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WESTLAND Observer

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County to install devices to monitor park

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Wayne County this month will install monitoring devices in Central City Park to determine methane levels and to study the migration of contaminated groundwater, officials confirmed Wednesday.

The latest measures will follow findings released during the summer of lead and other contaminants in groundwater and of methane, a gas common to landfills.

Wayne County and the former Nankin Township once used Central City Park as a dump. Mayor William Wild ordered the popular park fenced off in January as officials continue tests that officials hope will steer cleanup plans.

Assistant Wayne County Executive Alan Helmkamp confirmed Wednesday that 11 monitoring wells will be installed, mostly around the park's perimeter, to determine the migration of groundwater. A similar number of methane testing stations will be installed.

"We're hoping to get those into the field by the

end of this month," Helmkamp said.

Wayne County has hired a consultant to do the work.

Beth Vens, project manager for the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, said the groundwater tests will help determine the impact to surface water and the direction in which contaminated water may be moving from the park.

Officials have confirmed that the groundwater isn't likely a threat to human health, because municipal water systems wouldn't be exposed to

contaminants. However, some environmentalists have raised questions about possible harm to aquatic life.

The latest plans to test groundwater and methane came as state, county and city officials met Tuesday to discuss the park situation. Helmkamp described the meeting as "productive."

"It seemed like everybody was on the same page," he said.

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TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Who will it be?

They'll have to wait until tomorrow to find out who will be crowned John Glenn High School's Homecoming king and queen. Vying for the honor are queen candidates Skye Jones (from left), Dana Quattlander, Nicole Diehl, Chelsea Thompson and Ashley Hudry (not pictured), while the king candidates are Joey Blouse (from left), David Kalvelage, Corey Davis, Ryan Lopez and Ryan Graham. The winners will be announced during halftime of the Homecoming game which pits the John Glenn against Plymouth Salem.

Baseball game is big hit for village

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Well, lah-de-dah.

The big bully baseball brats boasted better batting skills Sunday when Greenfield Village's historic Lah-De-Dah team took the zip out of Westland's fledgling Zip-a-Dee-Doo-Dahs.

Ouch!

Talk about an old-fashioned whipping. The Lah-De-Dahs beat the city's team 24-8 in a vintage baseball match in Jaycee Park using game rules from 1867.

Good thing it was all in fun. Good thing it raised \$2,000 for restoration efforts at the Westland Historic Village Park.

"These guys were ruthless," a deflated Mayor William Wild said.

Good thing Westland Parks and Recreation Director Robert Kosowski's job wasn't on the line when he gave up hit after hit after hit after ...

And to think that under 1867 rules, a frustrated city team couldn't even cuss and spit.

And the Detroit Tigers think

they had it bad winding up their season.

City Councilman Michael Kehrer bemoaned the mitt-free hands that stung as he tried to catch an old-fashioned ball, even if it wasn't as hard as a regular baseball.

"It wasn't very soft, I'll tell you that," he said.

How much can city players be expected to endure in the name of community service?

A lot, apparently.

Westland historian Jo Johnson hinted at a rematch next year.

"That'll give us a chance to practice a little bit," Wild said.

To add insult to the defeat, a couple of the Greenfield Village team members actually live in Westland. One of them told Wild he'd like to be considered to serve on the Westland Historic Commission.

The nerve.

Wild didn't rule out making the appointment, with one possible caveat.

"He may have to play on our team next year," the mayor said.

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Election 2007 Westland City Council candidates

Cicirelli Bryant: Has family perspective

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Christine Cicirelli Bryant seemed destined to try her luck at Westland city politics.

She has spent much of her life around it, and she said she has a strong mentor in her mother, Sandra Cicirelli, a longtime Westland City Council member who served as the city's first female mayor before becoming a district judge in January.

"I'm proud that she's my



Cicirelli Bryant

mom," Bryant, 34, said during an interview. Even so, Bryant wants voters to know that she has her own ideas, and she said she would bring a young, family-oriented perspective to city government if she emerges from a field of eight candidates competing for four

Please see **BRYANT, A3**

Bulson: City benefits from involvement

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Gary Bulson has amassed 15 years of community involvement — and his dedication to helping residents — to victory in the Nov. 6 Westland City Council election.

"I'm second to none when it comes to community involve-



Bulson

ment," Bulson said during an interview.

Bulson, in his first bid for a council seat, hopes to win one of four positions at stake in

November.

"I like helping people," Bulson said, adding that he is so busy with his community

Please see **BULSON, A3**

Dunn: Citizens should decide on service cuts

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Harold Dunn views government as an often-bloated, self-serving entity that has drifted far from its purpose of helping people.

Dunn, a member of the U.S. Taxpayers Party of Michigan, has lost campaigns for state and federal congressional seats that he said are locked into a failing, two-party system.

With that, Dunn, 75, has decided to try to make a dif-



Dunn

ference closer to home by seeking a seat on the nonpartisan Westland City Council.

"The only reason I'm in this is to be of service to the

voter," Dunn said during an interview.

Dunn, who is competing with seven other hopefuls

Please see **DUNN, A3**

CITY COUNCIL Eight candidates are vying for four council seats. The top three vote-getters will earn a four-year term; the fourth-place finisher will get a two-year term. The job pays \$12,515 a year.

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Turn Off Violence Night takes over Bailey Center

It started 13 years ago as a way to get Westland families to turn off violent television programming and spend time together as a community.

The city's Turn Off the Violence Night will return 6:30-9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 11, at the Bailey Recreation Center, behind Westland City Hall on Ford Road.

The night will include games, special events and performances.

WMGC Magic 105.1-FM

also will be on hand to host an inflatable play area for children, according to Mayor William Wild's office.

The event is sponsored by Wild's Task Force on Substance Abuse and Violence.

During a Westland City Council meeting Monday, Deputy Mayor Courtney Conover urged residents to attend the event.

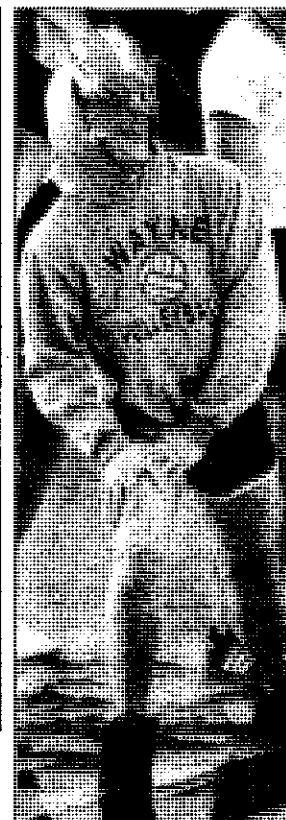
"It's free, it's fun, and it's a comfortable environment," she said.

Get on the ball.

Read today's **SPORTS** coverage!



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Wayne Memorial senior Mike Cole shows off his legs during the pep assembly's leg competition.

Zebra power

Wayne Memorial seniors Angeleah Speights (from left), Jacque Matheson and Serrina O'Brien pull on the rope with classmates to win the tug of war over the other classes. The seniors, however, lost to the high school staff at the homecoming pep rally last Thursday afternoon. You can see more pep assembly photos in the photo gallery of the Westland home page online at www.hometownlife.com.

Wayne Memorial High School juniors got into the excitement of Homecoming, cheering loudly for their classmates during a pep assembly last Thursday. The assembly served as a prelude to Friday evening's Homecoming game and the announcement of Homecoming queen during halftime in a game that saw the Zebras lose to Walled Lake Western.



When the votes were counted it was Naja Tatum who wore the crown as Wayne Memorial's 2007 Homecoming queen.

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BRYANT

FROM PAGE A1

Westland City Council seats in the Nov. 6 election.

"I'd like to give back to the city where I've lived my entire life," Bryant said.

With Cicirelli in her name, Bryant has received both criticism and support. She shrugged off critics who she says have unfairly accused of her of trying to ride her mother's coattails into politics. She also acknowledged that her family name may have brought her some built-in support.

How that will play out in the November election remains anybody's guess. As a first-time candidate, however, she did have an impressive fourth-place finish out of 11 candidates in the August primary.

As she campaigns, Bryant said she hopes that voters will realize that she is her own candidate with her own ideas. If elected, she pledged, "I will work hard for everybody."

Bryant is working on her teaching degree, but she said she already has had some experience with Noah's Ark Christian Preschool in Wayne and the United Baptist Church in Garden City. Right now, she said she works as a substitute teacher at the preschool.

Responding to questions, Bryant said the city should be ready to hire a new trash hauler if the current company, Midwest Sanitation, fails to emerge from a planned financial reorganization in U.S. Bankruptcy Court. She said the city has a surplus of over \$1 million in its sanitation budget — money that she said could be used.

Either way, Bryant remains hopeful that Westland can start a curbside recycling program, even if it has to try to form a partnership with other communities. Until then, she suggested putting divided recycling bins in the city's 17 parks to make it easier for residents.

When asked about possible cuts in state-shared revenue, Bryant said local officials should lobby for "any and all" grant dollars that may be available to compensate for any losses. She also called for curtailing any unnecessary spending, although she said she hasn't focused on possible spending cuts.

"Our employees need their jobs," Bryant said, adding that laying off city workers would only add to economic problems already facing Westland and other Michigan communities.

Bryant also said she would support exploring ways to save money by sharing services with other communities, such as the divided recycling bins or possibly Youth Assistance and family-type services. She also said Westland and other cities could work together to expand a program the city already has for seniors to obtain discounts on their prescription drugs.

Bryant cited other issues she hopes to address, such as improving transportation services for seniors and activities for youth.

Bryant said she has had some community involvement as a parent and church volunteer, and she said she has helped with the River Rouge cleanup and Westland Goodfellows, which assists needy families at Christmas time.

She said she had thought of campaigning earlier for office but decided to wait because her mother was mayor. Bryant acknowledged that her mother has introduced her to some residents, but she denied speculation in the community that Cicirelli has used her position as a judge to campaign for her.

"She can't," Bryant said.

She described herself as an independent candidate in her campaign. Ultimately, she said she hopes that voters will consider her on her own merits.

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BULSON

FROM PAGE A1

involvement that he has had to scramble to find time to campaign for the council.

"Anybody who knows me knows I'm a go-getter," Bulson said. "That's just the type of person I am."

Bulson serves as vice chair of government affairs for the Westland Chamber of Commerce and is chair-elect for the chamber board. He also is involved in such organizations as Westland Jaycees, the Salvation Army advisory council, the Westland Rotary service organization and the S.P.A.R.K. (Sports & Recreation for Kids) Foundation, to name just a few.

Bulson believes that his understanding of the community has prepared him to serve on the council and help his city.

"It's all about my city," he said. "To me, this is the next step."

Responding to questions, Bulson said the financial troubles hovering over the city's trash hauler, Midwest Sanitation, should be closely watched. The company is in reorganization in U.S. Bankruptcy Court.

"Personally, I think (the city) should have switched trash haulers already," Bulson said, but added that the contract in place must be honored.

Even so, he said city officials should be researching other companies and bids in the event that Midwest needs to be quickly replaced.

Regardless of what happens, Bulson said the city should push for a curbside recycling program, which he said could ultimately save money by reducing the amount of trash taken to a landfill.

Moreover, Bulson said communities have a moral obligation to try to recycle "for the future of the earth."

On the topic of possible cuts in state-shared revenue, Bulson said any loss of dollars to Westland should not result in reducing the number of police officers and firefighters.

"I don't know what cutbacks can be made," Bulson said, although he acknowledged that nonessential services, such as possibly the leaf pickup program, would have to be examined before public safety.

"I would hope that we can weather the storm," he said.

Bulson suggested the city consider small cutbacks that can add up, such as those he has made at his business. He said he reduced the number of phone lines without harming his company, and he had Absopure water service taken out.

Some residents have long complained that the city could save money by not providing bottled water and other items for its employees.

"The city needs to micromanage a little bit within itself," Bulson said.

He also said the city could explore ways to pool resources and save money in such areas as senior transportation.

He also suggested city employees could be placed at the front desk of the police station and free up officers to perform more pressing duties on the street.

Like others, Bulson said the city needs to push for a solution to cleaning up the contaminated Central City Park.

With his extensive community involvement, Bulson said he could tap into resources and help forge more cooperation between organizations and the city. Ultimately, he said he could be a productive liaison between the community and city government.

"I think that I could do a good job," he said.

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DUNN

FROM PAGE A1

for four council seats on the Nov. 6 ballot, responded to questions about local office even though he brought to the table his written concerns about a federal government that he believes wrongly ignores God, fails on immigration issues, supports abortion and taxes citizens too much.

Dunn, a retired automotive engineer, vowed to fight any efforts to raise local taxes, especially in tough economic times, and he said citizens should be allowed to decide which services they are willing to support.

If city finances worsen and cuts loom, Dunn said he would support allowing local voters to cast ballots deciding which services they want to keep and which ones they want to eliminate.

"If they could vote on it," he said, "it would be helpful to everybody."

Responding to specific questions, Dunn said the city should seek new bids unless Westland's trash hauler, Midwest Sanitation, can emerge from U.S. Bankruptcy Court with a financial reorganization. He did voice concerns that other companies have indicated that their services would be dramatically more expensive.

On the issue of curbside recycling, he said the city should investigate the costs and seek input from residents on whether they are willing to pay for the service — without any tax increase.

If local budget cuts become necessary due to deeper losses in state-shared revenue, Dunn said the city should try to trim spending and explore sharing resources with other communities in such areas as municipal golf courses, ice rinks, senior centers and parks/recreation programs.

Ultimately, Dunn said the government should seek to reduce costs and ease the burden on taxpayers.

Dunn vowed that he will not be beholden to the business community or city employees — both of whom he believes have a vested interest in keeping the current system in place.

"I would be doing my best to represent the citizens," he said.

From the local level up, Dunn supports dramatic changes in the way government operates. He supports eliminating the federal income tax and replacing it with tariffs on imports.

When the United States had more tariffs in place, Dunn said, the entire country was more prosperous at all levels.

Dunn emerged as one of eight candidates in the city's August primary, and he hopes to win enough support from voters to make the cut in the Nov. 6 general election.

He conceded that he will have to succeed by talking with voters and trying to get his word out without spending much money. He believes that spending and fund raising have caused many of the problems with government officials who end up indebted to special interests.

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AROUND WESTLAND

Petticoat Ladies

The Westland Historic Village Park will present the historic-minded Petticoat Ladies in a program called "Charmers & Cranks" at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 11, at the city's senior Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh. It's a program about Victorian-era women who were ahead of their time on issues. Cost is \$6 per person or \$5 for seniors. For information and tickets, call Jo Johnson at (734) 522-3918, Georgia Becker at (734) 729-1605 or the Friendship Center at (734) 722-7628. Advance tickets are recommended.

Candidate forum

Southeast Westland Homeowner Association and the Westland Democratic Club will present a Westland Candidate Forum at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 12, at the Dorsey Center, 32715 Dorsey, between Palmer and Michigan Glenwood and east of Venoy.

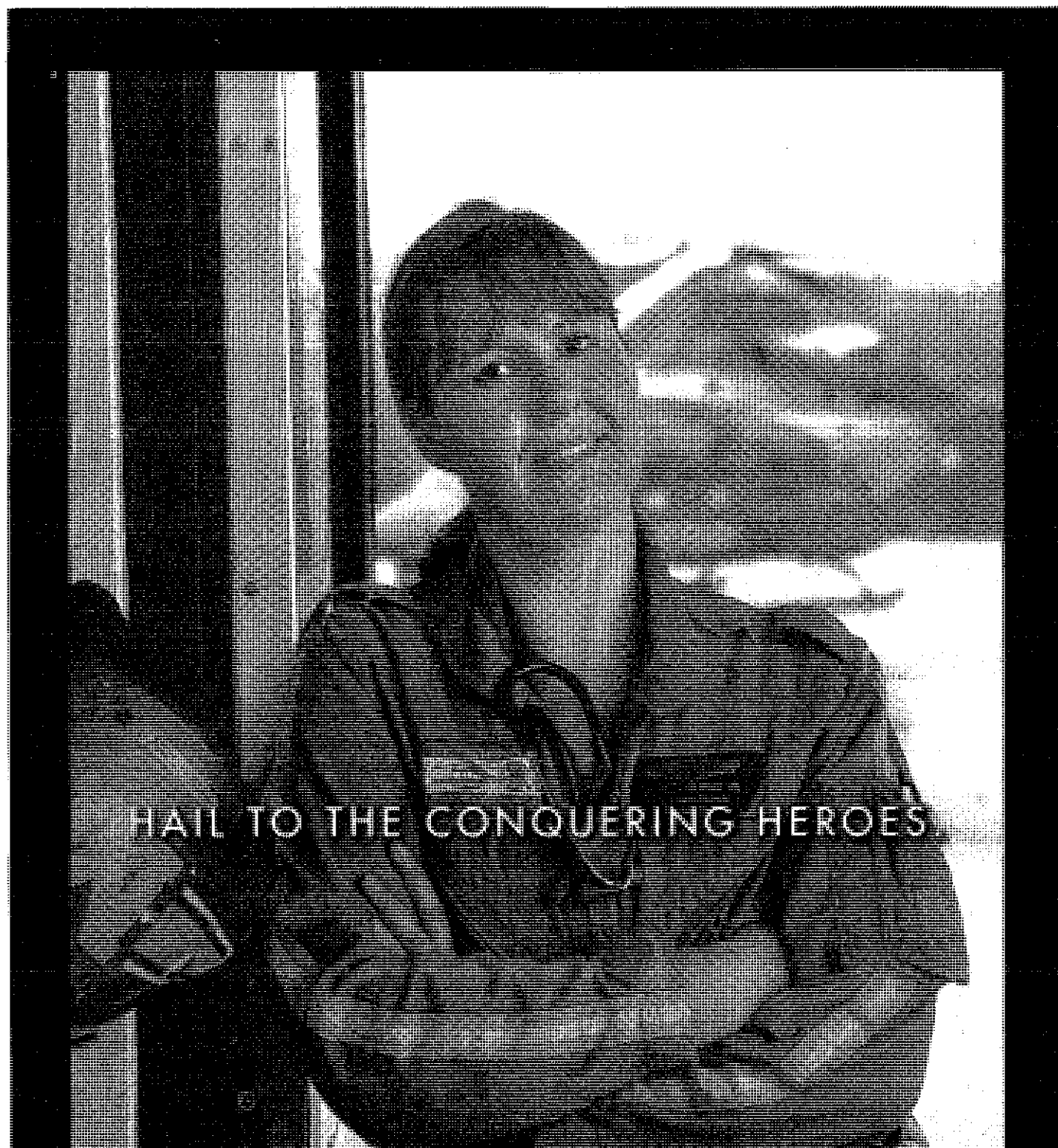
Flu shots

The Village of Westland will again offer flu shots to seniors age 65 and older 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 4, at the senior community, 32001 Cherry Hill, west of Merriman, in Westland, Call (734) 762-8926 to schedule an appointment.

■ Maple Drugs at 34500 Ford will hold flu shot clinics 1-4 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 4 and Nov. 8. The cost will be \$30 for flu shots and \$40 for pneumonia shots. There's no charge for people who have Medicare Part B coverage.

Comets homecoming

The Westland Comets, a group in its 37th year of football/cheerleading activities, will celebrate a homecoming this Sunday during their games. Any Comets or former members are encouraged to visit Kionka Field at John Glenn High School. The day will begin with the junior freshman game at 10 a.m., followed by the freshman game at noon, junior varsity game at approximately 2 p.m., and varsity game around 4 p.m., according to spokesman Keith DeMolay. The Comets will participate in Glenn's homecoming parade on Friday with a pep rally after practice on Saturday.

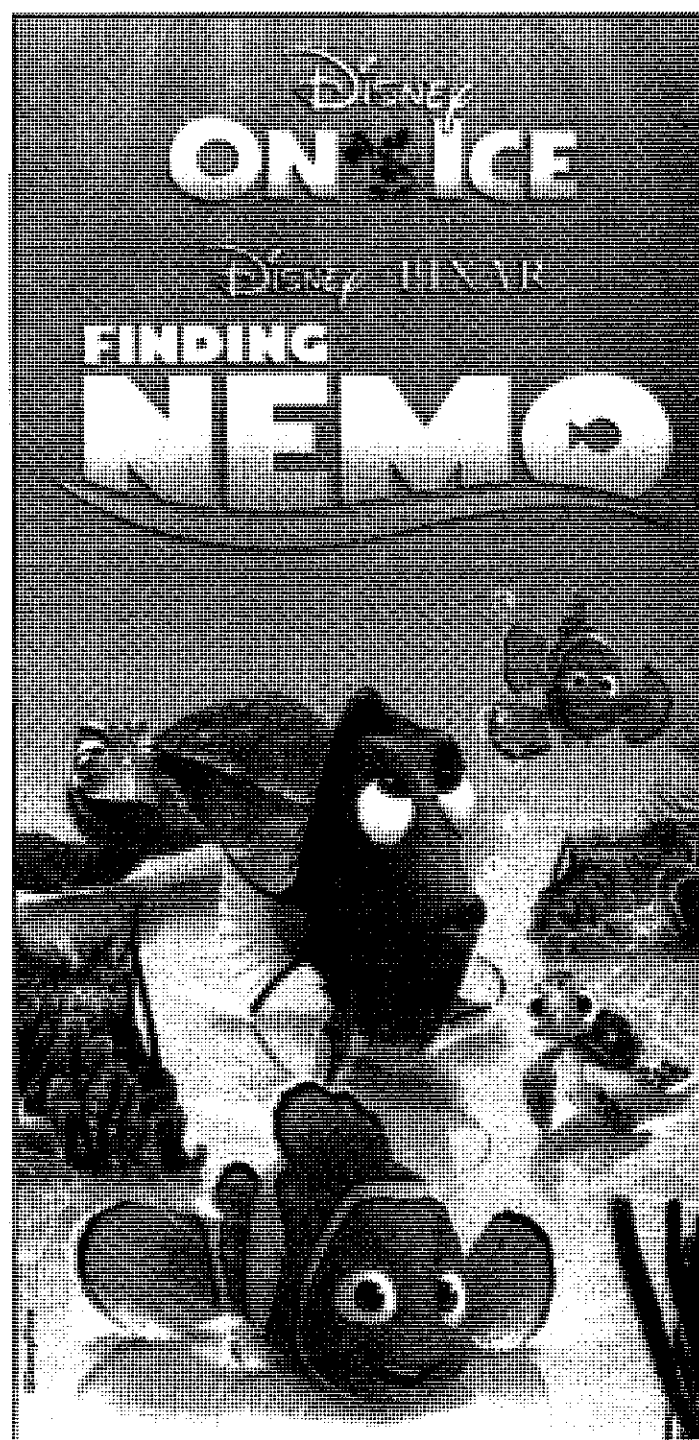


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Picky, Picky: 'Nice job' brings back customers

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Justin Thomson is a hands-on kind of guy. He shuns the idea of wearing a business suit and telling people what his company does. He'd rather wear work clothes and show them.

Stop by the business on Middlebelt south of Joy in Westland and you might find Thomson in the back seat of a 1951 Studebaker, a "Rat Ride," applying tinting film to the rear window.

"I can't sit around, I've got to keep busy," said Thomson. "This is my dream, my goal."

The Canton resident got into the business while a student at Churchill High School. He worked for a detailing company in Dearborn and found himself out of a job when the man sold the business and moved West.

"I went to work for a body shop and a lot of the guy's customers hunted me down to do their cars," Thomson said. "I did it for the extra cash. After a year, I opened a business, working nights and weekends."

He may have had the business, but Thomson wasn't ready to quit his day job — an exercise physiologist/personal trainer at a gym. He waited four years before doing that.

"When I first opened my business, I was single and had no kids," he said. "I was 22 and young enough that if it failed, it was 'Oh, well, it was one hell of a gamble.'"

He ran the business out of the back end of his pickup truck, going to his customers. When he outgrew the truck, he moved into his mother's garage. As the business grew, he kept relocating, opening a shop in Farmington Hills and then Livonia, before settling in Westland.

"I originally started detailing cars and doing window tinting," he said. "Now, we do car and truck accessories, Line-X spray-on bed liners, lifts, a lot

of customizing."

One of his first employees was Jeff Zachos of Garden City. "We started out as friends," said Zachos. "He started the business out of the back of his pickup truck. It grew and he needed help, so I jumped on board."

"He's my right-hand man, he knows the business as well as I do," Thomson said. "I also know he'll get the job done right, I can depend on him."

People who watched the second season of Speed Channel's "Payback" might recognize Thomson. He and Kenny Buckley were featured on all eight episodes after Thomson went the extra mile for a guy who needed some work done quick.

"I got a call on a Friday at 4 o'clock, this guy John calls and says he needs a speaker box sprayed with Line-X," Thomson said. "I told him get down here and I would do it. He called back 20 minutes later and said he couldn't, how about Monday. I ended up meeting him here on Saturday."

Thomson likes to hear the story behind a job and asked about the speaker. He found out that it was for a vehicle for Manny Ramirez of the Red Sox.

"Three days later I get a call from the producers of 'Payback,' they said I went out of my way to take care of the guy and asked if I wanted to be on the show," Thomson said.

He's waiting to hear if the show will be back for a third season. On the show, a celebrity has a car built for the person who helped them to succeed, Thomson said.

"It was great exposure, great bragging rights," he added. "It was national. We don't have people coming here from Tennessee, but local people realize there's a company here that does all that stuff."

The business also does fleet maintenance for Bosch, taking care of 18 vehicles that are "in front of TV cameras and



At Thomson Automotive in Westland, owner and general manager Justin Thomson works side-by-side with his employees.

in magazines." Thomson's job is to "have them looking top shelf."

While the state economy has been a downer, it hasn't stopped Thomson from looking at opening a second location.

His customer base is growing, and as he sees it, "in Michigan, you have to spend money to make money."

"It was scary to start this, it really was. I dumped a lot of money into it and didn't know if it would work," he said. "I dumped a lot of money in a dream. I dumped a lot of sweat and dreams into it."

"A lot of picky customers come to us because we're picky. We tend to do a nice job."

smason@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2112



Kenny Buckley tints a back window of a pickup truck. Behind him is a 1951 Studebaker "Rat Ride" waiting for window tinting.

Clothing keeps high schools' rivalry going

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

You can be 18, you can be 80. You could have left your hometown years ago, or stayed. But the one constant is staying true to your high school.

And one place that gives new meaning to school spirit is Garden City, where you can still hear "Go, Tigers," or "Go, Panthers." The rivalry lives on through a sports fund-raiser — Wildcats Rivalry — that has taken on a life of its own.

"It's amazing," said Judy Nichols who, with fellow Garden City resident Sue Pichla, is selling T-shirts, sweatshirts and hoodies that celebrate the rivalry that existed between Garden City East and West high schools before the two schools merged to become Garden City High School.

This is the fourth year that the two women have conducted the clothing sale, which has raised thousands of dollars to support sports programs first at Garden City Middle School and now at Garden City High School.

"The first year we did it, we said 'wow' and thought it was a done deal, but people kept contacting us and hounding us," said Nichols.

The East attire features blue shirts with a white Panthers

logo, while West shirts are black with an orange Tigers logo. Hooded sweatshirts cost \$26 for SM-XL, \$27 for 2XL and \$28 for 3XL. Sweatshirts are \$21 for SM-XL, \$22 for 2XL and \$23 for 3XL. T-shirts cost \$13 for SM-XL, \$14 for 2XL and \$15 for 3XL. Long-sleeved T-shirts also are available and cost \$15 for SM-XL, \$16 for 2XL and \$17 for 3XL.

People can order the items by sending a check, payable to Wildcats Rivalry, to Sue Pichla, 32635 Dover, Garden City, MI 48135. Be sure to include a list of the items being ordered, the sizes and quantity as well as a name, address and telephone number. Delivery is available for an extra charge.

The deadline for ordering for a December delivery is Oct. 26. For more information, call Pichla at (734) 421-2934 or e-mail Spichla@aol.com.

A Royal Oak native, Nichols admits she didn't understand the hype when the fund-raiser first started, but she now sees its effect — people wearing the clothing around town. She's even had requests from groups like the Class of 1977, which want order forms to pass out at reunions.

"Sue and I will probably be doing this when we're in our 80s," Nichols said.

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Employee, boyfriend charged with robbery

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A former employee and her boyfriend are accused of faking a July 19 robbery at a Westland business, Cashland, that cashes checks and provides advance loans on paychecks.

The couple faces an Oct. 11 court hearing amid allegations the woman lied when she told police that an masked intruder robbed her and bound her with duct tape when she opened a back door to smoke a cigarette, police Sgt. Steve Borisch said.

"We suspected this from the beginning," he said.

Ashleigh Nicole Adkins, a 23-year-old Dearborn resident, was arraigned Monday by Westland 18th District Magistrate Donald Vandersloot on charges of embezzling more than \$1,000, larceny over \$1,000 and larceny in a building.

Jeremy Russell Wagner, 33, whose address was unknown, was arraigned Friday on the same charges.

The couple faces an Oct. 11 hearing that will determine whether they should

stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court. Vandersloot ordered Wagner jailed in lieu of a \$50,000 cash bond, but Adkins was released on a personal bond because she turned herself in and cooperated with authorities, Borisch said.

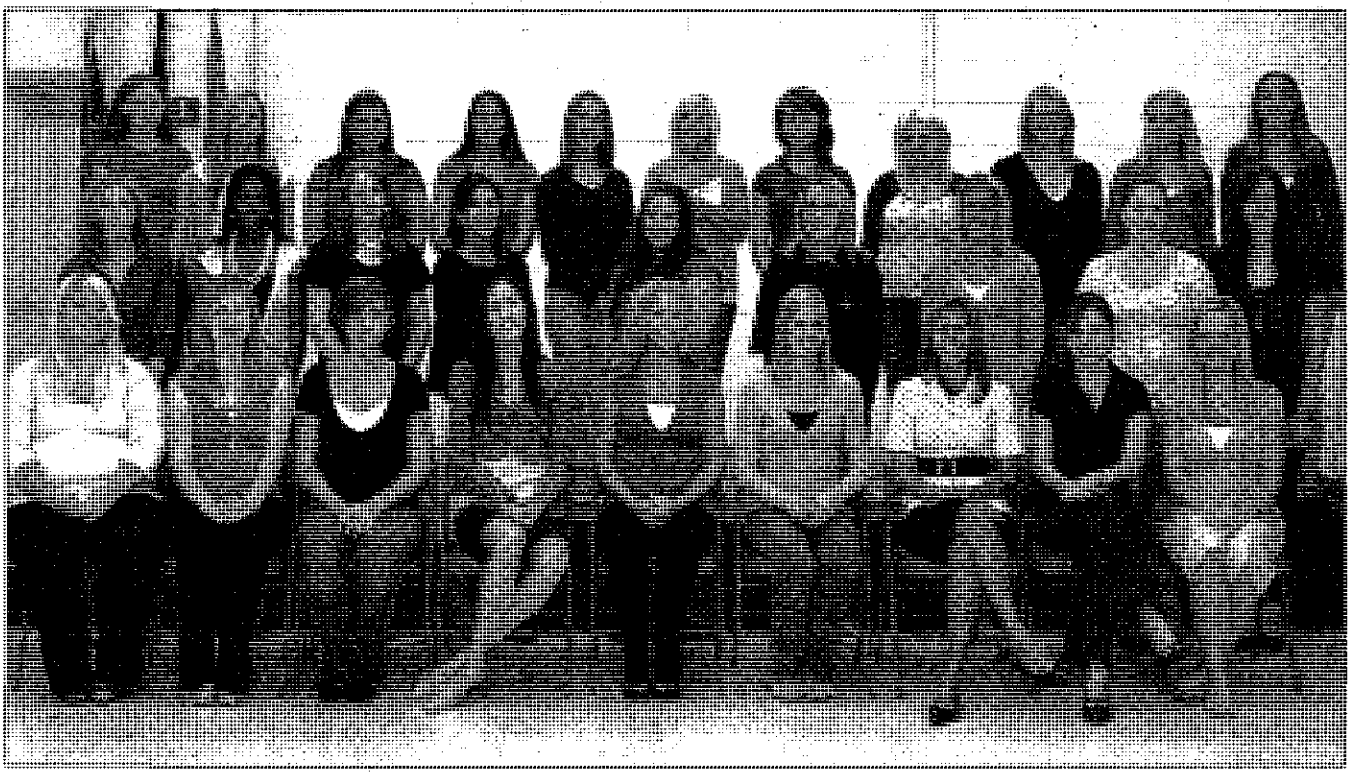
Before the Cashland robbery, Wagner had only recently been released from prison after serving about 14 years for driving drunk and causing a death, according to the Michigan Department of Corrections.

Borisch had continued to investigate the incident after being told by a witness that Wagner was seen behind Cashland without a mask. Another Westland detective, Sgt. David Heater, commended Borisch for continuing to probe the robbery until arrests were made.

"He really did a good job on that case," Heater said.

If convicted, Adkins could face penalties ranging up to five years in prison. Wagner's possible sentence could be longer because of his criminal history.

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Junior Miss hopefuls

The 2008 Wayne-Westland Junior Miss program has attracted a crowd. Thirty-two high school senior girls living in Wayne and Westland turned out for the program's first meeting. On hand were Junior Miss hopefuls Amanda Abulawi, Katie Boczar, Katherine Brewer, Mallory Brosious, Catilin Burns, Nicole Burns, Nova Connolly, Allison Cote, Briana Dewyer, Sarah Drum, Jackie Garrett, Ashley Gatesy, Heather Gendron, Karley Knoll, Dayna Krushlin, Victoria Lawrence, Jamie Lentine, Breanna Luckett, Shelbi Lyons, Jenna Mark, Rachel Mlynar, Shalayna Mulrenan, Dana Quattlander, Raven Rickard, Rachel Roth-Fuller, Teresa Sanford, Jeannine Schmitt, Sarah Strum, Jessica VanToll, Krista Vella and Megan Walker. The teens are rehearsing for the program which will be held Dec. 1 at the Wayne-Memorial High School's Stockmeyer Auditorium in Wayne.

YWCA names its Woman of Year

The YWCA of Western Wayne County has selected Carolyn Clifford as its Woman of the Year. Clifford will be honored at the YWCA's Women of Achievement Awards on Nov. 16.

Clifford is known for her work for WXYZ-TV 7. Her passion for "getting to the root of the issue" when covering health related issues, human-interest specials and women's issues makes her outstanding in her field, according to Karen Murphy, YWCA CEO.

"Carolyn is an excellent role model for all women," said Murphy. "The YWCA is proud to honor Carolyn's achievements and commitment to empowering women."

The YWCA annually recognizes women who reside or work in Western Wayne County and have demonstrated qualities of outstanding leadership and excellence in both their professional and personal endeavors for the betterment of their community. The categories are:

■ Arts/communication - A woman who has excelled in the arts, media or public relations. Such fields include visual, literary and performing arts, journalism, television/radio.

■ Business/industry - A woman who has exhibited outstanding abilities and accomplishments as an entrepreneur, or at the technical/professional,

management or executive level.

■ Government/law - A woman who has provided exceptional leadership in government or the legal profession, either in an elected or career capacity.

■ Professions - A woman who has demonstrated excellence and commitment as a professional in the field of education, health, human service, religion or research. n Volunteer service - A woman who has made significant contributions to her community through her volunteer efforts.

■ Young woman - A young woman of today (age 16-23) who has demonstrated leadership qualities, service to the community and a positive glimpse of tomorrows woman.

Nominees will be honored at the awards luncheon which will be held at The Dearborn Inn. The program begins at 11 a.m. with a silent auction. The awards presentation begins at 12:15 p.m. Tickets are \$40 per person and \$400 for tables of 10.

The YWCA will also be unveiling an exclusive Women of Achievement sterling silver charm bracelet and omega necklace created by Solstice Designs to commemorate the event. Call the YWCA at (313) 561-4110 to receive Women of Achievement nomination forms. The deadline to nominate is Oct. 19.

DPS workers restripe city's thoroughfares

Roads in Westland are looking noticeably different, thanks to Westland's Department of Public Service employees.

The workers recently completed the restriping of all city roads and special hand crews are now in the process of remarking crosswalks in the neighborhoods near local schools. The project also includes the remarking of "turn only" lanes and stop bars, the solid white lines which indicate where vehicles are required to stop for a stop sign or traffic signal.

"This is ultimately about safety," said Westland Mayor William R. Wild. "Pedestrians depend on the placement of

these lines for direction, and motorists will find that these enhancements will improve the overall appearance of our thoroughfares."

While all streets within Westland will benefit from this project, major bus routes and school areas received top priority and were completed first. The project began on Westland's north end and is currently taking place within the central area of the city before moving to the south end.

The restriping was completed Sept. 18 and the final phase is slated to finish this week. Restriping of all city streets had not been done in the city since 2001.

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Madonna breaks ground for 1st 'green' building

BY REBECCA JONES
STAFF WRITER

What will be Livonia's first "green" building took root Tuesday on the campus of Madonna University.

The ground where the new Science and Media Center will stand was blessed — and broken — in a ceremony in front of the St. Francis pond.

Detroit's archbishop Cardinal Adam Maida, university President Sister Rose Marie Kujawa, deans, trustees, students, donors and dignitaries were among the 500 people who attended.

Maida offered a prayer for the workers who will construct the 60,000-square-foot, \$20 million project.

The first building to be constructed on campus in 40 years will include nine specialized laboratories for astronomy, quantum physics, microbiology and more; a high-definition television and radio studio, plus editing suites; videoconferencing capabilities and a lecture hall.

Motion detecting lights and use of natural lighting, waterless urinals and low-flush toilets and the use of recycled materials will make the building environmentally friendly

and energy efficient. The design is registered with the U.S. Green Building Council, so as to become Livonia's first Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certified structure.

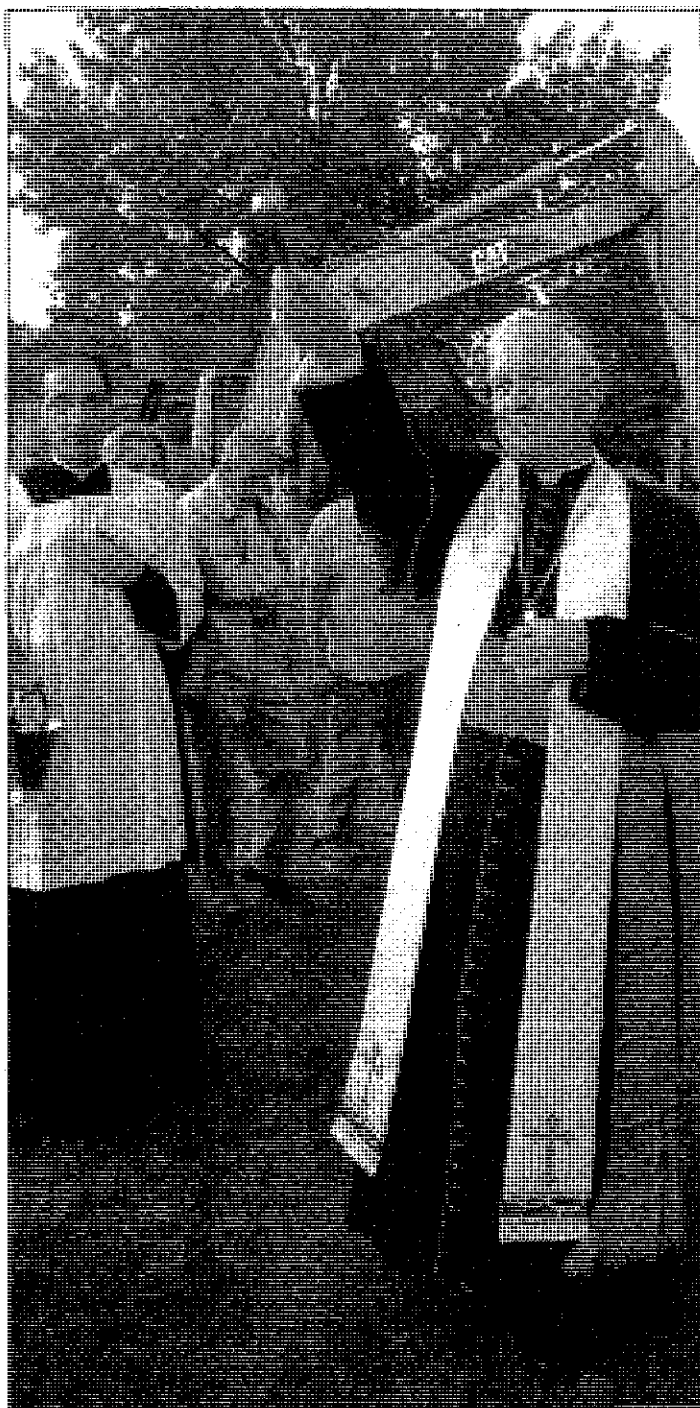
These qualities testify to the Franciscan value of reverence for creation, Kujawa said. Madonna, in its 75th year, is "vibrant, visionary and growing," she said. "In order to guarantee a future, we need to be able to house these programs."

Science is required for every major, but especially for popular programs like forensic science, nursing and teaching. The media studies field is expanding.

Sophomore Robert Beal of Canton was one of many TV and video majors recording the ground-breaking. Like others, he was excited about using new cameras and high-tech editing equipment when the building opens.

"I've heard that it is going to be a special facility," he said, adding that it will fit in with its surroundings. Beal pointed to the pond and plant life on campus. "It's definitely going to stay a place for green life."

rrjones@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2054



Archbishop of Detroit Cardinal Adam Maida blesses the ground where Madonna University's new Science and Media building will be constructed.

TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Contours' '10/5' aids foundation

A Westland fitness gym and its members will be rounding residents and collecting pledges to bring more awareness to breast cancer and to Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Contours Express at 31509 Cherry Hill in Westland is holding "10/5 to Save Lives: National Play and Pledge Day" Friday, Oct. 5. The gym is asking its members to set an amount they would like to raise and collect pledges from family members and friends. Tomorrow they will dedicate their workouts for the cause, said Mary Ellis, on Contours Express.

"We knew right away we wanted to take part in this fundraiser," said Ellis. "Our team hopes to bring more awareness about breast cancer to the Westland area, and we want women dealing with the disease to understand that exercise can make a difference in their lives."

"We make sure we deliver as many donated dollars as possible from this special event."

Contours Express held Bunco

for Breast Cancer games in September at locations around the country and bingo games are planned for various locations this month to raise more money for the foundation.

Last year, Contours Express raised \$103,000 nationwide for the Breast Cancer Research Foundation.

"We, as a business, want everyone to know that Contours Cares and Contours shares by exercising to make a difference," said Bill Helton, president of Contours.

"We are very pleased that the Contours Express women's gyms in the U.S. have once again agreed to help fund this necessary research," said Myra Biblowitz, foundation president.

For more information about "10/5 to Save Lives: National Play and Pledge Day" at Contours Express of Westland, call Mary Ellis at (734) 326-7546. More information about the Breast Cancer Research Foundation is available online at www.bcrfcur.org.

Millionaire's party benefits VA Hospital

Want to feel like a millionaire? If so, make sure you're at the Romanowski VFW Post 6896 on Friday, Oct. 19, or Saturday, Oct. 20, for a Millionaire Party hosted by the Foundation for American Veterans.

Doors will open at 5 p.m. Friday and at 1 p.m. Saturday for the party that will feature a variety of poker and blackjack tournaments as well as craps, roulette and Big Wheel games.

Players have their choice of no limit Hold 'Em poker tournaments at 7 p.m. Friday and 3 and 8 p.m. Saturday. Each tournament is limited to 100 players. There's a \$50 entry fee and a \$20 charity add-on. Each player will receive \$4,000 in chips for entering and \$2,000 in chips for the add-on. Seventy-five percent of the prize money will be paid out to 10 percent of the field and blind levels will be 20 minutes long.

Also available will be:

- Multi-table poker tournaments - \$70 entry and \$4,000 in chips.
- \$2/\$4 limit Hold 'Em - Buy in at \$20 to \$100, maximum rake is \$5.

- \$5/\$10 limit Hold 'Em - Buy in at \$50 to \$200, maximum rake is \$6.
- Single table poker tournaments - \$20, \$50 and \$100 tournaments everyday with \$3,000 in starting chips and payouts for the top three places.
- \$1/\$2 no limit Hold 'Em - Buy in at \$20 to \$100, maximum rake is \$6.
- \$2/\$5 no limit Hold 'Em - Buy in at \$50 to \$500, maximum rake is \$7.
- Seven-player blackjack tables on Friday and Saturday - \$25 buy-in for \$3,000 in starting chips, \$100 for first place and \$25 for second place.
- Craps - \$1 and \$5 minimum bets.
- Roulette - \$5 any bets.
- Big Wheel - \$1 and \$5 minimum bets.

Players can pre-register at the VFW and receive an additional \$1,000 in chips.

The Millionaire's Party is sponsored by the Romanowski VFW Post. For more information, call the post at (734) 525-9454 or visit [the www.charitablegaming.info](http://www.charitablegaming.info) on line.

CITY OF WESTLAND
INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan 48185, on or before **October 18, 2007 at 10:30 a.m.** (no exceptions will be made) for the following:

Rotary Park Walking Path

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office at (734) 467-7920. Proposals must be submitted by the time stated above or they will be returned. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Dwayne R. Harrigan
Controller

Publish: October 4, 2007

CITY OF GARDEN CITY

The Department of Public Service will be street sweeping Monday, 10-8-07 & Tuesday, 10-9-07, on Balmoral to Krauter from Central to Harrison. Please no street Parking.

Publish: October 4, 2007 and October 7, 2007

CITY OF WESTLAND
INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan 48185, on or before **October 18, 2007 at 10:30 a.m.** (no exceptions will be made) for the following:

Conference Modifications

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office at (734) 467-7920. Proposals must be submitted by the time stated above or they will be returned. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Dwayne R. Harrigan
Controller

Publish: October 4, 2007

CITY OF WESTLAND
INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185, on or before October 16, 2007, 10:30 AM local time at which time bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

REMOVE THE EXISTING FOUNDATION AND INSTALL A NEW STANDARD FOUNDATION UNDER THE NORTH WING OF THE HISTORICAL HOME AT 857 N. WAYNE RD., WESTLAND, MI 48185.

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office at (734) 467-3204. Proposals must be submitted by the time stated above or they will be returned. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Dwayne R. Harrigan
Controller

Publish: October 4, 2007

CITY OF WESTLAND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On Thursday, October 18, 2007, various items of the City Westland DPW will be sold at public auction. The auction will be held at Insurance Auto Auction, 8251 Rawsonville Road, County of Wayne, at 10:30 a.m. The following items will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

Stock	Year	Make	Model	VIN
3336493	1990	Power Mole	296 Horizontal Drill	42243710460186041
3348117	1991	Ford	5610 Mower	BC81455
3348120	1991	Ford	5610 Mower	BC81454
3348135	1990	Toro Grounds	0256 - 62' Mower	N/A

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Publish: October 4, 2007

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Listings for the Community Calendar can be submitted by e-mail at smaison@hometownlife.com. They also can be mailed to Sue Mason at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or faxed to her attention at fax at (734) 591-7279. For more information, call (734) 953-2112.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Health programs

Dr. Carol Ann Fischer, a holistic physician and clinical nutritionist, will present "Eat Your Way Thin," 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 17. Take a natural approach to a healthier, new you. Learn why diets do not work, ways to avoid weight gain and how to lose weight with diet/nutrition and exercise. When to eat, what to eat and how to eat will be discussed. Learn why eating the correct fat will not make you fat. The class will be held at Alfred Noble Library, 32901 Plymouth Road, Livonia. Seating is limited to 30 people for this free class. Call (734) 756-6904 to make a reservation.

■ Fischer will present the class, "Is It Really Your Thyroid?" 6-8 p.m. Monday, Oct. 29, at the Noble Library. Are you suffering with cold hands/feet, stubborn weight gain, unwanted pain, mood swings? Learn the hidden reasons behind these health concerns. Learn the thyroid's link to heart health, digestive issues, emotional stress and more. Help your body get back on track with safe, natural, effective alternatives. Seating is limited to 30 people for this free class. Call (734) 756-6904 to make a reservation.

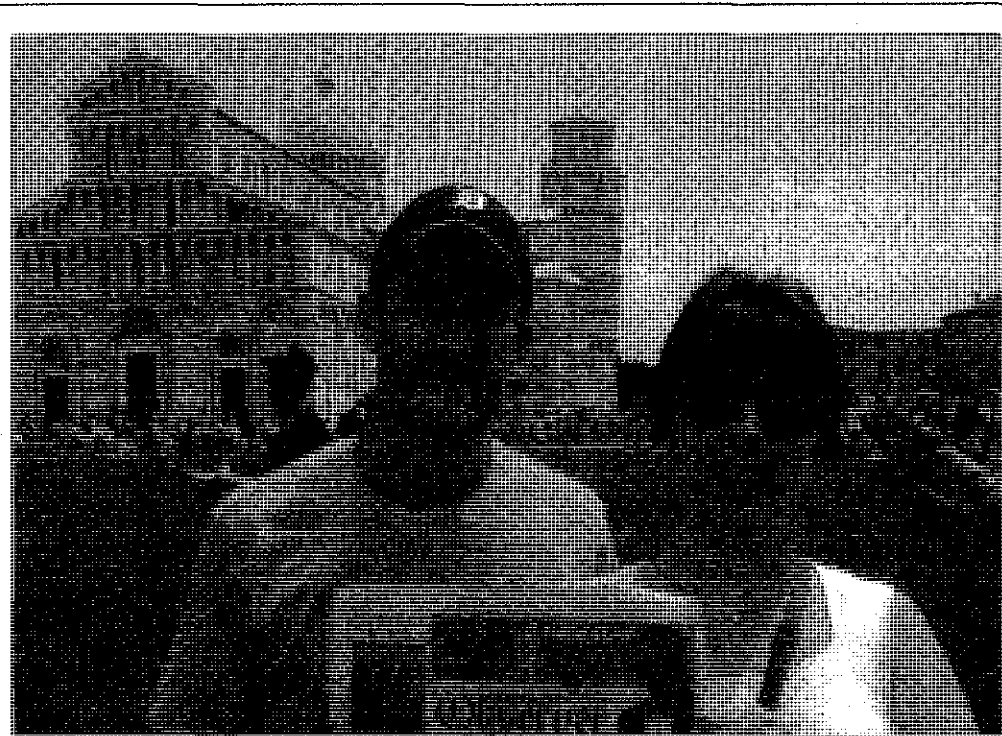
■ Fischer will present the class, "Beat Stress - Be Happy!," 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 30, at Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, Livonia. The class will teach you how to avoid becoming overwhelmed with stress. Learn how the body deals with stress and when the body is heading toward stress burnout. Learn what you can do to help increase your ability to handle stress through diet, nutrition, exercise, and lifestyle changes. Seating is limited to 15 people for this free class. Call (734) 756-6904 to make a reservation.

Casino fund-raiser

Enjoy an afternoon at the Greektown Casino on Sunday, Nov. 18, to benefit St. Damian Youth Group. Tickets are \$25 and include charter bus transportation to and from the casino and a \$15 coin voucher to use at the casino. The bus departs from St. Damian, 30055 Joy Road in Westland at 1 p.m. and will return back to the church at 7 p.m. Get tickets by calling (734) 421-6130.

Wine tasting, auction

Community Opportunity Center will



Wish You Were Here

Kevin Green and his sister Cathy Gibson, both of Garden City, used the Leaning Tower of Pisa as the their backdrop for *Wish You Were Here*. They were in Italy for 10 days in May and visited Florence, Prato, Lucca, Pistoia and San Gimignano. If you go on vacation, be sure to take a picture with your Garden City Observer and send it to Sue Mason, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. Be sure to include your name and information about where your photograph was taken.

hold its first Wine Tasting and Auction Benefit, co-sponsored by The Fine Wine Source of Livonia, from 6:30-10:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19, at the St. Mary Cultural and Banquet Center, 18100 Merriman. The charge of \$65 includes tastings of more than 100 wines, an elaborate array of hors d'oeuvres, silent and live auctions. Proceeds benefit Community Opportunity Center, a non-profit housing corporation serving adults with developmental disabilities in Wayne County. For reservations call Pat at 734-422-1020. Major credit cards accepted.

'Festival of Fashion'

The Redford Suburban League will host its 34th celebrity fashion show, the 2007 Fall Festival of Fashion starting with a luncheon served at noon Wednesday, Oct. 17, at Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft Road. The show is a benefit for the Burger School for Students with Autism. Tickets are \$45 per person. For more information and tickets, contact the league at (734) 981-6003.

Fund-raiser

Academic Pathways Cooperative Preschool will present THE READ CARPET annual dinner auction 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 2, at the Livonia Marriott

at the Laurel Park Mall. Enjoy cocktails and a gourmet strolling dinner, catered by Sweet Lorraine's Chef, while pursuing the silent auction tables. Stay late for live entertainment and dancing. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Michigan Dyslexia Institute. For more information, call (734) 261-540, by e-mail at cancksdad@earthlink.net or on the Web at www.academicpathways-preschool.com.

Girl Scouts

Girl Scouts of Metro Detroit welcomes girls ages 5-17 to discover fun and friendship, while enjoying opportunities to develop leadership skills. Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. Girl Scouts of Metro Detroit also is looking for volunteers who want to make a difference in girls' lives. To learn more, call (313) 972-GIRL (4475) or visit www.gsomd.org.

Explore Girl Scouting

Girls ages 5-17 can discover how much Girl Scouts has to offer all. Scouting isn't just about camping and cookies anymore. Girls learn a lot about themselves and the world around them, form lasting friendships, become more confident, independent, helpful and resourceful. Through Girl Scouting,

girls learn the importance of community service and challenge themselves and develop value systems they use the rest of their lives. Call the Girl Scouts of the Huron Valley Council at (800) 49-SCOUT (497-2688.)

CRAFT SHOWS

Knights of Columbus

Crafters are needed for a craft show 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 13, at the Garden City Knights of Columbus Hall, 30759 Ford. For information, call Linda at (734) 422-0373.

St. Theodore

Tables are available for the fall craft show 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 13, at St. Theodore Church, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Table rental is \$25. For more information, call Mary at (734) 425-4421 or Eunice at (734) 261-8357.

St. Damian

Annual arts and craft show at 30055 Joy Road in Westland 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20. Admission is \$1. Table space rental is \$25-\$40. Call (734) 421-6130 weekdays or (734) 721-4758 after 5:00 p.m. or weekends for more information. Proceeds benefit the youth group.

Sts. Peter & Paul

Crafters are needed for the 19th annual

arts and crafts show that will be held Saturday, Nov. 17, in the hall of Sts. Peter & Paul Church, 750 N. Beech Daly, Dearborn Heights. For more information, call Deb at (248) 946-0173 or Virginia t (734) 522-9653.

Franklin High

Those who make hand-made crafts or fine art are invited to participate in the juried Franklin High School Craft Show from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17. Money raised goes to the athletic department at FHS. For information, contact Julie Culp, (734) 522-0039.

St. Michael's

The Women's Guild of St. Michael Catholic Church, on Hubbard at Plymouth in Livonia, invites all area crafters to participate in their annual Craft Fair and Bake Sale from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20, in the cafeteria of St. Michael's School. Tables are available for rent at \$25 per each 8-foot tables (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200.

St. Edith

Crafters are needed for the St. Edith Fall Craft Show, set for Saturday, Nov. 10, at the St. Edith School. Hours will be 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. To apply, call Dawn at (734) 420-6959 or Michelle at (734) 591-7773.

CC Mothers Club

The Mother's Club at Catholic Central High School in Novi is sponsoring a Holiday Craft Show and Marketplace 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 3, at the school on Wixom Road in Novi. The show is open to artists, craftspeople and businesses which sell items suitable for holiday gift giving. For more information, call (810) 231-3235 or (248) 705-9519.

EDUCATION

St. Damian

St. Damian Catholic School at 29891 Joy, Westland, offers preschool for 3-4-year-olds and full day kindergarten through grade 8. For more information or to schedule a tour, call (734) 427-1680 or check out the school's Web site at www.stdamian.com.

Academic Pathways

Academic Pathways Cooperative Preschool at 30330 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, is enrolling youngsters for its for 3- and 4-year-old programs. Toilet training is not required. Call (734) 459-6689 or visit the Web site at www.academicpathwayspreschool.com for more information.

YWCA preschool

The YWCA of Western Wayne County's Education Department offers quality preschool programs to children aged 2½ to 5 years old at no cost to most families. There are many locations available throughout the community.

Home-based programs are also available. For more information on these programs, or to enroll your child, call the YWCA's Education Department at (313) 561-4110, Ext. 10.

ORGANIZATIONS

Friends of Eloise

The Friends of Eloise group meets 6 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month in the dining room of the Kay Beard Building, on Michigan between Middlebelt and Merriman. All are welcome. For information, call Jo Johnson, (734) 522-3918.

Toastmasters

The Westland Easy Talkers Toastmasters Club can help people overcome their fear of speaking in front of people by teaching public speaking in a friendly and supportive atmosphere. The club meets at 6:30 p.m. Monday Cozy Corner Family Dining, 35111 W. Michigan Ave. at Wayne Road, Wayne. For more information, call Vicki Brannon at (734) 467-7224 or Curt Gottlieb at (734) 525-8445.

Democratic Club

The Garden City Democratic Club meets at 7 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month (September through June) in Room 5 of the Maplewood Center, Maplewood west of Merriman. For more information, call Billy Pate at (734) 427-2344.

Citizens for Peace

Citizens for Peace meets at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at Unity of Livonia Church on Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster. The group is dedicated to working for creation of a U.S. Department of Peace. All are welcome. Colleen Mills, (734) 425-0079.

MOMS club

MOMS Club, a non-profit support group, welcomes all western Wayne County stay-at-home mothers, offering children activities, weekly age-appropriate play groups, and family get-togethers. MOMS Club also performs service projects that benefit needy children in our community. For more details, call Birthe, (734) 458-8143 or Kimberly at (248) 231-6120.

Vietnam Vets

The Plymouth-Canton Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 528, meet at 7:30 p.m. the second Monday of every month at the Plymouth VFW Post 6695, on S. Mill Street, just north of Ann Arbor Road. If you served in the U.S. military between 1964 and 1975, even, if not, "in country" (combat zone) you are still eligible to become a member. Visit the Web site at www.mihometown.com/oe/PlymouthCantonVVA for more information.

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Chris Cadotte, a Sergeant in the Michigan Army National Guard, joins his wife Nicole and children, Ryan, 3, Samantha, 13, and Alyson, 1, outside the family's home in Farmington.

PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Sgt. Chris Cadotte, on duty in Iraq.

'Once it's in your blood'

National Guardsman accomplishes his mission

BY STACY JENKINS
STAFF WRITER

'WE NEED TO FIX IT'

He saw progress with the Iraqi police in the 14 months he worked with them.

"You could see a big difference," he said. "Some were taking it very seriously and becoming professional."

Cadotte caught glimpses of appreciation for the U.S. presence in the country. He recalls seeing two little girls run out of their house when they saw the troops in their neighborhood. They were holding an American flag, which they had made.

"You would see little things like that," he said.

He liked doing foot patrol through the neighborhoods, where they distributed literature that urged citizens to call them for help or to report suspicious activity.

"It was a tip card and we told them if they needed help, we would come and help them," he said. "They were receptive to it."

While many Americans believe it's time to withdraw troops from Iraq, Cadotte has a different view after seeing first-hand how much more needs to be done.

"In my opinion, they need to send more people," he said. "We don't have enough. I see things changing there. We're going to be there for a long time."

"We blew up a country, destroyed a government — in my opinion, we need to fix it."

CIVILIAN LIFE

Cadotte said he doesn't think he'll volunteer to go back to Iraq, but he can't guarantee he won't go on another deployment in the future.

"Once it's in your blood ...," he said.

For now, he's settling back into civilian life with wife Nicole and their three children, Samantha, 13, Ryan, 3, and Alyson, 1. He'll soon return to work as a deputy at the Oakland County Sheriff's Department, where is assigned to the jail.

His "family" at the Sheriff's Department kept tabs on him while he was in Iraq.

"They would call me to see how he was doing," Nicole Cadotte said.

They all chipped in and bought Cadotte a laptop computer and surprised him with a new hunting boat he talked about getting someday.

Cadotte was escorted by his Sheriff's Department colleagues last Sunday at a homecoming event, organized by Nicole, at the Sportsplex in Taylor.

Taking care of other military families in the Michigan Family Readiness Group, which she formed, helped her get through the last 14 months.

She organized the homecoming celebration, attended by about 1,000 people last Sunday.

One thing sticks out in Chris Cadotte's mind upon his return home.

"The biggest thing to me was my soldiers coming to me and saying, 'Thank you for bringing us home,'" Cadotte said.

Mission accomplished.

sjenkins@hometownlife.com
(734) 953-2131

Nicole Cadotte can sleep now.

She can stop peeking out the front window at every car that slows down in front of her house, for fear it might pull into her driveway with the worst possible news.

The 14-month-long anxiety slipped away, with every tear that ran down her cheeks last Sunday, as she spotted her husband, Sgt. Chris Cadotte, among the more than 120 soldiers who were welcomed home from serving in Iraq.

She knew, deep down, that he'd make it home safely.

"I never had that feeling of gloom, that he wasn't going to be OK," she said. "From the day he left, I knew he was going to come home."

Cadotte, 39, of Farmington, served in the Army before signing up with the Michigan Army National Guard. He's been deployed on various missions four times, including service in Louisiana following Hurricane Katrina.

He volunteered for deployment to Iraq, where he helped lead a squad in the 46th Military Police Company of the Michigan Army National Guard, headquartered in Kingsford, in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

"I didn't want my guys going over there without someone they could trust, so I volunteered," he said.

EXTREME DANGER

Every minute of each day posed significant risk for Cadotte and his unit. Their operating base was in eastern Baghdad and was one of the most fired upon bases in the area, Cadotte said. His company worked with and trained Iraqi police in Baghdad, a hot spot for sectarian violence and insurgent attacks.

"We got hit with rockets and mortars," he said. "The first night we were there, we got hit with 27 rockets."

Four soldiers were wounded and three members of his unit died — Sgt. First Class James Priestap, 39, of Hardwood, Mich.; Spc. Brandon Stout, 23, of Grand Rapids; and Sgt. Thomas Wright, 38, of Holly.

Cadotte was the squad leader when one of their vehicles was hit by an explosively formed penetrator, a makeshift bomb also known as an EFP, used by insurgents. Two soldiers were injured in the attack. Cadotte has a photo of a concrete wall with a small, square window — there is a bullet hole just inches from the window, where he was standing when a sniper took aim.

Obviously, the constant attacks were counterproductive in getting the real work done for the Iraqi people, such as bringing in or restoring the infrastructure, he said.

They were attacked by the Mahdi militia, under the control of Muklada al-Sadr. Cadotte's base was in the eastern Baghdad section known as Sadr City.

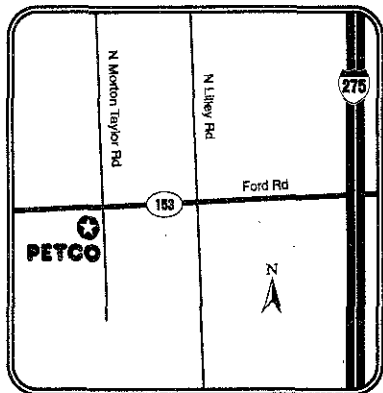
"If they would've spent more time working with us, instead of trying to blow us up all the time, it would expedite pulling our troops out of there," he said.

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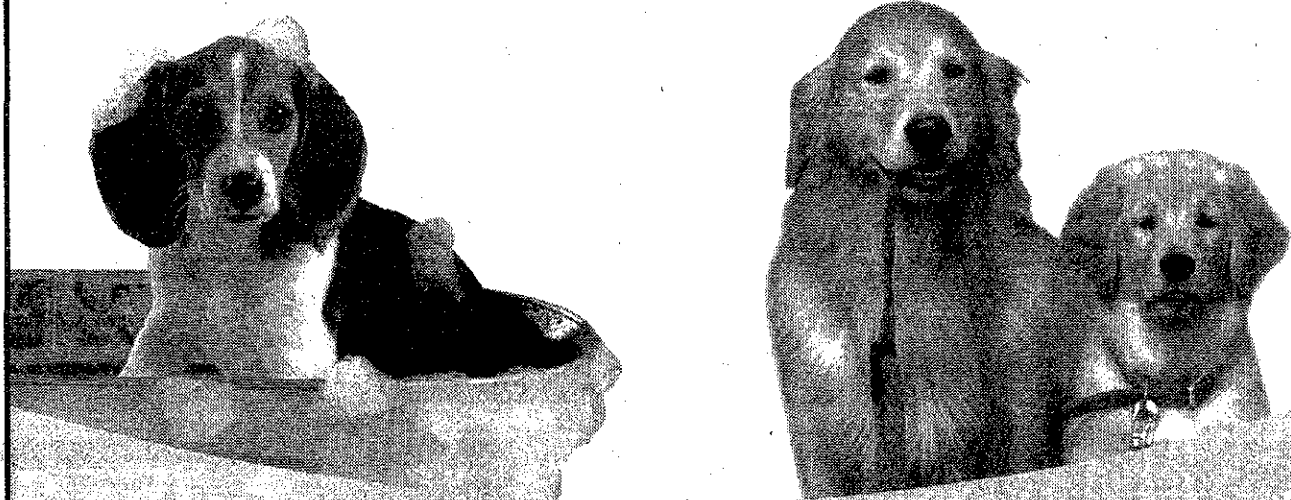
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OUR VIEWS

Wild is our pick for mayor's job

In the November general election, Westland voters will decide who it is they want to be the city's top elected official for the next two years. Two men — William Wild and Charles Pickering — are vying for the right to fill the remaining two years of the unexpired term of former Mayor Sandra Cicirelli, now a district judge.

Both candidates have the credentials to lead the city. Both have served on the City Council. Pickering has amassed 16 years, including several stints as council president, and has served four years as mayor in the 1980s. Wild has been on council for six years, including one year as council president. He is currently mayor after being appointed to the position in January by his then-council colleagues.

Both men are businessmen who have a clear understanding of the challenges facing the city in the coming years. Pickering maintains that his experience of leading the city out of deficit spending during his four years as mayor make him the right person for the job. Wild points to his accomplishments during his nine months in office, his strong work ethic and being responsive to residents as what's needed.

We have talked to both candidates and listened to their views on what they want to do and on what they have done. We have come to the conclusion that the best person to lead Westland is current appointed mayor William Wild.

We are impressed with what he has accomplished as mayor, including his appointments that reflect the makeup of the city. We have long been a proponent of diversity and we're glad to see his appointment of Courtney Conover as deputy mayor and Kevin Buford as director of public service.

We believe he took the right stand on Central City Park by ordering the property fenced off soon after taking office in January. It was a bold move that sent a clear message to residents that their health and safety are important. He also has made sure residents have been kept informed about testing and the results.

He and his administrative staff has been proactive rather than reactive. Working with the council, he crafted an ordinance that addressed residents' complaints about tall grass on vacant properties in the city. He has opened lines of communication with communities more to Westland's size to see what if any services can be shared to save money, and has already begun work on a contingency plan if the city's longtime trash hauler doesn't survive reorganization.

That is why we believe residents should elect **William Wild** to the two-year term as mayor in the Nov. 6 general election. He has done a lot as the appointed mayor and deserves the opportunity to do even more.

Breast Cancer Month: You're aware – now act

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. You'd have to be a recluse not to know. That little pink ribbon reminder is everywhere — on products in stores, in newspapers and magazines and on people's lapels. Even M&M's produces pink candies to raise awareness of the second leading cause of cancer death in women.

The media has done a good job of educating women about their risks (one in eight will have an invasive form of breast cancer during her lifetime) and the importance of early detection by way of mammograms, and clinical and self breast exams.

Yet all the awareness and knowledge doesn't do women any good if they don't take action.

Women tend to be the caregivers in their families, putting their needs behind those of their children, husbands, parents and friends. They'll spend several hours a day doing things for others, yet not take five minutes a month to check their breasts for irregularities or a couple of hours a year to get a mammogram or visit their gynecologist.

But, unless they do, they may wind up cutting their time short with their families and not being there for them in the future.

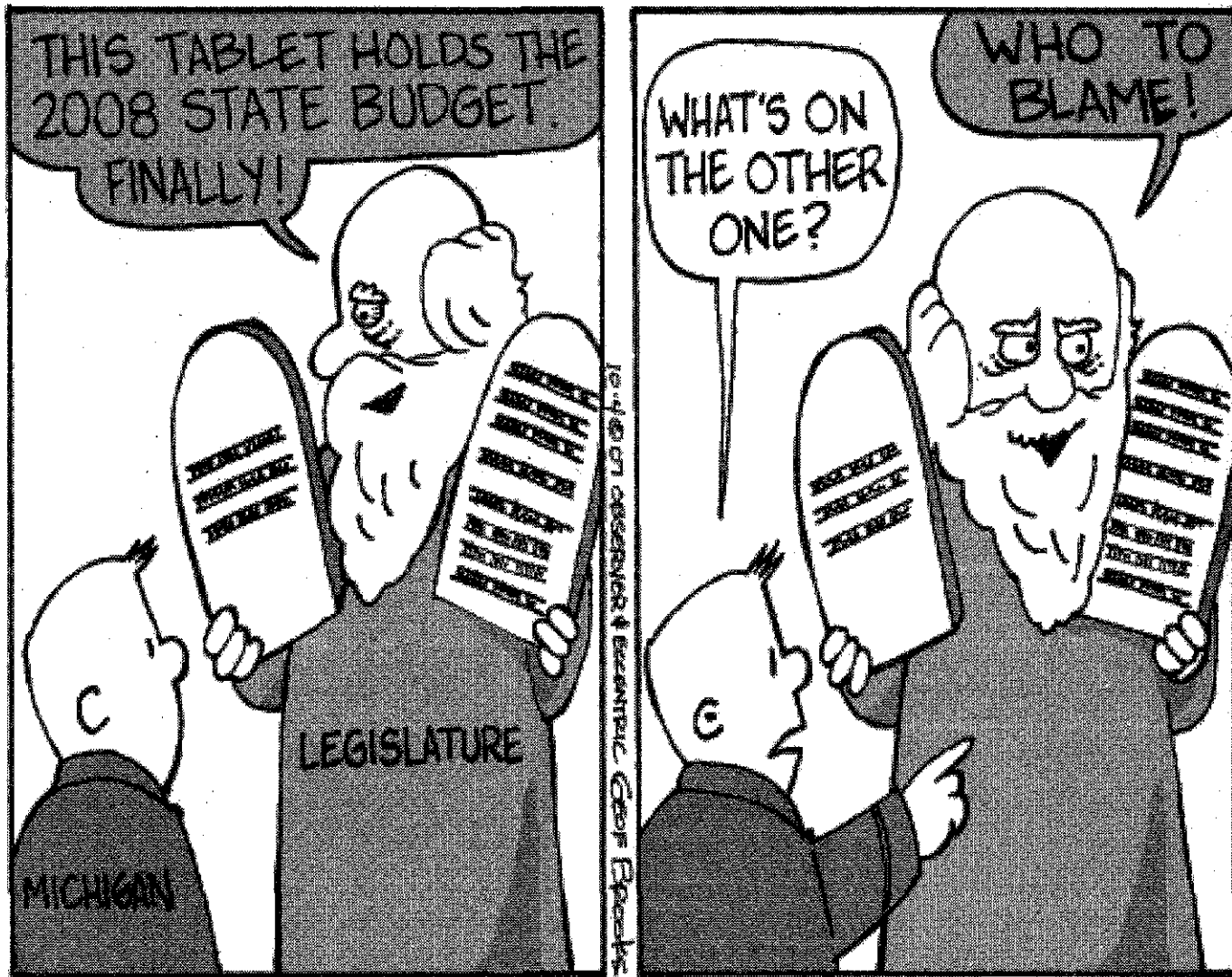
If you haven't scheduled your checkup yet this year, do it right now. Make the call and set up an appointment. Just getting it on the calendar can be the hardest step. Then commit to following through — don't let anything interfere, just as you wouldn't back out of going to an important doctor's appointment with a loved one.

In the meantime, ask your sister, mother, daughter, aunt, friend, etc. when she last had a mammogram or clinical exam.

If she doesn't have insurance or can't afford to pay for it, offer to cover the average \$100 fee for her or do a quick search on the Internet to find a place that offers free or reduced-cost mammograms.

Many facilities provide such services during October, particularly on National Mammography Day, the third Friday of the month.

Women need to take care of themselves. Because if they don't, they can't take care of anyone else.



LETTERS

Effective leader

Your recent write-up on Westland City Clerk incumbent candidate Eileen DeHart was well done, but there is a further story to be told.

If Ms. DeHart had not been term-limited she would very probably still be Westland's representative in the state legislature, where she was extremely effective, having served as former Rep. Justine Barns' chief assistant prior to winning the seat herself. Except for term limits, she would undoubtedly be in leadership in the legislature right now, where her talents and the talents of other term limited legislators are so desperately needed.

Term limits was a bad idea from the start. Until we moderate or eliminate that provision, the state of Michigan will continue to be the loser. Eileen DeHart is a perfect example.

Dick McNight
Westland

Setting record straight

It is unfortunate that some individuals who do not know me, and have never taken the time to talk with me, are making negative comments about my candidacy for Westland City Council.

My family has a long history of being union members and supporting union causes. I am proud of that. In fact, my brother, who is an UAW member, was a member of the bargaining team for contract negotiations. I am proud to have the UAW endorsement for my candidacy for Westland City Council.

As to my name, Christine Cicirelli Bryant is my legal name. Like many women, when I got married 12 years ago, I chose to keep my maiden name and add my married name. All of my legal documents, including my driver's license, reflect this. Yes, I am proud of my mother and am very fortunate to have her as my mentor. But I am my own person with my own ideas and interests.

I am running for city council in hopes of representing the interest and concerns of Westland families. I will work hard to support and provide new programs for families. I will give strong support to senior programs. I believe that we must balance our budget without raising taxes. I support recycling. And, I will work hard to help safely restore our Central City Park.

I am thankful to the voters for the support they have given me in the primary election. And, I will continue to run a positive campaign that is focused on the issues.

Christine Cicirelli Bryant
Westland

Editor's note: Christine Cicirelli Bryant is responding to several letters to the editor about her endorsement by the UAW and her use of Cicirelli in her name.

Tax upon tax upon tax

The state currently has a \$1.8 billion deficit and they can't agree on how to handle it. And now I read in the paper, an article written by a member of the state legislature on how next year we are going to accrue another bill for about \$1.7 billion.

Why is it, you ask? Well, please forgive my memory lapse, but it pertained to some insurance payments coming due next year that the state knew about since 2003.

What are they going to do next year? Put another temporary tax on top of the temporary tax they want this year? When do we get taxed out?

Let me tell you, I'm already taxed out. Pretty soon I'll only be working to pay taxes with my day job, then I'll have to get another job to pay my bills, THEN I'll have to make my 13-year-old son get a job so I can have money for food.

Now, the great governor wants to build a \$117 million State Police headquarters that no one but her major campaign contributor has asked for. What's her reasoning for taking on such a financial draining project you ask? Because the payments for this bill won't hit the taxpayers until the end of 2009. At which time they can add another temporary tax to the other two temporary taxes they already will have put on our backs, and my then 12-year-old daughter can join the workforce to help make ends meet.

Oh, wait, she'll still be too young to hold down a job, so I guess I'll have to move out of state like every other person who is either unemployed because of our stagnant economy, or just plain tired of being over-taxed. Pretty soon you'll have to be a millionaire just to live in the state of Michigan, that way you won't have to pay so much in taxes.

Don Pechin
Westland

Intellectually challenged

The State Legislature made it clear Sunday night and Monday morning that it is clearly intellectually challenged when it comes to making policy decisions. Despite all the political hype about principles and "no new taxes ... period" from the Republican Party - the Democratic Party-controlled House of Representatives and Democratic Gov. Jennifer Granholm won the battle of the budget in two swings out of three.

But in the end, both parties ended up infuriating all segments of the political spectrum.

First, the expansion of the sales tax has upset consumers as well as small businesspersons who now must pay for the extra bookkeeping involved.

Second, nearly everyone is mad about the "temporary" increase in the state increase tax rate.

Third, local school boards and administrators, who are generally loved by homeowners, will potentially be very upset in a year or two when the promised reductions in health insurance costs will not be nearly as much as Republican Party promised last weekend.

Public school employees may be upset when their new healthy insurance policies will not be as comprehensive as their current policies, meaning more out-of-pocket payments.

Are there any winners in the legislative fiasco? Only those political hacks who may want to run for state House of Representatives seats next fall.

But those winners will be facing some of the same budget problems the minute they take office because of basic tax structural

problems that were not given a permanent fix last weekend.

Leonard Poger
Westland

Tabloid coverage

We are deeply saddened by the fact that you chose to headline ("Loss of pastor, not money, upsets parishioners") in the Sept. 27 issue in typical tabloid form the issues involving St. Dunstan's Parish, Garden City. Perhaps such news, if necessary to cover, could be given more respect and handled in a non-tabloid fashion. Actually, why does this have to be in the media at all?

In no way do we understand the pain of the parishioners at the loss of their pastor, but we do know that they are not the only ones who suffered a loss of a pastor. This is a routine procedure. Of course, their circumstances are quite unusual, though, some parishes do lose a pastor due to illness or simply due to the fact that "it is time to go." It is not unusual for most of us to get attached to our pastors because we, too, really love them and yet, at some point in time, we need to "let go."

We need to trust our bishops in such times and know that they, knowing what they know, need to make decisions that are best for the priest and for the parish. In the case of St. Dunstan's, it appears that their pastor is still on medical leave and he chose to resign. Painful as it is, it appears that St. Dunstan parishioners need to "let go." Thank God for the many years that they enjoyed their pastor, for his recovery and then share him with someone else.

In contrast to one of the parishioners comments, we know that the Christian Catholic Church is a caring and forgiving church. Because your article stated differently, we felt compelled to set the record straight. Because we are a caring and forgiving church, our pastor asked us to pray for the people of St. Dunstan's while they are going through these very difficult times.

We pray that the parishioners of St. Dunstan's will also pray for guidance. We are confident that they will pray and support the priests who will continue to serve them. We also believe that they will be caring and forgiving as we are taught to be in all circumstances. And, we pray that they will "let go."

Jim and Mary Murphy
Westland

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

We welcome your letters to the editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask that your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content.

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QUOTABLE

"Our mission serves to enable disabled adults and senior citizens to function as independently as possible within their home and community."

- Bob Brown, director of The Senior Alliance, about the need for volunteers for the fourth annual Make a Senior Smile Day, slated for Saturday, Nov. 3

WESTLAND
Observer

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Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

Archdiocese is wrong

The Archdiocese of Detroit has handled the situation with Father Don completely wrong. They have withheld information from the parishioners. They have used innuendo against a very good man. They are trying to cover up their own ineptitude when it comes to how they handle church finances.

I am a former parishioner of St. Dunstan and know and love Father Don. He is Godly man and should not be treated the way he is currently. He deserves much more from the AOD.

I currently belong to Our Lady of Good Counsel in Plymouth, where a former pastor put our parish in debt! When that pastor left, we threw a party for him. Why? This man handled the church funds miserably, yet there was not outrage, there was not back-door decisions to remove him, there were no secret plots. Where is the fairness in all of this?

The bottom line is that Father Don made mistakes, but who among us hasn't? Is the AOD really prepared to throw this man's many years of service to God and community away because he is not an M.B.A.? Let's put the institutions in place to prevent this from happening again, let's gather together as a church family to help fix the current problem we face, and let's put Father Don back where he belongs, doing what he does best ... behind the pulpit leading people to salvation!

Tom Cinzori
Canton

Follow God's teachings

This would be a perfect time for the Archdiocese of Detroit to allow Father Demmer to come back to his parish. It would be a win-win for all involved. The parish gets its priest back, Father Demmer is happy to come back, and the AOD does the right thing. On a PR scale this would be wonderful for the AOD, not only because it satisfies the parishioners of St. Dunstan, but because it is finally the correct action in this matter.

We heard that father Don was on a medical leave, we heard that he voluntarily resigned; now we learn that this information is disputed and not

true. Most startling, a member of the clergy told us this information from the altar. Because of a disastrous handling of this matter by the AOD from the beginning, it seems as though they have wedged themselves into a corner, of which they cannot remove themselves from now. The comment in this article by the AOD that Father Demmer's resignation stands and cannot be withdrawn just closes the space even further.

The Catholic Church is clearly a powerful organization. It has a hierarchy of authority, rules to abide by, and practices of long tradition. In scripture, Jesus constantly criticized the scribes and Pharisees for their self-righteousness and for subscribing to the law of tradition instead of truly living the word of God. In fact, Jesus teaches that living the way of God is quite simple: Love God, and love your neighbor as you would yourself. Quite frankly, this teaching does not require any authoritative governance, but simply an individual's own personal relationship with God. However, Jesus also brought us the Most Blessed of Sacraments, the Eucharist. And for this, indeed we need our clergy and church leaders. This, and this alone, will be the reason I will never leave the Catholic faith. No man is bigger than the faith given to us by Jesus Christ, who we are called to follow.

Recently, a visiting priest stated during his homily that the Catholic Church will not be saved by its clergy leadership, but by the lay people who form the parishes communities. I am beginning to see his point. I simply ask and pray that the AOD put aside its pride and live not by the rule of man but by the teachings of the Son of Man. I pray that those decision makers at the AOD be guided by the Holy Trinity, and exercise the cardinal virtues of prudence, temperance, fortitude and justice, and return father Don Demmer back to St. Dunstan.

Chris Tomasi
Garden City

Practice what you preach

I read your article this morning and I wanted to reiterate the statement made by Mr. Squires that "The Catholic Church should practice what

they preach — forgiveness, love and caring. It seems they are not forgiving people like Father Don." I have been a parish member for more than 12 years, however, I have known Father Don for 15 years, and will state for the record, "he is a remarkable and irreplaceable priest and person." He is not a priest with an agenda, he truly and deeply cares for each member in his parish.

As for a little history on my bond with Father Don, I am a 36-year-old woman who lost both of her parents 15 years ago and had to raise her two younger brothers alone, at the time of my parents' death the boys were 6 and 15 years old. I have a large family who helped a great deal but there were so many times that if it were not for the caring and compassion for Father Don, we would not have made it.

Father Don was the driving force that encouraged me to send my youngest brother to Catholic school; he started in sixth grade at St. Dunstan's, then went on to high school at Divine Child in Dearborn where he graduated with honors, and he currently attends Michigan State University and is on the dean's list. This is just one example of Father Don's kindheartedness, there are many, many examples of things he went out of his way to do not only for my family but other families as well.

I understand, as many other parish members do, that his health is declining, however, we also know Father Don and if he were going to take time off and/or resign for health problems, he would address the parish himself. Also, as the Archdiocese of Detroit stated, we the parish will be responsible for the money due, if we can be held responsible for \$1.4 million then we should have the last say whether Father Don stays or not.

It is understandable that changes will have to be made, but come on, it is a little late to go back now and say you did not follow procedures and point fingers at who is at fault. I believe the Archdiocese of Detroit is just as much to blame for not following through and doing financial and procedural audits.

Father Don took a parish and made it a family. Removing him from the parish is like removing a heart from a living person — it would not survive.

Dawne McGowan
St. Dunstan Parish member

Rest in peace, State of Michigan

The State of Michigan died yesterday, Dec 1, 2008. It was born on Jan. 26, 1837, and turned 170 this year. Cause of death was strangulation from taxes mixed with severe depression and apathy.

The people of Michigan

fought a good fight against their disease but the doctors in Lansing kept giving them the wrong medicine until they finally died from exhaustion and loss of hope. Those who could move out before the final blow did so and those who couldn't fought to the end. But as all indentured servants do — they lost the will to even try any longer as there was nothing to aspire to except to keep paying more taxes and have a lower standard of living.

All of the thriving businesses either moved out and took their jobs with them or closed down. All of the small businesses were literally choked to death by legislation that regulated and taxed them to death. They simply could not compete in a global economy where businesses outside of Michigan were not working under the same burdens and could sell at much lower rates.

By the time they got the list down to whatever business didn't have a lobbyist in Lansing, the sad list of businesses hit by the latest tax — the service tax — was very hard to monitor. The state itself ended up using all of its existing resources trying to catch even the small little business in not paying up — and they'd spend \$25,000 a week to recover \$1,000 in taxes.

In hindsight they saw the

The state itself ended up using all of its existing resources trying to catch even the small little business in not paying up — and they'd spend \$25,000 a week to recover \$1,000 in taxes.

futility of their ill-thought-out revenue generating taxes but it was too late. The defining moment was when they paid a revenue service employee \$14 per hour to watch a shoeshine man at the corner of Main and First street and recovered \$2.75 in sales tax — and a camera man taped the sad sequence of events.

But the realization came too late. By then, most businesses and people had already moved out. The end came and there was nothing anyone could do except cry. People who were barely making it before were pushed over the edge with the increase in income tax and since their house values dropped to such a degree that they no longer had any equity in them, they sold off their belongings for money to move and packed up what little they had left and moved to warmer climates. They simply let their home go into foreclosure and said goodbye to Michigan.

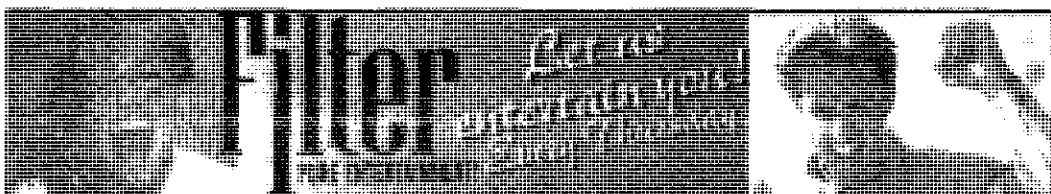
All that was left in the state were politicians, the teachers union, and lobbyists. They had no one left to tax, teach, or torment so they starved to death.

With that was the death of the great state of Michigan. We, who loved her, will miss her greatly. She once was a beautiful state full of life and love and hope. She should have used incentives to entice a thriving economy instead of burying her in taxes. Rest in peace Michigan; You were loved greatly.

Valerie Earle is a Livonia resident.



Valerie Earle



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Bonde finalist for Stand on a Better World Award grand prize

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

Twenty-three years ago, Debra Bonde was volunteering as a braille transcriber when she noticed how few books in braille there were for children. The books that were available were expensive. A Hardy Boys mystery would cost \$100.

She decided to do something about it. She started Seedlings Braille Books for Children in Livonia.

"My girls were sighted and loved to read and it just seemed wrong to me that blind children didn't have that same opportunity," she said.

Bonde's dedication is being recognized as she is one of three women receiving the national Stand on a Better World Award, sponsored by Mannington Mills. The awards honor "women who make a difference in the world."

Six judges, including tennis star Billie Jean King and ABC newswoman Deborah Roberts, selected the women in three categories. Barbara Drennen of Kent, Wash., was recognized for the local award for

That first year, Seedlings distributed 200 books from 12 titles. They now distribute 24,000 books with about 800 titles. Bonde said they create three kinds of books.

forming the Pediatric Interim Care Center and Nancy Press of Portland, Ore., is the Global Award winner for launching Child Aid which helps families in Latin America.

In addition to receiving the National Award from the judges, Bonde was the first recipient of a new Your Better World Award, where the public voted online for their favorite candidate. More than 26,000 people participated. Each award recipient received \$10,000 for their charity. Bonde received \$20,000 for winning in two categories.

The three winners will attend a ceremony on Nov. 15 in Wilmington, Del., where a Grand Prize winner will be named. That award is \$25,000.

"They contacted us," Bonde said. "They had seen our Web site and thought that we should apply."

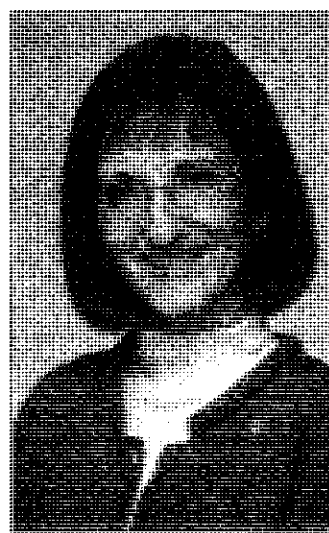
Bonde credited her win in the popular online vote to a "huge group of supporters all over the country."

Seedlings began as humbly as its name implies.

"In the basement of my house and a printer that my dad made for me, I started to make braille books and it mushroomed from there thanks to all kinds of people along the way that have helped," she said.

That first year, Seedlings distributed 200 books from 12 titles. They now distribute 24,000 books with about 800 titles.

Bonde said they create three kinds of books. Books for toddlers, such as *Good Night Moon*, introduce them to braille and to other kinds of touch. Books for beginning readers, such as the Dr. Seuss books, are done in braille and print, so that sighted readers can assist the young readers. Finally, for older children, Seedlings transcribes popular titles such as the Nancy Drew



Debra Bonde

and the Hardy Boys mysteries.

"We do a variety, fiction, nonfiction, poetry, biography," she said.

A new law passed during the Clinton administration provides a blanket copyright permission for nonprofits that transcribe for the blind.

The response from parents with blind children has been "ecstatic," Bonde said.

"We make books available for half the cost of making it," she said.

Bonde said she's looking forward to the ceremony though she's unsure what to expect.

"I'm excited to go," she said. "I get to meet Billie Jean King and Deborah Roberts and the other winners."

Mannington Mills, based in Salem, N.J., is a leading manufacturer of fine flooring.

Vagnozzi: We need earlier budget deadline

State Rep. Aldo Vagnozzi, D-Farmington Hills, announced a new plan to move the deadlines up on presenting certain state budgets to the governor.

"When it comes to the state budget, as lawmakers, we have a duty to the people we represent to put the politics aside and do what's right to move Michigan forward," said Vagnozzi, who is serving his final term, due to term limits. "As the end of the fiscal year fast approaches, a possible government shutdown is a very real threat. A state shutdown would have dire consequences for Michigan, putting both our residents and our communities at risk."

Currently, the fiscal year for Michigan runs from Oct. 1 - Sept. 30, with an annual state budget deadline of Sept. 30. Vagnozzi's proposal calls for the Legislature to present all general appropriation bills for the succeeding fiscal period to the governor on or before July 1 of each fiscal year.

Vagnozzi's legislation would be in line with local governments, school boards and colleges, whose fiscal year begins July 1. At the present time, they have to wait three



Vagnozzi

months before they know how much state funding they will be getting.

Last year, New Jersey shut down, affecting the Department of Education,

parts of the state Judiciary, state beaches and parks, historic sites, and more than 45,000 state employees. Their casinos were closed, causing a ripple effect that cost the state \$1.3 million in revenue every day the shutdown lasted. The state lottery also was closed down.

"The people of Michigan should not have to live in fear each year wondering if their elected leaders will turn their backs on them if they cannot negotiate a budget," Vagnozzi said. "This plan will ensure that the political posturing and last minute budget agreements are done in a timely and efficient manner that won't force Michigan into a shutdown, negating the state's ability to deliver essential services to our citizens."

Madonna hosts human rights film series

The Human Rights Friday Fall Film Series hosted by Madonna University and the Citizens for Peace begins Oct. 5 with the documentary film *Why We Fight*.

The film is the first of four films being shown weekly at Madonna University's Kresge Hall or Science Hall beginning at 7 p.m. Each film will be facilitated by a local speaker who will field questions from the audience. *Why We Fight* by Edward Jarecki provides an unflinching look at the anatomy of the American war machine. The film, shown by the Detroit Institute of Arts last year, provides a bipartisan inquiry into the military/industrial complex and the rise of the American empire.

Who Shot My Brother, Oct. 12. As filmmaker German Gutierrez searches for the gunmen who tried kill his brother, he exposes the root cause of the violence in his native Colombia. (Science Hall)

China Blue, Oct. 19. A powerful and poignant journey into the harsh world of sweatshop workers. Shot clandestinely, this is a deep-access account of what both China and international retailers don't want us to see, how the clothes we buy are actually made. (Science Hall)

Independent Interventions, Oct. 26. Focusing on the human cost of war, this film contrasts corporate controlled media coverage of the invasion of Iraq with independent media reports of the brutal realities on the ground. (Kresge Hall)

Madonna University is at Schoolcraft and Levan in Livonia. Free, ample parking is available in a well-lighted lot. The Citizens for Peace is asking for a \$5 donation per person, per film.

Films for the Spring and Fall Human Rights Film Festival are provided by the Michigan Coalition for Human Rights.

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RELIGION CALENDAR

If you want to submit an item for the religion calendar, fax it to (734) 591-7279 or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. Deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

OCTOBER

Rummage sale
Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, between Wayne and Newburgh roads, Livonia, will be holding a Rummage Sale fund raiser. Pre-sale 5-8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 4 (admission \$2 per adult). Big Sale 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 5, and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 6 (admission free). Saturday everything is half price.

Reformed Protestant Service
The doctrines and teachings of solid, Reformed Protestantism will be preached 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 5, at the regular, monthly worship service of the Free Church of Scotland (Continuing), at Cherry Hill School, 50440 Cherry Hill, corner of Ridge, Canton. All are welcome to attend. The Rev. Robert McCurley of Greenville, S.C., will preach at the service. For more information, call Margaret Waldecker at (313) 530-6170 or visit www.westminsterconfession.org, or phone the church at (703) 359-0192.

Parish mission
The Rev. Hugh Burns, a Dominican preacher, will be conducting a Parish Mission Saturday-Wednesday, Oct. 6-10, at St. Theodore Catholic Church, 8200 N. Wayne Road, between Warren and Joy roads, Westland. Entitled Like a Kid Again: A Spirituality of Childhood for Adult Sized Living, the Mission talks will be given at Masses 4:30 p.m. Saturday; 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Sunday; 7 p.m. Sunday-Wednesday, and 9 a.m. Monday-Wednesdays. Burns is known to use humor and laughter in his preaching offering practical and contemporary talks based on Scripture and church teaching. For more information, call (734) 425-4421.

Anointing Mass
St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church of Livonia invites all area Catholics recovering from a serious illness, facing surgery or suffering from a chronic health condition to attend a special Mass of Anointing 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 6, at the church, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road. The Mass incorporates the rituals of the Sacrament of the Sick which Catholic doctrine teaches offers spiritual strength and healing to those who are aged, or seriously or chronically ill, be that physical, emotional, or spiritual. All area Catholics interested in receiving anointing should call the parish office at (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200, so that the church will be able to prepare for the number of people attending.

Men's breakfast
Ham & eggs, hash browns, pancakes, and more when you come to the

Men's Breakfast at 8 a.m. on the first Saturday of every month at The Senate Restaurant, located off Haggerty Road between Five Mile and Six Mile in Northville. All men are invited for fellowship and food. Next breakfast is Saturday, Oct. 6. Sponsored by Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990.

Mom to mom sale
9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 6, at First United Methodist Church, 6448 Merriman, Garden City. Admission is \$1. Rental cost is \$25 for 6-foot table, \$27 for 8-foot table, \$3 for a rack with table rental. Call (734) 532-7818 for information.

South Pacific
The Chancel Choir of Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church in Livonia will present "South Pacific" 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 6 in the fellowship hall of the church located on W. Chicago, between Merriman and Farmington roads, Livonia. "South Pacific," featuring classic musical selections such as "Some Enchanted Evening," "There's Nothin' Like a Dame," and "Bali Hai," earned Rodgers and Hammerstein extraordinary reviews and a Tony Award for best musical. It was the second musical to ever receive the Pulitzer Prize for drama. A sellout crowd is expected. Tickets are \$5 and may be reserved by calling (734) 422-0494 or Marilyn Hirtzel at (734) 422-0841.

Worship change
Beginning Sunday, October 7, the early service for the Anglican Church of Livonia will be at 7:45 a.m. at Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, west of Farmington Road and next to Stevenson High School, Livonia. The 10 a.m. service (with Sunday School) will continue to be at the Livonia YMCA at 14255 Stark Road, between Lyndon and the I-96 Service Drive.

Healing service
Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville, will be hosting a Service of Healing and Wholeness 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, in their Sanctuary. The service affirms God's presence in our lives and is designed to comfort those who desire a healing of body, mind, relationships or other areas. Communion served. No child care provided. Information available Monday-Friday at (248) 374-7400.

Celebration of the arts
The annual juried art show, Sharing the Gift Within, opens Saturday, Oct. 6, at the historic First Presbyterian Church in downtown Northville. The art gallery is open each day and evening through Oct. 12. Guests can enjoy the displayed artwork, much of which is for sale. The celebration continues with a concert 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, by pianist Paul Sullivan. Tickets are \$15 adult, \$10 senior, \$5 student and can be purchased in advance or at the door. For more information, call Darlene Kuperus at (248) 349-0911, Ext. 206, or visit www.firstpresville.org.

Celebration of life Mass

In honor of Respect Life Sunday, St. Aidan's Parish will host a Celebration of Life Mass with Monsignor John Kasza as celebrant and the church's contemporary choir will perform (and a signer will be provided) 6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, at St. Aidan's, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. Light refreshments and fellowship to follow. For more information, call (734) 425-5950.

Faith in film series
An Al Gore movie being shown at a church? That's not likely to happen often, but that's exactly what's happening 6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Redford. As part of its Faith-in-Film series, "An Inconvenient Truth" will be shown, a discussion follows on the applications of faith, theology, spirituality and religion in the movie. Future Faith-in-Film movies include "Sicko," "The Nativity Story," and "Amazing Grace." The Faith-in-Film series is free and open to anyone who would like to respectfully share their views. For information about attending this event, call (313) 538-2660.

Grief recovery
Living with the loss of a spouse series dealing with grief and coping with loneliness and other issues, facilitated by members of Widowed Friends, a peer support group, at St. Columban Parish Center, 1775 Melton, north of 14 Mile between Woodward and Coolidge, Birmingham. Six-week series begins 12:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, call Dorothy at (248) 540-9848 or Gerry at (586) 795-0477 to register by Oct. 1, four week series begins 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 10, call Pat at (248) 549-1220 or Carol at (248) 853-2268 to register.

CROP walk
To raise awareness and funds for international relief and developments as well as for the Plymouth Salvation Army 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, beginning at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth Township. There will be two-mile and four-mile routes. For CROP Walker envelopes and information, call Bill Brave at (734) 414-9867.

Animal blessing
Blessing of the Animals Service 5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, at the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit, 9083 Newburgh, Livonia. All pets are welcome. Treats will be provided. For more information, call (734) 591-0211 or visit www.holyspirit-livonia.org

World Communion Day
Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills celebrates World Communion Day Oct. 7. Everyone is invited to join in celebrating at 9 a.m. or 11 a.m. For more information, call (248) 626-3620 or visit www.orchardumc.org.

Concert
Woodward Corridor Musicians present Pathetique: a Chamber Music Concert 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, at Congregational Church of Birmingham, 1000 Cranbrook Road at Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. Tickets are \$10 for adults, free to students

K-12. A reception follows the concert. For more information, visit www.woodwardcm.org or call (248) 546-5818.

Discernment training
Learn how to tell the truth from lies when looking for a church or listening to Bible teachers. Will meet 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 9, at the Carl Sandburg Library meeting room to discuss what would be the best days and time for those interested in going through the training. A six-week course by Sandy Simpson, www.deceptioninthechurch.com. To register, call (734) 425-1675.

Immigration issues
The social justice committee at St. Thomas a Becket Church has invited a speaker to explore the issues of immigration in the United States 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 9, at the church, south of the corner of Lilley and Cherry Hill, Canton. The speaker is Bishop Daniel Flores, Detroit's newest bishop, who is a third-generation Hispanic and was born and raised in Texas. All are welcome.

Interfaith dialogue
The Detroit West District Peace Center at Hope United Methodist Church will present an Interfaith Dialogue with the Rev. Dr. Carlyle F. Stewart, III, senior pastor, Hope United Methodist Church, Southfield, and Rabbi Joshua Bennett, Temple Israel, West Bloomfield, to discuss differences and similarities of Christian and Judaic Religions. They will speak from the same text with different perspectives and engage in dialogue with audience questions and answers, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 9, at Hope United Methodist Church, 26275 Northwestern, near Lasher, Southfield. The event is free and open to the public. For information, call Barbara Talley at (248) 356-1020, Ext. 137.

Training class-Level I
Six-week training in conflict, peace-making and reconciling begins Oct. 9, and continues 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the West District Peace Center, Hope United Methodist Church, 26275 Northwestern, Southfield. Open to the public. The program covers resolving conflict, personal, family, church, and workplace using Christian biblical principles. Registration fee \$15, includes Peacemaker Book by Ken Sande. To register, call (248) 356-1020, Ext. 137, or e-mail Barbara Talley at peacecenter@scglobal.net.

Celebration
Minister Mary Edwards is celebrating 65 years of life, 33 years of ministry, 25 years full-time ministry 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 11, at All Saints Episcopal Church, 3837 W. Seven Mile, Detroit. Please RSVP by Oct. 4, by calling (313) 347-0726.

Conference
Sunday School & Church Ministries Conference Saturday, Oct. 13, at First Nazarene, Eight Mile and Haggerty, Northville. Non-denominational, 30 workshops to update your skills, scores of publisher exhibits to show you the latest materials. General sessions. Free to the public. All-day free Kids Korner. Lunch included in registration fee. For more information, call the International Christian Education Association at (248) 557-5526 or visit www.iceaOnline.org.

Singers wanted
Riverside Park Church of God is looking for voices to join their choir. If you like to sing and love God (or just want to get to know God) join in. Choir practice meets once a month on Saturday and sings the following Sunday at the church, 11771 Newburgh, corner of Plymouth Road, Livonia. Upcoming practices 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 13. For more information, call (734) 464-0990.

Dinner & Silent Auction
Saturday, Oct. 13, at Warren Road, Church, 33445 Warren, Westland. There will be more than 100 items to auction off all of which have been donated by congregation members or organizations in the Westland community. Tickets \$8 for adults, \$6 for children under age 10. You do not need to come to dinner to attend the auction. Dinner is at 6 p.m. with the Silent Auction to begin at 7 p.m. All proceeds support the Youth & Children's Ministries. For information or tickets, call pastor Rick Jewett at (734) 458-7301.

Concert
Dave Wagner is the featured organ soloist with the Birmingham Concert Band 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 14, at Christ Church Cranbrook, corner of Lone Pine and Cranbrook roads, Bloomfield Hills. No charge.

Breast cancer awareness event

Luncheon and card party 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19, at SS Simon and Jude Church, 32500 Palmer, Westland. Tickets available at the door or call (734) 722-1343. All proceeds go to breast cancer awareness.

Fall craft show
Get a start on holiday shopping at the Fall Craft Show noon to 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20, at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh Road at Plymouth Road, Livonia.

Crafters needed
For Riverside Park Church of God's fall arts and crafts show noon to 6

p.m. Friday, Oct. 19, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20, at the church, 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth, Livonia. Rentals \$20 Saturday only, \$30 for both days, \$5 additional for table rentals. Applications being accepted at (734) 464-0990.

Craft show
And bake sale presented by Women's Guild of St. Michael the Archangel Parish 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20, in the cafeteria of the school, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth, Livonia. All table space has been rented and crafters are ready to display their finest wares for early holiday shopping. For details, call (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200.

Contemporary Christian music
The free concert takes place 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 21, at St. John Lutheran Church, 23225 Gill Road, two blocks west of downtown Farmington between Grand River and Freedom roads, Farmington Hills. Call (248) 474-0584 for details.

Many voices/one song
The season continues with St. Nicolas by Benjamin Britten 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 21, Britten's music magically illustrates the adventures of Saint Nicolas from birth to death, at First United Methodist Church, 1589 W. Maple, Birmingham. No charge, but a free-will offering will be collected. For more information, call (248) 540-9124.

Rummage Sale
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 26, and 9:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 27, in the fellowship hall at 39020 Five Mile, between Newburgh and Haggerty, Livonia. There will be a \$2 bag sale on Saturday.

Rummage/Bake sale
9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 27, at Grace Lutheran Church, 46001 Warren Road, Canton. All proceeds will be used to benefit the local community in outreach activities. For more information, call (734) 355-0497.

Catholic women's conference
Women Encountering Christ in Friendship and Love is the fifth annual Catholic Women's Conference sponsored by the Archdiocese of Detroit 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 27, at the Macomb Community College Sports & Expo Center, 14500 E. 12 Mile, Warren. Cost is \$45 adults, \$35 for full-time college or high school students, and includes the conference and lunch. Religious are free of charge but must register. Registration using secure PayPal is available by visit www.aodwomensministry.org. Mail-in registration forms available by sending e-mail request to ADDwomensconference@wowway.com or calling (734) 459-9558.

Cantata Academy Chorale
This & That Amen concert 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 28, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Tickets \$18 adults, \$15 seniors/students, and can be purchased in advance or at the door (if available). Call (248) 358-9868 or visit www.cantataacademychorale.bravehost.com, or send e-mail to CantataAcademyChorale@msn.com.

Women of the word
Bible study meets 9:15 a.m. and 6:45 p.m. Tuesdays, at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy Road, Canton. Choose from Covenant, a Precept Upon Precept class, or The Truth Project (new from Focus on the Family). To register, call (734) 455-0022, Ext. 4 or visit www.vchurches.com/cbcwomen.

ENDOW
St. Michael the Archangel Parish of Livonia hosts two different sessions of the Archdiocese's ENDOW program, the women's study group focused on the dignity of women of all ages and faiths. The group based on Pope John Paul II's Letter to Women meets 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays to Dec. 5, in the Convent Meeting Room behind the school at 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia. The second session meets 9:15-11:15 a.m. Tuesdays to Dec. 4 in the same room. Different Times, Abiding Dignity deals with women's inherent dignity at all stages of life. Women of all ages and faiths welcome. Cost is \$60 for materials but no one will be turned away because of an inability to pay. To register, call (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200, or visit www.endowonline.com.

ENDOW
Educating on the Nature & Dignity of Women, a women's study group to discover their God-given dignity and femininity through Catholic teaching, series of sessions explores Pope John Paul II's Letter to Women while enjoying a prayerful, relaxed atmosphere of faith, friendship and fellowship, runs Thursdays to Nov. 15, in Bixman Hall (church building) at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile, Livonia. Cost is \$60 for materials. Registration required. Visit www.endowonline.com or call (734) 425-5950.

Bible study
Get a new life, study Scripture 9-10:30 a.m. Saturdays at Blessed Sacrament Monastery on the northwest corner of 13 Mile and Middlebelt in Farmington Hills. Study the Gospel of Luke through November, then move on to Romans. Come once or more often. Call (248) 626-8253 for more information.

Fall schedule

Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills, has new worship hours for Fall - Three Hours Of Power! Worship services at 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. with Christian education for all ages at 10 a.m. Leadership is shared by class members. For information, call (248) 626-3620 or visit www.orchardumc.org.

Pancake breakfasts
The Ushers' Club of St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Livonia continue their 30-year tradition of all-you-can-eat pancake breakfasts on the third Sunday of each month. The breakfasts are served in the school cafeteria at 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, with an expanded menu that features pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon, hashbrowns, and assorted breakfast beverages. Meals are served buffet-style at family friendly prices. Adults, \$5; children ages 4-11, \$3; children under age 3, free; and family (2 adults and all children), \$15. Everyone is welcome.

Tiny Tots Preschool
Now enrolling for 2007-08 for 3- and 4-year olds, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0211.

MOPS meetings
The Hosanna-Tabor Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) group began meeting this fall on a new time and time at the Lutheran church, 9600 Laverne, Redford. Meetings continue the first and third Thursdays of the month at 9:30 a.m. Join in for teaching, discussion, creative projects and presentations. For more information, call (248) 470-5202 or send e-mail to nikki.tiernan@gmail.com.

Bible studies
Regular Bible Study program began 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 20, and continues on the first and third Thursdays of the month, at St. Michael's Catholic Church on the corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads, Livonia. The group will be undertaking an in-depth study of Paul's Letters to the Romans, the longest and often considered the most systematic presentation of the disciple's thoughts on salvation. Informal classes are open to all interested persons regardless of religious affiliation. To register, call (734) 261-1445, Ext. 200.

MOPS groups
Mothers of Preschoolers meets on the first and third Friday mornings or first and third Wednesday evenings at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy Road, Canton. MOPS recognizes the years from infancy through kindergarten are foundational in a mother-child relationship and filled with unique need. For information, call (734) 455-0022, Ext. 4, or send e-mail to cbcwomensministries@hotmail.com.

LOGOS Youth Club
Calling all youth grades four-12 to join the LOGOS Youth Club at Northville First United Methodist Church. Recreation, dinner, Bible study and music Wednesdays, 5:15-8:15 p.m. began Wednesday, Sept. 26. For more information or registration forms, visit www.fumcnorthville.org or call (248) 349-1144.

HeartCry
The support group provides hope and help for mothers of prodigals at 7 p.m. on the second, fourth and fifth Wednesdays of each month, at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy Road, Canton. The group is using the book, The Hope of a Homecoming, by O'Rourke and Sauer (\$12). For information or to register, call (734) 455-0022, Ext. 4.

UPCOMING

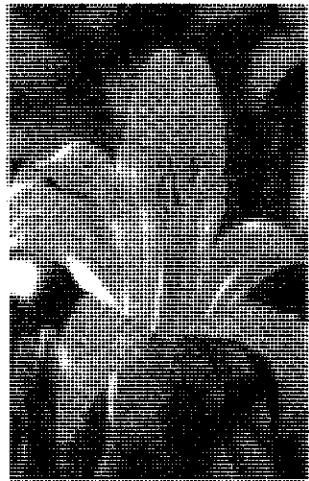
Benefit
Jeremy Wagner Games Night Benefit: A Fun Filled Night Of Card Games & Mahjongg 7-10 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 8, Temple Shir Shalom at Walnut Lake Road & Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield. Donation is \$25, 100 percent of proceeds go to the Jeremy Wagner Family. Jeremy is a West Bloomfield High School student with bone cancer. Light snacks available. Please send a donation made out to Jeremy Wagner and mail to 5025 West Pond Circle, West Bloomfield, MI 48323. For information, call Lori Lieberman, (248) 892-3455, Franci Silver, (248) 505-9007, Julie Horn, (248) 914-7533, or Allison Berlin, (248) 770-4890.

ONGOING

Ladies Bible study
Women of the Word Ladies Bible Study began focusing on the Book of James Tuesday, Sept. 11, and continues 9:30-11:10 a.m. Tuesdays to Nov. 13, at Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile. The \$15 registration fee includes interdenominational study material. Child care will be available for children through age 5 in the morning. For more information, call (248) 348-7600.

Registration
Christ Our Savior Lutheran Early Childhood Center is now taking registrations for the fall program at 14175 Farmington Road, north of I-96, Livonia. It is open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday. Loving and caring programs are offered for toddler, preschool, pre-K, and child care. Call (734) 513-8413.

Please see CALENDAR, A15



Passages

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

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MILL C. DETTORE

October 2, 2007, age 86, of Livonia. Husband of the late Grace. Loving father of Susan (Ray) Tyle, Thomas M. (Lani) and Joseph D. (Agnes). Grandfather of eleven and great grandfather of one. Brother of Mary Azar. Former owner of Tunneling Company of United Construction. Visitation Wednesday 5-9pm and Thursday 2-9pm with a Scripture Service at 7pm at Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 Six Mile Road, Livonia. In state Friday 9:30 am until time of Funeral Mass 10 am at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia.

FREDERICK GUEZEN

Of Livonia, died September 30, 2007, age 71. Beloved husband of Marjorie, dear father of Robert (Judith), Deborah (Kenneth) Wutka, and Katherine Purkiss. Grandfather of Rebecca, Jennifer, and Brendon. Brother of Norma Cutler. Services were held on October 4th. Arrangements by Manns-Ferguson Funeral Home, 734-425-1800. Memorial Donations are preferred to: Henry Ford Health System, Neurology Research, 2799 W. Grand Blvd. W1103, K-11, Detroit, MI 48202-2689

KATHLEEN ANNE OCKERMAN

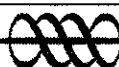
Of Novi, Michigan passed away September 28th, 2007. Arrangements are being held by Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, 33603 Grand River Ave., downtown Farmington, (1 blk W. of Farmington Rd.).

WILLIAM FRANK PESCHEL

Age 83, passed away on September 28, 2007. Beloved husband of the late Dee. Dear father of Bob (Renee) and Kim Conner (Joe). Loving grandfather of Bryan (Kara), Meghan, Seth, John, and Patrick. Memorial Service Saturday, 10 A.M., at Central Woodward Christian Church, 3955 W. Big Beaver Road, Troy. Memorial Tributes to the Church or Oakland County Meals on Wheels/Emerald Food Service, 3179 Livernois, Suite 100, Troy, MI 48063. A. J. Desmond & Sons, 248-362-2500. View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

ROBERT B WATERS

September 24, 2007 age 60 of Westland. Beloved husband of Kayrl Dean Zagers Waters. Dear step-son of Mae Waters. Brother of Donald Waters. Brother-in-law of Barbara (the late Thomas) Blacklock, Paul (the late Marjorie) Zagers, Marilyn Mellinger, Alice Fugere, Gloria (James) LaBar, Sue (Kenneth) Turner, Lynda (Nels) Nichols and Beverly Zagers. Nephew of Mary Helen (Kirk) O'Keefe. Also survived by many nieces, nephews and cousins. Robert was a retired Guidance Counselor with Plymouth-Canton Community schools. Cremation rites have been accorded and were arranged by the Uht Funeral Home, Westland. Please visit and post a tribute at www.uhtfh.com



OBITUARY POLICY

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

Deadlines:

Friday 4:15 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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or fax to:
Attn: Obits c/o Charlotte Wilson
734-953-2232

For more information call:
Charlotte Wilson
734-953-2070
or Liz Keiser
734-953-2067
or toll free
866-818-7653

ask for Char or Liz
009619962

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE A14

GriefShare recovery seminar

And support group began 9 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 9, and 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 13, at Romulus Wesleyan Church, 37300 Goddard at Huron River Drive. No charge. For more information, call (734) 941-1511 or visit www.griefshare.org.

Religious education

Children's Religious Education began 10:45 a.m. to noon Sunday, Sept. 9, at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. Cost is \$90 for first child, \$30 for each additional child. Call (734) 425-9333.

Morning prayers

7:30 a.m. Tuesday-Friday, at New Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware, corner of Puritan, Redford. Please join in as participants start day with prayer. Call (313) 255-6330.

Explore the Catholic faith

We are constantly confronted with competing faith claims. What to

make of them? Indeed, is truth even knowable? Explore the Catholic option and see if curiosity leads to conversion. Tuesdays, started Aug. 21, at 7:30 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall (church building), at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. For information, call (734) 425-9330.

J.O.Y. meeting

The J.O.Y. Builders (Just Older Youth, ages 50 plus) meet 11:30 a.m. the third Thursday of the month for lunch, fellowship and fun, at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth roads, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990. All are welcome to join in. There is no charge, although organizers ask that you bring a luncheon dish to share.

Higher Rock Cafe

Second and fourth Friday of the month, doors open at 7:30 p.m., live bands begin at 8 p.m. presented by Salvation Army of Wayne/Westland, 2300 S. Venoy, between Michigan Avenue and Palmer. For information,

call (734) 722-3660 or visit www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com.

Uplifting church services

Want a unique church experience? Join in Sunday mornings at 10:45 a.m. for a service that will lift your entire family, but be prepared for what will happen after just one service. An open discussion 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Classes available for all ages, child to adult. Riverside Park Church of God is at 11771 Newburgh (corner of Plymouth Road), Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990.

Worship service

10 a.m. Sundays, at The Lutheran Church of Our Saviour, 29425 Annapolis, Westland. Sunday School for children. For information, call (734) 728-3440.

Youth wanted

Twins and teens age 12 and up are invited to join in various youth activities held at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh Road (corner of Plymouth), Livonia. Come to one of the regular classes on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. or Wednesdays at 7 p.m. For

details, call (734) 464-0990.

A healthy you

Join with others as you discover ways to keep minds and bodies healthy through a four-week class that is open to the public and free of charge at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh Road (corner of Plymouth), Livonia. Day and night classes available. To register, call (734) 464-0990.

Sunday worship

10 a.m. at Lutheran Church of Our Saviour, 29425 Annapolis, Westland. For information, call (734) 728-3440.

Sunday services

Pastor Dan Strength leads services at Living Water Church (Pentecostal Church of God), 11663 Arcola, one block west of Inkster Road on Plymouth Road. Sunday School is 10 a.m. followed by worship at 11 a.m. Bible study 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Call (734) 425-6360.

Worship services

Regular church services 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays with Nursery, Sunday School during 9:30 a.m.

service, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414. Adult Bible Study weekly on Tuesday and Sunday at 11 a.m. Visitors welcome. Visit www.holycrosslivonia.org.

Bible study

7 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of each month in the rectory at St. Michael the Archangel Parish, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia. The current study is the Gospel of St. John. For more information, call (734) 261-1455.

Farmington Women Aglow

Meets 7-9:30 p.m. (doors open at 6:30 p.m.) on the second Monday of the month in the Visitors Center (old Spicer House) at Heritage Park on Farmington Road, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile roads. For more information, call Linda Boone at (248) 476-1053 or (248) 890-5494.

Worship services

Praise and worship 10 a.m. Sunday, at Westwood Community Church, 6500 Wayne Road and Hunter, Westland.

Contemporary music and casual dress. Children church and nursery. Call (734) 254-0093. Doughnuts and coffee served.

Tiny Tots Preschool

Now enrolling for 2007-08 for 3- and 4-year olds, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0211.

Recovery program

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Northville launches Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered recovery program helping men and women find freedom from their hurts, habits and hang-ups (addictive and compulsive behaviors), meets every Friday evening for 6 p.m. dinner (optional), 7 p.m. praise and worship, 8 p.m. small group discussion, 9 p.m. Solid Rock Cafe (optional coffee and desserts). Child care during Celebrate Recovery is free and available by calling (248) 374-7400. For information, visit www.celebraterecovery.com and www.wardchurch.org/celebrate.

Your Invitation To Worship

BAPTIST

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

33640 Michigan Ave. • Wayne, MI
(Between Wayne Rd. & Merriman Rd.)
(734) 728-2180

Virgil Humes, Pastor

Saturday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
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Lawyer Fieger the latest 'Dining With Stars' guest

The *Observer & Eccentric* and *Mirror Newspapers* are teaming up with Buddy's to present "Dining With the Stars" featuring Southfield attorney Geoffrey Fieger.

Fieger is one of the most successful and controversial trial attorneys in the country. According to his Web site, Fieger has won more multimillion-dollar awards than any other attorney in the country. A few of his most well-known



Fieger

for murder as an adult in the state of Michigan.

Fieger has won record

trials include the defense of Dr. Jack Kevorkian, the *Jenny Jones Show* trial, and the defense of Nathaniel Abraham, the youngest person ever tried

awards in Michigan, Florida, Pennsylvania and Indiana, and many of his trials have generated national attention and set legal precedents.

In 100 words or less, tell us why you'd like to have lunch or dinner with Geoffrey Fieger at Buddy's Pizza.

Send your fan letter to BuddysDiningStars@gmail.com and be sure to include your name, address, daytime phone number and e-mail

address.

Deadline to enter the contest is 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 15.

A photograph of you and Fieger will be published in the *Observer & Eccentric* and *Mirror Newspapers* and online at www.hometownlife.com.

"We want our winners to dine with their favorite stars and feel like a star, too," said Marcy Brontman of Buddy's Pizza.

The winner will be treated to a limo ride, courtesy of

All Class Transportation & Limousine Services; a makeover from Beauty Salon by J.Lyle Ltd. featuring stylist and makeup artist Christine Fitzpatrick; a \$100 gift certificate to the Reaver Diamond Co. in Southfield; and a dance exhibition courtesy of Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Bloomfield Hills.

Other upcoming "Dining With the Stars" will feature Florine Mark of Weight

Watchers, health and fitness guru and *O&E* columnist Peter Nielsen, Ruth Spencer of WDIV's "Ruth to the Rescue" and Trudi Daniels of WRIF-FM.

No purchase is necessary to enter. Buddy's Pizza will review all entries and select the top four "fan" letters.

The stars featured for the month will make the final selection. Lunch and/or dinner date is to be determined with the winner and star by Buddy's representatives.



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Reid resigns as WSU president

Irvin D. Reid has announced his resignation as president of Wayne State University. Reid, the university's ninth president, will soon celebrate his 10th anniversary as WSU president. His resignation will be effective at a date to be named in 2008.

According to WSU Board of Governor's Chair Eugene Driker, "President Reid will leave us with a great deal of positive momentum, and his impact is evident throughout our campus, the city of Detroit and the state of Michigan."

Driker cited among Reid's accomplishments: a significant growth in student enrollment — more than doubling the number of residential students; the strengthening of both our teaching and research missions; establishment of the Perinatology Research Branch of the National Institutes of Health; expansion of our Honors Program; the launch of TechTown, home to dozens of high-tech businesses that are bringing new jobs and investments to the city; major improvements in the university's technological infrastructure; and the addition of many new buildings to the campus, making it the linchpin for the remarkable revitalization of Midtown Detroit.

Of great importance to the university was the establishment of Wayne State University's first capital campaign.

"This campaign has far exceeded our ambitious original goal of \$500 million," Driker said. "A recent capstone of this campaign has been Wayne State University's selection as a PACE (Partnership for the Advancement of Collaborative Engineering Education) institution, one of an elite group of universities worldwide. Announced just last week, this achievement, resulted in an in-kind gift of nearly \$408 million, which is the third largest such contribution in the world, the second largest in the U.S. and the largest to a public university."

Reid earned master's and doctoral degrees in business and applied economics from The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, and bachelor's and master's degrees in general/experimental psychology from Howard University. He also holds a certificate in educational administration from Harvard University.

Reid began the most significant years of his academic career at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. He also has held positions at Howard University, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Drexel University, the Philadelphia College of Art and St. Joseph's University.

Prior to assuming the Wayne State University presidency, Reid was president of Montclair State University in Montclair, N.J.

He is married to Pamela Trotman Reid, provost and executive vice president of Roosevelt University in Chicago.

"I have enjoyed a wonderful career so far, and am extremely proud of my time at Wayne State," Reid said.

Metro Airport expands cell phone waiting area

Motorists picking up an arriving passenger at Detroit Metro Airport's Smith Terminal now have a new, expanded cell phone waiting area. The new, 37-space lot replaces the current waiting area along the curb of Rogell Drive as that roadway will be re-routed as part of the next phase of development for the airport's new North Terminal.

Cell phone waiting lots, which have become popular at airports across the country, were first introduced at Detroit Metro Airport in 2006. These waiting areas help alleviate vehicle congestion at the arrivals curb by providing a safe and free spot for motorists to await a call from their arriving party indicating that they are at the curb with their luggage and ready for pickup.

"Our cell phone waiting areas have been very popular

since day one," said Wayne County Airport CEO Lester Robinson. The new cell phone waiting lot is located adjacent to the on-airport rental car facilities off East Service Drive near the intersection with Lucas Drive. To access the new lot, drivers approaching the airport from I-94 should follow signs to 'Rental Car Return', exiting at Middlebelt Road (exit 199) and then turning right onto Lucas Drive. Follow Lucas Drive until it ends at East Service Drive, and turn left - the lot entrance will then be on the right.

Customers approaching the airport from the South (I-275/Eureka Road), or who have already made one pass at the arrivals curb, should proceed north through the airport on Dingell Drive and follow signs to "Rental Car Return" and "North Cell Phone Lot."

End of quarter good time to study portfolio

It's hard to believe, but another quarter has come and gone. It's been a good quarter for investors, however, there's no doubt the roller coaster ride was pretty steep. This quarter, the Dow - for the first time in history - broke the 14,000 mark and almost immediately fell below 13,000. Here we are at the end of the quarter and once again the market is near record highs.

I believe what happens to the market on a quarter-to-quarter basis is relatively immaterial. Investors should not restructure a portfolio or adjust their game plan based upon quarterly results alone. However, I do believe there are things investors need to do at the end of a quarter to protect their investments.

First, review the quarterly statements for accuracy. At



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

you've been credited with any new contributions made during the quarter.

If there is a discrepancy, don't assume the company is right and you are wrong. Also look at all the positions that you held in your previous statement to make sure they're included in this statement. If you sold a position during the quarter, that too should be reflected on the

a minimum, make sure that the ending balance on your last statement matches the beginning balance on this statement.

In addition, particularly on retirement accounts, you make sure

statement.

For investors in a 401(k) and other types of retirement accounts, it's an excellent time to review investment options.

Companies have become much more aggressive in changing investment options and you should be up to date as to what alternatives are offered.

In addition, it's important for a husband and wife to coordinate plans. This allows you to select the best investment options from each plan.

The end of the quarter is also an excellent time to update your personal financial balance sheet and to review expenses.

A personal financial balance sheet is nothing more than a listing of assets and liabilities.

One issue is how you value your home. Obviously, real

estate in the metro area has dropped dramatically over the last few years. It's important to value this asset realistically on a personal balance sheet.

One last note, it's a good idea to also redo your cash-flow statement, a listing of what came in vs. what went out. By doing a cash-flow statement, you can determine whether your cost of living is going up. This is extremely important in helping to make a decision such as whether you can afford to retire or not.

In this ever changing world, it's more important than ever to get hold of financial affairs.

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

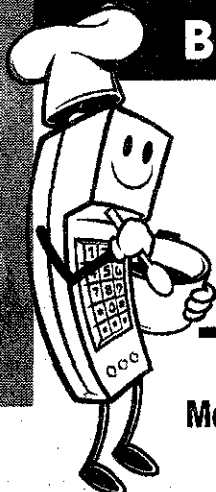
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Stevenson swims gauntlet vs. state powers

Mercy, Pioneer make waves

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Plenty of talent was on display Tuesday night when Farmington Hills Mercy, the state's No. 1-ranked girls swim team in Division 2, invaded Livonia Stevenson, rated No. 2 in Division 1.

The visiting Marlins, coming off a victory Saturday at the Rock-Maurer Invitational at Salem, improved to 5-0 in dual meets with an impressive 114-70 triumph over the Spartans.

Mercy captured eight of 12 events, including a sweep in the 100-yard breaststroke.

Among the individual winners for Mercy were Megan Craig, 200 freestyle (1:57.25); Maria Bargardi, 200 IM (2:14.98); Taylor Steffl, 50 freestyle (25.1); Megan Gegesky, 100 butterfly (1:02.05); Sarah Baumann, 100 freestyle (58.79); Virginia Page, 500 freestyle (5:15.82); and Mo Nicholson, 100 backstroke (1:11.59).

The Marlins added a first in the 200 freestyle relay as Craig, Kaitlyn Jefferson, Baumann and Kaitlin Myszkowski were clocked in 1:48.1.

"We swam well, I'm very surprised," Mercy coach Shannon Dunworth said. "We knew a year ago that Greg (Phill, Stevenson's coach) had a terrific team. We have more depth, but they have the front runners."

"We had a bunch of breakthrough swims. We needed to make some cuts for the Oakland County Meet and



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stevenson's Savannah Hatt took first in the 200-yard individual medley in last Thursday's dual meet against Salem.

Please see **SWIMMING, C2**

Sidelines

Silvernail lauded

Albion College senior wide receiver Josh Silvernail (Livonia Clarenceville) was named the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association's Offensive Player of the Week in football after catching seven passes for 254 yards and two touchdowns in the Britons' loss Saturday to Hope College.

Silvernail, who scored on TD plays of 64 and 70 yards, came just 30 yards shy of matching Chris Barnett's school-record for receiving yards which was set in a 1996 game versus DePauw (Ind.) University).

GVSU runners 1st

Thanks to the efforts of Kelly Gibbons (Livonia Stevenson) and Megan Maceratini (Livonia Churchill), the Grand Valley State University women's cross country team took first in the Gold Division Saturday at the Notre Dame Invitational.

Gibbons placed 12th overall in the 5,000-meter race in 18 minutes, 24 seconds, while Maceratini was 30th in 18:34.

The Lakers finished with an overall score of 126 followed by Liberty (Va.) University, Santa Clara (Calif.), Calvin College and Ball State (Ind.) University.

SHS homecoming

Tickets for Friday's Walled Lake Central at Livonia Stevenson homecoming football game will be sold during all three lunch periods (10:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.) in the high school's north cafeteria.

Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students. The stadium ticket booth will open two hours prior to game time (7 p.m.). Seating is first-come, first-serve.

Handicap parking (with sticker) is available directly in front of the stadium. Auxiliary parking is also available behind the east side visitor bleacher on the grass marked by the orange cones. Enter through the west side of old Marshall Elementary, which is off Curtis and Farmington roads. A ticket booth will be next to this parking area.

Chargers plugged in

Nalecz gives spikers boost in triumph

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

It's bad enough that opposing teams have to deal with Livonia Churchill's 6-foot-2 All-State hitter Kyndra Abron.

And nearing the halfway point of the 2007 fall season, the defending state Class A champions are starting to develop another two-headed monster at the net.

Kristen Nalecz, a 5-foot-10 junior, continued her sterling play Monday night as she contributed 16 kills and two solo blocks to help lift the state-ranked Chargers to a 25-18, 25-21, 25-17 win over rival Livonia Stevenson.

Nalecz, who is trying to help make up for the loss for graduated All-Stater outside hitter Lauren Krupsky (now at Central Michigan University), added a total of 70 kills Saturday as the Chargers won the Temperance Bedford Tournament.

"(Kristen) Nalecz had a breakout Saturday at Bedford," Churchill coach Mark Grenier

said. "Her confidence has soared and she's really starting to develop as a second 'big banger.' We'll need her if we're going to continue our success."

Abron finished with 17 kills and three aces in the win over the Spartans, who made the 24-2-3 Chargers work for just about every point.

"When it's a city game, it means a lot to both schools," said Grenier, whose Chargers are 3-0 in the WLAA's Lakes Division. "Stevenson gave us a very good match. They gave us a battle. And Kelly (Graham) does a nice job with their kids. They play hard."

Churchill's defense was paced by three juniors — libero Lindsey Graciak (17 digs), Katelyn Matz (nine digs) and Kathryn Krupsky (seven digs).

Junior setter Kristy DeClercq had 24 assist-to-kills, while junior defensive specialist Rachel Elery served three aces.

"We didn't get out of there (Bedford) until 9:30-9:45 p.m.," Grenier said. "Abron's knees were sore and we were a little flat

after being such a long Saturday. But the kids still know the importance of a city game and they still gave it their all."

Stevenson's top attackers were juniors Brooke Knochel and Meg Iafrate, six kills each. Knochel also had seven digs, while senior libero Jordan Pilut had six.

"We were moving, playing with more confidence, hitting the ball," said Graham, whose Spartans fell to 0-3 in the Lakes. "But the things we made mistakes with today we're normally solid with. Our serving and blocking were off for us today, but we played together as a team."

Graham used two setters in the match, including 5-5 junior Katherine Vellucci (10 assists) and 5-11 sophomore Alysha Linstrom, a recent callup from the JV.

"The first time she (Linstrom) played for us was in the (Temperance) Bedford Tournament," Graham said. "It was her first competition set-

Please see **VOLLEYBALL, C3**



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Churchill's Katelyn Matz (right) tries to send a shot past Stevenson's Kaylee McGrath during Monday night's WLAA-Lakes Division encounter.

Churchill closes out unbeaten regular season

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

GIRLS GOLF

There's no substitute for experience — just ask Livonia Churchill girls golf coach Gary Harper.

His veteran Chargers capped a 10-0 regular dual-match season Monday in the Western Lakes Activities Association with a 193-204 triumph over host Walled Lake Western at the Links of Pinewood.

Two-time Division 1 state medalist Shannon Warner led the Chargers with a nine-hole round of 40, followed by junior Lexi McFarlane, 49; seniors Amanda Dobos and Danielle Lesniak, 52 each; junior Jessica Burdette, 53; and sophomore Stephanie Parantos, 61.

"I knew we had a good team,

but I kept quiet about it before the season," said Harper, whose team was 8-3 last spring in the WLAA. "The seniors we had I put into the lineup right away as freshmen because I knew they had talent. And Lexi (McFarlane) is a third-year player."

"They've all stepped up and performed, done everything I've asked in practice. They've matured. They've been to all the courses and been to the

same tournaments. There's a lot of experience."

While Warner grabs most of the headlines for her individual accomplishments, Churchill's other five players have been a model of consistency.

"It's a matter of us having more depth; instead of four, we can sometimes go five and six deep," Harper said. "When one of our top four had an off-day, Burdette comes out of nowhere and

shoots a 43 against Walled Lake Central (at Edgewood Country Club). And she's normally in the number five spot for me."

Dobos was an All-Division player a year ago and second-team All-Observer pick, while McFarlane and Burdette have been pleasant surprises during the 2007 fall season.

"Both have improved from

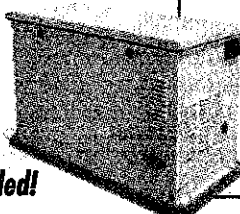
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PREP GIRLS SWIM RESULTS

DUAL MEET RESULTS
FARMINGTON HILLS MERCY 114 LIVONIA STEVENSON 70
Oct. 2 at Stevenson
200-yard medley relay: 1. Stevenson (Ashley Gordon, Brynn Marecki, Laura Timson, Blake Holtz), 1:54.99; 2. Mercy (Eileen Fredendall, Alex Swies, Maria Bargardi, Kaitlyn Jefferson), 1:56.38; 3. Stevenson, 2:11.38.
200 freestyle: 1. Megan Craig (FHM), 1:57.25; 2. Megan Gegesky (FHM), 1:59.08; 3. Savannah Hatt (LS), 1:59.1.
200 individual medley: 1. Bargardi (FHM), 2:14.98; 2. Timson (LS), 2:15.15; 3. Natasha Mason (FHM), 2:15.93.
50 freestyle: 1. Taylor Steffi (FHM), 25.1; 2. Marecki (LS), 25.44; 3. Nikki Barczak (FHM), 25.58.
1-meter diving: 1. Carla McNamara (LS), 199.58 points; 2. Carly Sevald (FHM), 197.98; 3. Megan Novak (FHM), 170.10.
100 butterfly: 1. Gegesky (FHM), 1:02.05; 2. Bargardi (FHM), 1:02.66; 3. Anna Schena (FHM), 1:03.18.
100 freestyle: 1. Barczak (FHM), 54.87; 2. Marecki (LS), 55.02; 3. Kait Myszowski (FHM), 55.7.
500 freestyle: 1. Virginia Page (FHM), 5:15.82; 2. Emma Craig (FHM), 5:16.4; 3. Kaylee Dolinski (LS), 5:28.52.
200 freestyle relay: 1. Mercy (Craig, Jefferson, Baumann, Myszowski), 1:44.4; 2. Stevenson (Hatt, B. Holtz, Megan Holycross, Dolinski), 1:48.1; 3. Mercy, 1:49.63.
100 backstroke: 1. Gordon (LS), 1:02.03; 2. Kelly Edson (FHM), 1:02.08; 3. Emily Reamer (FHM), 1:04.37.
100 breaststroke: 1. Mo Nicholson (FHM), 1:11.59; 2. Swies (FHM), 1:11.84; 3. Shelby Legel (FHM), 1:12.61.
400 freestyle relay: 1. Stevenson (Marecki, Hatt, Gordon, Timson), 3:43.99; 2. Stevenson (Dolinski, Holycross, Allison Kellahan, Kayla Perchall), 4:09.83; 3. Stevenson, 4:31.66.
Dual meet records: Mercy, 5-0 overall; 3-2 overall.

MILFORD 117 LIVONIA LADYWOOD 69
Oct. 2 at Livonia Comm. Rec. Center
200-yard medley relay: 1. MILFORD (Rachel Johnson, Michelle Hier, Liz Johnson, Ashley Little), 2:01.94; 2. Ladywood (Brianna Wilson, Wandy Nameth, Annemarie Brinkman, Shannon Kelly), 2:05.8.
200 freestyle: 1. Amy Wallace (M), 2:06.06; 3. Kelley Hodges (LL), 2:15.19.
200 individual medley: 1. R. Johnson (M), 2:17.31; 2. Karl Santeiu (LL), 2:34.43.
50 freestyle: 1. Wallace (M), 25.67; 2. Kelly (LL), 26.92.
1-meter diving: 1. Allison Spitzley (LL), 163.10 points.
100 butterfly: 1. L. Johnson (M), 1:00.58; 2. Hodges (LL), 1:12.03; 3. Brinkman (LL), 1:12.39.
100 freestyle: 1. R. Johnson (M), 55.93; 2. Kelly (LL), 1:01.18.
500 freestyle: 1. Santeiu (LL), 5:57.15.
200 freestyle relay: 1. MILFORD (Haley Hill, Caitlin Wright, Wallace, Katie Pohlman), 1:50.8; 2. Ladywood (Brinkman, Santeiu, Nameth, Hodges), 1:54.52.
100 backstroke: 1. L. Johnson (M), 1:00.41; 3. Wilson (LL), 1:09.37.
100 breaststroke: 1. Nameth (LL), 1:17.82.
400 freestyle relay: 1. MILFORD (L. Johnson, Hill, Wallace, R. Johnson), 3:56.52; 2. Ladywood (Kelly, Santeiu, Wilson, Hodges), 4:13.67.
Ladywood's dual meet record: 4-3 overall.
ROCK-MAURER GIRLS SWIM INVITATIONAL
Sept. 29 at Salem H.S.
TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Farmington Hills Mercy, 319; 2. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 298; 3. Livonia Stevenson, 197; 4. Northville, 124; 5. Canton, 121; 6. Salem, 105.
200-yard medley relay (Heat 1): 1. Pioneer (Ashley Cohagen, Valerie Barthelemy, Cara Clites, Carleigh Schwartz), 1:53.95; 2. Stevenson, 1:54.73; 3. Mercy, 1:55.76.
(Heat 2): 1. Mercy (Kelsey Edson, Alex Swies, Megan Gegesky, Sarah Baumann), 1:55.85; 2. Pioneer, 2:01.19; 3. Stevenson, 2:04.50.
(Heat 3): 1. Pioneer (Mari Isa, Riley Yamamoto, Molly Shanley, Laura Cameron), 1:59.54; 2. Mercy, 2:00.55.
200 freestyle (Heat 1): Allison Schmitt (C), 1:50.48; 2. Liz Koselka (AAP), 1:52.30; 3. Megan Craig (FM), 1:58.03.
(Heat 2): 1. Kristyne Cole (AAP), 1:53.41; 2. Megan Gegesky (FM), 2:00.52; 3. Kaylee Dolinski (LS), 2:03.32.
(Heat 3): 1. Virginia Page (FM), 2:00.89; 2. Molly Shanley (AAP), 2:07.61; 3. Emilie Montini (LS), 2:09.46.
(Heat 4): 1. Emma Craig (FM), 2:01.34; 2. Rachel Taub (AAP), 2:06.62; 3. Emily Cauzillo (LS), 2:14.82.
200 IM (Heat 1): Brynn Marecki (LS), 2:11.72; 2. Lauren Shanley (AAP), 2:17.20; 3. Natasha Mason (FM), 2:17.28.

SWIMMING

FROM PAGE C1

several made that. It's a big deal and it's second only to the state meet. It's great. We also had four more state cuts."

Among those earning state cuts for Mercy were freshman Geri Michaluk in the 500 freestyle (5:24.65); Eileen Fredendall, 100 backstroke (1:03.46); Steffi, 100 freestyle (58.33 leg in the 400 freestyle relay); and Gillian Staudt, 500 freestyle (5:20.36).

The Spartans, getting individual wins from Ashley Gordon in the 100 backstroke (1:02.03) and Carla McNamara in 1-meter diving (199.58 points), may have bit off more than they could chew.

The Spartans appeared to be dragging after going through a gauntlet of meets starting with a dual last Thursday against Salem followed by another dual Friday against the state's top-ranked team in Division 1, Ann Arbor Pioneer. They also swam against Pioneer and Mercy again Saturday in the Rock-Maurer meet at Salem before taking on Mercy.

"We've been racing four times in the last six days," said Phill, whose team fell to 3-2 in dual meets. "We tried to schedule Mercy for next Tuesday, but it didn't work out. We had three good meets in a row. We swam really well Thursday, Friday and Saturday. We did not swim terrible tonight, but I made a tactical error. I killed

them yesterday in practice. It was not a good move, but it's over and nobody is dead."

Stevenson did shine in the 200 medley relay as Gordon, Brynn Marecki, Laura Timson and Blake Holtz combined for a time of 1:54.99. The Spartans were not challenged in the 400 freestyle relay as Marecki, Savannah Hatt, Gordon and Timson were clocked in 3:43.99. (Mercy was disqualified.)

"We knew Mercy was better, but this will make them tougher," Phill said of his team. "Now we can get ready for the (WLAA) conference meet and we'll have a week off before going to MISCA (Oct. 13 at EMU)."

Despite the setback to Mercy, Phill was encouraged by a number of performances during the past week.

"Laura Holtz, a sophomore, broke a minute (58.4) in the 100 freestyle on Saturday," he said. "And (Brynn) Marecki had a very good swim in the 200 IM (2:09.61) against Pioneer. Kaylee Dolinski went 5:21.07 in the 500 (freestyle) against Salem."

Dunworth, meanwhile, likes where his team is at heading into this weekend's Oakland County Meet at Lake Orion High School.

"Swimmers by nature are tough to beat when it comes to putting in the work," he said. "And this group itself doesn't allow anybody to take a day off."

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ADULT HOCKEY STANDINGS

LIVONIA OVER 30 HOCKEY STANDINGS
(as of Oct. 1)
Stante Excavating 4-4/1 9 points
Hunt's Ace Hardware 4-0/1 8 points
D&G Heating & Cooling 3-3/0 6 points
LaSalle Bank 2-2/1 5 points
Zaschak Enterprises, LLC 1-1/3 5 points
Daily Restaurant 2-3/0 4 points
Livonia Auto Body 1-3/1 3 points
Coldwell Banker/G&G Plumbing 1-4/0 1

Canton blanks Pats to earn WLAA title shot

The Canton boys soccer team clinched the Western Lakes Activities Association's Western Division title Monday night with a convincing 6-0 white-washing of visiting Livonia Franklin.

The triumph improved the Chiefs' record to 11-2-3 overall and 8-1-1 in the division. The Patriots slipped to 3-11 and 2-8, respectively.

Canton will take on Lakes Division champion Livonia Stevenson on Wednesday, Oct. 10, for the WLAA title. The opening kick is set for 7 p.m. at Stevenson.

Junior forward Sherif Hassanien had a night to remember for Canton as he netted two goals and an assist – all in the first half when the Chiefs stormed to a 4-0 lead.

Hassanien's scored the match's opening goal unassisted before assisting Tim Belcher on the Chiefs' second net-finder. A short time later, Hassanien made it 3-0 after securing a pass from Pat Nolan.

Canton's final first-half tally came from Mark Edwards, who was assisted by Nolan. Kyle Breitmeyer (from

BOYS SOCCER

Belcher) and Belcher (unassisted) close out the scoring. Kevin Krause (first half) and Nick Turnbull (second) combined for the shutout in net for the Chiefs.

Stevenson 1, W.L. NORTHERN 0: David Simor's goal from Joey D'Agostino midway through the second half stood up Monday as WLAA-Lakes Division champion Livonia Stevenson (14-0, 10-0) got by host Walled Lake Northern (9-5-2, 4-4-2).

Goalkeepers Conner Burton (first half) and Justin Collins (second half) combined on the shutout. "It was cold and rainy," said Stevenson coach Lars Richters, whose team is ranked No. 2 in Division 1. "Northern pressed us a lot and hit a ball off the post when it was 0-0 in the second half."

CHURCHILL 3, W.L. CENTRAL 3: Ben Zukowski's goal from Max Washko with five minutes remaining Monday enabled host Livonia Churchill (7-6-2, 4-4-2) to earn a WLAA-Lakes Division tie with Walled Lake Central (7-8-1, 3-5-1).

Adam Bedell scored twice for the Chargers, who rallied from a 2-0 halftime deficit. Washko finished with two assists, while Vinny Carozza added one.

Stephen Rettig, Brad Lyons (penalty kick) and Ben Lesnick tallied

goals for the Vikings. Adrian Motta played the first 60 minutes in goal for the Chargers before giving way to Derik Peterman, who made a key stop on a breakaway to keep Central from scoring.

SALEM 4, JOHN GLENN 3: On Monday, the Rocks (6-4-8, 5-3-1) overcame a 2-1 halftime deficit to post the WLAA-Lakes Division triumph over host Westland John Glenn (2-12-1, 0-10).

Alex Tramel opened the scoring for the winners off an assist from Jeremy Stoychoff.

The Rocks got rolling in the second half thanks to a quick goal from Josh Pascarella, who was assisted by Stoychoff. Pascarella scored a short time later after handling a pass from Tramel.

Rafael Vinenzio scored the eventual game-winner, which was unassisted.

Khalid Suleiman scored a pair of goals and assisted on another for the Rockets. Nelson Kenne also scored and Adam Patruno drew an assist. Zach Redden was in goal for the Rocks.

"Zach played really well and it was one of our best efforts of the year all the way around," Glenn first-year coach Reavis Olive said.

PLYMOUTH 8, WAYNE 0: In a WLAA-Western Division game Monday, the host Wildcats (9-6-4, 6-2-2) defeated Wayne Memorial (0-13-2, 0-10).

GREENHILLS 1, LUTHER WESTLAND 0: In a battle of Division 4 state-ranked teams, No. 6 Ann Arbor Greenhills

(8-3-3) slipped past No. 9 Lutheran High Westland (8-4-3) behind Alex Kuwada's goal from Rob Dolot midway through the second half.

The game-winning goal came on restart off a corner kick for the host Gryphons.

"It kind of surprised us and caught us off-guard," said Lutheran Westland coach Rich Block.

"Offensively we couldn't penetrate their back four, get anything central or up-top. They were pretty sound back there."

Warriors goalkeeper Micah Hausch made 10 saves in the loss.

Charlie DeChants earned the shutout in goal for Greenhills, which played without top scorer Peter Jacobson, who was injured Saturday in the Maumee Valley (Ohio) Tournament.

FARMINGTON 7, CLARENCEVILLE 0: In a non-conference encounter Monday, Shane Patterson tallied a pair of goals and Ryan Pimlott had a goal and two assists to lead the host Falcons (9-6) rolled to the victory over Livonia Clarenceville (4-10).

Tyler O'Hara, Gustav Samuelson, Michael Shore and Joe Ashmore also scored for Farmington.

Goalkeepers Andrew Gaughan and Kameron McVittie combined on the shutout, making two saves.

Matt Parent was solid on the field, while Matt Garant stood out in his first start in goal for the Trojans according to coach Trevor Johnson.

Madonna secures two conference triumphs

Continuing their early season dominance on Tuesday, the Madonna University men's soccer team blanked host Cornerstone, 3-0, on Tuesday to 8-2-2 overall and 6-1-1 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference.

The Crusaders got on the board at 28:36 when Doran Dral booted the ball behind Cornerstone goalkeeper Brent Grube.

A little less than 11 minutes later, Madonna padded that lead to 2-0. Mark Pikula took a pass from Makes Lewis and chipped a shot into the Golden Eagles' goal.

The final tally of the day came with about 29 minutes

MEN'S SOCCER

remaining. Lewis scored, on a play set up by Daniel Amaya. Making four stops for the shutout was Madonna goal-keeper Steven Besk.

Cornerstone's record fell to 6-6 overall and 4-3 in the WHAC.

MADONNA 2, DAVENPORT 1: Madonna's men's soccer team was forced to play a man down for the final 77 minutes of the match, but used a goal with 21 second left in regulation from Lewis and Dral bent in a corner kick 5:40 into overtime to give the Crusaders a come-from-behind overtime win over WHAC leader Davenport on Saturday in Grand Rapids. Davenport got on the board in the

10th minute of the match as Efrain Hernandez ran down a long ball and got his shot past a diving Kris Lyons to give the Panthers a 1-0 lead.

That is when the game got interesting. MU's Darrel Quinn was issued a yellow card in the 19th minute and was then issued a second a little less than a minute later and the Crusaders were forced to play a man down for the remainder of the match. The cards to Quinn seemed to start a stream of cards, as in addition to the ones issued to Quinn, six more were issued in the match.

The Crusaders (7-2-2, 5-1-1) peppered the DU keeper with shots, forcing Tyron Avnait to make six saves in the opening 45 minutes. Davenport out shot Madonna 8-7 in the first half.

The Panthers went on the offensive in the second half, taking 17

total shots and forcing Lyons (nine saves) to make a pair of spectacular diving stops on hard shots inside the 18-yard box.

Lyons got help from defended Keith Seid in the 57th minute as the junior transfer cleared a loose ball off of the line to keep it a one goal match.

With 89:39 gone in the match, Lewis took a pass from T.J. Djkoic and Mark Pikula and got his shot off to the right side of the goal past a diving Avnait to tie the match.

Davenport (7-2-1, 5-2-0) had the first chance of the extra period as Tony Deakin's header was snared by Lyons to keep the game even.

After MU worked to earn a corner, Dral set the ball in the left corner of the field and sent a kick in that bent around the near post to give Madonna the 2-1 win.

Lady Ocelots settle for split at Cinci State tournament

Schoolcraft College's women's soccer team split two matches at last weekend's tournament hosted by Cincinnati State, defeating Heartland (Ill.) Community College, 5-0, on Friday before suffering a 3-1 Saturday Sunday to No. 5-ranked CCBC-Catonsville CC (Md.).

The sixth-ranked Lady

WOMEN'S SOCCER
Ocelots (5-2) had plenty of contributions in the victory, with Clare Baptist (Plymouth) leading the way with two goals and an assist. Ally King (Livonia Stevenson) chipped in with a goal and an assist. Other Schoolcraft tallies were reg-

istered by Adrianna Guerrero and Sally L'Esperance. Stopping three shots for the shutout was Livonia Ladywood alum Jessica Tuggle. Two days later, unfortunately, Schoolcraft couldn't keep things rolling against 10-1 Catonsville. The lone Lady Ocelot goal was tallied by Guerrero (assisted by Megan

McCabe). The Lady Ocelots now get prepared for the annual Schoolcraft Invitational Tournament on Saturday and Sunday, playing one match each day. They will kick off the tourney at 11 a.m. Saturday against Heartland (Ill.) and follow up 2 p.m. Sunday against U-M Dearborn.

THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP FOOTBALL
Friday, Oct. 5
Churchill at W.L. Northern, 7 p.m.
Franklin at Northville, 7 p.m.
W.L. Central at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
Salem at John Glenn, 7 p.m.
Wayne at Canton, 7 p.m.
Clarenceville at Notre Dame Prep, 7 p.m.
Luth. Westland at Lutheran North, 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 4
Clawson at Clarenceville, 6:30 p.m.
Kingswood at Luth. Westland, 6:30 p.m.
Huron Valley at Macomb Christian, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 6
Sturgis Invitational, 8 a.m.
UM-Deerborn Invitational, 9 a.m.
BOYS SOCCER
Thursday, Oct. 4
Stevenson at Warren DeLaSalle, 5:30 p.m.
(Metro Conference Playoffs)
Luth. Westland at Cranbrook, 4:30 p.m.
Clarenceville at Lutheran North, 4:30 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 5
Churchill at Franklin, 4 p.m.
Garden City at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
Clarenceville at Bedford Union, 4 p.m.
Huron Valley at Franklin Road, 4:30 p.m.
Edsel Ford at Wayne, 7 p.m.
BOYS & GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY
Saturday, Oct. 6
Portage Northern Invitational, 9 a.m.
Wayne CC Meet at Willow Metropark, 10 a.m.
GIRLS VOLLEYBALL
Thursday, Oct. 4
Stevenson at Churchill, 7 p.m.
Franklin at G.P. North, 7 p.m.
John Glenn at Salem, 7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 5
Wayne Invitational Prelims, 4 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 6
Wayne Invitational Finals, 1 p.m.

BOYS TENNIS
Thursday, Oct. 4
John Glenn at Farmington, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 6
WLAA Tournament at Plymouth, 9 a.m.
GIRLS GOLF
Thursday, Oct. 4
John Glenn vs. W.L. Central at The Woodlands (Van Buren), 3 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 5
Blazer Invitational at St. John's, 8:30 a.m.
GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY
Thursday, Oct. 4
Country Day at Ladywood, 4:15 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL
Thursday, Oct. 4
Indiana Tech at Madonna, 7 p.m.
Wayne CC CC at Schoolcraft (2), 7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 5
UM-Deerborn at Madonna, 7 p.m.
Schoolcraft at K'zo Valley Invitational, TBA.
MEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER
Wednesday, Oct. 3
Delta CC at Schoolcraft, 4 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 6
Schoolcraft at Kellogg CC, 1 p.m.
Madonna at Concordia, 2:30 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 7
Cincinnati State at Schoolcraft, noon.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER
Saturday, Oct. 6
Madonna at Concordia, noon.
(Schoolcraft Ocelot Invitational)
Schoolcraft vs. Heartland (Ill.) CC, 11 a.m.
Cincinnati St. vs. UM-Deerborn, 1 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 7
(Schoolcraft Ocelot Invitational)
Heartland (Ill.) vs. Cincinnati State, 10 a.m.
Schoolcraft vs. UM-Deerborn, 2 p.m.
ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
Saturday, Oct. 7
Whalers vs. Oshawa Generals at Compuware Arena, 7:05 p.m.

GOLF

FROM PAGE C1

last spring scoring-wise," Harper said. "Lexi has focused on her short game and Jessica has focused in on her ball-striking."

Churchill, ranked No. 8 in Division 1, took sixth at both the Grosse Ile and Traverse City invitational, along with ninth at the Ann Arbor Invitational. Warner, who juggles her golf schedule with varsity volleyball, has been medalist in the 18-hole

events at the Traverse City and the Grosse Ile invitational and looks to become the first player to three-peat as an individual medalist at the state finals.

Churchill's next event will be the WLAA Tournament, which starts at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 9, at Pheasant Run in Canton.

Northville is expected to be the Chargers' top challenger. Churchill defeated the fourth-ranked Mustangs in a dual match earlier this season at Whispering Willows, 188-192.

"It's going to be tough, we'll see who can pull it out," Harper said.

Cannon gets nod as coach for Livonia Stevenson girls

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Livonia Stevenson's search for a new varsity girls basketball coach has ended.

Pat Cannon takes over the position vacated last month by Mike Allie, who stepped down to become the boys varsity coach following the unexpected resignation of Brad Miller.

The 52-year-old Cannon spent the last nine seasons as JV coach and varsity assistant at nearby Ladywood High School. He also has coached 14 years, including the varsity girls since 2000, at St. Edith's Grade School in Livonia. Cannon also launched the Livonia Wildcats and Livonia Lightning AAU basketball programs in 1996.

"Pat is an excellent addition to the Stevenson coaching staff and I believe he will do a tremendous job as the varsity girls basketball coach," Stevenson athletic director Lori Hyman said. "Pat has extensive coaching experience in girls basketball and is a proven winner. He is an excellent teacher of the game and his teams are fundamentally sound and prepared for every game. Pat resides in Livonia and he understands the importance of community involvement. We're very excited to

PREP BASKETBALL

have Pat as our new varsity head coach."

Cannon sells advertising for Automobile Magazine and Motor Trend.

He begins practice with the Stevenson girls on Monday, Nov. 5.

"I consider myself a defensive coach and fundamentals coach," Cannon said. "I don't know a lot of the personnel, so I can't say right now what kind of style of basketball we'll play."

"But Mike (Allie) had them playing in a summer program and left the program in good shape. He played for me in the Wildcat program. I feel we can catch up."

Stevenson finished 5-16 a year ago under Tim Newman, who resigned last spring for personal reasons after going 42-47 overall in four seasons.

Cannon, meanwhile, said he looks forward to the challenge.

"I always wanted to do a varsity team and a sense of community is also important to me," he said. "It was an appealing opportunity. A lot of girls I coached at St. Edith's went to Stevenson. It's an opportunity to move the program forward."

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Depleted Lutheran Westland squad falls to Clawson, 31-22

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Down to 11 healthy players, outmanned Lutheran High Westland hung tough for nearly four quarters Saturday afternoon before succumbing to Metro Conference football foe Clawson, 31-22.

The loss drops the Warriors to 3-3 overall and 3-2 in the conference, while Clawson improves to 3-3 and 3-1.

"We made some mental mistakes, but the kids played hard and showed a lot of grit," Lutheran Westland coach Paul Guse said. "We started with 16 and were down to 11. To come close and fumble it away is frustrating, but there's not shame in losing."

Early in the fourth quarter, the host Warriors took a 22-21 advantage with a 10-play, 52-yard drive capped by Billy Meier's 3-yard touchdown run followed by Meier's two-point conversion pass to Nate Bachert.

Clawson regained the lead for keeps after a 12-play drive stalled at the Warriors' 5 on a 22-yard field goal by Cody Lehman.

With approximately

PREP FOOTBALL

five minutes remaining, the Warriors committed a costly turnover on 2-and-10 at their own 35 with a Trojan defender returning a fumble 29 yards down to the Lutheran Westland 6.

Nine plays and three pass interference penalties later, Clawson's Dushawn Brandy put the game away with a 6-yard TD run with four minutes to go. The Warriors got the ball back two more times, but tossed an interception at their own 13.

Brandy, who finished with 139 yards rushing on 17 carries, scored on a 2-yard run in the opening period followed by Rob Feeman's 17-yard TD pass to Tyler Church to give the Trojans a 14-0 lead.

Lutheran Westland answered with a 75-yard drive just late in the first half. Meier connected with Ryan Richter on a 25-yard TD pass with only 24 seconds left, but the extra point attempt was blocked.

In the third quarter, the Warriors turned the ball over on downs and Feeman struck for his second TD pass of the game to Shawn

Giroux.

But on the ensuing kickoff, Eric Shoats ran 80 yards for his second TD return of the season. He is averaging 35 yard per return.

Meier then hit Haller for the two-pointer from 18 yards out, cutting the deficit to 21-14.

Clawson had 365 total yards to Lutheran Westland's 285. The Warriors had the edge in first downs, 13-11.

Feeman was 9-of-20 for 156 yards, while Meier and Shoats combined for 7-of-15 passes for 97 yards. Richter was the Warriors' leading rusher with 65 yards on 18 carries, while Meier added 60 on 11 attempts.

Lutheran Westland's leading tackler, Sam Ahlersmeyer, was injured on the third play of the game and he did not return until the fourth quarter. The Warriors were also missing starter Stephen Kemp.

Ahlersmeyer still finished with team-high six tackles along with Richter, Bachert, Nathan Mizzi, Mike Greening, Troy Golze and Dan Abbott.

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Warriors take home 1st-place trophy from HVL tournament

PREP VOLLEYBALL

The Trojans lost starting setter Katie Blacker (flu) in the first game, causing coach Wendy Merschman to move senior outside hitter Amanda Moody back to setter.

Moody finished with 18 assist-to-kills, 35 digs and five kills.

Marlene Azar added five kills and five blocks for the Trojans, who slipped to 8-7-2 overall and 0-2 in the Metro.

Rockets stopped

After a solid sixth-place showing out of 15 schools Saturday in the Monroe Evening News Tournament, Westland John Glenn came back down to earth Monday at Walled Lake Northern as the Knights defeated the Rockets in three games, 25-11, 25-22, 25-17.

"Our passing was off tonight and we were never able to get our attacking rhythm in order," said Glenn coach Julian Wargo, whose team slipped to 6-8-4 overall and 2-1 in the WLAA's Lakes Division.

Despite the loss, Kirstin Kirk led the Glenn defense with 29 digs. Brittany Holbrook paced the offense with 13 kills.

Senior Lauren Whitt's strong serving (three aces) helped spark a Glenn resurgence in the final two games.

Patriots derailed

Coach Linda Jimenez is still searching for answers from her Livonia Franklin girls volleyball team.

The Patriots fell to 5-18 overall and 0-3 in the WLAA's Western Division as Northville came away with a 25-22, 25-19, 25-20 triumph Monday at Franklin.

The Mustangs (14-8, 3-0) were by Kelly Maise's eight kills.

"We did not have many kills or service aces, but scored many points in our losses due to a much improved defense, which led to Northville making errors for our points," Jimenez said.

Leading attackers for the Patriots, who were without junior outside hitter Brittany Taylor (sick), included Ashley Price (10 kills), Brianna Taylor (four kills) and Sara Slack (four kills).

On Saturday, Franklin lost all four of five matches at the Ypsilanti Invitational with the only win coming against Willow Run (25-21, 25-22). The Patriots were defeated by Dexter (14-25, 7-25), Chelsea (14-25, 7-25), Dearborn (26-24, 13-25, 10-15) and the host Braves (18-25, 14-25).

Top performers on the day for the Patriots included Brittany Taylor, 21 kills and seven digs; Price, 20 kills and 11 digs; Brianna Taylor, 15 kills and five aces; and Jessica Stailey, eight aces.

Canton clips Zebras

On Monday, Lauren McPartlin had 10 kills and Jordan Kieley added eight kills and six aces as Canton recorded a convincing 25-5, 25-15, 25-13 WLAA-Western Division victory over visiting Wayne Memorial.

Canton is now 13-7-1 overall and 2-1 in the division, while Wayne falls to 1-15 overall and 0-3. Hannah Mills chipped in with eight digs for the Chiefs.

Catie Badrak had a team-best three kills for Wayne, while Katie Wilson added two kills with no passing or setting errors.

Spartans 2-3 at Bedford

Livonia Stevenson captured two of five matches in Saturday's Temperance Bedford Invitational.

The Spartans defeated Clarkston (25-23, 27-25) and Mason (25-15, 25-15), while losing to Bedford (12-25, 19-25), Holt (17-25, 19-25) and Monroe (19-25, 25-18, 8-15).

Team leaders on the day for Stevenson (9-9-3) included Stephanie Labby (24 kills and 29-of-30 serve receive); Alysha Linstrom (seven blocks and 47-of-50 setting); Jordan Pilut (27-of-28 serving with five aces and 44 digs); and Katie Vellucci (51-of-54 setting).

Playoff scenario taking shape

This week is pivotal for several Observerland football teams that still have play-off aspirations.

Four teams - Wayne Memorial, Canton, Westland John Glenn and Lutheran Westland - own 3-3 records heading into Friday night's games, making it imperative that they sweep their final three contests.

Of those four teams, Wayne and Canton will square off against each other at the PCEP varsity stadium on Friday, making it a key showdown.

Two other five-win teams - Redford Covenant and Livonia Churchill - can seal post-season berths with a victory Friday night. Plymouth, which is 4-2, needs two wins in its last three games to seal a bid.

Just one Observerland team - 6-0 Livonia Stevenson - has secured a spot in the play-offs heading into this week's games.

Good luck to all of the local teams this week!

Livonia-Westland Sports Editor Brad Emons still leads the "Grid Picks" standings with a 48-20 record even though he went a shaky 7-5 last week. I've moved up to second with a 46-22 mark after going 10-2 last week, while Redford-Garden City



Ed Wright

Sports Editor Tim Smith is still in the hunt at 44-24 following an 8-4 week.

FRIDAY'S GAMES (ALL START AT 7 P.M. UNLESS NOTED)

Walled Lake Central (2-4, 2-2) at Livonia Stevenson (6-0, 4-0): The Spartans, who are averaging 44.5 points per game, have one of the state's most electrifying offenses, which cross-town rival Livonia Churchill found out in last week's 37-3 blowout. The Vikings are still licking their wounds from last week's loss to John Glenn. **PICKS:** Wright (Stevenson); Emons (Stevenson); Smith (Stevenson).

Livonia Churchill (5-1, 3-1) at Walled Lake Northern (0-6, 0-4): Playing the winless Knights should help the Chargers put last week's tough loss to Livonia Stevenson in the rear-view mirror. **PICKS:** Wright (Churchill); Emons (Churchill); Smith (Churchill).

Salem (1-5, 1-3) at Westland John Glenn (3-3, 2-2): The Rocks will come into this one with some much-needed momentum courtesy of Saturday's 7-6 win over Walled Lake Northern. The Rockets are looking for a perfect finish to secure a playoff berth. **PICKS:** Wright (Salem); Emons (Glenn); Smith (Glenn).

Wayne (3-3, 2-2) at Canton (3-3, 2-2): This game promises to go down to the wire as the Zebras' high-octane offense is led by quarterback D.J. Freeman while senior signal-caller Adam Powers has proven more-than-efficient at engineering the Chiefs' full-house attack. **PICKS:** Wright (Canton); Emons (Canton); Smith (Wayne).

Livonia Franklin (2-4, 2-2) at Northville (0-6, 0-4): The Patriots had better beware the winless Mustangs, who gave Plymouth a scare last week. It's

homecoming at Northville, so the Mustangs will be fired up. **PICKS:** Wright (Franklin); Emons (Franklin); Smith (Franklin).

Plymouth (4-2, 2-2) at Walled Lake Western (5-1, 4-0): The Warriors have already clinched first place in the WLAA's Western Division. Plymouth's defense has yielded just 12.6 points per game so far. **PICKS:** Wright (Plymouth); Emons (Western); Smith (Western).

Livonia Clarenceville (1-5, 1-5) at Pontiac Notre Dame (5-1, 4-0): One week after registering their first win of the season, the Trojans will face the daunting task of trying to stop the Fighting Irish, which is averaging over 30 points per game. **PICKS:** Wright (Notre Dame); Emons (Notre Dame); Smith (Notre Dame).

Macomb Lutheran North (5-1, 5-0) at Lutheran Westland (3-3, 2-2): 7:30 p.m.: LW needs to win out to advance to the post-season. Judging by the way Lutheran North has played so far this season, that's going to be a tough task. **PICKS:** Wright (Lutheran North); Emons (Lutheran North); Smith (Lutheran North).

Redford Covenant (5-1, 4-0) at Parkway Christian (6-0, 3-0): This game will go a long way in determining the champion of the Southern Michigan Conference. **PICKS:** Wright (Parkway); Emons (Parkway); Smith (Covenant).

Melvindale (5-1, 3-1) at Redford Thurston (1-5, 1-3): On paper, the Cardinals should be way too strong for the Eagles. The same will probably hold true on grass as well. **PICKS:** Wright (Melvindale); Emons (Melvindale); Smith (Melvindale).

D.H. Annapolis (3-3, 2-3) at Garden City (1-5, 1-4): Just a few years after nearly shutting down its football program due to lack of interest, Annapolis is in the hunt for a playoff spot. Garden City is playing for pride, which can be a powerful motivator. **PICKS:** Wright (Garden City); Emons (Garden City); Smith (Garden City).

Redford Union (2-4, 1-3) at Taylor Kennedy (3-3, 2-2): RU will be looking to bounce back from a tough loss against Trenton. **PICKS:** Wright (Kennedy); Emons (Kennedy); Smith (Kennedy).

Clarenceville falls

In a Metro Conference match Tuesday, host Bloomfield Hills Kingswood downed Livonia Clarenceville in four games, 25-10, 25-18, 17-25, 25-15.

VOLLEYBALL

FROM PAGE C1

ing for us. She's still learning the offense and getting past the scared stage. She's only a sophomore and she made some beginning mistakes, but she's a good setter and she's done a pretty good job."

Both teams were at less than full strength.

Stevenson played without two contributors, including injured sophomore right-side hitter Amanda Linstrom.

Churchill, meanwhile, went without senior back row specialist Jordan Kerr (knee) and junior middle hitter Jessica Stroud (ankle).

On Saturday, Abron finished the day with 86 total kills. The Michigan State signee also had 10 blocks. In addition to Nalecz's 70 kills, Matz had 17.

Jackie Gribeck contributed

eight blocks, while DeClercq had a total of 116 assists.

The defense was led by Graciak (54 digs), Kerr (42 digs) and Shannon Warner (41 digs). Elery was the Chargers' top serve receiver.

Churchill defeated Dearborn Divine Child for the championship, 29-27, 22-25, 15-11, after eliminating Fraser (25-18, 25-13) in the semifinals and Holt (25-12, 25-18) in the quarterfinals.

The Chargers captured all four matches in pool play,

defeating Fenton (25-16, 25-21), Ann Arbor Pioneer (25-19, 25-18), Walled Lake Northern (26-24, 28-26) and Divine Child (17-25, 25-15, 15-8).

"There were not as many big guns there this year, but overall it was a good tourney with solid teams," Grenier said. "The competition was good all day. Our conference (Western Lakes) fared well and had a nice showing."

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Crusaders cruise past Aquinas

Madonna University's women's volleyball team stayed unbeaten in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference with Tuesday's 3-0 victory over host Aquinas College in Grand Rapids.

The Crusaders knocked off the Saints by scores of 30-13, 30-25, 30-22 and moved their record to 18-5 overall and 6-0 in the conference.

Aquinas drops to 3-14 and 0-6.

For the visitors, sophomore setter Inta Grinvalds continued her strong play with 33 assists. On the attack were Mary McGinnis (15 kills) and Lubovj Tihomirova (nine kills), while Jacqui Gatt (Livonia Churchill) sparked at the libero position with 11 defensive digs.

Also contributing for MU were Whitney Fuelling (five kills, four blocks) and Stephanie Parslow (five kills).

Collecting 10 kills for the Saints was Mollie Lounds, with Andrea Holt (27 assists) and Michelle Maleski (14 digs) leading their team in those categories.



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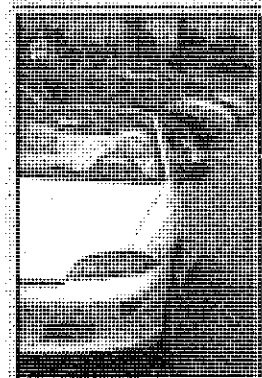
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NISSAN ALTIMA DESERVES TO STAND ON SALES PEDESTAL

Advertising Feature

CAReport



By Dale Buss

New and exciting products had to be a big part of the solution to Nissan's woes when Carlos Ghosn moved into position as new CEO to rescue the company in 1999, and one of the first scintillating new vehicles that he came up with was the 2002 Altima. It was a larger vehicle and a more stylish one than its predecessor, and Ghosn's aim was nothing less than sharing the sales-volume pedestal in the U.S. market with the likes of Toyota's iconic Camry and the equally venerable Honda Accord.

It worked for awhile. The car quickly became a bestseller in America, surpassing its targets to sell a record 255,000 units in 2005 and helping to pace the much-vaunted turnaround of Nissan that also benefited from a styling revolution at its Infiniti luxury brand.

Well, given the hypercompetitive nature of the auto business these days, and Nissan's notable slippage during the last couple of years, it was no surprise that the company decided to overhaul its flagship Altima once again. And what they ended up with, fortunately, is a car that deserves heavy consideration by any consumer who's looking in the heart of the market: a worthy vehicle for around \$20,000 or so.

For the 2007 Altima glides along the road without ever making you feel that you're not in control. It vrooms nicely for a car in this price range. It is rendered in a to-kill-for design, not exactly surprising considering what Nissan and Infiniti designers have been fielding lately. And on the inside, there are many refinements that make the new version of Altima an overall much better package than the earlier rendition that it replaced.

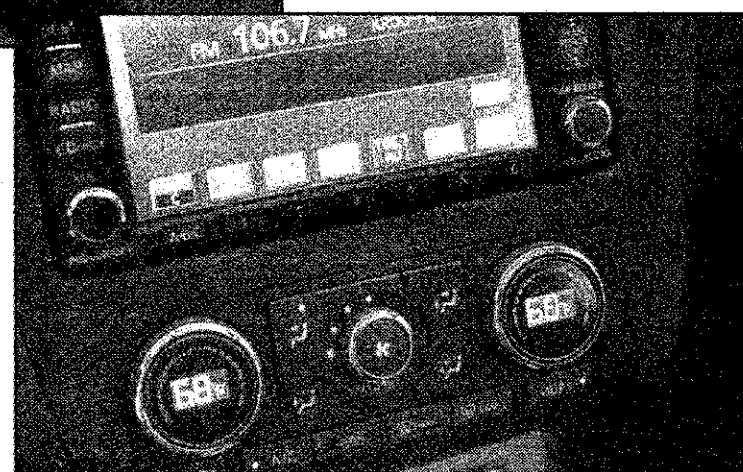
Start with the car's design. It's a sleek wedge shape with a rising window line that reduces the car's rear windows to tiny little triangles. Not great for the rear passengers, perhaps, but it sure is nice to look at from the outside. Nissan's designs by nature can't be as radical or chic as Infiniti's have become, because Nissan is still pursuing the mainstream of the U.S. car market. But stack up the Altima next to a new Camry or Accord and you'll see in a glance one major reason why Altima has become such a worthy competitor.

Under the hood, the 2007 Altima has stepped up its



Based on style alone, the new Altima is worth purchase consideration.

The climate controls inside the new Altima are a picture of logic and ease.



game as well. Nissan's ubiquitous 3.5-liter, six-cylinder engine has been massaged to deliver 20 more horsepower – now, up to 270 – than before as well as 258 lb.-ft. of torque. This version of Altima responds powerfully to everything a driver requires, whether it's stomping on the acceleration to make a pass or easing along the interstate at a cruising speed.

Greatly contributing to this happy circumstance is a continuously variable transmission that handles all the necessary shifting with aplomb. Nissan is a global leader in this technology and has been for more than a decade. It believes that the improved efficiency and smoothness offered by this transmission design represents the wave of the future, and the company expects to sell one million CVTs globally every year, by next year. Meanwhile, Altima stands as a great exponent of what Nissan's CVT can do.

Altima's interior is sleek and stylish. At the request of women in focus groups, Nissan actually reduced the wheelbase of Altima by an inch or two, which squeezes legroom by the same dimension in the front. Curiously, however, legroom in the rear is just a tad improved. Still,

rear passengers don't have a lot of room to stretch out, and their seats are deep, deep into the vehicle; I hope their rides are short.

Many reviewers made much of lower-priced, shoddy plastics in some parts of the interior of the 2002 version, and by all appearances Nissan has significantly upgraded in that department.

There also are some interesting and unique refinements in interior features. Climate controls can be overlooked by even the best car designers, but in Altima, there's one of the best layouts I've found. All the controls are logically grouped together; there's even a digital temperature read-out inside the control knob of both the driver's and passenger's sides, an innovation I haven't seen anywhere else.

Sensibly, Nissan also has furnished the Altima with plenty of good sized compartments, including one under the dashboard under a sliding panel that is huge enough for cell phones, wallets, keys, maybe even a small purse. Not enough vehicle designers are this sensible!

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Used car prices take hard tumble New car incentives push used car marketplace to record low

by J.L. Sims Independent ad features

Livonia, MI – A Livonia dealer is selling 2007 vehicles for about one-half of the original manufacturer's list price. And they're offering many other models far below normal market values. The low financing offered by GM, Ford, and Daimler-Chrysler mesmerized so many buyers that far fewer shoppers even bothered looking at pre-owned 2007 models.

How does 0% financing on a new model do in a heads-up comparison to a pre-owned 2007 model? In the instance of the Buick LaCrosse, financing \$21,980 plus tax vs. \$9995 plus tax, the payments on the new car at 0% interest would be \$392 monthly for 60 months, but only \$269 monthly at 5.9% for 60 months on the program model. With the prime at a record low, today's interest rates are very competitive. Many credit unions charge under 6% for auto loans if the applicant has a good credit rating. And when purchasing the used 2007, don't forget that you'll be saving about an additional \$1,000 in sales tax and licensing fees. (Taxes estimated at an average of 6%).

John Rogin Buick sold over 150 Buick LaCrosse & Pontiac Grand Prix's in the first 30 days of their sale.

A "program" car is a vehicle that has been leased by a premium rental company through a special "program" from the manufacturer. Strict maintenance is required, and all vehicles are carefully inspected upon return. In many cases, these program units receive better maintenance than vehicles owned by private owners.

John Rogin Buick-Livonia has long been known as Michigan's "bargain hunting" dealer. Currently, they're selling more 2007 Pontiac Grand Prix's than any

other dealer in the nation. (Over 150 Pontiacs & Buicks were sold during the first 30 days of their sale.) Last year, they sold the most pre-owned 2006 Impalas and Pontiac Grand AMs in the nation from their single location. And the year before they set the sales record selling the most off-lease GMC Yukons and pick-ups.

Today's real bargain can be found at John Rogin in the pre-owned 2007 vehicles. The low financing on new 2007's has left the used models unnoticed and overlooked. So, with far fewer dealers purchasing these units, the prices have dropped to record lows.

So, once again, John Rogin has gone shopping for the vehicles with a huge cart. They have just made a multi-million dollar purchase of these units from General Motors, bringing in truckload after truckload from



Bargains abound in pre-owned 2007 program vehicles all with 100,000 mile warranty.

across the country. In addition to filling their giant used car facility to the brim, John Rogin had to lease additional storage lots to accommodate their massive acquisition of vehicles. And they currently stock the largest

inventory of 2007 program cars in Michigan with a 100,000 mile warranty.

The purpose of 0% financing is to clear out the remaining new 2007's. In another week or two, these vehicles will all be gone,

along with the incentives. In the meantime, the 2007 program vehicles are truly today's "sleeping" bargain... But they'll soon disappear as smart shoppers begin to "wake up" and recognize the real deals.

John Rogin Buick is located at 30500 Plymouth Road, between Middlebelt and Merriman in Livonia. Their used car superstore may be contacted directly at (734) 525-0900 Monday – Friday during normal business hours.

A Beautiful Buick

The 2001-2007 Buicks were the highest ranked Premium Midsize Car in J.D. Powers and Associates Initial Quality Study. This study was based on a total of over 64,900 consumer responses indicating owner reported problems during the first 90 days of ownership. Of those surveyed, Buick owners reported the fewest problems – An outstanding mark of excellence for superb workmanship and a prelude to the satisfaction yet to be experienced during the coming years.

Equipped with a powerful 175-horsepower V-6 boasting 20 mpg city and 29 mpg highway fuel economy, the Buick LaCrosse will capture your heart from the moment you slip behind the wheel. There won't be any need

for a salesperson to explain how to operate "all the buttons," because this LaCrosse will greet you like an old friend, or a comfortable pair of slippers. The cabin is exceedingly driver friendly, with all controls neatly laid out before you like an elegant table setting. And everything just seems to "fit."

The Buick LaCrosse still retains all the traditional value you've come to expect from Buick. From its luxurious well-appointed interior to the clean, flowing exterior design, LaCrosse makes a stylish impression.

The standard features provide evidence that the Buick still remains just one step down from the Cadillac in GM's lineup. Dual (driver and passenger side) heat and air conditioning controls, six-

position tilt steering wheel, cruise control, power windows, locks, and seats, remote key fobs operating doors and trunk, rear window defroster, plus a stereo system that will blow you away.

Children aren't forgotten with the rear seat upper and lower latch system for compatible child safety seats and rear door child security locks.

Four-wheel independent suspension provides for solid handling and the ride of a magic carpet.

Best of all, the new LaCrosse requires just a little more maintenance than a rock garden. 100,000 miles between spark plug changes. 100,000 mile transmission service intervals under normal driving conditions. "WOW".



See the 2007 Buick LaCrosse at John Rogin Buick in Livonia.

It's no wonder that John Rogin Buick-Livonia considers the pre-owned 2007 LaCrosse to be the most car they've ever been able to offer for the money. And for the past several weeks, they've silently amassed hundreds of these wonderful units from

throughout the country and brought them to Livonia. Best of all, today you can purchase a pre-owned 2007 LaCrosse from John Rogin for nearly half its original value of \$24,000 list price new. While they last.

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