Gunther, Jennifer Guthrie.

Kristine Haggard, Megan Hahn, Michael Hadjuk, Christina Haley, Bethany Hamlet, Hollie Hanna, Kathryn Hansen, Cory Harden, Elizabeth Hardy, Darrin Harper, Kevin Harrington, James Harris, Kelly Harris, Ramond Harris II, Yousef Hegazi, Karl Heinrich, Alyssa Hendricks, Alysa Henning, Heather Henning, Elyse Henry, Ryan Herbst, Andrew Hermatz.

Louis Hershey, Brooke Hester, Christopher Hilger, John Hill III, Courtney Hinton, Sylvia Hipke, Samantha Hochstadt, Kristin Hodges, James Holbrook, Jordan Holland, Jennifer Holloway, Jessica Holloway, Silayne Holt, Bridget Horton, Ashley Howell, Sherry Hubbard, Jason Hughes, Kelli Hughes, Vincent Hull, Raymond Hunter, Brianna Irwin, Stephanie Jablonicky.

Dennis Jacobs, Antonio James, Tiffany James, Jordan Janowitz, Song Jin, Angelina Johnson, Bruce Johnson, Byron Johnson, Jeremy Johnston, Kyle Jones, Megan Jones, Takita Jones, Jason Kantner, Anthony Karasinski, Amanda Kasprzak, Jessica Kay, Justin Keatts, Tabatha Kelsey, Quiana Kennedy, April Kersey, David Kiracofe, Kristen Kiracofe.

Cody Kirchoff, Brian Kohler, Kayla Konopski, Jennifer Kopacz, Jonathon Kuhlman, Nicole Kwolek, Kellee Labean, Chelsea Labrie, Shannon Lafferty, Olivia LaFortune, Matthew Lancaster, Sharon Langa, Linda Larprise, Christopher Larson, Tiffany Larson, Andi Laska, Jeanette Laskowski, Angela Latour, Carrie Laubernds, Samantha Lave, Ashley Laws.

Jean Lax, Paul Lehman, Holly Lentz, Jamie Lentz, Destiny Lewis, Joshua Lewis, Kevin Lewis, Monica Lewis, Alex Lickliter, Amanda Linton, Leonard Linton, Sarah Lisenbee, Brandy Little, Jeffrey Little, Nicole Little, Megan Londberg, Noéll Love, Alyssa Luckett, Jessica Maas, David Mabe, Kelly MacDonald, Kanav Mahotra, Raghu Mahotra, Matthew Maier.

Sheila Maine, Shantel Mallard, Shannon Manakis, Kurt Mandeville, Travis Manning, Daniel Marsh, Angela Marshall, Kara Marszalek, Jessica Martin, Ryan Martin, Monica Mason, Travis Mason, Lamike Massey, Jessica Mattheson, Karissa Matson, William Matson, Sarah Mayberry, Andrew Maynard, Sarah Maynard, Carolyn McCafferty, Amanda McClure.

Patrick McClure, Erin McCoy, David McCrary, Brandon McCrory, Sara McDonald, Jack McFaddin, Amber McGough, Stephanie McKee, Theodora McKenzie, Leanne McManaway, Steven McMullen, Ronnie Meirthew, Maria Mendoza, Sara Michael, Rebecca Miller, Christian Mills, Sean Mills, Cassandra Miszak, Josephine Mitchell, Jason Moland, Frank Molner, Samantha Monforton, Gabrielle Monit, Kristina Monty, Martel Moon, Aisha Moore, Ashley Moore, Jillian Moore, Justin Moore, Kristopher Moore, Nicholas Moore, Tashawna Moore, Kyle Moran, Christina Morgan, Robert Morgan, Amber Morneau, Claire Moro, Kathryn Moro, Andrew Morton, Alyson Mosher, Shawn Mullen, Sahala Murenan, Dominique Mundy, Brittney Neighbor, Kara Nelson, Kenny Newsted, Aaron Nielson, Ryan Nielson, Rebekah Niemann, Zachary Niemann, Jessica Novack, Jillian Novak Alexander, Colleen O'Brien,

Serrina O'Brien-Tarazan, Stefane O'Chel, Chelsea O'Mara, Kayla O'Mara, Patrick O'Neil Jr., Katie O'Reilly, Jennifer O'Rourke, Brenda Ochoa, Chelsey Odum, Alicia Offerman, Timothy Osborne.

Brittany Pack, Crystal Palac, Neal Palmer, Paula Papay, Jennifer Park, Stephanie Park, Ashley Parker, Anisha Pasley, Andrew Pate, Brent Patterson, Jackeé Patterson, Nichole Payne, Erica Perdue, Jonathan Pernak, Amanda Perry, Joshua Perusse, Malerie Petrello, Joshua Phillips, Iona Piernicka, Amber Pierson, Nichole Pierson, Meghan Plumley.

Kristina Plummer, Jessica Poplin, Jeannette Poster, April Potrzuski, April Potrzuski, Jason Prince, Katina Privett, Rachel Prosser, Lee Przytyla, Jessica Ptaszynski, Keaonna Purdie, Kerrie Quarles.

Chelsea Quintal, Kara Quintal, Clifford Ralph, Chelsea Randles, Matthew Ray, Johnny Reid, Lejohnna Reid, Virginia Reid, Michael Remington, Nickolas Remington, Michele Reske, Kyrie Rettman, Ryan Reynolds, Heather Rice, Ebony Riley, Emily Robertson, Eric Robertson, Stacey Robinson, Emily Rodler, Andrew Rodriguez, Sara Roebuck, Kristina Rogers, Steven Rogers, Derrick Roulo, Amandamarie Rousseau, Rebecca Rowland, Brandon Russell, Caitiyn Ryan-Partridge, Steven Saferian, Joshua Samples, Samantha Sandusky.

Randeep Sanghe, Stacey Schack, Jennifer Schmidt, Melissa Schmidt, Jacob Schofield, Justin Schofield, Alisha Schrader, Heather Schrader, Michael Schuch, James Schwedt, Alex Scott, James Scott, Timothy See, Clarice Selvia, Jasmen Sheffield-Sadie, Shunee Shephard, Mengdan Shi, Mengyu Shi, Rachel Shier, Megan Shirsun, Simranjit Singh, Christopher Singles.

Adam Smith, Brittany Smith, Christian Smith, Iyonna Smith, Joel Smith, Melissa Smith, Sarah Smith, Zachary Smith, Jonathon Smoes, Lataché Snell-Jones, Daniel Snowden, Michael Solarz, Lisa Sotell, Stacey Sparks, Angeleah Speights, Nicholas Spence, Joel Spencer, Robert Stabenow, Monica Stafford, Andreas Stavrou, Conishia Steward, Stacy Stone.

Meissa Strum, Sarah Strum, Ashley Sullivan, Kathleen Sweeney, Brittany Tabor, Naja Tatum, Brett Tavana, Clifford Taylor, Aaron Tennant, Patricia Terrien, Rachel Terryah, Brandon Tesner, Anitha Thomas, Kayleigh Thorne, Angeliqe Thornton, Lindsay Thurman, Andrew Thyrlion, Melanie Tibai, Elizabeth Tolliver, David Toms, Daniel Torok.

Jena Trudell, Bobbi Turner, Wendy Turner, Kristi Tyler, Nicole Tyson, Daniel Ursem, Timothy Ursem, Kyle Vercheresse, April Vaerten, Mark Valentin, Kandice Valentine, Andrew Vedder, Ann Veloz, Kara Verkennis, Yen Yo, Crystal Wallace, Rebecca Wallace, Christopher Walsh, Jack Ward, Mark Waynick, Kiley Weber, Michelle Wehr, Benjamin Weier, Lauren Weinau, Sarah Weimert, Joann Welden, Amiee Wells, Jessica West, Julie West, Jana White, Brittany Wilkin, Brandon Willey, Marissa Williams, Amy Williamson, Melissa Wincher, Amber Wohlfeil, Samantha Woodby, Donald Woodman, Steven Woodruff, Jamie Woodford, Joi Woolfork, Joseph Yodsnukis, Cassie York, Andrew Zadigian, Brian Zilka, Jack Zimmerman and Maritza Zuniga-Jasso.

THINKING ABOUT CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING LENNOX FREE ESTIMATES (734)525-1930 Our 31st Year! UNITED TEMPERATURE 8919 MIDDLEBELT • LIVONIA

Mike's Marketplace Your Meat & Deli Supermarket

Don't miss Mike's biggest ever "10 POUND MEAT SALE!" Sale Starts Monday, August 1st - 7th

10 lbs. or more Fresh Ground Beef GROUND CHUCK \$1.19 Only LIMIT 2

10 lbs. or more Fresh Bone-in SPLIT CHICKEN BREAST 99¢ Only LIMIT 2

10 lbs. or more All Meat Jumbo DEARBORN DINNER FRANKS \$1.99 Only LIMIT 2

10 lbs. or more U.S.D.A. Center Cut BONELESS CHUCK ROAST \$1.79 Only LIMIT 2

10 lbs. or more U.S.D.A. Select Tender BONELESS SIRLOIN STEAK \$2.99 Only LIMIT 2

10 lbs. or more Fresh GROUND BEEF GROUND SIRLOIN \$1.99 Only

10 lbs. or more Mikes Famous Storemade FRESH KIELBASA \$1.59 Only LIMIT 2

10 lbs. or more Delicious Fully Cooked DEARBORN SMOKED KIELBASA \$2.79 Only LIMIT 2

10 lbs. or more Fresh GROUND SIRLOIN and Boneless Skinless CHICKEN BREAST \$1.99 Only

10 lbs. or more Fresh ITALIAN SAUSAGE and Fresh KIELBASA \$1.59 Only

MIKE'S 10 LB COMBO SPECIALS! Fresh KOSHER Style CORNED BEEF Imported Krakus POLISH HAM Lean Sliced ROAST BEEF Premium Hoffmans HARD SALAMI \$4.99

Cheer for the hometown read today's SPORTS section

Spectrum Community Services An Affiliate of Spectrum Human Services, Inc. CHILD CARE CENTER Drop In or Enroll OPEN 24/7 FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE 28303 Joy Road Westland, MI 48185

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL SPECIALS MIKES-MARKETPLACE.COM

# LTU voyageurs return from trip into history

BY PAT MURPHY  
STAFF WRITER

When their canoe left Southfield in May, they were part of a student project blending engineering know-how with American history.

Eight weeks later, students and faculty advisors returned to Lawrence Technological University as a seasoned team — undaunted by a blistering sun, severe thunderstorms or the sheer drudgery of paddling a 350-pound canoe 500 miles.

The LTU contingent paddled from Southfield to Pittsburgh, traversing waters of the Rouge, Detroit, Ohio and Monongahela rivers as well as part of Lake Erie, waterways once used almost exclusively by Indians and fur traders.

"The thing I liked best was working as a team to overcome obstacles," said civil engineering student Laura Hallam, one of four students and one faculty advisor to canoe the entire 500 miles.

Dozens of students, faculty advisors and supporters took part in the project that took them through highly industrialized as well as pristine waterways.

"It was far more work than we imagined," said Michael Means, a mechanical engineering student who participated in the entire trip. "But it was also very satisfying."

Means, an experienced outdoorsman who helped design the canoe using a laptop com-



These Lawrence Tech students paddled from Southfield to Pittsburgh, traversing waters of the Rouge, Detroit, Ohio and Monongahela rivers as well as part of Lake Erie.

puter, said the experience also helped him develop an appreciation of history.

"We could only imagine what it was like 250 years ago," he said.

Hallam said she had never been in a canoe prior to the project. "We had a few (hours of) practice sessions," she said, "but that was about it."

The work was grueling at times, Hallam said, and the first day out she developed blisters from sunburn. "But we had put so much effort into building the canoe (and planning the trip), I just had to do the whole trip," she said.

Philip Vogt, an associate pro-

fessor of history who conceived the project, said the trip offered many practical applications. In addition to engineering basics and American history, students had the chance to learn first hand about hydrology and environmental science, he said in May.

Vogt, who said he particularly enjoys early American history, did the entire trip.

Another faculty advisor, Don Carpenter, said people along the way offered another learning experience. "Everybody was so friendly and supportive," said the assistant professor of civil engineering.

One encounter was particu-

larly memorable, said Carpenter. That was in Franklin, Pa., a community of about 7,500 near the juncture of French Creek and the Allegheny River.

The LTU voyageurs had just encountered a horrendous thunder storm, Carpenter recalled, "and everything was wet."

That's when members of the Franklin Fire Department offered some dry bunks and warm hospitality. "The next day they gave us an outstanding breakfast, and sent us on our way," said Carpenter.

pmurphy@oe.homecomm.net | (248) 901-2575

# Bankes calls for probe of state ballot effort

BY DAN WEST  
STAFF WRITER

A former state lawmaker is calling for more scrutiny into how Michigan conducts citizen petition initiatives in the wake of a controversial bid for a statewide ballot proposal.



Bankes

Lyn Bankes, one of four members of the Board of State Canvassers, said she believes some of the 500,000 petition signers were manipulated in the effort to get put a ban on the use of race and gender in government hiring or public university admissions before state voters in 2006.

The Livonia Republican abstained from voting to certify the election. By a 2-1 vote Tuesday, the board of canvassers voted against certifying the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative proposal. A court appeal by the proposal's advocates is expected.

"Legally, as a member of the state board of canvassers, I did not have the right to turn it down," Bankes said Friday. "In my conscience, as a human being, I could not vote for it."

Bankes sent a letter to all of Michigan lawmakers last week, asking them to investigate possible fraud in the collection of the signatures for this ballot proposal.

"Some 20-25 percent of the 500,000 signatures were done in African-American communities," Bankes said. "You've got to know that there are few blacks who will sign an anti-affirmative action petition."

Also, she is asking lawmakers to review the state's procedures for citizen petitions, since out-of-state financiers, paid workers and non-voters can play key roles in getting measures on a statewide ballot. The Michigan Constitution

By a 2-1 vote Tuesday, the board of canvassers voted against certifying the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative proposal.

permits any state resident — but they don't have to be registered voters — to collect signatures in a petition drive.

"These people are paid at least \$1 per signature collected," Bankes said. "The way things are right now, our Constitution is for sale."

Bankes, a former state representative, Wayne County commissioner and Livonia mayoral candidate, said she is troubled that out-of-state petition gathering companies have generated the signatures needed to place several ballot proposals that went to voters in recent years.

"Anyone with money, even if they are not from Michigan, can alter our state Constitution," Bankes said. "I think it's time for lawmakers to review this."

State Rep. John Pastor (R-Livonia) said Bankes and her colleagues did not do their job when they abstained or voted against certifying the election.

"Their job is to certify the language is right and appropriate signatures were there," Pastor said. "It is not their job to suspect signatures were collected improperly."

Pastor added these types of allegations are common during all petition drives across the state and country.

"The board of canvassers are not supposed to be political," he said, "but that's exactly what they are doing in this matter."

dwest@oe.homecomm.net | (734) 953-2109

## POLLS

FROM PAGE A1

"That's pretty standard," she said.

Overall, DeHart predicted a low voter turnout for Tuesday's special election. No other issues are on the Westland ballot.

"I am still trying to impress on people that it is an election and to vote," DeHart said.

Some voters welcomed the change in voting systems because the newer method, unlike the old, leaves a paper trail, the clerk said.

"A paper trail with the ballot is important to many people,"

DeHart said. In past elections, some voters had on occasion questioned the integrity of the touch-screen voting system, although local officials tried to assure them that votes were accurately counted.

With just over 56,000 registered voters, Westland will help other Wayne County communities decide on Tuesday whether to renew a 0.25-mill parks tax that raises about \$10.2 million a year.

The tax has had a tangible effect in Westland, with money used to build the Concrete Jungle skate park next to the Bailey Recreation Center.

Unless renewed, the tax will

expire at year's end.

A Westland resident who has a \$150,000 house with a taxable value of \$75,000 would continue to pay about \$18.75 a year, if the tax proposal is passed, city Finance Director Steve Smith said.

Officially, Westland city leaders haven't become embroiled in urging voters to support or reject the tax renewal.

"The city has taken no official stance," Westland City Council President Charles Pickering said.

"It's very routine that we should not take a stand."

Anyone who wants to see a demonstration of the new elec-

tion equipment may tune in to a special program on city cable station WLND. That's Channel 12 for Comcast subscribers and Channel 10 for WideOpenWest customers.

The program will air at 7 a.m., 9:10 a.m., 2:10 p.m., 7:10 p.m. and 11 p.m. Sunday and Monday, and at 7 a.m., 9:10 a.m. and 2:10 p.m. Tuesday, according to Craig Welkenbach, who manages the station.

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

## ARE YOU MISSING THE GOOD STUFF?

It's easy and affordable to discover more about your community in your Observer or Eccentric newspaper—the events, the issues — all the important information that you can't easily find elsewhere.

In addition to local coverage of schools, local sports, business, and government, and all the local news, you'll enjoy money-saving coupons, colorful "inserts" and FILTER! Pure Entertainment, a section filled with places to go and things to do.

And, right now you will receive a \$10 Meijer Gift Card when you subscribe.

Get all this today by filling in the form below or giving us a call.

We look forward to sending you all your local news along with your Meijer Gift Card!



Get all your local news and a \$10 Meijer Gift Card!



THE Observer & Eccentric NEWSPAPERS

- Birmingham Eccentric
- Canton Observer
- Farmington Observer
- Garden City Observer
- Livonia Observer
- Plymouth Observer
- Redford Observer
- Rochester Eccentric
- Southfield Eccentric
- Troy Eccentric
- West Bloomfield Eccentric
- Westland Observer

Clip and mail or call 1-866-887-2737

Mail to: Circulation Department

Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150

I'd like to subscribe and receive my hometown news every Sunday and Thursday for six months \$29.95 and receive a \$10 Meijer Gift Card

PAYMENT ENCLOSED  BILL ME

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_  
 CREDIT CARD INFORMATION:  VISA  MASTERCARD  DISCOVER  AMEX  
 Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_

OE0633451.EPS

CARRIER DELIVERY ONLY OFFER EXPIRES 9/30/05

### Priority Community Credit Union

**Win A Grand!**  
**\$1,000**

or a DVD Recorder or an MP3 Player.

For a chance to win, just open a new account (\$10 minimum deposit, with direct deposit), new checking account (\$10 minimum deposit, with direct deposit), new money market account (\$1000 minimum deposit), or new loan (\$1000 minimum \$10,000). Any member can enter by guessing the amount in the "Fifty Credit Union" on display in the credit union's Westland office.

#### Membership Expansion Specials

**HOME EQUITY LINES OF CREDIT 2.99% APR**  
 TWO PAYMENTS FOR A YEAR! \$1000 LUMP SUM CASH  
 Introductory rate of 2.99% for 12 months and no payment for a month on loan amounts of \$10,000 or more (initial interest of \$20.00 or more required). Initial interest of \$20.00 or more required for loan's gift card. Closing costs waived on initial advance of \$20,000 or more. Regular rate of the prime rate plus 1% for loan to refinance up to 80% and the prime rate for loan to refinance over 80% up to 100%. Regular minimum rate is 3% and maximum is 6%. Closing costs and fees must be paid in full before 1st payment.

**AUTO LOANS 4.99% APR**  
 TWO PAYMENTS FOR A YEAR! \$1000 LUMP SUM CASH  
 Auto loans as low as 4.99% APR for up to 72 months. \$1000 instant rebate and no payment for 30 days on new and used vehicle loans or refinances from another creditor. To be eligible for rebate, loan amount must be \$10,000 or more.

**\$1,000 CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT 7% APY**  
 Earn 7% on a \$1,000 CD for 1 year! Earn 7% on a 1-year certificate of deposit (minimum deposit \$100, maximum deposit \$1,000). Requires one of the following: Auto loan of \$10,000 or more (new loan only, opening loan amount, or new regular home equity line of credit of \$10,000 or more (new funds only). If new equity money market account deposit of \$10,000 or more (new funds only), new active checking account with new direct deposit of \$500 per month. Additional terms and conditions may apply. Fees may reduce earnings.

**LOOKING FOR A LARGER CD?**  
 Check out our new Choice CDs that let you move to a higher rate at any time.

MEMBER SINCE 1991 PRIORITY COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION MEMBER SINCE 1991

1) Live, work, or commute in Westland, Southfield, Livonia, Farmington, or Detroit.  
 2) Work for the US Postal Service or the mail/carrier/delivery industry (includes related).  
 3) Work for the Federal government (includes related).  
 4) Receive postsecondary income from any source.  
 See http://www.pccu.com for more details.

**Priority Community Credit Union**  
 37250 Ford Road • Westland, MI • 888-388-LEND  
 www.priorityccu.com

## Annual Kids Count shows Michigan needs to do better

On Wednesday, the annual Kids Count Report was released. Michigan ranked 25th overall among the 50 states on 10 key measures of child well-being, showing a mix of improvement and decline between 2000 and 2003.

The annual national report is a project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation of Baltimore, Md. In Michigan the survey also receives support from the Skillman Foundation, the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation and the Michigan Association of United Ways. The survey for 2005 is based on data from 2003.



Hugh Gallagher

The press release on the national survey concludes that child well-being is no longer improving in the "rapid and sustained way" that it did through the prosperous 1990s.

"Among the negative trends, the number of children who live with parents facing persistent unemployment grew by

4 million, an increase of more than 1 million since 2000," the release says.

The report focuses on 10 "key" measures of child well-being: percent of low-birthweight babies; infant mortality rate; child death rate; teen death rate; teen birth rate; high school dropout rate; percent of "idle" teens; rate of children living with parents without secure year-round jobs; children living in poverty; and children living in single-parent households.

In Michigan, roughly 100,000 of the state's children under 18 are living in a household where no adult works. One in six Michigan children live in families with incomes below the poverty level (\$18,660 for a family for two adults and two children in 2003).

"Some of the parents are plagued with depression, substance abuse, domestic violence and a history of incarceration — significant barriers to getting and keeping a job," said Janet Zehnder-Merrell, senior research associate at the Michigan League for Human Resources. "Yet we continue to cut state resources that support the programs to address these issues in spite of the fact that the number of children in such families has swelled by one-half since the beginning of the decade."

State attempts to deal with its financial problems by cutting people from Medicaid is also beginning to show its effects. Michigan's lowest ranking is 38th among the 50 states in infant mortality. Eight of every 1,000 infants died before their first birthday in 2002. Similarly, Michigan ranks only 27th on infant birth weight.

The rankings show that the states doing the best on child well-being are primarily in New England and across the northern plains. New

The report focuses on 10 "key" measures of child well-being: percent of low-birthweight babies; infant mortality rate; child death rate; teen death rate; teen birth rate; high school dropout rate; percent of "idle" teens; rate of children living with parents without secure year-round jobs; children living in poverty; and children living in single-parent households.

Hampshire, Vermont and Minnesota rank highest. States that rank lowest are in the South and Southwest with Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi ranking lowest. Virginia is the notable exception, ranking 13th overall.

Michigan ranks low for its overall size and for its position as a once progressive state among the other northern-tier states.

Reports like this are always open to a variety of interpretations. One interpretation suggests that a decline in government support for social programs has had a detrimental effect on children, especially the youngest and most vulnerable. Another interpretation might suggest that there is a decline in personal/parental responsibility that places children at risk from their own parents. An essay accompanying the survey examines the impact of substance abuse, domestic violence, prior incarceration and persistent unemployment on child well-being.

Of course, both positions are right. The addicted, abusive parents were predominantly once abused, neglected, poor children.

Some might look at the Kids Count survey for Michigan and say, well that's an acceptable level given our current economic situation. Maybe, when and if the state's economy improves and more revenue comes in without raising taxes, we'll address some of these problems.

Meanwhile, another generation of children will continue the cycle.

It's a question of state priorities and a question of how we meet the social needs we have.

Michigan can and should do better.

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 and by fax at (734) 591-7279.

## It's time for Safety Town to teach the new reality

All right, boys and girls, listen carefully because today we are going to talk about Safety Town. You know what Safety Town is. It's the place where moms and dads send you little ones to learn all about how to drive big cars on the streets and how to be safe wherever you go.

At Safety Town you get to drive cars just like the grownups down streets drawn on school parking lots. But, you know, it's time for Safety Town to grow up a little, too.

Times change, so there are some new rules that you need to learn if you are going to be a good and happy driver.

First, remember that traffic lights and stops signs are just suggestions. When you get near one, look around you — not too hard — and if no one is within, say, 10 feet or so, just close your eyes and step on the gas. You'll do

fine, and the way the other drivers react will be so funny you'll laugh and laugh. Plus you will get to wherever you're going so much faster.

Second, look at your foot. It reaches all the way down to the gas pedal. Press on the pedal real hard. See how fast you can go? Watch how you can come right up to the back of the car in front of you. You can get so close you can see the hairs standing up on the back of the head of the driver.

Third, see those white lines painted on the street? They are there for a reason. Other drivers are supposed to stay in between those lines. You don't have to.

Turn your car into the set of lines alongside you whenever you want. This is especially fun if there are lots of cars next to you.

Now, pay attention because we are going to try to do something harder. This involves driving on expressways. You know what those are. They are the places where you can drive really, really fast or you can sit still all day while the nice policemen clean up the big mess in front of you.

At some places on the expressway, the road splits and connects to another expressway. Usually, cars are backed up on the road because there are so many trying to get onto the other expressway. When that happens, all you have to do is drive on the side of the road and then turn real fast in front of another car so you can be at the front of the line of drivers.

By the way, in the next session of Safety Town, we are going to show how you can talk to other drivers using your hand. One finger,

While you are driving, be sure to call someone on your cell phone. Anyone. It doesn't matter who, but you have to talk to someone. If you don't, other people will give you funny looks because they will think you are not important enough to have a cell phone or someone to talk to. Cell phones make driving more fun, too, especially when you are dialing or even taking a picture.

actually. But back to the rules of the road. While you are driving, be sure to call someone on your cell phone. Anyone. It doesn't matter who, but you have to talk to someone. If you don't, other people will give you funny looks because they will think you are not important enough to have a cell phone or someone to talk to.

Cell phones make driving more fun, too, especially when you are dialing or even taking a picture. Why do cell phones take pictures?

No one knows. Anyway, if you don't have a cell phone, at least play your radio real loud. In fact, get your mommy and daddy to install special speakers in the trunk of your car so that everyone in the neighborhood can hear you. And be sure to play the right kind of music. There are songs that have lots of special words, especially one that begins with the letter F. While you play it, go park by your school for a while. That way, everyone can share in the fun.

Loud music is also important because it keeps you from hearing other sounds that might bother you, like the sirens coming from police cars or ambulances and shiny red or yellow fire trucks.

Of course, you may end up hearing those sounds anyway when all kinds of people show up to separate you from the pieces of your car. And that's a whole different kind of fun.

Greg Kowalski is editor of the *Birmingham Eccentric*. He can be reached at (248) 901-2570 or by e-mail at gkowalski@oe.homecomm.net.

*We have everything but you!*



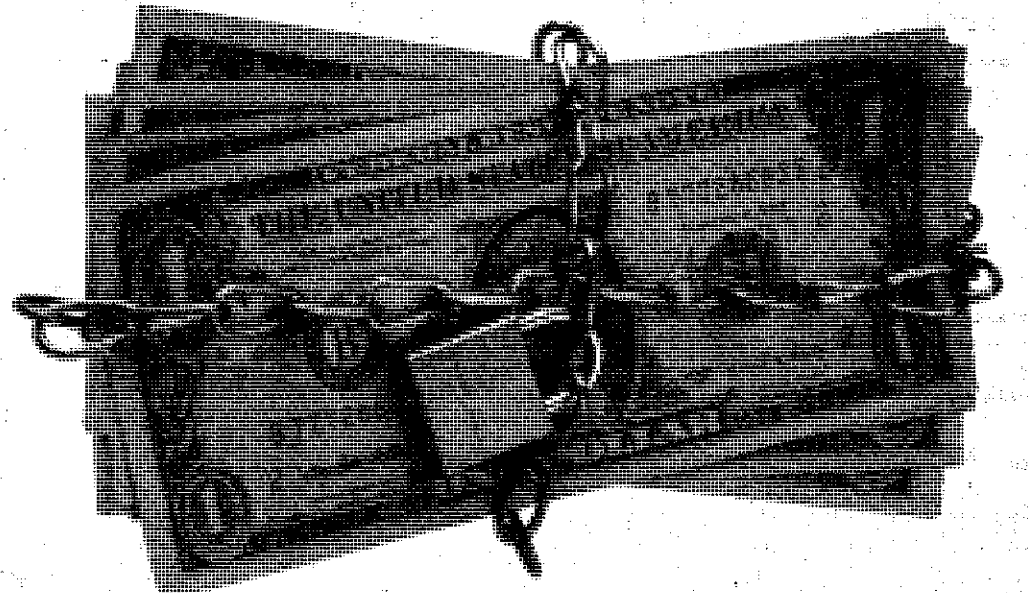
Offering the services and amenities that will enrich your life including:

Meals served restaurant style • Full schedule of activities and events • Scheduled transportation • 24 Hour Emergency Response System • and much much more...

Call 734.451.1155 today and join us for lunch and a personal tour.

37501 Joy Road • Westland, Michigan 48185

## It's Your Money. Shouldn't You Have Access To It?



### The Advantage Money Market From BestBank.\*

**3.51%**  
APY  
(Up to \$10,000)

Most banks offer their best rates on CDs, where the rate will never increase and your money is locked until the day the CD matures. At BestBank, we are offering one of our biggest rates on a liquid account, the **ADVANTAGE MONEY MARKET**. We're helping you earn money with the best rate in town. Plus, with a variable interest rate, your money is only likely to continue to profit - for whatever length of time you want. For the nearest branch, visit [www.bestbank.com](http://www.bestbank.com) or call 1-800-235-4636.



46 Convenient Locations in Southeast Michigan  
Open 7 Days A Week

**BestBank**  
Since 1923  
[www.bestbank.com](http://www.bestbank.com)

\*Minimum to open the account is \$2,400. Minimum to earn the APY is .01. Personal accounts only, limit of one account per household. Maximum in the account can not exceed \$10,000. That portion of the daily balance which exceeds the \$10,000 maximum will earn an interest rate of 2.57%. The Annual Percentage Yield for accounts which exceed the \$10,000 maximum will range from 3.51% - 2.69%. The interest rate and APY on balances up to \$10,000 is guaranteed to be a minimum of 3.00% APY through December 31, 2005. The APY's quoted above were in effect 6/7/05. Fees could reduce the yield. Limited check access. ©2005 BestBank Member FDIC.

# Grants offered to replace ash borer losses in communities

BY ALEX LUNDBERG  
STAFF WRITER

Communities hit hard by the emerald ash borer are being offered grants to replace trees killed by the pests.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Forest Service are making grants available to communities to replant wooded areas devastated by the emerald ash borer.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture identified the problem in 2002. Since then, it estimates that approximately 15 million trees in southeast Michigan are dead or dying in at least 20 counties.

It's not a lot of money but, "you have to start somewhere," said Kerry Gray, emerald ash borer restoration coordinator for the DNR. "For (that amount of money) communities can get 160 balled and burlapped trees or 500 bare-root trees."

There are a lot of different kinds of trees available, a point that the DNR wants communities to consider. The DNR is trying to get communities to plant a more diverse mixture of trees rather than overplanting just one kind. Many communities chose to replace elms destroyed by Dutch elm disease with ash trees, setting the stage for a near-identical deforestation today.

The infestation, as near as any one can figure, probably started 10 to 12 years before its discovery and most likely originated in either Westland or Canton. The leading thinking is that the insect came into the country inside wooden shipping products. There have been infestations in Ohio and Indiana as well.

Michigan State University Extension member Judy Freed, in the horticulture department, said the county doesn't get involved in the fight beyond helping communities get better prepared for the struggle.

"The county is not involved as middlemen," Freed said. "We offer public education courses, we work with public works departments and parks and rec departments and keep the communities aware of the grants programs."

While the county is working to be a clearinghouse for information about how communities can best weather the impact of the Asian pest, information about the insect itself is sketchy at best.

"MSU has taken the lead on research on the borer for the nation," she said. "(Etymologists) Dr. David Smitley and Dr. Deborah McCullough are working on this."

The scientists have imported several hundred ash trees from China to Novi to try to find out how strains of the plant in Asia have survived the ash borer. They are hoping that clues, such as predators in the region or other factors, will give them an idea about how to combat the insect.

When the problem was identified, the only existing information about the insect was a half-page of research done by a Chinese scientist decades ago.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture identified the problem in 2002. Since then, it estimates that approximately 15 million trees in southeast Michigan are dead or dying in at least 20 counties.

It's not a lot of money but, "you have to start somewhere," said Kerry Gray, emerald ash borer restoration coordinator for the DNR. "For (that amount of money) communities can get 160 balled and burlapped trees or 500 bare-root trees."

There are a lot of different kinds of trees available, a point that the DNR wants communities to consider. The DNR is trying to get communities to plant a more diverse mixture of trees rather than overplanting just one kind. Many communities chose to replace elms destroyed by Dutch elm disease with ash trees, setting the stage for a near-identical deforestation today.

The infestation, as near as any

# McCotter breaks ranks to vote 'no' on CAFTA

BY HUGH GALLAGHER  
STAFF WRITER

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter (R-Livonia) broke ranks with party leadership Thursday to vote against the Central America Free Trade Agreement.

The agreement was approved by the House 217-215 after heavy lobbying by President George W. Bush and party leaders. McCotter joined 24 other Republicans in opposing the agreement.

Fifteen Democrats bolted their party position to vote for the agreement. Rep. Candice Miller (R-Harrison Township) was the only other Republican from Michigan to oppose the trade agreement. The agreement was approved by the Senate in June.

The treaty will eliminate trade barriers between the United States and five Central American countries — Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua — and the Dominican Republic in the Caribbean. The treaty was signed in August 2004. Nicaragua has not yet ratified the agreement.

"I didn't see any benefit to my district," McCotter said Friday. "It would just mean the erosion of more manufacturing jobs."

McCotter said he also has some national security issues. He said he takes a "minority" view that the treaty might actually encourage support for radicals in the fledgling Central

American democracies. "It allows Daniel Ortega (leader of the leftist Sandinistas and former Nicaraguan president) to win with the ballot what he can't do with the bullet," McCotter said.

The treaty has been criticized for not insisting on better labor standards for Central American workers and protections for the environment similar to those in the United States.

"We don't have a smart trade policy, of tying democracy with trade," McCotter said. "They need to have a social safety net, labor standards, environmental protection."

President Bush made a strong plea for party members to support the treaty. "I had the opportunity to discuss my ideas with the president and told him my position a week and a half ago," McCotter said.

He said there were no "overt" threats by party leaders to get his vote. "There was pressure, but this is a legislature and there is always pressure," he said.

He said he was not given a pass by party leaders to vote against the treaty because his district has a large labor union membership.

McCotter said leaders in both parties deal with members on two different levels when issues affect the particular interests of a district. He said there are members who take a position based on the interests of their districts and policy concerns, as he said he did in this case. He said others "hold out for what they can get."

"What they (party leaders) really don't like is those who hold

out for something good," McCotter said.

McCotter is sending letters to constituents explaining his position. He writes, "I do not believe the agreement constitutes an adequate — ergo appropriate — template for future trade agreement in the region. For only through the creation of an economically equitable and freedom-promoting trade policy can we properly mobilize our economy as a powerful force for the spread of international democracy during the nation's War on Terror."

On another vote, McCotter said he felt he had to follow the party leadership despite reservations about the bill. McCotter joined the majority in approving permanent reauthorization of 14 provisions of the Patriot Act and 10-year reauthorization of two provisions, including the controversial Section 215, which allows government inspection of library, bookstore and medical records.

McCotter said he felt compelled to support a recommitment measure, despite his support for amendments that would have created more stringent rules for inspecting records.

"Certain rules, you don't break. If you don't follow those rules, there are consequences. You have no credibility in the party caucus," he said.

McCotter said the act still needs to go through the Senate-House conference and might be altered. He said the 10-year reauthorization of Section 215 could also be changed as early as the next Congress.



McCotter

## NOW ACCEPTING PATIENTS

Hudson H. Daneshvar, M.D., P.C.

Board Certified in INTERNAL MEDICINE

### DO YOU HAVE AN INTERNIST?

WE SPECIALIZE IN QUALITY ADULT MEDICAL CARE INCLUDING...

- DIABETES
- HIGH CHOLESTEROL
- HEART DISEASE
- ASTHMA
- EMPHYSEMA
- PREVENTIVE CARE
- COMPREHENSIVE PHYSICALS

• IMMEDIATE APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE (INCLUDING EVENINGS AND WEEKENDS)

• MOST INSURANCES ACCEPTED

• AFFILIATED WITH ST. MARY MERCY HOSPITAL

33466 W. 8 Mile Road • Suite 555 • Farmington Hills

248-442-4900

## Blues Airmen Guitars & Music



### Top Dollar Paid For

- Guitars • PRS
- Gibson • Fender
- Amps • Basses

"Call to Schedule Guitar, Bass & Drum Lessons"

Open Mon. - Fri. 11-7  
Sat. 11-5

30955 FORD ROAD • GARDEN CITY • 734-525-9101

(Between Merriman & Middlebelt)

# Lock your rate right where you want it.

Low fixed Home Equity rates.



10-YEAR TERM      20-YEAR TERM

5.85% APR | 6.45% APR

No Application Fees or Closing Costs

Rates are on the rise, so whether you're looking to refinance your adjustable-rate mortgage, improve your home, or consolidate debt,

now is the time to lock in a low fixed-rate Home Equity Loan. At Charter One, our equity loans start as low as \$10,000 and your interest may be tax-deductible. Applying is easy. Plus, there are no points and no closing costs. So don't miss out. Call 1-877-TOP-RATE, visit charterone.com or drop by any of our branches today.

Charter One  
Not your typical bank.®

5.85% APR or 6.45% APR available for qualifying properties in IN, IL, MI and OH with a loan-to-value (LTV) of 85% or less for loans of \$10,000 to \$249,999, or an LTV of 80% or less for loans of \$250,000 or more, with auto-deduction from Credit Checking and a 10-year or 20-year term, respectively. An equity loan of \$10,000 with a 10-year term at 5.85% APR results in 120 monthly payments of \$110.27. An equity loan of \$10,000 with a 20-year term at 6.45% APR results in 240 monthly payments of \$74.26. Other rates and terms available. Rates and terms vary by property type, loan amount and LTV ratio. Offer subject to change without notice. 1- to 4-family owner-occupied properties only. Property insurance required. Flood insurance may be required. Trust review fees ranging from \$85 to \$175 apply for properties held in trust. All accounts are subject to individual approval. Consult a tax adviser regarding deductibility of interest. See a banker for details. Equal Housing Lender.

## MICHIGAN FRESH PRODUCE

Michigan White or Bi-Color SWEET CORN

All items also sold by bushel or case for all your canning needs!

6/1789

Ice Cold

Michigan HOMETOWN TOMATOES

\$4.99 1/2 pk. basket

Watermelons Whole or Cut

Michigan HONEY ROCK MELONS

\$2.99

Michigan Pickles & Fresh Dill For Canning

Michigan BLUEBERRIES

- 20% OFF Nursery Sale
  - 20% OFF All Pottery & Statuary
  - Milorganite \$4.99 40 lb. bag
- Great Selection of Blooming Perennials & Annuals

Visit us at www.clydesmithandsons.com

## CLYDE SMITH & SONS

GREENHOUSES & FARM MARKET

8000 NEWBURGH • WESTLAND

(734) 425-1434

OPEN MON. - SAT. 9-8; SUNDAY 9-6