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Appointments clear way for pay board to meet

BY DARRELL CLEM STAFF WRITER

The issue of whether Westland's elected officials should receive pay raises will return to the spotlight this month. A local commission that decides pay raises will start debating the issue after getting several new appointees since Mayor William Wild took office Jan. 3.

needs to start deciding the issue of pay raises for the mayor, the city clerk and seven Westland City Council members. Wild already has told the Observer that he will ask the LOCC not to increase the \$95,974-a-year salary that the mayor receives. Wild said he won't get involved in whether City Clerk Eileen DeHart or council members should get pay raises. The LOCC decides pay levels for a two-year period.

The newly revamped LOCC will start its work during a public meeting scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 26, on the second floor of Westland City Hall, according to the clerk's office. The session is scheduled in the personnel department's conference room. Pickering has said he won't issue any recommendations to the LOCC. He said the commission's charge is to study what other communities pay their elected officials and to decide whether Westland should give raises. Pickering also has said the LOCC will have to consider "the city's ability to pay." Returning LOCC member Coleman is expected to be joined in the pay raise decisions by four new appointees - Katrina Coleman, a

member of the Southeast Westland Homeowners Association; William Gabriel, former Westland Library Board member; Connie Hierta, former member of the city's ethics commission; and Bobby Turner, a Flagstar bank branch manager. According to Pickering, the LOCC will have 45 days from its first meeting to decide the pay-raise issue. After that, the commission's recommendations will become effective unless the City Council votes within 30 days to reject the findings. It would take five of seven council members to block any LOCC decision.

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

State reinstates civic league's bingo licenses

BY SUE MASON STAFF WRITER

Bingo will be returning to the Wayne-Ford Civic League, most likely by next month. League President Vic Barra received word Tuesday from the state's Charitable Gaming Division that the league is getting back all seven of the bingo licenses it lost 2 1/2 years ago amid charges of embezzlement by its then top officials. "I'm just tickled to death," Barra said. "It's a testament to the fact that I ran the league the way I said would. I ran the league by the charitable gaming rules in an effort to demonstrate that we were worthy of having those licenses." The decision comes just two weeks after its former top officials, ousted league president Neal Greenfield and ex-wife Shari Greenfield, former vice president, pleaded no contest to one count each of embezzling between \$1,000 and \$20,000. They face penalties ranging from probation to five years in prison when they are sentenced Feb. 26 in front of Wayne County Circuit Judge Gregory Dean Bill. Barra is waiting to hear from the gaming inspector about training. He anticipates having bingo up and running by March 1. It will be the first time since July 2004, when the last state-licensed game was held at the league. "We've been struggling along without that money while maintaining our sports and seniors programs," Barra said. Once it gets started, bingo will be played at 5 p.m. Sundays, 10:45 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays and 10:45 a.m. Thursdays and Fridays. Barra estimates the return of bingo will restore close to \$250,000 in funding to the civic league annually. He bases his estimates on league records which showed \$240,000 in proceeds from bingo during a 10-month period, October 2003 to July 2004. That's good news for creditors who have worked with Barra to pare down the \$500,000 debt he inherited when he became civic league president. "We've been navigating through this on the goodwill of the people in the community. They trusted me and now everybody wins," Barra said. "We've been on payment programs for the mortgage and the utilities for 2 1/2 years. "We've been robbing Peter to pay Paul, but those days are coming to an end." The phone call from state officials came just hours after Barra and the Westland Goodfellows teamed up to provide the Lighthouse Mission Warming Center with \$1,000 to purchase much-needed food and supplies at Gordon Foods. "When you're on a roll, you're on a roll," he said.

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'The red flag was the mail, it was building up in his mailbox, and there was a FedEx package, too.'



Delivering mail on Cardwell in Garden City, postal carrier Billy Brooks called Tuesday morning temperatures "a heat wave" in comparison to Monday. The Westland resident celebrated his 22nd year on his route this week by helping save a customer on Monday.

Concern for customer leads to his rescue

BY SUE MASON STAFF WRITER

Billy Brooks is a firm believer in the unofficial motto of the U.S. Postal Service that "neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night" prevent delivery of the mail. He was bundled up and out delivering the mail in the Ford-Inkster Road area of Garden City on Monday. He has another belief: Never to hesitate knocking on a door when a customer isn't picking up the mail. And he did just that Monday, leading to the rescue of an elderly man who had collapsed and laid on the bedroom floor of his home on Arcola for two days. "I thought it was weird that he was getting

his checks and not picking them up," said Brooks. "The red flag was the mail, it was building up in his mailbox, and there was a FedEx package, too." The Westland resident has been a postal carrier for 26 years and has been delivering mail in the Ford-Inkster Road area for 22 years. He knows his customers pretty well. "He's a widower with no children living in Michigan, his son lives in California," Brooks said. "I knew something was weird." Brooks became concerned Saturday about the man after seeing the light on in the living room and hearing the television playing for two days straight. He spoke to neighbors who told him that they had talked to him

PLEASE SEE RESCUE, A8

Hotline offers information about city park

BY DARRELL CLEM STAFF WRITER

Westland Mayor William Wild has moved swiftly on a promise he made to keep citizens informed of developments related to Central City Park's contamination. An administrative task force appointed by Wild has decided on a four-pronged approach to educate residents, starting with a toll free hot line, (888) 7CC-PARK. "While many residents are aware of the park's closing, many still have questions and concerns," Wild said in a statement he issued Monday. "It is imperative that all residents have access to updated information as it becomes available." His task force has unveiled its approach as the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality prepares within weeks to start a new round of extensive testing for lead and other contaminants. "The intent of the DEQ is to do the entire park," Wild said Monday night during a Westland City Council meeting. Wild ordered the 100-acre park fenced off after he was appointed in January to replace former Mayor Sandra Cicirelli, now a district judge. The toll free information line started by the mayor's task force provides an update for callers and also allows them to pose questions or voice their concerns about the county-owned park. His task force also plans to place kiosks containing informational handouts in city buildings; schedule seminars to educate the city's senior citizen community; and send a mailing to each Westland household about the park situation. Residents also may address their questions or concerns about the park by sending an e-mail to parkinfo@cityofwestland.com. On Monday, Councilwoman Cheryl Graunstadt said she has contacted the DEQ and Wayne County to ask for an updated fact sheet about the contaminated park. The county owns the nearly 30-year-old park but leases it to the city. Long before it became a popular recreation site, it was used as a dump by county road workers, although it's believed that others engaged in dumping. The park's lead contamination was made public only in November, although city and county officials knew about it for several years. Scores of children and adults have since been tested for exposure to lead. The end result has been that no one has been found with levels that would be considered a potential health threat. Still, DEQ officials plan to conduct a thorough analysis to determine a possible cleanup plan.

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Coming Sunday in Health
Flu prevention kits the latest trend for those hoping to stay well this season.

**AROUND WESTLAND**

**Casino night**

St. Damian at 29891 Joy Road, between Middlebelt and Merriman in Westland, is having a Casino Night 6-11 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10. There will be blackjack, roulette and more, as well as 50/50 raffles, beer, soft drinks and food - hot dogs, nachos, chips. There is no admission charge.

**Swearing in**

The public is invited to a swearing in ceremony for new Westland 18th District Judge Sandra Cicirelli at 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 15, at the city of Westland's senior citizen Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh. A reception also is scheduled. Judges are encouraged to bring robes.

**Vehicle auction**

The Department of Public Service will hold a surplus vehicle auction 9 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 17, at its facility at 37137 Marquette, just south of Ford Road. A wide selection of items, including former city vehicles, automobiles from the street enforcement team for the Westland Police Department, clothing, computers and other electronics will be auctioned off. Kids get first dibs on the bicycles. Viewing starts at 8 a.m.

**Coffee Hour**

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, will hold a district coffee hour 9-10 a.m. Monday, Feb. 12, Westland Big Boy Restaurant, 6360 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Anderson will have information

regarding the state's budget crisis available for any interested individuals. Constituents who would like to address an issue with the senator but are unable to attend may contact him by mail at P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48933, by telephone at (517) 373-1707 or by e-mail at SenatorAnderson@senate.com.gov.

**Mentoring program**

The Lutheran Church of Our Savior in Westland is sponsoring "Educating Youth Through Mentoring" as part of its African American History Month in February. The featured speakers will be State Rep. Alma Wheeler-Smith, D-54th District, at 7 p.m. Feb. 8, Christopher Lindsey, principal of the Academy of Westland, at 7 p.m. Feb. 15, and Kay Williams-Hales, principal of Winship Elementary School in Detroit, at 7 p.m. Feb. 22.

The public is invited to attend. The Lutheran Church of Our Savior is at 29425 Annapolis, Westland. Call (734) 728-3440.

**Z-PAC dinner**

The Wayne Memorial High School Zebra Parents Advisory Council will hold a Valentine Dinner and Silent Auction on Friday, Feb. 9, at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center, 36455 Marquette, Westland. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. with the sit-down dinner served at 7 p.m. Seating is limited, only 125 tickets will be sold at \$40 per person or \$75 per couple. Tickets are available by calling Wayne High Principal John Albrecht at (734) 419-2200.

**Whitehead resigns from LPS board**

BY DAVE VARGA  
STAFF WRITER



Whitehead

Saying he didn't want to divert attention from student learning, Kevin Whitehead announced Monday that he was resigning from the Livonia Public Schools school board.

At the same time, Whitehead said he would answer the challenge to his residency filed with the Livonia City Clerk's office. Sometimes, he said, there's no right and wrong, and you can look at things from "more than one perspective."

A six-year board veteran, Whitehead said he wanted to make his decision timely "so the issue of the open seat would not become one that hangs over this board."

Board President Lynda Scheel said the board would temporarily fill the seat within 20 days. (See related story.) Meanwhile, school district voters will fill the final year of Whitehead's term in the May 8 school board election.

That means a third seat will be decided by voters. The filing deadline is Feb. 13.

In his statement, Whitehead talked of how he became involved in the PTA, and how that led to the school board. "There isn't a person in this room any less qualified to become a board member," he said.

Someone had gone into Whitehead's personal files in his house on Arden, which is for sale, he said. He filed a police report and planned to follow up. "That's a little disturbing to me," he said. "I've always tried to do the right thing. I've always tried

to be honest," he added.

Though he said he had talked to Scheel and Vice President Cynthia Markarian in their official

capacity before last week's meeting, Whitehead apologized to other board members whom he said he had "blindsided" with the issue. He said he'd learned from residents who have told the board to discuss things "no matter how painful" openly in meetings, rather than behind closed doors.

Whitehead talked about the board's Legacy Initiative decision, which he likened to a hot wing "that keeps coming back" on you after the Super Bowl. Whitehead said financial concerns were not the primary reason he voted for the plan to close elementary buildings and restructure grade levels. "I still believe that that was a good decision for student learning," he said.

Whitehead plans to continue contributing to the community, to be actively involved and to support his daughters - a sophomore and a senior at Churchill High School.

After his statement, the board took a meeting break and Whitehead left the board table, amid some handshakes, hugs and a few tears.

Later, during audience comments, Melanie Ricketts thanked Whitehead for his years of service. "Whether people choose to believe it or not, Kevin is a good man. Kevin did things for the right

**Applications available for board vacancy**

Livonia Board of Education members will make an appointment next week to fill a short-term vacancy, following Kevin Whitehead's resignation from the Livonia school board Monday night.

Residents interested in applying must fill out a form that is available at the superintendent's office or at each of the schools. The application deadline is 4 p.m. Monday, Feb. 12.

The school board will interview candidates the evening of Friday, Feb. 16, and plans to make an appointment that night, said Suzanne Steffes, executive assistant to the superintendent and board.

The appointee will serve until the results of the May 8 school board election are certified.

Three school board seats will be decided in the May election. The filing deadline for candidates is 4 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 13, at the city clerk's office.

To be eligible, a person must be a registered voter and resident of the Livonia Public Schools school district. Property ownership is not a requirement.

The board generally meets every Monday for either regular board meetings or for committee meetings, and occasionally schedules special meetings.

reason and I still believe Kevin should still be sitting in that seat," she said.

Maggie Feher said Whitehead had been "a wonderful example" to his children.

Whoever is appointed to fill Whitehead's vacant seat would only fill the seat until the results of the school election are certified, according to Supt. Randy Liepa. The person elected to fill that term would be sworn in sometime in May, while the two other seats that are up for election May 8 don't take effect until July 1.

Besides Whitehead's vacancy, four-year seats held by Trustee Robert Freeman and

Scheel are up for election. Freeman has announced he intends to run; Scheel has not announced a decision.

Steve Futrell and Eileen McDonnell have also announced they intend to run for the board; each has been a member of Citizens for Livonia's Future, an organization that formed in the aftermath of the Legacy Initiative restructuring plan and led an unsuccessful recall of five school board members last summer.

Scheel said the board will invite Whitehead back to allow the board to give him a proper farewell.

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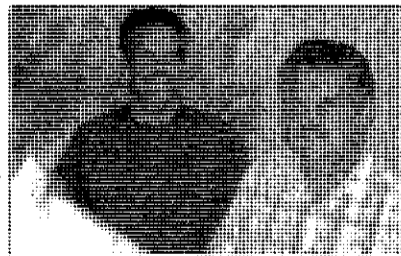
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# Weather or not

## 6 layers of clothing help 'Mr. Liberty' beat the cold

BY SUE MASON  
STAFF WRITER

Chilly temperatures weren't enough to keep David Roland from his appointed task Tuesday morning.

The Westland resident wore six layers of clothing, including a Statue of Liberty costume, to stand in front of Liberty Tax Service on Ford Road in Garden City.

"If you dress well, the weather doesn't bother you," said Roland. "I have hand and feet warmers and I'm moving around a lot. I don't have time to be cold."

Roland is among a group of people who are walking billboards for the tax service. They stand in front of the business waving to people who pass by.

"I called them and told them not to come in because it's too cold, but they said, 'Oh, no, we're coming in,'" said owner Corinne Hemry. "I have four people who are consistent, coming in and waving. They all love doing it."

A Ford Motor Co. retiree, Roland has been working four hours a day three days a week for a month at the tax service and plans to be out there through April 15. He got the idea to do the job from his girlfriend, Sharon Burgess, who was passing by when she

stopped in and got a job.

Roland works from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and gladly fills in when a fellow worker can't make it. It's a job that provides "good pocket change" and one that he loves.

"The people wave, honk their horns, trucks honk their horns," said Roland. "My girlfriend even calls me Mr. Liberty."

The Statue of Liberty and Uncle Sam's can be found parading in front of Liberty Tax Service locations around the area. Hemry, whose been with Liberty four years, admits that at first she was skeptical of the effectiveness of the sidewalk performances, but she's now changed her mind.

"It's the best advertisement, a majority of new clients, when we ask how they came to come in, they say it's the people outside," said Hemry. "It definitely works."

It also helps having people like Roland in costume, she added.

"He's so personable, people come up to him and he talks to them. He's very exuberant. You can tell he likes what he's doing."

A few weeks ago, Roland found himself in the middle of a Kodak moment when four young ladies asked him to pose with them for photographs.

When passers-by commented on not want-



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
David Roland of Westland did not mind the cold Tuesday. He was wearing six layers as he waved to drivers passing by Liberty Tax Service on Ford Road in Garden City.

ing his job, Roland told them they needed to look at the perks, referring to the photo shoot. "People are really friendly," he said. "I really enjoy it. I hope I can return next year."

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# Council discusses Maida Woods plan

BY DARRELL CLEM  
STAFF WRITER

A citizens group battling a proposed subdivision on Westland's southwest side has failed to convince city officials to shelve a new round of talks.

As the group implores the state to reassess a wetlands area, its leaders had hoped to stall a Westland City Council study session scheduled for 6 p.m. next Monday.

But the group — the Westland Homeowners Committee for Environmental Conservation and Smart Growth — learned this week that the talks will not be delayed.

Council President Charles Pickering told the group Monday that its challenge of a state wetlands assessment shouldn't stop elected city leaders from discussing the project.

With that, Pickering confirmed that the council will move ahead to discuss a site plan for 35 single-lot homes on the south side of Palmer Road between John Hix and Hannan. The project, dubbed Maida Woods, would be built by Royal Oak developers Kentmoor LLC.

Moreover, Pickering said the council could vote on the latest site plan as early as Tuesday, Feb. 20.

He said elected officials can't shy away from their legal obligation to resolve the issue.

Developer D.W. Krane said the firm scaled back its initial 41-home site plan after learning that state-regulated wetlands accounted for 1.5 acres of the property. But the citizens group contends that the regulated wetlands area could top two acres and that only a reassessment can resolve the dispute.

"I wonder really if citizens have any rights left," the group's president, Jim Rubasky, said Monday during a council meeting.

His daughter Jacqueline, who

has returned from California to help fight the Maida Woods project, said the next round of talks shouldn't occur with the wetlands area being contested.

At a minimum, she said, city officials should send out formal invitations to a wide range of environmental groups and government entities for the study session.

Pickering denied her demand, but said Monday's study session is a public meeting that is open to anyone.

Maida Woods critics also have raised concerns that the city's planning department may have had information since 2005 about the regulated wetlands but didn't publicly reveal it.

Cheryl Graunstadt, the council's second-in-command president pro tem, indicated support Monday for postponing the study session.

"I just think there are too many unknown factors at this point," she said, but none of her colleagues indicated they supported a delay.

In a statement to the *Observer*, Krane said the Maida Woods project, as planned, will actually add more wetlands to the site, bringing the total acreage to just over two acres.

"The area's size and location relative to adjacent properties serves to address concerns of the group of neighbors who make statements, in their continuing effort to improperly delay our project, that are not based on the facts of our application and that are contrary to applicable city and state laws," he wrote.

Meanwhile, Jacqueline Rubasky had asked city officials to videotape the next round of talks and to air them on city cable station WLND.

Pickering rejected the request, saying the council typically doesn't air its informal study sessions.

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# Mission seeks help for warming center

BY SUE MASON  
STAFF WRITER

The blast of Arctic air that has enveloped the nation's midsection is putting a strain on a Westland facility that helps the homeless.

The Lighthouse Mission Warming Center has put a call for blankets, hats, gloves, socks and coats, as well as any kind of canned food, to help provide for the homeless in the area.

"We've really been stretched," the Rev. Ruby Beneteau said. "It's estimated that there's 15,000-20,000 homeless in Detroit and there's a lot of shelters there, but we're the only one out here (in western Wayne County)."

The mission offers a soup kitchen at lunchtime, providing a meal for the area's needy and homeless. The warming center operates Jan. 1 through March 31, taking in the homeless between 7 p.m. and 8 a.m. It provides a meal, shower and place to sleep.

But this week's bone-chilling weather prompted Beneteau to do even more.

"We had 35-40 people at the soup kitchen on Monday and decided to let them stay because it's so cold," she said.

The warming center can take in up to 100 people, but Beneteau said she won't say no to anyone who needs a warm place to stay. If it means giving people blankets and pillows and lining them up along the wall, she said the center will do that.

"I've never look at the idea of saying we can't take a person in," she said.

Generally, those who come to the center find out about it through word of mouth, so the number of homeless who come steadily increases from a few in early January to more than 80 by the time it closes its doors at the end of March. However, the harsh winter weather has seen homeless people coming to the center sooner than in previous years.

"I don't think people know we're here unless they hear from someone, and that's a shame because they're sleeping out in the cold," Beneteau said. "As more and more find out, it'll grow."

The Lighthouse Mission is housed at the Full Gospel Temple on Palmer Road east of Wayne Road in Westland. It relies on the donations of area churches which support the mission and volunteers from the community.

It gets leftover soup from area restaurants, but the bitterly cold weather has had an impact. People are eating more soup, meaning less is coming to the mission.

Beneteau has asked the churches supporting the mission for help as well as people in general for donations. In addition to the aforementioned items, the mission can also use sweatshirts and sweat pants in sizes medium, large and extra-large that can be used as pajamas as well as be layered under clothing.

The center also needs clean blankets and pillows. The bedding need not be new. It can be used, but should be in good shape, Beneteau said.

The mission also will accept monetary donations, which can be used to purchase items like food needed at the soup kitchen and warming center.

People interested in helping Lighthouse Mission can call (734) 326-3885 or Full Gospel Temple at (734) 326-3333.

"We haven't seen weather like this in years and years," Beneteau added.

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# Communities hold preliminary talks on regional fire service

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER

The combination of improving fire and emergency medical services while at the same time saving money were enough to get representatives from seven local communities to the table last week to discuss the possibility of moving toward establishment of a regional fire department.

More than a dozen delegates from Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Canton Township, Westland, Livonia and Northville Township met for two hours - no strings attached - in the first of what could be several meetings to determine if there's value in continuing discussions on con-

solidating fire services.

That could be determined soon, as the group is expected to hear the scope and costs of a feasibility plan by consultants Plante Moran at a second meeting, at which time each community will have to decide if it's worth putting money toward further discussions.

"The more communities you get involved, the more complicated it gets, but the better your odds of getting some real savings," said Plymouth Mayor Dan Dwyer, who lobbied government leaders of the other six communities to at least attend the first session. "The representatives from each of the communities will look at it hard and careful to

see if they want to be a part of the feasibility study.

"Who knows what it will look like, maybe a regional fire authority or maybe just sharing some equipment," he said. "Or, maybe we go at it for a year and find out that given all the factors we're not going to save any money and everybody goes away with that information. That's good government."

Westland Fire Chief Mike Reddy said his community wanted to be on the ground floor of regionalization discussions before making a decision if consolidation will work.

"Our department is always active in finding new ways to provide service," said Reddy, who

referenced the Auto-Aid program with Garden City, Wayne and Inkster, in which fire departments from all four cities respond to a commercial fire in any of the communities. "We want to take a look and explore it, to see if there's merit to it."

"Certainly we can get ideas, and see what equipment the other cities are using, and maybe join together on purchases of specialty equipment to save money," he said. "It's something we want to take a look at and take back to our elected officials."

Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume admitted his Board of Trustees were cool to the idea of regionalization when it was thought only

the Northvilles and Plymouths would be part of the discussion. But, with the additions of Canton Township, Westland and Livonia, Reaume said his board became more interested.

"The larger the group, the more likely it would be more economically advantageous," Reaume said. "Economics drives it, and I think we need to look at the short term and long term goals, and assumptions."

Reaume noted intergovernmental agreements aren't new to Plymouth Township, and pending the cost of the feasibility study, he'd like to move forward.

"We're already in two formal agreements, police dispatch and fire, with the city of Plymouth,"

Reaume said. "We jointly sponsor the hazardous waste day with Plymouth. And, we work with the Plymouth Community Council on Aging with programs."

Canton Township Fire Chief Mike Rorabacher said he and his bosses are always interested in ways to deliver fire services better and cheaper.

"If we get any ideas to maintain that high-level of service and become more cost-effective, we want to listen," Rorabacher said. "You have to be forward thinking on this."

Rorabacher said consolidation of services isn't totally new to the communities who began discussing regionalization this week.

"Through mutual aid we have a Hazmat team that is made up of individuals from 24 fire departments," he said. "That's a very expensive service to provide. But, for the cost of two people from my department to go for training, I have at my disposal a 50-man Hazmat team should I need it."

Pete Kunst, Livonia's director of public safety, said barring the cost of the feasibility study becoming prohibitive, he would like to see what the experts say can be achieved through regionalization.

"Exploring these possibilities is the right thing to do as you plan long term, in light of revenue issues, particularly the cuts from Lansing," Kunst said. "Fire and EMS services are fairly standardized compared to police service, which can be different from community to community."

"But, the devils are in the details as it would take a lot of work to overcome a lot of obstacles - including politics - to come up with a plan," he said. "We also want to do right by our community and firefighters by being cognizant of salaries, benefits, training and career opportunities."

Dwyer said representatives from Plante Moran, who are also working with Downriver communities on regionalization of fire departments, indicated communities could save from 20-25 percent with consolidation of services.

"If the savings were that big, we could save \$250,000-\$300,000 a year," Dwyer said. "That encourages me to look at it further, no matter how long it takes."

Michigan State University professor Eric Scorsone, an extension specialist for state and local governments, said there are many examples of successful consolidation efforts that have achieved cost savings and maintained service quality in outstate Michigan and other states.

"One can create some kind of fire joint venture in a fairly reasonable time frame, but cost savings and improved service definitely can take several years to realize," Scorsone said. "Communities may need to rethink where operations are located, staffing patterns and overcome transition costs."

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## Distribution dates set for surplus food

The city of Westland has established the days, times and locations that qualified residents may obtain federal surplus food.

All residents north of Michigan Avenue can pick up their commodities 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 22, at the Dorsey Community Center, 32715 Dorsey Road, south of Palmer and east of Venoy.

The pickup time and location for Westland residents south of Michigan Avenue is the second Monday of each month at St. James United Methodist Church, 30055 Annapolis, between Henry Ruff and Middlebelt Roads.

Senior citizens living in Taylor Towers can collect their food at Taylor Towers and must contact their building manager for their day of distribution.

Greenwood Villa residents must pick up their food items at Greenwood Villa.

Food offered in February includes Kellogg's Corn Flakes, beef stew and shelf milk.

The program is administered by the Wayne County Office of Senior Services. All food allocations, distribution sites, and dates of distribution are determined by that agency.

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# Man faces 2 charges in gas station attack

BY DARRELL CLEM  
STAFF WRITER

A transient man was arraigned Monday on charges of robbing and stabbing a woman outside a gas station on Westland's northwest side.

Myron Terrell Boone, 25, was charged with armed robbery and assault with intent to do great bodily harm, less than murder, following a Jan. 15 incident outside the Marathon station at Joy and Newburgh roads.

A not-guilty plea was entered for Boone as he awaits a Feb. 15 preliminary hearing that will determine whether he should stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court.

He was arraigned Monday and jailed after Westland 18th District Judge C. Charles Bokos set a \$500,000 cash bond.

If convicted, Boone could face penalties ranging up to life in prison.

Boone was charged after police Lt. James Ridener said the victim identified him in a photo lineup as the suspect who attacked her about 6:50 a.m. Jan. 15. She had stopped at the Marathon station for cigarettes.

The 34-year-old woman was on her way to work when she was robbed and slashed across the stomach with a box cutter. The assailant then fled on foot.

The victim wasn't seriously hurt. She was treated and released

at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia.

Boone had been arrested in Roseville for an unrelated shoplifting incident, and his picture was included in a photo lineup that resulted in the Westland victim identifying him, Ridener has said.

The incident was similar to two earlier random stabbings that occurred near Westgate Tower — a senior high-rise building near Ford and Wildwood — and at Riverbend Apartments, near Warren and Merriman.

However, the victims in those stabbings said the attacks happened so abruptly that they couldn't identify their assailant.

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# Man reports shooting on Belding Court

## CRIME WATCH

A 29-year-old Riverview man told Westland police he was shot in the left forearm by a one-time friend who robbed him early Saturday on Belding Court, in the Norway subdivision.

The investigation was continuing early this week.

The incident happened shortly after midnight inside a house where people had gathered, according to police reports.

The alleged victim told police that he was robbed and shot by a 24-year-old man. A woman who was with the victim told police that she also was threatened.

The woman was taking the victim to Garden City Hospital when their car was stopped by Garden City Police at Cherry Hill and Merriman roads, according to police reports.

## Uninvited guests

A 35-year-old woman told police that someone has been illegally staying in an empty house she owns on Peppermint Drive, in the Westland Meadows mobile home park on the city's far southeast side.

The woman told police she recently went to the house and found that a window had

been broken out on the west side, although nothing had been stolen.

She told police that someone had turned the gas on inside the house and was using the stove to provide heat.

Several neighbors also told police they had noticed young people coming and going from the house.

## Bullets hit house

A man living on Lacy Court contacted police after noticing that someone had fired shots into his home either late last Thursday or early Friday morning, while they were away.

A 61-year-old male resident told police he was taking his medication when he noticed a bullet hole in a doorwall of the home. A bullet hole also was found in an interior wall.

The man told police he didn't know why anyone would shoot at the house.

By Darrell Clem

# Rotary scores hit with its Mardi Gras

BY DARRELL CLEM  
STAFF WRITER

Mardi Gras came early this year with a festive Westland celebration that preceded New Orleans' big bash.

So what if the local party didn't include colorful floats parading down Wayne Road. So what if it didn't draw tens of thousands of decadent party people.

The local party — rolled out Jan. 27 by the Westland Rotary Club — still included dancing, Mardi Gras beads and masks, hurricane drinks and a Cajun-style dinner with such New Orleans favorites as jambalaya.

More important, it raised \$12,000 for charity, said Rotary President Mark McConnell.

Mardi Gras in Westland drew 200 people to the Romanowski VFW Post 6896 on Joy Road.

Rotary's party included such fund-raising methods as auctions and a reverse raffle in which the last names drawn — rather than the first — became winners of \$1,000 and \$500 payouts.

The Westland-style Mardi Gras celebration didn't start with parades and parties weeks in advance, although organizers did spend a long time planning it.

And the event did surpass the five-hour mark, starting at 6:30 p.m. and ending at midnight.

"It was a great success," McConnell said.

The money raised will go to Rotary-supported charities such as The Salvation Army and the city's Turn Off The Violence Night, a popular event that draws hundreds to the Bailey Recreation Center for family activities.

The money also will be used to buy coats and backpacks for children attending Jefferson-Barns and Lincoln elementary schools, in Westland's mostly low-income Norway neighborhood.

Although Westland's Mardi Gras may never rival The Big Easy's party in size, it still could have a lasting impact by helping others.

"I'd like to see this become an annual event," McConnell said.

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PARISIAN

# Examine your tax forms closely when preparing your return

By now, you should have received any W-2 and 1099 forms to prepare your tax return. To me, one thing that everyone should do is to review the accuracy of these documents. Most people never look at these documents and assume that they are always correct. Unfortunately, this is not always the case. Mistakes are made and those mistakes can cost you a substantial amount of money. Therefore, I believe it pays to spend a few minutes to review the forms to make sure that they are accurate.

In reviewing your W-2, the first thing you should do is to make sure that your Social Security number is accurate. You are paying substantial amounts of money into Social Security and it is important that you get credit for it. In order to assure that there is



## Money Matters

Rick Bloom

proper credit, your Social Security number must be accurate. If there is a problem, it is easier to correct today than it will be down the road.

On your 1099 and W-2, you also need to review the accuracy of the numbers. On the W-2, one of the best ways to review accuracy is to look at your last payroll stub for 2006. The numbers for wages and federal, state and city withholding should be the same as on your W-2. If there is a discrepancy, you want to contact your employer's payroll depart-

ment as soon as possible.

In reviewing your 1099, it is sometimes a little more difficult. If it is a 1099 from a brokerage house or an investment company, then you can review your year-end statement and compare the numbers on your year-end statement to your 1099. However, a 1099 can be issued for other items such as real estate transactions and in those cases you have to review the underlying documentation to make sure that they are accurate. The one mistake that people always make is that they assume that banks and financial institutions are always right. That is not the case. They make mistakes and you and I need to correct them when they occur.

If you have not received your W-2 or a 1099 that you should have received, you need to be proactive. If it is a W-2 from a

job, you need to contact that company and have them issue the documents ASAP. If for some reason the company is no longer in business or you are having difficulty dealing with it, then you need to complete IRS form 4582. This form is a substitute for a W-2 and should accompany your 1040.

It is important to recognize that whether you receive a 1099 or a W-2, you are still liable to report the income and pay the appropriate taxes. If you attempt to use the excuse that you did not receive the appropriate documentation from the employer or the financial institution, not only will the IRS access you with the tax, but it can also hit you with penalties.

I know this may sound strange, but it is true. A great place to go for tax information is the Internal Revenue Service

Web site at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov). This is an excellent user-friendly Web site regarding tax information. In addition, if you need forms, you can also get them on the IRS Web site.

For many individuals, the IRS Web site can also be used to complete and file your tax return. The IRS has a free tax service which allows you to complete your return electronically as long as your adjusted gross income is below \$52,000. For reference, that means that about 70 percent of people, 95 million taxpayers, can take advantage of the free file program through the IRS. All you need to do is go to the IRS Web site at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) and click on "free file."

One question that I am frequently asked is, when is the best time to file your return in order to avoid an IRS audit?

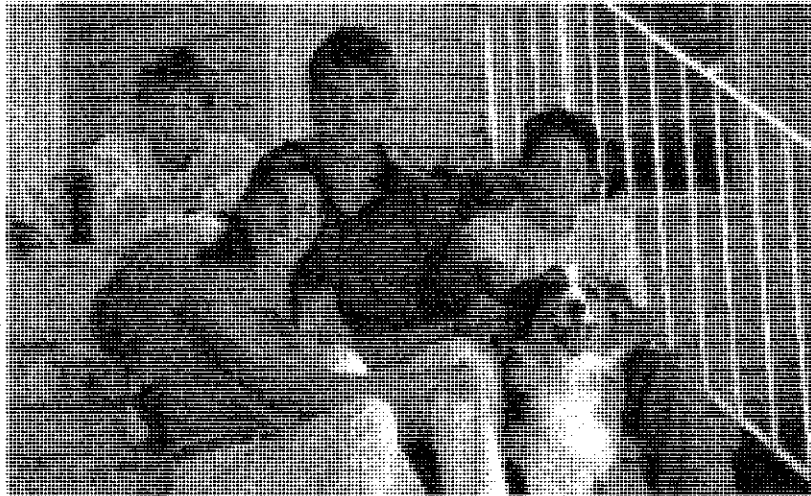
Although you may hear all sorts of talk, in reality it doesn't make any difference when you file your return from an audit standpoint. There is no increased risk of audit if you file your return early nor if you file your return with an extension.

What increases your risk of audit is if you file inaccurate or sloppy returns. Therefore, my advice always to taxpayers is to never rush, take your time and make sure that when you complete your return, it is complete and accurate.

Good luck!

**Rick Bloom** is a fee-only financial adviser. *Observer & Eccentric* readers can submit questions at [moneymatters@hometownlife.com](mailto:moneymatters@hometownlife.com). For more information, visit his Web site at [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com). You can hear Rick from noon to 3 p.m. Sundays on WDTK-AM (1400).

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## Focus:HOPE gets interim leader

The Focus:HOPE Board of Directors formed a search committee recently to replace outgoing CEO Keith Cooley and named Chief Operating Officer Timothy Duperron as the interim chief executive officer.

The board also elected William F. Jones Jr., vice president of Chrysler Financial for DaimlerChrysler Financial Services America, as chair and Elizabeth Ardisana, CEO of ASG Renaissance, as vice chair. Jones replaces attorney William Brodhead, who had chaired the board for seven years.

The transition in CEO positions was prompted after Gov. Jennifer Granholm appointed Cooley to her cabinet as director of the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth. Duperron's long-standing leadership role at Focus:HOPE will make the transition smooth, noted co-founder Eleanor Josaitis. He has served as chief operating officer for five of the last eight years and is well respected throughout the organization, she said.

"Tim helped Focus:HOPE and myself through the difficult period after (co-founder) Father William Cunningham's death," said Josaitis. "He has played a pivotal role in our operations ever since."

Duperron came to Focus:HOPE in 1998 after a 34-year career at Ford Motor Co. He began his career at Ford as a skilled trades apprentice and progressed through the company holding many assignments at Ford plants. Just prior to joining Focus:HOPE, he managed the Ford Cleveland Casting Plant.

Duperron served as COO for four years before recruiting Cooley to replace him,

then became executive adviser to the leadership team. He resumed the COO position at the request of Board members and Josaitis during a leadership transition in 2006 when Cooley became CEO. A resident of Grosse Ile, Duperron served in the U.S. Navy and holds a bachelor of science degree from Wayne State University and a M.B.A. from Central Michigan University.

Jones, a resident of Birmingham, joined the Focus:HOPE board in July 1999. At DaimlerChrysler Financial Services Americas, Jones is responsible for directing all of the activities within Chrysler Financial and DaimlerChrysler Insurance Co. in the United States. Since joining the company in 1981 as a corporate analyst, he has served in many capacities. Prior to his current position, he served as vice president of corporate financial control for the Chrysler Group. Jones holds a bachelor of arts and an M.B.A. from Columbia University.

Ardisana, a resident of West Bloomfield, is the principal owner of ASG Renaissance, a technical and communications services firm. She also serves as chair of the Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Ardisana earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Texas and an M.B.A. from the University of Detroit and a master's in mechanical engineering from the University of Michigan.

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

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# Michigan Library names 2007 notable books

The Library of Michigan recently announced the 2007 Michigan Notable Books ([www.michigan.gov/notable-books](http://www.michigan.gov/notable-books)), 20 books highlighting Michigan people, places and events.

This quality selection of Michigan-related books (published in 2006) represents a wide range of Michigan experiences and events. Included are historical accounts such as the hopeful story of Covert, a Michigan town that became racially integrated in the 19th century; essays and poetry inspired by Michigan and the Great Lakes; and mysteries and youth fiction that use as their settings some of Michigan's best-known places: apple orchards, resort communities and the Mackinac Bridge.

"Once again, this year's list of Michigan Notable Books is one for the whole state to enjoy," said State Librarian Nancy R. Robertson. "These books tell the stories of Michigan - defining our home as a place rich with spirit, history and inspiration - and they reaffirm Michigan as a well-spring of literary energy, creativity and unique voices."

Each year's Michigan Notable Books list features 20 books published the previous calendar year that are about or set in Michigan or the Great Lakes region or are written by a native or resident of Michigan. Selections include nonfiction and fiction and typically have a wide appeal to the audience, covering a range of topics and issues close to the hearts of Michigan residents.

For more information about Michigan Notable Books, call (517) 373-1300, visit [www.michigan.gov/notable-books](http://www.michigan.gov/notable-books) or e-mail [michigannotablebooks@michigan.gov](mailto:michigannotablebooks@michigan.gov).

The 2007 Michigan Notable Books are:

**Burning Rainbow Farm: How a Stoner Utopia Went Up in Smoke**, by Dean Kuipers (Bloomsbury) - This detailed and readable account describes the 2001 tragedy on Tom Crosslin's and Rollie Rohm's farm in Vandalia, a rural Cass County town.

**Death's Door: The Truth Behind Michigan's Largest Mass Murder**, by Steve Lehto (Momentum Books) - This book explores the enduring mystery and drama surrounding the 1913 Christmas Eve tragedy at Italian Hall in Calumet.

**Donutheart**, by Sue Stauffacher (Alfred A. Knopf) - In this young-adult sequel to Donuthead set in fictional central and west Michigan, Franklin is still obsessive but begins to gain a heart for others.

**Fresh Water: Women Writing on the Great Lakes**, edited by Alison Swan (Michigan State University Press) - The lilting, poetic language of these essays brings to life the sights, smells and sounds of Michigan's best-known resource.

**Guilty at the Rapture**, by Keith Taylor (Hanging Loose Press) - Heart-touching poetry and prose, filled with clear insight and humor, combine to tell stories of the human condition.

**The History of Michigan Law**, edited by Paul Finkelman and Martin J. Herschok (Ohio University Press) - This collection of essays by members of the legal community and academia traces the evolution of Michigan law, exploring the state's leadership in developing civil rights law, the impact of industrialization, and the history of labor law.

**House of Fields: Memories of a Rural Education**, by Anne-Marie Oomen (Wayne State University Press) - Drawing on ordinary moments from her childhood, with settings such as her family's farmhouse and the local schoolyard, the

author employs a gentle touch and poetic details to tell a compelling coming-of-age story in rural Oceana County.

**Keewaydinoquay: Stories from My Youth**, by Keewaydinoquay Peschel, edited by Lee Boisvert (University of Michigan Press) - Told in first-person, these stories of a Michigan woman with both Native American and white heritage shed light on the experiences of growing up in an Ojibway community in northern Michigan during the early 1900s.

**Landscaping with Native Plants of Michigan**, by Lynn M. Steiner (Voyageur Press) - This beautifully illustrated guide to gardening in Michigan describes the state's native plants, explains how to grow them successfully, and gives tips and advice on solving common gardening issues.

**Mackinac Bridge: The Story of the Five-Mile Poem**, by Gloria Whelan, illustrated by Gijbert van Frankenhuyzen (Sleeping Bear Press) - Set in the 1950s, while the "Mighty Mac" was being built beautifully illustrated and well researched, this timely story coincides with the 50th anniversary (in 2007) of the official opening of the bridge.

**The Muskegon: The Majesty and Tragedy of Michigan's Rarest River**, by Jeff Alexander (Michigan State University Press) - Take a journey down the Muskegon River in this well-written scholarly study that explores the waterway's environmental history and possible future.

**Nicotine Kiss: An Amos Walker Novel**, by Loren D. Estleman (Forge) - In this 18th novel of the award-winning series featuring hard-boiled

Detroit PI Amos Walker, Walker's old friend and long-time cigarette smuggler has turned up missing.

**Saving Daylight**, by Jim Harrison (Copper Canyon Press) - Northern Michigan, as well as the mountains and forests of the American West, play a central role in Jim Harrison's 10th book of poetry

**So Cold a Sky: Upper Michigan Weather Stories**, by Karl Bohnak (Cold Sky Publishing) - From the first European explorers to pioneer settlers to modern-day Michiganders, the Upper Peninsula's inhabitants have faced weather's most devastating challenges: extreme snowstorms, heat waves, floods, fires and more.

**A Stronger Kinship: One Town's Extraordinary Story of Hope and Faith**, by Anna-Lisa Cox (Little, Brown, and

Company) - In this powerful story of 19th-century Covert, blacks and whites lived peacefully and equally with shared political power, integrated schools and interracial marriage.

**Summer of the War**, by Gloria Whelan (HarperCollins) - In this beautifully written young-adult novel set on an island in Lake Huron during World War II, Belle and her two siblings take their annual summer trip to their grandparents' island home, where they are surprised by an unknown cousin who fled Paris to escape the war.

**Taking Care of Cleo: A Novel**, by Bill Broder (Hansel Books) - Set in Prohibition-era Charlevoix, and complete with booze, bootleggers and the Purple Gang, this engaging novel with a strong historical sense of place details the lives

of the Bearwals, the only Jewish family in this small Lake Michigan resort community.

**An Unquiet Grave**, by P.J. Parrish (Pinnacle Books) - In this suspenseful thriller, Florida PI Louis Kincaid, a native of Detroit, is called back to Michigan by his foster father, who needs help with a personal situation.

**The Widower: A Novel**, by Liesel Litzemberger (Shaye Areheart Books) - Memorable characters and a strong sense of place dominate Litzemberger's novel.

**William G. Milliken: Michigan's Passionate Moderate**, by Dave Dempsey (University of Michigan Press) - This political biography explores the life and career of William G. Milliken, Michigan's 44th and longest-serving governor (1969-1982).

## MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES

### Remember The Honeymooners?

Revisit those great memories and learn more about HAP's Medicare Advantage plans

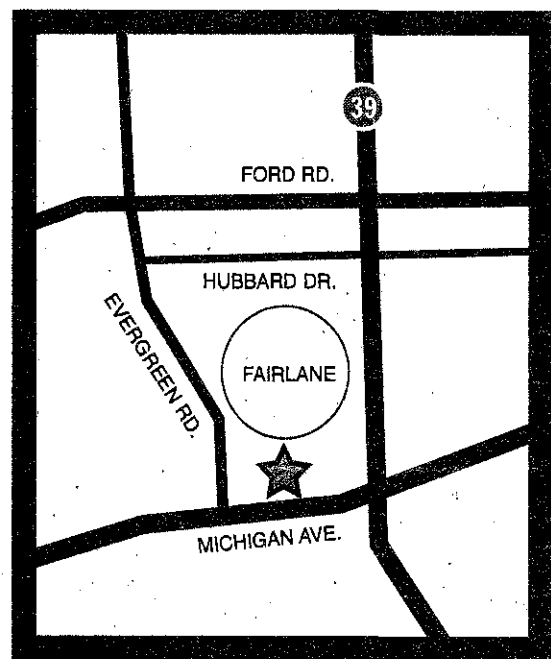
Join former TV News Anchor Doris Biscoe<sup>1</sup> for a Medicare Advantage question & answer session plus FREE show & popcorn

Tuesday, Feb. 13  
10 a.m. to Noon

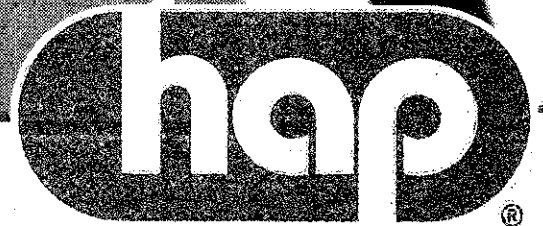
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- FREE showing of *The Honeymooners*
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<sup>1</sup>HAP Paid Spokesperson  
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**RESCUE**

FROM PAGE A1  
that day and that he seemed disoriented.  
But on Monday, when he saw the same light on and heard the television again, he decided to knock on the door. When he got no answer, he called the police. "There were no footprints and both vehicles were at the house. The front door was ajar — you could hear the television but there was no response," said Officer Randy Lorenzetti, who responded to the call. "The resident was in the bedroom laying on the floor. He was breathing but not responsive."  
Fire Rescue treated the man at the home, a diabetic in his 70s, and he was alert before being taken to Garden City Hospital for treatment.  
This isn't the first time Brooks has helped out a customer. One day he was delivering mail when he saw smoke coming from the home across the street. He went over, called to see if anyone was there. When there was no answer, he went inside to find smoke billowing from a pot burning on the stove.

He turned the stove off, opened windows to air out the house and let the family dog outside. He also left a note on the table: "Jan, you left the stove on."  
"I was three blocks over and heard her scream," he said. "She came to thank me. She had three children and she couldn't take them anymore, so she took them to the Dairy Queen."  
But it was the loss of an 82-year-old customer in December that made him decide to knock on the door on Monday.  
"He was still active, a bricklayer; he'd always meet me on the porch to get his mail," Brooks said. "There was two days of mail building up in the box. I knew something was wrong, but I didn't knock. The neighbors later told me he had died of a heart attack."  
As for Monday, Brooks is humble about what he did. "I only provided the big tip, it was the police and medical personnel who saved his life," he said.

**Staff Writer** LeAnne Rogers contributed to this story.  
smason@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2112

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**

**Medical lectures**  
Dr. Carol A. Fischer will discuss Fixing Thyroid/Adrenal Ailments Naturally at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 21, at the Noble Library, 32901 Plymouth Road, Livonia. Do you have cold hands and/or feet, tired all the time, weight issues or depressed? Your thyroid or adrenal glands may be the problem. Learn about the thyroid and adrenal glands and how they affect your life. Discover simple, natural solutions to help detect and solve the unwanted health conditions that these hormones create. Dr. William H. Karl will discuss Treating Thyroid Disorders Naturally at 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 26, at the Civic Center Library, 32888 Five Mile, Livonia. If you suffer from hair loss, cold hands or feet, stubborn weight gain or unwanted pain, there may be help. Learn the hidden reasons behind these health concerns and learn the safe, natural, effective alternatives to help yourself. There are no charge for the classes. Call (734) 425-8588 to make a reservation.

**Genealogical Society**  
The Western-Wayne County Genealogical Society will be meeting earlier this month due to city schedule changes. The group meets from 6:30-9 p.m. Monday, Feb. 12, at Livonia's Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington. A two-hour workshop will feature a beginner's table, scanning, publishing family book and various ethnic research aides. Those with a brick wall query should e-mail in advance to www.rootsweb.com/~miww-cgs putting February Workshop in the subject line. Visit the Web site for further information or call Margie at (734) 522-4050.

**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. 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).

**Valentine's Day dinner-dance**  
Madonna University's Campus Ministry and Sodexo are sponsoring a Valentine's Day Dinner-Dance, featuring Italian cuisine and music played by a DJ, 6:30-11 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 13, in the University Center Dining Hall, 14221 Levan north of Schoolcraft in Livonia. Tickets are \$15 per person or \$25 per couple. Some tickets available at the door. For more information, or to register, contact Mary Therese La Palm at (734) 629-7542, or marietherese21000@yahoo.com. Proceeds from the event will benefit students planning spring service trips and the Madonna University Bridge Camp for low-income, minority youth.

**Lenten retreat**  
Madonna University will hold a Lenten Retreat 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 3, at the University Center, 14221 Levan. The cost is \$18 and \$10 for students, faculty and staff and includes lunch. Sponsored by Campus Ministry, the retreat theme is "With Mary on the way of the Cross." It will be presented by the Rev. Charles Fox, associate pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows. To register, call (734) 432-5524 or send an e-mail to cmws@madonna.edu. by Feb. 27. Walk-in registration will be accepted, the fee is \$22.

**HISTORIC**

**Pioneer trek**  
The Nankin Township Pioneer Trek has been designed to introduce travelers to the history of the area. Travelers will visit sites that affected the development of Westland as a community. Those who complete the trek will receive an embroidered patch. To start the trek, first visit the Westland Historical Museum and pick up a packet. The museum is at 857 N. Wayne Road and is open 1-4 p.m. Saturdays, except before a holiday. The trek is sponsored by the Westland Historical Commission and the Friends of the Westland Museum. Call (734) 326-1110.  
**Friends of Eloise**  
The Friends of Eloise group meets 6 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month in the dining room of the Kay Beard Building, on Michigan between Middlebelt and Merriman. All are welcome. For informa-

tion, call Jo Johnson, (734) 522-3918.  
**Friends of Museum**  
Friends of the Westland Historical Museum meet at 7 p.m. the second Tuesday each month except December at the Collins House, located at the museum complex, 857 N. Wayne Road. Call Jim Franklin at (734) 595-8119. Everyone is welcome.

**BINGO**

**VFW Bingo**  
Veterans of Foreign Wars 3323 Auxiliary has bingo 6:30 p.m. every Thursday at 1055 S. Wayne Road, Westland. There is a snack bar. The post has bingo at 1 p.m. every Sunday at the same place. Call (734) 326-3323.  
**St. Mel Church**  
Bingo begins at 6:45 p.m. Fridays in St. Mel Church activities building, on Inkster Road north of Warren. Doors open at 4 p.m. Food is available.  
**Shamrock Bingo**  
Bingo begins at 11 a.m. Wednesdays at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 35100 Van Born, east of Wayne Road in Wayne. Doors open at 9 a.m. Food is available. Proceeds go to charity. Call (734) 728-3020.  
**K of C Bingo**  
Pope John XXIII Assembly of the Knights of Columbus Council 1536 hosts bingo games at 6:45 p.m. Thursdays. The games are in the Livonia Elks Lodge, 3117 Plymouth Road, one block east of Merriman in Livonia. Call (734) 425-2246.

**FOR SENIORS**

**Friendship Center**  
The Senior Resources Department (Friendship Center), 1119 N. Newburgh, Westland, offers a variety of programs for older adults. The Web site www.ci.westland.mi.us offers more information. Call (734) 722-7632.  
**Senior dinners**  
The Wayne Ford Civic League hosts Senior Dinner Dances with live entertainment several times each month for couples and singles 50 years and older. The cost is \$8 donation for members of the league and \$10 donation for non-members. All dances start at noon and run until 3:30 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.  
**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.mhometown.com/oe/PlymouthCantonVA 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 quaretting can call membership chairman Bob Wolf at (734) 421-1652, or attend a rehearsal.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE**

Pursuant to state law a sale will be held at: Secured Self Storage, 6855 Yale, Westland, MI Feb. 24, 2007 @ 1:00 PM.  
#160 Karleen Beaupre, #319 Harold Butler, #308 Michael Pruzick, #504 Chad Norton, #254 Joy Colvin, #1122 Willard Stickles, #1423 Brenda Provenzano, #442 Jeff Coalson, #1420 Harord Johnson Jr., #327 Ronald Mabe, #914 Heather Tank. Units contain: misc. household items.

Publish: February 4 & 8, 2007

0206503886

**Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.**

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc. will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 24920 Trowbridge St., Dearborn, MI 48124 (313) 277-7940 on 2/26/07 at 12:00 pm.** Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:  
1098 - Shelly Maddox - Upholstered Chair, Couch, Dresser  
1404 - Debbie Flowers - Couch, Dresser, Microwave  
2232 - Michael Armstead - Kitchen Chairs, Couch, Entertainment Center  
2280 - Peggy Harper - 10 Bags, 30 Boxes, Tool Box  
3010 - Sheila Linton - Mattress, 30 Boxes, Portable Television

Publish: February 8 & 15, 2007

0206505205

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.**

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc. will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 36001 Warren Rd Westland, MI 48185-6591 (734)729-7095 on 2/28/07 at 10:30 am.** Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:  
3004 - Tammarra Johnson - clothing, lawn equipment, 20 bags  
3122 - Mike Matthews - 2 Bicycles, 3 boxes, misc items  
4168 - Latrice Graves - Big Screen TV, 5 bags, misc items  
5034 - Timmy Cokley - Microwave, vacuum, portable TV

Publish: February 8 & 15, 2007

0206505236

**Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.**

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc. will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 9300 Pelham Road, Taylor, 48180 (313) 292-9730 on 2/26/07 at 12:30 pm.** Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of  
2021 - Cindy Slavik - Bicycle, Power Tools, 6 Totes  
2045 - Donna Bauer - Box Spring, Mattress, Bicycle  
2055 - James Babnaw - Upholstered Chair, Couch, Dining Table  
2079 - Angela Bicknell - Dryer, Refrigerator, Washer  
3007 - Edward Kowalick - construction equipment  
1033 - David Simmons - 20 Boxes, 15 Totes, Toys  
5026 - Yvette Passament - Boxes, Love Seat, Portable Television  
5043 - Yonne Blanding - bikes, filing cabinet, sofa  
5055 - Robert Howell - Boxes, Totes, Toys  
6034 - Kevin Davanzo - misc. items  
6066 - Mark Hilliker - Dryer, Stove, Washer  
9029 - Eddie Roberts-Ellis - household items  
9053 - Amanda Richardson - 10 Boxes, Beach Chair, Toys

Publish: February 8 & 15, 2007

0206505199

**Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.**

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc. will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 3650 Enterprise Dr. Allen Park, MI 48101 (313) 441-3117 2/26/2007 at 11:30 am.** Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of  
B056 - Wendy Betz - 15 Bags, Bicycle, Vacuum  
B100 - Nicole Griffin - 6 Boxes, Entertainment Center, Stereo  
B111 - Chris Hill - Clothing, Lawnmower, Tool Box  
B141 - Francis Ogini - Couch, Futon, Stereo  
B193 - Nakia Barber - Dryer, Washer, Dinette Set  
B233 - Gloria Prim - Bags, Clothing, Mirrors  
B245 - Sonya Dickens - Couch, Love Seat, 10 Totes  
B277 - Mettialikka Lewis - Mattress, Box Spring, 4 Dressers  
B296 - Kenneth Alessi - Bunk bed, Treadmill, Toys  
B339 - Deloris Smith - Bags, Boxes,  
B361 - Daniel Page - 3 Totes, Vacuum, LP Records  
B381 - Romare Redden - 5 Bags, 18 Boxes, Totes  
C011 - Debryl Ector - 20 Bags, Dryer, Stove  
C015 - Alaina Silagy - 30 Boxes, Filing Cabinet, Dresser  
D025 - John Jackson - 30 Boxes, Couch, Love Seat  
F047 - Brian Thiel - Desk, Golf Clubs

Publish: February 8 & 15, 2007

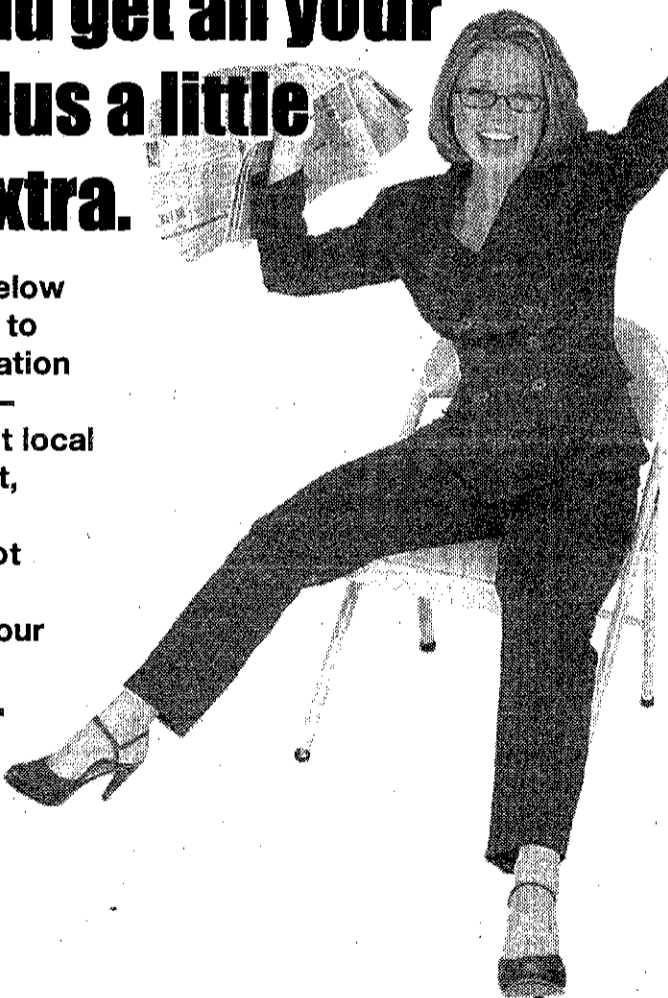
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NOBIT (PG-13) 12:20, 2:35, 4:55, 7:10, 9:25 FRI/SAT LS 11:40  
HANNIBAL RISING (R) 11:45/12:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45  
BECAUSE I SAID SO (PG-13) 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15 FRI/SAT LS 11:30  
MESSENGERS (PG-13) (11:35) 1:40, 3:40, 5:40, 7:45, 9:55 FRI/SAT LS 11:55  
SPID MOVIE (PG-13) (11:25) 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:40 FRI/SAT LS 11:40  
CATCH AND RELEASE (PG-13) 12:00, 2:25, 7:20  
STOMP THE YARD (PG-13) 9:00, 9:50  
NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM (PG) (11:15) 1:35, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00 FRI/SAT LS 11:20

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OUR VIEWS

## Board must get library in order

It reads like a steamy romance novel but, unfortunately, it's the brief filed in Wayne County Circuit Court last week charging Westland Library board member Michael Rintz with sexual harassment and the two acting co-directors, Marilyn Kwik and Lisa Hausman, of engaging in "retaliatory harassment."

The suit was filed by former administrative assistant Debbie Nogle, who alleges she was sexually harassed by Rintz and that she was fired in January by Hausman and Kwik after she made complaints to the board attorney.

The library has been embroiled in controversy for the better part of four years, and this lawsuit is just the latest pothole in the rocky road it has had to travel. That's unfortunate for an impressive facility the city fought long and hard to get.

It has weathered allegations of nepotism with the hiring of former Director Sandra Wilson's husband to handle the technology changeover at the library and her sudden dismissal. It looked like things would settle down with the hiring of John Patane as director, but last May he, too, was given the boot. His firing prompted a national search that turned up a qualified candidate, but the library board was unable to close the deal. The search is on again for a new director.

Add in Nogle's lawsuit and you get an unimpressive track record for the library board. It makes us wonder if the board will be able to find a qualified candidate willing to take on the job.

We believe what the library needs now is stability and that this lawsuit is a distraction that could very well prevent the hiring of a top-of-the-line director. That said, we believe the proper course of action is for Rintz to step aside as an active member of the board until this lawsuit has its day in court or ends in a settlement, whichever comes first.

The library board needs to get its house in order — the sooner, the better.

## Granholtm 'vision' will be tough sell

Today we'll get the details, on Tuesday we got the vision. Gov. Jennifer Granholtm has been good at the "vision thing" during her annual State of the State addresses, often laying out bold initiatives to bring Michigan into the 21st Century. Tuesday's speech was also loaded with interesting, creative programs but the governor wasn't her usually buoyant self.

After outlining what needed to be done to move the state forward and improve its bleak economic outlook, Granholtm prepared the state for the mix of spending cuts, tax increases and fiscal restructuring that will be proposed in her budget released today. Based on Granholtm's speech, she and state budget director Bob Emerson will be following the recommendations of her Emergency Financial Advisory Panel, chaired by former governors William Milliken and James Blanchard.

The panel warned in its report released last week that the state couldn't cut its way out of its current fiscal crisis, nor could it tax its way out without seriously hurting the already damaged economy. And it warned the time to act was running out as projected deficits could rise to \$3 billion without a replacement for the single business tax.

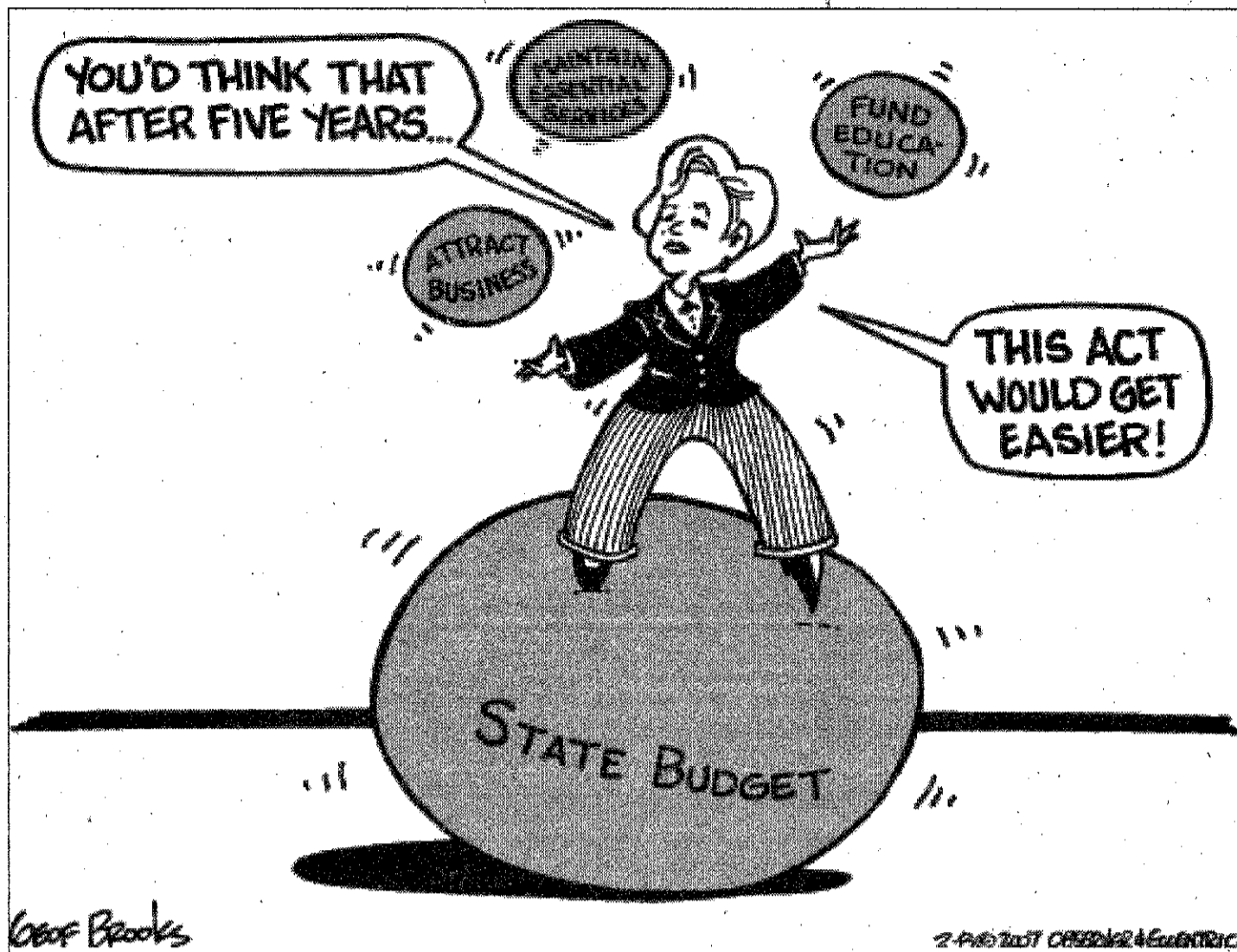
Republicans in the Legislature have already signaled that they will not support a tax increase and Democrats will find it difficult to cut any deeper into state government, especially if they hope to achieve any of the programs outlined in Granholtm's address. The Legislature is currently divided with the Democrats controlling the House and the Republicans controlling the Senate, setting up a classic case of legislative gridlock.

Granholtm repeated some common themes — creating programs to attract new businesses especially in the life science and alternative energy fields, promising not to cut the school foundation grant for this year and increases for next school year and more investment in cities.

She warned municipalities and school districts that they must move toward consolidation of programs or risk losing state funding. She suggested reforms in the criminal justice system to reduce the number of prisoners in the state's overburdened and expensive prison system. She challenged other cities to promote private/public partnerships to match the Kalamazoo Promise, a program by private contributors to guarantee college tuitions for Kalamazoo students. Her No Worker Left Behind proposal would provide unemployed workers with free community college retraining using federal funding.

All of these programs spring from a basic Democratic principle, that when the economy is weak residents need government more not less.

But the devil is in the details and in the ability to work toward compromises with a Senate steered against raising taxes. The governor has a tough selling season ahead.



### LETTERS

#### Time for a clean sweep

Our poor library. Its first director and her successor both fired. The board unable to secure another qualified person to fill the role, administrative assistants fired, and now the longest serving member of the Library Board, chairman when both of the directors were fired, is being sued for sexually harassing one of the administrative assistants.

Who would apply to be library director? Perhaps the wrong person was fired. Well, now we have a new mayor. How about the old adage, "a new broom sweeps clean." Think it over.

What say we clean up this mess and get this beautiful and valuable community asset operating with a board whose members care more for the library than their own ambitions and are disinclined to take advantage of the employees of the institution they are appointed to govern. Sounds like a plan to me.

Jim Cook  
Westland

#### Coaches who cared

So someone is "tired of the same old stuff." Well, it just happens to be important to all the citizens of Westland. The park just happens to be one of the best offered anywhere. This mess will be taken care of, the park will again be used by all. It may take till all the tests come back, but it will live again.

So, here is a subject dear to my heart. I attended Wayne-Westland schools. I graduated from John Glenn High School in 1975. Why do we never mention teachers? I had many favorites that changed my life. There was Mrs. Nelson at Elliott, Miss Berklich and Jim McIlvain at Adams, Tom Hamel, Jeff Mate, the Leblanc Brothers, Mr. Ribbits, Mr. Fowler at Stevenson, Chuck Gordon, Lloyd Carr, George Sommerman at Glenn. But my favorite of all time has to be Coach Dino DeLuca, he was at Adams.

He helped me through a time in my life that was very difficult. He talked to me everyday. In so many ways, he actually cared about students. In my opinion, he should be in the Coaches Hall of Fame. If you did not know, they have one at Jake's in Wayne.

Until this very day, whenever I see him, it is an honor. I walk up to him and say, "Hi coach," and he always replies "Somerville." I see him at every Glenn football game. When someone like him has such an impact on your life, he may not know it, but he is the best. He might know it now. Thanks, Coach.

Having coached in the area myself for many years — football, baseball, basketball — I can tell you another guy just like him — Todd DeLuca. He is one of the best coaches I have ever seen as far as working with kids. Not yelling at them, he works with them, he teaches.

When most coaches are going crazy on the sideline or in the dugout, not him. If someone makes a mistake, he teaches. I think that is something that he has been handed down from his dad, and I think if the people at Jake's want to do an induc-

tion Dino and Todd DeLuca should be both put in on the same day.

Did I mention the boat oar paddle with holes drilled in it that coach Dino DeLuca had (ouch) that was some motivator?

Bud Somerville  
Westland

#### Stand against un-Americans

Our state recently elected to do away with the affirmative action program. Us, the voters in Michigan, we the people of Michigan. I viewed some of the advertisement for this issue on both sides. Neither side presented a clear reason why we had affirmative action.

Affirmative action is a program created to undo some of the unfairness and wrongdoings of society. In any given population of mixed race and gender, theoretically the occupations and opportunities of each gender and race should be representative in the same proportion as the population.

If blacks represent 12 percent of the population, then engineers should be roughly 12 percent as well. If women are 55 percent of the population, then 55 percent of all doctors should be women. If white men are 32 percent of the population, then 32 percent of executives should be white men.

This rarely happens in practice, sometimes because of aptitude, social norms, but many times because of the lack of equal opportunity in education. The affirmative action program, when applied to college admissions, provided an adjustment to equal out the bad primary and secondary education many poor income students receive and give them an opportunity, not an education, but the opportunity to receive a college education. The work required to graduate still needs to be done.

In one sense affirmative action is an American ideal. The last phrase in the pledge of allegiance, "with liberty and justice for all," something we have all said daily in our primary education, calls out for justice. Justice is the "principle of moral rightness, equity" and "the quality of being right and fair" (use any dictionary).

This begs the question of how could we pledge for one thing much of our lives and then abandon the actions required to support our words. This is the essence of these groups trying to rid us of affirmative action. These groups are truly un-American.

It comes as no surprise many Republicans support the elimination of affirmative action. The current party is full of unqualified, misdirected, ill-conceived miscreants, including one of the champions of the cause here in Michigan, Mike Cox, our attorney general, relic from the Engler administration. Looking at his record, he has not rendered justice from his office, but a Republican agenda, including eliminating affirmative action.

Perhaps the next election, all voters should take action and affirm that we don't need un-Americans in office in Michigan.

Frances Meese  
Westland

#### Remove the obstacles

In a recent column, the executive director of the Michigan Municipal League, Daniel Gilmartin, tells of his conversation with a young woman abandoning Michigan for Portland, Ore.

Gilmartin laments the conditions which have brought this abandonment. He proceeds to mention he has read at least a dozen studies which make it "crystal clear" that the recipe for success includes "significant public investment," a euphemism for more government spending.

Since no disclaimer was presented in the column, readers should be aware that according to its Web site, the MML spends time "promoting state and federal legislation helpful to local governments." In other words, the organization acts as a lobbyist on behalf of cities and villages encouraging legislation that provides more cash for its members to spend.

Further, readers should know that the MML is supported by membership dues from these cities and villages. These dues come from local taxes. This means that taxpayers fund the MML which in turn lobbies for the spending of more tax dollars. Not a bad gig if you can get it.

Certainly, some level of government spending is necessary to maintain police and fire protection, the courts, and public infrastructure. Beyond that and we enter the realm of government officials acting as investment speculators who use tax dollars rather than private money.

Detroit is a perfect example. For decades, a "significant public investment" has been made to fund Detroit's renaissance. Billions of dollars have been used to fund projects such as the Renaissance Center, the People Mover, Comerica Park and Ford Field, yet the city continues its downward slide.

Although it runs counter to his role as chief lobbyist for cities, Gilmartin should consider another factor in Portland's success. Every year since 1996, Oregon's state and local tax burden has been lower than Michigan's. In 2005, Michigan ranked 17th while Oregon was 35th. Michigan can retain and attract people by lowering taxes and eliminating regulations. Remove the obstacles that keep business away and Michigan will become attractive once again.

Steve Sutton  
Farmington Hills

#### 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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Richard Aginian — Publisher Emeritus

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.

#### QUOTABLE

"More and more trash continues to flood into Michigan every day because we're a cheap place to dump."

State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, who supports raising the charge that trash companies pay to dump in Michigan.

# Tax reform needs attention, and not just from politicians

**F**act: We need fundamental reforms in how Michigan both spends and collects our taxes — and we need these reforms now.

This is something of immediate concern to all of us, and not just some obscure argument best left to academics and bureaucrats. It's at the core of such living room issues as the rising costs of college, how dependable our local cops and firefighters are and the security of all our jobs.

What to do? We have a choice. We can keep staggering along, patching the state budget year after year, the quick-and-dirty way we patch potholes, repairs that somehow never seem to last very long. Or we can truly transform the way our state works.

To do that — to find a solution that will last for some time — will require finding common ground, far away from the normal partisan, backstabbing Lansing politics.

We need to start talking about how to get it done — and here are eight thorny ideas to jump-start the discussion:

■ **Reduce prison spending.** The state spends \$1.9 billion a year to warehouse some 125,000 prisoners, parolees and probationers. The state spends another \$1.9 billion a year on community colleges and universities, educating around 300,000 students.

Which is the better investment? Our incarceration rate is 40 percent higher than neighboring states, in large part because of the great number of folks serving time for fairly small-time drug violations.

■ **Keep better score.** Michigan automatically sends billions in sales taxes straight to school districts and local governments.

Wouldn't it be better to have a statewide scorecard to measure what we spend and what we get back — and then reward local efficiencies in budgets, staffing, pay and benefits? Money should follow results.

■ **Erase unnecessary borders.** Michigan has 83 counties, more than 1,200 townships, nearly 500 cities and villages with fewer than 10,000 residents, more than 550 public school districts, more than 200 charter schools and 57 intermediate school districts. That makes for a lot of bureaucracy and red tape — and despite a lot of talk about cooperation, much duplicated bureaucracy remains.

Enlightened school leaders have been calling for large-scale consolidation of business operations. That's an idea that could gain traction and save us all dough

— if state aid were tied to proven efficiencies.

■ **Critically examine public sector pay and benefits.** Right now, Michigan taxpayers are on the hook for \$35 billion in unfunded public-sector pension and health care costs. Local government costs in Michigan are hundreds of millions of dollars above those in many other states.

The difference? Michigan has binding arbitration in contract disputes. That may work fine for Major League Baseball, but it is poor public policy, and we should consider repealing the law that requires binding arbitration.

■ **Sales tax:** Lower the rate and broaden the base. All but 11 states impose sales taxes on more types of services than Michigan — things like getting your lawn-mower fixed and cutting your hair.

Significant sums could be raised by taxing more items while lowering the rate, perhaps from 6 percent to 5 percent.

■ **Business tax:** Same refrain — lower the rate, broaden the base. Fewer than 500 Michigan businesses pay more than a third of the entire Single Business Tax. More than 80,000 businesses pay none whatsoever.

That's ridiculous. What's even more ridiculous is that the Legislature repealed our main business tax last year (effective this December) without having the slightest idea how to replace it.

■ **Fix the income tax.** By changing deductions, Michigan could raise the state tax rate for those with the highest incomes. They, in turn, would likely see little or no actual tax increase because state taxes can be written off on their federal returns. Thirty-seven states do this now.

■ **Consider beverage taxes.** Some states tax beer at five times Michigan's rate of two cents per bottle. Others raise significant cash through sales taxes on soda. It's hard to imagine businesses leaving or avoiding Michigan because our taxes on unhealthy beverages are too high.

A paper containing full discussion of these ideas is online at [www.thecenterformichigan.net](http://www.thecenterformichigan.net). I'd welcome probing questions, vigorous debate and improvement of these concepts. It's our collective future.

Let's face it — and make it a better one — by working together as citizens engaged in making government work better for all of us.

**Phil Power** is president and founder of The Center for Michigan, a moderate think-and-do tank based in Ann Arbor. The opinions and others expressed in his columns do not represent official policy positions of The Center for Michigan. He welcomes reader comment at [ppower@hcnnet.com](mailto:ppower@hcnnet.com).



Phil Power

# Walk mile in teacher's shoes

I'm writing in response to the editorial of Terry Johnson of Leonard, printed Jan. 11, 2007, in the *Garden City Observer*.

Needless to say many of my colleagues and myself were highly appalled and disappointed by the negative comments made about the teaching profession.

"Greediness, lack of compassion, and indifference; teaching positions highly overrated and require less education and brain power than any other profession; excessive time off, personal and leisure!" I beg to differ, so please allow me to express and prove my points!

I am a second career teacher. I have taught in an elementary school for eight years, seven in sixth grade and this year in first grade. Upon securing my position, the state required 15 days of professional development in each of my first three years, on top of the required five days each year, mandatory for all teachers. Often seminars are paid for by the teachers and attended in the summer.

The state also requires 18 additional college credit hours beyond the bachelor's degree during the first five years to renew state certification. Once a second higher-level state certification is obtained, six college credits every five years is required to maintain state certification. On top of all this, the federal government has added more educational requirements as part of The Highly Qualified Teacher section of The No Child Left Behind Act.

Be aware that the teachers, without reimbursements, pay for all these educational expectations. Yes, most, as in my district, receive pay raises based on educational credits, but the raise does not equal the cost of tuition, books and supplies.

I also spend a great deal of my own money each year on class supplies and supplemental materials, as do most of my colleagues. My sixth-grade science and social studies books are dated 1986 and 1989 respectively. New materials are always needed to create exciting and current lessons to teach children in better ways.

In addressing the comments of "excessive time off," I, like most of my colleagues, must spend time packing up the room at the end of the year. We usually begin preparing for the next year in late June. Time is spent buying and preparing many items for the next year. Professional development seminars and classes are attended. I begin cleaning, setting up my room, and preparing materials for the next class in mid-August. Summer vacation is about one month, rather than the three months that the general public thinks. All this is unpaid time for teachers.

Personal time consists of three days per year in my district. Leisure time — What is that? Like most teachers, I spend an extra hour or two after school, then another one-three

hours at home, correcting papers, planning/preparing every day! Weekends are also spent correcting and preparing, about 15-20 hours. This, too, is uncompensated time.

If you change grade levels, as I did this year, moving to first grade, double the out-of-school time. I must now learn a new curriculum and prepare for a whole new set of state standards.

In total, most teachers have about eight weeks off a year. Most engineers and professionals have the same or more time off. Job stress alone requires time to regroup and motivate us. Also most teachers have a second job, as I do. How many engineers and professionals have two jobs?

Teaching children of today's world to be the leaders of the future requires an exorbitant amount of compassion each day! We must reinvent ourselves, our skills, adjust lessons to motivate students, and differentiate lessons to student needs. We are expected to meet state curriculum and standardize testing requirements, while also teaching life skills as well. More and more, skills that were once taught in the home have been abdicated to school, and teachers.

The amount of "family issues" tossed in our laps to deal with can be overwhelming. Emotionally impaired students are sent to us with expectations to "fix" and "excel" in our classrooms. This doesn't include the children that suffer from varied disorders, such as ADD, ADHD, bipolar disorder, etc., which are often left untreated. Teaching manners, character building, handling conflict resolution issues are a huge part of each day. People accuse teachers of being "too hard," giving "too much homework" and having "too high expectations," yet expect us to provide discipline and structure to create high quality young people.

Don't misinterpret my comments, I love my job and my students, current and former. Knowing I can make a difference in a child's life is truly gratifying. The rewards of watching children learn and grow are immeasurable, but the requirements and expectations are more demanding than the general public knows. Still not a day goes by that I regret my decision to become a teacher, especially as a second career choice.

Terry Johnson, engineer, I'd like to ask you, how much do you make, how much time off do you get, how much time out of work do you spend working? Also, how much do you spend on materials for your job? How much more education beyond a bachelor's degree is expected in your position?

If you think teaching is so easy, I invite you to spend a week in my classroom, teaching, planning, preparing and evaluating my students.

Walk a mile in our shoes, or give teachers a break!

**Cheryl Park** is a first-grade teacher at Farmington Elementary School in Garden City.



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# The old man and the young reporter

Writer recalls her memories of a legendary author, who was also her father-in-law



Valerie Hemingway met Ernest Hemingway's youngest son, Gregory, at the author's funeral and later married him. Their marriage lasted 21 years.

BY JAY M. GROSSMAN  
STAFF WRITER

She was a child, he was a legend.

Valerie Danby-Smith was a 19-year-old reporter working for a Belgium news service when she was assigned to interview Ernest Hemingway in May 1959.

The interview took place at a hotel in Madrid. At the time, she hardly knew of the man and his writings.

"His books were banned in Ireland where I grew up," she said. "So when I met him, he was entirely different than what I expected ... he was much older.

"I had one question at the time, 'Mr. Hemingway, why is it you have come to Spain for the first time since the Spanish Civil War. What made you come back?' He just looked at me and said, 'Well, I was back in 1953 and again in 1956 ...' and suddenly it was 'Oops, where do we go from here?' So I had to improvise a little bit."

A friendship formed from that meeting. Valerie became something of a personal secretary to the Hemingway family, traveling with them over the next several months through Cuba, Spain and France.

"It wasn't such a big deal in my life meeting Hemingway

and I think that amused him," she said, looking back. "He was used to the adulation ... for me it was just a job."

## A SIMPLE STORY

Her relationship with the family took a turn after Hemingway's death. She met his youngest son, Gregory, at the funeral and later married him. Their marriage lasted 21 years.

Those experiences led her to write *Running with the Bulls*, a personal memoir about her life with the father and the son.

"It was after Greg died that I decided to write the book," she said. "There was a certain amount of publicity, a number of people were trying to get in touch with me, and I just thought it was the time to sit down and write the story."

In some ways, she was a daughter to Hemingway; in other ways, a muse to inspire him.

"Almost everything you can say about him, you could almost say the exact opposite ... but toward me he was very fatherly," she said. "He told me what I ought to read, he taught me how to shoot and how to deep sea fish.

"The relationship was calm and peaceful, always learning and exploring. And I think this made him think of his

youth, when he was my age and a fledgling reporter himself just starting to sell his first stories. I just think it brought him back."

Why the lasting popularity? "It's something that absolutely dumbfounds me," she said. "Hemingway seemed a fusion of the man and the work. When people read Hemingway, they're excited. What appears to be a simple story leaves so much unsaid, so readers tend to put their own experiences in there.

"The other part is the mystic — people love Hemingway's life. I can't tell you how many e-mails I receive from people who bought their 'Hemingway safari outfit,' or their 'Hemingway deep sea fishing equipment.' It's extraordinary. The man I knew was not a big showoff ... he didn't want the world copying what he did."

## A BETTING MAN

She talks about a writer who was confident in his skills, a journalist with a nose for news, whose tales always spoke of grace under pressure, whether it was about an ambulance driver, a safari or a bullfight.

"He never underestimated his writing — he knew he was a very good writer," she said. "And when he was talking to

me in terms of writing, he used his early stories to illustrate how you use what is around you to inspire your work.

"To be a writer, you don't need catastrophic events ... you take the little things in your life and go from there. You start with one true sentence."

They met in Spain, and parted there. The last time Valerie saw Ernest Hemingway was in October 1960. He had returned to Madrid and was editing a piece he had written for *Life* magazine when she joined him.

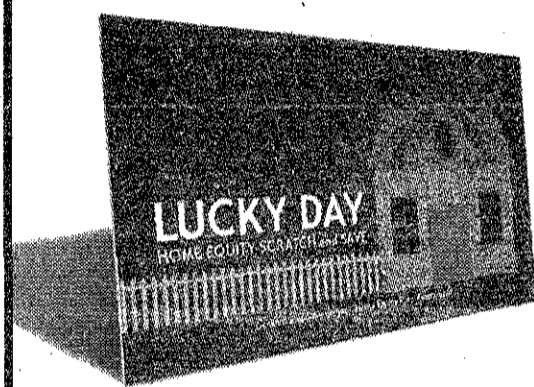
"He was very depressed and a little paranoid," she said of the meeting. "At the time he told me that he intended to commit suicide — but he was a betting man, always hedging his bets, and said if he changed his mind he'd get back to me."

On July 2, 1961, Hemingway took his life by way of shotgun. He was 61 years old.

She was the daughter, he was the legend.

"Writing well was the most important thing in his life," Valerie Hemingway said of her father-in-law. "He just loved to tell a good story."

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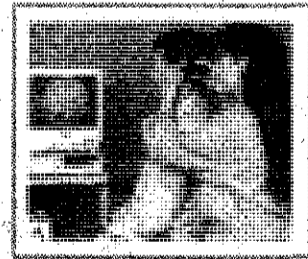


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# Governor warns communities, schools consolidate or else

BY ALEX LUNDBERG  
STAFF WRITER

In the governor's annual address to the legislature, communities and school districts looking for respite from shrinking funding got a glimpse of hope with a condition; show proof you're trying to curb costs and the cash faucet will open again.

In her State of the State address, Gov. Jennifer Granholm outlined a way for communities to see state-shared revenues and per-pupil foundation grants rise while threatening that failure to adopt her plan would surely have consequences.

"I propose changes to revenue sharing for cities and townships. To see more funding they will have to show they're consolidating to save taxpayers' money. It's simple, show consolidation and we'll show them the money," Granholm said. "We'll also ask school districts to cut costs by consolidating at the county or regional level. The budget I will submit a year from now will penalize those districts who do not embrace this com-



Gov. Jennifer Granholm presents the State of the State address. On the left is Speaker of the House Andy Dillon of Redford and on the right is Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop of Rochester. Behind the governor, and hidden from view, is Lt. Gov. John Cherry.

mon sense way to save money." The governor said it doesn't make sense for 10 districts to buy the same software individually when they could save money by buying it together. Reach for

the carrot or suffer the stick — she made it clear that consolidation was the way communities would see their funding rise.

At the same time, she made a pledge that schools will not

see a funding cut in the coming year and went further to say that 2008 would see an increase. Granholm said the recently released MEAP scores showed the value of setting the

bar higher and she would continue to pressure for better and more schooling in the future.

"We are going to provide more funding for districts to provide a whole day of pre-school," she said. "For many young students, this is going to mean doubling their early education. We are also going to fix an absurd law and require all students to attend school until they are 18 years old."

## EDUCATION A MAJOR FOCUS

Education was a major focus of the speech. She said the first Michigan Promise Scholarship winners will be attending college this coming fall. While they would be turning good test scores into cash for higher education, a short window would also open for unemployed and downsized workers to get retrained as well.

"For the next three years, there will be a one-time offer for free community college for workers going back to school for retraining and degrees," Granholm said. "This will be paid for with federal dollars."

She quoted Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates to illustrate her point about the

importance of education and her greater message about investing in the state. Gates said low cost of business — lower taxes and lesser regulation — took a back seat to the availability of an educated work force. Along the same lines, she said good roads and stable communities were integral to building an attractive business environment.

The end of the speech was dominated by the state's budget deficit. She said the "\$2 billion hole" in the state's financial picture had grown to \$3 billion and no change in state or national economics would fill it. With 40 percent less revenue than her predecessors, budget cutting will not correct the problem.

"Cuts are a piece of the solution, reorganization is another piece," Granholm said. "On Thursday I will present a budget that will have cuts, reorganization and revenues that will be simple, fair and progressive. Some businesses will pay their fair share; those paying too much will pay less."

The state's financial woes, she vowed, was something she would not pass on to the next governor.

# Legislators will wait and see on governor's budget proposal

Legislators from both parties were taking a wait and see attitude Wednesday following Gov. Jennifer Granholm's State of the State address.

Democrats were generally upbeat about Granholm's vision for the state but wanted to see the details in her state budget, scheduled for release today. Republicans said they wanted to work with the governor but don't support tax increases.

The differences suggest the difficulties ahead as the governor and state Legislature work to deal with the state's \$800 million deficit and find a replacement for the state's single business tax, scheduled to sunset by the end of the year.

In her speech, Granholm said that cuts in government spending alone won't be enough to correct the state's fiscal problems. Following the recommendations of her emergency Financial Advisory Panel, Granholm's budget is expected to include spending cuts, tax increases and govern-

ment restructuring.

New House Speaker Andy Dillon, D-Redford, released a statement praising Granholm "for unveiling a bold plan to make Michigan a magnet of 21st century jobs."

"Democrats in the House and the governor are committed to tackling Michigan's challenges head on," Dillon said. "Tonight, the governor shared some bold ideas for how we can act today for a stronger tomorrow."

He praised the governor for making "tough cuts" in government spending but he did not address possible tax increase proposals.

But Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, while pledging to work with the governor, said he was disappointed in her speech.

"I still am shocked by the speech," he said. "I really expected the governor to come before the state to give a candid assessment. ... To me it wasn't realistic at all. ..."

"I appreciate the fact that she's identified some concerns.

But I just think the speech showed to me a gigantic disconnect between the average Michigan family and the average business owner that I've never seen in state government."

Freshman state Rep. Marc Corriveau, D-Northville, praised Granholm's speech.

"It is clear that Michigan is facing serious challenges right now, and I applaud Gov. Granholm for bringing bold ideas to the table to tackle these challenges head on," Corriveau said in a statement. "We cannot rely on the solutions of yesterday to solve the state's problems today."

In a telephone interview Wednesday, Corriveau said he was inspired by Granholm's vision but was taking a wait and see approach on taxes until he sees the budget proposal being released today.

Corriveau said he has been attending "budget boot camp" trying to learn about areas where spending can be cut. "I found out so much cutting

had already taken place and there was so little cutting left to do," he said.

But state Rep. John Pastor, R-Livonia, a member of the Tax Policy Committee, is skeptical of increasing taxes to solve the state's problems.

"Taxing our way out of the current budget crisis is not a permanent fix," he said. "We need to focus on reforming bureaucracy to create a smaller, more efficient government. Despite an ever-decreasing population, we have an increasingly large government. We need to live within our means and protect funding for our priorities. We can properly prioritize and fund programs without further burdening Michigan's taxpayers."

State Rep. Phil LaJoy, R-Canton, top-ranking

Republican on the House Transportation Committee, said he agreed with the governor on "investing in Michigan."

"As we examine ways to solve the \$800 million budget deficit, all sides must come together and work to create a thriving Michigan," LaJoy said. "This is a critical time in terms of fixing and developing the new state budget."

In language similar to Pastor's, LaJoy advocated more cuts in government spending without increasing taxes.

Sen. Bruce Patterson (R-Canton) praised the style of Granholm's speech but questioned why she signed, by her admission, 94 business tax cuts over the past four years and then complains about lack of funding. He said he is opposed to raising taxes.

"I think it is important to work together, but as we move forward, I'm going to vote my district, and it is clear my constituents don't want to raise taxes," Patterson said.

Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, supported Granholm's job proposals.

"The governor put forth an aggressive plan to manage our state's budget crisis while continuing to invest in the people that make Michigan great," Anderson said in a statement. "The big stories tonight — promise zones, worker retraining — those are issues that I fought for in my campaign and my tenure in the House. I look forward to working with the governor and my colleagues to make these programs that will strengthen our workforce and create jobs a reality."

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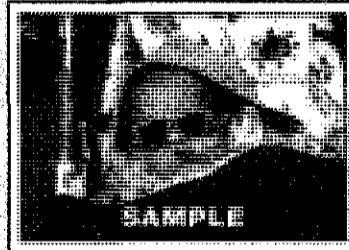
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If you want to submit an item for the religion calendar, fax it to (734) 591-7279 or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. The deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

## FEBRUARY

### Love's Secrets

7-9 p.m. Thursday, February 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.

### 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.

### Blood drive

American Red Cross holds a blood drive 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 11, in the Parish Hall at St. Edith Catholic Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Walk-ins welcome. Call (734) 464-1222.

### New production

The Wellspring Players present the debut of "The Sojourner and the Wanderer in the Land of IT" 10 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 11, at Wellspring Church, 36350 W. Eight Mile, Farmington Hills. Written by Tony Blauvelt, the play weaves the stories of two people. The community is welcome. For information, call (248) 442-0412.

### 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. For details, call coordinator Richard Dahlike at (734) 455-6474.

### Blood drive

2-8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 12, at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth. Call Carolyn Libeau at (734) 455-5395 to make an appointment or just drop in.

### 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.

### Religious talk

Persecution in the Land of our Savior by Rev. Canon Naim Ateek, director of The Sabeel Liberation Theology Center in Jerusalem, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 15, at First Presbyterian Church, 1669 W. Maple, Birmingham. Sponsored by Friends of Sabeel-North American-Detroit Group.

### 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.iceaOnline.org.

### MAMA'S Coffeehouse

Featuring Joel Mabus Saturday, Feb. 17, open mic at 7:15 p.m., show at 8 p.m., at Birmingham Unitarian Church, 38651 N. Woodward, near the northwest corner of Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Hills. Ruth and Max Bloomquist open. Tickets are \$12, \$10 seniors and age 16 and under. Refreshments available. Call (248) 569-0965 for more information. To reserve a slot for open mic, call (248) 626-4650.

### Ministry to the Sick

Join Msgr. John Kasza as he speaks about the church's ministry to the sick, highlighting the premise of his new book, *Understanding Sacramental Healing: Anointing and Viaticum*, 1 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18, in the Fellowship Hall at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. Kasza's book will be available for purchase and signing. Those who are involved in any way with ministry to the sick will especially want to come. All are welcome. For more information, call (734) 425-5950.

### 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.christsavior.org](http://www.christsavior.org), or [www.lightmetalband.com](http://www.lightmetalband.com).

### Ash Wednesday

Pancake dinner at 5:30 p.m., service at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 21, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Feb. 28 Lenten Service Project will be fun jobs around the church. (734) 464-0211.

### Young people's ministry

Burning Questions on the last Wednesday of each month, 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.

### Divorce recovery

Workshop 7-9:30 p.m. began 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.

### 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, began 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 4 and runs for six weeks, at St. Columban Parish Church, 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.

### Bible study

The Gospels and You Bible Study began 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 5, at The Basilica of St. Mary Orthodox Church activity center on the lower level, 18100 Merriman, Livonia. No charge. The study focuses on applying the Gospel of St. Luke to daily life. Sessions will be led by Rev. George Shalhoub and Jim King, the church's director of youth and outreach ministry. For information and to register, call (734) 422-0010.

### Grief workshop

From Grief to New Hope began 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.

### Sunday service

All are welcome to attend worship service at 10 a.m. Sunday in the sanctuary at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, one block west of Inkster, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 422-1470.

### 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

### Book fair

Scholastic Book Fair returns the evening of Friday, March 9, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0211. Church members as well as the general public are invited to the book fair being held in conjunction with a pasta supper and magic show.

### Lenten symposium

The Path to Sanctity 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, March 10, at St. Anastasia Catholic Church, 4571 John R, Troy. Cost is \$40 per person, \$20 student. For more information, call (313) 277-8905 or (248) 625-2461, or visit the Web site at [www.holytrinity-postolate.com](http://www.holytrinity-postolate.com). Registration begins at 7:30 a.m., Holy Mass at 9 a.m. Featuring direct from Rome Rev. Msgr. Robert Sarno, Official of the Congregation for the Causes of Saint in Vatican City speaking on Holiness: The Way of Life.

### Cathedral Cultural Series

Presents a concert by the award winning ensemble *amarcord* 4 p.m. Sunday, March 11, at Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament, 9844 Woodward at Trowbridge, Detroit. Tickets \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door and available online at <http://CathedralConcerts.tix.com>, by calling 1-800-595-411X (4849), by mailing a self-addressed stamped envelope and check or money order payable to Cathedral Cultural Series, to 9844 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, MI

48202. Allow one week for delivery. Founded in 1992 by former members of St. Thomas Boys Choir, ensemble *amarcord* from Leipzig, focuses on music from the Middle Ages and the Renaissance to contemporary composers. Their repertoire covers all facets of vocal music from madrigals to romantic compositions and a capella arrangements of well-known songs. For more information, call (313) 865-6300 Ext. 227, or send e-mail to [CathedralConcerts@yahoo.com](mailto:CathedralConcerts@yahoo.com). Doors open at 3 p.m. on the day of the concert.

### Tiny Tot's Preschool

Open registration begins March 14, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0211.

## 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 9:30-11:15 a.m. (\$15 registration fee includes interdenominational materials and free childcare for ages through 5, and a study of the Patriarchs by Beth Moor from 6:45-8:15 p.m. (\$20 fee and no childcare).

### 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 Aglow

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' Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley, Canton. Weight-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 Wednesdays 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. Sundays 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. weekdays 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.

### 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

PLEASE SEE CALENDAR, NEXT PAGE

# Passages

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### HANNA JOSEPHINE "JO" ZACK

Age 79, February 5, 2007, of Beverly Hills. Beloved wife of Tom for 56 years. Loving mother of Tom, Jr. (Cyndi), Bill, Mike (Kathy), Patty Ghesquiere (C.J.) and Kathy Kupelian (Peter) and the late Mary Anne. Dear grandmother of Katie, Kristen, Andrew, Jay, Colin, Kyle and Lauren. Funeral services have been held. Memorial tributes to Seasons Hospice, 2735 John R., Ste 100, Madison Heights, MI 48071. A.J. Desmond & Sons 248-549-0500  
View obituary and share memories at [www.DesmondFuneralHome.com](http://www.DesmondFuneralHome.com)

### JOSEPH D. GITRE

January 26, 2007, Age 79 Resident of Birmingham for many years. Brother of James R. Gitre and the late Rosemary Moynihan, Jerry L. and John F. Also survived by many loving nieces, nephews and cousins. Memorial service Friday, Feb. 9th 11am at Holy Name Church, 630 Harmon at Woodland, Birmingham. Memorial tributes to U of D Jesuit High School and Academy, 8400 S. Cambridge, Detroit, MI 48221. A.J. Desmond & Sons (248) 549-0500.  
View obituary and share memories at [www.DesmondFuneralHome.com](http://www.DesmondFuneralHome.com)

### LESLIE J. ALLEN

Age 37, died January 31, 2007 at her residence in Holly. Ms. Allen was a graduate of Livonia Churchill High School. She is survived by her parents, Kenneth & Ruth Allen and four siblings: Kevin Allen, Thomas (Sheryl) Allen, Susan (Scott) Sather and Margaret (James) Neve. The family will receive friends 10 a.m. Saturday, February 10, 2007 at Rosedale Garden Presbyterian Church until time of memorial services at 11 a.m. A luncheon at the church will follow the services. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions to Genesis Hospice, The Michigan Humane Society or the church would be appreciated.

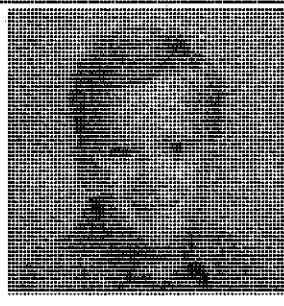
### STEPHEN JAMES LABUHN

Age 32, of West Palm Beach, FL passed away Friday, Feb. 2, 2007 in West Palm Beach, FL. A native of Detroit, MI, he moved to West Palm Beach in 1999 from Rochester Hills, MI. He was a nurse at Columbia Hospital in West Palm Beach, FL and he also worked at the Port St. Lucie Medical Center in Port St. Lucie, FL. Survivors include his mother and father, Gerald and Marion Labuhn of Hope Sound, FL, a brother, Craig Labuhn of Naperville, IL and his grandfather, Kenneth Labuhn of Warren, MI. Visitation will be Wednesday, Feb. 7th from 6-8 p.m. and Thurs., February 8th from 1-3 p.m. at Young & Prill Funeral Home in Stuart, FL. Funeral services will be held Thursday, February 8th at 3:00 p.m. at Young & Prill Funeral Home, Stuart, FL. Contributions can be made to Palm Beach County Humane Society, 3200 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach, FL 33409 in Stephen's memory. Arrangements are under the direction of Young & Prill funeral Home in Stuart, FL.



### LORRAINE KAY PHILLIPS

Age 47, formerly of Livonia. Beloved wife, mother, grandmother passed away peacefully at her home in Minnesota on January 30, 2007. Survived by her husband of 26 years, Rusty, daughters Melissa, Jennifer and Rebecca, grandsons Taylor and Dylan, parents Betty Lou and Merle Neighn, brother, David, and sister Lynn Aittama. Memorials to Multiple Sclerosis Society.



### TIMMY VACHON

February 5, 2007, age 7. Beloved son of Marc "Rogie" and Anne. Cherished brother of Charlotte and his twin, Mary Claire. Grandson of Ed and Lois Girardot and Maurice and Irene Vachon. Nephew of Ed and Lisa Girardot, Julie and Brian Fitzpatrick, the late Tim Girardot, Jane Munson, Claire and Pete Baenen, John Girardot, Guy and Dianne Vachon, Paul and Sheryl Vachon, Maureen Vachon, Philip Vachon, Laura Vachon, and Francie and Scott Smith. Also survived by 19 first cousins, many, many friends including his first grade class at St. Hugo of the Hills, and his dog, Hoover. The family had asked everyone to join them in the celebration of their dear boy Timmy's life on Thursday, February 8, at 10 AM for Mass at St. Hugo of the Hills Church, 2215 Opdyke Road, Bloomfield Hills. In lieu of flowers, memorial tributes may be made to the Timmy Vachon Scholarship and Charitable Fund, c/o 3



## Metro Airport posts strong December passenger count

A strong December helped Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (DTW) finish 2006 with nearly 36 million total passengers.

December's 2,918,978 passengers topped December 2005 by more than 112,000, pushing DTW's year-end count to 35,985,867 total passengers - the second best year in the history of the airport.

"It is truly remarkable that Detroit Metro Airport finished 2006 with only a 1.1 percent decrease in total passengers from 2005, when the number of aircraft operations (landings and take-offs) decreased by 7.7 percent," said Lester Robinson, CEO Wayne County Airport Authority. "This indicates that the airlines are scheduling their aircraft equipment more efficiently and are improving their load factors."

Two major airlines, Northwest and Delta, filed Chapter 11 Sept. 14, 2005 and operated through 2006 with reduced schedules as part of their comprehensive reorgani-

zation plans to return to profitability. More passengers per available seats on those airlines and additional service on other carriers brought passenger numbers up to within 1.1 percent of DTW's record year. According to preliminary data from Airports Council International-North America (ACI-NA), total passenger traffic across North America remained stable in 2006.

July turned out to be the busiest month in 2006 at DTW with nearly 3.3 million total passengers closely followed by August.

"Last year, Detroit Metropolitan Airport handled the equivalent number of passengers to every man, woman and child living in Michigan, Ohio, Utah, Wisconsin and Indiana," said Robinson. "The smooth and efficient operation of the airport with these numbers is a tribute to the dedicated employees of the airlines, TSA, FAA, the Airport Authority and all of our contractors and vendors."

## Girls get chance to explore careers in math, science

BY JULIE BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

Girls will learn about math- and science-related careers at an upcoming conference, EXPLORATHON.

The daylong event will be Wednesday, April 4, under the auspices of the Birmingham branch, American Association of University Women. It is for girls in the tri-county area, grades 8-12, and is also open to boys.

"We believe in education and lifelong learning for women and girls," said Jean Walker of Bloomfield Township, EXPLORATHON chair and a member of the Birmingham branch. Efforts such as scholarships promote such opportunities for local women.

"In addition, we're interested in equity for women," Walker said. Organizers know a background in science and math will serve girls well in the future.

Registration for the April

event has begun and will continue until March 5, or until capacity is reached.

Walker cited the problem of girls dropping out of math and science courses around middle school age, in part because of the perception that such courses are unfeminine. "We're trying to portray the sciences as something exciting," said Walker, a retired teacher. The hope is that women will stay with math and science, even if they pursue other careers.

Some of the reasons organizers cite are:

- Girls aren't expected to do well in math and science

- Girls like to learn in groups where they can talk and work together rather than work alone

- Girls don't see many female role models in science and math careers

- Girls may experience pressure from friends not to do well

AAUW-Birmingham branch working with the

Cranbrook Institute of Science offers a day of guest speakers and hands-on workshops focusing on careers in math and science.

Formerly titled "Yes You Can," EXPLORATHON takes place from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, April 4, at Detroit Country Day School on 13 Mile in Beverly Hills. Participants choose three workshops led by women with careers in math and science. Dr. Robyn Burnham, a research scientist at the University of Michigan, is the keynote speaker.

"She's going to have a great, dynamic presentation," Walker said.

Parents and teachers are welcome to attend and take concurrent sessions. Registration for all is \$15 and includes lunch.

Registration brochures are available in schools or you may download them the AAUW Web site at [www.aaauw-birmm.org](http://www.aaauw-birmm.org). Call (248) 865-7257 for more

information. The event will feature some 45-50 presenters, to show girls that women can succeed. "We want to show them women can work in the field of science, be creative, be mothers, be grandmothers," Walker said.

AAUW has offered the event for about 25 years, starting with an association grant. About 700 students attend, and many parents are interested in helping their kids succeed.

"I think they should encourage their daughters to reach out to science, technology, because this is the wave of the future," Walker said. Girls can take apart a computer "under the direction of women who are doing this," something girls have traditionally been encouraged in.

Walker would like to see more men in kindergarten teaching and nursing. "I think we just want to broaden everybody's opportunities," she said.

## Oakland CC selected for leadership consortium

Oakland Community College is one of 18 institutions of higher education across the nation selected by the Association of American Colleges and Universities to participate in a new Core Leadership Consortium.

Designed to educate students in personal and social responsibility by integrating such learning into school curricula, the new consortium emphasizes five key elements: Striving for excellence; cultivating personal and academic integrity; contributing to the larger community; taking the perspective of others seriously; and developing competence in moral reasoning.

"Oakland Community College is proud to have been selected to participate in this innovative effort" said OCC Vice Chancellor of Academic & Student Affairs Steve Reif.

"In today's world it becomes increasingly crucial for college students to develop their talents to the maximum, stand behind the quality of their work, and meet their responsibilities, not only as Americans, but as global citizens. The consortium will do much to advance these goals," said Reif. One hundred and twenty-

eight applications nation-wide were submitted to the AAC&U. OCC is one of two community colleges selected, along with such major educational institutions as Michigan State, Tulane, the United States Air Force Academy and the University of Alabama.

The 18 schools making the cut were chosen on the basis of work they have already accomplished in the field of social responsibility, and on plans to deepen and extend that work.

Each institution will receive a \$25,000 award from the AAC&U, and is expected to commit an equal amount in matching funds over the next two years.

Founded in 1915, the Association of American Colleges and Universities is comprised of more than 1,100 accredited public and private colleges and universities. It is the leading national association concerned with the quality, vitality and public standing of undergraduate education.

With five campuses located throughout Oakland County, OCC is the largest community college in Michigan and one of the largest in the nation. Approximately 70,000 undergraduates attend OCC each year.



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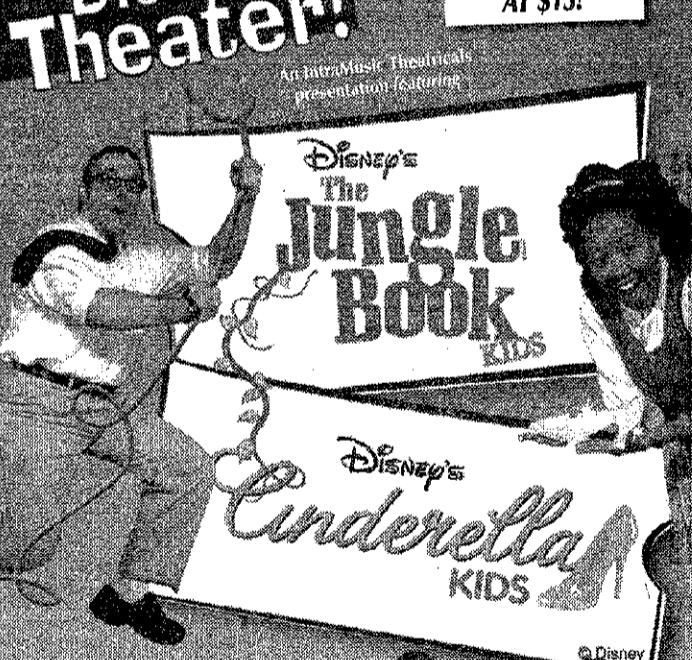
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## SPORTS

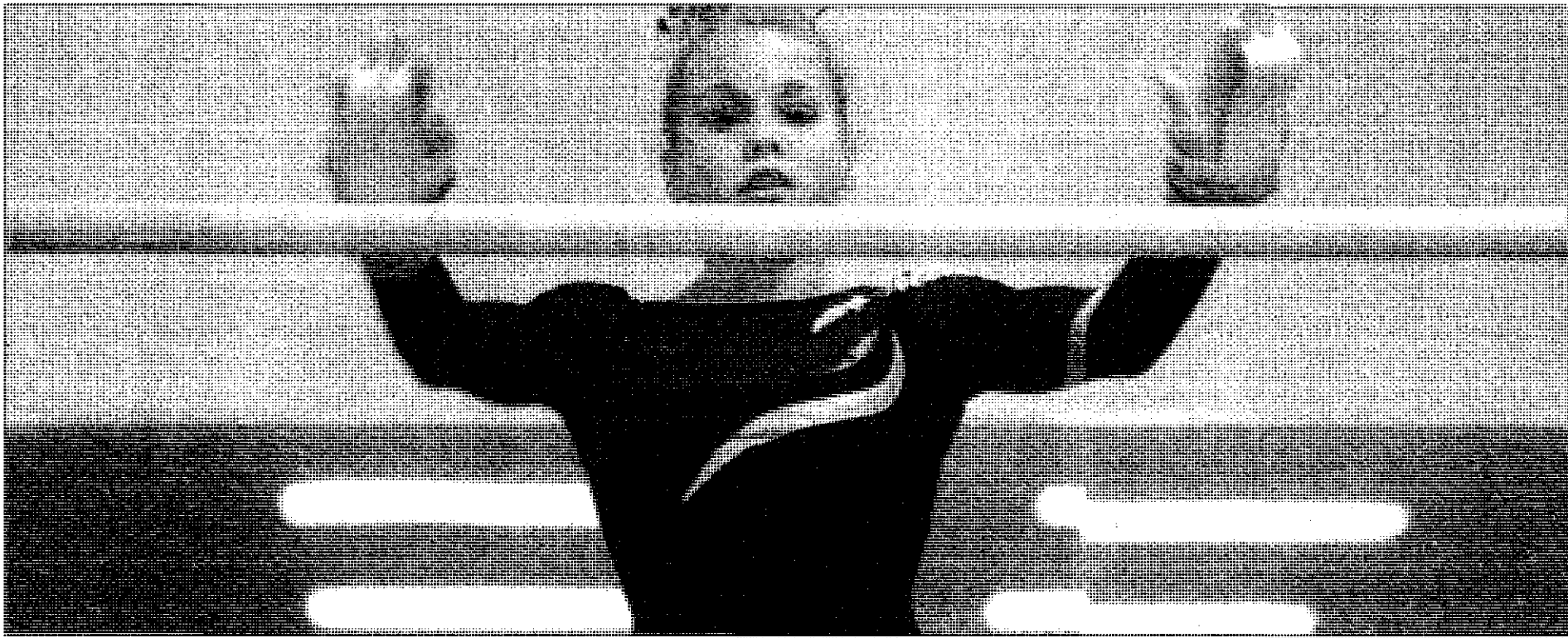
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(LW)

Thursday, February 8, 2007

The Observer &amp; Eccentric Newspapers

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

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Emily Quint of the Livonia Blue team reaches for the bar as she runs through her routine during Monday's meet against Canton and Livonia Red.

PHOTOS BY TOM HEATHCOTE / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Scores soar in double-dual

Canton girls 1st; Livonia Blue, Red hit season highs

BY BRAD EMONS  
STAFF WRITER

There's only one girls gymnastics team that remains undefeated in the Western Lakes Activities Association — Canton — but everybody else came away feeling like a winner Monday night at Churchill High School.

The Lady Chiefs had the biggest reason to celebrate afterwards, scoring a season-high 145.50 points to pull off a double-dual meet win Monday night over previously unbeaten Livonia Blue (144.525) and Livonia Red (144.40).

In Saturday's Canton Invitational, Livonia Red took third out of 20 schools with 143.85, while Blue settled for sixth with 142.675. The Chiefs were one place behind in seventh with 142.350.

"This was a difficult meet," Canton coach John Cunningham said. "When we met at Troy Athens (Invitational), we tied Blue and lost to Red by 0.25.

"All the coaches knew we'd be at a high ability level and we're pretty much all equal."

Cunningham was particularly pleased with the way his team finished the meet, which was highlighted by Jessie Murray's 9.65 score on the balance beam, which tied her own school record.

"This was pressure-packed," Cunningham said. "When you have to finish on beam ... that's the toughest thing to do. There were a couple of routines where they failed and the girls were upset, but it was a solid performance, especially the way we finished on beam, which was very tough."

Canton's top scores as a team occurred on vault (36.9), led by first-place finisher Alyssa Kelly's 9.7; and the floor exercise (36.55).

Livonia Blue captured the uneven bars (36.05). Freshman Emily Quint, who was runner-up in the all-around, won the floor exercise with a 9.65 and tied Livonia Red's Paula Guzik for first on the uneven bars (9.4 each).

It was Livonia Blue's high team score of the year. "I attribute it to hard work and determination," said Blue coach Lisa Fierk, whose team is 7-1 overall. "We had a good floor and good bars, which was a good score for us.

"We got a 144. The win doesn't matter because we put our heart and soul into it. I couldn't ask for anything more. Emily (Quint), Meghan Powers, Laura Nomura and Kelly Tapella all pulled their weight for us today. I'm so proud of them."

Livonia Red captured the beam (37.45) led by Guzik's 9.7. She was also the all-around winner with a 38.1.

The loss dropped Livonia Red to 6-2 overall in dual meets, but coach Kelly Grodzicki was also elated.

"I'm very pleased, especially coming off a big invitational," Grodzicki said. "We did our best. We gave it our best effort even though we had a few slips in certain events.

"It was surprising in that the whole beam was phenomenal today for the Red team — Margarita Lazarevska, Alicia DiMauro, Alyssa Gonzales, Pisani and Guzik. It was great."

Grodzicki also came away impressed with Canton's showing.

"I'm happy for Canton, it's well-deserved," the Red coach said. "They have a great team. They were well-composed. They showed great spirit and

PLEASE SEE DOUBLE-DUAL, B2



Andrea Pisani of the Livonia Red team completes a backflip on the balance beam as she works through her routine during Monday's double-dual meet against Canton and Livonia Blue.

## Warriors stun unbeaten Lutheran North

In the words of Dick Vitale, this was an "upset special."

The Lutheran High Westland boys basketball team played air-tight defense Tuesday night and handed Metro Conference co-leader Macomb Lutheran North its first loss of the season, 59-49.

The Warriors, getting a game-high 24 points from senior guard Kyle Ramthun, improved to 9-4 overall and 5-2 in the Metro.

Lutheran North falls to 13-1 and 6-1. The Mustangs are now a game behind unbeaten Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook in the conference race.

North led 6-0 at the outset, but the Warriors answered with an 8-0 run and led 19-11 after one quarter. North closed

the gap to 29-25 at intermission, but couldn't get any closer in the third period as each team scored nine points.

The Warriors, who made 17-of-25 free throws on the night, clinched the victory by hitting 15-of-18 in the final quarter, including four straight by Ramthun after he missed a pair when the Mustangs were assessed their second technical foul.

Lutheran Westland's last 12 points came at the free throw stripe.

"It was a really good defensive effort," Lutheran Westland coach Dan Ramthun said. "We played straight man-to-man defense the whole game and we played pretty well."

Senior forward Josh Haller also had a solid outing for the Warriors with 12

points and 10 rebounds. Senior guard Sean Vandenbrink chipped in with 11 points, nine rebounds and four steals.

"Our inside players came through," Ramthun said. "Kyle Wilson, a senior, also did a nice job for us inside. It was a good team effort even though we struggled shooting the ball in the third quarter (4-of-14)."

Lutheran Westland was 20-of-50 from the floor (40 percent) and committed 16 turnovers.

Senior guard Richie Beebe and junior guard Robbie Schneider each tallied 11 points for the Mustangs.

Lutheran North made only 10-of-24 foul shots (41.6 percent) and committed 21 turnovers.

## Rockets roll to Lakes win vs. Churchill

BY BRAD EMONS  
STAFF WRITER

Westland John Glenn's fastbreak was on automatic pilot Wednesday night as the host Rockets orbited past visiting Livonia Churchill, 66-42, in a Lakes Division boys basketball game.

Glenn, which improved to 10-4 overall, maintains its two-game division lead in Western Lakes Activities Association with a 7-0 mark.

Churchill, still fighting for a playoff spot with three games remaining, falls to 6-8 and 2-5.

On Jan. 23, the Chargers lost by only three to Glenn, 49-46, but the rematch was over by halftime as the Rockets built a 34-13 advantage.

The Rockets led by as many as 27 points during second half.

"The difference between last time and this time was that they (Glenn) were so much faster," Churchill coach Jim Solak said. "They played at a totally different speed. There were times when all five of their guys beat our two down the floor. We made it easy on them with our transition defense. It was like a layup line."

Nine of Glenn's 10 players scored with Earl Hardison and Stefan Marken leading the way with 16 and

PLEASE SEE ROCKETS SOAR, B3

## Area collegians relive youth on Hockey Day

The second annual Hockey Day in Michigan on Feb. 10, presented by the Central Collegiate Hockey Association, FoxSportsNet and the Detroit Red Wings, is drawing near.

While rinks throughout the state will be hosting numerous events on Saturday, FSN Detroit will be airing a college hockey double-header with Alaska versus Western Michigan at 4:35 p.m. followed by Michigan versus Michigan State, 7:30 p.m. at the Joe Louis Arena.

Hockey Day in Michigan is a statewide celebration of the passion, fun and friendships that make hockey such an important part of our sports landscape.

Hockey Day is an opportunity to connect with the sport in your own

unique way whether it be watching, playing, skating or helping out at an event.

Here are few youth hockey memories fondly remembered by some area CCHA players that grew up in Michigan.

**Josh Sciba (Westland), Notre Dame:** "My best memory playing hockey for Plymouth was scoring my first-ever goal at Joe Louis Arena in front of my entire family. I remember my grandfather shedding some tears of joy. I thought it was the coolest thing ever to play hockey at Joe Louis Arena. Playing hockey with my best friends growing up was also great."

**Jeff Lerg (Livonia), Michigan State:**

PLEASE SEE HOCKEY DAY, B4



Westland's Josh Sciba, in his younger days, is now a member of Notre Dame University's hockey team, which is ranked No. 1 in the country with a 23-5-2 record. Sciba, a senior, has seven goals and 10 assists for the Fighting Irish.

## Sidelines

## Olivet's top rookie

Olivet College freshman running back Pat Clasgens (Livonia Stevenson) was named the Comets' Outstanding Rookie of the Year for the 2006 football season.

Clasgens played in eight games, starting six, and led Olivet with 688 net yards rushing on 160 carries and three touchdowns. He also caught seven passes for 67 yards and one TD.

Olivet, under second-year coach Dominic Livedoti, finished the year 6-4 overall and 5-2 in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

## MU softball 3rd

The Madonna University women's softball team has been selected to finish third this season in a preseason poll announced by the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference coaches.

Defending champion Aquinas College was picked to repeat, while NAIA Region VIII champion Cornerstone was tabbed second.

WHAC runner-up MU was selected third followed by Indiana Tech, Siena Heights and Concordia.

Four Crusaders were selected to the preseason All-Conference team led by junior outfielder Heather Richardson (Canton), who finished second in the Player of the Year voting after batting .315 with nine HRs.

Richard is joined by junior Stephanie Day (Livonia Ladywood), who batted .294 with a perfect fielding percentage; junior Christina Finch (Adrian/Homer H.S.), who hit .321 with five homers and 18 RBIs; and sophomore Alison Grant (Carleton-Airport), who hit .377 with six homers and a conference-leading 45 RBIs.

MU opens its season Friday, March 2 in the Tucson (Ariz.) Invitational.

## MU open tryouts

Madonna University women's volleyball coach Jerry Abraham announced that the Crusaders will stage an open tryout for unsigned high school seniors and collegiate players with remaining eligibility from 3-5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 11 at the Activities Building.

For more information, call the MU volleyball office at (734) 432-5612; or e-mail assistant coach Brian McClain at bgmccclain@aol.com.

## St. Edith football

The Livonia St. Edith Catholic Youth Organization football program is seeking players for the 2007 fall season with registration from 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18 at the gym entrance.

The program is open to players entering grades 3-8 in the fall and are members of St. Edith and St. Fabian school or parish. Players are also eligible by attending the following parishes: St. Kenneth, St. Colette, St. Aidan, St. Gerald and St. Maurice.

For more information, e-mail football coordinator Jerry Tomasi at jtomasi@twmi.rr.com.

**GIRLS GYMNASICS RESULTS**

**GIRLS GYMNASICS RESULTS**  
**DOUBLE-DUAL MEET**  
 Feb. 5 at Livonia Church Hill  
**TEAM SCORES:** Canton 145.50 points, Livonia-Blue, 144.525; Canton 145.50, Livonia-Red, 144.525.

**INDIVIDUAL RESULTS**  
**Vault:** 1. Alyssa Kelley (Canton), 9.7; 2. Emily Quint (Blue), 9.6; 3. Paula Guzik (Red), 9.5; 4. (tie) Kate Staley (Canton) and Jessie Murray (Canton), 9.2 each.  
**Uneven bars:** (tie) Guzik (Red) and Quint (Blue), 9.4 each; 3. Staley (Canton), 9.2; 4. Kelley (Canton), 9.05; 5. (tie) Powers (Blue), Andrea Pisani (Red) and Kelly Tapella (Blue), 8.95 each.  
**Balance beam:** 1. Guzik (Red), 9.7; 2. (tie) Murray (Canton) and Pisani (Red), 9.65 each; 4. Staley (Canton), 9.35; 5. Margarita Lazarevska (Red), 9.2.  
**Floor exercise:** 1. Quint (Blue), 9.65; 2. Kelley (Canton) and Pisani (Red), 9.6; 4. Guzik (Red), 9.5; 5. Powers (Blue), 9.3.  
**All-around:** 1. Guzik (Red), 38.1; 2. Quint (Blue), 37.25; 3. Pisani (Red), 37.2; 4. Kelley (Canton), 37.1; 5. Murray (Canton), 36.55; 6. Staley (Canton), 36.45; 7. Powers (Blue), 36.25; 8. Laura Nomura (Blue), 35.8; 9. Kaitlyn Burns (Canton), 35.4; 10. Alyssa Gonzales (Red), 33.35.  
**Dual meet records:** Canton, 12-1 overall; Livonia-Blue, 7-1 overall; Livonia-Red, 6-2 overall.

**CANTON INVITATIONAL**  
 Feb. 3 at Canton H.S.  
**TEAM STANDINGS:** 1. Holt, 145.55 points; 2. Rochester Adams, 144.00; 3. Livonia-Red, 143.85; 4. Grand Rapids Forest Hills, 143.225; 5. Troy Athens, 143.05; 6. Livonia-Blue, 142.775; 7. Canton, 142.35; 8. Salem, 140.575; 9. Farmington Unified, 140.50; 10. Northville, 139.50; 11. Brighton, 136.225; 12. Portage, 136.075; 13. Freeland, 136.05; 14. Howell, 135.825; 15. Trenton, 130.125; 16. Fraser,

125.025; 17. Plymouth, 117.95; 18. Milford-Lakeland, 82.30; 19. Novi, 65.50; 20. East Grand Rapids, 35.225.

**INDIVIDUAL RESULTS**  
**DIVISION 1**  
**Vault:** 1. Alyssa Kelly (Canton), 9.75; 2. Paula Guzik (Red), 9.55; 3. Karen Verbrugge (Forest Hills), 9.5; 9. Andrea Pisani (Red), 9.25; 12. Meghan Powers (Blue), 9.225; 13. Emily Quint (Blue), 9.05.  
**Uneven bars:** 1. Maryrose Hillstrom (Holt), 9.4; 2. Verbrugge (Forest Hills), 9.35; 3. Kelly (Canton), 9.3; 6. Guzik (Red), 9.25; 8. Quint (Blue), 9.225; 14. Pisani (Red), 8.95.  
**Balance beam:** 1. Guzik (Red), 9.6; 2. Kallie Strzadas (Portage), 9.55; 3. Verbrugge (Forest Hills), 9.525; 4. Pisani (Red), 9.45; 11. Quint (Blue), 9.125; 14. (tie) Powers (Blue), 9.1.  
**Floor exercise:** 1. Pisani (Red), 9.7; 2. Jessica Nieman (Freeland), 9.65; 3. Guzik (Red), 9.6; 12. (tie) Quint (Blue) and Powers (Blue), 9.3 each.  
**All-around:** 1. Guzik (Red), 38.00; 2. Verbrugge (Forest Hills), 37.925; 3. Kelly (Canton), 37.55; 5. Pisani (Red), 37.35; 8. Quint (Blue), 36.70; 10. Powers (Blue), 36.35.

**DIVISION 2**  
**Vault:** 1. Cristial Klein (Adams), 9.35; 2. Brandi Hagan (Forest Hills), 9.275; 3. Jacqueline Gazette (Novi), 9.25; 7. (tie) Laura Nomura (Blue), 9.1.  
**Uneven bars:** 1. Brittany Young (Salem), 9.1; 2. Nicole Wood (Holt), 8.9; 3. Sara Moore (Adams), 8.8; 6. Kelly Tapella (Blue), 8.75; 14. (tie) Nomura (Blue), 8.5.  
**Balance beam:** 1. Klein (Adams), 9.475; 2. Akysa Burke (EGR), 9.425; 3. Lauren Zarebski (Adams), 9.325; 12. (tie) Margarita Lazarevska (Red), 8.75.  
**Floor exercise:** 1. Zarebski (Adams), 9.425; 2. Klein (Adams), 9.35; 3. Monica Caulley (Howell), 9.325; 7. Nomura (Blue), 9.05.  
**All-around:** 1. Klein (Adams), 36.675; 2. Zarebski (Adams), 36.25; 3. Hagan (Forest Hills), 35.75; 7. (tie) Nomura (Blue), 35.225.

# Lutheran Westland spikers drop 1st Metro Conference encounter

Macomb Lutheran North sits atop the Metro Conference girls volleyball standings all alone following an 18-25, 25-18, 25-17, 25-22 triumph Tuesday over visiting Lutheran High Westland.

First-place North is now 25-4-3 overall and 6-0 in the Metro.

"We played extremely well the first game, the best we have played all year," Lutheran Westland coach Kevin Wade said. "We just couldn't hold the momentum throughout the next two games. We were constantly trying to battle from behind."

Becca Refenes, a sophomore middle hitter, had 11 kills and six blocks in the loss. Kayla Gieschen and Myrian Storck added six and five kills, respectively.

Digs leaders for the Warriors included Kayla Gieschen (18), Refenes (17), Lauren Schewecke (12) and Lauren Harris (12).

Harris also served 14 points, including four aces. Jongsma and Refenes served eight points apiece, while Gieschen added seven.

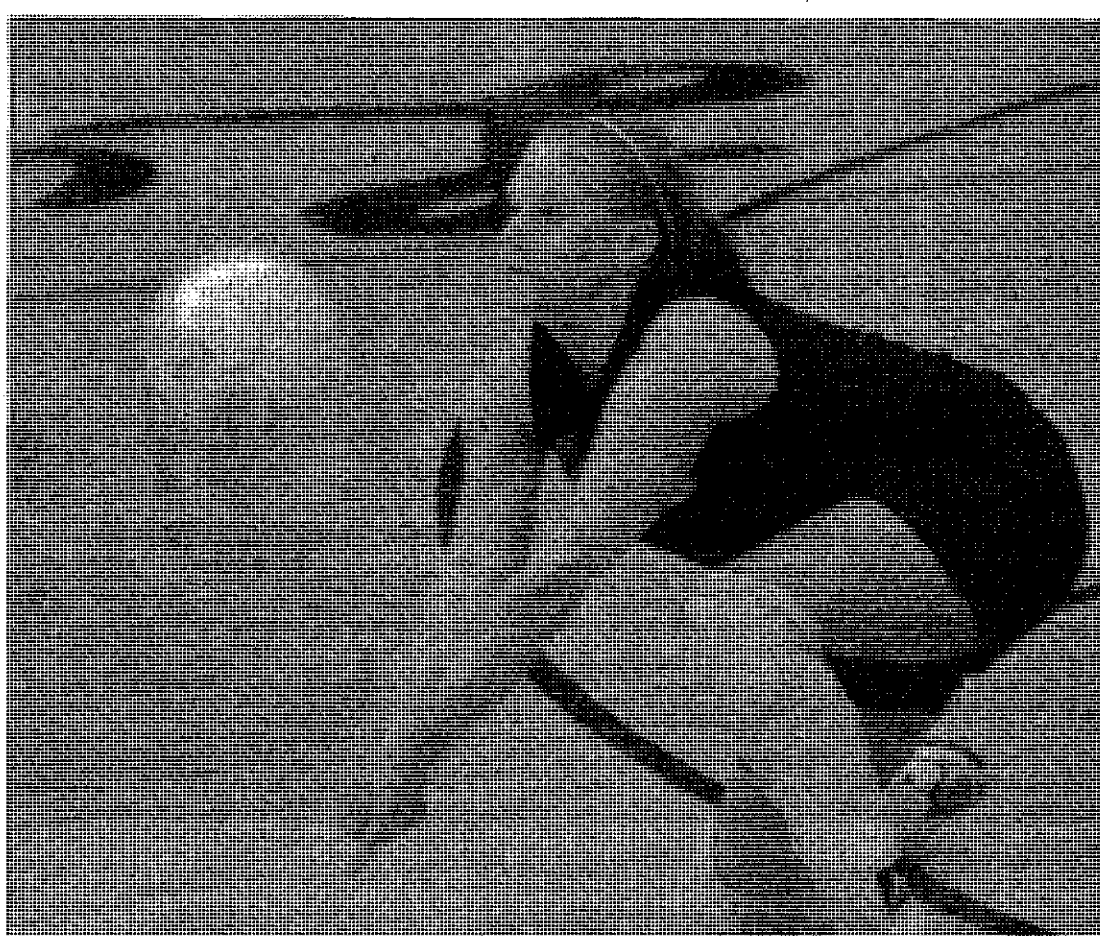
"I take responsibility for the loss," said Wade, whose ninth-ranked Warriors (Class D) are 21-3-4 overall and 4-1 in the Metro. "They girls played very hard and I feel I got outcoached. I have to do a better job next time in terms of game management, and that's something I'll focus on the next few games."

## Chargers sweep field

Livonia Churchill swept all five opponents en route to Saturday's conquest in the six-team Madison Heights Madison Tournament.

The Chargers, ranked No. 7 in Class A, improved to 33-2-1 overall with wins over Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes (25-8, 25-8), Romeo (25-16, 25-11), Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (25-8, 25-9), Detroit Cass Tech (25-18, 25-13) and host Eagles (25-9, 25-12).

Senior Lauren Krupsky and junior Kynra Abbron led the Chargers with 35 and 25 total



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lutheran Westland's Kayla Gieschen tries to keep the ball off the floor in a recent Metro Conference match.

kills, respectively, on the day. Shari Zakaloski and Sarah Suppelsa added 11 each.

Anna-Marie Gatt served 22 aces, while Kelly Archer contributed 28 digs.

Setter Kristy DeClercq contributed 44 assist-to-kills.

## Warriors rule tourney

Lutheran High Westland added three more victories to its resume Saturday by winning the seven-school New Boston Huron Tournament.

The Warriors, who improved to 21-2-4 overall, defeated Taylor Kennedy in the championship match, 25-20, 25-18, after scoring victories in pool play over Taylor Truman (25-16, 25-22, 25-12) and Dundee (25-19, 25-11, 25-19).

Sophomore Becca Refenes led the offensive attack with 40 kills and 13 solo blocks on the day. She also had 23 digs and six ace serves.

Kayla Gieschen served 41 points on the day and added nine aces, running her season total to 53. She also had a team-high 35 digs and 15 kills.

Setters Lauren Gieschen and Julie Jongsma combined for 78 assist-to-kills with 45 and 33, respectively. Jongsma also served 23 points.

Other top hitters included Katey Ramthun (10 kills and six solo blocks); Myrian Storck (nine kills and four solo blocks); Lauren Harris (28 digs and 15 points serving); Lauren Schewecke (18 digs, 15 points serving, eight kills); and Laura Anton (six kills).

## Huron Valley goes 3-2

In Saturday's Madison Tournament, Westland Huron Valley Lutheran captured three of five matches to improve to 15-3-1 overall.

The Hawks defeated Madison (25-13, 27-25), Cass Tech (25-17, 9-25, 25-16) and Our Lady of the Lakes (25-11, 25-13) before losing to Churchill (8-25, 9-25) and Romeo (12-25, 22-25).

Emily Helwig collected 21 kills on the day to lead Huron Valley, while setter Amanda Gruenewald added 39 assists. On Feb. 1, host Huron Valley

improved to 6-0 in the Red Division of the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference with a 25-10, 25-18, 25-9 triumph over Warren Macomb Christian.

Lauren Adlof and Helwig combined for 16 kills with nine and seven, respectively. Gruenewald added 21 assists and six ace serves.

## Rocks stop Stevenson

Salem's one-two punch of Lauren Kurtz (19 kills) and Teresa Coppiellie (15 kills) catapulted the Rocks to a 25-16, 25-19, 25-20 WLAA-Lakes Division victory at Livonia Stevenson.

Salem is now 29-4-1 overall and 5-1 in the division, while Stevenson falls to 12-6-1 and 2-4.

Setter Jill Flaughter led the Spartans with 20 assists, 15 digs and three kills. Laura Khalil and Jamie Pounders added eight and six kills, respectively.

The defense was led by Jordan Pilut (19 digs), Stephanie Labby (17 digs) and Amber Sharp (14 digs).

## DOUBLE-DUAL

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great energy. It was healthy competition."

In addition to Kelly's 37.1 in the all-around, the Chiefs also received solid outings from Murray (36.55), Staley (36.45) and Kaitlyn Burns (35.4).

"It was a team effort,"

Cunningham said. "Staley had her first 36 in the all-around. Jessie, Alyssa and Staley were all in the 36s, and Burns had her high all-around for the year. "I think we'll continue to do this as we move to the end of the season meets. You have to have that kind of performance for the girls to have confidence in themselves."

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## OVER 30 HOCKEY

**LIVONIA MEN'S OVER 30 HOCKEY LEAGUE PLAYOFF STANDINGS**  
**Fairman/Fitzpatrick/Fogliatti Division**  
 Livonia Auto Body 2-0-0/4 points  
 Zschack Enterprises, LLC 1-1-0/2 points  
 Stante Excavating 1-1-0/2 points  
 Coldwell Banker/GGG Plumb. 0-2-0/0 points  
**LeBlanc/Roskelly/St. Croix Division**  
 D&G Heating & Cooling 1-0-1/3 points  
 LaSalle Bank 1-1-0/2 points  
 Hunt's Ace Hardware 0-0-1/1 point  
 Daily Restaurant 0-1-0/0 points

## PREP BOWLING RESULTS

**PREP GIRLS BOWLING RESULTS**  
**LIVONIA LADYWOOD 21, NORTHVILLE 9**  
 Feb. 6 at Novi Lanes  
**Baker games:** Ladywood, 157-152-309 (10 points); Northville, 104-122-286 (0 points).  
**Ladywood scores:** Janelle Farris, 149-156-305; Chelsea Hewitt, 134-148-282; Gabby Yezoski, 124-150-274; Melissa Hanschumacher, 137-125-262; Anne Suchyta, 146; Sara Sanders, 125. Totals: 669-725-1,394 (11 points).  
**Northville scores:** Sarah Mariley, 167-142-309; Angie Ramsey, 145-156-301; Laura Means, 150-131-281; Andrea Bernstein, 143; Erica Frogner, 119; Michelle Steiner, 111; Samira Patel, 101. Totals: 692-673-1,365 (9 points).  
**Ladywood's dual match record:** 6-7.

## Lady Ocelots hammer Henry Ford, 71-40

Brutally cold weather outside didn't cool off red-hot Schoolcraft College inside on Saturday afternoon as the Lady Ocelots routed Henry Ford 71-40 in a women's basketball matchup.

Schoolcraft clinched a berth in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association tournament with the win, which improved the Lady Ocelots to 20-2 overall and 13-0 in the conference.

The start of the game was at least competitive, with the Falcons (1-21, 1-13) managing a 14-14 tie with 8:30 to go in the first half.

But Schoolcraft, ranked No. 4 in the latest National Junior College Athletic Association poll, went on a 21-6 tear to finish the opening 20 minutes.

Henry Ford, which hit just 15-of-79 field-goal tries (19 percent), never threatened in the second half, as the Lady Ocelots successfully finished off the 200th victory of head coach Karen Lafata's Schoolcraft career.

She is 200-61 (.766) in her nine years at the helm. Sparking Schoolcraft with 17

## COLLEGE BASKETBALL

points and 13 rebounds was sophomore forward Maricka Seay. But she had plenty of offensive assistance.

Sophomore forward Ashley Sibby contributed 10 points while freshman guards Brittney Ivey and LaDwan Jones (Wayne Memorial) each tallied nine.

Chipping in with eight points, along with 15 rebounds and six blocks, was freshman forward Antoinette Brown.

Also strong in the post were freshman forward Janelle Harris (eight points, 10 rebounds) as well as sophomore forward and Garden City alum Alisha June (five points, seven rebounds).

For the Falcons, Lauren Trosell (Livonia Stevenson) and Jourdan Tanap each scored nine points.

## Ocelot men cruise

Balanced scoring lifted Schoolcraft College to a 78-51 men's basketball victory Saturday over visiting Henry Ford Community College.

Leading six players in double

digits for the Ocelots (14-8, 9-4) was freshman guard Jerome Hutchins, who tallied 13 points in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association - Eastern Conference matchup.

Registering 12 points each were sophomore guard Jon Yeazel, freshman guard Josh Samarco (Belleville) and sophomore forward Nate Minnow.

Both sophomore guard Corey Spates and sophomore center Gabriel Garcia chipped in with 10 each.

Sophomore guard Anthony Lacey scored 16 for Henry Ford (7-14, 5-9).

## MU games postponed

Blizzard conditions and record cold forced postponement of Madonna-Aquinas men's and women's basketball games both Saturday and Monday.

After the originally scheduled Saturday games were postponed - the men's game at Madonna University and the women's at Aquinas in Grand Rapids - Monday's makeups also were postponed.

The games will be made up 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 12.

## LGA teams impressive at Splitz Splash

The Livonia Gymnastics Academy's Level 6 squad finished third among 16 teams in the recent Splitz Splash meet held Jan. 21 in Canton.

Livonia's Sara Bridges finished second in the all-around with a score of 36.3, including a meet best 9.55 on balance beam.

Other top ten finishers included: Livonia's Cassie Morford and Paige Whitaker, fifth and sixth, respectively; Tara Dudley of Dearborn Heights, six; and Livonia's Alexandra Kitz, eighth.

Meanwhile, the LGA's Level 5 team took third out of a field of

20 in the Splitz Meet on Jan. 20. Plymouth's Marina Milad took the all-around title with a score of 37.325.

Other top 10 LGA finishers included: Heather Willis, Redford (third); Robyn Lowes, Canton (fifth); Michelle LaMontagne, Redford (ninth); and Kylee O'Brien, Livonia (10th).

Also finishing in the top 20 for Level 5 were LGA competitors Sarah Hogan, Emily Brewer, Sarah George and Jennifer Reban, all of Livonia, along with Lauren Bagi of Farmington Hills.

On Jan. 19, the LGA's Level 4

Pre-Teen team earned trophies and ribbons in the Splitz Splash fun meet.

Among the competitors: Morgan Justice, Jessica Lynch, Helen Moore, Yumi Nozawa, Alexis Soave and Jessica Weak, all of Livonia. They were joined by Megan Baumeister and Rebecca Zeno, both of Westland, along with Shannon Rice of Redford.

The LGA teams are coached by Valerie Mailloux, Carylyn Baase, Norene Divens, Paula Sheffield, Earl Britton, Debbie James, Jessica Nowak and Nate Whitehead.

## New book unveils life of famous weightlifter

The amazing amateur career of Olympic weightlifter Norbert Schemansky is captured in a new book by Wayne-based Immortal Investment Publishers.

*Mr. Weightlifting* is a story about a man who, in 1964, earned his fourth Olympic medal at the age of 40 — not to mention 26 World Records. In fact, it wouldn't be a stretch to say that Schemansky is to the world of Olympic weightlifting what Muhammad Ali and Joe Louis are to boxing, or what Gordie Howe and Wayne Gretzky are to hockey.

Schemansky's inspirational story will be the subject of a World Premiere Party and book launch, 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 15 at Doc's Sports Retreat in Livonia. (Doc's is located at 19265 Victor Parkway, at I-275 and Seven Mile Road in the former Rio Bravo restaurant).

"Skee," as the third-generation Polish-American was called by friends, is scheduled to mark the occasion with a rare public appearance.

A limited number of tickets are available at [www.immor-](http://www.immor-)

[talinvestments.com](http://talinvestments.com) or by calling toll-free, 1-800-475-2066.

Authoring the book was veteran sports historian and biographer Richard Bak, who also wrote and co-produced "Stranded at the Corner," about the fight to preserve Tiger Stadium.

Bak delves into Schemansky's dominance of the so-called golden age of U.S. weightlifting (the 1940s and 1950s) — as well as into how ignored his feats were by the general American public. His struggles outside of competition also are put under Bak's spotlight.

Tickets for the Feb. 15 book launch are \$75 and include a leather-bound collector's edition of *Mr. Weightlifting* (value of \$150) as well as food, drinks and special guests.

The 82-year-old weightlifting icon will be available to autograph copies of the book.

Immortal Investments Publishers Michael and Del Reddy only distribute their books through special direct marketing channels. For more information go to [www.immortalinvestments.com](http://www.immortalinvestments.com) or call 1-800-497-1035.

## ROCKETS SOAR

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15 points, respectively. Point-guard Keshawn Martin, who orchestrated many of the breaks along with sophomore Austin Anderson, combined for 14 points with eight and six.

"What I try to sell to my team is if they play defense, we can get out and go, and that's the fun part when you get down at the other end and score," Glenn first-year coach Dan Young said. "Tonight the guys were very unselfish, and as a result, we were able to get better break opportunities. Sharing the ball, playing defense, and scoring off our defense is the thing I've stressed since 'Day One.'"

Glenn was most effective during the second period, making 10-of-14 shots from the floor, mostly on layups, while outscoring the Chargers 20-6.

"This game was different in that we got a lot more offensively off our defense than we did the last time," Young said. "We put better pressure on the ball and rebounded better."

"They (Churchill) outrebounded us the first game. I think (Ryan) Rosenick had 12 or 13 rebounds. That was a key emphasis to out-rebound them because Churchill is such a strong, physical group."

Churchill shot only 15-of-45 from the floor on the night (33 percent), including 5-of-21 in the opening half. The Chargers

committed a total of 17 turnovers with eight coming in the opening quarter as Glenn led 14-7.

"They (Glenn) outrebounded us 48-18, they were just that much tougher than us," Solak said. "And those things haven't been a problem for us."

Rosenick, Churchill's leading scorer, was held to eight points. Kirk Ciarrochi added seven. But despite the off night, the Chargers are still in the hunt for a fourth seed in the Lakes Division playoff race.

On Friday, Churchill hosts Livonia Stevenson (3-10, 2-4).

"This is very disappointing, but we'll be ready for Stevenson," Solak said. "We've just got to be able to put together back-to-back games to the finish out of the season."

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## Games rescheduled

School closings earlier this week forced postponements of several area boys basketball games Tuesday night including Churchill at John Glenn (see story above).

These matchups have been rescheduled: Walled Lake Central at Livonia Stevenson (1:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10); Livonia Franklin at Wayne Memorial (7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 12); Huron Valley Lutheran at Taylor Baptist (7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 26). Harper Woods at Livonia Clarenceville is yet to be determined.



## Spartan competitive cheer 2nd

On Jan. 27, the Livonia Stevenson varsity competitive cheer squad, coached by Marcia and Erin Hermann, finished second in the Northville Invitational. Members of the Spartans include: Whitney Cabble, Nicole Camilleri, Lauren Delano, Nury Duque-Feghali, Jessica Ferries, Stephanie Grisa, Katie Guthrie, Kandace Hernandez, Brittany Janis, Chelsea Ling, Ali Messer, Chelsea Nedo, Ashley Reeves, Laura Robinson, Melissa Roskelly, Brittany Smith, Megan Suer, Emily Turbiak and Lauren Wilkies.

## Franklin falls to Woodhaven icers, 5-3

Woodhaven scored a pair of goals in the final five minutes to earn a 5-3 non-league boys hockey triumph Saturday over visiting Livonia Franklin at Ice Box in Brownstown.

Goals by Stephen Beesley and Mike Tecmire with 4:20 and 3:10 to go, respectively, gave the Warriors, now 10-4-4 overall, the victory.

Franklin killed off nine penalties, including seven after Dave Muller's goal from Jordan Short with 4:39 remaining tied the game at 3-all.

"Our power play was great," said Franklin coach Terry Jobbitt, whose team slipped to 3-15 overall. "But we did not have much power play time because Woodhaven was only shorthanded twice."

Franklin's Jordan Chisholm opened the scoring at 4:47 of the opening period on assists from Derek Cripe and Muller.

Woodhaven then responded with three straight goals by Beesley (4:06); Brian DeGregoria (5:01), Steve DeGregoria (9:37) — all in the first period.

Short's unassisted goal with 1:16 left in the opening period cut the deficit to 3-2.

There was no scoring in the second period. Despite being outshot 38-18, Jobbitt was pleased with his team's effort.

"This was by far the best we've play all year," he said. "Everybody was working hard, playing good position hockey and their systems. If we can keep this up, we should do well the rest of the season and hopefully we've turned the corner."



Ladywood's Prenella Semma (left), had a hat trick in last week's 4-3 loss to Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook, and two goals and an assist in a 7-0 win Saturday over Northville.

LADYWOOD 7, NORTHVILLE 0: Laura Swzed's hat trick and one assist powered Livonia Ladywood (11-2-1, 11-2-1) to a Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League triumph Saturday over the visiting Mustangs (0-12, 0-12) at the Arctic Pond.

Prenella Semma contributed two goals and an assist for the Blazers, who led 4-0 after one period and 5-0 after two periods.

Abby Kienbaum and Heather Sartorius chipped in with a goal and assist each, while teammates Rachel Killian and Ashley Ballarin collected two assists apiece. Goalie Michelle Wyniemo made 16 saves en route to her fourth shutout of the season.

The Blazers had a total of 29 shots on goal.

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1-800-865-1125 [mccmcr.org](http://mccmcr.org)

## THE WEEK AHEAD

- BOYS BASKETBALL**  
Thursday, Feb. 8  
Huron Valley at Lutheran South, 7 p.m.  
Friday, Feb. 9  
Stevenson at Churchill, 7 p.m.  
Northville at Franklin, 7 p.m.  
John Glenn at W.L. Northern, 7 p.m.  
Wayne at Canton, 7 p.m.  
Clarenceville at Luth. N'west, 7 p.m.  
Luth. Westland at Harper Woods, 7 p.m.  
Westside Christian at Huron Valley, 7:30 p.m.  
Saturday, Feb. 10  
W.L. Central at Stevenson, 1:30 p.m.
- GIRLS VOLLEYBALL**  
Thursday, Feb. 8  
Ladywood at Birm. Marian, 6:30 p.m.  
Harper Woods at Luth. Westland, 6:30 p.m.  
W.L. Northern at Churchill, 7 p.m.  
John Glenn at W.L. Central, 7 p.m.  
Friday, Feb. 9  
Luth. Northwest at Clarenceville, 6:30 p.m.  
Saturday, Feb. 10  
Bedford Invitational, 8:30 a.m.  
UM-Dearborn Tournament, 9 a.m.
- PREP HOCKEY**  
Friday, Feb. 9  
Franklin vs. Canton at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.  
(Youth Hockey Day at Joe Louis Arena)  
Ladywood vs. Kingswood, 4 p.m.  
Stevenson vs. Marquette, 7 p.m.  
(Trenton Showcase at Kennedy Arena)  
Churchill vs. Mona Shores, 8:40 p.m.  
Saturday, Feb. 10  
(Trenton Showcase at Kennedy Arena)  
Churchill vs. Cranbrook, 4 p.m.  
Stevenson vs. Brother Rice, 6 p.m.
- PREP WRESTLING**  
Thursday, Feb. 8  
John Glenn at Franklin, 7 p.m.  
Churchill at Canton, 7 p.m.  
W.L. Northern at Wayne, 7 p.m.  
Stevenson at W.L. Western, 7 p.m.  
Saturday, Feb. 10  
Western Lakes Tourney at Canton, 9 a.m.  
Metro Conference Tourney at Harper Woods, 10 a.m.
- BOYS SWIMMING**  
Thursday, Feb. 8  
W.L. Northern at Churchill, 7 p.m.  
W.L. Western at Wayne, 7 p.m.  
John Glenn at Stevenson, 7 p.m.  
Canton at Wayne, 7 p.m.  
Saturday, Feb. 10  
MISCA meet at EMU, TBA.
- PREP BOWLING**  
Saturday, Feb. 10  
Dennis Jaeger Catholic Tourney at Oak Lanes, 11 a.m.  
Sunday, Feb. 11  
Utica Eisenhower Doubles Tourney at Sterling Lanes, TBA.
- PREP SKIING**  
Thursday, Feb. 8  
Divisional Championships at Alpine Valley, TBA.
- MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL**  
Saturday, Feb. 10  
Delta CC at Schoolcraft, 3 p.m.  
Madonna at Cornerstone, 3 p.m.
- WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL**  
Saturday, Feb. 10  
Delta CC at Schoolcraft, 1 p.m.  
Cornerstone at Madonna, 1 p.m.
- ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE**  
Friday, Feb. 9  
Whalers vs. Owen Sound at Compuware Arena, 7:05 p.m.  
Saturday, Feb. 10  
Whalers vs. Windsor Spitfires at Compuware Arena, 7:05 p.m.  
Sunday, Feb. 11  
Whalers at Windsor Spitfires, 2 p.m.  
TBA — time to be announced.

**CATCH THE WAVE**  
**WHALEERS**

**O. S. ATTACK**  
Friday Feb. 9th  
7:05 P.M.

**Special Olympics**  
Family Value Night: 4 Executive Reserved Tickets, 4 Hot Dogs, 4 Pepsi Products, 4 Game Night Lineups all for only \$44. Salute to the Special Olympics.

**WINDSOR SPITFIRES**  
Saturday Feb. 10th  
7:05 P.M.

**Sweetheart Saturday**  
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HOCKEY DAY

FROM PAGE B1

"My fondest memory growing up in Livonia was just playing hockey with my friends. As I got older, it was easier to get good pick-up games with high-talented players such as Bryan Marshall (Nebraska-Omaha), my cousin Bryan (teammate at Michigan State), Erik Condra (Notre Dame), Brandon Naurato (Michigan) and many other players from nearby cities."

Bryan Marshall (Livonia), Nebraska-Omaha: "We had some pretty good teams in Livonia growing up. We won the state championship in Pee Wee A (1995) and Pee Wee AA (1996) as well as the national championship in '96. Winning the national championship would have to be my fondest memory from playing hockey growing up. We just ripped through everyone in the national tournament. It was a blast."

Brett John (Plymouth), Western Michigan: "My fondest hockey memory growing up playing in Michigan was probably my senior year at Detroit Catholic Central. I decided not to go play for St. Louis of the North American Hockey League (NAHL) that year because I wanted to play my senior year and graduate from CC. That was really important to me. We then went undefeated that year and won our third state championship in a row. It was an amazing year and one that I will never forget."

Sox knuckleballer Haeger eyes longer stint in 'Bigs'

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

If you're a 22-year-old pitcher making your Major League debut, the last person you want to see stepping into the batter's box in the bottom of the first inning with the bases loaded is Anaheim Angels slugger Vladimir Guerrero.

Heck, if you're a 35-year-old seasoned veteran, the last person you want to face is Guerrero, one of the most feared sluggers to ever swing a Louisville Slugger.

But that's exactly who approached the plate on the evening of May 10 last year as Plymouth Township resident and former Redford Catholic Central star Charlie Haeger tried to extinguish an opening-inning fire in his first game with the Chicago White Sox.

"I couldn't even look at him when he stepped into the box," a smiling Haeger recalled last week, looking back on his memorable showdown with the future Hall of Famer. "I remember hearing his name over the loudspeaker, but I kept telling myself, 'Don't look at him. Don't look at him. The bases are loaded. Don't look at him.'"

"Well, I ended up getting him to hit into a double play, which was key because if he gets any kind of hit, I'm in big trouble."

Unforgettable night

Even though Haeger went

THE BOOK ON HAEGER

Name: Charlie Haeger Age: 23 Local ties: Lives in Plymouth Township; graduated from Redford-Detroit Catholic Central in 2001

Occupation: Starting pitcher in the Chicago White Sox organization

2006 accomplishments: Went 14-6 with a 3.07 E.R.A. in 26 games for Triple-A Charlotte; went 1-1 with 3.44 E.R.A. in seven games with White Sox

Signature pitch: Haeger is one of just two Major League pitchers who throws a knuckleball as his primary pitch



to suffer a tough loss against the Angels that night, he'll never forget his first encounter with Guerrero or his first taste of stepping onto the ultimate stage in baseball.

"It went very fast, that's for sure," Haeger said of his initial one-day stint with the White Sox. "I flew in to Chicago the day I threw. The next thing I knew, I was at the ballpark, it was gametime and I was on the mound. As soon as the game was over, I flew back home.

"The hardest part was getting used to the atmosphere and surroundings because, obviously, I had never stepped on that mound before the first inning. I had to get used to the backdrop

and the way the stadium sounded, everything. The biggest difference was that in the minors I was pitching in front of 8,000 people where in the Chicago it was more like 38,000.

"There were a lot of emotions going through my body. It was a good opportunity; I just didn't take advantage of it like I should have."

Inspiring journey

Haeger's path to the Majors would make for an entertaining Disney movie. Drafted out of high school by the White Sox in the 25th round of the 2001 Major League Draft, the former Shamrock shelved baseball and pursued a career in golf after struggling to a 1-

7 record in two seasons of Rookie League action.

During his two-plus years away from baseball, Haeger developed a top-of-the-line knuckleball, a weapon he shares in the Majors with Boston's Tim Lincecum. Haeger eventually rejoined Chicago's farm system in 2005 and shined, compiling a 14-5 record in stops at Class A Winston-Salem and Double-A Birmingham.

Last year in Triple-A Charlotte, Haeger baffled hitters to the tune of a 14-6 record, 3.07 earned-run average and 130 strikeouts in 170 innings pitched.

If at first ...

Haeger's stellar minor-league performance was rewarded with a second call-up to the White Sox when Major League rosters were expanded on Sept. 1.

"The second time I was up last year went really well," Haeger said. "I had a great September. I felt more comfortable with the guys and more comfortable out on the field. My knees weren't shaking like they were back in May."

The highlight of the season for Haeger came on Sept. 23 when he earned his first Major League victory after entering a game against Seattle with the White Sox in a deep hole.

"We were down five runs when I came in," remembered Haeger. "I threw three or four scoreless innings and we ended up winning."

"Paul Konerko (the White Sox' All-Star first baseman) came up to me while I was sitting on the bench after we had tied the score and he told me, 'Go put a zero up next inning and we'll get you a win.' I did and he hit a two-run home run to win the game."

"The guys on the team are awesome and Ozzie Guillen is a great manager to play for. He's very straight forward and he's never going to lie to you, which is all you can ask for."

Golden opportunity

When the White Sox pitchers and catchers gather Feb. 17 in Tucson, Ariz. for the first day of spring training, Haeger will be in the running for a starting rotation spot, especially after they traded Freddy Garcia and Brandon McCarthy, two top-notch hurlers on last year's roster.

"To be honest with you, I couldn't believe it when they traded (McCarthy)," Haeger said. "They got three arms in return, so I guess they did what they thought was good for the organization. Hopefully, the trades will open up a spot for me."

"I've talked to our pitching coach, Don Cooper, about three or four times during the off-season and he told me the opportunity is there for me and the ball is in my court. All I can ask for is a chance to go out there and compete for a spot."

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BOYS SWIMMING RESULTS. LIVONIA STEVENSON 121 WALLED LAKE NORTHERN 64 Feb. 1st W.L. Northern. 200-yard medley relay: Stevenson (Jeff Pauza, Joey Wingett, Robert Luke, Ryan Scott), 1:45.84; 200 freestyle: Travis Hatt (LS), 1:47.21; 200 individual medley: Jeff Pauza (LS), 2:05.3; 50 freestyle: Ryan Gerber (WLN), 23.32; 1-meter diving: Jeff Kinsvater (LS), 203.80 points; 100 butterfly: Luke (LS), 56.14; 100 freestyle: Matt Zavislak (WLN), 51.13; 500 freestyle: Pauza (LS), 4:48.32; 200 freestyle relay: Northern (Gerber, Riley Cole, Eric Erdos, Zavislak), 1:34.94; 100 backstroke: Hatt (LS), 54.86; 100 breaststroke: Wingett (LS), 1:05.07; 400 freestyle relay: Stevenson (Pauza, Mike Cruce, Kyle Hermann, Hatt), 3:24.2. Stevenson 2nds: Hermann, 200 freestyle (1:51.32); 500 freestyle (5:09.3); Sam Loria, 50 freestyle (24.82); Luke McKay, diving (330.20); Cruce, 100 butterfly (57.94); 100 backstroke (1:00.65); 200 freestyle relay (Charles Turlo, Chris Behler, Luke, Scott), 1:37.54; 400 freestyle relay (Aaren Marecki, Luke, Turlo, S. Loria), 3:37.8; 3rds: 200 medley relay (Jimmy Vavis, John Loria, Cruce, Behler), 1:50.84; Brendan Schoff, 200 freestyle (2:01.51); Marecki, 200 IM (2:17.37); Scott, 50 freestyle (24.84); Behler, 100 freestyle (55.04); 200 freestyle relay (Lared Diebel, Adam Dabkowski, Scott Geverink, J. Loria), 1:41.19. Stevenson's dual meet record: 8-1 overall, 3-0 WLAALakes Division.

rocky's Valentine's Week Prix-Fixe Dinner Specials. Celebrate a Romantic Meal with the Love of Your Life at Rocky's All Week Saturday, February 10th Friday, February 16th. Special Selections include: Popover, Roast Pork, Creamy Green Beans, Roast Potatoes, Bread, Butter, and Sauce. Rocky's Valentine's Week Prix-Fixe Dinner Specials. Celebrate a Romantic Meal with the Love of Your Life at Rocky's All Week Saturday, February 10th Friday, February 16th. \$18.95. Rocky's Valentine's Week Prix-Fixe Dinner Specials. Celebrate a Romantic Meal with the Love of Your Life at Rocky's All Week Saturday, February 10th Friday, February 16th. \$18.95. Rocky's Valentine's Week Prix-Fixe Dinner Specials. Celebrate a Romantic Meal with the Love of Your Life at Rocky's All Week Saturday, February 10th Friday, February 16th. \$18.95.

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## WYAA registration

Registration for the 39th season for Westland Youth Athletic Association baseball and softball is underway and runs through March 31 at the WYAA's Lange Compound, 6050 Farmington Road (north of Ford Road).

The WYAA offers programs including: T-Ball (ages 5-6), Coach-Pitch with machine (7-8), Mustang (9-10), Bronco (11-12), Pony (13-14), Colt (15-16), Palamino (17-18), along with girls slow-pitch and fast-pitch softball.

For more information, call (734) 421-0640 (during normal business hours or 10 a.m. until noon Saturday and 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays; leave a message).

You can also visit [www.wyaa.org](http://www.wyaa.org).

## WYAA girls hoops

Roster spots remain available for the Westland Youth Athletic Association girls freshman basketball program (ages 9-11).

Registration is from 10 a.m. until noon Saturdays and 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays at the WYAA's Lange Compound, 6050 Farmington Road (north of Ford Road).

For more information, call during regular business hours or leave a voice mail at (734) 421-0640.

## Soccer signup

The Livonia Soccer Club is accepting spring registrations.

For more information, call (734) 464-8575; or visit [www.livoniasoccer.org](http://www.livoniasoccer.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](mailto:Berry3724@aol.com).

## AAU volleyball club

The Crusader Junior Volleyball Association, sponsored by Madonna University Volleyball, will stage registration tryouts for the following age groups on Sunday, Feb. 18: 12s - 2:30-4 p.m.; 13s and 14s - 4-6 p.m.; 15s and 16s - 6-8 p.m.; 17s and 18s - 7:30-9:30 p.m.

The program begins in March and continues through the end of June. Practice days are Tuesdays and Thursdays and designated Sundays. Tournament will be primarily on Saturdays.

The program fee cost is \$625 (includes AAU registration,

uniform expenses, facility rental, equipment fees, travel, coaches salary and tourney entry costs).

For more information, call Jerry Abraham or Brian McClain at (734) 432-5612; or visit [madonna.edu/crusaders/juniors.htm](http://madonna.edu/crusaders/juniors.htm).

## Stevenson orientation

Livonia Stevenson will host its annual incoming ninth-grade orientation night beginning at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 8 at the high school.

The orientation is open to all middle school eighth graders and their parents that are considering attending Stevenson in the fall of 2007. (Students must be accompanied by a parent.)

The program includes meeting athletic department coaches and current athletes of all sports program in the Stevenson Competition Gym. Participants can obtain information about practice-tryout dates and sports signup sheets will be available.

The evening also includes meeting high school counselors and members of the Student Senate, a tour of the school, and learning about extracurricular activities and clubs. The Stevenson High Jazz Band will also perform. The school store will also be open for business.

For more information, call the Stevenson athletic department at (734) 7644-2660, Ext. 48116.

## 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 with 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](mailto:Berry3724@aol.com).

## Baseball signup

The North Redford Central Little League, along with the Redford American Little League, have expanded its borders and now can register children from an area encompassing on the north by Nine Mile Road; on the south by Joy Road; on the east by Telegraph Road; and on the west by I-275.

Little League Baseball consists of the following: Minor B (ages 5-9), Minor A (7-12), Majors (9-12), Juniors (13-14), Seniors (15-16) and Big League (16-18).

The Junior, Senior and Big League divisions will be registering under the new combined Capitol Park Senior

Little League. The Minor A and Major divisions will be grouped, where possible, by skill level and not age alone.

Postseason tournaments are scheduled for both inter-league and outside the league. For more information about registration, call either Michelle Faur at (586) 243-9136; Laurie D'Anunzio at (313) 532-3950; Bill Sullivan at (313) 535-8143; or Tim Smith at (313) 534-3795.

## Churchill Hall of Fame

The Livonia Churchill Athletic Patrons will stage their fifth annual Hall of Fame dinner 6 p.m. Thursday, March 22 at Italian-American Club in Livonia.

Among the honorees are former basketball standout Ken Landini, boys basketball coach Pat Montagnano and the 1972 undefeated Charger football team coached by Ken Kaestner.

Several members of the '72 football team still need to be located.

For more information, or to reserve a spot at the banquet, call the Churchill Athletic Office at (734) 744-2650, Ext. 46117.

## 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.

## Livonia Y leagues

The Livonia Family YMCA is offering a youth basketball league for boys and girls ages 5-14. (League play starts March 3.)

Registration is underway for the Livonia Y spring soccer for boys and girls ages 3-8, along with boys and girls under-9, -10 and -11. (The season runs April 14 through June 2).

Fees vary. For more information, call (734) 261-2161.

## CHS spring tryouts

Livonia Churchill High School has announced its spring 2007 athletic tryout schedule for the following sports:

Boys tennis - 2:45 p.m. Monday, March 12 at the gymnasium. For more information, contact Reid Friedrichs at [rfriedri@livonia.k12.mi.us](mailto:rfriedri@livonia.k12.mi.us); Competitive cheerleading - 6 p.m. Monday, May 7 at the

gymnasium. Contact Heidi Richardson at [hrichard@livonia.k12.mi.us](mailto:hrichard@livonia.k12.mi.us);

Girls golf - 3 p.m. Monday, March 12 at the Oasis Golf Dome. Contact Gary Harper at [ggharper@livonia.k12.mi.us](mailto:ggharper@livonia.k12.mi.us);

Boys baseball - 2:45 p.m. Monday, March 12 at the fieldhouse. Contact Ron Targosz at [rtargosz@livonia.k12.mi.us](mailto:rtargosz@livonia.k12.mi.us);

Boys track and field - 2:45 p.m. Monday, March 12 at the gymnasium. Contact Rick Austin at [raustin@livonia.k12.mi.us](mailto:raustin@livonia.k12.mi.us);

Girls track and field - 2:45 p.m. Monday, March 12 at the gymnasium. Contact Keith McDonald at [kmcDonald@livonia.k12.mi.us](mailto:kmcDonald@livonia.k12.mi.us);

Girls softball - 5 p.m. Monday, March 12 at the fieldhouse. Contact Meghan Misiak at [misiakmc@wayne.edu](mailto:misiakmc@wayne.edu);

Girls soccer - 2:45 p.m. Monday, March 12 at the gymnasium. Contact Dave Hebestreit at [dhebestr@livonia.k12.mi.us](mailto:dhebestr@livonia.k12.mi.us).

All athletes must have a valid physical on file (conducted after April 15, 2006) in order to tryout, in addition to a Livonia Public Schools \$100 participation fee.

For more information, call the Churchill athletic office at (734) 744-2650, Ext. 46117.

## Whitetails banquet

Whitetails Unlimited is sponsoring the Livonia Area Whitetails Unlimited fundraising banquet Saturday, March 10, at Corsi's Banquet Center, 27910 W. Seven Mile Road, Livonia.

The social hour begins at 5:30 p.m. with the buffet dinner at 7 p.m. Tickets, which must be purchased by March 3, are \$45 each. (No tickets will be sold at the door.)

The event will also feature an auction, door prizes, sporting equipment, limited edition wildlife and outdoor art, and WTU collectibles.

Proceeds from the banquet will go toward local projects which uphold the mission of the WTU, a national nonprofit conservation organization with members in all 50 states.

To order tickets, call Durwin Moiso at (248) 437-2670; and Gary Jones at (313) 999-5842; or the WTU headquarters at (800) 274-5471.

You can also visit [www.whitetailsunlimited.com](http://www.whitetailsunlimited.com) for more information.

## Hunter Safety

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will hold a hunters safety class from 6-9:30 p.m. Friday, March 9; and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, March 10, at the Livonia Community Recreation Center, located at 15100 Hubbard (at Five Mile Road).

Hunter safety allows individuals of all ages, 10 and up, to gain an understanding of

proper techniques, legal requirements and a wide variety of equipment. Any person born on or after Jan. 1, 1960 must receive certifications in order to obtain a hunting license. All participants must bring a bag lunch. Children ages 11-and-under must be accompanied by an adult.

The fee is \$15. Advance registration, which begins Feb. 5, will be at the LCRC office. Space is limited.

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

## Girls slowpitch

Mail-in and fax-in registration for the City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation girls 10- and 13-and-under slowpitch softball will be from Feb. 19 through March 2.

Walk-in registration follows from Feb. 26 through March 9 or until enrollment limit is reached. Registration forms will be sent to schools in January or can be obtained the Parks and Recreation counter inside the Livonia Community Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard (at Five Mile Road).

Registration is open to all girls residing in the Livonia or Clarenceville public school districts.

The season will be June and July with scrimmage played on Wednesday evenings.

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

## 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](http://www.wyaa.org).

## T-Ball, Coach-Pitch

Mail-in and fax-in registration for the City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation 2007 co-ed instructional T-ball (ages 5-6) and Coach-Pitch (7-8) will be through Friday, Feb. 9.

Walk-in registration follows Feb. 5-16 or until enrollment limit is reached. Registration forms will be sent to schools this month or can be obtained at the Parks and Recreation counter inside the Livonia Community Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard (at Five Mile Road).

Registration is open to boys and girls residing in the Livonia or Clarenceville public school districts.

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

## Need ballplayers

■ The 12-and-under WaCo

Wolves need one experienced player for 2007 season, which will include 80 games from March 17 through July 28 with trips to national events in Tennessee, Georgia, Ohio and Michigan.

To arrange an individual try-out (on a need basis), call Bill Hardin at (734) 560-0820; or visit [www.wacowolves.org](http://www.wacowolves.org) for more information.

■ The Livonia Junior Athletic League is seeking ballplayers ages 15-18 for its travel team.

For more information, e-mail Eric Carrier at [eric.carrier@ljal.com](mailto:eric.carrier@ljal.com).

## Micro-Soccer Camp

The University of Michigan men's soccer team will stage its fifth annual three-on-three Micro-Soccer Shootout camp, Friday-Saturday, Feb. 10-11, at U-M's Oosterbaan Fieldhouse.

The event, similar to basketball's Superball, is an all-day event with over 200 teams with ages ranging from 7-year-old boys and girls through men's and women's adult, with both recreational and competitive division available for each age bracket.

All skill levels encouraged to participate.

Registration forms can be picked up at local soccer outlet scores or obtained through [www.umsoccer.com](http://www.umsoccer.com).

All proceeds will go to subsidize the U-M men's and women's soccer teams.

For more information, call (734) 647-1201; or e-mail [ldurkee@umich.edu](mailto:ldurkee@umich.edu).

## Open swimming

Western Wayne County Therapeutic Recreation will stage open recreational swimming from 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesdays through May 29 at the Dyer Orthopedic Pool, located on Marquette Road (between Wayne and Newburgh roads).

The one night fee is \$2 for Wayne County residents and \$3 for non-Wayne County residents. Five swim cards are \$10 for Wayne County residents and \$15 for non-residents.

For more information, call Margaret Martin at (734) 722-7620; or e-mail [mmartin@ci.westland.mi.us](mailto:mmartin@ci.westland.mi.us).

## Carbo Baseball School

The Bernie Carbo Pro Secrets Baseball Academy will be staging individual, small group and team skills session in velocity improvement, power hitting and fielding to showcase at any time.

Former Phillies minor league All-Star Mark Rutherford, who played high school baseball at Livonia Churchill and at Eastern Michigan University, will be the featured instructor.

For more information, call (734) 421-4928.



## Waza indoor crown

The Waza FC 94 (under-13) combined East-West team won the 2006 national indoor regional under-14 division championship Dec. 29-31 at High Velocity in Canton. The team was undefeated in the tournament with wins over the Cougars (4-2), Canton Select (13-1), Ann Arbor Wide World of Sports (9-0) and the Cougars again in the final (8-2). The Waza combo team will play in the national indoor tournament Feb. 17-19 in Sterling, Va. The players are (front row, left to right) Adriel Neely, Farmington Hills; Nicholas Sobczynski, Rochester; Alex Vrzoski, Livonia; Jake Finkbner, Farmington; Jeff Thomas, Livonia; Joe Serra, Macomb; Jacob Sims, Oxford; (back row, left to right) coach Mario Scicluna, assistant coach William Furgason, Connor Furgason, Plymouth; Cameron Roberts, Redford; Scott Poole, Madison Heights; Matthew Delang, Shelby Township; Jacob Flanigan, Sterling Heights; Miodrag Djerisio, Detroit Ignition player; and assistant coach Boz Vrzoski.

## PREP WRESTLING RESULTS

### WAYNE MEMORIAL 5B PLYMOUTH 16 Feb. 1 at Wayne

103 pounds: Mike Hicks (WM) won by void; 112: Chad Dunn (WM) won by major dec. over Dylan Spicher, 16-8; 119: Jamie Preiss (WM) won by technical fall over Ben Kosmalksi, 20-5; 125:

Kevin Whittenberg (WM) dec. Zach Neville, 8-5; 130: Steve D'Annunzio (P) pinned Brandon Whittenberg, 0:53; 135: Josh Mills (WM) p. Rov Barackman, 2:37; 140: Chris Favot (P) p. Adam Lull, 0:50; 145: Robert Walsh (WM) won by void; 152: Charlie Malnar (WM) won by void; 160: Ryan Nesbitt (WM) p. Anthony Scaratino, 5:36;

171: Jeff Elswick (WM) p. Derek Davey, 5:29; 189: Anthony Baskins (WM) p. Vince Daroffi, 3:39; 215: James Frants (P) won by void; 285: Robert Coffey (WM) won by major dec. over Anthony Pomerson, 15-4. Wayne's dual meet record: 11-9 overall, 3-2 WLA-Western Division.



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PART OF OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC AND MIRROR NEWSPAPERS

# The UP's western terrain is the most scenic

Snomad Writer Ray Williams recently finished a four-day saddlebag ride in the Western part of the Upper Peninsula. Following is part one of his story.

My annual Keweenaw/Western U.P. ride began with a long day of trailering the 500-plus miles to Baraga. It's a long way to trailer and many Michigan snowmobilers never get that far west, but for me the Western U.P. is the most scenic and exciting area to ride.

Baraga, at the base of the Keweenaw Peninsula, is the gateway to the peninsula and Copper Country. Both the Village and County is named after Father Frederic Baraga, the "snowshoe priest" who came to the area from Austria in 1831 and was made bishop of northern Michigan. The first visitors were French missionaries and traders who found shelter from Lake Superior on the shores of the Keweenaw Bay in the 1600's. Father Baraga built a Catholic Mission at Assinins and

devoted 10 years to educating the native Indians. There were four of us on the ride, Tom Chaplin from Pinckney, Russ Demers from Dearborn, Vince Cytacki from West Bloomfield and myself. The four day saddlebag ride was planned to take us up and down the length of the Keweenaw Peninsula, west to Silver City and Lake of the Clouds, south to Lake Gogebic and back to Baraga.

I like to begin the ride at the Ojibwa Casino & Resort, just a little west of the downtown area. It has immediate trail access, outside of town, without having to ride through either Baraga or adjacent L'Anse. Often the trails through these two villages are marginal at best. The rooms are also reasonably priced with two

\$45 gambling packages thrown in.

We saddled up and left the Ojibwa, the next morning, at 7:45. No fresh snow had fallen overnight, but the temperature was perfect, in the low 20's. We headed south and in less than an hour we had traveled the 30 miles to Sidnaw for breakfast at Mom's Cafe. After breakfast we backtracked north 10 miles and rode the scenic Sturgeon River Gorge trail northwest than west toward Mass City. At Mass City we headed north on the Bill Nichols trail, headed for Hancock, 40 miles away.

The Bill Nichols trail (Trail #3) is an abandoned railroad grade that runs from Mass City, at the base of the Keweenaw Peninsula, to Houghton. Michigan's snowmobile trail program began as a small, loop trail system, and grew with the goal of tying these loops together into an interconnected system of trails. At the heart of this system, in the U.P., are more than 425 miles of abandoned rail-

road lines that first began to be acquired by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources in the 1970s.

Within the first few miles we crossed the three Firesteel Bridges. These bridges are perhaps the most impressive snowmobile bridges in the state. Originally constructed as railroad trestles, the old railroad bridges have been converted to recreational use. New railings and decks were placed on top of the railroad ties with much of the construction work being done by local snowmobile clubs under the DNR's snowmobile grant program.

Funds for these projects come from several sources with a majority coming from snowmobilers themselves paying for a snowmobile trail permit required to use the designated trail system. The Firesteel Bridges move more than 46,000 snowmobiles and 4,000 ORVs per year, high over two branches of the Firesteel River.



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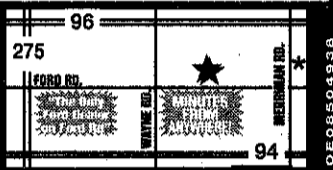
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# c and exciting to ride

Continuing north, we gassed up in Twin Lakes then rode through Toivola, Painesdale, South Range and on to Houghton/Hancock. It's an incredible view riding into Houghton from the south, you ride in high on a ridge following and overlooking down at the Portage Waterway and the city of Hancock across the water. You descend into Houghton next to the Waterway and ride through a marina, a park and over the famous Portage Lake Lift Bridge. The Portage Lake Lift Bridge reopened in June 1960 with four lanes of traffic on the top level and a railroad crossing on the lower level. It became the worlds heaviest aerial lift bridge. Snowmobiles cross over on the lower level with snow being dumped and groomed on the trail portion.

We checked into the Hancock Ramada Inn, unloaded our saddlebags, and rode to Gino's Italian Restaurant for lunch. After lunch we rode east to Dollar Bay then crossed Portage Lake to

Dreamland. I wanted to (A) see if the ice crossing was safe (it was) and (B) see if the trail I planned to take in the morning was good (it wasn't). We continued north to Lake Linden then back south to Hancock via Trail 3. It was 5:30 p.m., we had ridden 160 miles of trails for the day and it was time for the pool and sauna.

Ray Williams is a trustee of The Snomads Snofari Club - a Michigan Snowmobile Association affiliated club. The Snomads mission includes the promotion and advancement of the sport of snowmobiling by providing a medium for the exchange of snowmobiling information and to serve the public by encouraging the safe and responsible operation of snowmobiles through education, safety training programs and example. The clubs mission also includes the encouragement of better snowmobiling citizenship through civic projects and charitable activities. Visit the web site, [www.snomads.org](http://www.snomads.org), for more information about the Snomads.

## Baseball

The GVP American Baseball Camp will be held Feb. 19-23 at Birmingham Covington School for boys and girls in grades one through six. The indoor camp, offered by Greg Porter, assistant varsity coach at Groves High School, will provide daily instruction in the areas of defense, pitching, catching, sliding and hitting.

All campers will receive a camp shirt and prizes. Cost is \$124 per person for Birmingham residents and \$129 for non-residents. Space is limited.

For more information, contact Birmingham Community Education at (248) 203-3800.

## CAMPS/CLINICS

Birmingham Seaholm head baseball coach Don Watchowski will direct a six-week Spring Training 2007 academy from Feb. 25 to April 1 for players in grades one through 12.

In conjunction with the Midwest Baseball Academy, the training clinic includes advanced hitting and pitching for a \$98 fee. Space is limited and registration is underway. For more information, visit [www.baseballacademy.net](http://www.baseballacademy.net) or call toll free at 866-MBA-HITS.

The annual Birmingham Brother Rice baseball camp for players grades 3-8 is scheduled from 1-5 p.m. March 3-4 at Brother Rice High School.

Coaches will focus on the basic fundamentals and techniques for hitting, bunting, infield, outfield, pitching and base running. Campers are grouped by age and ability. The coach-to-player ratio is 1:8.

Camp instructors will be Brother Rice head baseball coach Bob Riker, who has been with the Warriors' baseball program for 17 years, the last nine as head coach, and Brian Kalczyński, a former Riker assistant and Big-10 star at the University of Michigan.

The camp fee is \$125 per player (or bring a friend for \$100 each).

For more information, call Coach Riker at (248) 647-2526, et. 238.

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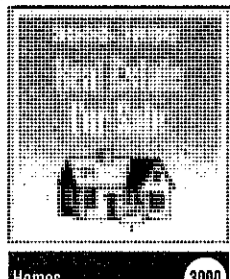
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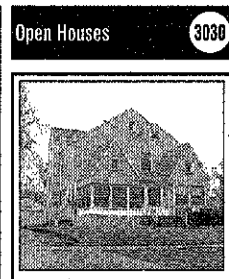
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Architect unique design, 1500 sq. ft., 2nd story master bdrm w/walkout deck, walk-in closet, and full bath. 2 bdrm/1 bath w/whirlpool - main floor. Sunken family rm. w/slate floor, built-in entertainment center, walk-out to 2nd deck & much, much more. \$235,500 (248) 797-2035

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4 Bedroom brick bungalow, bsmt, attach 2 car garage. \$172,900.  
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**WEST BLOOMFIELD**  
4 bdrm Colonial, finished bsmt, updated. \$299,900 or \$2000/mo.  
**BIRMINGHAM**  
Ranch w/ 3 bdrm, finished bsmt, updated. \$399,900  
In-House Realty  
Call for info: 734-805-7710

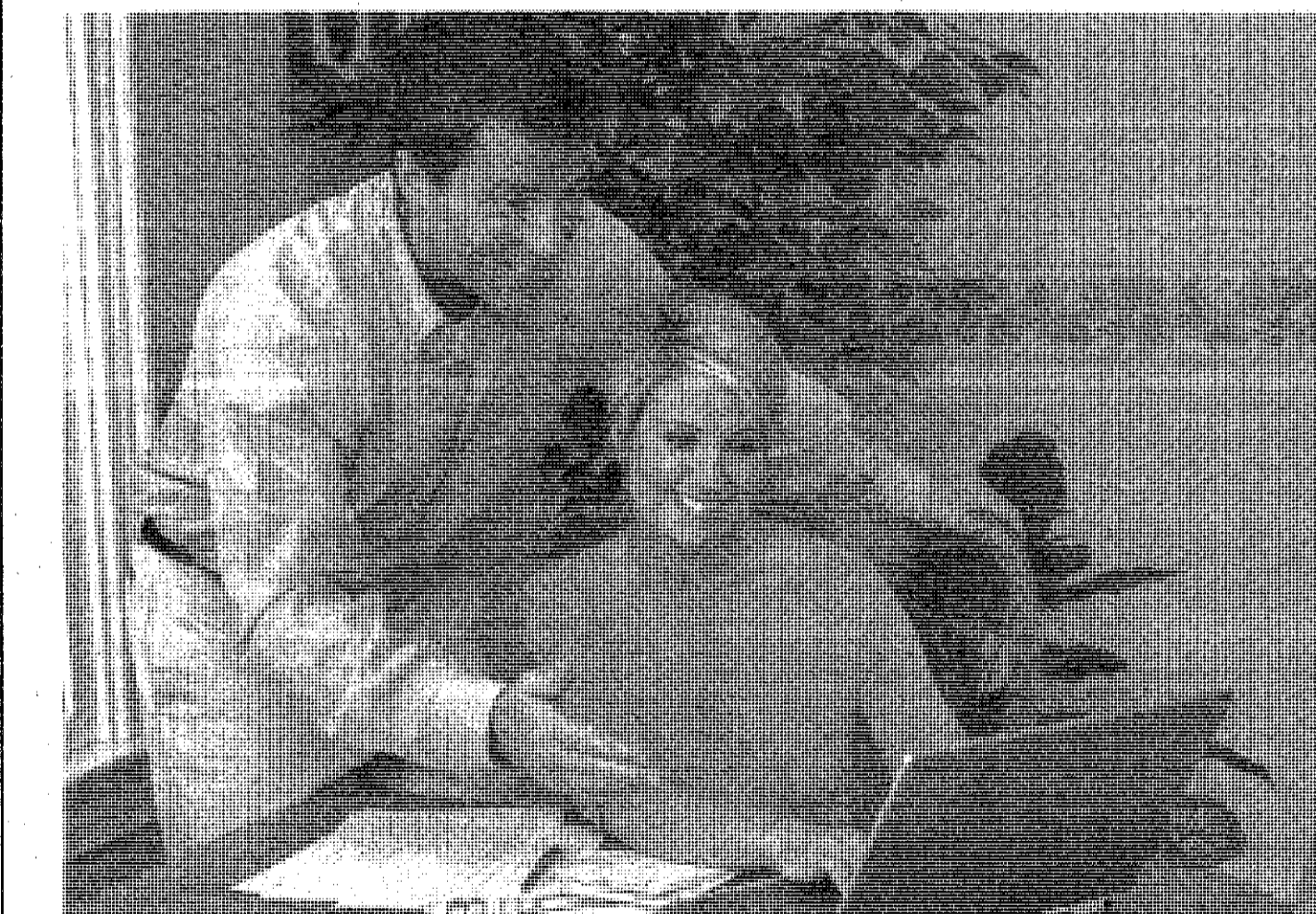
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# Real Estate

**Wayne County** (370)

**BROWNSTOWN** - 4 bdrm colonial. In-ground pool w/huge deck. Professional landscaping & fencing give yard country club feel. Newly finished bsmt. \$214,900. (EC85SH)  
734-455-6000  
Weir Manuel Realtors

**NO QUALIFYING**  
Land Contract, 2 & 3 bdrms homes, \$2500 down, \$650/monthly. Ross Realty (734) 326-8300

**Out of State Homes/Property** (3600)

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Seating is limited  
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248-608-3500

**Country Homes** (3610)

**By Owner**  
EXECUTIVE CUSTOM BUILT HOME  
On private lane in North Oakland County, 2.3 acre w/ pond & treed woods, 4800 sq. ft. Lg great room w/ wrap-around stone fireplace to den, grand staircase to 3 bdrm, 2.5 baths, master suite w/fireplace 13.5 x 35, add'l 12 bdrms w/ Jack & Jill bath, 3 car garage, sprinkling system; LOWER LEVEL ideal for elderly live-in parents, 1500 sq. ft. HOME, 2 bdrm, 1.5 baths, 20x20 great room w/ fireplace, lg kitchen w/eating space, laundry room, work-out/sewing room, 20x12 patio. Agent's home. \$649,900. BONUS: Puerto Vallarta timeshare (sleeps 8) 248-701-4481 or for details Email: LGLG@aol.com

**Real Estate Services** (3640)

**BANK FORECLOSURES!**  
Homes from \$10,000! 1-3 bedroom available! Reposs. REOs, FDIC, FSBO, FHA, etc. These homes must sell! For listings call:  
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**Condos** (3720)

**BIRMINGHAM, DOWNTOWN**  
2 bath, 2 bdrm. Washer, dryer. 2 parking (1 covered), pets. \$215,000. 248-421-3113

**By Owner**

**CANTON**  
Beautiful 3 bdrm, full bsmt. Move-in Condition. New kitchen & new appliances. New bath. Pella windows & wood floors in dining & foyer area. Plymouth-Canton Schools \$128,900. 313-779-3159

**GROSSE ISLE**

Private end unit condo backs to woods. Cathedral ceiling, gas fireplace in living room. Sparkling kitchen all appliances, large master w/ walk-in closet. \$199,500 (DW81S)  
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**NORTHVILLE - EXECUTIVE CONDO**

2500+ SQ.FT. \$489,000. Or Lease Available. 734-748-2224, 248-207-6697

**NORTHVILLE LOVELY SURREY LANE**

Immaculate 2 bdrm, 2 bath ranch with newer carpeting & appliances. Close to x-ways, shopping, restaurants, and town. Immed. occup. Asking \$124,900. A Best Buy! Hurry!  
Annie Nichols  
248-408-5695 x259  
Real Estate One  
248-348-6430

**NOVI**

2 bdrm, 2.5 bath condo in Country Place. Updated kitchen w/oak cabinets, gorgeous fireplace in living room. Large master w/bath. Finished bsmt. 1-car garage. \$129,900 (EC27GL)  
248-455-6000  
Weir Manuel Realtors

**PLYMOUTH TWP.**

1 bdrm. upper end unit. Nice location Hines & Northville rd. Priced to sell \$87,000.  
(734) 716-0133

**ROYAL OAK**

move right in. 2nd floor condo across from Beaumont. 2 bdrm, 1 full bath. CA. Neutral decor. Private entrance. Complex includes pool. \$90,500. (EC25H)  
248-644-6300  
Weir Manuel Realtors

**SOUTH LYON**

2 br, 2 bath, appliances. \$110,000. Call. 248-437-2284, 248-437-2143.

**WALLED LAKE PERFECTION!**

2 bdrm, 1 1/2 baths w/ attached garage & full bsmt. Updated. Neutral. Move-in Condition! Pets allowed. Immediate Occupancy. Only \$124,900  
(248) 539-8700  
Thompson-Brown Realtors

**WEST BLOOMFIELD SOKING TO SELL**

2600 sq.ft. detached condo, 4 bdrm., 2.5 bath, \$230,000. 248-685-3866

**Manufactured Homes** (3740)

**AFFORDABLE!**  
Own a Home in NOVI  
14 x 70  
2 bed/1 bath  
Refurbished  
**ONLY \$4900!**  
16x60 3 bed/2 bath  
Appliances  
**ONLY \$11,900!**  
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on Grand River, across from Kensington Metropark  
(248) 437-2039

**Commercial/Retail For Sale** (3795)

**CANTON**  
Busy Michigan Ave. corridor in Canton, new 5100 sq. ft. building with one tenant. 4.5 acre site has room for another 15,000 sq. ft. building. \$1,400,000. #2915853 BELA SIPOS (248) 669-5813

**PLYMOUTH**

Quick Oil Change building for sale, Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth Twp. 3-bay, 1500 sq. ft. oil change plus 1200 sq. ft. of retail office. Business available separately. \$825,000. #2700584  
BELA SIPOS  
734-669-5813, 734-747-7888  
Reinhart Commercial

**Mobile Homes** (3750)

**CANTON** - Very good cond. 2 bdrm. Loaded. Corner lot. \$5000/best. Serious callers only, after 4pm: 313-779-3337

**PARKWOOD 1968**

Flamingo Trailer Park 3 bdrm, large enclosed porch w/ shed. A/C. Great condition! \$4500/best. Land contract option. 734-612-8706

**REDFORD**

"Handyman Special" Make reasonable offer.  
734-771-3677.

**ROCHESTER 1992**

for sale by owner. 12 Mile & Haggerty, 3 bdrm w/bra room, 2 full baths w/jacuzzi in each. Plymwood, drywall ceilings & walls, vinyl siding, thermal pane windows, CA, natural fireplace, carpet, laundry, 4 interior skylights, insulated shed w/carpet & electric. Cude-sac PRIME LOT, backs up to woods on 2 sides. Novi schools. Awesome freeway access. Low monthly utilities. \$39,000. (248) 752-7293, (602) 531-8100

**Resort & Vacation Property** (3800)

**ASHEVILLE, NC** New mountain community boasting spectacular view and privacy homesites. Clubhouse, exercise facility, paved roads, walking trails. Only 35 minutes to downtown Asheville. Call 1-877-689-2626

**Resort & Vacation Property** (3800)

**Mountain Cabin \$89,900.** E-Z to finish interior. Land Sale! 1 to 8 acres \$29,900 to \$89,900 w/dramatic views, paved roads, utilities!!  
1-828-247-9966

**Florida Homes/Properties** (3806)

**A FLORIDA LUXURY CONDO**  
New-Oct. '06, in "Placida" - On InterCoastals Water. Great value, Below Market. Sale by Owners. No Commission!! Beautiful HACIENDA DEL MAR Complex, Marina available soon. Can move in Tomorrow. Nearly 2,000 Sq. Ft. living space, 3rd Floor; Spectacular VIEW--2 large Swimming Pools, Bath House, 2 Bdrms, 2 1/2 Baths, 30K in Upgrades, Lower level Parking, Lanai has Stainless Grill, Fridge, Hot/ Cold Sink / counter. Gated community, Electronic - 24/7. True LUXURY - does not get much better than this!!! Spend THIS Winter there. MOTIVATED Sellers..... \$649,900.  
Larry Ode in Michigan 586-718-0770  
Leroy Hocking in Florida 941-751-3548

**Time Share** (3830)

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**Lease/Option To Buy** (3840)

**LIVONIA** - 16449 ALPINE. Updated 4 bdrms, 2.5 baths, 2 car, fireplace \$250,000 or \$1850/mo. Remerica. 734-453-8700. Jeff 734-216-4398

**Florida Homes/Properties** (3805)

**NAPLES** - 3 bdrm, 2 bath, furnished home, upgrades, overlooks lake, garage, hot spring spa, gated comm. Brand new. \$482,000. 239-432-9044

**Lots & Acreage/Vacant** (3820)

**NOVI**  
1/2 acre lot, with Northville schools, all utilities. \$159,900. Call Janet 734-231-3508

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**West Bloomfield** (3440)

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**Investment Property** (3970)

**GARDEN CITY** - Maintenance free ranch, rented at \$740/mo, handicapped, sec 8, 11.9% return, \$50K. 734-326-6668

# Thursday PUZZLE CORNER

Challenging fun for ALL ages

## CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- Undersea prowler
  - Ms. Hayworth - Paulo
  - Major Hoople's word
  - List detail
  - A hundred percent
  - Police brass
  - Asset adjective
  - Escapades
  - Ice melter
  - Furnace need
  - Kennel sound
  - Klutzy
  - Directory
  - Herd of whales
  - Mr. in Bombay
  - TV personality
  - Barbecue treat
  - Gun the engine
  - Carder's demand
  - Sense organ
  - CEO, perhaps
  - Championship
  - EPA concern

- DOWN**
- Dry, as champagne "Yech!"
  - Used a parachute
  - Dangerous
  - Not he or she
  - Util. bill
  - "Jake's Thing" writer
  - Steam rooms
  - Frazier foe
  - Vintage
  - Merchant
  - Eur. nation
  - "- Vadis?"
  - Mattress problem

**Answer to Previous Puzzle**

FLAP	VIA	RIFT
LASS	ELL	ACID
ONES	REL	JIGS
DATED	EVA	
	HINGE	NIB
AWES	OREGANO	
AVOW	BIO	AIDA
CEREALS	LILY	
ERE	DOYLE	
	EDS	EDGED
JIBS	SRA	NYET
URLS	OUR	AREA
GATE	MTN	TERI

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**Get More For Your Money! On The Pond Condominiums**

Updated kitchen with granite counter top, ceramic floor, new paint, interior doors and trim. All new appliances including washer dryer. Great pond view. \$93,400 for 1 bedroom.

Call Muhammad Saleem at 248-719-0559

**RE/MAX 100 248-348-3000**

## SUDOKU

1			4	3	2			
					7		4	
	3		8	7	5			1
		3	5			6		7
8	1			9	3			
	7	3	1					
9	5			3	7	1		
		6	2	9	8			
3	4	1			8	7		

Level: Beginner

**Fun By The Numbers**

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

**Here's How It Works:**  
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

## SEEK AND FIND

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

- |          |             |          |
|----------|-------------|----------|
| ANGOLA   | IVORY COAST | SUDAN    |
| CHAD     | KENYA       | TANZANIA |
| EGYPT    | MOROCCO     | UGANDA   |
| ETHIOPIA | NIGERIA     | ZAMBIA   |

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

N	I	G	E	R	I	A	T	X	W
E	N	M	K	E	N	Y	A	M	B
T	L	O	K	U	G	A	N	D	A
H	U	R	Y	I	O	P	Z	H	J
I	V	O	R	Y	C	O	A	S	T
O	T	C	R	E	Q	A	N	U	P
P	D	C	H	A	D	S	I	D	Y
I	F	O	V	B	N	M	A	A	G
A	N	G	O	L	A	W	U	N	E
A	Z	A	M	B	I	A	S	D	E

**CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE**

6	7	8	9	5	1	4	1	5	3	2	8
8	9	4	8	6	2	9	1	7			
9	2	1	2	8	4	8	5	4	5	7	9
8	6	5	7	1	8	7	9	6			
4	2	3	6	9	1	7	8	5	8		
7	9	4	8	9	8	6	2				
1	9	6	9	7	7	8	2	8	4		
3	4	1	2	1	2	6	9	9	8		
2	8	5	4	3	4	6	4	3	2	8	5

**CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE**

B	E	S	A	I	B	Y	Z	A	M	B	Y
N	V	W	A	T	O	G	N	V			
A	N	M	N	B	A	O	J	I	F	D	
I	D	S	D	S	H	A	P	I	P		
C	R	E	O	V	A	L	O				
L	S	P	A	N	O	V	A	L			
R	I	K	O	C	A	L					
I	H	Z	O	I	O	P	H				
U	R	L	I	O	P						
T	L	O	K	U	G	A	N	D	A		
E	N	M	K	E	N	Y	A	M	B		
N	I	G	E	R	I	A	T	X	W		

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4110...Time Share Rentals  
4120...Vacation Resort/Rentals  
4130...Living Quarters To Share  
4140...Rooms For Rent  
4150...Hotels/Buildings  
4210...Residence To Exchange

4220...Office/Retail Space  
4230...Commercial/Industrial  
4240...Land For Rent  
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4410...Wanted To Rent  
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4500...Furniture Rental  
4510...Property Management  
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4630...Homes For The Aged  
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Gorgeous 1,000 sqft. Granite in kitchen & bath, hardwood floors. \$1525. **248-877-3261**

**BLOOMFIELD TWP 1600 sq.ft.**  
2 bdrm, 1 den, 2.5 baths, attached 2 car. Atrium off kitchen, fireplace, C/A, finished bsmt, pool, tennis. No pets. \$1300/mo. **248-653-0821**

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**FARMINGTON HILLS:** 1 bdrm, upper level condo at 12 Mile & Orchard Lake. \$675/mo. **248-476-0546**

**LIVONIA Beautiful 3 bdrm, 3 bath, 2 level spacious 2,225 sq. ft. at 6 & Newburgh Rd. 734-748-1866 734-216-2615**

**NORTHVILLE, 3 bdrm townhouse w/ office. Resort style amenities. Heat/ water incl. \$1275. Agent, 954-643-4760**

**Northville-Downtown Condo**  
On Fairbrook 2 bdrm, 1 bath, No-smoking. \$800 /mo. + electric. Call: **566-703-0909**

**ROYAL OAK TOWNHOUSE**  
2 bdrm, 1.5 bath, C/A, granite tops, washer/dryer, bsmt. \$485-0021

**SOUTH LYON 2 bdrm, 2 bath, w/Florida room, carport. Nice complex, lower unit. \$795/mo. Agent - **248-437-1549****

**WALLED LAKE**  
2 bdrm, 1.5 bath, garage \$945/mo. \$129,800 sale

**SOUTHFIELD**  
3 bdrm 2.5 bath \$1290/mo.

**ROCHESTER**  
2 bdrm 1.5 bath \$995/mo. ShareRent Realty 248-642-1620

**WESTLAND**  
1 Bdrm. 1st floor on pond, many extras. \$650 **248-890-4439**

### 4000-4999 Real Estate For Lease

4000...Apartments/Unfurnished  
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4020...Condos/Townhouses  
4030...Duplexes  
4040...Flats  
4050...Homes For Rent  
4060...Lakeside/Waterfront  
4070...Homes/Plots  
4080...Mobile Home Rentals  
4090...Mobile Home Sites  
4100...Southern Rentals  
4110...Time Share Rentals  
4120...Vacation Resort/Rentals  
4130...Living Quarters To Share  
4140...Rooms For Rent  
4150...Hotels/Buildings  
4210...Residence To Exchange

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**CANTON- 890 Lotz Rd. 1 bdrm, \$515/mo. Includes heat, water & sewage. Sec & ref. required. 313-571-8321**

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**FARMINGTON HILLS/ LIVONIA**  
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**WESTLAND WOODS**  
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5 Room, sun parlor, bath, cabinets, floor all new. Hook-up, no utilities. \$800. Near Woonsocket hospital. 1-401-301-2573

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Cherry Hill 1-275  
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• 1 & 2 bedroom apts. some with fireplace  
• Clubhouse  
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**Westland AWESOME Location! 1ST MONTH FREE \$99 Deposit\* Spacious 1 Bdrm \*some restrictions apply 734-721-6699 EHO**

### Westland DUPLEXES

**BIRMINGHAM- 2 bdrm, 1 bath, appliances. Renovated. Hardwood floors, garage. \$975/mo. 248-722-1877**

**LIVONIA 2 bdrm. Appliances. \$750/mo. first, last + sec. dep. required. Non-smoking, no pets 313-407-7870**

**NORTHVILLE TWP-2 bdrm, family room w/ fireplace and deck. Living room, dining room, bsmt, laundry, no pets, no smoking. \$850/mo. Call: **734-420-2279****

**NORWAYNE 2 & 3 bdrm. Custom kitchen, laundry, carpeting, deck, garage, fenced. From \$569. 313-475-8309**

**NORWAYNE - 3 bdrm, new appliances incl. Section 8 okay, references required. \$750/mo. (313) 424-2384**

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**PLYMOUTH, Near Hines Park. Updated 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath, bsmt, appliances, no pets. \$750. Agent, 734-718-6779**

**Westland - 2 bdrm. Full bsmt. Clean, neat. Quiet neighborhood. Immediate occupancy. From \$643/mo. Credit check. Call Jamie: 734-721-6111**

# APARTMENTS AVAILABLE

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# Apartments

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### Homes For Rent (4050)

**BIRMINGHAM**- 2 bdrm with basement, 1188 Bird St. 14 mile/Woodward \$775/mo. Bob (248) 360-2095 ShareNet Realty 248-642-1620

**CANTON**- Newer 4 bdrm. Brick Colonial, 2.5 bath, 3 car, 3083 sq. ft. \$2500/mo. D&H Properties, 248-888-9133

**CANTON**- We have homes for rent. Pets welcome. Call Sandy at Sun Homes for details at: (888) 304-8941 Exclusive Skyline/Clayton Retailer

**"It's All About Results" Observer & Eccentric 1-800-579-SELL**

**DETROIT**- 8454 Stout Joy & Evergreen, Sharp & Clean, 3 bedroom, basement, garage, \$625 mo. 12043 Minock, 2 bedroom, bsmt., garage. \$525/mo. Plymouth & Evergreen. 248-476-6498

**FARMINGTON HILLS**- 1 bdrm, fenced, fireplace. \$400/mo. \$900 move-in. 28618 Grayling, rear house. 248-882-7078

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**FARMINGTON HILLS** Beautiful executive home in excellent neighborhood. \$2800/mo. 248-489-5905, 248-497-9951

**FERNADE**- Updated 3 bdrm, family/dining room, bsmt, appliances. Wood floors. \$875/mo. + sec 313-999-4540

**GARDEN CITY** 4 bdrm, 2 bath, 1 1/2 car garage, 1/2 acre lot. \$1100/mo. + sec. 29620 Dawson. (734) 564-1010

**GARDEN CITY**- Remodeled 4 bdrm, bsmt, garage, dining room, 2 full bath, option to buy avail. \$850, 248-788-1823

**HUNTINGTON WOODS** 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, 1400 sq. ft., fenced yard, pets OK. \$1500/mo. 248-752-4016

**INKSTER**- 3 bdrm brick ranch, dining room, bsmt, garage, \$700. 3 bdrm brick ranch, \$600. Option. 248-788-1823

**LIVONIA** 2 Bdrm, laundry rm, carpeted, appliances, garage, fenced yard. Option to buy. \$725/mo + sec. 248-885-8138 248-476-6498

**LIVONIA** 2 bdrms., inside completely remodeled, garage. \$775 248-890-4439

### Homes For Rent (4050)

**LIVONIA** 3 bdrm, 1 bath brick ranch, garage, \$795/mo. Sec. 8 okay. Agent, Ron. (734) 844-6687

**LIVONIA** - 3 bdrm, 1 bath home w/ garage & bsmt. Good cond., good area. \$800/mo. Could be \$0 down or rent to own. 734-521-0235

**LIVONIA** 3 bdrm, brick ranch, 2 bath, 1900 sq. ft., fin bsmt, appliances, 2 car. \$1700. D&H Property 248-888-9133

**LIVONIA** 3 bdrm, newly remodeled, on wooded acre. \$950/mo. + dep. No pets. Sect 8 ok. 734-453-2923

**LIVONIA N. W.**, 3 bdrm., 2.5 bath, all updated, many extras, carefree living. \$1585/mo. Avail. now. 248-755-3125

**LIVONIA**- Ranch, 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, completely remodeled, new 2.5 car garage & appliances. Beauty in a great neighborhood. \$1350/mo. 734-968-3911

**LIVONIA** Rent option to buy 3 bdrm, exc. cond. 1000 sq. ft., extra lg. 2.5 car, fenced yd., c/a, \$950/mo. 734-612-6991

**LIVONIA** Rent or rent to own. All new inside. Perfect 3 bdrm., fenced yard, garage, \$995+ deposit. 734-525-8646.

**MILFORD-FOR RENT/SALE** Beautiful Lakes Of Milford Sub. 4 bdrm, 3.5 baths, 3300 sq. ft., gourmet granite kitchen w/ sky light, master suite, walk in closet 18X10, wood flooring, \$2500 rent. Asking \$477,900. Sherri, agent 734-678-5401

### Homes For Rent (4050)

**PLYMOUTH** 2 Bdrms. Full basement, attached garage, washer/dryer included. \$850. 734-645-5382

**PLYMOUTH**-2 bedroom ranch. Stove and fridge. Pets negotiable. \$775/mo. Call: 734-717-7643, 734-717-3452

**PLYMOUTH** 3 bdrm, ranch w/bsmt., C/A. All appliances. Super clean. Immediate. \$1095. 734-718-3495

**PLYMOUTH**, 4 bdrm, 1.5 bath colonial, 1600 sq.ft. with partially finished bsmt, 2 car garage, fenced yard. All appliances avail. \$1,475/mo. Agent: Jim, (734) 765-1081

**PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP** 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, fireplace, large fenced yd. Avail. immed. \$1095/mo. (248) 735-5464

**REDFORD** 2 bdrm., 1 bath, 1 1/2 car garage, large lot, quiet street. \$850/mo. 12280 San Jose, Redford. Call 313-937-7933

**REDFORD**, 3 bdrm, 1 bath home on corner lot, big yard 1400 sq. ft. w/ wet bar. \$1000/mo. Could be \$0 down or rent to own. 734-521-0235

**REDFORD** 3 Bedroom Alum. ranch, bsmt., \$825 mo. 20587 Kinloch, 8 mile & Beech. 248-476-6498

**REDFORD** 3 Bedroom, SECTION 8 APPROVED. 16601 Ryland. Call: 248-408-1112

**REDFORD**- Attractive 3 bdrm brick ranch, finished bsmt, garage, 2 baths, C/A, option to buy avail. \$850, 248-788-1823

### Homes For Rent (4050)

**REDFORD** Brick 3 bdrm bungalow, bsmt, garage, 1200 sq. ft., Rent/option to buy. \$950/mo. 313-515-1100

**REDFORD** Renovated 3 bdrm., 1 car detached garage, new appliances. \$900/mo. 734-272-2522

**ROYAL OAK & SOUTHFIELD**. 2 bdrm, hardwood floors, appliances. Large yard. 248-388-6853.

**WAYNE** 2 Bedrooms, bath, laundry facilities. Newly remodeled with fenced back yard and shed. Immediate Occupancy. \$950 - 734-710-1270

**WAYNE**- Immaculate 2 bdrm, c/a, all appliances, finished bsmt, garage. \$850/mo. + dep. 734-728-3227

**WAYNE**- Sharp 3 bdrm, finished bsmt, immediate occupancy, option to buy available. \$850, 248-788-1823

**WEST BLOOMFIELD AREA CREDIT NOT A PROBLEM-** 15 & Orchard Lake 4 bdrm., 2 bath, bsmt. 2 car garage. \$2000/mo/negotiable. 248-356-7800

**WESTLAND-1060**, 4 bdrm, 1st floor den, family rm, 2.5 bath, 1.5 garage, lg. yard. Ron Wallis Group, 313-563-4211

**WESTLAND**, 3 bdrm brick home with garage and bsmt. Livonia school district. Children, mo. Could be \$0 down or rent to own. 734-521-0235

**WESTLAND**- 3 bdrm duplex, nice, affordable, updated, fenced, carpeted. Merriman/Palmer. (313) 418-9905

### Homes For Rent (4050)

**WESTLAND** Cherry Hill & Wayne Rd. 3 bdrm brick ranch, c/a, fenced, 1.5 car, freshly painted. References required. \$950/mo. 734-223-4939

**WESTLAND** Duplex 2 Bsm/ w/3rd bedroom, fenced yard, private driveway. Pets ok. \$750/mo. 734-578-3434

**WESTLAND** Ford/1-275 Area. 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, brick ranch w/bsmt, carpet. C/A. Clean. No pets. \$900/mo. 734-591-9163

**WESTLAND** Livonia Schools. 2 bdrm, all appliances, c/a, updated kitchen, hardwood. \$750/mo. 734-658-8936

### Mobile Home Rentals (4070)

**CANTON**- We have homes for rent. Pets welcome. Call Sandy at Sun Homes for details at: (888) 304-8941 Exclusive Skyline/Clayton Retailer

### Vacation Resort/Rentals (4110)

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### Living Quarters To Share (4120)

**LIVONIA** Female to share with same. Full house privileges. \$575 (mo to mo) + security incl. utilities. 734 425-9592

### Living Quarters To Share (4120)

**NORTHVILLE** - Private bath, walk-in closet. Non-smoking. Mo. to mo. Female only. Avail. now! \$500. 248-505-0646

**PLYMOUTH** 1600 sq. ft. home, room with access to house. \$425/mo. Call mornings. 734-262-5500

**ROMULUS** I-94 & Middlebelt. 3 bdrm, 1 acre, private. Uti. incl. Pets ok. Smokers ok. \$380/mo. 734-673-0417

### Rooms For Rent (4140)

**GARDEN CITY** bdrm, bath, kitchen & laundry access, non-smoking & drinking. \$100/wk., \$190 sec. 734-522-9876

**GARDEN CITY** Sleeping room, furnished. Non-drinker. Working male. \$90/wk, security. 734-731-2657, 734-427-2778

**REDFORD AREA** Working gentleman preferred. Clean quiet home. \$120/wk. \$185 to move in. 313-534-0109

**SOUTHFIELD HOTEL** Monthly stay \$300 down to move in. Seniors & Students welcome. Call for info: 248-552-7777

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Brand NEW A/C Rooms TV/Phone / HBO/CABLE LOW RATES 734-427-1300 Livonia

### Rooms For Rent (4140)

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**WAYNE** Nice, clean, quiet environment. \$450 mo. Utilities included. (734) 722-6960

### Office/Retail Space For Rent/Lease (4220)

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**LATHRUP VILLAGE-Southfield** Excellent office space suitable to home health care, accounting, professional offices for any other uses, very attractive rent, all utilities included. Call: 248-569-9511

**LIVONIA** 1200 sq.ft. furnished. Private entrance & restroom. Office supply storage avail. \$950 + util. 734-536-1408

**LIVONIA - 5 Mile/ Farmington** 2 rm. office w/ windows, 2nd floor, 330 sq. ft. \$455 mo. Utilities incl. 734-422-2321

**NORTHVILLE DOWNTOWN. Executive Office Suites** Flexible Lease Terms. 248-347-6811

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**PLYMOUTH DOWNTOWN** Office Space For Lease Affordable rates for Prime location! Several units ranging from 400 - 1200sq.ft. Monthly Rents From \$575-\$1100. Call: (888) 877-3786

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**PLYMOUTH**- Historical Old Village, charming Victorian bldg, 850 sq. ft. office space, \$850 & electric. 734-416-5946

### Commercial/Industrial For Rent/Lease (4230)

**PLYMOUTH**- 5000 sq.ft. bldg. with or without a paint booth. Zoned light industrial. \$2100/mo. net. Call 517-540-1067

**Lease/Option To Buy (4580)**

**WEST BLOOMFIELD AREA CREDIT NOT A PROBLEM-** 15 & Orchard Lake 4 bdrm., 2 bath, bsmt. 2 car garage. \$2000/mo/negotiable. 248-356-7800

# Home and Service Guide

### Brick, Block & Cement (0290)

**ALL BLOCK, BRICK WORK** Concrete + Foundations Res. & Comm. - Lic. & Ins. Call Anytime, 248-478-2602

### Basement Waterproofing (0220)

**WE CLEAN DRAIN TILES** Int. drains aren't necessary, also Urthane crack injections. Hydromist. (248) 634-0215

### Building Remodeling (0310)

**MYB CONSTRUCTION** \*Additions \*Handyman \*Kitchen & Bath \*Basements Lic. & Ins. Free est. (734) 968-5483

### Heating/Cooling (1040)

**Sales • Service • Installation HEATING & COOLING SERVICE** Furnaces • AC • Boilers No Service Fee With Repair Water Heaters • Disposals Licensed & Insured 24 Hours / 7 Days Emergency **1-800-559-1411**

### Painting/Decorating Paperhangers (1420)

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### Carpentry (0410)

**FINISH CARPENTER** Crowns, Doors, Dak Railings NO JOB TOO SMALL! Licensed • 734-927-4479

### Carpets (0420)

**ULTIMATE CARPET & FLOORS** Will beat anyone's price! Free Estimates. 734-735-1170

### Carpet Repair/Installation (0440)

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**FAMILY ELECTRICAL** - City cert. Violations corrected. Service changes or any small job. Free est. 734-422-8080

Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL (7355)

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### Firewood (0840)

**ABSOLUTELY** all split, mixed, seasoned hardwood. 1 facecord \$75, 2 or more \$70 each. Free delivery. 734-266-4015

### Floor Service (0860)

**TFG HARDWOOD FLOORS** Installs, Sanding, Finishing, Refinishing, Repairs, Replacing & Molding. Hardwood floors starting at \$1.85 sq. ft. Jimmy Pearce floor technician. 313-488-8943

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### Gutters (1000)

**GUTTER HELMET** Free Gutters and Downspouts 20% off Gutter Helmet System w/purchase cond. apply 800-845-1721 www.atlasgutterhelmet.com

### Handyman M/F (1020)

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### Home Improvement (1000)

**GAITS HOME IMPROVEMENT** • New Construction • Gutters • Tear-Offs • Recoverers Free Estimates! 313-520-9675

### HOME PROJECTS & REPAIRS 734-776-7331

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### Hauling/Clean Up (1030)

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# SLUGGISH CO-WORKER MAY BE VULNERABLE



**WORKWISE**  
by Mildred L. Culp

You may be working on a highly motivated team to get results and all of you discover that one team

member isn't pulling his weight. You ask each other, "What's the problem?" At first glance, you might think that he feels above his job description.

An attitude of superiority may well be a smokescreen, advises Mike Cook, author of "Thrive: Standing On Your Own Two Feet in a Borderless World" (St. Lynn's Press, \$18.95). "The team member may sense that he can't do what he's supposed to do on the team. He is resistant to needing other people. This may be a vulnerability issue. Avoiding vulnerability costs the team and the organization money and time. We hide our limitations and create clever stories to deflect the focus of attention away from us onto the situation and other co-workers." Through Vitalwork Inc., of Rochester, N.Y., Cook consults with individuals and organizations to increase self-management rather than fall back upon management structures when interpersonal problems arise.

John Mautner, CEO of Chicago's Cycle of Success Institute, agrees that failure to contribute exacts a price, often causing a "ripple throughout the company that drags others down," especially when they realize

that poor productivity is acceptable for one individual. "It becomes meaningless (to them) to work harder," he says. The Institute offers a one-year educational program to increase profitability and empower employees to improve their organizations.

**"RUTHLESS COMPASSION"**  
How can you determine before a behavior is ingrained that your team member is lagging behind? Pay attention immediately when you see that the person isn't contributing. Watch to see whether this is the beginning of a pattern, or an exception.

Cook says to observe how the person responds to requests. "How does he prioritize them?" he asks. "Does he favor some people/tasks over others? Does he operate more from a platform of compliance with certain aspects of the job and other things just can't wait? You've got to take action" if a pattern of non-participation emerges.

Then what? "Talk straight with ruthless compassion," Cook explains. He offers a script with a:

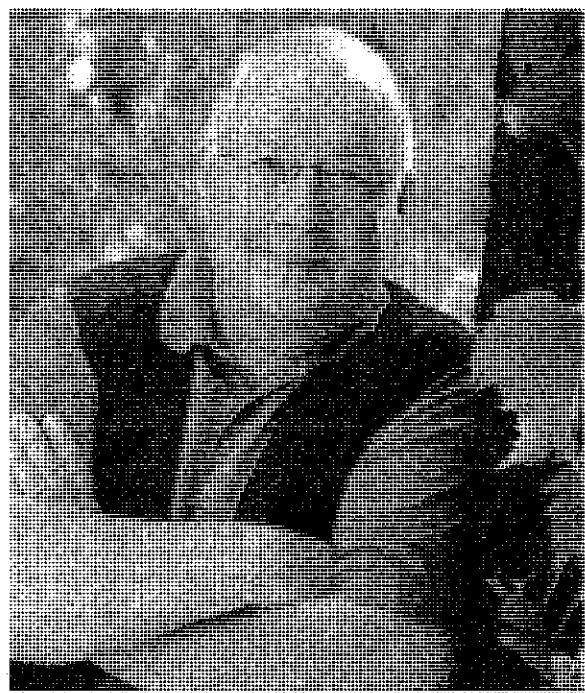
- positive statement about the person;
- reference for "accepting the position in good faith," for whatever reason;
- description of what you as a team member can expect, such as work of good quality delivered on time; and
- commitment statement, such as "I'd like your commitment that I can count on you and that your personal unhappiness won't interfere with your performance."

Jim Bolton, CEO of Ridge Associates in Cazenovia, N.Y., advocates approaching the

situation in the spirit of "mutual influence" so that your teamwork is more effective. He agrees that you have to "convey that you're vested in the person's success."

If the team member refuses to make a commitment, Cook says to state that you are committed to productivity for the organization and aren't "willing to have you damage your reputation - or mine." The next step is to take action.

Mautner is less optimistic about the process, noting that many companies lack weekly, measurable performance standards. He further maintains that co-workers have limited power. He recommends pulling together as a team if you do have performance standards and arranging an intervention. Meet and exert peer pressure by "explaining... that he's dragging down the team, affecting your bonus or the success of the company." Then explain specifically what the person needs to do to. If nothing changes, open communication with your manager.



Mike Cook is the author of "Thrive: Standing On Your Own Two Feet in a Borderless World," where he discusses the importance of developing high-level interpersonal skills to complete with the global marketplace, and persuade a co-worker not to be underproductive.

The first method truly requires risk-taking. It requires you to "get related to co-workers in an extraordinary manner... through relationships, but not accidental relationships," Cook states. He adds that we're all competing with other workers worldwide, that this new workplace is filled with rising expectations while the employee base shrinks. "You have to figure out how to make yourself attractive to the employer and co-workers, more so than the other guy," he states. "Make yourself easy to work with."  
(Dr. Mildred L. Culp is an award-winning journalist. Copyright 2007 Passage Media.)



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