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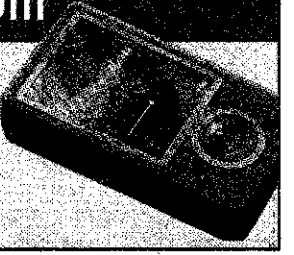


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## Referrals top 300 for Youth Assistance in 2006

BY DARRELL CLEM  
 STAFF WRITER

A Westland program that helps troubled youngsters improve their lives and shun criminal behavior received a record number of referrals for help in 2006.

Westland Youth Assistance Program officials partly blame the record-breaking 315 referrals on job losses and other economic woes that have ravaged families.

"I believe it has trickled down to our kids," program Director Paul Motz said.

Youth Assistance employees, volunteer mentors and group-session leaders helped 201 of the 315 youngsters referred to them last year by police, courts, schools and family members.

The remaining 114 youngsters were sent elsewhere for help because their problems, such as

substance abuse and psychological disorders, demanded stronger intervention, Motz said.

In January, alone, of this year, Youth Assistance has received 25 referrals, including 14 girls and 11 boys. Years ago, the number of troubled males far outnumbered females.

"Girls are becoming more aggressive," Motz said. "I think they're trying to grow up too fast."

With an upsurge in referrals, Youth Assistance desperately needs volunteer adult mentors who are willing to spend an average of one hour a week with a troubled youngster - talking, visiting a library, going to a mall, having dinner, seeing a movie or attending a sporting event.

To help, call (734) 467-7904. Potential mentors have to pass a background check and attend 12-15 hours of training.

Youth Assistance accepts youngsters ages 9 to

16, and it has received 3,222 referrals since it was started 14 years ago.

Although the rising statistics are troubling, Youth Assistance officials, volunteers and youngsters shared inspiring success stories Monday evening during an annual dinner at DeLuca's Restaurant in Westland.

Some youngsters fought back tears as they told how the program, with its adult mentors, life-choices classes and community projects, has helped them. City officials indicated they will continue to support the program.

"I think it's one of the best things we do in the city," Mayor William Wild said.

Two teenagers made such strides to improve their lives in 2006 that they earned special honors Monday - Christina Roberts as Female Youth of the Year and Charles Canfield as Male Youth of the Year.

Youth Assistance officials also honored Toni Durham as Mentor of the Year and gave a special award to longtime life-choices class facilitator Hugh Bowman - the son of former Youth Assistance Director Ronaele Bowman.

Motz also singled out the Westland Police Department as Agency of the Year. Youth Assistance is housed behind the police department, and 76 percent of the program's referrals come from police.

Youth Assistance has only three full-time employees. It hires group leaders on a contractual basis and depends heavily on its volunteer mentors.

"We really appreciate everybody's hard work," Motz said. "We're just trying to keep up with the number of referrals we've got coming in."

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TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Because of allergies, magician William Heine of Plymouth is looking for a family to care for the white doves he uses in his magic act.

## Magician has birds who need a home

BY SUE MASON  
 STAFF WRITER

William Heine is a man of magic. He's done his feats of prestidigitation as the opening act for Robert Townsend and Harry Blackstone Jr. at the Fisher Theatre and on television. The late Bob Talbert called his performance one of the best acts in Detroit.

But Heine has a problem. He's allergic to his assistants - six white doves - so he's become a man with a mission of finding someone who will care for his birds.

"I'm not giving the birds away; I'm looking for a good family, a good safe home with people who can feed them, give them water

everyday and do cage maintenance," said Heine, who's an instructor at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center in Westland.

Heine has had birds since he was 10 years old. That's when he found out he was very allergic to rabbits. Since he couldn't use rabbits in his act, he substituted the doves.

That seemed to work, but five years ago his allergist suspected his allergies may be because of the birds. A wheezy fall led the allergist to suggest he move doves out of his living environment, saying Heine would "see a tremendous improvement in his breathing."

This isn't the first time Heine has found someone to care for his

doves. The owner of a flower shop in Plymouth cared for his birds for a limited time and it worked out well. Heine hopes the same will be true this time.

He will pay for all of the supplies - bedding, food - and vet bills and will provide a cage.

The cage houses three birds in each of its two compartments. The order - which bird goes where - is important because the groupings are like families, Heine said. Leg bands are color-coded to determine which birds go together.

"The cage is designed with screens to keep feathers and seed inside, it's custom built to mini-

PLEASE SEE BIRDS, A4

## Charges are pending in stabbing incident

BY DARRELL CLEM  
 STAFF WRITER

A 25-year-old transient man is facing criminal charges for accusations he stabbed a woman outside a gas station on Westland's northwest side.

Police confirmed that the suspect also is under investigation for the random stabbing of a Westland woman who was walking with her 5-year-old granddaughter Sept. 30 near Westgate Tower, a high-rise senior building near Ford and Wildwood.

The suspect was arrested Saturday for an unrelated incident in Roseville, where he was caught shoplifting and threatened security officers with a screwdriver, Westland police Lt. James Ridener said.

The suspect was identified in a photo lineup by a woman who was stabbed Jan. 15 in Westland when she stopped for cigarettes at the Marathon station at Joy and Newburgh roads, Ridener said.

"We put his picture in a photo lineup and she picked him out," Ridener said.

The 34-year-old woman had been robbed and slashed across the stomach with a box cutter by a man who then fled on foot. She was treated and released from St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia following the 6:50 a.m. attack.

On Tuesday, the suspect was in cus-

toody in Roseville, but Ridener said Westland police plan to seek charges against him for the Marathon stabbing.

Westland police happened to have a picture of the suspect from an earlier investigation into the stabbing of the 67-year-old woman near Westgate Tower.

"He was always lurking around the towers over there, and one of our guys came across him and arrested him for carrying a knife," Ridener said.

However, police had to release the suspect because no one could identify him during the Westgate investigation. Although the victim wasn't seriously hurt, she didn't get a good look at her attacker before he fled on foot, police said. The suspect is facing criminal charges for the Marathon incident, but the Westgate investigation is continuing.

The suspect is not believed to have been involved in yet another random stabbing in Westland - one that occurred Nov. 26 at Riverbend Apartments.

"We believe that's another guy," Ridener said.

Witnesses who may have new information about any of the Westland incidents are urged to call the Westland Police Department at (734) 722-9600.

[dclem@hometownlife.com](mailto:dclem@hometownlife.com) | (734) 953-2110

## 2 police retirements prompt 5 promotions

BY DARRELL CLEM  
 STAFF WRITER

They're called the men in blue, but some Westland police will be feeling upbeat rather than blue after they're promoted today.

In all, five Westland Police Department employees will be promoted this morning during a swearing-in ceremony at Westland City Hall.

The officers will be sworn in by City Clerk Eileen DeHart during one of the department's biggest one-day

changeovers in years.

The changes started when two longtime department employees, Deputy Chief Marc Stobbe and Lt. Jon Handzlik, retired this month.

Stobbe didn't stray far. He moved next door to become a court officer for new Westland 18th District Judge Sandra Cicirelli.

"We will miss Deputy Chief Stobbe and Lt. Handzlik and are very proud of their hard work and dedicated service to our city," Mayor William

PLEASE SEE PROMOTIONS, A4

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**Coming Sunday in Health**



The Red campaign raises awareness about women's risk for heart disease



# 'Kind of gross seeing it live'

## Career tech pupils watch knee replacement surgery

BY REBECCA JONES  
STAFF WRITER

At first glance, it might have been a baked potato split down the middle.

Instead, it was an arthritic woman's right knee cut wide open, displayed on a screen in the Churchill auditorium. Tools that look a lot like forks spread the skin apart. A doctor chiseled away at damaged bone.

Livonia high school students watched the woman's knee replacement surgery live via video conferencing equipment Jan. 10.

"It's just amazing. You can cut open your leg and put a new knee in," Churchill senior Tauri Rothermel said. "It's really cool that we got to watch."

The operation lasted an hour and 15 minutes. Four high school groups across the country — including health science classes at the Livonia Career Technical Center — tuned in and asked questions of the surgical team at Mount Carmel East Hospital in Columbus, Ohio.

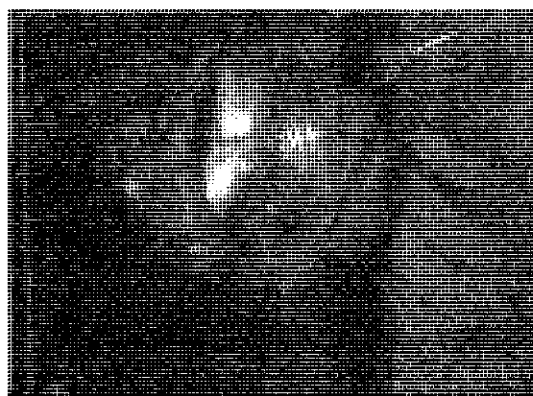
Surgeon Joel Politi pushed the kneecap aside and removed a bone spur about the size of a gum ball.

"How would you like to walk around with this in your knee?" Politi said.

He then used various power tools, as well as a chisel and mallet, to remove damaged parts of the patient's thigh and shin bones.

"She's really worn out her cartilage in multiple places," Politi said, pointing out a groove caused by bone-on-bone friction. "She has really bad wear and tear."

The woman had her left knee



Images of a live knee replacement surgery from an Ohio hospital are projected onto a screen in the Churchill auditorium. Livonia Career Technical Center students watched and ask questions of the surgical team.



Stephanie Ruiz cringes as she and classmates from the Livonia Career Technical Center watch a live knee replacement surgery via video conference in the Churchill auditorium Jan. 10.

replaced six weeks ago.

Prosthetic parts made of plastic and metal were attached to the patient's tibia, femur and patella, held in place with an epoxy known as bone cement.

The now-bionic woman will set off metal detectors for the rest of her life, but she's back on her feet again.

"As much as we recognize that this is a big deal, this is routine to us," Politi told the students. "This is a very gratifying field. People have concrete problems and we help them."

It was the first time Livonia has participated in this type of video conferencing, said teacher Mary Trotter.

"This is a very high-tech way to deliver instruction," Trotter said. "This is a very exciting

opportunity for the students to interact with a medical team and to experience the latest in educational technology use."

The pupils were introduced to members of the surgical team and learned what type of training each job requires.

"It was really interesting how much teamwork was involved," said Churchill junior Kyle Stopa, who plans to attend Harvard University as a pre-med student and wants to become an emergency room surgeon.

Earlier this semester, students used an online program to perform a virtual knee surgery.

"That was a little bit different," said Stevenson senior Emily Zinn, who wants to become a nurse. Students also looked at X-rays and built joints using

rubber bands, nails and blocks of wood to understand how the knee bends.

"We saw a lot of pictures in class, but it's still kind of gross seeing it live," said Churchill senior Erik Brace, who revealed that he had a knee injury that might require surgery one day. "If you can look at this and not get grossed out, you've got a good stomach."

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# District awards contracts for Glenn addition

BY SUE MASON  
STAFF WRITER

Construction of a second gymnasium at John Glenn High School drew one step closer to reality with the awarding of more than \$2 million in construction contracts earlier this month.

Based on the recommendations of its construction management firm, McCarthy and Smith Inc., the board awarded contracts for 31 of 32 bid packages. The references and product — metal wall panels — are being checked, according to Doug Underwood of McCarthy and Smith. "This was bid out at a very competitive time," Underwood told the school board. "There's not a lot of work out there in the construction industry right now."

The John Glenn addition will be erected to the east of the high school's existing gymnasium. Along with a second gym floor, there will be a fitness room and areas for exercise and athletic training.

Money from the district's sinking fund that was approved by voters in February 2003 will be used for the Glenn project.

The two additions — Wayne Memorial's new facility will be dedicated Tuesday — will accommodate the number of sports activities that come with having ninth grade at the high schools, as well as anticipated

realignment of the girls sports program.

Superintendent Greg Baracy, in an interview in July, said that "one of the things we want to eliminate totally is the need to practice on Sundays and practice late into the evening on weekdays and weekends."

"By adding this, we hope space will be more freely available during the after school (hours), so our students get out earlier and get to their homework earlier," he had said.

The Glenn project attracted 185 bids.

"I'm very happy to report that they're within budget," he said. "Even with the additional alternatives we took with bleacher seating and floor inserts, we were still able to stay within budget."

In response to a question from board Vice President Cindy Schofield, Underwood said that the contractors who worked on the Wayne Memorial addition submitted bids, however, only one-third of them were the low bidder.

"Some of the contractors are new to the district and some are even new to us (McCarthy and Smith)," he added. "The good thing is none of them are new businesses."

School officials expect to break ground for the John Glenn project next month.

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# Tabby Fanciers host all-breed cat show

BY SUE MASON  
STAFF WRITER

If your interest is all things feline, then the place to be this weekend will be the at the Wayne Ford Civic League in Westland where the Midwest Persian Tabby Fanciers will hold their Cat Fanciers Association affiliated All Breed Cat Show.

Pedigree felines from around the country as well as household pets will be featured at the show. The CFA recognizes 37 breeds of cat and many will be at the event, according to Cathy Hawley, a member of the Midwest group.

Like the popular Detroit Kennel Club dog show, when not being judged, cats and kittens will be in cages for the public to see. Their owners will be on hand to answer questions about their felines and the breed. There also will be kittens for sale and vendors.

The show has spots for 300 felines, but weather, according to Hawley will play a role in just how many show up.

"We usually have about 225 cats," she said. "We have cats come from all over the United States and Canada, but we have had some there from Paris, France."

Pedigree cats will be judged to breed standard, with judges looking at such things as the shape of the eyes and ears, coat, eye color and fur color, Hawley said. At the end of the

show, judges will pick the top 10 cats to select the all-breed winner.

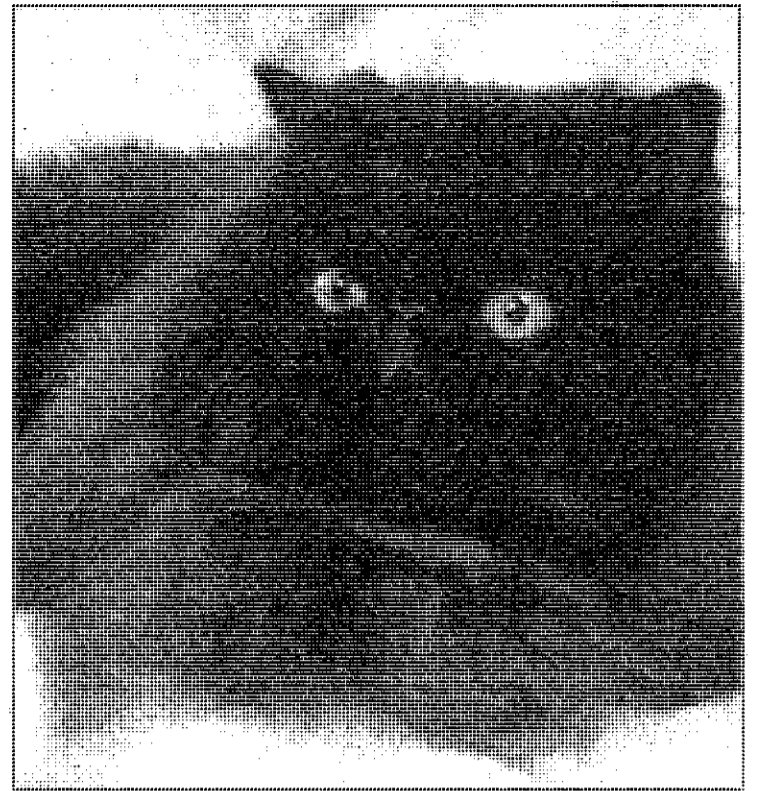
They will compete for championship points. They begin in open class working their way up to champion and then grand champion. Neutered pedigree cats earn points to become premier and eventually grand premier felines.

One breed that will be at the show is the Tonkinese, started in the 1930s as a cross between the Burmese and Siamese cats. According to Hawley, the Tonkinese breed is "ultra affectionate, people oriented and an ideal companion."

Household cats are judged on behavior, condition and temperament and receive ribbons and trophies.

The Midwest Persian Tabby Fanciers has been around as a club since 1981 and sponsors a minimum of one all-breed show each year. It's dedicated to preserving and promoting the Persian Tabby cat, educating people about breeding and showing Persians, promoting sportsmanship and working to protect the interest of all cats.

The money the club raises supports the welfare of animals, especially cats. Donations have gone to the Feline Endowment Fund at Michigan State University, the Detroit Zoo's Big Cat exhibit, Michigan Humane Society, Michigan Animal Rescue League and Huron Valley Animal Shelter.



Cats and Kittens like Cathy Hawley's Persian Tabby grand premier Dulcimer Merlin can be seen at the Midwest Persian Tabby Fanciers 37th annual Allbreed Cat Show this weekend.

The CFA is the largest registry of pedigree cats in the world and like the Midwest Persian Tabby Fanciers, it is committed to promoting the welfare of all cats, improvement of breeds and registration of pedigreed cats and kittens. It also maintains a Disaster Relief Fund to provide financial and logistical assistance at times of natural and human disasters.

The show is open to the public 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$4 for senior citizens and \$3 for children. For more information about the show, call Hawley at (248) 393-1986.

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TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

William Heine describes his white doves as very docile, very calm creatures who can be handled and are "totally people friendly."

## BIRDS

FROM PAGE A1

mize things from getting out around the house," he said. "It's almost an aviary."

He will need to be able to come and get his birds for performances. He does 20-30 shows a year.

"I won't show up unannounced and it won't be a weekly thing, at the most, a few times a month," he said. "I'm not going to be interrupting them daily, but I do need access to my birds."

Vacations are no problem either, since it's extremely easy for him to stop by and feed and water and do a quick bedding change, he said. And if something happens to a bird, it's "not a big deal."

"I'll go out and get another," he said. "The birds do make noise, but not a hostile noise, a beautiful noise," Heine said. They need light, but when the lights are turned off, they stop cooing and

remain silent in the dark. If they are in an area where they need to be made quiet, the cage can be covered with a cloth.

"When the sun comes up, there's a beautiful cooing, they're a natural alarm clock," he said. "They also make a laughing sound. It's one of the coolest things."

His doves can be treated as pets.

They're very docile, very calm creatures who can be handled and are "totally people friendly."

And caring for his birds comes with a perk — at least one free magic show a year.

Heine would like to keep his birds in the western Wayne County area. People interested in caring for them can call him at (734) 454-9392.

"It's important I find a family that understands how important these birds are," Heine said. "They also have to be an animal lover first."

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## PROMOTIONS

FROM PAGE A1

Wild said, issuing a statement confirming the retirements and promotions.

The retirements put in motion the largest number of one-day police promotions since September 2003. The latest promotions, however, are higher in rank.

Lt. Alan Ramsden will replace Stobbe as deputy chief, and Sgt. Michael Matich will move to the rank of lieutenant.

That opens the door for Officer Todd Adams to be promoted to sergeant.

Due to Handzlik's retirement, Sgt. Rob Collier will be promoted to the rank of lieutenant, and Officer Brian Miller will move up to the position of sergeant.

Although Wild said the department will miss Stobbe and Handzlik, he added, "We also welcome the addition of these qualified individuals and know they will do a fine job for the city of Westland."

Police Chief Daniel Pfannes said the department has lost a wealth of institutional knowledge with the retirement of Stobbe and Handzlik.

"With the retirements of Deputy Chief Stobbe and Lt. Handzlik, the department has lost almost 56 years of institutional memory," Pfannes said. "Both of these men have served the vast majority of their adult lives in service to this community, and now it is time for them to enjoy their retirement." Pfannes also welcomed hav-

ing some of his employees move up the ladder.

"I am very excited about the promotions," he said. "Each of these officers will be assigned to a key leadership position, and they will help set the directional tone at this department for years to come."

"I am proud to be a part of the process," the chief said, "and I am honored to be sharing this special day with each of the promotees."

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# Salvation Army to volunteers: You make it all possible

BY JULIE BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

John Fisher Jr. of Wayne had a volunteer requirement for his 2006 graduation from Wayne Memorial High School. He found his way to the Wayne-Westland Corps of the Salvation Army.

"I tutored, I helped out in the classrooms, I pretty much did anything they needed me to do," said 19-year-old Fisher, a U Haul employee who was among those honored Friday,

Jan. 19, at the corps volunteer appreciation dinner in Westland. "I met a lot of nice people. I learned some things."

Corps commanders Capts. Mindie and Matt O'Neil praised the 60-some people who braved the wintry weather to attend, along with the others who couldn't be there.

Matt O'Neil said some 425 volunteers assisted in 2006. He's grateful for "good staff and good community to support us in our mission."

Among attendees was Roy

Klay, chairman of the advisory council for the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army.

"I started out representing the school district," said Klay, a retired educator who had 39 years in the Wayne-Westland schools. "I've been on ever since."

Klay's glad the Salvation Army is a local presence.

"I think it does a lot of good helping people in need, taking care of them," the Wayne resident said. He pointed to help with heat, food, clothing and

spiritual assistance.

"It gives them a church to belong to," Klay said of the building on Venoy south of Palmer.

Some 2,100 people (586 families) were helped locally by the Salvation Army at Christmas, Matt O'Neil said, along with more than 9,000 the rest of the year. Staffers Margaret Gaster and Ty Peterson gave a brief overview of programs and services for 2006.

"Give yourselves a hand,"

said Gaster, a social worker who directs social ministries. "That's great."

Mindie O'Neil agreed: "You all are our support."

Volunteer activities include visiting people in nursing homes and giving gifts, sending kids to camp, an after-school program offering physical education, recreation and school support, the advisory council, Christmas bell ringers and application screeners.

Wayne Community Living Services was recognized for

help with the senior dinner, and Prince of Peace Lutheran Church for help in the feeding program.

"It takes a special person to give of themselves," said Peterson, community program director.

Matt O'Neil read from the Bible, 1 Peter, noting that "love covers a multitude of sins." He said all should serve with the strength God provides.

"We wouldn't be able to do this without you," he added. "You actually make us run."

## AROUND WESTLAND

### Valentine fun

The Westland senior citizen Friendship Center is inviting local seniors for fellowship and entertainment during a Valentine's Day party 1-3 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 14.

The afternoon will include Neil Diamond songs performed by David James & Talent Live Studios and other musical surprises. Hors d'oeuvres and sweets will be served.

The Friendship Center is located at 1119 N. Newburgh. Tickets are \$5 for members and \$8 for guests. Call (734) 722-7632.

### Country breakfast

AMVETS Post 171 and its auxiliary will hold a country breakfast from 9 a.m. to noon Sunday, Jan. 28, at the hall, 1217 Merriman, south of Cherry Hill in Westland.

The cost will be \$4 for adults and \$2.50 for kids up to age 12 for hash browns, pancakes, eggs, sausage, bacon, biscuits and gravy, coffee and tea. Milk and juice will be available for an extra 50-cent charge.

### Baseball registrations

The Wayne Ford Civic League, at 1645 N. Wayne Road, Westland, is registering children ages 4-10 years old for its co-ed baseball league. Registrations will be held 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday, starting Feb. 10, until all the teams are filled.

T-Ball players (ages 4-6) and Coach Pitch players (ages 7-8) cost \$65 per player, Mustang players (ages 9-10) cost \$80 per player. There will not be a residency fee charged for children living outside Westland and no fund-raising requirements associated with this year's program.

Managers, coaches and umpires are always needed. Online registration forms can be obtained at [www.wayneford.org/youth/youth.html](http://www.wayneford.org/youth/youth.html).

### Bingo

The Ladies Auxiliary of Harris Kehrer VFW Post 3323 will hold a marathon bingo noon-5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 3, at the post, 1055 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Money raised will go towards the post's general fund projects for veterans.

A second marathon bingo will be held noon-5 p.m. Saturday, March 10, to support the Youth Activities Adopt A Troop project for overseas veterans.

### Vegas Night

St. Theodore Parish will hold a Vegas Night 6 p.m. to midnight Friday, Feb. 2, and Saturday, Feb. 3, at the church, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland.

There will be 50/50 drawings every hour and games like Black Jack, Let It Ride, Easy Craps, roulette, money wheel and Texas Hold'em. The maximum win will be \$500 per person. Food, Beer, wine and soft drinks will be available. Admission is \$2. Call (734) 425-4421, voicemail 10.

### Mardi Gras

The Westland Rotary Charitable Foundation will present a Mardi Gras Celebration 6:30 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Jan. 27, at the Romanowski VF Post 6896, 28999 Joy Road, Westland.

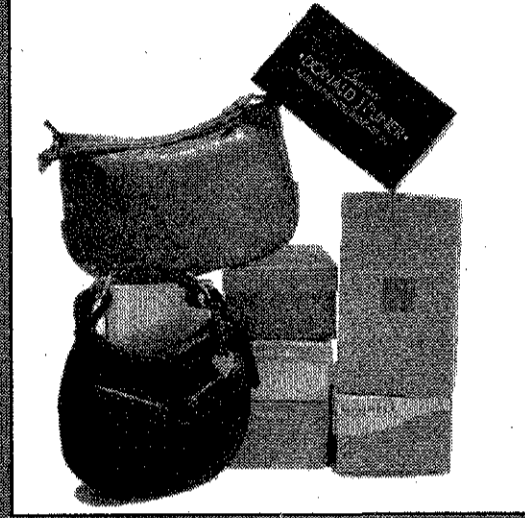
Tickets cost \$80 per couple and include one reverse raffle ticket, and \$50 per individual (does not include raffle ticket). Tables of eight with four reverse raffle tickets cost \$300. Reverse raffle tickets also are available for \$50 and have a top prize of \$1,000 and a second prize of a \$500 LaSalle Bank gift card. Tickets are available at C & M Printing, 5854 N. Wayne Road, the Westland Chamber of Commerce, 36900 Ford, and Angelo Plakas & Associates at 35330 Nankin Blvd., Suite 702. Call Mark McConnell at (734) 421-5510 or visit the Rotary Web site at [www.westlandrotary.org](http://www.westlandrotary.org).

Friday, January 26 and Saturday, January 27

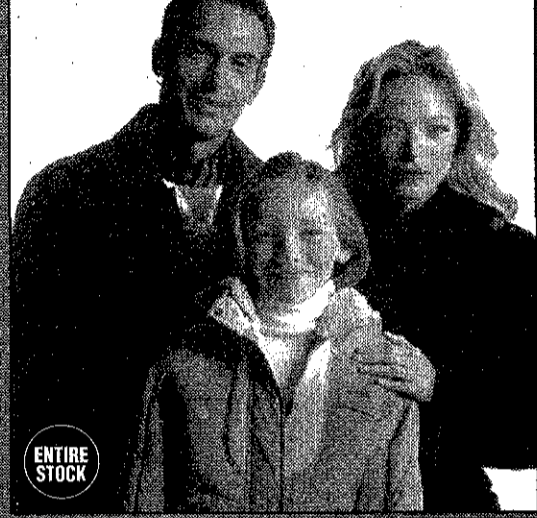
# TWO DAYS SALE



**60% OFF** ENTIRE STOCK of **SNUGGLE SOFT™** throws, robes, hoodies & pants for women & men in a large selection of colors & prints. Orig. 28.00-60.00. **sale 11.20-24.00. SAVE ON CHILDREN'S ROBES, PANTS, SLIPPERS & TROWLS.** Sizes S-M-L-XL. Orig. 13.00-40.00. **sale 7.20-16.00.** IN MEN'S, LADIES & CHILDREN'S. SELECTION VARIES BY STORE. EXCLUDES LADIES' SLIPPERS.



**extra 60% OFF** already reduced **LADIES' CLEARANCE SHOES & HANDBAGS.** Orig. 28.00-300.00. **sale 20.99-239.99. now 8.40-96.00.** IN HANDBAGS AND LADIES' SHOES. SELECTION VARIES BY STORE.



**75% OFF** ENTIRE STOCK of **OUTERWEAR** for ladies, men & children. Choose from different fabrics and styles. Orig. 30.00-395.00. **sale 7.50-98.75.** IN LADIES', MEN'S AND CHILDREN'S. EXCLUDES COLUMBIA, MARC NY, DAUFORSE, ROBERTI, COMSTOCK & CLAIRBORNE. IN MEN'S, SELECTION VARIES BY STORE.



**14.99** ENTIRE STOCK of **SWEATERS** in fall and holiday styles from **relativity & Joseph A.** Orig. 40.00-58.00. IN LADIES' SPORTSWEAR. SELECTION VARIES BY STORE.



**40% OFF** **DRESSES** in a large selection of the season's best styles. Orig. 98.00-208.00. **sale 58.80-124.80.** IN DRESSES. SELECTION VARIES BY STORE.



**60% OFF** ENTIRE STOCK\* of **LADIES' BOOTS & large selection of DESIGNER HANDBAGS.** Orig. 49.00-350.00. **sale 19.60-140.00.** IN SHOES & HANDBAGS. \*EXCLUDES BOOTS FROM DONALD J. PLINER, STUART WEITZMAN, TIGG AND FRYE. SELECTION VARIES BY STORE.

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**ALL sale and clearance purchases**

valid Friday, January 26 & Saturday, January 27

\*TAKE 10% OFF SHOES AND MEN'S SPORT COATS & SUITS. EXCLUDES DOORBUSTERS, INCREDIBLE VALUE ITEMS, BONUS BUYS, BORN, CHILDREN'S LEV'S, COLE HAAN, COLUMBIA SPORTSWEAR, COSMETIC ACCESSORIES, COSMETICS, CROCS, DONALD J. PLINER, FERRAGAMO, GREAT BUYS AND DESIGNER COLLECTIONS IN FINE JEWELRY, SPECIAL EVENTS AND WATCHES IN FINE JEWELRY SERVICE CONTRACTS IN FINE JEWELRY, FRAGRANCES, GIFT CARDS, GODIVA, INTIMATE APPAREL, JISSAW LADIES' OUTERWEAR, MEN'S LEATHER OUTERWEAR, MERRELL, MINARO, MOUSSANTE, RAINBOW REEF, ROBERT TALBOT NECKWEAR, SALONS, SERVICES, SHARPER IMAGE, SPECIAL ORDERS, THE MIDDLETON DOLL COMPANY AND WATERFORD. MUST PRESENT THIS DISCOUNT OFFER FOR SAVINGS. CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH STRIVECTIN OR ANY OTHER DISCOUNT OFFER. NOT VALID ON PREVIOUSLY PURCHASED ITEMS.



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**20% OFF\***

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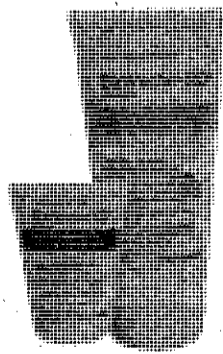
**TWO-DAY SHOPPING PASS**  
**ALL sale and clearance purchases when you use your Parisian card**

valid Friday, January 26 & Saturday, January 27

\*TAKE 10% OFF SHOES AND MEN'S SPORT COATS & SUITS. EXCLUDES DOORBUSTERS, INCREDIBLE VALUE ITEMS, BONUS BUYS, BORN, CHILDREN'S LEV'S, COLE HAAN, COLUMBIA SPORTSWEAR, COSMETIC ACCESSORIES, COSMETICS, CROCS, DONALD J. PLINER, FERRAGAMO, GREAT BUYS AND DESIGNER COLLECTIONS IN FINE JEWELRY, SPECIAL EVENTS AND WATCHES IN FINE JEWELRY SERVICE CONTRACTS IN FINE JEWELRY, FRAGRANCES, GIFT CARDS, GODIVA, INTIMATE APPAREL, JISSAW LADIES' OUTERWEAR, MEN'S LEATHER OUTERWEAR, MERRELL, MINARO, MOUSSANTE, RAINBOW REEF, ROBERT TALBOT NECKWEAR, SALONS, SERVICES, SHARPER IMAGE, SPECIAL ORDERS, THE MIDDLETON DOLL COMPANY AND WATERFORD. MUST PRESENT THIS DISCOUNT OFFER AND YOUR PARISIAN CARD FOR SAVINGS. CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH STRIVECTIN OR ANY OTHER DISCOUNT OFFER. NOT VALID ON PREVIOUSLY PURCHASED ITEMS.



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**FOUR DAYS ONLY—Thursday thru Sunday**  
**BETTER THAN BOTOX®?**

**20% OFF ENTIRE STOCK OF STRIVECTIN-SD.** Don't miss this last opportunity! "The anti-wrinkle breakthrough of the decade" just got even better. Shop Friday, January 26 thru Sunday, January 28 and enjoy 20% off StriVectin-SD™. It takes care of aging signs Botox® can't touch—fine lines, stretch marks, facial wrinkles, even dark under-eye circles. 6.0 oz. tube. Reg. 135.00, **sale 108.00.** Eye cream. Reg. 59.00, **sale 47.20.** Hydro-Thermal Deep Wrinkle Serum. Reg. 153.00, **sale 122.40.** Ultra-Concentrate Cream for the Hands. Reg. 38.00, **sale 30.40.** IN COSMETICS. WHILE SUPPLIES LAST. EXCLUDES HYLEXIN AND IDEBENOL. \*BOTOX® IS A REGISTERED TRADEMARK OF ALLERGAN, INC. CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER DISCOUNT OFFER.

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**PARISIAN SIGNATURE REWARDS** EARN PARISIAN REWARD POINTS WITH EVERY PARISIAN CREDIT CARD PURCHASE. **SHOP MORE. EARN MORE. SAVE MORE.**  
**TO ORDER ANYTIME, CALL 1-800-424-8185: MONDAY THRU SATURDAY, 10:00 AM TO 10:00 PM EST, AND SUNDAY, 11:00 AM TO 7:00 PM EST. American Express not accepted with phone orders.**  
**STORE HOURS:** The Village of Rochester Hills (248) 276-8705 and Laurel Park Place (734) 953-7500 open Sun. 12-6, Mon.-Sat. 10-9.  
**CHARGE IT:** Parisian Credit Card, MasterCard, Visa, the American Express® Card or Discover®. **LOCATED AT THE VILLAGE OF ROCHESTER HILLS, CORNER OF NORTH ADAMS ROAD AND WALTON STREET; AND LAUREL PARK PLACE IN LIVONIA, CORNER OF NEWBURGH ROAD AND SIX MILE ROAD.** Percentages off regular prices or original prices, as shown.  
Actual savings may exceed stated percentage off. \*Regular and \*Original prices reflect offering prices which may not have resulted in actual sales. Merchandise selection may vary from one store to another.

# Opening soon. Your *Style*.

Mellow

Feeling Mellow today?

Consider this an open invitation to experience a whole new way to buy wine. Welcome to WineStyles.

We're dedicated to taking the confusion out of wine selection with our WineStyles *Style System*<sup>™</sup>. Simply put, an easy way for you to find a wine that fits your style.

From Mellow to Bubbly, we've got your style.

## GRAND OPENING

You're invited.

Come join us for wine tasting and hors d'oeuvres as we celebrate our Grand Opening.

Friday January 26, 2007 • 5pm - 9pm  
 Saturday January 27, 2007 • 11am - 9pm  
 Sunday January 28, 2007 • 12pm - 5pm

**WineStyles**<sup>®</sup>  
 Because every day is an occasion.

Crisp

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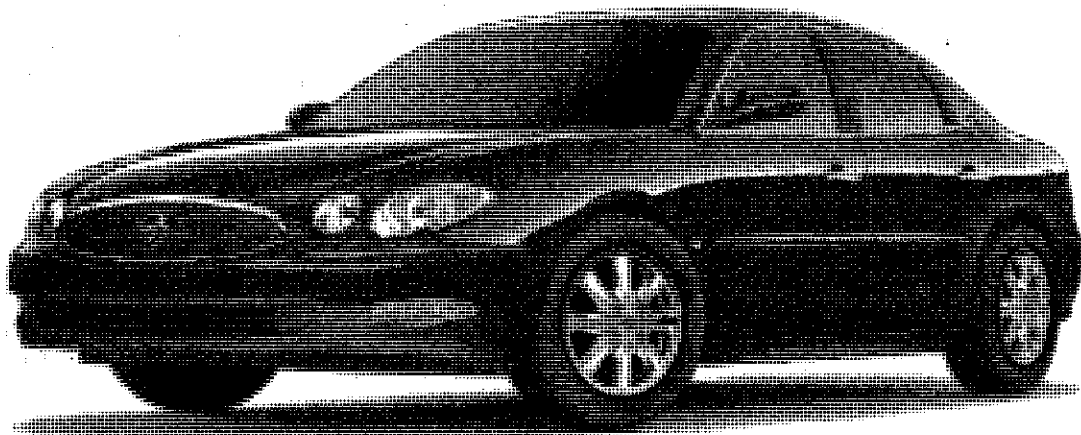
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**2007 BUICK LACROSSE® CX SPECIAL EDITION**  
with Chrome Enhancement Package  
**Qualified GM Employees and Eligible Family Members:**  
Low Mileage Lease

**\$199**/month for 24 months  
\$2,749 due at signing after all offers\*

No security deposit required.  
Mileage charge of \$.25/mile over 20,000 miles.  
Tax, title, license and dealer fees extra.



**2007 BUICK RENDEZVOUS® CX**  
**Qualified GM Employees and Eligible Family Members**  
with a Current Buick Lease:

Low Mileage Lease

**\$189**/month for 24 months  
\$1,729 due at signing after all offers\*

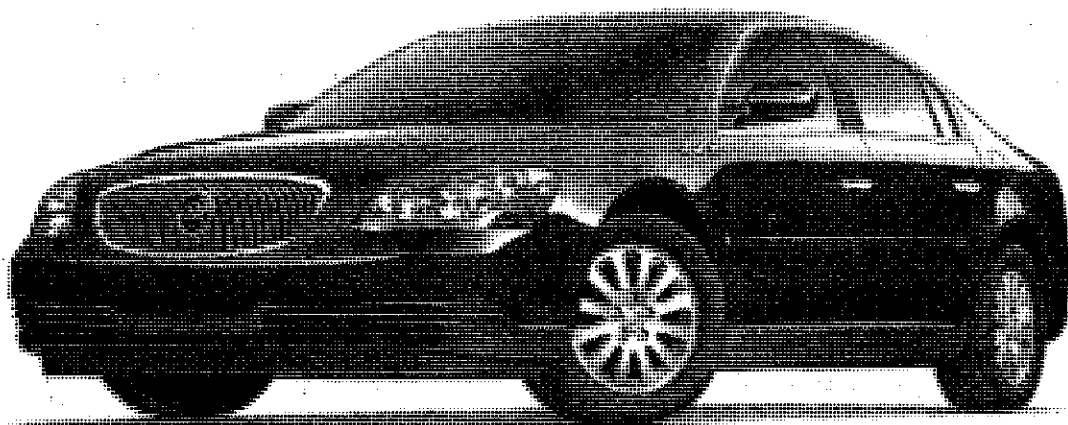
No security deposit required.  
Mileage charge of \$.25/mile over 20,000 miles.  
Tax, title, license and dealer fees extra.

OR

Low Mileage Smartlease Plus  
24 month lease

**\$5,771** single payment  
due at signing after all offers\*\*

No security deposit required.  
Mileage charge of \$.25/mile over 20,000 miles.  
Tax, title, license and dealer fees extra.



**2007 BUICK LUCERNE® CX**  
**Qualified GM Employees and Eligible Family Members:**  
Low Mileage Lease

**\$259**/month for 39 months  
\$2,059 due at signing after all offers\*

No security deposit required.  
Mileage charge of \$.25/mile over 32,500 miles.  
Tax, title, license and dealer fees extra.



**100,000-MILE WARRANTY**  
**5-YEAR POWERTRAIN†**



**ONE-YEAR STANDARD ONSTAR® VOICE-GUIDED**  
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\*Payments are for a 2007 Buick LaCrosse CX Special Edition with Chrome Enhancement Package with an MSRP of \$23,480, 24 monthly payments total \$4,772, a 2007 Buick Rendezvous CX with an MSRP of \$25,925, 24 monthly payments total \$4,528, and a 2007 Buick Lucerne CX with an MSRP of \$26,410, 39 monthly payments total \$10,089. Option to purchase at lease end for an amount to be determined at lease signing. GMAC must approve lease. Lessee pays for excess wear. Not available with other offers. Residency restrictions apply. Must show proof of current Buick lease on Rendezvous. Take delivery by 1/31/07.  
\*\*Payments are for a 2007 Buick Rendezvous CX with an MSRP of \$25,925. One time payment of \$5,771. Option to purchase at lease end for an amount to be determined at lease signing. GMAC must approve lease. Lessee pays for excess wear. Not available with other offers. Residency restrictions apply. Must show proof of current Buick lease on Rendezvous. Take delivery by 1/31/07.  
† 2007 models. Whichever comes first. See dealer for limited warranty details.  
†† Turn-by-Turn not available in certain markets. Call 1-888-466-7827 for system limitations and details.  
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Health lectures**  
Dr. Carol A. Fischer, a member of the Doctor's Speaker Bureau will present writing a lecture on "Depression and Sleep Disorders" at 6 p.m. Monday, Jan. 29, at the Alfred Noble Library, 32901 Plymouth Road, Livonia. The program will cover reasons why you may suffer from such symptoms feeling depressed or living without sleep and offer information on natural alternatives to pharmaceuticals. There is no charge for classes, however, seating is limited. Call (734) 425-8588 for reservation.

**Vegas Night**  
Notre Dame Prep/Marist Academy Pontiac campus is holding a Vegas Night featuring Texas Hold'em, poker, craps, blackjack and more to raise money for the school at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 3. Admission \$25 at the door. 1300 Giddings Road, Pontiac.

**VNA volunteers**  
The Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan's hospice program needs compassionate volunteers to comfort and support patients at the end of life in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. In as little as 2-4 hours per week, volunteers can provide companionship, write a memoir, provide respite for family members or provide office support. A free 15-hour comprehensive training program is provided. The next training session is 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 10, 17. All training takes place at the Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan headquarters at 25900

Greenfield Road, Suite 600. For more information or to register, call (800) 882-5720, Ext. 8361 or visit the Web site at www.vna.org.  
**Explore Girl Scouting**  
Girls ages 5-17 can discover how much Girl Scouts has to offer all. Scouting isn't just about camping and cookies anymore. Girls learn a lot about themselves and the world around them, form lasting friendships, become more confident, independent, helpful and resourceful. Through Girl Scouting, girls learn the importance of community service and challenge themselves and develop value systems they use the rest of their lives. See what Girl Scouts has to offer. Call (800) 49-SCOUT (497-2688.)

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. For information, 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.

**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.

FOR YOUR HEALTH

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

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



**M**  
University of Michigan  
Kellogg Eye Center

**NEW VISION FOR THE NEW YEAR**

**KELLOGG HAS SOMETHING NEW FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT CANDIDATES FOR LASIK**

It's an implantable lens that corrects nearsightedness and offers excellent visual acuity. You cannot see it or feel it once it is in place. Kellogg Eye Center physicians are among the few who are qualified to perform this new procedure.

Call for an appointment in Canton to see if this procedure is right for you. You can reach us at [lasik@umich.edu](mailto:lasik@umich.edu) or 734.615.6914.

learn more at [www.kellogg.umich.edu/LASIK](http://www.kellogg.umich.edu/LASIK)

**Applications accepted for BPW scholarship**

Wayne Business and Professional Women's Club is accepting applications for its career development scholarship now through Jan. 31.

The scholarship is for women who may be in need of help continuing their education, women who are entering or reentering the workforce or seeking to advance their career.

Candidates for the scholarship must demonstrate a financial need, live or work in Wayne or Westland, have been formally accepted into a college or vocational/technical program and have a minimum of a 2.8 grade point average.

Completed application can be mailed to the Wayne Business and Professional Women's Club, Career Development Scholarship Committee, 34030 Fountain Blvd. Westland, MI 48185.

For more information, call Amy Allen at (734) 522-1603 or by e-mail at [mailallenab4@yahoo.com](mailto:mailallenab4@yahoo.com).

The holidays can reveal some changes in your parents.

Sunrise Senior Living can help.

**Disinterest in regular activities. Unusual forgetfulness. Changes in behavior.**

The holidays can make you aware of subtle changes in a senior loved one that may concern you. Sunrise Senior Living can help you recognize the significance of these changes and help you plan ahead for life's adjustments.

Our resident-centered approach to senior living puts seniors first, giving them options to meet their individual needs and wishes.

We offer a variety of living arrangements, personalized assistance and care, quality amenities and services, delicious meals, stimulating activities and scheduled group outings.

Visit or call Sunrise Senior Living today and let us be your resource for senior living options. In Northville, we offer Assisted Living and Alzheimer's Care.

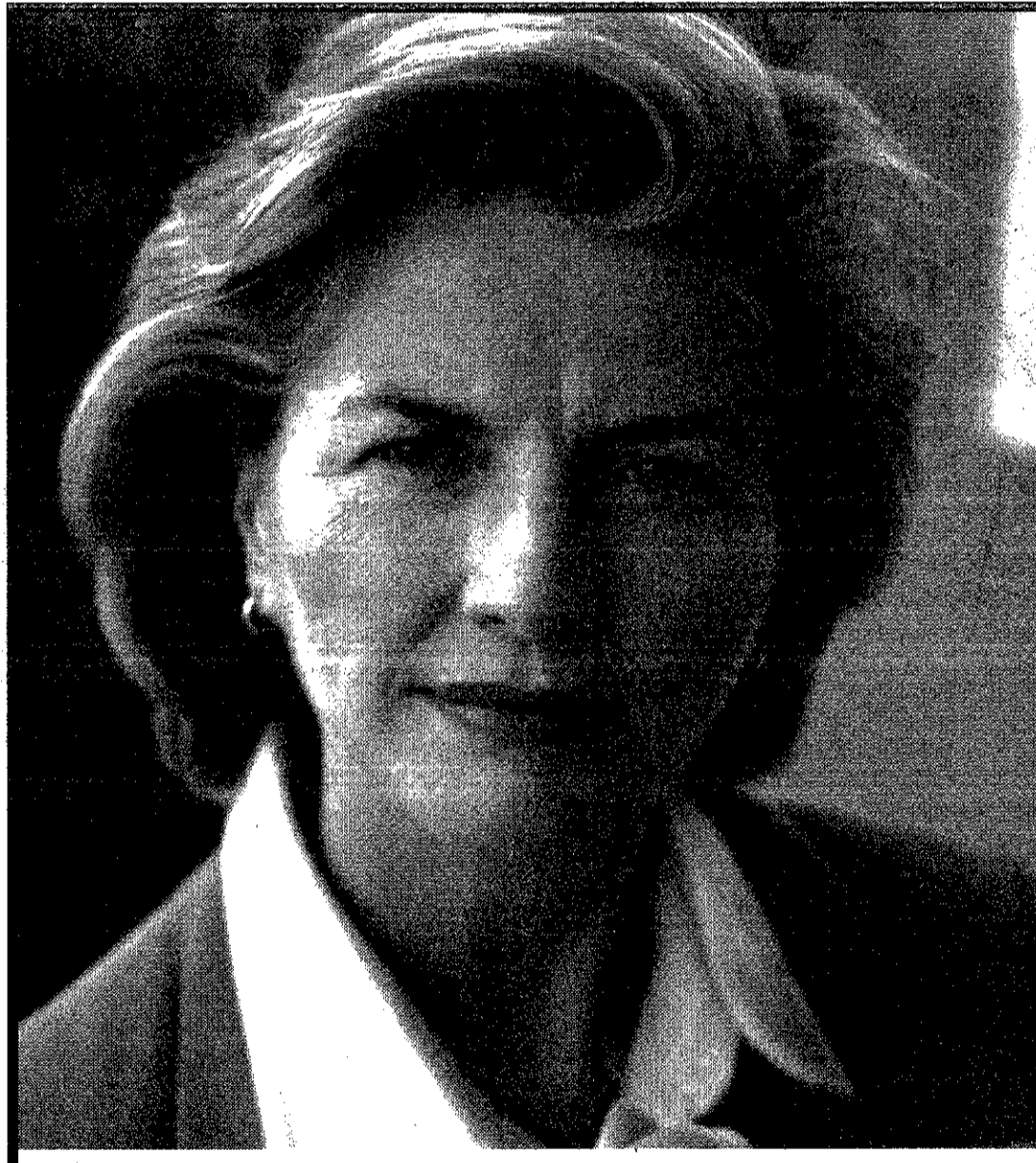
Call today to learn more about our special offers for January!

**SUNRISE SENIOR LIVING**

Assisted Living Alzheimer's Care

Northville	Brighton Gardens of Northville	734-420-7917	15870 Haggerty Road
Northville	Sunrise of Northville	734-420-4000	16100 Haggerty Road

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# State House Dems plan 'bold initiatives'

BY MATT JACHMAN  
STAFF WRITER

Looking past the state's budget crisis, local Democratic legislators, led by Rep. Andy Dillon of Redford, outlined their major goals for Michigan during a press conference Monday.

Dillon, the new Speaker of the state House of Representatives, said House Democrats plan "bold initiatives" to address the state's problems.

"We want to meet the problems of the state head-on" instead of "just tweaking the edges," said Dillon at the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. He was joined by Reps. Marc Corriveau of Northville and Richard LeBlanc of Westland to present the House Democrats agenda for the coming legislative session at Schoolcraft College's VisTaTech Center.

The House Democrats plan measures in six areas: health-care costs, education, environmental protection, energy needs, consumer protection, and House ethics.



Left to right, Speaker of the House Andy Dillon of Redford with Reps. Marc Corriveau of Northville and Richard LeBlanc of Westland present the House Democrats agenda for the coming legislative session at Schoolcraft College's VisTaTech Center.

The trio didn't say where money for Democrats' goals would be found. But, asked about the state's financial woes - a projected \$800 million budget shortfall - Dillon said House members plan to brain-

storm for ways to plug that hole by cutting spending and increasing revenues by, for example, perhaps selling state assets.

"We need to reorganize our tax structure," added Dillon.

The current tax system was designed for an economy that's changed, he said.

Dillon wouldn't rule out some type of tax increase, but said that's not his first option.

"Everything is on the table, but I'm not going to jump to that conclusion just yet," Dillon said of raising taxes.

The results of November's election indicated voters are looking for bipartisan cooperation, and it's in that spirit that House Democrats will proceed, Dillon said. He said he's optimistic the House will be able to work with the state Senate, which is controlled by Republicans.

Dillon, Corriveau and LeBlanc took turns discussing the Democrats' agenda. It included:

■ Assisting residents with health-care costs by providing statewide insurance for catastrophic claims. Dillon and other House members introduced a catastrophic claims insurance bill in 2005.

■ Supporting the use of ethanol, a corn-based fuel that can power some vehicles, plus solar and wind power. "This country needs to reduce its dependence on foreign oil," Dillon said. A predicted electricity shortage, he added, means energy companies need incentives to build power plants in Michigan.

■ Attracting businesses and jobs by strengthening education. "We have to give them the tools to compete," Corriveau said of Michigan students. He pointed to Schoolcraft's biomedical technology building, which is under construction, as an example of the development needed to draw technology-related jobs.

■ Passing new ethics rules, such as banning House members from state lobbying for one year after they leave office, and requiring representatives to disclose financial interests.

■ Working to curb insurance redlining, the practice of charging people who live in

high-crime areas more for insurance, and increasing the penalties for identity-theft crimes. LeBlanc said he had been the victim of identity theft. "It was a horrific experience," he said.

■ Passing an 18-month moratorium on the "populax" - the additional property taxes homeowners pay after buying a new home, which removes the Proposal A "cap" on taxable value. Dillon said the moratorium could be structured to avoid affecting taxing entities, and that it could spur home sales and related economic activity, such as remodeling and the purchase of furnishings.

"I do believe we need to look at a long-term fix for this," Dillon added.

House Democrats announced their new agenda at 16 different communities around the state on Monday. Dillon appeared at four of those stops: Monroe, Livonia, Jackson and Lansing.

## Madonna University to host photographic art exhibit

The exhibit Simulacra: Photographic Semblances by Rachel Holland will be on display in the Madonna University Exhibit Gallery. The exhibit runs through Tuesday, Feb. 6.

Detroit photographer Rachel Holland specializes in photographing people. She has a BFA in commercial photography from the Center for Creative Studies, College of Art & Design. Her clients include advertising agencies, magazines and service-based companies.

For Simulacra, Holland has culled images from her commercial as well as her personal collections. Each composition carries its own formal, controlled qualities and in that respect becomes a portrait of the artist herself.

Holland's images act as abstract representations of the real. Her portraits reveal

only fragments of the complex nature of the personalities of her subjects, reducing them to their most graphic elements. This allows the artist to focus on the forms her subjects create within the space of each composition. Furthermore, while traditional portraiture centers primarily on the face, Holland also finds expression of the personal in other facets of the body that have a language all their own.

Admission to the Madonna Exhibit Gallery is free and the public is invited to attend. Gallery hours are Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. Madonna University, located at I-96 and Levan Road in Livonia, offers bachelor's and associate's degrees in graphic design and fine art.



The photos of Rachel Holland are featured at Madonna University.

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### OUR VIEWS

## MDEQ's request is correct action

When Mark LeSuer came forward with photographs of the dump that would become Central City Park, it was to show what the area looked like in the 1970s.

Little did he know that those photographs would prompt the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's request for more extensive testing of the park which has been closed since early November because of contamination.

The request doesn't sit well with Wayne County which leases the property to the City of Westland. County officials consider the request a "significant and unfortunate departure from the previously agreed focus of remediating the site."

We disagree. While getting the park cleaned up and reopened is a priority, we believe every step should be taken to ensure that it is done correctly. Remediation can't begin until it's known precisely what's there, and LeSuer's photographs clearly show it was more than street sweepings and catch basin residues the county said was deposited there from the 1930s to the 1970s.

The land doesn't sit out in the middle of nowhere, it's in a city and is used as a park. A quick fix won't allay fears. People need to know that when it reopens, the park is safe for all manner of recreation.

We can understand the county's reaction to the MDEQ request. It means it will have to spend more for the tests and quite likely the remediation. The fact that county is reviewing what it calls "extraordinary factual claims and demands" and will respond accordingly hints that it will go forward with this kicking and screaming.

Even if it is never again used for recreation, Central City Park needs to be thoroughly tested and cleaned up. We are the stewards of this earth. It is our waste that has created problems like Central City Park. While it is nothing near to being another Love Canal, the county owes it to everyone to do what is necessary to make the land safe.

## Guv needs to hear from you on fixes for state finances

It's no secret that Michigan is in a bind.

The state's economy has been shaky for several years as the auto companies struggle to compete in the global marketplace.

State and local governments are finding it hard to deliver services with declining tax revenues and rising costs.

Gov. Jennifer Granholm has created a 12-member emergency commission to offer suggestions for dealing with a projected \$3 billion budget shortfall by 2008. This year's deficit is estimated at \$800 million. Granholm has enlisted former governors William Milliken and Jim Blanchard to chair the Emergency Financial Advisory Panel.

The panel includes former state legislators, educators, former Attorney General Frank Kelley and former state Treasurer Doug Roberts.

Canton Township Supervisor Tom Yack complains that the committee does not include a representative for local government and is "stacked" in favor of the "education establishment." He has suggested that the governor add members to the committee to address his concerns. We concur.

We also take note of Yack's more general criticism of the committee.

"The entire tax structure of the state has to be reviewed with an eye toward a total overhaul. Working on the edges may prove to be short-sighted and may not result in a long term sustainable economic climate," he said in a press release.

Indeed it is hard to imagine that this committee, no matter how distinguished, can solve a problem that the state Legislature has been unable or unwilling to tackle over the last four years. Some argue that the committee will provide cover for the governor when it recommends the tax increases that will inevitably follow its deliberations.

The choices are fairly simple — severely cut government services, which includes local schools, facing a \$224 per student cut, and local government, or increase taxes.

What would you do? What would you cut, what would you keep? What is a fair tax structure that maintains government services even when the economy tanks? What tax plan will be fair? What can we do without?

We believe the governor needs to turn to the committee of the whole — the residents of Michigan — and get their input on these important questions.

We invite you to share your plan for Michigan's future. E-mail your suggestions to myadvice@hometownlife.com.

We'll publish and send your comments to local lawmakers and the governor's office. Tell us what you think.

SURE, GOVERNOR, IT MIGHT HELP THE ECONOMY, BUT I DON'T THINK OUT-SOURCING THE ENTIRE STATE IS PRACTICAL!



### LETTERS

#### She will be truly missed

The Westland Historical Commission is losing a valuable member. Dolores Smith has resigned as she no longer lives in Westland.

Dolores served on the Historical Commission for seven years, during which time she was instrumental in establishing the museum's historic archive files and conducting museum tours. She has worked steadily in maintaining these files and keeping them current.

On behalf of the commission members, I would like to thank Dolores for her dedication and hard work. She will truly be missed by all.

**Jo Johnson**  
chairperson  
Westland Historical Commission

#### Comments were inappropriate

In a Jan. 18 article in the *Westland Observer* regarding the appointments of Messrs. Reeves and Johnson to the Westland City Council, Mr. Godbout stated that the appointments were about "Power and Control." One could suspect that Mr. Godbout and Mr. Kehrer had made their back-room deals because they voted exactly the same way (said yes to the same candidates and no to the same candidates). Mr. Godbout had your preferred candidates been appointed, would that have been about "Power and Control?"

Mr. Godbout's attack on council members Stottlemeyer, Graunstadt and Pickering during the last council meeting was highly inappropriate. He sounded like nothing more than a spoiled brat whining because he didn't get his own way. I guarantee you, if Mr. Godbout's name is on this year's ballot to retain his council seat, he definitely will not get my vote.

**Shirley Tenney**  
Westland

#### Public apology needed

Having just watched the last City Council meeting, I just had to voice my opinion about Mr. Godbout's comments. I think his remarks about the two new council people were insulting and he should apologize publicly to both of them. His child-like behavior is about what you would expect from someone who went from the top to the bottom. As far as nepotism goes, does he not have a family member who works for the city? If my information is wrong about this then I apologize in advance.

I believe that we have a well-balanced council for a change, and I think that our city will move forth.

And on a closing note, it was really good to see Mr. Pickering and Mrs. Graunstadt both agreeing that you don't need a cry baby on the council.

**Rodger Caldwell**  
Westland

#### Park blown out of proportion

I am so angry! We have a fence around the whole park, yet we have no fence around the kiddy park. How do we know the contamination isn't there also?

If the adult kids can't have the park, why should the little kids have theirs? Fair is fair. Why don't we fence off the entire city? That is how this is looking, people. Before long this park will look like a Detroit park.

We are all dying of something — cancer, disease of some kind — we just don't know it until we see a doctor. Heck, no one has died yet since this park has been opened — I guess in 1978, when I was pregnant with my son. We are not dying from this park, period. So get it opened. There is always a few bad apples in the bunch that have a huge mouth on them to kill it for everyone else. Well, if everyone in Westland doesn't get together on this, this park may stay closed.

It seems to me we have a very young mayor in office that doesn't know how to be a mayor and be on happy terms with everyone. Therefore, he is losing votes because of this park. At least he doesn't get mine now. I hope he doesn't get everyone else either who wants this park. He took our taxes away from us by closing this park. We are paying for a park we can't use! We are blowing this park issue out of proportion. It's been open for 28 years and no one has died of it yet! From what I read, the council needs to be stripped also for putting this young man in the hot seat where he obviously doesn't belong!

Do you know the nickname of Westland — *Wasteland*. We should all be dead now, but we aren't and that should tell us something. *The park is safe*. When I go to the park, I want to put my head to rest, relax, watch the birds, ducks, people doing their thing. It is pleasant there, peaceful, take the load off, get my anger out, enjoy the sunshine, get away from it all. *That is my time*. Please don't take that away from me. Plus, I don't go over to the dirt pile to see if there is lead.

I'm not there to see what is in the dirt, I can do that at home. I want my path back. Open the darn fence up — I wanted to use profanity here, but I was nice.

People of Westland, please let us impeach this mayor, if possible. Thank you.

**Mari Squire**  
Westland

#### Overwhelming success

The staff at The Senior Alliance is filled with pride as the figures for the Christmas meals and holiday card program finally came in. The Senior Alliance, which coordinates a variety of services to older adults and low-income, disabled adults in southern and western Wayne County, served nearly 800 hot, festive meals on Christmas Day to seniors with the help and support of their friendly, dedicated volunteers.

Last Christmas, local print advertising created an overwhelming response from the community to volunteer their time to deliver meals. Well over half of the 300 volunteers TSA uses stepped up at Christmas. In order to raise money for the Christmas holiday meals, The Senior Alliance sells holiday cards for \$5 a piece, our cost per meal. The holiday cards program was another huge success.

This year we were able to raise enough

money to pay for the Christmas meals. One way in which TSA supported this success was by an exciting new staff contest that generated a whopping growth to the revenue for the program by encouraging staff to step up and support the program they all work so hard to run.

The financial support is crucial. Each meal costs \$5, and there are additional costs associated with the program, such as printing forms that the seniors complete, envelopes, postage and contacting the volunteers.

The Senior Alliance would like to thank all of the banks in southern and western Wayne County that participated in the holiday card program by allowing TSA volunteers to stand at their locations on Dec. 8, 2006, and sell the cards to raise funds to support the meals.

With Easter on the horizon, Pete the Fuzzy Peep will help keep the momentum going to raise money to serve even more homebound seniors this Easter holiday. Labor Day and Thanksgiving complete the holidays that meals are served to seniors, but TSA is hopeful to add more in the near future.

If the momentum continues and the financial support from throughout the community continues to grow, then TSA will be able to add additional holidays to the program. Once the meals are covered any additional money will go towards adding another holiday.

There are 12 holidays throughout the year that Home Delivered Meals are not served and without the Holiday Meals Program, many seniors go without a hot meal to warm their tummies and their hearts. For now, The Senior Alliance serves meals on Easter, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

There is no state or federal funding for Holiday Meals, and so its existence is entirely dependent upon the generosity of individual donors. Keep your eyes out for The Senior Alliance volunteers on Friday, March 23. They will be standing at many neighborhood banks, credit unions, and grocery stores raising funds for the Easter holiday meals.

If you would like to volunteer to help or make a contribution, please contact Lori Tooles-Carrington at (734) 727-2063 or at ltooles@tsalink.org.

**Lori Tooles-Carrington**  
The Senior Alliance

### 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

**"My concern is not with the Wayne-Westland policy, but the state-mandated policy. I believe it's going to increase our dropout rate by moving us to a position where every student is on a college preparatory track."**

Wayne-Westland school board Trustee Steve Becher about the state's mandated high school curriculum.

## WESTLAND Observer

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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.

# Lawmakers: Spurn partisanship, work to maintain middle class

Following are excerpts from the text of a speech by new Michigan Speaker of the House Andy Dillon, D-Redford Township, last week in Lansing. His district covers Redford and part of Livonia.

As I stand here, I can vividly recall the first day I walked into the Capitol as a newly elected representative.

My thoughts were of my Irish immigrant grandparents. I thought how very proud they would be to know that their grandson was chosen to serve in the legislature, to be part of the establishment rather than to be afraid of it. It was a very powerful emotion; one that never left me during my first two years of service and remains with me today. ....

Unfortunately, while sitting in this chamber during my first term, I saw partisanship run amok and threaten the very foundation of this institution and everything our ancestors fled from and fought for.

No agendas were produced prior to session, members of the minority party seeking to speak on an issue were not recognized, and, even worse, members out in the seats were not allowed to see the details of legislation before their votes had to be cast.

I promise you: That will never happen during my tenure as speaker. Agendas will be published. Every member will be recognized, and everyone will be allowed to read a bill or an amendment before they have to vote on it. No exceptions!

This is the people's House. It belongs to them. We are only caretakers.

The voters told us a couple of things last November: 1) We weren't getting the job done; and 2) Stop the partisan bickering. They said they want their leaders to address the problems threatening the state and middle class. ....

Never before in our lifetime has Michigan confronted so many challenges. Even in the late 1970s and early 1980s when the state's unemployment, inflation and interest rates were far worse than today, there was always an understanding that when the nation's economy bounced back, so would we. ....

Now, as the Big Three struggle, thousands of our family, friends and neighbors are getting laid off, and the new global economy threatens the middle class and our way of life, it's not clear that the next generation of Michiganders will enjoy the quality of life that ours has.

The greatest challenge for policymakers today is, how do we maintain a middle class? With all the advances in technology and the productivity that follows with it, how do we protect and create good-paying jobs, preserve the middle class, and maintain a decent standard of living that allows

anyone who works hard and plays by the rules to succeed? That is the No. 1 challenge of the public servants of the 21st century, and therefore it is ours.

Now, what are some of the challenges facing Michigan and its middle class? We have spiraling health care costs, a K-12 system that is not giving the next generation the tools they need to compete, increasing costs of higher education, a looming energy shortage resulting from our current regulatory system and a state whose fiscal house is not in order.

We are facing a budget shortfall this current fiscal year in excess of \$500 million, and next year's is in excess of \$3 billion. Bottom line: We have a lot of work to do. For this reason, we scheduled tentative session days on Mondays - much to the chagrin of many lobbyists. ....

We must move quickly to protect Michigan's middle class by 1) Expanding access to affordable health care; 2) Strengthening education; 3) Fixing the state's structural deficit; 4) Addressing Michigan's energy needs; and 5) Making Michigan a magnet for 21st century jobs by creating a tax structure that rewards investment in our state.

The people elected us to get the job done, not to advance personal or partisan agendas. .... We can make a commitment right here and right now to lay the framework for a Michigan that we can be proud of - one where you can pursue a rewarding career that pays a wage that allows you to house, clothe and feed your family, get a world-class education, access to affordable health care, the arts and recreation. ....

We're a room full of public servants. I challenge each of you to ask yourself: Who do you serve? What will you do that's going to bring about a positive change in Michigan?

We're all going to hold each other accountable, and day by day, we're going to make Michigan the state that we know it can be. None of these goals can be met unless we employ a bipartisan approach. ....

The problems faced by the State of Michigan are all of our enemies. If we are truly bipartisan, then our two parties will band together as a unit and focus our energies on overcoming our challenges. We can change the way we and others think about government. From the U.P. to Detroit, to Grand Rapids to Flint, we can unite for the sake of Michigan to fight for our objectives together. The collection of diversity and talent in this room is more than a match for the challenges facing Michigan if we work together. ....

Let us all commit to work so that when we return to our districts we can look each resident in the eye and say that we looked out for you today, we did what was right for you, and we are all going to be better off tomorrow for what we here in the House did for you today.



Andy Dillon

# Sportsmanship takes beating when fans resort to violence

As I stood in the crowd after the last home football game, waiting for my 16-year-old son to come out of the locker room, a woman approached the man standing next to me.

With sarcasm competing with disdain for prominence in her voice, she said to the gentleman, "I want to thank you for all of the opinions you offered about what a lousy job the coach is doing. He's my son, and every mother loves to hear that."

The man, who had been vociferous in his disapproval over how the coach utilized his players, particularly second- and third-stringers when his team was far ahead in the score, tried to apologize, but the apology seemed forced and hollow.

Since my son is also a second-stringer, I didn't necessarily disagree with some of what the fan said, although I wouldn't have put it as harshly. Parents of youngsters who don't see the field much are naturally skeptical of the coach who won't put them in.

I thought about writing a column about it (my bosses nixed that idea) or saying something to the coach (my son nixed that idea), then decided he was right: It's his battle, and he's old enough to fight it. The best way to do that is on the field, where he seems determined to finally break into the starting lineup next year.

It's hard as the parent of an athlete to watch your child - who works just as hard as the other kids on the team and, in the case of my son's school, pays his \$100 participation fee like everyone else - sit on the bench and not play.

But that's what you sign up for at the high school level, particularly for varsity sports. In my son's district, the student handbook says the fee is a "participation" fee, and has no bearing on actual playing time.

That shouldn't be true for youth leagues, which are designed to teach kids how to play the game. You can't learn if you don't actually play, no matter how much you practice. Still, the coaches in those leagues are there to determine how the kids are used. If you don't like it, volunteer to coach a team yourself.

What you can't do - but what an increasing number of parents are doing - is take it upon yourself to make your point, especially with violence. It used to be that incidents like the Texas mother who hired someone to kill a cheerleader who beat out her daughter for a spot on the squad were rare. Now, they're becoming commonplace.



Brad Kadrich

In Philadelphia, for instance, 40-year-old Wayne Derkotch thought his son should have been getting more playing time. It was a point he wished to impress upon the 34-year-old coach of the team, so Derkotch went down on the field. First he threw a punch, then pulled a .357 Magnum to emphasize his position.

Spectators were, of course, shocked, as well they should be.

"It was just horrible. Sixty seconds of mayhem, that's the best I can come up with," Shawn Henwood, the game's referee, told the Philadelphia Inquirer. "It all happened so fast, but in my mind, it plays back so slow. It was a strange experience that I hope I never go through again."

Nobody should ever have to go through that, but there are lots of things people should never have to go through that happen anyway. We talk about it around the office all the time - the deterioration of sportsmanship in general in sports. Fans, and especially children, see athletes acting like thugs all the time. Think these athletes aren't role models? Think again.

Sportsmanship is becoming extinct. Consider the coach's response when Derkotch asked him why his son wasn't playing: "I like to run up the score before I start putting all the kids in the game," the coach reportedly responded.

Let's not indict all coaches in all youth sports leagues. Nearly all of them are volunteers who are in it for the right reasons. They're dedicated to making life better for our youngsters.

Youngsters in these youth sports leagues are supposed to be learning not only how to play the game, but about how you're supposed to act. They count on the adults in their lives to teach them those things.

In the Philadelphia case, and in many others like it, those adults failed the children: I suspect Derkotch and the others involved in the scum, though he wasn't charged - were embarrassed about their actions in retrospect. At least I hope they were.

My son is a junior in high school who cringes if I even complain privately about how he's being used in games. Those kids in Philadelphia were 6 and 7 years old and were forced, as are an alarming number of youngsters these days, to witness parent-induced violence at one of their games.

That's what makes me cringe.

Brad Kadrich is community editor of the Plymouth Observer. He can be reached via e-mail at bkadrich@hometownlife.com or by phone at (734) 459-2700.

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# Review your life insurance and carry what you need

With the new year still upon us, one area of our personal financial affairs that we should take a few minutes to review is our life insurance needs. First, it is important to understand that not everyone needs life insurance. Life insurance is not an investment, but rather a means of covering risks. The question isn't, are you going to pass away, but rather when you do pass away does anyone lose out financially? If no one loses out financially, then you do not need life insurance. It would be similar to purchasing boat insurance if you did not have a boat.

If someone would lose out financially upon your death, then the next question to ask yourself is do you have the financial resources to cover that risk? If you don't, then life insurance is something that you should consider.

To determine how much life insurance you need, I do not believe there are any quick and easy formulas. Some people start with eight to 12 times their income and then make adjustments from that. To me, the key is your living expenses; in other words, what it costs you to live on an annual basis less other sources of income. This is what helps you determine how much life insurance you need. In addition, there are numerous Web sites that have calculators to help you with your calculation. Of course, I would not recommend that you use a Web site whose main



## Money Matters

Rick Bloom

goal is to sell life insurance.

Once you have determined that there is a need for life insurance and what that need is, then you need to begin the process of obtaining the insurance. For the great majority of people, I recommend term insurance. My belief is that most people do not need life insurance for their entire life, but rather need to cover a specific period of time; such as 'til your children are on their own. Term insurance allows you to purchase insurance for a guaranteed period of time. I like term insurance because it is priced competitively and easy to receive competitive bids.

I am frequently asked what a person should do with an old life insurance policy that they no longer need. My belief is that in the majority of situations, if you have a life insurance policy that you no longer need, you ought to cash it out and invest the money. When you cash out a life insurance policy, the tax consequences are not as harsh as many people would like you to believe. What is taxable to you is the amount that you receive from the cash surrender value of the policy, less all the premiums you have paid throughout the

life of the policy. For example, if you paid \$1,000 a year for 10 years on a life insurance policy and when that policy is liquidated, you receive \$10,050, the only amount subject to tax is \$50. My philosophy is that you should not pay for something you do not need. Even if you no longer are making premium payments, there are costs and expenses associated with that policy that you are incurring.

On the whole, I am not a fan of whole life, universal life and other types of permanent life insurance. My problem with these types of policies is they are oversold, the policies are stuffed with fees and commissions, and they rarely cover an individual's needs. With term insurance, you can purchase a substantially greater amount of insurance at a lower cost. Of course, with term insurance there are not as many commissions that are paid to the salespeople.

Take some time to review the area of life insurance. You may be surprised that by becoming proactive in this area of personal financial planning, you could save yourself a substantial amount of money and more effectively protect you and your family. Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. O&E readers can submit questions to be answered in print and online at [moneymatters@hometownlife.com](mailto:moneymatters@hometownlife.com). Listen to Rick from noon to 3 p.m. Sundays on WDTK-AM (1400) or visit his Web site at [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com).

## Learn to write a business plan at Schoolcraft seminar

A well thought out, written plan is essential to the success of a new or existing business venture. How to Write a Business Plan: Your Road Map to Success is aimed at entrepreneurs without a business plan in place. The session will provide an

overview of what comprises a dynamic, realistic business plan. Attendees will receive worksheets that outline the basic items in a business plan, and fine-tune the document with their own market research and financial information.

The seminar is scheduled for 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 14, and 9:30 to 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 14. The fee is \$40 per person.

For more information or to register, call the Schoolcraft College Business Development Center at 734-462-4438.

Valentine's Day is Wednesday, Feb. 14th. Order your sweetheart's flowers & candy early!

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# Detroit Zoo's not just a summer place

BY JULIE BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

Linda Theodore of Bloomfield Hills and twin daughters Grace and Sutton, 4½, found their way to the Detroit Zoo Friday, Jan. 12. They were among the morning visitors to the Butterfly Garden.

"They love this section," she said of her daughters. "It's a great day to come." The family has a zoo membership.

"We come a lot," Theodore said. "In the winter it's especially nice." The family likes the polar bears, and the girls learn about animals.

The Detroit Zoo's open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily in the winter, and many hardy souls visit.

"This winter's been great because we've had such mild weather," said zoo spokeswoman Patricia Mills. "And there's so much to do here in the winter."

The Butterfly Garden, maintained at 75 degrees, features more than 40 species of butterflies from Costa Rica and El Salvador. Docents Sally Rubiner of West Bloomfield and George Williams of Huntington Woods were there Jan. 12, teaching about the butterflies.

"Love for the zoo," he said of his reason for going through docent training and volunteering. "Celebrating saving wildlife."

Rubiner agreed. "The camaraderie is wonderful, not only with the guests. This is a particularly wonderful place because nobody ever comes in here angry." Before volunteering, Rubiner used to visit to sit and read or chat.

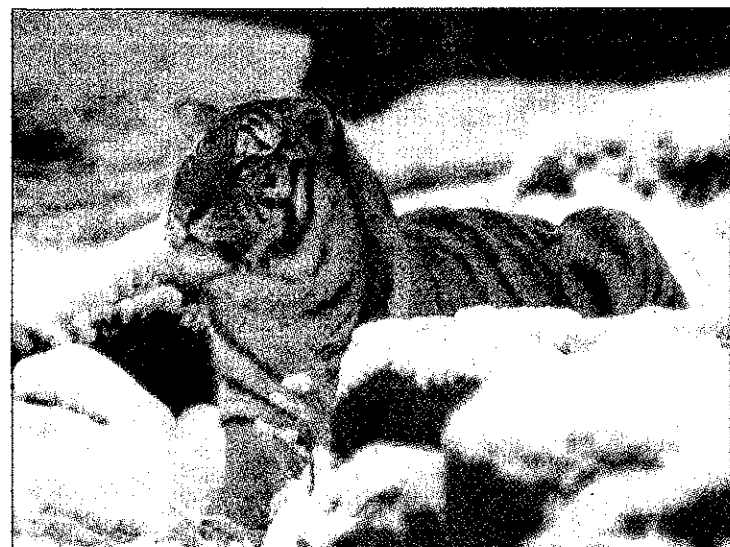
"They're all wonderful people and then of course the butterflies are just wonderful," said Williams, adding the keepers are helpful with questions.

The Arctic Ring of Life also offers indoors refuge, said Mills, a Franklin resident. It features a 70-foot Polar Passage with diving and swimming polar bears and seals.

Mills noted the zoo, at 10 Mile and Woodward in Royal Oak, drew just over one million visitors in 2006. "Particularly for stay at home



The Arctic Ring of Life at the Detroit Zoo is among the attractions visitors enjoy during the winter. The zoo stays open all year and draws a number of visitors.



Tigers, such as this one at the Detroit Zoo, have regal bearing.

moms, there's always something to do and see," she said. "The animals are always doing something different."

Winter also offers smaller crowds, she said, and some animals are more active.

Visiting Jan. 12 were Jason Bialk of Southfield with son Owen, 4½. Owen's favorite is "the zebras."

The Bialks are also zoo members. "Just taking him out, got a day off work," Bialk said. "Hopefully, it doesn't rain too hard. I have three kids and it's

just something great to do with them all."

The Japanese macaques, commonly known as snow monkeys, enjoy their outdoor hot tub in the winter. The Amur tigers, wolverines, red pandas, Asian wild horses, elk and bison also adapt well to cold weather and become more active.

Other indoor experiences at the zoo include the National Amphibian Conservation Center; the Penguinarium, home to 63 King, Rockhopper and Macaroni penguins; and

the Holden Museum of Living Reptiles, which houses more than 85 species of animals, including snakes, turtles, lizards and crocodilians. In addition, the Great Apes of Harambee, giraffe, white rhino, primate and river otter habitats all have indoor viewing areas.

# Wild Winter Weekends offer fun to young, old

The Detroit Zoo has a sure cure for the winter blahs this season with Wild Winter Weekends. The series of winter-themed events includes a wild Carnival and an animal kingdom Zoobilee. Wild Winter festivities will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the second weekends in February and March at the Ford Education Center.

Wild Winter Weekends offer entertainment for the whole family and are a fun way to experience the magic of the zoo in the wintertime. Guests can enjoy their favorite animal habitats, both indoors and out, as well as special activities, including children's music, keeper talks, games and crafts.

## WILD WINTER CARNIVAL - FEB. 10-11

The Wild Winter Carnival features face painting, carnival games, the magic of the Impossible Man, magician Dan Gilbert, and the roaming entertainment of the Yo-Yo Man, Zeemo.

## WILD WINTER ZOOBILEE - MARCH 10-11

The Wild Winter Zoobilee is a celebration of the animal kingdom with animal arts and crafts and an animal-themed scavenger hunt. Animal enrichment activities and talks by the zoo's expert keepers round out the festivities.

The Detroit Zoological Society is a nonprofit organization that operates the Detroit Zoo and Belle Isle Nature Zoo. Situated on 125 acres of naturalistic exhibits, the Detroit Zoo is at the intersection of 10 Mile and Woodward, just off I-696, in Royal Oak.

The Detroit Zoo is open daily 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. November through March and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. April through October.

Admission is \$11 for adults 13 to 61, \$9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$7 for children ages 2 to 12; children under 2 are free. For more information, call (248) 541-5717 or visit [www.detroitzoo.org](http://www.detroitzoo.org).

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Two lucky entries will be picked from a random drawing for dinner gift certificates, one valued at \$100 and the other valued at \$50. The winning babies will be published again on Sunday, February 25th, 2007.

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If you want to submit an item for the religion calendar, fax it to (734) 591-7279 or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. The deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

**JANUARY**

**Mission in the Sudan**

7-8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 25, at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile, Livonia. Join Rev. Norm Dickson, S.J. as he reflects on his 7 1/2 years of missionary work in Sudan and Kenya on the African Continent. Also, a discussion of the crisis in the Darfur region. Refreshments provided. No charge. For more information, call David Conrad at (734) 425-5950.

**Women's retreat**

Presented by Holy Trinity Lutheran Church of Livonia 5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 26 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27, at St. John's Retreat Center, Plymouth. Cost is \$70, includes Friday night's dinner, snacks and accommodations (one person per

room), Saturday's breakfast, lunch and beverages. Space is limited. For more information, call Sue Brandt at (734) 542-7003, 50-percent scholarships available.

**Spaghetti dinner**

Our Lady of Loretto PTO all-you-can-eat Spaghetti Dinner 4-8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 26, in the Family Center at the church on the corner of Six Mile and Beech Daly roads. Tickets are \$8 adult, \$6 senior citizens and kids ages 6-13, \$20 for a family, free for kids age five and under. Includes spaghetti, meatballs, salad, bread, dessert, and beverage. To-go orders will be available. For more information, call (313) 532-4764.

**Walk through the Bible**

Presented by Single Point Adult Ministries (30 years and older) seminar open to everyone on the New Testament 7-9:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 26 and 9 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Jan. 27, at Ward Presbyterian Church 4000 Six Mile, west of Haggerty, Northville. Cost is \$25. Register online at [www.wardchurch.org/walk](http://www.wardchurch.org/walk) or 6-6:45 p.m. Friday, Jan. 26 in person. Call (248) 374-5920.

**Volunteer night**

Presented by Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization providing peer support for the divorced and separated of all faiths. Monday, Jan. 29. For details, call (313) 996-8644.

**Young people's ministry**

Burning Questions on the last Wednesday of each month, Jan. 31 and Feb. 28, 6 p.m. potluck or just come, we have food, 7 p.m. The Gathering with music, sharing, celebration, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt. Call (734) 421-1760.

**Bible study series**

St. Theodore Catholic Church presents the Catholic Interpretation of the Book of Revelation beginning 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 11, and continuing for eight weeks, at the church, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland. For more information, call (734) 425-7310.

**Scripture study**

Board the Starship Evangelize, seek out and explore new worlds of scripture study - The Book of Numbers - 10 a.m. Tuesdays through May at St. Priscilla Church, 19120 Purlingbrook, Livonia. For information, call Mary Rice at (734) 522-1095.

**UPCOMING**

**Divorce recovery**

Workshop 7-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 1 and continues every Thursday for seven weeks, presented by Single Point Adult Ministries (30 years and older) at Ward Presbyterian Church 4000 Six Mile, west of Haggerty, Northville. Registration closes after second week. Cost is \$30 pre-registration, \$35 at door, \$15 repeat participants with their manual from previous workshop. If you're experiencing the emotional pain of divorce, no matter how recent or long ago it happened, this workshop will help you heal. Free childcare. Call (248) 374-5920.

**Love's Secrets**

7-9 p.m. Thursday, February 1, 8, 15, and 22, at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile, Livonia. The series examines Pope Benedict XVI's encyclical, Deus Caritas Est - God is Love. Discover the Church's philosophical world-view of love and explore the relation of Church and state, charity and justice as love is expressed in action. Call (734) 425-5950, ext. 203 to obtain your copy of the encyclical. Read articles 1-8 before our first session.

**International student day**

Presented by Church Women United, Suburban Detroit-West (MI 063) Friday, Feb. 2, at Redford/Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 10000 Beech Daly, between Plymouth and W. Chicago roads. Potluck luncheon at 12:15 p.m. Call (734) 464-7727 by Tuesday, Jan. 30 only if baby-sitting is needed. Bring non-perishable food for the Salvation Army.

**Buddy Greene concert**

Includes a wide variety of traditional American influences ranging from country and bluegrass to folk, gospel and blues 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 2, in Knox Hall at Ward Presbyterian Church 4000 Six Mile, west of Haggerty, Northville. Tickets \$5, free child care. Call (248) 374-5920. Presented by Single Point Adult Ministries (30 years and older).

**Gathering of eagles**

Conference Feb. 2-4, at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 28100 Franklin Road, Southfield. Meetings begin 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 2. Presented by The Ministry of the Watchman International. For a complete schedule, call (800) 560-9240 or visit the itinerary page on the Web site [www.ministryofthewatchman.com](http://www.ministryofthewatchman.com).

**Superbowl party**

Alcohol free Superbowl Party for anyone who wants to enjoy the company of their neighbors 5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 4, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt. The football game will be on big-screen TV in one room with board games in another room for those who don't watch football. For more information, call (734) 421-1760.

**Grief support**

For widowed men and women in all stages of grief, covers copings with loss of a spouse, loneliness and other issues dealing with grief, begins 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 4 and runs for six weeks, at St. Columban Parish Center, 1775 Melton, north of 14 Mile, between Woodward and Coolidge, Birmingham. A \$20 fee for materials is payable at first meeting. To register, call (248) 540-9848 or (586) 795-0477 by Feb. 2. Presented by Widowed Friends of the Archdiocese of Detroit.

**Grief workshop**

From Grief to New Hope 7-8:45 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5 and continues for eight weeks, at Ward Presbyterian Church 4000 Six Mile, west of Haggerty, Northville. For those grieving the loss of a loved one, it is normal to feel overwhelmed, angry and alone. Advance registration appreciated. For more information, call Carol Jacoby at (248) 374-5966.

**Valentine card party**

6:30-10 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9, at S.S. Simon and Jude Church, 32500 Palmer, Westland. Door, table prizes, 50-50. Light meal and snacks. Bring your friends and play cards and games of your choice. Tickets \$8 at the door. Proceeds go to the Building Fund. For information, call (734) 722-1314.

**Education pilgrimage**

The third annual education pilgrimage of faith and hope to El Salvador is being organized by Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Plymouth, assisted by CRISPAZ (Christians for Peace in El Salvador). The pilgrimage will take place from Feb. 11-18, 2007. This is an intensive learning experience with special emphasis given to the voice and experience of the poor and marginalized. You will visit martyr sites, grassroots organizations, a rural community, and hear speakers on the history, politics, and economy of El Salvador. For details, call coordinator Richard Dahlke at (734) 455-6474.

**Pasties fund-raiser**

Pasties are \$3 each and can be ordered by calling Newburg United Methodist Church at (734) 422-0149. There will be someone to take your order 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, Feb. 13-14. Call in orders only. Do not leave orders on answering machine. Orders faxed, e-mailed or left on answering machine will be ignored. Pick up times are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 22, and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 23, at the church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Order early. Only 1000 pasties will be made for the church fund-raiser.

**VBS preview**

Preview the offerings for this summer's

Vacation Bible Schools 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 17, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, west of Haggerty, Northville. View exhibits and demonstrations from national publishers, expand your skills by attending four of 20 workshops on timely topics including how to organize a VBS, plan a youth camp week, administer backyard Bible club, and make and take puppetry. Registration fee is \$35 by Jan. 17, \$40 by Feb. 13, \$45 at door, \$20 teen through college students, and includes lunch. Puppet workshop is \$25 extra. This event is non-denominational and open to the general public. Register now. Call (248) 557-5526 or [www.jcecaonline.org](http://www.jcecaonline.org).

**Concert**

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church's Music Ministry Department is excited to have the privilege to once again host the Light Metal Band Brass Quintet 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18, at the church, 14175 Farmington Road, north of I-96, Livonia.

**Brass concert**

Got the winter blues? Do you love the sound of a brass band? The Light Metal Band Brass Quintet Concert performs at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18, in the sanctuary at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, north of I-96, Livonia. This professional brass quintet is one of the most sought after brass quintets in the Detroit area. Formed in 1989, the quintet consists of two trumpets, horn, trombone, and tuba. They will be performing a variety of music including Classical, 19th Century American, Patriotic, Ragtime, and Jazz. The concert is free and open to the public with a freewill offering being taken. For more information, call Mark Lohmeyer at (734) 522-6830 or visit the Web site at [www.christsaviorsavior.org](http://www.christsaviorsavior.org), or [www.lightmetalband.com](http://www.lightmetalband.com).

**ONGOING**

**Worship service**

All are welcome to attend 11 a.m. worship service Sundays, at Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne at Hunter, Westland. Join us at 7 p.m. Tuesdays in November and December as Pastor Louise Monacelli introduces The Jesus Experience, a series of videos offering insight into the people and situations God used to expand the church around the world. For more information, call (734) 721-0800.

**Worship services**

Sunday Worship services are 8 a.m. (traditional) and 10:30 a.m. (contemporary). Sunday School & Adult Bible Study at 9:15 a.m. Sunday. Grace Lutheran Church, 46001 Warren, between Canton Center and Beck. Canton. For information, call (734) 637-8160.

**Worship service**

At 10:30 a.m. Sundays at New Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware at Puritan, Redford. Congregation is hearing lessons from 1 Peter. For more information, call (313) 255-6330.

**Adult literacy classes**

Available for those wishing to improve their reading and writing skills. Open to adults age 18 and over. Trained tutors available for day and evening hours. Call (734) 421-0472. Leave your name and phone number and someone will be in contact with you.

**Ladies Bible studies**

Began Tuesday, Sept. 12, at Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, Northville. Call (248) 348-7600.

Women of the Word offer the Life Change Study of the book of Genesis by NavPress from 9:30-11:5 a.m. (\$15 registration fee includes interdenominational materials and free child care for ages through 5, and a study of the Patriarchs by Beth Moor from 6:45-8:15 p.m. (\$20 fee and no child care).

**Personal ministry**

Due Season Christian Church is a non-denominational, multicultural, full gospel church that offers Sunday worship services at 10 a.m. and Tuesday night Bible study at 7:15 p.m. Services are currently held at Stevenson High School on Six Mile, west of Farmington Road, Livonia. All are welcome. For information, call (248) 960-8063 or visit [www.DueSeason.org](http://www.DueSeason.org).

**Farmington Women Awl**

Meets from 5-8 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month at the Farmington Community Library, 32737 W. 12 Mile. For more information, call Linda Boone at (248) 476-1053.

**Scripture studies**

From 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays in the lower level of Our Lady of Loretto Church, Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford. Call (313) 534-9000.

**TOPS**

Stands for Take Off Pounds Sensibly, the group meets at 7 p.m. every Thursday evening at St. Thomas a' Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley, Canton. Weigh-in is from 6:15-6:55 p.m. It is a weight support group that encourages members to lose weight sensibly and keep it off. For more information, call Mary at (734) 394-1328.

**Learner's Bible study**

At 7 p.m. Mondays, in Room A101, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville. Call (248) 374-5920.

**Church service**

Loving God by loving people, meets at 10 a.m. Sunday at Westwood Community Church, 6500 N. Wayne Road at Hunter, Westland. Doughnuts and coffee served. Call (734) 254-0093.

**Senior activities**

Gathering for seniors 50 years and older at 11:30 a.m. on the third Friday of every month at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 464-0990. Put together a salad dish and come out and meet other seniors. Lunch is served followed by fellowship with some games and stories.

**Church activities**

St. James Presbyterian Church offers a Thursday dinner at 6 p.m. for \$5 prepared by Susan Navarro, The Cookie Lady, followed by Bible study at 7 p.m. and Chancel Choir rehearsal at 8 p.m.; Thrift store is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Saturday; 10 a.m. women's study group second Saturday of the month, and Sunday worship at 10 a.m. (nursery available) and children's class at 10:15 a.m. at 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730.

**Eucharistic adoration**

The monthly program of Parish Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration continues the third Wednesday of each month at St. Michael's Church of Livonia, corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads. The church will be open for worship from 10 a.m. until the 7 p.m. Benediction service. For information, call (734) 261-5331.

**Worship services**

All are welcome to attend worship service at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Five Mile and Inkster roads, Livonia. Service is held at 10 a.m. every Sunday with an education hour all for ages at 9 a.m. Call (734) 422-1470.

**Unity of Livonia**

Services at 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays at 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads. Call (734) 421-1760.

**Shabbat services**

The doors of Congregation Beit Kodesh, a Conservative synagogue at 31840 W. Seven Mile, between Farmington and Merriman, Livonia, are open to the Jewish community of southeastern Michigan. Call (248) 477-8974.

**Bet Chaverim**

Services are open to all living in the western counties including Canton, Plymouth, Livonia, and Northville. The congregation follows traditions of Reform Judaism. Interfaith families welcome to attend services at 321 S. Ridge, south of Cherry Hill, Canton. Call (734) 646-3864 for information or visit [www.betchaverim.com](http://www.betchaverim.com).

**Detroit World Outreach**

A nondenominational church with cutting-edge drama productions, energized contemporary music, high-tech video and lighting, programs for kids and teens, for college students, singles, married adults and seniors. Services are at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday (6:30 p.m. the first Sunday of the month), Sunday school for all ages at 10 a.m. and Wednesday at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Call (313) 255-2222.

**Trinity Episcopal Church**

Sunday Services at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Wednesday service at 6:15 p.m., Bible Studies and Worship Center for all ages, at 11575 Belleville Road, (four miles south of Michigan Avenue). Belleville. Parents with Young Children: Bible Study at 6 p.m. Sundays, includes dinner and child care. Call (734) 699-3361.

**Shabbat Rocks**

A musical celebration precedes traditional Shabbat service once a month at Adat Shalom Synagogue, 29901 Middlebelt in Farmington Hills. For more information, call (248) 851-5100 or visit [www.adatshalom.org](http://www.adatshalom.org).

**English classes**

Conversational English as a Second Language classes are being offered for adults of all ages and backgrounds at 7 p.m. Monday and Tuesday at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia. Tutors will work on a one-to-one ratio to help students better understand and speak the English language. No charge. To register, call (734) 525-0191 or (734) 522-6830.

**Sunday school**

Congregation Beit Kodesh, at 31840 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Merriman, Livonia, is registering children, age 4 and up, for Sunday school. Financial assistance available. Special discounts for new members. For more information, call (248) 477-8974.

**Services**

St. John Lutheran Church (23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills) invites the community to a new worship service at 5:30 p.m. Saturdays. Also, Sunday traditional worship services are at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.; contemporary service is at 9:50 a.m.; and Sunday school hour for all ages is at 9:45 a.m. Call (248) 474-0584 for more information.

**Single Point Ministries**

For ages 30 and older, join more than 350 single adults at 11:30 a.m. Thursdays for fellowship and related topics in Knox Hall at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Coffee, doughnuts, conversations are present. Call (248) 374-5920. Tennis continues from 1-5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, and 4-7 p.m. Tuesdays any time the weather is above 45 degrees, at Rotary Park, Six Mile and Hubbard, Livonia.

**Bible talks**

4 p.m. Sundays at the Friendship Center, 1119 Newburgh, Westland. Call (734) 728-9157.

PLEASE SEE CALENDAR, NEXT PAGE



**Passages**  
Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 ♦ fax: 734-953-2232  
e-mail: [oeobits@hometownlife.com](mailto:oeobits@hometownlife.com)

**ANDREW P. RHEN**

January 22, 2007. Age 38, of Beverly Hills. Loving husband of Suzanne (nee: Barry) for 14 years. Dear father of Allison and Adam. Beloved son of John and Nancy Rhen. Brother of Daniel (Michelle) and Mamie Oakley (Christopher). Son-in-law of Michael and Dolores Barry. Brother-in-law of Michael, Carolyn Berry (Mike). Also survived by niece and three nephews. Family will receive friends Wednesday 2-9 PM at A. J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home, 2600 Crooks Road (between Maple and Big Beaver). Funeral Service Thursday 10 AM at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, 280 E. Square Lake Road, Troy. Visitation at church begins Thursday at 9:30 AM. Memorial tributes Michigan Kidney Foundation. View obituary and share memories at [www.DesmondFuneralHome.com](http://www.DesmondFuneralHome.com)

**JAMES V. BURCH, JR.**

January 20, 2007. Age 84 of Birmingham. Beloved husband of Patricia L. Also survived by seven children, 12 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren, and one brother. A.J. Desmond & Sons 248-549-0500. View obituary and share memories at [www.DesmondFuneralHomes.com](http://www.DesmondFuneralHomes.com)

**JEWEL C. COOKE**

Age 98, of Montgomery, IL formerly of Farmington Hills, MI died Sunday, January 21, 2007 at The Tifers in Oswego, IL. She was born September 20, 1908 in Chicago, IL the daughter of the late William and Bertha (nee Dierking) Cheatwood. Over the years she taught/coached swimming in the Detroit, MI area, as well as competed in the US Masters Swim Program. She was recognized by the American Red Cross for 75 years of service. She is survived by two daughters Stephanie (Bob) White of Montgomery, IL, Johanna (Bob) Elliott of Scottsdale, AZ, a son Peter (Linda) Cooke of Pierre Part, LA. Six grandchildren, nine great grandchildren and two great great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband Horace Cooke, son Anthony Cooke, granddaughter Johanna White and sister Billi Cheatwood. Cremation will be followed later by the entombment of the remains at Graceland Cemetery in Chicago, IL. Memorials may be directed to the American Red Cross. Funeral arrangements are entrusted to McKEOWN-DUNN FUNERAL HOME, LTD & CREMATION SERVICES, Oswego, IL. For additional information 630/554-3888.

**May You Find Comfort in Family & Friends**

**WARREN G. MANN**

At the age of 85 years, Warren left this earthly life on Sunday January 21 2007, to walk for eternity with the Lord. He was born on January 27, 1921 in Detroit, MI and married Eleanor Borchacz on March 27, 1945. During WWII, he served his country in the South Pacific as a member of the Army Air Force. Upon returning to civilian life, he was employed by General Motors in Pontiac, MI until his retirement. He is survived by his loving wife Eleanor, daughter Carol (Doug) Slowik, son Robert Mann, daughter-in-law Sera Mann, sister Elaine Knell, eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. He was preceded by his son Michael Mann. A memorial service will take place on Saturday January 27, 2007 at 11:00 AM at Blessed Trinity Catholic Church in Frankenmuth, MI. Fr. Fred Kawka will officiate. Warren's family will receive visitors from 10:00 AM until the time of service. Arrangements are entrusted to the Cederberg Funeral Home of Frankenmuth. A luncheon will follow at Independence Village Retirement Center. In lieu of flowers, anyone planning an expression of sympathy may choose to consider a memorial to the Frankenmuth Lutheran Home or the Alzheimer's Association. [www.cederbergh.com](http://www.cederbergh.com)

**LARRY N. BURNETTE**

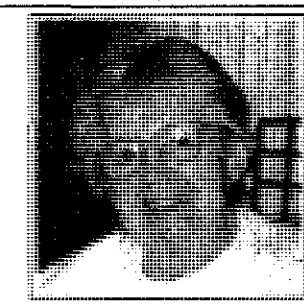
Age 80, of Northville, passed away peacefully January 22, 2007. He was born December 22, 1926 in Detroit, MI to Newman and Bernee (Wilson) Burnette. He was united in marriage to Beverly A. Thomas on October 2, 1965. Larry served in the United States Army during World War II and was a member of the VFW Post 4012 in Northville. He was a retired electrician for Van Buren Electric in Plymouth, more recently he was the assistant maintenance man at Allen Terrace. He enjoyed bowling, fishing, boating and building model airplanes. He is survived by his wife Beverly; his stepchildren Susan Skingley Rapp, husband Michael, Robert H. Skingley, Barbara Skingley Smith, husband Craig, and Amy Skingley McIntosh, husband Jeffrey; his sisters, Jean (Merle) Parsons and Joan Booth; his grandchildren Benjamin (Becky) Rapp, Emily Rapp, Melissa McIntosh, and John McIntosh; and great-granddaughter Audrey Rapp. He was preceded in death by his parents. Visitation will be held Thursday, Jan. 25 from 2-8 p.m. A funeral service will be held Friday, January 26 at 11am at Casterline Funeral Home, Inc., 122 W. Dunlap, Northville. Rev. Jonathan Wilkes with the First Baptist Church of Northville will officiate the service. Mr. Burnette will be laid to rest at Rural Hill Cemetery, where he will receive military honors. Memorial contributions can be made to the Northville City Fire Department, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, MI 48167.

**FRANK GUDAN**

Age 68, January 22, 2007. Beloved husband of Carmen. Loving father of Kenneth (Vivian) Gudan and Kristin Lisa (Robert) Hoy. Cherished grandfather of Paul Gudan, Lisa Gudan, Lisa (Anne) Hoy and Elizabeth (Renee) Hoy. Dear brother of Mary Ann Scotchie and Edward Gudan. Funeral Friday, 10:30 a.m. (In-state 10 a.m.) at Prince of Peace Catholic Church, 4300 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield. Visitation Thursday, 2-9 p.m., Scripture Service 7 p.m. at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, 33603 Grand River Ave., downtown Farmington, (1 blk. W. of Farmington Rd.). Memorial contributions may be made to McCarty Cancer Foundation. [www.thayer-rock.com](http://www.thayer-rock.com)

**ROY M. PARKER**

Age 69, passed away of natural causes at his home in Gregory, Michigan on January 13, 2007. Cremation has taken place. Born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, July 15, 1937 to the late Rev. Dean W. Parker, Sr. and Thelma G. (Garlick) Parker. He was their second son. Son of a United Methodist Pastor. Mr. Parker lived in Michigan throughout his entire life: Decatur, Owosso, Holly, Hancock, Montrose, Vassar, Trenton, Dearborn Heights, Clinton, and Farmington Hills. He graduated with honors from Vassar High School in 1955 and soon entered the University of Michigan School of Music, majoring in organ performance. His teacher was the renowned University organist, Marilyn Mason. He graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Organ Performance in the early 1960's. He was a church organist by profession. He was a member of the Anglican-Catholic Church. Mr. Parker's entire life was devoted to music. He had a very special regard for his organ instructor at U of M, Professor Marilyn Mason. He was an admirer of the great Wagnerian Soprano, Birgit Nilsson and owned nearly every recording she ever made. Mr. Parker is survived by one brother, Dean Parker, Jr. of Evansville, IN. His only living aunt survives, Ms. Edith R. Price of Farmington. His niece, Elizabeth Bacon and nephew David E. Parker, both of Evansville, IN and a nephew, Jon M. Parker of Lexington, KY. Two grandnephews also survive, Ryan and Eric, and one grandniece, Amanda, all of Evansville. Mr. Parker's grandparents were early 1900 Farmington pioneers, James D. Parker and Edith Maud Rae Parker. Memorial Service Saturday, January 27th, 1:30 pm at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, 33603 Grand River Avenue, downtown Farmington (1 blk. West of Farmington Rd.). Visitation Saturday 12:30 pm until time of service. [www.thayer-rock.com](http://www.thayer-rock.com)



**LILLIAN B. BERRY**

Age 84, January 19, 2007. Beloved wife of the late Robert. Loving mother of Nancy, Bob, Scott (Joan) and Chris (Lori). Proud grandmother of Shawn, Sheena, Kara, Taylor, Jared, Grant, Lilly and great grandmother of Calvin, Jordan and Hayden. Services were held by McCabe Funeral Home, Canton.



CALENDAR

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Worship services

All are welcome to attend worship services 10 a.m. Sundays at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Five Mile and Inkster roads, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 422-1470.

The Gap

A new youth Sunday School (God Always Present) at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt, south of Ford Road. Lessons are taught using various media, computers, storytelling, games, cooking, music and art, and a small theater complete with popcorn-making machine. Adult Bible study at 8:30 a.m. with a traditional service and The Gap at 10 a.m. Child care available. Mustard Seed contemporary service at 6 p.m. with refreshments served afterward. Call (734) 421-7620.

Qi Gong

The ancient form of Chinese energetic medicine. A safe and effective way to rid the body of toxic pathogens and years of painful emotions. Learn the art of natural movement and breath to cultivate vital life energy. Classes at Livonia Unity,

28660 Five Mile. Monday - movement Qi Gong, 7-8:30 p.m.; Thursday - Qi Gong meditation, 10-11:15 a.m.; and Friday - Therapeutic Qi Gong, 7-8:30 p.m. Call (810) 813-4073 for more information or send e-mail to gary@energeticarts.org.

Worship services

At 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays with an education hour from 9:30-10:40 a.m. at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, Westland. Social hour follows each service. Call (734) 722-1735.

Community Bible study

Studying the Book of Corinthians, breakfast at 7 a.m. for Bible study from 8-9 a.m. at the Kerby Coney Island, Haggerty Road just north of Eight Mile. Come when you can, leave when you must. For more information, call (248) 924-2779.

Contemporary service

New informal service in a casual environment 6 p.m. Sunday at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt, south of Ford. Fellowship hour after services including 10 a.m. traditional. Call (734) 421-7620.

Trinity Episcopal Church

Sunday worship 8 a.m. and 10 a.m., Bible studies Sundays at 8:50 a.m. and Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m., at the church 11575 Belleville Road, four miles south of Michigan Avenue, Belleville. Call

(734) 699-3361.

New contemporary service

9 a.m. on the last Sunday of the month, at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard, Livonia. A group of church members present a short drama on a theme relevant to the season, a church event, or current newsworthy situation. For more information, call (734) 422-0494.

Prayer group

Join in 7 p.m. Thursdays for music, singing, prayer and friendship at St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Come to the back of the church, enter entrance No. 2. For more information, call Grace at (734) 464-1896, Shirley at (734) 464-3656, or Geri at (734) 464-8906.

Women of the Word

Tuesday Ladies Bible Study from 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesdays, at Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile. \$15 registration fee includes interdenominational study materials. Child care available for children through age 5. For more information, call (248) 348-7600.

New modern-style worship

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia, just north of I-96,

presents a modern-style worship service. The multimedia service is informal, using modern and praise music, led by vocalists and various instruments. Dramas, led by the members, are often a part of this service. The service is held at 9:45 a.m. each Sunday, between the traditional services at 8:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday School, youth and adult Bible classes at 9:45 a.m. and 11 a.m. each Sunday. For information, call Linda Hollman, Outreach director, at (734) 522-6830.

Adat Shalom

Synagogue services at 6 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Saturday; 7:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. weekdays; and 8:30 a.m. Sunday at Adat Shalom Synagogue, 29901 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills. For more information, call (248) 851-5100.

Welcome to the church

Would you like to know more about the Catholic Church? Are you already baptized Catholic and have been away from the church? Now is the time to inquire about coming into the church or returning to the community of believers. Call Our Lady of Sorrows at (248) 615-5574 for more information.

Self-help groups

Local church provides space for self-help

groups. Overeaters Anonymous, a 12-step program for eating disorders, meets at 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Alcoholics Anonymous, a 12-step program for alcohol-related problems, meets at 8 p.m. Wednesdays and at 7 p.m. Saturdays. Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, a 12-step program for co-dependency and destructive relationship problems, meets at 7:30 p.m. Mondays at First Baptist Church, 300 Willits, one block north of Maple, one block west of Old Woodward. Parking adjacent to church's north entrance.

Addiction No More

Do you have any addictive behavior problems - drugs, alcohol, overeating, gambling, etc.? Come to the meeting 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday in Room 202 at Detroit World Outreach, 23800 W. Chicago, Redford. For more information, call (313) 255-2222, Ext. 244.

Wednesday Evening Prayer

At 7 p.m. Wednesday. This is not a structured service but an open time of praying silently and aloud together as well as responding to personal requests, at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Call (248) 476-8860.

Your Invitation To Worship

Grid of church advertisements including: BAPTIST (New Hope Baptist Church), UNITED METHODIST (Clarenceville United Methodist, Redford Aldersgate), LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD (Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church), CANTON CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD, HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL, RISEN CHRIST LUTHERAN L.C.M.S., ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, BELL CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH, WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church, RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH, FAITH COVENANT CHURCH, FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST, PLYMOUTH, ST. JAMES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, USA, PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE, and TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH.

For Church Directory changes and information regarding advertising in this directory, please call Donna Hart (734) 953-2153 the Friday before publication. To mail copy: The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 or Fax to (734) 953-2121

06R0801221

# Be wary of urban coyotes in our neighborhoods

It's that time again. Coyotes are cautiously carousing the well-heeled streets and palatial lawns of the Bloomfields and Rochester. They are hunting in frosty meadows of Springfield and along river banks and rail-ways. Polly Ann, Paint Creek and West Bloomfield trails and the shoulders of expressways are their trailways.

Once again, it's time for me to address the increasingly edgy "issue" of street-wise urban coyotes that live in our midst.

As December morphs into January, the breeding season of *Canis latrans* begins. And hormone-driven coyote activity increases sightings and brings an increase in concerns.

Coyotes are no longer mystic icons of the Old West howling to the moon. This highly intelligent, curious, elusive and, above all adaptable, wild predator is very much at home in Oakland County. But we are not as willing to adapt to the coyote's ways as it is to ours.

Coyotes don't care if you live in a gated community, or up by me, where neighbors raise chickens and ride horses. Coyotes care about habitat. And as a great habitat generalist — that means most any habitat will do — there is plenty of "good stuff" for coy-



On Nature

Jonathan Schechter

otes. There is one coyote myth that needs debunking: Coyote populations are not increasing because they have fled the bulldozer. They are thriving because we have created a beckoning Mecca, an Eden of earthly landscaped delights with plenty of mice, voles, rabbits, birds, rats, carrion and cats to go around. And, of course, dog food, small off-leash dogs, trash and bird seed spillage and, sometimes, deliberately placed food rounds out the menu.

Coyote tracks are near my barn. Sometimes I hear a yip. I enjoy their presence, the perception of wildness they bring. But for some, just thoughts of coyotes "lurking" in their landscape is about as welcome as General Sherman's approach was to the elite of Atlanta.

If you want to avoid interactions with increasingly bold coyotes, it's up to you.

Five or six years ago, I wrote coyotes never attack people. I don't say that anymore. And when I talk about predators and hazards to



As this poster proposes - leave wild coyotes alone.

humans, I mention (to keep things in perspective) that hundreds of humans are injured every year by deer with about a dozen deaths, yet no one is phobic about deer. Coyotes, however, can cause anxiety as they become habituated to humans.

Step 1 in habituation happens rapidly when schools and park agencies are afraid

to talk honestly about coyotes because facts may "upset people," ignoring the truth that education is the key to most wildlife "conflicts." Step 2: Coyotes come close for easy access to food scraps and trash. Step 3 in habituation: When we see a coyote we turn and run. Running tells a coyote we are weak — we are possible prey.

Close encounters with coyotes should always result in non-lethal negative consequences for the coyote. Yell. Bang pots. Throw things. Let coyotes know humans are mean and nasty. Locally, most negative interactions with coyotes have been pet-related. Sometimes cats, occasionally dogs. In California, nips on humans are becoming more common.

Unfortunately, we tend to be non-thinking, non-aware and reactive. We hire trappers. We call government agencies to complain about coyotes. We act helpless.

Passing responsibility and not changing our behavior pattern will not alter coyote behavior. I'm guilty too: I put out feed for wild turkey. Grain attracts rabbits and mice and stupefies the turkeys with grain gluttony and makes easy entrees for coyotes 100 feet from my door.

Be coyote kind. Teach fear of humans and throw a stone. Appropriately directed human aggression is true compassion for a wild coyote, for coyotes that become bold and fearless will end up dangerous and dead. Keep them wild. And never, ever turn and run.

Jonathan Schechter writes on nature's way. He can be reached at oaknature@aol.com.

## Schoolcraft seminar aimed at business start-ups

Entrepreneurs who need help starting their own business have opportunities for expert advice at Schoolcraft College.

How to Start a Small Business: From Vision to Reality will be offered four times during February and March. The February dates are 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7, and 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 21. In March, the seminar is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 7, and 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, March 21.

The seminar fee is \$30 per person. The session will examine the basics of starting a business, the advantages of networking, and when it is necessary to use community resources in developing a new business. Participants will have the opportunity to network and will become familiar with resources to contact when questions arise.

For more information or to register, call the Schoolcraft College Business Development Center at 734-462-4438.

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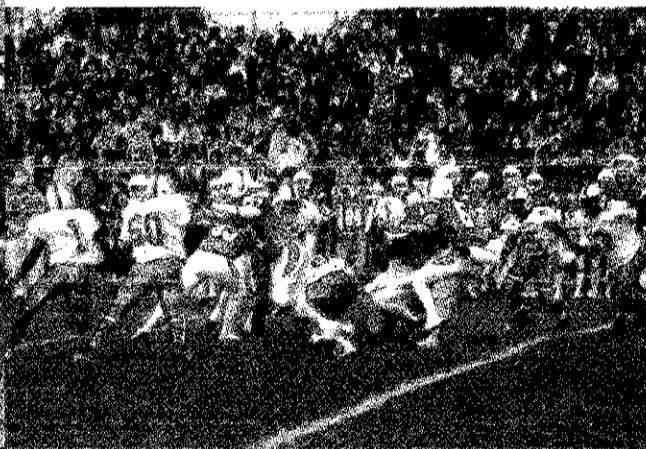
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7 - 8:30 pm

Test/College Data: **Graduating Class of 2006**  
ACT Standings

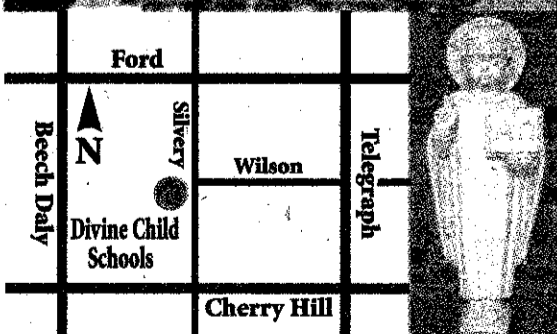
	English	Math	Reading	Science	Comp
National	20.6	20.8	21.4	20.9	21.1
Michigan	20.7	21.2	21.8	21.7	21.5
Divine Child	<b>24.2</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>25.0</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>24.0</b>

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# McCotter supports Bush on war, but not domestic proposals

BY HUGH GALLAGHER  
STAFF WRITER

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter (R-Livonia) finds himself in an odd position. While supporting President George W. Bush's new Iraq strategy, McCotter is unhappy with many of the domestic proposals announced Tuesday during the president's State of the Union address.

"I'm going to be more conservative than my conservative president," McCotter said Wednesday in phone conversation from his Washington office.

McCotter said Bush would try governing from the center-left to reach out to the Democratic majority in hopes of winning their support for the war in Iraq.

"He dealt with a Democratic Legislature in Texas, so this is not unusual for him," McCotter said.

McCotter compared Bush's strategy to President Clinton's attempts to deal with a Republican majority by working from the center-right to reduce government spending.

"He's taking a page from the Bill Clinton playbook," McCotter said.

McCotter had a long list of areas where he disagreed with Bush on domestic issues, particularly in areas that he thought were detrimental to Michigan.

"In terms of domestic initiatives, I'm not happy to hear about the CAFE (corporate average fuel economy) proposal. It's hard to see that as being very helpful," he said. "It will hurt manufacturing in Michigan and the country."

McCotter said he doesn't support the president's health care insurance proposal. Under the plan, workers who receive up to \$15,000 in health insurance would receive a tax deduction, but those who pay for a better insurance program would pay a tax on any premium over \$15,000.

McCotter said the plan is a tax increase and that UAW workers would be among those paying the tax.

Bush received applause from Democrats for his continued support of a guest worker program for illegal immigrants. McCotter was a strong supporter of a House-passed immigration bill that did not include a guest worker plan and proposed stricter enforcement measures.

"I'm still against the guest worker plan. It is amnesty, no matter what he calls it," McCotter said.

He said with a new Democratic-controlled House, chances were much better that the president's immigration program would pass. A bill supported by the president was passed in the Senate last year.

### SUPPORTS WAR STRATEGY

On Iraq, McCotter said he supports the president's new initiative to send 21,500 additional U.S. troops to Iraq to reinforce combat forces in Baghdad and the al Anbar province.

"The troops are there or are being sent; it will work or it won't," he said.

On Monday, McCotter, chair of the Republican Policy Committee, joined with House Minority Leader John Boehner of Ohio and Republican Conference Chairman Adam Putnam of Florida to call for a select committee to monitor implementation of Bush's new strategy. A letter was sent to Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi requesting that she form the committee with an equal number of Republicans and



McCotter

Democrats. The proposal calls for a series of "strategic benchmarks" for measuring progress in Iraq. These include military benchmarks of Iraqi government cooperation, investment by the Iraqi Army, per-

formance of the Iraqi police force and Iraqi Army rotation to trouble spots. It would also include political benchmarks measuring the Iraqi government's progress in creating a tolerant, peaceful environment, equal access to all Iraqis to resources, democratic reforms, judicial reforms and accountability. The proposal would require monthly reports by the president on meeting

these benchmarks. "We lose — that would be the consequences of not meeting the benchmarks," McCotter said.

He said he told Bush that he would support the additional troops only if they were being sent as combat forces and not as "contractors and social workers."

On Tuesday, as a member of the House leadership, McCotter escorted the presi-

dent into the House chamber. He said they had a long wait outside.

"It's hard to make small talk with a president, so I didn't," he said.

He said he tries not to become too wrapped up in the ritual.

"I have to listen to what he says and how it affects the district," McCotter said. "It's worked for me. The pageantry

becomes a distraction. I'm there to hear what he says, not to look around. I did that with (former Gov. John) Engler, during the state of state addresses."

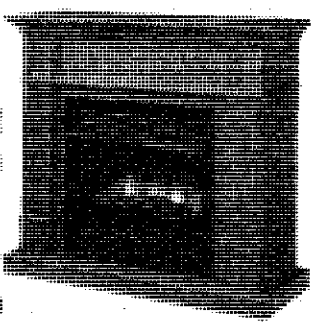
McCotter said the recent announcement by Pfizer that it was closing Michigan operations and laying off more than 2,000 workers was devastating.

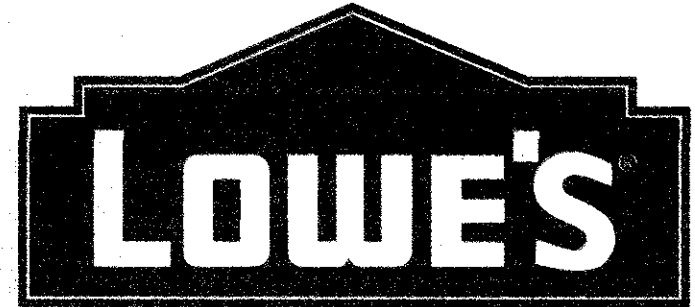
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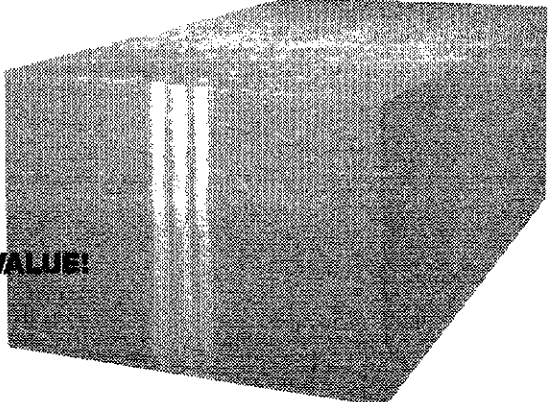
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## SPORTS

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(LW)

Thursday, January 25, 2007

The Observer &amp; Eccentric Newspapers

Brad Emons, editor . (734) 953-2123 . bemons@hometownlife.com

www.hometownlife.com

## Favored Pats eye Observerland mat 3-peat

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

Studs are nice, but balance is better. That's the motto Livonia Franklin has lived by while capturing the past two Observerland Wrestling Invitational.

The Patriots will be shooting for a three-peat Saturday when 17 teams converge on Livonia Churchill for the 16th annual meeting of the top grappling squads in Observerland.

In 2006, Franklin outpointed second-place Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, 240.5-225, even though just one Patriot — 125-pound Mike Warren — earned a first-place medal.

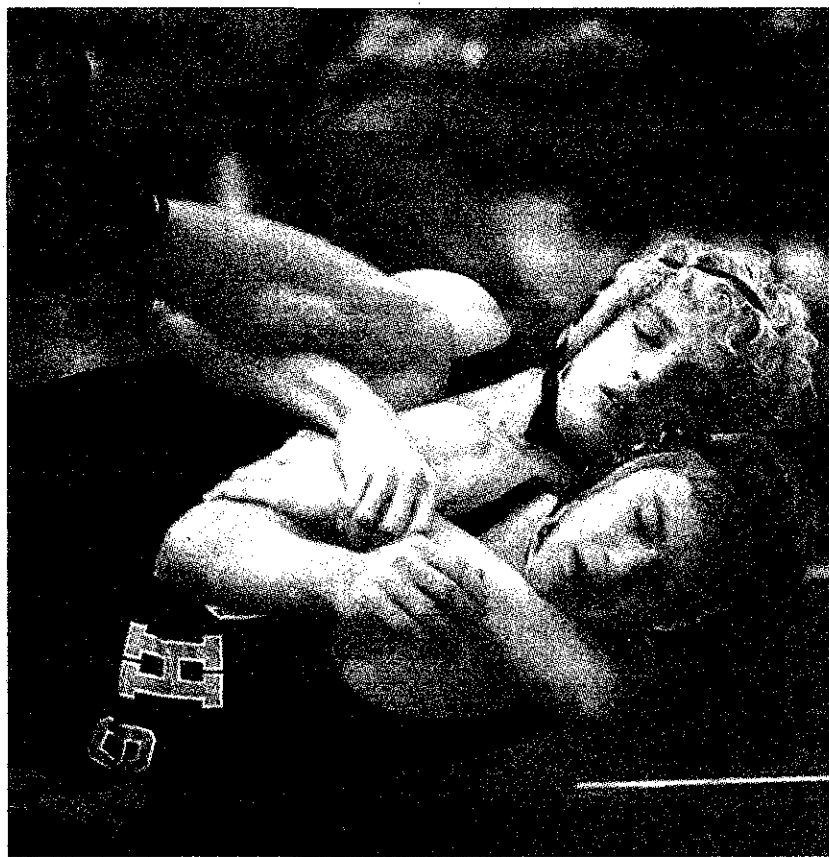
"We haven't had a lot of individual champions the past two years — last year we only had one — but we had eight of our 14 wrestlers in the finals, so we get a lot of points from a lot of different people," said Franklin coach Dave Chiola, whose team finished dead last as recently as 2001. "It's not necessarily the way I'd want to do it. You'd always rather have a lot of studs. But we've shown that a well-balanced team can win it, too."

Heading into Saturday's meet, not one Patriot is ranked No. 1 in his respective weight class in the Observerland individual rankings.

However, Chiola's deep and balanced unit is listed first in the team rankings, just ahead of Canton and Belleville.

Chiola said the impressive roster of teams that annually attends the Observerland meet makes it one of the most-anticipated on his unit's schedule each year.

PLEASE SEE OBSERVERLAND, B3



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wayne's 130-pounder Jack Muncie, shown pinning Plymouth's Rob Barackman in last month's Salem Varsity Tourney, hopes to lead an improved Wolfpack team at Observerland.

## MAT EXTRAVAGANZA

**What:** 16th annual Observerland Wrestling Invitational

**When:** Saturday — first round starts at 9 a.m.; finals at approximately 5:30 p.m.

**Where:** Livonia Churchill High School, 8900 Newburgh Road

**Admission (all day):** \$5 (family rate available)

**Participating schools:** Livonia Churchill, Livonia Franklin, Livonia Stevenson, Livonia Clarenceville, Westland John Glenn, Wayne Memorial, Lutheran High Westland, Canton, Salem, Plymouth, Garden City, Redford Union, Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, Farmington High, North Farmington, Farmington Hills Harrison, Belleville.

**Past winners:** Catholic Central (1993, 1996, 1999, 2000, 2002, 2003); Stevenson (1994, 1995, 1997); Canton (2001); Salem (1998); Franklin (2005, 2006); Churchill and John Glenn (2004); Farmington (1992).

## Sidelines

## Crosby ranked

Western Michigan University senior men's tennis player Brady Crosby (Livonia Stevenson) is currently ranked No. 52 national, the highest achievement any Bronco netter has earned in the school's history.

Crosby and his doubles partner Tim Bradshaw of England are ranked NO. 21 after achieving a previous best 27th.

Last season, Crosby set a school record with 25 victories.

## Crusaders 2nd

Coming off a third-place finish in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference a year ago, Indiana Tech has been tabbed as the preseason favorite in the 2007 WHAC baseball poll as chosen by the league's five head coaches.

Madonna, two-time WHAC regular season champions and NAIA Region VIII runner-up, was picked second as the Crusaders return 24 lettermen, including preseason all-conference picks Will Kennedy, a junior pitcher from Westland John Glenn (4-1, 3.34 ERA); senior outfielder Tony Luttmann of Farmington (.321, 11 homers, 64 RBI); and junior DH David Herrick of Livonia Churchill (.331, 16 doubles, 30 RBI).

MU is ranked No. 25 in the NAIA national preseason poll.

## Good Sports SHS

Livonia Stevenson High School has been selected to receive the Michigan High School Athletic Association's Good Sports Are Winners Sportsmanship Award from the 2006 Division I boys soccer state finals.

The Spartans, who also won the award in 1993, will receive a crystal trophy and a commemorative banner.

Stevenson finished the year 18-3-4 before falling to Traverse City West, 1-0, in the state championship game.

## MU signs golfer

Madonna University women's golf coach Scott Marzolino recently announced the signing of Jillian Kloc of Belleville High for the first commitment to the 2007-08 freshman class.

The former softball standout switched to golf before her junior year where she finished ninth in the Mega Conference's Red Division tourney. She averaged 91 over 18 holes with a career-best of 41 for nine.

Kloc, who has been accepted into MU's School of Nursing, is president of the National Honor Society at Belleville and is also a member of the Student Council. She also received the Daughters of American Revolution Award, along with the Rotary Youth Leadership Award where she was named Outstanding Leader of Belleville H.S.

## Better late than never

Warriors wake up in 4th quarter to beat C'ville

BY BRAD EMONS  
STAFF WRITER

Lutheran High Westland boys basketball coach Dan Ramthun had little to smile about during the first three quarters of his Metro Conference game at Livonia Clarenceville.

The Warriors scored only eight points in the first quarter while committing 10 turnovers. The second quarter wasn't much better as the team's top two scorers, Sean Vandenbrink and Kyle Ramthun, went to the bench in foul trouble.

Lutheran Westland trailed 29-28 after three periods, scoring just eight points with Ramthun staging a lengthy dialogue with lead referee T.C. Cameron about a lack of calls or no-calls.

The switch, however, flipped on for the Warriors during the decisive final eight minutes of play as they made 9-of-10 shots from the floor en route to a 25-11 surge to earn a 53-40 triumph.

Kyle Ramthun, a senior guard, scored 16 of his game-high 23 points during the fourth-quarter run. And 6-foot-2 senior forward Josh Haller stepped up his play by adding 14 in the win. Vandenbrink and Sam Ahlersmeyer added six each.

"It took a while to get adjusted," said Dan Ramthun, whose team is 6-3 overall and 3-1 in the Metro. "Josh (Haller) has been down the last couple of games and it was good to see him get untracked. We need him to be that other 'big three' scorer we have along with Kyle and Sean."

The third quarter was entertaining to say

the least, as Ramthun and Cameron bantered back and forth during stoppages of play.

Cameron has his own Web site and has authored a book, *Attacked: Why We Love to Hate the Referee!*

"We just talked too much; it was time to just shut up and play," Dan Ramthun said. "We just had to play better defense, get more cutters going through and use better ball movement. We got good looks (in the fourth quarter) at the basket instead of standing around. And I think Clarenceville got a little tired."

After freshman guard Anthony LaVallis gave the host Trojans a 31-30 edge with 7:03 left in the game, Kyle Ramthun responded with a hoop to put the Warriors up for good. The basket sparked a 13-0 run and was capped by Vandenbrink's 3-pointer with 4:07 remaining to make it 43-31.

"Their kids did a good job defensively late in the game," said Clarenceville first-year coach Corey McKendry, whose Trojans fall to 1-7 and 1-1. "They stopped our penetration. And (Kyle) Ramthun knows how to play, and he makes plays. He's very good when he moves without the ball."

Clarenceville, led by senior forward Eric Jones' team-high 13 points, made just 18-of-61 shots from the floor (29.5 percent). LaVallis added 10, while point guard Lonnie Fairfax finished with nine.

"It's the best Eric has played this year," McKendry said. "He played hard and the freshman (LaVallis) played well. He's learning. "We blew a bunch of point-blank layups,

PLEASE SEE WARRIORS, B2



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lutheran Westland's Josh Haller (23) drives around Clarenceville's Rapheal Carter during Tuesday night's Metro Conference encounter.

## S'craft parts ways with Teeters

BY TIM SMITH AND BRAD EMONS  
STAFF WRITERS

For decades, Tom Teeters has done nothing but win wherever he's coached — both at the prep and collegiate levels.

But hot on the heels of a 34-6 season and Division II national tourney appearance for his Schoolcraft College women's volleyball team, the 52-year-old Teeters learned earlier this month that success wasn't good enough.

"Yes, I was," Teeters said about whether he was shocked to suddenly lose his Schoolcraft coaching job after 24 seasons.

Teeters was let go Jan. 12, apparently receiving a lukewarm explanation from Sid Fox, the college's second-year athletic director.

Fox, asked last week about rumors that Teeters had been fired, had little to say other than it wasn't a firing, per se.

"Tom will not be the volleyball coach here next year," Fox said. "He was not offered a contract."

Pressed on the matter, the athlet-

## VOLLEYBALL

ic director acknowledged that the 2006 Lady Ocelots and Teeters indeed had "a very good year, but really you'd have to talk to (Schoolcraft marketing director) Marty Heater for any comment. The job has been posted. The deadline is Jan. 31 for those interested in applying."

Heater, in a Jan. 19 e-mail response to the *Observer*, flatly refused to discuss Teeters' situation: "It is our policy to not discuss personnel matters."

According to Teeters, among the winningest volleyball coaches in National Junior Collegiate Athletic Association history with more than 700 victories, "They wouldn't tell me why, either. I asked him (Fox) for a reason and he wouldn't give me one."

Teeters said Fox first asked him if he wanted to step down. "I said no, and then he said (Schoolcraft) would not renew my contract."

The veteran coach noted that he didn't know of any major com-

plaints from any of his players, their parents or others connected with the program during the recently concluded season.

"We had a very successful season," Teeters said. "We supported each other and got along well."

Although Teeters said he received a "good review" in his evaluation last spring, he acknowledged that there had been some e-mails of a critical nature from Fox, dealing with issues such as how organized the coach kept his office.

"I could see by some of the e-mails that something was in the works," Teeters said.

Teeters also said he was questioned, and there was a disagreement, over whether he received authorization to run tryouts and practices out of the Schoolcraft facility during the 2005 and 2006 seasons with his AAU club (MVB).

"We had about 70 kids (in AAU)," he said. "I wanted to give Schoolcraft exposure and bring kids through the club. I wanted

PLEASE SEE TEETERS, B2

## Abron catapults Churchill spikers

BY BRAD EMONS  
STAFF WRITER

Livonia Stevenson converted half of Livonia Churchill's one-two powerful attacking duo of Lauren Krupsky and Kyndra Abron on Monday night.

But that wasn't good enough, as the host Spartans couldn't put the brakes on the 6-foot-2 junior Abron in a three-game Lakes Division setback, 25-15, 25-16, 25-15.

State-ranked Churchill, fresh off a Saturday tournament conquest at Northwood University, is 25-2-1 overall and 2-0 in the Lakes Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association.

Krupsky, a 5-11 senior headed to Central Michigan University, finished the night with a modest 10 kills and two aces. She is among the MHSAA rally-scoring leaders for kills in a match (31) and kills in a season (711).

But Abron, a middle hitter committed to Michigan State, helped pick up the slack with a match-high 14 kills, many of the thunderous variety including seven

PLEASE SEE CHURCHILL, B2

THE WEEK AHEAD

**BOYS BASKETBALL**  
**Friday, Jan. 26**  
 W.L. Central at Churchill, 7 p.m.  
 Franklin at Canton, 7 p.m.  
 Stevenson at W.L. Northern, 7 p.m.  
 Salem at John Glenn, 7 p.m.  
 Wayne at Plymouth, 7 p.m.  
 Clarenceville at Cranbrook, 7 p.m.  
 Light & Life at Luth. Westland, 7 p.m.  
 Huron Valley at Macomb Christian, 7:30 p.m.

**GIRLS VOLLEYBALL**  
**Thursday, Jan. 25**  
 Inter-City at Luth. Westland, 6:30 p.m.  
**Saturday, Jan. 27**  
 Portage Northern Tourney, 8:30 a.m.

**PREP HOCKEY**  
**Friday, Jan. 26**  
 Churchill vs. Franklin,  
 Stevenson vs. St. Clair Shores  
 at Edgar Arena, 6 & 8 p.m.

**Saturday, Jan. 27**  
 Ladywood vs. Ply.-Canton-Salem  
 at Arctic Pond, 6:30 p.m.  
 Churchill vs. G.P. North  
 at Mount Clemens Arena, 7:30 p.m.

**PREP WRESTLING**  
**Thursday, Jan. 25**  
 W.L. Northern at Churchill, 6:30 p.m.  
 Northville at Franklin, 6:30 p.m.  
 Stevenson at W.L. Central, 6:30 p.m.  
 John Glenn at Salem, 6:30 p.m.  
 Canton at Wayne, 6:30 p.m.  
**Saturday, Jan. 27**  
 Observerland Inv. at Churchill, 9 a.m.

**BOYS SWIMMING**  
**Thursday, Jan. 25**  
 John Glenn at Churchill, 7 p.m.  
 Plymouth at Franklin, 7 p.m.  
 Stevenson at W.L. Central, 7 p.m.  
 Northville at Wayne, 7 p.m.

**GIRLS GYMNASTICS**  
**Saturday, Jan. 27**  
 Troy Athens Invitational, 10:55 a.m.

**PREP BOWLING**  
**Thursday, Jan. 25**  
 Ladywood vs. Farmington-Harrison,  
 Clarenceville vs. U-D Jesuit, Mercy  
 at Drakeshire Lanes, 3:30 p.m.

**Saturday, Jan. 27**  
 Glenn, Wayne at W.L. Central, TBA.

**GIRLS COMPETITIVE CHEER**  
**Thursday, Jan. 25**  
 Wayne, W.L. Western at John Glenn, 6 p.m.

**Saturday, Jan. 27**  
 Grosse Ile Invitational, 10 a.m.  
 Bedford Invitational, noon.  
 Ladywood vs. Northville Inv., 1 p.m.

**PREP SKIING**  
**Thursday, Jan. 25**  
 Ladywood vs. Hartland at Alpine Valley, 3:30 p.m.

**GIRLS FIGURE SKATING**  
**Saturday, Jan. 27**  
 Ladywood at Team Competition  
 at Taylor Sportsplex, noon

**MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL**  
**Saturday, Jan. 27**  
 Schoolcraft at Kirtland CC, 3 p.m.  
 Madonna at Davenport, 3 p.m.

**WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL**  
**Saturday, Jan. 27**  
 Schoolcraft at Kirtland CC, 1 p.m.  
 Madonna at Davenport, 1 p.m.

**ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE**  
**Friday, Jan. 26**  
 Whalers vs. Ottawa Generals  
 at Compuware Arena, 7:05 p.m.

**Saturday, Jan. 27**  
 Whalers vs. Sault Ste. Marie  
 at Compuware Arena, 7:05 p.m.

**Sunday, Jan. 28**  
 Whalers at Toronto Marlies, 2 p.m.

**MAJOR INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUE**  
**Saturday, Jan. 27**  
 Ignition at Baltimore Blast, 7:35 p.m.

**Sunday, Jan. 28**  
 Ignition vs. Philadelphia KIXX  
 at Compuware Arena, 4:35 p.m.

# Churchill girls sweep Northwood Invite

Livonia Churchill captured all six matches Saturday to garner the Northwood University Invitational girls volleyball tournament in Midland.

The Chargers improved to 24-2-1 overall with a 25-18, 25-22 triumph over Howell in the championship match.

Other Churchill wins came against Byron Area (25-14, 25-8), Midland Dow (25-17, 25-20), Sterling Heights Stevenson (25-20, 25-20), Birmingham Roper (25-13, 25-4) and Farmington Hills Harrison (25-4, 25-13).

Senior Lauren Krupsky was the Chargers' top attacker on the day with 71 total kills. The Central Michigan University signee also served 14 aces.

Junior Kyndra Abron added 39 kills and six blocks, while Anna-Marie Gatt contributed 19 aces. Kelly Archer finished with 64 digs, while Jordan Kerr was 24-for-24 passing with 18 digs.

## Ladywood prevails

Lauren Boehmer and Erin Henneberger recorded 27 and 24 kills, respectively, leading Livonia Ladywood to a 25-17, 25-16, 14-25, 24-26, 15-4 Catholic League Central Division triumph Tuesday over visiting Birmingham Marian.

The Blazers improved to 20-6-1 overall and 2-1 in the Central (tied with Marian and Farmington Hills Mercy).

Setter Megan Hodges had 56 assists, while Laura Schroeter

## PREP VOLLEYBALL

finished with 12 digs. Megan Olinid added four blocks.

"It was an exciting match, but I got a little nervous going into the fifth game," Ladywood coach Erin Craggs said. "But we came back and showed some experience and were able to close it out strong."

## Warriors rated No. 9

On Tuesday, state-ranked Lutheran High Westland (15-2-4, 2-0) rolled to a 25-13, 25-10, 25-9 triumph over visiting Livonia Clarenceville (1-9-1, 0-2) in Metro Conference match.

The Warriors, who cracked the Class D ratings this week at No. 9, got seven kills and 13 points serving - including three aces - from sophomore Becca Refenes.

Kayla Gieschen added six kills and served 10 points. She added two aces and now has a team-high 40 on the season.

Other standouts for the Warriors included Lauren Schewecke, four kills and 10 digs; Julie Jongsma, 13 assists and 12 points serving (two aces); and Lauren Gieschen, nine assists.

## Huron Valley wins in 3

Setter Amanda Gruenewald had 14 assists and two ace serves to propel Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (10-1-1, 4-0) to a Michigan Independent Athletic

Conference-Red Division triumph Tuesday at Novi Franklin Road Christian.

Emily Helwig and Lauren Adlof were the Hawks' top attackers with six and five kills, respectively.

## Northville blocks Pats

In a WLA Western Division match Monday, host Northville rolled to a 25-14, 25-17, 25-12 triumph over Livonia Franklin (9-13-3, 1-1).

Liz Dempsey had six kills in the loss, while Ashley Sawyer and Kelly Powers contributed three apiece.

"Offensively we did not do much because Northville served tough and out-smarted us at the net," Franklin coach Linda Jimenez said. "This match was an excellent learning tool for us, it exposed our weaknesses. Every player on our team, even those who did not play - and myself - were hurt by how bad we lost. Our goal is to be more competitive the next time we play them."

## Northern stops Glenn

In a WLA Western Division game Monday, Walled Lake Northern downed host Westland John Glenn in three games, 25-15, 25-19, 25-14.

Middle hitters Brittany Holbrook and Virginia Butler combined for 11 kills, while Kirstin Kirk added 11 digs and two aces for the Rockets (11-9-3, 1-1).

## Franklin gains final 4

Setters Kelly Powers and Cassie LaPrairie combined for 95 assists on the day as Livonia Franklin (8-12-3) reached the semifinals of the Madonna University Invitational held Saturday at Plymouth High.

Fowlerville ended Franklin's run, 25-20, 25-18, after the Patriots defeated Macomb Dakota, 25-15, 25-23, in the quarterfinals.

In pool play, Franklin captured three of four matches in pool play including wins over Riverview (25-21, 28-26), Harper Woods Regina (25-21, 26-24) and Dearborn Heights Crestwood (25-16, 25-9).

Milford downed Franklin for its lone pool play loss, 25-18, 25-8. Powers collected 50 assists, while LaPrairie contributed a total of 45.

"Their decision making and court awareness of opposing blockers enabled our hitters to be successful," Franklin coach Linda Jimenez said. "They ran the offense like a quarterback with their leadership, composure and play calling."

Liz Dempsey was Franklin's top attacker with 55 kills (.266 hitting efficiency) with 22 blocks and 19 digs.

Laura Marshall added 21 kills (.250), 13 blocks, 10 digs and eight ace serves. Ashley Price chipped in with 15 kills (.282) with nine blocks and six aces. Brianna Taylor finished with 14 kills (.233) and 18 blocks.

## WARRIORS

FROM PAGE B1

especially the second quarter. Most of the shots we missed were going to the rim."

Despite 21 turnovers, the Warriors shot 50 percent from the floor (22-of-44) and were 7-of-9 from the line.

"Give Corey (McKendry) credit, he did what he wanted to do even though he was shorthanded," Dan Ramthun said. "We threw the ball away against their press and they slowed it down, so kudos to him."

With two potential starters academically ineligible, another guard (Brian Davis) missing after calling in sick, and the Trojans' best inside player (6-3 sophomore Jeremy Gainer) transferring second semester to Detroit Renaissance, it becomes more of an adjustment period for McKendry.

"We lost this game because what do from 7:30 in the morning to 2:30 in the afternoon," McKendry said. "I don't want to discredit their kids (Lutheran Westland's), but we're losing games in the classroom."

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# Glenn nips Chargers

Westland John Glenn remained unbeaten in the Lakes Division Tuesday with a 49-46 boys basketball triumph at Livonia Churchill.

Junior Keshawn Martin led a balance scoring attack with 14 points as Glenn improved to 6-4 overall and 3-0 in the Lakes Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association.

Sophomore Austin Anderson added 12, while senior Rob Jones contributed 10 for the Rockets, who overcame a 20-18 halftime deficit.

Junior forward Ryan Rosenick led the Chargers (5-5, 1-2) with 20 points and 11 rebounds. Andrew Vagnetti finished with 10.

His three-pointer with 23 seconds left pulled Churchill to within three.

After a missed Glenn foul shot, Vagnetti launched another three-pointer in an effort to tie it with five seconds to go.

"It was in-and-out, a good look and a good shot," Churchill coach Jim Solak said. "The effort was there from the most part, but early-on we did not shoot well the first half (8-for-24). Glenn hurt us (in the third quarter) with some easy baskets during a two-minute stretch."

Glenn was 6-of-10 from the foul line, while Churchill was 7-of-14.

**WAYNE 69, FRANKLIN 47:** All 12 players scored Tuesday as Wayne Memorial (5-5, 1-2) rolled to a

## CHURCHILL

FROM PAGE B1

in the opening game to go along with two blocks.

"Kyndra's been the one who's been somewhat inconsistent so far this season and Laura has been the one who has been the most consistent," Churchill coach Mark Grenier said. "But tonight Kyndra covered for us when Laura was little off."

"Overall I thought the kids passed pretty well. When we're able to pass and play defense, we're more consistent."

The Chargers also got strong play from senior setter Kelsey McKenzie, who chipped in with 23 assist-to-kills and six

kills.

Meanwhile, senior libero Kelly Archer and senior outside hitter Stephanie Bradshaw combined for 20 digs (10 each). Senior Sarah Button contributed four blocks.

Archer was also 24-for-25 on serve receive and junior Shannon Warner served seven straight points in the second game.

"Those city matches are tough," Grenier said. "You can throw out the records and I thought Stevenson was tough today."

Stevenson falls to 10-5-1 overall and 0-2 in the division.

"I'm pretty pleased with how we played," Stevenson coach Kelly Graham said. "The first-game score did not dictate how

we played. We tried defensively to be more strategic than we've been. We ran into a rut the second game on serve receive against Krupsky and we dug ourselves a hole. But overall I thought we were closer than the score, especially the first couple of games. But that's rally scoring."

Stevenson had trouble putting an attack through.

Senior outside hitters Laura Khalil and Hannah Diebel led with five and three kills, respectively. Senior Kelly Snitchler had nine digs, while junior libero Jordan Pilut added six.

One bright spot for the Spartans was senior setter Jill Flaughter, who finished with 21 assists.

"They (Churchill) did not put the ball away too much," Graham said. "But we created a lot of our own mistakes and Churchill would capitalize. We did not get enough opportunities and we let balls drop. We need more consistency with our transition from defense to offense. But I'm pleased offensively. We're coming around with Jill setting."

Despite the convincing victory, Grenier is always seeking improvement.

"We're pretty much settled on what we're doing," he said. "We just need more repetition and we have to be more efficient."

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## TEETERS

FROM PAGE B1

them to walk into the gym because some of them could be future recruits. I always made sure I had the hours. I offered my resignation if I was causing a problem, but I was persistent in asking. I didn't do anything different under Bill Tolstedt (Schoolcraft's previous interim A.D.). But I had no problem playing at the Hillside Community Center (in Northville) either."

Teeters probably won't fight the loss of his \$6,000 job, reasonable explanation or not.

"Michigan is an at-will state, so there's nothing you can do," Teeters said. "I know some people - as I told them - sent letters to the college. But I'm not looking for a protest."

The much-traveled Teeters has also enjoyed a long and successful parallel career as a

prep volleyball coach.

Among his stops have been Livonia Clarenceville, where he guided to Trojans to a Class B state title in 1978 and a runner-up finish in 1980. He also guided Livonia Ladywood to a pair of Class B state crowns (1988 and 1989) along with a runner-up finish in Class A (1990) before being fired.

Since the mid-1970s, Teeters has also coached at Farmington Hills Mercy, Garden City, Salem and Brighton high schools, the latter where he currently has coached the past three seasons.

Schoolcraft hired him in 1978 and he stayed for two years before focusing on his high school career until 1985. That's when he came back to lead the Lady Ocelots, coaching the 1988 Division I national championship team and 2002 Division II national runner-up.

"I did have a lot of good years at Schoolcraft," Teeters said. "I enjoyed my stay there."

## BOYS SWIMMING RESULTS

### LIVONIA CHURCHILL 114 REDFORD UNION 68 Jan. 23 at Churchill

**200-yard medley relay:** Churchill (Steve Jones, Jason Young, Ben Lamerand, Drew Randall), 1:55.87; **200 freestyle:** Greg Van Gorp (LC), 2:17.66; **200 individual medley:** Young (LC), 2:34.05; **50 freestyle:** B. Lamerand (LC), 24.03; **1-meter diving:** Matt Hope (LC), 163.60 points; **100 butterfly:** Jason Matties (RU), 1:05.31; **100 freestyle:** Matt Castelli (LC), 59.4; **500 freestyle:** Van Gorp (LC), 6:18.04; **200 freestyle relay:** Churchill (Young, Castelli, Jake Keeler, B. Lamerand), 1:43.39; **100 backstroke:** Marcus Vega (LC), 1:14.09; **100 breaststroke:** John Matties (RU), 1:13.08; **400 freestyle relay:** Churchill (Lamerand, Jones, Keeler, Randall), 3:42.55; **Churchill 2nds:** Alex Lamerand, 200 freestyle (2:28.21); 500 freestyle (6:36.43); Ricky Scully, 100 backstroke (1:14.09); **3rds:** Castelli, 200 IM (2:42.31); Andrew Richards, 141.30; Young, 100 backstroke (1:17.13); **200 freestyle relay (Jones, Van Gorp, Nathan Larsen, Vega), 1:48.87; 400 freestyle relay (Castelli, Van Gorp, Jeff Stevens, Larsen), 4:30.66.**

**Churchill's dual meet record:** 4-3 overall.

### WALLED LAKE WESTERN 95 WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 90 Jan. 23 at John Glenn

**200-yard medley relay:** John Glenn (Kevin Chappelle, Josh Eldridge, Dan Fabrey, Shawn Long), 2:00.12; **200 freestyle:** O. Bugrimov (WLW), 2:02.07; **200 individual medley:** Jon Whit (WJG), 2:21.53; **50 freestyle:** Matt Espy (WJG), 23.75; **1-meter diving:** Whit (WJG), 221.90 points; **100 butterfly:** S. Rauss (WLW), 1:03.84; **100 freestyle:** Bugrimov (WLW), 52.53; **500 freestyle:** J. Wood (WLW), 5:56.95; **200 freestyle relay:** Western (J. Shrabel, R. Stase, Rauss, Bugrimov), 1:40.06; **100 backstroke:** Chappelle (WJG), 1:06.73; **100 breaststroke:** Rauss (WLW), 1:15.62; **400 freestyle relay:** John Glenn (Espy, Billy Lyons, John Burgess, Whit), 3:49.95; **Glenn 2nds:** Lyons, 50 freestyle (26.67); Fabrey, 100 butterfly (1:06.97); Espy, 100 freestyle (53.47); Burgess, 500 freestyle (6:03.97); **200 freestyle relay:** (Espy, Lyons, Andrew Thorne, Whit), 1:40.49; **3rds:** 200 medley relay (Nolan Langlois, Dennis Knight, Thorne, Ja-Cory Frawner), 2:16.33; Burgess, 200 freestyle (2:12.29); Chappelle, 200 IM (2:36.06); Lyons, 100 freestyle (58.97); **200 freestyle relay (Long, Fabrey, Frawner, Burgess), 1:53.44; Jon Lara, 100 backstroke (1:21.0); Eldridge, 100 breaststroke (1:18.32).**

**Glenn's dual meet record:** 0-5 overall.

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# Dunn powers Wayne at Stevenson Invite

Chad Dunn earned MVP honors by pinning all five opponents in the 103-pound class Saturday as Wayne Memorial swept through the Livonia Stevenson Team Dual Invitational.

The Wolfpack went 5-0 on the day followed by Stevenson (4-1), Ann Arbor Pioneer (3-2), Ypsilanti Lincoln (2-3), Ann Arbor Huron (1-4) and Wyandotte Roosevelt's B team (0-5).

Wayne, now 9-8 overall, scored wins over Huron, 55-9; Stevenson, 39-36; Wyandotte 'B,' 66-3; Pioneer, 47-28; and Lincoln, 47-30.

"I have the exact same group of kids as last year," said Wayne coach Steve Vasiloff, whose team is on a seven-match winning streak, including two tournament wins. "I couldn't be more proud of my team. I have the same exact group of kids as last year, with the addition of three freshmen and two sophomores... and now we're winning."

Wayne, was led by Dunn, who pinned Tommy Myshock of Stevenson in 0:41.

Also going 5-0 on the day for the Wolfpack were Jamie Preiss (119), Jeff Elswick (171) and Robert Coffey (215-285).

Elswick recorded his 100th career victory by pinning Stevenson's Emanuel Onwuemene in 3:05.

Wayne's Robert Walsh (145) also finished unbeaten at 4-0, while Brandon Whittenberg (130), Jack Muncie (135) and Anthony Baskins (189) each captured four of five matches.

"We have become a team, and more importantly, a family," Vasiloff said. "My 15 kids can count on each other to give 100 percent every match. That's all I could ask for as a coach."

Unbeaten wrestlers for Stevenson, now 13-6 overall, included Jon Reale (140), Michael Fobar (112) and Ben Beaman (145). Myshock and Ziad Kharbush (160) each finished 4-1 on the day.

## Franklin streak ends

It was a bittersweet ending Saturday as Livonia Franklin set a season school record for victories (22) in a runner-up finish to state-ranked Howell at the Grosse Pointe North Team Dual Tournament.

Franklin, 22-2 overall, earned wins over Macomb Lutheran North (81-0), host

North (61-12), Utica Eisenhower (73-3) and Warren DeLaSalle (70-6) before losing to Howell (30-27).

The dual against Howell started with momentum on Franklin's side with Josh Billiau bumping up to 135 pounds to wrestle state placer Ryan Feeley, and defeating him, 5-2.

Jason Zanger then wrestled ex-teammate and former Patriot Jason Leavens at 140 before losing, 8-3.

Howell captured the next four matches to go up 21-3 before Franklin tied it up at 27-all with only the 130-pound class to go.

Unfortunately for the No. 9-ranked Patriots, Jon Roos was unavailable due to injury and Franklin's Matt Hintz was decided, 9-3.

"It was an exciting meet," Franklin coach Dave Chiola said. "It was the third close meet to a team ranked in the state in eight days (including L'Anse Creuse and Canton). In all three were behind and came back, which isn't the way I like to do it. We need to establish ourselves earlier and work with a lead; it's something we need to work only."

"Watching Leavens wrestle for another team was a bit strange, and I'm sure it was strange for Zanger to wrestle him."

Going 5-0 on the day for the Patriots included Jared Pieknik (103), James Benitez (119), Brandon Billiau (130), Pat Roumayah (189) and Kyle Brown (285).

Vince Benavides (3-0) and Rod Gray (2-0) also combined to go unbeaten at 215 pounds.

"Our upper weights - Roumayah, Benavids and Brown - are really coming through for us lately," Chiola said. "I'm proud how this team fights back without one of our best kids in the lineup. It pays to have depth, but hopefully we'll get him back soon."

## Patriot JV champion

Justin Jacobsen (112), Elvin Ferreira (152) and Garrett Hay (160) each went 5-0 on the day to lead the Franklin JV squad to the Southgate Tournament team title.

The JV Patriots defeated Trenton (54-15), Adrian (67-6), Belleville (40-25), Lake Orion (35-28) and the host Titans (58-15).

## OBSERVERLAND

FROM PAGE B1

"It's definitely one we look forward to every year — it's one that's circled on our calendar," Chiola said. "A lot of the kids from the different teams know each other because they attend a lot of the same camps during the summer, and it's big because if you win Observerland, you can say you're the champion of Wayne County for that year."

"Canton is definitely one of the teams to beat. John Glenn and Belleville should be near the top of the standings, too, along with Catholic Central. After that, there's a whole slew of teams that could be up there."

Perennially strong Belleville has been added to the already-potent mix of teams this season.

"The Observerland tournament seems to get more and more competitive every year," John Glenn coach Bill Polk said. "The addition of Belleville will only add to that."

"Franklin has to be considered the favorite to win it all, but I think there are at least four or five teams — maybe more — that can win it, depending on who shows up."

The Rockets will be led by 152-pound senior James Zerebiny, who had chalked up a 34-1 mark through last week-end's action.

"James is one of those kids who, for the past three years, always seemed to have one guy ahead of him at the weight he was at," Polk said. "But he paid his dues, worked hard and now he's taking advantage of the opportunity he's earned this year."

Judging by the individual rankings, the Chiefs should fare well as four of their grapplers — Donnie Watkins (103 pounds), Brent Winekoff (130), Corey Phillips (140) and Donnie Laramie (285) — are top-ranked. Watkins, a freshman, and Phillips, a senior who has earned a scholarship to wrestle at Eastern Michigan University beginning in the fall, are both unbeaten.

The first matches are scheduled to begin at 9 a.m.

## AREA WRESTLING RANKINGS

### OBSERVERLAND INVITATIONAL FINAL WRESTLING RANKINGS

TEAM: 1. Livonia Franklin; 2. Canton; 3. Belleville; 4. Westland John Glenn; 5. Novi-Detroit Catholic Central.

#### INDIVIDUAL

103 pounds: 1. Donnie Watkins, Canton; 2. Tommy Myshock, Livonia Stevenson; 3. Chad Dunn, Wayne Memorial; 4. Namik Kerimov, Farmington; 5. Brad LaRose, Lutheran Westland.

112: 1. Justin Fleeson, Belleville; 2. Carl Lucke, Canton; 3. Ben Kosmaiski, Plymouth; 4. Dustin Ashley, Garden City; 5. Jared Pieknik, Livonia Franklin.

119: 1. Jamie Preiss, Wayne; 2. Jared Stephens, John Glenn; 3. Nieko Ianni, Novi-Detroit Catholic Central; 4. Martin Rivera, Churchill; 5. Seth Wald, North Farmington.

125: 1. Dustin Zak, Belleville; 2. Jeremiah Austin, John Glenn; 3. Jon Roos, Franklin; 4. Nick Steiger, Salem; 5. Steve Cox, Canton.

130: 1. Brent Winekoff, Canton; 2. Greg Roberts, Churchill; 3. Josh Billiau, Franklin; 4. Nick Shak, John Glenn; 5. Alex Kemp, Salem.

135: 1. Brian Augsburg, Belleville; 2. Jon Reale, Stevenson; 3. J.P. Gaffke, Churchill; 4. Kevin Hayter, Salem; 5. Jon Cauchi, Franklin.

140: 1. Corey Phillips, Canton; 2. Jim Wood, John Glenn; 3. Steve Coak, Belleville; 4. Gramos Pailaska, Churchill;

5. Derek Robbins, Livonia Clarenceville. 145: 1. Matt Edwards, Lutheran Westland; 2. Adam Kibner, RU; 3. Steve Sherman, Belleville; 4. Dan McCahill, John Glenn; 5. Andrew Saunders, Plymouth.

152: 1. James Zerebiny, John Glenn; 2. Steve Kemp, Lutheran Westland; 3. Jeremy Epley, Salem; 4. Ryan Brown, Novi-Detroit CC; 5. Brian Wisniewski, Garden City.

160: 1. Ziad Kharbush, Stevenson; 2. Nate Turco, Franklin; 3. Stefan Gatt, Novi-Detroit CC; 4. Wassim El-Awadi, Belleville; 5. Kiel Price, Canton.

171: 1. Jeff Elswick, Wayne; 2. Dan Woodall, Franklin; 3. Andrew Hein, John Glenn; 4. Mike Nordby, Garden City; 5. Isaac Burris, RU.

189: 1. Joe Kinville, Novi-Detroit CC; 2. Joey Kowtko, John Glenn; 3. Marc Kadrich, Franklin; 4. Vince Daroff, Plymouth; 5. Adam Powers, Canton.

215: 1. Shamir Garcia, John Glenn; 2. Matt Aubrey, Novi-Detroit CC; 3. Vince Benavides, Franklin; 4. Paul Rockrohr, Lutheran Westland; 5. Dan Wanston, Canton.

285: 1. Donnie Laramie, Canton; 2. Kyle Brown, Franklin; 3. Mike Martin, Novi-Detroit CC; 4. Dean Hubbard, Plymouth; 5. Frank Taormina, John Glenn.

Note: The Observer Sports Staff would like to thank Jim Gourlay (Franklin) and Aaron Davis (Garden City), who compiled this year's rankings.



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# Livonia Red beaming; Blue's Quint gains 1st

Livonia's Red and Blue girls gymnastics squads placed a respectable fourth and fifth, respectively, in Saturday's 13-team Farmington Invitational.

Troy Athens came away with the team title with 143.90 points followed by Grand Rapids Forest Hills (143.65), Farmington United (143.40), Livonia-Red (142.575) and Livonia Blue (141.55).

Livonia Red was bolstered by team-high score on balance beam with an aggregate 36.775.

Livonia Blue's Emily Quint was the all-around winner in Division 1 with a score of 37.60. She took second on vault (9.55); fourth on beam (9.55) and floor exercise (9.3); and seventh on the uneven bars (9.20).

Paula Guzik and Andrea Pisani of Livonia Red finished second and fourth, respectively, in the Division 1 all-around

### PREP GYMNASTICS

with scores of 37.575 and 37.175.

Guzik took first on bars (9.4); tied for third on vault (9.5); fifth on beam (9.525); and eighth on floor (9.15).

Pisani was runner-up on beam (9.65) and floor exercise (9.375); tied for eighth on vault (9.1); and placed ninth on bars (9.05).

Meghan Powers of Livonia Blue added seventh in the Division 1 vault (9.2) and was ninth on floor (9.1).

In Division 2, Livonia Blue's Laura Nomura was fourth in the all-around (34.45) after finishing fifth on beam (8.9) and floor (9.05), along with an eighth on vault (8.8).

Other top Livonia individual finishers in Division 2 included Livonia Blue's Kelly Tapella, who took a fifth on uneven

bars (8.6) and a 10th on vault (8.55); Red's Margarita Lazarevska, seventh on beam (8.85); Red's Alyssa Gonzales, 10th on beam (8.6);

### GIRLS GYMNASTICS

#### DOUBLE-DUAL MEET RESULTS

Jan. 22 at Livonia Churchill  
**TEAM SCORES:** 1. Livonia-Red, 142.65 points; 2. Livonia-Blue, 141.60; 3. Brighton, 139.40; 4. Howell, 133.30.

#### INDIVIDUAL FINISHERS

**Vault:** 1. (tie) Paula Guzik (Red) and Emily Quint (Blue), 9.35 each; 3. (tie) Andrea Pisani (Red) and Lauren Dilullo (Brighton), 9.15 each; 5. Lauren Nomura (Blue), 9.05.  
**Uneven bars:** 1. Lauren Dilullo (Brighton), 9.6; 2. Paula Guzik (Red), 9.4; 3. (tie) Pisani (Red) and Rachel Page (Brighton), 9.25 each; 5. Meghan Powers (Blue), 9.05.  
**Balance beam:** 1. Page (Brighton), 9.3; 2. Nomura (Blue), 9.05; 3. Pisani (Red), 8.9; 4. Guzik (Red), 8.85; 5. Lauren Dilullo (Brighton), 8.75.  
**Floor exercise:** 1. Pisani (Red), 9.75; 2. (tie) Guzik (Red) and Dilullo (Brighton), 9.65 each; 4. Quint (Blue), 9.4; 5. Page (Brighton), 9.35.  
**All-around:** 1. Guzik (Red), 37.25; 2. Dilullo (Brighton), 37.153; Pisani (Red), 37.05; 4. Page (Brighton), 36.75; 5. Quint (Blue), 36.15.  
**Dual meet records:** Livonia-Blue, 6-0 overall; Livonia-Red, 5-1 overall.

# Semma lifts Blazers to 8-0 triumph

Junior Prenella Semma pumped in four goals and senior Laura Szwed collected a hat trick with one assist as Livonia Ladywood rolled to an 8-0 victory Saturday over host Harper Woods Regina in a Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League game at the St. Clair Shores Arena.

Ladywood, which meets Plymouth-Canton-Salem in a showdown for first place 6:30 p.m. Saturday at the Arctic Pond in Plymouth, improves to 9-0-1 overall and 9-0-1 in the league.

The game ended with 39 seconds left in the second period because of the eight-goal mercy rule.

Ashley Ballerin also scored for the victorious Blazers,

### PREP HOCKEY

who led 3-0 after one period before scoring five more in the second.

Assists went to Brittney Holtz (3), Maria Rotondo, Angie Iafano, Abby Kienbaum, Rachel Killian, Elyse Lorenz and Heather Sartorius.

Ladywood goalie Michelle Wyniemo, who made 10 saves, posted her second shutout of the season.

Regina falls to 5-7 overall and 3-7 in the MMGHSHL.

W.L. WESTERN 6, FRANKLIN 3: In a WLA-Western Division game Saturday, Ben James and Jeff Cartwright each posted hat tricks as host Walled Lake Western (1-2, 2-6 WLA) came away with the

victory against Livonia Franklin (3-11, 1-3) at Lakeland Ice Arena.

Cartwright scored the game-winning goal at 1:22 of the third followed by the game-winner at 2:06.

Ben Kubiak scored twice for Franklin, while Deven Bower had a goal assist. Derek Cripe (2), Jordan Short and Alex Wypych also drew assists.

Western trailed 3-2 after two periods before scoring four unanswered goals, two on the power play, in the decisive third.

The Warriors, who also got four assists from Jeremy Snavely, outshot the Patriots, 28-22.

Austin Mesler was in goal for Franklin.

"We played a good first and second period," Franklin coach Terry Jobbitt said. "The third period wasn't bad, but it wasn't as good as we played the first two, and we gave up two power-play goals. We just learn to stay out of the box."

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## SPORTS ROUNDUP

## MU softball clinic

Madonna University will stage a girls softball fundamentals clinic for ages 7-18 from 9-11:30 a.m. Saturdays, Feb. 3, 10, 17 and 24 (Session II), at the MU Activities Building.

Specialized individual instruction is offered by MU women's softball coach Al White, the 2004 NAIA Region VIII and Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Coach of the Year.

The cost is \$150 and pre-registration is required. For more information, call Al White at (734) 432-5783 or (734) 495-4719.

## Little League signup

Registration for the Redford American Little League (2007 season) will be from 6:30-8:30 p.m., beginning Tuesday, Jan. 23, at the R.A.L.L. Clubhouse, located at 25944 Plymouth Road (between Beech Daly and Inkster roads).

Additional registrations will be from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27 at the Redford Township Community Center, 12121 Hemingway Avenue, (between Schoolcraft and Plymouth roads); and 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 31 at the R.A.L.L. Clubhouse.

Registration is for boys and girls ages 5-18 whose parents or guardians reside within boundaries of R.A.L.L. District 5.

Parents should bring a photocopy of player birth certificates to registration as well as insurance cards and a check for \$115 (made out to Redford American Little League. Included in the cost is Major League Baseball hat, jersey, pants, socks, participation trophy or plaque (no fund-raisers involved).

For more information, call R.A.L.L. officer Mike Pawlowski at (586) 759-2405. You can also e-mail him at mpawloski@sbcglobal.net.

## Girls fastpitch

Registration for the 2007 Westland Lightning girls fastpitch softball program (ages 8-16) is being held from 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays and 10 a.m. until noon Saturdays at the Westland Youth Athletic Association Compound, 6050 Farmington Road, Wetland.

Birth certificates are required. For more information, call (734) 421-0640; or visit www.wyaa.org.

## Hitting-Fielding Clinic

A hitting and fielding clinic for students currently in grades 3-8, conducted by the Livonia Stevenson baseball coaching staff, will be from 1-3:30 p.m. Saturday, March 10, at the high school fieldhouse.

The hitting session involves proper grip, stance, balance, stride and swing. The field session gives participants the chance to learn proper glove techniques, footwork, positioning, throwing and drills.

The cost is \$35. Enrollment is limited to the first 60 registrants.

For more information, call Stevenson varsity baseball coach Rick Berryman at (734) 455-8623; or e-mail Berry3724@aol.com.

## Young pitchers clinic

The Livonia Stevenson High baseball coaching staff will conduct a clinic to learn the basics of pitching for current grades 3-8 from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 10, at the school's fieldhouse.

The two-hour clinic will teach young pitchers proper throwing mechanics, injury prevention, wind-up, stretch, pick-off moves and the mechanics of different pitchers. Parents and coaches are welcome to attend.

The cost is \$35. Enrollment is limited to the first 40 registrants.

For more information, call Stevenson varsity baseball coach Rick Berryman at (734) 455-8623; or e-mail Berry3724@aol.com.

## Baseball tryouts

The 12-and-under WaCo Wolves will be staging tryouts for the 2007 season, which included 75 games and a trip to the AAU National Championship.

For more information, call Bill Hardin at (734) 560-0820; or visit www.wacowolves.org.

## Hoops challenge

The 2007 Michigan Recreation and Parks Association Hoops Challenge, sponsored by the City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation, will be Friday, Feb. 23 at the Livonia Community Recreation Center, located at 15100 Hubbard (at Five Mile Road).

Registration, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., is free. Awards will be given to the first- and second-place finishers in the following age groups for boys and girls: 8-9, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15.

Winners advance to one of five area levels of competition with the state championship Sunday, April 15 at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

For more information, call (734) 466-2410.

## Metro Detroit USBC stages annual meeting

The second annual meeting of the Metro Detroit U.S. Bowling Congress was staged Jan. 14 at the Shriners Auditorium in Southfield.

This is the largest local association of the USBC in the nation and carries the most clout at the national conventions (scheduled for this year in Knoxville, Tenn.).

Currently there are 72,059 adult and 5,608 youth members in the Detroit area. In all, approximately 59,000 awards for bowling achievements were handed out by the local association during the past year.

Libbi Fletcher serves as president of the Metro Detroit chapter has done a stellar job during its inaugural year of operation under the umbrella of the USBC.

The nominations for office were taken by voting ballots during the meeting with Gerald DeRuiter selected as First Vice-President. He is currently serving as Vice-President of the Metro Detroit USBC Board of Directors.

Michael De Rousie of Livonia and Douglas Moye of Farmington Hills were also among those elected to the board.

On Jan. 10, Dave Riger of Farmington Hills rolled his first certified 300 game in the Jewish War Veterans League at Drakeshire Lanes. He had previously bowled four 300s, but only in practice.

It just proves that practice makes perfect. Riger collected a pair of 299s previously in official league play. Dave also had to fill out the



Ten-Pin Alley

Al Harrison

USBC award forms and send it into himself because he is also the secretary of the league.

His mother, Frayda Riger, enjoyed watching her son bowl. Dave asked her before the 12th shot: "Which pin will I leave standing?" he asked.

She replied, "none," and she was quite right.

Dave is the same guy whose voice listeners hear when you tune on WDFN Sports Talk Radio.

I'll take one Cadillac, two Lincolns and an Aston-Martin please. The Michigan State Lottery has a form available (IRS No. SS-4) for starting up a lottery club.

My own Sunday Goodtimers League at Country Lanes in Farmington Hills started one last week. The State Lottery office has the right forms available, complete with instructions for getting started.

Twenty-three of the 40 bowlers in this league are participating over the next 15 weeks until the end of the 2006-07 season.

With 23 club members paying \$2 each week, we are able to purchase one of each Big Money ball, thus reducing the odds. This has nothing at all to do with the bowling. It's simply because we are a large enough group and a non-profit organization, it looks

like we can all get rich quick.

If we do happen to win the big one, I will buy everyone a beer (or ginger ale). I will also let you readers know how it worked out three months from now. So far we have won \$6 after the first two weeks.

The honor scores keep piling up at the Mayflower Senior Classic. Last Wednesday, Jesse Macciocco, 74, of Canton, has joined the 300 shooters list with a 782 series.

It was the fifth perfect game in his career.

Jack Dahlstrom had the dubious honor of receiving the Jack Dahlstrom Award himself, presented to him by league secretary Ted Kress.

This award, which Dahlstrom created last season, is awarded to a bowler who scores at least 100 pins less than his previous game.

The three senior leagues will be competing for prize money in the annual Senior Leagues Tournament beginning at 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 3 at Mayflower Lanes.

The tourney is a spin-off from the Senior/Youth Challenge, which was dropped last year because there not enough bowlers in the Saturday youth leagues. The new management is rebuilding the youth program and it is likely that the Senior/Youth event will resume next season.

Al Harrison is a resident of Livonia and a member of the Bowling Writers association of America. He can be reached at (248) 477-1839; or e-mail: tenpinalley@sbcglobal.net.

## Trojan girls make final 8 in county

The Livonia Clarenceville girls bowling team made a strong showing by reaching the quarterfinals in Saturday's Oakland County Championships hosted by Century Lanes in Waterford.

Clarenceville qualified fifth overall and got through the first round beating Waterford Mott in Baker games of 214-152, 205-179, 177-189 and 171-125, before losing to eventual

## PREP BOWLING

tournament champion South Lyon in the next round, 146-204, 174-203, 185-191.

Junior Sara Brown posted the second high series (614) on games of 204-223-187. Her 223 was 10th overall high game.

Teammate Danielle Fecso posted the third high series (599)

on games of 215-170-214. Junior Kayla Barber added a 214 in the third game of qualifying.

Meanwhile, the Clarenceville boys finished 15th in qualifying, but fell in their opening-round match.

Freshman Christian Grates led the Trojans with games of 205-171-208 for a 584 series. Senior Brandon Bentley was next with 204-164-200 for a 568 set.

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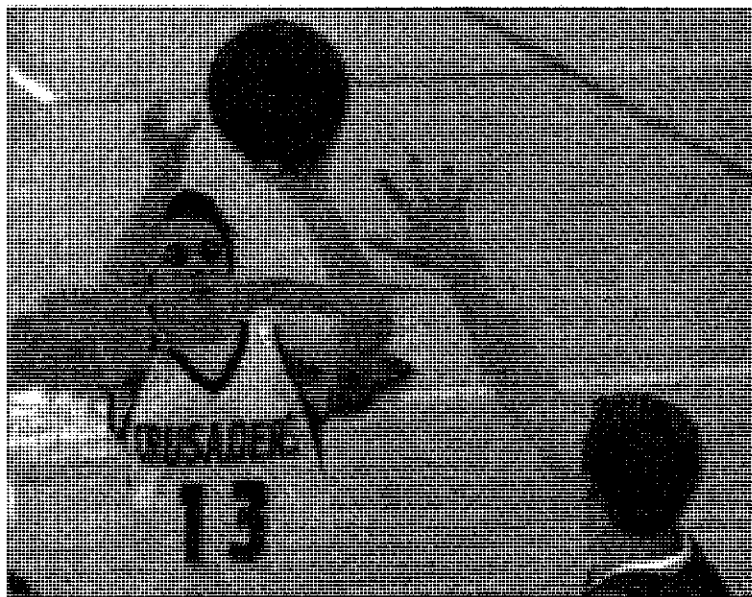
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## 2nd-half surge lifts SC women

A torrid second half lifted Schoolcraft College to a 72-57 women's basketball victory at St. Clair County Saturday afternoon. The Lady Ocelots trailed 38-34 at halftime of the Michigan Community College Athletic Association contest, before breaking things open in the second half thanks to hitting 15 of 25 from the floor (60 percent). Conversely, Schoolcraft put enough defensive pressure on the Skippers after intermission that they connected on only six of 30 field-goal tries (20 percent). Ashley Sibby tallied 19 points to pace Schoolcraft (16-2 overall,

9-0 in the MCCA-East) while Antoinette Brown and Maricka Seay each scored 13 points. Janelle Harris had 15 rebounds and seven points for the Lady Ocelots, ranked No. 4 in NJCAA Division II. For St. Clair County (9-11, 6-4), Kim Lackowski and Kelly Burton scored 16 and 13 points, respectively. **MU women edged** Siena Heights - making six of 11 triple attempts in the second half - rallied from a seven-point halftime deficit Saturday to defeat host Madonna University, 71-68 in a Wolverine-Hoosier

Athletic Conference tilt. The Saints (14-7, 4-2 in the WHAC) trailed 35-28 at the break before coming to life over the final 20 minutes of action. Laura Panozzo had a lot to do with the comeback, registering 14 points and 10 rebounds while Che Rogers scored 20 points. Cali Crawford paced Madonna (7-14, 2-4 in the WHAC) with 16 points, while the Crusaders received all-around performances from forwards Christie Carrico (15 points, 14 rebounds) and Martina Franklin (15 points, 12 boards). Contributing 10 points was Stephanie Piotrowski.



Madonna University junior guard Charlie Henry, a Canton resident, made a clutch triple Saturday that helped lift the Crusaders to victory.

## Crusaders

Madonna University junior guard Charlie Henry, a Canton resident, made a clutch triple Saturday that helped lift the Crusaders to victory. The win for the Crusaders came from a second-half effort to host Siena Heights 71-68. The key bucket for Henry (Canton/Agape) was a trey by junior Henry (Canton/Agape) with less than a minute in the Wolverine-Hoosier Conference matchup. Madonna a lead it won't relinquish the rest of the game. Thanks to Henry's ball, MU (7-15, 3-3 in WHAC) overcame an eight-point subdue the Saints (5-8 WHAC). The win for the Crusaders.

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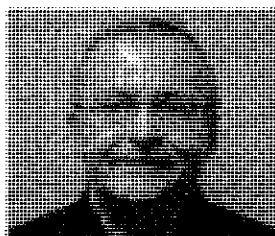
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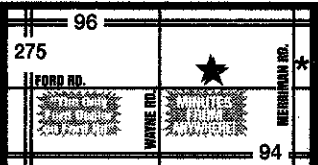
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True True True True False False True False False False False	True True True True False False True False True False True	True True True True False False True False True False True	True True True True False False True False True False False	False True False True True True True True True True True	False True True False True True True True True True True	False True True False True True True True True True False	False True True True False True True True True True True	True True True True False False True False True True True

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# Crusaders rally for victory over Siena Heights

Crusaders rallied to edge Siena Heights in a 66-60 Saturday

The Crusaders (11-2 overall, 6-2 GLIAC/3rd) rallied from a halftime deficit for a 62-61 triumph over visiting Michigan Tech (11-6 overall, 5-4 GLIAC) last Thursday, Jan. 18 at the Matthaei.

Henry (12 points) wasn't the lone Observerland product to have a big say in Madonna's triumph.

Freshman forward Nick Bortz (Walled Lake Northern) also came through, tallying a career high 14 points. He hit six of nine second-half field-goal tries, accounting for all of his scoring.

Each team committed 14 turnovers and MU outrebounded the Saints, 45-30.

Ocelots prevail  
The Schoolcraft College men's basketball team improved to 11-7 overall with an 81-84 triumph Saturday at St. Clair County Community College.

Schoolcraft avenged a 66-61 December loss at home to the Skippers, who fall to 14-6 overall and 7-3 in the Eastern Conference of the Michigan Community College Athletic Association.

Schoolcraft is 6-3 in the conference.

### WAYNE STATE RECAP

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**  
The Wayne State University women's basketball squad (8-10 overall, 6-2 GLIAC/3rd) rallied from a halftime deficit for a 62-61 triumph over visiting Michigan Tech (11-6 overall, 5-4 GLIAC) last Thursday, Jan. 18 at the Matthaei. WSU trailed 61-58 with 43 seconds remaining before Warrior sophomore guard Joy Nash drained a jumper to cut the deficit to one.

Sophomore Monique George tallied the game-deciding putback bucket with 10 seconds to go.

The Warriors extended their winning streak to four games with a 63-54 victory over visiting Northern Michigan University (6-13 overall, 2-8

**GLIAC Saturday afternoon.**

**MEN'S BASKETBALL**  
The Warriors men's basketball team (8-8 overall, 4-4 GLIAC/4th) scored a season-high in an 80-74 victory over visiting Michigan Tech (9-9 overall, 4-5 GLIAC) last Thursday, Jan. 18 at the Matthaei. They followed that up Saturday with a 75-55 loss to Northern Michigan (10-9 overall, 4-6 GLIAC).

**SWIMMING**  
The men's swimming and diving team fell to host Eastern Michigan, 142-93, in a dual meet on Friday. Chris Totten of Garden City made the cut in the one-meter competition, finishing with 280.57 points.

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3-9 136-104	4-8 132-108	6-6 141-99	5-7 141-99	5-7 134-106	6-6 149-91
True True False False True True False True True	True True False False True True False True True	True True False False True True False True True	True False True True True True False True True	False True True True True True False True True	False True True True True True False True True

**LAST WEEKS WINNERS!**

1st Place • Week 20  
**Ernie Bristle**  
Royal Oak, MI

2nd Place • Week 20  
**Walter Hayes**  
Oak Park, MI

YOUR NAME **Could Be Listed Here!**

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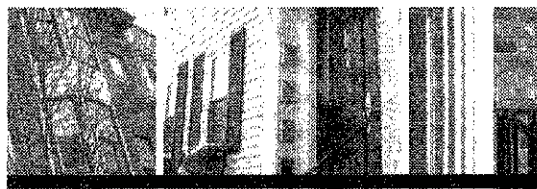
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