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THURSDAY
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'It all happened in a split second'

Survivor questions driver's light sentence in fatal accident

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

She survived a horrific accident that killed another woman, but Janet Eddings' life changed forever when she walked out of the Westland Meijer store on June 2 last year.

She hasn't walked on her left foot since, and after five surgeries she still fears it may have to have it amputated.

"I have survived but continue to struggle with the pain and the memories," said Eddings, 50.

She contacted the *Observer* after reading that the 90-year-old man who caused the accident has been placed on probation for a second year, avoiding stiffer penalties including jail time.

Eddings recalled how George Kosmyrna of Livonia "burned rubber" as he wildly backed his car out of a parking space and hit 82-year-old Josephine Gregory, who died nine days later.

Gregory landed in front of Eddings, whose left ankle was shattered by the lid of a concrete garbage can that hit her and knocked her down.

"It was horrible," Eddings said. "It all happened in a split second. It was so fast."

Like Gregory's family, Eddings questioned why Kosmyrna, even though he is now 90, has merely received probation after surrendering his driver's license last year. Authorities have said he will likely never be allowed to drive again.

"He killed one woman and he changed my life forever," Eddings said. "I know he's an older man, but that makes it OK?"

Others have come to Kosmyrna's defense, saying that the elderly shouldn't be blamed for wanting to continue driving so that they can remain independent.

"The only means we have of traveling is by bus, cab or automobile, in which case he may not be able to afford (it)," said Diana Fox, in a statement she e-mailed to



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Janet Eddings has yet to walk on her left foot 14 months after her ankle was shattered in a fatal accident in the parking lot of the Westland Meijer store.

the *Observer*. "There may not be a bus or cab that would take him at the time he wished."

Fox described herself as appalled by comments made by Gregory's daughter, Anita Gillman, who has said the state of Michigan or Kosmyrna's family should have been more watchful of his driving skills and should have taken away his license.

"I'm sorry for her loss," Fox said, "but (she) should not go around making cruel comments on the elderly. We will all soon be there, and then what?"

According to the Secretary of State Office, older drivers face no special road tests or

restrictions, unless a family member or doctor initiates such a request.

Local cities do offer rides for seniors and the handicapped for a minimal fee.

Nankin Transit provides door-to-door service in Westland, Garden City, Wayne and Inkster for those who call ahead at (734) 729-2710 to schedule a ride. The cost is \$1 each way.

Livonia Transit offers a similar service in that city for \$2 each way by calling (734) 466-2700.

Like Gregory's family, Eddings said, "I wholeheartedly believe that elderly people should be tested before renewing their driver's

license." Reached by telephone at his home, Kosmyrna said earlier this month that his car "went this way and that way" and that "it's a mystery that something like that happened."

After the afternoon accident, Kosmyrna eventually pleaded no contest to negligent homicide, leading to a one-year probationary sentence last year by Wayne County Circuit Judge Margie Braxton.

The judge placed him on another year's probation earlier this month.

Eddings agreed with

PLEASE SEE RECOVERY, A7

District makes state tests must for high school graduation

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Wayne-Westland school officials have a request of parents of this year's 11th-graders: Don't plan any trips that will take their students out of school during March.

Beginning this school year, all high school juniors in the district are required to take the state assessment tests as a requirement for graduation.

"It's really important for the kids to take the test," said Charlotte Sherman, deputy superintendent for instruction. "The only requirement is they come and take all parts of the test."

The policy change was approved by the school board Monday evening. While it requires 11th-graders to take the state tests, it doesn't specifically name the test they must take or set a "specific threshold for passing," Sherman said.

OTHER DISTRICTS

Wayne-Westland joins districts like Plymouth-Canton, Howell, Allen Park, Novi, Grosse Ile and New Boston in making the testing a requirement for graduation.

What do you think about this story? E-mail your responses to smason@hometownlife.com



PLEASE SEE TESTS, A6

Afghanistan battle takes local soldier

BY DAN WEST
STAFF WRITER



Blake

Joe Blake was in his 30s nearly two years when he made a rather unusual decision for a man his age. He decided to join the U.S. Army.

"He had thought about it for a while, but at that stage in his life, he figured if he was going to do it, he'd have to do it now," said his father, Doug Blake.

Keeping in excellent physical shape was nothing new for Joe Blake, who loved to run and work out. His conditioning helped him adjust to life in the military and the Redford native took pride in the fact he could keep up with fellow infantrymen who were about 15 years his junior.

The pride and success he developed during his time in the Army came to a sudden end Aug. 17 when he was killed in a firefight in Afghanistan. He was 35.

"We are terribly grieved and I don't think the fullness of this has hit us yet," Doug Blake said. "We are very proud of him. He felt good about what he accomplished."

He added his family will treasure Joe's mid-deployment, two-week leave last month when he came home to his parents' Livonia home to attend a family barbecue and go to Greenfield Village. He was able to spend several nights at his parents' home in Livonia.

"We were really, really glad to have that time with him. It will be a good memory for us,"

Doug Blake said. "We admired his courage because you could tell he wasn't telling us everything so we wouldn't worry, but he knew he was going back to a dangerous situation."

"Still, he was fully committed to his duty and to his fellow infantrymen."

Joseph Robert Blake was the youngest of three siblings, born in Westland in December 1971. He attended classes at the Redford Union and Southfield Christian schools. After working various jobs throughout his adult life, he joined the Army in January 2005, completed basic training at Fort Benning, Ga., and was assigned to the 32nd Infantry, 10th Mountain Division based at Fort Drum in New York.

His initial deployment to Afghanistan was in March and he recently returned for duty there after his leave in July.

"I think it's important for the public to realize the dangers for those in the military who are stationed over there," Doug Blake said.

Joe Blake is survived by his parents, Doug and Joann Blake, brother Kevin Blake, sister Tina Steinkemper, a grandfather, and many uncles, aunts and cousins. There are plans for a memorial service, but family was not ready to publicize those plans Wednesday.

Chamber expo focuses on health and business

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Westland Shopping Center patrons on Saturday can relax with a chair massage, get their cholesterol checked and learn about area businesses ranging from Costco to Forum Fitness Center.

It will all be happening 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the mall's east court during the Westland Chamber of Commerce Health & Business Expo.

In all, 32 businesses and health-care organizations plan to participate.

"With the economy the way it is, we want to provide a way to expose our

businesses to the public," chamber President Lori Brist said. "We hold it in the mall because it's centrally located."

St. Mary Mercy Hospital Livonia and Garden City Hospital will offer free chair massages, and Canton Foot Specialists will provide a free gait analysis.

St. Mary also will give CPR demonstrations, and Garden City Hospital will offer diabetic foot examinations, glucose testing (\$1) and cholesterol testing (\$3).

The event also will offer information on senior housing, credit unions, chiropractic services and even online shopping via a local business, Auction It Today on eBay.

Fair Haven Baptist Church, the young adult leadership group Westland Jaycees and the educational Academy of Westland will even be in the mix.

Major sponsors for the annual event will be Westland Shopping Center, Airconnect Cellular/Cingular Wireless and St. Mary Mercy Hospital.

Organizers chose the mall for the event because of the heavy pedestrian traffic needed to make it a success.

"It lets the residents of Westland and surrounding communities see what the chamber has to offer them," Brist said.

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Coming Sunday in Health

As children return to school, many are burdened by anxieties about their classes, teachers and classmates.



Livonia Public Schools funding gets a boost from the state

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
STAFF WRITER

The recently-approved state budget makes accommodations to increase funding for public school districts, including Livonia Public Schools. The school aid budget will provide \$210 in per-pupil funding, which is \$10 per student more than anticipated locally.

"We did budget \$200 per student," said Lisa Levesque, director of finance for the district. "It was pretty close with the final proposal. We are pleased that there is language in the current agreement for declining-enrollment school districts. I'm glad the state seems to understand the needs of declining-enrollment districts." Levesque said with about

17,000 students, the district stands to gain \$3.6 million with this increase in per-pupil funding. But that amount will likely be offset by increases in health care and retirement benefits for employees. Those expenses are expected to rise by \$1.2 million and \$1.7 million, respectively. "We work very hard to contain our costs," said Levesque, adding that there is little the district can do when it comes to the rising price of utilities and fuel. "It's never just a revenue issue," she said. Even after the increase in state funding, and

revenue enhancement efforts including the Legacy Initiative reorganization, Livonia Public Schools is looking at a \$1.8 million deficit this school year. In addition to the foundation increase, the state offered \$20 million to bolster middle school math programs; \$20 million to decrease the funding gap between the state's lowest- and highest-funded school districts; and \$10.7 million in additional funding for early childhood education. "The increase in K-12 education, including the extra money for middle school math, will help ensure more money

gets to the classroom," said John Pastor, state House appropriations committee vice chair. "Our local school districts are struggling and this extra money will help them continue to provide students with the quality education we expect." In Livonia Public Schools, Levesque said, students in grades six to eight will benefit from a \$200,000 boost for math. That money could be used to add to curriculum materials, professional development or staff, as needed. The district, considered "hold harmless" in status, will

not be impacted by the state's move to close the gap between well-funded and poorly-funded school districts. Levesque said everyone understands the importance of more equitable funding. "There were a lot of tough decisions that had to be made during this year's budget process," said Pastor (R-Livonia). "It was important for us to live within our means and find a way to fund our priorities without further harming our economy by raising taxes. We accomplished that goal." scasola@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2054

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HOW TO REACH US

Susan Rosiek
Executive Editor
(734) 953-2100
srosiek@hometownlife.com

Hugh Gallagher
Managing Editor
(734) 953-2149
hgallagher@hometownlife.com

Sue Mason
Community Editor
(734) 953-2112
smason@hometownlife.com

Frank Cibor
Retail Sales Manager
(734) 953-2177
fcibor@hometownlife.com

Cathy White
Retail Advertising Rep.
(734) 953-2073
cwhite@hometownlife.com

Newsroom (734) 953-2104 **Fax** (734) 591-7279
Sports Nightline (734) 953-2104
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District puts finishing touches on Legacy plan

Livonia Public School officials and employees are putting the finishing touches on a restructuring plan, to make sure the schools are ready before students file in on Sept. 6. "A lot of activity continues to go on, and has been going on this summer," said Supt. Randy Liepa. He said staff members have contributed a "tremendous amount of work" as the transition has taken place. This school year the district will

operate seven fewer buildings and has divided schools into upper and lower elementary, middle and high schools. The new upper elementary schools will house grades five and six. Those buildings - Cooper, Johnson and Riley - will host orientation programs on Monday, Aug. 28. As for buildings across the district, Liepa said, "We are in great shape. We're working on a variety of outside projects. The schools are beginning to shape

up. They're looking great. Teachers are setting up their classrooms." Playscapes are being constructed at Riley and Rosedale schools. The district continues to work with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to make sure the site across from Cooper Upper Elementary School is safe. Residents can watch LPS-TV for a video program detailing the history of the once-contaminated site. The program is set to

air at 8 p.m. on Aug. 19, Aug. 26 and Sept. 2, as well as at noon on Aug. 20, Aug. 27 and Sept. 3. Tune in to Channel 15 for Bright House Network and Wide Open West subscribers and Channel 19 for Comcast viewers. For Trustee Rob Freeman, the start of a new year brings excitement. "I'm looking forward to being in the classroom and seeing learning going on with our kids," he said. By Stephanie A. Casola

School bargaining units sign contracts

Livonia Public School trustees ratified and signed contracts for three of the district's union groups this week. "We are very pleased to have tentative agreements with each one of them," said Supt. Randy Liepa, prior to contract signing Monday. Paraprofessionals, custodians, food service professionals and building supervisors will accept pay freezes, raises, and in some cases a change to their insurance, in the years to come. The American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) reached

agreement on a three-year contract, set to expire on June 30, 2009. They accepted no raise this year and a change in their prescription drug coverage. Employees will see a change from a \$10 prescription card to a 5/20 plan, in which generic drugs will cost \$5, while brand names cost \$20. Those with an HMO will see an increase from \$2 to \$5 for prescriptions. Next year, the group will receive a 2 percent raise. And the following year there will be no raise, but benefits remain unchanged. The group consists of custodians, food service workers, skilled maintenance workers and more. The Livonia Community

Education Association, another branch of AFSCME, ratified their own three-year agreement. It will be retroactive to one year ago. They are staff members and paraprofessionals who work with children at Jackson Early Childhood Center. The contract gives employees in this bargaining unit a 2.1 percent raise from the first year, a pay freeze this year, and a 2 percent raise for the final contract year, 2007-2008. The third contract belongs to the Supervisory Employee's Association, Livonia Schools. The SEALS group consists of building and maintenance supervisors. They accepted a two-year contract which

includes a wage freeze this year and the same changes in prescription drug coverage as the AFSCME group. Next year, they will get a 2 percent raise. In each case, the board supported the ratification of contracts in a 6-0 vote. New member Steve King abstained from each vote, saying he had just received the contract information Monday and was not prepared to make a decision on it. "I have a problem voting on something I'm not familiar with," he said. "I don't want anybody to get alarmed if I don't vote yes." King said abstaining from these votes was not a reflection of the work these union members do in the district.

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Pets pitch their tricks in try at 'stardom'

For more pet tricks photos, see D4.

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

She sang a capella, a high-pitched howl that led one listener to comment that she "sang better than some of the *American Idol* contestants."

It was what Tracy Ostasiewicz had hoped. Lilly the dog howling her heart out for the talent coordinator of *The David Letterman Show*.

Welcome to auditions for Letterman's Stupid Pet Tricks where a cat, a duck, a two-toed sloth and even a pony shared the "stage" with a variety of dogs in hopes of landing a spot on the late night talk show.

Would-be stars and their owners came from far and near. Ostasiewicz was the closest - she lives in Westland - but others, like Ashley Kuessner and her father, Mike, drove in from Harrison Township with Daisy the duck.

Daisy's trick was to take a goldfish from Ashley's mouth which she gladly did as Letterman talent coordinator Brian Teta videotaped it. Ashley, who held the fish between her teeth, was pleased with Daisy's performance, but not so happy about her reward.

"I swallowed the tail, it was slimy," said Ashley.

Blaze the border collie didn't miss a beat, much to the relief of Vanessa Jankowski of Livonia. The dog bobbed and weaved between her legs and picked up her flying discs and put them away, doing a much better job than the teen, according to Jankowski's father, Mike.

DRAWING APPLAUSE

"Blaze does it at home and I thought she'd be good here," said Jankowski.

Inside, Blaze drew applause and laughter as she did her tricks just like other family dog, Princess, a golden retriever who wore sunglasses and passed out



Westland's Tracy Ostasiewicz and her border collie, Lilly, make beautiful music, or at least music, when they sing together.

hugs.

Jane Wilker of Canton brought her PAWS dog Yukon, who raced back and forth, holding the string to a smiley face kite in his mouth. The kite never quite made it airborne, leading Wilker to admit that Yukon "didn't do so well."

"He's a working dog and it's one of the favorite things he does," said Wilker. "He learned how to do it from the people who raised him."

Another dejected couple was Barbara and Tom Keda of Livonia who had hoped their African grey parrot Swanee would sing and dance. He didn't.

"Now we'll go home and he won't shut up," said Barbara Keda, heading off after their audition.

And quite possibly the most disappointed of them all was Nicole Spitz of Canton, whose cat Milo headed for the bleachers

rather than fetch a mouse. His repertoire include sitting, waving and flossing his teeth.

Nicole decided to teach her cat tricks after seeing what her aunt's dogs could do.

"The dogs could do anything and I was jealous," said Nicole. "If the audience wasn't there, Milo probably done his tricks."

UP A TREE

One of the more unique try-outs took the Letterman crew outside to watch Juggy the dog climb a tree. Owner Bob Jacques of Troy said the dog learned the climb trees because of his obsession with squirrels and has made it as high as 12 feet off the ground.

Getting a dog to fetch is one thing, but getting it to play catch? That's what Ron Posteff of Rochester Hills discovered when he threw a ball for his border collie Buckeye to fetch. Instead of fetching, the dog

picked up another ball and used it to bounce it back to Posteff.

The show stopper, however, may well have been Trudy Hylant of Troy, who came with her Pomeranian mix dog Lulu as Candy and Tori Spelling.

Lulu wore in a gingham dress and sunglasses while Hylant wore a mink stole and tiara. Their shtick? Mom's trying to make up with her daughter, but Tori/Lulu isn't ready to kiss and make up.

"She'll kiss everyone but me," said Hylant.

But when it came to pure schmaltz, it was Jennifer Sullivan of Hartland and her chow-boxer mix dog Ming.

"Ming, do you like Oprah? Ming, do you like Rosie? Ming, do you like David Letterman?" she asked. Ming kept his composure until he heard Letterman's name, then jumped and snagged a carrot from her hand.



Princess, a golden retriever, wore sunglasses and showed patience not often seen in humans during her audition.



Vanessa Janowski praises Blaze, her border collie, after Blaze picked up his toys and placed them in a basket.

"I actually taught him to do it as an assignment for a training class. I had him doing it to Michigan State, but changed it," she said. "He's so smart, he picked it up right away."

Those who auditioned will have to wait until sometime in September to find out if they made the cut. That's when producers will send out letters for callbacks.

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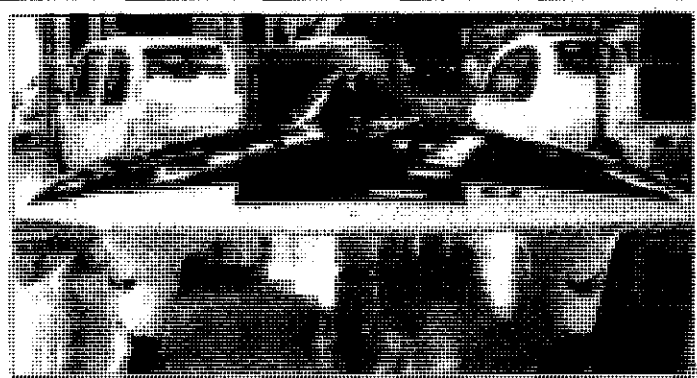
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Solar race car makes 'pit stop' at Tel-X

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

What has three wheels and can cause a grown man to stop and stare?

Momentum, the 2005 University of Michigan solar car that turned heads at the Tel-X Corporation in Garden City on Friday.

"It's a gorgeous vehicle. It's amazing," Brian Ignaut said. "When I first saw it, it was a memorable experience, I loved it."

Ignaut and seven other members of the U-M solar car racing team brought the Momentum to Tel-X as a way of saying thank you for the company's help in getting the car ready for national and world competition.

"It lets the students say thank you, and it's kind of a chance to see the people who have helped and recognize them," Tel-X President Gary Gillard said.

This is the eighth solar car built by U-M students since 1989. It took 18 months to build the more than \$1 million Momentum. Some 200 students worked on the project, lining up companies like Tel-X to donate money and materials and handled the final testing of the car.

"We manufactured different components for the steering, we donated all the machining and time to the project," said Keith Speck, Tel-X vice-president. "We made some brackets, wheel hubs. Everything has to be made out of light-weight material like aluminum."

Ignaut, a native of Minneapolis, worked on the production of parts and spent a lot of time at Tel-X, working with Speck.

"They worked on a lot of amazing machine processes," Ignaut said. "Before Tel-X came on board, the team was in a rough spot. They helped us make up a lot of lost time."

According to Ignaut, the students approached Tel-X about doing several parts for the car.

"I figured that out of a stack of 20 parts, they'd find a couple they could do, but Keith said, 'Yeah, we'll do them all,'" he said. "I can't tell you how critical it was to have that done. It was huge."

"Our strong suit is doing things quickly," Gillard added. "Our niche is quick turn-around production."

Among the parts Tel-X took on were the hubs.

The company swapped out aluminum hubs for a lighter magnesium version, trimming 15 pounds off the car's weight and contributing to Momentum's first-place finish in the North American Solar Challenge, a 2,400-mile race from Austin, Texas, to Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

The victory landed Momentum a spot in the World Solar Challenge, an 1,800-mile race from across the Australian Outback and a third-place finish.



Part of the reward of being a car sponsor was having team members cook and serve lunch to Tel-X employees.

According to Gillard, the company got involved in the project because of Ford Motor Co. Tel-X is a major prototype supplier for the auto industry and Ford is one of its major customers.

Now a gold sponsor of Momentum, it has its logo on the solar car and race caravan vehicles as well as on the team T-shirts.

"It's a little giveback to the community and a little exposure for us," Gillard said. "The exposure we get is nationwide and worldwide. If all the budding engineers that worked on this car get a job and maybe remember Tel-X, then we did a good job."

The solar car races — a combination of race and solar rays — are held every two years, and the cars must be "totally redone from the ground up," Ignaut said. He's sticking with the project, even though it means becoming a fifth-year mechanical engineering student. He will be the project manager for Continuum, responsible for everything from strategy to the business aspects to the logistics.

"It takes about three months to compete, so you have to take a semester off," he said. "Being involved with the car is more than full time, it's 1 1/2 times full-time."

Tel-X also is sticking with the project. In fact, it's stepping up its involvement.

"We'll do all the production work, all the machine work for the project," Gillard said.

"It's a very large project, a very diverse project," Ignaut said.

smason@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2112

Maize and blue marvel

There's no mistaking the Momentum is affiliated with the University of Michigan with its maize and blue paint job. But the school colors play second fiddle to the 3,000 solar cells that cover the skin of the vehicle.

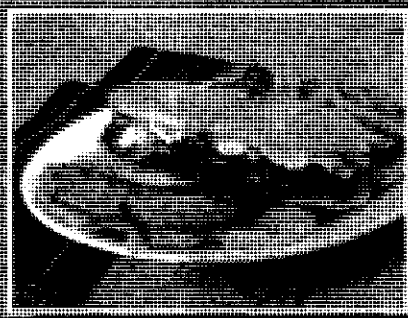
Built in 18 months at a cost of more than \$1 million, the car is like nothing you see on the freeway. It has three wheels and stands just 3.6 feet tall. It's a lane-hogging 5.9 feet wide and 16.4 feet long and has a chassis made of advanced carbon fibers and Kevlar composites.

The car weighs just under 700 pounds and has a top speed of 80 miles per hour, provided by a New Generation Motors in-hub electric motor and lithium-ion batteries. Considering the energy used, it's equivalent fuel economy is well over 1,600 miles per gallon.

As for seating ... It's more like laying down, and there's only room for one person.

And you know it's a race car by the decals of companies like Tel-X in Garden City which helped in its production that are plastered on wheel coverings and visible lower body areas.

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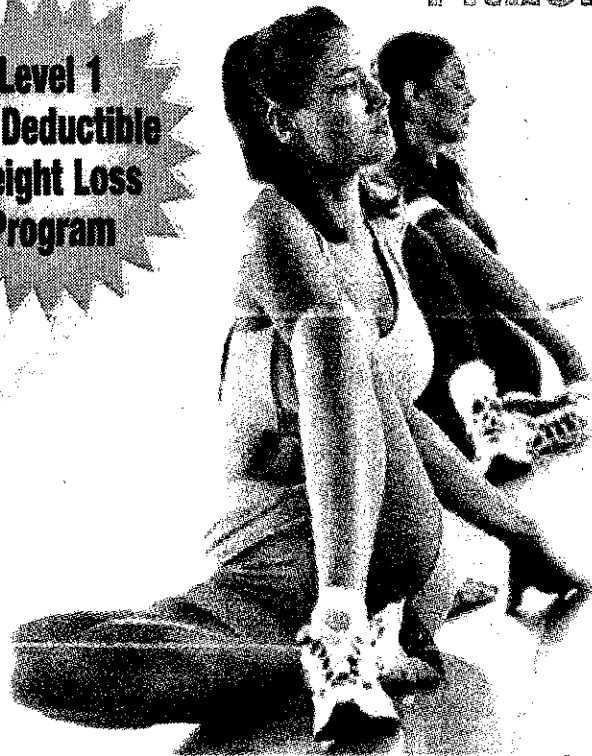


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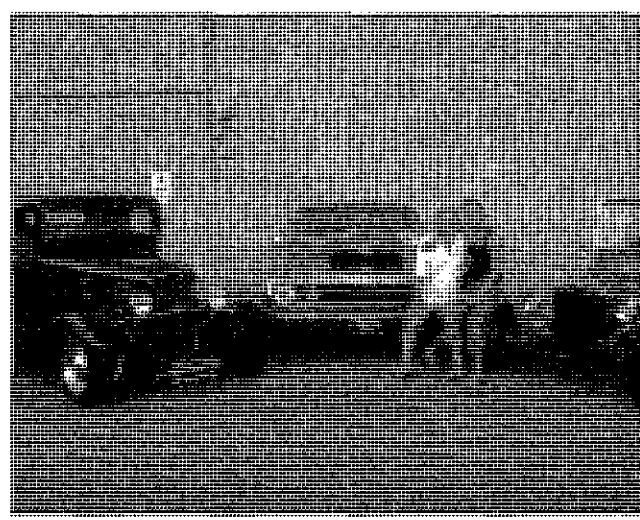
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Cruisers of the Week

The Westside Rod and Custom Car Club's Cruiser of the Week for Aug. 9 was Paul Sell of Redford with his black 1932 Ford pickup truck. It has a pop-open front window, 327 cubic inch Chevy engine and 325 horsepower. Members of the Week are Ron Hudak and Denny Burrough, both of Farmington. Hudak has a 1966 Plymouth 426 hemi with beautiful grey paint and custom wedding lace trim. Burrough has a 1923 T-bucket roadster with a 351 Windsor engine. The Westside Rod and Custom Car Club's show is 5 p.m. to dusk Wednesdays at the Romanowski VFW Post on Joy Road east of Middlebelt in Westland.

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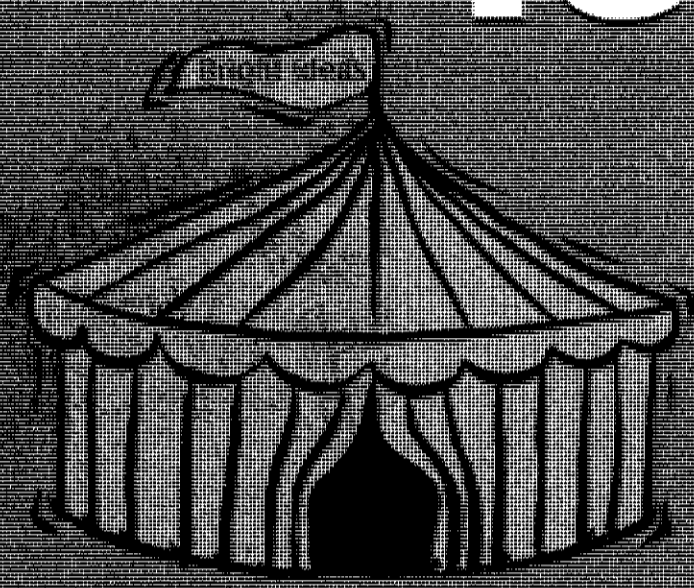
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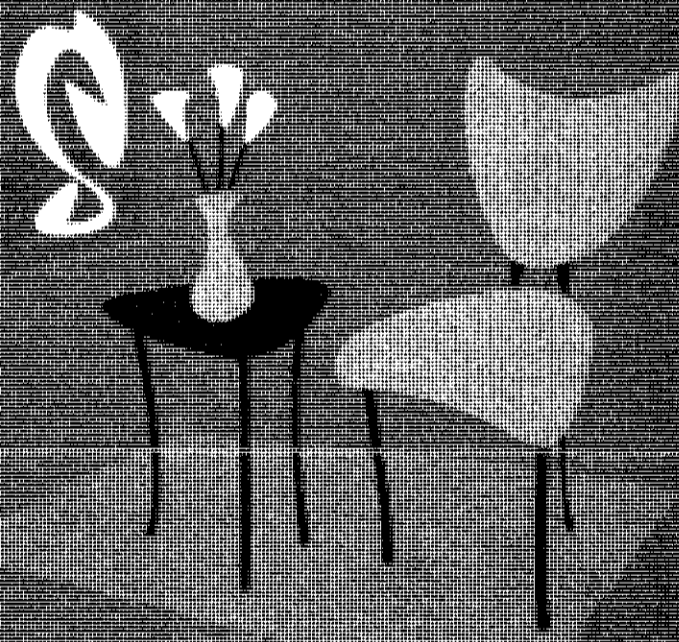


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DEATHS

George Appleton Ball Sr. Ball, 85, of Rochester Hills, died Aug. 12. Mildred Pauline Beers Beers, 87, died Aug. 14. Marlan Bordine Bordine, 91, died. Edwin H. Drescher Jr. Drescher, 84, of Livonia, died Aug. 10. John R. "Jack" Fitzgerald Fitzgerald, 77, formerly of Livonia, died Aug. 15. Janice Tibus Gallesero Gallesero, 47, died Aug. 17. Nancy R. Leonard Leonard, 89, died Aug. 20. Christopher Joseph Mayone Mayone, 44, of Beverly Hills, died Aug. 20. Dee McMullen McMullen, 98, of Plymouth, died Aug. 18. Hejlene Elaine Pietila (nee Maatta) Pietila, 86, of West Bloomfield, died Aug. 11. William H. Powell Powell, 94, of Westland, died Aug. 21. Helen B. Robertson

Robertson, 89, died Aug. 16. Paul C. Robertson Sr. Robertson, 89, formerly of Bloomfield Hills, died Aug. 17. Reta Marie Simons Simons, 93, formerly of Bloomfield Township, died July 8. Barbara K. Slocum Slocum, 75, died Aug. 17. Jennie L. Worley Worley, 73, died Aug. 15. Complete paid obituaries can be found inside today's newspaper in Passages on page A17.

TESTS

FROM PAGE A1 The new policy ties in with the federal No Child Left Behind law which requires that at least 95 percent of students take the standardized tests as well as the state's switch from its MEAP tests to the ACT and supplemental tests at the high school level, possibly this year. The state is waiting to hear if the feds will accept the ACT as an assessment test. If there is no answer by Nov. 1, the high school MEAP tests will be given to juniors. With the MEAP tests, students who missed could be brought in to take makeup tests, but that won't be the case with the ACT. If it is approved, the district will do the testing on March 13, with a makeup date of March 27. "We'll follow all the test guidelines," said Sherman. "If students are late for the start, we can't give them the test that day or the next day." The guidelines also require rooms with distinct spacing for the desks and no bells. According to Sherman, the district will have to make the entire high school a test zone. "With the MEAP, we do late starts for the ninth-, 10th- and

12th-graders and we may follow that pattern in testing 11th-graders with the ACT," she added. Parents of students who don't take the tests will be notified that their 11th-graders are ineligible for graduation. "As I understand it, if the student doesn't show up for the test, he'll be called for the makeup day," said school board trustee Cindy Schofield. "If he misses the makeup, parents will be notified that their child isn't meeting graduation requirements, so there won't be any surprises in May of their senior year." The district is leaving no stone unturned in getting the word out about the new requirement. In addition to the letters that students will receive at registration, information also will be included in the district's newsletter and aired on the district's cable TV channel. "It's important to them and it's important to the district that they take the tests," Sherman said. STATE TO PAY She added that taking ACT is a plus for parents and students. Parents will no longer have to pay for the test, the

state will pick up the cost. There's also the potential to get scholarship money from colleges and universities as well as awards from the state itself. "Kids may do well on the test or get scores that will encourage them to go to college or come up with scholarship money," she said. "It's a valuable score." "Parents need to know that this is mandated," said school board Vice President Terrance McClain. "They need to know there's state money connected to this test, if it's taken in the 11th grade, but if they take it in the 12th grade, there's no money." The change comes at a time when districts also are realigning their high school program to meet the requirements of the state's new curriculum which mandates the number of credits students will need for graduation, beginning with the class of 2011. "Whether it's the MEAP or the ACT that's given in mid-March, we want parents not to schedule any appointments or trips at the time," Sherman added. "The time lines will be so compact that we don't want juniors to miss the test."

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Flea Markets

Vendors are needed for a flea market 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 9, at Good Shepherd Reformed Church at Wayne Road and Hunter in Westland. Space is available at \$20 per space. Applications are available by calling Ray or Jackie Gagnon at (734) 722-7225. Space is available for a farmer's market/flea market Friday-Sunday, Sept. 8-10, at the Oddfellow Hall, 344 Elizabeth St. at Ann Arbor Trail. The markets are being sponsored by the Westland/Plymouth Grange 389. The 10-foot by 10-foot space (no electricity available) is \$20 for Friday or Sunday only, \$25 for Saturday only and \$60 for all three days, if registered by Aug. 18. Cost increases \$5 after that date. Send name, address, phone number, items to be sold and days needed with a money order payable to Grange No. 839, to 5692 N. Globe, Westland, MI 48185. For more information, call (734) 722-4857 after 7 p.m.

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

The City of Westland, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI. 48185 (734) 467-3200

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS, AND PERSONS:

On or about September 11, 2006, the above named city will request the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to release federal funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93.883 as amended through the Housing and Urban Renewal Recovery Act of 1983, PL 98_181) for the following project(s):

Table with 3 columns: Project, Funding Level, Location. Includes projects A through H with descriptions of rehabilitation, housing, outreach, and enforcement work.

Purchase a new Fire Rescue Vehicle for Station #3 located at 28801 Annapolis Rd. The vehicle provides service to the neighborhoods in Westland south of Michigan Avenue as well as mutual aide to designated neighboring cities. This vehicle will complement an existing engine located at Station #3.

- I. HOME Rental \$112,854 Rehabilitation Program (Norwayne and Carver Subdivisions) (HM07-10)
J. Set-Aside to Non-Profit Housing Organization (Peoples' Community Hope for Homes, Inc.) (PCHFH) (\$140,000)
K. Liberty Hill Scattered Site \$60,000 Group Home Rehabilitation (HM07-40)
LOCATIONS: A. City-wide impact for low/moderate income persons B. 1119 N. Newburgh Road, Westland, MI 48185 C. 32715 Dorsey Road, Westland, MI 48186 D. Census Tract 5685 (Norwayne) (Wildwood, Palmer, Glenwood, and Merriman) E. 8623 N. Wayne Road, Suite 156, Westland, MI 48185 F. Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford, Westland, MI 48185 G. 44567 Pinetree Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170 H. Census Tract 5670 BG3 (Annapolis, Inkster, Van Born, and Middlebelt) I. Census Tract 5670 BG2 (Annapolis, Van Born, Middlebelt and Henry Ruff) J. Census Tract 5670 BG3, Carver Subdivision (Annapolis, Harrison, Van Born, and Middlebelt) K. CDBG target areas citywide L. Stottlemeyer Park, Census Tract 5670 BG2, Dancy south of Annapolis, Westland, MI 48186 M. Fire Station #5, 28801 Annapolis Road, Westland, MI 48186 N. St. James United Methodist Church, 30055 Annapolis, Westland, MI 48186 O. Wayne Road (museum property south of Wayne & Marquette) P. Fire Station #1, 36435 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185 Q. Youth Assistance Office, Westland Police Department, 36701 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185 R. Area bounded by Wildwood, Palmer, Glenwood and Chesapeake and Ohio road right-of-way S. Area west of CSX Railroad, north of Cherry Hill, east of Hix Rd. and south of Marquette T. Area immediately east of CSX Railroad, north of Palmer Rd. U. Scattered site for disabled persons

It has been determined that such request for release of funds will not constitute an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and, accordingly, the City of Westland has decided not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (PL 9-190). The reasons for such decision not to prepare such a Statement are as follows:

- A. Housing Rehabilitation Administration - Administrative activity only.
B. Housing Rehabilitation Program - Code and health/safety repairs to existing structures only. No new construction.
C. Outreach Ordinance/Code Compliance Officer - Reduce the amount of health and property code violations in distressed neighborhoods including both single family and rental apartments.
D. Neighborhood Resource/Code Compliance Officer - Code enforcement, community policing and school liaison in CDBG target areas.
E. Rehab Code Enforcement - Inspections only for rehabilitation projects, code violations and hazard/nuisance conditions
F. Curtis Woods Park Phase III - Construct a barrier free asphalt path around perimeter of property. The project will not require tree removal or significant changes to existing area.
G. Barrier Free Senior Bus - Purchase of equipment only to transport elderly and disabled persons.
H. Fire Department Emergency Rescue Vehicle - Purchase of equipment only for emergency and medical purposes.
I. HOME Rental Rehabilitation Program - Make code and health/safety repairs to existing rental structures only. No new construction.
J. Set Aside to Non-Profit (PCHFH) - Conduct affordable housing activities in a designated subdivision for a total of 1-2 new homes per year.
K. Liberty Hill Scattered Site Group Home Rehabilitation - Make code and health/safety repairs to (7) existing group home structures. No new construction or additions to units will be undertaken.
An Environmental Review Record documents the environmental review of the above projects and programs, and more fully sets forth the reasons why an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. The Environmental Review Records are on file and are available for public examination at the Office of Community Development Programs, Dorsey Community Center, 32715 Dorsey Road, Westland, MI. 48186 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. No further environmental review of said projects is proposed to be conducted, prior to Request for Release of Federal Funds. All interested agencies, groups and persons disagreeing with the decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the City of Westland to the office of the undersigned. Such written comments should be received at 32715 Dorsey Road, on or before September 8, 2006 at 5:00 p.m. All such comments so received will be considered and the City will not request the release of federal funds or take administrative action on the within projects prior to the date specified in the preceding sentence.
3. CERTIFICATION: The City of Westland will undertake the projects described above with Community Development Block Grant and HOME funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93_387). The City of Westland is certifying to HUD that the City of Westland and Mayor Sandra A. Cicirelli, in her capacity as Mayor, consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental reviews, decision making, and action, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of the certification is that upon its approval, the City of Westland may use the Community Development Block Grant Funds, and HUD will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. HUD will accept an objection to its approval of the release of funds and acceptance of the certification only if it is one of the following basis:
a) That the certification was not in fact executed by the Chief Executive Officer of the applicant or other officer of the city; or
b) That the applicant's Environmental Review Record for the project indicates an omission of a required decision, finding, or step applicable to the project in the environmental review process.
c) Other specific grounds cited in the HUD Regulations at 24 CFR Part 58.75
Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedure (24 CFR Part 58) and may be addressed to HUD at the 17th Floor, McNamara Federal Building, 477 Michigan Ave., Detroit, MI. 48226. Objections to the release of funds on the basis other than those stated above will not be considered by HUD. No objection received after September 27, 2006 at 5:00 p.m., will be considered by HUD.
Sandra A. Cicirelli
City of Westland
Publish: August 24, 2006

In concert

The Westland Cultural Society has added a Sunday, Aug. 27, concert to its 2006 summer series.

Mike Hamilton's Review will perform country music, old time rock'n'roll and Elvis tunes starting at 6 p.m. at the performance pavilion behind the William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway north of Ford.

Bring your chairs and blankets. The concert is free of charge.

Yard-craft sale

Watch for the big, big tents on Sept. 16 at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, Westland.

The church will be holding a yard, craft, etc. sale 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., featuring household items, miscellaneous items and specialties items like Avon, candles, tools, houseplants and crafts of all kinds. There also will be a \$1 a bag used clothing sale inside the church, a food court to get refreshments, and a special drawing for two elephants!

All money raised will be donated to area organizations to be used to help people in our community. In the past, the church has made donations to the Salvation Army, Wayne County Family Shelter, Habitat for Humanity, World Hunger (Crop Walk), St. Mary's Outreach Center and John Bolde Food Depot and Trinity Lutheran Church, its mission partner, as well as provide Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets to Adam Jr. High families.

Fall Carnival

The Wayne Ford Civic League will host a carnival on its grounds at grounds at 1645 N. Wayne Road, Westland, Wednesday, Aug. 30, through the end of the Labor Day weekend.

The League has pledged a portion of the proceeds to the Westland Moose Lodge No. 2143 Charity Committee which supports programs like D.A.R.E., Special Olympics, youth sports and many others.

Senior dinner-dances

The Wayne Ford Civic League will be holding a senior dinner and dance at noon Sunday, Sept. 10 and 24 at the hall at 1645 N. Wayne Road, Westland. There will be a full buffet dinner, beer, wine, coffee, and pop and dancing to the live entertainers.

Seniors must be at least 60 years old to attend. Tickets are \$8 for league members and \$10 for non-members. Memberships are on sale year-round and cost \$5 for seniors. Tickets are available at the door. For more information, call (734) 728-5010.

Praise and worship

Westwood Community Church holds praise and worship services at 10 a.m. Sundays at 6500 N. Wayne Road at Hunter in Westland. The church also offers a children's church and nursery. For more information, call (734) 254-0093.

Mom 2 Mom sale

St. Damian School is hosting a Fall Mom 2 Mom Sale 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 23, 2006. New this year will be a Dad 2 Dad Sale which will take place at the same time at the school, 30055 Joy, between Middlebelt and Merriman. Table rental is \$20 table rental for the Mom 2 Mom Sale and \$15 outdoor space rental for the

AROUND WESTLAND

Dad 2 Dad Sale. For more information, call Dawn at (734) 983-0221.

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, different 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 available. All ticket holders must be 19 years old of age and 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.

RECOVERY

FROM PAGE A1

Gregory's family that Kosmyna has received "a slap on the hand" for the accident. She said she has since had to use a wheelchair or hop around on her right leg, with help from a medical walker.

Eddings said doctors have warned her that it's still possible they could have to amputate her foot and part of her leg.

The mother of an 8-year-old son, she said the accident has affected her entire family.

Eddings, a former office worker, hasn't returned to her job since the accident.

"I'm constantly recovering from surgeries," she said.

Eddings had insurance that has helped cover her lost wages, and she will soon be applying for Social Security disability benefits.

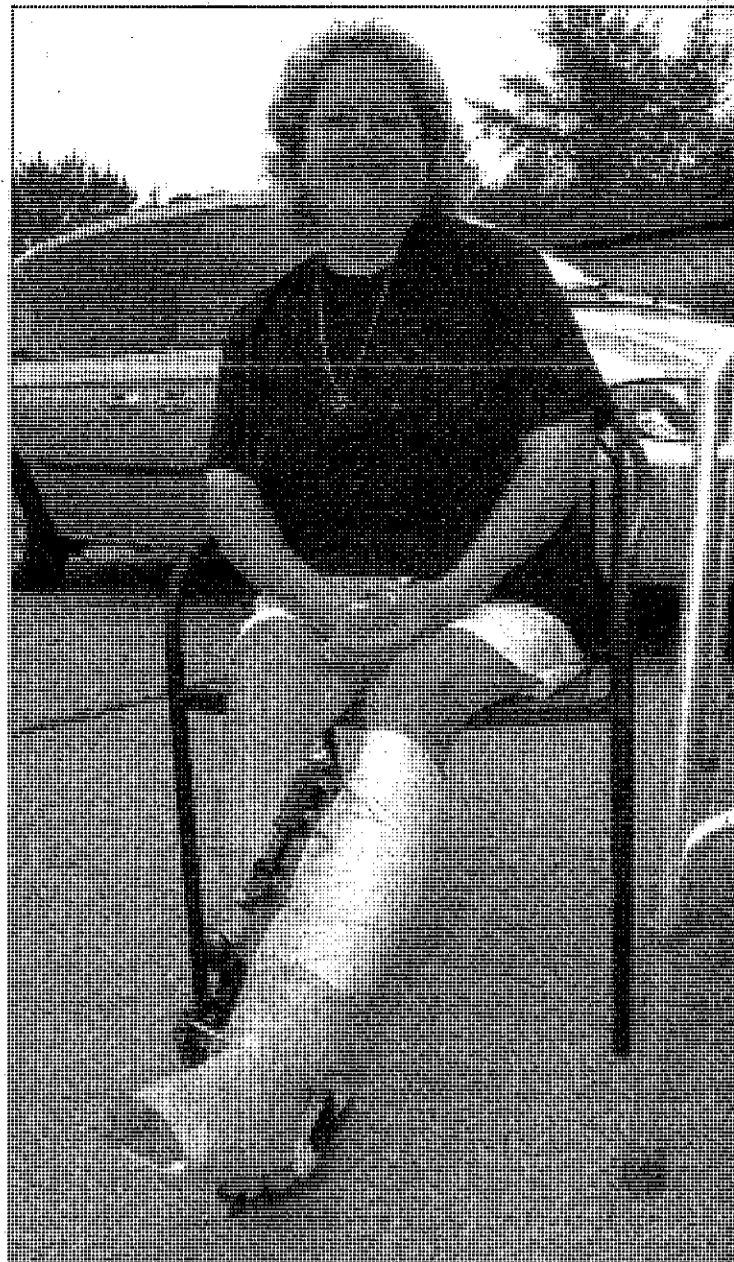
Like Gregory's family, she said she also is suing Kosmyna.

Gregory's daughter and Eddings have said Kosmyna has shown no remorse directly to them.

"He's never made an apology," Eddings said. "That really does bother me that he has shown no remorse. It makes me angry."

What the families hope for are changes in laws that would force older drivers to take road tests to keep their licenses.

dclen@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2110



Janet Eddings has had five surgeries and still faces the prospect of having her foot and a portion of her leg amputated.

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CITY OF GARDEN CITY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Garden City Council will hold a Public Hearing at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan on August 28, 2006 at 7:25 p.m. regarding the proposed ordinance:

STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF WAYNE CITY OF GARDEN CITY

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO:

BEEKEEPING ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE KEEPING OF BEES, PROVIDING FOR BEEKEEPING PRACTICES; PROVIDING FOR THE PROHIBITION OF BEEKEEPING ON CERTAIN PROPERTIES AND IN CERTAIN LOCATIONS; PROVIDING FOR A REQUIRED WATER SOURCE; PROVIDING FOR DESTRUCTION OF UNUSUALLY AGGRESSIVE HIVES OR COLONIES; PROVIDING FOR NUISANCE AND LEGAL RECOURSE; PROVIDING THAT THE KEEPING OF BEES IS A MUNICIPAL CIVIL INFRACTION; PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE.

The Purpose of this Ordinance is to establish beekeeping practices intended to avoid problems that may otherwise be associated with the keeping of bees in populated areas and to protect the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens.

SECTION 2. PROHIBITION OF BEEKEEPING ON CERTAIN PROPERTIES.

A. It shall be unlawful for any person to keep, harbor, possess, raise, or maintain one or more hives or colonies of bees on any lot or parcel of land that is less than one-quarter (1/4) acre in size.

B. Hives and colonies shall not be located less than sixty feet (60') from any lot line nor less than one hundred fifty feet (150') from any hospital, public eatery, office, or school.

SECTION 3. WATER SOURCE REQUIRED.

Any person maintaining, keeping, raising, harboring or possessing one (1) or more hives or colonies of bees shall ensure that a convenient source of water which is adequate for the size of the hive or colony is available to the bees at all times to ensure that the bees do not congregate at swimming pools, pet watering bowls, bird baths, or other water sources on neighboring properties thereby causing human, bird or domestic pet contact.

SECTION 4. DESTRUCTION OF AGGRESSIVE HIVES OR COLONIES.

In any instance in which a colony exhibits unusually aggressive characteristics of stinging without provocation or exhibits an unusual disposition to swarm, it shall be the duty of the beekeeper to promptly destroy the hive(s) or colony(s) or remove them from the property.

SECTION 5. NUISANCE AND LEGAL RECOURSE.

Except as provided above or as otherwise allowed, the keeping of bees is hereby declared a nuisance for which the City may use any legal recourse available in addition to prosecuting violations hereof.

SECTION 6. VIOLATION AND PENALTY.

A. Unless otherwise provided, any person, corporation, partnership or any other legal entity who violates the provisions of this Ordinance shall be guilty of a municipal civil infraction and shall, upon a finding of responsibility, be punished by paying a fine of \$250.00. For each subsequent violation of this Ordinance, the responsible person or entity shall pay a fine of not less than \$500.00.

B. The City may also seek additional legal and/or equitable relief in the district court or by filing suit in the circuit court. The City may recover its reasonable attorneys fees, court costs and other expenses related to enforcement activities or litigation against the person or entity found to have violated this Ordinance.

SECTION 7. SEVERABILITY.

If any clause, sentence, section, paragraph or part of this Ordinance, or the application thereof to any person, firm, corporation, legal entity or circumstances, shall be for any reason adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid, said judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared to the legislative intent of this body that the Ordinance is severable, and that the Ordinance would have been adopted had such invalid or unconstitutional provision not have been included in this Ordinance.

SECTION 8. REPEAL.

All Ordinance or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

SECTION 9. SAVINGS CLAUSE.

All rights and duties which have matured, penalties which have been incurred, proceedings which have begun and prosecution for violations of law occurring before the effective date of this Ordinance are not affected or abated by this Ordinance.

SECTION 10. PUBLICATION.

The Clerk for the City of Garden City shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

SECTION 11. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance, as amended, shall take full force and effect upon publication as required by law.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing Ordinance was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Garden City at its regular meeting called and held on the _____ day of _____, 2006, and was ordered to be given publication in the manner required by law.

Allyson M. Bettis, Clerk-Treasurer

Introduced: August 7, 2006 Adopted: Effective: Publish: August 24, 2006

filter PURE ENTERTAINMENT In your paper every Thursday! Image of a person with a guitar.

Teen revs up motorcycle cruise benefit

Amie Musser, 17, has created Cruisin' for Sweet Dreamzzzz to benefit Sweet Dreamzzzz Detroit, a non-profit organization committed to providing bedtime essentials and sleep education to at-risk children in preparation for classroom learning. The 70-mile motorcycle ride on Saturday, Aug. 26, will start in Livonia and end in Farmington Hills with food, beverages, entertainment and prizes. A Harley-Davidson rider herself, Musser developed the event as she works toward earning her Gold Award, the highest award in Girl Scouts.

"Riding a Harley is so much fun, but doing it to help out kids makes it that much better," said Musser, who is a senior at Churchill High School. "Creating this event means so much to me because not only will it help me gain my Gold Award, but hopefully it will be an annual Sweet Dreamzzzz fund-raiser that they can use to help more children get a good night's sleep." The cruise begins at 9 a.m. at St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Livonia and ends at Motor City Harley-Davidson in Farmington Hills. Registration is \$35 per driver and \$15 for additional rider. All proceeds

will benefit Sweet Dreamzzzz Detroit. For registration and additional information, please visit www.sweetdreamzzzzdetroit.org or call (248) 478-3242. "Working with Amie on this event shows what great talent and commitment there is all around," said Mary Barden, executive director, Sweet Dreamzzzz Detroit. "With her hard work, this event could help Sweet Dreamzzzz Detroit pass their goal of 2,000 children this year." Sweet Dreamzzzz Detroit, a non-profit organization providing sleep education and bedtime essentials to at-risk

children, has helped over 16,000 local children. With assistance from the National Center on Sleep Disorders Research and Oakland University School of Education and Human Services, Sweet Dreamzzzz Detroit developed the R.E.M. Program to educate students on the benefits of healthy sleep habits. Students receive an activity book and sleep kit containing bedtime essentials including a sleeping bag, stuffed animal, nightshirt, socks, crayons, toothbrush and toothpaste. For more on Sweet Dreamzzzz Detroit, call (248) 478-3242 or visit www.sweetdreamzzzzdetroit.org.

WAYNE MEMORIAL HONOR ROLL

Named to the honor roll for the sixth and final marking period of the 2005-2006 school year at Wayne Memorial High School were:

- Amanda Abu-Iawi, Nur Abu-Iawi, Jonathan Adams, Ambrosia Adkins, Ammer Ahmad, Zohaib Ahmad, Abigail Alejandro, Muhammad Ali, Tiffanie Allen, Lynn Alves, Lamar Anderson, Sergio Anderson, Justin Archie, Allison Areeda, David Arnold, Autumn Askew, Brittanee Askin, Cynthia Aslanian, Ashley Atterberry, Caitlin Badrak, Amanda Bailey, Anthony Bailey, April Bailey, Shirelle Bailey, Kelsey Baker, Cara Ball, James Banks, Allen Barr, Jessica Barrett, Delancey Barron, Rachael Barton, Devin Bartos, Jeremiah Bauder, Paige Bawcum, Samantha Bawcum, Jennesse Bean, Melanie Beard, Crystal Beaver, Lynette Bell, Katherine Belenir, Schuyler Benjamin, Hailey Benton, Stephen Berti, Madelynn Beville, Ryan Bird, Brooke Bishop, Brandie Bishop-Stacker, Fawna Black-Cicotte, Shereen Blair, Colleen Blake, Jessica Blanchard, Brittany Blanton, Kelsey Blevins, Stefayne Bliven, Timothy Bliven, Jakob Boertje, Cameo Bond, Anthalyce Bonner, Shayna Bono, Gabrielle Borden, Danielle Borg, Jenna Bossio, Danielle Boston, Jasmine Bowles, Brittany Bowling, Amanda Bowman, Joshua Boyce, Joshua Bradley, Bruce Brewer, Daniel Brooks, Andrea Brown, Jacqueline Brown, Jason Brown, Joshua Brown, Rickelle Brown, Jonathan Bryant, Samantha Burleson, Kevin Burns, Brittani Burroughs, Christopher Burtraw, Corisa Butler, Dakota Butler, Chanel Cabill, Chelsea Cahill, Brittany Calhoun, Cassandra Campbell, Corey Campbell, Danielle Capraro, James Capraro, Samantha Carrier, Marrienne Castells, Keana Cathey, Benjamin Chalupka, Kimberly Chau, Melissa Chesnut, Lindsay Chmiel, Jonathan Choate, Lorina Clardy, Robin Clarke, Varney Clarke, Travis Cleveland, Ashley Cole, Michael Cole, Sareesa Coleman, Justin Collop, Nova Connolly, Karen Contreras, Charles Cooney, William Coutts, Krystle Crandall, Anna Crawford, Ryan Crayne, Matthew Cretens, Daniel Crummeay, Daisy Cruz, Linette Cuevas-Zuniga, Stefanie Curcuro, Christopher Curi, Terry Curtis, Heather Daniels, Holley Davidson, Amber Davis, Brittany Davis, Brittney Davis, Oriana Davis, Trevor Davis, Jennifer Dawson, Amber Day, Amber Decker, Brittany Demaray, Christopher Dewaelsche, Briana Dewyer, Erina Dinkoljari, Erica Dishon, Christina Dixon, Kelly Doerr, Sean Doerr, Jordan Dottor, Kelsey Drennen, Jesse Dreon, Rajat Dua, Eric Durham, Samantha Dye, Jessica Eaves, Lisa Eichholzer, Kevin Erdmann, Kenneth Ester Jr, Brittney Everley, Kherre Fairbanks, William Fallow, Joshua Farmer, Marian Farmer, Heather Favazza, Jeremy Ferack, Amanda Fill, Jeremy Flatt, Baily Floyd, Kevin Folster, Amanda Ford, Elizabeth Ford, Matthew Foss, Dustin Franklin, Nicole Franklin, Leslie Freedle, David Freeman, Daniel Frey, Lindsay Funk, Kia Fuqua, Shane Fyfe, Ryan Gabriel, Allison Gardiner, Samantha Gaskill, Heather Gendron, Ryan Gilmore, Justin Girouard, Zachary Girouard, Michelle Goff, Nastassia Goines, Katherine Goins, Julie Good, Adam Goring, Michelle Grassmyer, Jamie Green, Mason Green, Michael Green, Jennifer Greenfields, Jessica Gregg, Meredith Griggs, Brittney Grubbs, Justin Guenther, Thomas Gunther, Jennifer Guthrie, Kristine Haggard, Tracey Halaberda, Justin Hail, Hollie Hanna, Kathryn Hansen, Cory Harden, Elizabeth Hardy, Roberta Hardy, Demitra Harris, Stefan Harrison, Austin Hassen, Ashton Hay, Bianca Hayes, Yousef Hegazi, Courtney Helton, Alysa Henning, Heather Henning, Elyse Henry, Donald Herber, Andrew Hermatz, Crystal Herndon, Maxwell Hershey, Shannon Hesch, Michael Hicks, Corey Hileman, Christopher Hilger, Courtney Hinton, Sylvia Hipke, Samantha Hochstadt, James Holbrook, Jordan Holland, Daphne Howard, Callie Hubbard, Janessa Hudson, Jason Hughes, Kelli Hughes, Ashley Hunt, Stephanie Jablonicky, Gregory Jablonski, Gabrielle Jackson, Jason Jackson, Shelby Jackson, Jordan Janowitz, Anthony Jett, Christopher Johnson, Alyssa Jones, LaTache Jones, Megan Jones, Cassandra Jordan, Heather Kamin, Nicole Kaminski, Amanda Kasprzak, David Kautz, Jessica Kay, Kaitlyn Kellow, Chase Kelly, Nolan Kennedy, April Kersey, Arlon Ketcherside, Chapin Kibitlowski, David Kiracofe, Kristen Kiracofe, Monica Kmet, Elgin Kodra, Nicholas Kostora, Christopher Kouri, Heather Kowalski, Taylor Krohn, Jessica Kuder, Tabitha Kujat, Nicole Kwolek, Kellee Labeahn, Olivia LaFortune, Christon Landfair, Holly Lane, Sharon Langa, Saniiyah Langston, Kevin Lanstra, Joan Laprise, Christopher Larson, Tiffany Larson, Andi Laska,

- Jeanette Laskowski, Alyssa Lasley, Carrie Laubernds, Joshua Laughlin, Samantha Lave, Danielle Lawson, Crystal Lees, Shayna Lenox, Jamie Lentz, Joshua Lewis, Kevin Lewis, Monica Lewis, Devin Liendo, Amanda Linton, Allyson Lipinski, Brandi Little, Nicole Little, Jeremy Lovelady, Alyssa Lucas, Alyssa Luckett, Robert Lyndrup, Kelly MacDonald, Kanav Mahotra, Kyle Maier, Matthew Maier, Sheila Maine, Tiffany Malia, Kristen Malkiewicz, Charles Malnar II, Alicia Mandeville, Kara Marszalek, Atlantae Martin, Paris Martin, Zachary Martin, Randy Mason, Travis Mason, Jessica Matheson, Karissa Matson, Sarah Mayberry, Andrew Maynard, Timothy McCaffrey, Tabetha McCauley, Rebecca McClester, Amanda McClure, Patrick McClure, David McCrary, Brandon McCrory, Sara McDonald, Jacob McEndree, Derek McGowan, Theodore McKenzie, Derek McManaway, Leanne McManaway, Adrienne Meagher, Ronnie Meirthew, Maria Mendoza, Sara Michael, Chelsea Miller, Monquese Miller, Rebecca Miller, Christian Mills, Matthew Mills, Jason Moland, Gabrielle Monit, Kristina Monty, Martel Moon, John Moore, Justin Moore, Kristopher Moore, Steven Moore, Tashawna Moore, Kyle Moran, Michael Morgan, Amber Morneau, Claire Moro, Kathryn Moro, Andrew Morton, Alyson Mosher, Elise Motley, Cory Mullins, Jack Muncie, Jennifer Neeley, Brittney Neighbor, Andrew Neino, Gary Newell, Kellie Newsted, Kenneth Newsted, Brian Nichols, Krystal Nichols, Aaron Nielson, Rebekah Niemann, Zachary Niemann, Chinsono Nkwocha, Jessica Novack, Jillian Novak Alexander, Allen Nugal, Colleen O'Brien, Serrina O'Brien-TarazandePou, Chelsea O'Mara, Kayla O'Mara, Tara O'Neil, Patrick O'Neil Jr, Kelly O'Rourke, Ana Ochoa, Alicia Offerman, Steven Ogg, Utonia Overstreet, Candace Papineau, Ashley Parker, Andrew Pate, Shira Patrick, Nichole Payne, Trisha Payne, Valerie Peavler, Laura Pegg, Erica Perdue, Joshua Perusse, Malerie Petrello, Joshua Phillips, Daniel Pianowski, Amber Pierson, Nichole Pierson, Sarah Pinion, Jordan Plante, Kristina Plummer, Andrea Poindexter, Amanda Poirier, Nathan Polen, Shawn Polite, Trevor Pollard, Andrew Ponican, Daniel Porta, Shelby Porter, Jeannette Poster, Devon Price, Katina Privett, Rachel Prosser, Tony Prough, Jessica Ptaszynski, Kerrie Quarles, Chelsea Quintal, Kara Quintal, Chelsea Randles, Aaron Rankins,

- Johnny Reid, Lejohnna Reid, Virginia Reid, Nickolas Remington, Olivia Rensel, Michele Reske, Brent Rexin, Brieann Rice, Christopher Richardson, Honesty Richardson, Ebony Riley, Shalin Roberts, Emily Robertson, Eric Robertson, Stacey Robinson, Tiffanie Robinson, Emily Rodler, Sara Roebuck, Deviney Rogers, Kristina Rogers, Hailey Rogers, Rachel Roth-Fuller, Derrick Roulo, Rebecca Rowland, Krystin Russell, Joshua Samples, Jose Santiago, Stacey Schack, Melissa Schmidt, Eric Schmitt, Jacob Schofield, Jennifer Schulte, Ronald Schutlzler, James Scott, Candace Seals, Amanda Shaw, Jasmen Sheffield-Sadle, Mengdan Shi, Mengyu Shi, Mark Shiemke, Rachel Shier, Aaron Shifferd, Megan Shirsuhn, Solomon Shireff, Henry Side III, David Sidener, Curtis Simpson, Desiree Simpson, Simranjit Singh, Lakia Singleton, Danielle Skolnik, Ashley Smith, Brittany Smith, Christian Smith, Corey Smith, Jamie Smith, Lauren Smith, Melissa Smith, Zachary Smith, Michael Solarz, Jin Song, Dustin Speiser, Nicholas Spence, Laura Starr, Andreas Stavrou, Laura Stawasz, Eric Story, Ashley Struppa, Melissa Sturm, Sarah Sturm, Anwar Suleiman, Ashley Sullivan, Nicholas Tarnowski, Naja Tatum, Brett Tavana, Jacob Tenerovich, Aaron Tennant, Quentin Tennant, Patricia Terrier, Brandon Tesner, Heather Thomas, Matthew Thompson, Kayleigh Thorne, Lindsay Thurman, Andrew Thyron, Elizabeth Tolliver, Alyssa Trierweiler, Bobbi Turner, Wendy Turner, Amanda Turpen, Taylor Tuttle, Kristi Tyler, Nicole Turpen, Amanda Vacheresse, Kyle Vacheresse, Christopher Vaerten, Jeremy Vandegrift, Jasmine Vandenbrook, Ann Veloz, Kneco Veres, Yen Vo, Thomas Wade, William Walker, Kevin Wallace, Rebecca Wallace, Andrea Walsh, Christopher Walsh, Nancy Watson, Jordan Weatherwax, Kiley Weber, Benjamin Weier, Lauren Weilmna, Carla Weimert, Sarah Weimert, Joann Weiden, Ashley Welliday, Amiee Wells, Jana White, Brandon Willey, Ryan Willey, Anthony Williams, Lori Williams, Marcus Williams, Marissa Williams, Amy Willingham, Justin Willis, Daniel Wilson, Heather Wilson, Jessica Wimberly, Melissa Wincher, Samantha Witmer, Donald Woodman, Steven Woodruff, Robert Woodson, Joi Woolfork, Alexandra Worthy, Natalie Yambrick, Joseph Yodsnukis, Ryan Yoh, Cassie York and Megan Zuccaro.

CITY OF WESTLAND INVITATION TO BID Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan 48185, on or before September 12, 2006 at 10:30 a.m. (no exceptions will be made) for the following: Emergency Medical Vehicle Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office. Questions pertaining to the vehicle should be directed to Michael Reddy, Fire Chief at (734) 467-3236. Proposals must be submitted by the time stated above or they will be returned. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Dwayne R. Harrigan Controller Publish: August 24, 2006

CITY OF WESTLAND INVITATION TO BID Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan 48185, on or before September 12, 2006, at 10:45 a.m. (no exceptions) for the following: PAVEMENT MARKING CONTRACT Complete specifications may be obtained from the City of Westland's Purchasing Office. Please direct questions to Tom Wilson, in the Department of Public Service at 728-1770. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Dwayne R. Harrigan Controller Publish: August 24, 2006

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan: Case #1367C - Public Hearing for Special Land Use Approval for Mobil Service Station Proposed Renovation, 125 S. Merriman Road, Parcel #069-99-0005-001, Southeast Corner of Merriman Road and Cherry Hill Road, Bill Goodream (Jihad Dabaja) NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, August 24, 2006. Written comments must be submitted to the Planning Commission before 5:00 p.m. one (1) day prior to the scheduled meeting. Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman WESTLAND PLANNING COMMISSION Publish: August 24, 2006

SPORTS Gridiron, Court, Pool, Area, Greens, Diamond We're there!

filter PURE ENTERTAINMENT

Plan ahead for medical emergencies at school

It's time to start preparing for back-to-school. Beyond pencils, notebooks and a new backpack, emergency physicians are urging parents to prepare for potential medical emergencies to ensure a safe school year for their children.

"Being prepared is key for so many things and this goes for medical emergencies as well," said Dr. Frederick Blum, President of the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP). "Your child is in a much better position to receive prompt medical attention if emergency personnel do not have to take time to get parental consent, track down medical records or investigate immunization histories."

Many schools include medical forms in the enrollment process, but it is a good idea for parents to make sure their children's schools have their children's most recent medical information. ACEP offers medical forms to help you with this process on their Web site (<http://www.acep.org/webportal/PatientsConsumers/MedicalForms/>) and the following tips for parents:

Complete a consent-to-treat form and give copies to the school or day care provider for them to keep in your child's record and to take with them if your child goes to the emergency department. It's also a good idea to give copies to family members, friends, or babysitters who may care for your child. Your child will always receive lifesaving care in an emergency room, but the form gives a physician permission to treat your child for less serious medical problems when he or she is in someone else's care. Caregivers should make sure to bring the form with them if they take your child to an emergency department.

Organize your child's medical history records and update emergency medical contact information. Provide a copy of this information to your child's school or day care provider with instructions to take it with them to the emergency department if your child is sick or

injured. Phone numbers change often. Make sure your child's records include updated emergency contact information.

"Families often develop a more relaxed daily routine in the summertime and it pays to remind children of some basic safety information once school starts," said Blum. "When medical emergencies happen, it is much easier to follow a plan than it is to try and come up with a plan when people are emotional and someone is hurt."

Review and do a dry run of your child's route to school, explaining potential hazards along the way. This is a great time to discuss safety rules for going to and from school.

Make sure your children know how to use the telephone for help. Post emergency contact numbers by every telephone in your home. Have them practice reciting the information they will be asked for if they call 9-1-1: name, address, and a description of the problem.

Develop a family emergency plan in case something happens on the way to, or while attending school.

Be aware of any emergency plans and evacuation plans your children's schools may have established.

For a free brochure on preparing for medical emergencies involving children, which contains a useful list of important emergency telephone numbers and a consent-to-treat form, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to When Your Child Has an Emergency, ACEP, 2121 K Street, NW, Suite 325, Washington, D.C., 20037. To get the brochure online, visit www.acep.org and click on "patients and consumers" and then "pediatrics."

ACEP is a national medical specialty society representing emergency medicine with nearly 24,000 members. ACEP is committed to advancing emergency care through continuing education, research and public education.

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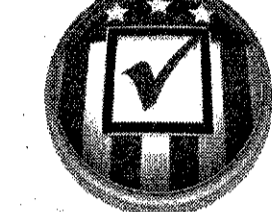
OUR VIEWS

Summer's end is time to campaign

Not so fast. Don't think that, because the primary election is over, you can relax your civic responsibilities.

While you're peeking at the start of school in September, inch your way several pages further in the yearly calendar and observe that the November general election is just more than 10 weeks away. Sounds like a long time? Well, remember that Memorial Day was a little more than 12 weeks ago.

Where did summer go? Likely, it went as quickly as the next couple of months surely will. So be prepared for more campaign literature and, hopefully, candidates nights that will offer an up-close look at who, in Westland, will be your next congressman, state and U.S. senator, state representative and county commissioner.



**ELECTION
2006**

Plan on a long ballot, one that this November will be filled with proposals to decide, such as the K-16 initiative that would guarantee school funding, if approved.

It takes time to formulate opinions that lead to good decisions on election day.

So take the rest of summer to hit the beach, but come Labor Day, know that the campaigning will begin in earnest — and so should your homework.

No groaning allowed — this is what a real great American does.

And listen up, all of you candidates who are on the November ballot. Don't feel too smug that you made it through the primary election. There was a low turnout and only some of the voters thought enough of you to move you up a notch on the climb to that elusive elected position. There will be a whole lot more people, hopefully, who turn out in November.

You have your work cut out for you. Sure, your job is to let people know your position on the issues, but it's also your job to listen to what people say. And from what we hear, people are fed up with character assaults. So stick to the issues.

You can bet that's what this newspaper will be doing, come time for endorsements.

Support our local growers at markets

August is probably the best time to buy fresh produce in Michigan. As summer winds down, it's time to enjoy the fruits (and vegetables) of labor of your local farmers by visiting the local farmer's markets.

Many local communities highlight the summer with a farmer's market. Birmingham, Clarkston, Farmington, Livonia, Plymouth and Rochester are some of the local communities that host these events. The markets offer a great way to visit these suburbs, whether you want to go with a friend or neighbor, spouse or child. It's a great social event and a chance to not only purchase fresh fruit and vegetables, but it serves as an opportunity to shop in these communities.

The produce can't be beat. The only way you'll get fresher tomatoes, summer squash, green peppers or cucumbers, is if you grow your own.

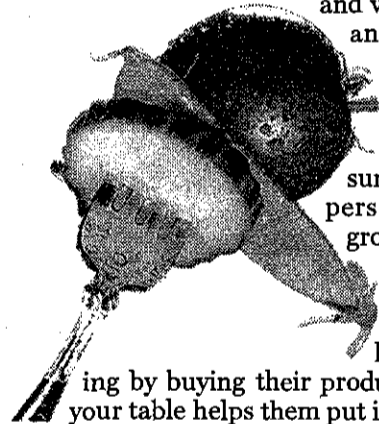
The farmer's market is a great way to meet farmers and their families who you are supporting by buying their products. You putting food on your table helps them put it on theirs.

The market also provides a wonderful link between consumer and farmer. Farmers can see how new varieties sell, and receive direct input on these products before they set up production on a larger scale. The public can try a new variety.

Farmers also can promote other aspects of their farm (i.e. hay rides, family days, tours, pick your own, etc.) It's a great way to promote Michigan's growing agri-tourism.

Farmers have planted, watered and nurtured fields to ensure that they can sell crops to the locals. They've worked hard to bring freshness and nutrition to the table.

Why not support your local grower?



"Great! Now I'll never get out of eating my veggies!"

Story was heart-warming

I just wanted you to know that I had the opportunity to read the article about my Mom, Grace Judd. I took her to lunch yesterday and she proudly showed me the newspaper clipping.

When the story was published, we were on vacation, so yesterday was my first chance to read the story. I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for taking the time to be at American House when all her friends showed up to entertain the residents; and also to thank you for making her feel like such a celebrity. As you may have guessed ... she thrives on being center stage.

I remember my initial reaction to her announcement that she was going to Clown School: "Mom, why in the world do you need to go to school to be a clown? You have been a clown ever since I've known you!" I also remember sitting in the audience with my oldest son, Jim, when she graduated. She was absolutely beaming when she walked across the stage to receive her credentials! To say that the last 20-plus years of clowning has been fun for her would be a big understatement. She was definitely in her element when she was Dilly.

While I know it has been difficult for her over the past few years to realize that she had to give up doing various "gigs" due to some health issues, she still stayed as active as she could with Clowns Around Redford. The group has always treated her as their Queen Bee and, of course, Mom has loved the attention and the TLC she has received over the years from all of them. Again, thank you for recognizing her achievements and giving her the accolades she deserves. It was a very heart-warming story.

Mary Jane Dawson
Belleville

Truly a gift from God

Thank you so much for doing the article on my grandparents' 70th anniversary. I am a teacher in Alaska and was not able to be with them on that day.

Grandma told me they were in the newspaper and I decided to see if I could find the article online. We were in the middle of inservices at school when I read it and began to cry. I am their youngest grandchild and have been close to them all my life. Their marriage is truly a testament to how strong and long-lasting love is meant to be. I agree with grandpa in that this celebration is a gift from God; one that will never be forgotten. My thanks to you, for letting me celebrate with them from the other side of the country.

Kellie J. Large
Tununak, Alaska

Print all the facts

In my opinion, your writers on the opinion page should use their name. How can anyone respect an opinion without knowing whose opinion it is? I guess I'm from the old school, if you have the "guts to write it, sign it."

In the first place, how can the two sides come together or just let the League die? That's what the problem is all about. One group wants to save it another wants to destroy it. Plain and simple. There were many facts that you have refused to recog-

nize and that's a shame. A true local newspaper would print all the facts and not just what the editor or others may want the general public to know. That is not journalism that is propaganda (in my opinion).

Judy McKinney
Westland

Cookbook was a success

A first time cookbook fund-raiser by the Friends of the Museum has been a successful activity. We placed an order for 400 *Cooking With Friends* cookbooks and to date we have sold 403. Hurrah!

This chairperson's goal has been reached. There were 22 over-runs and Fundcraft Publishers sent 12 free ones to help defray freight costs. Thanks to the Westland community for supporting our organization by sharing their recipes, and to those friends, relatives, neighbors and residents who purchased one of our special cookbooks.

For boosting my sales to 116, my thanks to Connie Hierta, Sam Corrado and the Friendship Center. Thanks to our two local newspapers that always come through with publicity for all of our projects. Thanks to Dorothy Drummond, a Westland artist, for her five beautiful drawings of Westland's historic houses done expressly for the cookbook fund-raiser.

In remembrance of our fellow Friends of the Museum, Tom Brown, Dottie Finfrock, Marie Busch, Joe Benyo, Helen Brown, Donna Stout, Paul Krarup, Howard Becker and Tia McArthur, volunteers who helped to preserve Nankin Township and Westland histories for future generations — we dedicate this cookbook.

In closing let me say thanks a million to my cookbook committee, namely Georgia McDaniel, Virginia Braun and Connie Wagenschutz for their time and effort that helped create one of the best community cookbooks ever published.

If you are interested in purchasing one of these fund-raiser cookbooks stop at the museum site on Wayne Road, just south of Marquette 1-4 p.m. Saturday afternoon. There are only a few left.

Ruth Dale, Chairperson
Cookbook Fund-Raiser Committee
Friends of the Westland Historical Museum

Be an informed voter

Don't be swayed by slick ads from a candidate with no political experience and more cents than sense.

While DeVos was in charge of Amway (Grand Rapids), 1,400 Michigan workers (25 percent) were laid off while thousands of Amway jobs were created in China. (Other enlightenments can be found on the Michigan Democratic Web site.)

Our state woes can be attributed to the ineptitude of Granholm's predecessor, a Republican held state legislature, and Bush. We need to vote for people (Dems) who will support Granholm's innovative solutions.

Be an informed voter by doing some research. Don't let money buy your vote.

Al Fisk
Rochester

Worth fighting for

What is there about "Peace" that is inebriating? Britain's Neville Chamberlain opted for "Peace in our time," and World War II began. The U.S. declared Korea

would not be defended, and North Korea invaded the South.

Resolving Vietnam quickly could have stopped the spread of Communism, but our statesmen were defeated by campus peace protesters. America became a paper tiger until Reagan became president.

The Twin Towers attack brought back flag-waving, but patriotism is again out of style. Democrat Senator Joe Lieberman stood by his convictions, and lost to anti-war protesters. Is Jane Fonda now acceptable for vice president?

Israel was the last hope for Jews who survived the Holocaust and other anti-Semitic pogroms. They purchased weapons and learned Blitzkrieg warfare to create a defensible sanctuary. Out-numbered 50 to 1, they did not beg for mercy or peace — they united for victory. Liberal leaders foolishly traded land for peace until the current war became necessary.

Peace advocates demand that tiny Israel stop attacking the source of missiles that are lobbed into their homeland. Terrorists place weapons among their own women and children to create sympathy, but then target Jewish women and children to create maximum fear. TV coverage produces propaganda. Scotland Yard just uncovered another terrorist plane plot. I hope they do not divulge their strategy to the *New York Times*.

Peace is definitely worth fighting for.
Hank Borgman
Farmington

Demand better

Average citizens, working and getting paid for that work, know that they are accountable for a good performance. Our leaders have applied for and been awarded very responsible positions by the voting public. They are paid well and we should hold each of them accountable for their performance. I do not feel that our president has implemented policies that have improved our lives. Bad decisions in foreign affairs have led to disastrous results. On issues of the environment, care of the poor and the elderly, and basic honesty, I feel our president and the Republican Party have let us down. Let us set the bar high and demand that our leaders be honest with us and show us the respect we deserve. By voting the present party out of office a clear message will be sent that we demand better of our leaders.

Doreen Lawton
Novi

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

We welcome your letters to the editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask that your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content.

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QUOTABLE

"We're grateful for the \$210, but we're still extremely frustrated and disappointed with the leadership in Lansing because they have failed to solve the structural problems as they relate to the budget."

Wayne-Westland Superintendent Greg Baracy about the State School Aid Bill that's been sent to the governor

WESTLAND
Observer

PUBLISHED THURSDAY AND SUNDAY

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Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

Home foreclosures spell equal opportunity pain

Losing one's home has to be the equivalent to a knockout punch in a heavyweight title bout. Not only does it hurt physically, it is an emotional blow from which it is hard to recover.

Looking at the multitude of statistics on the sour Michigan economy, perhaps the one that is under the radar screen — but should possibly scare us the most — is the sharp increase in home foreclosures.

According to www.foreclosure.com, there were more than 9,000 foreclosures in Michigan during 2005. This year to date, there are more than 10,000 foreclosures with four more months left in the year.

Each foreclosure is heartwrenching, signifying not just a broken home, but broken hearts with families being torn apart and their American Dream shattered.

Don't believe for a second that this phenomenon is taking place only in the lower-wage earning communities. Foreclosures are an equal opportunity body blow, hitting communities from Livonia to Bloomfield and from Garden City to Troy.

In the upscale community of Northville, where I live, Chip Snider, Northville Township manager, was recently quoted: "At the white-collar level, this community is suffering. In one subdivision, there are 29 foreclosures going on right now and these are upscale homes. Everyone is feeling the pinch."

I recall talking to a homeless man, back in the economic downturn of the 1980s, who made a powerful observation when he said, "The difference between you and I is a job and a home."

Much of the foreclosure activity can be blamed on Michigan's downward spiraling economy and high unemployment, but also on a life crisis such as divorce, death or serious illness impacting the family bread winner.

These job losses are exacerbated by the business of huge equity loans, adjustable rate and interest-only loans that have made "easy money" — so easy that it lures homeowners into some dangerous financial situations. These creative loans are wonderful during good times, but with the economic tsunami that has hit Michigan shores, this "easy money" could sweep you right out of your home.

With Google coming to Michigan, perhaps it is fitting to "google" home foreclosure to see the multitude of businesses willing to help you benefit off someone else's economic pain by buying their foreclosed home at bargain basement rates.

My dad always said: "If it seems too good to be true, then it probably is!" Owning a huge home by using the "easy money" interest-only or

adjustable rate loans have put many American and Michigan homeowners at great peril. Homeowners banking (excuse the pun) on property values rising along with their incomes, while interest rates dropped or remained low, are paying the piper through home foreclosure today.

With interest rates rising and the national economy slowing down, it is likely that the economic tsunami washing people out of their homes will continue and perhaps pick up steam.

That bang you hear is the housing bubble bursting. Many economists fear that the housing bubble that has been fueling our economy is not just slowing down — it is busted. This has increased not only foreclosure rates, but has created a huge backlog of new and used home inventory on the market, driving down home values. In many cases, homeowners that have taken interest-only loans or borrowed against the equity on their homes are waking up finding they owe more on the house than it is worth.

The silver lining may be that if you have savings and a job and are looking for a bargain on a home, now is a great time to buy. Further, we certainly can market Michigan as a low-cost place to buy a home — compared to our neighbors on the east and west coasts.

We could take the Chinese philosophical view that out of every crisis comes opportunity, if we want to see the sunny side of this foreclosure pain. Entrepreneurs are snapping up bargain basement-priced homes, movers are having a banner year and foreclosure assistance businesses are sprouting up as the sour economy and loss of family homes are creating new markets and record profits for these businesses. So, out of pain, new businesses are being created. But this is not the type of job growth anyone wants to crow about!

The efforts to diversify our economy and create decent high-paying jobs for the 21st century are laudable and necessary goals. The sad fact is, however, that these efforts provide little comfort to the person who lost their job and their home and are leaving Michigan to find a life and a home somewhere else and are not coming back.

Michigan cannot thrive when we continue to shed jobs and people. Unless our political leaders create a business-friendly environment that provides fertile ground for job growth, we will continue to see population loss and home foreclosure pain.

Michigan cannot afford another body blow or knockout punch.

Tom Watkins is a business and education consultant. He served as state superintendent of schools 2001-05 and as president and CEO of the Economic Council of Palm Beach County, Fla., 1996-2001. Read his internationally recognized report: The New Education (R)evolution at www.nacol.org. He can be reached at tdwatkins@aol.com.



Tom Watkins

Women's heart health must rank higher on legislators' list

For more than 40 years now, heart disease, stroke and other cardiovascular diseases have been the No. 1 killer of American women yet many still perceive heart disease as a "man's problem."

While the death rate for women has actually gone up slightly over the last 20 years — especially among minority women — the death rate for men has been steadily declining.

Surprisingly, physicians are often at the root of these disparities. A recent American Heart Association survey found that only 8 percent of primary care physicians recognized that heart disease kills

more women each year than men, a fact since 1984. If doctors don't realize that women are at risk, they are less likely to refer them for aggressive screening and treatment which can reduce a woman's risk of heart attack and stroke.

And despite the fact that more women die of cardiovascular disease they are less likely than men to receive certain diagnostic testing and treatments, such as angioplasties and stents.

New federal legislation is intended to close gaps in the treatment of cardiovascular disease in women and give both women and health care providers crucial information to help reduce the death rate.

The HEART for Women Act — bipartisan federal legislation — would improve the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular disease in women. The bill was introduced by Sens. Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., and Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, and Reps. Lois Capps, D-Calif., and Barbara Cubin, R-Wyo.

The legislation would raise awareness about the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular disease in women and provide training for health care providers; tighten FDA requirements for reporting gender-based data about new and experimental medicines and devices; and expand the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's WISEWOMAN free screening programs for low-income, uninsured women

For at least two generations, cardiovascular disease has taken a devastating toll on our country, claiming the lives of friends and loved ones and costing our nation millions of dollars in health-care costs. Women have not benefited as much as men from the advances in cardiovascular treatment over the past decades and provisions in this bill can help change that. This bill can help assure that they will be provided with the best care for their unique needs and that women receive drugs and devices that have been proven to be safe and effective for them.

at risk for heart disease and stroke to all 50 states.

For at least two generations, cardiovascular disease has taken a devastating toll on our country, claiming the lives of friends and loved ones and costing our nation millions of dollars in health-care costs. Women have not benefited as much as men from the advances in cardiovascular treatment over the past decades and provisions in this bill can help change that.

This bill can help assure that they will be provided with the best care for their unique needs and that women receive drugs and devices that have been proven to be safe and effective for them.

I urge all members of Congress to make this a national priority by supporting and co-sponsoring the HEART for Women Act as we cannot allow another 40 years to pass without taking aggressive action to help women live longer and healthier lives.

Pat Wiley of Southfield is an American Heart Association volunteer.



Pat Wiley



Got Game?

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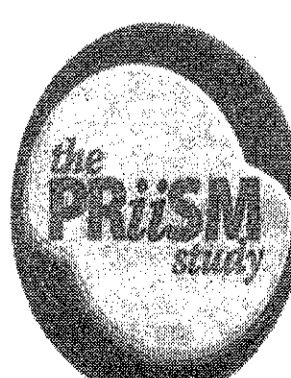
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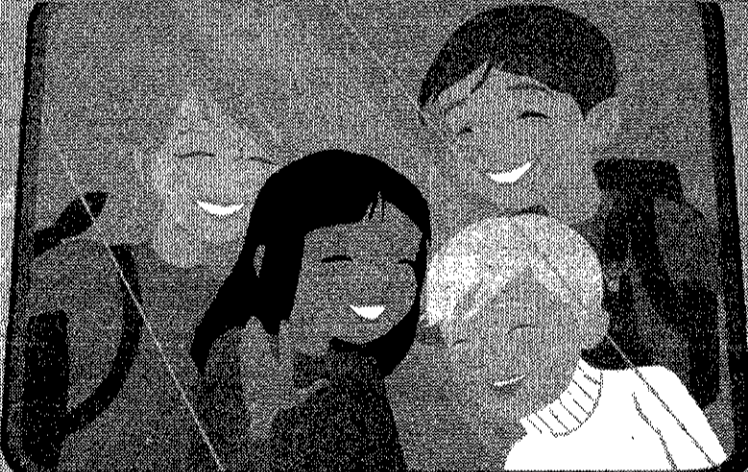
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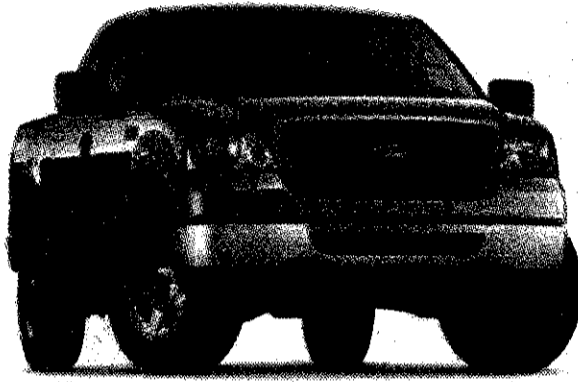
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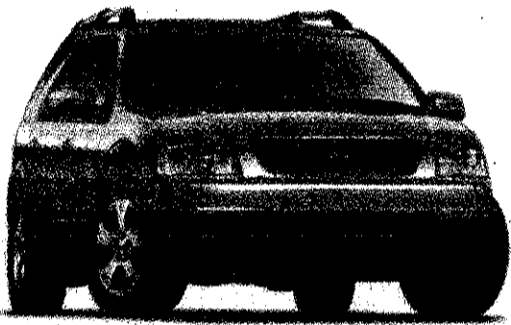
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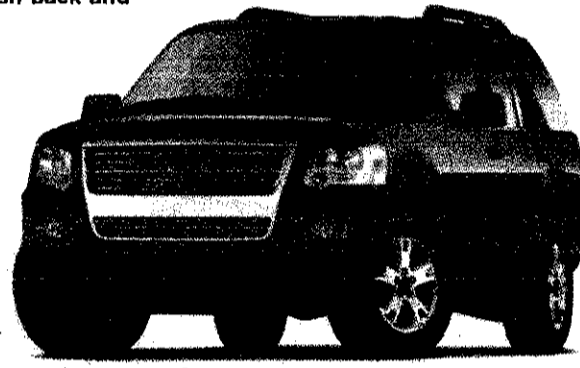
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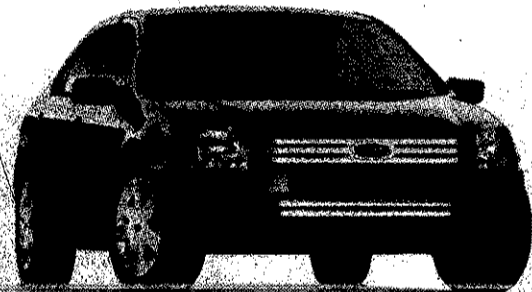
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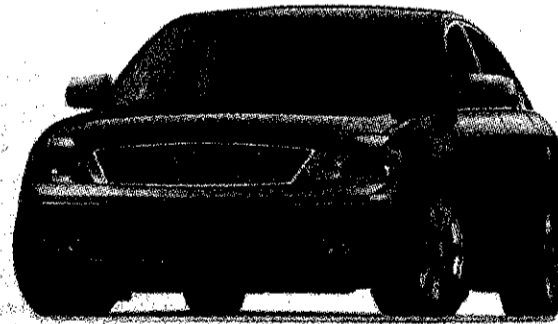
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LTU's Taubman Center will be the focus of a fireworks celebration.

LTU fireworks show will light September night

BY ALEX LUNDBERG
STAFF WRITER

A celebration for Lawrence Technological University's new Taubman Student Center will light the skies Sept. 8.

Southfield City Council members Monday approved a fireworks permit for Lawrence Tech. The 10-minute show will start around dusk in a parking lot near the 10 Mile/Northwestern Highway campus and should be visible to many Southfield/Lathrup area.

Southfield Fire Marshal James Dundas signed off on the display. He's seen to it that the school has picked up the requisite insurance policy and he'll be there to inspect the rig for safety.

University architect and associate Dean of the College of Architecture and Design Joe Vervyser said the building

of the Taubman Student Services Center and the redevelopment of the quad were both done with a promise to the city in mind.

"We got a site plan from the city," he said. "Years ago, we agreed to improve the storm water management system on any building we were working on."

Both the center and the quad have features that absorb and divert storm water rather than let it run into the storm sewer system. The Taubman Student Services Center has a green roof and the quad was landscaped with special grasses and soil that soak up water.

This is important because the school, the city and environmental groups are concerned about what goes into the storm sewer system because they empty in the Rouge River.

LTU President Louis

Walker said the dedication of the quad marks the end of the school's capital projects.

"It's the focal point of the campus," he said. "The quad fronts all of the school's academic buildings."

He said the quad has a series of geothermal wells 300 feet beneath it that serve to both heat and cool the Taubman Center. The water/glycol mix is pumped up in the summer to help cool the buildings and again in the winter to heat them. The mixture stays at a near-constant 52 degrees and makes it 34 percent more efficient than traditional buildings of that size.

"It's a lab for environmental and green practices," Walker said.

The entire project was two years in the making and cost almost \$14 million.

alundberg@oe.homecomm.net
(248) 901-2536

Center aims to keep jobs in state

Lawrence Technological University has created a new Professional Development Center to provide coaching, consulting, and know-how on business acceleration.

It's designed to help individuals and businesses keep abreast of changing market demands and keep their businesses competitive.

The center is especially designed to help Michigan companies remain competitive so they can maintain and expand their employment levels in the state.

"Michigan faces some tough economic challenges, and companies need access to the best business practices in order to compete successfully," Lawrence Tech President Lewis Walker said.

PDC Director Benjamin Benson teaches in the MBA program at Lawrence Tech's College of Management and specializes in entrepreneurship, business acceleration, and business readiness. He has more than 20 years of experience consulting for large companies like Caterpillar, La-Z-Boy, and State Farm, as well as with small businesses and entrepreneurs launching new businesses.

"The cost of failure — going out of business or facing unemployment — means that the stakes are high. You don't address these issues with casual or 'canned' training and seminars. You do it one job at a time," Benson said.

Looking for the missing skill set is key, said Tim Meloche, the PDC's program manager.

"We have a number of clients we have helped already. They describe their current challenge and we zero in," he said.

Existing programs already developed to meet industry needs include Leadership Development, Entrepreneurship, Lean and Six Sigma, Program and Project Management, Product Lifecycle Management, Insurance Studies, and International Business.

The PDC also designs and delivers credit and noncredit certificate programs, professional coaching, seminars, and workshops.

These services can be delivered at Lawrence Tech's main campus in Southfield, at one of the university's off-campus learning centers, at the workplace, online, or through a combination.

For more information about Lawrence Tech's PDC, call Meloche at (248) 204-4055 or meloche@ltu.edu or visit www.ltu.edu/pdc.

New programs to begin

Lawrence Technological University will inaugurate several new degrees and graduate certificates when classes begin for the fall semester on Wednesday, Aug. 30.

Undergraduates now can earn degrees in biomedical engineering, chemical biology, and media communications. There is a new minor in energy engineering.

Lawrence Tech also is launching a new master's degree in mechatronic systems engineering.

Graduate certificates are

being unveiled in architecture design and practice; architecture history, theory, and criticism; instructional technology; robotics; sustainable architecture; transportation design; and urban design.

"Many of these new programs are being started in direct response to the need to diversify and improve Michigan's economy and take advantage of new opportunities in the global market," said Lawrence Tech President Lewis Walker.

The final day for students to

register without an additional fee is Tuesday, Aug. 29.

Orientation and registration for new students continues today Aug. 24. New students who can't make it to orientation or have questions should call (800) CALL-LTU, Ext. 1.

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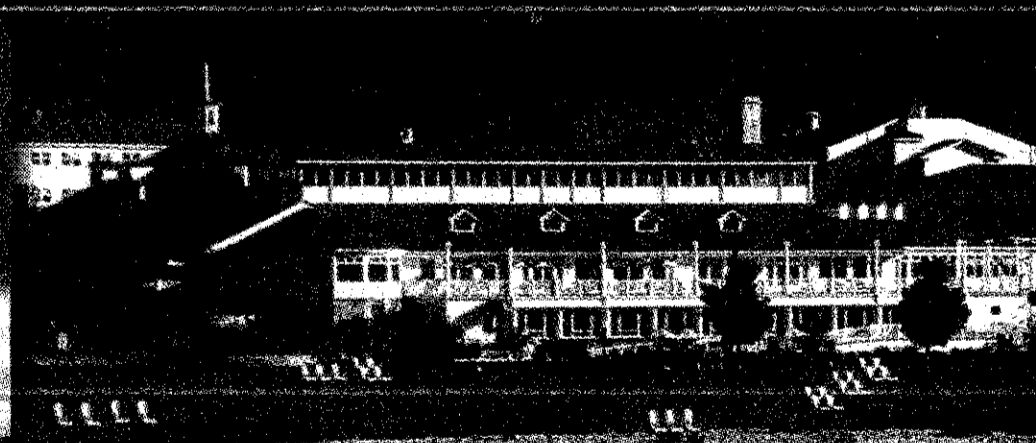
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Listings for the Community Calendar should be submitted in writing. They can be mailed to Sue Mason at 36251 Scjoolcraft, Livonia 48150, by fax at (734) 591-7279 or by e-mail at sma-so@oe.hometownlife.com. For more information, call (734) 953-2112.

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 packet. 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. For information, call (734) 326-1110.

Friends of Eloise

The Friends of Eloise group meets 6 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. the second Tuesday 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.

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) 728-3020.

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, 3117 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.ci.westland.mi.us offers more information. Call (734) 722-7632.

Senior dinners

The Wayne Ford Civic League hosts Senior Dinner Dances with live entertainment several times each month for couples and singles 50 years and older. The cost is \$8 donation for members of the league and \$10 donation for non-members. All dances start at noon and run until 3-3:30 p.m. Meals include beer, wine, and fountain pop. For information and schedules, call (734) 728-5010.

Crochet & Knit

A crochet and knit group meets 9:30 a.m. every Friday at the Friendship Center on Newburgh near Marquette. Beverly Kaminski is the instructor. Participants should bring a type "G" crochet hook. Those interested can sign up at the center's front desk or call (734) 722-7632.

Visually Impaired

The Visually Impaired Persons (VIPs) support group meets 12:30 p.m. every Friday at the Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh, Westland. Participants share information and meet others. Those interested in joining can be scheduled on a bus route for transportation. For information, call (734) 722-7632.

Hearing checks

Every third Tuesday of each month, a

representative from Personalized Hearing Care of Westland will check and clean hearing aids free, 2-3 p.m. by appointment only. Call (734) 722-7632 for more information.

Exercise

Simply Jazzercise is designed for exercisers older than 50. The program provides a low to moderate workout. The exercise improves strength, flexibility, balance, posture, coordination and cardiovascular endurance. It incorporates simple dance routines with walking or jogging patterns and resistance exercises. Wear loose-fitting clothing and comfortable shoes. Light weights and an exercise mat are suggested. Classes are 10:15 a.m. Monday, 5 p.m. Wednesday, 10:15 a.m. Friday, at \$3 per person per class. Sign up at the front desk at the Westland Friendship Center or call (734) 722-7632.

Travel Group

The Friendship Travel Group meets 1 p.m. the second Friday of each month (unless a large event is scheduled) in the Westland Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh. Programs include celebration of birthdays, door prizes, description of new classes or programs, speakers from tour companies, overview of day/overnight trips and refreshments. Call (734) 722-7632.

Dyer Center

The Wayne-Westland school district's Dyer Senior Adult Center offers activities Monday-Thursday at the center, on Marquette between Wayne and Newburgh roads. Mondays, Senior Chorus at 1:30 p.m.; Tuesdays, arts, crafts and needlework at 9:30 a.m.; Wednesdays, kitchen band, 10 a.m.; bingo at 1 p.m.; Thursdays, ceramics, arts, crafts at 9:30 a.m.

ORGANIZATIONS

Toastmasters

The Westland Easy Talkers Toastmasters Club can help people overcome their fear of speaking in front of people by teaching public speaking in a friendly and supportive atmosphere. The club meets at 6:30 p.m. Thursday evenings at Denny's Restaurant, 7725 Wayne Road at Cowan. For more information, call John Elbe at (734) 414-3401 or Curt

Gottlieb at (734) 525-8445.

Vietnam Vets

The Plymouth-Canton Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 528, meet at 7:30 p.m. the second Monday of every month at the Plymouth VFW Post 6695, on S. Mill Street, just north of Ann Arbor Road. If you served in the U.S. military between 1964 and 1975, even, if not, "in country" (combat zone) you are still eligible to become a member. Visit the Web site at www.mihometown.com/oe/PlymouthCantonVVA for more information.

Friends of library

The Friends of the William P. Faust Public Library organization meets at 2 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at the library, 6123 Central City Parkway. Call (734) 326-6123. Meetings last about one hour and are open to the public. The group also holds a book sale during regular library hours at the library.

In Harmony

The Wayne Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society meets at 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland. Gentlemen interested in the chapter's Renaissance Chorus or who enjoy quartetting can call membership chairman Bob Wolf at (734) 421-1652, or attend a rehearsal.

Civil Air Patrol

Emergency service is just one of the congressionally mandated missions of the Civil Air Patrol, which includes ground and air search-and-rescue operations. The Civil Air Patrol, which is the official U.S. Air Force auxiliary, is made up of civilian volunteers. To learn more about CAP or training as an air crew or ground team member, contact the Willow Run Composite Squadron (MI-260). Call Capt. Dane Hansen, deputy commander/recruiter, at (734) 485-3021 or visit the Web site www.members.home.net/capliberators/.

Habitat help

The Western Wayne affiliate of Habitat for Humanity is seeking volunteers to help with building homes, office duties and fund-raising. No experience necessary. Training will be provided. Call (734) 459-7744.

Veteran's Haven

Veteran's Haven operates a car, boat, camper and real estate donation program. Donations are tax-deductible. For information, call (734) 728-0527. Food is distributed to veterans once a month throughout the month and there is a supplemental food program 9 a.m. to noon Wednesdays. The Veteran Haven's Outreach Center 4924 S. Wayne Road two blocks south of Annapolis in Wayne. Any honorably discharged Veteran that is in need or homeless and wants a better quality

of life can call (734) 728-0527.

Pet-A-Pet

The Pet-A-Pet animal visitation program provides pet therapy with the help of volunteers. Pets should be friendly, well-behaved and must have current vaccinations. There is a \$5 membership fee. Volunteer opportunities are available at Hope Nursing Care Center, 6:30 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month (Marie Johnson, (734) 326-1200), and Marquette House, 10:30 a.m. the second Wednesday of the month (Lorna Johnson, (734) 425-1681). There are also openings at Garden City Hospital, 3 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month (Stacy Sulda, (734) 458-4392).

Zonta Club

The Zonta Club of Northwest Wayne County, a service club to advance the status of women, meets every month on the fourth Monday at the Holiday Inn, Livonia. For more information, call Pat Harris at (734) 420-2920.

Franklin PTSA

The Franklin High School PTSA is seeking members. Membership is open to those who care about the schools and the community. Members need not have a student in the school. Price is \$3 for students, \$5 for adults. Checks should be made payable to Franklin PTSA and sent to 31000 Joy, Livonia MI 48150.

Tutorial program

A tutoring program for students is offered at the Salvation Army Wayne-Westland Corps Community Center, 2300 Venoy in Westland. The program, 3:45-5:15 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays, is for students 9 and older in Wayne, Westland and Romulus. For information on participating or volunteering, call Tyrone Peterson, (734) 722-3660. Tutors need to have at least a high school education.

M.O.M.S.

M.O.M.S. Club of Canton/ Westland is a nonprofit support group for stay-at-home mothers. There are weekly events, Mom's Night Out, age-oriented play groups and more. For information, call Wendy, (734) 398-6957.

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. Wednesdays 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.

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.

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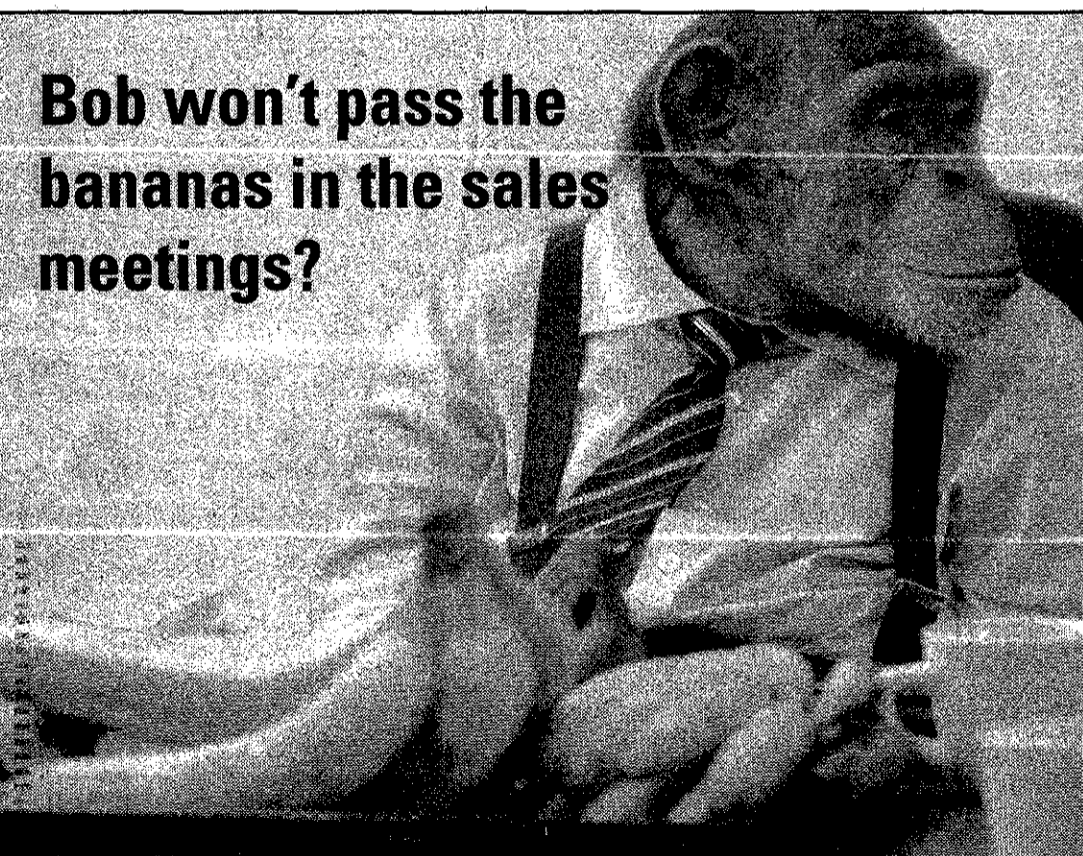
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Candidates juggle their careers, families and political ambitions

BY ALEX LUNDBERG
STAFF WRITER

Running for any office is a lot of work, running for a statewide office has been compared to a full-time job.

In the current election season, Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard and County Clerk Ruth Johnson, full-time county employees, are running for U.S. Senate and lieutenant governor, respectively.

Both positions pay \$133,588 a year.

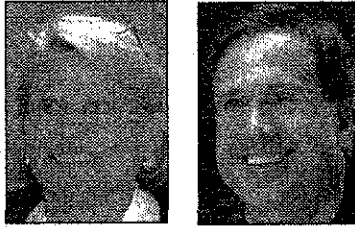
Bouchard said his first job is the job he's got now.

"My duties as sheriff have priority," he said. "I'm sacrificing everything else: personal time, recreation and sleep."

He said a lot of people in Michigan are working two jobs and that's how he's approaching the balancing act between his life as a law enforcement officer and his run for one of Michigan's two seats in the U.S. Senate.

"I'm getting about five hours of sleep a night," Bouchard said.

On Aug. 14, the DeVos for Governor campaign announced that Oakland County Clerk Ruth Johnson



Johnson

Bouchard

got the nod to be the GOP's lieutenant governor candidate.

After returning from a trip to the Upper Peninsula's version of the State Fair in Escanaba, she said she's going to do her full-time job before taking time campaigning for her next one.

"I made it clear that the voters of Oakland County elected me to be their clerk," Johnson said. "My first responsibility is to Oakland County residents."

In short: The clerk job needs to be done and she'll be in the office doing it. She said she would be spending her off hours, where possible, campaigning with the DeVos operation. This means a lot of long hours for her in the next three months.

"I flew down from the UP yesterday, did a three-hour interview with PBS on the voting machines and then went to

the Republican County Convention," Johnson said. "Then I went to the office to work."

She said none of this would be possible without the help of her husband, Don, and her mother helping to take care of her daughter, Emily.

President of the Police Officers Association of Michigan James Tignanelli said you can't ask someone to quit their day job while running for office.

"It doesn't bother me, it's typical," he said. "Anyone who runs for anything has a job. I wouldn't expect them to quit their job."

He said Bouchard and Johnson are like executives of any large operation - they have subordinates who know their jobs and can keep them apprised of what's going on while they campaign.

It's not like this hasn't happened before.

"When (Gov. Jennifer) Granholm ran for governor it wasn't an issue that she was the attorney general," Tignanelli said.

alundberg@oe.hometownlife.com
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Businessman is on a mission to promote best practices

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

Dilip Pithadia is on a mission to boost the economy of Michigan, the United States and his native India by promoting better business practices.

"My mission is very simple," he said. "That we adopt the golden nugget of knowledge, best business practices."

The Farmington Hills resident is in his second and last year as a member of the board of examiners for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award.

The awards are presented annually by the U.S. Department of Commerce to businesses which exemplify best practices. The awards are given in various categories, including health care, education and manufacturing.

Pithadia serves on the manufacturing expertise group. The Baldrige looks at seven criteria for the awards: leadership; strategic planning; customer and market focus; measurement, analysis and knowledge management; human resource focus; process management; and business results.

Pithadia, a senior manager with Visteon in Van Buren Township, is a national ambassador for quality for the Department of Commerce and volunteers his time to spread the word locally and globally.

In May, Pithadia was recognized for his service as an examiner at a dinner in Washington, D.C. Now he is also ready to launch his own foundation to work with small businesses to learn what works best.

He is concerned about the pallid economic outlook for southeast Michigan and has been working with the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce.

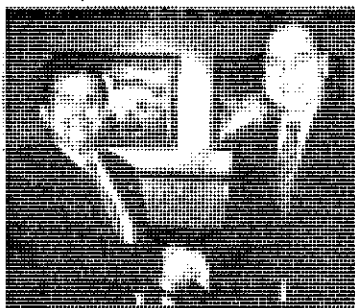
"We are losing the battle. I've been doing this for the last 3 1/2 years," he said.

Pithadia said his mantra is "innovation, transparency and agility," which he calls the winning formula for success in the global marketplace.

"Where we target the most is the top and the bottom: leadership and business results," he said. "Leadership is missing, leadership is a thing of the past. They are interested in making an organization non-transparent, we want to return to transparency. We get camouflaged results, not results as they are. We want real results."

He said management needs to be responsible to "stakeholders" not just stockholders. Stakeholders include employees and the community at large.

"How long do we have to bleed before you understand we have to do something?" he said.



Dilip Pithadia meets with Robert Cresanti, Department of Commerce undersecretary for technology, at a ceremony in May recognizing examiners for the Baldrige Award.

The professional engineer has taken his message to the chambers of commerce in Toledo, Grand Rapids and beyond.

WORKING IN ASIA

Pithadia is a native of Rajkot, Gujarat, India, and emigrated to the United States in 1979. In the last year, he has been meeting and communicating with leaders throughout his native country about how they can develop their fledgling business climate by learning from those who have been successful.

"The president of India (Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam) sent me an

invitation letter, 'What can you do for your country to help us out?' I met with a lot of chief ministers of the state and told them if you don't produce quality goods, it won't do any good," he said.

Pithadia also wrote to Australian Prime Minister John Howard, who challenged him to become involved with the Asian Quality Consortium.

"We need to cut down on inefficiencies, cut down waste and eliminate redundancies," he said.

Pithadia said India has many obstacles to overcome. He said it needs a better infrastructure to provide rail connections, access roads, electricity and potable water.

"There is a lot of poverty, illiteracy, children and women are not given rights. That's what I'm fighting against," he said.

Pithadia will complete his year as a Baldrige examiner and then hopes to launch his Pithadia Foundation.

"I'm launching a nonprofit to preach to medium-scale and small-scale industries that don't have the resources of learning best business practices," he said.

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a gentleman. Professional SBF, 36, very attractive, voluptuous and charming, Dec Sagittarius, seeking LTR with SPM, 30-45, race open. Law-enforcement professional A+, N/S, drama and D/D-free. ☎115446
- WE CAN HAVE SOME FUN**
Female, 37, 5'7", 135lbs, sexy, HWP, athletic build, Pisces, smoker, financially secure, fun-loving, likes sailing, seeks BM, 35-50, tall, dark, handsome, independent, for friendship, possible romance. ☎118000
- NO NONSENSE**
Nice-looking, active, no-nonsense gal, seeks good-looking, active, no-nonsense guy, 35-49, white or Hispanic, DWPF, young 43, athletic. Companionship and fun desired. ☎388830
- REFINED AND FULL OF LIFE**
Very attractive blonde, fit, energetic and happy, professionally employed, very youthful 60s, 5'3", trim and shapely, enjoys dining, travel, dancing, theater, family and friends. Seeking honest, handsome, fit, 55+, college grad, N/S, with youthful passion for life. Serious replies only. ☎652380
- LOOKING FOR LOVE**
SF, 58, 5'7", attractive, leggy, sincere, sociable, seeks good-humored, intelligent man laid-back, loving, to share quality conversations, dancing, nights out and a little romance. ☎112956
- LOOKING FOR LIFE PARTNER**
Female, young 45, N/Kids, loves animals, nature, gardening, old cars, new music, and quiet nights. Seeking a man, 40-50, with a positive attitude and good SOH. Friends first, possible LTR. ☎113652
- SEEKING A LADY?**
SBF, 58, 5'4", 110lbs, slim build, Sagittarius, smoker, honest, sincere, retired, enjoys movies, concerts, travel, park walks, seeks man, 45-70, similar, for friendship, possible romance. ☎118410
- LET'S TALK SOMETIME**
SWF, 38, mother, enjoys Harleys, rock-n-roll, good talks, classic cars, sports, amusement parks, casinos, meeting new people. Seeking outgoing, sweet, fun man w/spontaneous streak to share new adventures with. ☎982910
- LOOKING FOR ME?**
Hard-working, affectionate SAF, 47, 5'1", 95lbs, very clean, N/S, N/D, loving and fun, seeks independent, responsible, respectful, secure man, 45-50, to share the special times in life. ☎113534
- JERSEY TRANSPLANT**
SWF, 50, slender, blonde, Virgo, N/S, enjoys foreign travel, wine tasting, and working out. Seeking WM, 40-53, N/S, for LTR. ☎385454
- LET'S ENJOY LIFE**
Female, 51, 138lbs, seeks independent, respectful male, 45-52, D/D free, who likes outdoors, walks, movies, for LTR. ☎987475
- MR. RIGHT, ARE YOU THERE?**
SWF, 56, 5', HWP, easygoing, dependable, reliable, Taurus, N/S, social drinker, likes computers, nascar, casinos, sports, seeks WM, 46-56, for friendship, and more. ☎112612
- HERE I AM**
Single mother, of 2, fun-loving likes attending church, concerts, theater, simple times. Looking to meet a kind man with a big heart, to share a little love and happiness. ☎116038
- FIND ME**
Attractive SAF, 49, N/S, 5'3", 110lbs, slim build, seeks WM, 45-56, N/S, for friendship, and more. ☎113901
- SEARCHING FOR A MAN...**
45-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. I'm a 45-year-old who's bright, spunky and pretty. ☎962317
- SEEKING SPECIAL GENT**
DWF, 63, attractive, well-dressed, sincere, loving, optimistic, likes, theater, travel, dining, fitness. Wishing to meet a non-smoking WM, 58-70, for possible romance. ☎630806
- LOOKING FOR LOVE**
SF, 47, beautiful inside/out, enjoys quiet drives, romantic times, good talks, simple fun. Seeking A loving, gentle man to share a little friendship and fun, maybe romance. ☎117115
- GORGEOUS**
SWF, 39, 5', attractive, average build, dark blue, Pisces, N/S, outgoing, fun-loving, seeks WM, 35-53, N/S, for LTR. ☎112039
- ISO CHIVALROUS MAN**
SBFC, 35, attractive, plus-sized, Capricorn, single mom, marriage-minded, N/S, seeks man, 40-55, family-oriented, old-fashioned, possible romance. ☎112291
- STARTING OVER**
SWF, 65, youthful, 5'4", trim, pretty, bubbly blonde, Taurus, N/S, likes fine dining, travel, el, seeks WM, 60-70, N/S, 5'8", healthy, educated, monogamous, possible LTR. ☎118604
- GREAT COMPANION**
SF, 65, looks 55, 5'2", unique, bright, w/many talents and interests. I'm well-traveled, very attractive, health-conscious. How about you? Seeking non-smoking counterpart, 62-70. ☎633527

- ONE GOOD WOMAN**
BBW, SWF, attractive, compassionate, down-to-earth. Enjoys movies, comedies, long walks, romantic evenings and more. Seeking employed SM, 38-55, to do and share things together. Must like pets. ☎947175
- PETITE & SEXY...**
SBF, sensitive, affectionate, loving, 51, looks 35, 5'1", 105lbs, N/S. Seeking healthy SBM, 5'10"-6'1", to work out with. ☎912553
- FRIENDS FIRST**
SBF, 37, 5'6", black/brown, easygoing, Aries, N/S, enjoys bike riding, long walks, travel, and cooking. Seeking WM, 30-50, N/S, for fun. ☎933970
- TAKE A CHANCE**
SWF, 37, likes motorcycles, movies, Star Wars, seeks WM, 34-35, N/S, with similar interests, for friendship, and more. ☎114057
- WHERE ARE YOU?**
Very attractive, sexy SBPF, 35, 5'2", medium build, enjoys dining out, jazz, plays ISO SBM, 40-52, commitment-minded and sincere, for LTR. ☎950732
- SINGLE PROFESSIONAL WOMAN**
SWPF, 45, 5'9", average build, educated, Capricorn, N/S, loves golf, reading, gardening, dining out, movies, seeks SWPM, 38-55, N/S, similar interests, for LTR. ☎83176
- MADE TO ORDER**
SWF, 52, attractive, Pisces, N/S, nice, educated, secure, fun, enjoys sporting events, movies, camping, travel, theater, seeks WM, 45-55, N/S, possible romance. ☎93487
- TAKE ME GOLFING**
Tidy SWF, 60, enjoys fine dining, traveling. Seeking golfer, best friend, confident, 58-70, widower a plus, honest, trust, a must to make a relationship work. ☎78914
- VERY CUTE**
SBF, 56, 5'3", 122lbs, interested in fit, good-looking, confident male, 45-58, N/S, intelligent, sincere, down-to-earth, who wants to commit to someone special. ☎113198
- BEAUTIFUL BUNNY**
SBF, 27, 5'6", 150lbs, brown/brown, seeks outgoing, down to earth, open-minded man, 25-32, race open. ☎118442
- HOPING TO MEET SOMEONE**
SBF, 18, 5'7", 120lbs, Capricorn, N/S, likes reading, mall, video games, seeks BM, 18-21, N/S, cute, independent, no drama, for friendship, possible romance. ☎115243
- CALLING ALL CYCLISTS**
SF, a young 44, nice-looking, in great shape, seeks athletic male, 25-55, for cycling, hiking, outdoor activities. ☎945242
- SOULMATE SEARCH**
Slim, attractive, 57-yr-old JF looking for her soulmate, any sincere, successful JM, between the ages of 54-64, please respond. ☎589875
- FORMER MODEL**
SWF, 50, 5'6", slender, intelligent, creativity, passion for music and dancing. Seeks partner 38-50, who is attractive and fit, to share his interests and more. ☎600106
- WILL IT BE YOU?**
Widowed female, 61, likes dining out, seeks very nice, kind, caring, affectionate gentleman, 58-68, for friendship, companionship, and more. ☎977399
- SOMEONE SPECIAL**
Fun-loving, attractive SWF, 70, 5'5", 135lbs, blonde, retired, N/S, seeks well-groomed WM, 65-72, N/S, to share life, romance, and possible relationship. ☎991247
- POSSIBLE LTR**
SWPF, 57, 5'7", attractive, slender, athletic, Scorpio, N/S, enjoys sports, concerts, dining out, seeks WPM, 55-61, N/S, educated, healthy, humorous, possible LTR. ☎993381
- GREAT CATCH**
Attractive, youthful widow, 68, 5'3", 135lbs, brunette/brown, shapely, N/S seeks WM, 55-70, prefers N/S, in Livingston county or Oakland county areas for LTR, w/variety of interests. Seeks relationship/companionship and more. ☎111193
- SHALL WE DANCE?**
I am a SBF, 58, 5'3", 170lbs, attractive, intelligent, creative, articulate, seeks SWM, 57-73, who is kind-hearted, articulate, who enjoys dancing, walking, traveling, movies, dining out. ☎812098
- ENJOYS THE SIMPLE THINGS**
Attractive DBF, early 60s, feels much younger, N/S, loves music and dancing, stays physically active, would like to hear from friendly, honest man, 58-68, N/S. ☎757174
- NATURAL BBW**
SBF, 32, 5'2", 240lbs, N/S, N/D, N/Kids, employed. Seeking a SM, 18-50, who is open-minded, N/S, N/D, and can appreciate a strong woman. ☎924352
- ARE YOU THE ONE?**
SF, 25, 5'7", shoulder-length medium blonde hair, bright green eyes, outgoing, fun, loves fitness, outdoors, boating, cycling, camping, concerts, auto racing. Seeking active, fit, caring man who appreciates the same. ☎953694
- FABOLOUS FIT FUN**
Petite, 50s, young at heart, female, looking for one good guy, with SOH. Enjoys biking, water, working out, and life. ☎970277
- LOVES BOATING**
SWF, 85, 5'6", Aries, N/S, loves dancing and dining out. Seeking WM, 60-71, N/S, with sense of humor, for friendship, possible romance. ☎890004
- LOOKING 4 GENTLEMAN**
Attractive, professional, educated WF, 55, 5'2", slim, N/S. Interest include movies, concerts, comedy clubs, jazz, dancing, dining out, family ties. Seeking WM, 48-55, HWP, for lasting, loving LTR. ☎973365
- 59 YEARS OLD ENTREPRENEUR**
Pretty, charming SWF, successful, kind, compassionate, lots of fun, looking for her knight in shining armor. Any sincere, caucasian gentlemen, 55-60, please respond. Hopefully we'll be each others soul mates. ☎592074
- LOOKING FOR ME?**
Affectionate, sincere SWF, 83, 5'2", dark hair and eyes, employed part-time, enjoys travel, movies, dining out, more. ISO tall, active, open-minded, lovable man to share a little fun, possibly romance. ☎959193
- GREAT WOMAN**
Attractive female, 55, 5'8", D/D/D free, seeks man, 37-62, with similar qualities, for friendship, possible romance. ☎110289
- I LISTEN WITH MY HEART**
Attractive DWF, late 40s, Cancer, N/S, seeks special, no games WM, 45+, N/S, for caring, quality committed relationship. Let's create sparks and watch them fly. ☎639272
- DATING FOR A BIT**
SBM, 44, 5'8", 192lbs, clean-cut, brown/brown, Taurus, N/S, outgoing, fun-loving, likes bowling, concerts, movies, fishing, seeks WF, 39-59, feminine, well-dressed, happy, similar interests, companionship. ☎117897

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

- THAT'S ALL**
SWM, 66, tall, thin, Scorpio, N/S, seeks WF, 60-68, N/S, old-fashioned, slim, fit, humorous, possible romance. ☎116761
- HONEYDEW MAN**
SWM, 60s, healthy, willing to be handy for easygoing, pleasant, passionate lady, 45-70. North Oakland. Hope you're easy to please. ☎836336
- A GOOD MAN STILL EXISTS**
WIVWM, 68, retired, honest, independent, 5'8", 198lbs, enjoys golf, dining, home life, quiet times. Seeking like-minded lady, 55-68, for friendship/LTR. ☎115273
- HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU**
Independent, self-sufficient DWM, 45, sturdy build, carpenter, sociable, affectionate likes boating, walks, drives, cycling, cooking. Seeking a special lady to share the good things in life. ☎855207
- WORTH A CALL**
SWM, 48, 6', 175lbs, N/S, homeowner, hard-working, easygoing, honest, secure, enjoys motorcycling, hunting, the outdoors. Seeking honest, secure, attractive slim/fit woman, 25-50, N/S, D/D-free. ☎958910
- CALL ME AND SEE**
DWM, 45, 5'9", 140lbs, father, N/S, N/D, employed, honest and fun, likes music, movies, bowling, family/friends, more. Looking for SWF with similar interests and qualities. ☎950678
- INTERESTED?**
Strong, independent, hard-working single black male, 34, 5'6", 165lbs, non-smoker, business-minded, strong morals and values, loves kids, animals, movies, seeks classy, old-fashioned woman, 20-45, non-smoker, for friendship, and more. ☎110251
- TAKE A CHANCE**
Attractive SWPM, 58, sensitive, easygoing, a good listener, good-humored and fun, enjoys travel, sports, music, good food. Seeking romance with shapely, like-minded SBF, someone to share/explore life with. ☎761586
- HANDSOME & FUN-LOVING**
Sincere, fun-loving, down-to-earth SBM, 44, ISO romantic, honest, intelligent BF, 25-55, with great SOH, for companionship, possible LTR. ☎88147
- HOLLA AT ME**
SWM, 28, 160lbs, 5'7", dark complexion, seeks BF, 20-30, smoker, for friendship, and more. ☎118121
- JUST HANGING OUT**
SWM, 32, 5'5", 140lbs, Pisces, N/S, family-oriented, outgoing, fun-loving, likes movies, sports, seeks WF, 25-35, friendship, maybe more. ☎114564
- VANILLA SEEKING CHOCOLATE**
Call me if you desire a nice shape, SWM, blue-eyed blonde, 50-year-old, 180lbs. Desires SBF for friendship and definitely romance. ☎777324
- LET'S TALK**
SAM, 18, 5'10", 150lbs, well-built, enjoys playing football, keeping busy, time with friends. Seeking fun, nice, outgoing SF to hang with and get to know. ☎119765
- WANTED...**
single full-figured WF, 45-65, who believes in Jesus Christ, sought by DWM, 62, 5'10", 175lbs, clean-shaven, brown/brown, N/D, for LTR. ☎954253
- ECONOMICALLY VIABLE**
SWPM, 54, 5'11", 170lbs, trim, Aquarius, N/S, likes music, art, golf, landscapes, architecture seeks WPF, 44-60, attractive, fit, active, financially secure, intelligent, possible LTR. ☎984220
- LONELY & READY**
SWM, 49, average build, Italian, heart of gold, Virgo, N/S, seeks WF, 45-55, with a nice build, ready for LTR. Serious replies only. ☎860305
- SECURE**
WM, 58, tall, slim, good-looking, would like to meet a nice, sweet, kind woman to go out with and see what happens from there. ☎828139
- NICE GUY**
SWM, 66, 5'8", 150lbs, manufacturers' representative, Libra, N/S, works out, enjoys movies, restaurants, and summer festivals. Seeking SWF, 50-65, N/S, Shirley, please call back. ☎708128
- LIFE IS BEST SHARED**
SM, 53, tall, 230lbs, muscular, brown hair, enjoys weekend getaways, snuggling, quiet romantic times, motorcycling, simple fun. Seeking SF, 25-55, slender, sweet and sociable to share the special times. ☎955106
- JOIN ME?**
Honest, secure SWM, 73, 5'9", 200lbs, N/S, homeowner, enjoys karaoke, oldies music, dancing, keeping active, meeting new people. ISO sociable, sweet, sincere lady to share the special moments in life. ☎982461
- LET'S TALK**
SBM, 58, 5'10", medium brown complexion, brown eyes, mustache, medium build, 190lbs, enjoys fishing, movies, music, sports, dining, cooking, travel. Seeking A loving lady for friendship and more. ☎952241
- TURNER SEEKS FONDA**
Brash, outspoken, attractive, educated, trim, salt and pepper businessman, 54, NW suburbs, seeks liberal lady, whose interests include art, architecture, classical jazz, good conversation, 46-56. ☎970990

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- GIVE ME A CALL**
SWM, 43, dark/dark, 6', 210lbs, fit, hard-working, financially secure, great personality, seeks female, age open. ☎111263
- LET'S BE FREE TOGETHER**
SBM, 6', 220lbs, physically fit, retired, well-educated, I would like to meet a single female, 52-62, who is understanding, loving and caring, for a LTR. ☎899189
- TRUE GENTLEMAN**
SBM, 52, 5'8", 165lbs, looking for a medium to full-figured SBF, 45-54. Someone who is worldly, nice, loves to laugh and just enjoying life to the fullest. ☎912726
- FEEL FREE...**
SBM, 18, 5'11", average build, light-skinned, Capricorn, N/S, hard-working, independent, likes poetry, beaches, seeks BF, 18-26, N/S, down-to-earth, for LTR. ☎119944
- LOOKING FOR THE ONE**
SBM, 29, loves music, jazz, blues, R&B, togetherness. Seeking a sweet, sexy lady for dinner dates, nice times, love and romance. ☎116821
- HELLO LADIES**
SWM, 23, 5'10", 150lbs, brown/brown, looking for a fun, easygoing, sweet lady under 150lbs, to share talks, dates, friendship and then who knows? ☎117389
- A GOOD MAN**
Outgoing, hard-working SM, 28, 5'9", 160lbs, brown/blue, tattoos, self-employed, likes movies, hanging out with friends, seeks WF, 18-24. ☎114770
- POSITIVE PERSONALITY**
Attractive, romantic engineer, Asian American male, light complexion, 54, 5'8", 148lbs, fit, financially secure, caring, fun-loving, seeks WH/AVF, 40-55, for friendship, maybe more. ☎514300

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Paul Melrose named executive director of Samaritan Counseling Center

The Rev. Dr. Paul Melrose was recently named executive director of the Samaritan Counseling Center of Southeastern Michigan.

The announcement was made by Carol Turner, chairperson of the Center's Board of Directors. The Rev. Dr. Wesley L. Brun, D.Min., L.P.C., who has been the executive director since the center's founding in 1986, announced his retirement as of July 1.

After a national quest, the Search Committee of the Board of Directors nominated the Rev. Dr. Paul Melrose, D.Min., L.M.F.T. to be the new executive director, and the board unanimously endorsed the selection.

Melrose has been on the staff at the center for the past six years and has been the Director of Clinical Services at the center. He is a graduate of Union Theological Seminary in New York (M.Div.) and Andover Newton Theological School (D.Min.). He did his clinical training at the Blanton-Peale Graduate Institute. He is licensed in New Jersey (L.P.C.)



Melrose

Melrose is an ordained "Elder" in the United Methodist Church.

and Michigan (L.M.F.T.), is a "Diplomate" in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors and an "Approved Supervisor" in the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy.

He serves the American Association of Pastoral Counselors as chair of the Institutional Accreditation Committee. He brings to this position more than 20 years experience as a center administrator, supervisor and clinician. He assumed his duties on July 1. The Samaritan Counseling Center of Southeastern Michigan was established by a consortium of churches in the Farmington/Farmington

Hills/West Bloomfield area in 1986, to provide pastoral counseling and psychotherapy to individuals, couples and families in our area.

It has grown now to a staff of 11 counselors working through five offices in the metropolitan area. It is accredited by both the Samaritan Institute in Denver and by the American Association of Pastoral Counselors in Washington D.C. In addition to counseling and psychotherapy,

the center is also an approved training center of the AAPC and provides training programs for clergy and counseling professionals as well as lay persons in church and community groups. It has programs of grief recovery, preparation for marriage, anger management, assertiveness training and substance abuse intervention.

A special service of worship, "A Celebration of Ministry," marked the center's 20th anniversary

and a reception was held to honor Brun for his years of service to the center and the passing of the mantle to Melrose was held on Sunday, June 11 at Nardin Park United Methodist Church.

For more information about the Samaritan Counseling Center and any of its services, call the center at (248) 474-4701 or visit their Web site at www.samaritan-counseling-michigan.com.

Torch Drive sets \$61 million goal

United Way for Southeastern Michigan's Board of Directors announced it has approved a 2006 Torch Drive goal of \$61 million.

The goal was recommended and unanimously supported by United Way's 2006 Campaign Cabinet, led by Torch Drive General Chair, Richard E. Dauch, co-founder, chairman & CEO, American Axle & Manufacturing. Last year's Torch Drive goal was \$66.5 million. More than \$64 million was raised.

"We are facing tremendous economic challenges, due to the structural changes impacting our region's manufacturing industry and business community," said Dauch. "Those changes, along with rising health care costs, have dramatically increased the need for health and human services. This year's goal was based on in-depth research and thoughtful discussions, with a clear understanding of the importance of attaining our goal in order to best serve those who need our help most. We are grateful to have a chance to serve."

Dauch added, "We invite all businesses, groups and individuals to take an active role in strengthening our region by contributing to United Way's campaign. It is critical that this campaign be a success in order for us to continue to meet the needs of our community. I am confident that with the help of a dynamic campaign cabinet and thousands of volunteers and contributors, we will achieve our goal."

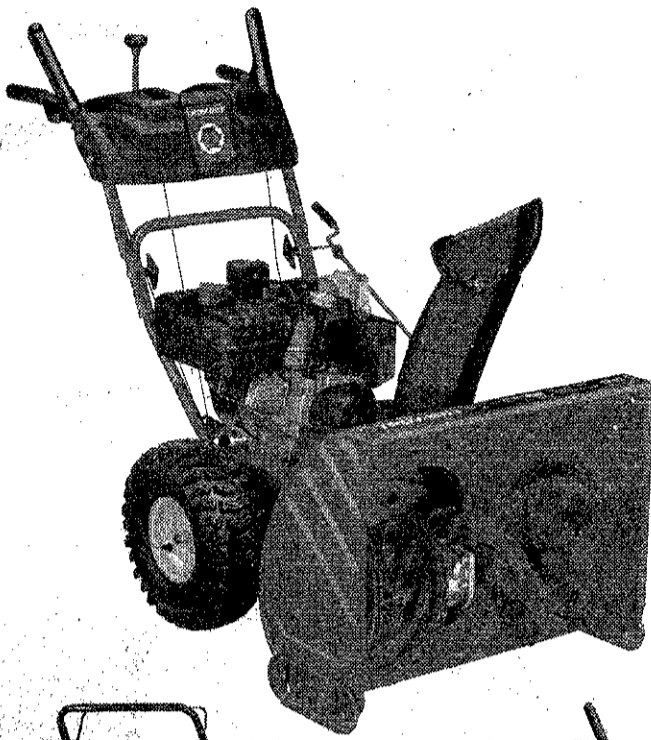
United Way's Torch Drive helps support hundreds of programs and services devoted to nurturing children and youth, strengthening families, promoting health and wellness, and empowering neighborhoods and communities throughout Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.

"We are grateful for the generous commitment of Dick Dauch, the numerous volunteers, and all our supporters and partners who help us attain the resources necessary to improve lives and change the underlying causes of problems in order to make a lasting difference throughout our region," said Michael J. Brennan, president & CEO, United Way for Southeastern Michigan. "Together, we can accomplish what no single group or individual can do alone."

This year's Torch Drive will kick off Friday, Sept. 8, with a 6:30 a.m. lighting of United Way's 54-foot torch in downtown Detroit. There will also be several volunteer activities, including sorting food, painting, beautification projects and agency makeovers where volunteers will create four resource libraries throughout the region to enhance early childhood literacy levels.

The Torch Drive concludes Nov. 15. For more information, call (313) 226-9300 or click on www.onewaytohelp.org.

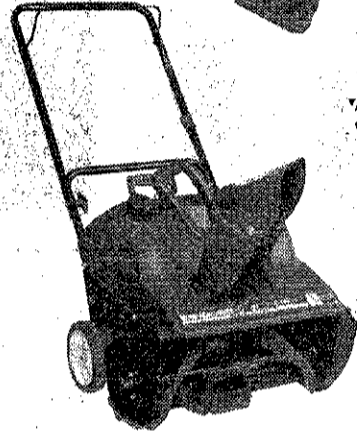
snow throwers



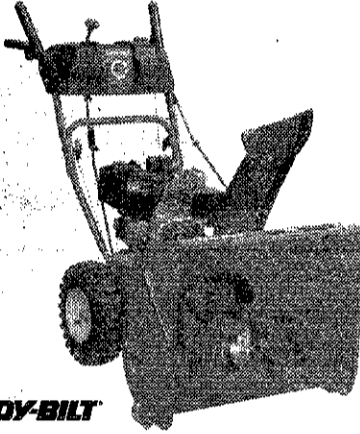
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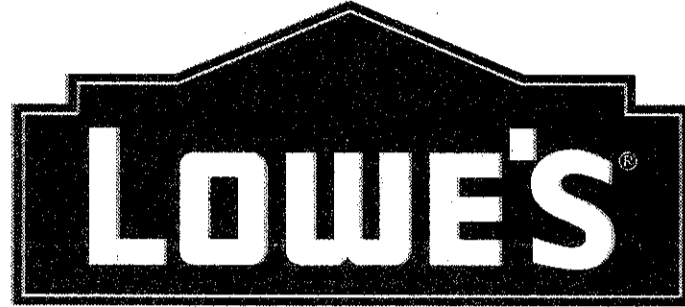
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They work harder, they work faster, and they work better. During Stage-1, the auger breaks up the snow and drives it to the back of the unit. In Stage 2, the high-speed impeller pulls the snow up and forcefully propels it out of the chute.



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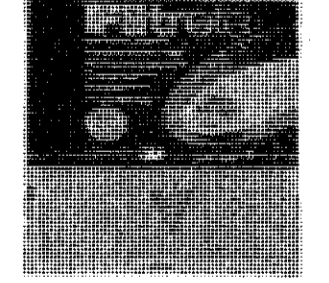
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YOUNG-PRICE SPECIAL VALUE!
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10% OFF IN-STOCK THERMASTAR BY PELLA® WINDOWS
10% off in-stock ThermaStar by Pella vinyl windows. Offer valid 8/24/06 through 8/28/06. Price reduction taken at register. See store for details.
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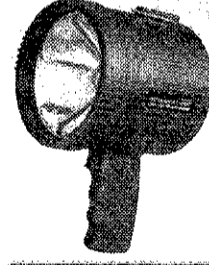
20% OFF ALL FULL-SIZE GAS GRILLS **\$99 & ABOVE**
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\$3 MAIL-IN REBATE AVAILABLE
\$3 Mail-in Rebate on all Filtrate Ultra Allergen Filters. Selection varies by market. Offer valid 8/24/06 through 8/27/06. See store for details.



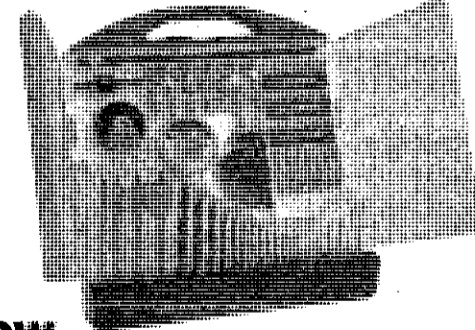
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