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Health - C6

SUNDAY
May 13, 2007

WESTLAND Observer

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Store owner charged with buying stolen cigarettes, alcohol

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A Westland party store owner was arraigned on criminal charges Friday following accusations he bought stolen merchandise and sold it.

Samir Mansour, owner of Cherry Hill Liquor, is accused of buying cigarettes and alcohol from undercover officers who conducted a three-month investigation, police Lt. Mark Engstrom said.

The police probe came after a man, jailed on a retail fraud charge in Oakland County, told

authorities he had sold stolen items to the party store on Cherry Hill west of John Hix, Engstrom said.

Meijer provided officers with cigarettes and alcohol that Mansour is accused of buying during the undercover investigation, Engstrom said. The defendant also is accused of buying a flat-screen television.

A woman who answered the telephone at the store Friday afternoon said Mansour wasn't available for comment.

Mansour was arraigned Friday afternoon in front of Westland District Judge C. Charles Bokos

on two counts of receiving and concealing stolen property valued between \$1,000 and \$20,000.

A not-guilty plea was entered for him as he awaits a June 21 preliminary hearing that will determine whether he should stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court.

If convicted, Mansour could face penalties ranging up to five years in prison and up to \$10,000 in fines.

Engstrom credited Metro Sgt. Robert Swope and officers from the Metro Street Enforcement Team for carrying out an investigation that led to Mansour's arrest.

"They put a lot of time and effort into this investigation," Engstrom said.

Police arrested the defendant at the store after conducting search warrants Thursday at Cherry Hill Liquor and at his Northville Township home, Engstrom said.

Officers found the television and a stolen all-terrain vehicle at the house, according to Engstrom. The investigation has resulted in about \$20,000 being frozen in Mansour's bank account and proceeds, Engstrom said.

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

'Libraries are happy places. Good things happen here.'



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Cheryl Napsha stands in the children's department of the Westland public library, where she has started her new job as director.

Napsha has goals for library

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Cheryl Napsha has a picture of Mister Rogers in her Westland library office.

Sure, it was a beautiful day in the neighborhood when she sat down to talk about her new job as library director. Bright sunlight beamed outside a window. A gentle breeze rustled through the trees.

It seemed fitting that Napsha would

display a picture of Mister Rogers. Like the late cultural icon, she wants to use her job to inspire children - and adults - to read and learn.

And, it just so happens that Napsha had her first library director job in Latrobe, Pa. - hometown of Mister Rogers, legendary golfer Arnold Palmer and, well, Rolling Rock beer.

Napsha, 51, grew up in Neville Island, a small Pennsylvania town that didn't have a library.

"I was deprived," she said.

EARLY READER

It didn't hold her back. She loved books and magazines, and she taught herself to read at age 4, even before she had access to a school library.

Napsha admitted reading some books early in life that might not have been age-appropriate. Often, she read whatever her parents, Joe and Katherine Napsha, had in the house.

"I was in third grade when I read *The*

PLEASE SEE **LIBRARY, A5**

Authority lowers trash tipping fee

BY LEANNE ROGERS
STAFF WRITER

One bright spot in an otherwise gloomy financial picture is that costs for dumping trash will be reduced after July 1.

The Central Wayne County Sanitation Authority is proposing tipping fees of \$28 per ton for its five member communities, including Garden City, Westland, Inkster, Wayne and Dearborn Heights.

The reduction is due in part to debt service on an ash monofill being completely paid off in July.

"Between the savings through improvements that cut costs and paying off the debt, the tipping fees would go down to \$28 per ton," said CWCSA Executive Director Steven Aynes. "It's been since 1986-87 that the fees were that low."

The tipping fees had peaked at \$63 per ton during the failed partnership that operated a waste-to-energy plant at the CWCSA incinerator in Dearborn Heights. The partnership closed operations in September 2003.

In preparing the budget, Aynes said there were projects the CWCSA could be doing but a decision was made to cut expenses.

"The board and I are very conscious of the cities' situation and felt we needed to cut as much as we could," said Aynes.

The CWCSA board won't adopt their budget until late June - aimed to allow as much time as possible to learn whether the \$7.50 per ton fee approved by the state House will be implemented.

"That is the one big caveat in the budget - the garbage disposal surcharge. That would mean instead of \$28 per ton, we'd be at \$35.50 per ton," said Aynes.

Following the bankruptcy of the private partnership, the CWCSA entered a long-term agreement with Waste Management for landfill services. The former incinerator equipment was auctioned and the smokstack and buildings were demolished.

There is a purchase option on the property, located on Inkster Road, for \$2.4 million and plans for a mixed use development are in progress.

The Huron Township monofill, used for dumping ash generated by the incinerator, is closed but so far there has been no private sector interest in purchasing the land.

Operation costs at the monofill were reduced by \$100,000, Aynes said, by ending a costly method of artificially lowering the water table under the lined and sealed ash pits.

"My main goal is to at least be revenue neutral - to earn enough to operate the monofill," said Aynes. "The ideal is to get rid of the monofill, so there would be no expense."

Only 17-acres of the 40-acre property have actually been involved in the monofill operation.

Aynes said that leaves room for some type of operation such as wind energy generation or cell towers.

rogers@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2103

Cliff Johnson was passionate about politics

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Democratic Party loyalist Cliff Johnson personally knew and worked tirelessly for political candidates from the local school board to Gov. Jennifer Granholm's office.

With a gruff voice and a Kentucky accent, Mr. Johnson will be remembered as the staunchest of Democrats - a retired union pipefitter whose

rough edges could overshadow his inner warmth, his caring side.

Friends had noticed a decline in Mr. Johnson's health and demeanor since he lost his beloved wife, Marie, a few years ago. Mr. Johnson died Thursday at age 80.

"Cliff will be remembered for his political passion, his love of democracy in action and his tireless dedication to his community," Gov. Jennifer

Granholm said in a statement. "Our thoughts and prayers are with his family during this time."

"I feel a great deal of sadness," said friend Martha Pitsenbarger, a Wayne-Westland school board member. "I loved Cliff Johnson. He really did care about people. He always tried to help anyone who was in need, whether it was money for food or whatever."

James Larkin, president of

the Garden City Democratic Club and a school board member-elect in that city, had known Mr. Johnson for 47 years. Larkin recalled being a pipefitter apprentice when he worked with Mr. Johnson at the old Taylor Engineering plant in Detroit.

"Cliff was one of the best people you could meet," Larkin said. "He was sincere in his

PLEASE SEE **JOHNSON, A5**



FILE PHOTO

Passionate about all things democrat, Cliff Johnson was at the Garden City Democratic Club in 2005 to hear Lt. Gov. John Cherry speak.

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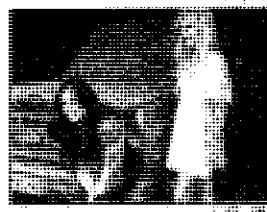
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Coming Thursday in Filter



Remember Granddaddy's Party? The Filter will give you a chance to know about some of the year's biggest music festivals.

INFORMATION CENTRAL

Since man first warred on his fellow man, it has been important to be able to recognize friend from foe on the battlefield: "Ow, no hit Uq. Ug FRIEND ..."

Before the evolution of armor and helmets, this was fairly simple. You could tell who was hitting you by what he looked like. Even in the early days of armor, styles varied enough country to country that you could know your enemy on sight.

Anyone that has seen the recent movie "300" could easily tell the Spartans from the Persians.

As war grew more complex, armor grew more and more similar, it became vitally important to have some way of sorting out the enemy.

This led to the art of Heraldry where each (important) combatant had a distinctive device - a picture, as it were, that distinguished knight from knight - so an illiterate peasant wouldn't accidentally skewer his liege, and other knights would know who to attempt to kill or capture. These devices were displayed on shields or battle flags.

As armies grew yet larger, and small battles turned into World Wars, it was not only important to distinguish country from country, but even parts of the military from each other. This led to the evolution of insignia - shoulder flashes on uniforms, rank badges - to tell leader from grunt, battalion and division insignia and more.

These insignia soon became inextricably linked to the history of the service it represented. The First Infantry Division is more commonly referred to as "the Big Red One" from its shoulder flash. The U.S. Air Force Demonstration Squadron is far better known as the Thunderbirds from the distinctive paint scheme on its planes which is echoed on the badges and insignia of its pilots and crew.

If you are interested in learning more about military identification, the library has some superb books on heraldry, in the 929 area, and books on identifying more current military insignia in the military history area, Dewey number 355.

Come visit us at 6123 Central City Parkway, or call for more information at (734) 326-6123. And you can always visit us online: westland.lib.mi.us

Highlighted Activities

Adult Book Club: 7 p.m. May 15.

Join us as we discuss *Main Street* by Sinclair Lewis. You can check out the reading guide on our Web site. Please read the book before the meeting. All are welcome.

Internet 201: 2 p.m. May 22.

An inside look at Internet search engines. No registration or fee required.

Independent Movie Night: 7 p.m. May 22.

Join us as we screen the 2005 independent Canadian film *A Simple Curve*. This film was nominated for Best Picture in the Canadian equivalent of the Academy Awards, and runs approximately 92 minutes (not rated). All are welcome (children age 10 and under must be accompanied by an adult.)

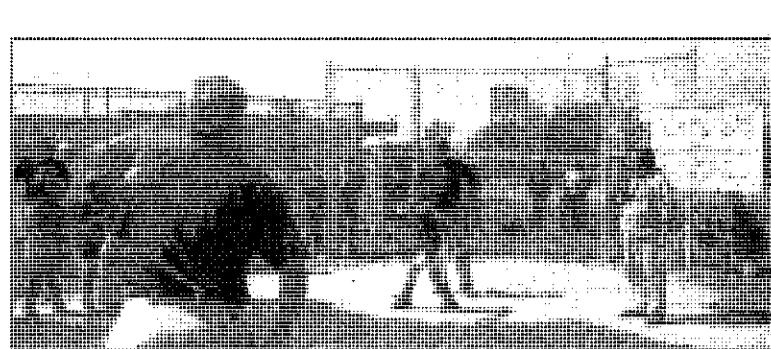
Information Central is compiled by reference librarian Jane Lewry at the William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

CORRECTION

A photo in Thursday's Observer incorrectly identified Madonna University board chairman Richard Walawender.



Local recording artist Sarah Lenore sings the National Anthem. Behind her is members of the John Glenn High School Junior ROTC Color Guard.



State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, tosses the ball toward home plate in one of eight ceremonial first pitches on opening day of the Westland Youth Athletic Association's baseball season.

Play Ball! WYAA kicks off season

It took eight ceremonial first pitches before the familiar call of play ball kicked off the 49th year of Westland Youth Athletic Association baseball.

Held Saturday, May 5, at Marshall Middle School, more than 200 T-ball, coach pitch, Mustang and Bronco teams and their coaches ringed Diamond 5 at middle school complex for the opening day ceremony which featured the singing of the National Anthem by local recording artist Sarah Lenore of Plymouth.

Longtime WYAA board member Keith DeMolay and current WYAA president Jack Proffitt provided the opening remarks before turning the event over to the eight people selected to throw out the ceremonial first pitches. The honor this year went to State Sen. Glenn Anderson and State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, both of Westland, Marshall Middle School custodian Dave Mytych, Lenore, longtime board member Bud Somerville, two WYAA players and Jesse O'Broyl, a representative of Dick's Sporting Goods which donated thousands of dollars in equipment to the WYAA.

Presenting the colors for the ceremony was the John Glenn High School Junior ROTC Color Guard.

The ceremony was held at the middle school complex, made possible by cooperative efforts of the WYAA and the Wayne-Westland Community Schools over the past two years.

Convalescent center 'treasures' its elders

Westland Convalescent and Rehab Center will host a series of events designed to enrich the relationships and contacts between residents, youth, community members, family and staff in observance of National Nursing Home Week now through Saturday, May 19.

The theme this year is "Treasure Our Elders." Sponsored by the American Health Care Association, the week spotlights the crucial role nursing facilities play in delivering quality care to senior citizens. The focus is on creating a culture of person-centered, individualized care and an empowered workforce in

nursing homes.

Some of the week's special events include recognition of several patients who are at least 100 years old in a kick-off celebration Monday. The honorees are Lucy Ora Hack, 102, Nettie Hurley, 106, Georgie Jordan, 103, Mary Josephine Kenzie, 108, Dalia (Dolly) Nelson, 102, and Wilma Mary Smith, 100.

A treasure chest of compliments will be displayed on Tuesday for patients, staff and visitors to pull a compliment from the box and spread that goodwill to someone they know deserves it. There also

will be a Pirate dress-up day on Tuesday, in keeping with the theme.

On Wednesday, vocalist Robin Beck, compliments of Fidelis SecureCare of Michigan, will serenade the patients. The entertainment will continue on Thursday, May 17, with a talent show in the Garden Café at 2:30 p.m.. Winners will be selected and announced immediately following the performance. The first-place winner will receive a \$30 Longhorn's Restaurant gift card. The second-place winner will get a \$25 Meijer gift card while the third-place winner will be presented with two

movie tickets to Emagine Theater in Canton.

The festivities will conclude on Friday, May 18, with a Luau Luncheon in the Garden Café and a dress-up day in island clothing.

Located on Warren Road west of Wayne Road, Westland Convalescent and Rehab Center provides medical and nursing services for people who are being discharged from hospitals after only a few days of acute care diagnosis and initial treatment.

For more information, call Judith Bianchi, marketing coordinator, at (734) 728-6100.



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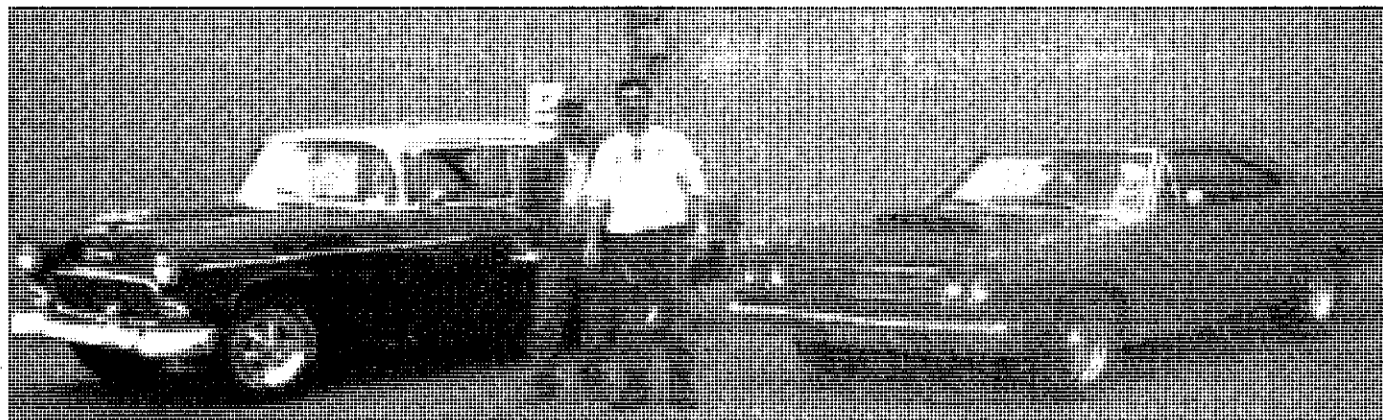
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Cruisers of the Week

The Westside Rod and Custom Car Club's Cruiser of the Week are Jim Austin with his two-tone blue 1955 Belair sedan. The car has a 350 cubic-inch, 375 horse engine with automatic transmission and a 3.55 rear-end. Member of the Week is Pat Morski with his 1969 red Dodge Roadrunner with a 440 cubic-inch engine. The Westside Rod and Custom Car Club has been holding car shows on Wednesdays at the Romanowski VFW Post on Joy Road east of Middlebelt in Westland.

School board honors Glenn basketball coach

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

According to John Glenn High School Principal Joan Sedik, every once and awhile you find a tree in the forest. The tree for her is Dan Young, the varsity boys basketball coach. "Since Dan has taken over, I've noticed a change in attitude in the boys, the program is turned around," she said. Sedik made the statement before the Wayne-Westland school board, which recognized Young for his selection as the Western Lakes Athletic

Association Coach of the Year and the Metro West *Free Press* boys basketball Coach of the Year. "I'm truly honored to be here," said Young, a physical education instructor at Pioneer Middle School in Plymouth. "Everybody has been very nice since I walked in the door." Young replaced Joel Lloyd as head coach last June and led the boys team to 10-0 in the league and 12 straight wins. The Rockets finished as Lakes Division champs in the WLAA. "He has discipline and

builds character," Glenn Athletic Director Brian Swinehart said about Young, who was an assistant at Detroit Catholic Central High School before taking on the Glenn job. "He won over this team this past summer with his commitment to the program. "One student got his work done because Dan sat with him until 7 p.m." Swinehart added that Young took the team to Patchin Elementary School to work with students. "It's the little things that enable the students to be suc-

cessful," he said. "I'm just getting started," Young told the board. "I talk to them daily about doing the right thing and making the right decisions." In presenting Young with the recognition, Trustee Skip Monit pointed out the award wasn't for the team's record, but because of the things he has done. "As a coach, you are able to mold minds. What you are able to bring out in your players often certainly comes out on the court," Monit said.

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Annual waste collection attracts 1,112 vehicles

The annual Hazardous Household Waste Collection in City Park was a big hit again. A total of 1,112 vehicles came through the line April 28 to drop off items ranging from paint, pesticides and lead sinkers to computers, television and cell phones. That beat last year's record of 924 cars. "I attribute that to accepting electronics. We collected a lot of electronics, computers, televisions and microwaves," said Steven Aynes, executive director of the Central Wayne County Sanitation Authority which sponsored the event. "Some cars had only that. Others had electronics with their regular items for recycling." The Household Hazardous Waste event is limited to residents of the CWCSA five member communities which includes Garden City, Westland, Inkster, Dearborn Heights and Wayne. Holding the event in City Park has been helpful due to its central location, Aynes said, but also by providing enough room for cars to line up when needed. "We've booked the park again for next year. It falls between summer and winter activities, so it's a good time for this," said Aynes. The number of pounds collected and eliminated from the landfill waste stream isn't yet known.

Hobbs attends seminar on upper cervical care

Dr. Barry Hobbs of Hobbs Specific Chiropractic in Westland was among physicians who attended the Upper Cervical Evolution 2007 in Las Vegas, Nev., recently. Hosted by Upper Cervical Health Centers of America, the inaugural event honored the diversity among upper cervical doctors from around the world in order to achieve the common goal of presenting a unified front of Upper Cervical Care to the general public. Hobbs was among more than 325 doctors and students from all over the world who attended the three-day event. In addition to the distinguished guest speakers, Storyville Studios, a production company based in Burbank, Calif., was filmed the event and conducted interviews for an upcoming documentary, scheduled to be released in fall of 2007. Upper cervical care is the fastest growing form of natural healing in America. The practice focuses on maintaining head and neck alignment which allows the brain to communicate efficiently with all parts of the body without interference. It allows patients to enjoying a better quality of life and living pain free without the use of drugs. More information about upper cervical care is available by calling Hobbs Specific Chiropractic at (734) 729-2122. The clinic is at 5812 N. Wayne Road, Westland.

AROUND WESTLAND

Senior Fitness Day

Westland's Friendship Center is inviting all local seniors to take part in the 2007 National Senior Health and Fitness Day 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, May 18. The morning will kick off with a walk in Coburn Park, followed by a jazzercise demo and line dancing. There also will be blood pressure and glucose screenings and spinal exams. The cost is \$6 which includes lunch and a T-shirt. This year's theme is "Make Every Day a Fitness Day." The Friendship Center is at 1119 N. Newburgh Road, just south of Ford Road.

Spaghetti dinner

The Dyer Senior Center will hold its monthly spaghetti dinner 4-7 p.m. Friday, May 18, at the center, 36745 Marquette east of Newburgh, Westland. The dinner includes spaghetti, salad and dessert for \$6.

Budget talks

The Westland City Council is expected to wrap up its discussion of Mayor William Wild's proposed budget during a meeting at 5:30 p.m. Monday at City Hall. The council will discuss the following departments - library; executive/mayor's office; legislative/city council; finance, including City Hall and grounds, general government; and police and fire retirement board. There also will be a final budget overview that evening. The council is expected to approve a budget at its June 4 meeting.

Plant-seed exchange

Both groups and individuals are welcome to attend the Westland Historical Commission's plant and seed exchange 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 19, at the Westland Historical Museum at 857 N. Wayne Road. For more information, call Jo Johnson at (734) 522-3918.

Friends' book sale

Join the Friends of the Library for a book sale 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday-Sunday, May 18-20, at the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland, 16123 Central City Parkway, between Ford and Warren. Donation of newer items is appreciated. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

Looking for tales

After years of casing old streets, listening to ghost stories and lore of local taverns and homes in Michigan, Kristy Robinett, a paranormal investigator and ghost fanatic, has decided to share her stories with others in several cities across Michigan in the way she herself has learned to love - through storytelling. Because of Plymouth's rich history and because the city has always been near and dear to Robinett's heart, it will be the first city to be graced with *Shadows Beyond the Veil: Ghost Walk*, planned to launch in July, but she needs help. Robinett is looking for more lore and more tales. If you have a ghost story to share, e-mail Robinett at shadowwalk@tangledwishes.com or call her at (734) 891-7444.

Cheer program

The Westland Stars will hold a cheer and dance summer program 6-8:30 p.m. Thursdays, beginning June 14, in the multi-purpose room of the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford. Come and join the Westland Stars and learn new dances and stunt with the team. The summer program runs four-six weeks, depending on camp. It's an opportunity for girls to get ready for try-outs for the fall team. The Stars will be participating in the Westland Summer Festival, a youth cheerleading clinic and summer dance camp. The cost is \$35. Other fees include a \$20 uniform deposit and \$35 for the youth clinic. The cost of the dance camp has yet to be determined. Register at the Bailey Center. For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

program runs four-six weeks, depending on camp. It's an opportunity for girls to get ready for try-outs for the fall team. The Stars will be participating in the Westland Summer Festival, a youth cheerleading clinic and summer dance camp. The cost is \$35. Other fees include a \$20 uniform deposit and \$35 for the youth clinic. The cost of the dance camp has yet to be determined. Register at the Bailey Center. For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

Coffee Hours

State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, will hold his next local coffee hour 9-10:30 a.m. Monday, May 14, at the Westland Big Boy, 6360 N. Wayne Road at Hunter, Westland. Citizens are welcome to visit with LeBlanc and discuss issues and/or concerns. The local coffee hour takes place on the third Monday of each month.

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, also will hold local coffee hours in Westland and Redford Monday, May 14. He will be at the Westland Big Boy 9-10 a.m., then move to Redford for a 10:30-11:30 a.m. coffee hour at the Redford Community Center, 12121 Hemingway. Constituents who would like to address an issue with Anderson but are unable to attend may contact him by mail at P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI, 48933; by phone at (517) 373-1707; or by e-mail at SenatorAnderson@senate.michigan.gov.

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Bit of history

Visit the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center 1:30-3:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 17, for "French Voyageurs & Michigan's French History", a program about the French heritage of Detroit and Michigan. Stories of the fur trade, a lesson in the French language, and a mini canoe craft will all be a part of the fun - both indoors and outdoors. This event is open to children ages 4-13. The Nankin Mills Interpretive Center is at 33175 Ann Arbor Trail. For more information, call (734) 261-1990.

GOP Women meet

The Suburban Republican Women's Club will host a presentation of Lia Sophia Jewelry available for purchase during its meeting at 11 a.m. Thursday, May 24, at the Pic-A-Bone Restaurant, 39325 Six Mile in Livonia. Cost is \$12. For reservations and menu selection, call (248) 320-5473. Visitors and guests welcome.

Board games

The Westland Jaycees will sponsor a board game competition Sunday, May 20, to benefit the Westland Relay for Life. The event will take place at 2 p.m. at the Bailey Recreation Center. People age 8 and older are welcome to compete. The cost to enter the competition is \$20. The winner will receive Board Game Champion bragging rights and a donation to the Westland Relay for Life team of their choice. Call (734) 226-0400 and leave a message for more information or visit the Jaycees' Web site at www.westlandjaycees.org to pre-register for the event.

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Travel club

Friendship Center Travel Club will meet at 1 p.m. Friday, May 11, at the Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh Road, just south of Ford. Join local seniors as they learn of upcoming trips offered through the center. For more information, call

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Publish: May 13, 2007

WESTLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at public auction May 15, 2007 at 11:15 AM.

The auction will be held at Westland Car Care Towing, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI. 48185. The vehicles will be sold as is, starting bid is for towing and storage.

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1998	DODGE	RAM	P/U	1B7HC15YXWS601858
1996	DODGE	INTREPID	4-DR	1B3HD46FTF128970

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LIBRARY

FROM PAGE A1

Boston Strangler," she said. Don't worry. Napsha seems harmless. Really.

She enjoyed reading books about The Bobsey Twins and mystery-solving nurse Cherry Ames.

"She was an early role model," Napsha said. "She showed me that women could be leaders."

Her mother showed her that, too. Her mother had scores of women who reported to her when she organized home parties for a women's clothing line. Later, she ran a restaurant.

"I grew up in a restaurant," Napsha said.

Her father, a drafting engineer in Pennsylvania's steel industry, died when she was 12. Her older brother Joe rounded out the family.

VARIED BACKGROUND

Napsha attended Seton Hill University in Pennsylvania, where she majored in English literature with minors in religious studies and art history. With that background, she spent years working as a waitress and selling cars.

She was 30 years old when she earned her master's degree in library science from the University of Pittsburgh. "I'm sort of an accidental librarian," Napsha said.

Being a library director isn't so different from being a waitress, she said. "I just serve books instead of food."

Entering her field, she worked as an assistant to the University of Illinois-Chicago librarian.

"I wrote her speeches and planned her parties," Napsha recalled.

She eventually started running the business office, a job

Westland has become her fourth job as library director. She held similar positions in Latrobe, Williams County, Ohio, and most recently Bethel Park, Pa.

that gave her experience with a \$6 million budget.

Westland has become her fourth job as library director. She held similar positions in Latrobe, Williams County, Ohio, and most recently Bethel Park, Pa.

Although she is new to Michigan, Napsha didn't make the move alone. She has her 8-year-old dog Lucy, a beagle-husky mix. She also has a goddaughter, Jessica Brecht, who lives in Ann Arbor.

Napsha's hobbies include reading and music. She likes Bob Seger, Bruce Springsteen and Motown artists. She conceded that her knowledge of rock-and-roll music ranges from 1955 to 1980 and then drops off.

Napsha enjoys traveling, and she is planning a trip this

fall to Italy. She plans to visit Florence, Tuscany and possibly Venice.

"It's my first time to get a passport," she said. "I'm pretty excited."

Closer to home, Napsha will oversee a Westland library with 46 employees and a \$2.3 million budget. She isn't intimidated by taking a job from which two directors were fired within two years. She started her job this month and has spent time getting to know her staff.

"She's very friendly, and she is fitting in very well," said employee Cheryl Chuck, who works as a children's associate. "The staff is at ease with her."

Napsha already has a few goals in mind. She hopes to start outreach programs for residents of outlying neighborhoods. And she eventually wants to expand the children's department - a goal that even Mister Rogers would embrace.

"I just love my job," Napsha said. "There's never two days or two hours that are the same. Libraries are happy places. Good things happen here."

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JOHNSON

FROM PAGE A1

thoughts. He kind of had rough edges, but he was sincere in what he was doing."

Mr. Johnson was born in Pikeville, Ky. He worked in Michigan as a member of Pipefitters Local 636 and retired here. He lived in Wayne.

"He was not smooth around the edges, but I always told him that his bark was worse than his bite," Pitsenbarger said. "He was a Democrat from the top of his head to the bottom of his toes. He loved the Democratic Party."

Pitsenbarger recalled going to a fund-raiser at a private home when Granholm was running for her successful re-election campaign.

"The governor was coming down the stairs and saw Cliff," Pitsenbarger said. "She

said 'Cliff' and came down and gave him a big hug."

Mr. Johnson could become agitated in the presence of political enemies. When Pitsenbarger noticed he was becoming upset, she would call him "Cliffy" and tell him to calm down.

Mr. Johnson was longtime president of the Metro Wayne Democratic Club. He delivered meals to senior citizens who couldn't leave their homes.

He enjoyed parties, talking with friends and going to restaurants.

When he got bored, he would go for a drive. When his health permitted, he loved hunting and fishing.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday at Uht Funeral

Home in Westland. The Rev. Johnny Bell will officiate. Visitation will be 1-9 p.m. today (Sunday) and 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday at the funeral home. Burial will be at Michigan Memorial Park Cemetery in Flat Rock.

Mr. Johnson was the father of Estellene Johnson, Larry Johnson, Ann Fick, Mary (Robert) Zachow, Clifford (Mary) Johnson Jr., Clarene (Ursa) Johnson and Rosemarie (Robert) Cardinal.

He was the brother of Sidney Johnson, Katherine Johnson and the late Demarcus Johnson. He had 15 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

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Student fashion show helps Make-A-Wish Foundation

BY REBECCA JONES
STAFF WRITER

Students will model fashions made from foil and recycled newspapers — as well as spring styles from Macy's — at a large-scale fashion show Wednesday.

The show, which benefits the Make-A-Wish Foundation, will also feature four terminally ill girls, whose dreams involve fashion.

Helping the Make-A-Wish Foundation fit the theme of the show, organizers said.

The show's storyline tells "of a girl who goes to sleep and these are all her dreams of what she wants to be when she grows up," said Jill Flaughter, a Stevenson senior and one of the show's three student directors, along with Chelsea Peabody and Ashley McDermott, both Churchill seniors.

Eighty outfits will be modeled. Some styles were constructed of aluminum foil and newspapers, for a class assignment.

Senior Brianna Blust taped together newspapers to design a strapless gown with a train that classmate Jamie Scott will model.

She said newspaper is easier to work with than foil, which rips easily.

Designer Alicia Cox, a Stevenson junior, fashioned a minidress with a sash out of a large roll of foil from Costco. She plans to have more foil on hand Wednesday to patch any tears.

"We don't want any wardrobe malfunctions," Blust said.

Student stylists also shopped Friday at the Twelve Oaks Mall Macy's for other outfits for the fairy tale, nightmare, Hollywood and dreamland and other sequences.

Stylists from the Macy's salon will do hair; artists from Clinique will apply make-up. Models will walk down a runway built by students in building trades class.

"We definitely want to showcase what Macy's can offer, not only for girls our age, but also what someone a little bit older can wear, as well as children," said Stevenson senior Nicole Camilleri. As merchandising director, she is responsible for all the outfits on loan from Macy's.

"We're just trying to put on a show that is entertaining for people, and hopefully they will see how hard we worked on it," Camilleri said.

The events will include all the elements of a major fashion show, including music, lighting effects and a fog machine.

About 300 to 350 people are expected to attend.

The show, which includes dinner, starts at 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 16, at the Schoolcraft Vista Tech Center. Tickets are \$25, with \$5 from each ticket going to the Make-A-Wish Foundation. The students' goal is to raise \$2,500 for the charity.

Tickets can be purchased at the Career Technical Center until Tuesday; no tickets will be available at the door.

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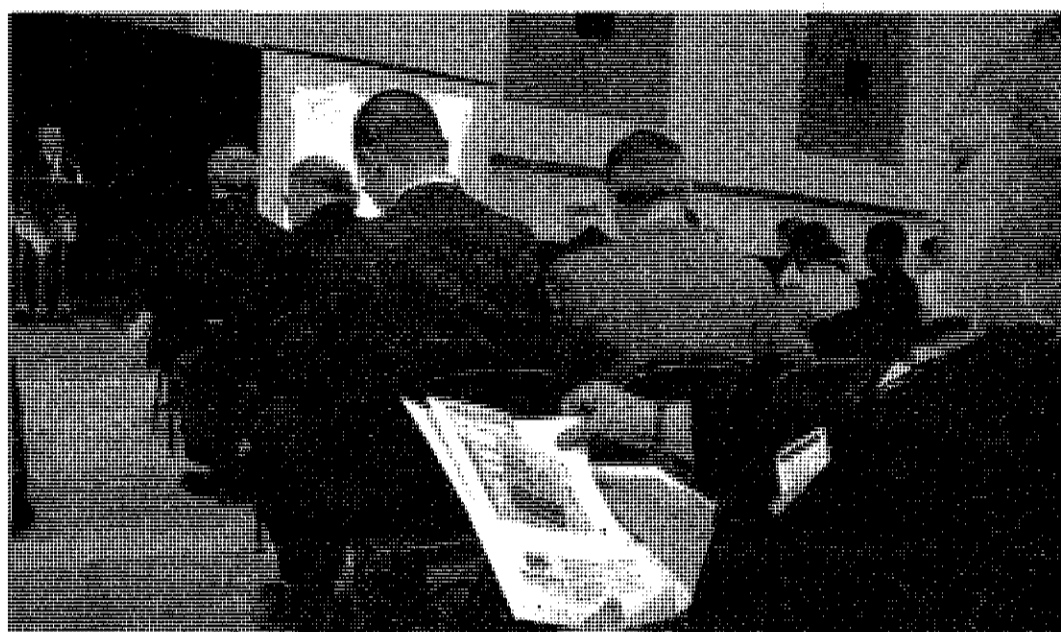


PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The hallway connecting the new and old gymnasiums at Wayne Memorial High School's Alumni Arena served as the banquet hall for the annual Realtors Luncheon. The lunch was prepared and served by students in the culinary arts program at the William D. Career Technical Center.



Wayne-Westland School Superintendent Greg Baracy talks with Daniel Brist, 11, who was at the luncheon with his mother Lori Brist, Westland Chamber of Commerce president.



Noel Derr of Century 21 Dynamic Realty in Westland looks over information provided during the Wayne Westland Community Schools' Realtors Luncheon.



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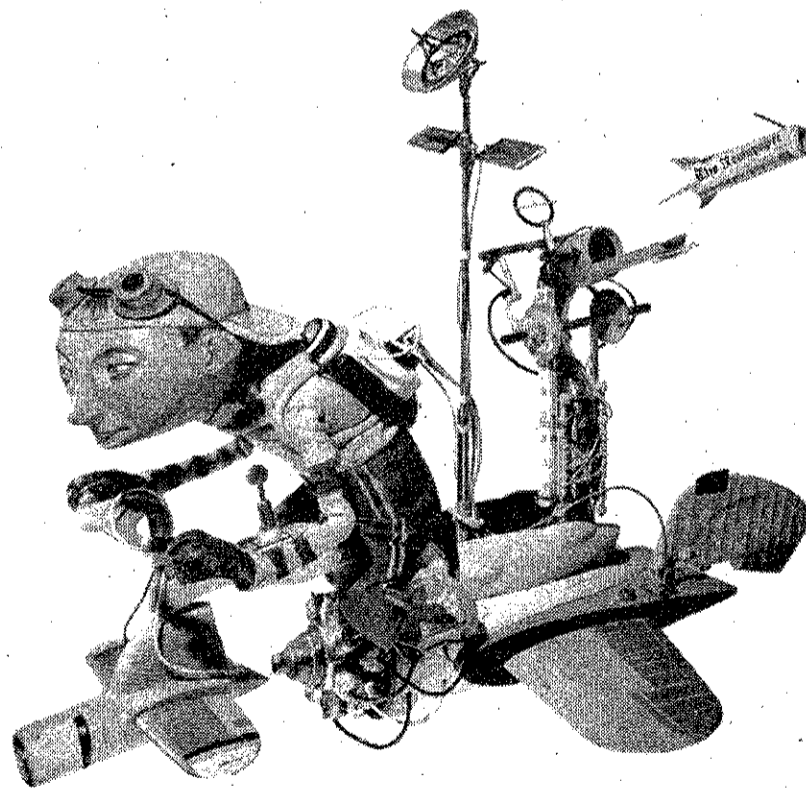
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Plan designed to put region on 'road to renaissance'

The Southeast Michigan "aerotropolis" may actually begin to take flight as part of an ambitious program to kickstart the area's troubled economy. On May 3, Detroit Renaissance released its Road to Renaissance: Final Business Plan.

The plan focuses on six priorities for developing the metro Detroit area. They are 1. Become the Center for Global Mobility, 2. Grow an Aerotropolis, 3. Grow Greater Detroit's Creative Community, 4. Grow Greater Detroit's Entrepreneurial Capacity, 5. Retain our Future Talent Base, 6. Promote Globally, Communicate Locally. Community, civic and business leaders have come together to set 11 specific strategies, timelines and funding sources to meet these goals. The report was produced by a 125-member task force.

Doug Rothwell, president of Detroit Renaissance, which coordinated the initiative, discussed the wide-ranging report in an e-mail question and answer with the *Observer & Eccentric*.

Why these six priorities and how did the task force decide on these priorities?

We based these priorities on benchmarking six regions inside and outside the U.S. and getting the input from over 650 individuals representing over 500 organizations in metro Detroit.

Each priority has a timeline, cost estimates, potential funding sources. What kind of commitments have you received from government and private sources? How difficult is this given our current economic conditions?

We are raising funds from the corporate community and working closely with the foundation community. While there are one or two initiatives that need government support, the overwhelming majority will be driven by the community.

These ideas build on ideas that have been as least conceptually advanced over the last decade or more such as the emphasis on mobility and logistics, the creative corridor along Woodward, the aerotropolis. Why do you believe it's necessary to pull these ideas together in this one plan?

Because a plan provides the ability to focus limited resources, time and energy. We have never had a strategy for growing our region's economy before. We have planned projects and tactics, but never put together a strategy that prioritizes what needs to be done.

You were in the group that recently toured Schiphol



Doug Rothwell

Airport in Amsterdam and attended the Airport Cities Conference in Frankfurt. What did you come away with from seeing an airport city functioning and from the conference?

Schiphol has 60,000 workers in various businesses adjacent to the airport. Frankfurt has a similar number. In the U.S., Chicago, Memphis and Dallas have used their hub airports to attract business investments. There is a tremendous opportunity to develop the 20,000 acres of developable land between Metro and Willow Run Airports. But we need to do it thoughtfully. We should look at this like North Carolina looked at developing the Research Triangle Park back in the 1950s. It is a transformational project that needs to be given time to work.

What kind of businesses do you see forming around the airports; what kind of timeline do you see for that development?

Research Triangle Park took 20 years to take off. We don't think it needs to take that long for the Detroit Aerotropolis because we aren't starting from scratch. We already have one of the best hub airports in the U.S. But we have four studies that need to be completed in the next year before we can seriously start attracting investors. These include benchmarking, master development, business attraction and marketing plans. Wayne County is leading the effort and County Executive (Robert) Ficano really gets what needs to be done. He is committed to doing this right. We need to support his efforts. Detroit Renaissance will be partnering with the county by funding some of these plans and staffing the effort.

What do you see as the principal advantages of the I-94 corridor, Metro and Willow Run in competition with other cities, particularly Chicago for dominance as the Midwest transportation hub?

We have capacity and are ready to grow. Unlike most hub airports we aren't land-locked. We have 20,000 acres we can develop. We have four parallel runways and can add more. No one else can boast such potential.

And speaking of transportation, why no mass transit component in this plan?

Mass transit takes years to put in place and we still aren't sure how to do it in Detroit where we are so spread out in terms of where we live and work. Road to Renaissance is focused on what we can get done in three to five years. Mass transit doesn't fit that timeframe.

How do you see the business accelerators working?

Accelerators provide help to new and growing companies to help them grow faster. Most business people are experts at the product or service they produce. They aren't always trained in managing and leading business enterprises. Accelerators give them the business planning, financing, sales, exporting and research assistance they need to grow their enterprises. We have four accelerators in metro Detroit doing great work, but they are at capacity and need more resources. We need two new ones to fill some geographic gaps. This is an area where government help is needed and expected. We think a \$30 million investment from our Congress and \$15 million from the state isn't too much to ask for a region that is hurting like ours is right now.

A recent survey of graduating students from the Big 3 universities showed that two-thirds will be looking for work outside of Michigan. Retaining talent is one of the priorities. Has the situation reached a point where Michigan will have a hard time filling the needs of the businesses you're hoping to attract?

I'm not one that believes if we just graduate more college grads we will fix our economy. It's all about creating jobs and career opportunities that our kids want to take advantage of. There are plenty of these in the region today, but generally with companies that are smaller and less well known. Through intern and apprenticeships we can connect kids to these opportunities before they graduate. That is one of the Road to Renaissance action steps.

Are there specific job growth and economic growth goals? What kind of overall timeline are we looking at?

Yes and we will be publishing report cards on a quarterly basis to let people know how we are doing. We expect and want to be held accountable. If we are running into roadblocks, the report card will show what the problem is and bring pressure to fix it.

What else would you like to say about Road to Renaissance?

This is a strategy that focuses on a handful of priorities. It doesn't address everything we need to do to get our economy in fifth gear. But it is a start. What we need to do now is FOCUS. This region has a tendency to "zig and zag" on the project du jour. Our success will largely be determined by our ability to stick with a strategy long enough to see it through. That's what virtually every other successful region has done.

Hugh Gallagher is the managing editor of the *Observer*

It's finally time to say goodbye to a gentle vampire

With all the fuss over the Bloomfield Hills school bond vote and school board election, an important event was passed over.

Sir Graves Ghastly has died. Admittedly, I thought he had died years ago, but I have since learned that he passed on recently at age 94. Officially he was



Greg Kowalski

Lawson Deming, but to all of us Saturday afternoon fans from the late 1960s to early 1980s he will always be Sir Graves - or as my then-young nephew used to say, Sir Grapes.

Sir Graves delighted his fans with some of the corniest TV ever seen on TV. Interspersed with ancient horror films, like *The Mummy* and *The Wolf Man*, Sir Graves would entertain us with songs and jokes with the aid of an assortment of helpers like Cool Ghoul, Tillie Trollhouse, The Glob and Baruba.

All of them looked suspiciously like Sir Graves. The jokes were awful. The songs dreadful. And the set - a cardboard coffin in a little graveyard - was about as cheesy as you could get.

No matter. Sir Graves was fun. He was a gentle vampire. He had good manners and never spoke ill of anyone. He was campy in his own way, but he never attempted to be hip or sly. He even preferred to show the classic old horror movies, where nary a drop of blood was shown and there was no such thing as a serial killer. They had class. So did he.

And look what we've got now. Sir Graves used to be on Saturday afternoons in a TV land that existed long before cable. Now we have dozens of channels that essentially show nothing. These Saturday afternoons, I might flip over to Fox news, or MSNBC or CNN, as I am a news junkie. But for the most part the shows feature people yelling at each other or otherwise engaging in verbal mudfests.

There doesn't seem to be any room anymore for honest debate of legitimate disagreement. Now, many shows are just exercises in character assassination.

What a waste of time. At least with Sir Graves you got entertained. No one could croon a tune like Tillie Trollhouse who warbled like a nightingale, or perhaps a sick moose.

Some horror film aficionados prefer the much hipper Ghoul as their favorite horror movie host. We must also give due respect to the witty Count Scary. And does anybody still remember Morgus? They have made their own mark on the local TV scene and are - or were - great in their own way.

But none of them can generate the affection that Sir Graves inspired.

There hardly is any local TV anymore. Celebrities like George Pierrot, Bill Kennedy and a host of others are long gone and replaced by... well, by nobody.

As a rule, I try to avoid nostalgia. It colors realistic views of history as we tend to remember the great things about the good ol' days, like playing baseball in the street when you were a kid, while forgetting the reason you were out there - school had closed because of a polio outbreak.

I will, however, look back on Sir Graves with fondness and nostalgia.

Good night, sweet vampire.

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

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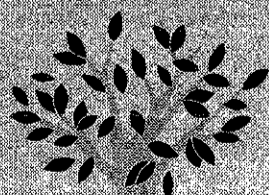
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Cost basis important for calculating your taxes

Dear Rick: Can you tell me what cost basis means?

Cost basis is what you paid for an investment. For example, if you purchased 100 shares of stock at \$10 a share, your cost basis would be \$1,000. Cost basis is an important number, particularly when it comes to taxes. If your cost basis in an investment was \$1,000 and you sold that investment for \$1,500, you would have a \$500 gain to report on your tax return.

Cost basis is a little different for mutual funds. In this case, it's what you paid for the fund plus all the dividends and capital gain distributions you reinvested. For example, if you paid \$1,000 for a mutual fund and over the years you had \$100 of dividends reinvested and \$200 of capital gain distributions reinvested, your cost basis would be \$1,300. If you sold that investment for \$1,100



Money Matters

Rick Bloom,

the other hand, if you have an investment that was gifted to you, your cost basis is a transfer basis. In other words, you now have the same cost basis as the person who gifted you the investment. Sometimes it is very difficult, particularly if you have owned an investment for a long period of time, to know what the basis is. For mutual fund investors, it is easier because

you would be able to take a \$200 loss on your tax return.

If you inherited an investment, then your cost basis is the fair market value of the investment on the date of death of the decedent. On cases where you can not get assistance the only alternative is to take a fair guesstimate and to document how the calculation was done.

you can contact the company and they can assist in determining your basis. On the other hand, for individual stocks it is often difficult or nearly impossible. When you consider some of the corporate mergers that have occurred over the last number of years, determining basis is sometimes difficult. In those cases, I generally recommend contacting the investor service department at the individual company for assistance. In cases where you can not get assistance the only alternative is to take a fair guesstimate and to document how the calculation was done.

gimmicky than anything and it's something that consumers should avoid.

This insurance is generally the most expensive you can buy. As time goes on, you continue to make the same premium payment to the mortgage company, however, the amount of coverage goes down. After all, the longer you have a mortgage, principal is being paid down every month and you owe less.

In this type of life insurance, the beneficiary has no option but to pay off the mortgage. Why would you want to tie the hands of your beneficiaries? After all, you

can have a very low interest rate mortgage and it may be in your beneficiary's financial interest not to pay off the mortgage at the time of your death.

Decide whether you need life insurance. Look at your entire financial picture. Not everyone needs life insurance. I believe it is needs-based.

Ask yourself if anyone will lose financially if you pass away. If the answer is yes, look at the resources you have. If there's a shortfall, life insurance is an option. Rather than buy a mortgage-based insurance policy, consider a term life policy. It's

more cost-effective and gives your beneficiaries much greater flexibility. Mortgage companies have become more aggressive in offering a variety of gimmicks that are not consumer-friendly. Unless there is a unique situation, I do not recommend life insurance deals offered by mortgage companies.

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

Dear Rick: I recently received a call from my mortgage company offering me an option to buy a type of insurance that if I pass away will pay off my mortgage. Is this a good deal?

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SPORTS

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(LW)

Sunday, May 13, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stevenson's Lauren O'Connor challenges Churchill's Alisha Lussiez for control of the ball during Wednesday's game at Churchill.

A tie that binds

Chargers, Spartans even at 1-all

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

It was only the second time unbeaten Livonia Churchill trailed all season in a girls soccer match.

And with 23:05 left, Livonia Stevenson's Victoria Slavin took a pass and outmuscled a Churchill defender one-on-one for the game's first goal.

But the visiting Spartans couldn't close the door as Churchill's Callie Mack took advantage of a backline miscue and calmly booted the ball into a wide open net to forge a 1-1 tie with 12:23 remaining.

And that's how it finished on a soggy Wednesday night. A satisfying result from both sides.

State-ranked Churchill, leading the Lakes Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association, is now 10-0-3 overall and 6-0-2.

Stevenson, which lost earlier in the season to the Chargers on their home turf, 2-0, continues to improve its stock as the regular season winds down.

The Spartans are 6-5-3 overall and 4-3-1 in the Lakes, but more importantly, they are 1-0-2 in their last three meetings against top-ten ranked teams in Division I.

Stevenson was coming off a 1-1 tie Friday with WLAA-Western Division leader Northville and just two days later handed Lakes Division foe Walled Lake Central its first defeat of the year, 2-0.

"We've changed the way we're doing things and it's helped us," Stevenson coach Chris Pinta said. "Our attitudes have changed and we're more confident. I had no doubt since day

one that we could play with these teams. It just takes hard work and determination. We kind of expected to play this way at the beginning of the year. We had some injuries and some other things come up, but we wanted to show we could play a hard game and get an opportunity to win, which we did."

Churchill had the better of the chances in the first half.

Stevenson junior defender Jennifer Gateley came out of nowhere to take away a shot by Churchill's Alisha Lussiez with 29:58 left in the first half.

Stevenson goalkeeper Mandi Keedle also made a sliding save to stop another potential goal just 1:51 later.

Churchill's Hannah Otto also grazed the top of the crossbar also in the first half and the Chargers were denied two successive point-blank cracks with 1:53 left until intermission during a wild scramble in front of Keedle.

Stevenson, however, took the play to the Chargers in the second half and started to assert itself.

"Both number seven (Griffith) and number 18 (Slavin) were pretty good at possessing it centrally," Churchill coach Dave Hebestreit said. "They kept slipping the ball through, which gave us fits. We sorted it out later with a couple of different combinations. We went with a 3-4-3 when we scored that goal."

The game-tying effort by Mack, a sophomore, was a pure hustle play.

"In that situation, to be able

PLEASE SEE **SOCCER, B3**

Sidelines

Terek 1st in Italy

Livonia Franklin High and Michigan State University alum Paul Terek led the men's decathlon scored a total of 8,134 points to win the 20th edition of Multistars IAAF Combined Events Challenge held last weekend in Desenzano, Italy.

The 2004 Olympic decathlete posted his best result since 2004 when he scored 8,312 points in the U.S. Olympic Trials.

Former Asian champion Vitaliy Smirnov of Uzbekistan was runner-up with 7,825 points.

Terek returns to San Luis Obispo, Calif. to resume training for the 2007 AT&T USA Outdoor Track and Field Championships, June 20-24, in Indianapolis, Ind.

Gibbons qualifies

Grand Valley State University junior distance runner Kelly Gibbons (Livonia Stevenson) has earned a spot in the NCAA Division II Women's Track and Field National Championships, May 24-26, in Charlotte, N.C.

On April 28, Gibbons captured 3,000-meter run in 10:02.63 at the Jack Shaw Classic hosted by Western Michigan University.

On April 14, she also took a seventh with a lifetime best and an NCAA provisional time of 4:33.06 in the 1,500 in the UCLA Rafer Johnson-Jackie Joyner-Kersey Invitational held at the L.A. Coliseum. She followed up with a seventh-place finish the next day (April 15) in the 1,500 (4:39.59) at the Long Beach (Calif.) Invitational.

Gibbons also helped the Lakers earned their eighth straight Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championship last weekend in Midland with a pair of second-place finishes in the 1,500 (4:37.06) and the 3,000 (10:02.05).

Timson states Case

Amanda Timson, Livonia Churchill's MVP and tri-captain, will continue her swim career next year at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio.

Timson, who has accrued enough advanced placement credits to enter Case as a sophomore, will be double majoring in Biology and Psychology, with a minor in chemistry. She is looking forward to a career in medicine.

She ranked second in the area in the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 5:12.82. Timson was Churchill's lone individual qualifier in the MISCA meet. She is also a member of the Farmington Family YMCA Stingrays.

Bowling Roll-Offs

The 39th annual City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation Youth Bowling League Roll-offs featuring age-group fall and winter league representatives from Cloverlanes, Merri-Bowl, Wonderland Lanes and Woodland Lanes were crowned May 7-8 at Woodland Lanes.

Division title nears

Stevenson softball team rolls with 12-0 mercy-rule victory

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Livonia Stevenson inched closer to earning a spot in the Western Lakes Activities Association girls softball championship with a resounding 12-0 win Friday at home over Livonia Churchill.

Stevenson, 12-7 overall, improved to 7-1 in the Lakes, a game up on Walled Lake Central with two division matchups remaining. The Spartans can win the title outright Monday with a win at Walled Lake Northern.

Spartan coach Rob Witherspoon's concerns in the rematch with Churchill were alleviated in the five-inning mercy. In the first meeting between the two teams on April 23, Stevenson came away with a 4-1 win.

Stevenson scored one run in the first, added three in the second and one in the third before breaking it open with seven in the fourth keyed by Laura Deacon's two-run double.

"I was very surprised, I was nervous coming in because (Julie) Lewandowski (Churchill's starter) held us in check the last time," Witherspoon said.

Stevenson out-hit the Chargers, 9-3, as senior left fielder Janice Hollandsworth went 3-for-3 with a double, three RBI and two stolen bases. Sophomore shortstop Amanda

Paison contributed two hits including a double.

The Spartans scored seven times in the seventh with three hits, including a pair of doubles. Churchill also committed two of its three errors in that inning and allowed three other base runners on a pair of walks and a hit batsman.

"They (Stevenson) came out and hit the ball pretty well," Churchill first-year coach Meghan Misiak-Hall said. "We walked a few as well. It was probably our worst inning of the year. Hopefully we'll see them again and learn from our mistakes."

Winning pitcher Jamie Johnson struck out five and walked only one in five innings. She allowed hits to Emily McShane, Hilary Antal and Chelsea Wydick.

"We made only one error, and that's about average for us," Witherspoon said. "I thought we played solid. Our young kids are coming around. They're now starting to make good decisions. It's not always pretty, but they're getting the job done."

Lewandowski, who took the loss, allowed eight earned runs on six hits and three walks before giving way to Jordan Kerr.

The loss drops the Chargers to 11-10 overall and 2-7 in the Lakes.

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TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stevenson's Jamie Johnson fires a pitch during Friday afternoon's Lakes Division game against Churchill.



Gymnast to ISU

Livonia Stevenson High senior Erica Schick, a Level 10 gymnast coached by Brian and Jen Lewis of the Sports Club of Novi, recently signed an NCAA letter-of-intent and will receive a full-ride scholarship from Illinois State University. In the USA Gymnastics Regionals held April 21 in Midland, Schick finished 14th in the all-around including scores of 9.175 on the balance beam; 9.275 on floor exercise; and 9.2 in vault. In the state meet held April 11 hosted by the Michigan Academy of Gymnastics in Westland, Schick took sixth on floor with a 9.475 followed by a 9.275 on both vault and the uneven bars. Schick, who carries a cumulative grade-point average of 3.67, will be recognized Cum Laude this Thursday during Stevenson's Honors Night program.

Spring Arbor denies Crusaders in Region 8 final, 6-4

Madonna University's baseball season is over.

The Crusaders advanced to the NAIA Region VIII championship game for the second straight season after eliminating Indiana Tech, 7-2, on Thursday and edging No. 1 seed Spring Arbor, 7-6, on Friday as Tony Luttmann had a pair of RBI on Friday afternoon in Battle Creek.

But in Friday night's Region VIII finale, Spring Arbor jumped out to a 6-1 lead and held on for a 6-4 triumph in a game that was delayed nearly two-and-a-half hours because of rain.

MU, which had won three in a row after losing Wednesday's tournament opener in a mercy, ends its season at 34-20 overall.

COLLEGE BASEBALL

On Thursday, the Crusaders got a strong pitching performance from Westland John Glenn High product Will Kennedy (5-1), who went seven strong innings, fanning seven and allowing just one earned run.

The game was scoreless heading to the bottom of the fifth when MU scored four times off Tech starter Pete Pignatello. Kyle Fedorka provided the first two runs on a single to left, scoring Manny Alvarado (Southfield) and Rikco Rhoades.

After Gary VanAllen reached on a hit-by-pitch, Tony Luttmann (Farmington) drew a bases-loaded walk to make it 3-0.

Tech closer Garrett Wiejak came on and walked Zach Flavin to score the fourth MU run before getting John McCracken to strike out to end the inning.

Kennedy cruised into the seventh before surrendering the first Tech run of the day on a sacrifice fly by Shane Tirey, making it 4-1.

The Crusaders scored three more in the seventh, with Garrett Ignasiak doubling home Fedorka and Luttmann. Flavin later singled, scoring pinch runner Drew Fry, giving MU a 7-1 lead.

Indiana Tech (41-15-1) added another run before reliever Mike Hand (North Farmington) came on to record the final six outs.

Earlier Thursday, MU defeated fourth-seeded Bethel College (Ind.), 8-3, with Luttmann, VanAllen and Flavin all homering.

Luttmann went 3-for-4 to back the pitching of Josh Regits, who went all nine innings, scattering five hits and striking out seven. Bethel finished at 22-29.

The regional didn't start well for the Crusaders, who were pounded 14-2 Wednesday by Indiana Tech in a game shortened due to the 10-run rule.

Tech registered 15 hits, knocking out MU starter Eric Wendling after five and two-thirds innings.

Bright spots in the defeat included RBI singles by Fedorka and Ignasiak.

Taylor's walk-off grand slam gives Patriots 8th-inning win

Brittany Taylor cleared the fence with a dramatic walk-off grand slam in the bottom of the eighth inning Thursday as host Livonia Franklin defeated Livonia Churchill in a Western Lakes Activities Association girls softball crossover, 8-4.

Brittany Taylor went 3-for-5 with four RBI and three runs scored. Twin sister Brianna added two singles and two RBI, while Kelsey Garbutt went 3-for-3 with a run scored. Jessica Stailey chipped in with two hits and scored a run.

Freshman Alecia Geraghty started on the mound for the Patriots (12-6), but lasted just one-third of an inning. She allowed three runs on one hit and a walk to go along with two wild pitches and a fielding error.

Reliever Natalie Sanborn worked the final 7.2 innings to pick up the win. She allowed just five hits, walked two and struck out three.

"This year we have been the come-from-behind team," Franklin coach Linda Jimenez said. "Regardless of the score, we do not quit. This team demonstrates a lot of character and determination."

Jordan Kerr, who relieved Churchill starter Julie Lewadowski, suffered the loss. Kerri went the final 2.1 innings.

Emily McShane went 3-for-4 in the loss. Katina St. Pierre added a first-inning two-run single for the Chargers (11-9).

LADYWOOD 7-5, MARIAN 2-0: For the second time within five days on Friday, host Livonia Ladywood (9-13, 5-7) swept Catholic League Central Division foe Birmingham Marian.

The Blazers took the opener, 7-2, with an 11-hit attack as Sarah Stempin went 3-for-4 with an RBI. Kyla Suchy contributed an RBI double.

Winning pitcher Alyssa Gietl scattered nine hits and two walks over seven innings. She struck out three.

PREP SOFTBALL

Emily Hayes was the losing pitcher. She had three Ks and three walks.

Maddie Gibbs and Stephanie Boyle each doubled for the Mustangs.

In the nightcap, senior pitcher Lauren Taylor struck out 13 and allowed just one hit, a first-inning single to Gibbs, in a 5-0 victory. Taylor contributed an RBI double, while Alyssa Abramowski chipped in with an RBI triple. Gietl added two hits.

Hayes, who gave up seven hits and struck out four, took the loss.

CANTON 16, WAYNE 0: Winning pitcher Amy Dunleavy struck out six and went 3-for-3 at the plate while scoring three runs to give the Chiefs (15-3, 7-1) a WLA Western Division triumph Friday at Wayne Memorial (1-17, 0-8).

PLYMOUTH 4, STEVENSON 2: In a WLA Western Division game Thursday, the host Wildcats (12-2) earned the victory as Kim Klonowski had a solo homer and Amy Bondy went 2-for-3 with an RBI single in a win over Livonia Stevenson (12-6).

Winning pitcher Megan Patterson went all seven innings, scattering seven hits and two walks. She struck out three.

Freshman Emily Hollandsworth was the losing pitcher in relief. She gave up two earned runs on one hit over four innings. Starter Jamie Johnson went the first three, allowing two hits and a walk.

Laura Deacon went 2-for-3 for the Spartans, including a two-run homer in the fourth inning to tie the game at 2-all. Emily Hollandsworth also had two hits, including a double.

NORTHVILLE 2, FRANKLIN 0: Livonia Franklin (12-7, 3-4) could muster only two hits Friday against Mustangs starter Jenna Dumbleton in a WLA Western Division setback at Northville (19-5-1, 5-2).

Dumbleton struck out eight and allowed only one walk.

Losing pitcher Natalie Sanborn and Kelsey Garbutt each singled for Franklin.

Sanborn (8-5) allowed seven hits, struck out two and walked one.

Shortstop Emma Wise scored both Northville runs and had a triple.

ALLEN PARK 5, WAYNE 1: Pitcher

Danielle Keys struck out 10, walked five and scattered six hits over seven innings Thursday to carry the Jaguars (10-16) to a non-league triumph at Wayne Memorial (1-16).

Losing pitcher Taylor Krohn gave up eight hits, walked five and fanned three in also going all seven innings.

Chelsea Darin went 2-for-3 with two runs scored to lead Allen Park. Danielle Wurth added two hits, while Alyssa Cooper scored twice.

Jessie Harris went 2-for-4 with an RBI single for the Zebras. Teammate Virginia Reid also added two hits.

NORTHVILLE 10, JOHN GLENN 0: Pitchers Sam Doud and Allison Holmes combined on a one-hitter Thursday as the host Mustangs (18-5-1) took five innings to mercy Westland John Glenn (0-15).

Doud went the first three innings before Holmes finished up. The two combined for a nine strikeouts and no walks.

Holmes also belted a solo homer, while Kersten Wildey added two hits, including a double. Emma Wise also doubled for Northville.

Lauren Baker had the lone hit for Glenn.

Losing pitcher Brittany Holbrook gave up 12 hits and walked one in four innings.

MERCY 2-1, LADYWOOD 0-2: Catholic League Central Division foes Farmington Hills Mercy (18-8, 8-2) and Livonia Ladywood (7-13, 3-7) settled for a split of their doubleheader.

Host Mercy won the opener, 2-1, as pitcher Kathleen Howard struck out 13. She allowed just four hits and did not issue a walk.

Losing pitcher Sarah Stempin gave up eight hits, a walk and struck out one over six innings.

Allison Allen and Andrea Dieterle each went 3-for-3 with a double for the victorious Marlins.

Alyssa Gietl had two hits for the Blazers, including a double.

In the nightcap, Kyla Suchy went 3-for-4 with a double and pitcher Lauren Taylor held the Marlins to five hits in a 2-1 triumph.

Taylor struck out 11 and walked only one in going the distance.

Allen had two hits for Mercy, including a solo homer.

Ladywood scored both its runs in the sixth on a Courtney LaValley RBI single along with an RBI double by Gina Sykes, who went 2-for-3.

Knochel 4-for-4 in Spartans' win; Lopez fuels Rockets' 5-4 victory

Senior Luke Knochel was a one-man wrecking crew Friday, powering Livonia Stevenson to an 8-2 Western Lakes Activities Association-Lakes Division baseball win at Livonia Churchill.

Knochel homered in a 4-for-4 effort at the plate. He knocked in two runs and stole a pair of bases as the Spartans improved to 12-9 overall and evened their divisional record at 4-4.

Larry Klemczak, Sam Vomastek and Jake Wilson also had RBI for Stevenson, which broke open a close game with three runs in the fourth innings and four in the fifth.

Winning pitcher Grant Campbell, a junior, went 6.1 innings, allowing just two runs on five hits and four walks. He struck out five.

Vincent Carozza, who worked 4.2 innings as the Churchill starter, took the loss. He gave up eight runs on nine hits and five walks. He fanned three.

Junior Tyler Cotter went 2-for-2 for the Chargers, who fall to 8-13 overall and 2-6 in the Lakes. Eric Mitchell and Kirk Ciarrocchi knocked in the Churchill runs.

JOHN GLENN 5, W.L. NORTHERN 4: Ryan Lopez went 4-for-4 with a pair of RBIs Friday as Westland John Glenn (10-11, 4-3) downed host Walled Lake Northern (10-9, 3-5) in a WLA Western Lakes Division game.

Andrew DeLuca added three hits and knocked in a run for the Rockets, who trailed 3-2 through four innings before exploding for

PREP BASEBALL

three in the top of the fifth. Jerry Smith, the winning pitcher, went 4.2 innings, allowing three earned runs on nine hits. He struck out one and walked two.

Reliever Robert Fraser came on for the save, going 2.1 innings. He allowed one earned run on three hits and struck out three.

Brian Pritchett went 2-for-3 with a run scored for the Knights.

NORTHVILLE 13, FRANKLIN 1: Gerard Howell went 3-for-3, belted a two-run homer and scored three runs to lead the Mustangs (18-2, 8-0) to the WLA Western Division title Friday against host Livonia Franklin (5-15, 2-5).

Matt Deacon added a solo homer for Northville, which took five innings to mercy the Patriots.

Winning pitcher Bret Spencer scattered six hits, walked one and struck out eight.

Franklin starter David Leins, who gave up nine earned runs in four innings, took the loss. Leins had an RBI single in the first inning.

STEVENSON 5, PLYMOUTH 4: Pitcher Matt Tuttle struck out 14 and ran his record to 6-0-1 Thursday as host Livonia Stevenson (11-9) edged the Wildcats (9-10) in a WLA Western Division crossover.

Luke Knochel, who went 2-for-2, scored a pair of runs, including the game-winner on a passed ball in the bottom of the seventh inning.

Tuttle went all seven innings, allowing just four hits.

Larry Klemczak also had an RBI, while Matt Loney and Jeff Sorenson also scored runs.

Garrett Rebin went 1-for-3 and scored a run for Plymouth.

HAMTRAC 14, CLARENCEVILLE 7: Kemal Kurtovic went 2-for-5 with four RBIs Thursday as the visiting Cosmos downed Livonia

Clarenceville (3-18, 1-8) in the eighth-ninth place Metro Conference playoff game.

Allen Mazur went 2-for-4 with a double and RBI for the Trojans, who were out-hit 13-10.

Nick Oroski was the winning pitcher, while Nick Garant took the loss for Clarenceville.

Each team committed two errors.

CHURCHILL 7, FRANKLIN 1: Tyler Bledsoe went 2-for-2 with three RBI and Jimmy Tyler pitched a complete-game four-hitter to lead Livonia Churchill (8-12) to the Western Lakes crossover win Thursday at home over Livonia Franklin (5-14).

Tyler struck out 10 and walked only three in going the distance.

Franklin pinch-hitter Neil Copeland spoiled Tyler's shutout bid with an RBI single in the top of the seventh scoring Brian Humenay, who had walked.

Losing pitcher Michael Basner allowed seven runs on five hits and five walks over 4.1 innings. He struck out five before giving way to reliever Anthony Andrus, who gave up 1 hit and struck out one in 1.2 innings.

Eric Mitchell added two hits for the victorious Chargers.

NORTHVILLE 12, CHURCHILL 4: Dominic Benavides went 3-for-4 with an RBI, while winning pitcher Mike DeLuca helped his own efforts by going 2-for-3 with two RBIs as the Mustangs (15-4) earned the WLA Western Division crossover victory Tuesday at Livonia Churchill (7-12).

DeLuca blanked the Chargers over the first five innings, allowing just two hits and a walk while striking out 10.

Bryon Niemczak, the Churchill starter, gave up eight runs on seven hits and a walk in four innings. He gave way reliever Matt Luneack, who was touched for four runs on five hits and a walk over the final three innings. The two combined for five Ks.

Bucks' home card features several sites

The 2006 North American Premier Development League champion Michigan Bucks home schedule this season covers more ground than most team's away schedules.

The Bucks have decided to bring their top notch product to all parts of metro Detroit - and beyond.

This year's home schedule includes the "Celebrate a Championship" opener at 8 p.m. Friday, May 18 at Troy Athens High School against the Cleveland Internationals.

Tickets for the opener are \$10 for adults and \$5 for youths (under-16).

Last year's champs then jump right into the fire with a US Open Cup match against their annual powerhouse rival Chicago Fire Premier at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, May 26 at Independence Park as part of the annual Canton Cup celebration.

And the Major League Soccer's Columbus Crew come back to Detroit to take on the Bucks, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 30 at Berkley's Hurley Field.

Tickets for the Crew's match against their minor league affiliate Bucks are \$15 at the gate (all ages-5 under always free), but will go on presale Monday, May 14 for just \$10 each. The \$5 savings per ticket will apply to all tickets purchased at one of the Bucks local outlets or on their Web Site.

The Bucks will continue to travel their home schedule this

year with visits to Saline, Rochester, Bloomfield Hills, Lake Orion and back home to where it all began 12 years ago in Saginaw.

According to first-year Bucks general manager Dave Morgan, "the only complaint I have ever heard about the Bucks this past year was that all the games were way out in a difficult area to get to (mainly traffic and road construction)."

"We decided to give up the comfort of having one home for the season as we had at Stoney Creek High School, to visit our loyal fans," Morgan said. "There will be no Bucks fan in the state that does not have a great opportunity to see the North American Champions in action."

Looking over a very difficult Bucks schedule this year, Bucks owner and Livonia native Dan Duggan points out a couple of very special dates on the calendar.

"There is no doubt that Bucks fans will not want to miss the Championship ceremony on May 18 at the opener or the epic battle of (arguably) the top two PDL franchises in history when we take on Chicago for that precious Open Cup berth," he said. "If one team would lose that game, their 2007 US Open Cup hopes would surely be done."

"And most Bucks fans look at this schedule and the Crew game on May 30 jumps out and it will be another huge

crowd at Hurley Field; but the two games that will really leave a special mark on our players will be our return to Saginaw on June 23 so we can celebrate last year's championship where this whole great tradition began in 1996 and our final "home game" where we will play the Fort Wayne Fever at Columbus Crew Stadium at 1 p.m. Sunday, July 22 (prior to the MLS Crew-Toronto FC match).

"I have no idea how this team will fare this year, but I can promise you that all our players and fans will get the opportunity to see what world class soccer is like from Mid Michigan all the way to Columbus, Ohio."

The Bucks "flex" schedule was the creation of former Bucks co-owner and general manager Jim Duggan, who used the idea over a decade ago to help build the legend of Bucks soccer in every part of the state.

This will probably be the last year the Bucks will use such a schedule, as they continue to work on finding a permanent home in a central location of metro Detroit.

The Bucks have also received enormous support from various youth soccer groups throughout the region, who have helped to make the flex schedule work for everyone. The Bucks opened training camp this past week and have the last half of their players reporting from out of state by this weekend.

Bethel ends MU softball season, 7-2

Bethel College (Ind.) ended Madonna's softball season Wednesday with a 7-2 win in the NAIA Region VIII championship round in Battle Creek.

The Pilots (43-8), ranked 21st nationally, also beat the Crusaders 3-0 earlier in the day and moved on to the NAIA national tournament, beginning May 18 in Decatur, Ala.

Between the two MU-Bethel games, the

Crusaders earned a 4-3 victory over Marian.

The Crusaders finish the season with a 34-16 overall mark and for the second straight year were defeated in the championship round of the regional tournament.

Following the game, Madonna's Hannah Godfrey and Caitlyn Sidor (Livonia Churchill) were named to the NAIA All-Region VIII team.

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Churchill's Alyssa Mira struggles between Stevenson's Jamie Chandler (left) and Kaitlin O'Hara (right) for the ball during Wednesday's Lakes Division game.

SOCCER

FROM PAGE B1

to come through – wait, not fire the shot right away – and to get the ball between the posts – showed good composure on Callie's part," Hebestreit said.

The 1-all deadlock gave the Churchill coach some solace. "Stevenson's had some tough tests the last 10 days against Northville and (Walled Lake) Central, both very good teams," Hebestreit said. "Stevenson had that intensity. They played

tough and we really had to face that recently.

"It was huge that we came back and tied. We've also dealt with some significant injuries and now we're healthy again."

Pinta, meanwhile, will take the result, but could only wonder what might have been.

"We had a couple of opportunities to put the game away," he said. "But I'm proud of the way we played. It was a miscommunication between the keeper and the back. Mandi should have gone after it, but hats off to their forward (Mack) and making the finish."

Adams hands Churchill 1st setback, 4-0

Rochester Adams caught the Livonia Churchill girls soccer team napping on Friday night.

The Highlanders tallied a goal in each half to hand visiting Churchill its first loss of the season, 4-1. Churchill, ranked No. 3 in Division I, is now 10-1-3 overall, while unranked Adams improves to 8-3-3.

"They were good, they beat us all over the field, they won 50-50 balls, they were attack-minded," Churchill coach Dave Hebestreit said of the Highlanders. "This group had never seen Adams before. I don't if they knew importance of it, or how good

they are, and maybe they took them lightly. But we came out flat and paid for it.

"We got beat, that's all there is to it. Maybe we can turn this into a good thing.

NORTHVILLE 3, FRANKLIN 0: Danielle Toney scored a pair of goals and Sarah Stern added one – all coming in the second half – as the WIAA-Western Division leading Mustangs (10-1-3, 7-0-1) downed host Livonia Franklin (3-7-1, 2-4-1). Stern's game-winning goal came off a restart in the 55th minute, while Toney added her goals at the 65th and 75th minute. "We played well although we could have been a bit more aggressive in our attacking third," Franklin coach Jen Barker said.

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THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP BASEBALL
Monday, May 14
 John Glenn at Salem (2), 3:30 p.m.
 Churchill at W.L. Central, 4 p.m.
 Canton at Franklin, 4 p.m.
 W.L. Northern at Stevenson, 4 p.m.
 Plymouth at Wayne, 4 p.m.
Tuesday, May 15
 Luth. South at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.
 Macomb Christian at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 16
 Churchill at Plymouth, 4 p.m.
 John Glenn at Franklin, 4 p.m.
 Stevenson at Northville, 4 p.m.
 Salem at Wayne, 4 p.m.
Thursday, May 17
 W.L. Western at Wayne, 4 p.m.
Friday, May 18
 Salem at Churchill, 4 p.m.
 Plymouth at Franklin, 4 p.m.
 John Glenn at Stevenson, 4 p.m.
Saturday, May 19
 Hartland at John Glenn (2), 1 p.m. (Livonia City Tourney at Ford Field)
 Franklin vs. Stevenson, 10 a.m.
 Churchill vs. Clarenceville, noon.
 Championship game, 2 p.m.
 Consolation game at Franklin, 2 p.m.
GIRLS SOFTBALL
Monday, May 14
 W.L. Central at Churchill, 4 p.m.
 Franklin at Canton, 4 p.m.
 Stevenson at W.L. Northern, 4 p.m.
 Salem at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
 Wayne at Plymouth, 4 p.m.
Tuesday, May 15
 Macomb Christian at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 16
 Plymouth at Churchill, 4 p.m.
 Franklin at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
 Northville at Stevenson, 4 p.m.
 Wayne at Salem, 4 p.m.
Thursday, May 17
 Wayne at W.L. Western, 4 p.m.
Friday, May 18
 Churchill at Salem, 4 p.m.
 Franklin at Plymouth, 4 p.m.
 Stevenson at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
Saturday, May 19
 MU Classic at Canton Softball Ctr., 9:30 a.m.
 Huron Valley at Oakland Christian (2), 10 a.m. (Public Schools of Livonia Invitational at Ford Field)
 Clarenceville vs. Churchill, 10 a.m.
 Stevenson vs. Franklin, noon
 Championship game, 2 p.m.
 Consolation at Franklin, 2 p.m.
Sunday, May 20
 MU Classic at Canton Softball Ctr., 9 a.m.
GIRLS SOCCER
Monday, May 14
 Plymouth at Wayne, 4 p.m.
 Luth. Westland at Luth. South, 4:30 p.m.
 Churchill at W.L. Central, 7 p.m.
 Canton at Franklin, 7 p.m.
 W.L. Northern at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
 John Glenn at Salem (CEP), 7 p.m.
Wednesday, May 16
 W.L. Western at Wayne, 4 p.m.
 Salem at Churchill, 7 p.m.
 Plymouth at Franklin, 7 p.m.
 John Glenn at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
Friday, May 18
 W.L. Central at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
 G.P. South at Churchill, 5:30 p.m.
BOYS & GIRLS TRACK
Tuesday, May 15
 Northville at Churchill, 3:30 p.m.
 Franklin at Stevenson, 3:30 p.m.
 Wayne at John Glenn, 3:30 p.m.
 Lutheran Westland, Lutheran N'West at Clarenceville, 4:30 p.m.
Friday, May 18
 Division I regional at Canton, TBA.
 Division II regional at Ladwood, TBA.
Saturday, May 19
 Division III regional at New Haven, TBA.
 Division IV regional at Webberville, TBA.
BOYS TENNIS
Monday, May 14
 N. Farmington at Stevenson, 4 p.m.
Tuesday, May 15
 Churchill at F.H. Harrison, 4 p.m.
Friday, May 18
 Division I regional at Woodhaven, 8:30 a.m.
GIRLS GOLF
Monday, May 14
 Northville vs. Stevenson at Fox Creek, 2:45 p.m.
 Churchill vs. John Glenn at The Woodlands, 3 p.m.
Tuesday, May 15
 Catholic League Tournament at St. John's Golf Center, 9 a.m.
 John Glenn vs. Wayne at The Woodlands, 3 p.m.
Wednesday, May 16
 Churchill vs. W.L. Central at Whispering Willows, 3 p.m.
 John Glenn vs. W.L. Western at Links of Pinewood, 3 p.m.
Thursday, May 17
 Division I regional tourney at Giant Oak G.C., 9 a.m.
 Division II regional tourney at Huron Meadows Metropolitan, 9 a.m.
GIRLS LACROSSE
Monday, May 14
 Northville at Ladywood, 6 p.m.
Friday, May 18
 Ladywood at Rochester, 7 p.m.
 TBA - time to be announced.

OT win puts Whalers closer to Memorial Cup

BY ED WRIGHT
 STAFF WRITER

Following 73 minutes of high-intensity hockey, a franchise-record 81 shots on goal and a countless number of near misses, the Plymouth Whalers saw the light Friday night.

The red light. And they couldn't have been happier - or more relieved.

Dan Collins' goal with 6:26 left in overtime earned Plymouth a 4-3 victory over Sudbury in Game 5 of the Ontario Hockey League's Championship Series. Possibly the most exciting contest ever played at the Compuware Sports Arena - especially considering the high stakes involved - was witnessed by 3,359 sure-to-be-hoarse-by-Saturday-morning fans.

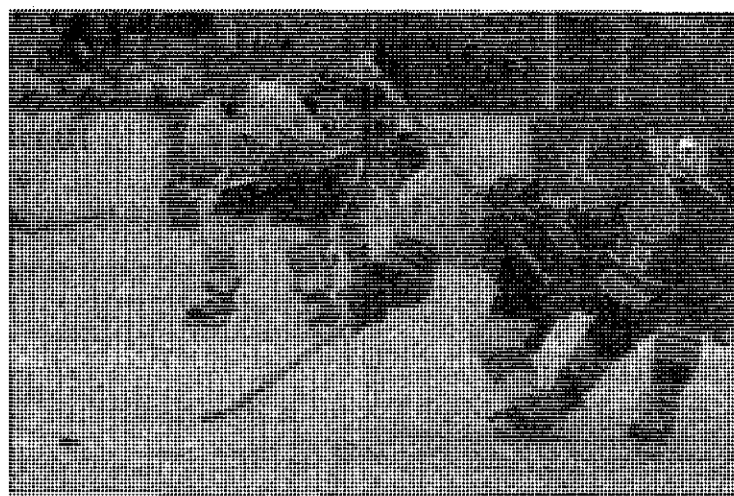
The Whalers, who are now just 60 solid minutes of hockey away from claiming possession of the J. Ross Robertson trophy for the first time since 1995, will pack themselves and a 3-2 series lead into a bus and travel Sunday to Sudbury for Game 6. A Wolves' victory will force a Game 7 at 7:05 p.m. Tuesday at the Compuware Sports Arena.

A Whalers' win will earn Plymouth an OHL title and a trip to Vancouver for the Memorial Cup.

After what transpired Friday night, anything is possible.

The Whalers outshot the Wolves, 81-35, but still had to sweat out the win after blowing a 3-1 third-period lead.

"You always get a little nervous when you outshoot a team that bad and the score is still tied," said Plymouth head coach Mike Vellucci. "Overall, though, I thought we played really well. We stayed focused, played hard and did all the things you need to do to win a game like this."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Evan Brophrey is upended by Sudbury's Justin Donati during the second period of Friday night's Game 5 of the OHL Championship Series. The Whalers won, 4-3, in overtime to take a 3-2 lead heading into tonight's Game 6 in Sudbury.

"Probably the best way to put it is that we toughed out a win. This was a tough, tough hockey game and we played as tough as we could."

The catalyst for Collins' game-winner was Ryan McGinnis, who fired shot No. 80 at Sudbury goalie Sebastian Dahm. Collins gobbled up the rebound on the doorstep and wristed it home.

"Ryan McGinnis put a quick shot on net and the rebound just came right out to me," said Collins, recalling his OT-ender. "I was getting a little frustrated early on in the overtime because I had some obvious chances that I couldn't bury. But it's extremely gratifying to be able to score the game-winner and give us a chance to go to Sudbury on Sunday and close it out."

Prior to Friday's game, the Wolves had been the "Kings of Overtime," especially during the 2006-07 post-season when they've registered six extra-session victories. But they got trumped by Collins' ace in what may turn out to be the

pivotal game in what's been an entertaining series.

"We seemed to sit back a little bit in the overtime for whatever reason," said Sudbury coach Mike Foligno, referring to Plymouth's 19-1 edge in shots on goal in the OT. "I don't know if it was nervousness or what. Whatever it was, it wasn't a good time to sit back. I think we had one chance in overtime on a power play, but we fanned on the shot."

While Foligno couldn't have been more disappointed with Friday night's results, he couldn't have been more proud of the way his team erased its two-goal, third-period deficit.

"All season, I've kept asking so much of them and they've always found a way to give it to me," said Foligno.

Nick Foligno put the Wolves ahead 1-0 1:51 into the game when he one-timed the puck past Plymouth goalie Michal Neuvirth from the lower right circle 59 seconds into a power play.

Plymouth's Jared Boll knot-

ted things at 1-1 with 7:45 left in the first period when he scooped in a one-timer top shelf from Andrew Fournier. Chris Terry also assisted on the goal.

The Whalers outshot the Wolves, 28-13, in the period, but had just a 1-1 tie to show for it.

Plymouth seized a 2-1 advantage 6:04 into the second period when Evan Brophrey one-timed a pass from Daniel Ryder past Dahm. Terry increased the hosts' lead to 3-1 just 49 seconds later when he backhanded a low, ice-hugger past Dahm.

The Whalers appeared to have things firmly under control until Sudbury's Justin Donati lit the lamp with 16:40 left in regulation on a power play to cut its deficit to 3-2.

Ten minutes later, the resilient Wolves temporarily silenced the Compuware Arena masses when Patrik Lusak beat Neuvirth from close range.

"I thought we sat back a little early in the third period and when they scored early in the third it put us back on our heels a little," said Vellucci. "Even when they tied the game, we kept our composure and didn't panic. The guys stayed positive on the bench and kept playing hard."

The Whalers had several quality chances during the first 10 minutes of overtime, but were either turned away by Dahm or missed the net by a foot or two.

That is until Collins finished things off with the biggest goal he's scored this season.

"Everybody seemed confident and focused in the locker room before the overtime," Collins said. "We knew what we had to do, then we went out and did it."

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Local man makes big money investing in real estate

Joe Mercadante has created enough income from real estate in 12 months to retire at the age of 35.

Kenneth P. Jacobs
 REAL ESTATE INVESTOR/BROKER

Thirty five year old Joe Mercadante from Ypsilanti, MI stumbled across a Free Real Estate Investing Report that has helped him create enough monthly income in 12 months to quit his high paying corporate job.

According to Joe, "I started investing in properties using the strategy outlined in this free report in April of 2004. I have accumulated 20 homes that combined are paying me \$4,363 of cash flow each and every month. Plus I have locked in \$580,442 of profit. I plan on quitting my 9 to 5 job next month and will be able to live off of the income from my properties!"

Joe was amazed at the profits that could be obtained using this simple investing strategy. He said that he never wanted to invest in real estate because he didn't want to spend his evenings and weekends fixing up homes. Joe isn't very handy and he didn't enjoy installing toilets, laying tile and painting.

Luckily, Joe read a real estate investing report entitled, "How to Make

\$232,016 Each & Every Year Investing in Real Estate without Touching a Screwdriver" and learned a simple strategy for profiting from investing in nice homes in nice areas. Joe stated that the majority of homes he had invested in were in move in condition. In a few cases, his homes were so nice that he had rented his properties before he even got his keys at the closing.

Joe liked this approach because it didn't require him to have the financial risk of having to pay the mortgage, taxes and insurance costs for a property during a rehab project.

Joe said that this approach eliminated the majority of the risk and, best of all, he could invest in his spare time. The approach seems to be working because Joe retired from his \$120,000 a year corporate job at the age of 35.

To get a copy of the same FREE report Joe used to begin his real estate investing, call the real estate information center at 1-877-444-7434 and enter ID 206. Leave a message with your mailing address.

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GIRLS TRACK RESULTS

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 121
WALLE LAKE NORTHERN 16
May 10 at Churchill
Shot put: Lauren Krupsky (LC), 39 feet, 5.25 inches; discus: Krupsky (LC), 124-0; high jump: Kyndra Abron (LC), 5-2; long jump: Liz Buttery (LC), 14-7.25; pole vault: Kristin Zgorecki (LC), 9-9; 110-meter hurdles: Mallory Lukas (LC), 16.87; 300 hurdles: Tauri Rothermel (LC), 47.71; 100 dash: Mandi Coppola (LC), 12.86; 200: Milan Boyer (LC), 28.28; 400: Buttery (LC), 1:03.13; 800: Ouaintance (WLN), 2:17.7; 1,600: Megan Macerati (LC), 5:37.21; 3,200: Sara Kroll (LC), 11:50.0; 400 relay: Churchill (Nicole Thornberry, Sarah LaBerge, Tauri Rothermel, Coppola), 51.3; 800 relay: Churchill (Samar Aoude, Buttery, Krysten Barczuk, Lukas), 4:19.3; 3,200 relay: Churchill (Sarah Niezgod, Kroll, McFarlane, Erica Hope), 10:24.7. Churchill 2nds: McFarlane, 800 (2:19.09); 1,600 (5:40.0); Aoude, 400 (1:03.48); Lukas, 300 hurdles (50.1); LaBerge, 100 (12.89); Rothermel, 100 hurdles (17.0); Zgorecki, long jump (14-6.5); Eren Ural, pole vault (9-3); Kallee Hobbins, discus (113-8); Abron, shot put (35-1.5); Hobbins, shot put (31-7); Jackie Griebek, high jump (4-8); Barczuk, long jump (13-9.75); 400 (1:04.27); Aoude, 200 (2:59.9); Hope, 800 (2:29.02); Michelle Verellen, 1,600 (5:40.78); Macerati, 3,200 (12:06.0). Churchill's dual meet record: 5-0 overall, 5-0 WLAALakes Division (clinched title outright).

NORTHVILLE 84
LIVONIA FRANKLIN 53
May 10 at Franklin
Shot put: Robyn Whalen (LF), 40 feet, 0.5 inches; discus: Whalen (LF), 127-1; high jump: Jenkins (N), 5-2; long jump: Megan Wilson (LF), 16-8.25 (breaks own school record of 16-8 set in 2006); pole vault: Foucher (N), 10-6; 100-meter hurdles: O'Malley-King (N), 15.81; 300 hurdles: Konopka (N), 48.13; 100 dash: Kreichelt (N), 13.13; 200: Kreichelt (N), 26.81; 400: Ashley Butkowski (LF), 1:02.02; 800: Hagan (N), 2:25.33; 1,600: Hagan (N), 5:23.79; 3,200: Kari Saarela (LF), 12:16.6; 400 relay: Northville, 51.83; 800 relay: Northville, 1:48.12; 1,600 relay: Northville, 4:14.84; 3,200 relay: Northville, 10:02.82. Franklin 2nds: Liz Holloway, high jump (5-0); Kara Giummo, discus (82-11); Ashley Price, shot put (33-2.5); Casey Lynett, 100 hurdles (16.32); 300 hurdles (48.14); Wilson, 100 (13.22); Saarela, 1,600 (5:32.19); Allison Milcan, 800 (2:27.92); 3rds: Meghan Powers, pole vault (9-6); Price, discus (81-11); Senneca Scott, 800 (2:28.3); Wilson, 200 (27.17). Dual meet records: Northville, 5-0 overall, 5-0 WLAALakes-Western Division (clinched outright title); Franklin, 4-1 overall, 4-1 WLAALakes-Western Division.

LIVONIA STEVENSON 111
WALLED LAKE CENTRAL 25
May 10 at W.L. Central
Shot put: Becca Bartek (LS), 32 feet, 2 inches; discus: Kori Prena (WLC), 123-4; high jump: Kara Piorkowski (LS), 5-0; long jump: Chelsea Pashnick (LS), 14-9.5; pole vault: Maria Winkler (LS), 10-0; 100-meter hurdles: Brittany Gentile (LS), 16.6; 300 hurdles: Gentile (LS), 52.7; 100 dash: Jenny Bartek (LS), 13.7; 200: J. Bartek (LS), 28.1; 400: Denee Meier (LS), 1:03.0; 800: Nash (WLC), 2:25.8; 1,600: Sarah Opyk (LS), 5:31.6; 3,200: Courtney Calka (LS), 11:24.0; 400 relay: Stevenson (Pashnick, J. Bartek, Laura Nomura, Gentile), 53.9; 800 relay: Stevenson (Pashnick, Brooke Knochel, Allie Plisko, Brittany Mrozek), 1:54.0; 1,600 relay: Stevenson (Meier, Mrozek, Knochel, Katie Glynn), 4:22.2; 3,200 relay: Stevenson (Kristen Frey, Amber Cicala, Molly Serge, Sarah Krauss), 10:44.1. Stevenson 2nds: Stephanie Perez, 1,600 (5:37.6); Knochel, 400 (1:04.1); Claire LeBlanc, 800 (2:41.3); Gentile, 200 (28.8); Samantha Kay, 3,200 (13:47.1); B. Bartek, discus (97-3); Nomura, high jump (4-6); Plisko, long jump (14-6); Michelle Blackstone, pole vault (no mark); 3rds: Christine Armstrong, 100 hurdles (19.6); Glynn, 1,600 (5:42.4); Frey, 400 (1:06.3); Nomura, 300 hurdles (56.2); Plisko, 200 (28.9); Amanda Jenaway, 1,600 (14:27.3); Colette Fodera, discus (91-3); Maame Adomako, shot put (30-11.5); Emily Schifano, high jump (4-6); Blackstone, long jump (14-0.25); Jessica Sroka, pole vault (no mark). Stevenson's dual meet record: 4-1 overall, 4-1 WLAALakes Division. METRO CONFERENCE TRI-MEET May 10 at Clarenceville TEAM SCORES: 1. Livonia Clarenceville, 81 points; 2. Clawson, 41; 3. Harper Woods, 10. FINAL RESULTS Shot put: Olivia Delgado-Price (Clawson), 27 feet, 1 inch; discus: Ashley Hall (C'ville), 75-2; high jump: Aneta Elliott (C'ville), 4-1; long jump: Elliott (C'ville), 14-2.5; 100-meter hurdles: Kat Hall (C'ville), 23.15; 300 hurdles: Shelby Derymyre (C'ville), 1:05.68; 100 dash: Caitly Crostein (Clawson), 14.16; 200: Tia Dmuhowski (C'ville), 31.35; 400: Crostein (Clawson), 1:08.16; 800: Hall (C'ville), 3:16.1; 1,600: Derymyre (C'ville), 6:29.5; 3,200: Tara Hearn (C'ville), 18:02.3; 400 relay: Harper Woods, 58.89; 800 relay: Clarenceville (Tia Dmuhowski, Tanya Dmuhowski, Brushell Brown, Ashley Devon), 2:24.7; 1,600 relay: Clarenceville (Derymyre, Hall, Devon, Andrea James), 6:32.7; 3,200 relay: Clarenceville (Hall, Devon, Derymyre, Andrea James), 15:11.3. Clarenceville 2nds: Brown, 100 (14.22); Elliott, 400 (1:09.13); Devon, discus (71-11); Cheney Kemp, shot put (24-10.75); 3rds: Elliott, 100 (14.29); Jessica Moritz, 800 (4:03.0); Tanya Dmuhowski, 200 (32.14). Clarenceville's dual meet record: 3-4 overall, 2-2 Metro Conference. CANTON 81 WAYNE MEMORIAL 47 May 10 at Wayne Shot put: Kathy Hansen (WM), 29 feet, 7 inches; discus: Hansen (WM), 91-7; high jump: Megan Metheny (C), 4-10; long jump: Bree Edge (C), 13-4; pole vault: Krystal Nichols (WM), 7-0; 100-meter high hurdles: Ashley Hoener (C), 18:02; 300 hurdles: Megan Howard (C), 52.8; 100 dash: Candy Williams (WM), 13.38; 200 dash: Nastassia Goines (WM), 28.18; 400: Beth Swanberg (C), 1:04; 800: Melissa Smith (WM), 2:46.37; 1,600 run: Paula Schubatis (C), 5:54.0; 3,200: Schubatis (C), 13:02.0; 400 relay: Wayne, 53.66; 800 relay: double disqualification; 1,600 relay: Canton (Howard, Megan Metheny, Maggie Tihanyi, Swanberg), 4:42; 3,200-meter relay: Canton (Schubatis, Christy O'Keefe, Carlson, Beth Swanberg), 12:12. Wayne 2nds: Goines, 100 hurdles (18.96); Ayanna Flemming, 200 (28.38); Bre'Ana Sims, 100 (13.82); Rochelle Woods, 400 (1:07.84); 3rds: Smith, 1,600 (6:06.21); Goines, 300 hurdles (1:00.0); Dual-meet records: Canton, 2-3 overall; 2-3 WLAALakes-Western Division; Wayne, 0-5 overall, 0-5 WLAALakes-Western Division.

BOYS TRACK BESTS

OBSERVERLAND BOYS TRACK BESTS SHOT PUT Nick Moores (Canton) 52-3.50 Bryan Henley (John Glenn) 50-4 Adam Goring (Wayne) 50-2 Jon Robinson (Churchill) 48-10.75 Steve Paye (Canton) 46-1 Kevin Wenger (Franklin) 45-11 Mike Wood (Franklin) 45-7 Alex Edwards (Lutheran Westland) 45-4.25 Matt Broome (Stevenson) 44-11.5 Wardell Fuqua (Canton) 44-9.75 DISCUS Steve Paye (Canton) 150-9 Bryan Henley (John Glenn) 150-6 Nick Moores (Canton) 147-10 Matt Broome (Stevenson) 141-3 Robert Pennywitt (RU) 138-11 Mike Wood (Franklin) 138-8 Thomas Myers (Churchill) 138-6 Gerald Lou (Plymouth) 136-10 Zach Bozigan (John Glenn) 134-0 Brad Doak (Stevenson) 133-0 HIGH JUMP Eric Thornton (Canton) 6-8 Mitchell White (Stevenson) 6-4 Jacob McDonald (Churchill) 6-3 Jace Beardon (Salem) 6-2 Israel Woolfork (Franklin) 6-2 Ian Thornton (John Glenn) 6-2 Ross Davis (Salem) 6-0 Patrick York (Stevenson) 6-0 Marvin Whitaker (Plymouth) 5-10 Phillip Grasshof (Clarenceville) 5-10 Wyatt Stahl (Stevenson) 5-10 Justin Floyd (RU) 5-10 LONG JUMP Myles White (Stevenson) 22-3 Marcus Bennett (Thurston) 22-2.5 Billy Gutowski (Churchill) 21-1.5 Dave Simor (Stevenson) 21-5.5 Alan Freeman (Wayne) 20-6.5 Renaldo Powell (Wayne) 20-3 Mike Sylvester (Franklin) 20-2.25 Nate Sergison (Stevenson) 20-0.5 Israel Woolfork (Franklin) 19-8 Eric Thornton (Canton) 19-7 Nate Gholston (Plymouth) 19-7 Jace Beardon (Salem) 19-7 POLE VAULT Derik Peterman (Churchill) 14-0 Mike Sylvester (Franklin) 13-9 Joe Tessner (Churchill) 13-9 Ben Ambrose (Plymouth) 13-0 Ryan Langdon (Canton) 13-0 Chris McGinnis (Canton) 12-6 Joe Massel (Canton) 12-0 Brian Rakovitis (Canton) 12-0 J.P. Truesdell (Salem) 12-0

John Gudeman (Stevenson) 11-6 110-METER HURDLES Myles White (Stevenson) 14.7 Baze Efremov (Salem) 14.7 Rico Walker (RU) 15.0 Nate Gholston (Plymouth) 15.3 Hamed Ajetunmbi (John Glenn) 15.3 Marcus Bennett (Thurston) 15.5 Renaldo Powell (Wayne) 15.5 Andrew LaBerge (Churchill) 15.6 Jacob McDonald (Churchill) 15.8 Mark Zehner (Churchill) 15.9 300 HURDLES Andrew LaBerge (Churchill) 39.2 Myles White (Stevenson) 39.4 Tim Belcher (Canton) 40.5 Jacob McDonald (Churchill) 41.2 Baze Efremov (Salem) 41.6 Mike Wood (Franklin) 41.7 Renaldo Powell (Wayne) 42.2 Sherif Hassainin (Canton) 42.5 Rico Walker (RU) 42.5 Kyle Ramthun (Luth. Westland) 42.5 100 DASH Ian Thornton (John Glenn) 10.6 Larry Dawkins (John Glenn) 10.6 Steve Eideh (Stevenson) 10.8 JaJuan Marks (John Glenn) 11.0 Janerian Caldwell (Plymouth) 11.1 Daran Carey (Churchill) 11.1 Casey Wolfe (Wayne) 11.1 Connor McKinney (Plymouth) 11.2 John Stewart (Clarenceville) 11.2 Mike Schatz (Luth. Westland) 11.2 Josh Palka (Luth. Westland) 11.2 200 John Stewart (Clarenceville) 22.6 David St. Amant (Churchill) 22.6 Andrew Manual (Canton) 22.7 Larry Dawkins (John Glenn) 22.7 Dan Cragel (Stevenson) 22.8 Steve Eideh (Stevenson) 22.9 Josh Palka (Luth. Westland) 22.9 Billy Gutowski (Churchill) 23.0 Nate Sergison (Stevenson) 23.0 Casey Wolfe (Wayne) 23.0 Darel Myree (Franklin) 23.0 400 John Stewart (Clarenceville) 49.5 David St. Amant (Churchill) 50.2 Dan Cragel (Stevenson) 50.5 Andrew Manual (Canton) 51.0 Jacob McDonald (Churchill) 51.4 Curtis Jackson (John Glenn) 51.4 Andrew LaBerge (Churchill) 51.5 Derek Buskey (Stevenson) 51.6 Billy Gutowski (Churchill) 51.8 Kevin Cope (Salem) 52.3 Kyle Wallath (Plymouth) 52.3

Josh Palka (Luth. Westland) 52.3 Kyle Osborne (Stevenson) 52.3 800 Matt Rzepka (Stevenson) 1:57.6 Kevin Lewis (Wayne) 2:00.9 Scott Zech (Canton) 2:01.3 Kyle Wallath (Plymouth) 2:02.0 Mike Gibbons (Stevenson) 2:03.4 Brian Robertson (Churchill) 2:05.0 Justin Huey (Plymouth) 2:06.4 Mark Waterbury (Churchill) 2:06.4 David St. Amant (Churchill) 2:06.0 Spencer Lyle (Luth. Westland) 2:06.4 1,600 Matt Rzepka (Stevenson) 4:29.8 Patrick Slavens (Plymouth) 4:37.2 Rob Curtis (Salem) 4:37.9 Eric Zech (Canton) 4:38.2 Justin Huey (Plymouth) 4:41.0 Spencer Lyle (Lutheran Westland) 4:40.7 Brandon Grysko (Churchill) 4:42.3 Brian Robertson (Churchill) 4:43.7 Anthony Scaparo (Plymouth) 4:43.9 Matt Lewandowski (Plymouth) 4:44.0 3,200 Patrick Slavens (Plymouth) 10:01.0 Anthony Scaparo (Plymouth) 10:10.8 Rob Curtis (Salem) 10:11.3 Derek Lax (Plymouth) 10:13.9 Duncan Spitz (Canton) 10:16.3 Joe Varilone (Churchill) 10:21.8 Brandon Grysko (Churchill) 10:29.4 Kevin deBear (Salem) 10:32.1 Mike Green (Stevenson) 10:32.3 Evan Sirena (Franklin) 10:33.6 400 RELAY Livonia Stevenson 44.0 Plymouth 44.1 Westland John Glenn 44.4 Livonia Franklin 44.7 Plymouth 44.9 800 RELAY Livonia Stevenson 1:30.5 Livonia Churchill 1:30.9 Westland John Glenn 1:32.1 Lutheran Westland 1:32.7 Livonia Franklin 1:32.8 1,600 RELAY Livonia Churchill 3:24.5 Livonia Stevenson 3:27.1 Canton 3:31.5 Salem 3:32.7 Wayne Memorial 3:33.8 3,200 RELAY Livonia Churchill 8:14.6 Livonia Stevenson 8:15.0 Plymouth 8:28.0 Canton 8:31.5 Lutheran Westland 8:33.3

BOYS TRACK RESULTS

LIVONIA STEVENSON TWILIGHT INVITATIONAL May 11 at Stevenson TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Livonia Stevenson, 152 points; 2. Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, 103; 3. Novi, 81; 4. Beverly Hills-Detroit Country Day, 80; 5. Orchard Lake St. Mary's, 58; 6. Redford Union, 31. FINAL RESULTS Shot put: 1. Maloney (CC), 51 feet, 9.5 inches; 2. Sargent (OLSM), 45-1.25; 3. Brown (N), 45-1; 4. Matt Broome (LS), 44-8.75; 5. Yono (CC), 41-4.75; 6. Fair (OCD), 42-6.25. Discus: 1. Oemens (OCD), 144-6; 2. Kokoszka (CC), 142-4; 3. Maloney (CC), 137-4; 4. Broome (LS), 135-3; 5. Robert Pennywitt (RU), 133-5; 6. Brad Ooak (LS), 123-8. High jump: 1. Mitchell White (LS), 6-0; 2. Pat York (LS), 6-0; 3. Floyd (RU), 5-10; 4. Jackson (OLSM), 5-10; 5. Sanford (OLSM), 5-8; 6. McNamara (Novi), 5-8. Long jump: 1. Jackson (OLSM), 20-4; 2. Myles White (LS), 20-2.14; 3. Nate Sergison (LS), 20-0.5; 4. Fowler (OCD), 20-0; 5. Mamut (CC), 18-7.5; 6. Nelson (DCD), 18-6.75. Pole vault: 1. Preston (N), 11-6; 2. Jon Gudeman (LS), 11-6; 3. Osama Al-Hakimi (LS), 10-6; 4. Maxfield (N), 10-0; 5. Brad Oow (LS), 9-6; 6. Steven Williams (RU), 9-6. 110-meter hurdles: 1. Myles White (LS), 14.8; 2. Rico Walker (RU), 15.0; 3. Lee (OCD), 15.2; 4. Sittler (OLSM), 15.5; 5. Soley (CC), 16.9. 300 hurdles: 1. Myles White (LS), 40.0; 2. Walker (RU), 40.9; 3. Van Buhler (N), 42.3; 4. Soley (CC), 43.3; 5. Lee (OCD), 43.9; 6. Dennis Swift (LS), 44.3. 100 dash: 1. Rucker (OCD), 10.6; 2. Washington (OLSM), 10.6; 3. Gray (DCD), 11.0; 4. Tan (OCD), 11.0; 5. Steve Eideh (LS), 11.4; 6. Austin White (LS), 11.6. 200: 1. Curran (CC), 22.8; 2. Austin White (LS), 23.2; 3. Sergison (LS), 23.4; 4. Jackson (OLSM), 23.5; 5. Joseph (CC), 25.0. 400: 1. Rucker (DCD), 50.5; 2. Dan Cragel (LS), 50.5; 3. Derek Buskey (LS), 52.9. 800: 1. Oleski (CC), 2:03.8; 2. Croad (N), 2:04.9; 3. MacDonough (N), 2:07.0; 4. May (OLSM), 2:07.7; 5. Mike Gibbons (LS), 2:07.8; 6. Steve Reschke (LS), 2:08.06. 1,600: 1. Matt Rzepka (LS), 4:31.7; 2. Peruski (OLSM), 4:34.5; 3. Wagner (N), 4:38.0; 4. Prasad (N), 4:40.9; 5. Irmen (OLSM), 4:46.2; 6. Dave McIntyre (LS), 4:51.2. 3,200: 1. Toloff (CC), 9:50.5; 2. Beard (N), 9:59.0; 3. Lumley (N), 10:05.4; 4. Gasior (CC), 10:32.8; 5. Mike Green (LS), 10:37.2; 6. Shawn Howe (LS), 10:44.3. 400 relay: 1. Novi-CC, 45.3; 2. Novi, 46.6. 800 relay: 1. Stevenson (Eideh, Cragel, Sergison, Myles White), 1:30.5; 2. Country Day, 1:31.2; 3. Novi-CC, 1:33.7; 4. RU, 1:39.7. 1,600 relay: 1. Country Day, 3:32.7; 2. Novi, 3:34.3; 3. Stevenson, 3:38.06; 4. Novi-CC, 3:41.8; 5. RU, 3:51.5. 3,200 relay: 1. Stevenson (Gibbons, Reschke, Rzepka, McIntyre), 8:32.1; 2. Novi-CC, 9:03.6; 3. Country Day, 9:32.0; 4. St. Mary's, 9:58.4.

DUAL MEET RESULTS LIVONIA STEVENSON 93 WALLED LAKE CENTRAL 44 May 10 at W.L. Central Shot put: Dennison (WLC), 45 feet, 9 inches; discus: Dennison (WLC), 136-3; high jump: Mitchell White (LS), 6-0; long jump: Myles White (LS), 20-6.75; pole vault: Brad Oow (LS), 11-0; 110-meter hurdles: Myles White (LS), 15.7; 300 hurdles: Walker (WLC), 43.0; 100 dash: Steve Eideh (LS), 11.0; 200: Dan Cragel (LS), 22.8; 400: Myles White (LS), 52.0; 800: Matt Rzepka (LS), 1:57.6; 1,600: Roche (WLC), 4:39.36; 3,200: Hill (WLC), 9:49.75; 400 relay: Stevenson (Eideh, Mitchell White, Dave Simor, Austin White), 44.3; 800 relay: Stevenson (Eideh, Cragel, Nate Sergison, Myles White), 1:36.0; 1,600 relay: Central, 3:51.8; 3,200 relay: Stevenson (Mike Gibbons, Brian Fenech, Dave McIntyre, Steve Reschke), 10:35.04. Stevenson 2nds: Dennis Swift, 110 hurdles (16.7); 300 hurdles (45.09); Gibbons, 1,600 (4:47.1); Kyle Osborne, 400 (52.3); Derek Buskey, 200 (23.35); Brad Doak, discus (133-0); Matt Broome, shot put (44-11.5); Wyatt Stahl, high jump (5-8); Sergison, long jump (19-10); Jon Gudeman, pole vault (10-0); 3rds: Mike Green, 1,600 (4:54.9); Osama Al-Hakimi, 300 hurdles (45.9); pole vault (9-6); Reschke, 800 (2:08.43); McIntyre, 3,200 (10:39.24); Broome, discus (130-6); Doak, shot put (40-6.5); Simor, long jump (18-10.5). Stevenson's dual meet record: 5-0 overall, 5-0 WLAALakes Division (clinched outright title). NORTHVILLE 79.67 LIVONIA FRANKLIN 57.33 May 10 at Franklin Shot put: Markstrom (N), 47 feet, 11 inches; discus: Gorley (N), 123-2; high jump: Israel Woolfork (LF), 5-10; long jump: Arastu (N), 20-2.75; pole vault: Yassay (N), 14-0; 110-meter hurdles: Corcoran (N), 15.0; 200: Oarell Myree (LF), 23.3; 400: Arastu (N), 54.2; 800: Turnbull (N), 2:08.6; 1,600: Turnbull (N), no time available; 3,200: Evan Sirena (LF), 10:35.4; 400 relay: Franklin (Brandon Straub, Alvin Ouncan, Oarell Myree, Paul Voegel, 44.9; 800 relay: Franklin (Keith Bartlett, Ouncan, Myree, Woolfork), 1:32.8; 1,600 relay: Franklin (Stuart Gregory, Ryan Kiseda, Josh Walker, Elliot Smith), 3:38.6; 3,200 relay: Northville, 8:42.3. Franklin 2nds: Voegel, 100 (11.9); Kevin Wengert, shot put (45-11); Mike Wood, discus (119-11); Charles Pinnacle, high jump (5-8); Mike Sylvester, pole vault (12-6); 3rds: Gregory, 110 hurdles (16.9); 300 hurdle (42.9); Sirena, 1,600 (4:45.7); Joe Morris, 800 (2:12.7); Bartlett, 200 (23.6); Pat Cecile, discus (117-8); Sylvester, long jump (18-7). Dual meet records: Northville, 5-0 overall, 5-0 WLAALakes-Western Division (clinched title); Franklin, 2-3 overall, 2-3 WLAALakes-Western Division. SALEM 72 WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 65 May 10 at Centennial Educational Park Shot put: Bryan Bearden (S), 6-2; long jump: Beardon (S), 19-7; pole vault: J.P. Truesdell (S), 12-0; 110-meter hurdles: Baze Efremov (S), 15.24; 300 hurdles: Efremov (S), 41.67; 100 dash: Ian Thornton (WJG), 11.16; 200: Larry Dawkins (WJG), 23.19; 400: Curtis Jackson (WJG), 51.36; 800: Rob Curtis (S), 2:11.46; 1,600: Craig Cowing (S), 4:54.09; 3,200: Mike Charara (S), 11:06.2; 400 relay: John Glenn, 44.51; 800 relay: John Glenn, 1:34.02; 1,600 relay: Salem, 3:32.86; 3,200 relay: Salem, 8:43.86. Glenn 2nds: Hamed Ajetunmbi, 110 hurdles (15.31); Oawkins, 100 (11.29); Shawn Anthony, 300 hurdles (42.86); Jim Wood, 800 (2:11.5); Zach Bozigan, shot put (42-5); discus (134-0); Thornton, high jump (6-2); Jackson, long jump (18-11.5); Gary Lawrence, pole vault (11-0); 3rds: Anthony, 110 hurdles (16.26); JuJuan Marks, 200 (24.09); Ryan Lockhart, pole vault (10-0). Glenn's dual meet record: 1-4 overall, 1-3 WLAALakes Division. METRO CONFERENCE TRI-MEET May 10 at Livonia Clarenceville TEAM SCORES: 1. Livonia Clarenceville, 109 points; 2. Clawson, 26 points; 3. Harper Woods, 8. FINAL RESULTS Shot put: Brandon Page (C'ville), 40 feet, 3.5 inches; discus: Page (C'ville), 122-0; high jump: Phillip Grasshof (C'ville), 5-6; long jump: Matt Garant (C'ville), 18-4; 110-meter hurdles: Baze Efremov (C'ville), 18.9; 300 hurdles: Kubera (C'ville), 46.6 (school record); 100 dash: John Stewart (C'ville), 11.3; 200: Stewart (C'ville), 24.3; Jacob Todd (C'ville), 57.8; 800: Matt Francis (Clawson), 2:13.1; 1,600: Francis (Clawson), 4:48.2; 3,200: Francis (Clawson), 11:20.7; 400 relay: Clarenceville (Todd, Page, Jeremy Gainer, Stewart), 46.3; 800 relay: Clarenceville (Todd, Ryann Glass, Gainer, Stewart), 2:17.4; 1,600 relay: disqualification; 3,200 relay: Clarenceville (Charles Craig, Ben Watts, Tim Siesnicki, Brad Pozniak), 12:10.9. Clarenceville 2nds: Andres Cardenas, 110 hurdles (19.4); 300 hurdles (48.9); Gainer, 100 (11.6); Matt Parent, 1,600 (5:44.4); Grasshof, 400 (58.3); Glass, 800 (2:25.6); Joey Nelson, 3,200 (13:24.4); high jump (5-4); Andrew Jasmer, discus (111-15); Taylor Hall, shot put (38.2.5); Page, long jump (17-10); 3,200: Daniel Pepaj, 110 hurdles (20.8); 300 hurdles (52.8); 3,200 (13:58.9); John Westberg, 400 (1:27.9); Jasmer, shot put (35-2.25); Garant, high jump (5-0). Clarenceville's dual meet record: 6-1 overall, 4-1 Metro Conference.

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Got Game? Yep, got scores, too. SPORTS



LJAL hoop champs

The Livonia Junior Athletic League Hurricanes capped a perfect 12-0 season April 18 by winning the league championship with a 47-35 win over the Irish. The Irish reached the final by edging the Gators, while the Hurricanes downed the Longhorns. Members of the Hurricanes include (kneeling, from left) Henry Porter, Brian Riedy, Matthew Berger, Chad Stevens; (standing, from left) assistant coach Paul Worley, Derek Bradley, assistant coach Steve Vasko, Kevin Francisco, James Hassinger, Edward Moussa, Scott Vasko, Bryan Dewulf, Phillip Worley, Brian Pergament and head coach Rod Hassinger. (Not pictured are Shawn Harris and Kevin Riedy.)

BOYS TENNIS RESULTS

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 8 GARDEN CITY 0
May 10 at Churchill
No. 1 singles: Nick Payne (LC) def. Evan Biers, 6-1, 6-0; No. 2: Aniket Patil (LC) def. Chris Schatin, 6-0, 6-0; No. 3: Alex Clos (LC) def. Jesse Tipton, 6-0, 6-1; No. 4: Kyle Anderson (LC) def. Jeremy Watkins, 6-1, 6-3.
No. 1 doubles: Jay Cunningham-Taylor Frangie (LC) def. Russ Greenshields-Eli Wasson, 6-0, 6-1; No. 2: Dan Martin-Kyle Peczynski (LC) def. Scott Nel-Steve Woolver, 6-0, 6-0; No. 3: Robert Fortney-Steve Mazur (LC) def. Ryan McGowan-Ryan Wilson, 6-0, 6-1; No. 4: Mark Gordon-Steve McGinn (LC) def. A.J. Chambo-Steve Mays, 6-3, 6-3.
Churchill's dual meet record: 11-1 overall.
LIVONIA FRANKLIN 7 WAYNE MEMORIAL 1
May 9 at Franklin
No. 1 singles: Joe Fenner (LF) defeated Kevin Erdmann, 7-5, 6-4; No. 2: Tony Semonick (LF) def. Aaron Koshorek, 6-0, 7-6 (8-6); No. 3: Steve Trapp (LF) def. Nick Martin, 6-1, 6-0; No. 4: Tommy Pattenau (WM) def. Dan Camilleri, 6-1, 6-4.
No. 1 doubles: Chad Dorton-Ryan Hudie (LF) def. Jake Fyfe-Andrew Thyron, 6-1, 6-0; No. 2: Justin Adams Galym Tussupov (LF) def. Mike Hicks-Andrew Morton, 7-6 (7-0)-6-1; No. 3: Mike Geraci-Nate Warrick (LF) def. Josh

Barnett-Kevin Tarnowski, 6-0, 6-1; No. 4: Ron Perian-Ryan Henderson (LF) def. Blake Berry-Karav Mahotra, 6-0, 6-0.
Dual meet records: Franklin, 2-9-1 overall, 2-9 Western Lakes Activities Association; Wayne, 1-9-2 overall, 0-8-1 WLAA.
LIVONIA STEVENSON 6 PLYMOUTH 2
May 8 at Stevenson
No. 1 singles: Gino McConathy (LS) defeated Dan Jeong, 6-2, 6-2; No. 2: Ian Petty (LS) def. Clint Korpalski, 6-1, 6-1; No. 3: Brett Kavulich (P) def. Chris Martin, 7-6, 6-1; No. 4: Erik Koch (LS) def. Steve Schaeffer, 6-1, 6-1.
No. 1 doubles: Mike Greco-Pat McHugh (LS) def. Pat Onoro-Anoop Gopal, 6-3, 6-0; No. 2: Max Korpalski-W. Ning (P) def. Alex Cook-Brady Thom, 2-6, 7-5, 6-3; No. 3: Chris Orlos-Clayton Northey (LS) def. Robert Mater-Tom Eggleston, 6-2, 6-2; No. 4: Leon Voskov-Justin Collins (LS) def. Patrick Bailey-Andy Mitchell, 7-5, 6-3.
Stevenson's dual meet record: 9-2 overall, 9-2 WLAA.
WALLED LAKE CENTRAL 7 WAYNE MEMORIAL 1
May 7 at W.L. Central
No. 1 singles: Kevin Erdmann (WM) defeated Brad Yanalunas, 6-4, 6-2; No. 2: Brian Hurd (WLC) def. Nick Martin, 6-0, 6-0; No. 3: Ryan Hatteen (WLC) def. Tommy Pattenau, 6-3, 5-7, 6-4; No. 4: James Bittner (WLC) def.

Josh Phillips, 6-2, 6-4.
No. 1 doubles: Casey Johnson-Ryan Rivemonte (WLC) def. Andrew Thyron-Josh Barnett, 6-0, 6-0; No. 2: Brian Indianer-Koji Niwa (WLC) def. Andrew Morton-Mike Hicks, 6-0, 6-2; No. 3: Ilya Kleyynin-Mike Rivemonte (WLC) def. Kevin Tarnowski-Karav Mahotra, 6-2, 6-2; No. 4: Jovan Acuff-Brad Sheahan (WLC) def. John Mayfield-Blake Berry, 6-1, 6-1.
Wayne's dual meet record: 1-8-2 overall, 0-7-1 WLAA.
SALEM 8 WAYNE MEMORIAL 0
May 3 at Wayne
No. 1 singles: Laurence Washington (S) def. Kevin Erdmann, 6-0, 6-0; No. 2: Neil Bakshi (S) def. Aaron Koshorek, 6-0, 6-0; No. 3: Jake Burnstein (S) def. Nick Martin, 6-1, 6-0; No. 4: Dave Benson (S) def. Tommy Pattenau, 6-0, 6-0.
No. 1 doubles: Matt Benson-Tyler Jelenewski (S) def. Mike Hicks-Jake Fyfe, 6-4, 6-2; No. 2: John Bills-John Kang (S) def. Andrew Morton-Kevin Tarnowski, 6-0, 6-2; No. 3: Surya Ng-Paul Krotty (S) def. John Mayfield-Josh Barnett, 6-4, 6-4; No. 4: Corwin Stout-Andrew Shumann (S) def. Andrew Thyron-Blake Berry, 6-4, 6-2.
Wayne's dual meet record: 1-7-2 overall, 0-6-1 WLAA.

Spartan football camp

Stevenson High School will host two free football camps in preparation for the 2007 season. The Spartan Youth Clinic will be from 9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. (grades 3-5) and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (grades 6-8) on Saturday, May 19. Pre-registration is available through the Stevenson High WebSite at www.livonia.k12.mi.us/schools/high/stevenson/athletics/athletics.html. Same day registration starts at 8 a.m. The Spartan Varsity Camp for current grades 9-11 will be Wednesday-Thursday, July 25-26, at Stevenson. For more information, e-mail coach Tim Gabel at tgabel@livonia.k12.mi.us.

Franklin football camp

The Future Patriots Football Camp will be from 9-11:30 a.m. (grades 1-4) and 12:30-3 p.m. (grades 5-8) Saturday, May 19, at Livonia Franklin High School. The cost is \$15. To obtain a camp brochure, visit franklinfootball.googlepages.com.

Field hockey camp

The 2007 Blazer Field Hockey Day Camp for grade six through incoming freshman will be from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 23 at Livonia Ladywood High School. The cost is \$50 (includes camp T-shirt with on-site athletic trainer). Registration is due June 15. The camp, directed by Ladywood coach Kris Sanders, will put an emphasis on funda-

CAMPS/CLINICS

mentals and techniques. All camp participants must bring shin guards, a mouthpiece and water bottle. Rubber cleats are recommended along with a field hockey stick (some available for signout at the camp). You should also bring a sack lunch. For more information, e-mail coachkris@ameritech.net.

Churchill camps

Livonia Churchill High School will offer a series of summer sports camps including: Baseball (ages 7-14 as of Sept. 1, 2007) - 9 a.m.-noon, Tuesday through Thursday, June 19-21, at high school field (cost \$152). Directed by Ron Targosz. Boys basketball (grades 6-9) - 9 a.m.-noon, Monday through Friday, June 25-29, at the fieldhouse (cost \$81). Directed by Jim Solak. Girls basketball shooting (grades 5-9) - 9 a.m.-noon, Monday through Wednesday, July 9-11, at the fieldhouse (cost \$52). Directed by Keith McDonald. Girls basketball skills (grades 5-10) - 9 a.m.-noon, Monday through Friday, June 25-29, at the fieldhouse (cost \$81). Directed by Keith McDonald. Football (boys in grades 3-8) - 6-8:30 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday, July 24-26, at the football fields (cost \$38). Directed by John Filiatraut. Football (boys in grades 9-12) - 8:30-10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday, July 24-26, at the football fields (cost \$60).

Directed by John Filiatraut. Girls gymnastics (ages 11 and up) - 9 a.m.-12:15 p.m., Monday through Friday, June 18-22; and July 16-20, at the fieldhouse (cost \$81 for each session). Directed by Kelly Grodzicki. High jump (grades 8-12) - 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Friday-Saturday, July 20-21, at the Churchill fields (cost \$115 with lunch provided both days). Directed by Vern Williams. Pole vault (co-ed grades 8-12) - 4-7 p.m. Thursday, July 5; 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 6-7, at the Churchill fields (cost \$157 with lunch provided July 6-7). Directed by Vern Williams. Hockey skills (grades 9-12) - 8-9:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, July 16-20; and from 9:10:30 a.m., July 23-27, at Edgar Ice Arena. Limited enrollment to 45 skaters and five goalies (cost \$175). For more information, e-mail Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni at Pmazzon@livonia.k12.mi.us. Girls fastpitch softball (ages 7-14 as of Sept. 1, 2007) - 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, June 18-21, at the Churchill baseball field (cost is \$57). Directed by Meghan Misiak-Hall. Girls volleyball (eight days) - 8:15-10:30 a.m. (grades 10-12) and 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. (grades 7-9), June 13-22, at the fieldhouse (cost \$99). Directed by Mark Grenier. For more information, including schedules for the tennis and swim camps, call the CES Enrichment Office at (734) 744-2602.

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Buy Now Before The Current Housing Stock Is Depleted

By Richard Komer, First Vice-President, Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan

Market challenges translate into market advantages for home buyers, particularly right now. The basic principle of supply and demand will tilt away from shoppers for newly built homes because economic conditions are pushing builders to sell off "spec homes" built before the current slowdown in home purchasing and not replacing them in the same numbers. About half of such properties, especially single family homes, in Southeastern Michigan have been sold in recent months according to a report by Housing Consultants, Inc. and remaining ones are drawing traffic and sales this spring because they're priced to move. Until a definitive housing rebound, builders and their lenders hesitate to commit resources to as many spec homes as they traditionally did, a dramatic change for consumers who count on selecting a finished new house for immediate move-in. After current low inventories are snapped up, virtually all new homes will be custom-ordered as fresh construction—potentially increasing the price and waiting time. This is a disadvantage to purchasers who have sold their homes and transferees, both of whom need quick occupancy. Builders still have a "let's make a deal" approach to inquiries about existing spec homes, of course while the supply lasts. But the ample choices, quick-occupancy convenience and "deep discounts" available when major companies had dozens of spec homes available will become bygone bargains. For now, builders are eager to recover construction and financing costs so they can move ahead on new sites. Unprecedented values remain—a springtime shower of sales that won't soon be repeated. There's no time to dawdle if you hope to be among the last savvy shoppers who snap up mint-condition models at prices unlikely to be offered again. Visit a builder's sales center this month to see what attractive deals look like—while they last. Prices are projected to rise later this spring so there is urgency* as this segment of the buyers' market begins to disappear.

To view homes built by the Professional Master Builders of Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan, visit www.biaparadeofhomes.com

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Soccer moms



Carl and Audrey Mattson enjoyed helping the needy and homeless through their Ja'Noah House ministry. Carl died April 15, but Audrey promises to carry on their work.

Giving man taught valuable lesson

There is no greater legacy than having your good work continue after your death. Carl Mattson can rest easy knowing that the lives he touched in turn touch others.

You couldn't know Carl and not be inspired by his giving ways. Years before he retired as a truck driver for Spartan Stores, the Livonia man was picking up donations and delivering food, clothing and furniture to those in need in the name of Ja'Noah House, the nonprofit ministry he and his wife, Audrey, operated from their Livonia home for nearly 17 years.



Linda Chomin

Our fun wasn't going to the Bahamas on vacation, said Audrey shortly after Carl died on April 15, at age 66. It was driving down the road to help poor families and individuals in the Cass Corridor, Brightmoor, and Norwayne area in Westland.

A humble man, Carl never liked to talk about their work which included spreading the word about Jesus. The stories I heard were in response to questions I asked in order to write my annual giving column about charitable organizations in early December. Carl and Audrey would tell me about the gratefulness of the men living under the Ambassador Bridge when handed a can of Spam. Or the children who ran into the street whenever they saw the Mattsons' truck. It meant they would soon be enjoying the day-old goodies donated by Panera Bread or Entenmann's Bakery Outlet.

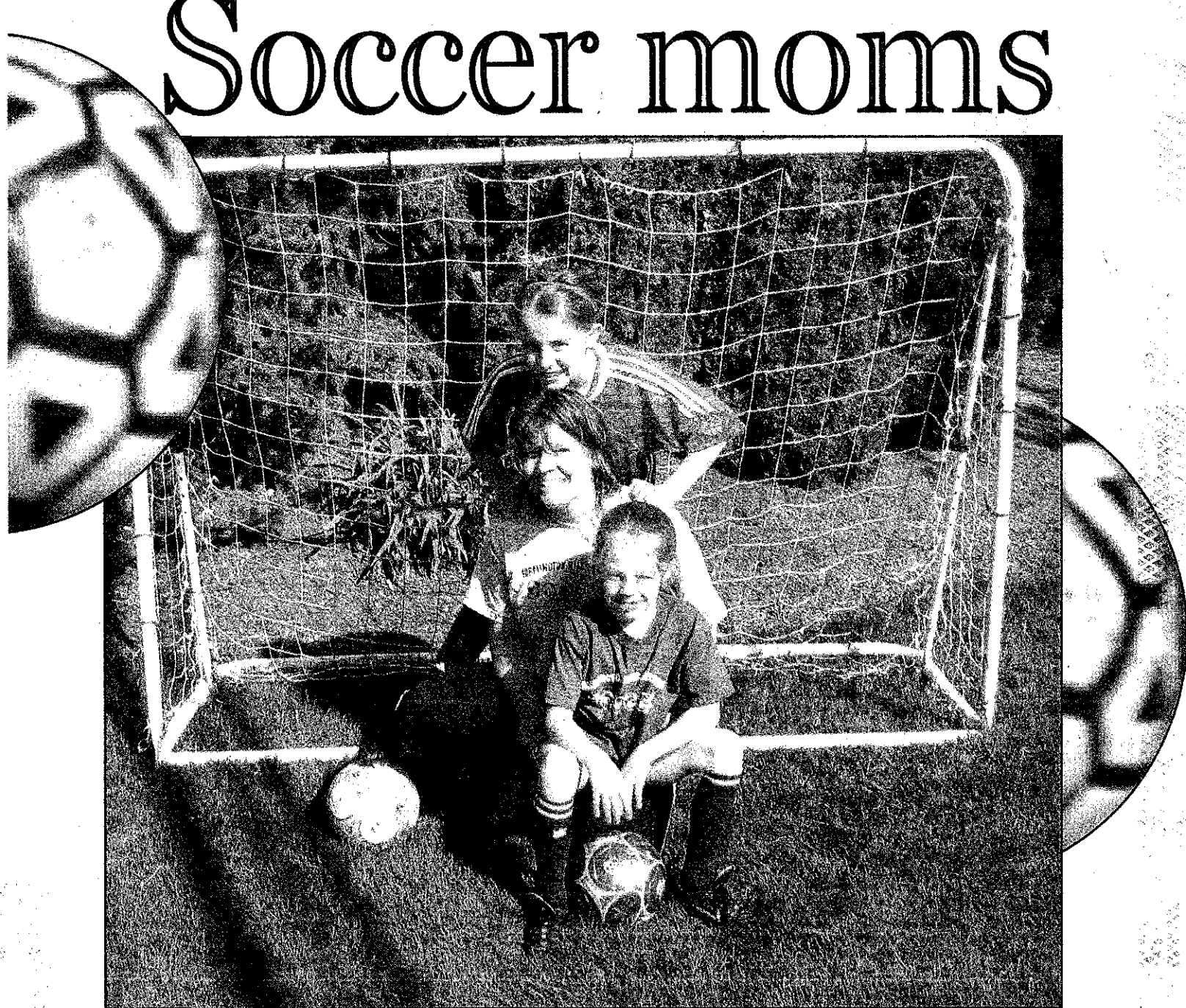
During his funeral service at St. John Lutheran Church in Redford, one pastor from an inner city congregation told a light-hearted story about Carl showing up with a truck full of Entenmann's one Sunday morning. Members of the church distributed the rare treat in the neighborhood. The recipients still mention Carl's act of kindness to this day.

Carl and Audrey would be the first to tell you they couldn't feed and clothe the needy if it weren't for people in the community giving money, goods such as blankets and teddy bears - and time. Once a month, members of St. John would volunteer to make sandwiches for the Mattsons to deliver. Others would help to fill the more than 250 requests Carl and Audrey received every holiday season from children they helped all year long. New and used clothing would go into the packages along with a stuffed animal or toy.

Last year, Carl was in the hospital and couldn't help sort and deliver the presents. When I last saw him on Christmas Eve day tears rolled down his face because he wanted to be out there giving. Following in their father's footsteps, the Mattson children stepped in to pick up donations and deliver the gifts. Of course, Keith, Kari and Kevin had already learned from their parents to help others less fortunate than themselves. As a family, the Mattsons would form a production line every Thanksgiving to prepare turkey dinners that would feed the homeless on the street.

Carl set an example for all of us to follow. I know I'm going to miss him, but I'll never forget the valuable lesson he taught by example.

Linda Chomin is the health and community life reporter for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. She can be reached at (734) 953-2145 or lchomin@hometownlife.com.

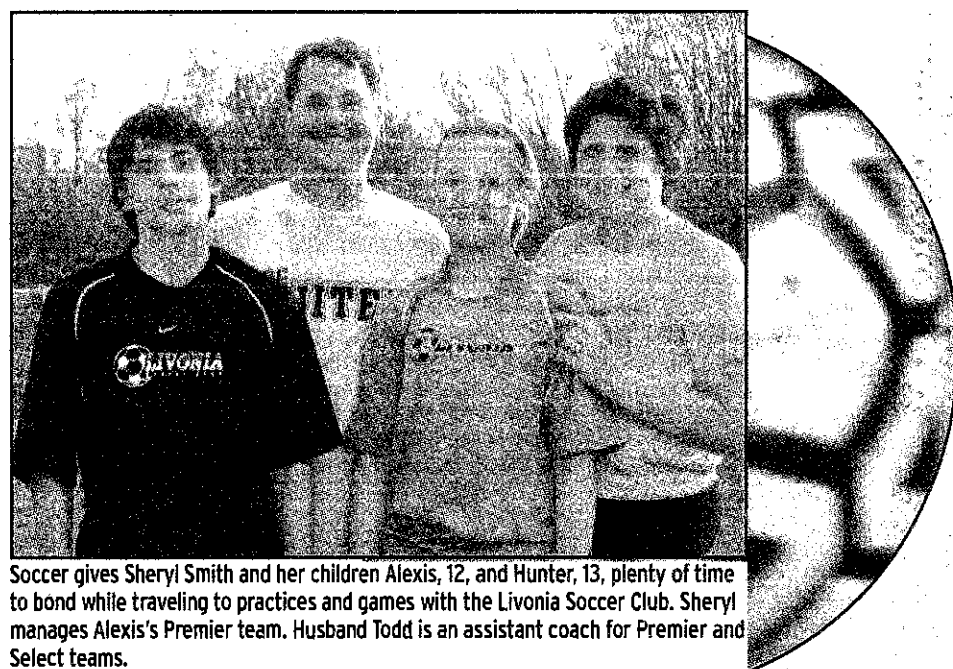


Michele Sgambati and daughters Emilia, 8 (top), and Gabriela, 7, enjoy spending time together on the soccer field. Sgambati coaches Gabriela's Farmington Hills Special Services recreation team.

They want their kids to have fun

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Some soccer moms keep calendars to remind them of game-related activities, some don't, but they all devote as many as seven days a week to their kids whether coaching or standing on the sidelines. Some soccer moms leave a full-time job to rush their kids to the fields. Rachel Valentine, a stay at home mom, spends nearly



Soccer gives Sheryl Smith and her children Alexis, 12, and Hunter, 13, plenty of time to bond while traveling to practices and games with the Livonia Soccer Club. Sheryl manages Alexis's Premier team. Husband Todd is an assistant coach for Premier and Select teams.

PLEASE SEE SOCCER MOMS, C3

Event to raise funds for Leah's Happy Hearts

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Shortly after Leah James died in August 2005, her mother, Karen, knew she had to do something for other children battling the disease which took her daughter's life. On Friday, May 18, the first fund-raiser for Leah's Happy Hearts takes place at Genitt's in Northville. Proceeds will go to host a Christmas party for patients at the University of Michigan's C.S. Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor and financially help families of those patients with life-threatening illnesses. The money will also help the Children's Pediatric Brain Tumor Association fund research to find a cure.

Leah died at age 5 1/2 from a diffused pontine brainstem glioma. She fought the tumor for one year before slipping into a coma.

"She was too special not to do something," Karen Cioma-James said. "I had to channel my grief into something."

"We're working through Mott Hospital to host events for children to give them some kind of normalcy. For the Christmas party, we're going to fill up a cart with all kinds of gifts so they can shop for their family and friends."

"When Leah was battling her tumor, an organization (www.alliesangels.com in Birmingham) allowed her to pick from a mini-wish gift list and invited her to a party with other sick children, so I thought this would be a great way to do something in her name. My friends formed a board of directors with me. I couldn't have done it without their help and support. We hope this is just the start of many events."

James established Leah's Happy Hearts,

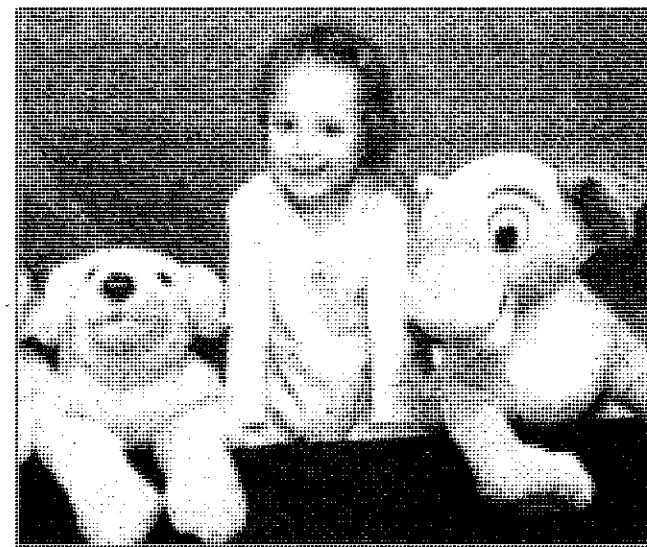


PHOTO BY BILL BRESLER

PLEASE SEE LEAH, C2 This photograph of Leah James was taken in March of 2005.



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Donations sought for animals displaced by Greensburg tornado

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Donna Law believes no animal should be forgotten no matter what the crisis so she's collecting supplies again, this time for the animals displaced by the tornado that leveled the town of Greensburg, Kan. on Friday, May 4, killing 12 people. For the next three weeks Law's Mutts & Mutts Rescue League is working with Pet Supplies "Plus" in Canton to gather donations of dog and cat food, collars, bowls, treats, toys, shampoos, pet carriers and kennels, fans, coolers, garbage bags, bandages, plastic gloves, blankets, sheets, old rugs, towels, flashlights, batteries, hand-sanitizers, cotton balls, alcohol, hydrogen peroxide, and veterinary supplies to help the animals.

Checks should be made out to Mutts & Mutts Rescue and mailed to P.O. Box 40386, Redford, MI 48240. "Somebody has to help," said Donna Law. "We're collecting

paper towels, bleach, extension cords to run fans for the animals, canned and dry food, ace bandages, anything you think they may need to assist the rescue groups," said Donna Law. "Canton Township is donating a conference room for sorting and boxing."

"If we get animal feed we'll ship that out too. You can't forget about the cows, pigs, lizards, and birds."

According to Mike Hill, a board member of the Pratt Humane Society in Pratt, Kansas, animals are still being pulled out of the rubble alive. While some owners have claimed their pets, others like a miniature schnauzer are still waiting at the no-kill shelter 30-miles outside of Greensburg.

Hill says the shelter especially needs money. Because of the chaos it's too soon to tell exactly what the shelter will need to care for the animals. Hill is hoping they can all be returned to their owners, including the miniature schnauzer.

"She just breaks my heart because no one's claimed her," said Mike Hill. "I've named her Survivor."

Law's Mutts & Mutts is working hand and hand with Homeward Bound to do what they can to help the animals in Kansas. Homeward Bound is a rescue group run by Carrie Marsh of Canton and Kathy Brown of Farmington Hills. The two women have found homes for 150 dogs since September by offering homeless animals for adoption every Saturday at Pet Supplies "Plus" on Ford Road, between Morton Taylor and Sheldon.

"I'm going to be up at the store taking in donations, organizing them and taking them to the township hall," said Marsh.

Law is also in the process of looking for property to care for the animals of military personnel while they're on duty far away from home. For information on animals available through Mutts & Mutts, visit www.muttsandmutts.petfinder.org.

Concert to benefit Gaelic League Irish Radio program

The Gaelic League of Detroit is hosting a benefit 8 p.m. Saturday, May 19, to support the Gaelic League Irish Radio Program. The event is at the Gaelic League Irish American Club, 2062 Michigan Ave., Detroit.

The suggested donation is \$12.

The radio program airs 1:30-3 p.m. Sundays on WNXK AM 690 with the latest announcements, news and music from the local community as well as abroad.

The fundraiser features



Bohola, a duo including Pat Broaders (left) and Jimmy Keane perform for a May 19 benefit to support the Gaelic League's Irish Radio program.

Bohola, a duo including accordion virtuoso Jimmy Keane and bouzour player and vocalist Pat Broaders. The bouzour is a bass bouzouki and guitar hybrid.

Together Bohola play a driving yet emotive style of Irish music with deep roots

in tradition, infused with a raw and gritty urbanized musical vernacular of the Irish and Irish-American experience.

For more information, call the Gaelic League of Detroit at (313) 964-7474 or visit www.gaelicofdetroit.org.

LEAH

FROM PAGE C1

a 501(c)3, to keep her daughter's upbeat spirit alive. Leah would always say, "Mommy, my heart is happy even up to the end," at least once a day, James said. The logo for the nonprofit is a heart Leah drew. Guests will receive a bracelet designed with purple hearts and the nonprofit's logo. "She would always draw smiling hearts on her papers," James said.

Today, the Livonia home

James shares with her husband Phil and 10-year old daughter Kylie is "too quiet."

"Kylie helps us both keep going," James said. "We have to stay strong for her. Whenever I said, 'I love you to Leah,' she would say, 'Do you love Kylie?' It was her way of telling me to take care of Kylie."

"Kylie still doesn't like to talk about it much, but I can see she's very lonely and it hurts her so much when we go on vacation and see other families. I can see a sadness in her. This was her best friend."

The silence in the James house is one of the reasons James is keeping busy by planning the fund-raiser. She recently sent e-mails about the event to her old classmates at Bishop Borgess School, formerly in Redford. In addition to hors d'oeuvres such as gourmet shrimp and beef tenderloins, the \$35 ticket price includes two drinks, a DJ, silent auction and the showing of a video about Leah's struggle with the disease.

Silent auction items range from Red Wings tickets with a meet and greet with coach Mike Babcock to dinner at Tribute worth \$1,000 for 8-10 people, front row seats to a Tigers game, an autographed Peyton Manning jersey, jewelry and a chef who will cook a meal at your home for six people.

"The video is beautiful, sad and powerful all at the same time," James said. "It's an awareness video to show the stages Leah went through and a statement after every picture. The video tells about how many children are dying each year."

Tickets for the May 18 fundraiser will be available at Genitt's, 108 E. Main, Northville. For more information, visit leahshappyhearts.org.

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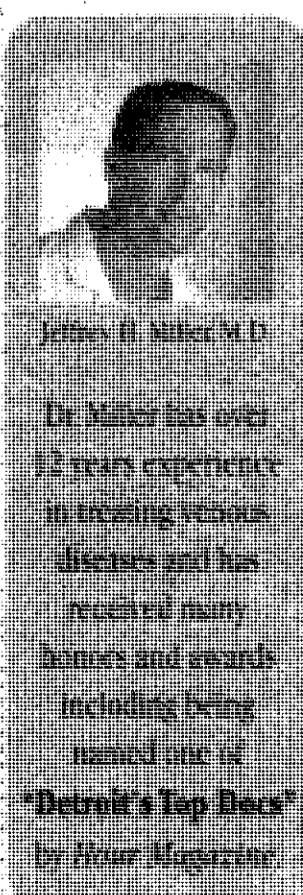
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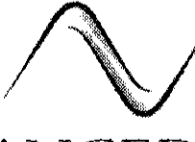
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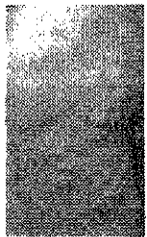
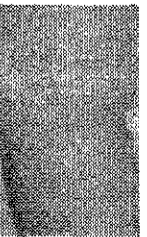
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Brandon Baumann plays the Giant. Ashley Taylor is the Singing Harp in Jack and the Beanstalk, one of seven silly folk tales being performed by the Motor City Youth Theatre in Livonia.

Youth theater presents a series of seven silly folk tales

Jack and the Beanstalk is just one of the Tales of Wishing and Other Silliness that Motor City Youth Theatre performs 2 p.m. Sunday, May 13, and 20, and 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 18-19, at the Grantland Street Playhouse, 27555 Grantland, one-half mile south of I-96 and one-half block west of Inkster road, Livonia.

Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 children under age 18. For reservations, call (313) 535-8962.

The production draws on a series of folk tales from around the world that were adapted by Nancy and Fred Florkowski, and Meghann Bjarnesen.

The six tales are The Five Foolish Fishers; Three Sillies; The Magic Fish; Stone Soup, Sorta; The Three Wishes; Jack and the Beanstalk, and The Golden Goose. Story lines range from a fish who grants wishes to a group of soldiers who claim they are able to make soup from stones.

SOCCER MOMS

FROM PAGE C1

the entire day at a computer working on business for the non-profit Wayne/Westland Soccer League (www.eteamz.com/wwsl).

Valentine registered 490 kids and placed them on the league's 44 teams this season. That total included sons Austin, 13, a member of the Wolves Select team and a referee for the Wayne/Westland league, and Adam, 10, a Titans Select player coached by dad David. Son Alex, 16 1/2, is a league referee who plays soccer for John Glenn High School.

'WAS STUNNED'

Still when Rachel Valentine was told she was chosen Volunteer of the Year by the Michigan State Youth Soccer Association (MSYSA), she "was stunned." MSYSA (www.msya.net) represents more than 90,000 players in 70-plus leagues who register boys and girls, ages 4-19, at various competition levels. MSYSA is a member of U.S. Youth Soccer and is the largest state association in U.S. Youth Soccer Region II (Midwest Region).

"I really don't have typical days between being a stay at home mom and working as a book-keeper (for the Bargains 4-U store in Plymouth)," said Valentine, who also is treasurer for the Great Lakes Soccer League. "Today I've been typing up bylaws for Wayne/Westland. We're at a field seven days a week and watch games besides our kids. The first weekend of soccer we watched nine games. I like watching the kids have fun. My children are out playing and they're not bored. I encourage kids to play a sport to keep them out of trouble."

Soccer gives Sheryl Smith and her children Alexis, 12, and Hunter, 13, plenty of time to bond while traveling to practices and games with the Livonia Soccer Club (www.livoniasoccer.org). Smith works full time in



Rachel Valentine and her son Austin take a break from a Wayne/Westland soccer practice on Thursday night at Corrado Park.

the University of Michigan admissions office of the Ross business school. She is in her fourth year of managing Alexis' Livonia United Premier team. She also helps out with the Select team. Husband Todd is an assistant coach for Premier and Select teams. On Mother's Day, they'll go as a family to a soccer tournament in which Alexis is playing.

"I rush home to take the kids to practice or a game," said Sheryl Smith, who keeps a calendar on the refrigerator to keep their activities straight. "It gives us that much more time to spend together. We have a lot of family conversations going to and from games. There's a lot of good parent bonding going on at that time."

TIME WITH MOM

Gabriela Sgambati, 7, likes having mom Michele coach her Farmington Hills Special Services recreation team, the Pacers.

"It's fun because I get to stay

with her a lot," said Gabriela, whose big sister Emilia feels the same way.

"At one time my mom was my assistant coach," added Emilia, 8, who now plays for the Farmington Soccer Club's Fusion (www.farmingtonsoccer.net). "It was fun having her around and helping."

"Coaching is a good way for Gabriela and I to do something together, a way for us to be involved with the neighborhood kids," said Michele Sgambati, who chauffeurs Gabriela to practice once a week and a game on Saturday. Emilia practices twice a week and plays games once or twice a week. Gabriela also plays baseball.

"The hardest part is having her remember I'm the coach and not her mom at that time, but I find this really fun. Kindergarten was my first game team. I like seeing how excited they are about scoring a goal, excited about learning a skill."

While more fathers coach Farmington Hills Special

Services teams, recreation supervisor Cathy O'Rourke said moms are more inclined to volunteer for the position if they played.

"Ours is pure recreational. We don't keep stats or scores," said O'Rourke. "It's all just for fun, for sportsmanship, fitness, to get them out and moving."

DAD'S VIEW

Like Farmington special services the Canton Soccer Club (www.cantonsoccerclub.com) has more dads who coach than moms, but Pete Alexander would like to see that change.

"We have about 50-50 boys and girls so I like to have a female perspective," said Alexander, Canton Soccer Club director. "Girls can learn a lot from having a woman as a mentor, having someone to talk to even if it's not about the game. Getting more women involved would be great for our game."

Debbie Locke not only coaches the Kicks, her 10-year old son Eric's team, but plays the game at the High Velocity indoor soccer facility in Canton and with another team through the Canton Soccer Club. She also serves on the club's board of directors and works full time as an engineer at an automotive supplier.

Locke's older son Alex, now 13, has been playing since age 5. Alex is on the club's Celtic White team. Both of her sons play hockey as well.

"We're usually at soccer four days a week," said Debbie Locke, who's played the game since junior high. "It can be difficult to coach them because you expect a higher standard from them. Thankfully I don't coach the older one. He got too good for me. My older son helps out with my younger son's team and as long as he wants me to coach I will. Playing soccer myself gives me a better appreciation for what I'm asking them to do. I think every parent should attempt the sport their kids play."

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

Avondale High School

Class of 1957
A 50-year reunion is planned for Sept. 15, 2007 at Great Oaks Country Club in Rochester. Looking for alumni. Call Mary Lou Norkiewicz (Ehrmann) at (248) 375-5406, Jim Greenless at (248) 642-0290 or Janice Turnbull (Lane) at (248) 627-2447.

Berkley High School

Class of 1987
A 20-year reunion is 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 kim-silasophia@gmail.com. Reunion website is www.BHsreunion1987.com for further information and details.

Birmingham Groves

Class of 1977
A 30-year reunion 7:30 p.m. Saturday, July 28, at Camp Ticonderoga, Troy. \$35 in advance, \$45 at the door. Contact Dan Nelson at (248)433-3742 or e-mail: Groves77reunion@hotmail.com.

Birmingham Seaholm

Class of 1962
A 45-year reunion is planned for 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 18, 2007, at Camp Ticonderoga Restaurant, Troy. For information: www.seaholm62.org. Contact: Greg Frontier at gfrontier@aol.com or Charlotte (Bosworth) Foillis at cafollis@myblue-light.com.

Bishop Borgess

Class of 1977
A 30-year reunion Saturday, Sept. 8, 2007, at George Murphy's, Livonia. For more information, call (248)685-8747 or by email haningk@yahoo.com.

Class of 1987

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

Bloomfield Hills Lahser

Class of 1976
Golf Scramble and/or casual dinner at Camp Ticonderoga, Friday, June 29, 2007. Reunion 7 p.m. Saturday, June 30, 2007 at Pine Lake Country Club. For information go to www.Lahser1976.com or contact Jackie (McLernon) Bean at (248)399-9054, Dean Shipman at (313)701-8544, John Wallbillich at (800)707-7170 or Jeffery Given at (248)594-2401.

Burt Elementary and Junior High (Detroit)

Class of 1967
For information contact Contacts: Sandy Rhodes Luoma at andysgard-2003@yahoo.com, Sue Smith Nykamp at suenykamp@yahoo.com or Margaret Haddock Gallagher at edgal-

lagher@prodigy.net
Clarenceville High School
All classes
Sunday, July 29 at Kensington Metro park, shelter "T," open to all Clarenceville alumni - grads and non-grads. Not open to current students unless they are the children of attending alumni. Lunch is potluck (email for division of stuff to bring). For more info, contact: clarenceville_alumni_reunion@yahoo.com

Clawson High School

Class of 1962
A 45-year reunion, 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22, at the Hilton Detroit-Troy on Crooks Road in Troy. Dinner, dancing and cash bar. Other weekend events will begin on Friday, Sept. 21, and will continue through Sunday, Sept. 23. For information, e-mail ClawsonHS62@aol.com or call Mary at (248)593-6182.

Dearborn High School

Class of 1952
A 55 year reunion on Sunday, Aug. 5, at the O'Kelly Banquet Hall, 23663 Park St., Dearborn. Reunion begins at 2 p.m. with buffet dinner at 4 p.m. Call Marianne Hoak (313)274-9064 or Carolyn Haseltine Chambon (734)420-2591.

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.

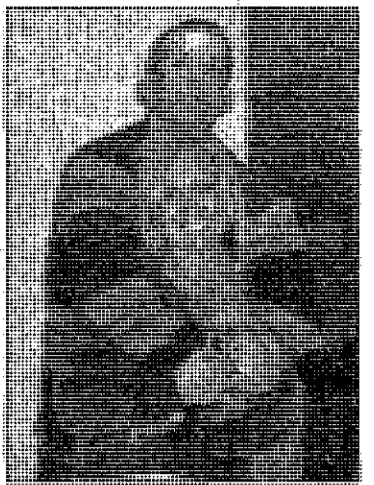
ENGAGEMENTS

Rock-Hammer

Robert and Debbi Rock of Farmington announce the engagement of their daughter, Natalie Rock, to David Hammer.

Natalie is a business student at Eastern Michigan University. David is the son of Don and Susie Hammer of Plymouth, He is a graduate of Indiana University. He is working as a cost accountant.

A July 15, 2007, wedding is planned for Brightmoor Christian Church in Novi.



Frederick-Kyle

Ernest Atkins of Detroit, Michigan and Margaret Frederick of Westland, Michigan announce the engagement of their daughter, Breana Celene Frederick, to Michael Sean Kyle, son of Edward and Claudia Kyle of Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

Michael and Breana are both graduates of Eastern Michigan University and reside in Canton, Michigan.

A spring wedding is planned for April 2008 in Commerce Township, Michigan.

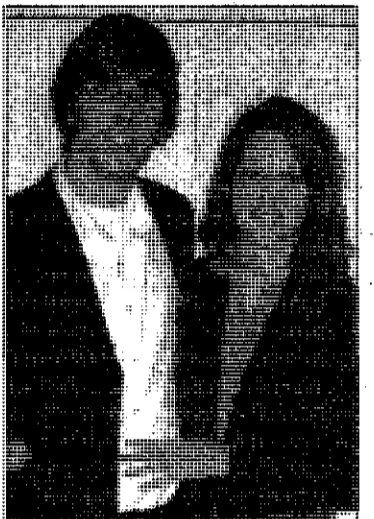


Lamberson-Anderson

Debra Dzenko of Livonia announces the engagement of her daughter, Kathryn Antoinette Lamberson, to Matthew Eric Anderson, son of Fred and Karen Anderson of Washington, N.C.

Kathryn is a 1998 graduate of Franklin High School and earned a bachelor of science in culinary nutrition in 2002 from Johnson & Wales University and master of science in nutrition in 2005 from the University of Bridgeport. She is a chef/nutritionist and culinary instructor at the Art Institute of Nashville.

Matthew is a 2003 graduate of Campbell University in North Carolina with a bachelor's degree and major in church music. He is a member of the renowned Nashville Choir Music Ministry of Shelby Avenue Baptist Church and also employed in the satellite



phone industry. A September 2007 wedding is planned at Shelby Baptist Church in Nashville, with a reception at a private residence in the historic Belle Meade area of Nashville. The couple will make their home in Mt. Juliet, Tenn.

Tappan-Mann

Elizabeth Rose Tappan of Livonia and Stephen Joseph Mann of Livonia will be married May 25 at the Catholic Central Chapel.

Elizabeth is the daughter of Rosemary of Donald Tappan. She graduated in April from the University of Michigan with a bachelor of science in engineering in mechanical engineering. She will be working for Shell Exploration and Production.

Stephen is the son of Timothy and Diane Mann. He graduated in May from Lawrence Technological University with a bachelor of science in computer science. He will be a middle school science teacher for Teach for America.

Presiding at the wedding will be Deacon Richard Misiak and the Rev. John Wheeler.

Honor attendants are Adam Colton (best man), Catherine



Tappan (Maid of Honor), Donald Tappan III, Katie Mann, Chris Kin, Christine Tappan, Dan Kramer, Carolyn Tappan. The couple will be making their home in New Orleans, La.

Passages
Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances
1-800-579-7355 fax: 734-953-2232
e-mail: oeobits@hometownlife.com

WILLIAM LAWSON BENNETT

Age 77, of Royal Oak, MI died May 5, 2007 in Eureka Springs, AR after a short illness. He was born June 14, 1929 to Verna L. and Frank A. Bennett in Miami Beach, FL. He is survived by his daughters Gwen Bennett and Holly Burks, both of Eureka Springs, AR and his sister, Ethel Weldon of Washington, MI. He was preceded in by his son, William Kirk Bennett. He served in the U.S. Army, received a Masters in history from Wayne State University and was a real estate developer. He taught in the Royal Oak school system and believed development of the mind through education to be a teacher's duty, a child's right and essential for betterment of society. He was the founder and editor of the Social Critic newspaper in the 1960s. He was a keen student of the law and successfully represented himself in several court cases. He was a avid reader and collector of books. Never one to miss an opportunity to do a favor, last year he with the aid of the VFW sent thousands of books to the troops in Iraq. His book-giving extended beyond the troops to children's hospitals, local churches and individuals. His wit, wisdom and love will be greatly missed. A private memorial is planned. Brashears Funeral Home, Huntsville, AR.

BERNICE "BERNIE" WALKER BIRD

Age 84, of Kettering, Ohio died 5:00 PM, Thursday, May 10, 2007 at Mt. Carmel West, Columbus, Ohio. Her husband, George W. Bird, whom she married May 14, 1949, survives. Mrs. Bird was born October 8, 1922, in Fairfax, Highland County, Ohio, daughter of the late Jerome Garfield "Gar" Walker and Nell Ross Walker. She was a graduate of Spring Valley High School. She was a member of St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Kettering, Ohio. In addition to her husband, Mrs. Bird is survived by two and sons and a daughter-in-law, Jeffrey Michael Bird & Eulalia Ferrer of Royal Oak, Michigan and Jerald Matthew Bird of Troy, Michigan; a daughter and son-in-law, Mary Doris Bird-Parks & Lewis Parks of Barrington, Illinois; two sisters, Elizabeth "Lib" Walker of Leesburg, Ohio and Virginia Walker of Hillsboro, Ohio; three grandchildren, Jennifer Nell (Robert) Liebreich of Washington DC, Mary Stephanie Burpee of Washington DC, and Clara Nicole Bird of Royal Oak, Michigan; and a great grandson, Joseph Benjamin Liebreich. She was also a loving relative and kindred spirit to many, many more. In addition to her parents, four brothers, Clarke Walker, Jerome Walker, Harry Walker, and Wendell "Jack" Walker; and two sisters, Mary Doris Walker and Anellen Walker Anderson, are preceded in death. Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 AM, Wednesday, May 16, 2007 at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, 4500 Ackerman Blvd., Kettering, Ohio with Rev. Gerald R. Haemmerle officiating. Burial will be in New Vienna I.O.O.F. Cemetery. Friends may call from 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM, Tuesday, May 15, 2007 at the L. Eugene Smith & Son Funeral Home, 64 S. South Street, New Vienna, Ohio. For more information or to sign the registry of condolences, visit www.smithandsonfuneralhomes.com

KAREN S. HOOT (BURNETT)

Age 48, passed away May 10, 2007. Beloved wife of Donald P.; dear mother of Gary (Becky) Plateau of Westland, Russell (Maureen Corbin) Plateau of Westland, and Miss Krystine Plateau of Dearborn Heights; sister of John Burnett of Oregon; Mark, Scott and Sean Burnett all of Prescott, MI. Valerie Christenson of Dearborn Heights, Anita (Richard) Baldwin of Romulus and Michelle Anderson of Prescott, MI; grandmother of three. Visitation is Mon. 12 noon-9 pm at Crane Funeral Home, 36885 Goddard Rd., Romulus. 734-941-9200. Service Tues. 10:30 a.m. at Fair Haven Baptist Church, Westland, MI. Interment Mt. Hope Memorial Gardens, Livonia. Memorials to organization of donor's choice.

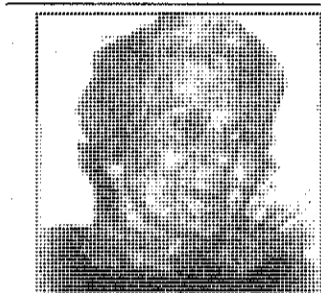


KATHLEEN CLARA ISRAEL

May 6, 2007 age 63 of Plymouth. Loving wife of Stewart. Beloved mother of Peter (Melissa) Israel, Maudy Israel and Sara (Tim) Orrys. Proud grandmother of Grant and Kennedy Israel. Dear sister of Mary (Ron) Kies, Larry (Paula) Kersten and John Kersten. Kathleen graduated from McKenzie High School in 1963. She obtained a BS degree from Wayne State University and a MA in Physical Education, Master Gardner and Advanced Master Gardner. She was a member and former board member of U of M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, Master Gardner Association of Wayne County and co-founder of the Canton Garden Club, past President of the Vivians Auxiliary of the Plymouth Elks. She was also a member of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Westland. She also taught in the Allen Park and Livonia School districts. A gathering of Family and Friends will be at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer Rd., (W. of Newburgh), Westland, from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. on Saturday with a memorial service at 11:00 a.m. Cremation services were handled by Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. Contributions may be made to the Michigan Humane Society, 26711 North-western Hwy., Suite 175, Southfield, MI 48033-2169 or the Elks Major Projects Fund, c/o the Plymouth Elks, 41700 Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth, MI 48170. To leave a message of condolence for the family, please visit: vermeulenfuneralhome.com

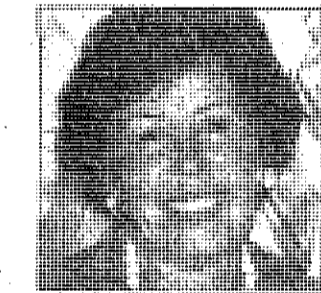
CLIFFORD JOHNSON

Age 80, of Wayne, MI. Uht Funeral Home, Westland



JEAN W. McAULIFFE

Age 87, May 6, 2007. Beloved wife of John A. McAuliffe. Cherished mother of Jim (Sherry), Jay (Bel), Jerry (Kathy), Jeff (Kristi) and Jane Peterson (Bruce). Loving grandmother of Kyle, Jessica, Ben, Lucas, Cassie, Mirami, Molly, Brendan and Schuyler. Great grandmother of Audrey Buckman. Step-grandmother of Mark and Tracey Chedister, Amy Buckman, Andrea and Amanda Tinsley. Sister of Barbara Wezerek. In lieu of flowers, memorials to Congregational Church of Birmingham Music Department. A.J. Desmond & Sons 248-549-0500. View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com



MARY JO MULARONI

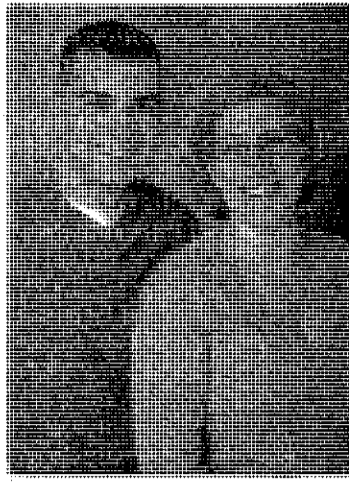
May 10, 2007. Age 72. In loving memory - we will miss you everyday. Beloved wife of Humbert for 49 years. Loving mother of Humbert, Jr. (Karen), Edward (Seraphina), Dean (Dana), Marc (Diane) and Peter (Maribel). Dear grandmother of nine. Family will receive friends at Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward Ave. (btwn 13-14 Mile) Sunday 3-8pm. Funeral Mass Monday 1pm at Church of St. Owen, 6869 Franklin Rd., Bloomfield Hills. Visitation begins at church 12:30pm. Rite of Committal Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. Memorial tributes to the charity of donor's choice. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

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 symbols, etc.)

Deadlines:
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
or Liz Keiser
734-953-2067
or toll free
866-818-7653
ask for Char or Liz



Humphrey-Snyder

Brian and Joyce Humphrey of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Katie Lynn Humphrey of Walker, Mich., to Oliver Henry Snyder of Beaufort, S.C.

The bride-to-be is a 2003 graduate of Grand Valley State University and works as executive secretary to the president of Grand Valley State.

The prospective groom is the son of Timothy Snyder of Versailles, Ky, and Barbara Zvirzdnis of Comstock Park, Mich. His attending American Military University on active duty with the United States Navy stationed in Parris Island, S.C.

A wedding is planned for Sept. 8, 2007, at the Grand Valley State University Alumni House and Visitor Center in Allendale, Mich.



Mair-Jansen

William and Rose Mair of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Monica Mair of Nashville, Tenn., to C.J. Jansen of Franklin, Tenn.

The bride-elect is 2000 graduate of Salem High School and a 2005 graduate of Western Michigan University. She is an assistant manager and trainer at Fitness Together in Brentwood, Tenn.

The prospective groom is the son of Gary and Debra Jansen of Franklin, Tenn. He is also a 2000 graduate of Salem High School and a 2005 graduate of Western Michigan University. He is currently employed by C.H. Robinson Co. as a logistical analyst in Nashville.

A June 9 wedding is planned for the Embassy Suites in Livonia with a reception immediately following the ceremony.

The couple will honeymoon in Saint Lucia in the Carribean.

How to submit announcements

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.

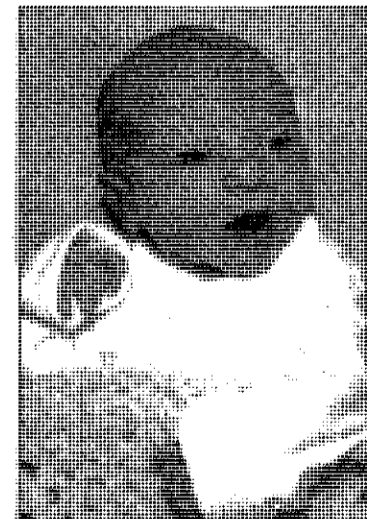
Or send the information to Hugh Gallagher, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia MI 48150.

Please send photos in a vertical 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.



Natalie Elizabeth Francis

Michael and Laura Francis of Westland announce the birth of their daughter, Natalie Elizabeth Francis, on April 8, 2007, at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia.

Natalie weighed 6 pounds, 1 ounce and was 20 inches long at birth.

Grandparents are Casimir and Stasia Gorecki of Westland and Carl and Judy Francis of Owosso.



Josephine Michelle Carignan

Kelly and Aaron Carignan announce the engagement of their daughter, Josephine Michelle Carignan on Feb. 26. Josephine was 7 pounds, 3 ounces and 19 inches long at birth.

Grandparents are Mike and Lee Ramsden of Westland and Dan and Daisy Carignan of Redford.

Great grandparents are Catherine and Bob Carignan of Redford.

May You Find Comfort in Family & Friends

Paying Tribute to the Life of Your Loved One

Guide to Employment

CHECK OUT THESE EXCITING CAREER OPPORTUNITIES! For even more opportunities see our "award winning" classified section!

To place your ad here contact us at careers@hometownlife.com or call 734-953-2079

ACCOUNTANT
Energetic, analytical & ambitious Accounting/Finance graduate for Southfield based, family owned chain of retail stores. Skilled in using Excel, Access & Crystal Reports. Some work exp. desirable. Competitive compensation & benefits.

Help Wanted-General 6000

Help Wanted-General 6000
CLOSING OFFICER-Exp'd
For Canton branch of title company. Duties include sales, processing & closing purchases & refinances. Fax resume to 734-454-0108 or email to probinson@libertytitle.com

Help Wanted-General 6000
RESA
Wayne RESA is working in elementary and secondary schools across the county that have been identified as High Priority Schools. RESA High Priority Schools Initiative teams composed of contractors serving as:

- Principal/Leadership Coaches
- English/Language Art Coaches
- Mathematics Coaches
- Special Education Coaches

Help Wanted-General 6000
HAIR STYLISTS NEEDED
FOR SALONS IN THE WESTLAND, CANTON AND PLYMOUTH AREAS!
We are currently looking for talented, licensed hair-stylists who are interested in having fun while earning great money working in our beautiful, high-potential locations in the Westland, Canton and Plymouth areas. We need hard-working stylists who want to make a lot of money to join our team so that we can handle the growth that our salon is experiencing.

Help Wanted-General 6000
MAINTENANCE PERSON
For Redford area apartment complex. Light plumbing, light electrical & general skills. Tools, transportation & references required. Fax resume to: (313) 532-0060

Help Wanted-General 6000
SERVICEMAN (M/F) INSTALLER
For heating contractor. Min. 5 yrs. exp. Fax: 248-443-2792.

Help Wanted-Office 6020
BOOKKEEPER
Full-Time for Northville CPA firm. Computer, general ledger & payroll required. Fax resume: (248) 360-9163 or email: chris@bkncpa.com

Help Wanted-Medical 6060
CHIROPRACTIC ASSISTANT
Permanent part-time position. Mon., Wed & Fri. 2:45-7:30pm & Sat. 8:45-1:30PM. Clerical skills & computer knowledge required. Willing to train qualified person. 27527 Joy Rd., 1/2 blk W. of Inkster, Westland. 734-522-5501

Help Wanted-Medical 6060
RN JOIN OUR TEAM
PT RN for pediatric office in Farmington Hills. Mon.-Thurs. Wed. 24 hrs. with occasional Sat. and vacation fill. Call Sandy 248-855-4144 or fax resume 248-855-9158

ACCOUNTING
Controller/Bookkeeper Experienced, MBA or CPA Trades & Contracting Hartland & NW Detroit. Fax to: (313) 535-4403 or Email HVAC@MECCI.com

CPA / STAFF ACCOUNTANT
Birmingham area CPA Firm seeks highly motivated individual with 1 to 5 years public accounting experience. Please email resume to: oaklandcpas@aol.com

Education
RESA
will be working in those High Priority Schools to raise student achievement.

Help Wanted-General 6000
MAINTENANCE TECH
Wyndchase Townhomes in Canton is seeking a full-time experienced maintenance tech. Candidates must have previous apartment maintenance experience and possess own tools. We offer competitive salary, apartment discount opportunities, medical and dental benefits. Fax resumes to: 734-844-3963 Attn: EM.

Help Wanted-General 6000
MAINTENANCE TECH
Company in Livonia is seeking an experienced TIG-MIG Welder/Fitter specialize in Die Welding. Pay commensurate with exp., excellent benefits.

Help Wanted-General 6000
SWIFT TRANSPORTATION
Now Hiring DIESEL TECHNICIAN 3 years Heavy Tractor Exp Req'd. Must have Own Tools. Swift Drivers Medical, Dental, 401K. Excellent Training & Tool Purchase Program. (drug screen/background check req'd) (eoe/m-f)
For Info Contact Pete Mueller at 734-753-2381 Apply On-Line @ www.swifttrans.com

Help Wanted-Office 6020
GENERAL OFFICE
Birmingham area CPA firm seek motivated, reliable individual. Candidate should have adequate typing skills and be familiar with financial statements and various federal and state tax filings. Working knowledge of WordPerfect is essential. Salary commensurate with ability. Please email resumes to oaklandcpas@aol.com

Help Wanted-Medical 6060
Strategic Development Coordinator
Ideal candidate will possess database, AS400, SQL and Access experience. Experience in the healthcare industry is also required. We offer a competitive Wage and Benefit Package including Paid Vacation, Medical, Dental, 401(k), and more! For immediate consideration Fax or Email Resume Today Fax: 734-762-4865 Email: humanresources@cms-email.com

Help Wanted-Office 6020
FILE CLERK
Needed in busy Livonia practice. 20 hrs/wk. Good opportunity for student or homemaker. Send resume to: Box 1547 OE Newspapers 36251 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia, MI 48150

ACCOUNTING
Controller/Bookkeeper Experienced, MBA or CPA Trades & Contracting Hartland & NW Detroit. Fax to: (313) 535-4403 or Email HVAC@MECCI.com

CUSTOMER SALES/SERVICE College Students GREAT PAY
Immediate summer openings. flexible schedules, conditions apply, must be 17+, we train. CALL NOW (248) 428-4405

RESA
If you are an experienced, certified English/Language Arts, Mathematics, or Special Education Teacher or Special Education Teacher or School Principal committed to making a difference, please visit www.resa.net

Help Wanted-General 6000
HOUSEKEEPER
Watsonwood, a Luxury senior housing community, is seeking to fill Full/Part-Time housekeeper positions. Candidates must be competent, reliable, friendly and team players. E.O.E. Please send resumes to: Watsonwood 7125 Orchard Lake #200 W. Bloomfield, MI 48322 Fax: 248-865-1636 Attn:Vic

Help Wanted-General 6000
MEAT CUTTER
Experience, full-time. Call Dan or John Holiday Market, Canton 734-844-2200

TEACHERS
Private early childhood center needs full/part-time & substitute. EOE Degree or related field. NAECY Accredited. Email resume to: Somerslacademy@aol.com

LEGAL SECRETARY
Approx. 15 hrs. wky. Superior computer & typing skills a must. Fax: 734-542-0057.

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Multi-physician Walk-In Clinic operation in Western Wayne County seeks a Certified Medical Assistant with experience in Front Desk and Clinical MA work. The candidate will have excellent cooperative and verbal skills and pass drug & criminal checks. Part-time/Full-time possibilities available to the right candidate. Cover letter, resume & references (in Word format attachment only) can be emailed to careers@livoniatalkinclinic.com or faxed to (248) 671-0493 Attn: Mouhammad. No Phone Calls.

COOKS, PART-TIME
Exp. preferred. Apply in person: American House, Senior Residence Living, 35700 Hunter Ave., Westland.

Activities Director
Waltonwood, a Luxury Senior Housing Community is looking for an experienced Activities Director for the Dementia Care Residents & Assisted Living residents in Canton. Prefer having previous experience in activities with Senior Housing or other relevant areas. Must be caring and compassionate, must have a CDL, exceptional computer skills & experience creating newsletters/calendars. Send resume: Waltonwood 7125 Orchard Lake #200 W. Bloomfield MI 48325 Fax: 248-865-1636 Attn:Vic

DIRECTOR
The Goddard School, a leader in the franchised preschool industry, is growing and continues to set the standard for excellence. We are looking for a Full Time Director for our new school opening soon in Canton. Qualified candidates must have a BA or BS degree and certification in education. Strong verbal and written communication skills and prior supervisory experience in a preschool setting are required. Send resume and salary history to: goddardschools.com 1016 West Ninth Ave. King of Prussia, PA 19408 Fax: 610-265-8867 Attn: Linda Labs

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE
Livonia MI 48152 www.schoolcraft.edu

Help Wanted-General 6000
LABORERS
Seeking individuals able to perform efficiently in a demanding, fast paced, production oriented business environment. Start at \$8.70 per hour, reach over \$10 within 3 months. Those that excel can earn upwards of \$35,000 annually, plus benefits, within a year.

MECHANIC CONTAINER/CHASSIS/TIRES
To \$14/hr. Pay based on exp. May train, but must weld & own tools. Drug screen. Romulus. (734) 891-2680

TEACHERS
Small private school in SE Oakland County is looking for part time instructors for Fall 2007. Positions include: Science, Business, Accounting, P.E., Woodshop, Art, & Music. Secondary level of experience preferred. Please fax a resume and letter of interest to: 248-541-5750.

RECEPTIONIST
\$7.75-\$10+ bonus. Pleasant phone manner, will train. Leave Message: (248) 426-0733

MEDICAL ASSISTANT OR LPN
For full/part-time for allergy practice in Bingham Farms. Fax resume: 248-723-5436

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ACTIVITY COORDINATOR/ LEASING AGENT
Needed for a senior apartment community in Westland. Full time, benefits, 2 bdrm apt. Exp. necessary. Please send resume to: oeresume@hometownlife.com (code 1544) Equal Opportunity Employer

DISPATCHER
For Chief's Trucking Company in Romulus MI. Exp in overseas containers & Microsoft Excel a plus. Day shift Mon-Fri. Blue Cross Health benefits. Please fax or email resumes to: 313-295-2126 jllchief@comcast.net

LABORATORY TECHNICIAN
Full-time position. Interested applicants please refer to our website, http://www.schoolcraft.edu/jobs for the job description and qualifications. Apply online - applications, along with photocopies of college transcript from regionally accredited institution(s), must be received in Human Resources by no later than 4:30 on Monday, May 25, 2007.

Help Wanted-General 6000
HOUSEKEEPER
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MEAT CUTTER
Experience, full-time. Call Dan or John Holiday Market, Canton 734-844-2200

TEACHERS
Small private school in SE Oakland County is looking for part time instructors for Fall 2007. Positions include: Science, Business, Accounting, P.E., Woodshop, Art, & Music. Secondary level of experience preferred. Please fax a resume and letter of interest to: 248-541-5750.

RECEPTIONIST
\$7.75-\$10+ bonus. Pleasant phone manner, will train. Leave Message: (248) 426-0733

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ACTIVITY DIRECTOR
Experienced, full-time for retirement community. Apply at: 39201 Joy Rd., Westland.

DRIVER, PART-TIME
2 days per week, evenings. Retirees welcome! Send resume to: Century Sun, 50168 Pontiac Trail, Unit 8, Wixom, MI 48393

LABORERS
Seeking individuals able to perform efficiently in a demanding, fast paced, production oriented business environment. Start at \$8.70 per hour, reach over \$10 within 3 months. Those that excel can earn upwards of \$35,000 annually, plus benefits, within a year.

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ASSISTANT BRANCH LIBRARIAN ADULT SERVICES
City of Livonia For complete information visit our website at: www.ci.livonia.mi.us or apply in person at Livonia City Hall, 3rd floor, 33000 Civic Center Dr. Livonia, MI 48154

DRIVER
This is an excellent opportunity to get into a stable, prosperous company. Our Wixom branch is seeking an energetic and enthusiastic local truck driver. Must have a class B license with an air brake endorsement. Must have experience loading and unloading trucks. Full time. Competitive pay and benefits. Please apply at: 29949 Beck Road, Wixom. Please bring resume. No phone calls, please.

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AUTO DETAIL
Rub out & wax, interior shampoo & detailing. \$400-\$650/wk. \$40-\$85/car. Call after 4pm. 734-459-8088

DRIVERS, CDL A with Hazmat
for local deliveries. No weekends. Paid medical & dental. Call 7am-5pm. 734-722-9586

LABORERS
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AUTO PAINTER
Busy shop. Benefits. Wayne. Call: (734) 841-0750

DRIVERS
Exp'd Gravel Train drivers. Apply Mon-Fri. 12550 Farmington Rd, Livonia.

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BUILDING MAINTENANCE
Management company seeking motivated individual to perform maintenance duties at a S. Oakland County property. Forward resumes by May 18th to: RPS Management, 9514 ASPV Drive, Grand Blanc, MI 48439

DRIVERS - FUEL TRUCK
SE MI Company in need of hard working, exp. Class A Hazmat & Tanker Endorsement Driver. Variable work schedule, competitive pay & benefits. Fax resume & salary requirements to: (734) 458-4066

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CARETAKER (GREENMEAD)
City of Livonia needs residential caretaker for historic property. Must have general building operations knowledge, & be in good physical condition. City will conduct background investigation. Caretaker will receive free lodging on property in lieu of monetary compensation. Responsible for all utilities repair & upkeep of interior of residence. City will undertake an evaluation process to determine suitable candidate. Mail resume & other information you would like to be considered to: City of Livonia, Community Resources, 33000 Civic Center Dr., Livonia, MI 48154 by May 30, 2007.

EMBROIDERY SHOP
Westland/Canton area is looking for flexible part-time computerized embroidery machine operator. No exp. necessary. We will train a motivated individual able to work in a fast paced environment. Call Dave. (734) 595-7612

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CASHIER
Experienced. Plum Hollow Market. Corner of 9 Mile & Lahser.

FLORIST/ PLANT MERCHANDISER
Seeking part time employees to service our retail customers in the Royal Oak, Southfield, and Commerce areas. Dependable transportation needed. Send resume or letter to: PO Box 321 Byron Center, MI 49315 Fax: 616-878-3640 Email: jworkman@mac.com

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TEACHERS<

Silent killer

Heart walk to raise funds to battle disease affecting all ages

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Jason Schwartz was only 25 when he died of severe coronary artery disease in August of 2002. His mother, Jackie Schwartz, is determined to do everything she can to spread the word about the dangers of this silent killer including taking part in the American Heart Association's Start! Heart Walk Saturday, May 19, at the Southfield Municipal Complex.

"There were no signs, no symptoms, no warnings at all. I would have known," said Jackie Schwartz, who lived with Jason in Farmington Hills until he moved into an apartment just before his death. "I thought maybe it was aneurysm, an allergic reaction. Heart disease was the last thing I thought of, but there was a genetic component to the disease that we did not know about due to a divorce. We didn't know Jason's biological father had stents put in in his 30s."

Although the knowledge of Jason's hereditary heart disease came too late to save him, Schwartz is making sure her younger son Jeffrey, 26, is regularly monitored by a cardiologist. While Jeffrey does have a problem with

cholesterol, a 64-slice CT scan showed his arteries as clear.

KNOW FAMILY HISTORY

"Just knowing your family history is so critical and not thinking heart disease is the disease of a 60-year old man," said Schwartz. "Heart disease kills young people, and women more than all cancers combined. That's why I became involved with the American Heart Association."

As an AHA volunteer, Schwartz takes time from running her Home Accessory Warehouse in Walled Lake to speak about heart disease. This year, she's taking her support a step further. Together with AHA volunteer Susie Dubin, the two women have formed the Heart Lights, a team of 60 family members and friends. The women used their e-mail address books to gather the walkers so they could raise awareness and funds for AHA research and education programs in the metro Detroit area. So far, the Heart Lights have raised more than \$37,000 of their \$50,000 goal.

'POWER IN NUMBERS'

"We feel really good about it because this is money the AHA wouldn't have had. Somebody's \$10 makes a difference. It's the power in numbers," said Schwartz. "There's been so much research and life saving procedures and drugs that without them we just wouldn't have."

Dubin's benefited from the latest technology firsthand. A number of medical complications have arisen since the West Bloomfield woman had a massive heart attack while driving home from the office in December 1999. Seventy percent of Dubin's heart was damaged causing her to tire easily. That isn't stopping Dubin from participating in the walk. For the last five years, her husband, Howard, has pushed her to the finish line in a wheelchair.



Erika Laszlo, her husband Bryan, and children Sophie and Ethan play in their Garden City yard.

Dubin is especially excited about this year's walk because of its educational elements.

"We have broken the grounds into villages," said Susie Dubin. "They can go into a tent and talk to someone about cholesterol or to learn about proper eating. There will be Eat Street with healthy snacks. Everything has been geared to physical activity and good eating habits. We're trying to get the message out that the Start! Heart Walk is not just a walk."

LET'S GET GOING

The walk is a key element of Start!, the American Heart Association's new national

campaign to promote physical activity, especially walking, all year round to prevent heart disease and stroke (www.americanheart.org/Start).

"Heart disease should not be the No. 1 killer in this country," said Dubin. "When you talk about the risks for heart disease they are all controllable if the person chooses to want to be an advocate for their own health. Smoking you can stop. Cholesterol you can control, the same for diabetes. Eating habits you can change. Genetics is the punch line. You cannot change your genes, but you can have it monitored care-

PLEASE SEE KILLER, C7

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buy 2
get 1 **Free**

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8 out of 10 of your friends are wearing the wrong bra size. Are you?

Now through May 19, call your store for a complimentary personal fitting with one of our 14,000 certified Bra Fit Specialists.

*Offer valid through May 29, 2007. First two bras must be at regular price. Free bra must be of equal or lesser value. Excludes sale and clearance priced items and catalog/internet orders.

STAMP OUT BREAST CANCER
WITH YOUR FEET.

Every step you take in the Susan G. Komen Detroit Race for the Cure® helps raise vital funds for the fight against breast cancer. But don't let your journey stop there. Take a step toward improving your own health by educating yourself about the disease and getting regular screenings. Step by step, this Race will be won.

16th Annual Komen Detroit Race for the Cure®

5K Run • 5K Walk • 1 Mile Walk

SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 2007 8 A.M.

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1-800-KARMANOS (1-800-527-6266)

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KILLER

FROM PAGE C6

fully so that if something is approaching you can hopefully get it in time but you have to truly listen to your heart, pay attention to your body."

Dubin has always been thin and doesn't smoke or drink, but heart disease runs in her family: Her father died at 46 when she was 4. Her mother had two massive strokes when she was 9 and 19 and died of heart disease.

"I was 60 last July and had my seventh re-birthday last December," said Dubin. "I consider myself to be very blessed to not only survive but to have listened, to have changed my eating habits. Instead of a death wish, I have a living wish."

Erika Laszlo is grateful for each day she has with her children. The 37-year-old Garden City woman was born with a hole between the chambers of her heart which was corrected when she was 5. Since then she's been diagnosed with a number of heart conditions but because of research and advances in technology she is alive to raise her children Ethan, 6, and Sophie, 2.

Laszlo is walking on May 19, with her family and co-workers at Garden City Hospital.

"For many reasons it's impor-

tant," said Laszlo, director of home medical equipment at Garden City Hospital. "More people need to be aware and take care of their heart whether you have a heart condition or not. We need to walk for awareness for people with congenital heart defects. I was fine all through grade and high school. It wasn't until I was 20 I was diagnosed with ventricular tachycardia where the heart goes into such a fast pace. I had an AICD device implanted to shock the heart back into rhythm. When I was 32, I had a pulmonary valve replaced.

"My kids are miracles. Doctors told me I'd never have them. Now I'm on the treadmill one-half to one hour every night. I think it's important if you have symptoms or think you are having a heart attack to call your doctor or go to the ER. You have to be active. You have to be your own advocate."

The Southfield Municipal Complex is on Evergreen, south of 11 Mile. Registration begins at 8 a.m. for the 1 mile, 5K or 10K walk. For more information, call (248) 827-4214 or visit www.detroitheart-walk.kintera.org.

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

Weight training myths

Mike from Oak Park wants the lowdown on what a good strength training program really means. Mike, it is time to separate fact from fiction!

One strength training myth: It is only for the young, seniors will injure themselves. The fact is, older people need strength training even more than the young. It counteracts the debilitating effects of aging.

Myth No. 2: Strength training is only for men. The fact is women benefit even more than men because working out helps prevent osteoporosis!

Myth No. 3: Strength training is time consuming. Not true! You can perform the exercises with 3 twenty minute workouts per week!

Just think, an hour a week to get an hourglass figure. That is a pretty good deal!



Peter's Principles

Peter Nielsen

Sherry from Troy noticed her local deli is selling hamburger loaded with cherries. She wants to know if it is really healthier than plain ground meat.

Sherry, cherry burgers not only taste delicious, but Michigan State University researchers discovered it makes it safer for grilling! Researchers found that adding tart cherries increased the anti-oxidants in meat.

It not only makes it taste better but suppresses the amount of cancer forming gases produced when grilling by as much as 90 percent.

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

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

MAY

Cancer survivor camps

Offered by the American Cancer Society, Young Camper's Day and Camp Catch-A-Rainbow applications due by Friday, May 18, Young Adult Retreat applications due Friday, June 8. Young Campers Day (June 17) is for children ages 4-6. Catch-A-Rainbow runs June 17-22, at the YMCA Storer Camps near Jackson. Retreat (July 12-15) is for cancer survivors ages 16-20, at St. Mary's College in Indiana. Visit www.cancer.org/campainbow or www.cancer.org/retreat. To volunteer your services (medical and non-medical), call (800) ACS-2345.

Childbirth class

Let's Get Ready to Have a Baby, 7-9 p.m. Mondays, May 14 to June 18, at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. Use south entrance off of Levan Road. Classes are based on Lamaze Method and include information on anesthesia options, medication, nutrition, family adjustment and the importance of the support person's role. There is a fee, registration required. To register, call (734) 655-1162.

CHADD meeting


Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit Disorder meets May 14, with

sign in beginning at 7 p.m. at Way Elementary School on W. Long Lake road, east of Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills. Meeting ends at 9 p.m. Parent group features Janet McPeck, Ph.D. and Phil McPeck, MSW speaking on Social Skills Training for Children with AD/HD. The Adult group presents Gregg Slubowski, BA Psych. Grad Student giving a Testimonial on Substance Abuse, Self-Sabotaging Behaviors until a proper Diagnosis of AD/HD which Empowered him to get his life in order with treatment for it. No charge for CHADD members, \$5 donation per non member family. For information, call (248) 988-6716 and phone line will indicate if meeting has to be canceled due to unforeseen reason.

Teach-in

A journey to eliminating health care disparities 2-4 p.m. Tuesday, May 15, at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, west of Newburgh, Westland. Do you ever wonder what your doctor said after you return from an office visit? Need to know what your prescription does? Have trouble hearing or understanding your medical directions? Join us for this Teach-in. For more information, call (734) 722-1735 or send e-mail to colleen@princeofpeacewestland.com.

Arthritis Today
 JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY
 18829 Farmington Road
 Livonia, Michigan 48152
 Phone: (248) 478-7860



GETTING OFF MEDICATIONS

Putting you on the right medication for your condition is a goal of medical care. However, just as important to your doctor is taking you off a medication when you no longer need it.

Physicians do not consider it appropriate to leave you on a medicine just because you are doing "all right" on it, and have no side effects from its use. In the case of hypertension medication, the drug you take is lowering your blood pressure whether lowering further is necessary or not. Medicines are crude instruments compared to the fine tuning and quick reaction to change that characterizes the body's response. If your body suffices to make the adjustment, then let the body do so.

Medication carries risks. Almost every drug you take needs follow up periodically to test for liver, kidney or bone marrow side effects. The interaction of a new medication for a subsequent condition may cause an unintended result. For instance, you may be taking allopurinol, a medicine to prevent gout, for years with no side effects. However, if you develop pneumonia or bronchitis, and treat it with penicillin, the interaction of that antibiotic and allopurinol can lead to a devastating rash.

The best way to stop a medication is to decrease its dosage gradually. At the same time you monitor if any untoward change occurs. In the case of blood pressure drugs, you take your blood pressure daily; when the problem is arthritis, you keep a diary of the pattern of your joint pain.

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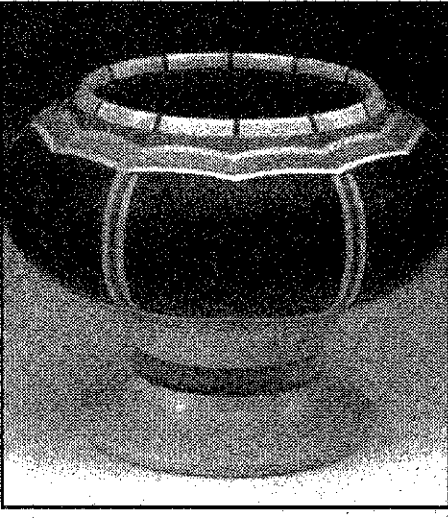
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Rick Bloom of Bloom Asset Management in Farmington Hills is a fee-only financial advisor. His column *Money Matters* appears every Thursday and Sunday in The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. He can be heard Sundays on WTDK1400 radio.

Rick is a licensed attorney and Certified Public Accountant and has been named one of the Top 250 Financial Planners by Worth magazine. Here's an opportunity to get some valuable financial advice at no charge!

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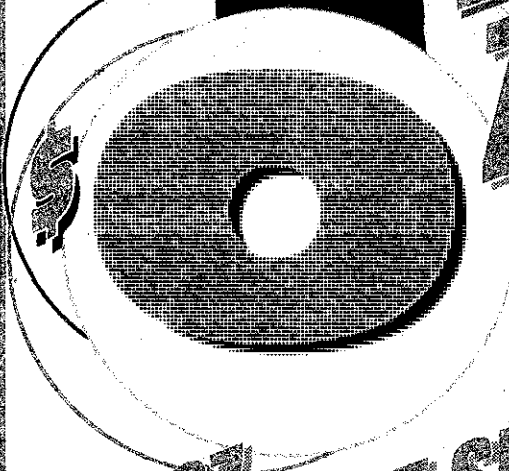
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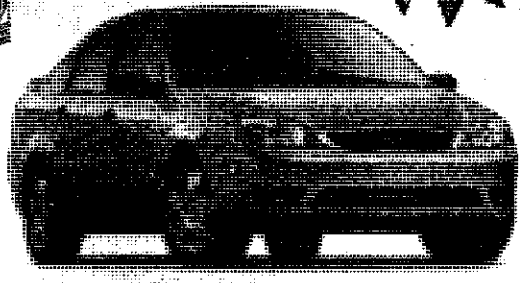
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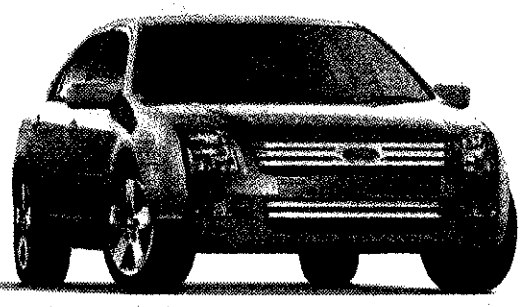
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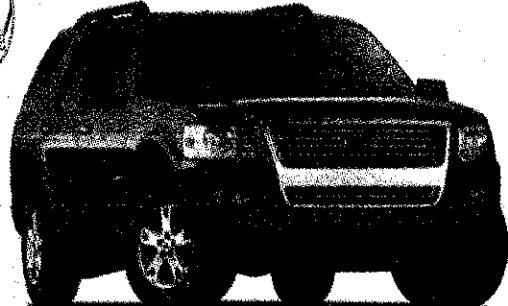
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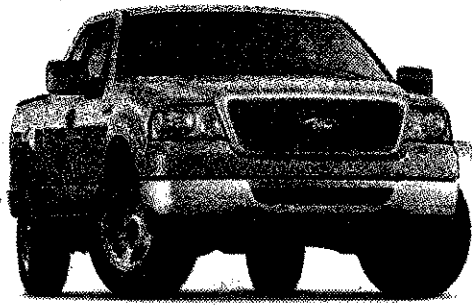
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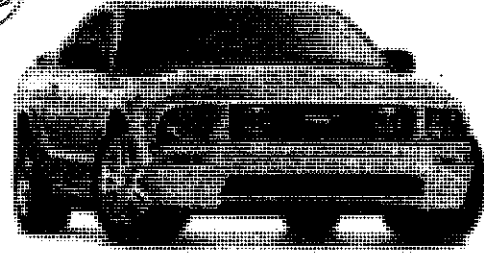
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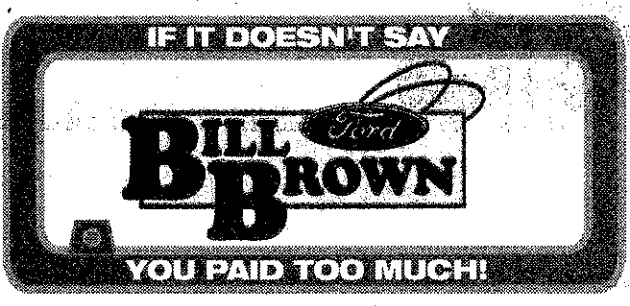
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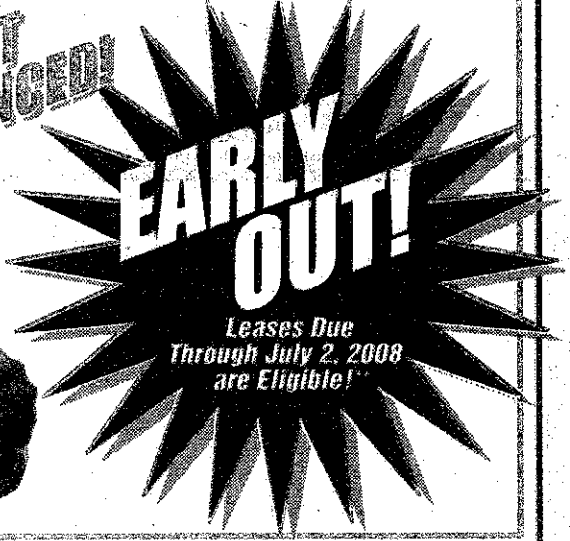


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