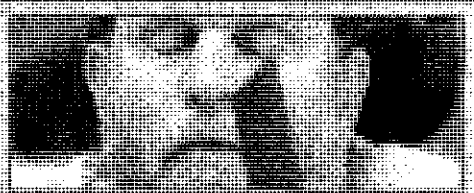


Memorial highway honors  
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hometownLIFE - SECTION C

Tai chi helps  
MS patients  
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## Greene faces new child sex charges



Daniel Greene

BY DARRELL CLEM  
STAFF WRITER

Westland businessman Daniel Eric Greene was arraigned Friday on 23 new charges of having sex with two boys who, along with their mother, lived at his house for a year.

Greene, 39, met the boys,

ages 12 and 14, through a Salvation Army adopt-a-family Christmas program, and he ultimately offered their mother a place to rent, police Lt. James Ridener confirmed.

"He bought them gifts for Christmas," Ridener said.

The boys had second-story bedrooms near Greene's room, but their mother slept down-

stairs, police learned as their investigation widened.

The latest charges against Greene involve allegations such as oral sex, fondling and the making of sexually explicit videos, Ridener confirmed.

The boys and their mother lived at Greene's house in the Palmer-Hambleton area east of Wayne Road, where police said

they confiscated hundreds of child pornographic materials from a hidden room disguised by a secret closet door.

The latest charges came one week after Greene was arraigned on multiple charges of having sex with and making videos of a boy at Greene's former residence in the 31000 block of Avondale near

Merriman. Those allegations stem from incidents that police said occurred from January 2002 to December 2005, starting when the boy was 13.

Greene, who used to run American Power Wash on South Wayne Road, was arraigned Friday on six new

PLEASE SEE CHARGES, A6



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Longtime Garfield Elementary math and science teacher Jim Colliton works with sixth grade students Jalen Yancy (left) and Missy Sidor. Colliton will be retiring this year. A party was held in his honor recently.

## District bids farewell to a 'favorite teacher'

BY STEPHANIE ANGELNY CASOLA  
STAFF WRITER

No one seems ready to say good-bye to Mr. C.

Jim Colliton's decision this year to retire from teaching at Garfield Elementary School, which includes Westland students, brings tears to the eyes of his pupils and colleagues.

"I made my decision back in May," Colliton said, adding that he'll be 62 and the timing seemed right. He plans to remain active and involved with Livonia Public Schools beyond his retirement.

Colliton never intended to become a teacher. It was at the suggestion of a guidance counselor during his final year of college that he chose to follow this career. He became certified as a math and science teacher for grades K-8.

"It's a constant challenge," Colliton said. "It's extremely rewarding."

The longtime Livonia resident was hired as a teacher at Dickinson — then a junior high — in 1971. In 1979, he moved to Grant Elementary and then in 1980 to Frost Middle School.

When the district experienced a major decline in enrollment, Colliton took a job with Allstate Insurance. He worked for the company from 1981-86, but found he missed teaching. So he left the security of that job to return to the school district.

He came back as a new-hire in 1986 and has remained at Garfield Elementary ever since. Colliton said he loves the community and appreciates the "daily challenge" of teaching.

### STUDENTS REMEMBER

Like many of his students over the years, Kathleen O'Connor had heard about "Mr. C." long before he was

her teacher. Her older brothers has been students in his class.

Currently attending Eastern Michigan University, O'Connor credits her plans to become a math teacher to her experiences in Colliton's classroom.

"I remember I loved his math class because we were able to work at our own pace and I really felt like I was able to challenge myself," she said. "He was always challenging me. He made class fun and it seemed like we did more hands-on activities in his science class than any other class I've ever had."

His current students echoed similar sentiments.

Sixth-grader Kalena Wright said this was the first year she felt really challenged, and she's enjoyed being in Colliton's class. Alex Pomrenke said he's inspired her to become a zoologist.

Annette Schneider worked

as Colliton's student teacher this year. "It's going to be a loss to elementary as well as college students," she said.

Schneider said while working in his classroom, she found herself learning about teaching, and about science. She compared the experience to taking a college course. "He knows everything," she said.

### EDUCATION TRAVELS

In 1988, Colliton worked with a colleague, Rich Mai, to establish the popular Michigan Trip, a four-day excursion which introduces a group of about 150 fifth- and sixth-graders to sites as far as Tahquamenon Falls, Sault Ste. Marie, the Michigan Sand Dunes and the Mackinac Bridge.

Current students Jerry Gagnon and Lacey Tenniswood said they learned a lot about their home state on the trip. Jerry said it was the farthest he's traveled from home. Lacey loved riding bicycles on Mackinac Island. "Some of the kids don't have the opportunity to travel," Colliton said. "If they have been there, they see it in a different light when they're

PLEASE SEE RETIRE, A5

## Teen faces trial in computer hacker case

BY DARRELL CLEM  
STAFF WRITER

An 18-year-old student, in court Thursday amid allegations he crashed the Wayne-Westland school district's entire computer network, was ordered to stand trial.

David Randall of Belleville could face penalties ranging up to five years in prison if convicted of hacking into the computer system from a class he attended at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center.

"The moral of the story here is that there are serious consequences when students use their talents in a negative way," Wayne-Westland Community Schools Supt. Greg Baracy said.

Randall was ordered to stand trial by Westland District Judge Gail McKnight after he waived his preliminary hearing Thursday in court. He is free on a \$50,000 personal bond as he awaits trial in Wayne County Circuit Court.

Randall is accused of crashing 5,000 computers in 29 buildings by hacking into the net-

work, Westland police Sgt. David Heater has said. School officials reported dozens of crashes between March 6 and May 8.

"This was an isolated incident, and no matter what procedures or how many (computer) firewalls we put in place, nothing is fool-proof," Baracy said. "But I believe our (district technology) team does a great job of monitoring our system, and they're on top of breaches like this."

Technology officials ultimately traced the problem to a Ford center classroom, and statements made by students led to Randall being charged with having unauthorized access to a computer.

Randall has pleaded not guilty as he awaits trial. Said Heater, "He's denying any of this."

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Randall

## Organizers gear up for '06 Relay for Life

BY SUE MASON  
STAFF WRITER

Organizers are putting the finishing touches on the annual Westland Relay for Life, a 24-hour event that they hope will raise more than \$100,000 for the American Cancer Society.

"It's looking very good," said Kelly Salingue, who is in charge of the bank for the event. "We're looking at the same number of teams as last year."

The Westland Relay for Life will take place from 10 a.m. Saturday, June 10, to 10 a.m. Sunday, June 11. Twenty-two teams have signed up for the event, which will be held in

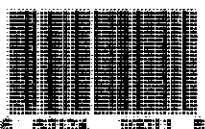
Central City Park in Westland's Civic Center complex on Ford west of Carlson.

The 24-hour American Cancer Society event celebrates and honors cancer survivors and pays tribute to those who have been lost to the disease, while raising money to help fight it.

The teams have been raising funds and recruiting members in advance of the event. People interested in joining a team can register in advance online or show up the day of the event. They also will do on-site fundraising during the event.

PLEASE SEE RELAY, A3

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Volume 42  
Number 1



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# Plymouth-Canton to lease Washington school

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA  
STAFF WRITER

Livonia Public School trustees approved an agreement to lease one elementary school to neighboring Plymouth-Canton Community School District. The lack of an exit clause bothered Trustee Tom Bailey, who voted against the lease.

Washington Elementary, one of seven buildings slated to close this fall, is located at 9449 Hix Road. It will be leased for a total of \$288,000. The agreement runs from July 1, 2006, to June 30, 2007.

Lisa Levesque, director of finance, said Plymouth-Canton will be "moving the Miller Elementary School population into that location while they look at building a new location."

Most of the lease amount, about \$252,000, will cover costs in keeping the building open, including utilities, custodial work and repairs.

"If the cost exceeds that, we will re-negotiate with Plymouth-

Canton Schools at the end of the school year," Levesque said.

The district would also bring the issue back to the school board if Plymouth-Canton Schools requires a lease extension due to any delay in construction.

Levesque said Livonia Public Schools expects to make \$36,000 in profit under this agreement.

Trustee Tom Bailey called that figure a "minimal amount," but said not leasing the property would be fiscally irresponsible.

He voted against the resolution to lease Washington Elementary. The vote was 6-1 in favor of the lease.

"My position in voting no was due to the wording of the actual lease agreement," Bailey said.

Prior to the vote Monday, he asked whether the lease included a provision for cancellation, or an exit clause.

Levesque replied, "We put that in all lease agreements. I'm sure it is. I don't have it in front of me. I'll be happy to check on

that." Bailey was not completely satisfied with the answer, or the way discussion on the matter ended and a roll call vote followed.

"The document before me to be voted upon had no exit clause and, after the final vote, if approved, it could not have been added at a later time. I believe we would have to re-vote on a revised document. For this reason, and this reason only, I voted no," he said.

On Wednesday, Bailey said he remains supportive of leasing property to "generate needed revenue" for Livonia Public Schools.

"In my short time on the board, I believe there have been three other lease agreements voted upon by this board: Dickinson school building, Bentley soccer field and Bryant property," Bailey said. "All of these leases included exit clauses."

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## They're the best

Samantha Harper (above), a third-grader at Edison Elementary School, walked away with the best of show honors in Wayne-Westland's middle school and elementary art show. Hannah Szyzkowski, a seventh-grader at Adams Middle School, won the middle school best of show award. All 17 elementary and three of the district's four middle schools were represented at the show, held at the Wayne Public Library from May 6-14.



# Motor City Harley hosts benefit

Motor City Harley-Davidson will hold its sixth annual HOGS for Cats and Dogs to benefit the Michigan Humane Society.

On Saturday, June 10, people can help the animals of the Michigan Humane Society by adopting a pet and/or donating food and supplies at Motor

City Harley-Davidson dealership at 34900 Grand River in Farmington Hills. The Michigan Humane Society's Mobile Adoption Unit will be on-site with cuddly critters looking for new loving homes. Meet the MHS cruelty investigators as seen on the award-winning Animal Planet series,

"Animal Cops: Detroit," from 12:30-3 p.m. An observation run, departing from Motor City Harley-Davidson, is open to all and starts at 10 a.m. Last bike will be in by 3 p.m. Call the dealership at (248) 473-7433. Registration \$10 or \$5 with donation of a wish list item.

## INFORMATION CENTRAL

Hold onto your hats because beginning June 10, there is some serious excitement coming to the Westland Public Library: the Adult Summer Reading Challenge!

For 10 glorious weeks let the library bring out the animal in you with puzzles, games, three "animalicious" programs, and of course the reading challenge you've come to love.

From June 10 through July 29, library users age 18 and up have the opportunity to win prizes for something they do all year round. Merely reading books will enter individuals' names into drawings for various types of rewards.

Specific information as well as suggested reading material is available at the Reference Desk, where you can sign up to jump start a summer of fun.

As we are embracing an animal theme this year, our programs are geared toward our furry friends (and occasionally enemies), so mark your calendars for three special events that all library users are welcome to attend, even if you choose not to participate in the reading challenge.

Back by popular demand is Reverend Kathleen, the Pet Psychic, to reveal the innermost thoughts of your pet at 7 p.m. June 13.

We have also commissioned the Varmint Police, Westland's finest critter control, to reveal the inside secrets of nuisance animal prevention. This program is a must

for any homeowner, so make time for it at 2 p.m. July 8.

And please do not forget "Cranial Capacities of the Corvids: What it Really Means to Be a 'Bird Brain,'" with Dorothy McLeer of the Rouge River Bird Observatory at 2 p.m. July 15. Call the library in advance to reserve your place because seating is limited.

Adult Summer Reading Challenge has arrived.

Allow us to help you knock off those cozy woolen socks and get ready for summer. Just stop by the Reference Desk beginning June 10 to sign up and gather the necessary materials, and you'll be on your way to some ferocious summer fun.

Or, if you are either confused or just not at all convinced that the Adult Summer Reading Challenge will be a good time, call us at (734) 326-6123, and we'll do our best to persuade you.

The library will be closed today and tomorrow (May 28-29) in observance of Memorial Day.

The library is looking for volunteers to deliver books to our Homebound patrons. Contact our Homebound coordinator at (734) 326-6123, if you're interested.

Information Central is compiled by Reference Librarian Bridget Sturdy, reference librarian, at the William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

## ACHIEVERS

Named to the honor roll for the marking period at Wayne-Westland's Tinkham Alternative High School were **Desiree Clark, Larry George, Taylor Gipson, Brittany Jackson, Laura Lambert, Robert Lambert, Anthony Marez, Kristen Persh, Markeisha Thurman and Amanda Wood.**

**Debra Lynn Ardelean**, the daughter of David and Kathy Ardelean of Westland, recently graduated from the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, Ill.

A 2001 graduate of HPS Prep School in Vancouver, Wash., Ardelean received a bachelor of arts degree with a World Missions major/TESEL emphasis.

The World Missions major prepares students for service as Christian missionaries overseas. Students are equipped to present the Bible's message in cross-cultural settings.

The TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) emphasis trains students to become effective ministers who serve in formal or informal teaching positions in teaching English to speakers of other languages. Ardelean is presently teaching English at a mission school, Rancho Ebenezer, in Honduras.

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**WAYNE-WESTLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**  
**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**  
**PROPOSED 2006-2007 BUDGET**  
**MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2006**

Please take notice that, on June 12, 2006 at 7 o'clock p.m. at 36745 Marquette, Westland, Michigan, the Board of Education of the Wayne-Westland Community Schools will hold a public hearing to consider the District's proposed 2006-07 budget.

The Board may not adopt its proposed 2006-07 budget until after the public hearing. A copy of the proposed 2006-07 budget, including the proposed property tax millage rate, is available for public inspection during normal business hours at 36745 Marquette, Westland, Michigan.

**The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.**

MARTHA K. PITSENBARGER, Secretary

Publish: May 28 and June 1, 2006

**GARDEN CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**NOTICE OF BID OPENING**

Garden City Public Schools will be receiving public bids for "Asbestos Abatement at The Garden City High School". The project will be completed in July 2006 prior to building renovation activities and will include the removal and disposal of asbestos flooring materials from throughout the building. Bids will be received until 10:00 a.m. local time, Friday, June 2, 2006. Sealed bids should be mailed or delivered to: SEALED BID: ASBESTOS, GCHS Asbestos Abatement, Attn: Purchasing Department, Garden City Public Schools, 1333 Radcliff, Garden City, Michigan 48135. Bid packages are available from healthAIR, inc., 23491 Research Drive, Farmington Hills, Michigan 48335, (248) 426-0165, [www.health-air.com](http://www.health-air.com), starting Friday, May 19, 2006. Bids will be publicly opened at 10:00 a.m. local time, June 2, 2006, at the Garden City Public Schools Administration Building, 1333 Radcliff, Garden City, Michigan 48135. All bids shall be accompanied by a sworn statement, in accordance with MCL 380.1267, disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner(s) or any employee of the bidder and any member of the Board of Education of the School District or the Superintendent of the School District. The Board of Education shall not accept a bid that does not include a sworn and notarized familial relationship disclosure statement.

Publish: May 28, 2006

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**CITY OF WESTLAND**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

On June 6, 2006 the Westland Police Department will conduct a public auction of impounded, abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin promptly at 11:00 a.m. at Westland Car Care, 6375 Hix Road, Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

YEAR	MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	V.I.N.
1990	Pontiac	Sunbird/4 Dr	Red	1G2JB54K5L7587271
1994	Ford	Escort/2 Dr	Maroon	1FARP11J6RW171826
1997	Saturn	SL2/4 Dr	Red	1G8ZK527XVZ395746
1992	Chevy	S-10/P-U	Turquoise	1GCCS14Z4N2115766
1994	Plymouth	Sundance/4 Dr	White	1P3AF28K4RN230626
1986	Ford	LTD/SW	Tan	1FABP4030GG151885
1994	Chevy	S-10/PU	Blue	1GCCS19Z9RK155954
1994	Buick	LeSabre/4 Dr	Burgundy	1G4HR52L4RH543505
1992	Buick	LeSabre/4 Dr	Gold	1G4HP53L0NH548179
1990	Chevy	Lumina/4 Dr	Blue	2G1WL54R2L9266291
1997	Dodge	Ram/PU	Green	1B7HC16Y9VS244383
1985	Cadillac	4 Dr	Tan	1G6KS6987FE324557
1991	Ford	Taurus/4 Dr	Brown	1FACP5244MG156597
1994	Plymouth	Acclaim/4 Dr	Burgundy	3P3AA46K8RT236817
1992	Ford	Tempo/2 Dr	Red	1FAPP31X6NK220381
2000	Chrysler	Concorde/4 Dr	Tan	2C3HD46R7YH324370
1991	Buick	SkyLark/2 Dr	White	1G4NJ14N3MM243343
1994	Ford	Econoline/Van	White	1FTFS24HXRB41396

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. Bidding on all vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Publish: May 28, 2006

# Owner of LaShish denies terrorist ties

BY BRAD KADRICH  
STAFF WRITER

In his first statement since being indicted on tax evasion charges and being accused in government filings of being connected to terrorist funding, La Shish owner Talal Chahine denied the claims and said it was a matter of being one of many "of Middle Eastern descent" who have "been wrongfully accused of associations with unsavory organizations."

Court documents filed in U.S. District Court in Detroit claim Chahine has ties to Hizbollah, the Lebanon-based organization considered a terrorist organization by the U.S. government.

Chahine, of Dearborn Heights, and his wife, 39-year-old Elfat El Aouar of Plymouth Township, recently were indicted on charges they evaded paying taxes on an estimated \$16 million in alleged undisclosed income.

El Aouar was arrested May 18 at her home in Plymouth and arraigned before U.S. District Court Magistrate Donald Scheer. He ordered her released on a \$100,000 unsecured bond which included several restrictions, including 24-hour-a-day house arrest, surrender of her passport and orders not to fly on a plane.

The charges Chahine was connected to terrorists were made in the documents the government filed last week in an attempt to keep El Aouar from being released from jail. The filing claims Chahine and El Aouar attended a fund-raiser in Lebanon at which Chahine and Sheikh Muhammad Hussein

Fadlallah, Hizbollah's spiritual leader, were the key speakers.

The government claims Chahine and Fadlallah "conferred privately," and that Chahine posed for photos in and around a Hizbollah outpost in Lebanon.

Hizbollah was suspected in high-profile terror attacks in the 1980s, including the suicide bombing of a U.S. Marine barracks in Beirut in 1983.

Prosecutors say Chahine is currently in Lebanon. His attorney, Robert Forrest, did not return phone calls seeking comment. But in a statement released Tuesday through the public relations firm Marx Layne & Company, Chahine said the event in question was actually a speech designed to implore Muslims to "live in peace."

"My company and I have, for many, many years, supported the charitable works of religious groups of all faiths, including the goals and objectives of the American, Jewish and Friends group, which is now part of the Interfaith Roundtable of Metropolitan Detroit," the statement read. "The event reported by the government as being 'suspicious' involved a 2002 fund-raiser at which I spoke on the duty of Muslims everywhere to perform charitable acts and live in peace with their neighbors."

"This Dearborn-based, non-profit charity holds periodic fund-raisers attended by many business and political leaders of the State of Michigan."

Authorities say Chahine and El Aouar, La Shish's financial manager, skimmed money from the restaurants during a four-year period, 2000-03.

The indictment alleges the couple maintained a double set of computerized books, records and balance reports, one actual and one altered.

According to authorities, the altered records artificially reduced the amount of cash actually received by the restaurants. The indictment charges Chahine and El Aouar "oversaw the maintenance of the double set of books, as well as the skimming and concealment of more than \$16 million in cash."

Authorities believe the cash was converted into cashier's checks, which were taken to Lebanon. They also say cash was skimmed by paying company employees all or partly in cash.

Chahine and El Aouar face four counts each of income tax evasion. Each count carries a maximum penalty of five years' imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine.

Charles Saad, marketing and public relations spokesman for La Shish, said little has changed in the wake of the indictments.

"This has been going on for a year, year-and-a-half, so it really comes as no surprise," Saad said. "We have an aggressive expansion plan, and we're hoping to open another three stores in the next six to nine months. On the store level, it's business as usual."

Saad said the chain, which includes a location in Westland, has been considering another site in Ann Arbor, Brighton and Ohio.

"We have big hopes for the future," Saad said.

bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (734) 459-2700



FILE PHOTO

Past participants of Westland's Relay for Life were Joe and daughter Shane Lobaito.

## RELAY

FROM PAGE A1

Teams set their own fundraising goals and collect donations. Those, too, can be made online at Westland Relay for Life Web site at [www.acevents.org/relay/mi/westland](http://www.acevents.org/relay/mi/westland).

One team from Westwood Community Church is holding a fund-raiser Sunday, and if it meets a \$150 goal team members will get to shave Pastor Paul Pakizer's head.

The congregation will get together at 10 a.m. today (Sunday) for praise and worship, with a nursery available. Doughnuts and coffee also will be served. The church is at 1119 Newburgh. For more information, call (734) 254-0093.

Salingue added that there's no limit on the size of the team. This year's event has teams as small as five people and as large as 30. Each team will have at least one mem-

ber on the track at all times throughout the 24 hours. "They can always use walkers," she said.

There also will be a survivors lap for people who are battling cancer at 4 p.m., followed by a survivors lunch at 4:30 p.m. Registration for the lap will be at 3:30 p.m. and participants need not be signed up to participate in the relay to take part in the survivors lap, Salingue said.

"For some people, that's all they can do," she added. "They can bring their caregiver. There will be gifts and pins for the caregivers who often go unrecognized for what they do."

The survivors lunch will be held at the Lions Pavilion on the east side of the park. There will be reserved parking by the pavilion off the Carlson Street entrance to the park.

Another highlight is the Lap of Silence at 10 p.m. Luminaries - bags decorated with messages and photo-

graphs of survivors - will line the walking path around the park and a bagpiper will lead walkers for the lap.

"The inside track is almost a mile long, so it will be almost a mile of lights," said Salingue. "It's really beautiful to see."

The event includes live entertainment, with the band Holy Smoke kicking it off at 10:30 a.m. Also performing will be Yankeeville, Cold Blue Steel, Load and Back Beats, a Beatles tribute group.

"It all happens in 24 hours, but it's so much fun," said Salingue. "I think that's why so many come back every year."

For more information, or to sign up, visit the Westland Relay for Life Web site at [www.acevents.org/relay/mi/westland](http://www.acevents.org/relay/mi/westland). Teams also can register for the event by calling Jenny McFarlane of the American Cancer Society at (248) 483-4343.

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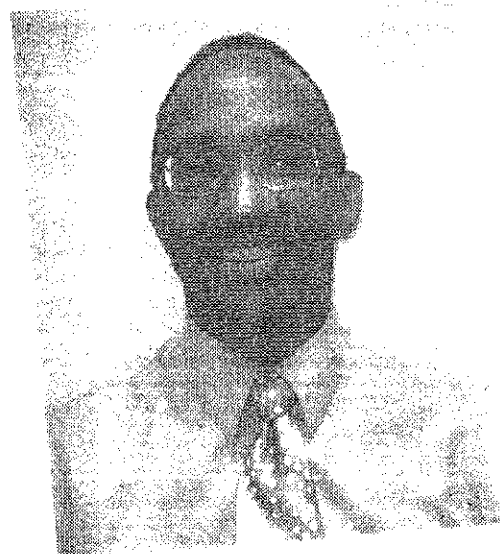
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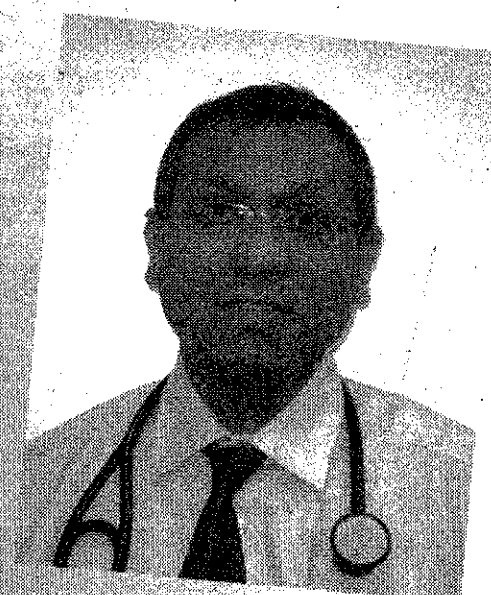
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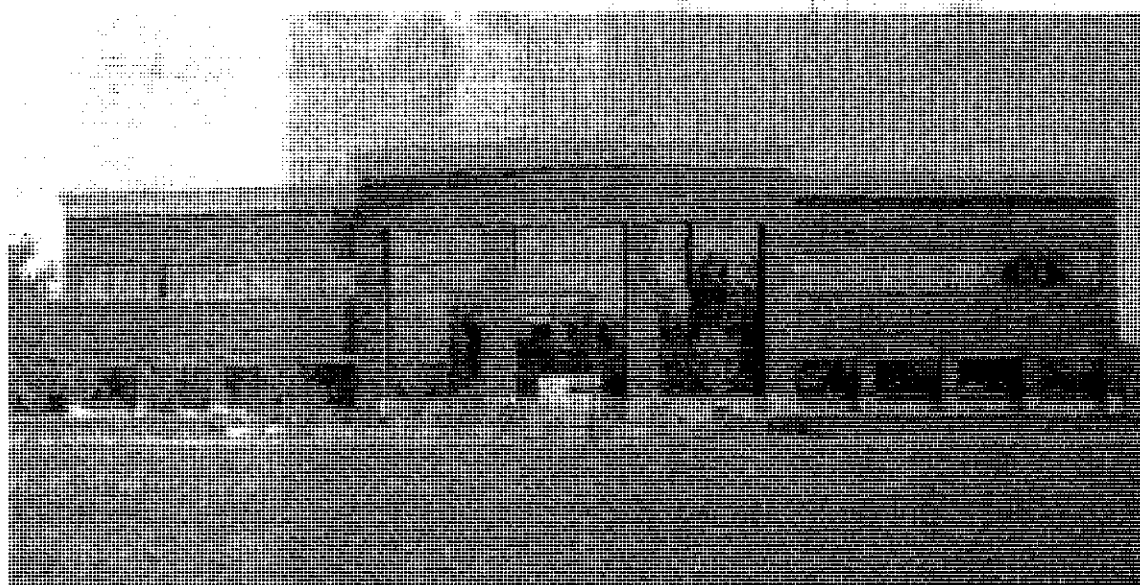
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**AROUND WESTLAND**

**School fund-raiser**

Heads up, residents in the John Glenn High School attendance area. Representatives of the school will be calling you between 4 and 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday for he next few weeks in an effort to raise money for the purchase of uniforms, music supplies and equipment and to support student activities.

Callers will be offering a choice of frozen pizza, home-style fudge, gourmet coffee samplers, eight varieties of cookie dough, roasted mix nuts, flexible driver tool sets, fire extinguishers, long-life light bulbs, first aid kits and durable 13- and 33-gallon trash bags.

All to the products are guaranteed and will be delivered to residents' homes at no charge.

**Democratic Club**

The Westland Democratic Club will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 30, at the Dorsey Center, on Dorsey south of Palmer and east of Venoy. Non-members are welcome to attend. Becoming a member costs \$12, or \$6 for senior citizens and students. For more information, call Secretary Nan Melke at (734) 674-7327. The club this year will be seeking help in its attempts to get Democratic candidates get elected.

**Outdoor flea market**

Harris Kehrer VFW Post 3323 is holding an outdoor flea market 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, June 3, at the post, 1055 S. Wayne Road, Westland. Spaces cost \$25 each, with tables are available for an additional \$10. To reserve a spot, send you name, address, phone number and number of spaces and tables needed as well as a check for the amount payable to VFW Post 3323, to VFW 3323, 10055 S. Wayne Road, Westland, MI 48186, attn. Flea Market.

Contact Richard Eberhart at (734) 812-7978 for more information

**Spaghetti dinner**

The friends of Ruth Schultz will hold a fund-raising spaghetti dinner 5-11 p.m. Saturday, June 3, at the Romanowski VFW Post 6896, 28945 Joy Road, Westland. Tickets cost \$10 each and include spaghetti, salad, rolls, desserts and beverages. There also will be entertainment and raffles.

Schultz was recently diagnosed with breast cancer, and family and friends are staging the benefit to help defray medical expenses.

Monetary donations or gifts for the raffles can be dropped off at Lane Plumbing, 6738 Middlebelt, Garden City. Make checks payable to Ruth Schultz.

**Summer camp**

The Wayne Parks and Recreation Department is accepting registration for 2006 Summer Day Camp at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe, Wayne. Registration will be accepted in person 4-6 p.m. June 6, 8, 12 and 13. For an appointment, call (734) 721-7400, Ext. 1306.

Day Camp begins June 14 and runs through Aug. 25. It will be 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday for children ages 5-13. Daily, weekly and full season rates are available.

Daily activities include swimming, ice skating (August only), arts and crafts, sports and board games, wallyball, outdoor play and more. There also will be field trips every week and special events.

**Weekend Carnival**

The Wayne Ford Civic League is hosting the Skerbeck Bros. Carnival on it grounds at 1645 N. Wayne Road in Westland now through Memorial Day.

The civic league is donating 10 percent of the proceeds from the rides and concessions and 25 percent of the proceeds from the beer tent to the Westland Historical Commission.

**Senior Dinner Dances**

The Wayne Ford Civic League is offering a dinner for seniors today (May 28) and Sunday, June 11. The dinner will be noon to 3:30 p.m. at the league at 1645 N. Wayne Road in Westland. Price is \$8 for league members and \$10 for non-members. There is a full buffet dinner with beer, wine, pop, and dancing to live entertainment. The dinners are for people age 60 and older. Call (734) 728-5010 for more information.

**RETIRE**

FROM PAGE A1

with their (classmates)." O'Connor said she still wears T-shirts from her Michigan field trip. "Fifth and sixth grades were some of the best times, and he definitely had a major impact on my memories. I feel lucky and blessed to have had him as a teacher."

"I hope I can become even half the teacher he has been and have the same impact on students as I know he has had throughout the years."

Current Garfield art teacher Jamey Masters agreed. He

noted that students from years passed are always returning to visit Colliton.

Ann Rowe, secretary at the school for the past 13 years, said Colliton "comes in every day with gusto."

"You can tell he's not quite ready to give it up," she said.

**STILL IN TOUCH**

Colliton's impact has been far-reaching. A student from his second year as a science teacher at Dickinson, Cindi (Vella) Dzwonkowski, has kept in close contact.

"He was so calm and collected," said Dzwonkowski, now

46. "He had this huge handlebar mustache. He taught us to respect each other."

She recalled how involved Colliton was, and how much he cared about his students. He took students canoeing on Proud Lake every Wednesday, she said, and he sponsored the school's Ski Club, taking kids skiing every Thursday.

"He is an all-around great guy," Dzwonkowski said. "The kids felt that."

She attributes her love for gardening to him, and still remembers when Colliton took her class bird watching.

"Out of all my years in

school, and college, I can still say he's my favorite teacher," she said.

His daughter, Kelli Colliton, said she believes he'll truly miss teaching, and interacting with students on a daily basis.

"He has a really unique way of teaching — a great sense of humor with all of his students," she said. "He's very caring and dedicated to all his kids. He has formed many relationships that have sustained over many years. He also had a big impact on me. I went into education."

She taught in Livonia Public Schools from 2000-04 and now works in Pinckney.

"He is the most proud of the students that go into teaching or the sciences," Kelli Colliton said.

Over the past year, Colliton has kept a journal with comments from students and former students. He said as a teacher, you have the opportunity to influence their future. "You plant the seed, and you can see the crop," he said. "We do influence them."

Colliton has been married to wife Jan for 37 years. They have three children: Michael, Jamie and Kelli.

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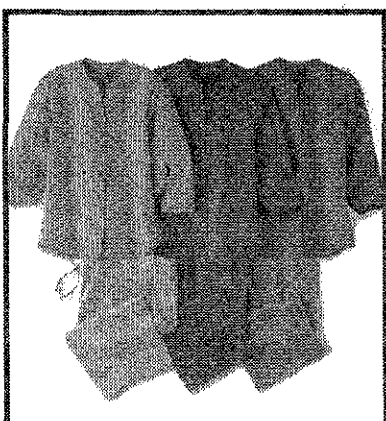
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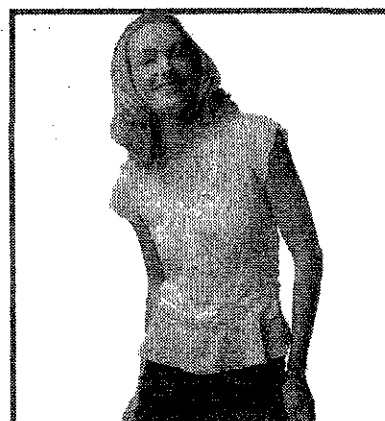
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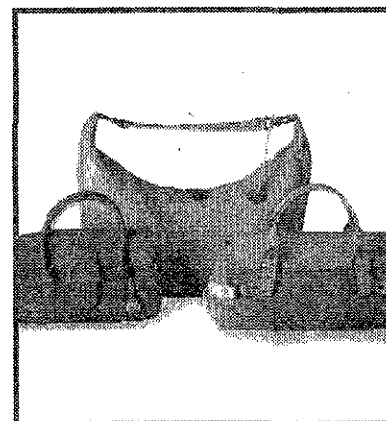
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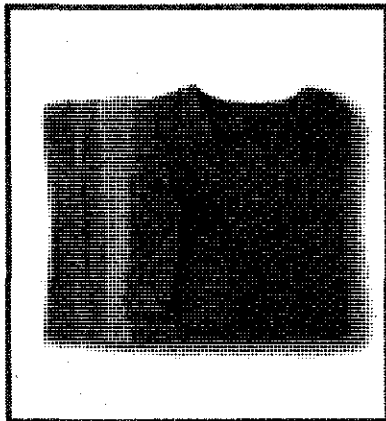
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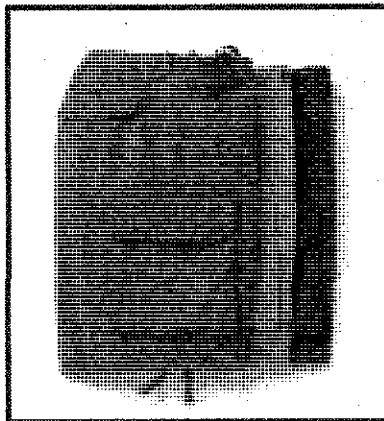
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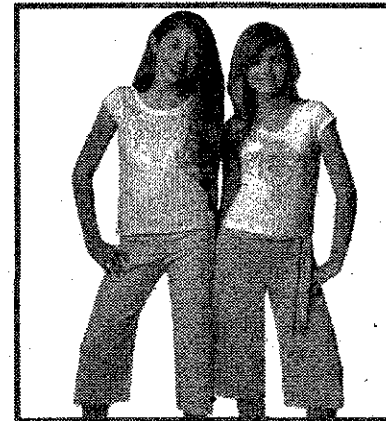
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**CHARGES**

FROM PAGE A1

counts of first-degree criminal sexual conduct, 13 counts of second-degree CSC and four counts of child sexual abusive activity.

Westland 18th District Judge Gail McKnight denied bond on the latest charges. Greene already had been jailed on a \$1 million bond on 10 earlier felony counts.

Greene had been scheduled Thursday for a preliminary hearing on the earlier charges involving a boy who now lives in the Grand Rapids area. Now, Greene's hearing on all charges has been scheduled for June 22.

Defense attorney Michael Donaldson told McKnight that he needed more time to review the volumes of materials that police said they found at Greene's house.

Greene already had been on the state's sex offender list for an even earlier incident in Wayne in which he was accused of fondling a boy. He

was placed on probation for that incident.

Investigators now believe that Greene took steps to place himself in close contact with young boys. He used to be a vendor for concessions at the ball diamonds in Central City Park, police have said.

Ridener has said that police found a hidden door inside a closet at Greene's house. It opened into a secret room where police said he kept child pornographic materials, including the videos he made with boys.

The mother who rented part of Greene's house didn't suspect him of abusing her sons, police said, and the boys hadn't reported any of the incidents until recently.

"Both of the boys had bedrooms upstairs, and so did the defendant," Ridener said. "The mother had a room downstairs."

Other parents whose children may have had contact with Greene are urged to call Westland police at (734) 722-9600.

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Listings for the Community Calendar should be submitted in writing. They can be mailed to Sue Mason at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, by fax at (734) 591-7279 or by e-mail at smason@oe.hometownlife.com. For more information, call (734) 953-2112.

**FOR YOUR HEALTH**

**Eating Disorders**

Get help, get real information and real expectations, at an eating disorder support group which meets 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday in the auditorium of Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. All meetings are closed - for people of all ages with eating disorders and are free of charge. Family and friends support is on the second Wednesday of the month while parents support is on the fourth Wednesday of the month. For more information, call Darlene at (734) 324-3089.

**Advocacy group**

The Wayne-Westland Alliance for the Mentally Ill, a self-help and advocacy group, meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Thursday of the month at St. John's Episcopal Church, 555 S. Wayne Road, at Bayview, Westland. For more information, call (734) 362-8825.

**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

**TOPS**

TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) meets every Wednesday at St. John's Episcopal Church, 555 S. Wayne Road, Westland. Weigh-in is 6:30-7:15 p.m., with the meeting 7:30-8:30 p.m. For more information, call Rosalie at (734) 728-0299.

**Menopause & More**

A Menopause & More support group for women meets 7-9 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month in Classroom 2 of the west addition of the Marian Women Center of St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. No registration is necessary, and the group is free of charge. For more information, call (734) 655-1100.

**Support group**

A support group for people with chronic illness meets on Fridays every other week, at the Westside Mental Health Services, 32932 W. Warren, Suite 103, Westland. The support group is a service of Awareness Counseling Services. There is a \$10 for each meeting which will be facilitated by a professional. For more information, call (734) 513-8295 or (313) 562-2800.

**AIM**

Anxiety or panic attacks? AIM (Agoraphobics In Motion) meets at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Merriman in Livonia. AIM is a support group for those working on recovery from anxiety disorder or phobias. Call (248) 547-0400.

**Angela Hospice**

As part of its service to the community, Angela Hospice offers a variety of grief support groups free-of-charge to community residents. The groups are held at the Angela Hospice Care Center at 14100 Newburgh Road, Livonia, and are led by bereavement professionals and trained volunteers who aim to provide useful coping strategies and tools to facilitate the healing process.

■ General Grief Support Group - Open to all losses. Meets at 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

■ Loss of a Spouse Support Group - Meets 6:30-8 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month, beginning in February.

■ Women's Grief Support Group - Held each Spring and Fall. Call (734) 953-6012 for dates and times.

■ Heartstrings: Parents Who Have Lost a Child - Meets 6:30-8 p.m. the first Thursday of each month. Call to register at (734) 464-2683.

■ Grief Support Quilter's Group - A new Grief Support Quilter's Group is looking for community members interested in making a quilt in memo-

ry of a loved one. No quilting or sewing experience is necessary. Dates and times to be determined. Call (734) 953-6012 for more information.

Groups by Appointment - Loss of an Adult Child, Men In Grief. Call (734) 953-6012 for more information.

Programs for Children- Reservations required for all children's programs. Register by calling (734) 464-2683.

■ Children's Grief Support Group - For ages 6-8 and 9-12. Meets winter, spring and fall 5-6 p.m. Thursdays for eight consecutive (April 6-June 1, Sept. 14-Nov. 2).

■ Children's Spring Workshop - 5-7 p.m. Thursday, May 4.

Angela Hospice also provides one-on-one grief support. For more information about Angela Hospice's grief support services, or to register for a group, call Joan Lee at (734) 953-6012.

**Childbirth classes**

Garden City Hospital, on Inkster Road at Maplewood, is sponsoring classes for parents of newborns, weekend childbirth instruction, a refresher childbirth education course and a new support group for expectant teens. For information on programs, call (734) 458-4330.

**Childbirth Association**

Classes for childbirth preparation are offered at several Wayne County locations. Morning and evening classes are available. Registering new classes every month. Newborn care classes and Cesarean birth preparation are also offered. Call (734) 459-7477.

**Fibromyalgia**

The Garden City area chapter of the Great Lakes Fibromyalgia and CFS Association Support Group meets 1-3 p.m. the first Thursday of each month at Merriman Road Baptist Church on Merriman south of Ford. There are guest speakers and discussion on a variety of topics. There is no membership fee, however a small donation is greatly appreciated. For additional information, call Tina Wing at (734) 338-2226 or Lucy Rowley at (734) 462-1768.

**HISTORIC**

**Pioneer trek**

The Nankin Township Pioneer Trek has been designed to introduce travelers to the history of the area. Travelers will visit sites that affected the development of Westland as a community. Those who complete the trek will receive an embroidered patch. To start the trek, first visit the Westland Historical Museum and pick up a pack. The museum is at 857 N. Wayne Road and is open 1-4 p.m. Saturdays, except before a holiday. The trek is

sponsored by the Westland Historical Commission and the Friends of the Westland Museum. Call (734) 326-1110.

**Friends of Eloise**

The Friends of Eloise group meets 7 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month in the dining room of the Kay Beard Building, on Michigan between Middlebelt and Merriman. All are welcome. For information, call Jo Johnson, (734) 522-3918.

**Friends of Museum**

Friends of the Westland Historical Museum meet at 7 p.m. each month except December at the Collins House, located at the museum complex, 857 N. Wayne Road. Call Jim Franklin at (734) 595-8119. Everyone is welcome.

**BINGO**

**VFW Bingo**

Veterans of Foreign Wars 3323 Auxiliary has bingo 6:30 p.m. every Thursday at 1055 S. Wayne Road, Westland. There is a snack bar. The post has bingo at 1 p.m. every Sunday at the same place. Call (734) 326-3323.

**St. Mel Church**

Bingo begins at 6:45 p.m. Fridays in St. Mel Church activities building, on Inkster Road north of Warren. Doors open at 4 p.m. Food is available. Call (734) 728-3020.

**Shamrock Bingo**

Bingo begins at 11 a.m. Wednesdays at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 35100 Van Born, east of Wayne Road in Wayne. Doors open at 9 a.m. Food is available. Proceeds go to charity. Call (734) 425-2246.

**K of C Bingo**

Pope John XXIII Assembly of the Knights of Columbus Council 1536 hosts bingo games at 6:45 p.m. Thursdays. The games are in the Livonia Elks Lodge, 31117 Plymouth Road, one block east of Merriman in Livonia. Call (734) 425-2246.

**FOR SENIORS**

**Friendship Center**

The Senior Resources Department (Friendship Center), 1119 N. Newburgh, Westland, offers a variety of programs for older adults. The Web site www.westlandmi.us offers more information. Call (734) 722-7632.

**Senior dinners**

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## Cowboy vigilantes, fear test 'immigrant nation' boast

Some of us are illegal, and some are not wanted. Our work contract's out and we have to move on. Six hundred miles to that Mexican border. They chase us like outlaws, likes rustlers, like thieves.

We died in your hills, we died in your deserts. We died in your valleys and died on your plains. We died 'neath your trees and we died in your bushes. Both sides of the river, we died just the same.

Goodbye to my Juan, goodbye Rosalita, Adios mis amigos, Jesus y Maria; You won't have your names when you ride the big air-plane, All they will call you will be 'deportees'

— Woody Guthrie  
*Plane Wreck at Los Gatos (Deportee)*

Woody Guthrie wrote the words to this song in 1948 after hearing a radio news report about a plane crash over Los Gatos Canyon in California. The plane was taking illegal immigrants back to Mexico.



Hugh Gallagher

In those days, the big growers ran a nifty little scam. They'd hire illegals and then before they paid them their last wages, they called the immigration service to report on them. The illegals would be flown back to Mexico and have to run across the border again, only to sign on with the same

land owner that just turned them in. Of course, nothing ever happened to the growers, except that they got rich and fat on migrant labor.

Meanwhile, the immigrants were likely to drown, freeze, dehydrate, get shot or die in a plane they never wanted to fly on.

The more things change ... Woody's song wrestles with some of the same issues that have come up in the recent debates about immigrants. While he is obviously sympathetic to the migrant workers, he wonders about whether this is "the best way we can grow our big orchards." As a lefty labor union supporter, Woody probably had concerns about job competition for legal residents as well, especially at a time when more citizens worked as farm laborers.

The debate over illegal immigration, particularly immigration from Mexico, has unearthed some real concerns about how porous our borders have become, about the dangerous smuggling of humans across the border, about the mistreatment of workers by employers and about the increase in crime in some border communities. But the debate has also unearthed a deep well of xenophobia, political opportunism and cowboy bravado.

The most reckless of these cowboys came to speak before a group of appreciative Birmingham Republican women recently. Chris Simcox is playing out a fantasy as leader of the Minuteman Civil Defense Corps, a group of vigilantes by anyone's definition. He claims that he was appalled by seeing scores of illegals at a southwestern national park shortly after Sept. 11. He "vowed" he'd do what the government wasn't doing.

The former teacher took a job as an assistant editor at the *Tombstone Tumbleweed* in Arizona, in the town of the Earps, Doc Holliday, the Clantons and the Gunfight at the OK Corral. Like John Wayne, he decided he'd round up a posse and go after these Mexican varmints.

His group is acting as a private police force, picking up suspected illegals, and they are armed *only* "for self-defense purposes." Yee-hah.

And he's concerned that they have an image of being Billy Bob Rednecks.

Well if it walks like a duck, talks like a duck ...

He espouses sympathy for the illegals and disdain for their American employers and the government. But, more importantly, he is relishing his role as a radio talk show darling.

Simcox's grandiose ego trip (which was applauded by the Birmingham audience, who seemed to like his macho swagger) is just the most serious example of how the immigration issue post-9/11 has unearthed some serious political grandstanding.

We've had national and state legislation to make sure everyone understands that English is our language. We've had state legislation to withhold services from noncitizens, including those who pay taxes for those services. We've had a bill passed in the U.S. House making felons of illegal immigrants and, possibly, making it a crime to provide even humanitarian assistance to them. The bill also provides for the construction of a wall hundreds of miles long on the Mexican border (one Southfield man wondered, *seriously*, why they aren't building one along that Canadian border).

A Senate bill seems to provide the best balance of security and fairness on the issue. But the real question we have to ask is what this issue is doing to us as "a nation of immigrants" and whether the rhetoric and posturing needs to end.

Hugh Gallagher is the managing editor of the *Observer Newspapers*. He can be reached by phone at (734) 953-2149 or by e-mail at hgallagher@hometownlife.com.

## Whenever they died, fallen soldiers are still with us

The names ... The names ...

I've been doing some historical research lately, going through newspapers from the 1940s. My focus wasn't on World War II, but I kept getting pulled to it.

Every issue of the local newspaper included a weekly listing of those who were killed, wounded or missing in battle. Sometimes there were photos. Almost all were young men in dapper uniforms. Some look way too young to be carrying guns in battle.

But that's what war is all about. Death. Especially the death of the young and the innocent.

Every week there were headlines rattling off numbers, "8 killed ..." "16 die in Europe ..." "32 casualties this week ..."



Greg Kowalski

There would follow a list of names, noting where they had died: Europe, Iwo Jima, Italy, New Guinea, Guam. Some were shot down in bombers, but in most cases, the exact cause of death was not noted. Some would list family ties, like survivors, including their parents, wives and children.

There they were, a paragraph summing up a life that was over half a world away. You get an odd feeling looking at the picture of a soldier and reading about his death. What kind of person was he? What did he do before the war? And most importantly, "What would he have done if he had lived?"

We'll never know the answer to that last question.

And we can only imagine the devastation caused by the death. In those days, the news of death was delivered by a telegram. It seems rather cold, but that message was received that way more than 291,000 times during the four years that the United States fought in World War II.

Looking back over the years, the our war casualties are staggering: 54,402 in World War I; 33,741 in Korea; 47,474 in Vietnam; 191,963 in the Civil War; 4,435 in the Revolutionary War; 2,260 in the War of 1812; 1,733 in the Mexican War; 385 in the Spanish American War; 147 in the Persian Gulf War. And now 2,458 in Iraq. So far.

(Please note, different sources give different casualty numbers, and no one can ever know exactly how many people died in any

war through direct combat and the effects of war.)

But every single one of those numbers was a person. Someone who had a family of some sort, had likes and dislikes, suffered hardships and had moments of joy. Each made a mark on the world in their own way whether they fought and died in 1776 or 2006.

Looking at those fragile, yellowed newspaper pages at the names and faces of soldiers who died more than 60 years ago they don't seem remotely distant. One photo reminded me startlingly of my father. I have a picture of him when he was in the service in World War II. He spent five years in the Army and hated every moment of it. But he served well in North Africa and Italy, so much so that the military wanted him to go to Germany after the war to be part of the command that over-

saw the occupation.

He would have none of it. He had a wife and son and wanted to come home. He did come home and went on to have a daughter and two more sons, including me.

How many others who fought in the war were denied the opportunity to have their own families.

Who was never born because their father or mother died defending this country? Again, we'll never know.

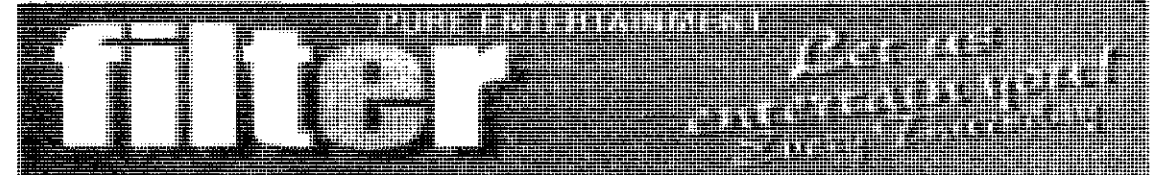
But we must never forget.

That's what Memorial Day is all about. It isn't about raising the flag or firing guns in salute, although that certainly is an appropriate tribute.

Memorial Day is about people. The living, but especially the dead.

You can keep them alive by remembering them.

Greg Kowalski is editor of the *Birmingham Eccentric*. He can be reached at (248) 901-2570 or by e-mail at gkowsk@hometownlife.com.



  
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# State's economy will be main topic at Mackinac Conference

BY HUGH GALLAGHER  
STAFF WRITER



Ficano

On Wednesday, Michigan's movers and shakers will gather on Mackinac Island for the Detroit Regional Chamber's annual power parlay, the Mackinac Policy Conference. Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano will participate in a conference staple Friday, the Big Five (formerly Big Four) panel with Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick, Macomb County Commission Chair Nancy White and now Windsor Mayor Eddie Francis. "It's a way to interact with regional leaders - Brooks, the mayor, Nancy White - and business leaders," Ficano said. Ficano said businesses have approached him at past conferences about the county's efforts to promote alternative fuels, which has become a focus of the Ficano administration over the last year. He said the state's lagging economy and what to do about it will be

the main topic of conversation at the island's Grand Hotel.

The conference, May 31 to June 2, gives government and business leaders a chance to unwind with golf, tennis, running and hiking events while gathering to discuss top issues. Highlights include a forum with gubernatorial candidates Jennifer Granholm and Dick DeVos and programs on doing business in China, building an entrepreneurial environment, job creation and Michigan's economic future, competing in a "flat world," the auto industry, quality schools, health care and the 2006 elections.

Richard Blouse, president and CEO of the Detroit Regional Chamber, said this is the 26th year the event has been held on Mackinac Island. "But actually it began nearly 100 years ago and was held annually as stag cruise on the

Great Lakes," he said. Blouse said it's an opportunity to get a diversity of people, between 1,500 and 1,700 attendees annually, discussing a variety of issues.

"We're teeing up on issues that may not be on the public radar yet," he said. This year's program will lead off with a presentation on trade with China by Jack Perkowski.

"The idea is to bring in outside speakers that can spread some light and point us in new directions," he said.

For Ficano it's a chance to promote economic growth.

"The main topic will be jump starting the economy," Ficano said. "What will be required to get as much economic growth as possible."

He said participants will be especially interested in the

views of the gubernatorial candidates on the economy.

"What people are looking for are economic growth ideas," he said. "What are the formulas or specifics that will bring economic growth to the state, not just platitudes but actual, direct ideas."

Ficano will be promoting several regional development ideas centered around two hot topics - development of and around Detroit Wayne County Metro Airport and development of alternative energy sources, particularly ethanol fuel.

"The biggest asset for the

region is the airport and the aerropolis," he said.

A federally funded \$100 million engineering study for a light rail system between Ann Arbor and Detroit is nearing completion.

"They'll probably set out five routes with the two most practical along I-94 and Michigan Avenue," Ficano said. "I think it's feasible ... it's bookended by the University of Michigan and Wayne State University. The airport is a transportation asset and you're seeing development along the whole 94 corridor."

Ficano said the long-delayed

Pinnacle Aeropark project was moving forward. He said the county is in discussions with "two or three developers."

"What sparked all this is alternative fuel," he said. "Not only with Michigan State, but companies are interested in coming in."

The county has been working with Michigan State, which holds patents for the development of E-85 biodiesel, succinic acid and other alternative fuels. Ficano wants to create 20 gas stations by the end of this year to sell E-85 fuel, with another 20 by the end of next year.

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