

Developer sues city over Maida Woods vote

BY DARRELL CLEM STAFF WRITER

The developer fighting to build the Maida Woods subdivision has slapped the city with a lawsuit, accusing certain officials of conspiring with "disgruntled" residents to stall the project.

The civil suit, filed Wednesday in Wayne County Circuit Court, accuses six Westland City Council members of essentially seizing property belonging to Royal Oak-based developer Kentmoor LLC.

The suit, filed by attorney Stephen Wasinger, also alleges that a council majority violated Kentmoor's civil rights by treating the company differently than other developers.

"We should be treated the same as anybody else," Wasinger told the *Observer*. The latest suit came just six days after

Kentmoor filed a lawsuit accusing a citizens

group of slander and trespassing on the Maida Woods property, on the south side of Palmer Road between Hannan and John Hix.

The new lawsuit names the city, the Westland City Council and individual council members James Godbout, Cheryl Graunstadt, Bill Johnson, Michael Kehrer, Dewey Reeves and Robert Stottlemyer.

"We are going to defend the city and the council members on this vigorously," City Attorney Angelo Plakas said. "I think the claims raised in the complaint are at this point premature and without merit."

With council President Charles Pickering dissenting, the six council members voted Feb. 20 to postpone a Maida Woods site plan until a state administrative judge rules on a wetlands issue.

The citizens group — the Westland Homeowners Committee for Environmental

PLEASE SEE LAWSUIT, A8



Nominating petitions for city elections available Monday

BY DARRELL CLEM STAFF WRITER

With six elected city positions on this year's ballot, candidates who plan to enter a political race can pick up their nominating petitions starting Monday at Westland City Dell

This election season. Westland vot ers will choose a mayor, a city clerk and four City Council members.

Candidates will have to collect between 266 and 1,062 signatures of registered voters to get their names tion. I believe I have served the city of Westland well, and I have kept the campaign promises I made four years ago," she said.

Among those promises, DeHart is nearing the completion of receiving her state certification as a clerk.

Elected council merchers famos Godbout and Michael Kehrer are expected to seek re-election, along with council appointees Bill Johnson and Dewey Reeves.

Johnson and Reeves won appointments in January after former

Family Nurse Practitioner Susan Szurek of Oakwood Heathcare Center at Lincoln Elementary School checks the ears of kindergartner Kelly Breuer, 5, as her mother, Jennifer, watches.

Making a big difference in kids' lives

School-based clinics keep kids healthy and in class

BY SUE MASON STAFF WRITER

Brian Breuer walked

When Brian Breuer walked into the Lincoln Healthcare Center, he had one question: "Do I need a flu shot?"

He was asking because it was a new year and he had been told he needed a shot every year. The second-grader was relieved to hear the answer, an empathetic no. Brian is among youngsters in the Norwayne community taking advantage of health care offered through the Oakwood health care centers at Lincoln and Jefferson-Barns Elementary schools.

"The doctor's office wasn't open, and they were," said Brian's mother Jennifer, who has been coming to the clinic for three years. "A lot of times I didn't have a vehicle or transportation to get the doctor's office or it was booked or swamped. I prefer to come here."

The school-based clinic has been open at Lincoln since 1998 and, with the help of a state grant, expanded services to Jefferson-Barns in January 2006.

A partnership between the Wayne-

PLEASE SEE CLINICS, A4

on the ballot, Clerk Eileen DeHart said.

Election hopefuls will have to turn in their petitions by June 19, and they will have until June 22 to withdraw.

Council-appointed Mayor William Wild confirmed Wednesday that he plans to seek election to an unexpired mayoral term that ends Dec. 31, 2009. Former Mayor Sandra Cicirelli resigned to become a district judge.

"I'm committed to the job, and it's my intention to run for it," Wild told the *Observer*.

Council President Charles Pickering has indicated he may oppose Wild.

"Tin seriously considering running for the office of mayor," he said Thursday. "Tim not ready to make a final decision or announcement of whether I'm running, but I'm seriously considering it."

The mayor's job pays \$95,974. DeHart confirmed Thursday that she plans to seek a new four-year

term. Her position pays \$86,989. "I am planning to run for re-elecCouncilman Wild became mayor and after ex-Councilman Richard LeBlanc began his job as 18th District state representative.

Under city rules, candidates seeking election to LeBlanc's and Wild's seats will have to place their names on the ballot in November to fulfill only the remaining seven weeks of those two terms, which expire Dec. 31.

Candidates will have to have their names placed on another section of the ballot to compete for a full council term.

The top four vote-getters for council seats will earn a four-year term; the fourth-place finisher, a two-year term. Part-time council positions pay \$12,515 except for the president (\$13,760) and president pro tem (\$13,137).

If past council races are any indication, the incumbent council members will face opposition in their re-election efforts.

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

Tax assessment increases despite a decline in price of homes

BY DARRELL CLEM STAFF WRITER

Forget the grim market for home sales.

Forget that many homeowners have had to slash their asking price to try to sell their houses.

A slump in home sales and rising foreclosures don't mean that the taxable value of homes is declining.

Just the opposite.

Take a look at the assessment notice that just arrived in the mail. In general, Westland City Assessor James Elrod said, the taxable value has increased 3.7 percent this year.

State law requires that the taxable value be capped at the rate of inflation or 5 percent, whichever is less.

With the state citing a 3.7 percent increase in the inflation rate, most homeowners will find their taxes inching up.

Elrod's office braced for calls from residents who began receiving their assessment notices late last week.

"We'll get all those ealls," Elrod said. fo

On the back of the notices, the city has included a formula to help homeowners determine how much their property taxes will increase.

"They can plug in the numbers and it'll give them an estimate of what their tax change will be," Elrod said.

For homeowners who want to challenge an increase, the assessment notices also include how and when to seek an appointment with the city's Board of Review, he said.

The Board of Review will meet on four days this month. It will hear residential appeals 1-4 p.m. and 5:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 13, and Thursday, March 15, and 9:30 a.m. to noon and 1:30-4:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 14, and Friday, March 16. Commercial and industrial appeals will be heard on March 16.

To schedule an appointment, call (734) 467-3160.

The hearings will be held in the council chambers at Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford.

Elrod and Mayor William Wild made a program about assessments that has started airing on city cable station WLND. The times for today and Monday are 9 p.m., with the program repeating at 3 a.m., 11 a.m. and 4 p.m., according to the city's Web site.

Those who have computers and who want to check the schedule – not yet listed for Tuesday and beyond – may log onto www.cityofwestland.com. Simply click

on the WLND icon.

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LOCAL NEWS

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 4, 2007

Pianist's performance lesson in black history

When pianist Alvin Waddel visited Churchill High School on Tuesday, organizer Maria Cimarelli staged the piano so students could watch his hands stride across the keys.

"When he crossed one hand over another, my jaw was detached from my face, I think, it just dropped," said fellow piano player, Katie Dibase, a sophomore in with the Creative and Performing Arts program.

Waddel, an accomplished artist who was asked to give a talk in honor of Black History Month, demonstrated how one music style grows out of another.

In times of slavery, black people would sing for encouragement and to pass on knowledge, he said. In the early 20th century, people would gather at juke joints to play and hear ragtime, "the first indigenous American musical style," said Waddel, a Detroiter who studied voice at the University of Michigan.

Ragtime grew out of folk singing and evolved into blues and jazz, then rhythm and blues, then bebop and eventually hip-hop. As he talked, Waddel played students samples of each style.

Rather than just considering music a "universal language," Waddel said students should understand that music can codify and express the history of whichever culture creates it.

"All music doesn't mean the same thing to all people," he said.

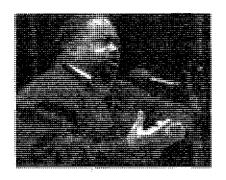
Cimarelli, CAPA's vocal music accompanist, knows Waddel through her affiliation with Michigan Opera Theater. He is also music ministry director at a Southfield church and has performed with Three Mo Tenors and with the Rackham Symphony Orchestra in "Too Hot to Handel."

'We're trying to expose our kids to black American's influence in music « and the arts," Cimarelli said. "This guy is one of the best gospel/jazz musicians around in the area. He's a very good lecturer."

Churchill's 10-member step group, Gossip, also performed. by Rebecca Jones

PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Students from Churchill's step team, Gossip, perform for students before an assembly with planist Alvin Waddel in honor of Black History Month.



Pianist Alvin Waddel talks to Churchill High School students about African-American influence in music throughout history.

'All music doesn't mean the same thing to all people. Alvin Waddel

pianist



in addition to waving students with his plana ginging ublitles, Detroiting Alvin Waddel spoke to students at Churchill High School about the African-American influence on music and the evolution of genres from spiritual songs to jazz.

Michigan tax check-off helps the Children's Trust Fund

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, is encouraging taxpayers to help prevent child abuse locally and statewide through the Children's Trust Fund (CTF) Michigan income tax check-off.

Tax check-off donations help sup-

port local child abuse prevention agencies, including Child's Hope of Western Wayne County.

"This little check-off is an easy way to make a big difference," said Anderson, who represents Livonia, Westland, Redford and Garden City.

"The children most helped by the efforts of the Children's Trust Fund are those most likely to be hard hit by our impending budget cuts, including cuts to the Department of Human Services and the Department of Community Health.

The check-off can be found on line 30 of the Michigan income tax form. The minimum \$5 donation is tax deductible in the following tax year. For more information about CTF, eall (800) CHILDREN or visit the Web site, www.michigan.gov/ctf.

INFORMATION CENTRAL

Public Library of Westland

We really aren't working much longer or harder now than we did a decade ago, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. So why is job dissatisfaction so common? "People crave change," says

www.hometownlife.co

Marti Smye in Is It Too Late to Run Away and Join the Circus? "But they are afraid of leaving the familiar behind ... So they stay where they are ... and feel more and more boxed in by life."

If you feel like a square peg in a round hole at your job, the Library can help you retool your career, or as Smye puts it, "go find a square hole instead."

The government keeps detailed data on the trends of working America at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and their Web site is extremely useful. Start with the Occupational Outlook Handbook (www.bls.gov/oco/), which details training required for a given occupation, earnings, job prospects, information about the job markets in each state, and more. Or back up and look at employment projections (www.bls.gov/emp), with a wealth of information about the future of job markets in America. The handbook and works like it are also available in print at the Library.

The library has a number of books to help you assess where you are and where you'd like to be in your career. Richard Nelson Bolles's perennially popular What Color Is Your Parachute? bills itself as "a practical manual for jobhunters and career changers." Herminia Ibarra argues for experimenting first and planning later in Working Identity: Unconventional Strategies for Reinventing Your Career.

Look at The Pathfinder by Nicholas Lore, or The Mid-Career Tune-up by William and Rosemary Salmon for advice on changing horses in mid-stream. Or leave the rat race altogether and read Katina Jones's The 200 Best Home Businesses or any of the many books like it.

If you're out of practice, you might consult Sweaty Palms: The Neglected Art of Being Interviewed, by H. Anthony Medley, Get Paid What You're Worth: The Expert Negotiators' Guide to Salary and Compensation by Robin Pinkley and Gregory Northcraft, or Wendy Enelow and Louise Kursmark's Expert Resumes for Career Changers Before You Start Seeking That Perfect Job.

We know work is a fact of life, and we make a point of keeping resources on hand to help you better negotiate the ups and downs of your career. Stop by, call us at (734) 326-6123, or visit us online at www.westland.lib.mi.us.

Highlighted Activities

Are Your Issues in Your Tissues?: 7 p.m. March 6.

Learn about the real heart-brain connection. Join us for a viewing of What the Bleep Do We (k)nowi?, followed by a discussion led by Ilka Handshaw, alternative medicine practitioner, about how the power of our mind and our energy work hand in hand.

Internet 101: 10:30 a.m.

A beginner's guide to the Internet - how do I get around a Web site, what IS a Web site? No registration is required. Walk-ins are welcome.

Microsoft Word for Beginners: 2 p.m. March 10. Learn the basics of Microsoft Word, a word processing program that lets you create a variety of documents, including letters and resumes. Learn how to set margins, change font style and size, check spelling and print. No registration is required.

Information Central is compiled by Joshua Neds-Fox, reference librarian and Web designer at the William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland, For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

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Cinderella gets her man in AAUW's production

BY SUE MASON STAFE WRITER

The tale of a young woman and her glass slipper will come to life this month when the Plymouth-Canton AAUW presents its version of the fairy tale classic, Cinderella,

With an updated script that includes roles for more lords and ladies ... and mice ... the hourlong play will be presented Thursday through Saturday, March 8-10, at Garden City High School's O'Leary Auditorium.

"It stays true to the tale," said Melissa Uhl who is co-directing with Sandra Jannucci. Both are Plymouth residents.

This is the 47th year the Plymouth-Canton American Association of University Women branch has presented live children's theater.

"That's quite awhile to do the same classic fairy tales," said Uhl.

TRIBUTE TO FRIEND

This year's production is dedicated to longtime AAUW member Mary Tiell who lost her battle to cancer last year, but not before appearing as a card in the group's production of Alice in Wonderland, Uhl said.

"This is definitely a tribute to her, we definitely miss her this year," Uhl added.

This year's production will star Tricia Carney as Cinderella with Julie Brown as the Prince.

Known for her portrayal of such dastardly characters as Captain Hook and the Queen of Hearts, Sharon Belobraidich is back in the nasty role of the stepmother.

Also back is Sylvia Rozian who has been involved in the productions "almost since the beginning." The Ann Arbor res-



BILL BRESLER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHE

Tricia Carney (center) plays Cinderella, while Mary Rogers is the Fairy Godmother, Sharon Belobraidich the evil stepmother, Susan Jannucci an ugly stepsister and Diane Wilcox a mouse in the upcoming Plymouth Canton AAUW's production of Cinderella.

ident is one of four cast members who will play dual roles in the production. She will appear as the Father and as one of the lords.

"She's a trouper, she's just a sweetheart, " said Uhl.

The play will be presented at 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, March 8-9, and 10 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m. Saturday, March 10, at Garden City High School, 6500 Middlebelt north of Ford.

The 10 a.m. Saturday show has become a big hit for Brownie and Girl Scout troops which are able to join with the cast afterwards to work on requirements for patches and badges.

We have a couple hundred Scouts come to the performance," Uhl said. "After play, they come back into the auditorium and have fun with the cast. We started it several years ago."

Presale tickets cost \$5 and are available at Fanatic U, 30409 Ford, Garden City, call (734) 266-0893; The Book Cellar, 840 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, call (734) 455-2665; and Perkos Shoes, 33426 Five Mile, Livonia, call (734) 427-3477. They also will be available at the door on performance dates at \$6 each.

MODERN-DAY CLASSICS

The organization takes classics like Pinocchio, Snow White and Cinderella and crafts hourlong AAUW versions. Its first production was Hansel and Gretel, and the group now has a repertoire of seven plays that

they rotate through and update every few years.

Many of the cast members are teachers in the Plymouth-Canton, Livonia, Garden City and Redford school districts and live around the area. Belobraidich is a retired Plymouth-Canton teacher Uhl knows very well.

"Sharon was my teacher in first grade," said Uhl. "I tease her that she was wicked then and wicked now, but now I get

to boss her around," Other familiar faces are retired Garden City High School art teacher Kay Paupore who plays a mouse, Garden City teachers Diana Wilcox and Shirley Zaetta and Henry Ruff Elementary Principal Jan Blumberg.

School closing due to the weather and a first-time-ever midwinter break in the Garden City school district posed some problems with this year's production, but the cast/crew was able to work around them, Uhl said.

Everything was in place, including the scenery that had to be moved from where it's stored in the shop of a member's husband to the school in time for dress rehearsals.

While the goal is to provide quality children's theater, it also provides connection for the members.

"January through March is time for us to catch up with friends," Uhl said.

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Livonia board debates travel to conferences

BY DAVE VARGA STAFE WRITER

Livonia Public Schools board members debated Monday sometimes in tense tones - the value of spending money for trustees to attend out of state conferences.

The issue was raised at a committee meeting during a conversation about setting a policy to require board discussion for any out of state conferences or board approval for any travel over, say, \$500. No decisions were made.

"I think we need a little more control over what we're doing and what we're spending," said Trustee Dan Lessard, saying during these tough times the board needs to spend its money wisely. Trustee Steve King traveled to Washington, D.C., for a national

conference in January, in part to lobby lawmakers to better fund education.

King is requesting to also travel to San Francisco in April for a conference. Cost estimates for the upcoming trip were around \$3,000, and the board's budget for conferences is \$16,500.

Trustee Tom Bailey pointed to

the "financial straits" of the district, in opposing the trip. "Just because we have a budget with money sitting in the account does not mean, oh, we can spend up to that limit with no concerns," he said.

Bailey then pointed out that King, in his first year on the board, still hasn't earned his certification as a board member by taking Michigan Association of School Boards classes. "How is this going to benefit this board?" he asked.

Bailey also asked why, instead of his earlier trip to Washington, King couldn't have visited lawmakers in Lansing. King fired back: "Well I talked

to McCotter, Stabenow and Levin, that's where they work, by the way ..." King also noted that he's been taking higher level courses, rather than just the 100level classes to get certified. "I don't think being certified makes me a critical thinker. I don't think being certified makes me a better board member."

Trustee Rob Freeman focused on King's Washington, D.C., conference, noting that he'd promised to share information he

brought back with fellow board members.

"And I will," King added. "And we haven't seen that yet," Freeman replied.

More importantly, Freeman wanted to know how the conference could help the board make better decisions. It's professional development and making one board member better makes the team better, King said.

"We need to be fiscally responsible with all of our money and we need to start at the top," Freeman said, in announcing - as did three others - that he didn't support out of state travel currently.

"I just want to remind you about the \$28,000 in shipping that my question helped offset," King said, referring to a new math curriculum where that amount was saved. "Mr. King did not save

\$28,000," Bailey said. Though he brought up the issue, an administrator made the call to the firm to save the money.

Besides, Bailey said, "We can't use it like a bank and say, 'I saved here and I saved here, so I'm entitled to this."



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- . Choice New York Strip Chibatta., 807, Choice New York Strip smothered with grilled onions and mashrooms, ropped with your choice of encese and served on a chibatta roll with steak or seasoned fries.
- * Chicken Club Wrap ... Crispy chicken, ham, bacon, Swiss cheese, American cheese, lettuce, tomato and our homemade ranch dressing. Served with coleslaw and steak or seasoned fries.
- Salmon Alfredo ... Fettuccine noodles with our homemade Alfredo sauce topped with grilled salmon. Served with your choice of soup or salad.
- Albert's Cajun Mama...80z. Angus beef burger served Quesadilla style with two tortillas, pepper jack cheese,

Power Lunches

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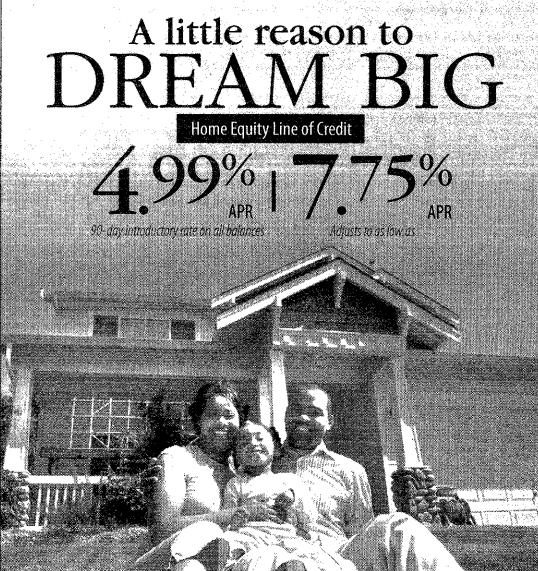
Next Power Lunch:

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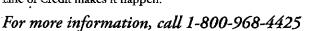


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REPUBLIC

CLINICS

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FROM PAGE A1

Westland Community Schools and Oakwood Healthcare, the clinic provides services to students and their siblings living in the Lincoln, Jefferson-Barns and Adams Middle School areas. The clinics' inission is to "improve and maintain the overall health and well-being of the children and families in the Norwayne community."

'GOOD WORK'

"We do a lot of good work here," said Sue Szurek, one of the two family nurse practitioners who work at the clinic. "A big part of what we do is to treat and educate children and their families to be healthy."

Also staffed by a registered nurse, social worker, physician and psychiatrist, the clinic provides flu shots and immunizations, well child and sports physicals, asthma screening and care, vision and hearing tests, counseling, parenting help and referrals.

It also offers parenting classes in such things as life skills, while the staff nurse does classroombased health education.

The clinic was the brainchild of Cindy Swift, the former executive director of curriculum and staff development for the Wayne-Westland Community Schools, and the Oakwood Healthcare System Foundation. The clinic was the answer to her question of how can you expect children to learn when they're sick and in school.

According to foundation executive director Carla O'Malley, data on the community's health showed a strong need for the clinic.

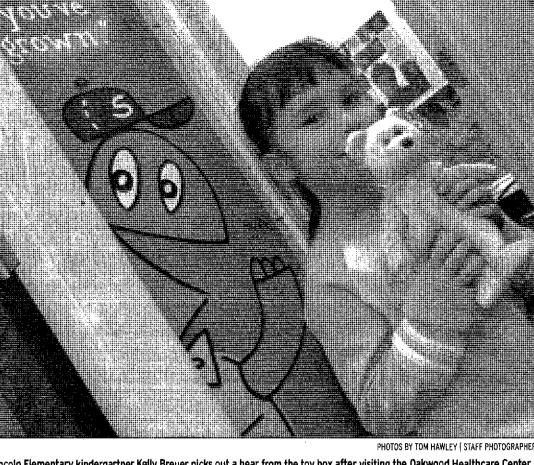
"Many of the children had lice, many weren't getting their immunizations ... it was the perfect storm for me," O'Malley said. 'The community was just so needv."

The idea of a clinic was presented to the foundation board, which raised the money for it through a Bids for Kids Auction. The benefit raised more than \$200,000. The school district provided space for the clinic and utilities, while the foundation money helped pay for the nurses, staff and equipment.

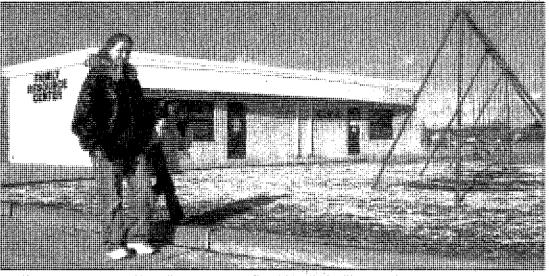
MAKING A DIFFERENCE

According to O'Malley, a difference the clinic made could be seen by the end of the first year. The number of cases of head lice had dropped to zero.

"The Lincoln/Jefferson-Barns



Lincoln Elementary kindergartner Kelly Breuer picks out a bear from the toy box after visiting the Oakwood Healthcare Center.



Jennifer Breuer and her daughter Kelly, 5, head home after visiting the healthcare center.

because it saved a trip to the emergency room and bill they would have had to pay," she said. "They were very grateful."

But helping the community doesn't stop at the clinic's front door. In the spring, families are invited to a health fair. At Christmas, employees of the Oakwood Healthcare System adopt families and donate thousands of dollars in food and gifts.

The party is so popular that attendance is determined by a raffle. Last year, 71 families received food and gifts, 21 received just food and 219 attended the party, Szurek said. "It's really huge," she added. "The thank yous make you cry because you realize the need is out there. At the party, they see people do care." One parent wrote that it "was the best Christmas my family ever had. To everyone that God gave a heart to love children other than their own, I truly thank you. I only hope that next year I will be in your shoes and be able to be a blessing to someone's family somewhere."

GETTING INVOLVED

The clinic also gets the families involved through its advisory board. Breuer is one of its newest members.

She has four children who visit the clinic on a regular basis. She likes the clinic's convenience and the help staffers provide. She likes it so much that "if the clinic were to move, I would follow it."

"If you don't have insurance, they help you get it," she said. "You can call and see them the

bringing in money that can be invested in the clinic. It goes into our budget and we're able to add staff."

According to O'Malley, the goal of the foundation is to have the health care centers funded and provided for in the long run. This year, the May 19 Red Tie Ball for Children will raise money for the Lincoln/Jefferson-Barns centers

"The role of the foundation is to make sure it's funded," she said. "We've actually started an endowment with funds from two families, one in Dearborn and one from Livingston County, for children in the community."

Bingo

The Ladies Auxiliary of Harris Kehrer VFW Post 3323 will hold a marathon bingo noon-5 p.m. Saturday, March 10, at the post, 1055 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Money raised will go to support the Youth Activities Adopt A Troop project for overseas veterans.

Poker tournament

The Westland Jaycees will hold a Texas Hold 'Em Tournament and Vegas Night on Saturday, March 10, at the Bailey Recreation Center on Ford Road.

The tournament will begin at 6 p.m. for a shot at a top prize up to \$1,000. Spots are available at the door and through pre-registration. The pre-registration price is \$50 until March 1. After that date, there will be a \$10 late registration fee.

The games in the Vegas Room will include Big Wheel, Blackjack, 7 Card and Let it Ride. Food and beverages also will be available. For more information, call (734) 226-0400 or visit the Jaycees' Web site at www.westlandjaycees.org. Easter activities

CrossWalk Community Church of the Nazarene will hold a Easter Eggstravaganza 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 31, at the church at 38600 Palmer Road between Hix and Newburgh in Westland.

The event is for families, especially children ages 3-12. Children through age 6 will need adult supervision. There will be an Easter egg hunt, crafts, games, prizes and snacks.

The suggested donation is \$1 per child, adults are free of charge. For more information, call (734) 721-5545.

Open House

Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool will have an open house 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, March 13, at 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road. The preschool offer parent/Tot, 2-year-old, 3year-old, 4-year-old programs and an enrichment program for 4-year-olds. The preschool have been in operation for 35 years and has affordable tuition, certified teachers and a parentinvolved environment. For more information, call (734) 326-0078.

The preschool also will hold its fourth annul Silent Auction

St. Patrick's Day

AROUND WESTLAND

Join Michigan troubadour Neil Woodward for a family friendly evening celebrating the contributions of Irish folk music 6 p.m. Saturday, March 17, at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford, Westland.

Sponsored by the Westland Parks and Recreation Department and the Grange No. 389, the evening includes an Irish style dinner and dessert served during intermission of the 7:30-9:30 p.m. concert.

Tickets cost \$12 for adults, and \$7 for children ages 12 and under. Seating is limited. Tickets are available at the Bailey Center. Call (734) 722-7620 or by e-mail at mmartin@ci.westland.mi.us.

Grand opening

If you're in the area of Warren and Central City Parkway Wednesday, stop by Leo's Coney Island. The restaurant, located in the Starbucks/Qdoba plaza, will be celebrating its grand opening with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 7.

Baseball registrations

The Wayne Ford Civic League, at 1645 N. Wayne Road, Westland, is registering children ages 4-10 years old for its co-ed baseball league 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday through April 14 or until all the teams are filled, which ever comes first.

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

Managers, coaches and umpires are always needed. Online registration forms can be obtained at www.wayneford.org/youth/youth.html.

Bingo

The Dyer Senior Center invites residents to play bingo at 1 p.m. Wednesdays at the center, 36745 Marquette, Westland. For more information, call Mary Browe at (734) 419-2020.

Praise and worship

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

clinics is a model of partnering with a community, the schools and the hospital to help people who are the most vulnerable," O'Malley said. "It's a great partnership."

For Szurek, the clinic means helping remove three gold beads from the ear of a child who had no insurance.

<) GANNETT

"The family was thankful

same day, they try to squeeze you in ... and they're friendly."

Statistics are still pending for 2006, but according to the 2005 annual report, the clinic handled 1.519 visits and 507 clients. Through the staff's efforts in helping clients obtain health insurance, the clinic received more than \$47,000 for billing for services offered.

"It's one of the top centers for getting paid," Szurek said. "We're

The Lincoln Healthcare Center is at 33800 Grand Traverse, Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday and 8:30 to 5 p.m. Thursday. Call for Friday office hours. The Jefferson-Barns Healthcare Center is at 32150 Dorsey. It's open 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday and 8:30 a.m. to noon Friday. Both centers are closed noon to 1 p.m. daily for lunch. For more information, call (734) 728-2423.

CITY OF GARDEN CITY

2007 BOARD OF REVIEW DATES

9:00 a.m.

Saturday, March 24, at Pvt. John Lysskawa VFW Post 7546 at 6828 Waverly, Dearborn Heights. Doors open at 7 p.m. Cost is \$20 per person.

Crafters wanted

Craft space is available for St. Damian's annual spring craft show Saturday, March 31, at 30055 Joy, between Merriman and Middlebelt, Westland. Table rental is \$25. For more information, call (734) 721-4758 or e-mail at nelius@comast.net. Show hours will be 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission will be \$1.

Pancake breakfast

The Westland senior Friendship Center holds an allyou-can-eat pancake breakfast second Thursday of the month at the center on Newburgh south of Ford. The cost \$4 per person for buttermilk or multigrain pancakes, coffee, juice, low fat milk, sausage and bacon. Sugar-free syrup will be available. The center holds pancake breakfasts on the second Thursday of the month.



CITY OF WESTLAND PUBLIC NOTICE

The following appeal will be heard at a public hearing to be held in the Council Chambers of Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI on Wednesday, March 21, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at which time comments may be directed to the Board during audience participation. If you wish to reply by mail, send your comments to the above address. All property owners whose names appear in our tax rolls located within 300' of this property are being notified pursuant to this statute.

Petition #2587-L. Poenaru. 7392 Kubis

Request for three (3) variances from Ordinance 248 in order to construct a 6' x 26'10'addition to the rear of the existing nonconforming home that would be located 2.9 feet from the south side yard and would be constructed 12.5 feet from the existing home to the south.

> OE08510173 4

Publish: March 4, 2007

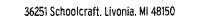
Susan Rosiek Jeannie Parent Executive Editor **Retail Sales Manager** (734) 953-2100 (734) 953-2177 srosiek@hometownlife.com jparent@hometownlife.com **Hugh Gallagher** Cathy White Managing Editor Retail Advertising Rep. (734) 953-2149 (734) 953-2073 cwhite@hometownlife.com hgallagher@hometownlife.com Sue Mason **Community Editor** (734) 953-2112 smason@hometownlife.com(734) 953-2104 Fax... Newsroom... ...(734) 591-7279 Sports Nightline.....(734) 953-2104 Circulation/Customer Service......1-866-88-PAPER (866-887-2737) Classified Advertising......1-800-579-SELL (7355) Display Advertising.....(734) 953-2153 To purchase page and photo reprints go to www.hometownlife.com/oereprints. For more information contact 1-866-88-PAPER. **Circulation Business Hours/Subscription Rates** Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday 8 a.m. to noon If you missed a delivery please call by 6 p.m. Thursday and 11 a.m. Sunday. Carrier Delivery Mail Delivery Sunday/Thursday Sunday/Thursday One year .. \$64.95 \$83.95 One year (in county) .\$34.95 6 Month \$41.95 6 Month ... 3 Month 3 Month. ..\$17.95 \$20.95 For senior citizen rate, One year (out of county) \$108.95 please call 1-866-887-2737 \$54.45 6 Month \$27.25 3 Month The Westland Observer - Publication NO. USPS 663-530 Published every Thursday and Sunday. Periodical postage is paid at Livonia, Michigan 48150

WESTLAND

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Publish: February 25, March 1 & 4, 2007

to 12:30 p.m. And 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m..

ALLYSON BETTIS TEASURER-CLERK

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO all property owners of the City of Garden City that the Board of Review will meet in session on the following date and time to examine the assessment roll for the current year: Tuesday

The Board of Review will meet in session on the following days and times to hear appeals on the 2007 assessment roll:

March 6, 2007

NOTE: Meetings located in THE GARDEN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM with late night appointments on Tuesday & Wednesday

Monday	March 12, 2007	9:00 am-5:00 pm
Tuesday	March 13, 2007	1:00 pm-9:00 pm
Wednesday	March 14, 2007	1:00 pm-9:00 pm
Thursday	March 15, 2007	9:00 am-5:00 pm
Friday	March 16, 2007	9:00 am-5:00 pm
		a da ser de la Transferia de Transferia de la Competitiva de la Competitiva de la Competitiva de la Competitiva

APPEALS BY APPOINTMENT or WRITE-IN. Write-ins must be received by Monday, March 12, 2007.

Tentative ratios and factors for the 2007 tax year are:

CLASS	PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT RATIO	PROJECTED EQUALIZATION FACTOR		
Commercial	49.43%	1.0000		
Industrial	47.28 %	1.0575		
Residential	49.05 %	1.0100		
Personal Property	50.00%	1.0000		

Taxes are paid on TAXABLE value, which is the lower assessed value or capped value, unless there is a property transfer. The capped value is based on the CPI (Consumer Price Index), which will increase 3.7% for 2007. As a result, all Taxable Values will increase 3.7% unless there has been a transfer of ownership or an addition to the property.

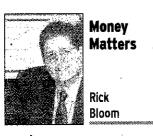
The 2007 Assessment Roll will be open for inspection from March 7,

2007 through March 9, 2007 in the assessment office from 8:30 a.m.

COUNTY NEWS

Variable universal life is not a good investment

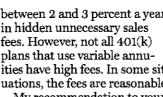




In your situation, I would continue to contribute the maxall, you are getting a double tax benefit - money that you are contributing is pretaxed money and all the income grows on a tax-deferred basis. If you have additional money that you can invest, then I would invest that money outside of a variable universal life policy using a variety of growth mutual funds. By using companies like Schwab or Vanguard, you have a wide variety of commission-free funds that you can select from. You can coordinate with what you have in your Roth and 401(k) lio. By contributing outside a variable universal life policy, you also have significant tax savings. Yes, money in the VUL grows tax-deferred; however, when it comes out it is taxed at your ordinary income bracket. Money invested outside of a VUL will grow at the capital gains rate. Your capital gains rate is substantially lower than

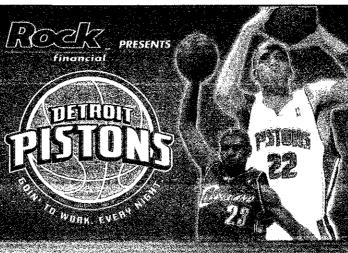
The reason why so many

The reason that I'm not a fan



friend is first to examine the same mutual fund if they purchased it outside of the annuity. makes sense for your friend to try to talk to the employer. My variety of options and they no 401(k) plans.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial can submit questions at moneymatters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit his Web site at can hear Rick from noon to 3 p.m. Sundays on WDTK-AM (1400).



TOMORROW VS. GOLDER STALL WARRIERS + 7:30 PM PISTONS CHIP CLIP TO FIRST 10,000 FANS COURTESY OF



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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 4, 2007

WAYNE MEMORIAL HONOR ROLL

Named to the honor for the third marking period at Wayne Memorial High School were:

Nur Abu-lawi, Ambrosha Adkins, Ammer Ahmad, Muhammad Ali, Ryan Allen, Tiffanie Allen, Lynn Alves, Jessica Amburgey, Amirul Amirudin, Christopher Anderson, Danielle Anderson, Jacob Anderson, Sergio Anderson, Lamont Archer, David Arnold, Autumn Askew, Brittanie Askin, Caitlin Badrak, Amanda Bailey, April Bailey, Michael Bailey.

Shirelle Bailey, Georgia Baker, Kelsey Baker, Matthew Baker, Cara Ball, Jessica Barrett, Rachael Barton, Jeremiah Bauder, Paige Bawcum, Berlynn Beaver, Jason Bell, Schuyler Benjamin, Hailey Benton, Cynthia Berean, Madelynn Bevill, Ryan Bird, Brandie Bishop-Stacker, Fawna Black-Cicotte, Shereen Blair, Colleen Blake, Chelsea Blamer, Brittany Blanton.

Kelsey Blevins, Shayna Bono, Danielle Borg, Danielle Boston, Nicole Bouren, Christopher Bowie, Joshua Bradford, Joshua Bradley, Justin Brammer, David Brooks, Andrea Brown, Jackson Brown, Rickelle Brown, Jonathan Bryant, Samantha Buglione, Deborah Burden, Dominic Burnett, Brittani Burroughs, Christopher Burtraw, Dakota Butler, Domonique Butler.

Alaina Butner, Nathaniel Byberg, Brooke Cabe, Chelsea Cahill, Megan Callahan, Lindsay Callender, Cassandra Campbell, Cody Campbell, Danielle Capraro, Jorge Carmelo, Michael Carrier, Samantha Carrier, Arlene Carter, Amber Rose Cassidy, Richard Castaldini, Marrianne Casteels, Paolo Miguel Catalla, Keana Cathey, Jared Chatterton, Kristine Chau.

Melissa Chesnut, Lindsay Chmiel, Jonathan Choate, Lorina Clardy, Taylor Clark, Travis Cleveland, Rebecca Clos, Doyle Colaianne, Ashley Cole, Michael Cole, Alexandra Coleman, Megan Connolly, Nova Connolly, Charles Cooney, Heather Copeland, Krystle Crandall, Anna Crawford, Matthew Cretens, Daniel Crummey, Samantha Cruse, Daisy Cruz.

Linette Cuevas-Zuniga, Patrik Culey, James Curtis, Melissa Dabelstein-, Patrick Dani, Heather Daniels, Brittany Davis, Brittney Davis, Jessica Davis, Michael Davis, Sheena Davis, Jennifer Dawson, Amber Decker, Brittany Demaray, Hayden Derr, Christopher Dewaelsche, Briana Dewyer, Kyra-Dewyer, Erica Dishon, Christina Dixon, Sean Doerr, Jordan Dottor.

Alyssa Draper, Kelsey Drennen, Rajat Dua, Tenaria Dukes, Chance Dunigan, Samantha Dye, Jessica Eaves, Ashley Elliott, Kevin Erdmann, Javeair Ester, Kenneth Ester Jr, Kherre Fairbanks, Joshua Farmer, Marian Farmer, Heather Favazza, Garrett Fischer, Benjamin Fisher, Jeremy Flatt, Trevor Fletcher, Bally Floyd, Matthew Foss, Katie Frazee, Leslie Freedle.

Anita Freeman, Daniel Frey, Lindsay Funk, Kia Fuqua, Ryan Gabriel, Michael Gallagher, Michelle Gallardo, Samantha Gaskill, Heather Gendron, Ryan Gilmore, Zachary Girouard, Kevin Glass, Michelle Goff, Nastassia Goines, Julie Good, Kristyn Goodchild, Scott Goodchild, Adam Gorring, Essence Grant, Lauren Green, Michael Green, Jessica Greggi, Meridith Griggs.

Brittney Grubbs, Elaina Guenther, Justin Guenther, Thomas Gunther, Kristine Haggard, Tracey Halaberda, Bethany Hamlet, Kathryn Hansen, Cory Harden, Elizabeth Hardy, Roberta Hardy, Zakkary Hardyniec, James Harper, James Harrington, Keisea Harris, Stefan Harrison, Freddy Hawkins, Bianca Hayes, Lalita Hayes, Yousef Hegazi, Rachel Helgren.

Alyssa Hendricks, Heather Henning, Elyse Henry, Jessica Hensley, Donald Herber, Maxwell Hershey, Shannon Hesch, Bailey Hessler, Michael Hicks, Joshua Higgs, Corey Hileman, Emily Hilger, Daniel Hill, Cody Hilla, Samantha Hochstadt, James Holbrook, Jordan Holland, Jeffrey Horne, Daphne Howard, Ryan Howell, Steven Howell, Callie Hubbard.

Janessa Hudson, Elysia Huertas, Stefanie Huffman, Crystal Hughes, Jason Hughes, Kelli Hughes, Ashley Hunt, Christie Iller, Stephanie Jablonicky, Frances Jackson, Gabrielle Jackson, Anthony James, Andrew Janos, Anthony Jett, Augere Johnson, Chelsea Johnson, Christopher Johnson, Clifton Johnson, Alyssa Jones, Brandie Jones, Floyd Jones, Katlaind Jones. Nicole Kaminski, Adam Karson, Jimmy Kassis, David Kautz, Jessica Kay, Chase Kelly, April Kersey, Arlon Ketcherside, Chapin Kibitlewski, Shawn Killen, Jory King, David Kiracofe, Monica Kmet, Elgin Kodra,

Dylan Korzetki, Nicholas Kostora,

Christopher Kouri, Taylor Krohn, Kyle Kruckow, Jessica Kuder, Darla Kujat, Tabithia Kujat, C.J. Kulas, Joshua Kull.

Nicole Kwolek, Olivia LaFortune, Danielle Lamarand, Christon Landfair, Holly Lane, Sharon Langa, Saniyyah Langston, Kevin Lanstra, Tiffany Larson, Jeanette Laskowski, Jennifer Laurie, Danielle Lawson, Taylor Leblanc, Ha-Young Lee, Crystal Lees, Katelynn Lefler, Jamie Lentz, Joshua Letellier, Amanda Lewis, Joshua Lewis, Keivin Lewis, Monica Lewis.

Brittani Lincoln, Amanda Linton, Brandi Little, Nicole Little, Trisha Lloyd, Megan Londberg, Joshua Lowe, Alyssa Lucas, William Luke, Kanav Mahotra, Kyle Maier, Matthew Maier, Kristen Malkiewicz, Brian Manning, Alantae Martin, Nkosi Mason, Lynn Mathew, Karissa Matson, Sarah Mayberry, Andrew Maynard, Megan Maynor, Nakilliqua McBride-Turner.

Tabetha McCauley, Rebecca McClester, Amanda McClure, Patrick McClure, David McCown, David McCrary, Derek McGowan, Leah McKay, Patrick McKinzie, Derek McManaway, Stephen McNamara, Christina Merritt-Haase, Kyle Michael, Chelsea Miller, Destiny Miller, Ori Miller, Rebecca Miller, Christian Mills, Joshua Mills, Matthew Mills, Nicholas Mills.

Kyiara Mitchell, Gabrielle Monit, Kristina Monty, Dustin Moody, Laura Moody, Michael Morgan, Amber Morneau, Claire Moro, Elise Motley, Leonard Mungo, Amara Navarre, Ashlee Neely, Brittney Neighbor, Gary Neill, Andrew Neino, Dominick Nestor, Gary Newell, Kenneth Newsted, Krystal Nichols, Aaron Nielson, Rebekah Niemann, Jillian Novak Alexander.

Allen Nugal, Jamilah O'Bannon, Kahlil O'Bannon, Ryan O'Bleness, Stephanie O'Bleness, Colleen O'Brien, Kevin O'Brien, Serrina O'Brien-TarazandePou, Chelsea O'Mara, Tara O'Neil, Patrick O'Neil Jr, Amber O'Rourke, Kelly O'Rourke, Christine Obomanu, Ana Ochoa, Sabrina Oestreich, Samantha Offerman, Steven Ogg, Timothy Olver, Utonia Overstreet.

Candace Papineau, Cory Parendo, Jessica Park, Ashley Parker, Andrew Pate, Brent Patterson, Jackee' Patterson, Mark Patterson, Nicholas Payne, Valerie Peavler, Laura Pegg, Emily Penner, Brenda Perales, Erica Perdue, Glendy Perez, Jonathan Pernak, Montae' Peterson, Malerie Petrello, Joshua Phillips, Daniel Pianowski, Nichole Pierson, Brandi Pietruszka.

Hannah Plumley, Meghan Plumley, Kristina Plummer, Amanda Poirier, Shawn Polite, Andrew Ponican, Shelby Porter, Heather Portis, Jamie Preiss, Kayleen Preston, Tony Prough, Jessica Ptaszynski, Karen Ptaszynski, Kerrie Ouarles, Chelsea Ouintal, Aaron Rankins, Jessica Raymor, Billie Raynes, Miranda Reichow, Johnny Reid, Lejohnna Reid, Virginia Reid.

Olivia Rensel, Michele Reske, Ryan Reynolds, Brieann Rice, Heather Rice, Taylor Riggs-Buford, Ebony Riley, Dylan Ritter, Alyssa Roach, Shalin Roberts, Emily Robertson, Eric Robertson, Emily Rodler, Andrew Rodriguez, Hailey Ross, Derrick Roulo, Nicole Roy, Jerold Runion, Erica Runstrom, Krystin Russell, Nastassia Rutledge, Elizabeth Ryan, Tremor Sambrone.

Joshua Samples, Nicole Scheurich, Melissa Schmidt, Eric Schmitt, Jacob Schofield, Heather Schrader, Michael Schuch, Jennifer Schulte, Kathryn Seguin, Amanda Shaw, Jasmen Sheffield-Sadler, Gage Shepherd, Mengdan Shi, Mark Shiemke, Rachel Shier, Aaron Shifferd, Yasmine Shitta, Michael Shock, Solomon Shurge, Andrea Sigler, Alexis Simmons.

Adam Simpson, Desiree' Simpson, Prit Singh, Simranjit Singh, Lakia Singleton, Danielle Skolnik, Alexis Smith, Ashley Smith, Brittany Smith, Gabrielle Smith, Jacob Smith, Jessica Smith, Melissa Smith, Nalise Smith, Tyler Smith, Zachary Smith, Michael Solarz, John Soltis, Cecily Sparks, Katherine Spehar, Dustin Speiser, Morgan Sprytzer, Brett St Clair. Monica Stafford, Eric Staley, Ashley Stamper, Laura Starr, Eric Story, Ashley Struppa, Sarah Sturm, Anwar Suleiman, Ashley Sullivan, Rachel Sullivan, Ashlee Szabo, Kaitie Szostek, Brittany Tabor, Wade Talbert, Nicholas Tarnowsky, Naja Tatum, Brett Tavana, Jacob Tenerovich, Patricia Terrien, Kayla Thayer, Kelsi Thomas, Sharonda Thomas, Matthew Thompson. Kayleigh Thorner, Lindsay Thurman, Andrew Thyrion, DeJuan Travick-Felton, Kathryn Trudeau, Bobbi Turner, Natasha Turner-Owens, Amanda Turpen, Taylor Tuttle, Kristi Tyler, Nicole Tyson, Toby Underwood, Amanda Vacheresse, Kyle Vacheresse, Christopher Vaerten, Jasmine Vandenbrook, Rita Veloz, Ashlee Vernon, Xi Yan Wang, Jon Wasinski. Nancy Watson, Shelby Watts, Sean Waynick, Jordan Weatherwax, Bijan Weaver, Kiley Weber, Michelle Wehr, Lauren Weilnau, Carla Weimert, Ashley Wellday, Jessica West, Brandon Whittenberg, Kelly Wilkin, Anthony Williams, Marcus Williams, Marissa Williams, Justin Willis, Bryan Wilson, Daniel Wilson, Jessica Wimberly, Melissa Wincher, Kara Windsor. Daniel Wolf, Steven Woodruff, Robert Woodson, Robyn Wright, Natalie Yambrick, Joseph Yodsnukis, Torri York and John Zoller.

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- Color palette compact with duo eyeshadow in Wheat and Teak and Cheekcolor in Sunblush
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- On-The-Go Folding Tote
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SUNDAY PERSPECTIVES

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 4, 2007

If you want to end war, you've got to sing loud

"Walk right in, it's around the back Just a half mile from the railroad track You can get anything you want at Alice's restaurant"

ice's restaurant" – Arlo Guthrie *Alice's Restaurant*

oveOn.org sponsored a Congress the Decider event Feb. 22. War protesters délivered letters to their congressional representatives, telling them that they had an obligation to oppose the president's Iraq war policies.

President George W. Bush had once grandly proclaimed "I'm the decider," an imperial boast ranking with Louis XIV's "I am the state."

If the events across the country were anything like the gatherings at the offices of Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, and Rep. Joe Knollenberg, R-Bloomfield Township, the country's displeasure with the war in Iraq isn't even close to approaching the outcry against the war in Vietnam

Hugh

www.hometownlife.com

in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Where are the campus protests? Where are the young people outraged by the war, the president, the vice president, big oil ...? Are Britney Spears' breakdowns or Paris Hilton's gallivanting so compelling that young people don't have time to think about less important things — like a war in Iraq, maybe soon in Iran? At the protest in Livonia, the

Gallagher

group of about 30 were predominantly middle age and older. Many of them probably have some fond memories of those glory days when they were young and angry and marched by the thousands up Woodward Avenue.

The exception was Rachel Lamontagne, a 24-yearold Wayne State student from Commerce Township, who has been encouraged by an activist mother to take her First Amendment rights seriously.

"I am so fed up with Bush," she said.

She's taking classes in criminal justice, but she said what she really wants to be is a whistleblower and bring the wrath of justice down on corrupt corporations. Lamontagne is concerned that others of her generation are too politically passive.

During Vietnam, young Americans had the Selective Service to push them out of passivity. U.S. Rep. Charles Rangel, D-New York, has advocated restoring the draft as a way to spread the sacrifice and increase the resistance. Certainly a good regard for self-preservation added to the national displeasure with Presidents Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon and their war.

Arlo Guthrie's comic epic *Alice's Restaurant* recounted how a conviction for littering made him ineligible to serve in Vietnam. Like Lamontagne, he had an activist parent who inspired him to speak out.

It's unlikely that the protesters at McCotter's and Knollenberg's offices will change the opinions of those congressmen. Despite some quibbles over the details, McCotter and Knollenberg are supporters of the president's crusade. (No, strike that; the word has some unfortunate connotations in the Middle East — call it a mission instead.)

In a passionate speech opposing a Democraticsponsored resolution against the president's troop surge, McCotter compared Democrats to Neville Chamberlain before World War II and to Democratic Illinois legislators who opposed the Emancipation Proclamation. The comparisons displayed McCotter's love for history and his genuine erudition. But his analogies are thin. He might as easily have compared Iraq to Britain's disastrous campaign in Afghanistan in the 1870s.

Many Democrats are scrambling to explain their support for broad presidential powers that have allowed Bush to continue his fight. At the time, in the wake of 9/11, it seemed like political suicide to stand up against the invasion of Iraq. After all, no one would want to give a free pass to a dictator as monstrous as Saddam Hussein.

And now opposing Bush is "opposing the troops." Isn't it rich how politicians hide behind young soldiers? Troops carry out assigned missions, the American people decide what those missions should be. We support the troops by stopping misguided missions as well as by properly equipping them when they are in harm's way.

In retrospect, American actions have lit a fuse too long stifled and stirred deadly animosities and power politics. The once oppressed Shi'a have now ascended to power and neighboring Iran sees an opportunity to make an ally. Meanwhile, the decline in the power of the minority Sunni causes concern for Saudi Arabia and most of the rest of the Sunni majority Middle East. In retrospect, careful diplomacy might (*might*) have prevented this.

A rising national indignation isn't enough to bother Bush, Cheney, McCotter or Knollenberg. It takes a good strong case of national outrage.

At the end of Arlo's story, he urges everyone to sing the chorus loud, to create a movement, The Alice's Restaurant Anti-Massacre Movement.

"If you want to end war and stuff, you've got to sing loud."

All together now,

"You can get anything you want at Alice's Restaurant (exceptin' Alice)."

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

Cash and college make March a cool month for juniors

uniors, your senior year starts now. While there's nothing quite like being a high school senior, March of your junior year is looking pretty terrific, too, thanks to the state of Michigan and some



hard-working counselors. What makes March so cool? Cash and college. First, about the cash. Juniors will be taking the Michigan Merit Exam March 13-14. This test replaces the MEAP test your older brothers and sisters took, and while the MEAP test gave them some money for college,

MALE is a much better deal. First, if you earn a good score on all four parts of the MME, you'll qualify for \$4,000 for college, no matter how much money you've saved for college, no matter how much money your parents make.

The MME is all about you and how much you know, and the four grand is a payoff for studying hard. You've always thought getting paid to go to school would be a great idea? Congratulations — your wish just came true.

The second reason the MME is a better deal has to do with the ACT, which is one part of the MME exam. You probably know the ACT is a test required by most four-year colleges as part of the application process, and taking the ACT usually requires you to give up a Saturday and about \$40. Thanks to the MME, the ACT is now free, and you get to take it on a Tuesday — so you keep the money and you get to sleep in on Saturday. With the ACT under your belt, applying to college early just got easier — and applying early in your senior year can be a big factor in getting admitted to the college of your dreams.

The state of Michigan has free ACT test preparation materials. Ask your counselor, or go to www.michigan.gov/mme for more information.

And speaking of counselors, some hardworking high school counselors and college admissions officers are throwing this huge college party for you. The Metro Detroit College Fair is Thursday, March 8, at the Burton Manor Conference Center in Livonia. More than 100 colleges will be there to talk to you about their colleges and what they have to offer. You can find out about scholarships and other forms of financial aid, and experienced counselors will be on hand to help you put your college plan together.

All of this is free, including the parking; the fair runs 9-11:30 a.m. and 6:30-8:30 p.m. For more information, go to www.nacanet.org, and look for the College Fair link in the bottom right-hand corner.

It's great the state of Michigan is giving you money for college, but it's up to you to spend it wisely. Part of making a good use of that cash, of college, and of your life is to scope out colleges that will and won't work for you, and the fair gives you that chance. Since choosing a college is kind of like buying a home (yes, a good college will feel that comfortable), bring your parents along — they know a thing or two about finding a good place to live and, admit it or not, they know a lot about you.

Plus, they'll probably spring for pizza after the fair's over, so bring your friends, too.

Once you've visited the fair and aced the MME, it's time to visit with your counselor. Counselors are busy people. There's only one counselor for every 671 students in the state of Michigan. But the good news is they care a great deal about you and your future. To make sure you get the most out of meeting with your counselor, set up an appointment to meet (rather than just dropping in) and be sure to tell your counselor you want to talk about college.

Before the meeting, type up a list of your community service work and extracurricular activities, along with awards and recognition you've received. You also want to include the classes you plan to take in your senior year, and any questions you have about college, like when to apply, colleges they might recommend, good Web sites to investigate, whatever. Make two copies of all of this, and put one in a folder to give to your counselor. This preparation will go a long way to establishing a good relationship with your counselor. So when a college asks them about you, the information you've provided and the impression you've left will both be a real plus.

The next two weeks give you a great chance to jump-start your senior year and your college search, and you could end up with free money and free, great advice at the end. We have a name for this in college counseling. It's called a deal. Take it.

Patrick O'Connor is the author of *College is Yours in 600 Words or Less.* He is on the faculty of Oakland Community College and Roeper School, and can be reached at collegeisyours@comcast.net.

<u>(*) 37</u>

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Michigan law requires the Wayne County Circuit Court to foreclose on property with unpaid 2004 delinquent taxes in March 2007. If you cannot pay

the 2004 delinquent taxes on your home

APPLY FOR A FINANCIAL HARDSHIP EXTENSION by contacting: Taxpayer Assistance Department

(313) 224-6105

Or visit our website at:

www.treasurer.waynecounty.com

TO APPLY YOU MUST: 1. Own your home. 2. Live in your home as your principal residence. 3. Meet certain income requirements.

IF APPROVED YOU MAY RECEIVE A ONE-YEAR EXTENSION TO PAY YOUR 2004 DELINQUENT TAXES.

Applications must be received by March 15, 2007.



Raymond J. Wojtowicz Wayne County Treasurer 400 Monroe, 5th Floor, Detroit, MI 48226





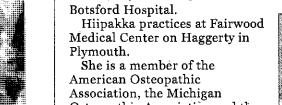
Churchill senior Tommy Lucko (left), and Nick Barbas were among the overflow

crowd of students cheering on their Chargers at the pre-regional hockey game

with crosstown rival Stevenson Wednesday night. Churchill, ranked No. 1 in the

Red hot Chargers

state, won the game 1-0.



American College of Osteopathic Internists and the American College of Cardiology.

Hiipakka received her medical education from Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine. She performed her Internal Medicine Tracking internship and Internal Medicine residency at Garden City Hospital.

She is currently working on a Cardiology Fellowship.

Botsford Hospital is an independent, acute care, 330-bed community hospital in Farmington Hills.

Founded in 1965, it is nationally recognized for quality, safety and medical education programs. For more information, visit the hospital's Web site at www.botsford.org.



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Westland resident joins LAWSUIT **Botsford Hospital staff** FROM PAGE A1

A Westland resident, Dr. Penny Hiipakka, is the newest member of the medical staff at

Osteopathic Association and the



Conservation and Smart Growth — has challenged a state report that says the 14acre Maida Woods site contains 1.5 acres of state-regulated wetlands. The group believes the area could be larger.

Kentmoor's latest suit accuses the city of illegally meddling in environmental issues governed by state law. It criticizes the council majority for relying "solely on unsubstantiated fears concerning environmental issues instigated by the disgruntled individuals who opposed Kentmoor's lawful development of its property

Graunstadt, the highestranking council member named in the suit, defended the decision to postpone the site plan vote until the state administrative judge issues a ruling on the wetlands issue. "I was disappointed to hear that the developers felt it was necessary to file a lawsuit against the city," she said. "I think it shows me personally that it doesn't look like this business wants to be very friendly with members of our community. Regardless of where you stand on the issue, I feel the citizens exhibited their right to speak." Graunstadt said the suit's reference to "disgruntled"

and she said she believes the city had the legal right to postpone the site plan. "I firmly think we did the right thing," she said.

The suit seeks damages exceeding \$25,000. It states that Kentmoor has been told repeatedly by city officials that the proposed development complies with local ordinances.

The city administration had recommended Feb. 20 that the site plan be approved. Moreover, Pickering had indicated during the meeting that the council had no basis for delaying the vote.

The suit claims that the council's refusal to approve the site plan "constituted the selective enforcement of law and deprived Kentmoor of its constitutionally protected right to equal protection" compared to other companies.

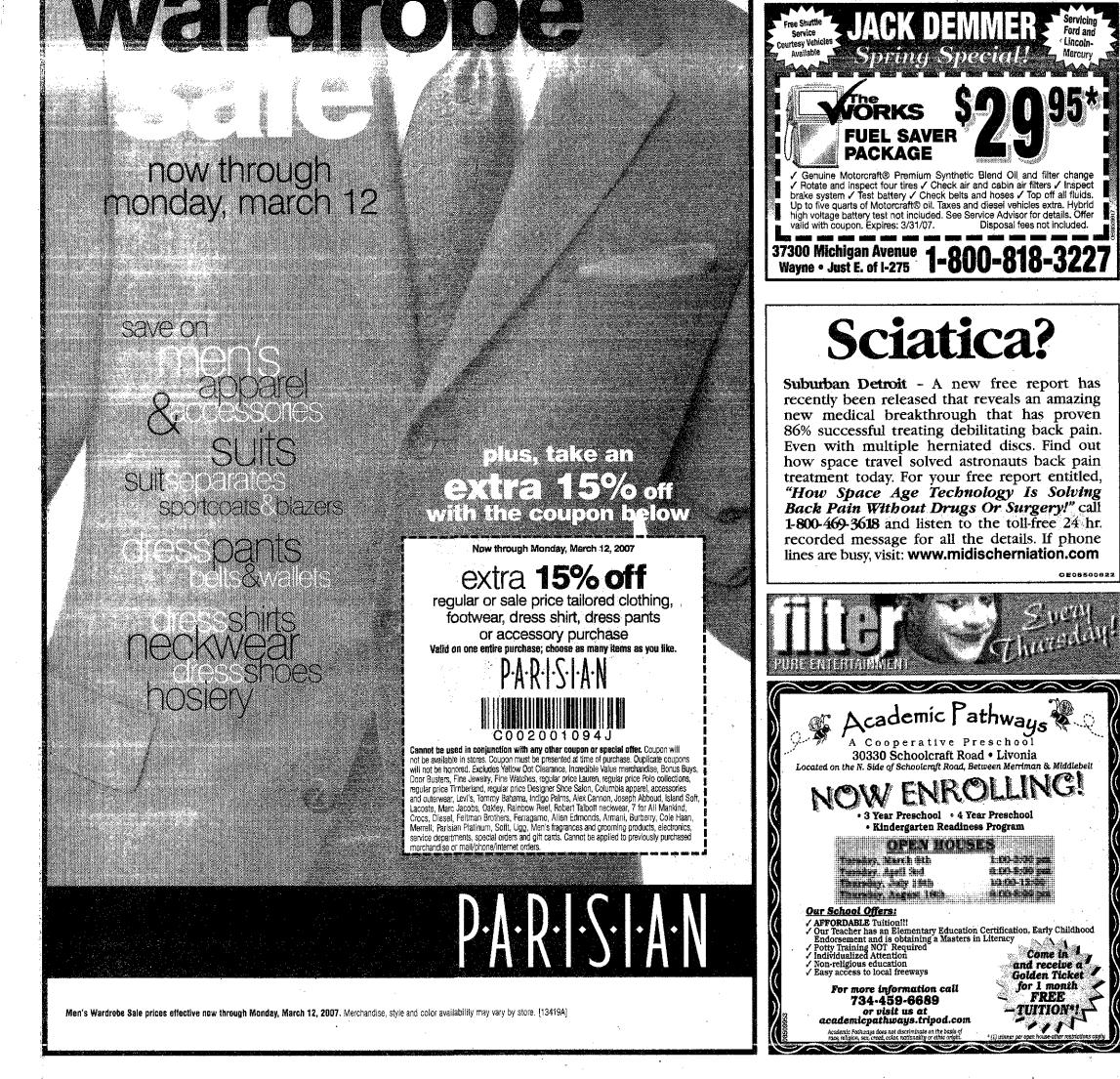
The suit also alleges that council members conspired among themselves and with the citizens group to deprive Kentmoor of its rights.

The battle over Maida Woods has mushroomed into the largest fight in recent memory in Westland between a developer and a citizens group.

T.J. Andrews, an attorney for the citizens group, has accused the company of trying to force critics into keeping quiet.

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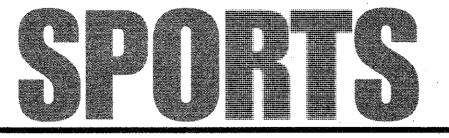
citizens was "disrespectful," LIBERTY TAX SERVICE 29540 Ford Road (in front of KMart) - Garden City 734-425-4620 www.libertytax.com ★ Quality Income Tax Preparation Services **★** Loan on Refund in 1 Day or Less (in most cases) ★ Fast, Friendly & Accurate ★ Year Round Support ★ Free Electronic Filing ★ Money-Back Guarantee \star IRS Audit Representation \star Free Consultation 020880813



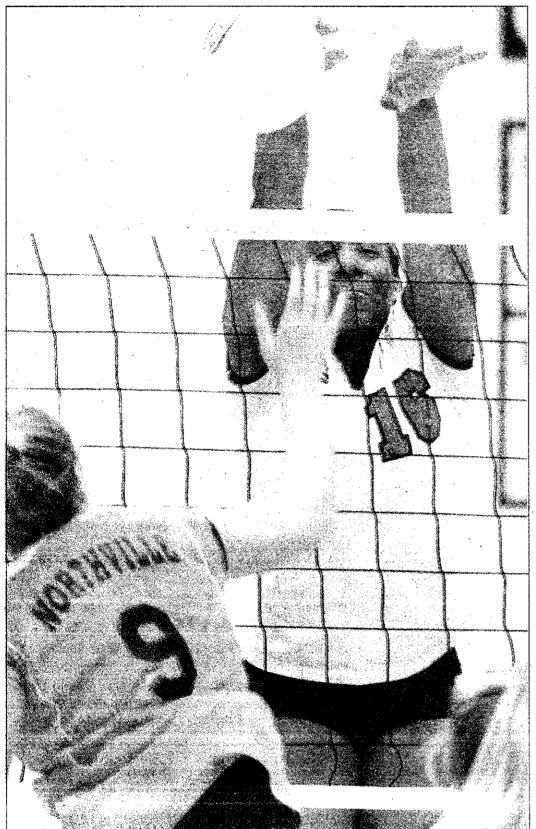
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MU softball coach bubbles with enthusiasm, B3



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



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Churchill's Kyndra Abron stuffs a shot from Northville's Amanda Marquardt during Friday's Class A district championship match.

Tourney statement Churchill girls seize district crown vs. Salem, Northville

BY BRAD EMONS STAFF WRITER

Volleyball's version of March Madness started early Friday as host Livonia Churchill emerged victorious in one of the toughest Class A district girls tournaments in the state.

The Chargers, ranked No. 3, ran their record to 51-2-1 overall by ousting Western Lakes Activities Association rivals Northville (25-19, 25-19, 25-17) and Salem (25-18, 25-17, 23-25, 25-23), two teams with over 40 wins apiece this season.

The championship game was anti-climactic compared with Churchill's four-game semifinal victory over Salem, its fourth win over the Rocks this season. Senior Lauren Krupsky and junior Kyndra Abron combined for 62 kills in the match with 36 and 26,

respectively. Setter Kelsey McKenzie added 51 assist-to-kills, while the defense was led by senior libero Kelly Archer with 32 digs. Stephanie Bradshaw added 16 digs, while McKenzie and Jordan Kerr each

added 14. "I thought Kelsey was absolutely wonderful," said Churchill coach Mark Grenier, whose team overcame a 19-16 deficit in the fourth game. "She was sick with the flu all week and was under the weather today. But she came to school and came out here tonight and put it together. She did a nice job and deserves a lot of credit."

Churchill was able to offset Salem's one-two attacking duo of Teresa Coppiellie and Lauren Kurtz. The pair finished with 26 and 19 kills, respectively.

"Our kids have the experience of making it to the quarterfinals and fortunately we had something to fall back on playing Salem three times," Grenier said. "We played a very good Salem team, but we know how to take care of business and we were able to play with."

The 6-foot-2 Abron was particularly effective in the front row against the Rocks. The Michigan State recruit had one of her better nights on the year.

"Kyndra was dominant today," Grenier said. "She swung as well as she has all year and she was equal with her presence blocking. She was able to put together a great day. But everybody else did their job and did their role. They did a wonderful job as a supporting cast."

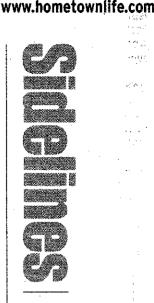
Salem's sophomore setter Jansan Falcusan had 42 assist-to-kills, while Courtney Seiler and Coppiellie paced the defense with 29 and 18 digs, respectively.

"We made some minor adjustments the third game," Salem coach Amanda Suder said. "We decided to pull Teresa (Coppiellie) off her middle (hitter) spot and put her off for more side shots, and it opened up that third game. But we basically played them the same way we have all year.

"But Churchill is a great team. It's the best Kyndra has played against us, and Krupsky was also on fire, too. When you have two of the best hitters in the state, it's hard to defend."

Salem defeated South Lyon, 25-23, 25-7, 25-18, in the first-round as the 6-foot Coppiellie had 13 kills and nine aces. Kurtz, another 6foot senior, added 12 kills. Falcusan finished with five aces and 23 assists, while Seiler had 17 digs.

The Rocks, who lose five seniors,



Hein at Palace

Sunday, March 4, 200

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Westland John Glenn's Andrew Hein will be among three Westland John Glenn grappiers in the Division I individual state wrestling finals, which begin Thursday at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

Hein, a senior, sports a 46-6 record after finishing third Feb. 24 in the Novi regional following a pin in 2:11 over Belleville's Anthony Simons in the third-place match at 171 pounds.

Hein, who faces Troy Athens senior Dan Martinez (43-15) in the opening round, will be joined by Glenn teammates Shamir Garcia (215) and Jim Wood (140).

Visit mhsaa.com for first-round individual state pairings.

Devon-Aire Softball

Registration for the Devon-Aire Softball League will be from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, March 6-8, at the McKinley Elementary School (lobby), located at 9101 Hillcrest, just north of Joy between Henry Ruff and Merriman roads.

Leagues offered include Junior Boys (ages 7-12), Junior Girls (7-12)

Wayne boys fall in Division 1 semifinals

In just its first season of MHSAA bowling, Wayne Memorial reached the final four of the Division 1 state team boys finals Friday at Sunnybrook Lanes in Sterling Heights.

Larry Orr, the Wayne girls varsity coach, guided the Zebras on Friday. Boys coach Bob Jawor missed the tournament to be in Reno, Nev. He was participating in an American Bowling Congress Tournament.

The Zebras were ousted in the matchplay semifinals by eventual state champion Port Huron Northern, 2,221-2,155. Northern beat Utica Ford for the title, 2,304-2,289.

Northern had a total of 1,034 in the Baker games (alternating shots) with scores of 176-199-206-172-237-197. Wayne

PREP BOWLING

was only 23 pins off with 1,011 on games of 206-203-176-213-174-172.

In the quarterfinals, Wayne defeated White Lake Lakeland handily, 2,221-1,982 thanks to a total of 1,001 in the Bakers on games of 221-162-173-215-203-246.

Utica Ford and Port Huron Northern finished one-two in the nine-game qualifying block, including six Bakers and three regular games, with totals of 4,611 and 4,394, respectively.

Wayne made the cut by finishing sixth with a total of 4,228.

The Zebras recorded 244-184-201-214-195-170 in the Bakers followed by regular

games of 1,002, 1,017 and 1,001 in the regular games.

C'ville girls miss cut

After reaching the final four of the Division 2 girls state team bowling tournament a year ago, Livonia Clarenceville missed the match-play quarterfinals Friday after finishing 14th out of 18 schools with a total of 3,467 at Nottke's Lanes in Battle Creek.

The Trojans had a total of 902 in the six-block Baker set on games of 172-152-141-131-168-138 following by regular games of 866-861-838.

Coldwater, the top qualifier with 4,045, won the state title by defeating Bangor John Glenn, 2,165-1,957.

All in the Neighborhood Warriors win district title vs. Huron Valley

Separated by campuses only 100 yards apart, Lutheran High Westland and Westland Huron Valley Lutheran met in Friday's Class D district girls volleyball final.

Lutheran Westland, ranked No. 7 in the latest statewide coaches poll, came away the victor with a 25-11, 25-17, 25-21 triumph over the host Hawks.

The Warriors, 28-4-4 overall, advance to the regional semifinals, 10 a.m. Saturday at Auburn Hills Oakland Christian vs. the Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett champion.

"I thought we played well and accomplished our mission," Lutheran Westland coach Kevin Wade said. "We look forward to next weekend. If we play well, I feel we have a chance to make a deep run."

Kayla Gieschen had nine kills and 10 digs to pace the Warriors, while sophomore teammate Becca Refenes finished with seven kills, five solo blocks, six digs and three ace serves.

Setter Lauren Gieschen added 12 assistto-kills and six aces, while setter Julie Jongsma finished with 11 assists.

Lauren Adlof had six kills to lead the Hawks, who finished the year 22-5-4. Setter Amanda Gruenewald collected 13 assists. "We came out slowly, we were not moving well," Huron Valley co-coach Kris Ruth said. "We were able to build some confidence the second and third games, but it was too late."

Adlof recorded six kills and Gruenewald added 12 assists in Huron Valley's 25-22, 19-25, 25-10, 25-19 semifinal win over Wyandotte Mount Carmel.

Lutheran Westland ousted Taylor Baptist Park in the other semifinal, 25-5, 25-14, 25-

15, as Refenes had 12 kills and three aces. Other standouts for the Warriors included Kayla Gieschen (five kills, six aces, six digs); Lauren Schwecke (seven kills); Lauren Gieschen and Jongsma (seven assists each); and Katey Ramthun (three solo blocks).

Jongsma also recorded four aces.

Glenn wins opener

In Thursday's Class A district opener, Westland John Glenn needed five games to beat host Ypsilanti, 25-16, 22-25, 25-9, 20-25, 15-5. Sophomore Brittany Holbrook had 14 kills and five blocks, while senior Virginia Butler added 12 kills and six blocks to lead the Rockets' attack.

Kirstin Kirk and Amber Sportsman led the defense with 21 and 15 digs, respectively, for Glenn.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lutheran Westland sophomore Becca Refenes, shown here in an earlier Metro Conference match, was a catalyst in Friday's Class D district conquest at Westland Huron Valley Lutheran.

Mott CC ends Schoolcraft's playoff quest

The Schoolcraft College men's basketball team had its seven-game winning streak end in the semifinals of the NJCAA Division II-District 8 tournament Friday night at Kalamazoo Valley Community College.

Jeremie Simmons scored a game-high 22 points to lead Flint Mott CC to an 84-69 triumph over the Ocelots, who end the season with a 23-10 record.

Mott, the Eastern Conference champion in the Michigan CC Athletic Association, improved to 30-3 overall with its third

COLLEGE HOOPS straight win over Schoolcraft. Others in dou-

ble figures for the Bears included Kevin Tiggs (12), Thomas Kennedy (11), Terrance Watson (10) and Rob Giles (10).

Purdue University transfers Korey Spates and Nate Minnoy each scored 18 in defeat.

Minnoy had a game-high 13 rebounds, while Spates had six of the Ocelots 18 turnovers. Jon Yeazel added 12 points in the setback for the MCCAA champions, who trailed 35-32 at halftime.

The Bears' bench outscored Schoolcraft, 29-7. Mott also outrebounded the Ocelots, 39-28.

SCHOOLCRAFT 93, GLEN OAKS 60: Nate Minnoy scored 26 points and pulled down 10 rebounds as Schoolcraft College (23-9) rolled to a NJCAA-District 8 quarterfinal victory over Glen Oaks CC (18-11) in a game played Thursday afternoon at Kalamazoo Valley CC.

Jon Yeazel added 22 points for the victorious Ocelots, who led 42-21 at halftime.

Josh Samarco (Belleville) and Korey Spates added 14 and 10, respectively. Jerome Hutchins added nine points and six assists, while 7-foot center Gabriel Garcia grabbed a team-high 11 rebounds.

Spates had a team-high seven assists. Schoolcraft shot 60 percent from the floor (39-of-65) and outrebounded the Vikings, 46-33.

Cortez Smith led Glen Oaks with 19 points. Cordale Boyd and Cornell Collins added 15 and 10, respectively. and Seniors Coed (13-18). Ages are determined as of June 1, 2007 (bring a birth certificate if new to the league).

The cost is \$40 for the first child; \$35 for each additional child.

For more information, call Devon-Aire Softball League president Tony Perez at (734) 525-2884.

Need track coach

Westland John Glenn High School is seeking a girls track coach for the 2007 season.

For more information, call Glenn athletic administrator Brian Swinehart at (734) 419-2311; or email him at swinehartb@wwcs.k12.mi.us.

AAU boys hoops

AAU basketball tryouts for Team Michigan for boys currently in ninthgrade or 15 and younger (as of Sept. 1, 2007) will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 6 at the Basketball Planet, located on Haggerty Road, The head coach will be

Carlos Briggs. The troout fee is \$8. For more information, call Ed Alberts at (248-867-6931 or e-mail

Alberts at copymaned@aol.com.

Diesels tryouts

Tryouts for the Detroit Diesels, a minor league football team for ages 18and-up, will be from 2:30-5:30 p.m. Saturday, March 10 at High Velocity Sports Center, located at 46245 Michigan Avenue, Canton.

The cost is \$30 percent

The Diesels will once again play all their home games at Livonia Franklin High School.

For more information, call (313) 294-0890.

LOCAL SPORTS

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 4, 2007

BZ –

(W)

Well-traveled prep coach takes SC reins

BY TIM SMITH STAFF WRITER

Schoolcraft College's new women's soccer coach brings a wealth of experience from a number of metro Detroit high schools.

"T feel like the Larry Brown of high school soccer," joked 42year-old Deepak Shivraman of Farmington Hills, recently hired to succeed Bill Tolstedt at Schoolcraft.

Shivraman actually was only half joking.

He will coach Brighton High School's girls team this spring, for a ninth year; he had to step down from the helm of the Bulldogs' boys team because of his new job with the Lady Ocelots (high school and college boys teams play in the fall season).

But previous jobs included coaching the boys teams at West Bloomfield, Lake Orion and Birmingham Groves high schools and the girls squad at Farmington Hills Mercy – the latter a position he held for about 10-years.

According to Shivraman, it will be "a challenge to come close



to what Bill's accomplished in his 10 years" at Schoolcraft. "To be fair, I. haven't had a chance to see Schoolcraft play

in the past," Shivraman noted. "But (with) my style, fitness is a huge priority and ... I

like the possession style. I'm not into booting the ball" and chasing it into the offensive end. Shivraman said taking over a

program with such a solid reputation, which recruits players from all over the country, is something he is looking forward to.

"It's going to be a new venture," he said. "Having the opportunity to work with players at a higher level and players who are a bit more mature, it's going to be a very interesting thing."

Tolstedt, 60, recently announced his retirement to spend more time with his family. He logged a career record of 174-29-20 from 1997 through last season.

tsmith@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2106

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BOYS BASKETBALL DISTRICT PAIRINGS CLASS A

at LIVONIA STEVENSON

Monday, March 5: (A) Redford Union vs. (B) Redford Thurston, 5:30 p.m.; (C) Livonia Stevenson vs. (D) Livonia Churchill, 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 7: Farmington vs. A-B winner, 5:30 p.m.; Livonia Franklin vs. C-D winner, 7 p.m.

Friday, March 9: Championship final, 7 p.m. (Winner advances to the regional semifinals at Oetroit Cass Tech vs. Detroit Central district champion.) at ROMULUS

Monday, March 5: (A) Westland John Glenn

vs. (B) Ann Arbor Huron, 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 6: (C) Romulus vs. (D) Ypsilanti, 5:30 p.m.; (E) Belleville vs. (F) Wayne Memorial, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 8: Garden City vs. A-B winner, 5:30 p.m.; C-O winner vs. E-F winner, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 10: Championship final, 7 p.m. (Winner advances to the regional semifinals at Ypsilanti Lincoln vs. Dearborn district champion.)

CLASS B at PONTIAC NOTRE DAME PREP Monday, March 5: (A) Beverly Hills-Detroit

Country Day vs. (B) Livonia Clarenceville, 6

Spring baseball camp

The Livonia Franklin baseball staff, led by Matt Fournier, will stage a spring baseball camp for boys and girls in grades 4-6 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 10 inside the high school fieldhouse.

Each camper will be assigned to groups according to age and ability.

Session I (9-11:30 a.m.) will feature hitting and base running skills. A break follows from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (bring your own sack lunch). Session II (12:30 p.m.-3 p.m.) will consist of pitching and defense.

The cost is \$25 per session or \$45 for both.

For more information, call Fournier at (734) 968-0499; or e-mail mfournie2@livonia.k12.mi.us.

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

THE WEEK AHEAD

p.m.; (C) Pontiac Notre Dame Prep vs. (D) Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 7: Detroit Murray-Wright vs. A-B winner; Detroit University Prep vs. C-D winner, 7:3 p.m.

Friday, March 9: Championship final, 7:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the regional semifinals at Warren Woods Tower vs. Detroit Renaissance district champion.)

CLASS D at REDFORD COVENANT CHRISTIAN Tuesday, March 6: (A) Lutheran High Westland vs. (B) Canton Agape Christian, 6 p.m.; (C) Redford Covenant Christian vs. Plymouth Christian Academy, 8 p.m. Thursday, March 8: Detroit Westside Christian Academy vs. A-B winner, 6 p.m.;

Westland Huron Valley Lutheran vs. C-D winner, 8 p.m. Friday, March 9: Championship final, 6 p.m. (Winner advances to the regional semifinals at Hillsdale Academy vs. Webberville district champion.)

PREP WRESTLING Thursday-Saturday, March 8-10 State Individual Finals at Palace of Auburn Hills, TBA. BOYS SWIMMING Friday, March 9 Division I state prelims at FMU's Jones Natatorium, noon

SPORTS SHORTS

including: T-Ball (ages 5-6), Coach-Pitch with machine (7-8), Mustang (9-10), Bronco (11-12), Pony (13-14), Colt (15-16), Palomino (17-18), along with girls slow-pitch and fastpitch 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. 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, Westland. Birth certificates are

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

Kids martial arts

Western Wayne County Therapeutic Recreation will offer kids martial arts for children ages 7-15 with disabilities from 5-6 p.m.

Division I state finals at EMU's Jones Natatorium, noon. **GIRLS GYMNASTICS** Friday-Saturday, March 9-10 State finals at Troy Athens, TBA. **MEN'S COLLEGE BASEBALL** Sunday, March 4 (at Santa Rosa, Pace, Fla.) Madonna vs. Purdue-Calumet, 1:30 p.m. Madonna vs. Urbana (Ohio), 4:30 p.m. Monday, March 5 Madonna vs. Faulkner State at Bay Minette, Ala. (2), 11 a.m. Tuesday, March 6 Madonna vs. Hannibal-LaGrange (Mo.) at Pace Fla. (2), 11 a.m. Wednesday, March T Madonna vs. Purdue-Calumet (Ind.) at Gulf Breeze, Fla. (2), 11 a.m. Thursday, March 8 Madonna vs. Urbana (Ohio) at Pace, Fla. (2), 1 p.m. Friday, March 9 Madonna vs. Judson College (III.) at Bay Minette, Ala. (2), 11 a.m. Saturday, March 10 Madonna vs. Fisher (Mass.) at Pensacola, Fla, Catholic (2), 1D a.m. WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOFTBALL

Saturday, March 10

(Tucson, Ariz. Invitational Games)

Thursdays, March 1 through
April (Session I); and AprilRe19-May 17 (Session II), at the
Bailey Recreation Center,Re

36651 Ford Road, Westland. The fee is \$24 for Wayne County residents and \$25 for non-residents. The instructor is David Reicher. Pre-registration is required by Tuesday, Feb. 27.

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

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.

Madonna vs. Viterbo (Wis.), 11:30 a.m. Madonna vs. Jamestown (N.D.), 1:30 p.m. Monday, March 5 Madonna vs. Peru St. (Neb.), 11:30 a.m. Madonna vs. William Penn (la.), 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 7 Madonna vs. Bethany Luth. (Minn.), 12:30 p.m. Madonna vs. St. Mary (Tex.), 3 p.m. Thursday, March 8 Madonna vs. Judson (III.), 6 p.m. Madonna vs. William Penn (Ia.), 8:30 p.m. **ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE** Sunday, March 4 Whaters vs. Mississauga Ice Dogs at Compuware Arena, 2 p.m. Thursday, March 8 Whalers at Windsor Spitfires, 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 9 Whalers at Erie Otters, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, March 11 Whalers vs. Soo Greyhounds at Compuware Arena, 2 p.m. MAJOR INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUE Sunday, March 4 Ignition at Milwaukee Wave, 2 p.m. Sunday, March 11 Ignition at Chicago Storm, 6 p.m.

Sunday, March 4

TBA - time to be announced.

Recumbent ride

The Wolver-Bents Recumbent Cyclists will hold a bicycle ride at 2 p.in. Saturday, March 10 at Willow Metropark's Washago Pond selter, located off Exit-11 off I-275.

The ride is open to all bicyclists.

For more information, call (734) 487-9058 or visit www.wolverbents.org.

CHS 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 Montagano 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.



MU softball coach bubbles with enthusiasm

BY TIM SMITH

STAFF WRITER

Al White doesn't mind tossing out superlatives when discussing his 2007 Madonna University softball team.

The ninth-year head coach insists the current squad is the most-talented and hard-working group he's had the privilege to lead.

And even with the graduation of star pitcher Erin Brockert (21-10, 1.95 ERA in 2006) he isn't worried about how competitive the Crusaders can be this spring - starting with an Arizona tournament early this month.

"It's very exciting," said White, actually in his 17th season with the team including eight years as a pitching coach. "It's by far the most outstanding talent we've ever had."

There is only one senior (pitcher Shannon Noder, 6-4 last year) and four juniors: pitcher Liz Ballinger, 5-1 last year; outfielder Heather Richardson of Canton (.315, nine homers), catcher Stephanie Day (Livonia Ladywood, .294) and first baseman Christina Finch (.321 in an injury-riddled sophomore season).

That core is supported by some young players who could quickly establish themselves and boost the Crusaders right to the top of the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference standings, where they are accustomed to.

"Everybody picked us for third, (but) I really think we're going to right there at number one," emphasized White, whose team went 35-15 last year. "If we can install a never-give-up, never-quit (attitude) into these girls, like we have the last couple years, I think that's going to play a big part into this team's legacy.

"These are the hardest workers we've ever had. This program is going in the right direction. I'm very excited."

White also thinks the trip this week to the Tucson Invitational (12 games will work wonders for his team.

"We're playing California teams the second day and we know they're good," White noted, "They're always playing and they play outside. By us being so young, I think it's going to help us down the road a few years in knowing how to win."

Without Brockert, who also hit .396 last season, MU will rely on Noder to "keep us in the games. She's going to have to step up.

The coach also expects Ballinger to throw a lot of innings. But beyond those two, he isn't sure of his staff. Sophomore Novi product Alyssa Wagner is the number three pitcher, but she is trying to overcome a shoulder injury.

He does know he'll have rock-steady Day behind the plate.

"She knows how to catch," White said. "She caught four years at Ladywood."

Starting at first base will be Finch, who collected five homers and 18 RBI in just 81 at bats in 2006. "She missed half of last year, and we hope she'll be ready to go in Arizona."

The backup catcher is freshman Alyssa Bertrand. A strong up-the-middle combo never hurts any team, and that's what the Crusaders seemingly have in sophomore second baseman Danielle Richardson and sophomore shortstop Tedi

PREVIEW

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MU SPORTS INFORMATION

Heather Richardson of Canton is one of the offensive coos for the Madonna softball team. She will bat in the middle of the lineup and play right field for head coach Al White.

Johnston (a transfer from Oakland Community College).

Richardson hit just .248 a year ago, but White said she "brings experience as a top-notch travel player with the Compuware organization. She's just a great kid, a good hitter." As for Johnston, White had some more raves to

parcel out.

"We've had outstanding shortstops in the 17 years we've had the program," he said. "She's by far the best shortstop we've ever had. She is smooth. She made one play today that I thought would be on ESPN at 6 p.m. She went to her left, got up and threw the runner out by two steps.'

Freshman Brittney Scero (Canton) is slated to start at third base and will provide some power into the leadoff position.

Backing them up in the infield will be three freshmen: shortstop Ashley Bonsall (Livonia Franklin), second baseman Samantha Bell and first baseman Caitlyn Sidor (Livonia Churchill), an All-State and first-team All-Observer pick.

The mainstay of the outfield is Heather Richardson, who will play right field and bat third in the order.

She's my number three hitter," White said. "A little bit of pressure is going to be on her."

Joining her in the outfield will be sophomore Mary Kate Setta in left and Waterford Mott All-Stater Hannah Godfrey in center. Godfrey, a sophomore, "brings speed and is very good defensively."

Setta hit .259 in part-time duty, but could break out with much-needed power numbers, White noted. Outfield reserves include sophomore Kathleen Smiley (Walled Lake Western) and freshman Rachael Kethe.

White also expects to get some offensive punch out of sophomore Alison Grant, who likely will be designated hitter. Last year, Grant paced MU with 45 RBI while batting .377. She is recovering from a knee injury, which might limit any time in the field (she can catch and play first).

"We're definitely looking for power numbers out of her, both at DH and pinch hitting," White said. "We'll throw her in there down in Arizona."

After a slate of games in Indiana and Ohio following the Arizona trip, MU's home opener and WHAC opener is 1 p.m. Saturday, March 31 against

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Cornerstone.

CROWN FROM PAGE B1

finish the year at 44-9-1 over-

all. "Those seniors have been a special group," Suder said. "They've played together so long. They're like a family. Four will possibly play in college. We'll miss them a lot and they'll be hard to replace."

In the win over Northville, a rematch of last Saturday's WLAA Tournament final, the 5-11 Krupsky led the way with 19 kills and four blocks. Abron also had 19 kills and three blocks.

Digs leaders included Archer (16), Anna-Marie Gatt (10) and Kerr (9). McKenzie added 35 assists.

Joanna Foss, a 6-foot senior, led Northville with 13 kills, but no other Mustang reached double figures.

"Our serve receive broke down and generally we're stronger than that," said Northville coach Steve Anderson, whose team reached the finals with a 25-8, 25-20, 25-6 win over Canton. "I thought hitting and blocking-



TOM HOFEMEYER I STAFE PHOTOGRAPHER

Churchill's Kelsey McKenzie (center) celebrates with teammates Jaclvn Gribeck (left) and Lauren Krupsky (right) after earning a point during Friday night's district championship against Northville.

wise, we matched up well. I thought every other part of our game was fabulous. But a critical part of our game fell apart at the wrong time. When you can't pass, you can't play.'

Churchill advances to the regional semifinals, 10 a.m. Saturday at West Bloomfield to face the Southfield district champion.

Meanwhile, Northville's Anderson could only ponder

what his team with a 43-6-3 record could have done in a different district.

"I couldn't ask for more from my team," he said, "It's unfortunate they don't seed like they do in Ohio. We had three top-20 teams all in the same district, then are some other districts that are not even comparable."

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HOOPS

Stewart's clutch free throws lift Trojans

BOYS HOOPS

Chiefs 29-13 in the second half as 6-

got into early foul trouble, scored all

Senior center Shane Daly scored

Senior guard Tim Collins added

"We made some adjustments at

halftime," Lutheran Westland coach

Dan Ramthun said. "We stepped up

with some help-side defense. It was

LIGHT & LIFE 50, HURON VALLEY 23:

Aaron Layne poured in a game-high

21 points Friday to lead Taylor Light

Kurt Metzger tallied nine points

HURON VALLEY 53, IMMAC. CONCEP-

for the Hawks, who trailed 24-15 at

and Life Christian (10-10) past

(2-18) in a non-conference

TION 41: Senior forward Kurt

Metzger tallied a team-high 16

Huron Valley Lutheran (2-17)

earned the victory over visiting

points Thursday as host Westland

Westland Huron Valley Lutheran

and shut down their two big boys

11 of his 13 also during the first two

all 15 of his points in the opening

6 senior center Alex Edwards, who

seven of his points and grabbed

nine rebounds to help lead the

comeback.

periods.

half for New Boston.

a good team effort.

encounter.

halftime.

Sophomore forward Jamie Stewart make four critical free throws in the last minute en route to a game-high 23 points as Livonia Clarenceville ended the regular season Friday with a 57-56 boys basketball victory at Hazel Park.

Sophomore center Jeremy Gainer added 16 points and 13 rebounds for the Trojans, who overcame a 32-26 halftime deficit.

Point-guard Lonnie Fairfax also played a solid floor game with eight assists and six points as Clarenceville improved to 6-14 overall. Goran Giuricci scored 23,

including seven three-pointers for the Vikings (5-15). LUTH. WESTLAND 56, N.B. HURON 54:

Sophomore forward Sam Ahlersmeyer came up with the game-winning basket with only 11 seconds left Thursday to propel Lutheran High Westland (12-7) to a non-conference win at New Boston Huron (4-15).

Ahlersmeyer finished with 15 points and nine rebounds for the Warriors, who fought back from a 41-27 halftime deficit.

Senior guard Kyle Ramthun added 15 points, while sophomore forward Josh Haller added 13.

Warren Immaculate Conception (17). Yuriu Cherstylo and Steve Halash scored 15 and 10 points, respectively, for the Bengals. Lutheran Westland outscored the

W.L. CENTRAL 63, JOHN GLENN 52: In the consolation final Wednesday of the Western Lakes Activities[®] Association playoffs, Walled Lake Central (12-8) was led by Joe Marshall's 16 points and Brandon Joseff's 15 in a win over Westland John Glenn (14-6) in a game played at Plymouth High.

www.hometownlife.com

Keshawn Martin and Austin Anderson scored 15 and 13, respectively, for the Rockets.

Central led 29-25 at the half and 42-37 with eight minutes to play. The Vikings were 7-of-10 from the free throw line; Glenn went 1-for-2 from the stripe

Glenn trailed just 49-45 with 3:44 left thanks to a three-point play from Dorian Prather, however, the Vikings reeled off an 11-2 run to seal the deal.

BAPTIST PARK 67, HURON VALLEY 31: Caleb Thompson scored 22 points Monday to lead Taylor Baptist Park Christian (13-6, 6-1) past Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (1-17, 0-8) in a Michigan Independent Athletic Conference-Red Division game.

Robby Miller added 16 for the victorious Wildcats, who improved to 5-1 in the MIAC-Red.

Bryan Gruenewald tallied seven for the Hawks.

Ohio squad stuns Lady Ocelots

Seemingly in the blink of an eye, a great season is over for Schoolcraft College's women's basketball team.

The Lady Ocelots, riding on top of the Michigan Community College Athletic Association-Eastern

Conference standings all season and one of the best junior college teams in the country, failed to win a single postseason game.

They lost 73-70 Thursday afternoon to Lakeland (Ohio) in a District H playoff contest at Oakland Community College's Highland Lakes campus.

Schoolcraft (25-5) took a 14-12 lead with 11 minutes to go in the first half on two free throws by Ashley Sibby (20 points), but the Lakers (17-13) took control with a 23-14

COLLEGE HOOPS

surge before intermission, leading 35-28 at intermission.

Although the Lady Ocelots started the second half on fire, outscoring the Lakers 12-4 to take a 40-39 advantage with 15 minutes remaining, they couldn't sustain their rally much longer.

Schoolcraft did take leads of 42-41 (on a layup by freshman forward Shana King) and 45-43 (on a trey by freshman guard Adrena Walker-Price, 12 points), but Lakeland bounced back with a threeball by Dominique Washington and subsequent layup by KeyAuna Jenkins (17 points, nine rebounds) to take a 48-45 margin with 13 minutes left.

The closest the Lady Ocelots would get the rest of the game was three. Freshman forward Antoinette Brown (10 points, 12 rebounds) hit a layup to cut Lakeland's lead to 53-50 with about 11 minutes to go and Schoolcraft trailed just 67-64 with 1:29 remaining when Walker-Price connected on her third triple of the day.

But Lakeland forward Jessica Davis (27 points) hit three of four free-throw chances in the final minute and Schoolcraft had too much of'a deficit to overcome.

Other Schoolcraft contributors included sophomore center Maricka Seay (nine points, seven boards) and freshman guard and Wayne Memorial grad LaDwan Jones (eight points).

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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 4, 2007

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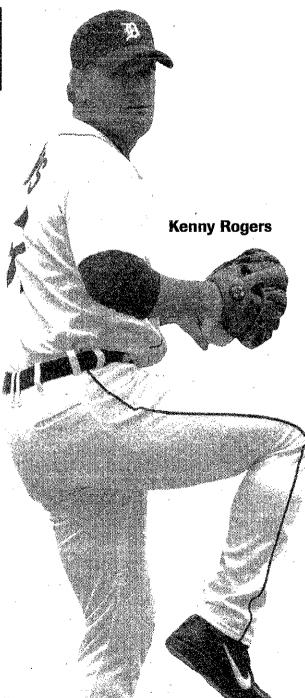
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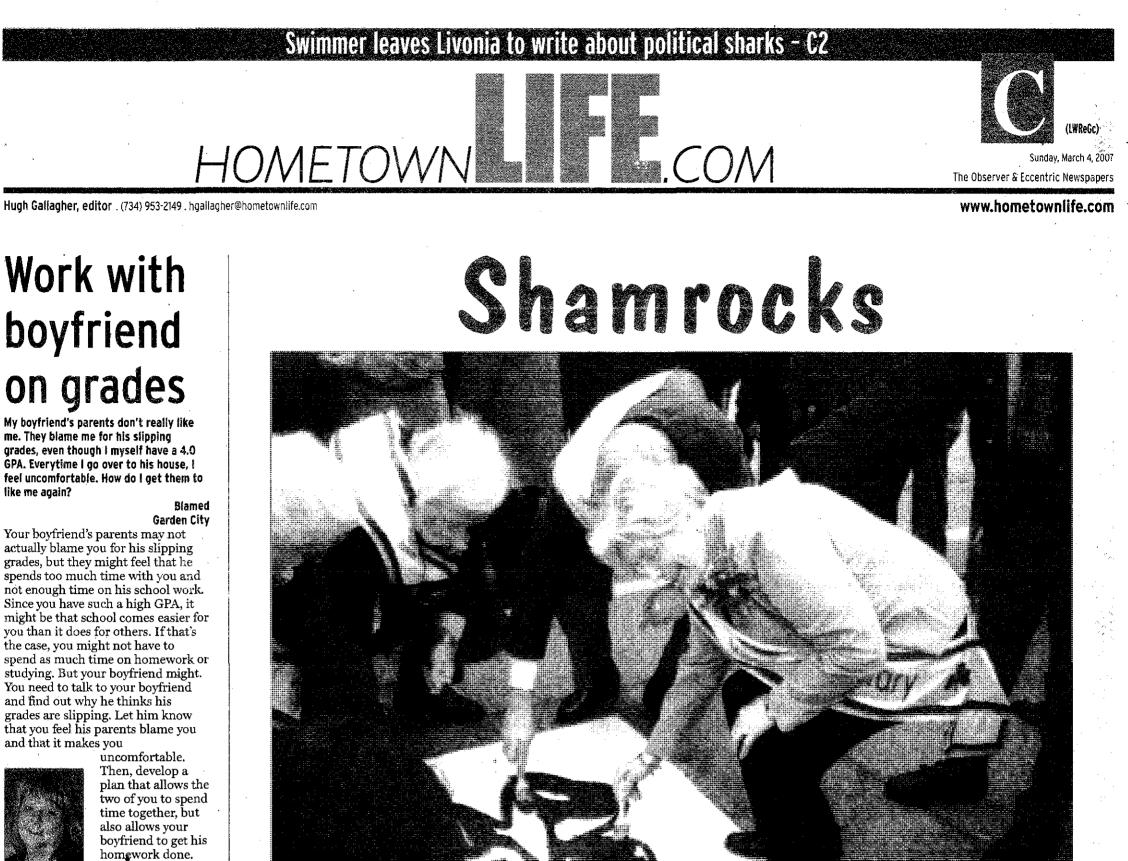


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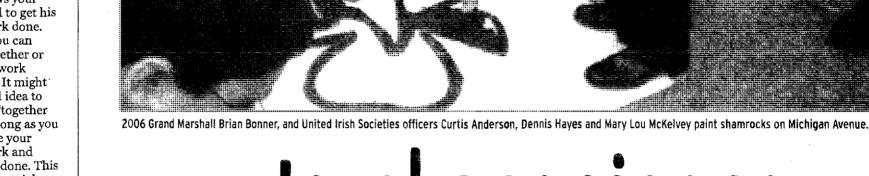
Teen Talk

Monica Fuiton

be a good idea to agree to "together time" as long as you both have your homework and studying done. This

way, your boyfriend's grades might improve and his parents might feel more comfortable with him spending his time with you.

Whenever school ends, I always plan to go home and do homework. But my friends keep coaxing me and I end up procrastinating and hanging out with them instead of doing homework. I still



Maybe you can study together or do homework together. It might

> to shenanigans Irish paint town





want a social life. What should I do? **Procrastination King** Garden City

The simple answer is Just Do It! Make the choice to do your homework and then follow through. Your friends should understand and support your decision. If they don't, you might want to ask yourself if these are the kinds of friends you need in vour life. After a long day at school, it might be hard to head home and hit the books again. Give yourself some time to relax and hang out with your friends. But set a time when you will start your homework, and then make sure you do it! Remember, you are the one in charge of this. You have been letting your friends convince you to blow off your homework. It's time you made the choice to do what's right for you!

How many years of college did you complete?

> Curious Garden City

This is an out-of-the-ordinary question for a teen advice column. At first, I didn't think I would put it in. But I started thinking that some of you are probably wondering the same thing. I completed my bachelor of arts degree at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. I graduated with a double major in psychology and philosophy and a minor in sociology. It took five years for me to complete all the degree requirements while I continued to work two parttime jobs. In addition, I am nearing the end of my studies for a master of arts degree in clinical psychology; 1 am currently in my last quarter. This degree has taken me 5 1/2 years to complete, since I continued working in my career while raising a family. My education experience has been awesome and I encourage everyone to continue learning about things that interest them after high school ends. In my house, we have a motto: "Today, do your best, have fun, and learn something you didn't know yesterday!"

Monica Fulton is the supervisor of the Family Resource Center in Garden City working on youth and family problems. She can be reached by e-mail at monicafulton@sbcglob- , al.net.

### green to honor St. Patrick

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

One of Mike Kelly's favorite parts of the Detroit St. Patrick's Day Parade is the painting of shamrocks on Michigan Avenue Friday, March 9. The event kicks off the weekend when 30 member organizations of the United Irish Societies (UIS) gather to celebrate their heritage.

The 49th annual parade steps off at 2 p.m. from Michigan and Sixth and travels to 14th through historic Corktown on Sunday, March 11. Kelly and Joe Parsky of Huntington Woods co-

chair the parade that turns Detroit green. It's a family day to reflect on our Irish heritage and honor our ancestors to carry on our traditions, and to promote Corktown and Detroit," said Mike Kelly, a Livonia resident and member of the Knights of Equity and Ancient Order of Hibernians, Stephen Walsh Division.

Kelly's grandparents came from County Mayo. His wife Maureen's grandparents, the O'Sullivans, came from County Clare. Maureen and Mike co-chair the annual parade fund-raiser In 2005 parade chairman Mike Kelly (right) was assisted by Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano.

in February. Maureen, a member of Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Rose Kennedy Division, marches in the parade as does Mike.

The day begins with the UIS organizations gathering for a 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Patrick's Senior Center and Parish, 58 Parsons at Woodward. Afterward, the Motor City Striders present the Corktown races, a fund-raiser for the St. Patrick's Senior Center in Detroit at 11:30 a.m. For information, call Parsky at (313) 885-477**2**.

The theme of this year's parade is From Famine to Fortune – The Celtic Tiger since Ireland has progressed from one of the poorest countries in the European Union to one of the

PLEASE SEE CELEBRATION, C3

### in Oakland County

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

In all of the excitement, Steve Zanetti, doesn't want anyone to lose sight of the true meaning of the St. Patrick's Day Parade stepping off at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 10, in Ferndale. The event is sponsored by the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Norman O'Brien division in Oakland County, and travels from St. James Church on Woodward and 81/2 Mile north to Nine Mile then west to Livernois and ends at the American Legion, Afterwards awards will be given out at Rosie O'Grady's on Troy Street. For more information, call (248) 541-2500.

The parade was held in Royal Oak for the first four years. This year, the Ferndale Downtown Development Authority is cosponsoring the event.

"The most important thing is the celebration of St. Patrick, our patron saint of Ireland," said Zanetti, parade chairman.

PLEASE SEE PARADE, C3

# Arts patrons invited to wear Renaissance costumes

### BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN

STAFE WRITER

Paula Gangopadhyay won't be wearing a Renaissance-style gown to the annual Plymouth Community Arts Council dinner dance auction on March 9, but she is encouraging guests to come in costume.

Every year, arts council patrons look forward to dressing up according to the theme of the gala and 2007 should be no exception. In past years, women and men turned out in Denim and Diamonds.

This year, An Artful Affair is drawing on a Renaissance theme for the affair that takes place 6 p.m. to midnight Friday, at Laurel Manor, 39000 Schoolcraft in Livonia.

For those who enjoy dancing, Channel Six will play a wide range of music from the 1940s to today.

Tickets are \$85, \$35 of which is taxdeductible. For more information, call (734) 416 - 4278.

"The Renaissance theme ties in with revitalization efforts we are undertaking this year," said Gangopadhyay, who plans to wear a casually elegant gown. Gangopadhyay became the arts council's executive director in July.

"The council is going to be turning 40 in 2009. As part of strategic planning we have embarked on a campaign, Countdown to 40."

Proceeds from the dinner dance and its silent and live auctions will help fund three main areas of growth: programming to reach out to community members of all ages, membership, and funding.

'We currently have student and family members. We want to begin focusing on expanding retail business and corporate memberships. It is very important for the entire community to support the arts," said Gangopadhyay. "As far as funding, we're looking into expanding corporate support, seeking new grants from foundations as well as the state. We just received a \$15,000 grant from the Michigan Humanities Council.

"It's all about rebirth, revitalization." In addition to inviting guests to

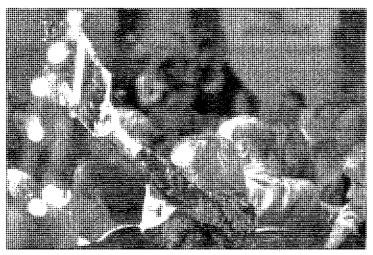
### PLEASE SEE RENAISSANCE, C2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

New Plymouth Community Arts Council director Paula Gangopadhyay came from the Public Museum of Grand Rapids.

### HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Bidding on auction items is always one of the most exciting parts of the Plymouth Community Arts Council's gala evening.

### RENAISSANCE

#### FROM PAGE C1

come in Renaissance attire, volunteers plan to decorate the hall at Laurel Manor with pillars and busts of David, Michelangelo's classic sculpture.

"We want to kind of create that ambiance," said Gangopadhyay. "We'll have close to 200 items – unique artwork, vacation packages, autographed sports memorabilia, dinner and tickets to museums, sports events and zoos. We will be publishing a list of items on the Web site (www.plymoutharts.com).

"So many of us do these fundraisers," said Gangopadhyay. "This is the arts council's major fund-raiser and supports arts education for the entire western Wayne area. When funding for schools is declining it's important for us to keep offering these opportunities."

Ichomin@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2145

### Swimmer leaves Livonia to write about political sharks

#### BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Ned Rice is a little nervous about whether or not the Fox News Channel is going to pick up his pilot series, The 1/2 Hour News Hour, but he's got the go ahead to tape two more shows.

Rice never dreamed that one day he'd be writing comedy let alone reaching millions of viewers. At 10 p.m. Sunday, March 4, the mock news show returns after debuting on Feb. 18.

"It's kind of like when you watch Saturday Night Live's Weekend Update, a parody of the news. We're pretending that it's evening news with two anchors, a man and a woman, and sometimes bring on guests or correspondents," said Ned Rice, 1/2 Hour News Hour's head writer and co-creator.

"I'm excited about this show because it's always great to have a show of your own on. I feel strongly there should be a place for everyone on TV not just making fun of Bush, and the Democrats are back. I'm a conservative. We just laugh our heads off when I get together with people I know."

Rice was too busy practicing with the football and varsity swim teams at Stevenson High School in Livonia to even think about comedy as a career until his student years at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

"I did standup at the Michigan Union and afterward went to New York, but it's pretty tough but it helped me get into TV writing," said Ned Rice, a 1977 Stevenson High School graduate. "It helps you to learn how to write a joke."

In 1989 Rice started penning scripts for Remote Control on MTV and by 1992 had moved to the West Coast. In California he bounced from the Fox show, Comic Strip Live, to the Chevy Chase show for four weeks then onto Jay Leno for two years before settling as a writer with Bill Maher for the next  $7\frac{1}{2}$  years. Shortly after, Joel Surnow, the creator and executive producer of "24," sought him out and the two began e-mailing back and forth. In addition to Rice, Sandy Frank, a legendary writer and Harvard-trained attorney who quit law to write for David Letterman, and Julia Gorin, a stand-up comedian, work on



This photograph of Ned Rice was taken at the Academy Awards a few years ago. At the time Rice was writing for Bill Maher and the show, Politically Incorrect, which was up for an award.

#### the episodes.

"He wanted us to create a comedy show that's a political satire to the right of center, something more conservative. The country's pretty well split between red and blue the last two elections," said Rice, 48. "We put a show together and did a video presentation and showed it to Fox Television Network who turned it down then we went to Fox News Channel and they said yes. After the first two pilots they said we can do two more, but haven't been picked up weekly."

www.hometownlife.com

Rice admits to thinking about ideas for the show around the clock, but he isn't waiting to see if The¹/₂ Hour News Hour survives.

In between taking his three dogs to the park across the street from his condo in Marina Del Ray with his wife Michelle, Rice is writing a funny love story about an unlikely teen beauty queen.

Mary Rice says Ned has always been funny. She's extremely proud of her son who's been living in California for the last 20-years.

"When he was about two my father looked at him and said that boy is a regular clown," said Mary Rice of Livonia. "He's always been fun.

"About four years ago we had a birthday party and he wrote a Jeopardy game of all the things the family did throughout the years that was funny. I have five boys and two girls and we couldn't stop laughing."

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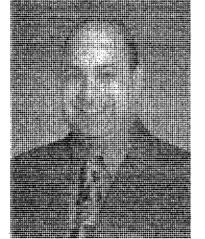
### **Free European Vacation Seminar**

Dream. Pack. And leave with AAA Travel and Trafalgar





### **Free Seminar** Hip and Knee Replacement Surgery



Dr. Angelo Sorce is an experienced orthopaedic surgeon relocating to the Plymouth/Canton area.

Please join him for a free educational seminar discussing arthritis of the hip and knee.

Dr. Sorce will address the latest technologies and current surgical techniques in hip and knee replacement surgery.

Complimentary refreshments will be served.

### Sat., March 10, 2007 9:00am-11:00am

**Summit on the Park** 46000 Summit Parkway • Canton

> To Register, Please Call 313-586-5347

### **HOMETOWNLIFE.COM**

### Arts group offers classes, exhibit opportunities

The Visual Arts Association Edee Joppich, a monotype of Livonia (VAAL) begins classes Wednesday, March 7, at the Dickinson Center, 18000 Newburgh, between Six and Seven Mile, Livonia. For more information, call Laraine Walowich at (734) 838-1204 or send e-mail to vaalinfo@sbcglobal.net.

Among the daytime and evening offerings are creative paintings classes with Marj Chellstorp, drawing and portraiture with Lin Baum, new ways with watercolor with

### PARADE

FROM PAGE C1

"We started the parade because we needed to celebrate the Irish in the area, to celebrate Irish heritage, to show pride, to bring the Irish community together, and to help the businesses and promote goodwill. It's a familyoriented parade, not all floats. It's marchers and clans. Everybody's welcome to march. We're a nonprofit organization and it costs for police overtime and city workers so a donation is welcome."

Carolyn Christopher, a member of parade committee, is inviting everyone to come out and have a good time. Christopher will be announcing the parade on the judges' stand near the Twisted Shamrock.

"The restaurants will all have entertainment," said Christopher, who lives in Berkley and works at O'Brien Services, an automotive repair facility in Ferndale where a green bus is housed and maintained and decorated for the parades in Ferndale and Detroit.

"We started the parade to bring a little bit of Irish to the suburbs. Last year, we had floats, bagpipes, and this year we've asked the Ferndale Honor Guard through the Police Department to lead the parade."

Last year, a contingent of more than 100 dogs and their owners paraded behind the Clancy clan. The effort is being organized again this year by Uppity Puppy co-owners Kim



sampler with Laura Whitesides-Host, and mixed media with Audrey DiMarco-Terry.

Workshops focus on monotypes with Lily Dudgeon during one or two day sessions March 30-31, using the wetin-wet watercolor technique to paint spring flowers April 19-21 (Joppich), and spatter painting flowers and gardens May-18-19 (Chellstorp). Gwen Tomkow shows how to use a variety of brushes to

capture your favorite things (May 4-5).

VAAL's next meeting is March 15 and features speaker Edee Joppich discussing design and composition. The group's spring show will be held May 1-31 at Livonia City Hall. There is also the opportunity to exhibit in Art from the Heart, Livonia's annual arts and crafts fair, to be held June 9-10.

For details, call VAAL president Virginia Bosak at (734) 432-5976.

Animal Welfare Society and Small Paws Rescue, Michiganbased nonprofits. We hope to reach 150 this year. We're still looking for walkers.

"This is going to be huge. I don't think they've ever shut down Woodward at this end for a parade.

O'Brien is bringing Larry, her 13¹/₂-vear-old Irish Wolfhound/Briard. Livernois is carrying Truffles, her Bichon in a backpack. Once again this year they will be giving out shamrock cookies from their Uppity Puppy shop to the dogs.

Last year, Clancy Callahan loved the homemade cookies made from all natural ingredients. The 5^{/2}-month-old Irish Wolfhound marched in the parade in Royal Oak with his owner Gwen Dietrich of Canton.

"Everybody's Irish that day," said Dietrich who's a mix of German, Austrian and Ukrainian. "It was a green event. I like to think of it as a St. Paddy's Mardi Gras-like celebration."

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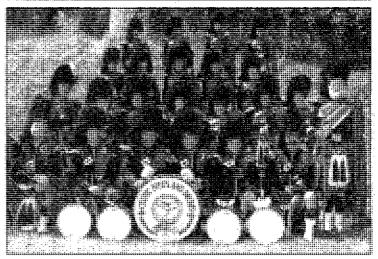
### CELEBRATION FROM PAGE C1

wealthiest. "We have a calling of the clans, the Irish families that march," said Kelly. "We have novelty groups like high school bands, pipe bands, dignitaries, Roger McCarville and the United Wheelchair Association, and Wayne County Sheriff Warren Evans leading the mounted division. New this year is the Irish Setters Association. Afterwards, we go back to our organization for corned beef and cabbage and Irish entertain-

Karen Tait leads the Birmingham Celtic Pipes and Drums Corps. She and husband George, a piper, have marched in the parade for 30 years. This year, George will watch from the sidelines because of his arthritic hips. George has been playing bagpipes for 35 years and still rehearses with the band every Tuesday night at Birmingham Chysler Jeep, the Troy dealership that sponsors the corps. George and the band perform the rest of the year at concerts, parties and weddings around town (www.celtic-pipes-anddrums.com). Daughter Kristen Tait, a percussionist with the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra, teaches the drum corps. The band offers lessons in pipes and drums, and is always looking for individuals to join the 28 members ranging in age from 11 to 81.

"The parade is just a wonderful holiday for the Irish," said Karen Tait, the Pipe Major.

"We do fund-raisers for the United Irish Societies so they give us the honor to lead the parade," added George Tait who's Scottish. "With bagpipes, there's not much difference between Irish and Scottish. We're all brothers under the skin." George is especially looking



The Birmingham Celtic Pipes and Drums Corps leads off the St. Patrick's Day Parade on Michigan Avenue Sunday, March 11.

forward to doing a little pub crawling after the parade and playing a few tunes, having a glass of Guinness and going on to the next. Alcohol is not allowed during the parade as the day is for families.

"It's always a good, happy day for everybody," said Dennis Haves, United Irish Societies president. "Prior to the first parade in Dearborn there were a couple of small parades on the west side by a parish priest. It was moved to Detroit and we've had them on Woodward then Michigan Avenue ever since. We've had people get married

during the parade. "There are clown groups, a Detroit Fire Department clown team and funny fire engines, something for . everybody, color guards from the VFW and American Legion, and clans of families like the O'Malleys. It's a very welcoming event.

C3

(LWReGc)

We hope to see you there. We want people to realize what a wonderful city we still have in Detroit. The suburbs need the city; the city needs the suburbs." For more information, visit www.detroitirish.org.

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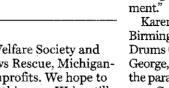
awthorne Kesta Buy One New York Strip Steak or Lake Superior Whitefish Dinner Your choice of 2 sides, soup, DINE IN OR 734-422-3440 sslad, potatoes, vegetables. Must purchase 2 beverages 7300 N. Merriman lot valid with other offers 12-MONTH FDIC INSURED CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT ANNUAL PERCENTAGE YIELD P Financial Group YOUR LOCAL CD AUTHORITY outhfield. Michiga

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Gwen Dietrich of Canton and her 51/2 month-old Irish Wolfhound, Clancy Callahan, marched in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Royal Oak last year.

O'Brien of Ortonville and Patty Livernois of West Bloomfield. To register, call (248) 336 - 2380.

"We're so excited," said O'Brien.

We're asking \$5 per furry child. Each furry child that pays \$5 will get a shamrock bandana. We're collecting the \$5 per walker to benefit the

### **CLASS REUNIONS**

As space permits, the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers print, without charge, announcements of class reunions. Send the information to Reunions, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48170. Please include the date of the reunion, one contact person, and a telephone number.

### REUNIONS

#### **Berkley High School** Class of 1987

**C4** 

(*)

A 20-year reunion in planned for Nov. 24, 2007. Looking for all current contact info for alumni from class of 1987. Contact Kim (DeWilde) Everingham at (734)422-0087 or e-mail info to kimsliasophia@gmail.com. Reunion website is www.BHSreunion1987.com for further information and details. **Bishop Borgess** 

### Class of 1987

A 20-year reunion, Sept. 15, 2007, at the Livonia Marriott. Contact borgess87@hotmail.com for more information.

### **Dearborn Fordson**

Class of 1977 A 30-year reunion, Friday, Aug. 3 to Sunday, Aug. 5, 2007. Contact Val Schulte (Wrenbeck) at msugrad81@cox.net with your current address and phone number.

#### **Dearborn Edsel Ford** Class of 1967

A 40-year reunion 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 4, 2007, at Doubletree Hotel, Dearborn. Hors d'oeuvres and cash bar, approximately \$35. For information, call Cheryl Riske Brown at (313)336-0192 or e-mail efhs67@yahoo.com **Detroit Chadsey** 

#### Class of 1957

A 50th Reunion is being planned for Sept. 29, at Weber's Inn in Ann Arbor. Looking for January, June and Summer '57 graduates. If interested in attending or know of the whereabouts of other classmates, contact Pat Gorski-Zielinski, (989) 366-9288. **Detroit** Cody

### Class of 1957

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A 50th reunion at the Embassy Suites. Livonia

Oct. 5. 2007. Cost is \$90 per person, complete with dinner, open bar, memory book, CD, champagne toast and much more. This invitation is to all 50s' graduates. Deadline is June 25. Call 800-859-9502 or email

loret@wideopenwest for details. Cost is \$90.00 per person, complete with dinner, open bar, memory book, champagne toast and much more.

### **Detroit Cooley**

Classes of 1967, 1968 Reunion 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Sep. 29, 2007, at Laurel Manor, Livonia. Discounted tickets before March 1. Contact Dave Junguist at (810)667-9131, Website www.geocities.com/cooleyreunions67. All classmates are encour-

aged to register for inclusion in memory book at www.classreport.org/usa/mi/detroit/co

### **Detroit Denby** Class of 1957

oley/1967

A 50th reunion is planned for Sept. 7. 8, and 9, 2007, at the Thomas Edison Inn, Port Huron. Seeking lost graduates, January/June classes. If you are not yet on the mailing list, please email maroonfowl@aol.com or call (248) 642-0249.

### **Detroit Girls Catholic Central** Class of 1967

Searching for classmates of the class of 1967 for a 40th reunion this summer/fall. Contact Diane Kangas (Krok) at (586)446-9011 or Mary Mezzardi (Winowiecki) at mmezzadri@hotmail.com.

Detroit Henry Ford

### Class of 1967

A 40th reunion will be held 6:30-11:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 8, at Laurei Manor Special Event Center in Livonia. Seeking January, June and summer graduates from 1967. For information, call Ellen (Neihoff) VanderRoest at (248)684-7705 or email chuckandelvan@comcast.net.

### **Detroit Holy Redeemer**

Class of 1957 A 50-year reunion. Oct. 12, 2007, at O'Kelley KofC Council, Dearborn. In interested in attending or know the whereabouts or former classmates, contact John Duff at oliverlynn@aol.com or phone (734)261-3346.

### **Detroit Mackenzie** Class of 1957

Looking for graduates to attend a reunion scheduled for Oct. 19, 2007. Call Eleanor at (734)425-8278.

#### **Detroit Western** Class of 1962

A 45-year reunion will be held in Sept., 15, 2007 at Warren Valley Country Club, Dearborn Heights. Seeking information on classmates from that year. All other

classes welcome. Contact Helen Knights at (734)285-4927 or Ralph Brighton at (734)513-7499. **Detroit Southwestern** 

#### Class of 1957

A 50-year reunion is being planned for September 2007. Looking for January and June graduates. If interested in attending or know of the whereabouts of other classmates, contact Angie (Conz) Maccani at (313) 532-4379 or Ken Suski at (313) 291-5450. **Epiphany Grade School** 

### Class of 1966

A 40-year reunion is in the planning stages for the summer of 2006. Contact Dorothy at (248) 477-9478 or dzsnyder@hotmail.com.

### Ferndale Lincoln High

Class of 1947 January and June 60th class reunion, Aug. 3, 4 and 5 at The Hilton Hotel on Crooks Road in Troy. For information or details contact : Treva (Powell)Hamili, 248-667-1601, bobtrev9@aol.com or, Dick Reising, 248-623-9060, dreisings@sbcglobal.net

### Fordson High School

Class of 1969 Planning a reunion for 2007. Please contact Kathy Nisun at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: Kayninilu@aol.com or Kathy Shoebridge @ Klivingston@nucore.com

#### **Garden City High School** Class of 1987

Searching for all class of '87 Alumni for a 20-year reunion. Need to find current information on alumni (name, address, phone, email, etc.). Contact GCHSClassof87reunion@comcast.net or call Sheryll (Pietryka) Catton at (734) 367-0898.

#### Class of 1997

A 10-year reunion is planned for June 9, 2007, at the Crowne Plaza in Romulus. For more information and to update your address, visit the reunion website at www.gchs97reunion.com. **Grosse Pointe North** 

### Class of 1991

Call (800) 677-7800, visit www.taylorreunions.com or e-mail: info@taylorreunions.com

#### Ladywood High School Class of 1967

A 40-year reunion in planned for June 9-10, 2007. Headquarters at Courtyard by Marriott, Laurel Park, Livonia. Call Liz at (248)681-7768 or email LHS67@comcast.net for further information.

**TOIVO W. HUURTO** 

Age 90, March 1, 2007. Beloved hus-band of the late Ina. Loving father of Judith (Robert) Witt, Kathleen Bentley and Cherly (James) Jones. Cherished grandfather of ten, great-rrandfather of the European I griday.

grandfather of three. Funeral Friday 1 PM (In-state 12 noon) at St. John Lutheran Church, 13542 Mercedes,

Redford. Visitation Wednesday 2-9

PM at THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL

HOME, 33603 Grand River Ave., downtown Farmington, (1 blk. W. of Farmington Rd.). Memorial contribu-

tions may be made to the church. www.thayer-rock.com

May You

Comfort in Family Friends

**OBITUARY** 

POLICY

The first five "billed" lines of

an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines

will be charged at \$4 per line. You may place a picture of

your loved one for an

additional cost of only \$6.

Symbolic emblems may be

included at no cost (example:

American Flags, religious

**Deadlines**:

symbols, etc.)

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WEDDING

#### **Marino-Curtiss**

Caroline Suzanne Curtiss and Mark Ashton Marino were wed July 8, 2006, at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Plymouth with the Rev. John Sullivan officiating.

James and Suzanne Curtiss of Plymouth. She is a 1995 graduate of Mercy High School, a 1999 graduate of the University of Michigan and 2002 graduate of Notre Dame Law School. She is an attorney with the firm of Leader, Berkon.

The groom is the son of Anthony and Deborah Marino of Mandeville, Louisiana. He is Northwestern Law Schoo. He is

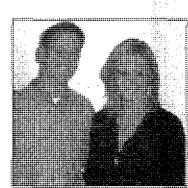
Kelly Ainsworth, maid of honor

cousin; and Stuart Marino,

A reception was held at the Bay Pointe Golf Club in West Bloomfield. The couple honeymooned in Tahiti and Bora Bora

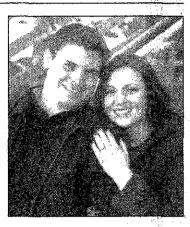
They are making their home in Manhattan.

### ANNIVERSARY



ENGAGEMENTS

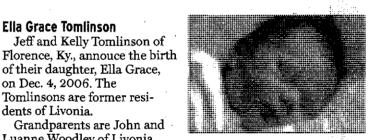
wedding is planned for Grosse Ile Presbyterian Church with Pastor Karl Travis officiating. A reception will be held at Grosse Ile Golf and Country Club?



Kate Glancy and bridesmaids Nicole DeMol and Melissa Clos. The prospective groom is to be attended by Best Man Andrew Clos and groomsmen Thomas Clos, John Stout, Rudolfo Pacheco and Paul Urbiel.

The couple plans to take a honeymoon cruise to the Western Caribbean before settling into their home in West Bloomfield.

### BIRTH



Great-grandparents are Pat Hope of Livonia, Ilsa deArmas of Redford and Pat Cardinal of Livonia.

# assaues

1-800-579-7355 🚸 fax: 734-953-2232

e-mail: oeobits@hometownlife.com

The bride is the daughter of

a 1994 graduate of Holy Cross High School, a 1998 graduate of the University of Notre Dame and a 2001 graduate of

employed a real estate broker. The bride was attended by and bride's friend; Kelly Marion, groom's sister; Meghan Covino, bride's friend; Jennifer Eng, bride's friend; Rachel Stockhausen, bride's friend;

Elena Tantille, bride's cousin. groom's brother; Ross Kevin Cantrelle, friend of the

# groom's brother.

and a teacher in Wyandotte at the Lincoln Center. A Saturday, June 30, 2007

**Cole-Keyes** 

Gerald and Patricia Cole of

engagement of their daughter,

Kelly Shannon Cole to Justin

of the University of Michigan and a teacher at the Burger

School in Garden City.

The bride-to-be is a graduate

The prospective groom is the

son of Russ and Cathy Keyes of

The prospective groom, also

A July 28, 2007 wedding is

Ella Grace Tomlinson

on Dec. 4, 2006. The

dents of Livonia.

Plymouth.

Jeff and Kelly Tomlinson of

of their daughter, Ella Grace,

Tomlinsons are former resi-

Luanne Woodley of Livonia,

Len and Cindy Gallagher of

Clarkston and Mark and

Monica Tomlinson of

Grandparents are John and

Westland. He is a graduate of

Eastern Michigan University

Michael Keyes of Westland.

Wyandotte announce the

### Stout-Clos David and Lynn Stout of Fremont announce the engagement of their daughter, Sarah Marcel Stout, to William Clos,

the son of Charles and Elizabeth Clos of Plymouth. The bride-to-be, a West Bloomfield resident, earned bachelor's and masters' degrees from Michigan State University and is an elementary art teacher in the Troy School District.

of West Bloomfield, is a graduate of Eastern Michigan University and the Michigan State School of Law, and is an attorney with Asker Clos & Perlmuter, P.C., in Westland.

planned at Saint Mary's Catholic Church in Muskegon, with Fr. Ernest Bernott officiating. The bride-to-be is to be attended by Matron of Honor

The groom was attended by Gregory Marino, best man and Cannizaro, friend of the groom; groom; Brad Diggs, groom's cousin; Kevin Diggs, grooms



#### **BETTY BARNETT MORRIS**

Age 84, of Bloomfield Township, died February 19th in Miami, FL. She was born October 26, 1922, in Pueblo, CO. Betty Morris was a graduate of Eastman School of Music. She taught school in Grosse Pointe, MI, Upper Darby, PA and the Birmingham School District until she retired in 1986. Predeceased by husband Eugene Morris in 2001, she is survived by one daughter, Betty Jeanne of Pembroke Pines, FL, one son, Charles Kevin of Miami, FL; and two grandchildren, Perry and Caryn. A service is sched-uled for March 9th at the Baptist Church in Great Valley, 945 N Valley Forge Rd, Devon, PA 19333. The fam-ily suggests memorial tributes may be made in her name to the Humane Society or the Arthritis Foundation.

**HELENA M. HYMA** 

Age 90, died February 28, 2007.

Beloved wife of the late George A., dear mother of George M. (Annabelle). Grandmother of Ruthie (Eddie) Zelmanski, great-grandmoth-er of Eddie; sister of Walter (Virginia) Macross and train guitze Filiphett (the

Messer and twin sister Elizabeth (the

late Earl) Halsey. Also survived by

several nieces and nephews. Memorial service was 11:00 a.m.

Saturday at Kirk in the Hills Presbyterian Church, 1340 W. Long

Lake, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302-1335. Memorials to the church.

LILLIAN MILCZAREK

Age 92 of Oxford, OH formerly of

Punta Gorda, FL and Garden City, MI. She passed away February 5, 2007 at

McCullough-Hyde Hospital. She was

born January 17, 1915 in Detroit, MI,

the daughter of Wladyslow Dul and Alexsandra (Szram) Dul. She was a member of the Oxford, OH Kingdom

Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses. Services

will be private and at the convenience

of the family. Avance Funeral Home & Crematory, Fairfield, OH is serving

the family. For condolences, more family information and loving

www.avancefuneralhome.com

**ROBERT W. WILLIAMS** 

Carol (Richard) LaPensee, Gerald (Brenda) and Bruce (Heidi).

Christopher LaPensee, Mary and

Elizabeth Williams. No services. R.G.

& G.R. Harris Funeral Home (734)

422-6720 in charge of arrangements.

Beloved

Age 86, February 27, 2007.

Constance. Loving father of

grandfather of Nick and

husband

of

thoughts at:

Dear

#### **ROBERT D. DEN UYL**

After a long battle with Parkinson's disease Bob died

in his home in Vero Beach on February 25th, 2007. He was born October 14, 1926 in Detroit and lived in Grosse Pointe, Michigan. After graduating from D.U.S. at 17 in 1944 he enlisted in the Merchant Marines in the second World War. After the war he went to the University of Michigan for two years and pledge Chi Psi Fraternity. He transferred to the University of Colorado in Boulder and graduated with an M.B.A. in June, 1949. Seven days later he and the former Andrea Jorgenson were married in Kenilworth, Illinois on June 18. They lived in Birmingham, Michigan and moved to Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, where they still have a home. They have three children, Douglas Den Uyl 1950, Bruce Den Uyl 1952, Marcía started his own Dietz 1955.He Manufacturer's Rep. business in 1957 and besides work he loved sports, especially handball, tennis and windsurfing and traveling to many places. He has a home at Macatawa, Michigan near Holland, where his father Simon and his mother Marjorie grew up before moving to Detroit. Besides his wife, he has a brother Richard and grandchildren, seven Julia and Deborah Den Uyl, Clark and Eric Den Uyl, and Lindsey, Andria and Erica Dietz. He is a 60 year member of the D.A.C. of Detroit and also belongs to the 100 Club. A service will be held on Saturday at 11:00 A.M. at Trinity Episcopal Church in Vero, the 3rd of March. Another service will be planned in the spring in Bloomfield Hills, MI, so the grandchildren can attend. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to the Humane Society, Lowther Funeral Home and Crematory

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances Mastersons celebra:

### 50th anniversary

Edward H. and Helen V. (Gustus) Masterson of Livonia celebrated their 50th anniversary March 2. The Mastersons were mar-

ried March 2, 1957, at St. James Catholic Church in Ferndale. They have lived in Livonia for

45 years. The Mastersons have five children: Edward Jr. of

Westland; Kevin of Westland; Leslie of Livonia: Steve of Livonia; and Shane of Livonia. They have three grandchil-

dren.



Edward Masterson has been retired for 20 years. Helen Masterson has been retired for 14 years.

The couple enjoy music, traveling and playing cards.



Edward Masterson plays guitar. They will celebrate their anniversary March 10 at a party for 50 people at the Moose Hall.

(internet)

### How to submit announcements to the Observer

Local engagement, wedding, anniversary and birth announcements run in the Sunday editions of the Observer.

There is no charge to submit an announcement. To obtain a copy of our forms for engagements,weddings, anniversaries and births email Hugh Gallagher at hgallagher@hometownlife.com.

Or send the following information to Hugh Gallagher, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia MI 48150:

For engagement announce-

### **MISC. SINGLES**

### Moon-dusters

Bailroom Dancing to a live band every Saturday 8:30-11 p.m. at the Livonia Civic Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia. Admission: guest/\$6, associates/\$5.50, members/\$5. Dress: Ladies - date style clothes, gentlemen - jackets and ties. Call Joe Castrodale (248) 968-5197.

### THE AMERICAN SINGLES' GOLF ASSOCIATION

#### Open House

Thursday, March 15 at the Bahama Breeze Restaurant, 19600 Haggerty Road (between 7-8 Mile Roads on the east side of Haggerty.) Cocktails and ments, include:

■ Names, addresses and cities for the bride, groom and both sets of parents

Where bride and groom attended (or attend) high school and college and years graduated

Where bride and groom are employed

Wedding date
Wedding location

■ Daytime phone number and e-mail address in case we have any questions.

For wedding announcements, include:

 $\blacksquare$  All of the above, plus

### SINGLES

mingling between 6-7 p.m. with announcements at 7 p.m. Dinner is optional and is off the menu. For more information contact Diane at (248) 347-0379 or stop by our booth at the Michigan Golf Show held on March 9-11 at the Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River, Novi.

### **BETHANY SUBURBAN WEST**

Shamrock card and game night Friday, March 9, at St. Linus Activity Center, 6466 Evangeline, Dearborn Heights. Admission will be a dish of food to pass and \$5 at the door. Refreshments will be supplied. For details, call Michele at (313)996-8644

Clergy's name Names and cities of all attendants

Reception location

Honeymoon location

City where couple will

reside Please send photos in a ver-

tical format. If you are e-mailing a photograph, please send it as a "jpeg."

Photographs may be picked up after publication; or enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope. If you have questions regarding your announcement, call (734) 953-2149.

Breakfast meeting Saturday, March 17, at Leon's Family Dining, 30249 Ford Road, Garden City. For details, contact Kathy M. at

(734)513-9479. Lenten Mass 9 a.m. Sunday, March 25, Felician Sister Chapel at Madonna University, 36600 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, Use Newburgh exit. Breakfast to follow Mass, for details contact Kathy M.

(734)513-9479. **Together Dance** 8 p.m. Saturday, March 31, at St Robert Bellarmine, 27101 W. Chicago, Redford. Limited to 450 paid admis-

sions only. Proper attire. \$12 admission. For more infomation, call Loretta from Bethany East at (586)264-0284.

the Parkinson's Foundation or Hospice in Vero or Bloomfield. Arrangements are under the direction of the Thomas S.

Friday 4:30 PM for Sunday Wednesday Noon for Thursday Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to Attn: Obits c/o Charolette Wilson 734-953-2232 For more information call: **Charolette Wilson** 

734-953-2070 ar Liz Keiser 734-953-2067

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Hugh Gallagher, editor . (734) 953-2149 . hgallagher@hometownlife.com

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Page C6 (*)

Sunday, March 4, 2007

# Hyperbaric oxygen therapy Series of treatments changes lives

#### BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Randall McGhee was far from irritated when his wife asked him to slow down as they walked through Northland Mall in Southfield. The 53-year-old Detroit police officer was happy since his spry steps were a sign that he'd fully regained his health.

At one point, McGhee was nearly forced into retirement because he couldn't walk. While recuperating from arthroscopic knee surgery, he contracted a staph infection and had to be admitted to St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia. Upon release, his physician referred him to Dr. Bruce Ruben for treatment. After  $1 \frac{1}{2}$  months of intravenous antibiotics, McGhee was depressed to learn the infection returned only one week later. That's when Ruben suggested McGhee undergo hyperbaric oxygen therapy in a glass, cylindrical chamber at Ruben's O2, The Complete Hyperbaric, Infusion & Wound Care Center in Farmington Hills. After seven months on medical leave, McGhee was finally able to return to work as a patrol officer thanks to 30 hyperbaric oxygen treatments.

"I kept thinking my infection would come back, but it didn't," said McGhee.

### INFECTION NEARLY HEALED

Gene Dean looks comfortable inside the chamber built for one person. The 54-yearold Novi man is nearing the end of 40 treatments for a bone infection that resulted from an automobile accident. Ruben says Dean's leg is 80 percent healed.

An infectious disease specialist, Ruben developed an interest in wound care about four years ago. On Thursday, he installed a second chamber after seeing how hyperbaric therapy saved the limbs of several patients at the center by inundating the body with oxygen.



Mamie Martin talks about the benefits she received with treatments in a Hyperbaric Chamber under the care of Dr. Bruce Rubben at the O2 offices in Farmington Hills.

Wounds fester and fail to heal when not enough oxygen-enriched blood reaches the area. A single hyperbaric treatment increases oxygen in the body by as much as 10 times. These high levels are carried in the blood to help heal wounds and damaged tissue.

While 80 percent of Ruben's patients receive hyperbaric therapy for diabetic ulcers, bone infections or radiation damage from oral cancer treatments, the high-levels of oxygen can be used for a variety of conditions including crush injuries caused by accidents, carbon monoxide poisoning and smoke inhalation, brain and certain other abscesses, skin grafts, and decompression sickness. Ruben even treated one young girl with a nontraumatic brain injury.

"In the 1950s the Navy realized those scuba diving who would come up too fast would get the bends or decompression sickness," said Ruben. "Since then they've found excellent medical uses for the chamber."

Mamie Martin suffered with a limb-threatening bone infection. After undergoing 40 hyperbaric oxygen treatments, the 90-yearold Detroit woman is back doing housework and looks forward to growing flowers and vegetables in her garden this summer.



Dr. Bruce Ruben of O2, The Complete Hyperbaric, Infusion & Wound Care Center in Farmington Hills talks about the benefits of Hyperbaric Chamber treatments.

"I was fearful they might have to amputate my toe," said Martin.

### **UP AND AROUND**

Charlotte Adams was afraid doctors might have to surgically remove her foot after a toe became infected while she was doing aerobics in the swimming pool. The 85-year-old Westland woman was unaware of the injury due to neuropathy which can cause numbness.

"At one point I was unable to walk," said Adams. "I'm claustrophobic and thought I'd never make it through the treatments, but losing my foot did not to appeal to me."

Once Adams overcame her fear of being trapped inside the chamber, she grew to like the 1 1/2 to 2 hours she spent there for each treatment. Without the therapy she probably wouldn't be able to attend a March 20 fundraiser at Schoolcraft College. Adams is a member of the advisory board for the Women's Resource Center at the college in Livonia.

PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

"It's a most fantastic feeling," said Adams. "You don't feel anything. You're very comfortable."

McGhee is claustrophobic as well so it helped to be able to see wife Alicia standing alongside the chamber. Ruben prefers the monoplace to the multiplace chambers where several patients at a time receive therapy. A monoplace chamber allows family members to be in the same room with the patient. Mamie Martin shared her time inside the chamber with her niece and grand-niece.

"It's like taking a nap. You can take a nap, turn the TV on to a program I like," said Gene Dean.

Except for a feeling of fullness in the ears, hyperbaric treatment is painless and heals

### PLEASE SEE OXYGEN, NEXT PAGE



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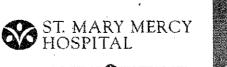
**Greg K., Flat Rock, 185 lbs.** "At St. Mary Mercy Hospital, the Michigan Bariatric Institute is just like a ray of sunshine. The staff is fantastic and caring, and took top notch care of me."

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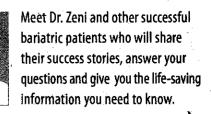


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### **OXYGEN**

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

wounds so effectively that Ruben has not only added a second chamber at his Farmington Hills center but has become a partner in the Infection Care Specialists at the Lake Center in West Bloomfield where hyperbaric therapy is also available.

### **GROWING TREND**

Robert David of Advanced Therapies International in Auburn Hills says wound care centers using hyperbaric therapy are growing in popularity. He currently is serving as a consultant to proposed facilities in Chicago, Missouri and Bloomfield Township.

"A number of patients (at O2) they were able to save two feet," said Robert David. "Afterwards, one of the patients did a cancer walk."

Garden City Hospital's Wound Healing & Hyperbaric Center of Michigan has seen success with a number of conditions since opening in August 2006 with two hyperbaric oxygen chambers. Since then the Garden City Hospital center has added a third due to demand caused by patient volume in the area. For the last 14 years, the hospital has had a special wound nurse on staff.

"We've had patients with diabetic foot wounds, soft tissue radiation injury, deep bone infections known as osteomyelitis, and venous leg ulcers that have been doing very well," said Scott Filgo, director.

"As volume expands we might go to a fourth or convert to a multiplace."

For more information about O2, The Complete Hyperbaric, Infusion & Wound Care Center, call (877) O2HEALS (624-3257) or visit the Web site at www.O2heals.com.

Garden City Hospital's Wound Healing & Hyperbaric Center of Michigan can be reached at (734) 762-9935.

Ichomin@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2145

### Hospital hosts prostate screening

St. Mary Mercy Hospital is hosting a Prostate Screening and Men's Health Day 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 31, at the hospital, 36475 Five Mile at Levan, Livonia. Men can receive a prostate screening and learn about medical and health information.

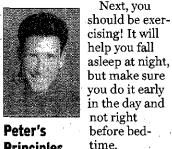
The sreening consists of a blood test for Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA), Total Cholesterol and HDL, a prostate exam by a physician, and a blood pressure check.

A \$10 donation to the new St. Mary Mercy Cancer Center is

Excercise, will help you sleep

Matt from Ann Arbor e-mails saying that he is having a hard time sleeping, but he does not want to take any medication. He asks if there is anything naturally that he can do to get some more shut-eye.

Good question, Matt. There are so many people who have a tough time getting good sleep. Most people are just doing the wrong thing right before they go to bed. The first no-no is drinking alcohol. While it may help you get to sleep initially, it tends to disturb your sleep later in the night, leaving you feeling sleepy the next day.



### Principles

thing that will Peter Nielsen keep you up at night is stress.

Another

If you bring work home with you, finish it up early in the evening so it does not linger into your bedroom. The same thing with food, don't eat right before bedtime. Finally, try to go to bed at the same time every night and avoid those

long naps during the day.

detection can save lives.

optional. Appointments fill

655-8963.

quickly. To register, call (734)

It is suggested that men 40

years and older get tested. PSA

screening allow men to access

prostate cancer treatment dur-

ing the early stages of their dis-

ease. Whether immediate treat-

ment is required or not, symp-

toms can be monitored by your

doctor if the condition worsens.

Prostate cancer is the second

men. Early screening and early

most prevalent cancer among

results and other forms of

Rich from Canton is concerned about prostate health. He has been hearing for years that pumpkin seeds help promote a healthy prostate and e-mails for the lowdown.

Rich, unfortunately research shows that claims about pumpkin seeds and prostate health are most likely false. The seeds have been used for centuries to promote urinary tract health. Some research shows that extract from the seeds can promote healthy urinary flow, but studies trying to link the seeds to prostate health have been a wash so far.

However, don't toss out that pack of pumpkin seeds just yet. They are still a very healthy snack food! In fact, the seeds have just 148 calories and 12 grams of heart healthy fat for every ounce. Halloween may be history, but it wouldn't hurt to keep a pumpkin around the house year-round.

If you have a health or fitness question you would like answered in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, email Peter through his Web site www.peternielsen.com. Contact him at Peter Nielsen's Personal Training Club in West Bloomfield or Nielsen's Town Center Health Club in Southfield

### ÅMARCH

HEALTH

Catch your breath Women's Lung Health Conference and Luncheon begins at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 18, at the Troy Marriott Hotel. Hosted by American Lung Association, the event features speakers on topics of interest to laypersons and medical professionals including lung cancer and women, COPD, healthy homes, hazards of mainstream industry personal care and cosmetics products, tobacco marketing to women, nutrition, smoking cessation, clean air, asthma, infections, and pulmonary hypertension. Cost is \$65 before March 12. For more information, visit www.catchyourbreathmi.org. For questions, call (248) 784-2012 or (248) 784-2000.

### CHADD meeting

CHADD (Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit Disorder) will be meeting Monday, March 5, at Way Elementary School on W. Long Lake Road, east of Telegraph, 8loomfield Hills. The parent presentation by psychologist Steve Ceresnie is on Thinking Straight about AD/HO and Mood Disorders. The adult group will have a presentation/panel on Coaching for Teens and Adults to Enhance Productivity and Life with Elyse Gilbert, Reading Specialist and ADD Coach. Kevin Roberts, Academic Coach, and Kathleen Marske, CHADD Adult group leader. Registration begins at 7 p.m., meetings at 7:30 p.m. and are free to members, \$5 per non-member families. Call (248) 988-6716 or visit www.eocc.homestead.com.

Health classes New Techniques in Stress Reduction: Learn to manage stress, anxiety, cravings and more by balancing your body's energy system and increase its flow by gently tapping on selected points on the body 7-9 p.m. Monday, March 5. Instructor 8renda Strausz is a psychotherapist and energy practitioner.

Natural and Holistic Medicine: Treatments for Depression, 8io-Identical Hormones, Vitamin Therapies, an interactive course that covers Complimentary and Alternative Medicine, Acupuncture and other holistic approaches to health care and wellness. Learn about ailments that have not been effectively addressed by conventional medicine, an overview of herbal medicine, and weight loss 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 7. Instructor is Robert C. Levine, an M.D. practicing natural and holistic medicine and acupuncture internal medicine. Cost for both classes is \$24 each at The Community House, 380 South Bates, Birmingham. To register call (248) 644-5832, or online at www.communityhouse.com,

MS program

FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

### **MEDICAL DATEBOOK**

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Michigan Chapter hosts Building Emotional Bank Accounts, a program dedicated to building safety and trust in relationships tested by the challenges of MS 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 6, at NMSS Michigan Chapter Education Center, 21311 Civic Center Drive, Southfield, Cost is \$5. Call (800) 243-5767.

### Eat your way thin

Dr. Carol A. Fischer presents a free workshop to help you learn why diets do not work, ways to avoid weight gain, how to lose weight with diet/nutrition and exercise 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 6, at the Alfred Noble Library in Livonia. Learn what to eat, when to eat, how to eat. Learn why eating fat will not make you fat. Seating is limited, reservations requested. No charge. Call (734) 425-8588.

#### Half hour to health

Dr. Daniel Laframboise, chiropractor, presents Half Hour to Health Workshop at 6:15 p.m., in his office at 18444 Farmington Road, Livonia. March 6 topic is The 8est Kept Health Secret. No charge. Seating limited. To register, call (248) 474-5252. After I'm gone

Parents and care givers can plan now to help ensure loved ones with developmental disabilities are cared for in the future during seminars 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 7, at the Arc Detroit Building, 51 West Hancock. After I'm Gone features presentations on estate planning, property rights transfers, insurance issues, social security, and items vital to planning for the future. If interested in attending, call Arc Detroit at (313) 831-0202 weekdays during business hours.

Less stress with pressure point Or. Carol. A. Fischer presents the free workshop where you learn to perform a 5- to 10-minute massage therapy technique that can be used to relieve headaches, neck tension, and stress 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 7, at Contours Express, 6558 Wayne Road (Hunter Plaza), Westland. No charge. Please bring a partner. Seating is limited, reservations requested. Call (734) 425-8588.

#### Our Body lecture series

Dr. Conrad Nagle, corporate chief of diagnostic imaging for Beaumont Hospital is the first speaker in a series in conjunction with the Our Body: The Universe Within exhibit at the Detroit Science Center, Admission to the lecture is free with paid general admission. RSVPs are required to attend these events and seating is limited. To RSVP, send e-mail to events@sciencedetroit.org with event date and names of those attending. Museum hours are extended to 10 p.m. on event dates (except April 26) to allow atten-

arate admission charge for the exhibit Conrad speaks at 7 p.m. Thursday, 🧮 March 8, on Our Health in a Picture: Is an Image Worth a Thousand Words?; 8 a.m. April 26, the topic is Can Michigan Make Employee Health a Competitive Advantage?; 7 p.m. May 3, Why Should Bone Health Matter to You?; 7 p.m. May 24, Preventing Obesity in Children, Where Do We Begin?, and 7 p.m. June - 14, Does Family History Accurately Predict Your Future Health? Our Body: The Universe Within is an educational exhibition comprised of actual human bodies and organs, and exposes the inner workings of human anatomy by presenting actual human specimens, anatomical displays, reproductions of historic anatomical artwork and more. Tickets are \$24.95 adults, \$22.95 seniors, \$19.95 children. General admission is free with the purchase of an exhibit ticket. Children ages 12 and under must be accompanied by adult. Advance tickets are on sale at www.detroitsciencecenter.org. For information, call (313) 577-8400 or visit the website, http://www.detroitscience-

dees to view the exhibit. There is a sep-

Yoga workshop 

center.ora.

shop with Michael Glicker, energy healer and teacher March 9-11, sponsored by 1423 Yoga Association of Greater Detroit. Participants may attend one, two or all three sessions. For more information of to' register, call (313) 562-5937 or (248) 545-2685, or send e-mail to a.pleasant@att.net.

13.5 1

#### Replacement seminar

Orthopedic surgeon Dr. Angelo Sorce 🔗 addresses the latest technologies and current surgical techniques in hip and knee replacement surgery 9-11 a.m. Saturday, March 10, at Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton. No charge. To register, call (313) 586-5347.

Project Hope benefit

Women's Division for Project HOPE (Health Opportunities for People Everywhere) present Casino Royale, James Bond Party with Casino games, strolling supper, music, silent auction, raffle prizes 7-11 p.m. Saturday, March 10, at Oakland Hills Country Club, 3951 West Maple, Bloomfield Hills. Benefits Women's-Division for Project HOPE which since 1958 has worked to develop and implement programs around the world to share health education and medical technology. Tickets \$100, \$125, \$150. Reservations and information, contact Serena Orsini at (248) 646-0289 or e-mail to sebbieo@aol.com, or Gwen Bowlby at (313) 393-9428 or e-mail to gjbowlby@comcast.net.

C7 (*)



# Mature Lifest

If your business or organization serves seniors you'll want to be part of this exciting event!

TUESDAY, MAY 22, 2007 9 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Schoolcraft College Livonia Campus in the VisTaTech Center Haggerty Road between 6 and 7 Mile Roads

**Exhibitor Package Includes:** 

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- EXHIBITOR LISTING on the center spread of Mature Lifestyle section and newspaper promotion of the event during April and May, 2007.
- FOOD: Continental breakfast plus two boxed lunches for exhibitors.

For more information about this popular Expo and to reserve your exhibit space, contact: Frank Cibor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers Classified Manager 734-953-2176 or fcibor@hometownlife.com

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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, March 4, 2007



Donna Law with Sam and Chestmutt. Law is caring for the two dogs until their owner returns from serving in Iraq.

### Drive to help soldiers serving in Iraq

#### BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

**C8** 

(*)

If there's a pet owner with a crisis, Donna Law will be there to assist in every way possible.

When one U.S. soldier was deployed to Iraq, the Redford woman took in his two dogs Sam and Chestmutt.

But Law wanted to do even more so she's collecting items to make the soldier's life as bearable as possible in the hostile country.

From now through March 17 at Pet Supplies Plus in Canton, Law is accepting donations of travel size mouth spray, disposable razors, shaving cream, hand sanitizing spray, bacterial wipes, lip therapy or ChapStick, cough drops, gum, tooth paste and folding tooth brushes, as well as calling cards for the solider and five men under his command to phone home (must say overseas calling or be a Costco, WalMart, Smart, or Old Middle Eastern Calling Card with a camel on it).

Surplus items will be passed

on to other U.S. soldiers serving there.

An Adopt a Pet day is being held in conjunction with the drive from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, March 17. Both efforts are being orchestrated by Law's Mutts & Mntts Rescue, Michigan Coonhound Rescue and the store.

Canton story manager Ted Linden says he hopes the drive will inspire different organizations such as the Boy and Girl Scouts to collect items for the men and women serving in Iraq

"I believe no animal should be forgotten no matter what the crisis the owner may be facing and if you need us we'll be there to help you in any we can," said Donna Law.

'We're looking for deodorants, granola bars without chocolate which melts, Kleenex, cough drops, emergency or pocket-size containers of Bayer Aspirin, Rolaids, small First Aid kits.

Law would like to help many of the soldiers serving in Iraq by caring for their animals, but

space doesn't allow so she's looking to purchase property. But her biggest need right now is a van to rescue and transport the dogs. Her van had 176,000 miles on it when the engine died. She borrowed an old Buick from her parents but only two dogs fit in the back seat and a puppy on the lap of a volunteer who sits in the passenger seat.

People have been generous so far. Last semester's sixth hour special education class at Garden City High School with Amy Kierszkowski in room 215 A collected \$50.76 plus a dog jacket, squeaky toy, leash, and treats for Sam and Chestmutt.

Law started rescuing animals in 1988 and her Mutts & Mutts Rescue became a nonprofit in 2001. If you can help, call (313) 538-1383. To see a list of the animals up for adoption, visit www.muttsandmutts.petfinder.org.

Pet Supplies Plus is on Ford Road between Sheldon and Morton Taylor in Canton.

ichomin@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2145

### Exhibit explores cultural diversity

One Great Tapestry - A Celebration and Exploration of Ethnic & Cultural Diversity continues on display through March 9, in the second floor Exhibition Gallery in the Library Wing at Madonna University, 36600 Schoolcraft at Levan, Livonia.

The show's title was inspired by the lyrics of the song Weave us Together, and was taken from the words, "We are many colors, we are many textures. yet we are entwined with one another, in one great tapestry." The show draws attention to the beauty of diversity and acknowledges the need for education and for healing negative conceptions regarding race and ethnicity.

The exhibit showcases the work of 13 visual artists working in a variety of mediums. Some of the artists featured are Patricia Izzo, Olena Sydoruk, Anthony Bacon, Jean Paul Abou-Dib, and Asha Walidah.

A significant contribution to the exhibit is a contemporary Asian art collection loaned to the university by Oliver Aguilar and Richard Phillips. The works have been in

major museums and exhibi-



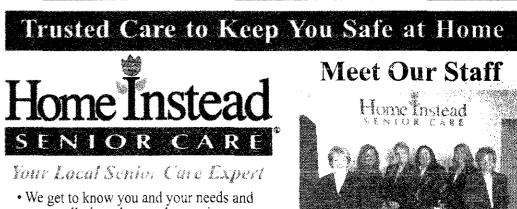
This woodblock print is by Fang Lijun. It is from the collection of Oliver Aguilar and Richard Phillips.

tions in the U.S., Europe and Asia, and have been featured in books, respected art magazines and on the cover of Newsweek.

Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. For more information, contact Nancy Paton,

the exhibit curator, at (734) 259-2934, or send e-mail to nancypaton@yahoo.com. Madonna University Gallery director, Jeanne Moore can be reached at (248) 875-7332, or by e-mail at jartdirect@comcast.net.

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