

SUNDAY August 26, 2007

# WESTLAND Observer



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Terry Zentz of Westland stocks shelves with toys and household goods donated to the Tried and True Thrift store.

## Rain floods homes and cancels race

BY DARRELL CLEM STAFF WRITER

Water flooded Vickie Gordon's basement as heavy rains pounded Westland in recent days, ruining her new carpet and disrupting the area where her autistic, 13-year-old son plays and learns.

"For us it has been pretty devastating," she said Thursday.

Gordon's home, on Melvin, was one of at least 11 houses where city officials said basement flooding had occurred as rains started drenching Westland on Monday.

The flooding upset Gordon's son because he couldn't return to his personal space, where his

exercise mats, books and other learning aids had been kept before the family moved them to a safe, dry area.

Workers had just started installing her new carpet when the water rose to 4 inches inside her basement, north of Ann Arbor Trail between Merriman and Middlebelt.

"I didn't even get a chance to walk on the new carpet," Gordon said. "We had to cut the drywall out, the carpet has been removed, the tiles are coming up in the bathroom, and the built-in shelves are caving in because the walls got wet."

"We don't have flood insurance."

Please see FLOOD, A3

## Store provides 'better wages' for disabled

BY SUE MASON STAFF WRITER

A pile of clothes lays at Megan Turner's feet. She checks them one by one, putting some on hangers and putting others in a different pile.

"I'm looking for spots and tears," the Wayne resident said. "I put the rips in the bad pile. We don't want them to go to waste, so we give them to poor people who don't have clothes."

Welcome to the Tried and True Thrift Store. Owned by the Services to Enhance Potential, or STEP, the thrift



Kristin Haydon fills a bag for a customer at the thrift store. Donations include everything from clothing and furniture to collectable figurines, plates and glassware.

BILL BRESLER STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

store provides employment for disabled adults.

"We provide a skill building service, job placement, job development and support coordinator service," said David Bourque, a STEP resource center director. "Our main focus is to help them enter the work force. It's not a sheltered workshop, we want them to

earn a decent wage."

Bourque admits that finding a job, let alone a job for a disabled person, is a "tall order in this dreadful economy." So STEP decided to take the bull by the horns and buy the thrift shop, giving 12 individuals a chance to "earn better

Please see STORE, A3

## 83-year-old man robbed, assaulted

BY DARRELL CLEM STAFF WRITER

An 83-year-old man was robbed and assaulted in broad daylight Thursday outside a Westland apartment building, police said.

The victim was approached from behind in a parking lot of Willow Creek Apartments, on Newburgh south of Ford, police Lt. Daniel Karrick said.

"He felt something push into his back which he thought was a gun, but he didn't see a gun," Karrick said. "He gave the subject the money from his wallet. The subject slapped him in the face and left in a vehicle."

The robbery happened just moments after noon Thursday at Willow Creek, an apartment complex north of the city's senior citizen Friendship Center.

The victim didn't fall or sustain any serious physical injuries, Karrick said.

The bandit was described as a white male, about 45 years old, 5 feet 11 and 185 pounds. He had brown hair and was clean shaven.

He wore blue jeans and a T-shirt.

The assailant drove off in what Karrick said was believed to be a light blue or light gray, older Toyota car.

Anyone who has information about the robbery is urged to call the Westland Police Department at (734) 722-9600 or (734) 721-6311.

Meanwhile, Police Chief James Ridener offered the following safety tips for seniors, who can be particularly vulnerable to outdoor robberies.

■ They should be aware of their surroundings and not walk into a situation that appears potentially threatening.

■ If possible during an incident, use a key fob, such as one that operates a car alarm system, to make noise.

"It's like a panic button," Ridener said. "Criminals don't like loud noises. It draws attention."

A whistle may be a viable alternative.

■ When possible, walk with a companion because there's "safety in number," Ridener said. "If they don't have to be by themselves, then don't do it."

■ When spotting someone who looks suspicious, be wary.

"If they feel that someone doesn't belong there, stay inside and call the police," Ridener said. "We'll come out and check it out."

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## County jail escapee sentenced to prison for robbery

BY DARRELL CLEM STAFF WRITER

Former Westland fugitive Jason David Shuford, who escaped the Wayne County Jail for a week while he was awaiting his sentence for armed robbery, has started a prison term that will last at least nine years.

"He will be out of our community for a long period of time, which will make our community safer," Westland Police Chief James Ridener said.

Before his escape in June, Shuford was poised to begin serving seven to 20 years for armed robbery and two years for felony firearms — charges related to a February holdup on Belding Court, in Westland's Norwayne neighborhood.

Shuford also learned within recent weeks that he will serve one to four years in prison for switching identities with another jail inmate and escaping for a week before his June 17 capture in Ohio, 50 miles north of Dayton.

Ultimately, Shuford pleaded guilty to escape, armed robbery and felony firearms charges. According to the Michigan Department of Corrections, his earliest release date will be April 30, 2016.

Put another way, Shuford, 24, will be 33 before he is even considered for release.

Shuford had lived on Hubbard in Westland. In early June, he had been free on bond before he was returned to jail to await his sentencing for armed robbery.

During his free time, Shuford was the intended victim of a June 3 robbery at his

then-residence on Hubbard near Palmer. He wasn't at home, but his 26-year-old roommate survived being shot when assailants forced their way into the house.

Jason William Hicks, 25, is still awaiting trial for that shooting. Testimony during a preliminary hearing in Westland indicated that Hicks wanted to rob Shuford of money he received from selling a car.

Hicks is charged with assault with intent to murder, armed robbery, first-degree home invasion, felony firearms, being a felon in possession of a firearm and being a fourth-degree habitual offender. If convicted, he could face penalties ranging up to life in prison.

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Coming Thursday in Filter



Filter revs up for a weekend of racing, art and music during 3 Days in The D.





MaryAnn Mijal of Canton has worked with STEP for 22 years and says hanging clothing on the sales floor is her favorite job at the Tried and True Thrift Store in Wayne.

**STORE**  
FROM PAGE A1

wages and expand job opportunities." The store is located in a storefront that was once an SS Kresge store on Michigan Avenue in Wayne. Painted in a retro green and orange colors, it's filled with clothing, household items, small appliances, furniture, children's toys and books. All the money raised goes to pay wages and support the store. Client Terry Zentz is glad he's working there and earning money. It lets him pay for karate classes, something he has wanted to do. "This job keeps me busy," added the Westland resident. According to manager Leah Cooley, STEP was familiar with the store before buying it. It was one of the places clients went and did volunteer work. "They came as a volunteer group and sorted donations. Now STEP owns it and they do the sorting, learn customer relations, merchandising and marketing," she said. Organization is a big deal at the store and all of the employees learn everything.

Items are color-coded, making it easy to place them on the floor. The focus is on the employees finding their niche. Once they do, then they'll train another employee. Plus having a job is an esteem builder, Cooley said. "Getting their first paycheck makes a big difference in their lives. It makes them feel like they're contributing," she said. Working at the thrift store is Aubry Uhl's first time in retail. She found out on a Friday that she was working at the store starting the next Monday. "I don't know if I like it all, but I have to say the one thing I like best is pricing and tagging," the Livonia resident said. "I don't know why, maybe because it's the easiest thing to do." MaryAnn Mijal of Canton loves working at the store. Like Uhl, her favorite job is pricing and hanging clothes on the sales floor. "I've been working with STEP for 22 years and my favorite job is here because I get more money," she said. "I save my money for clothes. I even bought something here." In the back room, Kaytee

Bellows of Garden City is Turner's job coach. "She's a good worker, a great worker," Bellows said. "She's my sorting lady, my go-to gal. She sorted eight bags of clothes yesterday." This is the second summer Bellows has worked for STEP. During the school year, she's a substitute at the Burger Center for Students with Autism in Garden City, but may stick with STEP. "It's hard to say you love your job, but I do love my job. This is the best crew," Bellows said. "This place when it started was a debacle, but they've been working so hard. They did a great job." The store had its grand opening July 20 and has a steady stream of customers. "Every day it gets better and better," Bourque said. "People see the changes. We've had a lot of comments about them." The Tried and True Thrift Store is located at 35004 Michigan Ave., just east of Wayne Road, in Wayne. It's open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call (734) 728-9777. smason@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2112

**FLOOD**

FROM PAGE A1

ance because we're not in a flood zone," she said, "but we do have a rider that could cover part of it." Thursday afternoon, Westland Public Service Director Kevin Buford said city workers still were trying to determine what caused water to flood basements. One possible suspect: So-called "weeping tiles" may not have drained properly around the perimeter of basement floors of homes built in the 1950s and 1960s. "All of our city (water) mains are running properly," Buford said. A new round of storms Thursday night caused some power outages in Westland, he said, but no new flooding was reported to the city. As of Friday morning, Westland hadn't sustained nearly as much storm damage as some communities, but that did little to console people like Gordon, who said flooding appeared fairly widespread in her neighborhood early in the week. Buford said city workers took disinfectant cleaner to homes where they knew flooding had

occurred. "We're doing everything we can to help out," he said, adding that he had personally visited several homeowners. Heavy rains also canceled a senior citizen bicycle race that was supposed to occur Thursday along Hines Drive in Westland. Flooding had closed much of Hines Park. The bike race was to be part of the Western Wayne County Senior Olympics. "I was so disappointed," Westland Senior Resources Director Peggy Ellenwood said. "Next year we're going to try again." Meanwhile, Buford said residents who have flooding — now or in the future — should call the Public Service Department at (734) 728-1770. He said calls during after-business hours should go to the Westland Police Department at (734) 722-9600. The city can send a claim form to homeowners who have flood-related damage. However, the city — or more specifically its insurance carrier — will not pay for repairs unless the problem is actually determined to be the city's fault. dclem@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2110

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After surviving from a double lung and heart transplant Joe North, left, partnered up with John Coopersmith to open Munchies Pizza.

## Second chance

### Transplant patient savors life, nine-topping pizza

BY REBECCA JONES  
STAFF WRITER

Joe North says he can work circles around most kids these days.

At 53, the Westland resident puts in 84 hours per week at his own pizza shop, Munchies Pizza on Middlebelt in Livonia. "I feel good when I'm working," he said. "Everybody tells me it's too much work, but the doctors tell me to do what I enjoy doing."

The doctors North refers to are the ones monitoring his progress since his heart and double lung transplant, June 1, 1998.

At first, those doctors told him he would never work again.

"I've been very lucky," North said.

North suffered from emphysema and a weakening of the heart.

"I smoked. I worked in an injection molding plastics shop and I was a volunteer firefighter," he said. "It doesn't matter what I did, it was bad for me."

He got sick at age 37. For five years, North was not able to work. He spent four years in a wheelchair.

At his low point, his heart was functioning at 13 percent; his lungs had just 7-percent function. He had been on the transplant waiting list for one day shy of five years when the University of Michigan called to say they had the organs of an 18-year-old donor.

North, a father of four, still doesn't know anything about the person who gave him a

second chance. His efforts to contact the donor's family were unsuccessful.

"They must have been some really great people, I'll tell you that," North said. "That's the ultimate gift."

After his surgery, North tried to go back to work, but says no one would hire him because of his medical history. After a brief stint working as a power washer, North turned to delivering pizzas. He liked it.

"I got to meet people. I like talking a lot," he said.

After a few years of delivering and managing pizzerias from Ypsilanti to Canton, North approached his cousin's husband, John Coopersmith of Livonia, whom he regarded as a good businessman.

"He said, 'I'd like to open a pizza place,'" Coopersmith remembers. "By that Friday, we were buying this place."

North focused his energy on the business, with Coopersmith, a retired tool and die worker, as a silent partner and co-owner Jamie Verhines, Coopersmith's son-in-law who also works in home construction, helping to get it off the ground.

Now, Munchies is a pizza provider for the Clarenceville School District, and North is

working on earning other contracts in Redford and Livonia.

North also gives back to the schools, by offering promotions that drive business sharing profits with the schools.

Last November, Munchies hosted a party at Clarenceville Middle School for special needs students, who got to take over the kitchen and make their own pizzas.

Born and raised in Michigan, North enjoys hunting and fishing. He was out in the woods three months after his transplants, and he'll make up for his workaholic ways with some time off this hunting season. As for his health, since buying Munchies in May 2006, North hasn't called in sick yet.

"I wouldn't know who to call," he joked.

He goes to the doctor every three months for a checkup, and has had no problems.

"Things just keep getting better and better."

In fact, doctors have put no restrictions on his diet, meaning this triple-transplant patient can enjoy a nine-topping pizza.

His favorite is the Munchies Deluxe. That's pepperoni, ham, Italian sausage, onions, mushrooms, bacon, green peppers, black olives and mild peppers.

## Shared message spoke louder than money in race

BY REBECCA JONES  
STAFF WRITER

Hot dogs, lawn signs, campaign T-shirts, brochures and postage stamps rang up to \$33,133. That's the amount spent among candidates for three Livonia Public Schools board seats in the May election.

The six candidates' individual spending tallies range from \$4,430 to \$8,236, according to campaign records filed at the county clerk's office.

More money did not mean more votes per candidate. Top vote-getter Lynda Scheel, now in her second term as board president, came in fourth in spending. Her campaign cost \$4,465. She said she spent less money this time around than in her first run for office.

However, she pooled resources with fellow incumbent Robert Freeman, whose campaign spent \$6,644, and Greg Oke in the running for a one-year term, who spent the least amount, \$4,430.

The three ran as a slate, using the same lawn signs, brochures and hot dog social, which saved money.

"We combined not only financial resources, but we wanted to spread the same message," Freeman said. He added that those amounts are "a pittance" compared to how much money is being raised and spent during Livonia's mayoral race.

Steve Futrell, in his first run for political office, raised and spent the most, \$8,236. He came in fourth among voters.

"We raised money that we felt we needed to," Futrell said. "At the end of the day, it's about getting the voters out there."

Futrell said he doesn't think that pouring more money into the race would have changed the results. What worked best, he found, was talking one-on-one with voters.

From a political point of view, Futrell said it's possible that combining resources with the other two challengers — Eileen McDonnell and Patrice Mang — might have helped him, but he

wanted to run an independent campaign.

"I don't think that's the right fight. ... I didn't want to be tied in and running with a group like that."

McDonnell spent \$4,433.01 on her campaign, while Mang, who faced Oke for the one-year seat, spent \$4,925.

The challengers ordered their own marketing materials and put out their own fund-raisers. They also contributed to each other's campaigns and had a few contributors in common.

Asked about a spending comparison, Futrell said, an individual running against a slate uses "a different measuring stick."

"It's more than just dollars and cents," he added.

The winning group had the support of the Michigan Education Association, which contributed \$500 to Scheel, Freeman and Oke after an interview with all six candidates. The MEA also carries a lot of influence, Futrell said.

The \$500 contribution was Scheel's largest from any one source. She had donations from LPS administrators and other employees, noting there is no conflict in that.

"I believe you should be able to accept contributions from anyone," she said. "If they're supporting you for the position, then it shouldn't be a problem. ... It's definitely their choice."

Futrell received two \$1,000 contributions, the maximum for an individual, each from Ignacio and Jacklyn Salazar, who had opposed the Legacy Initiative district consolidation and restructuring.

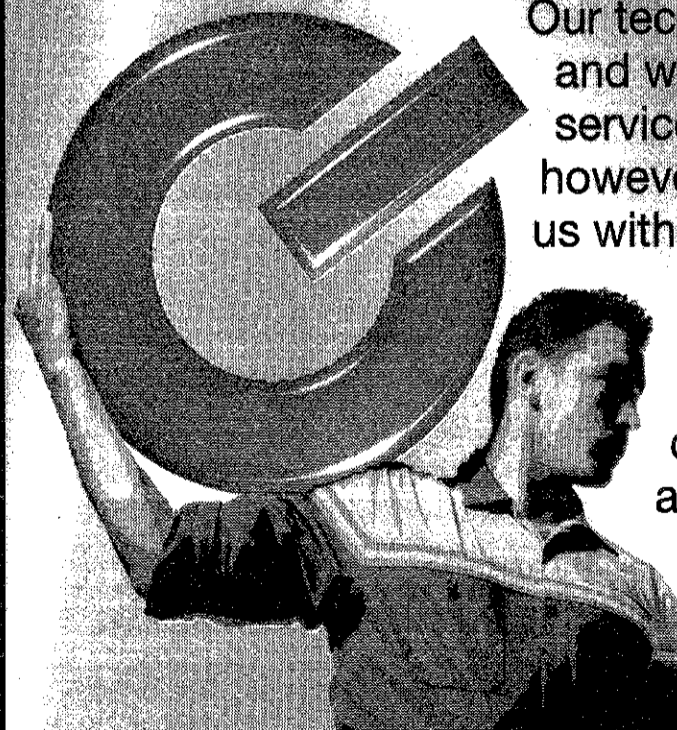
But Futrell said although many people saw the race as those who supported the Legacy Initiative vs. those who opposed it, that wasn't the case. "We probably did a poor job of getting people to see that."

Both Scheel and Freeman said campaign funds were well-spent. "When you're campaigning, you're getting information out to people," Scheel said. "Running a campaign opens your eyes to a lot of things."



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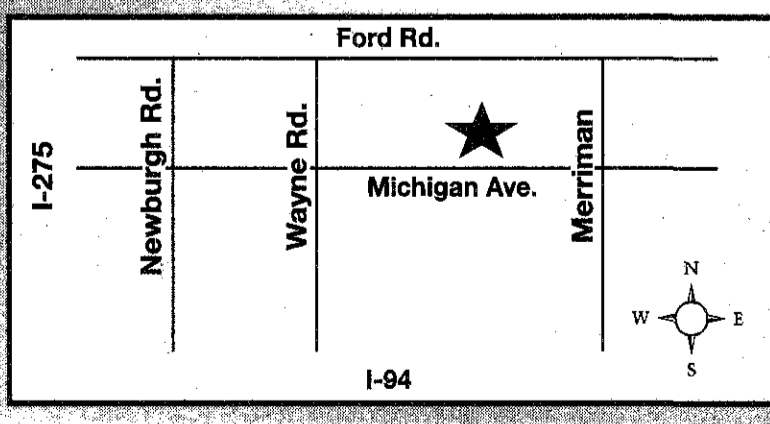
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# Paying off a mortgage depends on how much cash is needed

A couple years ago I bought a new house and I made the mistake of getting an adjustable rate mortgage. The rate has increased substantially and I am now paying over 7 1/2 percent. I owe a little over a \$100,000 on my mortgage. I am retired and I have an annuity coming due that I can cash out without penalty and pay the mortgage off. My broker, who originally arranged for the adjustable rate mortgage and sold me the annuity, wants me to refinance the mortgage and then to transfer the old annuity into a new variable annuity. My Social Security and pension covers my living expenses, however, I will need some additional money on a monthly basis if I choose to refinance. I have no other deduction other than my mortgage. Which way do you think I should go?

Cash out your annuity, pay the taxes and use the proceeds to pay off your mortgage. This will solve your cash flow problem and allow you to begin saving money on a regular basis. Since you are not in the position of needing

income, the monthly savings can be invested in a growth product to provide you with income.

Many people make the decision to keep a mortgage because of the tax write-offs. Even though taxes are important, they are not the most important item. The most important item is how it affects your individual balance sheet.

In your situation, paying off the mortgage allows you to increase your net worth which is exactly what you want to achieve. In fact, by paying off the mortgage it may have no impact on your tax situation. After all, many people who are retired find that if they did not have mortgage they would be entitled to take the standard deduction which offsets any loss of the interest deduction.

The key question of whether you pay off your mortgage or not deals with your cash flow. If you have enough money coming from Social Security and pensions to cover your living expenses, then having a mortgage may make sense. If you are in a situation where you need income from your investments to cover living expenses, then paying off a mortgage is probably the way to go.

My reasoning is that when you look at what income investments are paying versus the cost of money, generally, you would be borrowing money at a higher rate than the income you

would get by investing.

**About 10 or 15 years ago, my husband and I did a Living Will along with a Living Trust. Nothing has changed in our family situation. Do we need to do anything?**

You need to make sure your estate plan is up to date.

It is important to remember you do estate planning not to avoid probate or to save on taxes, which good estate planning accomplishes. The real reason is simply because you love your family. The goal is to make things as easy as possible on your loved ones.

Throughout our lives we try to protect our loved ones, we should do the same upon our death.

I recommend a Medical Durable Power of Attorney. A Living Will basically is a statement that says if you do not have a quality of life, you do not want to be around. The problem with this document is it does not define quality of life and it does not appoint someone to make that determination.

A Medical Durable Power of Attorney includes the information in a Living Will but goes further to name an individual who will make the determination about quality of life.

It is important for everyone to have a current

Medical Durable Power of Attorney as even rules regarding those documents have changed over the last few years.

The Living Trust that was drafted 10 to 15 years ago may or may not need any changes made. Each Living Trust stands on its own and without reading the document it is impossible to tell whether an amendment is required. Every two to three years you should sit down with an estate planning attorney to make sure the document is up to date and meets your needs.

As for the Medical Durable Power of Attorney, you do not have to see an attorney to draft this document. Michigan offers a free fill-in-the-blank form known as the Michigan Patient Advocate Form. It is available in many locations including public libraries.

Like everything else in our lives, change is constant and it applies to estate planning. If you haven't done any estate planning it's about time.

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

# Butterfly Benefit boosts lung health

The American Lung Association of Michigan (ALAM) will hold its black tie fund-raiser, The Butterfly Ball, 6 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Nov. 3, at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center. Proceeds from the event will go for lung health research, education and advocacy.

The event will pay tribute to the General Motors Corp. for its development of FlexFuel vehicles, to community leader and philanthropist Sue Nine of Bloomfield Hills and to TV and

radio personality Charles Pugh of Detroit. GM, Nine and Pugh will be honored for helping to advance the mission of ALAM: promoting lung health and preventing lung disease.

The evening will be highlighted by music from Rhythm Society and include a cocktail reception, dinner, dancing and a live auction, featuring trips, dinners and a variety of experiences. Barbara L. Whittaker chairs The Butterfly Ball committee.

The ball is part of the asso-

ciation's yearlong, statewide Catch Your Breath: Women's Lung Health Campaign to raise awareness about women's lung health and funds for research into lung disease.

More than 70,000 women will die this year from lung cancer, more than from breast, ovarian and cervical cancers combined.

Nearly 10,000 Michigan women are living with life-threatening lung diseases such as lung cancer, asthma, emphysema and chronic obstructive

pulmonary disease (COPD). Thousands more have died. At the same time, lung cancer in never smokers is on the rise. Non-smoking-associated lung cancer is higher among women than men, and second-hand smoke has been established as a major cause.

The public is invited. Tickets are \$250 per person, and sponsorships are available. For tickets and information, contact Jessica Jimenez, development specialist, (248) 784-2018 or [jjimenez@alam.org](mailto:jjimenez@alam.org).

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# Excursion includes historic canal, train rides

The Royal Oak-based Bluewater Michigan Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society is sponsoring "Canal Boats and Railroad Tour," a one-day excursion Saturday, Sept. 8, to Waterville, Ohio, to see the Ohio canal boat system.

"Most Detroiters are unaware of the extensive Ohio canal boat system, which operated within 60 miles of here from the 1830s until the early 20th Century," said Bluewater Chapter Trip Chairman Jim Bradford.

The Canal Boats and Railroads Tour departs from The Henry Ford Centennial Library at 16301 Michigan Avenue in Dearborn by deluxe motor coach at 9 a.m. for Waterville, Ohio, southwest of Toledo. The Toledo Area MetroParks have restored locks and a section of the 1830s Miami & Erie Canal, which ran from Toledo, Ohio on Lake Erie to Cincinnati on the Ohio River.

Trip highlights include a leisurely one-hour trip up the canal on The Volunteer, an 1830s mule-drawn canal boat replica. Featured are stops at the Isaac Ludwig Mill operating saw and grist mill, an opportunity to shop in the General Store offering collectibles and gifts, a view of the large 19th Century Lock



Mules lead a canal boat on the Miami and Erie Canal in Ohio.

#44 restored to operation, and to be entertained by Toledo MetroParks staff in authentic period garb.

The tour then heads to Smitty's for a late 2 p.m. lunch. After lunch, there's a short jaunt to the Nickel Plate Road railroad depot in Waterville for a 90-minute train ride on the Toledo, Lake Erie & Western

Railway's Bluebird passenger train pulled by an 1950s Alco diesel locomotive.

Tickets are \$85.00 per person and must be ordered in advance.

Included are the motor-coach, canal boat ride, lunch at Smitty's, and the train ride. For more information or to order tickets using VISA,

MasterCard or Discover Card, contact the Bluewater Michigan Chapter NRHS at (248) 541-1000 or (800) 594-5162 Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Or order by check or money order payable to the Bluewater Michigan Chapter, NRHS at Office Box 296, Royal Oak, Michigan 48068-0296.

# Writers group holds songwriters seminar

The Detroit Writer's Guild Songwriters Seminar will be 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29, at the second floor ballroom of the Student Center, Wayne State University.

The seminar for aspiring songwriters will include converting poetry to songs, melodies, rhythms, copyrights, songwriter's contracts, publishing, sampled music and music loops, collaborating, and other legal matters. Learn from professionals in the business such as Eric Morgeson (Studio A), Melvin Moy (Masterpiece Studios) Joel Howton (Musician / Arranger), Stephanie Hammonds

(Entertainment Attorney) and Howard Hertz (Entertainment Attorney).

All music genres addressed. Admission is a \$25 donation (\$15 for students). To register, send Name, Address, Telephone and email with your check or money order payable to the Detroit Writers Guild to: DWG Songwriters Seminar, 18600 Conant Avenue, Detroit, MI 48234.

For more info: visit www.detroitwritersguild.com or call Sharon Floyd, 313-862-9453. The Writer's Guild is a non-profit organization.

# Ask about fire safety on your child's college campus

When you start packing your children up for college, consider their fire safety while they are away from home. The 2006-07 academic year was the most fatal one on record, as compiled by Campus



Tom Kiurski

Firewatch, a group dedicated to making colleges and universities across America fire safe.

There have been 20 campus-related fire deaths in the past academic

year, and the total of campus-related fire fatalities since January 2000 until present is an astounding 113. These are young men and women who died while away to prepare for their future.

Ask college representatives how many fires have occurred in the past year, and find out if the residence halls are equipped with automatic fire sprinkler systems. There has been nothing more effective in saving lives from fire by having a working automatic fire sprinkler system. Unlike the movies, only the sprinkler head(s) closest to the fire will activate. This will usually control or contain the fire until the fire

department arrives.

Another lifesaving device that is necessary is a smoke alarm. Hopefully your child's college has a fire alarm system. If they do not, purchase a battery-operated smoke alarm for their room. They are simple to mount (or keep on top of a dresser), and easy to maintain. You may need to give your child a call to remind them to change the batteries at least once a year. By having working smoke alarms, the chances that you will die in a fire decrease by half. Make sure you have

working smoke alarms in your home, and test them regularly.

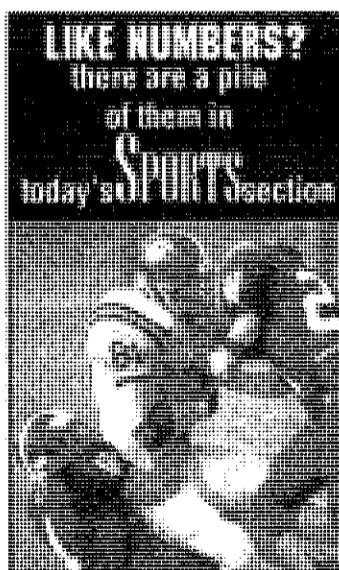
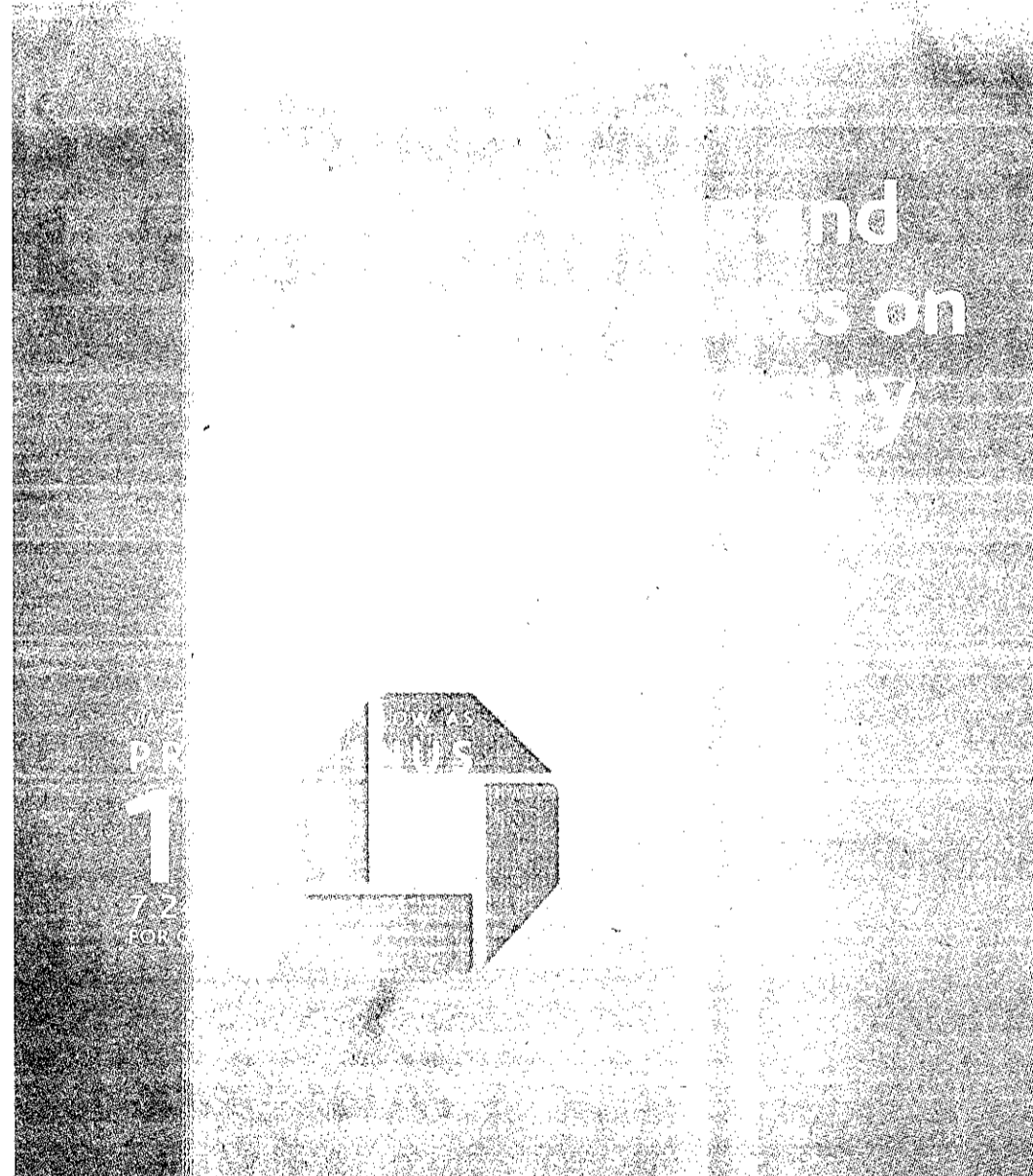
Find out if candles and Halogen lamps are prohibited in the dorm rooms. If they are not, they should be. If they are not prohibited, let your child know how dangerous these items can be. Unattended candles can easily find combustibles in small dorm rooms and Halogen lamps have bulbs that operate at temperatures over 1,000 Degrees Fahrenheit.

Go over the fire alarm procedure with your child before leaving them on their own.

Find the stairs out of the building, and practice using them. Find out where the fire extinguishers are located and make sure your child knows how to use them. Locate the fire alarm system and review how to use the alarm system, as well.

Your child may be leaving home for an extended period while away at college. If you have not discussed the items outlined above, take a few minutes to do so

Tom Kiurski is a Livonia firefighter.



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INFORMATION CENTRAL

# Death of a child

Long before Allison Newman died in foster care, her real parents struggled through a life of drugs and crime

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS  
STAFF WRITER

When an 18-year-old Anne Hirsch licked the stamp to her first jailhouse letter to Kenny Newman and threw it in the mail, she set the downward spiral of her life in motion.

The young couple's roller coaster relationship, which was riddled with drug abuse and breakups, hit bottom in September with the death of their youngest daughter, Allison, 2.

Carol Poole, one half of the Canton couple that had been granted custody of the happy, brown-eyed child, has been charged in connection with her death.

While palming a picture of his angelic granddaughter laid out in a coffin, Craig Hirsch, Anne's father, stares at a wall in his Canton apartment as if it holds the answers to his questions.

"I knew something was going to happen because they weren't done with the crack cocaine," he says blankly. "I just never knew it would be a death."

Hirsch said he isn't sure who gave Anne the contact information for Newman, then 20, in 1998. And he still can't pinpoint the exact reason she began writing him but says he believes it's because they are both deaf.

Although Hirsch was leery of Newman's interaction with his daughter, he gave him the benefit of the doubt when he was released from jail later that year.

"I thought he was a nice guy," Hirsch said. "He was clean cut and he brought her a rose everyday."

**'SHE WAS A GOOD KID'**

At that time, Anne, one of Hirsch's seven children, was a "good kid" who had always conquered her physical limitations, including cerebral palsy, and had thrived in cross country running and performed in student plays.

Hirsch, who raised Anne, now 27, on his own, offers a slight smile as he hands over a stack of her old report cards.

"She didn't smoke and didn't drink," he said. "All she and her sister did was play with each other's hair."

Within months of meeting Newman in person, Hirsch was pregnant with the couple's first daughter.

"I remember taking them all to Red Lobster when (the first daughter) was about three years old," Hirsch said. "They had some money in the bank and they were about to move into a trailer. That's the last time I remember them

doing well."

Soon afterward, Hirsch says the couple spun out of control when they began doing drugs together.

"I had retired and went to Florida, but I had to come right back when I found out she was doing drugs," he said. "I was only gone three months."

**UNABLE TO CHANGE**

Anne, who has entered rehab nine times, made an effort to kick cocaine when she got pregnant with Allison, Hirsch said.

When she was around six months old, Allison was placed in foster care and eventually ended up with the Pooles. She had previously lived with her older sister and paternal grandparents, Kenneth and Debbie Newman, in Westland. Hirsch said health problems prevented him from taking the child.

"I remember (the paternal grandfather) stating that he was glad Allison hadn't been placed in the ghetto, but was in Canton where everything is supposed to be la-dee-dah," Hirsch said. "I don't think any of us knew this would happen."

The Newmans, who have been at all of Poole's court appearances, have said they will hold off on comments until Poole's trial is over.

After Allison moved into the Poole's home, Anne appeared to want to turn her life around but Newman, now 29, was back in jail. He has an extensive criminal record, dating back to 1994.

Having entered a plea on four charges, including fleeing a police officer, assault with a dangerous weapon and receiving and concealing stolen property, Newman is in custody in a state prison in Jackson with a maximum release date of 2015.

Hirsch said his daughter and Newman are no longer in a relationship.

When Allison died, Hirsch said any of Anne's plans to get clean were gone. He believes it has been about a year since she's seen her oldest daughter, now 7. The girl, who left a note in her little sister's casket to tell God she said hello, still lives with her paternal grandparents.

"I have to go and hunt her down," Hirsch said. "I stand outside the drug houses with my camcorder and I wait. I know what time they get going."

Estimating that he's hit the streets more than 100 times to find Anne, Hirsch has gotten beat up and robbed in the process.

As he throws out a recent photograph that shows his left eye swollen shut and bruised,



Craig Hirsch holds a photo of his granddaughter, Allison Newman, and his daughter Anne Marie, running cross country in high school. Anne Marie, who is Allison's mother and sitting in the chair at left, has struggled with drug use for several years.

Hirsch said Anne mostly appears numb to Allison's death but will cry or get mad about the situation if she's high.

"If it were me, I'd be totally heartbroken if this happened to one of my kids," he said. "But with her, it doesn't last long."

**TRIAL WON'T BRING HER BACK**

Poole, 42, is accused of causing Allison's death when the child flew over a second-floor balcony during a game of "whirlybird."

Although the Canton woman has insisted the child's death was an accident, police say she gave them multiple explanations for Allison's injuries, which included a skull fracture. She has been charged with felony murder, first-degree child abuse and involuntary manslaughter.

Hirsch says he can only speculate about Poole's guilt but doesn't believe her acquittal or conviction will change anything.

"Nobody is going to win," he said. "Allison will still be gone and none of us know for sure what took place in that house."

After an unsuccessful attempt to visit Chrissy last month, Hirsch said Anne went off on yet another drug binge.

"My life is pure hell and I'm tired," he said flatly. "I gave my undivided attention to raising her, it's not like I was off somewhere doing my own thing. She was trying to fit in and got in over her head."

**Real Estate**

Due to the rise in private property ownership, real estate has developed into a huge business. It is not just relegated to buying and selling of property. The real estate industry now has multiple fields with specialists for each one. The complexities of real estate can seem daunting. To help obtain a better knowledge of some of the different facets of the business, check out the various resources offered by the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland.



No two properties are the same, so to know the true value of one, you will need a licensed or certified appraiser to conduct a real estate appraisal. Since there are many different types of values, as well as many different approaches to determining those values, it is a good idea to have a basic understanding of what your appraiser is doing and why. William L. Ventolo's Fundamentals of Real Estate Appraisal provides a quick tutorial of key definitions and concepts of real estate appraisal.

Real estate investment is a popular way of generating income for many. Before you get started, it is important to know what you are getting into. Investing in Fixer-Uppers: a Complete Guide to Buying Low, Fixing Smart, Adding Value, and Selling (or Renting) High by Jay P. DeCima and Real Estate Investor's Checklist: Everything You Need to Know to Find and Finance the Most Profitable Investment Properties by Robert Irwin both offer valuable information to someone new to investing.

The sales side of the business is referred to as real estate marketing. House buying and selling is the most talked about aspect of it, right now. Terry Eiler's How to Sell Your Home Fast, For the Highest Price, in any Market: From a Real Estate Expert Who Knows All the Tricks and Robert Irwin's Tips and Traps When Buying a Home, as well as Tips and Traps When Selling a Home all give sound advice for people interested in buying or selling.

To find out more about the real estate business, the Public Library of Westland is a great place to start. Stop by at the reference desk, call us at (734) 326-6123, or remotely search our catalog twenty-four hours a day at www.westland.lib.mi.us.

Andrea Perez

**Highlighted Activities**

**Internet 101 August 27, 2 p.m.** A beginner's guide to the Internet - how do I get around a web site, what IS a web site. No registration is required. Walk ins are welcome.

**Independent Movie Night Aug. 28, 7 p.m.** Join us for a screening of two nature films: Squirrel Wars and Cloud: Wild Stallion of the Rockies. All are welcome (children 10 and under must be accompanied by an adult).

**Science Fiction and Fantasy Discussion Group Aug. 29, 7 p.m.** We're back to the Grand Masters for this month's book. Some even call him one of the founders of the genre. Yep. Isaac Asimov, Foundation. Again, you truly cannot consider yourself a serious SF reader if you haven't read the Foundation series. Stop by or logon to our blog, <http://sfwestlandlibmius.blogspot.com>.

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

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## City completes 2nd round of mosquito abatement

The Westland Department of Public Service has successfully completed its second and final round of this year's mosquito abatement program.

The program includes treating 11,000 catch basins and areas such as retention ponds. The first round was completed in May.

In a prepared statement, Mayor William Wild called the program an important step to protect public health, due to the West Nile Virus.

In addition, DPS offers the following items for purchase to condominium associations, apartment managers, local businesses and the general public:

■ Bactimos briquettes, also known as "mosquito dunks," which are primarily used in bird-baths, gutters, small ditches, ponds, septic fields or any small area up to 100 square feet to eliminate mosquitoes.

■ Vectolex WSP biological larvicide water-soluble pouches, which eliminate mosquito growth in catch basins, storm drainage systems, and other medium size areas that hold or retain water.

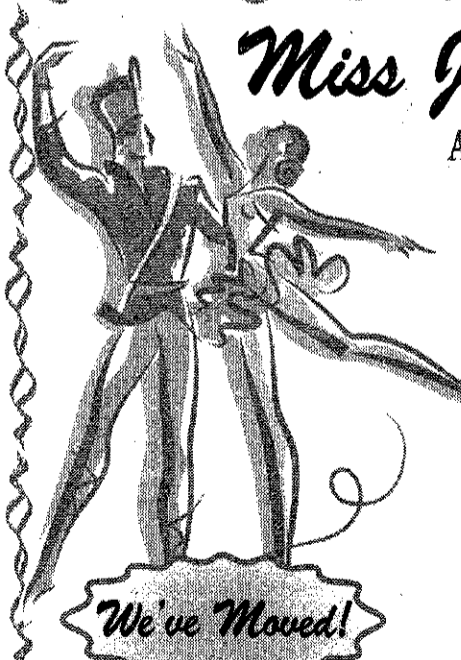
■ Altosid XR extended residual briquettes, which are used to treat larger areas that are wooded or difficult to reach.

In an effort to provide a savings to residents, these products are offered at cost. For rate information, call (734) 467-3242.

Moreover, city officials advised residents and business owners to consider an additional line of defense by emptying and changing the water in bird baths, fountains, wading pools, rain barrels, and potted plant trays at least once a week.

Keeping swimming pools treated and circulating and rain gutters unlogged is also recommended.

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# Seedlings founder a finalist for national award

Debra Bonde, founder and executive director of Seedlings Braille Books for Children in Livonia, is a finalist for the "Stand On A Better World" award from Mannington Mills, a leading manufacturer of fine flooring.

Mannington Mills has recognized Bonde for her work in furthering the non-profit mission of increasing braille literacy by making braille books for blind children, locally and around the world.

Mannington Mills celebrates women across the U.S. who are

making a positive impact in their communities or the world at large by offering a chance to win a Stand On A Better World Award in one of three categories: local, national, and global. One winner will be chosen in each award category, and one of those three will be the grand-prize recipient, receiving \$25,000 for the charity of her choice. The other two will receive \$10,000 for their chosen charities.

For the first time, Mannington Mills has added an additional award category,

Better Your World, which allows an opportunity for the public to cast a vote online for one of the finalists from Aug. 15 through Sept. 7. The winner of the Better Your World Award will receive \$10,000.

Visit the Mannington Mills award web site at [www.standonabetterworld.com/vote/](http://www.standonabetterworld.com/vote/) to read about Debra Bonde and the other women making a difference. Through this program, Mannington Mills hopes these stories will raise awareness and encourage others to make a difference.



Debra Bonde

# Culinary sponsors help education dreams come true

Sponsorships are still available for the 16th annual Schoolcraft College Culinary Extravaganza Sunday, Sept. 23 in the VisTaTech Center.

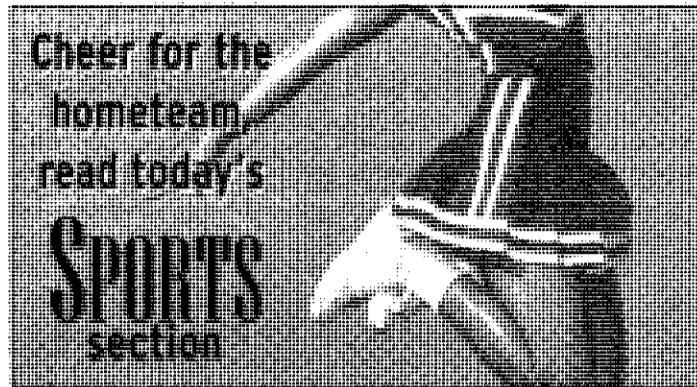
The food and wine event offers packages ranging from \$300 to \$5,000. All packages include complimentary tickets, pre and post event promotion and other benefits.

The event helps fund student scholarships at Schoolcraft College. Since its inception in

1991, Culinary Extravaganza has raised more than \$1.5 million to support Schoolcraft students.

More than 50 restaurants, pastry shops and beverage vendors will offer samples at this year's Culinary Extravaganza. Other activities include a wine tasting seminar, a silent auction and tours of the college's culinary kitchens.

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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:

**Tuesday, Aug. 28**

**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.

**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.

# Peggy's Peddlers

At 82 years old, Charlie's peddling for MS cure

BY DELLA CASSIA  
CORRESPONDENT

Age is but a number for Charlie Morris. He doesn't see it as a hindrance, rather a momentum to do something about a disease that has hit too close to home.

Morris' daughter, Peggy, was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis when she was 25 years old; she will turn 50 this December. MS is an autoimmune disease that affects the central nervous system.

Thankfully, the disease has not debilitated Peggy, nor has it dampened Morris' spirit. As a matter of fact, it prompted him 17 years ago to get on a bike and ride in the MS-150 Bike Tour.

Now 82 years old, Morris has no plans to get off his bike.

"My only disability is that I ride slowly," said Morris. "I don't feel that I am at a disadvantage."

This year the MS Bike Tour, presented by Dow, was held July 14 and 15. The tour started and ended in the City of Fenton. Morris biked 75 miles each day. Participants can choose to ride 65, 75 or 100 miles each day.

"I raise about \$5,000 to \$6,000 a year for MS and in total I've raised more than \$50,000. It makes you feel good doing something worthwhile," said Morris, who also performs volunteer duty for MS.

Raising money to take part in the tour has not been a problem for Morris. He sends about 180 letters a year to family, friends and neighbors asking for donations.

"I get a 60 to 70 percent reply to my letters. Everybody has been very generous," said Morris.

The tour has become sort of a family affair. Morris rides with two of his daughters, Sally Ann, 55 and Mary Jo, 53. The team is called "Peggy's Peddlers" after Morris' daughter.

Morris has nine children, 14 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. His wife passed away six years ago.



Charlie Morris, 82, makes riding the MS-150 bike tour a hobby and he brings along two of his daughters, Sally Ann, on left, and Mary Jo, on right.

One would think that family alone would keep Morris fairly occupied. But this energetic man still finds time to work out and stay in shape in preparation for the next tour. When the weather is nice, he walks and bikes regularly. In the winter, he hits the gym to stay conditioned.

"If you don't try, you never succeed, like the guy who wanted to win the lottery but never bought a ticket," said Morris.

Morris doesn't take his good health for granted. He knows he's fortunate.

"I visited the World War II Memorial several months ago. I looked at the guys my age who are all in walkers and wheelchairs," said Morris. "I really appreciate my health."

In addition to keeping physically healthy, Morris finds ways to stay mentally sharp. This former mechan-

ical engineer reads a lot, watches sports, builds ship models and does woodcarving. Most importantly, he volunteers.

"There is something about volunteering. When you're retired, it gives you a goal," said Morris.

Soon, Morris will be selling his 4-bedroom colonial house in Livonia and moving in with his daughter up north.

In the meantime, he has already started preparing for next year's tour.

"I'll do it again if I am capable," said Morris. "I encourage anybody to do it."

Founded in 1948, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Michigan Chapter serves more than 16,000 people with multiple sclerosis and their families across the state. For more information about the society, visit [www.nationalmssociety.org/mig](http://www.nationalmssociety.org/mig).



Charlie Morris holds a 'Peggy's Peddlers' sign with his daughters, Mary Jo, on left, and Sally Ann, on the right. They rode the MS-150 bike tour to raise money for MS. Peggy, Charlie's daughter, has MS.

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# Shutting down government won't cure the state's ills

Summer doesn't mean the state budget fights are on vacation. Gov. Jennifer Granholm wants tax hikes, the Republicans don't and the House Democrats are caught in the middle. What's going on is a classic case of gridlock, and the buzz around town is that the governor will try to cure legislative logjam with dynamite: a government shutdown.

Shut down the government and blame it on the Republicans? Make those patented Granholm five-hankie speeches? Tow the tame media around for some visuals of closed-down parks — maybe with a sobbing little kid outside a chained-shut gate and then make the speech for higher taxes? Heck, it worked for Clinton against Newt Gingrich, so why not? Actually, there are lots of reasons. A shutdown is a stunt and a very risky gamble. It's unnecessary, irresponsible and dangerous.

It's dangerous because a shutdown throws the state's string-and-duct-taped financial condition into a maelstrom of uncertainty. And folks, Michigan's fiscal state is even more dicey than you think. Michigan can't afford any more explosions, and those billion-plus operating deficits are just the tip of the iceberg.

Let's start with the biggest bomb, the same one that's all but blown up the U.S. automakers: legacy costs. Pensions aren't the real problem, it's "OPEB" or "Other Post-Employment Benefits," basically everything but the pension — mainly health care. The state has been paying OPEB costs on a pay-as-you-go basis, which is like covering the minimum on your credit card.

But a new accounting rule is coming into effect called GASB 45, which will require governments to get actuarially determined figures for their OPEB costs and carry them on the books as liabilities. Michigan's unfunded liability for public employees, including teachers, is estimated by Credit Suisse to be \$22.745 billion.

That \$22.745 billion liability compares to total state government assets of \$30.427 billion. That includes the Mackinac Bridge, state parks, Mackinac Island, the Capitol Building, etc. Even more daunting, the new financial guidelines strongly prefer pre-funding of these liabilities, so Michigan has to start putting money aside for this huge obligation, as well as rethinking whether it can continue to promise these benefits to future employees.

But this won't be so easy. At the same time we have to start putting money aside, we

find ourselves with less money in the bank. A recent publication from the non-partisan Citizens' Research Council, "Michigan's Deteriorating Cash Position," explains it all.

Briefly, "From fiscal year-end 2000 through fiscal year-end 20003, Michigan exhausted over \$2.99 billion in its major funds cash reserves (General, School Aid and Budget Stabilization Funds) to support spending in excess of ongoing revenues. As of fiscal year-end 2006 major cash fund balances were negative \$1.3 billion, a net change of more than \$4.2 billion over six years." In other words, instead of balancing spending to income, we blew through over \$4 billion of cash reserves.

This is dire — and damning. It started under Engler, but accelerated under Granholm. We spent more than we took in and ate up our savings, all to stave off making the hard choices, as well as the day of reckoning. Well, that day isn't here, but it's coming fast. This fiscal fecklessness has left our coffers so bare that even if Michigan wanted to save money by converting teachers to a defined contribution plan, we lack the cash to do it.

Not only that, but the drained reserve means we lack a cushion for routine cash-flow situations. The state collects money in the latter part of the fiscal year with property taxes, but has major payouts in the School Aid Fund in August. Michigan could find itself in a cash crunch which it can only cover by borrowing — yet we're currently at our constitutional limit for short-term borrowing. Hence School Aid and General Fund have borrowed from other state funds to meet daily needs and the manageable pool of common cash is lowest since 1992.

Folks, this is not a situation to be solved by pulling higher taxes out of a magician's hat. Michigan needs plain old-fashioned fiscal prudence, and willingness to look at both reality and the bottom line squarely. A final thought from MIRS News: "Since Gov. Jennifer Granholm issued her latest moratorium on new hires, transfers and promotions on March 29, the state Budget Office has granted at least 2,373 exceptions, the state budget office confirmed." That's \$40 million worth! Brave words and bold initiatives only work if you really do them.

A House committee on OPEB obligations is now meeting and seems to be facing the problem unflinchingly. Granholm needs to do the same, and above all avoid the dangerous, reckless political gamble of a government shutdown. Michigan's fiscal house is too shaky to be playing with dynamite.

Chuck Moss (R-Birmingham) represents the state House 40th District.



Chuck Moss

# College-bound? Here's a list to make and check twice — and more

Even though Christmas is four holidays away, parents of high school seniors are already making their list and checking it twice. But this list is about getting back to school. Pencils? Check. Assignment book, organizer, or electronic planner with optional music download capability? Check. Pre-faded jeans with factory-installed rips and a waistline that's miles away from your child's waist? A tough call.

List of colleges to consider for life after high school?



Patrick O'Connor

If this last item isn't on your list, you're not alone, and you're not too late, but it's time to get busy. The good news here is this item is easy to achieve. Unlike back-to-school shopping, which involves many stops and lots of snacks, developing a list of colleges to consider only involves two steps and lots of snacks.

For some parents, the biggest challenge in making plans for college is making them with their child, not for their child. Senior year comes at a time when students want to make their own decisions about everything, which is natural. But parents have an interest in their child's college plans, since college plans have a direct impact on their child's future, the relationship parents will have with their adult child, and of course, their household budget, as parents determine the best way to pay for college.

So step one is to buy a pizza. Sitting down over a family snack is a great way to begin the college discussion. Parents start the conversation by saying they want to make sure they're doing everything they can to help their senior without hassling them — so you'll all sit down once a week to discuss college. Parents can find out how college plans are going, and the student doesn't have to worry about getting ambushed with a college question on the way out the door with their friends Friday night. And if the student wants to talk about college some other time, that's a bonus — as long as they avoid ambushes, too.

After about two or three of these weekly family meetings, the second step is the school counselor's office. The counselor is the person who will be processing the paperwork for your child's college applications, so you want to make sure everyone is working off of the same information about the application process, and focusing on your child's interests and needs.

Having an adult in the high school who supports your child's college plans is a tremendous bonus. For many schools, however, counselors are challenged with an enormous number of students to serve; the national average is over

Sitting down over a family snack is a great way to begin the college discussion. Parents start the conversation by saying they want to make sure they're doing everything they can to help their senior without hassling them — so you'll all sit down once a week to discuss college.

500 students per counselor, and some counselors have caseloads over 1,000. The key here is to build a good relationship with the counselor, support your child, and respect the counselor's time, all at once. Begin this relationship by calling the counseling office for a 20-minute appointment in early September with the counselor, the parents, and the senior. At the meeting, the parents should ask the following five questions:

■ What should my child focus on as a student this year? "Senior year isn't just about prom and graduation — it's another year for the student to learn more about themselves and the world around them. The counselor may have some ideas on how you child can reach that goal. This is the perfect time to hear them.

■ Can we tell you a little about our child that we think would help you with their college plans? Very few counselors will say "no" when you ask this question, so this is your chance to share your insights into your child's life after high school. Just be sure to keep it to about 3-5 minutes — practice at home before going to the meeting.

■ Does my child have a realistic list of colleges? To be fair to the counselor, have your child drop this list off to the counselor a few days before the meeting.

■ What are the deadlines for submitting applications to you? With so many students to work with, the deadline to get the applications to the counselor is probably earlier than the date the applications are due to the college. Make sure you know these earlier dates, since missing them can cause delays and close options.

■ What's the best way to get in touch with you? Most counselors are either e-mail or phone people, so you want to find out the method that's going to get your questions answered the fastest.

These two simple steps will go along way in building a solid college plan in a way that meets everyone's needs and probably leave time to buy more school supplies to boot!

Patrick O'Connor is director of college counseling at Roeper School, and author of "College is Yours in 600 Words or Less." He can be reached at collegeisyour@comcast.net.

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# Regimental records

## 200-piece collection offers Civil War perspective

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth Historical Museum has received a donation of Civil War memorabilia that Director Elizabeth Kerstens called "priceless."

The nearly 200-piece collection, which included photographs, enlistment and commission papers, service pins and the muster book for the 2nd Michigan Infantry Regiment - information about every soldier in the 2nd Regiment - was donated this summer by former Our Lady of Good Counsel Pastor John Sullivan on behalf of the family of Capt. John C. Hardy.

Before he left to become pastor of St. Owen in Bloomfield Hills in July, Sullivan donated the collection that was given to him by Ortonville priest John J. Hardy - a son of the Civil War veteran - before he passed away.

"When I go to Civil War shows, you always see bits and pieces," said Dan Packer of Plymouth Township, a Civil War historian who is cataloguing the collection at the Plymouth Historical Museum. "You hardly ever see it all together."

"The provenance (background) is good," he said. "A lot of times when you get historical things you don't know where it came from, or where it's been. In this case, we know."

The items are in exceptional condition, having been passed only from Capt. Hardy to his son, and eventually to Sullivan before being donated to the museum.

"Hardy volunteered in 1861 when President (Abraham) Lincoln gave the call for volunteers for the insurrection of Fort Sumter in South Carolina," said Packer. "Hardy lived in Detroit, but went with the 2nd Regiment in Adrian."

"Hardy said he was 17 years old on his papers, but he was really only 15 when he joined," added Packer. "He started as a private, enlisted several times, and ended up as a full captain by 1865, when the war ended. He fought over 20 major battles, and was severely wounded in one."

Hardy was known as the "Hero of Petersburg" for capturing three dozen Confederate soldiers by himself. It was at Fort Steadman, during General Ulysses Grant's Petersburg Campaign in Virginia, that Hardy was cited for conspicuous gallantry. "The story goes that (General Robert E.) Lee's Army tried to break out of Petersburg, and when Hardy saw a rebel poking his face out of the door of the Confederate headquarters he went charging through there with his musket, by himself," Packer said. "When he opened the door

there were 35 Confederate officers and soldiers. He told them 'give it up, you're surrounded,' and they surrendered. He became the hero of Fort Steadman."

Also included in the documents are Hardy's ordnance records for ordering ammunition during the Civil War.

"One document showed he ordered 3,500 bullets during the Siege of Petersburg on April 1," Packer said. "On April 2 they were expended, so he had to get more bullets, and wrote out a form every time he needed them."

Kerstens said the fact the documents have been in very few hands the past 140 years makes this collection unique.

"The Hardys took good care of this, it's in fabulous condition," Kerstens said. "From an archival standpoint, this is fantastic. If it hadn't been for priests taking care of it, the items would probably have been sold piece-meal, or thrown away."

Packer is in the process of cataloguing each item with a description, number and photo to be put in the museum's computer data base. He wears white gloves to pry documents that have been glued to albums.

"Finger oil destroys documents, and putting it in light destroys it after awhile," Kerstens said. "Even putting it in plastic could, over time, accelerate deterioration. However, we probably won't see that in our lifetime."

The Civil War collection enhances the Plymouth Historical Museum's Lincoln collection, which is the state's largest.

"It multiplies the value of the Lincoln collection because we have a whole collection from contemporary people," Kerstens said.

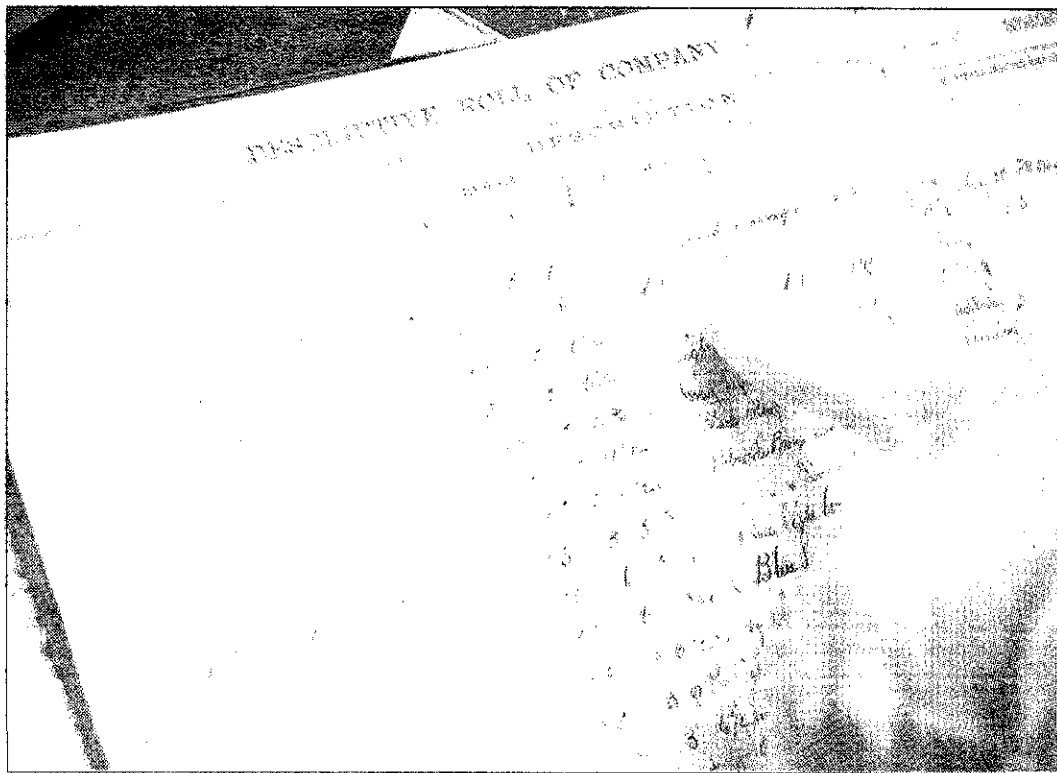
The Civil War memorabilia was given by Sullivan to one of his parishioners, Jack Grant of Plymouth Township, who is also the museum's treasurer.

"I saw Fr. Sullivan at church one day and he told me to stop by after Mass because he had something to donate to the museum," Grant said. "I picked up a stack of things and took it to the museum and started cataloguing it, and suddenly realized 'holy smokes, this is quite a collection.' We've really got a treasure here."

In 1993, Hardy's descendants donated the only remaining regimental flag for the 2nd Michigan Infantry, one of Hardy's muskets and several other items to the State of Michigan. The rest of the collection is at the Plymouth Historical Museum.

"We'll probably have 2nd Michigan Regiment ancestors anxious to see this collection," Packer said. "This is a jewel in the crown for us and this museum."

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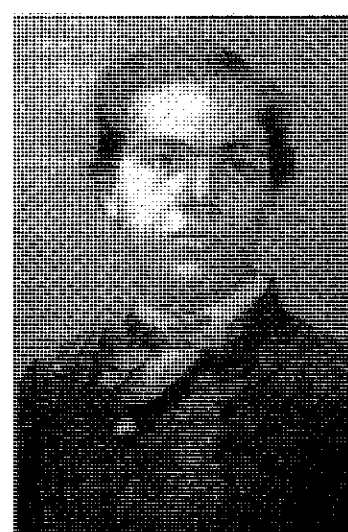


PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The records are detailed and in very good condition.



Dan Packer looks over Civil War records at the Plymouth Historical Museum.



The Plymouth Historical Museum has received a nearly 200-piece Civil War collection donated on behalf of the family of Union Capt. John C. Hardy.

The nearly 200-piece collection, which included photographs, enlistment and commission papers, service pins and the muster book for the 2nd Michigan Infantry Regiment - information about every soldier in the 2nd Regiment - was donated this summer by former Our Lady of Good Counsel Pastor John Sullivan on behalf of the family of Capt. John C. Hardy.



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# Spartans' offense opens in high gear, 49-26

BY BRAD EMONS  
STAFF WRITER

After nearly a two-hour delay Friday night, lightning continued to strike for Livonia Stevenson in the form of the White brothers, who electrified the fans who only needed to stay around for the first half.

The trio accounted for five of the seven touchdowns in the Spartans' 49-26 season-opening football rout of visiting Ypsilanti Lincoln.

The Spartans sprinted to a 21-0 lead as Mitchell White hit twin brother Myles on scoring passes of 29 and 81 yards.

Sophomore running back Austin White followed with a 10-yard touch-

down run with 4:20 left in the first period.

Lincoln showed life by scoring twice during the final two minutes of the second quarter as quarterback Andrew Dillon connected with Ricky Griffin on an 18-yard scoring pass followed by Dillon's 29-yard scamper after Stevenson fumbled the ball way on the ensuing kickoff to cut the margin to 21-13.

In the second quarter, Mitchell hooked up with Myles on a 19-yard touchdown toss followed by Pat York's interception of a Dillon pass with the senior defensive back returning it 52 yards for a score.

## PREP FOOTBALL

Junior Wade Stahl completed the first-half scoring for Stevenson with a 1-yard TD run with 3:48 remaining in the half to make it 42-13.

In the third quarter, Dillon scored on a 61-yard run, but Austin White answered with a 7-yard scoring run.

Alex Neitling's 18-yard TD pass to Ryan Leak with 2:15 left in the game completed the scoring for Lincoln.

"Our backups played well at the end, but we made lots of mistakes," Stevenson coach Tim Gabel said.

**Clarenceville falters**

In the Metro Conference opener delayed by storms, host Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest earned a 14-8 vic-

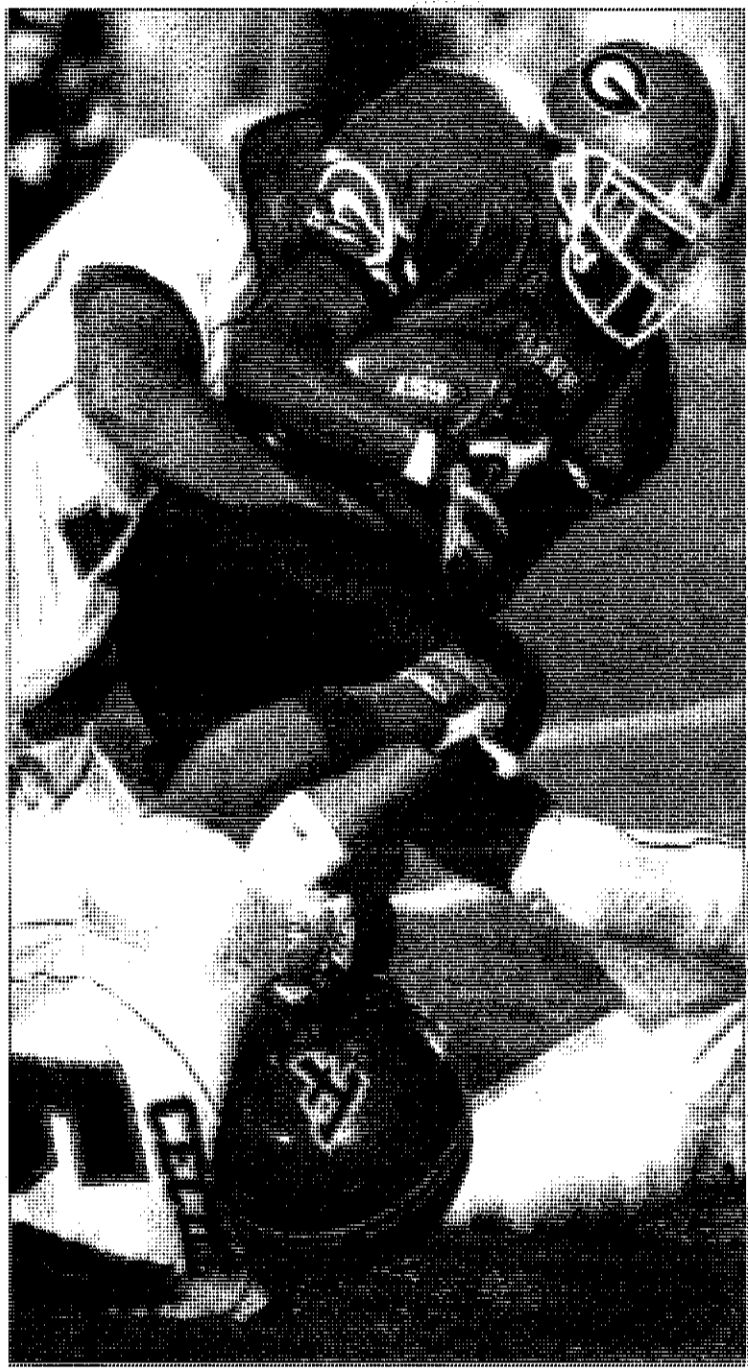
tory over Livonia Clarenceville scoring the game-winning TD with 3:40 to go.

Clarenceville, plagued by six turnovers and 15 penalties, led 8-0 after one quarter on Levonte Brooks' 6-yard TD run followed by Jeremy Gainer's two-point conversion run.

But the Crusaders scored on an end-around reverse in the third quarter to pull within two, 8-6, but the two-point try failed.

"Our defense played well, but overall we played like a bad JV team," Clarenceville coach Ryan Irish said.

"That's not taking anything away from Lutheran Northwest. They wanted it more than we did. They played harder and longer. They were in better shape."



Glenn's Charles Woodford fights for extra yardage as Franklin's Pat Cecile (bottom) tries to bring him down.

JERRY ZOLYNSKY

## Rocket launchers

### Glenn puts hurt on Franklin in opener, 26-17

BY BRAD KADRICH  
STAFF WRITER

The start of Friday's season-opening prep football game between Westland John Glenn and Livonia Franklin was delayed more than an hour by lightning.

Then it struck again, for the Rockets, at least, early in the fourth quarter.

With his team trailing 17-13, Glenn's C.J. Woodford returned a kickoff some 80 yards to put the Rockets in the lead to stay, Glenn added an insurance touchdown late and then held on to stop the Patriots, 26-17, in the Big Day III Prep Showdown at Eastern Michigan University's Rynearson Stadium.

Woodford added a pair of rushing touchdowns and the Rockets (1-0) took advantage of Franklin's mistakes to come from behind.

"There was so much going on out there on both sides of the ball," Glenn coach Tom DeLuca said. "We had guys come of age football-wise tonight. They believe they can play four quarters of football now. That was an issue in past years."

It looked like it might be an issue again this year on the opening drive, when Franklin (1-0) appeared on its way to an early score.

But senior tailback Cole Kelly, who had broken loose for what looked like a touchdown run, dropped the ball after a 28-yard gain. The Rockets recovered, then marched 72 yards for their first TD, a 2-yard Woodford run.

The Patriots fumbled again early in the second quarter when quarterback Jesse Carpenter mishandled the snap at the Rocket 13-yard line.

But the Patriots forced Glenn into a three-and-out, then moved 46 yards in five plays to take their first lead, 7-6, on Kelly's 18-yard scoring run with 6:01 left in the first half.

Franklin extended its lead to 10-6 on a 22-

yard Carpenter field goal as time expired in the half. Franklin got the ball at the Glenn 37 after Kelly intercepted a pass from Glenn quarterback Keshawn Martin.

The drive stalled at the Glenn 5 and Carpenter nailed the field goal.

Glenn had a chance to stop the Patriots early in the drive, but Martin dropped what could have been an interception in the end zone.

Martin manufactured the go-ahead score barely a minute into the second half, eluding at least four Patriot tacklers in the backfield, scrambling and finding Ryan Maxwell for a 67-yard touchdown pass, Martin's first completion of the night.

Franklin regained the lead early in the fourth, when Carpenter, who finished 18-of-28 for 276 yards, found Mark McRobb for a 28-yard TD and a 17-13 lead.

It was short-lived.

The Rockets opened a huge hole for Woodford on the ensuing kickoff, and Woodford, named Glenn's Player of the Game, darted through it, beating the kicker and going some 80 yards to paydirt.

"I thought, 'Oh yeah!' Woodford said of the hole his teammates opened. "I saw the hole right away, saw I only had the kicker and told myself, 'I can't get caught by the kicker.'"

Franklin coach Chris Kelbert pointed to the scramble by Martin and the kickoff return as pivotal plays, but said his team was outplayed despite those miscues.

"They beat us physically, no matter what we did to ourselves," Kelbert said. "They were the old John Glenn, with speed and physical play. We had them pinned in (on Martin's scramble), and after the kickoff return, we couldn't recover."

Woodford, who carried 15 times for 105

Please see **ROCKETS, B4**

## Estrada's goal a keeper for Glenn

BY BRAD EMONS  
STAFF WRITER

Not much fooled Wayne Memorial's Aaron Nielson on Wednesday afternoon.

But Westland John Glenn senior Paul Estrada found the precise moment to catch the Zebra goalkeeper off-guard, scoring from 30 yards out with 27:27 left in the opening half to give the visiting Rockets a 1-0 boys soccer victory over their rival Wayne.

"Their goalkeeper was up and I had to take the shot," said Estrada, a central-midfielder. "I put my right finger up right away. I knew it was going in."

Nothing else got past Nielson, who had to live with the consequences of the high-placed floater that sailed just under the crossbar.

"He (Nielson) got me one time on a breakaway, he had a lot of nice saves," Estrada said.

Wayne, a 2-0 loser in Monday's season opener to Walled Lake Central, couldn't generate enough offense again to give first-year coach Evan Baker his first win.

"I would have liked a few more shots on goal," the Wayne coach said. "Sometimes we held on to the ball too long instead of reacting and making the attempt. We lost our composure a couple of times in the box finishing."

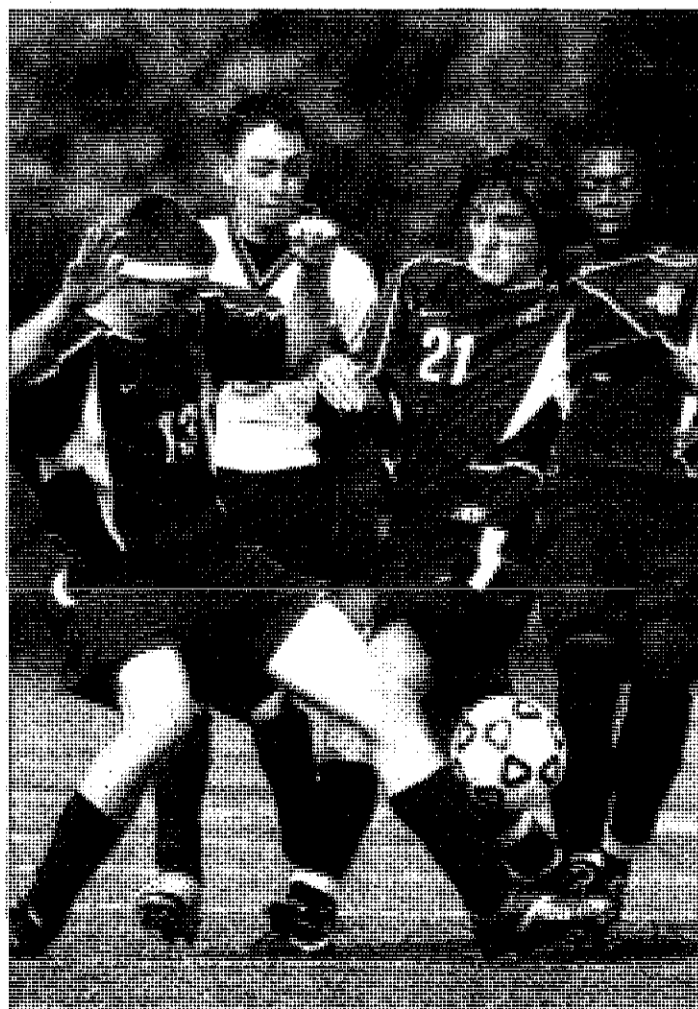
But the Wayne coach couldn't say enough good things about his keeper.

"He's a superstar, he came up huge," Baker said. "On breakaways and corner kicks, he always had an answer. He was enormous for us. The one mistake he made we should have been able to overcome it. He made one mistake. It (the goal) was supposed to be a cross and he (Estrada) slipped while making the turn."

After losing their season opener 6-2 to Walled Lake Western, the Rockets were hungry for a victory.

"Besides not finishing like we wanted, we did not make as many mistakes," Glenn first-year coach Reavis Olive said. "We wanted them to keep focused, rely on passing to the wings,

Please see **GLENN, B2**



John Glenn teammates (from left) John Vickery, Logan Shepard and Nelson Kenne surround Wayne Memorial's Eric Schmitt as they try to bring the ball downfield during Wednesday's match.

TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Area golfers can chip in for war vets

F-16 pilot Dan Rooney, a captain in the Air Force Reserve, has served two tours of duty in Iraq as a member of the 125th Fighter Squadron of the Oklahoma Air National Guard.



Brad Emons

Rooney also played golf for the University of Kansas, where three times in stroke play, he defeated Tiger Woods.

Now co-owner of the Grand Haven Golf Club on the west side of the state, Rooney wants give back to the families of the fallen and injured soldiers, which numbered 4,114 casualties and 33,330 wounded (as of Aug. 14).

With the help of PGA of America courses throughout the country, Rooney hopes to raise millions to assist military families with Patriot Golf Day, set for Saturday, Sept. 1.

The game of golf has always shown a generous side. According to Golf Business, Golf 20/20 commissioned a study by the Stanford Research Institute that pro-

Please see **EMONS, B2**

## Sidelines

### MU boots foe

Ashley Stoychoff scored the game-winning goal with four minutes remaining Wednesday as the Madonna University women's soccer team downed host Roberts Wesleyan (N.Y.), 2-1.

Lauren Hess (Livonia Ladywood) added the other goal for the Crusaders, now 1-0-1 overall.

Madonna opened its season Tuesday with a 0-0 tie at NAIA No. 5-ranked Houghton College (N.Y.).

### Run Like Wind 5K

The ninth annual Run Like the Wind 10-kilometer run and 5K run-walk starts at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 1 at the Nankin Mills Picnic Area in Hines Park in Westland.

All proceeds will go back to the sport of running through support of youth track clubs and the Michigan Running Foundation Scholarship Fund. Race day fees for the 10K and 5K events are \$20 (with shirt) and \$15 (no shirt).

For more information, call Chuck Block at (517) 702-0226.

### Youth hoop league

Madonna University will stage a Sunday Youth Basketball League beginning Sunday, Sept. 9 through Oct. 28, at the MU Activities Center.

Ages 10-12 will report at 3 p.m. followed by ages 13-15 at 5 p.m. on Sept. 9. Each day will consist of a skill building session and a league game.

Included in the \$100 cost is league jersey, league games (plus play-offs) and skill building drills. For more information, call (734) 398-5975 or (734) 432-5591.

### MU Golf Classic

Openings remain for the 12th annual Madonna University Golf Classic, an 18-hole scramble event to benefit student scholarships, athletics and academic program, Friday, Sept. 14 at The Inn at St. Johns, 44045 Five Mile road, Plymouth.

The cost is \$200 per golfer or \$800 per foursome. Check-in begins at 10 a.m. with lunch served at 11 a.m. prior to the 12:15 p.m. shotgun start. The reception and auction start at 5 a.m. with dinner served at 5:15 p.m. Awards and a raffle drawing will follow. Dinner and silent auction reservations are \$50. Raffle tickets are \$10 each or \$50 for six tickets. Sponsorships are available from \$150 to \$7,000.

A hole-in-one and closest-to-the-pin contest are also offered with prizes ranging from a 2007 Chevrolet HHR from Tennyson Chevrolet, a vintage Rolex watch donated by Hour Magazine, or \$5,000.

Visit [www.madonna.edu](http://www.madonna.edu) or call Ann Cleary at (734) 432-5421. For raffle tickets, call (734) 432-5423.

# EMONS

FROM PAGE B1

jected golf philanthropic impact at \$3.2 billion. This latest endeavor by Rooney, who has raised through his local Fallen Heroes Tournament, certainly proves to be a worthy cause. He has asked golf operators throughout the national to come together and raise their greens fees by \$1, then donate the proceeds to The Fallen Heroes Foundation. Rooney, who is scheduled to go for a third tour of duty, has a strong ally in City of Livonia golf pro Tom Welsh, who wants to go one step further in supporting The Fallen Heroes

Foundation. At all three Livonia public courses - Fox Creek, Whispering Willows and Idyl Wyld - golfers will be given the option to donate \$1 of their greens fees (per round) not only on Sept. 1, but also on Sunday, Sept. 2. "And for every dollar donated, we're going to match for both days," Welsh said. "We'll give all of our golfers the option. The three Livonia courses, along with others in the tri-county area, are among almost 1,000 nationwide who signed up for Patriot Golf Day. "American soldiers and their families are making tremendous sacrifices," Rooney said in an e-mail through the PGA of America. "From the cockpit

of the F-16 over Iraq, I have witnessed incredible heroism and tragedy, often in the same day. I will leave my wife and three daughters for a third tour of duty of Iraq next year." Patriot Day not only generates business for local golf course operators, but it always creates awareness. So if you're not doing anything Labor Day weekend and need to play a round, visit one of the three Livonia public courses. It will be time and money well spent. For more information, visit [www.golflivonia.com](http://www.golflivonia.com). Brad Emons is Livonia-Westland Sports Editor. He can be reached at [bemons@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:bemons@oe.homecomm.net) | (734) 953-2123

# Chargers intercept Quakers in season grid opener, 35-7

PREP FOOTBALL

Livonia Churchill played opportunistic football Friday night in its season opener, taking advantage of three second-quarter turnovers and parlaying it into a 35-7 victory over host Lansing Eastern. Churchill jumped out to a 7-0 first-quarter lead on Jeff Ricketts' 17-yard scoring run. Interceptions by Daran Carey, Max DiCiccio and Ryan Whittum led to three second-quarter scores resulting in touchdown runs by Grant Morgan (2 yards),

the victorious Chargers. Ara Markarian led the Chargers' defense with eight tackles. Churchill had a total of 262 yards total offense, including 226 on the ground led by Kowalis, who had 13 carries for 74 yards. Carey added 43 yards on five attempts. Churchill had nine first downs to Eastern's eight. Gala was 11-of-28 passing for 127 yards, while Churchill used four different QBs, completing 3-of-8 for 36 yards.

Whittum converted all five extra point attempts. The Quakers, limited to 149 yards total offense, scored in the third quarter on quarterback Aaron Gala's 1-yard sneak. Michael Thayer and Eric Logan each had a fumble recovery for

# GLENN

FROM PAGE B1

keep working the outside, and keep crossing it in." Both teams were battling not only the heat, but the humidity. "Coach (Jimmy) Mortada and coach (Brian) Tomlinson have been conditioning them for awhile," Olive said of his two assistants. "The conditioning they've put them through made them ready for the game. We subbed a little more because of the heat." Although Glenn goalkeeper Zach Redden wasn't as busy as Wayne counterpart in goal, the sophomore also had his

moments, stopping a two-on-one situation with 5:40 left and getting a key clear-out on a dangerous play inside the box from teammate John Vickery. Jeff Thompson, a senior transfer from Wayne, spearheaded the Glenn backline along with Robbie Costello and Dave Kavelage. "Jeff (Thompson) is the anchor of our team," Olive said. "Bryan Hayter has been hurt, but Costello has stepped it up for him. And with Kavelage that gives us a sound defense." Wayne's best opportunity came with 7:10 left in the first half when Alex Balli's shot from close-range hit the crossbar. "Wayne Memorial played a great game," Olive said. "My

hat's off to them. They played their hearts out." Baker, meanwhile, saw some positives. "We're still working out the bugs," he said. "I'm proud of the fact that we kept working hard and did not quit. We played right until the end of the game, but we got caught up in some arguments. We have to learn to stay focused and keep a positive, mental attitude. "The heat was a huge factor, but it's Michigan, and I tell my guys you have to be prepared for anything. We had guys ask for breaks that normally don't, but I think overall we were in better shape and we're deeper."

# Late Jackson scores burn Wayne

Jackson High's ground game was the difference Friday as the host Vikings rallied for a pair of fourth-quarter touchdowns en route to a season-opening 30-20 football win over visiting Wayne Memorial at Withington Stadium. After Wayne took the lead in the third quarter, 20-15, on Allan Freeman's 61-yard touchdown dash, Jackson

answered to go ahead for keeps on Rodney Headen's 49-yard run followed by a Tyler Thomas 16-yard TD run. The Vikings racked up 380 yards rushing, 150 by Thomas and 130 more from Raymond Allen. Jackson led 15-14 at halftime on a 1-yard run by Christopher Jackson followed by a 38-yard interception return by Headen.

Wayne countered with a pair of D.J. Freeman TD passes - 18 yards to Tim Siegfried and 25 yards to brother Allan. The Zebras had a total of 197 yards as Allan Freeman recorded 93 on the ground in 15 attempts, while D.J. Freeman hit 6-of-17 passes for 93. Ryan Nesbitt had a fumble recovery for the Zebras.

## THE WEEK AHEAD

**PREP FOOTBALL**  
**Thursday, Aug. 30**  
 John Glenn at Canton (CEP), 4:30 p.m.  
 Stevenson at Franklin, 7 p.m.  
 Churchill at Northville, 7 p.m.  
 W.L. Central at Wayne, 7 p.m.  
 Luth. Westland at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.  
**GIRLS VOLLEYBALL**  
**Monday, Aug. 27**  
 S'field-Lathrup at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.  
**Wednesday, Aug. 29**  
 Hazel Park at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.  
**Thursday, Aug. 30**  
 Huron Valley at Inter-City Baptist, 6:30 p.m.  
**BOYS SOCCER**  
**Monday, Aug. 27**  
 Northville at John Glenn, 4 p.m.  
 F.H. Harrison at Clarenceville, 4:30 p.m.  
 Franklin at Churchill, 7 p.m.  
 Wayne at Stevenson, 7 p.m.  
**Tuesday, Aug. 28**  
 Ply. Christian at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.  
**Wednesday, Aug. 29**  
 Stevenson at John Glenn, 4 p.m.  
 Clarenceville at Ferndale, 5 p.m.  
 Franklin at Plymouth, 7 p.m.  
 Churchill at Salem (CEP), 7 p.m.  
 Wayne at W.L. Western, 7 p.m.  
**Thursday, Aug. 30**  
 Ypsi Calvary at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m.  
 Dearborn at Churchill, 5:30 p.m.  
**GIRLS SWIMMING**  
**Tuesday, Aug. 28**  
 Churchill at Farmington, 6:30 p.m.  
**Thursday, Aug. 30**  
 John Glenn at WSU Warrior Relays, 5 p.m.  
 N. Farmington at Churchill, 7 p.m.

**GIRLS & BOYS CROSS COUNTRY**  
**Thursday, Aug. 30**  
 Lutheran Westland Time Trial, 4 p.m.  
 N. Farmington at John Glenn, 4 p.m.  
**GIRLS GOLF**  
**Monday, Aug. 27**  
 Ladywood vs. H.W. Regina at Gowanie Golf Club, 3 p.m.  
 John Glenn vs. Canton at Hilltop Golf Course, 3 p.m.  
**Tuesday, Aug. 28**  
 Wayne at South Lyon, TBA.  
 John Glenn vs. W.L. Western at The Woodlands (Van Buren), 4 p.m.  
**Wednesday, Aug. 29**  
 Churchill, Stevenson at T.C. Central Lober Classic, 8 a.m.  
 Franklin vs. W.L. Western at Links of Pinewood, 3 p.m.  
**Thursday, Aug. 30**  
 Churchill, Stevenson at T.C. Central Lober Classic, 8 a.m.  
 John Glenn vs. New Boston Huron at The Woodlands (Van Buren), 3 p.m.  
 Ladywood vs. Academy of Sacred Heart at St. John's Golf Center, 3 p.m.  
**BOYS TENNIS**  
**Monday, Aug. 27**  
 John Glenn at F.H. Harrison, 11 a.m.  
 Churchill at Garden City, 4 p.m.  
**Tuesday, Aug. 28**  
 Churchill, Franklin, John Glenn at Northville Invitational, 4 p.m.  
**Wednesday, Aug. 29**  
 Garden City at Wayne, 4 p.m.  
**GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY**  
**Monday, Aug. 27**

Ladywood at A.A. Huron, 4:30 p.m.  
**Wednesday, Aug. 29**  
 Salina at Ladywood, 4:30 p.m.  
**WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL**  
**Friday, Aug. 31**  
 (Point Loma, Calif. Nazarene Tournament)  
 Madonna vs. Dominican, 2 p.m.  
 Madonna vs. Point Loma Nazarene, 10 a.m.  
**Saturday, Sept. 1**  
 Schoolcraft at Owens CC Tourney, 10 a.m.  
 (Point Loma, Calif. Nazarene Tournament)  
 Madonna vs. Hope International, 4 p.m.  
 Championship & Consolation, 8 or 10 p.m.  
**Sunday, Sept. 2**  
 Schoolcraft at Owens CC Tourney, 9 a.m.  
**MEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER**  
**Tuesday, Aug. 28**  
 Madonna at Bethel (Ind.), 7 p.m.  
**Friday, Aug. 31**  
 Madonna at Olivet College, 5 p.m.  
 Schoolcraft at Yavapai (Ariz.), 10:30 p.m.  
**Saturday, Sept. 1**  
 Madonna at Albion College, 5 p.m.  
 Schoolcraft at Yavapai (Ariz.), TBA.  
**WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER**  
**Tuesday, Aug. 28**  
 Madonna at St. Francis (Ind.), 4 p.m.  
**Friday, Aug. 31**  
 Madonna vs. Cornerstone at Livonia's Greenmead, 4 p.m.  
**Saturday, Sept. 1**  
 College of Lake Co. (Ill.) at Schoolcraft, 1 p.m.  
**Sunday, Sept. 2**  
 U-M Dearborn at Schoolcraft, 11 a.m.  
**TBA-time to be announced.**

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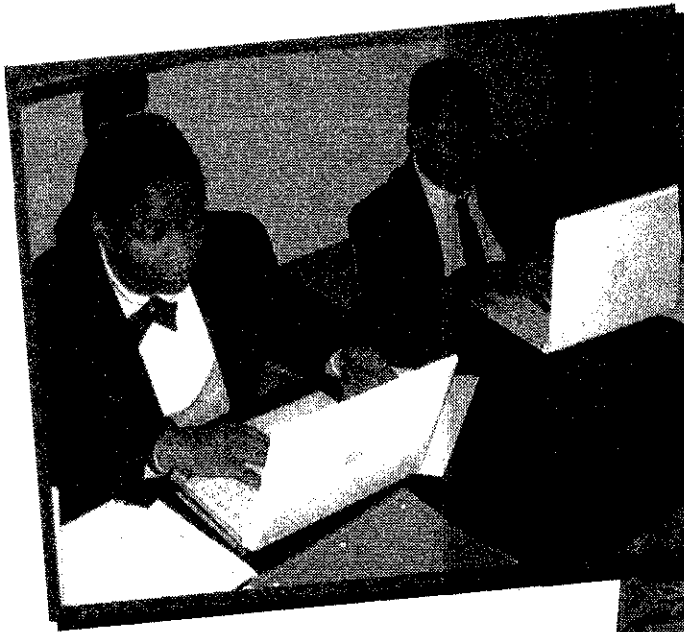
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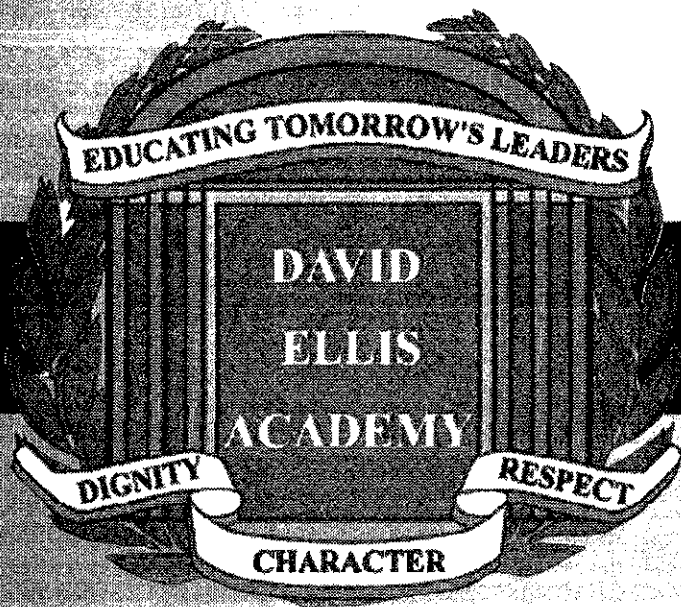


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Math 7	53.6%	57.6%
Math 8	54.5%	63.2%



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# ROCKETS

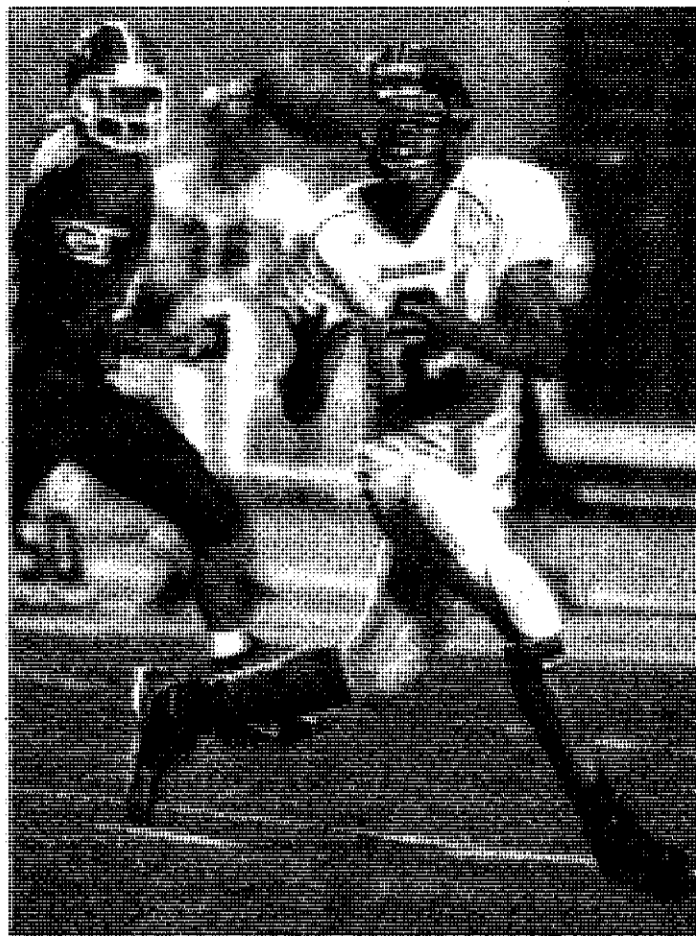
FROM PAGE B1

yards, closed out the scoring with two-yard run with 1:39 left. In addition to the strong game from Carpenter, the Patriots got 66 yards on six carries from Kelly and 45 yards on nine carries from fullback David Fortin, but lost both running backs to injury. Kelly added three catches for 91 yards, while Israel Woolfork had four catches for 32 yards.

"Franklin's a good team, and I wasn't comfortable until the clock had all zeroes," DeLuca said. "Our guys picked up their intensity and had the game of their life. Now they have to come back and do it again next week."

Glenn looks to build on the momentum when the Rockets travel to Canton for a 4:30 p.m. game Thursday.

Franklin will try to rebound, hosting Livonia Stevenson at 7 p.m. Thursday.



JERRY ZOLYNSKY

Franklin's Cole Kelly makes the catch for a first down in Friday's Big Day III Prep Showdown at Eastern Michigan University's Rynearson Stadium.

bkadrich@hometownlife.com  
(734) 459-2700

# Defensive-oriented Churchill makes Mustangs work for win

There were some encouraging signs for inexperienced Livonia Churchill boys soccer team despite a season-opening 1-0 loss Wednesday night to highly-touted Northville.

The Chargers executed their game plan and frustrated the Mustangs for the most part until senior captain Masato Morioka was awarded a penalty kick with 15 minutes remaining.

That goal proved to be the difference for the host Mustangs, who survived a late breakaway attempt by Churchill's Chris DeNapoli.

"It was a clean shot to tie it, he just pushed it wide," Churchill coach Reid Friedrichs said. "We played hard and we played tough, but Northville had a majority of the possessions. We did have five great chances to score."

Junior Jarrod Dual made three saves to post the shut-out, including a point-blank shot inside the box.

He got help in the back from senior captain Nick Kolbow and junior John Donkian.

"The Churchill boys played very well, very disciplined in the back," said Northville coach Henry Klimes, whose team hit the post twice. "They played very well defensively. The put in the back and played in a defensive shell hoping for counters. They played the percentages."

STEVENSON 7, FRANKLIN 1: After Livonia Franklin's Chad Dorton scored midway through the first half, visiting Livonia Stevenson stormed

## BOYS SOCCER

back for seven unanswered goals en route to the WLAA crossover victory.

Brian Klemczak's goal from Chris Long tied it at 1-all followed by Long's goal from Adrian Fylonenko.

Klemczak assisted on the next two goals to make it 4-1 at halftime as Long and Brandon Kopitz found the net.

In the second half, Bob Smith scored from Nate Sergison followed by Fylonenko's goal from Joe Didomenico.

Nick Anagnostou completed the scoring from Simor.

Justin Collins (first half) and Ben Burton (second half) divided the goalkeeping duties for the Spartans.

"Stevenson is still a solid team," Franklin coach Vic Rodopoulos said of the 2006 Division 1 state runners-up. "We were playing them pretty well the first half of the first half, but then things started to slow down for us. Their outside people kept going and going. It wore us down."

S'FIELD CHRISTIAN 6, CLARENCEVILLE 0: It was not the kind of start first-year coach Trevor Johnson envisioned Thursday as host Southfield Christian (1-1) scored three goals in each half to beat Livonia Clarenceville.

Garet Hintzman was in goal for the Trojans.

Johnson singled out the play of stopper Phil Strachan at midfield.

JOHN GLENN 1, F.N. HARRISON 1: On Friday, Nelson Kenne scored in the opening half from Paul Estrada as host Westland John Glenn (1-1-1) battled to a draw with Farmington Hills Harrison (0-0-1).

Harrison's Dan Laird scored with nine minutes remaining to force the tie.

The Rockets received solid defense from senior Jeff

Thompson and goalkeeper Zach Redden.

LUTH. WESTLAND 6, BAPTIST PARK 0: Sophomore Austin Baglow notched a hat trick, while sophomore Gage Flanery added a goal and two assists Friday as host Lutheran High Westland (2-0) blanked Taylor Baptist Park (0-1) in the first round of the Westland Huron Valley Lutheran Tournament.

Laith Francis scored the game-winning goal on an assist from junior wingback Brad LaRose to make it 1-0 at halftime.

Mason Sultana added the other goal, while goalkeeper Micah Hausch (one save) recorded his first shutout.

MICH. LUTHERAN 5, HURON VALLEY 1: Caleb Pauley had three goals Friday as St. Joseph Michigan Lutheran (1-0) downed tournament host Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (0-2).

Eric Schaffer scored the lone goal in the opening half for the Hawks, who trailed 3-1 at intermission. Mark St. John drew the assists.

The Hawks opened their 2007 season Tuesday at home with a 5-2 loss to Saline Washtenaw Christian.

St. John had both goals for HVL.

FRANKLIN 3, GARDEN CITY 2: Ryan Matthey's game-winning goal off a corner kick from Steve Trapp came with 9:23 left Friday as Livonia Franklin (1-2) turned back the Cougars (2-1) in a non-leaguer.

Franklin led 2-0 at halftime on goals by Noel Romo (from Matthey) and Joe Boettcher (unassisted).

But Garden City stormed back in the second half on a pair of goals by Kyle Smith.

RU 2, WAYNE 2: Francis Mensah and Preston Tucker scored goals Friday as Redford Union (0-0-1) opened its season with a tie against host Wayne Memorial (0-2-1).

## BOYS TENNIS

FARMINGTON HARRISON 4 LIVONIA CHURCHILL 4 Aug. 23 at Churchill  
No. 1 singles: Nick Payne (LC) def. Josh Farnie, 6-3, 6-0;  
No. 2: Aniket Patel (LC) def. Johnny McDonald, 6-0, 6-3;  
No. 3: Akshay Moorthy (LC) def. Jay Ronan, 6-4, 6-4;  
No. 4: Michael Cleland (FHH) def. Alex Clos, 6-2, 7-5;  
No. 1 doubles: Bob Coleman-Zack Durham (FHH) def. Robert Fortney-Eric Slusarski, 7-6 (7-5), 6-2;  
No. 2: Matt Bailey-St. Michael Success (FHH)

def. John Tabor-Eric Neuman, 6-3, 6-0;  
No. 3: Ayush Mathur-Masahiro Hatsuda (FHH) def. Daniel Landstrom-Ziwin Deng, 6-4, 6-0;  
No. 4: Pat Moroney-Kyle Stopa (LC) def. Zach Wagner-Naveed Carim, 6-2, 3-6, 3-2 (retired).  
Team records: Churchill, 1-0-1; Harrison, 0-0-1.  
LIVONIA CHURCHILL 6 FARMINGTON HIGH 2 Aug. 21 at Churchill  
No. 1 singles: Nick Payne (LC) defeated Mac Ryan, 6-0, 6-0;  
No. 2: Aniket Patel (LC) def. Tyler O'Hara, 6-0, 7-6;  
No. 3: Akshay Moorthy (LC) def. Seena Tehrani,

6-1, 6-2;  
No. 4: Alex Clos (LC) def. Tae-Hyung Kang, 6-1, 6-1.  
No. 1 doubles: Robert Fortney-Eric Slusarski (LC) def. Jimmy McKenzie-Nikhil Kulkarni, 6-4, 6-4;  
No. 2: Suhas Devangam-Prashanti Viswanathan (F) def. John Tabor-Eric Neuman, 6-3, 4-6, 6-4;  
No. 3: Daniel Landstrom-Ziwin Deng (LC) def. Michael Ferriss-Sushanth Boda, 6-4, 7-6;  
No. 4: Tom Mathew-Kirk Bell (F) def. Mike Appet-Kyle Stopa, 1-6, 6-3, 6-2.  
Dual meet records: Churchill, 1-0 overall; Farmington, 0-1 overall.

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**WEDNESDAY**  
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THE BANGLES • 5:00 PM  
wsg THE BRIDGES  
MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

**THURSDAY**  
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# Tihomirova carries MU to 3-0 start

Junior outside hitter Lubovj Tihomirova racked up a total of 58 kills Friday as the Madonna University women's volleyball team went two-for-two in the University of Michigan-Dearborn Early Bird Invitational.

The Crusaders, 3-0 overall, downed Bethel (Ind.) College in three games, 30-18, 30-28, 30-26, as Tihomirova and Illinois State transfer Mary McGinnis led the way with 29 and 15 kills, respectively. Sophomore setter Inta Grinvalds had 61 assist-to-kills, while Jacqui Gatt (Livonia Churchill) recorded a team best 26 digs.

The second match was much tighter as the Crusaders outlasted St. Francis (Ill.) in five games, 30-25, 30-24, 28-30, 30-27, 15-4.

Tihomirova had 29 kills, while McGinnis and Whitney Fuelling added 14 and 11, respectively.

Grinvalds contributed 69 assists, while Gatt had 15 digs.

On Wednesday, MU opened its season with a 30-15, 30-25, 30-16 win at Spring Arbor College.

Tihomirova, who tallied 17 kills, while Fuelling and McGinnis added 12 and 10, respectively.

Grinvalds had 44 assists, while McGinnis and Gatt combined for 26 digs.

Redford's Amy Szymanski (Livonia Ladywood), sophomore Brynn Kerr (Churchill/Schoolcraft College) and Grinvalds each helped the cause with seven digs apiece.

## KNOW THE SCORE

check out the numbers in today's **SPORTS** section



## One moment in time can be unforgettable

Every generation has an event, one moment in time that marks its unforgettable place in history.

This blind-siding, heart-wrenching event usually takes the life of a beloved figure. Whether actor, activist, singer or heart throb, no one will ever forget where they were or what they were doing when the tragic news broke.

Crowds gather, tears flow and mobs of people are unable to wrap their minds around what has happened. It's called grief unspeakable and when it happens it seems like the entire world has stood still.

Argentina secured its moment in time when it lost its precious Evita - Eva Peron - during the early 1950s. The 1960s delivered its own overwhelming tragedy with the horrible assassinations of John F. Kennedy, Bobby Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. During this time we were



Bobbie Jones

a nation lost in grief.

The world lost Elvis Presley in 1977 and even though I was in my own little world at the time I remember exactly where I was when I heard of John Lennon's passing in 1980.

But, during my adult life I can't remember a time that has so held a nation of people captive like the event that took place Aug. 31, 1997, in the wee hours of the morning. My Chicago hotel room and unplanned vacation did little to shield me from the unbelievable shock. In the early morning hours I awoke to my husband telling me that Lady Di, as Princess Diana was so affectionately called, had been in a car accident on the streets of Paris.

Naturally, I thought it was bad dream, so I dismissed what my husband was saying and turned over to go back to sleep. The 7 a.m. news slapped me back into reality. My mouth must have hung open in disbelief for at least two hours that morning.

During the following days and weeks after Princess Diana's tragic death, in my state of confusion and sorrow I grieved, as did we all. I can't remember a day that tears did not fall from my eyes during some point during the day. I remember my girlfriend telling me she was the same way. There was a deep hole of despair that we could not pull ourselves out of.

I cried for the tragic way Diana's life was taken. And, oh how I cried for those boys, her sons who'd just lost their mother, and how would they ever learn all the things she would never teach them because now she was gone?

Diana had her problems and was called by some lost and confused at times. But I have not met a human being yet who hasn't fallen into that category at one time or another during their life.

After her divorce from Prince Charles, Diana seemed to have spent the remainder of her life looking for love, something she felt was lacking in her marriage. She also seemed to be a ball of contradictions and her love-hate relationship with the press would prove to be her downfall.

However, with all that aside, Diana taught the Royal family as well as the world some needed life lessons. She taught us about the power of human touch and how important it is. Caring and consideration, love and compassion - all things we seemed to be losing a grip on - she put on the world stage for everyone to see.

It has been 10 years since Diana's untimely demise and the one thing I can be sure she taught us all is that no royal crown or any sparkling palace hall, or any bulging bag of cash could ever take the place of love, simply loving one another.

Diana knew it all too well; this lesson should be imbedded in our hearts forever.

Bobbie Jones is a Belleville resident and a regular contributor to the Observer. She can be reached at WORKHARD36@aol.com



PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ducks stand by ready to be adopted and entered in the Detroit Duck Derby which will raise money for Gleaners Food Bank.

## Just ducky

### Feed a hungry child by adopting a duck

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
STAFF WRITER



Left to right, Debbie Blanchard, general manager for Merri-Bowl, Phil Goodman of Community Bowling Centers, and Deborah Dillard of Gleaners hold some of the rubber ducks that will be racing to help raise money for Gleaners Food Bank.

The Detroit race takes place as part of Gleaners 14th annual Fall Harvest Family Event, 1-3:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 15, at Belle Isle in Detroit.

Deborah Dillard looks with trepidation at the dozens of yellow rubber ducks perched on a table at Merri-Bowl Lanes in Livonia. She can only imagine the work it will require to detag 15,000 of the quackers before they can float down a canal next to Belle Isle Casino in the first ever Duck Derby to benefit the children's programs of Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan.

Gleaners is renting the ducks from Cincinnati after that city's race to raise funds for hungry residents.

Every dollar spent to adopt a duck from Gleaners buys three healthy meals for one hungry child.

The Detroit race takes place as part of Gleaners 14th annual Fall Harvest Family Event, 1-3:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 15, at Belle Isle in Detroit. The adoption fee for ducks is \$5 each, or \$25 for five ducks to swim in the race plus one extra feathered friend with the Gleaners logo that will be mailed to the supporter.

Duck Adoption forms are available at Merri-Bowl, Super Bowl in Canton and the

14 other Community Bowling Centers including Troy Lanes, Classic Lanes in Rochester Hills and Plum Hollow Lanes in Southfield through today or by calling Dillard, Gleaners development director, at (313) 923-3535, ext. 260, or sending an e-mail to ddillard@gcfb.org. The centers just finished their Strike Out Hunger campaign to collect canned goods for Gleaners.

"We thought it was important to bring in food and raise money," said Phil Goodman, community relations director for Community Bowling Centers.

It's Dillard's goal "to have everybody in the state of Michigan adopt a duck to cure hunger." Proceeds go to the children's food programs, which provide lunches for children during the summer and all year long. Gleaners is celebrating its 30th anniversary of feeding hungry people this year by working with more than 400 social service partners including churches, food pantries, the Salvation Army and Capuchin Soup Kitchen.

The Duck Derby is actually a licensed raffle. According to Gleaners, each duck will be marked with a number which relates to the number on each raffle ticket/adoption paper.

Please see **DUCKS, C3**

## Dream a little dream

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
STAFF WRITER

By day, Lisa Norton works on a variety of projects to promote Angela Hospice's end-of-life services, but when the sun goes down, just about anything goes as the 26-year-old Livonia violinist takes to the stage with el boxeo.

Creativity is key to Norton's life, whether she's writing a press release about the Livonia nonprofit's Oct. 13 fund-raiser to help patients and their families, or sewing jellyfish costumes for friends who dance in the band's show.

"We play mostly instrumental," said Norton, who interned at Angela Hospice while earning a degree in English and fine arts at Madonna University. "We originally had keyboards, but have gone through dif-

ferent configurations. At the end of 2003, we played our first show - just the three of us - and realized we'd found our niche."

Norton began playing viola in fifth grade in Livonia Public Schools, but didn't switch to violin until starting the band in 2001. Although she enjoyed painting during her college days, music and sewing have become a big part of her life. Norton, her brother and a couple of friends have been talking about starting a T-shirt business since she silk-screened images onto clothing for the band known for its unique music and show. One of the most creative moments on stage is when Norton wears tap shoes to solo on a ceramic tile left over from her bathroom floor.

el boxeo isn't your ordinary guitar-

Please see **BAND, C3**

## Creativity is key to band mates



Lisa Norton, Danny Sperry and Zach North at the Saginaw County Fair. Lisa said she especially had fun playing the venue where the ferris wheels in the background were lit up and fireworks were going off.



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# Del Signorens invite community to share evening of memories

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
STAFF WRITER

John and Lina Del Signore never dreamed that closing their Livonia restaurant would leave such a void in the community. One year later they continue to hear about how much customers miss Fonte D'Amore which the Livonia couple owned for nearly 40 years.

On Friday, Sept. 7, the Del Signorens rekindle the warmth and atmosphere of the traditional Italian restaurant while serving up delicious food at their Laurel Manor Banquet Center, 39000 Schoolcraft in Livonia. The Fond Memory Evening - Memories of Fonte D'Amore begins at 6 p.m. with cocktails and a Deluxe Open Bar. At 7 p.m. guests can once again enjoy the specialties of Fonte's menu at strolling food stations. Tickets are \$40 and must be reserved by Wednesday, Sept. 5, by calling (734) 462-0770.

"When we sold Fonte last year Betty Jean Awrey, one of the legendary customers, said we have to have an annual celebration," said John Del

Signore. "There are so many memories. We have to do something. We're going to do the same thing we did at Fonte, the same menu. We had been there since 1968. We had plenty regular customers."

Even though Bob and Betty Jean Awrey sold their Livonia bakery two years, they continued to eat at Fonte until it closed Aug. 12, 2006. Over the years Awrey had volunteered with organizations such as the Livonia Symphony Orchestra and knew she could always count on the Del Signorens' support. Angela Hospice, the Karmanos Cancer Institute and St. Mary Mercy Hospital were recipients of the couple's generosity.

"They participated in everything for the community. They've been a big supporter of this community and the community has supported them. It was just a place to meet and greet. It was a happening place," said Betty Jean Awrey.

Fonte D'Amore served authentic traditional Italian food which came from the old country until son Luciano Del Signore updated the menu in the late 1980s. The restaurant



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

John and Lina Del Signore have boxes and boxes full of photos, newspaper clippings and other memorabilia from Fonte D'Amore, the restaurant they closed last year after nearly four decades in business. John Del Signore holds a photo from earlier days, when dried grapevines decorated the dining room.

was named after the couple's hometown which means Fountain of Love. John and Lina came to America shortly after being married in Fonte D'Amore some 49 years ago. Luciano grew up in the restaur-

ant business and now runs Bacco Ristorante in Southfield. "It was more of an old world Italian restaurant when it started in the 60s," said Luciano Del Signore. "I renovated it to make it more updat-

ed, modern Italian. We had upscale waiters and probably had the most important wine list in the area. "I think the party is a nice idea. People will have an opportunity to see each other. If you were a client that dined every Friday night, there were probably 40 other people who did the same."

Livonia businessman Bill Phillips is looking forward to the Sept. 7 event. He became a regular customer back in 1974 after opening one of his businesses in the area.

"I was looking for a place to have lunch and went quite often. Lunch turned into dinner and family events," said Bill Phillips, owner of Phillips Service Industries. "The food was excellent Italian food. Service was always very, very good. We got acquainted with staff over the years and John and Lina and the family. It's not unusual for us to go to their home or them to come to ours. We've seen the kids grow. It's been a good relationship. They're very good close friends. John and I used to go hunting and fishing together and bring it back and cook it."

The Del Signorens have been good friends of Mary Lou Andrew and her late husband Dan from the beginning of the restaurant. Dan served on the city of Livonia's Planning Commission.

"Our family was there for First Communions, Confirmations, graduations, after weddings and funerals. Everything that was important in our life was there," said Mary Lou Andrew who's lived in Livonia 39 years. Andrew is planning to attend the Sept. 7 event with her daughter Ann King and her husband Steve. "The food was excellent. They prepared Dover sole at your table and it was just perfect. I want to say I'm fond of the family hut the food was delicious."

Lina misses the customers as much as they miss her and John. "I cried for three weeks," said Lina Del Signore. "I never dreamed in my life that customers would come up and say can you sign this menu, can you take a picture with us. We have a case of memories from customers, notes and photos."

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## Kids wanted for scary workshops, spooky show

Motor City Youth Theatre presents Scary Workshops resulting in an Awesome Spooky show Oct. 12-14, at Grantland Street Playhouse, 27555 Grantland, Livonia.

Students in all grades through 12th are welcome. No experience necessary. Workshops begin Sept. 9, and continue to Oct. 11.

Students in grades K-12 will be placed according to age, skills and interest.

Each MCYT Scary Workshop will include five weeks of classes (seven sessions) and will be included in the final performance. The cost is \$40 per five-week class.

Classes will be held Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30, and Oct. 7 at the times listed. Additional rehearsal sessions will be held 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 6, and 6 p.m. Thursday,

Oct. 11. For more information, visit [www.mcyt.org](http://www.mcyt.org).

Scary Stories runs 1-2 p.m. Students will improve their acting skills while rehearsing and performing scary dialogues, plays or skits such as The Great Pumpkin, Macbeth's Witches, Goosebumps stories, and The Tell Tale heart.

Creepy Improv follows 2:05-3:05 p.m. during which time students improve their speaking, acting and movement skills through scary and funny theatre games. Open to beginners and experienced actors.

Spooky Songs is scheduled 3:10-4:10 p.m. when students will improve their individual and choral skills while they learn, rehearse, and perform spooky songs such as The Addams Family and Monster Mash.

Spooky dances rounds out the offerings 4:15-5:15 p.m. Students will improve their group and/or individual spooky dance skills with songs such as Thriller and Monster Mash.

Motor City Youth Theatre is also looking for terrific dancers, singers and actors for its fall production of CATS which takes place 6 p.m. Sept. 9-10. All grades through High School. Exceptions may be made for Grizzabella and Old Deuteronomy.

Grantland Street Players is looking for adult actors, singers and dancers for its fall production of Silk Swords - The Whisperers, a supernatural, psychological thriller being performed 6 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Sept. 3-4

All auditions, rehearsals and performances will be held at Grantland Street Playhouse.

## Area college to hold auditions for Mockingbird

Henry Ford Community College will hold auditions for its fall production of Harper Lee's To Kill a Mockingbird 7-9 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, Aug. 28-29, in the Adray Auditorium of the Mackenzie Fine Arts Bldg. of the Dearborn campus at 5101 Evergreen Road.

The production, directed by Judith Fletcher, runs from Friday, Nov. 23 to Sunday, Dec. 2, and includes 5 matinee performances for middle

and high school students. Since the play is a college Theatre Division production, course enrollment is required.

Bring resume and photo (desired, not required). Attend either or both evenings. Auditions will consist of cold readings from the script.

For more information, call the director at (313) 845-9772 or send e-mail to [ariadne-diva@aol.com](mailto:ariadne-diva@aol.com).

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**Before** **AFTER**

**BAND**

FROM PAGE C1

driven rock band. The group doesn't even have a lead guitar, only Norton on electrified violin, her brother Zach on bass and former Churchill High schoolmate Danny Sperry on drums.

Originally, the band was started with friends Jenny Gumina and Lars Hedelin, a Swedish exchange student. Gumina left in 2003, as did Hedelin, who designed the cover for el boxeo's *Awake & Dreaming* CD released in 2006.

Today, Gumina works with Norton at Angela Hospice processing donations. Norton says she enjoys her day job because she feels she's helping people.

Founded in 1985, Angela Hospice served 1,359 patients last year, from young children to seniors.

"The band is a natural with all of us being friends and all of us being interested in music," Norton said. "We realize we're not really a commercial sound, but it would be great to do commercial soundtracks. Most of it for us is just having fun. We'd like to be able to tour."

Last summer, el boxeo traveled west for 3½ weeks to play

in clubs, bars, art galleries and house shows in Texas, California and Washington state.

"In rural areas where there's not a lot of venues, people book shows in their house. It might be in a house, but they have shows every week," Norton said. "We're like a party band. There's so much energy that my favorite place to play is house shows. There's so much energy in smaller venues. (Financially) we usually break even on tour. You stay with people you meet. You're getting to see the whole country through a van window. It's the complete absence of stress to just go and play music. It's an amazing lifestyle."

Zach Norton and Sperry enjoy touring so much they took off this summer to play with Child Bite after performing at the Blind Pig in Ann Arbor and Elbow Room in Ypsilanti in late June with el boxeo.

Both Wayne State University students return Monday from engagements in Boston, New York City, Philadelphia, Georgia and Tennessee. While Zach, the group's 24-year-old bass player, enjoys the rowdier punk music of Child Bite, el boxeo's post-rock can sound like country or heavy metal.

Zach originally came up with the band's name after seeing a poster about the sport of boxing in his Spanish classroom. He says the two bands "satisfy different creative needs."

"I thought it was nice, but it's sort of an annoying band name because you have to tell people how to spell and pronounce it," said Zach Norton, who's majoring in public relations and would eventually like to work in "the nonprofit sector like his big sis" or in journalism. Norton has been involved with the Wayne State newspaper *The South End* and believes "newspapers are a vital institution in the world today and serve an important purpose."

In the meantime, Zach and the rest of el boxeo plan to spend the month of September writing songs for their new CD with Suburban Sprawl Music, an independent record label and musical collective started in 1999 in Livonia.

"We don't have any lofty goals," Zach said. "It would be nice to have the band together and keep making cool music, keep making interesting but still accessible music."

Lisa Norton says many of their creative ideas come from Sperry, who's studying graphic design and print making at



Lisa Norton (left), Danny Sperry and Zach Norton perform at the Saginaw County Fair Aug. 3.

Wayne State. The 23-year-old Detroit drummer plans to eventually earn a master's degree in fine arts.

"I've always really been into music. I started playing bass guitar, then saved up and bought a drum set and that clicked. I've been playing drums since seventh grade," Sperry said. "I usually describe el boxeo's music as high-energy instrumental music. It's the

instrumentation that sets us apart. I'm not sure of many other bands that consist of drums, bass and violin."

Lisa Norton says onstage she has to laugh to herself.

"It's kind of this chaos to me and somehow it all works," she said.

el boxeo's *Awake & Dreaming* CD is available in independent records stores, at their shows and the Web site

www.suburbansprawlmusic.com.

"One side the music is awake, the other dreaming," Norton said. "The awake side is bare-bone and alive like on our shows. Dreaming is where we got to experiment more. On the Web site, we have people in Japan order our CD. That goes with the dream part of it."

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**DUCKS**

FROM PAGE C1

Winners will be determined when each duck is caught in a chute at the finish line. If circumstances prevent the duck race, the winner will be drawn in a traditional raffle at the event. Supporters have an opportunity to win \$5,000 if their duck crosses the finish line first. Second prize is \$1,500. Third prize is a \$1,000 shopping spree at Somers Collection in Troy.

Prior to the race, one in every 3,333 ducks will be selected and

their number kept in a secure envelope. After the ducks cross the finish line, race officials will determine whether the duck is one of the preselected million-dollar winning ducks. If not, the million-dollar prize will not be awarded.

The race begins at 2:30 p.m.

"We need sponsors for prize money," Dillard said. "Chrysler has donated \$30,000. Florine Mark of Weight Watchers is one of our supporters. We still need volunteers to detag the ducks. After the race, we need volunteers to scoop them out. We have to account for each duck."

Anyone interested in volunteering at the event or selling ducks through their work place, service

club, store or school, should contact Dillard, who is hoping individuals and families will support Gleaners as well by attending the Fall Harvest Event on Sept. 15.

"We'll have lots of activities and games for the kids," Dillard said. "The fest includes hot dogs, ribs, chicken. It's a family event."

For more information about Gleaners, the Sept. 15 event, or Celebrity Duck Auction 6-9 p.m. Monday, Sept. 10, at Tavern on 13 in Southfield, visit www.gcfb.org. National and local celebrities such as Dustin Hoffman, Chris Hansen of *NBC News/Dateline* and the legendary Eartha Kitt have decorated Derby Ducks, which will go

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2007 3rd Annual

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Enjoy the tastes of the various Garden City restaurants. Park at one restaurant (you'll be assigned a starting location), then use the "Big Yellow Bus" provided by Garden City Public Schools, to visit all the participating eateries before returning to your starting point. Enjoy free food, entertainment (if available), purchase drinks (if you wish) and experience a taste of the restaurants in the Garden City area.

**Tickets include:** A souvenir *Dine & Dash* shirt to be worn during the event, complimentary appetizers from the participating restaurants, transportation and an evening of pure FUN for family and friends.

**Ticket Costs are:** \$20 for adults, \$10 for children under 12 years, \$18 for senior citizens, and \$75 for a party of four. All tickets **MUST** be purchased in advance (limited seating available) and are available at the Garden City Chamber of Commerce.

For further information, please contact the Garden City Chamber of Commerce.  
Hosted by the Garden City Chamber of Commerce. A portion of this year's proceeds go to Burger School for the Artistic.

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**WEDDING**



**Raetz-Maurer**  
 Jessica Lynn Raetz and Jeremy Allen Maurer were united in marriage on June 9, 2007, by Rev. Dr. Mark Jensen at North Congregational Church in Farmington Hills. The bride is the daughter of Thomas and Leslie Raetz of Livonia. She graduated from Livonia Stevenson High School and Central Michigan University, and is employed as an advertising senior account executive with Moroch Partners in Novi. The groom is the son of James and Emily Maurer of Birch Run, Mich. He gradu-

ated from Frankenmuth High School and Central Michigan University, and is a sales senior account executive at General Electric in Troy. The bride was attended by Maid of Honor Melissa Raetz, and Erin Schlappi and Cherice Watts. The groom was attended by Best Man Kevin Rosinski, and Michael Gregory and Matthew Kosal. A reception was held at the Detroit Yacht Club on Belle Isle. 200 people attended. The couple honeymooned in St. Lucia. They are making their home in West Bloomfield.

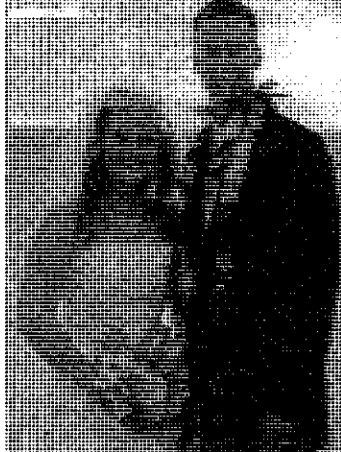
**ENGAGEMENTS**

**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 Waterford. 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.

**WEDDINGS**



**Brown-Hardin**  
 Erin Nicole Brown and David Matthew Hardin were married July 14, 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.

**Home repair expert builds following**

BY JAY M. GROSSMAN  
 STAFF WRITER

With a flick of the switch, Heidi Baker promises to spice up your romance.

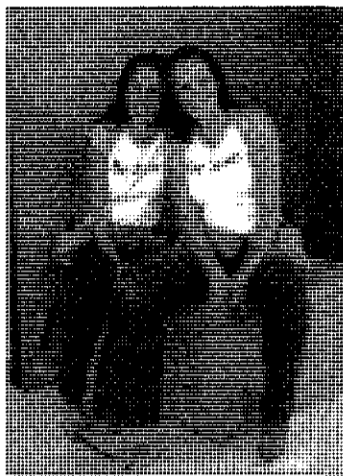
All it takes is the installation of a dimmer switch in the bedroom — a project the average Jane could probably do in less than 15 minutes.

"Mood lighting is a must to creating a romantic bedroom, so a dimmer switch is critical," said Baker, author of *Be Jane's Guide to Home Empowerment*.

The do-it-yourself home improvement author offers tips for a variety of projects, from changing toilet seats to adding new counter tops. Her book is aimed at women, especially young singles, who are about to enter the home market.

She'll share some of her remodeling tips, along with personal tales about life in the toolbox, during a book-signing appearance at the Baldwin Public Library, 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 30. The library is located at 300 W. Merrill Street and the presentation is free to the public.

Baker, 38, grew up in Birmingham and was attending Groves High School when



Authors Heidi Baker, left, and Eden Jarrin wrote a do-it-yourself home improvement book for women.

her family moved to California. She began learning about home improvements after purchasing a 1,800 square-foot condominium in Los Angeles.

"Like most people, I was house rich and cash poor," she said. "The condo needed changes and I didn't have money to make the improvements, so step-by-step I learned on my own."

It wasn't easy. Baker said most of the hardware store clerks called her "sweetheart"

and tried talking her into hiring a professional when it came to remodeling projects. She ignored the advice and kept plugging along.

By the time she finished, friends were already asking her for advice on everyday home improvement projects.

"Most people feel silly when you ask someone at a store to explain the difference between a pair of pliers and a wrench," she said. "We wanted to create a book that would take those gorgeous pictures you'd see in a magazine and then show you how you can transform a room into one of those pictures."

The book breaks a house up into five separate rooms:

- A cookable kitchen.
- A family room for families.
- A romantic bedroom.
- A spa-licious bathroom.
- A dining room for special occasions.

Baker co-authored the book with Eden Jarrin, a close friend who shares her gung-ho attitude toward new kitchen cabinets. The two also run a Web site called *bejane.com* and produce an online television show.

They certainly found a niche to cultivate. Baker said mortgage lending companies like

**Jacobs-Messina**

Vincent Messina and Christine Jacobs will be married Dec. 22, 2007, at St. Johns Center in Plymouth, Michigan.

Vince is the son of Frank and Marlene Messina of Monroe. He is a 1987 Graduate of Plymouth Salem High School and a 1992 Graduate of Western Michigan University. Vince is the President of Messina Concrete, Inc.

Christine is the daughter of Diane Carriero and Richard & Gail Urchyk. She is a 1989 graduate of Lapeer East High School and a 1993 graduate of the University of Michigan. Chris is a real estate investor. The couple, along with Chris'



daughter, Avery, will make their home in Plymouth after a honeymoon in Hawaii.

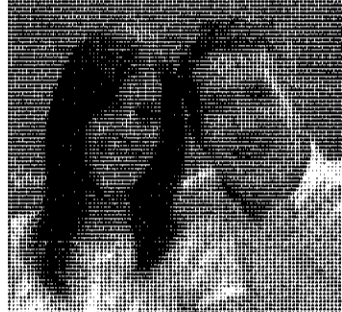
**Lance-Larson**

Michael and Cheryl Lance of Westland announce the engagement of their daughter, Erin Alissa Lance of David Aaron Larson of Redford, son of Patricia Krantz and Paul Larson.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Livonia Franklin High School and Eastern Michigan University. She is employed as a kindergarten teacher.

The future groom is a graduate of Redford Thurston High School and Henry Ford Community College. He is employed by MAHLE Powertrain.

An Oct. 27, 2007, wed-



ding is planned for St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in New Boston followed by a reception at Warren Valley Golf and Banquet Center. The couple will honeymoon in Hawaii.

**Fedriigo-Chevalier**

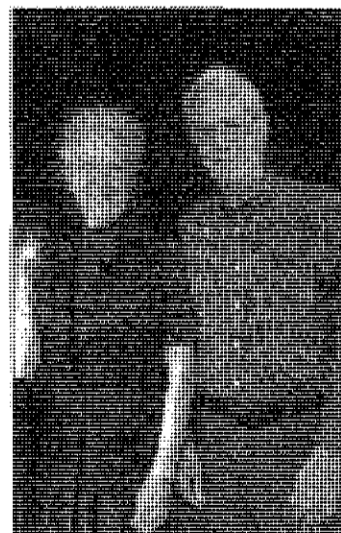
Laura Fedriigo and Gregory Chevalier will be married Oct. 12, 2007, at the Callaway Gardens in Atlanta, Ga.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Larry Fedriigo of Novi and Denise Fedriigo of Livonia. She is a 1995 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School. She was an undergraduate at the University of Michigan and attended graduate school at Central Michigan University. She is employed in marketing for the Atlanta Silverbacks of the Professional Soccer Association. The prospective groom was born in Troy, Mich., and grew up in New York. He is a graduate of the University of Albany.



He is a former professional soccer player and is currently a personal trainer.

**ANNIVERSARY**



**Westerburs celebrate 60th anniversary**

Melvin and Irene (Kevelighan) Westerbur of Canton, Mich. were married on Aug. 15, 1947, in Detroit. They have since lived and worked in the Metro Detroit area.

They raised three children: Joyce (Tony) Davis, Ted (Pat) Westerbur, Nancy (Tom) Palmer.

Mel and Irene have four grandchildren: Derek (Sunny) Westerbur, Ross Westerbur, Andrew Palmer, Bethany Palmer. They also have six great grandchildren: Alec, Adam, Aaron and Aidan Westerbur, McKenna and Brenna Wallentine.

**Ott-Davis**

Brian Ott and Robin Marie Davis were wed May 19, 2007, at Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Catholic Church with the Rev. Philip Racco.

The bride is the daughter of Rob and Mary Davis of Oakwood Village, Ohio. She has a bachelor's degree from Ursuline College in Cleveland and a master's degree from Cleveland State University. She is employed by Adoption Network in Cleveland.

The groom is the son of Mark and Janet Ott of Canton. He is a graduate of Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland. He is employed by PsyMax Solutions in Cleveland.

The bride was attended by Kelly Davis, maid of honor and sister-in-law; bridesmaids, Brittany Williams, Diane Mallin, Nicole Monastero, Anuradha Bhama and Laura Ott. Katie Kessler was the flower girl.

The groom was attended by Ravi Chekka, best man and groomsmen, William Stewart, Jason Law, Brian Kubit, Adam Russell and Richard Davis.

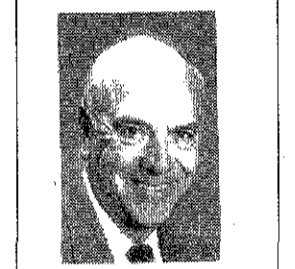
A reception was held at the Cleveland Zoo Primate and Aquatics Building. The couple will honeymoon at Walt Disney World. They will make their home in Mayfield Hts., Ohio.

**KNOW THE SCORE**  
 check out the numbers in today's SPORTS section



**Messages**

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances  
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 e-mail: [oeobits@hometownlife.com](mailto:oeobits@hometownlife.com)



**TIMOTHY O. BRENNAN**

Age 83. Passed away at his home in Livonia on August 23, 2007. Tim will be greatly missed by his beloved wife of 57 years, Donna, his five daughters, Kathleen Schoenrock, Mary Brennan, Maureen Cvach, Laura Jahn and Theresa Wallis, their spouses and his thirteen grandchildren. A World War II Veteran, Tim obtained degrees from the University of Detroit and Wayne State University. He worked as a teacher and administrator for the Detroit Public Schools, and later as an Assistant Professor of Economics at Madonna University. He was an avid athlete and played golf and softball into his eighties. Visitation Saturday 5-9 pm and Sunday 1-9pm at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia. Funeral Mass Monday, August 27, 2007, 10:30 am (instate 10am) at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Rd., Livonia. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen in Detroit or a charity of your choice. Please sign Tim's online guest book at: [www.rgharris.com](http://www.rgharris.com)

**CLAIRE R. HASKE**

Died August 17, 2007 at the age of 93. She was born in Detroit, Michigan January 21, 1914, the daughter of Joseph and Philomena Permen. The Miller Family Park in Plymouth Township was made possible by the donation of land in 1998 by Claire in loving memory of Peter, Adele and Keith Miller. Pete called her the proverbial care-giver. She retired as a L.P.N. at Clinton Memorial Hospital in St. Joins. After she retired, Plymouth was her home away from home as she traveled from St. Johns to Plymouth in good and bad weather to care for Pete and Adele in their final illnesses. She also fulfilled a promise she made to Adele to help Pete with the raspberries—a promise that she kept for 14 years. Long-time Plymouth area residents will remember the raspberry stand on Ann Arbor Trail that was operated until Peter's death in 1996. The donation of the raspberry land for the park was another promise fulfilled to Pete and Adele. The park was dedicated in July 2001. At the dedication of the park, Claire's daughter Judy spoke on behalf of the family in saying my sisters and I are very proud of our mother for her strong devotion to our aunt and uncle during their illnesses and for her donation of the property for the park. Thanks mom for teaching us to have heart and for the importance of a giving spirit. Claire is survived by three daughters, Gail (James) Nutter of Perry, Susan (Michael) Greiter of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada and Judith (James) Judd of Shawano, WI, five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband, Herman, and five brothers and sisters, including Adele Miller. Arrangements by the Osgood Funeral Home, St. Johns

**MILTON GERALD KITCHEN**

Age 75, died August 21, 2007 at home or complications of Parkinson's disease. He was born September 4, 1931 to Charles and Agnes Kitchen in Detroit, MI. Milt was a success in the work place and the home. He was President and Treasurer of DM Kitchen Building Company which he founded with his late brother Donald in 1964. Of all his numerous accomplishments Milt was most proud of his family. He is survived by his wife Janet and five daughters: Susan Van Dyck (James), Karen Kitchen Chauncey (James), Susan Byrum (Lee), Kim Kitchen Percy (Rick) and Linda Thaurber (Cleveland); 12 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Milt is also survived by his sister Lois Joyce. He is predeceased by his brothers Donald C. Kitchen and Maurice E. Kitchen. Milt graduated from Redford High School in 1949. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1951-1955. He was a Trustee at Kirk in the Hills Presbyterian Church and a member of the Economic Club of Detroit. Milt was also a member of the Association of General Contractors of America and the Construction Association of Michigan. A memorial service will be held Monday, August 27, 2007 at 10:30 a.m. at Kirk in the Hills, Bloomfield Hills, MI. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Michigan Parkinson's Foundation, Kirk in the Hills or Angela Hospice.

**OBITUARY POLICY**

The first five "billed" lines of an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$4 per line. You may place a picture of your loved one for an additional cost of only \$6. Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: American Flags, religious symbols, etc.)

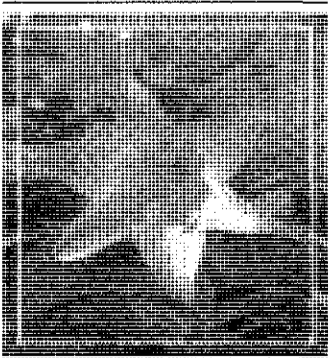
**Deadlines:**  
 Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday  
 Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday

*Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.*

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# HEARTS of Livonia

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their Cancer Center.

In addition, they have supported  
Angela Hospice,  
various scholarships  
and  
many other local charities.

*Tom Celani-President of Hearts of Livonia*



# Fun to the core

Art & Apples brings family activities, fine art and tasty apple desserts to Rochester

BY SHARON DARGAY  
STAFF WRITER

If you're intent on showing your work at this year's Art & Apples festival in downtown Rochester, forego the paint and clay, metal and glass.

Try creating in MacIntosh. Or Winesap, with overtones of Granny Smith. You might win a handmade pie plate for your culinary artistry.

"It's our first annual pie bake-off. This is open to everyone," said Karen Cuthbertson, festival director and events coordinator at Paint Creek Center for the Arts, the organization that benefits from the annual post-Labor Day fair.

"The idea came about because we wanted to incorporate apples into this year's festival, more than had been done in the past. We didn't want to conflict with people selling pies, but we wanted to give people an opportunity to show their own pies."

With approximately 265 artists juried into the annual event, held in Rochester Municipal Park, Art & Apples has always been heavy on painting, sculpture, metal, jewelry, ceramics, baskets, drawing, fibers, glass and other fine art creations.

This year, with the festival's inaugural bake-off, visitors will be reminded that Michigan's second largest art fair is about apples, too.

"We haven't received too many applications yet. We're hoping we will get more before the deadline of Aug. 29," Cuthbertson said. "We do have a few rules. Apples can be the only major fruit involved in the making of the pie."

Judges will consider presentation, taste and quality when selecting the top three winners. Entrants will bake their pies at home and drop them off in time for 10 a.m., judging on Saturday, Sept. 8, the second day of the

three-day event. Applications are available from [www.artandapples.com](http://www.artandapples.com). The entry fee is \$10.

"We hope to have at least 15 pies. We hope our pie bakers will stick around for the judging," Cuthbertson noted.

The bake-off is just one of several new attractions at the festival this year, which runs from 4-7:30 p.m., Friday, Sept. 7, 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 8 and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 9.

## PICKLES AND RIBS

Ski's, a new vendor this year, will serve up deep-fried pickles, Oreos cookies and traditional Polish foods. Brett's BBQ, another new addition to the food court, will keep the Jamaican jerk chicken and baby-back ribs flowing.

"We have fabulous favorites coming back," Cuthbertson added. "Millers Big Red is a favorite and the Rochester Junior Women do an apple blossom that is incredible. It's nice because you can find something to snack on or a meal to take home for dinner."

The festival "kids zone" with its take-home art projects is expanded this year and organizers have added an "activity zone" geared to older children.

"We wanted to do something interactive for families that come here but need a break from the artwork," Cuthbertson said. "We'll have a rock climbing wall available all weekend. South Street Skate Park will be there offering anyone an opportunity to decorate their deck — that's what they call the board in a skate board."

The Henry Ford's interactive Rouge Factory Tour will be on hand and M-Chip child ID program will be available on Saturday.

JC Drum and Music Center of Rochester will give everyone a chance to try their hand at drumming from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., on Saturday, Sept. 8. The JC Drum Circle is among the entertainment that's new to the festival. "We have a few new groups. I was trying to do something different this year," said Chris Dunstan, festival entertainment coordinator.

She included The Novel Citizen, an "indie rock band" on

the main stage schedule, which generally features folk music, local high school bands and dance studios. The group will perform at 3:30 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 9. Dunstan also moved some musical acts into the children's art area this year.

Zippy2Dads, new to Art & Apples, will perform from 1-1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 8, and again from 1-3 p.m., on Sunday, Sept. 9, in the children's area.

## FAMILY-FRIENDLY

Shawn Ryskamp of Oxford, one half of the singing duo, which also includes Tagg Smith of Waterford, said Zippy2Dads performs both educational concerts at elementary schools, as well family shows at festivals.

"Our wives are both teachers and Tagg and I have been performing for a number of years together. We thought we might as well put something together for the schools."

Their most popular show for schools focuses on the pillars of character, including respect, caring and trust. It's also the subject of their 2006 CD, *Thumbs up for Character*. Their 2007 CD, *Having Fun in Zanzibar*, includes family-friendly songs they've performed at festivals, including the National Cherry Festival in Traverse City.

"Some of our influences are the Everly Brothers, Barenaked Ladies, the Beatles. Tight harmonies, acoustical stuff," Ryskamp said. "Now we're playing concerts as well as being educational."

Zippy2Dads describe themselves as "Closer to the Beatles than Barney."

"We're not annoying to parents. We're for everybody," Ryskamp said.

Cuthbertson suggests that visitors set aside several hours to see everything at Art & Apples this year.

"We try to have a variety of things for everyone. A family could easily spend the whole day," she said. "With over 250 artist booths this year, they'll definitely have their work cut out seeing all of it."

For entertainment schedules, vendor menus, list of artist and parking shuttle schedule, visit [www.artandapples.com](http://www.artandapples.com).



Art & Apples, the second largest art festival in Michigan, draws more than 100,000 visitors every year.



Youngsters work on take-home projects at Art & Apples.

## ART & APPLES FESTIVAL

What: Fine art booths, entertainment, food, kids activities

When: 4-7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 7, 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 8, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 9

Where: Rochester Municipal Park, located north of University and west of Main in downtown Rochester

Shuttle: Cost is \$3 per adult round trip for service to and from Rochester High School, located at University and Librarians, in Rochester Hill. Shuttles run from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday

Web site: [www.artandapples.com](http://www.artandapples.com)



An artist shows his creations during the 2006 festival. More than 250 artists will exhibit at the three-day event this year.

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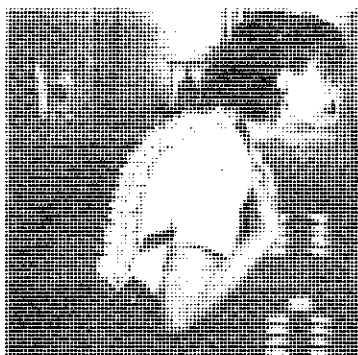
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## Is Your Child At Risk?

*If your child has complained of neck, back or shoulder pain, an overweight backpack may be a contributing factor.*



The United States Consumer Product Safety Commission reports that backpack-related injuries resulted in over 6,500 injuries in 2000 alone.

Most backpack injuries are caused by excessive weight distributed unevenly on the back and shoulder. A recent study in Italy found that the average child carries a backpack that would be the equivalent of a 39-pound burden for a 176-pound man or a 29-pound burden for a 132-pound woman. Of those children carrying heavy backpacks to school, 60 percent had experienced back pain as a result. A good indicator of an overweight backpack is to look at your child's posture. If he or she leans or bends forward, the backpack is most likely too heavy. Backpack weight should be no more than 5 to

10 percent of the child's weight. You can calculate the recommended weight simply by taking your child's weight and dividing it by 10.

The American Chiropractic Association (ACA) offers the following suggestions to help in the prevention of backpack related pain:

- Buy a smaller backpack. This way, your child will only carry the necessities
- Distribute the contents evenly. The heaviest items should be close to the body. These items should also be flat to prevent poking or rubbing the back.
- Talk to teachers about sending handouts and workbooks home instead of textbooks.
- Talk to your child about the risks of back and neck strain. Teach them to lift heavy objects properly. Bend at the knees and not with the back.

A second common backpack related pain is associated with the misuse of the shoulder straps. As many as one third of backpack users in the 8 to 12 year old range don't carry their backpacks properly. The majority of children

wear their backpacks slung over one shoulder putting all the weight on one side of the body.

When it comes to straps, parents should remember these tips from the ACA:

- Make sure the straps and back are padded. Unpadded straps can be irritating to the shoulder
- Make sure your child uses both shoulder straps. This distributes the weight evenly and can help in preventing misalignment of the spine and muscle fatigue.
- Use backpacks that have a strap around the hips. This helps with weight distribution.
- Adjust the straps to fit your child. The backpack should be no more than two to four inches below the waist.

If your child suffers from neck, back or shoulder pain, don't wait, call our office today. Chiropractors are trained to treat all ages and use a gentler type of treatment for children than we do for adults.







## Keeping healthy heart may help prevent dementia

**Tim from Sterling Heights e-mails asking for help decreasing his chances of developing dementia.**

Tim, the key may be in taking care of your heart. A new study followed more than 450 elderly people. They found those with cardiovascular disease showed sharper declines in cognitive function than those with healthy hearts. Researchers believe reduction of blood flow to the brain due to heart disease may be gradually eroding cognitive function.

Doctors say reducing cardiovascular risk factors such as high blood pressure and high cholesterol will not only be good for your heart, but will improve blood flow to the brain and help cognitive function.

**Peter's Principles**

Peter Nielsen

**Florence from Hamtramck says her arthritis is so painful she doesn't want to get out of bed in the morning. What can she do?**

Florence, you are not alone; arthritis is the leading cause of disability in Americans older than 15. In fact, 66 million adults, nearly one in three, either have arthritis or are living with joint pain. It does not have to be that way.

Studies found arthritis patients saw a greater reduction in pain when they combine exercise, diet, heat and cold therapy, acupuncture or glucosamine and chondroitin with current pain therapy. But before you start any complementary treatment, discuss it with your doctor to make sure it will help rather than hinder your arthritis management plan.

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](http://www.peternielsen.com). Contact him at Peter Nielsen's Personal Training Club in West Bloomfield or Nielsen's Town Center Health Club in Southfield.

# Light the night

## Walkers take steps to cure blood cancers

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
STAFF WRITER



Last year 1,200 supporters took steps to raise funds for blood cancer research and patient services for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

Jeff Rysenga is still trying to deal with the fact there is no curative treatment for the leukemia doctors diagnosed three years ago after he felt a lump on his neck.

"It was hard for me to understand, telling me I have cancer and not to do anything about it," said Jeff Rysenga who shares a Berkley home with wife Ann and three children. "The doctors said because there is no cure we want to save the treatment for when you need it. I didn't have night sweats or elevated white cell counts. I was feeling fine. They put me on watch and wait. The problem I had I couldn't just move on. I needed some way of releasing energy around that issue. I called the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and got some information that was helpful in getting used to this diagnosis."

Not long after being told he has chronic lymphocytic leukemia Rysenga reached out to the nonprofit and became involved in Light the Night Walks. This year he's chairing the Metro Detroit Walk Friday, Sept. 28, at Memorial Park in Royal Oak, one of seven statewide walks to raise money for blood cancer research and improve the quality of life for patients and their families. For more information or to register, call (800) 456-5413 or visit [www.lightthenight.org/mi](http://www.lightthenight.org/mi).

After a brief program beginning at 6:45 p.m., walkers leave the park carrying lighted balloons - white for survivors, red for supporters, or gold in memory of a loved one who lost their battle with blood cancer.

"What's really neat about it is we try to make the actual walk itself almost a party atmosphere with great food. We have entertainment. It's just fun. The reason we do that is the hard work of raising money is over - the Tupperware parties or selling candy bars at work or their kids going around the neighborhood with coffee cans," said Rysenga, 46, who works in product development for OnStar by General Motors. OnStar chose the Society as the focus of its charitable work this year.

"We do kind of a three mile stroll carrying those balloons starting just after dusk. To see all those people walking

Please see **WALK, C11**

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# AARP's Driver Safety course comes to Canton

Lois Ann Beerbaum presents the AARP Driver Safety Program 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Sept. 24-25, in Room D of the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 Canton Center Road.

To register, call the Canton Senior Center at (734) 394-5485.

Participants will learn about new traffic laws, rules of the road, and defensive driving techniques in this 8-hour course.

Find out how to adjust your driving to age-related changes in vision, hearing, and reaction time; get an insurance discount. Auto insurance companies in most states provide a multiyear discount to AARP graduates. (Consult your insurance agent.)

Learn how to compensate

for changes in vision, hearing, and reaction time; how to handle problem situations such as left turns, right-of-way, freeway traffic, trucks, and blind spots; what to do if confronted by an aggressive driver; when to use a car phone; how medications may affect driving; how to properly use anti-lock brakes, air bags, and safety belts, and how to assess one's own and others' abilities via a Personal Driving Capability Index.

Persons with disabilities are encouraged to request, in advance, any special arrangements they may need to participate in the AARP Driver Safety Program.

Please contact the course instructor or the manager of the facility where the course is to be held at least two to three weeks prior to the course.




## Artists Club show

More than two dozen members of the Livonia Artists Club show their work Sept. 4-28, at Livonia City Hall on Five Mile, east of Farmington road. Pictured here is Stormy Weather, an abstract watercolor by Yvette Goldberg of Livonia. The exhibit features a variety of media including watercolors, oils, photography, and acrylics.

## KNOW THE SCORE

check out the numbers in today's **SPORTS** section



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## Luncheon to support advancement of women's medicine

Florine Mark, president and CEO of The WW (Weight Watchers) Group, Inc., will host Michigan's most popular celebratory event - the 8th Annual Remarkable Women Luncheon noon to 2 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 20, at the Ritz Carlton, 300 Town Center Drive in Dearborn.

The charity luncheon will recognize and honor Remarkable Women from across Metro Detroit while raising funds to support research and the advancement of

women's medicine at the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute, Beaumont Women's Heart Center and U-M Cardiovascular Center.

Women representing all areas of business and from diverse walks of life will attend the luncheon. Guest speakers include Linda Kaplan Thaler, New York advertising guru and best-selling author of "Power of Nice," Glinda Bridgforth, financial expert, author and featured guest on Oprah's "Debt Diet," and Mireille

Guilano, accomplished international author of "French Women Don't Get Fat" and "French Women For All Seasons," who has been featured on Oprah, The Today Show, NBC's Dateline, CNN, etc. Several local media personalities, such as Sherry Margolis with Fox 2 News will also participate in this event.

Tickets are \$60, \$55 for Weight Watcher Members. To register, visit [www.florineonline.com](http://www.florineonline.com), or call 888-3-Florine ext. 1377.

### ATTENTION LANDLORDS

The Plymouth and Dearborn Heights Housing Commissions will be hosting a Landlord Informational Session on Friday, September 14, 2007 at 2:00 pm, at the housing commission offices, 1160 Sheridan, Plymouth, MI. 48170. This session is open to all landlords with rental property in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Washtenaw counties who are interested in learning about the Housing Choice Voucher Subsidy Program. If you want to know more about the program, how to become a Section 8 landlord and explore a new opportunity to expand your tenant base, you are encouraged to attend. There is no cost to attend the session however you must pre-register by calling (734) 455-3670.

Publish: August 26 & September 6, 2007

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### Simply Self Storage

Notice is hereby given that on Sept 12th, 2007 on or after 9:30 a.m. that Simply Self Storage will be offering for sale under the Judicial Lien Process by Public Auction the following units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. Terms of the sale are cash only. Simply Self Storage reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: 34333 E Michigan Ave. Wayne MI. 48184. 734-728-8204.

Editha Gears - C169 - Household Items, Paul Woodin - A179 - Household Items, Dona Cunningham - A203 - Household Items, Cynthia Adams - A143 - Household Items, Theresa Skowronski - D104 - Household Items

Publish: August 26 & September 2, 2007

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