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# WESTLAND Observer

**SUNDAY**  
June 10, 2007

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## Candidates line up as deadline nears

BY DARRELL CLEM  
STAFF WRITER

Only a handful of political candidates had filed their petitions for this year's Westland city elections as of early Friday afternoon. With a June 19 filing deadline nearing, incumbent City Clerk Eileen DeHart had no competition as of Friday afternoon in her bid

for a new four-year term. The job pays \$86,989 a year. As expected, Westland City Council President Charles Pickering had filed his petitions to challenge appointed incumbent Mayor William Wild, who was chosen in January by his then-council colleagues to replace former Mayor Sandra Cicirelli, now a district judge. The winner of the mayoral race will finish

the remaining two years of Cicirelli's unexpired four-year term. The job pays \$95,974 a year. Council appointees Bill Johnson and Dewey Reeves have become the first sitting council members to file their election petitions. One other candidate, retired automotive engineer Harold Dunn, already had confirmed his candidacy. Council positions are considered part-time

with a \$12,515-a-year pay level, although the president and second-in-command president pro tem are paid slightly more. DeHart, a former state representative and ex-council member, became the city's first elected clerk, starting her job in 2004. She said she has kept her campaign promises, such as complet-

Please see **CANDIDATES, A3**



PHOTO BY DONALD J. ALLEY

### Proud moment

Olivia LaFortune, valedictorian for the Wayne Memorial High School's class of 2007, is congratulated by her father, Paul, and mother, Lecia, after the commencement ceremony June 2. For more photos, see Page A3. For a complete list of graduates, visit the Westland Observer Web site at www.hometownlife.com.

## Wayne couple tied to vehicle break-ins

BY DARRELL CLEM  
STAFF WRITER

An investigation into a string of vehicle break-ins in Westland has led to criminal charges against a Wayne couple, police Sgt. Thad Nelson said. Police had investigated 25-30 break-ins, many of them near the Wayne-Warren area considered Westland's core shopping district. The incidents had occurred outside such places as Fitness U.S.A., Olympic Coney Island and Target. The larcenies happened during daytime hours from early April to early June. The perpetrators broke into cars, stole purses, and used credit cards and personal checks for fraudulent purposes, Nelson said. One alert victim reported seeing a suspicious Jeep Cherokee near her car, and she jotted down critical information that helped lead police to the suspects, Nelson said. Ultimately, police began trailing the suspects and arrested them in late May after they allegedly bought cocaine in Inkster while a child, nearly 3, was with them, Nelson said. "They're a couple, and they have a young child," he said,

adding that the youngster is now staying with relatives. The suspects, 28-year-old Terra Newsome and 32-year-old John Pfeiffer, appeared in court Thursday on multiple felony charges of breaking and entering vehicles, larceny from vehicles, fraud and possession of cocaine. They also face misdemeanor charges of child neglect. Newsome and Pfeiffer waived their preliminary hearing Thursday in Westland District Court and were ordered by Judge Sandra Ferenc Cicirelli to stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court. Not-guilty pleas have been entered for them, and they remained jailed in lieu of \$500,000/10 percent bonds. Newsome is charged as a fourth-degree habitual offender and could face penalties ranging up to life in prison, if convicted, Nelson said. Pfeiffer is charged as a third-degree habitual offender, meaning his penalties could be stiffened, if convicted. Most of the charges against him carry penalties of four-five years in prison, although he could face a longer term.

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

## 8 restaurants star in annual rally

BY DARRELL CLEM  
STAFF WRITER

Don't tell Jenny Craig, but food lovers can chow down at eight restaurants in Westland and Garden City for just \$20. It's the fourth annual Restaurant Rally, a popular event organized by the Westland Chamber of Commerce. Participants pay \$20 for a special T-shirt that gets them into restaurants where they can sample food 6-10 p.m. Tuesday, July 31. Seven Westland eateries are involved

this year: Applebee's, Carino's Italian Grill, LongHorn Steakhouse, Malarkey's Irish Pub, Marvaso's Italian Grille, Panera Bread and Uno Chicago Grill. One Garden City restaurant, Dario's Italian Eatery, has joined the lineup. Participants may drive themselves among the restaurants or park and hop aboard one of two 40-passenger trolleys - from Redford's Entertainment Express - that will make the rounds. "We're only selling 500 tickets, and we already have sold well over 200," chamber

President Lori Brist said. "Each year we sell out." To register, call chamber offices at (734) 326-7222. Restaurants choose what they want to offer to the patrons. Brist has said it's a chance for local eateries to try to impress patrons in hopes of inspiring return visits. Restaurant Rally is being sponsored by Ameriprise Financial/Antoinette Martin and TDS Metrocom. dclcm@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2110

## Fire closes Little Caesars pizza shop

BY DARRELL CLEM  
STAFF WRITER

A Westland pizza shop closed Friday morning after it was damaged by fire, officials confirmed. No one was injured when fire erupted around 10:30 a.m. inside Little Caesars at Wayne Road and Glen, between Palmer and Avondale, Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Riley said. Fire and smoke damaged the business, but firefighters quickly doused the flames and kept them from spreading to adjacent businesses, he said. The pizza shop is located in a strip mall on the east side of Wayne Road. Employees showed up for

work and had left briefly to go to a bank when someone at a neighboring business noticed smoke and called for help, Riley said. The fire was blamed on combustible materials being kept too close to a water heater, the deputy chief said. "Unfortunately, we see that all too often," Riley said. He urged property owners to ensure that combustible materials are kept at least 36 inches away from water heaters. The Little Caesars utility room and some of the main area of the business sustained damage. No one could be reached at the business Friday afternoon, and it wasn't clear how long the shop would be closed.

## Teen faces charges related to shooting incident

A 17-year-old youth is expected to be charged as soon as this weekend after being shot by Westland Police during a confrontation at the Westwood Apartments complex at Joy and Hix Friday afternoon. Police officers were summoned to the complex at 2:15 p.m. in response to a call about a man with a gun. They found the teen armed with a knife.

According to a police department press release, he came at the officer with the weapon. The officer was forced to shoot a single round, "striking the individual to stop the threat." The teen was treated by Westland Fire Department paramedics and transported to a local hospital for treatment where he is in

stable condition. The police declined to say which hospital. The incident is under investigation, and as of Saturday morning, detectives were preparing paperwork to present to the prosecutor to determine the charges, Police Lt. Daniel Karrick said. "We would like to have him arraigned as soon as possible," said Karrick.

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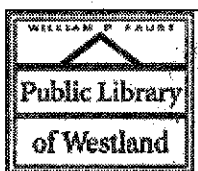
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**INFORMATION CENTRAL**

**Get a clue @ the library**

With school closing in this week, children and parents alike are anticipating carefree summer days. The goals achieved this past school year are a lot to be proud of. Now is the time



It is wonderful to have a reading program inspired by a commitment to literacy. It is one sure way the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland can encourage community children to reach for their personal goals. Come register for the Summer Reading Program ... Get a Clue @ Your Library is sure to be a fun reading adventure.

The Summer Reading Program at the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland offers an outstanding opportunity to enrich literacy skills as children make personal choices about reading. This year's mystery theme promises clues, prizes, crafts and reading fun. The Kick-Off Event is planned for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 16. A famous cartoon mystery dog will be on-hand ... Don't forget your camera! Children who register on opening day will receive a special treat bag.

The program is easy to follow. A prize will be given for every 100 minutes charted. Children need to chart 500 reading minutes to complete their reading log. All finishers receive a paperback book of their choice, an invitation to the Summer Reading Program Party and raffle entry for great grand prizes. All children are encouraged to participate. It is never too early to share books with your child. Register newborn through sixth graders any time between June 16th and August 4th. The program ends at 5 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 4.

Engaging story times, wonderful crafts, movies, raffles and professional performers are all part of the Summer Reading roster. Calendars are available at the children's reference desk, or you can print a copy of our on-line version. An asterisk indicates registration is required by phone or in person. All events are free.

**Highlighted Activities**

**Microsoft Word for Beginners:** 7 p.m. June 11.

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

**Adult Book Club:** 7 p.m. June 19.

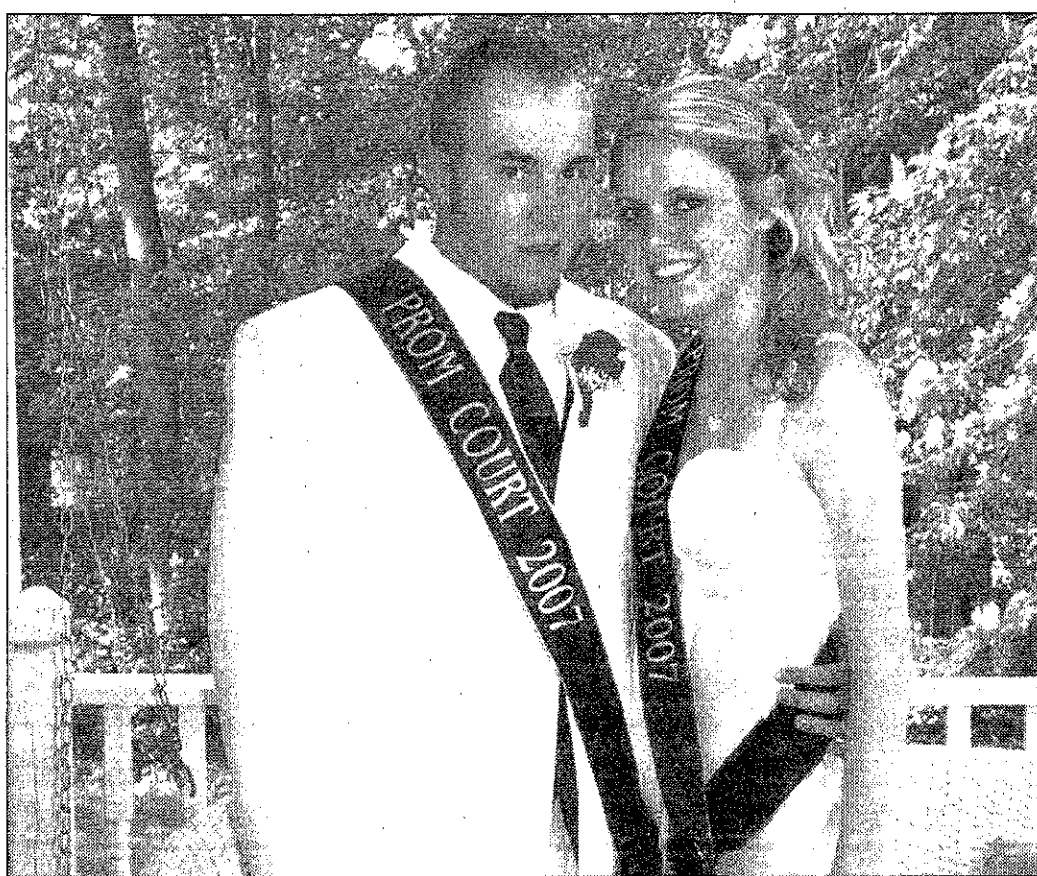
Join us as we discuss "The Inn at Lake Devine" by Elinor Lipman. You can check out the reading guide on our Web site. Please read the book before the meeting. All are welcome.

**Stamping With Carl:** 7 p.m. June 19.

Learn what kind of adhesive is right for your project, how to use embellishments in unique and creative ways, and how everyday household items can be used in your stamping projects. All supplies are provided, but seating is limited. Call (734) 326-6123 or stop by the library to sign up.

**Teens and adults get geared up for the Summer Reading Program, too. Registration begins June 16!**

Information Central is compiled by Bernadette Dewyer. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.



**Royal couple**

Justin Samland and Amanda Sparks were picked as king and queen and reigned over John Glenn High School Class of 2007's senior prom, held May 24.

**Council meeting set to discuss vacant property issue**

Amid a flurry of complaints about tall grass on vacant properties, Mayor William Wild and the Westland City Council will meet in a public session Monday to discuss possible ways to address the issue.

The meeting has been scheduled for 6 p.m. Monday at Westland City Hall, on Ford Road between Wayne and Newburgh.

Wild had publicly raised the issue Monday during a council meeting, saying a record number of vacancies and foreclosures on homes led to the problem of grass not being mowed on many properties.

He suggested a meeting to discuss the issue, and council President Charles Pickering confirmed he has scheduled one for Monday.

**Party celebrates Interlochen invitation**

In 2004, Juanita Francis decided to throw a birthday bash as a way of giving back to the community and to God for her daughter Naomi's birthday. Two hundred people accepted her invitation.

Three years later, she's throwing another party, this time for her daughter Ashe' Lewis to celebrate her acceptance to the Vocal Arts Division Interlochen Center for the Arts Summer Camp this summer.

And once again the community is invited.

"We need to give children

who do well recognition," said Francis. "All the people I've talked to say she will represent the city and the state at Interlochen."

The party is planned for 3-8 p.m. Saturday, June 16, at the Westland Meadows Clubhouse at 30600 Van Born, Westland. There will be music by DJ Mystic, O C Roberts formerly of Reggae Soundblast WDTR 90.9 FM and Caribbean Flavor 102.7 FM and "Tuff" Terry Nicholson of WGPR 107.5 FM. The Videogame Mobile, featuring X-box, PlayStation and Nintendo games will be

on hand as well as the New Millennium Steel Band, poetry jazz artist Michael Van Tull, the JFL Dance Project and Heavenly Hands Massage Therapy.

Midwest Marketing Associates will cater the event.

In addition to inviting the community, Francis has a number of state and local officials on her guest list - Westland Mayor William Wild, State Sen. Glenn Anderson, State Rep. Richard LeBlanc and Wayne County Commissioner Kay Beard.

For Francis, the party is a way to give back to those who helped with donations to cover most of the \$3,500 cost for her daughter to attend Interlochen.

"It is the prayers and monetary support of each of you that is making it possible for my daughter Ashe' Lewis to attend," Francis said. "One of the challenges with have with our talented youths not succeeding is the lack of support to help achieve their goals."

People interested in attending the celebration, can call Francis at (734) 727-0488 or contact her by e-mail at fldiversi@aol.com.

By Sue Mason

**AROUND WESTLAND**

**Flag Day**

The City of Westland and the Westland Civitan Club invite everyone to attend a Flag Day Celebration at 5 p.m. Thursday, June 14, at the Bailey Recreation Center near the flagpole.

The event, which is co-sponsored by the Westland Parks and Recreation, Harris Kehrer VFW Post 3323 veterans and Ladies Auxiliary, will feature a spoken word performance by John Glenn High School sophomore Clint Robins, 15, who has written a tribute to the American Flag.

The Bailey Recreation Center is at 36651 Ford Road.

**'Riddle-De-Dee'**

Youngsters are invited to the Public Library of Westland at 7 p.m. Monday, June 25, for an evening of stories presented by award-winning storyteller, Judy Sima. This program combines folk, traditional and modern tales with humor, songs, props and lots of audience participation.

The program is for children ages 4 and older. Parent must be present. Pick up free tickets at the Children's Desk.

For more information, call the library at (734) 326-6123. The library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford.

**Surplus food**

The City of Westland will distribute surplus federal food 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, June 21, to residents living north of Michigan Avenue at the Dorsey Community Center, 32715 Dorsey north of Michigan Avenue and south of Palmer.

For Westland residents living south of Michigan Avenue the pickup will be 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. is the second Monday at St. James United Methodist Church, 30055 Annapolis, between Henry Ruff and Middlebelt Roads. Call (734) 729-1737. Senior citizens living in Taylor Towers can collect their food at Taylor Towers by contacting their building manager for their day of distribution.

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

For the month of June distribution will include grapefruit juice, tuna and peanut butter.

Call the Dorsey Center's surplus food hotline at 595-0366.

**Coffee Hours**

State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, and State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, will hold their local coffee hours Monday at the Westland Big Boy, 6360 N. Wayne Road at Hunter, Westland.

LeBlanc will meet with constituents 9-10:30 a.m., while Anderson will be there 9-10 a.m.

**Appreciation Day**

Dunkin' Donuts is tipping its collective hat to construction industry professionals by designating Wednesday, June 13, as Construction Workers Appreciation Day. All construction workers can receive a free, large coffee or double brewed medium iced coffee, including choice of flavor, at any participating Dunkin' Donuts in Michigan, simply by showing their union or business cards or badges.

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PHOTOS BY DONALD J. ALLEY

Wayne Memorial High school graduate David Kiracofe accepts his diploma from school board Vice-President Terrence McLain during the commencement ceremony.

# Graduation day



Wayne Memorial graduates Georgia Baker (left) and Lindsay Thurman straighten cap and gown before the commencement ceremony.



Class president Adam Gorring addresses his fellow graduates during the commencement ceremony.

## CANDIDATES

FROM PAGE A1

ing her work to become certified through the International Institute of Municipal Clerks. She has finished her studies and is awaiting formal notification.

DeHart has overseen nine local, state and federal elections in her first four years in office.

"It's the hardest job I've ever had, but it's a job I enjoy immensely," she said.

Johnson, the United Auto Workers Local 900 plant chairman for the Wayne Assembly Plant, cited issues such as cleaning up the contaminated Central City Park and implementing a new budget as among the goals he has for a council term.

"I try to use a common-sense approach to everything," he said.

Reeves, a retired Washtenaw County sheriff deputy and owner of a wardrobe consultant/personal shopper company, also hopes to win his first elected term. Johnson and Reeves were appointed in January to fill council vacancies.

"I am seeking election because I'm in it for all the right reasons," Reeves said.

Reeves cited such issues as responding to citizens' concerns and enhancing the city's business community as among his goals.

The seats occupied by Johnson, Reeves and incumbents James Godbout and Michael Kehrer will be on this year's ballot. The top three vote-getters will earn a four-year term. The fourth-place finisher will get a two-year term.

The city will avoid a primary unless the field of candidates exceeds two for mayor, two for clerk and eight for council members.

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## Buffet dinner benefits Historic Village Park

To raise money for the Westland Historic Village Park, local historians have announced a \$50-per-person buffet 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, June 13, at Marvaso's Italian Grille, located in a strip mall on the northwest corner of Wayne and Hunter.

The proceeds will be used to improve certain buildings, such as the 1800s-era Octagon and Rowe houses. The park is located on Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill.

Some restoration work has been done on the homes, but much more work will have to be done.

Tickets for the fund-raiser are available at the Bailey Recreation Center, the senior citizen Friendship Center, the senior Dyer Center and the Westland Chamber of Commerce.

For more information, call Westland Historical Commission members Bill Tremper at (734) 306-3980 or Jo Johnson at (734) 522-3918.

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# Sheriff offers free ORV safety classes for youths

Off Road Vehicles can pose a serious safety risk if the individual riding one has not received proper training. With that in mind, Wayne County Sheriff's office has scheduled several upcoming free ORV safety classes open to the general public.

Sheriff Warren Evans says the classes can be a matter of life and death. He points out that more than 40 percent of ORV-related fatalities are kids younger than 16. Several others in that age bracket survive their accidents, but suffer life altering injuries, such as paralysis and brain damage.

Recent statistics indicate a probable cause:

- One-third of ORV riders, ages 12-15, have not completed the required training
- Fewer than one-sixth of ORV users ages 10 and 11 has completed training.

"Off-roading is a long held tradition in Wayne County and across Michigan and a

For additional information and registration please contact the Wayne County Sheriff Marine Unit at (734) 675-2660. For more information on ORV safety, visit the Wayne County Sheriff's Web site at [www.waynecounty.com/sheriff](http://www.waynecounty.com/sheriff).

pasttime that I have enjoyed," Evans said. "However, we need to take extra care, especially when it comes to children. We are offering these free classes so that young ORV users can ride safely."

State law requires that children ages 16 and younger complete the basic training class before they can operate any off road or all terrain vehicles, Evans said.

The required classes now will be even more effective, Evans said, because participants now will receive practical training on two new

ORVs recently acquired by the Sheriff's Office through public donations to Evan's Youth & Senior Education Fund.

Upcoming dates for the two-day course July 9 and 16 and Aug. 6 and 13. All classes will begin at 7 p.m. each night and will conclude at 10 p.m.

The courses will be held at the Trenton Westfield Activity Center, 2700 Westfield Road. The Trenton Westfield Activity Center is located approximately 2 miles East of I-75 and approximately 1/2 block North of West Road.

Each class consists of two nights. To complete the course, students must attend both class nights. Students must pre-register for this course. The first evening a student attends they will receive materials for the course, complete registration forms and receive instruction in off-road [ORV/ATV] vehicle safety. The second evening students attend, they will be



Wayne County Sheriff Warren Evans offers some safety tips to riders.

completing the final exam and receive certificates when successfully completed. Students must attend both class nights.

For additional information and registration please contact the Wayne County Sheriff Marine Unit at (734) 675-2660.

For more information on ORV safety, visit the Wayne County Sheriff's Web site at [www.waynecounty.com/sheriff](http://www.waynecounty.com/sheriff).

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# Everyone needs a medical durable power of attorney

**Dear Rick:** A few years ago, my husband and I did an estate plan. At the time we did wills, a trust and living wills. I caught the end of your show a couple weeks ago and you said that living wills were not sufficient. Could you explain? If we need an additional document what's a fair price to pay?



Money Matters  
Rick Bloom

Wills do not accomplish this.

In the past, when these types of issues were planned for, a Living Will was the only document you could use. However, things have

changed dramatically over the last 20 years and now there is a much better document - a Medical Durable Power of Attorney.

A Medical Durable Power of Attorney allows you to set forth your medical wishes. However, unlike the Living Will, the Medical Durable Power of Attorney goes one step further and allows you to appoint the individual who will make medical decisions

for you if you cannot make them yourself.

A Medical Durable Power of Attorney can be very general or very specific. For example, if you are morally or religiously opposed to a certain type of medical procedure, you can state that in your Medical Durable Power of Attorney. I believe all adults need a Medical Durable Power of Attorney. As far as I am concerned, anyone 18 years or older should obtain this document.

In the past, husbands could make decisions for wives and vice versa. However, those days are long gone. We all saw the fiasco that happened in Florida a few years ago in the Schiavo case and no one wants that happening to their family. I believe that every adult needs to obtain this document and to do it now.

The Michigan Legislature has authorized a fill-in-the-blank Medical Durable Power of Attorney that anyone can obtain for free. The form is known as the Michigan Patient Advocate Form and is available in public libraries and on many Web sites. Go to [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com), click on "Articles, Forms, E-mail Newsletter, Q & A" and you can download a Medical Durable Power of Attorney for free.

In the past, estate planning only dealt with death. That is no longer the case. In today's world a good estate plan deals with how to handle a family emergency. I believe a Medical Durable Power of Attorney is an essential document to handle family emergencies.

**Dear Rick:** My daughter just

graduated from high school and we received an e-mail saying that she qualified for a free scholarship. They asked for some financial information and said there would be a small service fee. However, they guaranteed my daughter a scholarship. What do you think?

A: Delete the e-mail and block all further e-mails from this company. This time of year the scam artists come out of the woodwork offering all sorts of bogus scholarship deals. Some of these offers may be legitimate, however, whenever an unsolicited e-mail asks for financial information, the red flag goes up.

I also begin to see offers where companies convince parents to come to a free seminar and then entice them through high pressure sales tactics to pay a fee so

they can do a scholarship search for their child. Once again, the majority of these deals are not on the up-and-up. I would avoid them.

I recognize many parents are beginning to be concerned about how to pay for college. Looking for scholarships and favorable loans does make sense. A Web site I recommend is [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org).

The internet has been a great boom to us in doing research on a variety of issues. However, the scam artists also have learned how to use it.

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

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## Community band to open Stars in the Park series of free concerts June 14

The Farmington Community Band will open the "Stars in the Park" free summer concert series, beginning on June 14.

The Farmington Community Band's repertoire music in many different styles from Big Band to Broadway, classical to jazz, to please the entire family.

Heritage Park is located on Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile Roads in Farmington Hills. The rain-

out site for the concert will be the Costick Center, located three miles east of Heritage Park on 11 Mile Road.

The concert will begin at 7:30 p.m. and last until approximately 9 p.m. or dusk. Concert goers are encouraged to bring a blanket or lawn chair and a picnic dinner.

The Farmington Community Band (FCB) was founded in 1966. It has grown from its initial six-member

group to include today's sixty-five member concert band, a twenty-piece jazz/dance band, clarinet choir, Dixieland band, and other small ensembles.

Led by the accomplished maestro Damien Crutcher, the FCB is a non-profit organization sponsored by individual, business, and corporate patronage. The band is guided and operated by a 30-member board of directors representing all facets of the community, with the purpose of maintaining a quality musical group that would not only entertain audiences, but also provide an outlet for this area's many talented musicians.

The remaining "Stars in the Park" concerts include: June 21: Motown Revisited by Serieux; June 28: Barbara Bailey Hutchison; July 12: Rock and Soul; July 26: Farmington Community Jazz Band; Aug. 2: Randy Brock Group; Aug. 9: Chris Roach Band; Aug. 16: Farmington Community Chorus; Aug. 23: Saline Fiddlers. For more information, call (248) 473-1857.

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# It seems coyote paranoia is running amok in suburbs

**D**on't look now. There might just be a coyote stalking you, ready to pounce and make you its lunch.

While that may be an exaggeration, it seems in recent months our entire area has been overrun by these sly varmints. They are popping up everywhere - from downtown Detroit, to suburban parks and backyards.

In April, a pregnant coyote led animal control employees on a wild goose chase through the streets of downtown Detroit before it was captured and relocated to a rural area. In March, a Westland woman who lives next to Hines Park reported that her bloodied poodle had been attacked by a coyote or coyotes in her backyard, though she didn't actually see the attack.



Kurt Kuban

Then last month, a Canton woman was walking her golden retriever through Holliday Nature Preserve in Canton, when three coyotes attacked the 95-pound dog just yards away from her. The woman grabbed a stick and waved it at the coyotes to chase them off. They backed off, but she says they followed her to her car.

Since then, it seems coyote paranoia has taken grip of the area. Channel 7 recently did a story about a couple who discovered what they thought was a coyote den in Canton's Wagon Wheel Park. Other media sources have done similar stories, which has really just inflamed this paranoia even further.

Unfortunately, many people now see coyotes as a major threat - one that needs to be eradicated by any means necessary. They see them as a threat to humans and their pets. These news stories and the fear mongering of pest exterminators have only reinforced this alarmism.

However, the reality is there have been very few incidents of coyotes attacking humans - none that I can think of in this area. In fact, people are much more likely to be attacked by a dog than they are a coyote, or any wild animal for that matter.

Pets are a different story, though. Coyotes, like all predators, are opportunistic hunters. If a cat or small dog wanders nearby, they are likely going to attack. I remember reading a story a couple years ago about a coyote den that was found in South Lyon that had several animal collars inside.

From my viewpoint, the lesson here is that pet owners, especially those that live near woodlots and parks, need to keep tabs on their animals. Because there is no question that coyotes have adapted to our society, just like other small critters including raccoons,

**Whether we like it or not, coyotes are here to stay. Our close proximity to these animals is partially our fault, because we have built subdivisions and homes in formerly wooded areas where they live.**

skunks, opossums, and foxes. Our suburbs provide them with the perfect environment. They have the habitat and the food sources to survive and thrive. More importantly, they don't really have any predators to fear.

Adult coyotes weigh between 20 and 45 pounds, which is smaller than most dog breeds. But people who are lucky enough to see them often overestimate their size because their long fur hides their scrawny frame. A couple years ago, I was walking my Labrador retriever during a snow storm in a park in the city of Wayne, when we came upon an unsuspecting coyote. At first glance, I thought it was a wolf. After it saw us, it took off, but I was surprised to see my dog's paw prints were twice the size of the coyote's.

Whether we like it or not, coyotes are here to stay. Our close proximity to these animals is partially our fault, because we have built subdivisions and homes in formerly wooded areas where they live. If we want to avoid problems like the ones mentioned previously, we need to follow a few precautions.

Never approach or touch a coyote. Never intentionally feed a coyote. Eliminate all outside food sources, especially pet foods. Put garbage out the morning of pickup day. Clear out wood and brush piles; they are good habitat for rats and mice and may attract coyotes. Do not allow pets to roam free when coyotes are present - consider keeping pets indoors or accompany them outside, especially at night.

Personally, I have encountered coyotes on a half dozen occasions (at parks or golf courses), and have considered myself lucky each time. You have to give coyotes credit for being able to survive where man has decimated the natural habitat that was once there.

But we need to be cognizant of their presence. That means don't let your pet run free in a nature preserve or a woodlot. I see nothing wrong with exterminating a problem coyote, just like I have no problem destroying a dog that has attacked somebody. But I just wonder how many of these incidents could have been avoided had humans acted a little more responsibly.

Kurt Kuban is editor of the Canton Observer. He welcomes feedback at [kkuban@hometownlife.com](mailto:kkuban@hometownlife.com) or (734) 459-2700.

# Coming to districts near you: Political parties run the schools, lives of kids

**C**oming to districts near you: Political parties run the schools

Politics have always been alive in school districts, I am not denying that. Any time more than one person, a group of individuals, comes together to make a decision, politics are involved. Whether it is at work, in your family, or with friends, politics play a part in choosing the final answer to any question.

Political parties are usually not involved in these decisions, though. Not in your personal life, and until now, not in decisions made concerning your school district.

However, things are about to change. Lansing is working on passing a bill (HB 4507) that would require school districts to hold elections in November. Sounds great, I only have to go vote once a year now, you might say. And perhaps it is. However, let me give you another viewpoint.

Through 2004, school districts ran their own elections, usually in June. The costs of holding these elections were minimal and made it affordable for local candidates who were citizens in the community (with or without children in the schools) to run for their local school board.

Then in 2005 the state mandated school districts use local city, township, and county polling sites and their workers to hold elections in February, May, August or November. Costs for holding these elections skyrocketed to four or five times what it cost the districts to run their own elections.

A small number of districts moved their elections to November to save costs. It still costs more than it did when they ran their own elections, but they found it to be somewhat less when they shared the ballot with other government positions that were up for election.

However, many districts chose not to move to the fall as they felt their non-partisan elections would get lost among the votes for president, senator, representative, state senator and state representative and other local political offices up for grabs.

And that is where the issue comes in to play. Moving school board elections to November will cause political parties to become involved with choosing school board members. It is inconceivable that Democrat and Republican leaders would place party members in strategic school districts to run in November elections. This appears to be the wave of the

future. What is the advantage to a political party? The ease of pushing a political agenda on to our schools. Don't want to raise taxes? Want school boards to raise class size from 28 to 40 kids in a classroom so you can use the dollar savings for a pet political project instead?

Get one of your party members on the board and you are that much closer to making this a reality. Get two or three more elected and the job is done.

This will also enable the parties to use the school boards as political breeding grounds. You might think otherwise, but it has been a long time since a school board member in our district moved on to an elected job in Lansing or Washington.

Now you will see aspiring candidates moving to high-profile districts that they have no attachment to with the sole purpose of advancing their political careers. This is never good for our schools and our kids.

Political parties have done such a poor job recently running Lansing, do we really want them running our schools? Gone will be the days of school parents and other local citizens being able to afford a successful campaign for school board. Without large-sum contributions, only candidates that are financed by a political party will have a chance to be successful in November elections.

To some, this may seem like a positive step and you will probably get your wish. To the rest of us, this appears to be one more choice taken away from the people who live in the community where the decisions are being made.

In my mind, all current and former school board trustees, no matter how they feel about their school board's handling of the budget, curriculum, and policy should be against this removal of local authority. Please speak out.

And to the citizens of all school districts, if this move seems a step in the wrong direction to you, contact your state legislator, contact the governor, ask them to halt their continual attempts to seize local decision-making. Ask them to return election authority to the local district. Perhaps restricting district run school elections to specific non-political dates once or twice a year such as June and/or February would be a good compromise.

We need to be represented by people who have our kids in mind, not their political aspirations or the agendas of a political body.

Steven Sneldeman is a Plymouth-Canton Community Schools board member.



Steven Sneldeman

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton Soccer Club Academy players (from left) Sheila Rebar, Casey Muglia, Sarah Willett and Ryan O'Meara work on their passing skills Thursday afternoon at Independence Park in Canton Township. The players are part of the two-year old program that offers enhanced coaching to pre-premier level players.

## CSC's GOAL-DEN IDEA

Soccer academy offers young players more in-depth instruction

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

Soccer-loving kids throughout Observerland can receive premier coaching before they're old enough to play in premier leagues thanks to a 2-year-old program coordinated by the Canton Soccer Club.

The CSC's Youth Academy program offers high-caliber training and competition for 6-, 7- and 8-year-old boys and girls whose passion for the sport goes beyond what is offered by recreational programs.

Premier- and select-level play is generally not offered until a player turns 9.

The necessity for the unique program was sparked in 2004 when the United States Youth Soccer Association challenged its member clubs to focus more on player development and to implement programs that offered high-level soccer without excluding any interested players.

"The Canton Soccer Club's Academy was started in 2005 to give the younger kids and parents the opportunity to do more than just having one practice and one game a week," explained CSC Director of Coaching Pete Alexander. "Most of the rec teams are dad-coached, which there is nothing wrong with, but there are a lot of dads out there who have never played the game. The Academy's coaches have played at least through college and they all have coaching licenses."

Matt Smith, the Academy's director, said the program's participants



Pictured are Pete Alexander (left) the Director of Coaching for the Canton Soccer Club and Matt Smith, the Director of the CSC's Youth Soccer Academy.

learn new skills with a fun and effective incentive-laden format.

"We have set up a testing program that has helped the kids improve their skills quicker and in a fun way," said Smith, who played two years of professional soccer in his native England. "We give them a goal in, let's say, passing, and once they meet the goal, they get a gold star. At the end of the year, we have a party for everyone and pass out certificates. The kids really seem to enjoy it."

"My daughter absolutely loves (the academy) -- she can't get enough of it," said Cesar Muglia. "It's a great training program for kids who really

enjoy the sport and want to stay with it. The Academy gives the kids a chance to learn advanced soccer skills earlier than they normally would.

Alexander, a former head soccer coach at Madonna University, said the cost of participating on an CSC Academy team falls somewhere between the fees for a recreational team and those of a select or premier league.

The Academy is divided into two divisions: a 28-week, skills-based program; and competitive league

Please see **ACADEMY, B4**

## Livonia gives athletes OK for dual sports

BY BRAD EMONS  
STAFF WRITER

The Livonia Public Schools have approved guidelines which will allow dual-sport participation for any current high school athletes affected by the recent sports seasons litigation gender equity lawsuit case.

This spring, the U.S. Supreme Court denied a petition by the Michigan High School Athletic Association to review an opinion and order of the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati, which now directs the MHSAA to change seasons for the following sports in 2007-08: girls volleyball (from winter to fall); girls golf (from spring to fall); and boys tennis (from spring to fall).

The decision affected 16 student-athletes alone at Churchill High including Shannon Warner, the two-time Division 1 state medalist in golf and back-row reserve for the Chargers' state Class A championship volleyball team. A total of nine Churchill volleyball players now have conflicts with other sports.

The decision to allow dual participation for current freshman, sophomores and juniors presently conflicted by the seasons changes was approved by the LPS Athletic Council and endorsed by Superintendent Randy Liepa and Director of Secondary Education Rod Hosman.

In a recent memo sent to administrators at Churchill, Franklin and Stevenson, the option is open to participate in dual sports if the following steps are followed:

- Inform the Athletic Administrator of the desire to participate in more than one sport in a given season. This notification should occur before the end of the school year prior to participating in two sports in one season. (A student could always withdraw and participate in only one sport.)

- Discuss with each coach the modifications needed to participate in their sports during the season. In this meeting, the student-athlete will need to designate one as their primary sport and the other as a secondary sport. The Athletic Administrator will assist with this meeting. It is expected that both coaches involved will work toward an effective schedule for the student-athlete.

- Carefully reflect on the impact of this decision will have on themselves and the team which they are choosing to participate.

- Commit to completing both sport schedules by staying a team member in good standing and following the plan worked out at the start of the season.

"If it can be worked out with the coaches, we'll do so in order so that they're not caught in the crosshairs of this decision," Churchill Athletic Administrator Marc Hage said. "This does not include athletes who want to participate in two sports."

As an example, the LPS will continue to observe its long-standing policy which precludes soccer players from participating as kickers on the football team. Also, incoming freshman will be excluded from the plan, which only affects the 2008, 2009 and 2010 graduating classes.

The LPS memo also states: "If one or both of the teams the student-athlete chooses to participate on is a 'cut sport,' the coach will keep one additional student-athlete on the team so that no one will have an opportunity to be member of a team eliminated."

## Sidelines

### Tuttle selected

Livonia Stevenson senior pitcher Matt Tuttle, who went 8-1-1 this year with a 2.05 ERA and 100 strikeouts in 65 innings, has been named to the East squad for the 26th annual Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association East-West All-Star Baseball Classic, which begins at 7 p.m. Monday, June 18, at Comerica Park.

Tickets are \$5 at the gate. Other East team selections from the Observer & Eccentric area include Colin Kaline (Birmingham Groves), D.J. LeMahieu (Birmingham Brother Rice), Brian Robinson (Troy), Torrey Stimson (Walled Lake Central), Northville left-hander Bryce Jenney also earned a spot.

### Ciarrocchi signs

Livonia Churchill outfielder Kirk Ciarrocchi recently signed a letter-of-intent to play baseball at Concordia University.

Ciarrocchi, a three-year varsity member senior co-captain, made All-Lakes Division in the Western Lakes Activities Association and helped the 17-17 Chargers win their first district title since 1999. Ciarrocchi, who plans to study business, is a five-time scholar-athlete and Academic All-District the past two years.

He joins Livonia Stevenson High grads Jason Christopoulos and Tony Pounders on the Cards' roster.

"Kirk has everything you look for in a student-athlete," Concordia coach Karl Kling said. "He is very athletic combining a strong arm with good speed. Equally important is that Kirk is a very good student."

### LJAL helps Marlo

"Friends for Life," a benefit for Livonia Junior Athletic League football volunteer Marlo Kelly, who is battling cancer and undergoing chemotherapy, will be Saturday, July 14 at Coach's Corner on Seven Mile and Farmington, in Livonia.

Tickets are \$10 per person or \$12 at the door. There will be a spaghetti dinner with three seating times at 2:30 p.m., 4 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Drink specials will be available for adults only after 7 p.m., along with raffles and donations. A portion of the bar proceeds will also be donated to Kelly, who is unable to work while facing mounting medical bills.

Call Lesley Hodge at (734) 674-4828; or Debbie Rotter at (248) 476-2698. Donations (check only) can be made payable to Marlo Kelly to: 36708 Curtis, Livonia, Mi. 48152 (c/o Debbie Rotter).

## Canton names new hoop coach

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

Canton's basketball program didn't have to look far for its new leader.

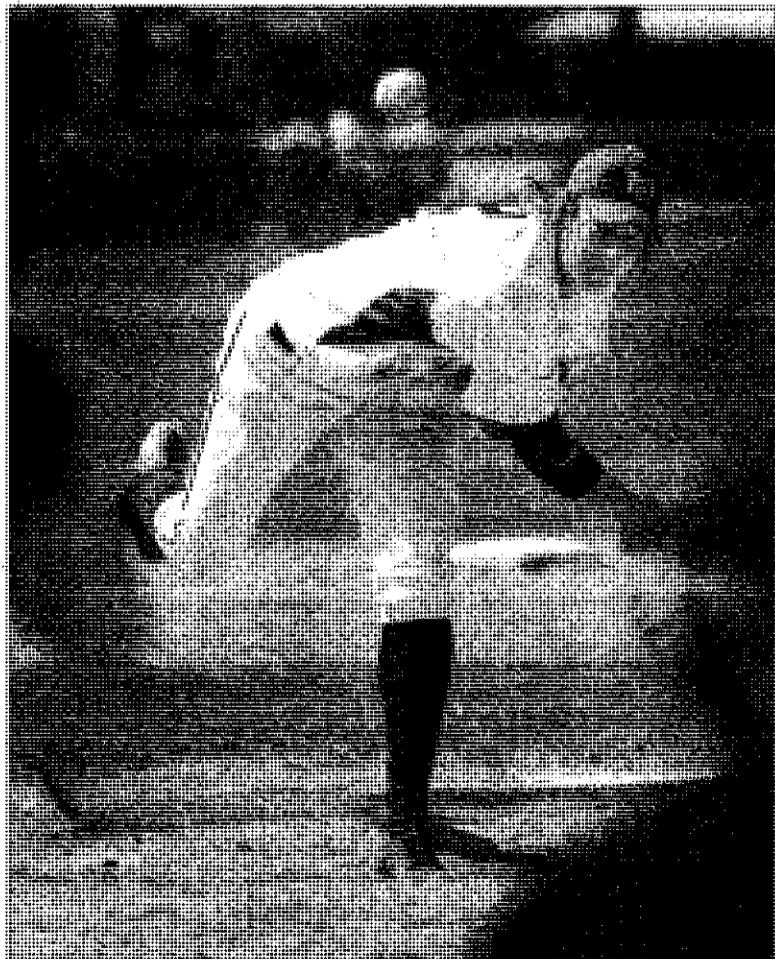
Dan Colligan, the school's junior varsity coach for the past three seasons, was named the Chiefs' new head coach earlier this week, Canton Athletic Director Sue Heinzman confirmed.

Colligan, who is a teacher at Canton, succeeds Charlie Paye, who resigned in April due to a worsening case of arthritis.

"Dan is great person, a great coach and a terrific teacher," said Canton Athletic Director Sue Heinzman, who headed the hiring committee. "He's highly thought of by the student-athletes and the parents who he's worked with the past three years. The committee felt Dan was the best person to take over our program."

Before joining Paye's staff three years ago, Colligan coached as an assistant coach at Novi and Northville high schools.

Paye, with Colligan's assistance, built Canton's program into one of the most successful in the area over the past three seasons when he led the Chiefs to a pair of Class A District titles and a near-miss in 2005.



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Detroit Tigers Friday drafted Redford Union pitcher Toby Matchulat in the 37th round of the amateur baseball draft.

## Tigers draft RU's Matchulat

BY TIM SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

Redford Union righthanded senior pitcher Toby Matchulat Friday was selected by the Detroit Tigers in the 37th round of the amateur baseball draft, keeping with the big-league club's organizational strategy to load up on power arms.

On Thursday, the Tigers drafted hard-throwing high school pitchers Rick Porcello (Seton Hall) and Joey Hamilton (Stanhope Elmore) with early picks and kept to that blueprint in the later rounds with the drafting of the 6-5 Matchulat, who throws in the high 80s to low 90s.

"Actually, he reached 96 (mph) during practice this week," said Redford Union head coach Mike Taylor, elated to see a Panther drafted for the first time since Rick Berryman in 1995. "I hope he pans out to be something special. I'm happy for him."

Taylor said RU athletic director Brett Steele received the news about Matchulat's selection at No. 1,132 - and immediately came out to the baseball field to pass on the good news, briefly interrupting Friday's final tuneup practice before Saturday's regionals at Novi High School.

Matchulat certainly must have impressed Tiger scouts Tom Osowski and Mark Monahan during

Please see **MATCHULAT, B4**





## High-flying Eagles

The Plymouth Christian Academy baseball team captured a Division 4 District title last weekend at PCA. The Eagles took a 10-10 record into yesterday's Regional tournament. Pictured (front row from left) are David Baum, Trevor Zinn, Matt Saagman, Devyn Govan, (second row from left) Alejandro Diaz, Charles Cane, Justin Govan, Josh Johnston, (back row from left) Kevin Bottorff, Coach Joe Bottorff, Michael Geracz, Brent Zinn, Reid Barber, Coach Keith Saagman, Josh Lowman and Coach Kurt Johnston.

## Whalers' goalie nets honors

It's been a busy offseason for Plymouth Whalers' goaltender Jeremy Smith.

The Brownstown Township native was recently named recipient of the USA Hockey's Dave Peterson "Goaltender of the Year" award. Smith also shares the Ontario Hockey League's Dave Pinkney Award with fellow goaltender Michal Neuvirth. Smith and Neuvirth teamed up to lead the OHL in fewest goals allowed (73) during the 2006-07 season.

Smith, the top-rated North American goaltender for this summer's National Hockey League Entry Draft June 22-23 in Columbus, compiled a 2.59 goals-against average and .923 save percentage in 34 games this season for the Whalers, who won their second OHL championship in their 17-year history. Last summer, Smith played for the U.S. Under-18 Select Team in the 2006 Memorial of Ivan Hlinka Tournament and appeared in all four games as Team USA won a silver medal.

Plymouth goalies have now won the Dave Pinkney Award six times, including five straight seasons from 1998-2003. Other Whalers who have won the award include Robert Holstinger and Rob Zepp (1998-99); Zepp and Bill Ruggiero (1999-00); Zepp and Paul Drew (2000-01);



WALT DMOCH

Plymouth Whalers goaltender Jeremy Smith was presented with USA Hockey's Dave Peterson "Goaltender of the Year" award recently.

Jason Bacashihua and Drew (2001-02); and Drew and Jeff Weber (2002-03).

Smith spent the last few days in Toronto participating in interviews with NHL's Central Scouting in preparation for NHL Entry Draft. He handled sharing the Whalers goaltending situation this season with Neuvirth with maturity, especially in the playoffs when Whalers head coach Mike Vellucci decided to go with Neuvirth in most of

the games.

Whalers trade Plymouth dealt veteran defenseman Ryan McGinnis to Oshawa for second- and fourth-round draft choices in 2009. McGinnis enjoyed his best offensive season with the Whalers last year when he tallied six goals and 24 assists in 60 games.

In all, McGinnis logged 223 games for the Whalers, which puts him 13th on the all-time list.

## Gavoor takes over for Holmberg as Spartan's harrier coach

BY BRAD EMONS  
STAFF WRITER

The torch has been passed. Paul Holmberg, who launched the Livonia Stevenson girls cross country program in 1975, is stepping down after 32 seasons as the Spartans varsity coach.

He will be succeeded by assistant coach Nancy Gavoor, a 1974 Stevenson grad.

"Paul Holmberg will be missed and it's a compliment to him that Nancy Gavoor will follow in his footsteps being that Paul is Nancy's friend and mentor," Stevenson Athletic Director Lori Hyman said. "Nancy is an excellent motivator and is truly dedicated to assisting her athletes to reach and surpass their potential. We are excited that she is the Stevenson girls cross country coach. We also thank Paul Holmberg for what he has done for the Stevenson cross country program."

Holmberg took 20 teams to the state finals with 13 top ten finishes. His 1976 team won the state title as an open invitational just prior to the Michigan High School Athletic Association's sponsorship.

Holmberg guided the Spartans to 13 league and seven regional titles. The Spartans were also runner-up in the regional five times. He helped produce 13 All-Staters including three-time honorees Julie Voyles, Kelly Travis and Andrea Parker.

The first Stevenson girls team he coached had only two runners, but the participation level quickly caught

on. His state championship squad included sister Karen and Kathy Schmidt, Sue Ostrander, Jan Niemiec and Voyles, whose daughters Lisa and Linda, ran for Spartans as well.

"That was the start," Holmberg said. "I fought to have it (girls) added to the schedule. That's when I coached both girls and boys."

"The sport has gotten so much better, it's incredible. As a whole, the sport has developed by leaps and bounds."

Holmberg retired from teaching in 1999 and gave up the varsity girls track and field program at Stevenson after the 2003 season. He has spent the winter months at his second home in Florida.

"It's been 40 years and I said to myself that maybe it's time to move on and do other things," Holmberg said. "I always had an idea. Every year you always had somebody to come back and coach. You always have those kids you hate to leave, but the fact that I had so many seniors last year... it seemed like the right time to do it."

"My wife and I are going to do some traveling in the fall. I also have four grand kids and it will give me more time to be with them."

Gavoor ran track as a sprinter at Stevenson under Liz Embree and was of Eastern Michigan University's first three women's track and field athletes.

Among her collegiate coaching stops in both track and cross country include Tufts University (Mass.), University

of New Mexico, Ohio State, Ohio University (head coach), Colorado State, Odessa (Tex.) Community College and Schoolcraft College (2000-02).

Gavoor guided Odessa to the NJCAA women's track and field national title in 1989, as well as a third-place finish with Schoolcraft in the 2001 NJCAA national women's cross country championships.

Gavoor, who currently teaches physical education at Orchard Lake Middle School in West Bloomfield, joined Stevenson's staff as an assistant in track and field under Holmberg in 2001 and continued under Kelly Graham after Holmberg retired in 2003.

"I've had a lot of experience, but not as a high school coach," Gavoor said. "I learned a lot from Paul, about his system. I followed him around for seven years. He left a legacy and I'm part of it. And I also learned a lot from coach Graham."

Stevenson is coming off a third-place finish at both the regional and Western Lakes Activities Association meets. The Spartans took 25th in last year's Division 1 state finals and return Courtney Calka, a two-time All-Stater, who will be a junior this fall.

"It's exciting, but it's going to be tough chasing (Livonia) Churchill," said Gavoor of the Division 1 state runner-up (coached by former Stevenson runner Sue Tatro). "But we have goals and we want to compete as a high level."

bemons@oe.homecomm.net  
(734) 953-2123

### ARCHERY INTRODUCTION

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will stage an introduction to target archery class from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturdays on June 9, Aug. 18 and Sept. 22, at the Archery Range, located on Glendale Avenue off Farmington Road between I-96

and Plymouth Road.

The fee is \$12 (residents) and \$14 (non-residents). Children 9-and-under must be accompanied by an adult.

Registration is at the Livonia Community Recreation Center, 12100 Hubbard (at Five Mile Road).

Participants are welcome to

bring their own equipment.

A limited number of instructional bow, arrows and other supplies are available to use at no additional cost. Class participants may also bring a lunch if desired. A half-hour break is schedule during the workshop.

Call (734) 466-2410.

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

Solstice Run

The Solstice Run, sponsored by the Foresters and presented by Comcast, will be Saturday, June 23 at Ford Field in downtown Northville.

The 10-kilometer run starts at 7:30 a.m. followed by the quarter-mile Kids Fun Run at 8:35 p.m. and the 5-kilometer run-walk presented by Newgen at 8:45 a.m.

Live entertainment will be from 7-11 a.m.

Pre-registration (before June 23) are \$30 (10K), \$25 (5K) and \$10 (Fun Run). Race day fees are \$35 (10K), \$30 (5K) and \$12 (Fun Run).

Packet pick-up is from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, June 22 at Northville Square, 133 Main Street. Race day packet pick-up is at 6:30 a.m.

Event winners will compete for \$1,000 prize money and gift awards. Medals will go to the top 500 overall in the 10K; 100 overall in the 5K.

For more information, visit www.solsticerun.org.

Livonia Y leagues

The following leagues are now underway for registration at the Livonia Family YMCA including:

Co-ed T-Ball, coach-pitch and kid pitch league (ages 4-10) and pee wee soccer (ages 3-6), July 7-Aug. 11; fall soccer (starts early Sept.) instructional (ages 3-8) and recreational (boys and girls under-9 through under-14).

New sports camps and off-season sports training are also offered. Prices vary.

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

Recumbent ride

The Wolver-Bents Recumbent Cyclists will stage a self-paced bicycle ride beginning at 9 a.m. at the Willow Metropark pool shelter, located off I-275 (Exit 11).

The event is open to all cyclist, especially those in recumbents.

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

WYAA football signup

Registration for Westland Youth Athletic Association football will be from 7-9 p.m.

Wednesdays and 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays at the Lange Compound Building, 6050 Farmington Road (north of Ford road).

The WYAA has two units. The Westland Meteors

practices at Voss Park (Henry Ruff and Palmer) and play their home games at Wayne Memorial High School. The Westland Comets practice at Marshall Middle School and play their home games at John Glenn High School.

Age groups for both units include freshman (8-10), JV (11-12) and varsity (11-14). Players are subject to weight restrictions. All players who register must produce a copy of their birth certificate (not hospital certificate) and a recent school photo.

For more information, call the WYAA during normal business hours at (734) 421-0640.

Instructional football

Registration is under way for the WYAA's new instructional football program for ages 7-8 at the Lange Compound, 6050 Farmington Road (north of Ford road).

No scores will be tabulated and coaches will be allowed on the field for instructional purposes. Games will be played prior to Meteors and Comets on their respective game dates.

Participants must have a maximum weight restriction of 115 pounds and must supply a copy of their birth certificate to the league.

For more information, call the WYAA at (734) 421-0640 during normal business hours or visit www.wyaa.org.

Hockey coach sought

Redford Union athletic director Brett Steele is accepting applications for the vacated position of boys varsity head hockey coach.

The coaching vacancy is for the combined Redford Unified team, which includes players from RU and Thurston, although administrative duties for the squad are taken care of by Steele.

Larry Singer, who coached the team the past three seasons, recently told Steele he was stepping down due to increasing family and profes-

sional demands.

Those interested in applying, should contact Steele at (313) 242-4270.

Men's senior golf

The Michigan Public Senior Golf Association opens for its fledgling/handicapped tournaments in its Saturday/Thursday events. Men age 50 and older are eligible. For more information call (734) 207-PUTT (7888) or go online to www.mpsga.org.

GC adult softball info

For more information about signing up for any of the Garden City Parks & Recreation adult softball leagues, contact Daniel Plamondon, recreation/arena supervisor for the parks and rec department, at (734) 793-1886 or e-mail him at dplamondon@gardencitymi.org.

There are several men's leagues (Class D and Class Super D) as well as women's and coed leagues, with double-headers slated now through June both at Garden City Park and the lighted softball field at Garden City High School.

Plamondon said the leagues, affiliated for the first time with United States Sports Specialty Association (USSSA), will play a pair of seven-week sessions, with games continuing until mid-September.

WYAA cheerleading

Registration for Westland Youth Athletic Association cheerleading will be from 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays and 10 a.m. until noon Saturdays at the Lange Compound Building, 6050 Farmington Road (north of Ford Road).

Registration for the Westland Comets and Meteors cheerleading squads is open to all girls ages 6-14 (as of Sept. 1).

Both units will cheer for the Meteors and Comets freshman, JV and varsity football squads during the season and also participate in the Western Suburban Junior Football League cheerleading rally.

Call the WYAA at (734) 421-0640 during normal business hours or visit www.wyaa.org.

SK8 Jam

The City of Livonia

Department of Parks and Recreation will stage its SK8 Jam for boys and girls ages 7-and-up beginning at noon Saturday, June 16 at the Livonia Community Recreation Center Skate Park, located at 15100 Hubbard Road (at Five Mile).

Registration is from 11 a.m. to noon the day of the event (cost \$5). Pre-registration is underway at the LCRC (cost \$3).

Prizes will be awarded for beginner, intermediate and expert skaters.

For more information, call (734) 466-2900.

Zanglin Downriver Run

The Zanglin Downriver Run will celebrate its 25th anniversary Friday, June 15 in downtown Trenton.

The 1-mile fun run starts at 7:30 p.m. followed by the 8-kilometer race at 8 p.m.

Entry forms are available online at www.zanglinrun.com; or by visiting Total Runner, 15265 Dix-Toledo Road, Southgate. You can register in person at Total runner through June 10 for \$18; June 11-14 you can register and pick up your registration packet for \$20. Race day registration, which begins at 5:30 p.m. at the corner of W. Jefferson and St. Joseph streets, is \$25.

Online registration is also available through June 14 at www.active.com.

For more information, call (734) 282-1101.

Youth Fitness Meet

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation Youth Fitness meet for boys and girls ages 7-14 will start at 10 a.m. Thursday, June 28 at Rotary Park.

Free registration is from 9-9:45 a.m. on June 28. Youths must live in the Livonia or Clarenceville school districts to participate.

Among the events include standing long jump, running long jump, chinning, dashes, agility course and softball throw. Call (734) 466-2410.



Canton Soccer Club Academy participants Ryen O'Meara and Sheila Rebar polish their passing skills Thursday afternoon at Independence Park in Canton.

ACADEMY

FROM PAGE B1

play.

The seven-month training program begins in September with registration running from July 1 through Aug. 15.

The Academy will sponsor a maximum of six teams -- three for each gender -- that will compete in the Western Suburban Soccer League. A selection day for these teams

will be held Friday, June 15, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. and Saturday, June 16, from 1-3 p.m. at Independence Park in Canton.

For more information, visit www.cantonsoccerclub.com.

Prospective players do not have to be residents of Canton to participate.

ewright@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2108

MATCHULAT

FROM PAGE B1

recent weeks with his array of four pitches and ability to overpower high school batters. Entering Saturday's regionals, Matchulat sported a 1.71 ERA and 68 strikeouts in 43 innings, walking just 15.

When Taylor announced to Matchulat and his teammates that he was picked by

the Tigers, "he got a round of applause and gave that Toby grin."

After Redford Union's season concludes, and if Matchulat does sign, he likely would then go to a developmental camp.

"He throws hard, he has four different pitches and still has room for growth and improvement," said Taylor, about what intrigued the scouts. "The big word is potential with these guys."

2007 Livonia Meteors SOCCER TRYOUT SCHEDULE

Table with 4 columns: AGE, COACH, 1st TRYOUT, 2nd TRYOUT. Rows include U8, U9, U9Blue, U10, U10Blue, U11, U11Blue, U12, U12Blue, U13, U13Blue, U13White, U14, U14Blue, U15, U16, U17, U17Gold.

Table with 4 columns: AGE, COACH, 1st TRYOUT, 2nd TRYOUT. Rows include U8, U9, U9Blue, U10, U10Blue, U11, U11Blue, U12, U12Blue, U13, U13Blue, U13White, U14, U15, U15Blue, U16, U16Blue, U16White, U17, U17Blue, U18, U19HSO.

All Tryouts will be in the back of Bicentennial Park on 7 Mile Road. For more information please visit our website: www.livoniameteors.com or call 734-634-8048

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

## Addiction, depression are linked

Approximately 4 million people with drug problems also have mental illness problems. This means that about 30 percent of those with a drug or drug and alcohol problem also suffer from a serious mental illness including personality disorders, major depression, schizophrenia and bipolar disorder.



Chat Room

Paul Melrose

Likewise if one is depressed one may self medicate as a way of denying or coping with the difficulties and pain that depression brings.

Depression and other psychiatric illnesses increase the risk of addiction. Of all people who are diagnosed as having a psychiatric illness, 29 percent are alcohol or drug abusers. As many as 37 percent of people who abuse alcohol and 53 percent of people who abuse drugs have at least one serious mental illness. Depression, already common in the general population, is even more common among alcoholics and drug abusers.

There are several reasons that a person who is depressed might be abusing drugs of some kind. The easiest reason to appreciate is that using drugs takes one away, temporarily, from the painful feelings of worthlessness, sadness, and guilt. When the drugs wear off, those feelings return. This cycle may create or increase the addictive cycle. Often depression creates in the person a desire to withdraw. When one is forced to be in public situations it may be so painful for that person that he or she will use drugs to cope. There is also the professional opinion that one who is depressed may be more prone to abuse substances.

On the other side of the coin addictions may be the first step to depression. Abuse of drugs or engaging in addictive behaviors may create conditions psychiatric problems. There are some psychotic symptoms that occur because of the use of cocaine.

Hallucinations, anxiety, and mood disorders are just a few. Depression can be a byproduct of substance abuse. Treatment of the substance abuse will lift the depression that occurred during that time.

These "dual diagnosis" situations, as they are called, are often difficult to properly diagnose and then to treat. Substance abuse must be addressed before the depression can be looked at. Many of the stresses in life can easily lead to depression, substance abuse or both.

These are recognized and serious medical conditions that require treatment and for which treatment is available. Sadly there is still the stigma of recognizing substance abuse or mental health conditions and then following through. Caught early treatments can at least lessen the severity many of these conditions if not make it possible to manage.

Dr. Paul Melrose is Executive Director of the Samaritan Counseling Center of SE Michigan. He can be reached at [www.paulmelrose.com](http://www.paulmelrose.com) or through 248-474-4701. The staff of the Samaritan Counseling Center can be reached through [www.samaritancounselingmichigan.com](http://www.samaritancounselingmichigan.com) or at 248-474-4701.



PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Livonia resident Brenda Bachman sits in her back yard which will be on the upcoming Garden Walk to benefit Greenmead.

## Growing secrets

Walk offers bounty of gardening ideas to take home

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
STAFF WRITER

Visitors won't have far to walk to enjoy two of the seven gardens on the Friends for the Development of Greenmead's Walk 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, June 23, in Livonia.

A wicker basket filled with pink begonias welcomes visitors as they enter the gate to the backyard of Kathie and John Sterbling. Once inside a world of flowers and plants color the nearly one-acre landscape.

Just next door a grass pathway links Brenda Bachman's and Philip Kraemer's gardens which Brenda says are rarely seen by others. Meander through the deep dark shade garden with a dry creek bed. It's like being in the woods of northern Michigan.

The walk offers an abundance of creative ideas in themes ranging from patriotic to a natural garden reminiscent of the ones found in Tuscany or the south of France.

Tickets are \$9 in advance, \$10 on the day of the event, and available at Livonia libraries, Community Resources Department at Livonia City Hall (33000 Five Mile), and the Greenmead Historical Village office (20502 Newburgh). For information, call (734) 425-4855.



Kathie Sterbling makes use of old objects throughout her garden.



A couple of ceramic rabbits sit among the Verbena in Brenda Bachman's garden.



The shoe garden along one path in Kathie Sterbling's back yard.

Proceeds from the Garden Walk benefit the restoration and preservation of Greenmead, a recreation of early Livonia. Over the years the Friends have raised nearly \$300,000 for the historic village which is part of the walk.

"We like to have small and large yards, different neighborhoods," said Jan Bennett, Friends president. "We never run out of homes to feature. This is the

Please see **WALK, C3**

## Members celebrate 70 years of preserving Swedish culture

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
STAFF WRITER

Marie-Louise Capote remembers her father talking about his Swedish heritage but never fully experienced the culture until joining the Jenny Lind Club.

In May she helped celebrate the 70th anniversary of the organization founded in 1937 to raise funds for the American Swedish Museum in Philadelphia which was about to open. The club honors the legendary Swedish soprano Jenny Lind.

Capote does everything she can to keep her Swedish background alive including serving on the board of the Swedish Club in Farmington Hills and singing with the women's Scandia Chorus based there. She joined the Jenny Lind Club four years ago. The celebration took place in the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia in mid-May.

"Jenny Lind was born in 1820 in Stockholm and was known as the Swedish Nightingale. She debuted at age 17. P.T. Barnum brought her to America in the 1850s to perform 137 concerts in 37 different cities in 21 months," said Marie-Louise Capote of Plymouth. "She was not only revered for her voice but gave all her proceeds to charitable organizations in the U.S. and Sweden.

"The club first met in Grosse Pointe in 1937. I understand from some of the members in their 80s that this was a very snooty club. You had to be invited to join. That's changed dramatically. Until 1 1/2 years ago you had to be married to a Swede or have Swedish blood. We changed that. We want other people to come in."

Margareta Anden went through 70 years of files to compile a booklet on the club's

Please see **SWEDISH, C2**



Eleonara Charlson, Ann Nickloff and Margareta Anden at the 70th anniversary celebration of the Jenny Lind Club in May. Charlson and Anden co-chaired the event at the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College.



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|--|--|---|---|--|--|---|

# Rescue groups needed for adopt-a-dog day

The K-9 Academy Training Facility is still looking for animal rescue groups to take part in their first annual Rescue Dog Adoption Day 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, June 23, in the building at 3441 Filbert, south of Michigan Avenue, east of Venoy, Wayne.

The purpose is to find the dogs their forever homes. There is no fee to participate. Simply come with the adoptable dogs and meet prospective new owners in the comfort

of the facility. Groups are requested to bring everything they need for the dogs for the day - leashes and collars, crates to put the dogs in if you must leave them unattended, a water bowl, treats, etc.

For more information or to sign up for the event, call (734) 641-9507 or send e-mail to mail@k9atf.com.

The staff of K-9 Academy will be working to promote this event. Fliers will be sent to all of their clientele as

well as area veterinarians, pet stores, and supermarkets. As an incentive for prospective pet owners there will be a raffle for T-shirts, dog treats, leashes, and toys. In addition, each new owner will receive a \$50 coupon for an obedience class through K-9 ATF.

Even if you're not thinking about adopting a new friend, come out and make a donation to help support these groups that rescue animals from sad situations.

# Greenmead a good place to spend the day

The staff at Greenmead Historical Park has scheduled a variety of activities through the month of June. For more information, call (248) 477-7375.

Greenmead's Model "A" Sunday takes place 1-4 p.m. June 10, at the historic village on Newburgh, south of Eight Mile in Livonia.

Admission is \$3 adults, \$2 students. Parking is Free.

Members of the Livingston County Model "A" Club will be cruising onto the Greenmead grounds so come out and see the cars, talk to the owners

and tour the historic buildings at Greenmead. Refreshments will be available on site.

Greenmead is one of the stops on the Livonia Garden Walk 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, June 23.

Tickets are \$9 in advance, \$10 on the day of the walk.

Along with the gardens at Greenmead, the 18th annual walk features 7 residential gardens.

Maps will be available on the day of the walk.

In addition to special events, volunteers host tours of the historic village from 1-4 p.m.

Sundays through October and December (no tours on holiday weekends).

Tickets are \$3 adults, \$2 students. Parking is free.

Each tour building features period artifacts and furnishings.

Visitors are invited to stroll through the flower gardens of Hill House or take a walk on the Virginia B. Matley Nature Trail. Pack a picnic lunch and spend the afternoon enjoying the park.

Proceeds from all events and activities benefit historic Greenmead.



This photograph shows Jenny Lind Club members in 1937.

## SWEDISH

FROM PAGE C1

history. She was born and raised in Sweden then moved to the U.S. 35 years ago.

"In the first year of starting the club they arranged bridge parties, socials, luncheons and raised \$200," said Anden, a Birmingham resident who joined the club in 1975.

"During the war years they became active in raising relief funds for the American Red Cross, the Save the Children

Federation. They celebrated certain Swedish traditions, Lucia around Dec. 13, which was based on a saint. In Sweden the oldest daughter dresses up in a long white robe, wears a wreath of green and carries a tray of sweets. The tradition was picked up by the Jenny Lind Club and signifies the start of the holidays for us."

Ann Nickoloff's parents immigrated from Sweden so it's important for the former Plymouth resident to maintain traditions. She's especially proud of th

e scholarship the club awards annually to a young woman pursuing a career in vocal performance in Michigan schools.

"The purpose of the club is what attracted me," said Ann Nickoloff of Northville. "We want to preserve Swedish culture and we're looking for anyone interested in those goals. We started out as public service to the community and to preservation. I believe in continuation of a family's heritage. Whatever background you have it's important that you maintain those traditions, that your children and grandchildren understand their background."

For more information about the Jenny Lind Club or Swedish Club, call Capote at (734) 459-0596.

The Swedish Club hosts a mid-summer celebration on June 16 which is open to the public. The event includes a breakfast and dinner in addition to entertainment by the Swedish Club's Scandia Chorus and men's Arpi Chorus.

"We'll have a Maypole and folk dancing around the Maypole," said Capote.

For details, visit [www.swedishclub.net](http://www.swedishclub.net).

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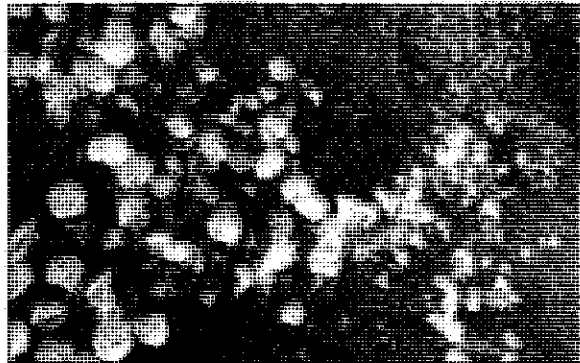
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Morning Glories in Brenda Bachman's backyard garden.



**WALK**  
FROM PAGE C1

18th garden walk. Gardens have really changed in Livonia in that time. So many people around town are doing much more of interest in their front and back yards. What I find fascinating is the variety of plants. There was a time when only 6 to 7 standard plants were used."

Kathie Sterbling grows about 1500 annuals and vegetable plants under lights on her kitchen counter, among them Way Ahead, an heirloom tomato. Outside the home's back brick wall is a planting workbench with Sweet 100's cherry tomato plants that will grow in hanging baskets.

Lately, Sterbling has been spending 13-hour days in the garden preparing for the walk and an annual plant sale with her daughter 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, June 14-16, at 16423 Pollyanna, south of Six Mile, west of Farmington road. Thirty varieties of homegrown perennials, annuals, raspberries, vines, herbs, tomato plants, wild flowers, and shade plants will be for sale.

"I like growing unusual things," said Kathie Sterbling whose husband John helps with the heavier work. He crafted all of the bird houses scattered throughout the gardens.

Sterbling's creativity abounds in this backyard oasis. Six flower-filled wicker baskets hang from the crabapple tree, not suspended by rope but old leather belts. Black-eyed Susan vines climb up a trellis made from wire coat hangers. Old wooden kitchen spoons announce the names of herbs planted alongside the house.

"I have these creative ideas," said Sterbling pointing to an old wheel barrow filled with flowers and an old metal tub from a Plymouth Historical Museum garage sale. "I like to use old things in the garden like an antique cultivator, antique school desk. I make wreaths out of grape vines for accent pieces."

Back in 1985 when Sterbling began working on the gardens an inground pool took up space in the yard so she had it removed and brought in dirt for the island of plantings that attract hummingbirds and 14-different species of butterflies.

"It's such a joy. I don't consider it work. I say I'm going out into the yard and play," said Sterbling who uses her wheel barrow as a walker and shovel as a crutch due to a disability. "This is one of my most favorite parts of the garden. The yellow flowered corydalis spreads and keeps the weeds out. Most of the plants were purchased at the Cranbrook plant sale."

Brenda Bachman doesn't favor any single plant or tree in the gardens where two pools and waterfalls provide calming sights and sounds. This is Bachman's haven after returning from her job as a body shop manager.

"I enjoy seeing how they all work together," said Bachman, who began developing the gardens in 2003.

Bachman prefers perennials such as hosta for the gardens because they're less work. Even so the plantings constantly need tending. Bachman no sooner finishes pulling weeds on one end of the gardens when it's time to start again.

"We have an evergreen garden along the fence. I like it because of the wildlife it brings in. I love the birds. The squirrels hang out all the time."

Rocks line the path through

the shade garden with a dry creek bed that keeps the rain from pooling in the yard.

"We want to walk around a corner and not be able to see what's ahead. Once it matures it will have that look," said Bachman who sees the garden as a work in progress. Kraemer, who crafted the elegant cedar trellis, is building a garden shed out of stone to become part of the landscape.

Woodworking is a hobby of Kraemer's. He's currently remodeling the interior of the house. Together the two are taking down the power lines over the yard and burying them underground to make the view of the gardens even more pleasing.

"We have hummingbird and woodland gardens, shade and partial shade gardens," said Bachman. "I don't have any other hobbies. I started working on the front five years ago but had back surgery and took the summer off. This is very therapeutic. It's good exercise and relaxation. It's a pastime and a passion."



Kathie Sterbling works in her backyard garden which will be featured on the upcoming Garden Walk to benefit Greenwood.

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## One-stop health care

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
STAFF WRITER

Erik Morganroth hesitates to call the new University of Michigan Cardiovascular Center a one-stop shop, but he definitely appreciates the convenience of the 350,000 sq. ft. facility opening on June 11 in Ann Arbor.

The 37-year old Birmingham man received his second heart transplant at U-M's University Hospital in mid-March. The \$215 million heart and vascular center makes it easier for him to see specialists and go through diagnostic tests such as echocardiograms all in the same building, in the same day.

Morganroth serves on the center's advisory committee and helped refine care from the perspective of the patient. He spent hours talking about the psychological effects of a terminal diagnosis like the one he received in January before the transplant. He says, most transplant recipients aren't candidates for a second donor heart because of advanced age. Morganroth was eligible and today he enjoys going to soccer games and swimming with his wife Andrea and their children Max, 4, and Emma, 6.

"Why do I drive 1 1/2 hours each way? The biggest thing is most cardiologists and hospitals address heart related issues only," said Erik Morganroth. "The

Cardiovascular Center brings in specialists to address overall health care, lifestyle changes. U-M is trying to provide a comprehensive center."

Dr. David Pinsky especially takes pride in the center's team approach to caring for patients. Pinsky is one of four directors for the Cardiovascular Center in the heart of the U-M medical campus.

"The vision we have is to be an integrated place for information, assessment and delivery of care whether that's to be preventive or treatment," said Dr. David Pinsky, a cardiologist. "With care as it's delivered today there are many practitioners, but putting a group of experts together will provide optimal care. We're a research institution as well as a care institution so we're able to bring the most cutting edge treatments to patients as well as diagnostics."

About six months ago, Pinsky said staff began following the Lean Thinking principal adapted from Toyota manufacturing practices. By observing processes, they hope to reduce patient waiting times and redundancy by staff.

"We're learning to do things better. We've already begun the processes," said Pinsky. "We are a virtual center until we move into the building. We have to be an integrated



PHOTOS COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN HEALTH SYSTEM

Outside of the Cardiovascular Center is a spiral meditation walk for prayer or contemplation during the warmer months. The garden inside the circular atrium provides a sense of peacefulness all year long.

center. The hub will be here but off site patient friendly sites at Domino's Farms, and Canton and Livonia (adult cardiologists at U-M health centers) are integral to what we do. We're an integrated health system."

Kara Gavin compares the new Cardiovascular Center to the Cancer Center built at U-M 10 years ago.

"The heart and vascular center does the same thing for heart and stroke that we do for cancer," said Gavin, U-M Health System spokesperson who led a tour of the new facility on Tuesday. "Cardiovascular disease is a family of diseases. The same thing that causes heart attacks cause strokes, aneurysms. Here we have all the

people working on those diseases. The new center doesn't combine everything. If you have a heart attack you still go to the ER at University Hospital. Kids won't be treated here, but at Mott Children's Hospital (on the medical campus)."

Architects Shepley Bullfinch Richardson & Abbot of Boston designed the center so only three of the six levels are visible from the street. The idea was that patients wouldn't be overwhelmed by the imposing building before walking into the main entrance. Patients and their families were taken into account every step of the building process. Three quiet/meditation rooms provide a place for prayer, reflection and respite. An atrium on Level 2 features a pondless waterfall with soothing sounds and glass walls that look out onto a garden.

"People can relax, have a bite to eat. Outside is a meditation spiral with plantings of Plymouth." Next to the indoor garden is a cafe filled with healthy treats. Ninety percent of the food and drink meet dietary guidelines for heart patients. Florine Mark (founder and CEO of Weight Watchers) is on the advisory board for the cardiovascular center and helped select items.

A medical librarian and high-speed Internet access in the Wellness Resource Center helps patients find the latest

information about their illness. Level 2A is the cardiac procedures floor for stenting, angioplasty, and various minimally invasive procedures. \$44 million in state-of-the-art medical equipment fills the building located on the former site of U-M's Old Main Hospital which was demolished after opening the current University Hospital in 1986. On Level 4, 8 new 700-square-foot operating rooms feature equipment suspended from the ceilings for easier patient access. Flat screen monitors are displayed at surgeons' eye level.

"These are operating rooms for heart, blood vessel, and chest and lung surgery," said

Please see **ONE-STOP, C7**

## People with Low Vision Receive Help from Michigan Eye Doctor

People with low vision enjoy daily activities once again with help from Dr. Sheldon Smith.

By Elena Lombardi

Low vision is defined as vision that cannot be corrected with regular prescription glasses or contact lenses. Affecting 3.3 million Americans today age 40 and over, blindness or low vision can be debilitating. For many, specialized low vision care is the answer they have been seeking.

Michigan Optometrist Dr. Sheldon Smith, a Low Vision Specialist, helps people who have lost vision from macular degeneration and other types of eye disease.

"People don't know that there are experienced doctors who can help them with specialized low vision care," says Dr. Smith.

"Many of my patients find that with telescopic glasses, things look bigger, closer and much easier to see. This is like looking through a pair of field glasses or binoculars," Dr. Smith says. "These devices permit patients with low vision to see things they previously couldn't and do some of the things they want to."

The most common cause of low vision in seniors is macular degeneration. Twenty five percent of people over 65 years of age have some degree of degeneration. When the macula, a small part of the retina, degenerates it leaves a



Octavius Germany, from Dearborn Michigan, with his new Bioptic Telescopic glasses.

blind spot right in the center of vision making it hard to recognize faces, read a book, or pass the driver's vision test. UV light from the sun, smoking, poor nutrition, and aging all contribute to this condition.

Although there is no cure for the disease, there is hope. "My job is to figure out what devices enable the patient to function best," says Dr. Smith. For some this can mean maintaining independence or the ability to drive.

Octavius Germany, age 91, from Dearborn was seen in January. A retired architect and engineer, Octavius had a goal of driving again. With his new glasses he states, "Everything in the distance looks clearer...I'm impressed with my new lenses. This is what's going to win the day for me."

"There are different solutions based on each individual's vision needs. Bioptic telescopic driving glasses have the option of built in automatic sun-

glasses," says Dr. Smith. Special prismatic reading glasses are another way to help low vision. They make reading a little easier. Sun filters and nutritional supplements help stabilize and protect the macula against progressing degeneration.

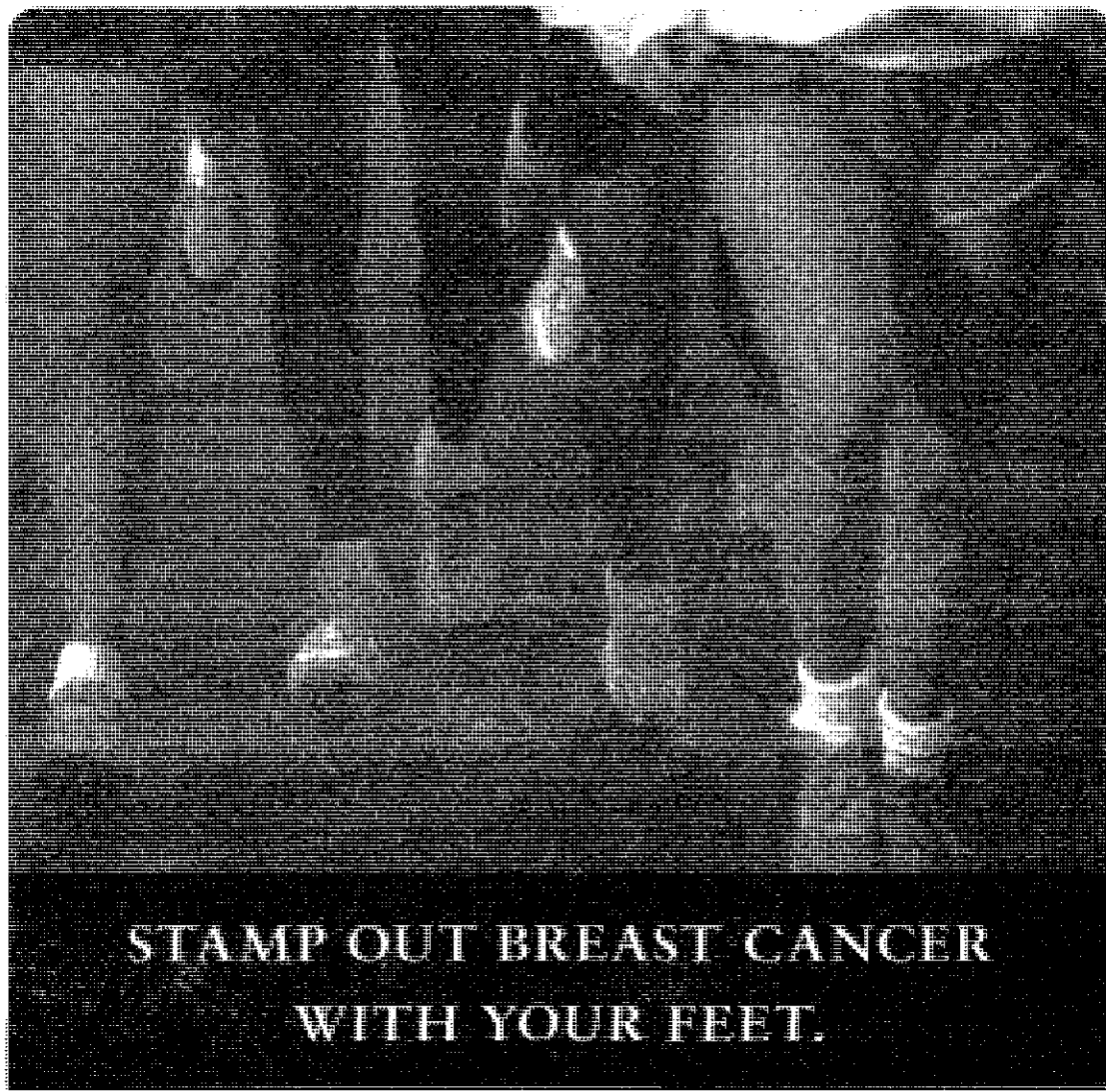
There are many low vision devices for the many various kinds of activities. Devices range in price from \$500 to \$2,500. "Every situation is unique. Each person's level of vision varies and every patient has different desires," states Dr. Smith. "Our ultimate goal is getting patients doing the things they most wish to do."

Dr. Smith has offices in Livonia, St. Clair Shores and the Lansing area. To see if low vision care can help you or your loved one, call Dr. Smith today at Suburban Low Vision.

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# ONE-STOP

FROM PAGE C6

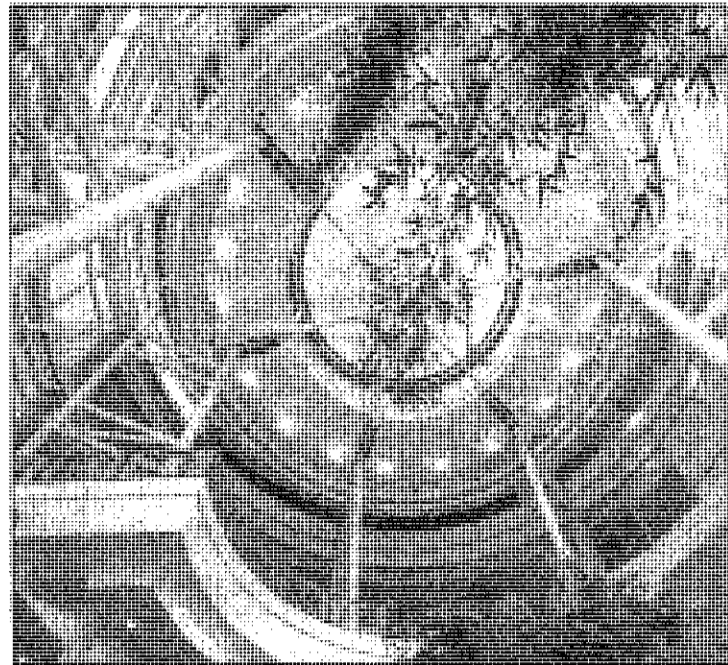
Gavin. "Kidney transplants will be moved here for a little while the 20 OR's in the main hospital are refurbished and OR's added."

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Level 4 where free standing columns of equipment monitor a patient's progress. Approximately 1400 computers, located throughout the center, allow staff immediate access to patients' records.

"About 500 new jobs were created for nurses and technicians," said Gavin. "We have more capacity to treat patients," said Gavin. "To recruit top people to Michigan, we needed to have the facility."

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The atrium indoor garden features a 30-foot tall bamboo and a pondless waterfall with its soothing sounds of splashing water.

## JUNE

### Parkinson benefit walk

The Michigan Parkinson Foundation holds its I Gave My Sole to Parkinson's Walk-A-Thon and 5K run Sunday, June 10, at Maybury State Park on Eight Mile, west of Beck, Northville. On-site registration at 9:30 a.m. Event begins 11 a.m. Fee for walkers \$10, age 12 and under walkers \$5, runners \$15, family (immediate only) \$30. To register, call (800) 852-9781, send e-mail to mpoffice@aol.com, or visit www.parkinsonsmi.org.

### Hospice volunteers needed

Looking for caring volunteers to provide in-home companionship visits to patients with life-limiting illnesses and/or respite support for their caregivers and families. Weekday availability preferred. St. John Hospice provides services in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and St. Clair counties. Mileage reimbursement available. For information, call (800) 248-2298 or visit www.stjohn.org/Hospice.

### Volunteer training

Heartland Hospice Services is looking for caring and compassionate individuals for hospice volunteer training to provide companionship, support and friendly visits for

patients and their caregivers. We are located in Southfield and serve the Tri-county area. Evening and day time classes available. Office support is also needed. To register, call (800) 770-9859.

### Hormone replacement naturally

Natural Bio-Identical Hormone Replacement Therapy, Anti-Aging Medicine, and How to Slow Down the Aging Process with Catherine Walker, M.D. 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, June 12, at Holiday Inn Select, 1500 Opdyke at University, Auburn Hills. No charge. Couples welcome. Call (248) 267-5002 for reservations.

### Health screenings

Meijer offers health screenings. Cholesterol or fasting blood glucose test patients must fast at least 10 hours and 8 hours respectively but may take morning medications. Clinic hours 8 a.m. to noon June 26, 4200 Highland, Waterford, (248) 738-7833; and June 14, 28800 Telegraph, Southfield, (248) 304-9533; June 26, 20401 Haggerty, Northville, (248) 449-5733; June 12, 6001 Highland, White Lake, (248) 889-6810, and June 22, 49900 Grand River, Wixom, (248) 449-8533.

### Divorce support group

Group discussion 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, June 12; attorney Patricia Kasody-Coyle will be available to answer questions in a private setting on a first come first-served basis, in Women's Resource Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia. For information, call (734) 462-4443.

### Lecture

On Urinary Bladder Problems and Erectile Dysfunction with St. Mary Mercy Hospital physician John Frederick Harb 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 13, in the hospital Auditorium, 36475 Five Mile at Levan, Livonia. Use Main Entrance on Five Mile. For details, call (734) 655-8961.

### Sharing & Caring

7-9 p.m. Thursday, June 14, MRI for the diagnosis of breast cancer with Marc Flemming, M.D., diagnostic radiology, at Beaumont Hospital's Cancer Center, 3601 W. 13 Mile, west of Woodward, Royal Oak. Sharing & Caring offers educational and support programs for breast cancer survivors, their family and friends. For information, call (248) 551-8585. For possible schedule changes, call (248) 551-8588 prior to meeting.

### Our Body lecture series

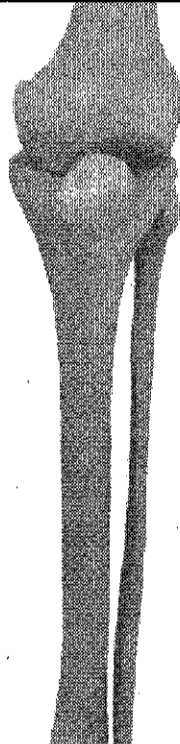
Speaker series in conjunction with Our Body exhibit at Detroit Science Center. Admission to lecture is free with paid general admission. RSVPs required to attend lectures. Seating limited. To RSVP, send e-mail to events@sciencedetroit.org with event date and names of those attending. Museum hours extended to 10 p.m. on lecture dates to allow attendees to view exhibit. There is a separate admission charge for exhibit. Series includes 7 p.m. June 14, Does Family History Accurately Predict Your Future Health? Our Body exhibit tickets \$24.95, \$22.95 seniors, \$19.95 children. Children ages 12 and under must be accompanied by adult. Advance tickets on sale at www.detroitssciencecenter.org. Exhibit continues to Sept. 3. Call (313) 577-8400 or visit www.detroitssciencecenter.org.

### Divorce support group

An Overview of the Process of Divorce, attorney Connie S. Kelley focuses on the process 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, June 26, in the Women's Resource Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia. For information, call (734) 462-4443.

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### Arthritis Today

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



### DOUBT ABOUT GOUT

Possibly you have heard enough about gout to know when someone has that condition. The characteristics of gout are well publicized: It comes on suddenly, usually wakes a person out of a sleep. The attack affects the great toe, ankle or knee. The pain is intense, even a sheet over the joint or a breeze over it causes a wave of pain.

A blood test will show elevation of blood uric acid, the chemical substance that crystallizes in the toe and starts the gout attack.

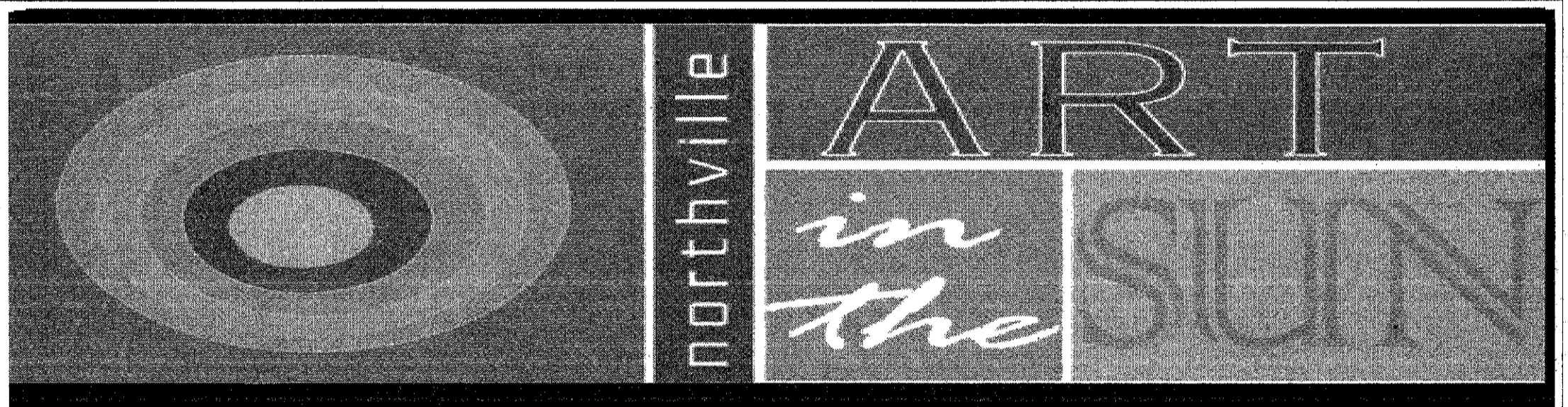
The reality is that such features apply to two other crystalline conditions: pseudogout and hydroxyapatite crystalline disease. Furthermore, just because the blood test reveals a high uric acid, that does not prove the current attack is gout; the high uric acid may just be a bystander to pseudogout or hydroxyapatite disease.

The only way to prove which crystalline condition is causing the joint pain is to aspirate fluid from the involved joint, and under a microscope, identify the type of crystal present. Gout and pseudogout crystals each possess a distinctive pattern that allows a trained individual to precisely identify the crystal.

Therefore, it is important that you immediately report an attack of sudden joint pain to your doctor. Aspirating the joint early in the attack gives him the best opportunity to obtain fluid and analyze it for the type of crystal present. Armed with that information, he can answer your questions on what is appropriate therapy, best prevention, and future outlook for attacks or joint impairment.

www.drjweiss.yourmd.com

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248 349 7640 or visit our website: www.northville.org

## Enter 'Dining with the Stars'

Enjoy the best pizza in metro Detroit and meet your favorite stars - all for fun and charity but hurry because Monday's the deadline to enter the first contest which features lunch or dinner with Channel 7's mother/daughter anchors Diana and Glenda Lewis.

Buddy's Pizza and the *Observer & Eccentric/Mirror Newspapers* present "Dining With the Stars," a monthly contest designed to give local fans a chance to meet their favorite local celebrities and help a metro-area children's charity.

In 100 words or less, tell us why you're a fan and would like to have lunch or dinner at Buddy's Pizza in June with Diana Lewis and Glenda Lewis of WXYZ-TV (Channel 7).

Send your fan letter to [BuddysDiningStars@gmail.com](mailto:BuddysDiningStars@gmail.com) and be sure to include your name, address, daytime phone number and e-mail address. Deadline to enter the June contest is 5 p.m. Monday, June 11.

The winner will be treated to:

- A limo ride for the winner and stars to and from Buddy's (Farmington Hills or the original Buddy's Six Mile Road locations only) for lunch or dinner with Diana Lewis and Glenda Lewis courtesy of Protran Transportation.

- A special table reserved for you and the stars.

- A ballroom dancing exhibition courtesy of Elegance In Motion Ballroom Studio in Orion Township.

- A fabulous meal from Buddy's great menu!

- A special makeover (including styling by Sebastian and makeup by Marina Milfeh), courtesy of Ruby Blu Salon & Spa of Farmington Hills.

- A photograph of you and your favorite stars published in the *Observer & Eccentric* and *Mirror Newspapers* and online at [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com).

And to top it off, Buddy's Pizza will donate \$500 to each star's special children's charity.

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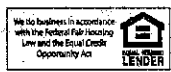
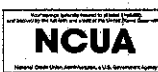
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