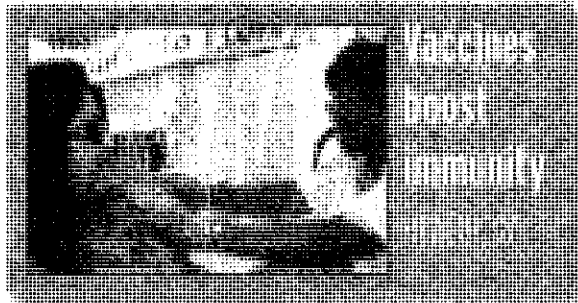


Boys soccer outlook



Coming Aug. 23:
High school football
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SUNDAY
August 19, 2007

WESTLAND Observer

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Fame and fortune vs. football

5th-grader tries for a desk on Foxworthy's quiz show

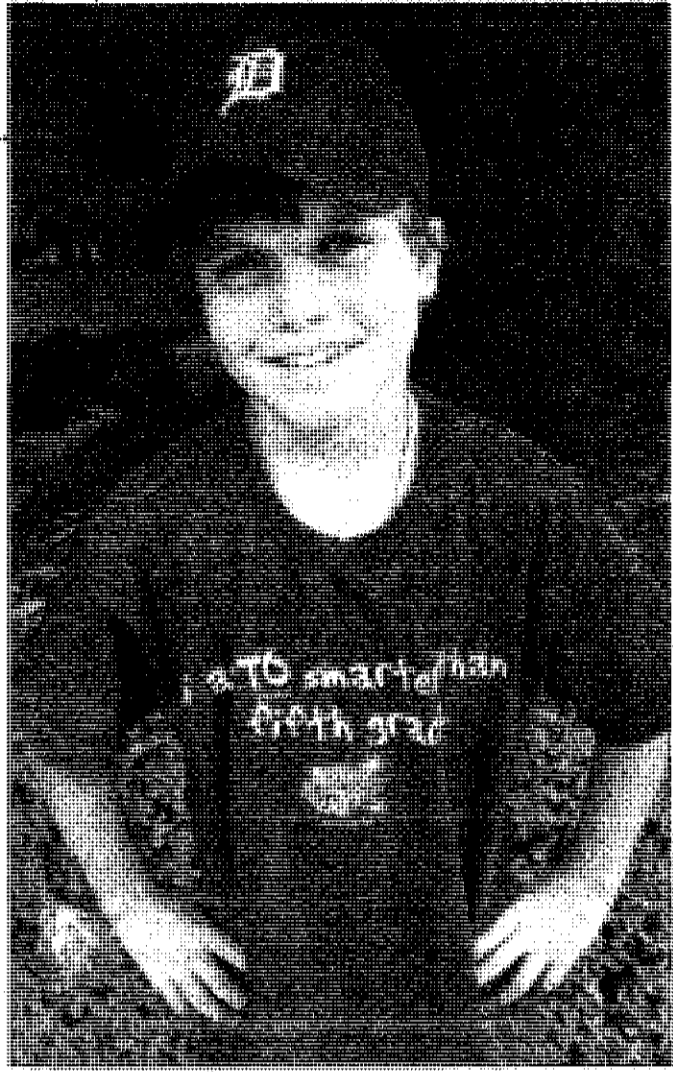
BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Dylan Padget was facing a difficult choice: Take a Hollywood casting call or play football. Luckily for the 10-year-old, the call didn't come, so he can play football this fall.

"I figured it was a win-win, I either got to play football or be on TV," said Dylan who was among 20 students from around the country who were in the running to sit at five desks for the second season of Jeff Foxworthy's "Are You Smarter than a 5th Grader?"

"I told him if he made it, that that would be it for football," said his mother Lynn Padget. "It looked like he had tears in his eyes. He told me that's the dumbest thing because you can't count your chickens before they're hatched."

Dylan is a fifth-grader at Johnson Elementary School in Livonia who was invited to tryout for the show after sub-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dylan Padget wears a T-shirt promoting the TV show, "Are You Smarter Than A Fifth-Grader?" that he auditioned for in Atlanta, Ga. He bought the shirt at a Jeff Foxworthy store in a mall in Georgia.

mitting a videotape. It was his grandfather, Bob Padget Sr., who found the show's application online and told the family about it.

On the tape, Dylan introduced himself, told some jokes, showed his imaginary audience around the family's Westland home — "Just a few places," he said — and shot some hoops.

"I didn't try to be too modest, among the other kids in my class I'm pretty smart," Dylan said.

Dylan also got help from one of his teachers who wrote

a letter to the show's producers, telling them "what a wonderful student" he was and that when she saw the show she thought of him, Lynn Padget said.

The FOX-TV show has contestants attempt to answer 10 questions, plus a final bonus question, in hopes of winning \$1 million. The questions are taken from elementary school textbooks, two from each first-fifth-grade level. Along the way, the player can be assisted by a "classmate,"

Please see 5TH-GRADER, A3

District 'not surprised' at state test scores

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Wayne-Westland school officials are taking a close look at results of the new Michigan Merit Exam, which put its high school juniors at or above their counterparts in Wayne County, but below state averages in all but one subject.

"Frankly, I wasn't surprised by the results," Supt. Greg Baracy said. "It was a new test, a rigorous test, one most students wouldn't typically take. This was not the type of test students were familiar with and may have been expecting."

Wayne-Westland students did better than the Wayne County average in reading, science and social studies and did better than the state average in social studies. The scores were lower than those of their counterparts in neighboring school districts.

This is the first year of the Michigan Merit Exam, which was designed to determine how well-prepared students are for college. The new exam consists of the WorkKeys job skills assessments in reading and math; Michigan tests in math, science, social studies and persuasive writing; and the ACT

MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM						
Subject	Math	Reading	Science	Writing	Social Studies	ACT Composite Score
Clarenceville	314	51.5	59.1	33.8	74.2	17.4
Farmington	54.9	71.3	68.0	56.6	88.8	20.6
Garden City	36.9	56.4	48.8	26.4	79.8	17.6
Livonia	55.3	68.5	68.0	46.9	92.1	19.9
Northville	61.7	86.0	86.9	78.4	94.4	23.3
Plymouth-Canton	69.0	72.5	73.3	57.3	92.1	21.4
Redford Union	26.2	45.2	37.3	24.3	80.2	16.7
Southfield	33.0	51.3	43.8	27.2	83.0	17.5
Wayne-Westland	29.7	48.9	44.3	21.9	87.2	17.15
Wayne County	32.6	48.3	43.3	31.7	85.5	NA
Statewide	46.2	61.1	56.9	41.1	81.4	18.4

SOURCE: Michigan Department of Education

college entrance exam.

Statewide, more than half of Michigan's high school juniors failed the math and writing portions, with less than 60

percent passing reading and science.

"These results are about

Please see SCORES, A3

Westland seniors go for gold in Olympics

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Westland already has been declared a winner, even though the Western Wayne County Senior Olympics don't start until Monday in Canton.

"We have 97 participants. That's probably close to double that of any other community," Westland Senior Resources Director Peggy Ellenwood said.

"I'm very excited," she added. "I'm so proud of Westland."

More than 400 seniors from 16 communities have signed on for this year's festivities, said Janet Brady, Canton's senior program supervisor.

Westland was supposed to host this year's Senior Olympics, but the closing of the contaminated Central City Park resulted in the games being moved to neighboring Canton.

Still, Westland will host one event, a 12-mile bicycle race that Ellenwood said will start at 9:30 a.m. Thursday at Nankin Mills in Hines Park. Spectators are welcome but should arrive early, because part of Hines Drive will be closed to traffic to protect bikers.

"It's the very first time we've ever had a bike

race in the Western Wayne County Senior Olympics," Ellenwood said.

The bike race will go east along Hines Drive from Nankin Mills to Outer Drive and back, she said. Ten men and two women have signed up for the event and will compete for gold, silver and bronze medals.

Westland seniors plan to participate in numerous Olympics contests, ranging from swimming to bowling to card games to baking, Ellenwood said. The city's seniors won numerous medals last year.

The five-day Olympics will open Monday with an 8 a.m. 5K run in Canton's Heritage Park, followed by a 9 a.m. breakfast and 10 a.m. opening ceremonies with a torch.

Some Westland seniors plan to compete in several different competitions this week, Ellenwood said.

"I think Westland seniors are very, very active, and this is proof of that," she said. "They're staying active because they know that staying active is the key to longevity."

Staff Writer Tiffany L. Parks contributed to this story.

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Man gets probation for purse theft and high-speed chase

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A Garden City man who had a suspended driver's license has been placed on probation for three years following allegations he stole a woman's purse outside a Westland grocery store and led police on a high-speed chase that ended when he crashed into a tree.

Charles Casey McDonald, 38, will remain on probation until 2010 after pleading no contest in Wayne County Circuit Court to charges of attempted larceny from a person, resisting and obstructing police officers and third-degree fleeing from authorities.

McDonald's decision to plead no contest averted a jury trial and a possible 10-year prison term for an incident that started about 8:10 p.m. Saturday, April 7, outside the former Farmer Jack store on the southwest corner of Cherry Hill and Merriman.

According to the Wayne County Prosecutor's office, McDonald was placed on probation earlier this summer in Circuit Judge Margie Braxton's courtroom. An attempt to reach the assistant prosecutor involved in the case was unsuccessful.

"The sentence for this man's crimes is certainly disappointing to the police — and should be to the community," Westland Police Chief James Ridener said.

McDonald had had a suspended driver's license for 20 years, Westland Police Officer Patrick Corby said, when the April incident happened. McDonald was only 18 years old when his driving problems

started, Corby said.

His latest troubles began when he was accused of grabbing a 26-year-old woman's purse from a grocery cart while she was putting her child in her car, police said.

The victim managed to follow the getaway vehicle, a 2000 Plymouth Voyager, long enough to jot down information that she turned over to police. Westland Police Officer David Dinsmore spotted the minivan near Henry Ruff and Avondale and began a 14-minute pursuit that ended when McDonald hit a tree at Cherry Hill and Harrison in Garden City.

"We give credit to the victim to be able to stay with him and relay the necessary information to the police and allow our officers to find him and ultimately apprehend him," Ridener said. "It's unfortunate we have no control over what the judicial system does, but our officers and our detective bureau did what they needed to do to at least bring him to justice."

Police accused McDonald of reaching speeds of 50 mph in residential neighborhoods and over 90 mph along main roads. He was chased by officers from Westland, Garden City, Inkster and the Wayne County Sheriff's Department.

McDonald was treated for minor injuries and ultimately arraigned on multiple felony charges. According to Corby, the defendant had prior convictions for such offenses as driving without a license, domestic violence and drunken driving.

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INDEX

APARTMENTS	D6
AUTOMOTIVE	F2
CLASSIFIED	D1-F4
CROSSWORD PUZZLE	D6
HEALTH	C7
HOMETOWNLIFE	C1
JOBS	D1
NEW HOMES	E1
OBITUARIES	C4
PERSPECTIVES	A7
REAL ESTATE	D5
SPORTS	B1

Coming Thursday
in **Filter**



Grand Prix racing returns to Belle Isle

Area graduates receive Phi Beta Kappa honors

Graduating seniors from three area high schools are among students being honored this year by the Detroit Association of Phi Beta Kappa.

More than 3,600 graduating seniors in the public, private, and parochial high schools in southeastern Michigan who maintained a 3.75 grade point in their academic classes are receiving a certificate of recognition from the association, which is comprised of members of the national scholastic honor society residing in the Detroit area.

"These students have earned recognition as future leaders and scholars by doing what it takes to rank at the head of their classes, and they deserve all the praise and recognition we can give them," said Dr. Seymour J. Wolfson, president of the organization. "As a scholastic society dedicated to 'Love of Wisdom, the Guide of Life,' we hope this recognition will encourage them to follow these ideals in their further education and throughout their lives."

Honorees from this area are: Wayne Memorial High School - Kelsey Baker, Jennifer Dawson, Erica Dishon, Adam Goring, Meridith Griggs, Kathryn Hansen, Elizabeth Hardy, Jessica Kay, Olivia LaFortune, Amanda Linton, Sarah Mayberry, Andrew

Maynard, Gabrielle Monit, Kenneth Newsted, Nichole Pierson, Lejohnna Reid, Jasmen Sheffield-Sadler, Mengdan Shi, Brittany Smith, Zachary Smith, Ashley Smith, Brett Tavana, Kayleigh Thorner, Bobbi Turner and Melissa Wincher.

John Glenn High School - Eric Barry, Natalie Bower, Sarah Bowers, Mary Bruce, Sarah Collins, Jessica Duncan, Jessica Easter, Justine Easter, Amanda Femat, Marissa Flores, Kayla German, Alexandria Hayes, Christopher Hunter, Nikhil Kalothia, Matthew Kukulka, Derrek Lees, Nicholas Lloyd, Lori Mallon, Collin Mark, Taylor Morgan, Shawn Murphy, Jacob Nabozny, Bradley Noyes, Lisa Pecorelli, Joshua Pugliesi, Jessica Riggs, Joshua Sholler, Anya Straka-Conway, Joseph Stulock, Sarah Thurmond, Frank Toarmina, Dessislava Tzankova, Stephanie Waldon and Theresa White.

Lutheran High School Westland - Laura Anton, Courtney Canada, Kayla Giesehen, Sara Haller, Sarah Hammer, Justin Hempel, Katherine MacKenzie, Lenore Mazurek, Joshua Palka, Kyle Ramthun, David Rider, Emily Shafer, Rachel Silverster, Ashley Taylor-Voss and Jessica Voetberg.

Unity in the Community

The Lutheran Church of Our Savior is sponsoring "Unity in the Community" 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 24, at the church, 29425 Annapolis, Westland.

Aimed at "building the community" and "strengthening families," there will be free food, gospel music, free clothing drive, T-shirts, games and rides and health services. For more information, call (734) 728-3440.

Rummage sale

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church will hold a tent and rummage sale 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 8, at the church, 37775 Palmer, one block west of Newburgh, Westland.

Rent space under the tent for \$20 or rent space with our table for \$35. Inside the church, there will gently used clothing for the family at \$2 a bag.

For further information call Mary Rose, at (734) 722-4363 or Barb at (734) 722-3233.

Parish Festival

St. Damian will hold its Parish Festival Friday-Sunday, Sept. 7-9, at the church, 30055 Joy, Westland. There will be games, inflatable rides, food, beer tent, live music, raffles, a casino and more. For more information, call (734) 421-6130.

Poker tournament

The Westland Jaycees will be sponsoring a Texas Hold 'Em Tournament and Vegas Night on Friday, Sept. 21, at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford, behind Westland City Hall. Registration for the tournament will begin at 5:30 p.m., with the tournament starting at 6:30 p.m. sharp. The Vegas Room will open shortly after the tournament begins.

The Vegas room games will include Black Jack, Let it Ride, Texas Hold 'Em and Seven-Card Poker. Food, pop and beer will be available for purchase. Participants must be 18 years old to play.

Tournament payouts and top prize for the tournament will depend on number of players; \$10 from each registration will go towards first-place payout.

The tournament Cost is \$50 for those registered by Sept. 11. Late registrations will be accepted for an additional \$10. Pre-register for the event by sending your full name, address, date of birth and a check or money order, made payable to The Westland Jaycees, P.O. Box 85191 Westland, MI 48185. Online registration is now available at www.westlandjaycees.org

Dining to Donate

People can help a variety of Westland organizations by dining at Applebee's at 36475 Warren Road in Westland. Through its Dining to Donate, the restaurant will donate 20 percent of the bill to the Westland Historical Village Park on Aug. 23 and Motor City Harley Owners Group to benefit Toys for Tots on Sept. 27.

Coupons are required to indicate which organization will receive the donation. Coupons are available at the mayor's Office or the Bailey Center.

In concert

Diran Kochyan will direct the Novi Community Concert Band at 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 19, at Westland Library Performance Pavilion located behind the William P. Faust Public Library. The band will perform popular music featuring the swing and jazz era, as well as marches. There is no charge for the concert.

Concert-goers are encouraged to bring chairs or blankets to the free concert that will be rescheduled in the event of rain. The library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford Road and south of Warren.

Golf Outing

The Glenn Wrestling Program will hold its 10th annual golf outing fund-raiser Saturday, Sept. 29, at Warren Valley Golf Course. The cost is \$85 for golf, lunch and dinner, \$65 for golf and lunch and

\$25 for dinner only. Prizes will be awarded for best team score, longest drive and closest to the pin. A raffle also will be held.

Reservations are due by Sept. 15. For reservations or more information, call Judy at (734) 634-4595.

Flower program

Westland hosts Rouge River Connection Seminar - The Rouge River Connection is hosting "Native Wildflowers and Butterflies ... Making the Connection in Westland," at the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland 7-8:30 P.M. Wednesday, Aug. 22. The free event will feature guest speaker Suzan Campbell of Michigan Natural Features Inventory; native wildflowers will also be available for purchase from Designs by Nature's Vern Stephens. Space is limited for this workshop, so advance registration is required. Call the library at (734) 326-6123.

Summer taxes

The city of Westland has extended the deadline for paying summer taxes without penalty until Friday, Aug. 31. Taxes must be received by the Finance Department no later than 5 p.m. that day. The Westland Finance Department is in Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road.

State fair trip

The senior Friendship Center is sponsoring a trip to Michigan State Fair for Senior Day on Monday, Aug. 27. Cost is \$5 per person and includes transportation to and from the State Fair, free donuts, orange juice and raffle tickets. Participants must provide their own lunch. The van will depart at 9 a.m. from the Friendship Center and will return by approximately 4 p.m. Seats are limited. It's open to the first 25 to sign up at the front desk. The Friendship Center is at 1119 N. Newburgh, south of Ford Road.

Garden club

The newly formed Westland Garden Club will meet at 1 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 26, at one of the member's home. For more information, call or Jo Johnson at (734) 522-3918.

Chili Day

Chili cooks, get ready your kettles ready for the Wayne Chile Cook-Off, slated for Saturday, Aug. 25. The Wayne Rotary Club, Wayne Chamber of Commerce and City of Wayne Festival Commission are sponsoring the contest as part of the annual Wayne Wheelfest Aug. 24-26.

Chili cooks will have an opportunity to win prizes, including a grand prize of \$500. Preregistration is required. For more information or to register, call Gayle at (734) 502-3202 or Jill at (734) 721-0100 or send an e-mail to gaylerediske@gmail.com or jill@waynechamber.net.

Plant exchange

A plant exchange will be held 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22, at the Westland Historical Village Park, 857 Wayne Road, north of Cherry Hill. For more information, call Kim Peterson at (734) 591-6506.

Marathon bingo

The Ladies Auxiliary of VFW Post 3323 is holding a marathon bingo noon-5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 8, at the post, 1055 S. Wayne Road at Avondale, Westland. A second marathon bingo will be held noon-5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22, to benefit youth activities projects.

Patriotic contest

VFW Post 3323 and its auxiliaries are sponsoring the annual Voice of Democracy program for students in grades 9-12 and Patriot's Pen Essay contest for students in grades 6-8. The Ladies Auxiliary is sponsoring a Patriotic Art Scholarship for students in grades 9-12.

The topic is "My Role in Honoring America's Veterans" for the VOD contest, with the essay contest theme is "Why I Am an American Patriot." Applications are available by calling Sandy Borioe at (734) 728-5791. The deadline for the writing contests is Nov. 1.

Also contact Borioe for the rules for the art scholarship program. Its deadline is March 31.

Bag it

The Westland Building Department is aiming to make the disposal of trash a little easier by selling heavy-duty 6-mil trash bags.

Residents and non-residents can purchase the bags which are sold in quantities of 100 for only \$12 at the Building Department, 37095 Marquette, just east of Newburgh Road, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

It's the Jungle!

Westland's Concrete Jungle Skate Park is open and ready for all skaters. Admission for adult Wayne County residents is \$5 per session and \$8 for a day pass. For children who live in Wayne County, the cost is \$3 per session and \$5 for a day pass.

The Concrete Jungle is located at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford Road, behind Westland City Hall. For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

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5TH-GRADER

FROM PAGE A1

one of five fifth-grade students, in answering the questions.

Players who get the answer wrong or decide to end the game must profess to the camera that they are, in fact, not smarter than a fifth-grader.

The show held five auditions in Chicago, Atlanta, New York, Las Vegas and California.

In late May, the family was eating dinner when they got a call. Dylan knew who it was from when he saw the caller ID, but had to wait until his mother was done to hear what was said.

"I was pretty surprised. I thought it was a dream," he said.

"They said they really liked Dylan and could he be in Chicago in the morning," said his mother.

Unable to make it to that tryout, the family turned to a retired Bob Padgett who flew with Dylan to Atlanta, where the youngster auditioned out with 3,000 other kids. He was surprised at what was required of him.

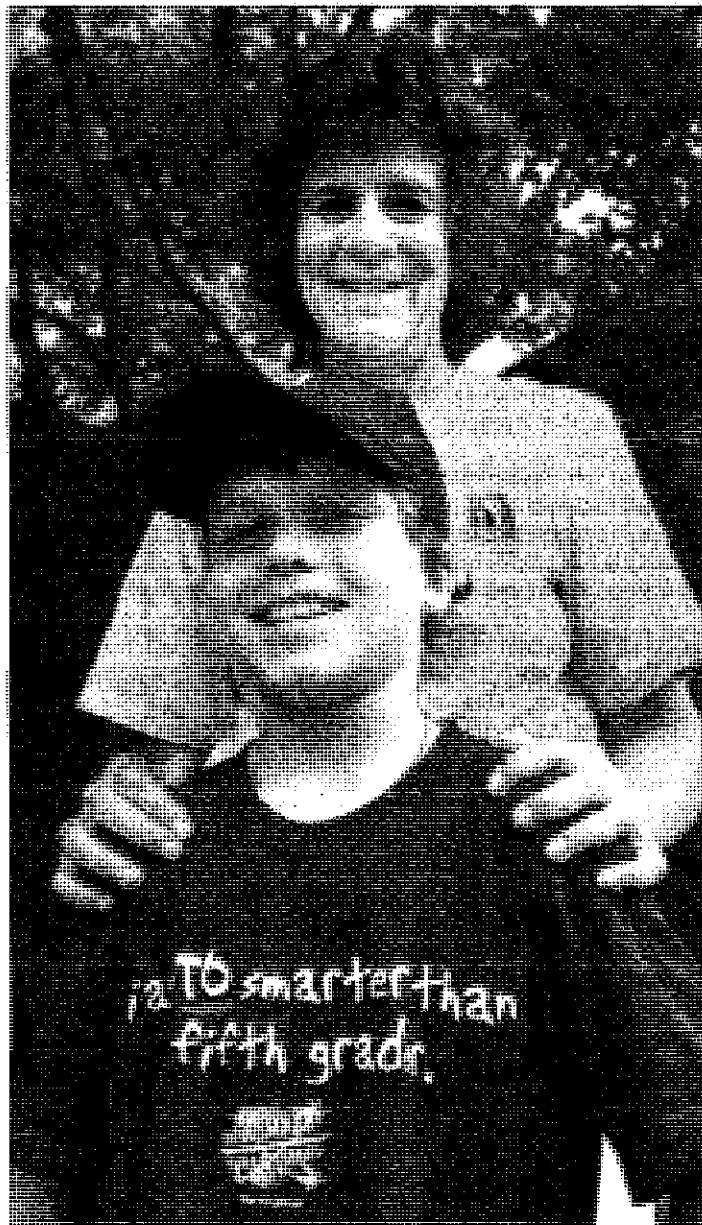
"They were more concerned about me as a person than how smart I was," he said. "I had to do a skit for two minutes and do a show and tell."

For his skit, he focused on his first love, football, doing an impersonation of Bo Schembechler giving a half-time speech.

Auditions were held in 20 different rooms, with five youngsters from each held back for a second audition before "the big producers" who asked questions.

From those tryouts, children were selected for a third call-back to tryout in Los Angeles.

"My father-in-law said they really liked him and that he wouldn't be surprised if they called him," said Lynn Padgett. "He said he'd be surprised if he didn't make it."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lynn Padgett (top) said tears came to her son Dylan's eyes when she told him making it to the quiz show would mean no football.

His brothers, Blake and Robby, thought it was pretty cool and called him every night to tell him good luck. But by the end of June, the Padgetts knew their fifth-grader hadn't made the cut.

Had he been selected to appear on the show, Dylan would have had to spend the entire month of July and two weeks in August in production as well as another stint in September to tape 32 episodes.

He's not upset about not making it to the show, since he gets to play football. And he does have a "5th Grader" T-shirt he bought at the Jeff Foxworthy store in the mall in Atlanta. "It was really fun," he said. "I did a talent show a few years ago and I was really nervous, but if I'd made this, I would have been in front of America. I'm glad I did it."

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SCORES

FROM PAGE A1

what we expected in this first administration of the Merit Exam," Michigan Board of Education President Kathleen Straus said. "As the new rigorous state graduation requirements are implemented and students are exposed to more knowledge, we will see an improvement in the scores."

The district's composite score for the ACT was 17.15, a little more than a point below the state average of 18.8.

Among the district's three schools, John Glenn had the highest ACT composite score of 17.3. Wayne Memorial's was 16.95, with the Tinkham Alternative Center scoring 15.

"The tests were significantly different than the MEAP and a major part of it was the ACT," Baracy said.

Baracy said the district will analyze the results to see what needs to be done to improve scores. He said the district needs to work with parents and students to get them to "realize the importance of taking this state test."

"It's difficult to determine

the impact. We have to analyze what the true implications are," he added. "It's the first time the test incorporated the ACT."

A bright spot in the results is the percentage of Wayne-Westland students who qualified for the \$4,000 Michigan Promise Scholarship. Students were required to take the MME and receive valid scores to get the scholarship.

"Despite our test scores, 99.5 percent of our students qualified for the scholarship," Baracy said.

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Hospital sponsors wellness programs

Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, offers a weekly schedule of health and wellness programs for residents. The lineup this week includes:

Monday, Aug. 20
Alzheimer's Disease: Caregiver Stress Program at 7 p.m. Garden City Hospital, in conjunction with the Alzheimer's Association, is hosting the program. Kelley Fulkerson will lead the discussion, including family dynamics, the signs of caregiver stress, methods of stress reduction, and the importance of taking care of yourself first. The free seminar will be held in the Allan Breakie Medical Office Building, lower level classrooms. Light refreshments will be served. Reservations are recommended. For more information or to register, call (800) 272-3900.
Tuesday, Aug. 21
Diabetes Self-Management Education (second of four classes) at 9:30 a.m. This comprehensive series is planned to help people Live Well With Diabetes. Participants learn self-care skills of nutrition, exercise,

medication management, monitoring of blood sugar levels, foot and skin care, prevention of problems and psychosocial issues. The program is certified by the Michigan Department of Community Health to assure quality and compliance with State and National Diabetes Education Standards. Physician referral is required. There is a fee, but reimbursement is available by Medicare, Medicaid and most commercial insurance plans. Call (734) 458-3481 for more information or to register.
Cerebral Aneurysm and Stroke Club at 7:30 p.m. Support is offered to those who have had an aneurysm or stroke as well as to their family and friends. The club meets every third Tuesday of the month to listen to various presentations and to promote interaction between people who have something in common. This free group is held in Garden City Hospital's Rehabilitation Unit dining room. For more information, please call (734) 458-4392.
Wednesday, Aug. 22
CPAP and BIPAP Mask Fitting Clinic at 5 p.m. Attention, CPAP and

BIPAP users: Did you know that most insurances cover new supplies every year? Have you been wanting to try a new style of mask, but don't know how to get one? Garden City Hospital's Sleep Disorders Center can help. Visit the Sleep Disorders Center in Room 329 at Garden City Hospital, 5-6 p.m. any Wednesday for a free mask fitting clinic. No appointment is needed. Call (734) 458-3330 with any questions or for more information.
Eating Disorders Support Group at 7 p.m. This support group is for those individuals with anorexia, bulimia, and compulsive and binge eating disorders. Both males and females are invited to attend. This meeting is held in the Garden City Hospital Auditorium. Call (734) 458-4330 for more information.
Thursday, Aug. 23
Diabetes Self-Management Education (second of four classes) at 6:30 p.m. This comprehensive series is planned to help people Live Well With Diabetes. Participants learn self-care skills of nutrition, exercise, medication management, monitoring of blood sugar levels, foot and

skin care, prevention of problems and psychosocial issues. The program is certified by the Michigan Department of Community Health to assure quality and compliance with State and National Diabetes Education Standards. Physician referral is required. There is a fee, but reimbursement is available by Medicare, Medicaid and most commercial insurance plans. Call (734) 458-3481 for more information or to register.
Friday, Aug. 24
Diabetes Self-Management Education (third of four classes) at 6:30 p.m. This comprehensive series is planned to help people Live Well With Diabetes. Participants learn self-care skills of nutrition, exercise, medication management, monitoring of blood sugar levels, foot and skin care, prevention of problems and psychosocial issues. The program is certified by the Michigan Department of Community Health to assure quality and compliance with State and National Diabetes Education Standards. Physician referral is required. There is a fee, but reimbursement is available by Medicare, Medicaid and most commercial insurance plans. Call (734) 458-3481 for more information or to register.
Saturday, Aug. 25
Diabetes Self-Management Education (fourth of four classes) at 9:30 a.m. This comprehensive series is planned to help people Live Well With Diabetes. Participants learn self-care skills of nutrition, exercise, medication management, monitoring of blood sugar levels, foot and skin care, prevention of problems and psychosocial issues. The program is certified by the Michigan Department of Community Health to assure quality and compliance with State and National Diabetes Education Standards. Physician referral is required. There is a fee, but reimbursement is available by Medicare, Medicaid and most commercial insurance plans. Call (734) 458-3481 for more information or to register.

more information or to register.
Wednesday, Aug. 29
Eating Disorders Support Group at 7 p.m. This support group is for those individuals with anorexia, bulimia, and compulsive and binge eating disorders. Both males and females are invited to attend. This meeting is held in the Garden City Hospital Auditorium. Call (734) 458-4330 for more information.
Thursday, Aug. 30
Diabetes Self-Management Education (third of four classes) at 6:30 p.m. This comprehensive series is planned to help people Live Well With Diabetes. Participants learn self-care skills of nutrition, exercise, medication management, monitoring of blood sugar levels, foot and skin care, prevention of problems and psychosocial issues. The program is certified by the Michigan Department of Community Health to assure quality and compliance with State and National Diabetes Education Standards. Physician referral is required. There is a fee, but reimbursement is available by Medicare, Medicaid and most commercial insurance plans. Call (734) 458-3481 for more information or to register.

ACHIEVERS

Kimberly Avey of Garden City High School, Patricia Terrien of Wayne Memorial High School and Sarah Collins of John Glenn High School are among 138 high school seniors in Michigan to receive a \$1,000 scholarship from the Comcast Foundation as part of the 2007 Comcast Leaders and Achievers Scholarship Program. The program, one of the Comcast Foundation's signature community investment programs, recognizes students who have demonstrated leadership skills, academic achievement and a commitment to community service. The three teens were honored at a special reception at Comerica Park in June. Freshman Danielle Rose Kalajian of Westland received a Women in Engineering Scholarship from Purdue University's College of Engineering during the 2006-07 school year. The scholarship within the College of Engineering was given based on merit or need financial aid.

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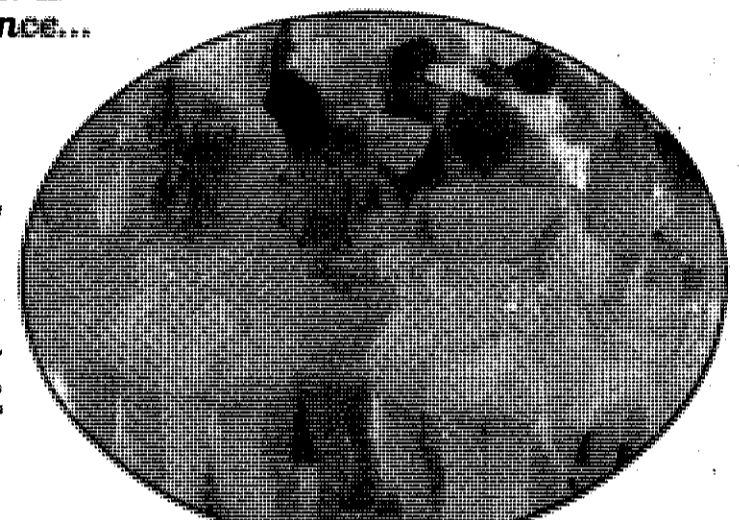


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Daimler without Chrysler should be a good investment

Dear Rick: About two years ago I inherited Daimler Chrysler stock. I have been holding on to it and it has risen nicely. Now that Cerberus has purchased Chrysler, what is supposed to happen to the stock and do you advise keeping it or selling it?



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

The sale of Chrysler to Cerberus Capital Management is complete. The new Chrysler is now owned by Cerberus (80 percent) and Daimler (20 percent).

If you owned Chrysler stock and it was later converted into Daimler-Chrysler stock, you would retain an interest in Daimler. You will not own shares in the new Chrysler.

long-term investment, I see no problem retaining Daimler-Chrysler stock. I believe the "divorce" between Chrysler and Daimler eventually will be good for both parties.

The merger of equals, which the Daimler-Chrysler deal was advertised as, was in effect a takeover of Chrysler. The cultures between the two companies never meshed and, coupled with problems U.S. automakers face, it was difficult for the merger to

succeed. The share price of both companies suffered. The break up will allow both companies the flexibility needed to succeed in a global economy.

Dear Rick: You had a caller on your radio show who had tax-free bonds in an IRA. You told the caller to sell the bonds. I didn't hear the entire answer. I have tax-free bonds in my IRA. Should I sell?

Anyone who has tax-free bonds in an IRA should sell immediately and look for better investment opportunities. People purchase tax-free

bonds as part of an IRA under the mistaken belief that when they take a distribution it will be tax free. This is not the case.

In a traditional IRA where you deduct your contribution, you have no basis in your investment and whatever is removed is subject to income tax. It does not matter what the investment is, the money withdrawn is taxable. Because tax-free bonds pay less interest than a taxable bond, there is no reason to purchase one within an IRA. Understanding the basics of tax laws is important and can save money. As a taxpayer you should know the difference between ordinary income and capital gain income.

income you earn from the buying and selling of investments. The capital gain bracket is most likely your lowest tax bracket. The maximum capital gain rate is 15 percent.

Ordinary income is what you earn from your labor. The ordinary income bracket is typically your highest. For most people, the ordinary income bracket is 28 percent but can be as high as 35 percent.

When investments grow tax deferred (401k, IRA or a variable annuity) the money is taxed at one's ordinary income bracket when it is eventually withdrawn, not the

more favorable capital gain treatment.

Understanding the basics of taxes is important for investors. Knowing that tax-free bonds do not belong in an IRA and knowing what investments go where in the portfolio can allow you to keep more money in your pocket — where it belongs.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His Web site is www.bloomassetmanagement.com. You can hear Rick live from noon to 3 p.m. Sundays on WDTK-AM (1400). If you would like Rick to respond to your questions, please e-mail Rick at rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.

Jordan named O&E marketing manager

Choya Jordan, formerly general sales manager of WGPR-FM, is the new marketing manager at the Observer & Eccentric/Mirror Newspapers. She replaces Cathy Young, who moved to Arizona earlier this year.

"I'm excited about working with such a well-respected media organization," Jordan said. "I'm impressed with how many people who say 'this is my newspaper' and how many people feel connected to their Observer or Eccentric."

Jordan, 40, holds a bachelor's degree in communications from U-D Mercy and a master's in management from Lesley (Mass.) College.

Jordan has extensive experience in sales and

marketing. Before becoming general sales manager at WGPR, she worked as an account executive for Crawford Broadcasting. She also worked as a district sales manager for GM in the Chevrolet Division.

"Choya will add a new dimension to branding the O&E and Mirror," said Peter Neill, vice president and general manager of the O&E/Mirror Newspapers. "Her approach to marketing the products and keeping us connected with the communities will benefit not only our papers, but the communities in the O&E and Mirror distribution area. She brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to an arena which



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Choya Jordan is the Observer and Eccentric's new marketing manager.

is constantly being redefined in the fast-changing world of multimedia."

Jordan, 40, is a Detroit resident. She volunteers at Let Them Come Baptist Church in Detroit.

Jordan can be reached at (734) 953-2142 or via e-mail at chjordan@hometownlife.com.

Laurel Park launches Internet, phone service

Laurel Park Place in Livonia announced the launch of a new service which allows consumers to find any product, brand or sale available in the mall using the Internet or mobile phones.

Detroit area shoppers can now search the mall before they visit (at the mall Web site) or while shopping (using their cell phone), and have all coupons, sales, and product information at their fingertips. This unique service is powered by NearbyNow, Inc., the first company of its kind to provide

Internet and mobile search technology for shopping centers and retailers to drive in-store foot traffic.

To search the mall from home, consumers simply go to Laurel Park Place's Web site at <http://www.laurelparkplace.com> and use the search box to quickly search over 600,000 products at the mall. When shoppers find products they want, they can click "reserve this product" to put an item on hold at the store.

Shoppers already in the

mall can use the mobile search service to locate products and sales by texting the letters "LP" to NEARBY (632729). Next they will receive instructions on how to search hundreds of sale items in the mall by typing "jeans", "shoes", or any other item they text. Shoppers can also find mobile-only sales and special offers available at the mall.

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OTHER REASONS FOR KNEE PAIN

Osteoarthritis is the best known reason for knee pain. However, other conditions can make the knee swell and cause you to limp. These other problems include a medical or lateral meniscus injury, strain on the knee ligaments, or a tear in the quadriceps tendon. In addition, the prepatellar, anserine and fibular bursa that are near the knee, can become irritated; you feel the result as knee pain.

The different causes of knee pain require different therapies, therefore your doctor must evaluate your knee carefully. Examining the joint allows him to determine if fluid is present, an important finding, as the composition of the fluid invariably provides diagnostic information.

Examination also indicated if the problem comes from the knee or the surrounding structures such as the bursa or quadriceps tendon. Furthermore, if examination shows that your pain is greatest behind the knee, your doctor can be more confident that the source is the knee itself. The reason is that strain and pain follows from the hamstring muscles splinting the knee joint against sudden movement.

The results of the examination guide your doctor as to what imaging tests, if any, he will order. For arthritis, weight bearing, (standing) films suffice. For possible ligament tears, an MRI is in order, as that procedure is that best way to visualize the ligaments and special cartilage structures that make up the knee joint.

In sum, since arthritis is only one of several reasons for knee pain, almost all knee pain needs evaluation.

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Up, up and away

Balloonists get bird's-eye view in search for dog

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

As Scott Lorenz of Plymouth prepared his hot air balloon for sailing in the Kensington Metropark and Island Lake Recreational Area near Milford earlier this month, he had a double mission in mind.

First was to enjoy the friendly skies in a three-man basket 500 feet or more above the wilderness, touching the tops of trees, watching blue herons fly by and chatting with people who wave from their yards below.

The other was to help a Brighton Township woman find Blue, her 4-year-old Siberian husky, who has been missing since he walked away from home May 8. Blue is the lead dog on Sharon Young's sled dog team, and knows how to open doors, which is how he got loose.

Lorenz, owner of Westwood Balloon Co., helped organize a massive land and air search for Blue in the Brighton-Milford area last month in search of the lost dog. Since then, every time Lorenz — or one of the other balloonists — flies passengers, they keep an eye out for Blue.

"Sharon lives inside the area we fly and sees us all the time, so she called me and wanted to hire us to fly and look for the dog," Lorenz said. "I told her we fly there all the time and we'd keep an eye out for it. I sent an e-mail to members of the balloon club, and we look for him when we take passengers up."

Blue has been spotted near the General Motors Proving Grounds in Milford, and several other areas. While five Siberian huskies have been returned to their owners, Blue is still on the loose.

Lorenz said a bird's-eye view comes in especially handy for covering many miles of heavily forested land while scouring an area for a lost dog.

"Look how much you can see, it's



Scott Lorenz of Plymouth put the "hot" into hot air balloon as he prepared for a recent flight.

a view you could never get from the ground," Lorenz said, pointing down from nearly 700 feet above while flying a couple of weeks ago. "If the dog was in the swamp down there, you would never see it from the ground."

Young said she won't give up until her companion is found, and is grateful Lorenz and his fellow balloonists keep a lookout for Blue. "Scott is a great guy, and I appreciate his help," Young said. "Because of him, and the efforts of the other balloonists, there are so many people who know about Blue."

"It's been incredible, I get calls all the time," she added. "I could never have gotten this much attention from just handing out fliers. I won't give up until I find him."

Lorenz said he'll continue to keep a watch for Blue when he takes to the skies.

"We usually do this just looking for a good time," he said. "If I can help her find Blue, I'm happy to do it."

tbruscato@hometownlife.com | (734) 459-2700



With a little help from their parents, Plymouth's Scott Lorenz gives rides to kids in the Lyon Township neighborhood where he landed his hot-air balloon.



Scott Lorenz of Plymouth gets a bird's-eye view of the landscape from nearly 700 feet in the air.

INFORMATION CENTRAL

Volunteerism

Are you one of those people who keep saying that you'd like to do volunteer work but never manage to get around to it? Well, if so, you've put it off long enough and the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland is here to help.

For basic information about volunteerism, including reasons to volunteer and the rewards of volunteer work, try "Volunteerism," a collection of essays edited by Frank McGuckin.



For more specific ideas on how to get started in volunteering, including what type of organization with which to volunteer, try "Keys to Volunteering" by Elizabeth Vierck.

For the adventurous, read "World Volunteers: The World Guide to Humanitarian and Development Volunteering," which gives projects all over the world that can last for weeks, or even years!

If you are an animal lover, you can volunteer for or with animals. Both "Volunteering with Your Pet" and "Wanted! Animal Volunteers" explain how to use your pet in volunteering.

Animal volunteers have been used for volunteering with nursing home residents, the physically disabled and even with prisoners. This can be a great way to help others while spending quality time with your furry pals.

If you don't have pet but like spending time with animals, there is certainly no shortage of animal organizations that need good volunteers.

If you're ready to volunteer but don't know where, there are many resources on the Internet to help you. Volunteer Match (www.volunteermatch.org) is a great site to help you find out what's available in your own backyard. You can search by zip code and area of interest to find organizations that are looking for someone just like you!

For more Web sites to help potential volunteers, visit the library's Web page at www.westland.lib.mi.us and click on "Internet Guide" then "Volunteering/Giving." Don't wait another day! Get out there and make a difference! Whatever your interest, the Public Library of Westland is at your service. Please visit us soon, call us at (734) 326-6123 or view our Web site at www.westland.lib.mi.us.

Highlighted Activities

Financial Planning: 2 p.m. Aug. 21.

Join Andrew Gagne, associate financial advisor with Ameriprise Financial, as he discusses "Maximizing Your Social Security Benefits and Managing Your Retirement Paycheck." Stop by the library or call (734) 326-6123 to register.

Adult Book Club: 7 p.m. Aug. 21.

Join us as we discuss "Peace Like a River" by Leif Enger. You can check out the reading guide on our Web site. Please read the book before the meeting. All are welcome.

Native Wildflowers and Butterflies ... Making the Connection in Westland: 7 p.m. Aug. 22.

Suzan Campbell, former naturalist at the Belle Isle Nature Center, will present the ecology of butterflies and native plants, with an emphasis on wildflowers native to western Wayne County. Native wildflowers from Designs by Nature will be available for purchase on the north side of the library grounds 5:45-6:45 p.m.

Information Central is compiled by young adult librarian Bridget Sturdy. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

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Publish: August 12 & 19, 2007

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Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc. will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 20080 Allen Rd. Trenton, Mi 48034 (248)263-3880 8/28/2007 at 9:30 am.** Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

- Personal property described below in the matter of: 325- Christopher Ellis- 2 totes, books, toys 137- Donna Alexander- dryer,vacuum,totes 800- Gregory Bader Jr- bed,bike,mirrors 651- Taquana Brooke- bed,dresser, chairs 1014-Deborah L. Carr- couch,dresser,love seat 813- Amanada Costa- washer,dryer,toolbox 654- Raymond C. Dennis- refrigerator, toolbox,golfclubs 325- Christofer Ellis- books,totes, toys 106- Deanna Harper- Bed,mattress,couch, tv 600- Alicia Jackson- mattress,microwave,totes 833- Amy Kellogg- Boxes,toys 647- Rikki Manning- bike, dresser, tv 322- Amy McComas- chair,couch,ent.center 1101- Lashunda Miller- bike,chair,vacuum 1134- Gerald Ouellette- bed, mattress, couch 101- Mathew Jordan Relter- camero 617- Nicole Rhodes- bags,boxes 1133- Eleni M. Segos- dolly,wheelchair,boxes,totes 927- Yianni Stathis- bedframe,dresser,golf clubs 1019- Lisa Tarolli - mattress,couch,boxes 945- Leantre Terry - refrigerator, tv,boxes 1004- Jessica Vermille- mattress,couch,totes 158- Rachael Wesley- bed, mattress, chair 1116- Jennifer Wheeler- mattress, chair, couch

Publish: August 12 & 19, 2007

028548809 - 2x5

Get on the ball. Read today's SPORTS coverage!

WILLIAM P. FAUST PUBLIC LIBRARY OF WESTLAND

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland, 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland, Michigan 48185, on or before **September 11, 2007 at 10:45 a.m.** (no exceptions) for the following:

INTERIOR PAINTING

Proposals must be submitted by the time stated above or they will be returned. Please direct questions pertaining to specifications to Cheryl Napsha, Director, at (734) 326-6123. The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids in whole or in part.

Cheryl Napsha
Director

Publish: August 19, 2007

028550041 - 2x3

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc. will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 9300 Pelham Road, Taylor, 48180 (313) 292-9730 on 8/28/07 at 10:30 am.** Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of: 3032- Sarah Howard- sofa, boxes, kids toys

- 4054- Judy Younce- 14 totes 6014- Jacquelyn Rice- TV, dresser, beds 6031- Timothy Gallagher- computer, boxes, cabinet 9029- Benjamin Williams- couch, loveseat, bags 4019- Dennis Cole- stove, stereo, Power washer 5069- Carl Hicks- washer, dryer, boxes 5079- John Reardon- love seat, mattress, television 5089- Sandra Church- boxes, bikes, luggage 6043- Gerald Field- chair, boxes, bags 9049- Natasha Vincent- vacuum, 4 chairs, toys 9056- India Hunter- couch 2079- Jacqueline Hamilton- tv, dresser, stereo 3007- Kevin Wiacek- couch, speaker 3050- Becky Kirkland- boxes, couch, microwave 3032- Sarah Howard- boxes, couch, bags 3067- Tiffany Roote- bags, boxes 3082- Michael Height- bags and boxes 3091- Jason Dicks- dryer, stereo, washer 4005- Cynthia Grassa- tv, bikes, boxes 4032- Frank Makdesion- tv, computer, mattress 4033- David Simmons- couch, bookcase, toys 4083- Chris Bastian- desk, couch, tv 5010- Matthew Smith- dvd's video games, bed 5026- Yvette Passament- boxes, loveseat, tv 6059- Judith Ryan- speakers, lawnmower, bike 6067- Joe Balavitch- dresser, microwave, stove 6076- Shariess Hamilton- crib, bunk bed, mattress 6085- Kimberly Hughes- mattress, dresser, clothes 6123- Jean Koltuniak- fan, boxes, beach chair 6131- John Fluollen- misc. boxes 7029- Mansfield Sports Cards- sport cards 7038- Deborah Oakley- lamp, washer, couch 7058- Arthur Mester- boxes 9025- Tyritha Henley- boxes 9029- Benjamin Williams- couch, fish tank, loveseat 9057- Jano Lopez- toys, boxes, tv 9059- Mark Bloom- boxes 9100- Aimee Shiolds- bags, box, tv

Publish: August 12 & 19, 2007

028554851 - 2x5

PUBLIC NOTICE

William P. Faust Public Library of Westland

An Open Study Session will be held in the Library Conference Room on Wednesday, August 22, 2007 at 7:00 pm.

6123 Central City Parkway, Westland, Michigan 48185

The purpose of this meeting is to evaluate the need and feasibility of a second Westland City Library.

Publish: August 19, 2007

028550024 - 2x2

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc. will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 3650 Enterprise Dr. Allen Park, Mi 48101 (313) 441-3117 8/28/2007 at 12:00 am.** Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

- Personal property described below in the matter of: B072- Michael Kowalski- 15 totes, boxes, tools B118- Robert Smith- dryer, entertainment center, 2 end tables B182- Cecilia Anderson- television, microwave, kitchen chair B310- Melissa Henry- fan, bags, suitcases B322- Jon Rhodes- microwave, bag, chairs B331- Robert Lewis- vacuum, totes, old LP records C039- Ali Yassine- boxes, mattress set, coffee table D006- Celestine Henry- television, bags, bikes D014- Rhonda Jackson- refrigerator, washer, couch F043- Denise Beard- couch, washer, dryer A001- Charlott Smith- chair, filing cabinet A015- Pat Sullivan- office equipment B028- Deborah Coe- washer, boxes, bags B032- Shelanda Herron- washer, dryer, bike B041- Deanna Taylor- tools, boxes, bags B068- Perry T. Christy - desk, boxes, filing cabinet B179- Richard Stefanik- Boxes B188- Theresa Gamil- totes, bags, boxes B198- Rick Landrum- chair, dresser, microwave B218- Lenore Byrd- bags, clothes, totes B222- Ebony Porch- bags, boxes B226- Adt Security Services. Curity Services- misc. boxes B271- Stacey Amis- tv, crib, toys B276- Dorothy Crowder- mattress, boxspring, toys B298- Monique Smith- sofa, totes, boxes B327- Francisco Reyes- bags, suitcase, tools B361- Daniel Page- bags, boxes, totes B367- Sharmanya Jamison- dresser, chair, stove B381- Romare Redden- refrigerator, stove, tools C015- Alaina Slagy- boxes, filing cabinet, C016- Katie Day- toys, refrigerator, bags C028- Gregg Smaltz- tires, doors, carpet C030- Melissa Blevins- couch, tv, toolbox C032- Levaughn Dial- couch, dresser, boxes D043- Sharron Reed- toys, bags, sofa D025- John Jackson- boxes, couch, sofa D030- Aaron Daniels- refrigerator, toys, mattress D042- Linder Magwood- boxes, bags, mattress D043- Scott Szuba- boxes, bed frame, exercise equipment E042- Sally Porter- boxes F012- Martha Staley- dresser, microwave, mattress F032- Antoine Williams- lawnmower, bikes, grill F033- Phylandria Johnson- mattress, boxspring, bags F040- Barry Tucker- bags, kitchen chairs F043- Denise Beard- dryer, tv

Publish: August 12 & 19, 2007

028549909 - 2x5

With a few attitude adjustments every community can be 'cool'

Perhaps no initiative by Gov. Jennifer Granholm has been more ridiculed and maligned by her opponents than the Cool Cities Initiative.

Republicans love to grumble that the state needs jobs, not more coffee houses and fern bars.

Makes a great soundbite, but deliberately misses the point that certain kinds of amenities, certain styles of human interaction, invite the kind of economic growth that creates jobs and the people who will fill those jobs.

Many communities are now trying to find those key ingredients that will attract young adults to their communities. In an interview session, the three candidates for mayor in Livonia all mentioned the need to attract and keep young adults in their community, a community that was successfully built on a different model.



Hugh Gallagher

At one time Livonia was the cool city, a city without a center, a city of subdivisions. Many of those subdivisions had large lots and no sidewalks, defying anyone to take a stroll. But in postwar America, Livonia was a model of

the good life.

Those big, leafy yards were a stark contrast and break from the tight lots of Detroit. In the age of the automobile, who needed to walk around town when you could drive to a mall or a strip mall? A thriving industrial zone along a rail line guaranteed a steady tax base to support solid government services and an excellent school system.

That was a good model, one that worked for generations of Livonia families; and other communities (Canton, West Bloomfield, Troy) in metro Detroit were built in the same way. And many of those communities formed strong neighborhoods within their municipalities.

But it was hard to attract and keep young people, who couldn't afford those homes and didn't like not having a town center where they could walk and interact. And the model also didn't appeal to older residents who remembered the closeness of traditional small towns and city neighborhoods, where every need was within walking distance, where people sat on their porches or met in the town square. Something had been lost.

The cool cities idea was a recognition of that loss and a recognition of the success that some older-style suburbs and towns were experiencing. Birmingham became a trendy downtown for the northern suburbs. Royal Oak adopted a "leave the kids alone" philosophy that created a vibrant mix of restaurants, coffee houses and music venues. It also reinvigorated the town's residential market. Plymouth and Northville began to upgrade their downtowns, suddenly realizing what an asset they are.

More recently, west Dearborn has revitalized its business district by integrating hip businesses with townhouse living. When government money

Tastes and needs change. At one time, enclosed malls seemed an exciting alternative to freezing while winter shopping in the city. As the malls developed, the big city retail center died. But over time, suburban teens, without a town center, were dropped off at the malls.

for downtowns became available, several towns tried to create downtowns where none existed — Novi and Canton.

The candidates mentioned a multiplex movie theater and a bustling rec center as examples of "cool" things in Livonia. One also advocated making Livonia a "hot city" with wi-fi connection.

Tastes and needs change. At one time, enclosed malls seemed an exciting alternative to freezing while winter shopping in the city. As the malls developed, the big city retail center died. But over time, suburban teens, without a town center, were dropped off at the malls.

The malls became less and less appealing to many shoppers. The new trend is toward open shopping areas or big box stores made to look like old-style towns.

The governor is right. Young people, especially those identified as the "creative class," do not hanker for a split-level home on a half acre of land (at least not yet). They are drawn to towns with town centers, especially college towns where all residents take advantage of what the college brings to the town. They see the suburban model as isolating, especially for those who are coming from somewhere else. They are more open to diversity in people and activities. They see a problem with sprawl and appreciate the smaller homes and lots of the older suburbs. They like the idea of working near where they live and recreate. They like mass transit. (See www.cool-cities.com)

What does that mean for our once cutting-edge suburbs? Does every community have to become "cool" based on some particular thermometer to measure "coolness?"

Livonia has an opportunity to draw on its strengths — good schools, an excellent park system, a good tax base (though troubled by the current economy) and excellent home stock. What "cool" could it and other subdivision communities add — more walkability and bike routes, more town-like developments and fewer strip malls, better connections through mass transit with other communities, more mixed use, new urban-style developments rather than more sprawling subdivisions.

Those communities will survive and thrive with the good things they offer already, but they need to adapt to fit their old model with the new (which is really a return to the old).

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

Mining decision sells state's natural resources short

If you've taken a drive north this summer, you've probably seen the billboards advertising Michigan.org — a Web site promoting the state and its travel destinations. They're certainly hard to miss.

Most of the ones I've seen feature a photo of some scenic vista showcasing Michigan's natural wonders. I particularly like the one where the guy is sitting in a canoe on what looks like a wilderness lake with a brilliant sunset in the background. Just looking at it takes the stress away (especially if you're stuck in a traffic jam on I-75).



Kurt Kuban

Michigan has been blessed with some outstanding natural resources — something the billboards are trying to promote. We are trying to sell this "natural Michigan" image not only to our residents, but to the rest of the country, in an attempt to lure some of those tourist dollars away from more exotic locales.

Most Michiganders take pride in our natural resources — from the Great Lakes and thousands of inland lakes and streams, to our forests, dunes and even our farms.

You have to wonder, then, why the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality has given the green light to a controversial nickel mining project in the Upper Peninsula near Marquette that will ultimately reap very few benefits for our state and its people. In fact, I would argue that this mine will do more damage than the project is worth — at least for our state. Despite guarantees from the company, Kennecott Minerals Corp., the mine could cause irreparable damage to the natural resources we profess to care so much about.

This mine is not your grandfather's mine. It would be the first "sulfide mine" in the state's history, in which Kennecott will drill into sulfide rock to extract nickel, copper and other minerals. The problem is that when this sulfide rock is brought to the surface, it leaches sulfuric acid and toxic heavy metals (acid mine drainage). The mine's opponents — and there are many — believe these toxic by-products will end up in the pristine Yellow Dog and Salmon-Trout rivers and, ultimately, in Lake Superior.

Despite Kennecott's promises of a safe mine, the fact is sulfide mines elsewhere in the world have a nasty legacy of pollution and natural resource degradation. In fact, in 2003, Kennecott was responsible for two of the five most polluting mines in the country. Is that what we want for one of the most pristine corners of our state?

Gov. Jennifer Granholm professes to care about our state's natural resources, yet it is her administration that is allowing this project to move forward, despite all the questions that still remain. And there certainly doesn't seem to be any significant opposition in the state Legislature. Our elected leaders are standing silent on this issue and refusing to fight for our natural legacy.

We know what is at stake for Kennecott and its parent company Rio Tinto, an international corporation based in the U.K. The company will reap billions of dollars of profit. Yet what will this mine mean for Michigan? Jobs? Kennecott will only employ a couple of dozen employees for the life of the mine, which is expected to be about a decade. All the profits will be shipped out to London. Certainly there will be some tax revenue, but for how long? And is it worth the cost?

The Salmon-Trout and Yellow Dog rivers are both undeveloped, and in an area that is as close as you will get to true wilderness in Michigan. The Salmon-Trout is also notable because it is the last river in Michigan to sustain a significant population of coaster brook trout, which are giant brook trout that live in Lake Superior for most of their lives, but move upstream to spawn.

The coaster has kind of been the poster child in this debate about the mine. There's a very good chance if it goes forward, we are seeing last days of its existence in Michigan, which is a shame because brook trout are not only our state fish, but they are a symbol of our wilderness past.

The other thing that scares me is, once Kennecott gets in and starts extracting money, you can pretty much count on a slew of others to follow suit, and they will have precedent on their side. As far as I'm concerned, the MDEQ's recent decision is like granny ringing the dinner bell, and yelling "Come and get it!" And once the hordes of mining companies come, what else will we lose?

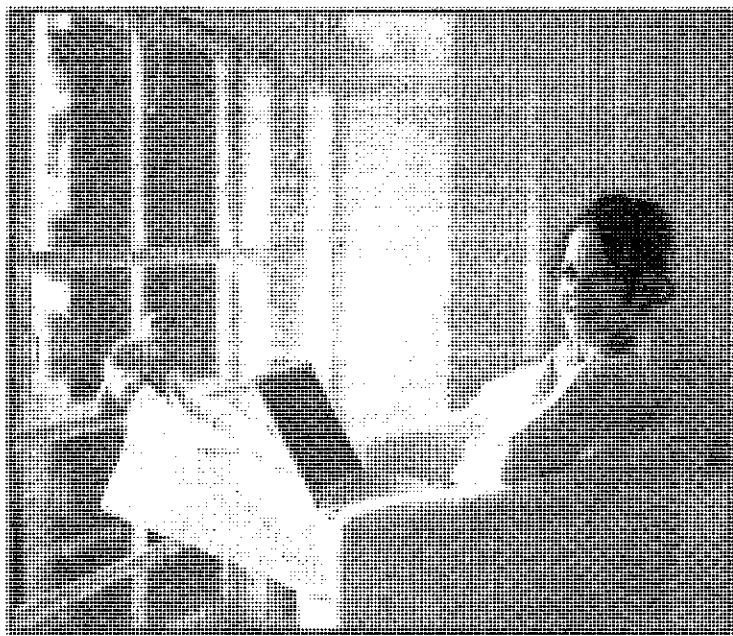
The MDEQ will hold a number of public hearings around the state about the mine in September. If there isn't a significant amount of public opposition, you can pretty much count on this mine moving ahead.

Since it seems our leaders are unwilling to do anything, I suppose it will be up to the little guy to defend our natural legacy. If we fail, some of our wildest rivers and forests will be poisoned, but at least we'll have some pretty billboards.

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

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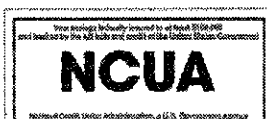
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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

No English is required when you're dancing, says Deborah Chase, owner of Deborah Chase School of Dance in Livonia, where Victor Mikulisin, 9, from Slovakia, visited this summer.

'Dance is the international language'

Slovakian boy fits right in at studio during trip to U.S.

BY STACY JENKINS
STAFF WRITER

Victor Mikulisin doesn't speak English, but that didn't matter in the dance studio, where he spent part of his summer trip to the United States.

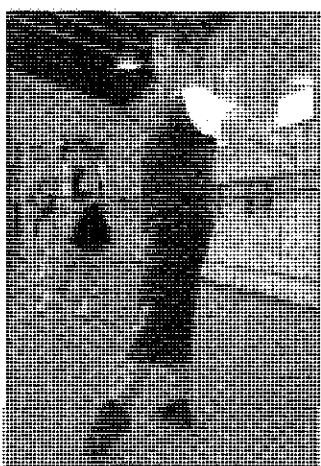
"Dance is the international language," said Deborah Chase, owner of Deborah Chase School of Dance on Joy Road. "It was a treat, a delight, to have him here. It helped me to look at things from a different point of view."

The 9-year-old boy from Slovakia was visiting relatives in the area when his uncle came across Chase's dance studio.

Before he knew it, Victor was signed up for three summer classes in ballet, tap, jazz and hip hop.

Chase said Victor melded right into the flow.

"He got along well with all of the children," she said. "It's apparent how well trained he



Victor Mikulisin, 9, from Slovakia, took ballet, tap, jazz and hip hop while he was in America visiting his relatives.

is. He's smart, enthusiastic and well focused — he's an amazing kid."

Victor lives in Kosice, Slovakia, where he attends a performing arts school. Someday, he wants to be a children's ballet instructor.

Speaking through an interpreter — his cousin, Rinka Polo, of Dearborn Heights

— Victor said he enjoyed dancing with Miss Debbie and he was very happy she was his teacher.

"He came here because he wanted to dance," said Polo. "He said it was very good and he liked it a lot."

Victor has been dancing since age 3 and his favorite form is ballet.

"It's healthy and it's fun," he said.

He also enjoys performing on stage in theatrical productions.

Victor's mother, Mirinda Mikulisinova, said she appreciates that her son was able to dance while they visited America.

"I'm very thankful they've taught him here," she said through the interpreter. "And, I'm very thankful for the teacher. He has been dancing for a long time and I'm there for him in whatever he wants to do."

sjenkins@hometownlife.com
(734) 953-2131

Culver's Day of Giving to benefit Red Cross

The American Red Cross southeast Michigan chapter is joining forces with Culver's of Westland in a new Culver's Cares community campaign to raise funds and awareness for emergency and humanitarian programs.

Developed under the restaurant chain's Culver's Cares program, the partnership brings together participating Culver's from more than 350 restaurants in 16 states with their local Red Cross chapters. Programs will directly benefit residents in the Westland community, helping them prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies.

All funds raised stay in local communities. These community efforts will include a Day of Giving system-wide fund-raising event on Sept. 12, which is expected to raise more than \$150,000 for local Red Cross charities through participating Culver's restaurants.

"American Red Cross chap-

ters provide a vital link to local communities through their programs and volunteer family," said Bob Fitzpatrick of Culver's of Westland. "We believe in being good neighbors, and when disaster strikes and during other times of crisis, there is no better neighbor to have than your local Red Cross chapter."

The partnership builds on local programs established by Culver's restaurant owners. These efforts have included donations of food following tornadoes, fires and other local disasters, as well as fund-raising campaigns to aid disaster victims.

The expanded partnership may include a food donation program to provide in-kind supplies for emergency relief; a Give a Pint, Get a Pint program to support local blood drives; health and safety training classes for Culver's team members and guests; fund-raising events for new restaurant openings, in

addition to a system-wide Day of Giving this fall featuring a donation of 10 percent of sales on Sept. 12.

"We are thrilled about this new locally oriented campaign because it builds upon many years of local support of Red Cross chapters by individual franchisees, as well as Culver's rich tradition of giving back to its neighbors," said Roger Dahl, service area executive, Midwest Service Area, for the American Red Cross. "Culver's friends and neighbors count on the local services of the Red Cross for food and emergency supplies in times of disaster and for the community support offered in countless other ways."

"We know the support from Culver's franchisees, and their parent company, will strengthen local programs and help save lives."

For more information on Red Cross programs and services, visit www.redcross.org.

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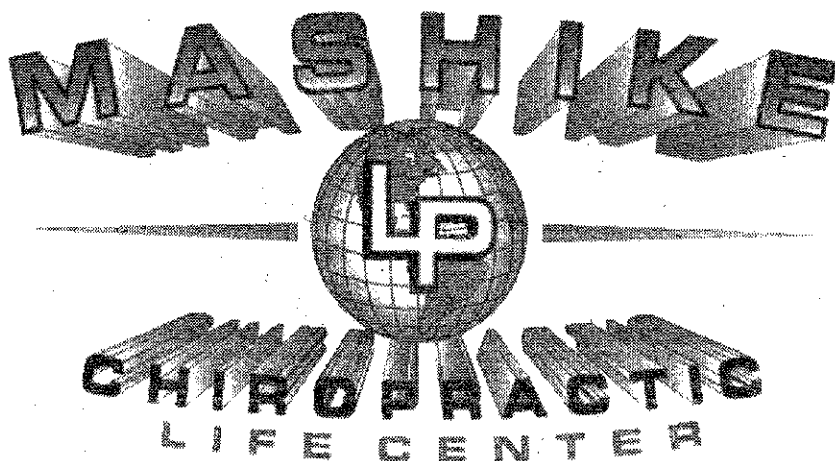
BY DR. ADAM MASHIKE

Back Labor:

A Possible Solution for a Painful Situation

It has been reported that between 50 and 75% of pregnant women experience back pain during labor^{1,2}. Although there is some evidence that adjustments during pregnancy may reduce the occurrence of low back pain during labor¹, many first time mothers mistakenly think back-labor is what childbirth is supposed to feel like. Let me assure you IT IS NOT.

ICA REVIEW



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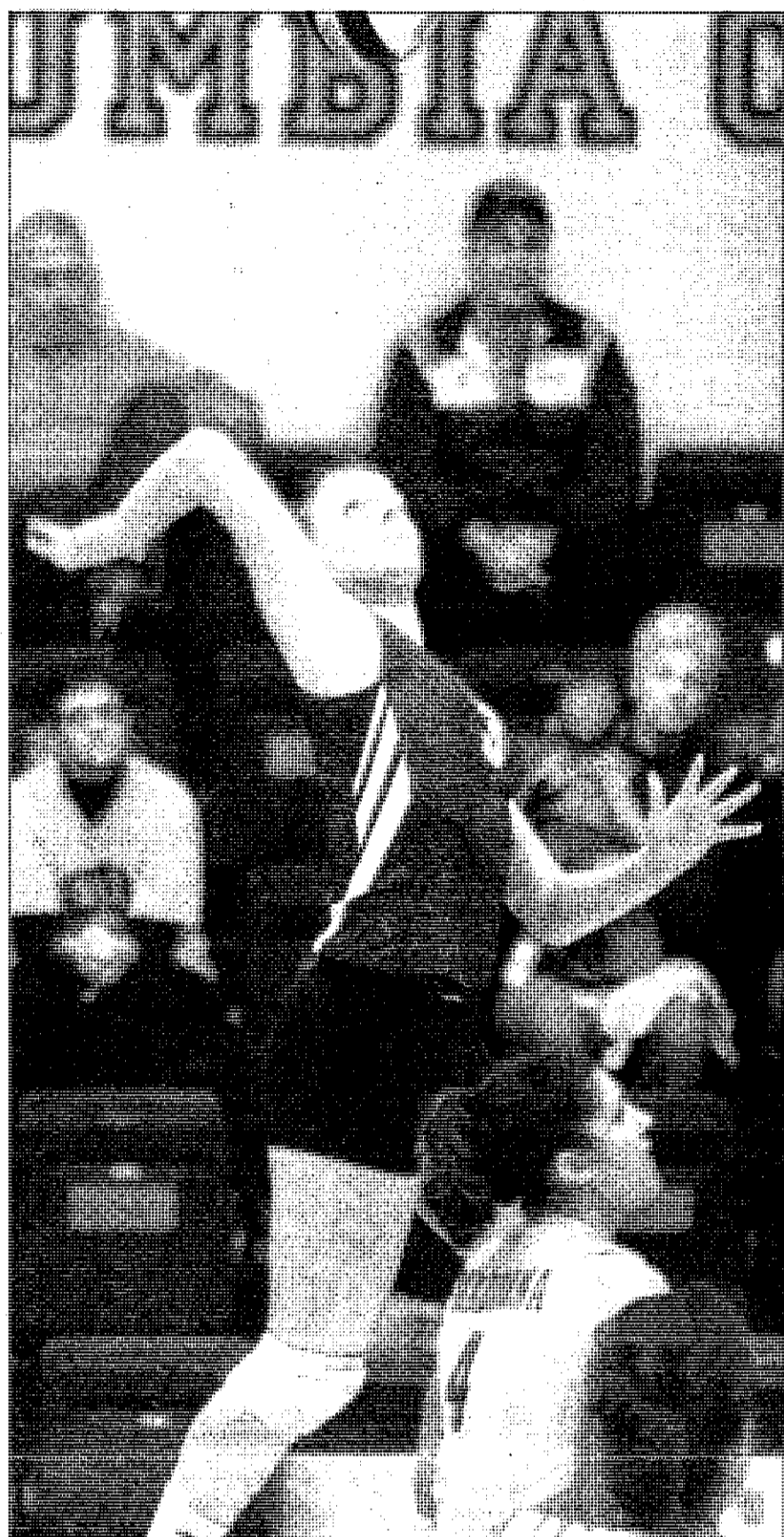
B (LW)

Sunday, August 19, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com



MU SPORTS INFORMATION PHOTO

At 6 feet, 3 inches, Lubovj Tihomirova should be a force once again for the Madonna University women's volleyball team.

Crusaders hope to evolve into NAIA contender again

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Ten Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference titles in a row. Five straight trips to the NAIA Nationals. Should anything be any different as the 2007 season approaches for the Madonna University women's volleyball team? Coach Jerry Abraham, now in his 21st season with the Crusaders, can't help but be optimistic about his team's chances this fall.

"We have a lot of returning players, but we're still finding ourselves," said Abraham, an NAIA Hall of Famer with 809 career wins at MU. "At the critical positions we're new, so it's been a struggle to put the whole package together. Sometimes we play awesome and other times we play cautious."

VOLLEYBALL

MU is ranked No. 7 nationally in the NAIA preseason poll, while National American (S.D.), 41-0 and defending national champion, is rated No. 1. "We'll mix a terminating attack with finesse at certain positions," said Abraham, who has taken nine MU teams to the nationals. "We're still feeling our way. Like we always have, we'll rely on excellent defense and ball control. We'll move the ball around more than we've normally had to do. We may have some trouble blocking on the right side because of our inexperience."

Abraham must replace a pair of four-year stalwarts lost to graduation - second-team NAIA All-America Caryn Inman and All-WHAC selection Heather Spooner.

"Heather (Spooner) was a steady, smart player who contributed on a consistent basis on the right side and the middle," Abraham said. "Caryn (Inman) was one of our go-to players last year. She was dominating in the middle and it was guaranteed you'd get a strong game from her each and every night."

The Crusaders return six players who saw considerable playing time from a year ago led by 6-foot-3 junior outside hitter Lubovj Tihomirova (Riga, Latvia).

"She (Tihomirova) has to be a go-to



Gatt



Szymanski

player," Abraham said. "We'll have to rely on her for a large amount of kills. She's big and

strong, and has all the tools to be a real dominating force at the net and a leader offensively."

Expected to shore up the middle with the absence of Inman and Spooner will be 6-3 sophomore Stephanie Parslow (Macomb Dakota) and 5-10 junior Whitney Fuelling (Milford via Western Michigan University).

Fuelling and Parslow are moving full-time into new positions.

"As for (Whitney) Fuelling and (Stephanie) Parslow, our success will depend on them getting a lot of opportunities to attack with the ball," Abraham said. "Our middle hitters have always been a major facet of our offense. Our success depends on our middle hitting attack. We have to rely on them."

After getting full-time work last year as a freshman, 5-9 sophomore setter Inta Grinvalds (Portage Central) returns as one of the conference's top returnees.

"We're going to be a good team because we have talent, speed, good defense and an excellent setter," Abraham said.

MU's back row will also be solid with the return of senior defensive specialists Jacqui Gatt (Livonia Churchill) and Amy Szymanski (Redford/Livonia Ladywood).

"We'll rely on our two senior captains - Jacqui (Gatt) and Amy (Szymanski) - to be our sparks defensively," the MU coach said. "We feel Gatt is one of the best liberos in the country."

Gatt and Szymanski are backed up by Schoolcraft College transfer Brynn Kerr (Churchill) and Abby Long (LaPorte, Ind.), a pair of 5-7 sophomores; along with a pair of 5-7 freshmen, Amanda Koszela (Dearborn) and Anna Marie Gatt (Churchill).

Anna Marie Gatt, younger sister of

Please see **VOLLEYBALL, B5**

Singles

Crosby cashes in

Livonian Brady Crosby earned \$1,200 in his first pro tennis tournament last weekend when he captured the Amy Yeast Memorial Tournament at Battle Creek Country Club.

Crosby, a Livonia Stevenson grad and four-year standout at Western Michigan University, defeated University of Iowa men's assistant coach Matt Brothers, who played on the pro circuit for four years, in the finals, 6-4, 3-6, 6-4.

Crosby, who earned a trip to the NCAA Doubles Tournament this spring, is still recovering from a broken wrist suffered in a dual match last April against Ball State. The lefty won four of his last five singles matches at WMU with his right arm in a cast, which has been slow to heal.

EMU hires O'Brien

Karen (Kelley) O'Brien, a three-sport standout at Livonia Stevenson High, is returning to Eastern Michigan University as an assistant women's volleyball coach under Kim Berrington.

The 43-year-old O'Brien spent the past nine years as coach at Dundee High School. She also served as a head coach at the University of Toledo (1989-94), compiling a 75-97 record, and Siena Heights University (1995-96), as well as being an assistant at Michigan State and the University of Georgia (where she earned All-SEC honors in 1983 and 1984).

O'Brien also made NJCAA first-team All-America honors at Schoolcraft College. The 1981 Stevenson graduate was the first athlete in school history to earn nine varsity letters in volleyball, basketball and track. She was a first-team All-Stater in 1981 and was named the Spartans' Female Athlete of the Year.

Senior champs

The Livonia Senior Men's Golf League, consisting of 150 players 62-and-up, recently crown its champions in five different flights. The league was staged at Livonia's municipal courses during the months May, June and July.

Among the winners, who will be honored Sept. 7 in an awards banquet officiated by Livonia Mayor Jack Engebretson, include: Jim Matthews, championship flight; Craig Moore, first flight; Ray Doute, second flight; John Courtney, third flight; Harry Daniels, fourth flight.

Runners-up include: Ron Tomaszewski, championship flight; Norbert Giczewski, first flight; Ron Jakubiec, second flight; Kenneth Hunt, fourth flight.

Bill Floyd earned closest-to-the-pin honors (4 feet, 5 inches).

SC's Larson banking on area talent

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Rick Larson envisions his Schoolcraft College men's soccer team being as hard-working as any in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association.

But he also likes having talent on his squad, and he feels pretty good about his nucleus as the Ocelots look to keep up last season's success (12-3 before losing to Cincinnati State in double overtime of the regional semi-final).

"I have a real nice group coming back," Larson said. "It's a solid group of defenders, couple good attacking players, and the group that's back from my first recruiting class works extremely hard both on the field and in the classroom, which is great for our program."

Larson said his team is gearing up physically and mentally for the grind, with plenty of two-a-days in the hot August sun.

"The intensity is increasing," he said during Friday's afternoon workout. "And the excitement is starting to build going into our first regular-season game (1 p.m. Aug. 25 at home against Parkland, Ill.) and our big trip to Phoenix."

Leading the way for the Ocelots are sophomore forwards Brandon Horvath (nine goals), Matt Quirk, Brent Kempster and midfielder-defender Brad Spencer.

"They bring a great sense of what it takes to be a successful student-athlete," said Larson about his top returnees. "And that's vital to me and I know it's the number one priority

Please see **TALENT, B5**



Brian Klemczak (left), shown in last year's Division 1 regional against Dearborn, is one the Stevenson's top returnees off last year's state runner-up team.

Well doesn't run dry for Stevenson soccer

See capsule outlook of area teams. B2

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Livonia Stevenson nearly reached the summit last November in Michigan High School boys soccer.

The Spartans made it all the way to the Division 1 championship game, only to be denied

by Parade All-America Casey Townsend and Traverse City West, 1-0.

After losing first-team All-Observer picks Mitch Hildebrandt, Alex Wozniak, Luke Knochel and Chris Mulcahy, you'd think that Stevenson and 10th-year coach Lars Richters would take a giant step backwards.

Think again. The Spartans still have plenty of weapons, led by second-team All-

Area pick Brian Klemczak, a junior midfielder, and Adrian Fylenenko, a junior forward who played for Richters' U-16 U.S. Youth Soccer Association national runner-up team, the Michigan Wolves.

Another returnee is junior midfielder Joe D'Agostino, who played on the Wolves' U-15 national championship squad, also coached by Richters.

Stevenson, 18-3-4 in 2006, went all the way to the state finals, but didn't win its division (Lakes) or the Western Lakes Activities Association championship (where Canton defeated Salem).

"The WLAA has always been strong, and again there will be some solid teams, and some solid players well respected throughout the state," Richters said. "It's always the usual suspects - Salem, Canton and Northville, which is as talented as anybody in our

Please see **STEVENSON, B2**

MU's Mighty Quinn ready to set table

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

COLLEGE SOCCER

Like a swarm of bees, Madonna University's men's soccer team will look to sting the opposition with a squad of all-out hustlers who go full-steam ahead.

There won't be any dazzling stars who look to do it themselves, such as Ryan Montague or Worteh Sampson.

Instead, according to Crusaders coach Tino Scicluna, a cast led by senior Darrel Quinn will play it tough and

smart and - hopefully - keep the ball away from other teams.

"At the end of the game I want to be able to say we had the ball longer than our opponents because we can't afford anymore to just play counter-attack soccer," Scicluna said. "We don't have the pace, we don't have the threats necessarily to play that way."

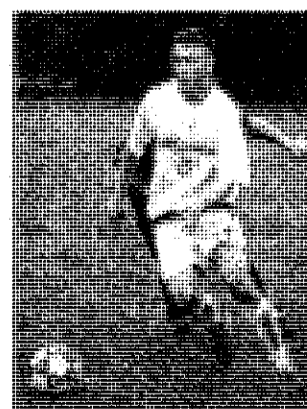
Quinn, a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference first-team defender in 2006, might be

as close to a so-called game-breaker that's on the MU roster.

"Every single time you second-guess him (Quinn) he proves everyone wrong," Scicluna noted. "I'm not going to sit here and say Darrel Quinn is a superstar. But I would say he's got the potential to become that."

Scicluna is banking on the 6-3 Quinn to spearhead a solid backline, but he also will chip in at midfield when called

Please see **MADONNA, B5**



T.J. Djokic, a Stevenson grad, will help lead the Crusaders.

3rd time proves a charm as ThunderCats earn title

After coming up empty in two previous finals, the fourth-seeded ThunderCats captured the Metro Detroit Soccer League's Division 2 playoff championship with a 2-1 victory Sunday over the second-seeded Dearborn F.C. at Dibrova Park in Brighton.

Former Livonia Stevenson High standout Steve Abernathy scored both goals for the ThunderCats.

The first goal came midway through the first half off an indirect free kick assisted by captain Steve Scheel, also a Stevenson grad.

Abernathy made it 2-0 off an assist from Rick Keith (Waterford Kettering) in the second half before Dearborn F.C. answered with a goal against ThunderCats goalkeeper Nick Dordeski, also of Stevenson and Schoolcraft College.

The game ended with Dearborn F.C. fielding just seven players after taking four red cards.

Other Livonia members of the ThunderCats include Dave Dordeski, Michael Theisen,



Members of the ThunderCats, Metro Detroit Soccer League Division 2 playoff champions, include (front row, from left) Michael Hagedorn, Christian Gani, Shawn Moxham, Michael Theisen, Nick Dordeski, Justin Ferriman, Michael Gotro, David Dordeski, Tommaso Mainella; (back row, from left) Steve Scheel, Bob Nardi, Shawn Greene, Rick Keith, Naum Popovski, Michael Cervi, Bill Meeks, Steve Abernathy, Chris Popovski and Jan Rigterink. (Not pictured: Daryl Andrek, Kevin Morgan, Nicholas Skotanis and Spase Petrovski.)

Kevin Morgan, Michael Cervi, Daryl Andrek, Tommy Mainella, Chris and Naum Popovski, and Spase Petrovski - all Stevenson grads. Rounding out the squad

is Shawn Greene, Salem; Michael Hagedorn, Justin Ferriman and Nicholas Skotanis, all of Northville; Bob Nardi, Grand Haven, Bill Meeks, Dalton, Ga.;

Jan Rigterink, Lake Forest H.S. (Del.); Christian Gani, Toronto, Ontario; Shawn Moxham, White Lake Lakeland; Michael Gotro, Dearborn Fordson.

WEEK AHEAD

- PREP FOOTBALL**
Friday, Aug. 24
Clarenceville at Lutheran N. West, 7 p.m.
Churchill at Lansing Eastern, 7 p.m.
Ypsilanti Lincoln at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
Wayne Memorial at Jackson, 7 p.m.
- Franklin vs. John Glenn at EMU's Rynearson Stadium, 8 p.m.
Saturday, Aug. 25
Harper Woods at Luth. Westland, 1 p.m.
- GIRLS VOLLEYBALL**
Monday, Aug. 20
John Glenn at Redford Union, 6 p.m.
Saturday, Aug. 25
South Lyon Invitational, 8 a.m.
West Bloomfield Tournament, 8 a.m.
Carleton-Airport Tournament, 9 a.m.
Michigan Lutheran Tournament, TBA.
- BOYS SOCCER**
Monday, Aug. 20
W.L. Central at Wayne, 4 p.m.
W.L. Northern at Franklin, 7 p.m.
John Glenn at W.L. Western, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Aug. 21
Washtenaw Christian at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m.
S'field Christian at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Aug. 22
John Glenn at Wayne, 4 p.m.
Churchill at Northville, 7 p.m.
Stevenson at Franklin, 7 p.m.
Thursday, Aug. 23
Clarenceville at Southfield Christian, 4:30 p.m.
Friday, Aug. 24
Garden City at Franklin, 4 p.m.
F.H. Harrison at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
Redford Union at Wayne, 4 p.m.
Stevenson at Ann Arbor Pioneer, 5:30 p.m.
(Huron Valley Lutheran Tournament)
Taylor Baptist Park at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.
St. Joe Mich. Luth. at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, Aug. 25
Churchill at Rochester Adams, 12:30 p.m.
(Huron Valley Lutheran Tournament)
Championship & consolation final, 11 a.m.
- BOYS & GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY**
Saturday, Aug. 25
S. Lyon Inv. at Island Lake Rec. Park, 9:30 a.m.
- Lansing Catholic H.S. Invitational, 10 a.m.
- GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING**
Saturday, Aug. 25
Howell Invitational, 9:30 a.m.
- BOYS TENNIS**
Monday, Aug. 20
Ypsilanti Lincoln at Wayne, 4 p.m.
Tuesday, Aug. 21
F.H. Harrison at Franklin, 9 a.m.
Farmington at Churchill, 4 p.m.
Thursday, Aug. 23
Howell at Stevenson, 9 a.m.
F.H. Harrison at Churchill, 4 p.m.
Friday, Aug. 24
Ypsilanti at Wayne, 4 p.m.
- GIRLS GOLF**
Monday, Aug. 20
Seaholm Inv. at Birm. Country Club, 8 a.m.
Tuesday, Aug. 21
Brighton Inv. at Riv. Highlands, 8:30 a.m.
Thurston, Edsel Ford, Dearborn, Franklin at Livonia's Idyl. Wyld Golf Course, TBA.
Thursday, Aug. 23
N. Farmington Inv. at Glen Oaks, 8 a.m.
Friday, Aug. 24
Grosse Ile Inv. at Riv. Highlands, 8:30 a.m.
- WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL**
Wednesday, Aug. 22
Madonna at Spring Arbor, 7 p.m.
Friday, Aug. 24
(U-M Dearborn Early Bird Classic)
Madonna vs. St. Francis (Ill.), 3 p.m.
Madonna vs. Bethel (Ind.), 5:15 p.m.
Saturday, Aug. 25
Alpena CC at Schoolcraft, 11 a.m. & 1 p.m.
U-M Dearborn Early Bird Classic, TBA.
- MEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER**
Saturday, Aug. 25
Parkland (Ill.) at Schoolcraft, 10 a.m.
Madonna vs. Ohio Dominican at Livonia's Greenmead Field, 1 p.m.
- WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER**
Tuesday, Aug. 21
Madonna at Houghton (N.Y.), 6 p.m.
Wednesday, Aug. 22
Madonna at Roberts Wesleyan (N.Y.), 3 p.m.
TBA - time to be announced.

GIRLS GOLF RESULTS

NORTHVILLE 182
WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 236
Aug. 17 at Tanglewood
Glenn scorers: Heidi Irvine, 48; Courtney McKinney, 57; Dakota Howell, 64; Jamie Young, 67; Samantha Baker, 69; Justin Woodard, W.D.
Northville scorers: Alicia Weber, 41 (medalist); Kristen Freisen, 42; Amy Burnstein and Kelley Hill, 47 each; Jackie Kjothede, St. Joanne Weber, 52.
Dual meet records: Northville, 1-0 overall, 1-0 Western Lakes Activities Association; John Glenn, 1-3 overall, 0-2 WLAA.

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 198
WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 221
Aug. 16 at Whispering Willows
Churchill scorers: Amanda Dobos, 46; Danielle Lesniak, 48; Lexi McFarlane and Sarah Linder, 52 each; Jessica Burdette, 58; Katie Worley, 63.
John Glenn scorers: Heidi Irvine, 45 (medalist); Courtney McKinney, 57; Dakota Howell, 58; Jamie Young, 60; Justine Woodard, 65; Samantha Baker, 73.
Dual meet records: Churchill, 1-0 overall, 1-0 WLAA; John Glenn, 1-2 overall, 0-1 WLAA.

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Meteors 2nd in tourney

The under-10 Livonia Meteors girls soccer team returned four players from last year and added six new players during tryouts. After only a few weeks of practice and playing together for the first time, the Meteors reached the finals of the Livingston County Soccer tournament, finishing second. The Meteors are (front row, left to right) Riley Burnette, Hannah Egan, Natalie Douglas, Jessica Smith, Madison Smith, (back row, left to right) assistant coach Chris Burnette, Elise Pollock, Isabella Yardley, Rachel Millman, Jessica Wagner, Julia Lutz and head coach Scott Millman.

TALENT

FROM PAGE B1

here in the athletic department."

Those players also are models of consistency. "You know what you're going to get day in and day out from each one of those kids," Larson said. "And it's a constant, consistent high-level work rate and they're all very coachable kids."

Larson is hoping some of that consistency rubs off on sophomore-eligible forward Louie Djokic, a former standout at Livonia Stevenson.

"Louie's extremely talented, probably our most-talented soccer player," the coach emphasized. "But we're trying to get him to be more consistent."

He added that Djokic is "creative, has a passion for flair and he loves scoring goals."

Meanwhile, there could be a freshman player who might step right in and contribute, in midfielder John Swiastyn.

"He's a very pleasant surprise," Larson said. "You never know what you're going to get with 18-year-olds as incoming freshmen. They've got to jump right in and catch up to the speed of things."

"But John's not only been able to catch up to the speed of things, he's been able to dictate the game at times."

LOCAL TALENT

Plymouth High School product Ali Youssef, a sophomore forward, is another player who could bring some offensive spark.

"Ali was a pleasant surprise a year ago in terms of what he brought to the table," said Larson, adding that Youssef missed half of the 2006 season with an injury. "He's come in (to camp) on fire and we're looking for him to be a

plus at forward."

In the midfield and on defense, several other Observerland alums could make an impact.

Sophomore-eligible Livonia Stevenson product Nick Dordeski will be a cog at defense.

"Nick brings a physical presence and he also has a real sense for the game for being a big guy (6-3, 215)," Larson said. "He has vision and the skill of a midfielder coming out of the back, which is nice for us."

Canton alum Andy Huang will be slotted either on defense or outside-mid, where he can let his wheels go to work. "We're excited about him as well, he has speed and tenacity."

Two Livonia Churchill grads (Jason Gillow, Andrew Esshaki) and Stevenson alum Robert Muradian are others vying for regular time at midfield. Larson said Esshaki is "a hard-working kid who can be a winger if we decide to go with three up top."

Muradian brings good positional smarts while sophomore Ryan Rowe (Plymouth Salem) is impressing coaches with his "great level of maturity."

Perhaps one of the most-heartening developments heading into the season is the return of sophomore-eligible defender Plamen "Peter" Mitev (Redford Union), who missed last season due to a serious knee injury.

"It's been a long road back for Peter, but he's worked extremely hard," Larson said. "He has good size, he's strong and he thinks the game through. He's certainly going to give us some minutes."

Three freshmen are battling it out for the top goalkeeper position, Robert Lovelace (Plymouth), Sean Simney and Chris Riley.

"Goal could be a problem spot, until they get experience," Larson said. "They have potential and all have great size and ability."

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MADONNA

FROM PAGE B1

upon. "He's not just a defender, he's a pretty complete player," said the coach about Quinn.

"When he first came here, I think he was just a hard-nosed player. But now he's turned into being a bit more complete."

"He can shoot from long range, he's very strong in the air. He's still a very good defender, but he has a lot more than that."

Madonna's midfield depth could be a key reason it again contends in the WHAC, following last year's second-place finish of 11-6-2.

Besides Quinn, the Crusaders will rely on the talented T. J. Djokic (Livonia Stevenson), Doran Drai (six goals in 2006) and freshman-eligible Keith Sied (Stevenson/Schoolcraft College) in the center-mid.

"Our midfielders are going to have to carry the flow of the game," Scicluna continued. "In the years past, we've had players like Sampson and Ryan Montague who could just change the game and just single-handedly flip the game upside-down. I don't think we have that this year, which is OK. We're just going to have to collectively get the job done."

College pipeline

The arrival of Sied keeps the pipeline of talent between Schoolcraft and Madonna running smoothly.

"We've always benefited

from good players coming out of Schoolcraft College," Scicluna said. "There's been a pretty close tie there for the last four years. Keith can play anywhere in the midfield and anywhere in the back, he's pretty versatile."

Adding important depth at midfield are freshmen Jacob Rosiek and Chris Lafontaine, two players who could also help on defense if called upon.

Rosiek is described by Scicluna as "another very intelligent player, good all-around. I could probably play him anywhere in the midfield and anywhere in the back. He's just a bright player who I think will contribute a lot this year."

Outside midfielder Lafontaine is a lanky speedster who "can put some assists on the board and get us some easy goals."

The offense will look to compensate for the loss of 2007 graduate Pat Griffin, who contributed 10 goals and seven assists to the '06 attack. Madonna's forwards are spearheaded by sophomore Emilio Giorgi and freshman Daniel Amaya.

Giorgi "came in last year, he's extremely quick, hard-working and just never stops." Amaya is getting used to the physical play of the college level, but the coach is confident "he'll leave his mark."

Back in goal are Walled Lake Central alum Kristofer Lyons (1.03 in 11 games) and Ryan Mathe (1.24 in 10 games), but Scicluna still has to decide which senior will start the season as his top

keeper. "It's a good problem to have (because) both are quality."

The goalies undoubtedly will benefit from strong play on defense. In addition to Quinn, senior Pat Kolodziejczak (appropriately nicknamed "Buzz") and sophomore Dan Pichler (Livonia Stevenson) will be called upon to cover a lot of ground in the defensive end.

"They balance each other," said the coach about Kolodziejczak and Pichler. "Buzz is hard-nosed, tough to beat and very vocal. Pichler's more of a silent leader, skillful, with good vision. He's a good reader of the game."

Scicluna said his Madonna teams during his four-year tenure have always had decent success although falling short of glory.

"All in all we've had four very successful seasons since I've been here," the coach said. "And the focus of most of the players is always how we've kind of struggled to get over the hump and to get past that. We've surely been close."

With the 2007 team, a mix of talented veterans and upstart youngsters could make for a break-through season.

"We've had a strong team every year and I'm confident it's going to continue to be that way," summed up Scicluna, whose team will open the season 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 25 against visiting Ohio Dominican at Livonia's Greenmead Field.

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VOLLEYBALL

FROM PAGE B1

Jacqui, was a member of Churchill's 2007 state Class A championship team.

The team's trump card, however, could be 5-11 sophomore transfer Mary McGinnis (Illinois State), who helped Fraser win the 2005 state Class A championship along with her sister Angie, a star at the University of Florida.

"Mary (McGinnis) is a smart player, athletic, has ability, and a variety of shots," Abraham said. "We'll rely on her experience. She's a good all-around

player. She also has good defensive skills and a good jump serve. We hope she becomes a stabilizing force."

Other outside hitters include three freshman - 5-9 Amanda Lenart (Dearborn Heights Crestwood), who red-shirted last year; 5-8 Liz Dempsey (Livonia Franklin), a first-team All-Observer pick; and 5-10 Martie Mazur (Monroe), a July signee. MU opens its season Wednesday at Spring Arbor before going to the Early Bird Classic, Aug. 24-25, at UM-Dearborn. The Crusaders will also travel Aug. 31-Sept. 1 to San Diego, Calif. to play in the Point Loma Nazarene

Tournament.

Both Cornerstone and Indiana Tech should provide stiff challenges this season in the WHAC for the Crusaders.

"It should be a stronger league in general," said Abraham, who hopes to return to the NAIA Nationals in Columbia, Mo. "The work ethic is good, but we're pressing right now a little bit because we want to be like the teams we've had in the past. But as we gain experience throughout the season, it will become a good team."

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

Meet CHS teams

Livonia Churchill High's annual Meet the Team Night, for all 2007-08 athletes and their parents, will be at 7 p.m. Monday, Aug. 20 at James P. Carli Auditorium.

This will be the only group meeting of the year as opposed to the previous three times yearly format. All athletes and their parents should attend.

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

Churchill Pom clinic

The ninth annual Livonia Churchill varsity pompon clinic for ages 6-14 will be from 9 a.m. until noon, Saturday, Aug. 25, at the high school gym (located on Newburgh between Joy and Ann Arbor Trail).

The cost is \$35 per person includes T-shirt, music CD and snack.

Participation is limited to the first 100 registrants.

Participants will be invited to perform their routine at 7 p.m. Monday, Aug. 27, at a Churchill varsity boys soccer game.

Call Robin Schwarz at (734) 464-0556.

Stevenson meeting

Livonia Stevenson will stage its Meet the Team Night from 7-9 p.m. Monday, Aug. 20 at the high school auditorium.

All ninth- and 10th-graders, along with newcomer athletes and parents, should arrive for sport specific break-out meetings, while all junior and senior athlete and parents will be meeting in assigned rooms from 7:45-9 p.m. following the introduction meeting at 7 p.m.

Topics include athletic and academic eligibility, new athletic participation fee of \$200, sportsmanship, varsity letter requirements, physical information, season schedule, team rules and policies, team pictures, medical information and general department guidelines.

Student (\$35) and family (\$70) event passes, along with Stevenson apparel, will also be sold. Booster club membership opportunities will also be available. Call (734) 744-2660, Ext. 48116.



The WYAA Cobras recently captured PONY Baseball's Colt Division District 2 championship. Team members include (front row, from left) Jeremy Profit, Derek LeBlanc, Brian Staples, Kevin Kalamick, Robert Fraser, Tony Vettrano; (top row, from left) manager Jack Profit, assistant coach Jose Bermudez, Justin Dean, Jonathon Rickard, Terry Sutton, Steve LaVigne, Chris Harb, Jade Watts and assistant coach Ron Staples.

Westland Cobras savor trip to PONY state tournament

BASEBALL

The Cobras of the Westland Youth Athletic Association had a summer to remember, reaching PONY Baseball's Colt Division (ages 15-16) State Tournament held July 20-22 at Central Michigan University's Theunissen Stadium in Mount Pleasant.

Highland Lakes captured the double-elimination state championship tourney with a 3-0 record followed by Bay City, 2-2; Beal City, 2-2; Mount Pleasant, 1-2; and the Cobras, 0-2.

The Cobras, down to nine players, lost their opener to Bay City, 8-4, while stranding 10 runners on base.

They stranded 12 runners in a 15-11 setback to Mount Pleasant after leading through the first three innings.

On July 12-15, the Cobras won all three games to earn the District 2 championship held at Westland John Glenn High and Jaycee Park.

They earned the title with an 8-2 victory over Lakeland, breaking a close game open with five runs in the seventh inning.

The Cobras advanced to the final with 16-15 win over Lakeland and a 12-2 triumph over the Westland Reds.

Robert Fraser pitched completed games in the first and third games, while Jeremy Profit hurled two innings of relief to win the second game, 16-15, over a Lakeland team that went undefeated during the 2007 season.

The Cobras outscored their opponents 36-19 in the three games with a .316 batting average along with an on-base average of .442.

Every Cobra player reached base and scored in the District 2 tournament led by Justin Dean (.500, six runs, four RBI, two triples), Profit (.462, five runs, five RBI, seven stolen bases), and Derek LeBlanc (.444, eight runs, three RBI).

Defensively, making stellar plays were Brian Staples, Jonathon Rickard, Derek LeBlanc and Steve LaVigne.

Rounding out the Cobras team, managed by Jack Profit, include Kevin Kalamick, Tony Vettrano, Terry Sutton, Chris Harb and Jade Watts.

Assistant coaches include Jose' Bermudez and Ron Staples.



COMING THIS WEEK

TONIGHT
MICHAEL W. SMITH • 7:00 PM
THIRD DAY
wsg SANCTUS REAL
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

WEDNESDAY
LINKIN PARK • 12:45 PM
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TAKING BACK SUNDAY
& MORE - PROJEKT
REVOLUTION TOUR
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THURSDAY
DAVE MATTHEWS • 7:00 PM
BAND wsg PETE YORN
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FRIDAY
THE ALLMAN • 6:30 PM
BROTHERS BAND
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& THE FAMILY BAND
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE
COMEDIAN • 8:00 PM
DEMETRI MARTIN
MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

SATURDAY
BIG & RICH • 7:30 PM
with COWBOY TROY
& CHRIS CAGLE
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

Mercedes-Benz • 1:00 PM
WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL
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NEXT SUNDAY
OZZY OSBOURNE • 12:00 PM
LAMB OF GOD, HATEBREED
& MORE - OZZFEST 2007
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Mercedes-Benz • 1:00 PM
WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL
MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

GET BACK! • 7:00 PM
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AUGUST

27 VELVET REVOLVER
wsg ALICE IN CHAINS
& KILL HANNAH
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

28 AN EVENING WITH RUSH
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

29 ROCK THE BELLS
featuring WU-TANG CLAN,
NAS, TALIB KWELI & MORE
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29 THE BANGLES wsg THE BRIDGES
MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

**30 ALY & AJ / CORBIN BLEU / X
DRAKE BELL** wsg BIANCA RYAN
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

31 THE MUSIC OF PINK FLOYD IS
LASER SPECTACULAR
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SEPTEMBER

1 TED NUGENT
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

2 THE NEW CARS IS
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

2 MACY GRAY / IS
THE BRAND NEW HEAVIES
MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

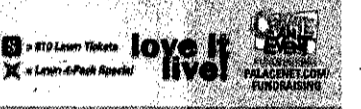
3 HOOTIE & THE BLOWFISH IS
wsg DANIELLE HOWE
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

6 SCORPIONS
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

6-8 THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW
MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

7 HINDER X
wsg BUCKCHERRY, PAPA ROACH
& REVELATION THEORY
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8 AEROSMITH wsg JOAN JETT
& THE BLACKHEARTS
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Are your friends angry? Just ask

What do you do when you think your friends hate you and you don't know why?

Outcast in Garden City
The simple answer is: Just ask them! You really won't know for sure unless you ask your friends if they are mad at you.



Teen Talk

Monica Fulton

My friend just started smoking and has been promising me that she would stop.

Worried in Garden City

Nicotine is a very addictive drug... surprised? Many people don't think of nicotine as a drug, but it is!

When my mom asks me to do something, I tell her I will and then I end up forgetting to do it.

Forgetful in Garden City

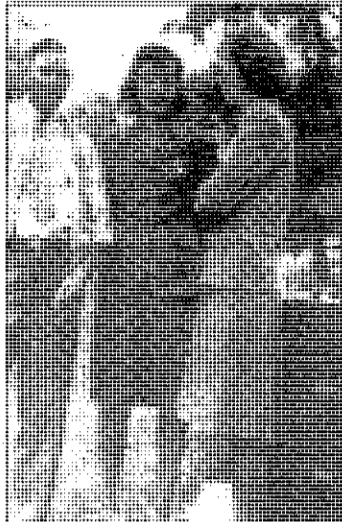
Well, you can start by putting yourself in your mom's shoes... what if she couldn't help her forgetfulness and forgot to make dinner?

Are you watching TV or playing video games at the time she asks you? Maybe you're not really paying attention to what she's asking because you're so focused on the game or the show.

Single parents, especially, have too many things to do and not enough time to do them all.

Monica Fulton is the supervisor of the Family Resource Center in Garden City working on youth and family problems.

Family reunion



Chancey, Letha and Mary Jane at the 1947 reunion of the Wagenschutz family.

They're still together after all these years

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Their numbers have dwindled, but not the family spirit. From 1876 — when Carl and Minnie Wagonschultz left Germany and settled on a farm in Livonia Township — until today, the family has stood together.

Carl was one of three siblings who originally came to Michigan in the 1870s. His brother Frederick settled in the Kalkaska area.

Through the years, the family held gatherings primarily in the Livonia-Plymouth area, but occasionally in Kalkaska, Petoskey, Traverse City, Bloomfield Hills, Chelsea and Britton on the third weekend in July.

"We always had a memorial service for those who died the year before. We would have a table with a white tablecloth and sing 'Till We Meet Again,' said Connie Wagenschutz, who's

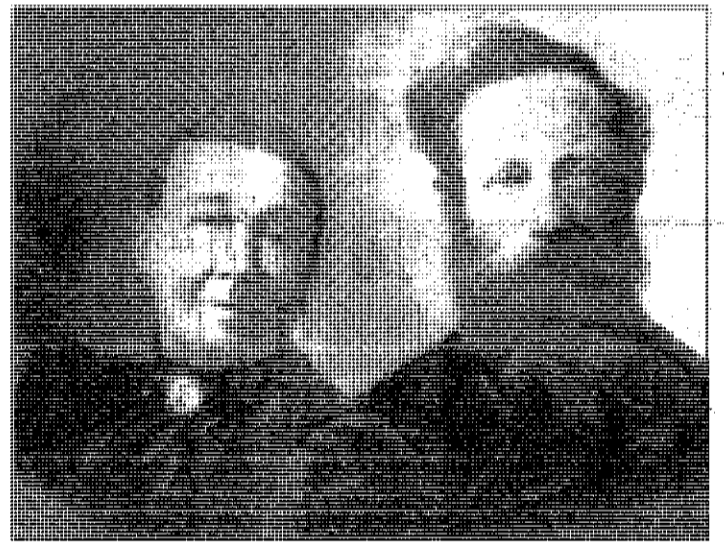


Adult members of the Wagenschutz family as well as the children have fun at the reunions.

attended many of the reunions since 1949. Her husband Chuck's grandfather, Charles Blankenburg Wagenschutz, was one of Carl's 10 children, but was raised by Carl's sister Minnie and Wilhelm, who had no children.

The Wagenschutz family was very involved with Livonia's development. Charles, or Charlie as he was known, had a son Carl who served on the Charter Commission which formed the city of Livonia.

Please see REUNION, C2



Carl and Minnie Wagonschultz left Germany in 1876 to settle on a Livonia Township farm.

Foster homes needed for animals rescued from

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Kalin Albertson went to adopt a cat from the local humane society on a Wednesday, but wanted time to think about the decision to care for an animal the rest of its life.

The experience left her shaken. Albertson knew she had to do something, so the Livonia woman started Shelter to Home Inc., a nonprofit with a mission to save impounded animals in the Downriver area.

Please see SHELTER, C3



Kalin Albertson (left), Jessica Williams and Joe Gomez with foster kittens Will, Carleton and Nicki.



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Duck decorating contest to raise funds to feed children

On Aug. 22, Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan (GCFB) is inviting children of all ages from around the Metro Detroit area to come and show their artistic skills in a Duck Decorating contest from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at GCFB's warehouse in Detroit. For \$10 each, children will receive a rubber duck, supplies, and a snack. Reservations are requested, call (866) 453-2637, ext. 260.

The children will have one hour to use sequin, glitter, markers, feathers, and their imagination to create a 6-inch rubber duck masterpiece. When finished, the children will enter them in a category that best fits the description of the duck. Once each duck is placed in a category, a panel of judges will choose the top ducks from each category.

"This event is a great way for children to have an opportunity to have fun and help others at the same time," said Suzette Hohendorf, event chair and GCFB board member.

The funds raised by the children's duck decorating will help Gleaners' Summer Lunches for Children campaign as well

as provide food for children all year long. GCFB wants to ensure that students are fed during the school year as well as the summer months when free school lunch programs are not operating and the cost to families can become a burden to their budget.

This contest is part of Gleaners' 14th Annual Fall Harvest Family Event. This year, Gleaners is hosting The Detroit Duck Derby on Sept. 15, when families can enjoy a nice day outside with games, a barbecue and picnic and a duck race filled with prizes.

Gleaners distribution Center is located at 2131 Beaufait in Detroit. For more information and to reserve a spot, call 866-GLEANER (453-2637), ext. 260.

In 2007, Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan marks its 30th anniversary of working to nourish the community by feeding hungry people. Working with more than 400 social service partners, Gleaners distributes over two million pounds of food each year – the equivalent of 32 million meals that go directly to those who need it most. For more information, visit www.gcfb.org.

REUNIONS

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

REUNIONS

- Garden City East Class of 1977**
Saturday, Oct. 6. Casual attire. Cost is \$35 per person. Contact Teri Harrelson (Falconer) at (734) 421-2286 or Kim Orsette (Gallinat) at (734) 762-6357 or GCEAST1977@aol.com.
- Bishop Borgess Class of 1977**
A 30-year reunion Saturday, Sept. 8, 2007, at George Murphy's, Livonia. Call (248) 685-8747 or by e-mail

- kharning@yahoo.com.
- Class of 1987**
A 20-year reunion, Sept. 15, 2007, at the Livonia Marriott. Contact borgess87@hotmail.com for more information.
- Dearborn Fordson Class of 1969**
Planning a reunion for 2007. Please contact Kathy Nisun at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: Kaynini@atol.com or Kathy Shoebridge @ Klivingston@nu-core.com.
- St. Mary of Redford All classes**
St. Mary of Redford School Alumni "All Class Sock Hop" (Reunion) will be held Saturday, October 6; 4 p.m. Mass, 6 p.m. Reunion. For further information, please contact: Dave DiPonio at ddiponio@wadetrim.com or (313) 363-6153 or Jamie Sloan at jess21970@aol.com or (248) 391-0607. The Sock Hop will be held in the "Old" SMR Gym on Mansfield in Detroit. Reservations required by Sept. 14.



Alma (left), Joann and Howard McLellan at the 1985 Wagenschutz reunion.

REUNION

FROM PAGE C1

Charlie's son Harvey hosted the first reunion on a farm on the north side of Five Mile on the west border of Idyl Wyld Golf Course. The gathering has been held annually since 1928 except for one year during World War II.

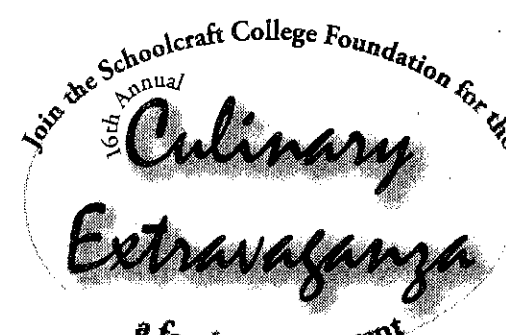
"Everybody brought something (to pass around) plus paid \$2 to \$3 a couple for extras," said Connie Wagenschutz, 77, who hosted the reunion with her husband Chuck at their Livonia home around 1970. Chuck's brother Bob of Plymouth began Wagenschutz lawn spraying. "The men always played cards and horseshoes. The ladies would visit and look at albums (of photos and announcements of births, graduations, weddings and deaths). For the kids, there were games — water balloons and a raw egg toss."

Howard and Joann McLellan of Plymouth Township have missed only one reunion in 55 years. Howard is the son of Alma Wagenschutz. "We always go," said Joann, 73. "You sit around and talk. We had a good time." Connie Wagenschutz remembers when as many as 100 family members attended the reunion. This year the number dwindled to 49. Through the years, members of the family have died including Chuck, her husband, in 2002. Connie left their 10-acre farm and moved back to Livonia in



Beatrice, Amelia and Duane enjoy the 1947 Wagenschutz family reunion.

2005. "Our 44th reunion was a Peruvian cookout with Dr. Honorato Barrios of Peru, husband of Norma Jean (Wagenschutz)," said Connie, who grew up on Eight Mile, east of Merriman. She was in the fourth class to graduate from Clarenceville High School in Livonia. Wagenschutz has always taken an interest in history. Before moving to Traverse City with Chuck in 1984, she served on the Livonia Historical Commission. Today, Wagenschutz is transcribing the diary of Ann Shaw Briggs, who first lived in the Harvey Wagenschutz home and later the Shaw House, which was moved to Greenmead Historical Park in Livonia. ichomin@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2145



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- Culinary Extravaganza Sponsorships offer unique benefits and include tickets to this exciting event. Packages ranging from \$300 to \$5,000 are available.
- Event tickets at \$50 per person are available by calling 734-462-4518 or visit our Web site www.schoolcraft.edu/foundation.
- Your participation in Culinary Extravaganza provides crucial scholarship support to Schoolcraft students, makes the dream of higher education a reality, and the hope of a better future possible.

Patrons will enjoy samples from these restaurants, pastry shops & beverage vendors.

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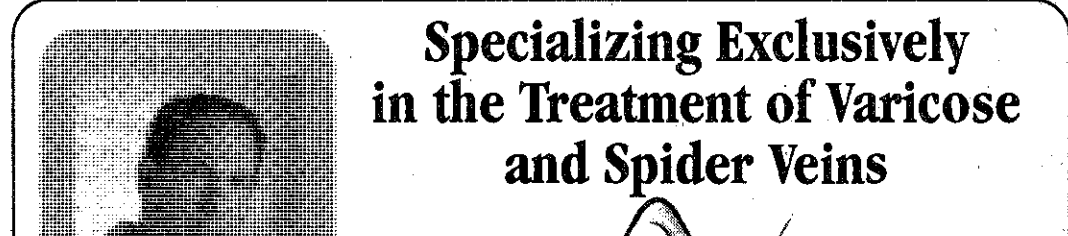
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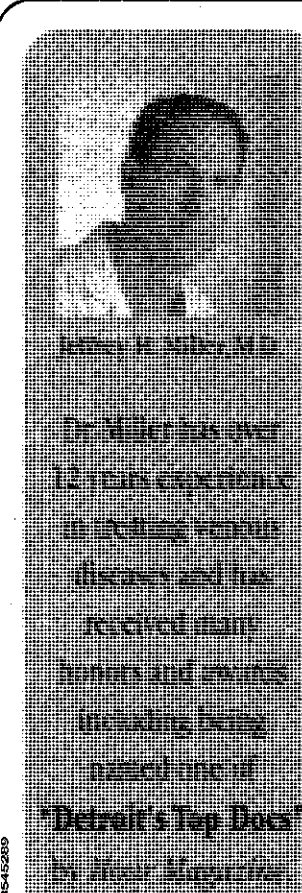
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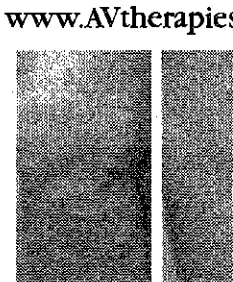


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Before AFTER

SHELTER

FROM PAGE C1

the cats and dogs permanent and loving homes.

"It was a wakeup call for me that a lot of good animals are put down every day," said Albertson, a graduate student at Madonna University. "It began as a grass-roots effort in 2005 to improve conditions and adoptions at the city pound in Lincoln Park, where there's definitely more of a need for it because the euthanasia rate is very high. Downriver, every city has its own shelter through the police department. There was a whole group of us got together and went into the pounds and took photos and then put them on petfinder.com."

"That's why we're always looking for foster homes. The more foster homes, the more animals we can save," added Jessica Williams, 21, of Livonia.

In between two jobs and studies at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, Williams and boyfriend Joe Gomez are fostering three kittens rescued by Shelter to Home. Will and Carleton are gray and white tabbies born 14 weeks ago in the same litter. These brothers have to be adopted together. Nicki is an orange tiger-striped cat about 12 weeks old and a polydactyl with six toes on each paw.

Albertson is fostering Sprocket, a 9-month-old wire-haired terrier, from the pound in Monroe, and Sabrina, a domestic short hair cat who's 4 years old, from the Allen Park Animal Shelter, which the non-profit began working with after

the Lincoln Park pound closed its doors to consolidate with another city.

"Jessica and I went down to Monroe Animal Control and saw it's not five or six cats but 50 to 60 cats. You have to pick so many from those who are going to die that day," said Albertson, who graduated from Churchill High School in Livonia.

"People can help by volunteering to foster," added Williams, a graduate of Canton High School. "Our group supplies the food, litter. All medical expenses are covered."

Veterinarian Mathew Varughese, owner of Amazon Animal Clinic in Garden City, gives the group a discount on medical services including neutering and spaying.

The group relies on donations and adoption fees to pay for the costs. Shelter to Home has taken in 179 animals this year alone.

Last year, it found homes for 29 cats, primarily by attending cat shows and holding adoption days at businesses such as PETCO in Dearborn Heights. On Nov. 16, the group will be at the Pet Expo adoption event at Rock Financial Showplace in Novi.

"It would also be great for people to make donations," Albertson said. "We have no paid staff, only volunteers. We can also use coupons and gift certificates."

For more information or to donate items including cat/dog food, washable pet beds, litter, cages and pet carriers, visit www.shelbertohome.com.

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

Angela Hospice cruiser is a dream

As a non-profit agency, Angela Hospice depends on donations from the community to carry on its caring programs for terminally ill patients and their families. The organization received a unique donation last month from Birmingham-based Classic Auto Rentals - a classic car worth over \$25,000.

The staff at Dick Puritan's radio station WOMC worked with Classic Auto Rentals and Angela Hospice to arrange the car donation as a way to promote Angela Hospice's compassionate services throughout the community.

"It was a wonderful gift," said Bob Alexander, business development manager at Angela Hospice. "We were so grateful to receive such a beautiful classic and classy car from the generous people at Classic Auto Rentals."

The 1969 Buick Electra 225 convertible is painted in Angela Hospice's signature blue and has



This 1969 Buick Electra 225 will be raffled off to benefit the programs of Angela Hospice. Pictured are Bob Alexander and Alice Barringer of Angela Hospice, and Ben Baker of WOMC.

52,000 original miles. It features a 430 V8 engine 360 HP, automatic transmission, power steering, power bench seat, power windows, power breaks, and air conditioning.

"Angela Hospice is very near and dear to the Zahra family," said Larry Zahra, vice president of Classic Auto Rentals. "Joe Roebuck (Classic Auto Rentals' president/owner) and I are both

happy to have contributed the Buick Electra for the wonderful cause of Angela Hospice."

Angela Hospice will raffle the car at its annual Light Up a Life Benefit which will take place Oct. 13 at Rock Financial Showplace in Novi.

The raffle fits in with the event's theme of Groovin' and Cruisin' through the 60's. In the meantime, the vehicle will be making appearances across town. Tickets are \$100 each and only 1,000 will be sold. All proceeds benefit Angela Hospice.

Fulfilling dreams is part of the mission of Classic Auto Rentals as well, which allows its customers to rent classic and exotic cars for special events such as weddings, anniversaries, and birthdays.

For more information on Angela Hospice or to purchase a Classic Car Raffle ticket, call (734) 464-7810, or visit www.angela-hospice.org.

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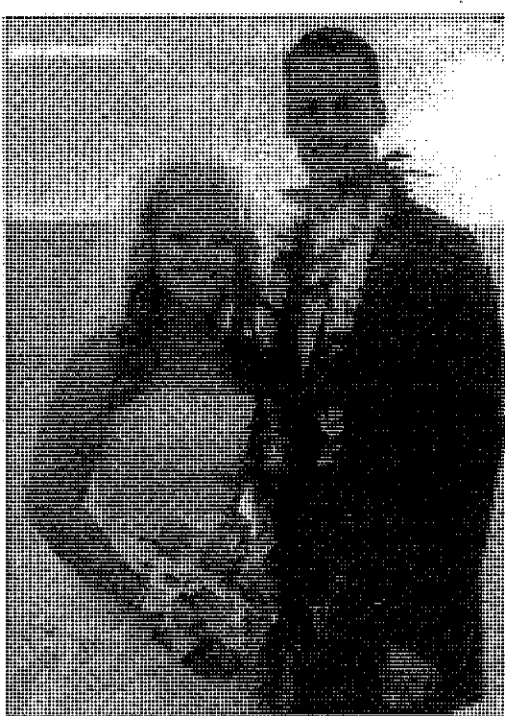
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WEDDINGS



Stanley-Studzinski

Mandra Sue Stanley and Matthew John Studzinski were married in Antigua, West Indies, on June 25, 2007. They remained in Antigua for their honeymoon. Mandra is the daughter of Timothy and Sue Stanley of Garden City. Matt is the son of David and Kathleen Studzinski of Livonia. Joe Studzinski, Matt's brother, was best man and Sue Stanley, Mandra's mother, was matron of honor. A wedding celebration was held in Livonia in July. Mandra is a graduate of Garden City High School and Eastern Michigan University. She is employed by Meadowbrook Country Club. Matt is a graduate of Detroit Catholic High School and is employed by UPS. They reside in Dearborn.



Brown-Hardin

Erin Nicole Brown and David Matthew Hardin were married July 4, 2007, in Hawaii.

The bride is the daughter of Richard and Katherine Brown of Livonia. She is a 1999 graduate of Franklin High School and a 2004 graduate of College for Creative Studies. She is employed as a production designer at Click Media in California.

The groom is the son of Wendy Hardin of St. Clair Shores and Bill and Pam Hardin of Canton. He is a 2000 graduate of Grosse Pointe North and a 2004 graduate of College for Creative Studies. He is a senior animator at Sony Pictures in California.

The bride was attended by maids of honor, twin sister Erica Brown and older sister Katie Brown, and attendants, friend Leslie Mason and groom's sister Jenny Hardin. The groom was attended by bestman, brother Steve Hardin and attendants Justin Bott, Avedis Ekmekjian, Garrett Kelley, George Kokos and Jason Parent. The Rev. Rosemary Hill officiated. A reception was held at the Hawthorne Valley Country Club. The couple honeymooned on a cruise around the Hawaiian Islands. They are making their home in California.



Rzepka-Kaufman

Melissa Diane Rzepka, daughter of Steven and Helen Rzepka of Canton, and Bryan William Kaufman, son of William and Rende Kaufman of Canton, were married May 19, 2007 at St. John Neumann Catholic Church, with Father Andrew Bloomfield officiating.

The bride is completing her master's of occupational therapy degree at Eastern Michigan University, and is employed at the University of Michigan Hospital. The groom is completing his master's of business administration degree at Cleary University and works for the Coca-Cola Company. The bride was attended by Maid of Honor Renae Kolarik, bridesmaids Marcia Massie, Courtney Sisko and Michele Varner and flower girls Ashley Deck and Olivia Varner. The groom was attended by Best Man Brad Kaufman, groomsmen Mike Middel, Brian Rzepka and Scott Rzepka and ring bearer Brandon Massie. After a reception at The Meeting House Grand Ballroom in Plymouth and a honeymoon to Maui, Hawaii, the couple set up residence in Plymouth.

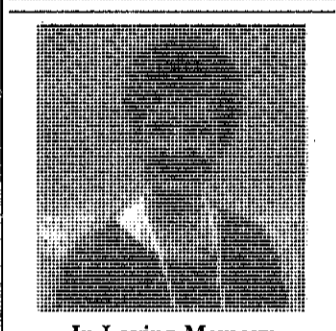
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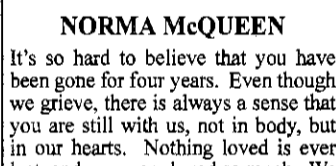
In Memory Of



ROSE MARIE KENNEDY

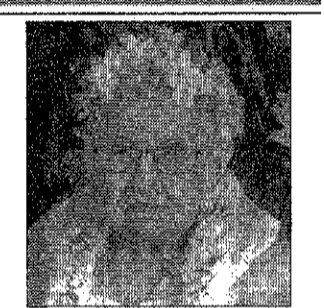
Age 93 of Livonia, passed away August 14, 2007 in Livonia. She was born on September 7, 1913 in Emporium, PA to James McEachron and Margery Confer. She is survived by her son, Martin (Annette), grandchildren M.J., Karin (Loren) Hoffmann, and Melissa; and great-grandchildren Rebeccah and Leah Hoffmann. Funeral services will be held Tuesday, August 21, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Colette Catholic Church, Livonia, MI.

In Loving Memory



SUSAN G. KEAN

Age 47, August 13, 2007. She was born and raised in Wyandotte, and she was a member of the Dearborn Federation of Teachers. Beloved wife of Nathan. Loving mother of Jennifer, Kyle and Conrad. Loving daughter of Mike and Joan Miller. Loving daughter-in-law to Lillian Kean. Dearest sister of James Miller, Diane (Mike) Hennessy, Cathy Douglas, Sharon (Kevin) Whitehill, Linda (Jim) Szablinski, Joyce (Kip) Miles, Walter Miller, Nicole (Jason) Beaudette and Christopher Miller. Dear sister-in-law of Debbie (Dennis) Jozwik, Fran (Will) Horchem, Matt (Tiffany) Kean and the late Mark. Funeral was held Thursday at Charles Step Funeral Home in Redford. The family requests that Memorial Contributions be made to the Kean Children's College Fund.

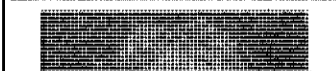


MARIE TURRI

Of Canton, age 89, died August 15, 2007. Beloved wife of the late Albert. Loving mother of Alan (Claudia) and Gary (Theresa). Dear sister of William and the late Walter and Olga. Also survived by five loving grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. Marie was an avid quilter and Hawaiian dancer. Visitation 2-9 pm Sunday and funeral service 11:00 am Monday, August 20 at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 980 N. Newburgh Road (between Ford and Cherry Hill), Westland. Contributions to either Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation or City of Westland Friendship Center. Please sign her guest book at www.starkfuneral.com.

JAMES H. YOUNG

Age 76, August 15, 2007. Salesman for Champion International Paper Company. Member Don Large Chorus, "Make Way For Youth" WJR. Lifetime member of Plymouth Masonic Lodge, Past President of Highland Park Lions Club and member of The Sounds of Canton. Beloved husband of Lillian. Dear father of Elaine Young, James (Barbara) Young and Victoria (Mark) Memmer. Loving grandfather of Jesse, Alexis, Anjilla, Jeremy and Matthew. Brother of Al (Anne) Young, Uncle of Pam (Reid) Vandekerckhove and Scott (Kim) Young. Also leaves six great nieces and nephews. Services were held Saturday Aug. 18, 2007 at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home of Plymouth. In lieu of flowers contributions are suggested to St. Johns Hospice or Lions International. Share memories at schrader-howell.com



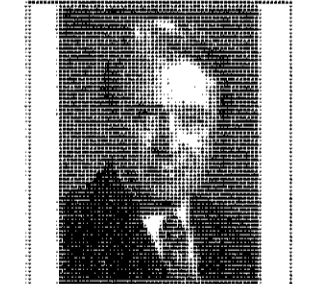
LAURA LUCELIA SUTHERLAND

August 7, 2007, age 100. Resident of Birmingham since 1954. Retired teacher for Dearborn, Detroit and Birmingham Public Schools. Beloved wife of the late Charles Sutherland, Sr. for 64 years. Dear mother of Laura Smith and Charles Sutherland, Jr. (Jim Posante). Dear grandmother of Paul Smith (Debra Wolfe). Also survived by several great grandchildren and great-great grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews. Family will receive friends at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Conell Chapel), 32515 Woodward (btwn 13-14 Mile) Thursday & Friday 3-8pm. Funeral service Saturday 1pm at First Presbyterian Church, 1669 W. Maple Rd., Birmingham. Memorial tributes to First Presbyterian Church. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

JEANETTE KALUZYNY

Age 76, of Mendon, died Wednesday, August 15, 2007 at Bronson Hospital in Kalamazoo following a brief illness. She was born in Detroit on April 20, 1931 the daughter of the late Charles and Simone (Turlure) Poteau, and later graduated from Wayne High School. She was married to Gerald Kaluzny on November 25, 1954 in Wayne. Jeanette had worked for Wayne Westland Schools for 20 years in the food service department. She and her husband retired to Mendon in 1990. Here she was a member of Saint Edward Catholic Church, the GFWC Mendon Women's Club, and was a volunteer for the Mendon Food Cupboard. She enjoyed flower gardening and bird watching, and she especially enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren. Jeanette is survived by her husband, Gerry of Mendon; one son, Brian Kaluzny (Margaret) of Mattawan; two daughters, Tami Kaluzny of Mendon, and Nadine Baker (Glenn) of Mattawan; six grandchildren, Rachel, Carolyn, and Karl Kaluzny, and Janell, Abbie, and Ben Baker; two brothers, Louie Poteau (Wallene) of Westland and Moise Poteau of Hershey, MI; one sister, Margo Williams of Colorado; a special aunt and uncle, Henrietta and Laverne Miller of Leslie, MI; several nieces and nephews. The family will receive friends from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday at the Eickhoff Funeral Home in Mendon, where there will be a Scripture Service at 8 p.m. Sunday. The funeral mass for Jeanette Kaluzny will be 11 a.m. Monday, August 20, 2007 at Saint Edward Catholic Church in Mendon with Father James Vinh Le officiating. Bural will be in Saint Edward Catholic Cemetery. Memorials may be directed to the Saint Edward Catholic Church Preservation Fund. Online register and condolences may be sent to www.eickhofffuneralhome.com

May You Find Comfort in Family & Friends



WILLIAM A. BOSTICK

Age 94, Administrator and Secretary of the Detroit Institute of Arts from 1946 to 1976, died peacefully at home August 14, of heart failure. He is survived by his wife, Mary Jane, son Christopher, daughter Beatrice and son-in-law Michael McGlathery. William was a talented administrator, artist, calligrapher, ceramist, graphic designer and printmaker who received numerous honors and awards for his work. He exhibited in many of the annual exhibitions for Michigan artists from 1938 until shortly before his death, and was awarded the Scarab Club Gold Medal Prize three times. His paintings are in many public and private collections, three are in the permanent collection of the DIA. As a naval intelligence officer during WW II, William designed and supervised the maps for the invasion of Sicily and Normandy (D-Day). During his long career, William served as President of the Scarab Club of Detroit, President, Board of L'Alliance Francaise de Detroit, Chairman, Michigan Watercolor Society, President of the Torch Club and the Book Club of Detroit. For his cultural efforts on behalf of France and Italy he was awarded the rank of Chevalier, French Order of Arts and Letters and Knight of the Order of Italian Solidarity. Funeral Services were held Friday, August 17, 2007 at McCabe Funeral Home, Farmington Hills. Memorial contributions may be made to the Scarab Club, or the DIA. www.mccabefuneralhome.com

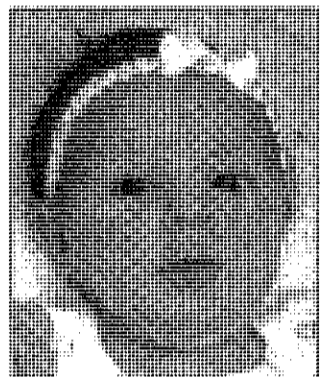
ENGAGEMENTS



Buck-Gabbert

John and Susan Buck of Redford Township announce the engagement of their daughter, Anni Buck, to Matt Gabbert of Redford Township. Anni is a 2000 graduate of Redford Union High School, a 2004 graduate of Michigan State University with a bachelor's degree in psychology and a 2007 graduate of University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. She is currently employed at the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office. Matt is the son of Mary Gabbert of Redford Township, and the late John Gabbert. Matt is a 2000 graduate of Redford Union High School, a 2004 graduate of Michigan State University with a bachelor's degree in English and in 2006 received his teaching certificate from Eastern Michigan University. He currently is employed as a middle school teacher in Howell. An October 2007 wedding is planned in Detroit. The couple makes their new home in Farmington Hills.

BIRTHS



Eleanor Rose Hennessy

Patrick and Monica Hennessy of Canton Township announce the birth of their daughter Eleanor Rose Hennessy at 1:19 a.m. Aug. 3, 2007, at Royal Oak William Beaumont Hospital. Eleanor Rose weighed 7 pounds, 3 ounces and was 21 inches long at birth. Grandparents are Michael and Oletta Hennessy Rodney and Leah Collins. Great grandmother is Annie Ruth Collins.

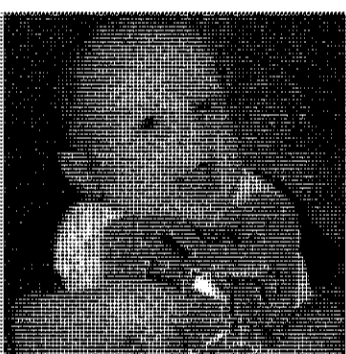


Reed-

Borowski

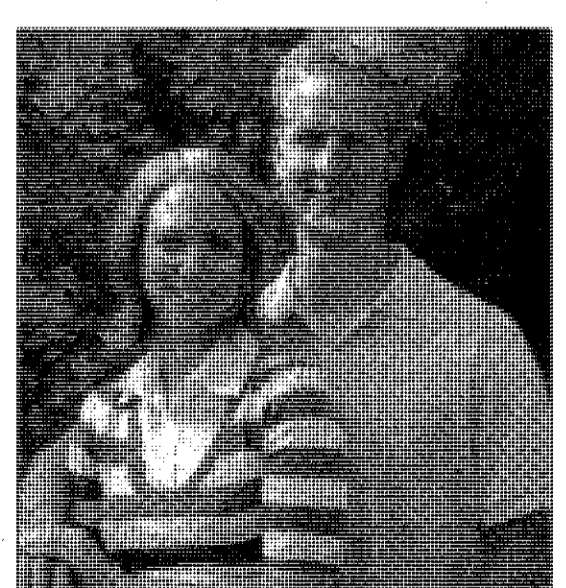
Tom and Diane Reed of Kimball, Mich., announce the engagement of their daughter, Jacqueline Lee Reed of Ann Arbor, to Kevin

Joseph Borowski of Ann Arbor, the son of Dennis and Cathey Borowski of Canton. The bride-to-be has completed her master's degree at Eastern Michigan University and is employed by the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. The prospective groom has completed his bachelor of science degree at Eastern Michigan University and is also employed at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. A Feb. 12, 2008 wedding is planned in Maui, Hawaii.



Chase Matthew McDougall

Carol and Doug McDougall of Livonia announce the birth of their son, Chase Matthew McDougall, on May 22, 2007, at Garden City Hospital. Chase's brothers and sisters are Megan, 18; Andy, 16; Caitlyn, 10; Charles, 7; and, Cassie, 5. Grandparents are Ed and Mary Ann Sulick of Livonia and Larry and Marilyn McDougall of Tarpon Springs, Fla.

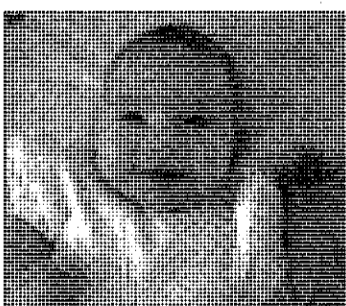


Sullivan-

Kiefer

Patrick and Ellen Sullivan of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Ellen Jean Sullivan, to Zachary Kiefer of Hazel Park. The bride-to-be is a 1997 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and a 2001 graduate of Western

Michigan University with a degree in occupational therapy. She is employed by Excel Rehabilitation in Westland. The prospective groom is the son of Kenneth and Denise Kiefer of Lake Orion. He is a 1996 graduate of Lake Orion High School and a 2000 graduate of Allegheny College in Pennsylvania. He received a master's degree from Michigan State University in Environmental Engineering in 2003. He is employed at NTH Consultants of Detroit. An October, 2007, wedding is planned for Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church in Detroit.



Sophia Pearl Stoops

Jason and Kristin Stoops of Livonia are the proud parents of Sophia Pearl Stoops, who was born on March 25, 2007, in Royal Oak. Sophia weighed 7 lbs 14 oz and was 20 inches long. Sophia joins her big sister Gabriella Stoops. Brent and Debra Stoops of Plymouth Township and Neil and Kathleen Skaar of Birmingham are the proud grandparents. Sophia is also welcomed by her great-grandparents John and Beverly Stoops of Plymouth Township, Charles and Phil Cortright of Farmington Hills, and Daphne Such of Howell.

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Four Out of Five Cases Use it as a Last Resort and More Than 90% Get Well!

Through the billions of dollars spent every year on drug ads, we have become programmed to respond to our illnesses with custom-made medications. If they don't work, we go straight to prescription medications. When the drugs fail to return us back to health, there are no other choices than to try dangerous experimental medications or to perform surgery.

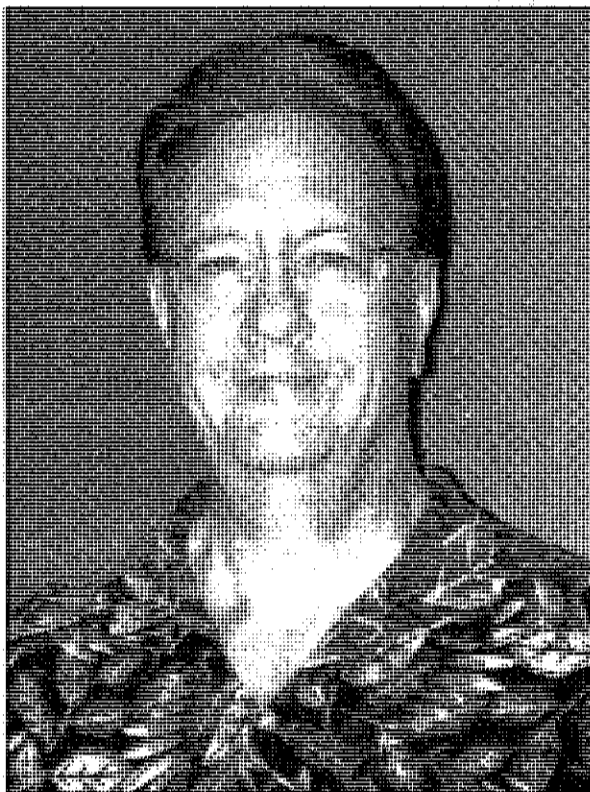
My name is Dr. Daniel Laframboise and my purpose in practice as a Chiropractor is to educate and adjust the families of Livonia back to optimal health and wellness using a completely unique and natural approach. I have been serving the health care needs of Livonia and the surrounding communities for 32 years and have received additional certification in pre-natal and pediatric Chiropractic care.

I'd like to share some incredible information with you. Most people report feeling totally helpless when they go to the doctor because, if they don't choose drugs, what else is there to do? More and more people are learning about a new and different choice for their life and health. Those with the toughest cases that don't respond to traditional care are now achieving extraordinary results and regaining healthy lives. So how could this choice be used as a last resort?

What You Weren't Supposed To Find Out Is Your Body Can Completely Heal Itself

Chemistry doesn't control your body - intelligence does. Your innate (inborn) intelligence creates all the chemistry and keeps it in

balance. More than two million functions are performed every minute in your body. The brain and central nerve system carry "wellness messages" to each of the seventy trillion cells that make up a human being. **As long as you have 100% nerve supply, you are likely to experience normal, healthy function.** The problem exists when abnormal stress enters your body and causes an interruption to the nerve system. When healthy nerve



Dr. Daniel Laframboise

flow is interfered with or "trapped," the body's chemistry goes out of balance and normal body function is jeopardized. By removing the nerver interference, the intelligence of your body is allowed to automatically re-balance body chemistry and to generate extraordinary healing capabilities. Amazingly, stress most often attacks the spine, creating misalignment and then affecting the nerve system (a condition known as subluxation). This revolutionary approach to achieving and sustaining optimal health has spawned the fastest growing drug-free health profession in the world. Millions of people worldwide, including your neighbors right here in Livonia, have adopted a new philosophy for the health and well being of their families.

One Important Check-Up Could Make The Difference Between Chronic Suffering and a Healing Breakthrough

Abnormal body functions like asthma, allergies, headaches, chronic pain, fatigue and lowered immunity could be associated with a disturbance in nerve flow.

If you or a loved one is suffering needlessly, you have another choice. You can make the decision that millions of people around the world and many here in Livonia are making every month. It all begins with a thorough history and consultation, including a complete spinal exam, vital nerve testing, and specific weight-bearing x-rays. Normally this evaluation would costs up to \$310. However, through this special offer, you can **receive this complete evaluation for just a \$35 donation to Salvation Army Brightmoor CORPS, our Charity for the month of August.**

Because of the response expected from this incredible opportunity, **we can only guarantee availability for the first 20 people who call and schedule an appointment.** Don't wait to call us before spreading the word to another family member or friend who may be ready to take advantage of such a generous offer. **Call ANDAN Chiropractic Clinic today!** We are located at **18444 Farmington Road in Livonia (between 6 & 7 Mile Roads). "THE FAMILY WELLNESS HEADQUARTERS"**

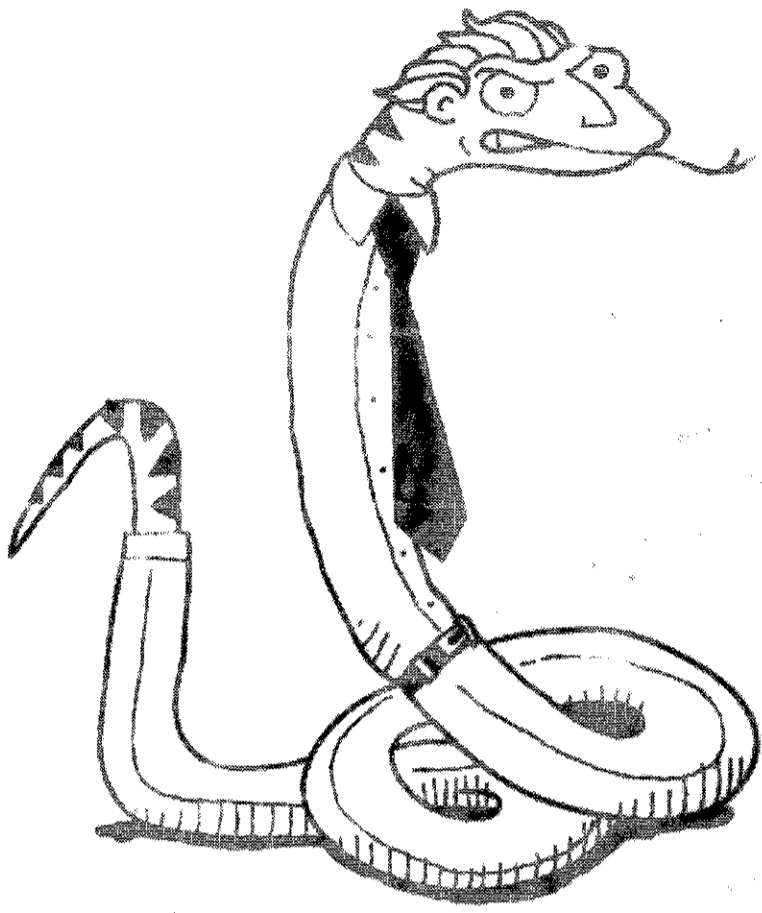
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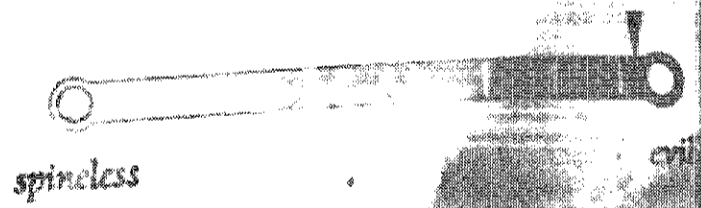
How to identify: Found near printers, copiers and conference rooms, this dangerous creature may seem harmless, but beware. The Office Snake can strike quickly when it sees a successful project it can add its name to. Identifying characteristics include a prominent MBA and sharp teeth to extract credit quickly and painfully.

How to protect yourself: Draw its attention away with a conference report and get to CareerBuilder.com as soon as possible to find a better job.

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Beware: All tobacco is dangerous to health

Mary from Waterford says her husband switched from smoking to chewing tobacco. He insists it is not as bad as cigarettes. Is this true?

Absolutely not! All tobacco is horrible for your health. Get rid of it! In fact a new study found all forms of tobacco, whether it is cigarettes, cigars, a pipe or chewing tobacco, can cause you to have a heart attack.

Researchers found using tobacco doubles and in some cases can even quadruple the risk of a heart attack. Previous studies have also confirmed any sort of tobacco use increases your risk of cancer and stroke.

Cigarette smoking is the leading most preventable cause of death in the United States. One out of every five deaths is due to smoking. That is about a half million people each year.

Our children are at risk as well! More than 5 million children today will die a premature death because of tobacco use. We need to educate them so they don't start!

Mary from White Lake is having a lot of barbecues this summer and she is also trying to lose weight. What can she serve that is healthy and delicious?

- Mary, check these out!
1. Chilled soups, like cucumber dill. Research shows a low-calorie, broth-based soup at the beginning of the meal will fill you up so you eat less.
 2. Grilled vegetables. They are delicious on the grill and packed with antioxidants and other good stuff.
 3. Fresh fruit. Ditch the high-calorie dessert and serve fruit instead.

The best way to lose weight this summer is load up on fruits and vegetables. Produce is at its peak in summer. Besides being lower in calories, produce is loaded with vitamins, minerals, antioxidants and fiber.

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

Boosting immunity

Vaccines prevent contagious diseases

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Dr. Teresa Holtrop is troubled by the growing incidence of pertussis (whooping cough) in children. That's why the pediatrician is urging parents to not only immunize their children before the first school bell, but to make sure their boosters are up to date as well.

Whooping cough can cause rib fractures, pneumonia and hospitalization. In April, Holtrop sent three young patients to the intensive care unit of Children's Hospital of Michigan in Detroit. In each case, the child contracted pertussis from a parent or older sibling. The disease could have been prevented if their family member had received a Tdap booster.

In 2005, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention were so concerned about the increase in whooping cough nationally the governmental agency licensed Tdap vaccines for diphtheria and tetanus that include protection against pertussis. For years, adolescents and adults received Tdap boosters against diphtheria and tetanus only. Immunity to pertussis wanes about five to 10 years after completion of childhood vaccination, leaving adolescents and adults susceptible to pertussis, according to the CDC.

"I've been in practice 20 years and never seen this much pertussis," said Holtrop, a pediatrician at Children's Hospital in the Detroit Medical Center and director of the CATCH pediatric mobile team that brings health care and immunizations to at-risk children in Detroit. CATCH was founded in 1987 by then Detroit Tigers manager Sparky Anderson and stands for Caring Athletes Together with Children's Hospital of Michigan and Henry Ford Hospital.

"We've had a rise in younger children getting whooping cough. Teens and adults should really get Tdap. Older folks can usually get through without too many problems, but I've treated infants with pertussis and they're really sick."

Pertussis isn't the only infectious disease worrying Holtrop as a pediatrician. In addition to recommending a second dose of chicken pox vaccine for both sexes, she suggest girls between the ages of 9 and 26 receive Gardasil to prevent cervical cancer. Her daughters, ages 21 and 16, have had all their shots.

"It's been very important to me. For most parents, if we have ever seen chicken pox it was not a big deal, but I've seen complications — infections in the eye when chicken pox blisters in the eye, mild encephalitis," said Holtrop, of Beverly Hills.

Bacterial meningitis is an inflammation of the lining around the brain and spinal cord, which can leave those who survive with amputated limbs, severe scarring, brain damage and hearing loss.

The Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan recently held a clinic at the Detroit Zoo to vaccinate children ages 11 to 18 and college freshmen living in dorms against the contagious disease.

Kay Renny has three children, including twin 13-year old boys, so she made sure they've all had tetanus and bacterial meningitis



Lucretia Johnson, a registered nurse with the Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan, gives Melissa Ponce of Plymouth a meningitis vaccination during a Zoo Shot Party at The Detroit Zoo on Aug. 8. Ponce is going to major in psychology at the University of Illinois this fall.

WALK-IN IMMUNIZATION CLINICS

The Oakland and Wayne county health departments offer free immunizations for children without insurance.

- **Oakland County Health Division** offers three clinic locations from noon to 8 p.m. Monday and 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, at the County Service Center in Pontiac, 1200 N. Telegraph, north of Elizabeth Lake Road, south of Dixie Highway, Building 36 East, call (248) 858-1305; in Southfield at 27725 Greenfield at 111/2 Mile (Catalpa), (248) 424-7046; and Walled Lake, 1010 E. West Maple, east of Pontiac Trail, (248) 926-3361. For more information, visit the Web site at www.co.oakland.mi.us/health.
- **Wayne County Department of Public Health**, 33030 Van Born at Venoy, Wayne. Call (734) 727-7100. Immunization hours are 8-10:30 a.m. and 12:30-3:30 p.m. Monday and Thursday or until filled to capacity, first-come, first-served basis. Tuesday-Wednesday and Friday by appointment only for children. No fee for children through age 18, but donations gratefully accepted. Clinic does not accept HMOs for children's immunizations.
- **Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan** offers tetanus, bacterial meningitis and HPV (human papillomavirus) vaccinations at its Oak Park clinic, 25900 Greenfield, between I-696 and 11 Mile, Suite 600 in the Crown Pointe Plaza. The clinic prefers appointments, but walk-ins welcome from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday-Friday. For more information, visit www.vna.org or call (248) 967-8755.

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vaccinations.

"For bacterial meningitis, it's not only back to college, but 11- to 12-year-olds entering middle school, all of that socializing that takes place with band and club. They start sharing bottles, food items and lip gloss. These are similar actions of kids entering dorms," said Renny of Rochester. Renny, an R.N., is manager of community programs at VNA of Southeast Michigan.

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

Volunteers are sought for Alzheimer's study

Every day, millions of Americans swallow capsules or spoonfuls of fish oil, hoping that the omega-3 fatty acids inside will protect their brains against memory loss and dementia, or have other beneficial effects. But even though there's some evidence linking omega-3s to a beneficial effect on the brain, the jury is still out on whether it really works — and therefore whether the supplements are worth the millions of dollars spent on them.

That's why a new national study has been launched at 51 sites, including the University of Michigan Health System, to test the effects of omega-3s in people with a high immediate risk of brain decline: those in early stages of Alzheimer's disease.

The study may provide answers on whether omega-3 fatty acids can slow the disease's progression — an important goal considering 5 million Americans currently have Alzheimer's and the number will grow quickly in coming decades.

U-M is now seeking men and women who are 50 years old or older, who have been diagnosed with suspected Alzheimer's disease and are still in the mild to moderate stages of the disease, to take part in the study. Each participant must have a loved one who is willing to be a study partner for the entire 18 months of the study.

The study is one of many offered by the Michigan Alzheimer's Disease Research Center, one of only 33 federal Alzheimer's disease centers in the nation and the only one in Michigan. The center and the study are funded by the National Institute on Aging, part of the National Institutes of Health. More information on the center and its studies, including the fish oil study, is online at www.med.umich.edu/alzheimers.

Dr. R. Scott Turner, the Alzheimers specialist leading the study at U-M, notes that the new study will specifically look at the effect of DHA, a specific type of omega-3 fatty acid that is thought to act upon cells in the brain.

"It appears that DHA acts as an antioxidant in the brain and can affect the production of, and protect brain cells against, the harmful effects of amyloid protein," Turner explains. Amyloid, specifically a form called beta-amyloid, is a leading culprit in the progression of Alzheimer's disease.

The new study will randomly assign 60 percent of participants to take four capsules containing DHA each day. The rest will receive placebo capsules that look and smell like the DHA capsules, but that contain no omega-3 fatty acids. Participants can continue to take Alzheimer's drugs that they've been taking for four months or more.

Only by testing DHA in this randomized, placebo-controlled manner will researchers obtain results that they can attribute to the effect of the omega-3 fatty acids, Turner explains.

The active capsules will provide a total of 2 grams of DHA per day. To further control the conditions of the study, participants may not take additional omega-3 supplements and fish oil during the study, and they must agree to limit their consumption of cold-water fish, which naturally contain omega-3 fatty acids.

The study will measure participants' thinking ability, memory and other attributes at eight points during the study, as well as take blood samples to look for biomarkers related to Alzheimer's. Some participants may also opt to have MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) scans of their brain, or to provide other samples for biological testing.

Study participants must be living at home or in an assisted-living facility at the time they join the study; nursing home residents may not take part. People with a history of stroke, or with a current diagnosis of epilepsy, depression, cancer or other major illnesses are not eligible.

At the start of the study, each prospective participant will receive an evaluation that will allow the U-M researchers to confirm suspected Alzheimer's disease or determine if another form of dementia is causing the symptoms. Because Alzheimer's impairs a person's ability to make judgment decisions, both the subject and his or her study partner will be asked to sign documents consenting to take part in the study. The study partner must be someone who sees the patient at least twice a week and can accompany him or her to all study visits.

For more information on Alzheimer's research at U-M, contact Joanne Lord, Clinical Research Coordinator, at (734) 647-7760, or jlord@umich.edu. For more information on other U-M research studies currently seeking participants, visit www.umengage.org.

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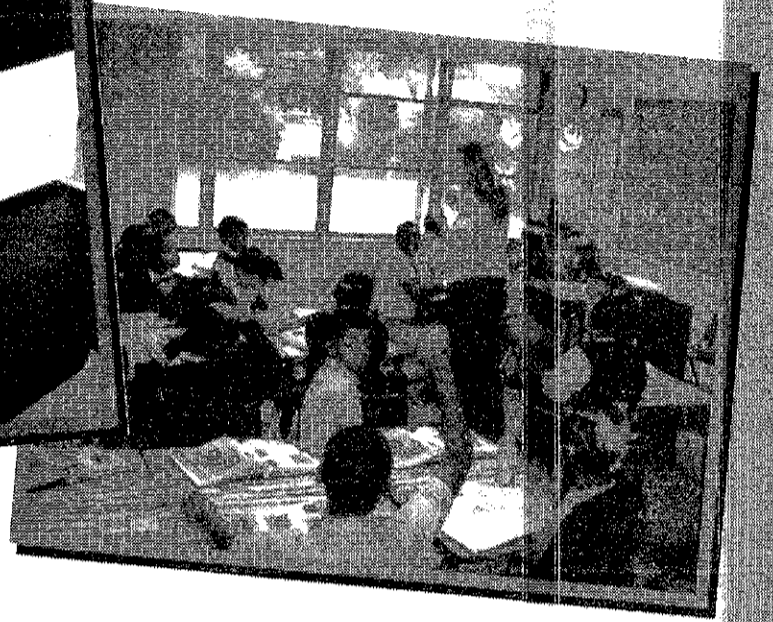
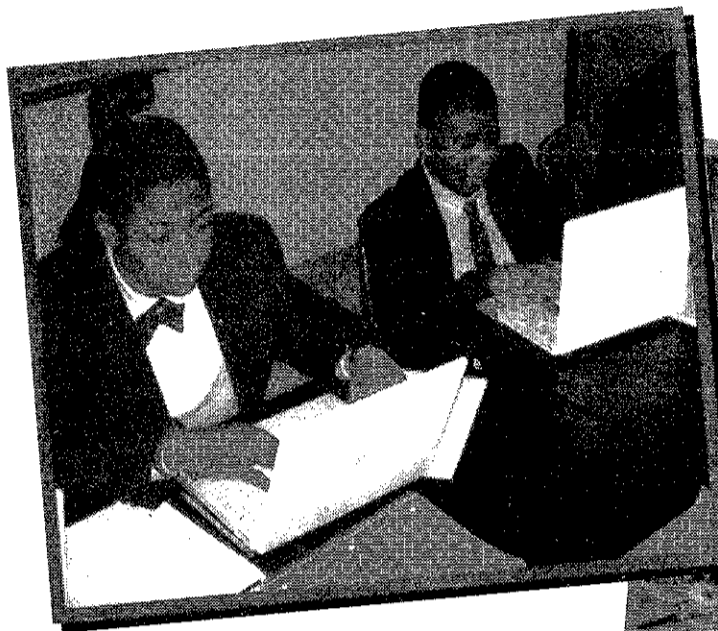
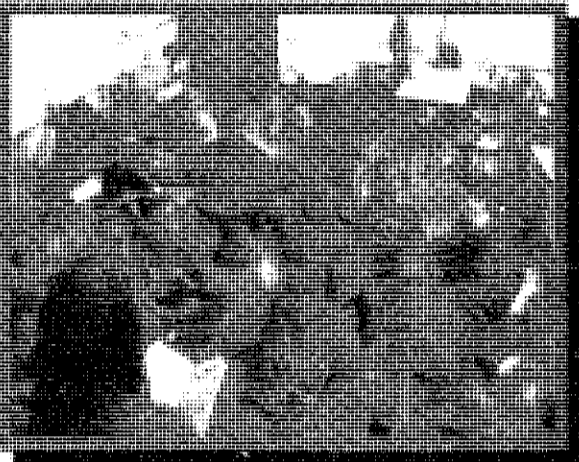
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ELA 8	59.1%	69.4%
Math 3	91.1%	87.0%
Math 4	83.0%	81.6%
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