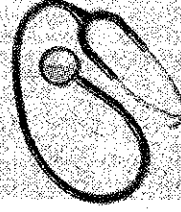




Fash Bash puts focus on talented designer

Family tries to move on after son's heroin death

LOCAL NEWS - PAGE A4



Get those vaccinations up to date for school days

HEALTH - PAGE C3

SUNDAY
August 20, 2006

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Request prompts delay in embezzlement hearing

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

A preliminary hearing on charges that two former officials stole at least \$145,000 from the Wayne Ford Civic League has been delayed until Friday, Oct. 27, to allow attorneys to examine evidence in the case.

Neal William Greenfield, 42, and ex-wife Shari Kay Greenfield, 41, were arraigned on charges of embezzling more than \$20,000 from the Wayne-Ford Civic League during court proceedings Aug. 10.

At the arraignment, Special Wayne County Prosecutor Abed Hammoud accused Shari Greenfield of stealing \$113,000 and Neal Greenfield of taking \$32,000 from 1999 to 2004. If convicted, they could face penalties ranging up to 10 years in prison.

They are free on bond after the \$25,000 cash or surety bonds.

Neal Greenfield of Westland served as league president and Shari Greenfield of Livonia as vice president prior to an internal shakeup two years ago that ousted them from their positions.



Neal Greenfield Shari Greenfield

According to Sgt. Chris Benson, the civic league once brought in gross revenues of \$1 million a year yet showed financial losses. The money came from bingo games, carnivals

and other fund-raisers and was meant to support youth baseball and senior citizen programs.

Benson said the league's financial records indicated that money was spent on such activities as Special Olympics, although he said checks were made out to the Greenfields. The pair also is accused of using league money for personal expenses such as utility bills, he said.

The investigation stems from Neal Greenfield's arrest two years ago on larceny and drug charges. The larceny charge was dropped after he agreed to

plead guilty to cocaine possession, which resulted in a probationary sentence.

Police found cocaine in Greenfield's house when they executed a search warrant as part of their criminal investigation.

The earlier arrests also led the state to order the league to stop sponsoring bingo games, although other groups not tied to the organization were allowed to use the building for similar activities.

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PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Nila Zientek (left) and Jo Brunet look at the signatures on the U.S. Army poster given to seniors at the Friendship Center to recognize their efforts in sending coupons to soldiers in Wuerzburg, Germany.

Military recognizes its coupon clippers

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Army Staff Sgt. Tony Messina made a "recruiting call" Wednesday to offer a few words of encouragement to the "troops." He drew on past experiences, talking about his time at the U.S. Army Garrison at Baumholder, Germany, and the importance of what they were doing.

"As a private, I made pretty good pay and the military takes good care of you, but saving \$80 at the store was still nice," he said. "Times like this, concern for the troops really touch us."

Messina's "troops" are a group of seniors who meet at Westland's Friendship Center once a week to snip the cents-off ducats to send to Wuerzburg, Germany, for U.S. military personnel who use them to save money at commissaries where they shop.

As a way of saying thank you, he presented them with an autographed Army recruiting poster, signed by service personnel at the Baumholder garrison where he was stationed.

"I had my friends get soldiers who use the coupons to sign a recruiting poster," Messina said. "It's not all of them, but there's some."



Westland Friendship Center Director Peggy Ellenwood accepts a framed U.S. Army recruiting poster from Staff Sgt. Tony Messina which was signed by soldiers who use coupons clipped by the seniors. Watching are seniors Ruth Fahner (left), Bill and Esthel Strohmmer (in back) and Margareta Frobe.

PLEASE SEE COUPONS, A5

Judge orders trial in child abuse case

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

A 37-year-old Westland man will stand trial on charges that he abused his wife's son and two nephews, who were blindfolded, tied up and burned with a heated screwdriver and a hot glue gun.

Westland District Judge C. Charles Bokos ordered the trial after Vincent Garrison Grant waived his right to a preliminary examination during court proceedings Thursday morning.

Grant is charged with three counts of second-degree child abuse and three counts of felonious assault involving his wife's 9-year-old son and her two nephews, ages 11 and 12, who were placed in her care by state officials for problems at their mother's home. Grant could face four years in prison if convicted.

Bokos accepted the waiver, but declined a defense attorney's request to reduce Grant's \$100,000 cash bond. He did refer the request to pretrial services for a determination in circuit court.

"This is his first experience with the system," attorney Gerald Evelyn said. "We recognize that in this case a personal bond would not be appropriate, but there are no allegations that he has done anything wrong in his life."

Grant is accused of what



Grant police Sgt. Steve Borisch called "borderline torture" involving the children who are now out of the family home on Barchester near John Hix and Cherry Hill.

Authorities believe the abuse may have started as early as 2003 and continued through this year. Westland police learned of the allegations in May, when one of the boys didn't want to go home from Stevenson Middle School, Borisch said.

Police have photographs of the boys and the scars on their arms and legs, he said, and "they say he burned their private parts, too."

Grant has admitted he blindfolded the boys and tied them to a basement pole to punish them for bad behavior, but he denied intentionally burning them with a hot glue gun or a screwdriver that he allegedly heated with a propane torch, Borisch said.

Grant admitted that he "may have accidentally burned one of them with a glue gun," Borisch said.

Police searched Grant's home and found a screwdriver with a scorched tip, a propane torch and a glue gun, the detective added.

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Local camping center helps 'Makeover' show

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

What does three travel trailers and *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* have in common?

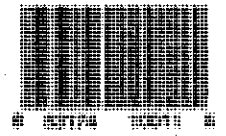
Just ask David Rochette. His family-owned Westland Camping Center provided three trailers for the ABC television show during its recent week-long stop in Armada.

"When they first called, it was what will we get out of it, but after a while that became secondary to what can we do to help," Rochette said.

"Everyone wanted to be involved, that's what they talked about," added his wife Irene, the general manager. "A lot of times, when businesses find out how

PLEASE SEE MAKEOVER, A6

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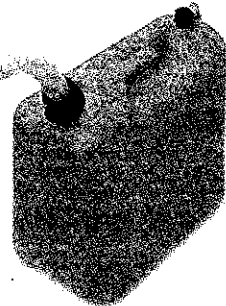


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Volume 42
Number 25



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Coming Thursday in Filter



Preview this fall's movies in this week's Filter.

Fans rev up for NASCAR's Edwards at Roush racing event

BY DAVE VARGA
STAFF WRITER

Many hundreds of auto racing fans packed an open house Thursday at the Roush Automotive Collection, lining up to get autographs of NASCAR driver Carl Edwards and three other drivers.

They brought die-cast cars, hats, T-shirts, posters, car tires and the grill of a race car on which to get those signatures. Cameras flashed everywhere as the drivers sat in front of long lines of adoring fans.

While she awaited her turn, Jen Burns explained how she and her mother, Sue, drove three hours from Muskegon to bring a basket of food on behalf of the Carl Edwards fan club to Edwards, who is one of her favorites.

Daughter and mother also lined up for pictures with other drivers — Jamie McMurray, Todd Kluever and Danny O'Quinn Jr. were also there — and Jack Roush, chairman of Roush Racing and Roush Enterprises. "We just love Jack," Jen Burns said.

When it comes to distance traveled, another race fan,



Jen Burns poses as her mother snaps a photograph of her with NASCAR Nextel series driver Carl Edwards.

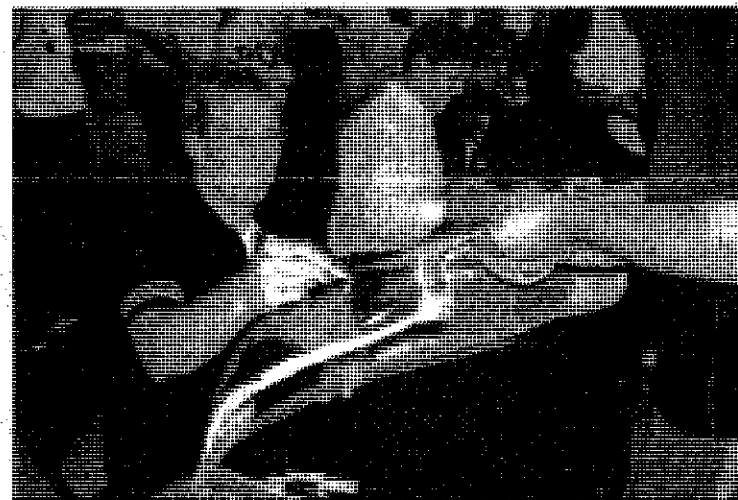
Jennifer Higgs, had the Burnses beat. Higgs and her husband drove the 6 1/2 hours from Mt. Albert, Ontario, to gather autographs, take some pictures and, of course, attend Michigan International

Speedway for the race today, Aug. 20.

Higgs' focus also was Edwards, the handsome driver with a quick smile who has a reputation for doing back flips when he wins a race, and on a

television commercial.

A fifth-grade teacher, Higgs uses NASCAR to teach literacy and math throughout the school year. Students learn about the races, pick a driver, graph their races and read



NASCAR driver Jamie McMurray autographs a race car grille for a fan.

about the drivers. "The kids love it," she said.

Her affinity for Edwards is based on his personality: His disposition on the race course is "nasty, yet sincere," she said. He also really enjoys meeting his fans, Higgs added, "and he's good with kids."

The event featured a live band in the parking lot, grilled burgers and hot dogs for sale, tours of the auto collection, raffles, an engine-building demonstration and the chance

to buy authentic race car parts and Roush Racing attire. The street near the site drew a makeshift classic car cruise, with all types of souped up and superclean cars lined up with their hoods propped open.

Roush Enterprises is the fourth largest employer and 10th largest taxpayer in the city. Today's race is the GFS Marketplace 400 at MIS in Brooklyn, Mich.

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**STATE OF MICHIGAN
IN THE WAYNE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT**

THE CITY OF WESTLAND,
a Michigan Municipal Corporation,

Plaintiff,

06-614204 CH 5/17/2006
Jdg. John H Gillis Jr
The City of Westland
vs
Watt Helene Bortnick

vs.

**HELENE BORTNICK WATT,
ATLANTIC MORTGAGE &
INVESTMENT CORPORATION,**
a Florida Corporation

Defendants.

ANGELO A. PLAKAS AND ASSOCIATES, P.C.
Angelo A. Plakas (P 18934)
Mark A. McConnell (P 46434)
Attorneys for Plaintiff
35330 Nankin Boulevard, Suite 702
Westland, MI 48185
(734) 421-5510

**ORDER TO ANSWER BY PUBLICATION WITH MAILING
REQUIREMENT EXCUSED**

At a session of said Court held in the City-County Building,
City of Detroit, County of Wayne, State of Michigan

ON: July 28, 2006

PRESENT: HON. JOHN H. GILLIS, JR.
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

On May 17, 2006, an action was filed, against Defendants, HELEN BORTNICK WATT and ATLANTIC MORTGAGE & INVESTMENT CORPORATION, in this Court to abate nuisance on a parcel of real property (hereinafter referred to as "Property") located in the City of Westland described as:

EAST 10 FEET OF LOT 349 AND ALL OF LOT 348, INCLUDING THE ADJOINING 1/2 OF THE VACATED PUBLIC ALLEY AT THE REAR THEREOF, MAPLEWOOD ESTATES SUBDIVISION, AS RECORDED IN LIBER 39, PAGE 17 OF PLATS, WAYNE COUNTY RECORDS

Commonly Known As: 34851 Hazelwood
Tax Identification No. 56-063-01-0348-000

Upon consideration of the Verified Motion of Plaintiff, and the Affidavit in Support thereof, attesting to the fact that Defendants, HELEN BORTNICK WATT and ATLANTIC MORTGAGE & INVESTMENT CORPORATION, in this action cannot be personally served with a Summons and a copy of the Complaint herein because their present whereabouts are unknown, and they have no last known address, and that publication of notice of this action in a newspaper of general circulation is most likely to give notice to these Defendants, and it appearing to this Court that Plaintiff, after diligent inquiry, has been unable to ascertain the Defendants' address either within or without the State of Michigan, and it further appearing that personal service of the Summons and Complaint in this action cannot be made on the Defendants for the above stated reasons, and that publication is the best means available to apprise Defendants of the pendency of this action.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Defendants, HELEN BORTNICK WATT and ATLANTIC MORTGAGE & INVESTMENT CORPORATION, shall on or before the 29th day of August, 2006, serve an answer on Mark A. McConnell, attorney for Plaintiff, whose address is 35330 Nankin Blvd., Suite 702, Westland, Michigan, 48185, or take such other action as may be permitted by law. Failure to comply with this Order may result in a judgment by default against the Defendants for the relief demanded in the Complaint filed in this Court.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order be published once a week for three consecutive weeks in the Observer & Eccentric, a newspaper of general circulation hereby designated as most likely to give notice to the Defendants named above. Publication shall occur within the County of Wayne, State of Michigan.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the first publication of this Order be made within five (5) days from the date of entry of this Order; and that mailing a copy of this Order be dispensed with because Plaintiff cannot, with reasonable diligence, ascertain a place where the Defendants would probably receive this matter transmitted by mail.

JOHN H. GILLIS, JR.
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

A TRUE COPY
CATHY M. GARRETT
WAYNE COUNTY CLERK
BY M. Woodson

Publish: August 6, 13 & 20, 2006

INFORMATION CENTRAL

The U.S. Census Bureau is currently tracking the U.S. population which is expected to hit the 300 million-person milestone sometime this year, possibly in October.

According to the U.S. Population Clock, found at www.census.gov, the population currently stands at 299,482,021, as of 1 p.m., Aug. 15, growing at a rate of one person per 12 seconds.

So who cares you might ask?

Such data shows the incredible growth in the country since 1967, when we hit 200 million. Some of the most notable changes are as follows:

The most populous area in the country has changed. In 1970, the West was the least populous region, now however, the West is the second largest region. The U.S. population is older - nationally, the median age is older, and more people are over the age of 65, particularly in Florida.

Our country is more diverse, too. A greater percentage of Americans are of Hispanic origin and the most recent economic census data shows that the number of Hispanic-owned businesses grew by 31 percent between 1997 and 2002, three times the national average for all businesses.

Our level of education is also worth noting. More Americans are graduating from high school and college. In 1967, about half of Americans had graduated from high school and only about 10 percent had graduated from college. Today, 85.2 percent of Americans are high school graduates and more than a quarter are college graduates.

Education also begins at an earlier age and ends later. In 1967, only 14.2 percent were in school. However, more than half of 3- and 4-year-olds are enrolled in school now.

The face of our labor force has shown changes as well, with women increasing their numbers from 36.7 percent of the workforce to 46.4 percent. These are annual numbers for 1967 and 2005 from the Current Population Survey (CPS).

Financially speaking, significant changes have taken place with the median household income in the U.S., increasing by 30 percent since 1967.

If you are interested in examining more government statistics, or viewing the U.S. Census Web site or other census tools, stop by the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland. Library hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Wednesday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday-Saturday. The library can be reached at (734) 326-6123 or on the Web at www.westland.lib.mi.us

Internet 101: 7 p.m. Aug. 21
For the very beginner; what the Internet is, and how to get there.

Microsoft Word for Beginners: 6 p.m. Aug. 22
Learn the basics of Microsoft Word, a word processing program that helps you create a variety of documents including letters and resumes. Learn how to set margins, change font style and size, check spelling and print.

Information Central is compiled by Marilyn Kwik at the library.

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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2006-07 SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on August 28, 2006 at 7:00 o'clock in the evening at 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District will hold a public hearing in regard to the 2006-07 School Breakfast Program.

In order to be in compliance with Section 380.1272 of the School Code as amended in December 1993, the School Board must operate a school breakfast program or opt out following state guidelines. Local school districts can opt out of offering a breakfast program in buildings where less than 20% of the student enrollment is eligible for free or reduced price lunches. The public is invited to offer their opinion at the August 28, 2006 Board of Education meeting.

This notice is given by order to the Board of Education.

Cynthia Markarian, Secretary

Publish: August 20, 2006

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'Indescribable horror'

Grieving Livonia family moves on after son's heroin death

BY DAN WEST
STAFF WRITER

It was the evening of June 29 when Diane Montes decided to check on her son, who had been in bed for several hours.

When she opened his bedroom door, she witnessed "an indescribable horror." Brian Montes, a 22-year-old education major at Michigan State University, was lying dead in his bed. Police told the grieving mother that her son died from heroin use. The family later learned the fatal dose was mixed with the pain-killer Fentanyl, which caused respiratory failure.

"It was such a shock to us because we had no idea he was using heroin until the police told us," said Diane Montes, a youth minister at St. Genevieve Catholic Church.

"We were so shocked that we started to desperately look for answers."

Here's what Diane and husband Andy learned over the past couple months about heroin use in Livonia: There are a number of teenagers and young adults using heroin, an inexpensive, addictive depressant. Since her son's death, Montes said she's talked to a number of people who said they know a young heroin user who either died, was hospitalized or sent to drug rehabilitation.

"Word needs to get out that heroin is quickly addictive," she

Poem shares reality of abuse

This is a poem written by Livonian Brian Montes before his heroin-related death in June. His family found this writing among hundreds of poems saved on his computer.

*Thursday morning six a.m.
Three hours in bed
And a small mountain of*

*little red pills
From my top right desk
drawer
Bring me back
To life or something like it.*

*I am above sleep
So long as there are
substances
To abuse and friends
Who look the other way.*

said. "Young people can get hooked soon and it can kill you. Parents need to talk to their children because if they are using heroin, they need help and they cannot get it by themselves."

NOTICEABLE CHANGES

Brian Montes, a 2002 Churchill High School graduate, was to enter his senior year at MSU this fall where he was studying to become a high school English teacher. With a laid-back personality, he loved to read, write poetry and play his guitar. He regularly joined his family at church and, as a teenager, participated in the St. Genevieve youth group.

His parents said he was a friendly guy with a sense of humor, but he did take risks.

Last winter, Andy and Diane Montes, Bentley High School sweethearts who married 28 years ago, noticed changes in their middle child. He called

home less often during this past winter semester. He appeared more stressed out and withdrawn. When he came home, he spent hours in his bedroom. He also started to hang out with a different crowd of people.

"He usually kept to himself in his room where he'd read and write, but he seemed to spend more time in his room than usual," Diane Montes said.

Brian's parents suspected he was depressed, possibly drinking too much. Both Andy and Diane had several lengthy conversations with their son, who acknowledged some depression and that he occasionally drank too much at parties. His parents sent him to a doctor, who did not detect any health problems.

"As a matter of fact, the doctor told us he thought Brian really had himself together," Diane Montes said.

The couple later learned their son tried heroin for the first time in February of this year.

They learned that in post-mortem conversations with Brian's friend, who is now in rehab. The friend, a Livonia woman, admitted she introduced Brian to the drug.

PARTY-TO-PRIVATE USE

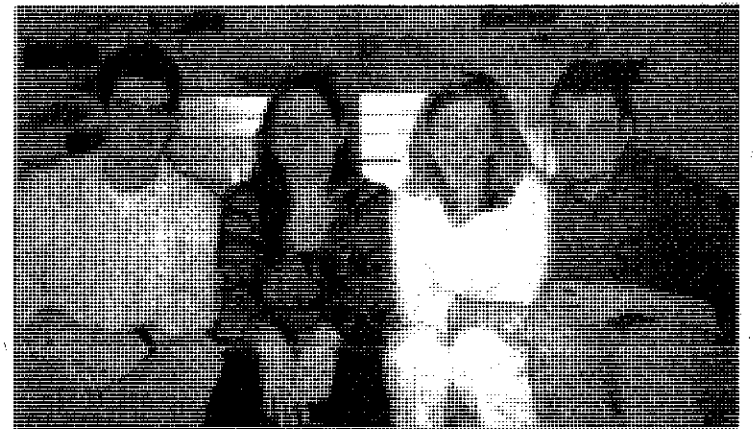
Brian and the friend would meet with a group during house parties and use heroin. For a while, Brian would only inject the drug on the weekend, but his use became more frequent during the spring.

"We believe he was a regular user for only six weeks before his death," Diane Montes said.

Andy Montes said he had some long talks with his son during the spring. One of those talks took place while the father and son painted some rooms in their home.

"Apparently with heroin, the affects wear off in a couple hours. It's not like you are strung out for many hours," said Andy Montes, who works in auto sales. "I guess he would be using the drug, but he would come out and talk and laugh with us. He hid it very well."

Brian wasn't working this summer. He decided to take it easy this summer before his senior year of college, but his parents noticed he drained \$900 from his bank account in June. They now suspect a good chunk of that money went to buy heroin. The friend said he would drive into the northwest Detroit Brightmoor neighborhood to



Brian Montes (from left) is seated with his younger sister, Jennifer, sister-in-law, Katie, and older brother, Scott, during a Christmas gathering in 2004.

buy drugs.

The friend told Brian's parents that he fell unconscious twice after heroin use during the spring, but did not go to a hospital after regaining consciousness. She indicated that she became more concerned about Brian's use when he started to use heroin by himself — often in his bedroom.

"It seems if someone would have spoken up after one of those episodes, we could have somehow stopped this," Diane Montes said. "But I guess Brian didn't want to get everyone in trouble, so he refused to go to the hospital."

PARENT MISSION

After enduring a heart-wrenching summer of grieving and learning sobering details about her late son's double life, Diane Montes is on a mission to warn parents about heroin, its dangers and its increasing widespread use among teenagers and young adults.

"Kids cannot beat this on their own," she said. "They need to tell someone so they can get

help."

She has been attending meetings at the newly formed Royal Oak Prevention Coalition, a group of school, police, medical and political leaders focused on spreading the word about the dangers of heroin and other drugs and how users and families can find help. The Royal Oak group formed in response to a number of drug deaths in that community.

With what she learns in Royal Oak, Montes said she will ask Livonia leaders to start a similar drug task force. She said she is forever scarred and motivated by her family's tragedy this summer.

"It was an indescribable horror to open that door and see what I saw," Montes said. "Parents need to talk to their kids so another tragedy doesn't happen to them." Anyone interested in joining Diane Montes' effort to increase public awareness about the use of heroin and other drugs in Livonia can e-mail her at dm_montes@yahoo.com.

dwest@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2109

Heroin leaving its mark across Wayne County

BY DAN WEST
STAFF WRITER

Instead of preparing for a new year of classes at Stevenson High School, a 16-year-old Livonia boy was laid to rest Thursday after dying from an apparent heroin overdose in his bedroom last weekend, police said.

One day before the funeral, police said an 18-year-old man, who had attended school in Livonia, died of a possible heroin overdose at a relative's home in Northville.

These cases come just seven weeks after 22-year-old Brian Montes died in the bedroom of his Livonia home from a dose of heroin mixed with the pain-

killer Fentanyl.

Police officials said these tragedies highlight a growing problem in and around Livonia as they hear about more teenagers and young adults experimenting with the depressant. They report a resurgence in the heroin's popularity — particularly among high school students — over the past decade.

"Our school resources officers (stationed at Livonia's middle and high schools) are hearing about more and more kids using this stuff," said investigations Lt. Greg Winn.

Exact numbers are not known, but Livonia police suspect the drug could have played a role in a dozen deaths in Livonia over the past year.

"We are seeing more cases of heroin overdoses at this time," said Dr. Michael Fox, the medical director for the Chemical Dependency Unit at Livonia's St. Mary Mercy Hospital.

"It seems like these things go in cycles every 10 years from stimulants to opioids. Right now, the drug of choice seems to be opioids (including heroin)."

IT'S CHEAP, AVAILABLE

Livonia police investigators said heroin is an inexpensive drug that is easy to obtain, with plenty of supply on the streets.

"You can get a small package (half a gram) for as little as \$7," said Lt. Ben McDermott, who leads the Livonia police intelli-

gence bureau. Investigators said they are not aware of any "heroin pads" or prominent drug dealers pushing the drug in Livonia. McDermott said most local heroin users drive to drug houses in northwest Detroit or meet individual dealers standing on street corners in other parts of the city.

"We'll go outside of our city and try to catch higher-profile dealers that we identify selling the stuff to people in Livonia, but we simply cannot arrest every individual who sells heroin or drugs outside our city," McDermott said.

Possession of heroin, he added, is a felony punishable by up to four years in prison. Those caught with the drug for personal use, however, rarely

see jail time in Wayne County because there are few spots available in jails and prison and the court system tends to save incarceration for violent criminals.

MANY MIXTURES COMMON

Heroin is a derivative of morphine, a natural substance taken from the Asian poppy plant. When bought on the street, it usually comes in a white powder that has been mixed with various other white powder substances.

According to a U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency 1996 analysis of heroin sold on the street, scientist found 27 substances mixed with the drug. Common mixtures include prescription drugs, such as the

pain-killers Procaine and Fentanyl; over-the-counter drugs, such as acetaminophen (Tylenol) and the baby laxative Mannitol; and health supplements such as Inositol. Other mixes include starch, powdered milk and caffeine.

"By the time the street dealer gets it, the powder has been cut so many times that you don't know exactly what you are getting," McDermott said. "And these packages aren't being prepared in sanitary conditions."

According to DEA and Livonia police reports, someone can buy 2 grams of heroin for between \$10-\$20, and there is a substantial supply on the streets. Heroin is inexpensive, compared to cocaine that sells for \$50-\$100 per gram.

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COUPONS

FROM PAGE A1

Many of the autographs were families like the Weavers who wrote: "We appreciate your effort and kindness."

It's not the first time they've received kudos for their clipping. They've received letters from service personnel like Michele Patrick, who sorts the coupons in Wuerzburg. She wrote about saving \$137 using the coupons.

"It's a great project," she wrote.

The seniors have been clipping coupons for two years, and Bill Strohmer estimates they're close to 1 million clipped and shipped to Wuerzburg.

He backs up his estimate with an elaborate mathematical equation that starts with 1,000 coupons to a one-inch stack and ends with 30,000 per box. Somewhere in the middle is the 30 or so boxes he's mailed to Germany. H&R Block tax-preparation office in Westland has been sponsoring the project and paying the \$15-

\$18 per box shipping costs.

"We're looking to share the sponsorship, if someone wants to step forward," Strohmer said.

Bill Strohmer's mathematical wizardry doesn't extend to how many coupons the group clips during its weekly meetings.

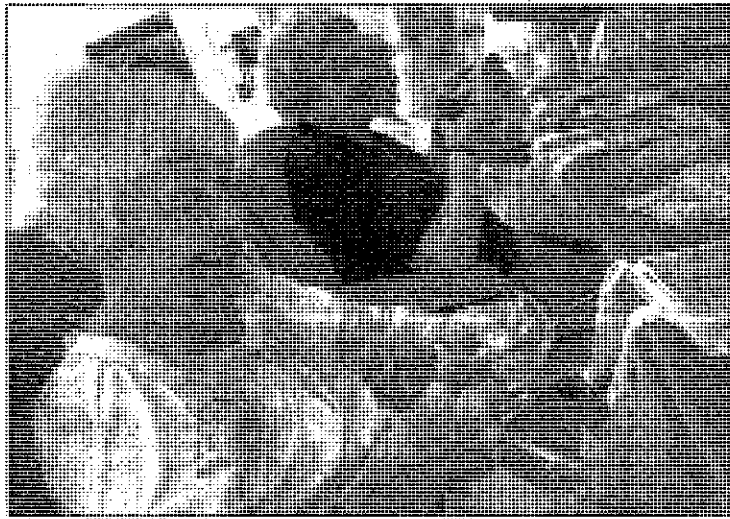
"Some days they clip more than others," he said. "It depends on how the hands move."

"I think we've clipped billions," said Jo Brunet, snipping excess paper from a coupon.

It was his wife Esther who brought the project to the senior center after hearing about it from a former WAC who started it in their residential complex in Northville.

"She asked neighbors to do it and it got so large that Esther came down here with the project," he said.

It also was Esther Strohmer who approached Messina about presenting the something like certificates to the coupon clippers. He decided to use the World War II-style poster and sent it to his friends to get it signed. It came back just in time for the presenta-



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Margaretta Frobe, Gloria Sanford, Betty Smith and Lillian Crowder cut out coupons for military families.

tion. "In Baumholder, there was a huge cabinet and the coupons were sorted by category," Messina said. "You'd grab them and use them, but you never know where they come from."

The presentation was a good surprise for the group, Ruth Fahner said.

"It's the first time someone from the military has shown

up," she said. "That really makes it nice."

Friendship Center Director Peggy Ellenwood told Messina the award would be proudly displayed in the center.

"Isn't it gorgeous? It brings tears to my eyes," she said. "That poster's older than me, but it's nice," Brunet added.

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Mall offers gift cards for cotton purchases

Westland Shopping Center and Cotton Incorporated, the marketing and research company representing upland cotton, have unveiled a Back-to-School cotton promotion which offers shoppers the opportunity to get a \$25 gift card good toward their next denim buy.

Shoppers need to present receipts from cotton merchandise purchases totaling \$200 or more to the Westland Shopping Center Customer Information Center between Monday Aug. 21, and Saturday, Sept. 10, to get a \$25 gift card

(while supplies last) good toward their next denim buy.

Fay Samona from the Magic Morning Show will help collect new or gently worn jeans for charity. Stop by, pick up some Magic goodies, enter to win a \$250 mall gift card and help kids who need clothes to go back to school 2-4 p.m. Friday, Aug. 25 in the mall's East Court.

Westland Shopping Center is at Wayne Road and Warren in Westland. Call the Customer Information Center at (734) 421-0291.

AROUND WESTLAND

Euchre returns

Friday Night Euchre/Pinochle Card Parties will be back at St. Bernardine Parish in Westland beginning Sept. 8.

Doors will open at 7 p.m. and play starts at 7:30 p.m. No partner is needed. Admission is \$5 admission includes refreshments, snacks and cash prizes. A 50/50 raffle also is available.

The scheduled dates are Sept. 8, 15, 29, Oct. 6, 13, 27, Nov. 3, 17, Dec. 1, 15, Jan. 7, 5, 12, 26 and Feb. 2, 9, 16.

St. Bernardine Parish is on the southwest corner of Ann Arbor Trail and Merriman in Westland. For more information, call (734) 427-5150.

Wedding Cakes 101

Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe will offer Wedding Cakes 101, a two-hour everything you ever wanted to know about wedding cakes, but didn't know who to ask event, 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 12 and Oct. 10.

The program for cake decorators, caterers or the bride and groom will look at the correct size cake for guests, differ-

ent icings, how a mousse filling compares to cream filling, what fondant is and pricing wedding cake.

Taste testing of a variety of cake flavors will be available. Cost is complimentary for those who register in advance and \$5 at the door. Space is limited.

The cake shoppe is at 8036 N. Wayne Road. For more information, or to register, call (734) 261-3680.

Poker tournament

Put on your best poker face because the Westland Civitan Club is hosting a Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament Saturday, Sept. 9, at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford.

Check-in time is between 3 and 3:30 p.m., with the first round starting at 4 p.m. The entrance fee is \$60 and includes \$1,000 in chips. All registration fees of \$60 will be collected in advance, and registered players will be given a ticket to ensure a seat assignment. Tickets will be limited to the first 112 players. There will be open registration, if there are any tickets are available. All ticket holders must be 19 years old or older.

The prize pool will be 50

percent of the entrance fees, and the cash prizes for the top finishers, which will be announced prior to the start of the gaming, will depend on the number of entries.

To register or to purchase tickets, call Pat Savage at (734) 595-6039, Dave or Donna Jensen (734) 729-8075 or Ron Falkner at (617) 546-8547 and leave your name and a phone number.

VFW Auxiliary events

The Ladies Auxiliary of Harris Kehrer VFW Post 3323 has a variety of activities planned for September through November.

On tap will be a marathon bingo noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 9, and Nov. 4; Patriot Day Observance on Monday, Sept. 11 (call the post for details); deadlines for entries for its annual VFW Voice of Democracy contest for grades 9-11 and Patriot's Pen Essay for grades 6-8 on Wednesday, Nov. 1. Call Sandy Borio at (734) 728-5791 for information about the contest.

VFW Post 3323 is at 1055 S.

Wayne Road, Westland. Family Festival

First Baptist Church of Wayne is inviting the community to a free Family Festival Saturday, Sept. 9.

The festival will begin with a picnic at noon.

There also will be a classic car show, live music, games, a moon walk, face painting, soap box derby cars, hayrides, ice cream novelties and much more.

Participants also will have an opportunity to meet First Baptist's new pastor, Phil DiLernia.

The church is at 36125 Glenwood, between Wayne Road and Newburgh in Wayne. For more information call (734) 721-7410.

Garage sale

Ss. Simon and Jude Church will have a garage sale 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 15, at the church, 32500 Palmer east of Venoy, Westland. There will be a \$2 a bag sale starting at 4 p.m. Large items will sell for \$2 at the bag sale.

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Suburban Detroit - A new free report has recently been released that reveals an amazing new medical breakthrough that has proven 86% successful treating debilitating back pain. Even with multiple herniated discs. Find out how space travel solved astronauts back pain and how this accidental discovery has let to the most promising back pain treatment today. For your free report entitled, "How Space Age Technology Is Solving Back Pain Without Drugs Or Surgery!" call 1-800-469-3618 and listen to the toll-free 24 hr. recorded message for all the details. If phone lines are busy, visit: www.midischerniation.com

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Wearing their 'Extreme Makeover: Home Edition' T-shirts, Dave Rochette (from left), Dennis Meadows, Darrell Moran and Sonia Sylvester stand in front of one of three travel trailers supplied to the show by Westland Camping Center.

TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

MAKEOVER

FROM PAGE A1

far it (the building site) is from them, they back out because of the time and personnel commitment. We were committed by the time we found out where it was."

Producers contacted the Rochettes just after the Fourth of July, asking for their help at a building site somewhere in the "greater Detroit area." According to Rochette, the show's producers found the camping center on the Internet.

"They researched us and found we had a high customer satisfaction rate. That's what they look for in a business, someone that's very reliable," Rochette said. "We had to sign at least 14 releases, we couldn't even divulge they were coming to Michigan."

Shortly after Maryann Gilliam and her six children got the Ty Pennington bullhorn wakeup call, the Rochettes got the call to bring the trailers — two 33-foot and one 30-foot — to Armada.

Within 1 1/2 hours, Rochette, his service manager Darrell Moran and lead technician Dennis Meadows were parking



Darrell Moran and his daughter, Alyssa, strike a pose in front of the home built in 54 hours by 'Extreme Makeover' volunteers.

the trailers on the lawn of a home at the construction site.

"You couldn't see the farmhouse because of a grove of trees, so when we pulled up and saw this house, I said, 'I don't think they need that much help,'" Rochette said.

The home was huge and its large front yard served as a staging area for the makeover that took less than 54 hours to complete, a record for the show. Two thousand volunteers helped build the 5,000-square-foot home.

Delivering the trailers turned to helping set up tents for the camping center. Every other day, the Rochettes sent employees up there to make sure the trailers were working and to help. Since there wasn't that much they could do, they stood and watched.

Moran took his daughter Alyssa, a huge fan of the show, for the final day.

"It was cool and interesting," Moran said. "We were right behind the press tent. In the crowd, they were screaming and going crazy. It was pretty neat. So little was going on the first day, but yesterday (Aug. 14) was pretty exciting."

"It was a huge disruption for the neighborhood, but everybody I talked to were very supportive because they knew the family," Rochette added. "When I was there, all the local people were so excited this was happening to this family. They were so happy for them because they worked with the dad and he was a great guy."

After their brush with reality TV, the Rochettes are wondering what they can do to get word out about the camping center beyond being listed in the cred-



This 120-year-old farmhouse was demolished to make way for the Gilliams' new 5,000-square-foot home.

its of the show, which will air in late September or early October.

They have plenty of photographs, including one of Moran and his daughter posing in front of the new home. They'll be at an RV show later this year and are tossing around an idea use the photographs for promotional purposes.

"What we can do is make a picture board and when we go to the show, we can say these are the kind used by *Extreme Makeover* when they came to town," Rochette said.

Participating in the production may have been a good omen for the business. The Rochettes said the camping center has been doing about as well as last year in sales, and not wanting to miss one, they sent only a few employees at a time to help.

It was a good idea. "We did sell five or six trailers on Friday and Saturday, but I don't think it had anything to do with the show," Rochette said. For more information about the Westland Camping Center, visit its Web site at www.westlandcamping.com or visit the store at 1475 S. Newburgh, south of Cherry Hill, Westland. smason@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2112

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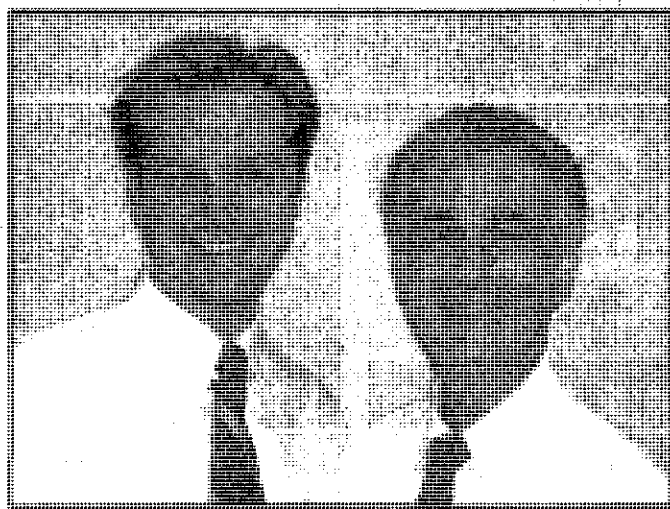
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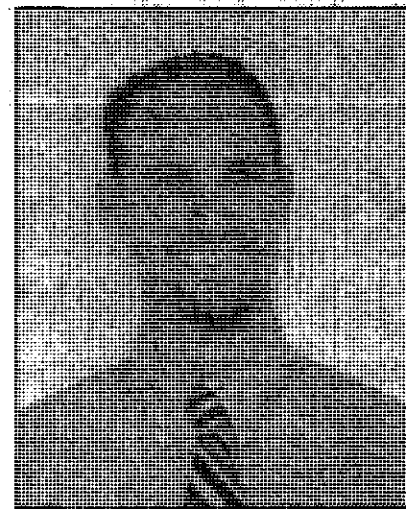
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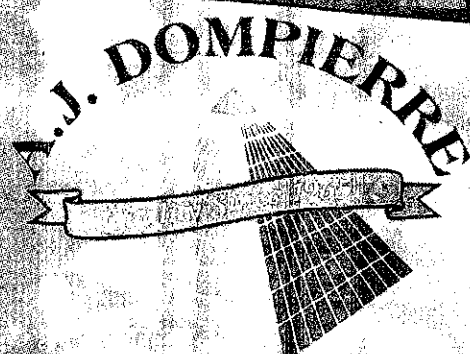
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Michigan Historical Museum exhibits 1,200 historic photos

"Michigan's Family Album," a Special Historical Photography Exhibit, opened Aug. 5 at the Michigan Historical Museum.

Featuring more than 1,200 historical photographs from the collection of David Tinder, "Michigan's Family Album" runs through Jan. 14, 2007. These special photographs explore all aspects of Michigan life dating from the 1860s through the 1930s.

"His collection of 100,000 pictures of Michigan is far too big for a 'photo album' so the Michigan Historical Museum seized the opportunity to exhibit over 1,200 of them as an art form that reflects Michigan history and culture," said Maria Quinlin Leiby, curator of the exhibit.

When asked about the thousands of images he owns, Metro Detroit resident David Tinder gives a straightforward answer. "One word comes to mind," he says. "Michigan."

"Michigan's Family Album" is divided into several sections: people, home and family, community, work and play. A kaleidoscope of faces that reflects the history and culture of Michigan, this special collection includes images of public figures, businessmen, workers, mothers, school children, First Communion, barn raisings, weddings, graduations, small towns and much more. The exhibit showcases a diverse and breathtaking presentation of daguerreotypes, tintypes, stereo views, cabinet cards and large-format photos. There will be a special display of postcards honoring every county in the state.

"The exhibit will give people a sense of how enormous the collection is, and a sense of what it's like to look at so many photographs at once," Leiby explained. "Visitors will have the opportunity to compare and contrast photographs carefully, but even more importantly to compare and contrast life in the past and present. They can ask a lot of questions and draw a lot of conclusions - What were people doing more than one hundred years ago? What's going on outside the photograph? Some things change, but some things are the same."

"Education is the key to bringing the photographs to life in a meaningful way," said Leiby. "Museum educators will use these historical photographs to help students learn about Michigan's past and also to establish a foundation for under-

standing the present and envisioning the future."

"Careers through the Eye of the Camera" is an activity in which students will photograph their parents or other adults at work and will be encouraged to focus on the work place, tools and equipment, goods or services produced and how various school subjects relate to the job. They will then work with adults to write captions and narration.

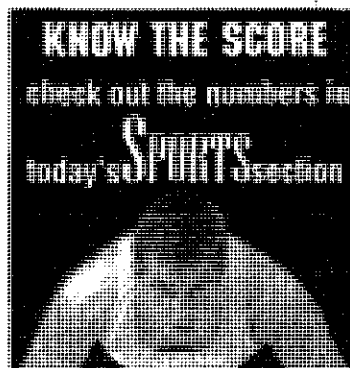
An interactive computer program will allow visitors to look up additional text to learn more in-depth information about the photographs.

"Michigan's Family Album" is presented in partnership with Dave Tinder and the University of Michigan's Clements Library. The exhibit is sponsored, in part, by the Friends of Michigan History, the Michigan Photographic Historical Society, Mr. and Mrs. David B. Walters, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Walle, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Motzenbecker, photographer Allen Charles, Engineering Graphics, Inc., and the Michigan Historical Center Foundation.

The Michigan Historical Museum is located inside the Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 W. Kalamazoo St., two blocks west of the State Capitol in downtown Lansing. The main entrance and visitor parking are located north of Kalamazoo Street, just east of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. Museum hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. Admission and weekend parking are free.

The Michigan Historical Museum, the flagship of the Michigan Historical Museum System, is fully accredited by the American Association of Museums. For more information, visit www.michigan.gov/museum or call (517) 373-3559, TDD (517) 373-1592.

The Michigan Historical Museum System is a division of the Michigan Historical Center, an agency of the Michigan Department of History, Arts and Libraries (HAL). Dedicated to enriching quality of life and strengthening the economy by providing access to information, preserving and promoting Michigan's heritage and fostering cultural creativity, HAL also includes the Mackinac Island State Park Commission, the Library of Michigan, the Michigan Film Office and the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs. For more information about HAL, visit www.michigan.gov/hal.



James Carville and Mary Matalin will discuss their opposing political views at an Inforum program Sept. 13.

Matalin & Carville offer up political views at Inforum Sept. 13

Political pundits Mary Matalin and James Carville, joined in marriage but with careers on opposite sides of the political aisle, will speak at an Inforum (formerly the Women's Economic Club) program at Detroit's Cobo Hall on Sept. 13.

"All's Fair in Love, War and Politics" is the Washington power couple's theme.

Tickets for the event, sponsored by Comerica Bank, are \$35 for Inforum members, \$40 for guests who register with a member, \$55 for others and \$350 for a table of 10. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. with adjournment at 1:30 p.m.

Registration can be made on line via the Inforum web site www.inforummichigan.org or by calling Inforum 877-633-3500.

One of the nation's hardest-hitting conservative political commentators, Matalin has slugged it out in the political trenches as an election-time political strategist and as a trusted advisor to the corridors of power. One of the country's foremost Republican political strategists, she is known for her astute insights, intellectual integrity and her straight-talking, no-nonsense take on the hot-button issues and political headlines of the day.

She appears frequently as a political commentator, served as co-host of CNN's Crossfire and has written for *Newsweek* and the *Los Angeles Times*.

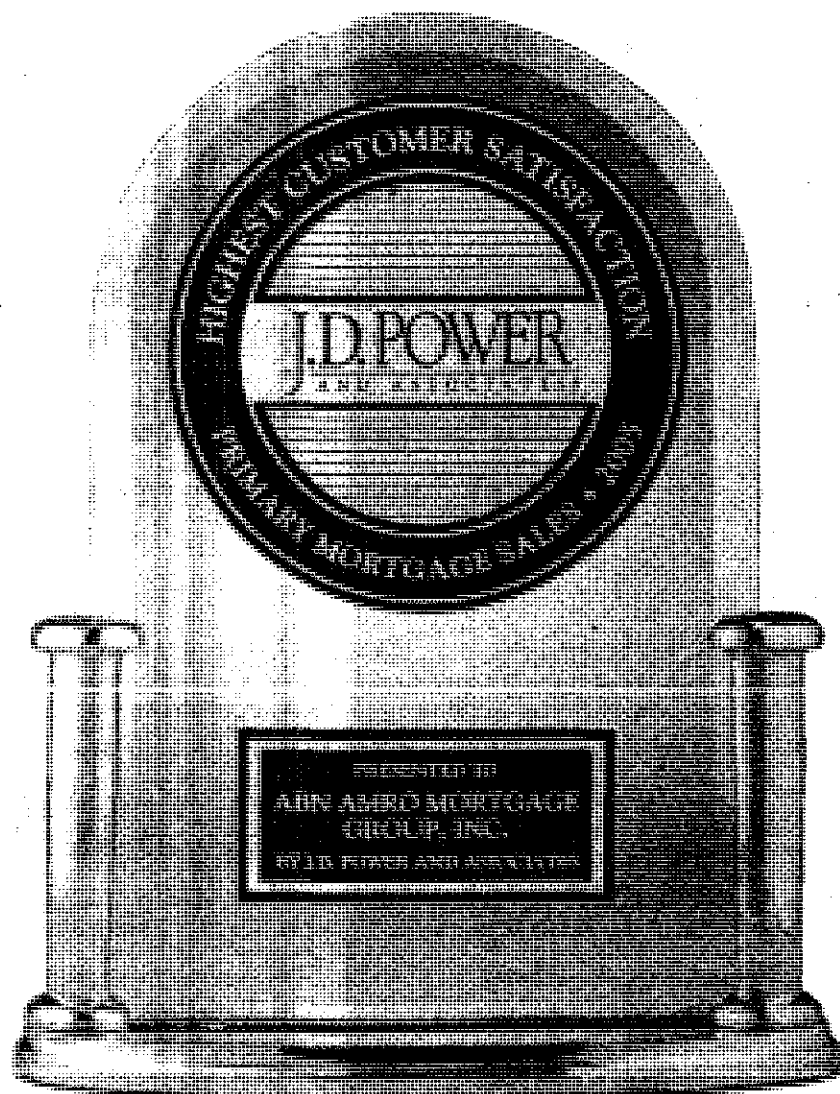
Most recently, Matalin was hired to run Threshold, a conservative publishing division of Simon & Schuster.

Carville is known for his razor-sharp wit and penetrating analysis of the political world. Offering bombastic, enthusiastic, shoot-from-the-hip, no-holds barred, liberal political commentary, combined with a quick wit and a Southern drawl, the "Ragin' Cajun" is instantly recognizable in his frequent appearances on CNN's political news programming and other venues.

Carville has managed more campaigns than any political consultant in American and around the world.

Inforum, formerly the Women's Economic Club, is a professional women's alliance established to strengthen the business environment in Michigan by creating opportunities for women to lead and succeed. It is one of the largest and most prestigious business forums in the nation. It has more than 2,000 members in its Southeast Michigan (Detroit), Mid-Michigan (Lansing) and West Michigan (Grand Rapids) affiliates, who benefit from presentations by national figures and local experts, attend seminars and networking events and receive training through the Inforum Center for Leadership.

For membership information, contact Marti Murdock at (313) 578-3230.



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As suburbs grow in diversity, we need to address tensions

On Sunday, Aug. 13, the *Canton Observer* ran a story on apprehension in the township's Muslim community following the reports from London about an alleged plot to bomb several transatlantic airliners.

The story was pretty straightforward. Our reporter spoke with Dawud Walid, executive director of the Michigan Council on American-Islamic Relations. His comments focused on misunderstandings about Muslims and Arabs (not always the same thing as there are many non-Arab Muslims and many Arabs who are not Muslims). He spoke frankly

about how Islam is viewed by many in the majority as a "foreign ideology." He urged people to get beyond stereotypes.

Walid's only political comment was in reference to a phrase used by President George W. Bush, "Islamic fascism."

"To dehumanize a faith and religion of 1.6 billion people is wrong," Walid said.

A reader sent an email to complain that CAIR was an organization sympathetic to terrorists and pointed to an anti-CAIR Web site to bolster his concerns. Some former CAIR officials have been under investigation for links with suspected terrorist groups. But, on the other hand, CAIR also sponsors sensitivity seminars with the FBI, has condemned terrorism on its Web site and presents itself as a civil rights group representing the interest of Muslim Americans.

On Tuesday, the U.S. Census Bureau released a mid-decade, short-form census for cities with more than

65,000 residents. Across the country, the census found a growing immigrant population, an enlarging cultural, social and ethnic diversity. As has been the trend for decades, the U.S. Hispanic or Latino population has been growing and now represents 14.5 percent of the nation's population.

Our suburbs have also been changing. The rigid racial and ethnic separation that has been a subject of national discussion and local anguish is beginning to develop some openings. Livonia and Dearborn, two communities that have been singled out for the racial attitudes of some residents, have shown increases in the percentage of African-Americans in their communities. Dearborn is the center of metro Detroit's Arab community and has been for decades. Troy has an Asian population of 11,092 representing 13.2 percent of the city's population. In Farmington Hills 12.2 percent of the population is African-American, 10.3 percent is Asian.

In Canton, the Asian population is 13,162, representing 14.5 percent of the township's population.

On Thursday, the *Canton Observer* headline read: "Census figures show Canton is growing larger, more diverse."

Canton grew faster than any community in the state with a 19-percent population spurt. The census estimates the population at 90,501.

This is a community that has attracted a diverse population — racially, ethnically, religiously and economically diverse. People come for the jobs and others follow.

Canton Supervisor Tom Yack said, "It's not uncommon for people of other cultures to seek out and gravitate toward communities where there are others who share their culture. We have a mosque and two Hindu temples, so there is a strong

eastern community here."

The two stories in the *Canton* paper reflect the hopes and fears of our changing communities. Change is always hard. Religious, ethnic and racial differences always create tension, suspicion and some animosity.

Two separate pairs of Arab-American young men were arrested last week on "suspicion" of possible terrorist activity. The men were released and statements were made assuring everyone these men were not terrorists.

For police it is certainly a damned if you do and damned if you don't situation at a time when terrorist threats and actions are all too common. The continuing — and, some would say, worsening — situation in Iraq and the Israeli-Hezbollah conflict have tightened our anxiety. Police can't ignore suspicious activities, yet they can't create a situation where a large segment of our population always feels harassed. Not an easy tightrope to walk.

But, in the end, we have to live together. Arabs have been in southeast Michigan since the teens of the last century, but a great new wave came with the oil boom of the 1970s.

Immigration has always been a key part of America's story and its glory. Most of our ancestors came as immigrants from harsh places with internal conflicts and oppressions. They came for freedom, economic opportunity and for peace.

We need that peace. We need to ease tensions with understanding.

Angry blogs and mindless rants don't serve the cause of peace or security or the ongoing American story.

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

Venerable Belle Isle is still jewel worth visiting

We all have lamented the closing of the Belle Isle aquarium (old news now), but it occurred to me that the aquarium is gone because all of us who said we treasured it actually hadn't been visiting it.

So Sunday afternoon, I took my own cruise down Grand Boulevard to Belle Isle, which I hadn't been to in over a year. Stopping by the aquarium, of course, was pointless, but I wanted to see what else the grand old island still has to offer the occasional visitor.

The island is a little frayed, but still entirely acceptable as a nice place to pass a sunny Sunday afternoon. Some people were barbecuing, some were fishing and some were even swimming. And it was a nice mix of people, black and white, young and old. There was a very relaxed atmosphere over the whole place. People were laid back and enjoying the wonderful weather.

Slowly circling the island, I decided to pull over and visit the Dossin Great Lakes Museum, another spot I hadn't been to in years.

What a fabulous place it is. Since I was there last, it has added a new feature. Now you can view a short history film about the Detroit River, which shows scenes of the great old ships that used to ply the waters many years ago. I've always had a fascination for the big boats and years ago I used to take photos of them as they passed.

The Great Lakes have their own version of the romance of the sea, which is perfectly captured in the museum. The fabulous collection of wooden model ships is still on display. And you can go onto a genuine bridge of a lakes freighter, which extends over the waterfront and gives you an exact view of what the operating ships' crews see.

Framing the entrance of the museum is the Gothic Room from the City of Detroit, one of the finest ships to ever travel on the lakes.

Once a great passenger ship, it dripped with elegance and luxury until it tragically was dismantled for scrap in the 1940s. (Don't confuse this with the City of Detroit ship that made the news this week when it was learned its bell was stolen from its underwater resting place. That City of Detroit sank in 1873.)

What a tragic loss, but not expected in our society, which tends to discard everything old, regardless of how beautiful or important it was.

Craftsmanship, artistry and quality char-

The Great Lakes have their own version of the romance of the sea, which is perfectly captured in the museum. The fabulous collection of wooden model ships is still on display. And you can go onto a genuine bridge of a lakes freighter, which extends over the waterfront and gives you an exact view of what the operating ships' crews see.

acterize the artifacts on display, ranging from wooden ships' wheels to the jewel-like lenses from old lighthouses.

Much of what is in the museum represents a world that no longer exists. Elegant passenger steamers no longer ride the waves.

Even the beloved Bob-Lo boats are gone. Not that river travel is dead. Looking out over the water, giant ships still rumble by regularly.

There were only a handful of people in the museum Sunday. And these days, it is only open on weekends, and on a limited schedule.

The Detroit Historical Museum, which operates the Dossin museum, is in its own battle for survival.

After an hour or so, I continued my drive around the island. The nature center, I noticed, was also open, but I saved that for another day.

Belle Isle likely will never be what it once was, but nothing is as it once was. A century ago, the island was jewel of the Detroit River and a place where everyone went to relax and play.

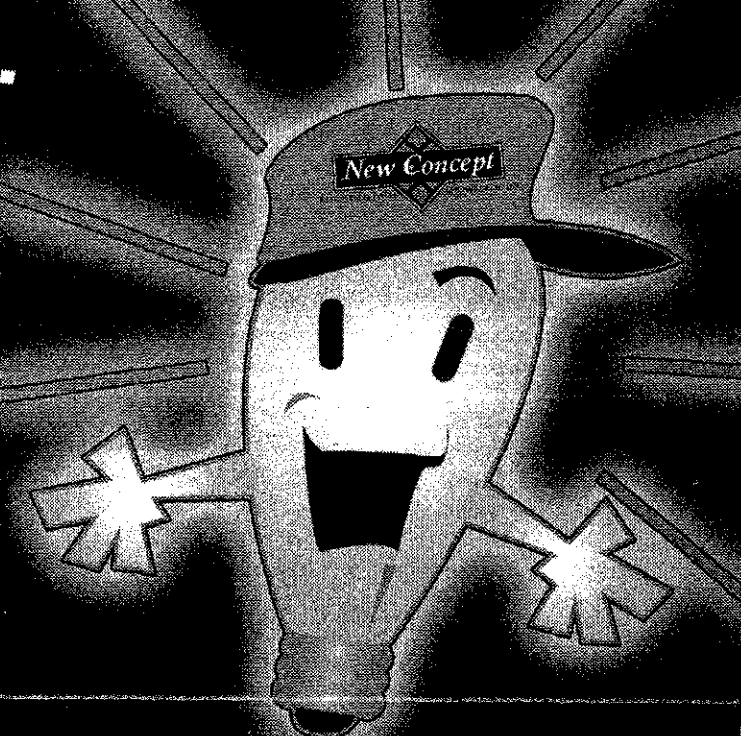
But there weren't many other places to go then. Detroit only extended to Grand Boulevard and there was little but farms beyond that.

Still, Belle Isle remains a jewel. It may not sparkle as brightly as it used to, but it's still pretty impressive.

If you haven't been south of Eight Mile since the ice age, you might want to take a ride there. Just take I-75 south to East Jefferson. Or if you are adventurous, take I-75 to the East Grand Boulevard exit and follow that great old roadway. It leads directly to the Belle Isle bridge.

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

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The 'Tint' effect

Local woman's magazine is for women of all colors

BY SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER

Margarita Barry wants to celebrate women of every color.

She has used her writing talent to do just that by creating a new magazine called *Tint*.

"People want a magazine that they can really relate to," she said. "Our target audience is any woman 18-35."

Barry features a lot of women of color in her magazine because, "they have been the ones who haven't been included in the mainstream media," said Barry, 21.

She describes herself as multiethnic because she is Native American, Mexican and African American.

The magazine is divided into sections on entertainment, real life, mind, body and spirit and culture and style.

Contributing writers and artists determine the content.

"It's up to the contributors and whatever is on their

minds and whatever they want to voice out about," Barry said. "It might be their personal story or thoughts on how black women are portrayed in the media. It's my job to mentor and help them along their paths. There's tons of creative people there."

Tint is Detroit-based but "internationally received," Barry said.

She wants the magazine to be intellectual, to dig deeper into local issues and issues abroad.

"These are issues women care about," she said.

Barry, a Farmington resident, grew up in Detroit and graduated from Southfield High School in 2003.

The first issue of *Tint* debuted as an online magazine. She has 4,000 people on her e-mail list.

Now a print magazine, it is published quarterly and is available at select book stores, including Book & Beat in Oak Park.

The next issue will be published this fall.

Barry started the magazine when she was a freshman in college at Bowling Green State University in Ohio.

Now a student at Wayne State University, Barry is studying graphic design and journalism. She expects to graduate in 2008.

Fund-raising is one of the biggest business hurdles, Barry said.

She is seeking advertisers, trying to raise money from subscriptions and working to get grants.

She recently received a grant from dosomething.org, a group that recognizes young people who are making contributions in their community.

Barry will use the \$500 grant to further develop the magazine which dosomething.org called "smart, edgy and progressive."

Having readers is Barry's proudest accomplishment. "The most important thing is to have an audience who looks forward to each issue," Barry said.

For more information visit www.tintmag.com.

sbuck@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2014



Margarita Barry of Farmington is the editor of *Tint*, a magazine geared toward women of all ethnicities.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Schoolcraft's Culinary Extravaganza is Sept. 24

Outstanding dishes from more than 50 of southeastern Michigan's finest eateries and beverage suppliers await adventuresome diners at Schoolcraft College's annual Culinary Extravaganza. The event is 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 24, in the VisTaTech Center on the Livonia campus.

All proceeds support student scholarships. In its 15-year history, Culinary Extravaganza has raised more than \$1.3 million and funded thousands of scholarships.

A sample of 2006 participants include Detroit's Asian Village, Rattlesnake, Seldom Blues and Traffic Jam restaurants; Milford's Five Lakes Grill and Gravity Bar & Grill; Dearborn's The Henry Ford, and The Ritz Carleton; and Novi's Shiro and Steve & Rocky's.

Plymouth will be represented by Fiamma Grille & Compari's on the Park, Inn at St John's "Five," the Hilton Garden Inn, Jeff Zak Catering and LaBisteca Italian Grille. Schoolcraft's own American Harvest, the Cold Stone Creamery and the Cantoro Italian Market are from Livonia.

Farther afield are The Farm Restaurant from Port Austin and L. Mawby Vineyards from Suttons Bay.

Patrons can tour the Schoolcraft culinary arts instructional kitchens, stop in at a free wine tasting seminar and check the items in the silent auction, including a train trip and overnight stay in Toronto or a weekend stay on Bois Blanc Island.

The winning ticket in a raffle drawing will sent its owner to Rome, Italy for a week, while the second and third prize winners receive a diamond bracelet and dinner for six at the American Harvest Restaurant.

Culinary Extravaganza tickets are \$50 per person. Raffle tickets are \$5 each or three for \$10. For more information or to purchase tickets, call the Schoolcraft Development Office at (734) 462-4400, Ext. 5008. Visa, MasterCard, Discover and checks are accepted.

Schoolcraft is a public two-year college, offering classes at the Livonia campus on Haggerty Road between Six and Seven Mile roads, at the Radcliff Center in Garden City and online.

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In 1998 Charlie Parkhill suffered a life changing accident from an ocean wave, while vacationing in Mexico with his wife. The resulting incomplete spinal cord injury left him motionless from the neck down. He decided to make physical rehabilitation his single focus.

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Physical therapist Polly Swingle, however, knew there could be more, and in Charlie, she found someone that would unconditionally put himself in her hands if she could stretch the envelope. Sometimes creating techniques on the run, Polly started him on an un-weighted treadmill program, before it was a recognized treatment, and took him from the first three minute session with 150 lbs un-weighted, to 40 minutes with no un-weighting. Progressing through walkers and crutches, Charlie took his first three unassisted steps in 2005 and has recently taken 14.

On October 1, 2003 Polly (DMC's 2002 PT of the Year) and Charlie founded **The Recovery Project** to provide the opportunity for all persons with Spinal Cord and Traumatic Brain Injuries to experience this level of rehabilitation and find functionality through dedicated hard work and aggressive physical therapy. We offer:

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