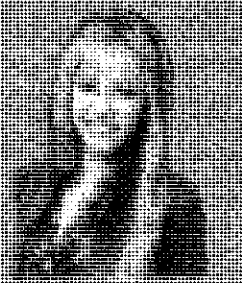


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November 22, 2007

WESTLAND Observer

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Suspects agree to delay hearing

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

Lawyers for Jean Pierre Orlewicz and Alexander Letkemann didn't have much to say Monday in 35th District Court, having been gagged by Judge Michael Gerou last week.

But the gag order Gerou signed Nov. 15 doesn't apply to the murder suspects' parents, and Peter Letkemann of Westland had plenty to say.

The teen murder suspects were making their first appearance in court since their Nov. 12 arraignment in Romulus on first-degree murder, felony murder and mutilation of a corpse charges. They were there to waive their right to a preliminary hearing within 14 days of being arraigned.

Orlewicz, 17, a Canton High School senior from Plymouth Township, and Letkemann, an 18-year-old former Churchill High School student from Westland, are charged in the murder of 26-year-old Daniel Sorensen of River Rouge. The preliminary exam was moved to Nov. 30.

In court Monday, defense lawyers said the delay in the preliminary hearing was necessary because "of discovery issues." Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Robert Moran told Gerou all discovery issues were being taken care of and would be settled well in advance of the Nov. 30 hearing.

Outside the courtroom Monday, Peter Letkemann said his son's lawyer, Raymond Cassar, fought the gag order.

"(Cassar) fought hard against the gag

order, fought for my right to continue to speak, and I will continue to speak," said the elder Letkemann, who has been a frequent voice in the media.

While saying people are coming forward with information following reports in the press, Letkemann acknowledged the media — including what he called "the blog-o-sphere" — is also contributing to discussion, both positive and negative, about his son.

"I hear things about Alex floating around ... people are going to say things," said Letkemann, who declined to be more specific. "This case isn't going to be tried in the press, but the character of the people involved is being tried right now."

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



DETROIT NEWS POOL PHOTO

Murder suspects Jean Pierre Orlewicz (left) and Alexander Letkemann appeared in 35th District Court in Plymouth Monday to waive the 14-day requirement to hold a preliminary hearing. The hearing was rescheduled for Nov. 30. Orlewicz defense attorney James Thomas is to the left; Letkemann's attorney, Raymond Cassar, is to the right.



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Elliott Elementary School first-grader Dajon Tatum's eyes tell it all as he gets ready to eat at the Thanksgiving feast. The youngster ate sweet potatoes with marshmallows and enjoyed his first ever bite of pumpkin pie.

History comes alive at 1st-grade feast

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

First-graders at Elliott Elementary School took a step back in time Monday, donning Pilgrim hats and bonnets and sitting down to a Thanksgiving feast.

There was turkey with all the trimmings and pumpkin pie and a moment of silence to think about what they are thankful for this season.

That wasn't a hard thing to ponder for Dajon Tatum.

"I'm thankful for my family because they take care of me," he said, digging into a second helping of sweet potatoes.

The sentiment was shared by Brooklyn Taylor. "It's my mom because she gives me food and she takes care of me," she said.

Moms and dads and family were at the top of the thankful for list for most of the youngsters who enjoyed the meal, prepared and served by their teachers and parents.

The celebration was the culmination of the youngsters' studies about the Pilgrims and their settling in America. With the help of their teachers — Susan England, Rachel Garhart,



First-grade teacher — and 'chief' — Jennifer Kassem scoops out some gravy for 'Pilgrims' Xiczel Ponczdeleon (from left), Jamie Ratcliff and Joshua Gohr.

Please see FEAST, A2

Target's buying policy hampers Goodfellows

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A dismayed Westland Goodfellows volunteer was turned down by the local Target store Tuesday when she tried to buy 15 of the same toys to give to needy children for Christmas.

Melanie Benson, the nonprofit group's toy chairwoman, was allowed to buy only two of the popular Disney Princess Talking Cash Registers at the Warren Road store, where the item was on sale for \$15 each.

"I thought it was ridiculous. They still had a huge supply on the shelf," she said, adding that she told a store manager she was with Goodfellows.

Store personnel referred the *Observer* to company headquarters in Minneapolis, where spokesman Joshua Thomas said Target places buying restrictions on "hot products" to accommodate a broad demand from its customers.

"Target — as do other retailers — reserves the right to limit the amount

of or the quantity of certain products that a guest is able to buy simply to ensure that all guests have the opportunity to purchase certain products," Thomas said.

Westland Goodfellows volunteers each year raise thousands of dollars for their "No Child Without A Christmas" campaign. Last year, the organization helped more than 600 needy children, and demand is expected to increase this season amid economic woes that have cost many families their jobs and even their homes.

With companies in fierce competition for holiday dollars, Benson questioned why Target would slam the cash drawer shut — especially to a charitable organization — when it had many of the Disney Princess Talking Cash Registers in stock.

Thomas stressed that Target isn't hostile to charity. Rather, he said Target has turned over 5 percent of

Please see TOYS, A2

Open house airs plan for Ford makeover

Westland residents can find out about changes along Ford between Central City Parkway and Wayne Road — and give their own ideas — at an open house Tuesday, Nov. 27.

The Downtown Development Authority has requested the open house, or design charrette for the Ford corridor, considered the city's most traveled thoroughfare. The charrette will be 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 27, at the senior Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh, just south of Ford.

The DDA is holding the charrette to discuss plans for the corridor's redevelopment.

"This project is not only about upgrading the appearance of Ford Road, but it is also about providing a greater variety of quality goods and services for our residents and patrons," said Westland Mayor William R. Wild. "This design charrette is an integral part of making that happen."

In August, the DDA selected planning firm McKenna & Associates to

develop a design concept to revitalize the DDA's target area of Ford Road between Central City Parkway and Wayne Road. The open house is the next step in the preparation of the Redevelopment Plan and Design Study, which includes project initiation and an evaluation of existing conditions — previous reports, maps, and data and market analysis with an economic development strategy.

The ultimate goal is to improve the district from a visual standpoint as well as serving to enhance the quality of services for shoppers, residents and visitors.

In addition to residents' comment, key civic spaces and future architectural design components will also be discussed at the open house. Pizza and beverages will be provided beginning at 6 p.m.

People planning to attend can reserve a seat by calling Bill Caya, economic development director, at (734) 467-3264 or by e-mail at econdev@cityofwestland.com.

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Coming Sunday
in Health



Study offers hope to fibromyalgia patients

FEAST

FROM PAGE A1

Lindsay Barratt and Jennifer Kassem — they made the hats and bonnets to dress for dinner, served on tables in the hallway outside the four classrooms.

The teachers also dressed for the occasion in paper Indian garb and feathered headbands. They cooked two 24-pound turkeys, made the pumpkin pies and a green bean casserole. Parents provided the other side dishes — macaroni and cheese, sweet potatoes, rolls, mashed potatoes and gravy, cranberry sauce and corn — and the supplies. They also volunteered their time setting up and serving the meal.

"It's been a lot of fun, the only thing I'm not looking forward to is the cleanup," said Eddie Hamilton who as the "gravy guy," walked up and down the

table with a ladle and pitcher of gravy. "I like coming and helping out a school. It keeps kids involved in school and they like it more."

Enjoying the meal was his son, Keegan, who gave thumbs up for turkey, his "favorite." "These parents have been here since 8:15 this morning," said Principal Johnnie Summerville. "That's so nice. It really helps them understand some of the things they've talked about in social studies."

According to Summerville, the feast was the idea of veteran teacher England who approached the other teachers about it. They agreed, and the feast was born.

"We've done it before, but this is the first time they've brought it out of the classroom," said Summerville. "They seem to be enjoying the feast."

"This is a first for us, we'll probably make it a tradition," added England. "We've had

more fun with it." "It's been wonderful, it's been quite an experience," added Barratt. "It's been a lot of fun to see them dress up as Pilgrims."

One youngster posed a question to his dinner companions: "What if we have this everyday?" There were plenty of words of agreement, but Barratt saw a slight problem. "Their eyes are much bigger than their tummies," she said. "We may have a few tummy aches later."

Watching the youngsters eat their way through slices of pumpkin pie, Summerville asked what they were thankful for this Thanksgiving. At the top of the list were moms and dads and parents.

"It's good you're thankful for your mom and dad and your family," she said. "Happy Thanksgiving and be sure to let your family know you're thankful for them."

Students' feast helps feed families

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Chef Tony Paquette was looking for a different way to do the annual Thanksgiving buffet served by his culinary arts students at the Café Marquette, so he decided to invite a few friends to come and eat.

Little did they know that when they arrived last Friday for the lavish feast they would be helping provide Thanksgiving dinners to needy families living in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools district.

"The whole thing was spur of the moment," said Paquette. "We usually do a Thanksgiving buffet, but this year, I wanted to take it up a couple of notches."

Paquette's guests included city and school officials as well as people who are regulars at the student restaurant housed in the William D. Ford Career Technical Center. In exchange for a sumptuous meal, they dropped cash and checks into a fish bowl destined for the district's Family Resource Center.

The center is working with the Westland Meijer to provide the fully cooked meals. Each meal serves a family of four and costs \$35.

"Not a lot of agencies help families at Thanksgiving, they tend to think more about



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wayne Memorial High School senior Nova Connolly carves and serves turkey. Behind is Johnathan Kelsey, a senior at John Glenn High School.

Christmas," said center director Maria Mitter. "Last year we provided for 45 families, and helped 34 families before this event."

Paquette's students spent the better part of the week preparing food for the meal. There was a buffet table loaded with everything Thanksgiving and food stations where students served Bananas Foster, salads, potatoes, omelets and waffles. In the center of the room, were an hors d'oeuvres table filled with fresh fruit, sushi and cold shrimp and one filled with French pastries.

"I think it's good what they're doing with the proceeds to help the Resource Center," said Kathy Makino. "I'm definitely making a donation, I brought a check along."

Housed in Lincoln Elementary School, the Resource Center provides referrals for services. Demand for assistance is up, said Mitter, who receives "five-10 calls a day" from people in need of food. She has forwarded individuals to the Bolde Food Depot at St. Mary's Church in Wayne and to area churches and the Salvation Army to get help.

"I'm at my max for families," said Mitter. "The need far exceeds what we're able to provide."

The culinary arts students for the past two years have made



Joe Hawrylak (left) and Deborah Coleman of Livonia fill their plate with turkey and the trimmings at the main buffet table at the culinary arts program's Thanksgiving buffet.

apple pies for the Thanksgiving dinners, but Paquette decided to bring them out of the kitchen and put them out in front of guests.

"I always try to do something on the edge," said Paquette. "I think I'll do more of these, people really like them."

Deborah Coleman of Livonia agrees.

"It's very well done," she said. "It's something the kids can be proud of."

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TOYS

FROM PAGE A1

its income to communities it serves since the company was started in 1962. With 1,591 stores in 47 states, he said, that amounts to \$3 million a week.

Moreover, Target's most recent sales paper indicated that part of the money from the sale of certain holiday ornaments will be given to such charities as St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, The Breast Cancer Research Foundation, The Salvation Army and Kids in Need, among others.

But Benson said the children

helped by Goodfellows are in need, too, and she was disappointed that a local business only let her buy two of the toy cash registers. She did buy them, but she faced the task of making alternate arrangements for others — possibly losing out on sale prices and draining more from the Goodfellows' limited coffers.

Not only Target, but some other retailers have placed limits on the sale of merchandise to avoid scams in which people buy in bulk and try to sell products for a profit at places like eBay online.

Thomas said the company's policy of placing restrictions on the sale of certain items is posted in its stores, in its sales

papers and on its Web site. He said the number of items that a customer can buy depends on the popularity of merchandise.

Thomas pledged to talk with the Westland store's management to underscore the importance of effectively communicating the company's policies to customers like Benson.

Nonetheless, Benson's husband, Westland police Sgt. Chris Benson, said the Westland Toys 'R' Us store has often sold toys in bulk to his wife when she shops for needy children.

"They bend over backwards for her at the Toys 'R' Us store," he said.

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Sealed bids for Wayne-Westland Community Schools' Bid Package #23,

Consisting of Media Center
Additions to: Edison Elementary
Patchin Elementary
Schweitzer Elementary

will be received until **1:30 P.M. local time on Thursday, December 6, 2007** at which time they will be opened and read publicly at Wayne-Westland Community School Board of Education Office, located at 36745 Marquette, Westland, Michigan 48185. Bids received after this time and date will be returned unopened.

Faxed proposals will not be accepted.

This Bid Package will consist of a separate sealed bid for the following Bid Divisions:

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 101 Earthwork / Site Utilities | 114 Aluminum Glass & Glazing |
| 103 Selective Demolition | 115 Metal Studs, Drywall, & EIFS |
| 104 Concrete Footings & Foundations | 117 Acoustical Treatments |
| 105 Concrete Flatwork | 118 Carpet / Resilient Flooring |
| 106 Masonry | 120 Painting |
| 107 Structural Steel | 122 Signage |
| 108 Carpentry & General Trades | 128 Casework |
| 109 Roofing | 130 Window Treatments |
| 110 Manufactured Wall Panel Systems | 140 Plumbing |
| 112 Caulking | 142 HVAC |
| 113 Hollow Metal / Wood Doors / Finish Hardware (Supply) | 143 Electrical |
| | 148 Landscaping |
| | 149 Temporary Fencing |

Bidding documents prepared by **TMP Associates, Inc.** will be available for public inspection at the office of the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith, Inc.**, 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI 48335; the FW Dodge Plan Room, Southfield; the Construction Association of Michigan Plan Room, Bloomfield Hills; and the Daily Construction Reports Plan Room, Detroit.

Bidders may obtain one (1) set of bidding documents, beginning at 10:00 A.M. Monday, November 19, 2007, by contacting the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith, Inc.**, at (248) 427-8400. Additional plans may be ordered and purchased directly from Dunn Blue Reprographics Technology, (248) 353-2950. Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope supplied by the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith, Inc.** The bid division(s) being bid is/are to be identified on the outside of the envelope.

There will be a pre-bid meeting at 9:30 am on Tuesday, November 27, 2007 at the Patchin Elementary School Media Center located at 6420 Newburgh, Westland, MI 48185. The purpose of the meeting will be to review the project sites and to answer any questions that bidders may have. **Bidders are strongly encouraged to attend.**

A sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship existing between the bidder and any member of the school board, school superintendents, or chief executive must accompany each bid. A board shall not accept a bid that does not include this statement. This statement is on the proposal execution form.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a Bid Bond in the amount of five (5) percent of the amount of the bid, payable to Wayne-Westland Community Schools, as a guarantee that if the proposal is accepted, the bidder will execute the contract and file the required bonds within ten (10) days after notice of award of contract.

If awarded a contract, the successful bidder will be required to furnish a Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond. Wayne-Westland Community Schools reserve the right to reject any or all bids received and to waive any informalities and irregularities in the bidding.

This project is to be bid at the prevailing wage rate.

Publish: November 18 & 22, 2007

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AROUND WESTLAND

Cards for troops

The Westland Jaycees will be at Westland Shopping Center 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, Nov. 23 to collect Christmas cards for U.S. troops. The group will have cards to sign, and it also will welcome cards brought in. Anyone bringing cards need not worry about addressing them or putting postage on them. The Jaycees will cover shipping costs.

The goal is to send out 500 cards. Anyone who wants to help but can't make it to the mall may send a signed card in an envelope to Westland Jaycees, P.O. Box 85191, Westland, MI, 48185 or call the Jaycees hotline at (734) 226-0400.

Tree-lighting event

The city of Westland's annual tree-lighting ceremony is scheduled for 6:15 p.m. Monday, Dec. 3, in front of Westland City Hall. The public is invited. The event will include the singing of Christmas carols, a visit by Santa Claus and the turning on of holiday lights on City

Hall grounds. Afterward, children may go next door to Fire Station No. 1 for treats and to visit with Santa.

Essay contest

The city is asking students in kindergarten through fifth grade to enter an essay contest and write "What Christmas Means To Me." Winners will be chosen to receive a Chase Bank savings bond and to be special guests of Mayor William Wild during the city's annual tree-lighting ceremony at 6:15 p.m. Monday, Dec. 3, in front of City Hall on Ford Road.

All essay entries must be received by the mayor's office or the Bailey Recreation Center by Monday, Nov. 26. For more information call (734) 722-7620.

Christmas concert

To prove it's cool with street slang, the Westland public library has announced a Christmas concert by saying "the library is kickin' it old school — really old school."

In fact, the library plans to party like it's the year 1230.

The Cynnabar Collegium

Musicum, an 11-voice choir, will perform Medieval seasonal music at the library at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2, in the Faust Room.

"Those Medieval Homeboys, The Cynnabar Collegium Musicum, are rockin' da house with happenin' tunes from the 13th through the 17th century," according to a library poster.

Translation: Feel free to stop by for what is expected to be a good, holiday concert.

For more information call (734) 326-6123.

Friends Day

Join the members of Lutheran Church of Our Saviour at 10 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 25, for the church's Friends and Family Day. There will be worship, food and fellowship. The church is at 29425 Annapolis, Westland. For more information, call (734) 728-3440.

Win a truck

The Westland Community Foundation and police officers plan to assist local families. Purchase a ticket to a raffle, sponsored by the Westland Community Foundation,

the Westland Police Officers Association and the Westland Lieutenants and Sergeants Association, and you could win a two-year lease of a 2008 Ford F-150 pick-up truck from Jack Demmer Ford or \$7,000 cash.

Tickets are \$100 and only 175 will be sold. The money raised will benefit families within the Westland community.

The drawing will be held at the Westland Community Foundation's annual Holiday Event at 7:30 p.m. in the Media Center of John Glenn High School, 36105 Marquette, between Wayne Road and Newburgh, Westland.

For more information, please call (734) 595-7727.

Christmas dinner

Former Wayne County General Hospital employees and retirees will gather for a Christmas dinner 5-9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 4, at the Golden

Corral, 37101 Warren.

Card parties

St. Bernardine Men's Club is sponsoring Friday night euchre/pinochle card parties. Players do not need a partner. Snacks, soft drinks, cash prizes are included in the \$5 admission. A 50/50 raffle also will be available. The card parties are scheduled for Nov. 30, Dec. 7 and 14, Jan. 4 and 18, Feb. 1, March 28, and April 14 and 18. Doors open at 7 p.m., card playing starts at 7:30 p.m. The church is at 31462 Ann Arbor Trail at Merriman in Westland. For more information, call (734) 427-5150.

Toy drive

A Goodfellows toy drive will run Nov. 23 through Dec. 21 by Century 21 Castelli at 1812 Middebelt south of Ford, said Barb Carreon-Haworth. New, unwrapped toys may be dropped off at the office. For more information call Carreon-

Haworth at (734) 644-2402.

Voter cards

Voters who cast ballots at Hayes Elementary School will be receiving new voter identification cards in the mail. In the past, the cards have noted that the school is located on Louise Court. It's actually on Louise Street. A voter brought the discrepancy to City Clerk Eileen DeHart's attention, and in the spirit of accuracy her office has made the changes.

Goodfellows drive

Westland Goodfellows will have its annual newspaper fund-raiser the Friday after Thanksgiving. Volunteers will distribute papers for donations at various intersections. All proceeds will be used for this year's No Child Without a Christmas campaign. For more information about Goodfellows, log on to www.westlandgoodfellows.org

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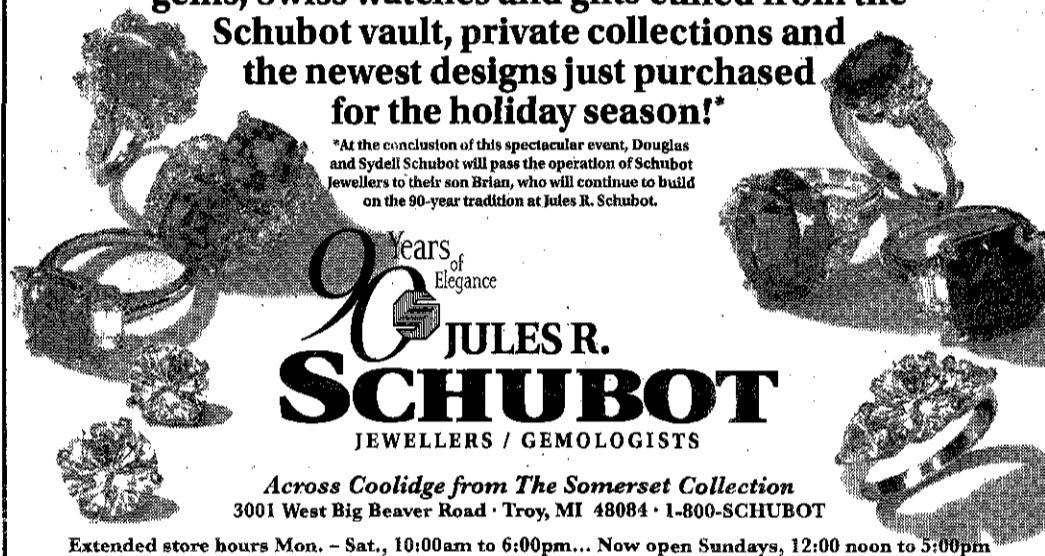
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Friday, November 23

through

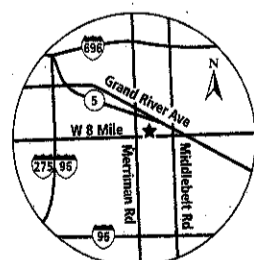
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OE0871826

Westland teen is 200th student to enroll in 1-of-a-kind program

Westland freshman has become the 200th student to sign up for Central Michigan University's leadership minor, a first of its kind at a public university in Michigan.

Blaise Badynee, the daughter of Deborah and Christopher Badynee, is majoring in Spanish for secondary education, with a second minor in dance education. Her career plans include becoming a high school Spanish teacher. She expects her newly signed minor will have a significant impact on her future.

"Since teachers are the leaders of their classroom, the leadership minor will help me be the best teacher I can be," she said.

During her first few months at CMU, Badynee, an honors student, also has been involved in the Honors Outreach Network, Infusion Dance Team and Larzelere Hall Council.

CMU's leadership minor coordinator Eric Buschlen says students who pursue the minor have a variety of educational backgrounds and career aspirations.

"What the leadership minor does is focus on the student and their success," said Buschlen, a faculty member in the recreation, parks and leisure services administration



Blaise Badynee made history at Central Michigan University as the 200th student to enroll in its leadership program.

department. "It offers a strong road map for students to follow and work toward a goal of creating and articulating a personal leadership mission statement."

CMU began offering the 24-credit, interdisciplinary program in the fall of 2006. Buschlen said he believes that the minor may be a popular choice due to CMU's focus on creating strong student leaders.

"I really think that leadership is the backbone of this university, and students are finding that vision," he said.

The minor includes both

coursework and practical experience working with a leader in the field. Students take courses in leadership theories and applications, ethics and communication. In addition, they can choose three electives, one from each in the areas of human behavior and development, interpersonal and group interaction and leadership in a social, political or historical context.

For more information on the leadership minor, visit the CMU Web site at www.cmich.edu/cmulead/minor.htm or call Buschlen at (989) 774-1939.

Parks and Rec cleaning policies updated

The Westland Parks and Recreation Department has updated its cleaning policies at three of the city's most popular buildings — the Bailey Recreation Center, the Mike Modano Ice Arena and the city golf course facility.

Employees at all three buildings are now disinfecting with Steriphene and Non-Acid Disinfectant Bathroom Cleaner in an effort to guard against the growth of Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus bacteria, also known as MRSA.

Both products are known to be among the most effective in fighting the spread of MRSA, which has made some people

sick in other communities.

"While there have been no cases of MRSA at any of our city buildings, we feel it is important to be proactive," Westland Mayor William Wild said in a prepared statement. "The safety of our residents is of utmost importance when they utilize these facilities."

Both cleaning products are now used three times daily during restroom cleanings at the three city facilities.

The parks and recreation department also is looking into the possible installation of sensor-activated faucets and soap dispensers at the Mike Modano Ice Arena and the Westland

Municipal Golf Course. The technology, which eliminates the need for customers to touch any valves, has already been installed inside the restrooms of the Bailey Recreation Center.

Although the outdoor golf season drew to a close earlier this month, the golf course's three indoor golf simulators continue to draw golfers inside. Similarly, the Mike Modano Ice Arena sees an increased amount of skaters during the cooler months and the Bailey Center continues to host a wide variety of athletic and recreational programs for residents of all ages.

Red Hat Society

Older women ready to strut their stuff at parade

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
CORRESPONDENT

Instead of donning the demure part of an aging woman, members of the Red Hat Society vow to be outrageous and these ladies, 50 and older from all over metro Detroit, will strut their stuff proclaiming their enthusiastic mantra to have fun during Detroit's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

You might have caught a glimpse of the women practicing their parade dance Friday evenings outside Livonia Mall with their big red hats and purple outfits. They know the colors don't match. In fact, they say they've reached an age where the rules they held onto so steadfastly in their youth no longer have meaning.

"We believe silliness is the comedy relief of life, and since we are all in it together, we might as well join red-gloved hands and go for the gusto together," according to the Red Hat Society Web site, www.redhatsociety.com. "Underneath the frivolity, we share a bond of affection, forged by common life experiences and a genuine enthusiasm for wherever life takes us next."

The average age of Red Hatter members is 60 and some boast birthdays in their 90s.

"We're making 50 and over a plus," said Marsha Hawkins, a member of a Red Hatters group in Westland called Golden Girls of Golden Bands of Westland. "In our society age is not a good thing: Old is bad and young is good. People who watch us say, 'Maybe, old isn't so bad.' It's a fun thing. It's just our time."

LADIES IN WAITING

Pink hatters are members who are under 50 and are said to be pining for the day they reach half a century and can become full-fledged Red Hatters. The younger set are set apart by their pink hats and lavender clothes.

They come from Redford, Canton, Plymouth, Garden



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Red Hat Ladies Juanita Flowers, Norma Dean, Barbara DuBose, Lorraine Richardson, Silvia Lewis, Diane Baker, Joan Schott, Carol Norwood, Donna Regis, and Brenda Scott practice the "Queen Wave."

City, Westland, Novi, Southfield and as far away as Port Huron and Canada to practice their Thanksgiving Day parade dance. They're from different chapters of the Red Hat Society and they all follow the same rule, "There are no rules."

At Livonia Mall, they find hot tea, coffee and cookies inside The Product Shop, a specialty gift boutique that also specializes in Red Hat paraphernalia on the far west corner of the mall near Value City. The back rooms of The Product Shop, and even the bathrooms, are decorated appropriately in red and purple and pink and lavender for Red Hatter meetings that draw between 1,000 to 2,000 women every month.

"I'm old enough to do whatever I want, when I want," said Carol Norwood, a Canton resident and member of a Red Hatter's group in Plymouth. "If we want to eat dessert first, that's OK, too."

It's a forum, really, for women of age to meet other women. They go on outings, make friends and their sole purpose is to have fun.

"It's all about each other," said Donna Regis a Red Hatter from Canton.

The Red Hatters offer women "a whole new life," said Lois Drafts, 71, a partner in The Product Shop.

Brenda Scott, a Pink Hatter, who owns the shop with five partners, sees thousands of Red Hatters monthly and she says they have one thing in common: They're ladies who like to enjoy life.

Lori Bayer, a member of a Red Hatters chapter called Luscious Lovely Livonia Ladies, says their sole goal is "to have fun."

"We represent senior ladies out for a good time," she said. Barbara Smith-Dawson,

owner of Golden Bands Wedding Chapel in Plymouth, started a Red Hatters chapter shortly after she started her business three years ago. Women who launch new chapters are referred to as Queen.

"I wanted to be surrounded by women of wisdom," said Smith-Dawson. Smith-Dawson says she loves being with a group of women who "can't wait to be 50."

The Queen Mother, Sue Ellen Cooper of Fullerton, Calif., started what would become an international craze in 1998 when she sent a friend a red hat for her 55th birthday. As of October 2006 there are about 1.5 million registered Red Hatter members in over 40,000 chapters in the United States and 30 other countries.

Red Hatters have a financial voice, too, with discounts for travel, sports and dining. Members also buy Red Hat Society-authored books, use Red Hat Society credit cards and attract the attention of a growing cadre of corporate sponsors.

"We see this group as an opportunity for those who have shouldered various responsibilities at home and in the community their whole lives, to say goodbye to burdensome responsibilities and obligations for a little while," according to the Red Hatters Web site.

They live by the refrain of the Red Hat Society theme song by Mike Harline, "All my life, I've done for you. Now it's my turn to do for me."

The society takes its name from the opening lines of the poem, "Warning" by Jenny Joseph, which starts: "When I am an old woman I shall wear purple With a red hat that doesn't go and doesn't suit me."

To find a Red Hatter's chapter near you, visit www.redhatsociety.com.

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Kudos: YWCA recognizes Women of Achievement winners

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

An incredible group of women stepped on stage to accept Achievement Awards presented by the YWCA of Western Wayne County during a luncheon Friday at The Dearborn Inn.

Giving best describes the honorees selected by the YWCA of Western Wayne County. From the youngest winner, Megan Knuth of Livonia, to Woman of the Year, Carolyn Clifford of Farmington Hills, each of their lives were inspiring.

About 350 men and women guests watched Knuth accept the YWCA's Young Woman of Achievement Award at the luncheon now in its 16th year. Knuth was one of eight women who accepted awards. Marilyn Hubbard received Business Leadership, Jennifer Giering for Law and Government, and Isabelle Behm for Leadership.

"I just try to help everyone I can so they can get by," said Megan Knuth, a senior at Divine Child High School. "I'll do anything to help other people. It's not just about giving charity but helping."

In addition to volunteering at school, Knuth devoted time to projects for a abused women's shelter and Nazareth Farm, a Catholic community of volunteers trying to eliminate sub-standard housing in West Virginia. When the National Honor Society student isn't dry walling a house and installing floors, she serves as secretary of her school's medical club, attends meetings of the Latin Club which she started, or is busy applying to various colleges.

"They called me at home to tell me the news," said Knuth. "I was excited because I was recognized for all the work I've been able to do."

Ashlee Baracy was about to go on to the national level of the Junior Miss pageant when her mother was diagnosed with Stage Three breast cancer. Then a senior in high school, Baracy devoted countless hours to researching the disease. Now she's starting a Web site, www.bedaugh-

ters.com to help other young women. Her mother is in her fourth year of remission.

Baracy was awarded the YWCA's Young Professional Woman of Achievement. The 22-year-old Westland woman is currently serving as Miss Wayne County. Along with being crowned Junior Miss of Wayne-Westland and 2003 Junior Miss of Michigan (a scholarship program for senior high school girls), she won Miss Washtenaw County while a student at the University of Michigan.

Like all of the award winners, Baracy will mentor a college student for the next year. "It's an absolute honor to know I impacted someone's life," said Baracy.

Marjorie Sorge says there "comes a time when you can give back." Now that the Livonia woman's children are grown she is not only able to serve on boards, but participate in a number of volunteer activities. Sorge is vice president of corporate communication for Metaldyne in Plymouth. She received the Arts & Communication Woman of the Year award.

"I'm very grateful and very humble. It's a great group of women to be part of," said Sorge.

Cheryl Phillips-Thill is devoted to a number of causes. She promotes breast cancer awareness and domestic violence programs as part of the board of the Oakwood Healthcare System Foundation and animal welfare through the Michigan Humane Society. Director of corporate purchasing for Masco Corp., she was named Dedicated Volunteer by the YWCA.

"It was a total surprise. I'm honored to be here," said Phillips-Thill of Northville. She received her undergraduate degree from Madonna University in Livonia. "I get a great personal sense of satisfaction from volunteering, anything I can do to touch one person."

Janet Carter says the more that is known about the Women of Achievement, the more fitting it is to honor them. Carter is serving her



Ashlee Baracy, at right, speaks with Julie Daniels. Baracy was awarded the YWCA's Young Professional Woman of Achievement award.

fourth year as a YWCA board member.

"What these women have done is inspirational for people to get involved," said Carter of Westland. "The Y is so very much about women. It's involved with domestic violence and the Head Start

Program (a free preschool program to provide a learning environment for children's individual and group needs including disabilities)."

During the program Karen Murphy, the CEO of the YWCA of Western Wayne County, spoke about the

YWCA goal to eliminate racism and empower women.

"The Y is a support group. You can take inspiration from any of the individuals," said Judith A. Quinn, the 2003 winner of the Woman of Business & Industry award and a former YWCA board member.

Quinn was the first woman member of the Association of Iron & Steel Engineers, now the Association for Iron & Steel Technology. A representative for American Steel Works in Riverview, Quinn is a former Livonia resident now living in Belleville.

Native Detroitter Carolyn Clifford talked about the "Sheroes" she looks up to - Rosa Parks, Oprah, Hillary Rodham Clinton, Condoleezza Rice, Gov. Jennifer Granholm, and Clifford's mother Beatrice who was abused by Carolyn's father but went on to start her own business.

Clifford co-anchors the 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. news for WXYZ-TV 7. A mother of four children, Clifford grew up the youngest of nine siblings.

Twenty years ago her mother adopted an abused 3-year-old girl, setting a strong, giving example for her to follow. And she did. Two years ago Clifford started a ladies night out that turned into LIFT (Ladies Inspiring Friendship and Trust) which has coordinated several projects to help women and children who are less fortunate.

Clifford told a story of her father going to church on Sunday while her mother stayed home because she was covered with bruises. Today Beatrice lives with Clifford and cares for her step-father who has Alzheimer's.

"Every 15 minutes a woman is beaten in America," said Carolyn Clifford as part of her keynote speech.

At the end of Clifford's speech the veteran reporter choked up and at least one other woman was seen wiping tears from her eyes.

These are the women who inspire others.

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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

Blood Drive
St. Damian Church, 30055 Joy, Westland, will be holding an American Red Cross blood drive 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2, in the Community Room. Call (734) 421-6130 to make an appointment. Walk-ins are also welcome.

New Year's Eve party
Ring in the New Year with Jimmy Howard & Company at a New Year's Party at the Livonia Elks, 31117 Plymouth Road in Livonia Monday, Dec. 30. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; party goes until 1 a.m. Dinner (oven-baked chicken and port tenderloin) served at 7:15 p.m. Tickets are \$60 per person. Due to the Christmas holiday, tickets must be purchased by Dec. 19. For more information, call Linda at (734) 507-9173 or Mary Ann at (734) 654-0115, or e-mail parties.2go@yahoo.com

Railroadiana
The Ss. Simon and Jude Ushers Club will sponsor a buy-and swap toys and trains show noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2, at the church hall, 32500 Palmer west of Merriman, Westland. Admission is \$2 per person, \$4 per family. Food is available and parking is free. There will be operating train layouts of various gauges and more 150 dealer tables. Tables are \$10 per table. Reserve tables by calling (734) 595-8327. Dealer setup is at 9 a.m. the day of the show.

Charity Event
United Home Health Services, a not-for-profit home care agency, will hold its second annual Charity Event Saturday, Dec. 8, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton. The evening begins at 6:30 p.m. with a wine and cheese/dessert reception followed by a holiday concert by the Canton Concert Band at 7:30 p.m. Proceeds go to United's Patient Support Fund, which is used to provide home care to individuals who do not have medical insurance or whose needs go beyond the scope of insurance coverage. Tickets are \$35 and can be purchased by contacting Mary Jane Swanson at (734) 981-8820. Donations can also be sent United Home Health Services, 2200 Canton Center, Suite 250, Canton, MI 48187 or by visiting the Web site at www.uhhs.org.

Annual luncheon
In recognition of World AIDS Day,



Wish you were here

Members of the Bergman family from Garden City posed with the Garden City Observer while in Battery Park, enjoying the view of the Statue of Liberty. The family was in New York City, to celebrate the marriage of Rachel Bergman and David Massoni. 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 your photo.

the University of Michigan-Dearborn Women's Resource Center, Student Activities Office, and new student group Keep A Child Alive will host the second annual AIDS Awareness Luncheon noon to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 29. The theme will be "Get Educated; Get Tested; Get Real." Hear the life story of someone living with HIV. Get educated on the real facts about HIV/AIDS. Find out how to get tested and how to protect yourself. The event is free and open to the public. It will be held in Kochoff Hall C in the University Center on the main UM-Dearborn campus. Make reservations by calling the Women's Resource Center at (313) 583-6445 or e-mail at womensresourcecenter@umd.umich.edu by Monday, Nov. 26.

Higher Rock Cafe
The Wayne-Westland Salvation Army presents the Higher Rock Cafe the second and fourth Fridays of the month at its facility at 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer, Westland. Doors open at 8 p.m. Check it out on the Web at www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com or call (734) 722-3660.

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.

Fish Dial-A-Ride
One-day-a-month volunteer drivers are needed to transport seniors and disabled who are unable to drive to medical appointments. Phone messenger volunteers are also needed to help set up rides to the medical appointments. This is also a one-day-a-month opportunity that can be done right from home. People interested in helping can call Gary Simon at (734) 751-4101 or contact him by e-mail at GCHS.MCMLX@yahoo.com.

CRAFT SHOWS

Craft show
Vendors wanted for upcoming holiday craft show at Wayne Recreation Center at Howe and Annapolis in Wayne. The event will be 1-10 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 29. There are 25 available tables. People interested in reserving a spot can call (734) 595-1083.

FOR YOUR HEALTH

Advocacy group
The Wayne-Westland Alliance for the Mentally Ill, a self-help and advocacy group, meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Thursday of the month at St. John's Episcopal Church, 555 S. Wayne Road, at Bayview, Westland. Call (734) 362-8825.

Substance abuse support

A SAFE PLACE meets at 7 p.m. Thursdays in the Fellowship Hall at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City. A SAFE PLACE is based on the Alcoholics for Christ program. For more information, call Russ Weathers at (734) 422-1995.

Menopause & More
A Menopause & More support group for women meets 7-9 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month in Classroom 2 of the west addition of the Marian Women Center of St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. No registration is necessary, and the group is free of charge. Call (734) 655-1100. **Fibromyalgia**
The Great Lakes Fibromyalgia and CFS Association Support Group meets 1-3 p.m. the first Thursday of each month at Merriman Road Baptist Church on Merriman south of Ford. There are guest speakers and discussion on a variety of topics. There is no membership fee, however a small donation is greatly appreciated. For additional information, call Lucy Rowley at (734) 462-1768.

Counterpoint
Counterpoint Shelter and Crisis Center offers free counseling and respite services for people ages 10-17 and their families. For more information, call (734) 563-5005.

Toughlove
A Toughlove support group meets 7:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Northwest Wayne Skill Center, Ann Arbor Trail

between Merriman and Farmington roads. Newcomers welcome. Call (734) 261-7880 or (248) 380-7748.

VOLUNTEERS

Karmanos Institute
The Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute needs volunteers to transport cancer patients to mammogram and doctor appointments in metropolitan Detroit. Drivers are needed for Macomb and Oakland counties, Dearborn and Detroit. Volunteers must be at least 18. Mileage reimbursement is provided. Call (800) KARMANOS to volunteer.

First Step
First Step, which has been active in the effort to end domestic violence and sexual assault in western Wayne County and Downriver communities for more than 20 years, is looking for volunteers. Interested people must be at least 18, willing and able to travel to the Downriver area and complete a 55-hour training program. Call (734) 416-1111, Ext. 223.

Drivers
Volunteer drivers are needed to transport area residents to meetings of the Western Wayne Parkinson's Disease Support Group. The meetings take place 7-9 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month in the Livonia Senior Center, Farmington Road south of Five Mile. Drivers may be offered a stipend. Parkinson's patients, caregivers and others may attend the meetings. Call (734) 459-0216 or (734) 421-4208.

VNA Hospice
Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan's (VNA) hospice program needs volunteers to comfort and support patients at the end of life. Volunteers can provide companionship, write a memoir, provide respite for family or work as office support. A free 18-hour training program is provided at the VNA headquarters, 25900 Greenfield Road, Suite 600. Registration is required. (248) 967-8361 or visit www.vna.org.

Seasons Hospice
Seasons Hospice and Palliative Care is looking for volunteers to provide companionship to patients dealing with life limiting illness. No special skills, other than objectivity and compassion, are needed. Training provided. Volunteers are matched with patients in their own community. For more information please call Ruth at (800) 370-8592.

Literacy Council
The Community Literacy Council (CLC) is looking for volunteer tutors in Western Wayne County to help adults improve their reading, writing and communication skills. The CLC will provide training to interested volunteers. Previous experience or a

bachelor's degree is not required. The council will provide free training and materials, and then match you with an adult student in your area. Call (734) 416-4906 for more information.

Heartland Hospice
Heartland Hospice is looking for caring and dedicated people with an interest in serving terminally ill patients and their families in Washtenaw, western Wayne, Monroe and Livingston counties. Volunteers provide a variety of services including companionship, light housekeeping, errand running, grief support and clerical services. For more information, contact volunteer coordinator Candice Jones, (888) 973-1145.

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 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 2+ 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 at the 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.

Don't Miss the Perfect Pairing of **PANDORA Jewelry & Purses**

Saturday, November 24th
From 9:30 'til 6:00

Showroom of Elegance along with Vic's Mart and Rose Catering will be hosting a Pandora Jewelry and Designer-inspired Handbag & Accessories event. A Light Luncheon will be served by Rose Catering starting at 11:00 a.m.

Receive a Free Pandora Starter Bracelet from 9:30 a.m. -2:00 p.m.
Buy 4 Pandora Charms, and get the 5th FREE!



Pandora Jewelry...Build a Bracelet of Memories.
Design your bracelet from more than 300 individual beads to choose from—one for every unforgettable and charmed moment in your life. Inspired by the legend of Pandora's box, the Pandora Jewelry collection is dedicated to all women with hope and opportunity. Pandora Jewelry makes a great gift for Christmas, Graduation, birthday...any occasion!

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Vic's Mart specializes in everything to do with purses!

- Designer-inspired Handbags
- Purse Hangers
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- And More

We do not claim that our purses are exact replicas of the original designers. However, we provide you with an affordable way to stay fashion forward. If you don't want to splurge on a pricey designer purse in the latest style or color, but still want to be trendy, we have the answer for you!



Please bring in your non-perishables to benefit the Canton Goodfellows. NO LIMIT! For each item you donate, you will be entered in our Goodfellows drawing. The prize is a 42" Panasonic plasma TV --plus a Panasonic 1,000 watt home theatre sound system including wall mounting bracket, all cords and professional installation

Drawing will be held on 12-10-07. Winning number will be posted in the store so save your tickets—and good luck!

6018 Canton Center Rd.,
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Canton, MI 48187
Phone: 734.207.1906
ShowroomOfElegance.com

SHOWROOM OF
Elegance
FINE JEWELRY

Federal regulations protect investors from fraud

recently received a call from a nervous investor. Receiving calls from nervous investors — particularly with what has been happening in the market — is not unusual. However, what was different about this call was the caller wasn't concerned about market volatility, but the safety of his brokerage account.

The caller had an account at E-Trade and had just heard that because of the sub-prime market, E-Trade was taking substantial losses and there were stories that it would consider filing for bankruptcy. The concern was whether the account was protected if E-Trade went into bankruptcy. First, I have

no idea whether E-Trade will file for bankruptcy. That being said, I told the caller they virtually have nothing to worry about because if E-Trade did go into bankruptcy, the account would be protected. E-Trade, like all brokerage firms, is regulated by the Securities and Exchange Commission and has pretty stringent rules as to how it conducts business.

One rule deals with the separation of client investments vs. the company's monies. When you purchase a mutual fund or a stock through a brokerage house, like E-Trade, the brokerage house is acting as a custodian. The securities are not property of the brokerage house and are not subject to a creditors' attack in bankruptcy. In cases where a broker would run into financial difficulty, the brokerage account would remain intact.

When a brokerage house does begin running into financial difficulty prior to filing for bankruptcy, it would either merge or sell off pieces of the business. In most cases, a customer's account would be transferred intact to a new custodian. In addition, the client would have almost immediate access to trade on the account.

Another form of protection for investors is the Securities Investor Protection Corp.

(SIPC). Brokerage firms are required to belong to SIPC and this quasi-governmental entity protects investors from fraud. If securities in a client's account are mishandled, SIPC gets involved. Every brokerage account is insured up to a half-million dollars. In fact, many brokerage firms have additional insurance coverage. E-Trade's additional insurance is in excess of \$500 million.

SIPC is similar to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. (FDIC) for bank accounts. The FDIC is also a quasi-governmental entity that insures bank accounts up to \$100,000. In addition, for certain types of retirement accounts, there is \$250,000 of coverage.

Investors should know that the SIPC and the FDIC work for the benefit of investors.

A perfect example is what recently happened to NetBank, which had \$2 billion in assets and, at the end of February, closed its doors. The bank shut down on a Friday afternoon and by Sunday morning, depositors' accounts had been transferred to another financial institution and people had access to their money. Even during the transfer process, customers

had use of ATM machines. In addition, items such as direct deposits, account history and bill-paying features were also automatically transferred. Thus, the individual depositor was protected.

It would be nice if investors were protected from market volatility. They are not. However, investors can feel confident when dealing with a reputable firm that they are

protected from fraud and misappropriation of assets.

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



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

Kroger Shop Early!

SHOCKER SALE 4 Days Only!

Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday



24 Pack Pepsi Products

2\$10* for 10

2 Liter Pepsi Products

When You Buy 10 79¢* each

12 oz Cans All Varieties

WITH Plus

WITH Plus

Purchases less than or greater than 2 are 5.99 Each

Purchases less than or greater than 10 are 1.00 Each



Flat Iron Steak

3.97 lb

Whole Boneless Ribeye

4.99 lb

Flavorseal Ground Beef

1.56 lb

USDA Choice Beef Shoulder

USDA Select Beef Ribeye Value Pack Steaks 5.99 lb

USDA Inspected Ground Beef Sold in 5 lb Package for 7.78

COUPON SAVINGS

Limited Quantities! While Supplies Last!

SAVE 30% An Extra 30% on Fresh Holiday Greens

No Coupon Required

While Supplies Last, Limited to Stock on Hand, No Rainchecks. Limit 5 items per customer. 4 Days only November 22 through November 25, 2007

SAVE 15% An Extra 15% on All Housewares

With this Coupon

Includes Kitchen Appliances, Cookware, Bakeware, Dinnerware, Glassware, Flatware and Kitchen Gadgets. While Supplies Last, Limited to Stock on Hand, No Rainchecks. 4 Days only November 22 through November 25, 2007

SAVE 30% An Extra 30% on All Toys

With this Coupon

Choose from Electronic Learning Aids, Card & Board Games, Dolls, Handheld Electronic Games, Action Figures, Plush Animals, Playsets, Activity & Construction Sets, Die-Cast Cars and more. While Supplies Last, Limited to Stock on Hand, No Rainchecks. 4 Days only November 22 through November 25, 2007

SAVE 30% An Extra 30% on Indoor/Outdoor Christmas Décor

With this Coupon

Includes Trim A Tree, Novelty Décor, Lighting, and Artificial Greenery. While Supplies Last, Limited to Stock on Hand, No Rainchecks. Limit 5 items per customer. 4 Days only November 22 through November 25, 2007

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ADVERTISED ITEM POLICY: WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. Each of these advertised items is required to be available for sale. If we do run out of an advertised item, we will offer you your choice of a comparable item, when available, reflecting the same savings, or a raincheck which will entitle you to purchase the advertised item at the advertised price within 30 days. Only one vendor coupon will be accepted per item. Copyright 2007, The Kroger Company. No sales to dealers.

'Be a Santa' gathers gifts for seniors

Many seniors served through The Senior Alliance holiday meals program this Christmas will get gifts, too, thanks to the "Be a Santa to a Senior" program.

Sponsored by Home Instead Senior Care, "Be a Santa to a Senior" is a national non-profit program that provides gifts and companionship to socially isolated and lonely seniors. But in Wayne County, the local Home Instead Senior Care office is taking the program a step further by partnering with The Senior Alliance holiday meals program.

"We've purchased 250 holiday meal cards from The Senior Alliance and will be selling them from Friday, Nov. 23, until Christmas," said Glenna Yaroch, owner of Home Instead Senior Care in Livonia. "When you buy a holiday card from us, a gift will be delivered along with the meal to seniors on Christmas day."

This is the third year that Yaroch and her staff have partnered with The Senior Alliance, which will serve around 700 seniors this Christmas. This year, seniors will receive a first-aid kit.

"Home Instead Senior Care is the only group that approaches our holiday meals program this way," said Lori Vail, Senior Alliance program manager. "We appreciate their generous support and know how much the seniors love the gifts."

Selling meal cards not only helps the organization purchase meals, but helps support other programs throughout the year, said Vail. The Senior Alliance hopes to sell 3,000 cards so each

senior receives three or four holiday cards on Christmas day.

The holiday cards are only \$5. To purchase a card through the "Be a Santa to a Senior" program and ensure that seniors receive a gift, call Home Instead Senior Care at (734) 525-5300. For more information on the holiday meals program, call The Senior Alliance at (734) 727-2017.

"We see many older adults who have no one during this festive season and that makes for a very sad and lonely time," said Yaroch. "We're excited to work through The Senior Alliance to reach out to those who are usually overlooked during this special time of year."

Last year, 196,500 lonely seniors across North America received 312,500 gifts through the "Be a Santa to a Senior" program, which has become the largest gift-giving project of its kind for older adults. Home Instead Senior Care is the world's largest provider of comprehensive companionship and home care services for seniors.

While the best gift is time and companionship, heres' a few suggestions from Home Instead Senior Care in Livonia on gifts seniors can unwrap:

- Gift certificates and prepaid cards.
- Restaurants that deliver, home cleaning, professional caregiver and handyman services, manicures and pedicures, hair salons, book stores, grocery stores, art, craft or exercise classes, movie rentals or telephone cards.
- Handy tools, night light or reading light, jar opener, auto-

matic timer, weather radio, large button TV remote, doorknob extender, magnifier, reacher/grabber, wireless TV headphones or easy-to-read watch or clock.

- Gifts for comfort slippers or slipper socks, pillows, flannel sheets, plush bath towels, cozy lap blankets, easy-on ponchos or capes, coats, mittens, boots, heating pad, armchair bag for remote, glasses and books, moisturizers, soaps or perfumes.

- Safety Automobile club membership, smoke and carbon monoxide detector, fire extinguisher, installed grab bars, first aid kit, auto emergency kit or exterior motion lights.

- High-tech hand-held electronic games like Scrabble, Sudoku and Battleship, video games like Nintendo Wii bowling and golf or Nintendo Brain Age, or a computer for e-mailing, sharing pictures, online shopping and searching the Internet.

- Just for fun magazine subscriptions, large-print books or books on tape, oversized playing cards, stationery and stamps, calendar, large print crossword puzzles, favorite candies or treats, favorite old movies or greeting cards.

- Restored family photos in albums or frames, home video with personalized family messages, a family memory book with pictures and personal notes, or a personalized calendar.

- Home bird feeder, wind chimes, window flower box, comfortable lawn chair, porch swing or glider, or a room makeover with a fresh coat of paint.



Under the sea

More than 680 guests took a fun-filled trip under the sea at Garden City Hospital's 16th annual fall fund-raiser, Neptune's Ball. Hospital staff Charles Liggins, Carol Bielaniec and her daughter Kori cam dressed for the event. Proceeds will benefit the hospital's state-of-the-art surgery center, which is scheduled to open in the summer of 2008.

Man charged in Canton bank robbery

Canton police officers arrested Daniel Girard Abbott, 51, of Livonia over the weekend in connection with the Friday bank robbery at the Charter One Bank in Canton.

Abbott was arraigned Sunday in Romulus on one count of bank robbery, a felony punishable up to life in prison, and one count of habitual second offender, a felony punishable by up to one and one-half times his robbery penalty.

Abbott was given a \$5,000 cash bond. His preliminary exam is scheduled for Nov. 30 at 35th District Court in Plymouth. After his arraignment, Abbott was turned over to the Wayne Police

Department in connection with similar charges in that community.

Multiple police agencies combined forces and arrested Abbott Friday afternoon just hours after the armed robbery at the Charter One Bank at Ford and Haggerty.

Abbott was identified by three people and was arrested at a motel in the Ann Arbor area. Canton police were joined by Wayne and Westland officers.

According to Canton Sgt. Rick Pomorski, Abbott has a history of bank robberies, including a conviction in Westland, which is how they were able to track him down. He is also a prime suspect in a Wayne bank robbery on Nov. 6.

Pomorski said they used photos from the Westland robbery and matched them with the surveillance foot-

age from the Canton robbery. When Canton officers showed Abbott's sister and other family members the surveillance photos, they identified him.

Abbott also called a taxi after the robbery in Westland. On a hunch, Canton officers contacted local taxi companies and one of them said they had picked up Abbott and took him near I-94 and State Street in the Ann Arbor area, where police officers found him.

In the Canton robbery, Pomorski said Abbott handed the teller a note stating that he was robbing the bank. He requested \$50 and \$100 bills. Pomorski said the Abbott's hand was in his pocket and he implied he had a gun. He left the bank on foot with an undisclosed amount of money.

Pomorski said Abbott didn't have a weapon at the time of his arrest.

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On Thursday, November 29, 2007, various items of the City Westland Police Department 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
3321657	1995	PONTIAC	SUNFIRE	1G2JB1247S7510381

Vehicles are sold in "as is" condition.

The referenced vehicles, as well as many others, may be previewed by perspective buyers on Wednesday, November 28, 2007, from 8:30 am-4:30 pm.

Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Terms and Conditions will be applicable to any item sold.

Publish: November 22, 2007

CE08571471-223

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 36001 Warren Rd Westland, MI 48185-6591 (734)729-7095 on 11/29/07 at 10:30 am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:
1046 - Joseph A. Donaldson - Chair, Vacuum, Mattress
1246 - Lori Hill - 2 TV's, Bike, 20 Boxes
3020 - Josephine Holt - 5 Totes, 20 Boxes, 2 Tool Boxes
3180 - Renee Robinson - Couch, Table, 2 Chairs
3196 - Shirley Tolbert - TV, 10 Boxes, Table
3204 - Fredrick McCray - Refrigerator, 2 Bikes, Misc Items
4036 - Jacquelyn Mason - TV, 2 Totes, 2 End Tables
5060 - Rab Malik - Lawnmower, Stove, Shelves
5154 - Ronald Yancey - Dresser, Mattress, Misc Items

Publish: November 15 & 22, 2007

CE08569377-220

Abandoned Vehicle Auction

Sparks Towing, 115 Merriman Rd., Garden City, MI 48135, November 28, 2007 at 10:00 A.M.

'89	Ford	1FTHS34H7KHA29594
'96	Olds	1G3GR62C8T4106692
'85	Ford	1FABP3190FW310731

Publish: November 22, 2007

CE0857128-221.5

THE Glory OF Christmas

A BROADWAY STYLE CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION

Presented by NorthRidge Church

Performance Dates and Times:

Thu, November 29 at 7:30p	Thu, December 6 at 7:30p
Fri, November 30 at 7:30p (SOLD OUT)	Fri, December 7 at 7:30p (SOLD OUT)
Sat, December 1 at 1p (SOLD OUT)	Sat, December 8 at 1p (SOLD OUT)
Sun, December 2 at 3p and 7:30p (3pm SOLD OUT)	Sun, December 9 at 3p and 7:30p (3pm SOLD OUT)

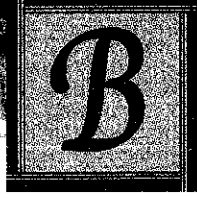
Pricing: Ticket prices are \$15 and \$17 per seat depending on location. There are no refunds or exchanges.

Tickets: On sale NOW and can be purchased by calling 866.295.9333 or at NorthRidgeChurch.com

Due to the length of the program (2.5 hrs), children under 4 are not admitted.

NORTHRIDGE
CHURCH

NorthRidgeChurch.com

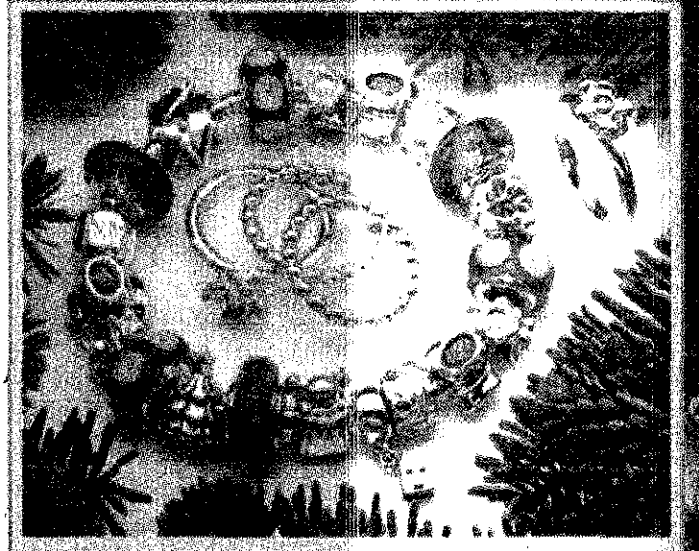


Benson Diamond Jewelers

PANDORA TRUNK Jewelry® SHOW

2 DAYS ONLY

Fri., Nov. 23rd 8 am-9 pm
Sat., Nov. 24th 9 am-9 pm



Buy one Pandora bracelet
and get one Pandora lobster claw bracelet **FREE!**
Buy four beads and get the fifth bead **FREE!**

OR

Buy seven beads and get two beads **FREE!**
There will be hourly giveaways of Pandora merchandise!
Refreshments will be served!

Please present this ad at the show!

Stroll our store...

- Hourly Drawings for FREE Pandora Merchandise
- Come Join the Fun!
- Free Refreshments

Patent #7,007,507

- Let the designer K. Edmond help you design that perfect Pandora bracelet.
- Ask about our FREE Pandora Bracelet Cleaning Service

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PLATINUM-SILVER-GOLD

SELL NOW-Gold and Silver Near All Time High! 25 Years Since Gold and Silver Have Been This High! We Buy ANYTHING made of Gold or Platinum, Even Broken or Damaged!!!

INSTANT CASH FOR: GOLD-All Forms Needed!

- Class Rings
- Chains & Necklaces
- Charm Bracelets
- Wedding Bands
- Mountings
- Antique Items
- Dental Gold Items
- Coins & Bullion (Bring for Quote)
- Scrap Gold & Platinum (Bring for Quote)

SILVER DOLLARS WANTED
SILVER DOLLARS MINTED BEFORE 1935
BU SILVER DOLLAR ROLLS MINTED BEFORE 1921 WANTED
TOP DOLLAR PAID FOR ALL RARE COINS
SMALL & LARGE QUANTITIES WANTED
No Appointment Necessary

SILVER COINS
1964 & older





SWAROVSKI



2007 Annual Edition Ornament \$70

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OUR VIEWS

Volunteers make holiday brighter

For many people, the day after Thanksgiving means getting up well before dawn to take advantage of the mega deals retailers are offering.

While those people are focusing on Christmas gift giving, there's another group that focuses on making Christmas merry for the less fortunate. They are volunteers and they represent the spirit of this holiday season. Without them, much of the charitable giving that is done during the holidays would not happen. The ability of charities to provide Christmas for needy families depends on volunteers from the Salvation Army's bell ringers, the people who sell Goodfellows newspapers to businesses which collect toys for Toys for Tots.

The bell ringing has already begun for the Salvation Army Wayne-Westland Corps which has seen the demand for assistance increase. Businesses in the city are helping out by participating in a Red Kettle Challenge to help raise money.

Businesses like Catherine's and Century 21 Castelli Realty are collecting toys this holiday season to help the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves annual Toys for Tot campaign.

And let's not forget the Goodfellows who will be out Friday to sell newspapers to raise money for their annual No Child Without a Christmas campaign.

The thread that weaves through all of these efforts is volunteers. The time they give, the efforts they make to help are important to the organizations. Without it, Christmas would be a bleak time for many.

These have not been the best of times for the state of Michigan. Almost daily we hear of more people who are losing their jobs or losing their homes. As a result, the need is even greater this year than in past years, and these groups are working long and hard to make sure that no one goes without something this Christmas.

Westland residents have been generous in their giving, helping these dedicated volunteers make Christmas brighter for the less fortunate. The work they do, the joy they bring to others, it's all part of what makes Westland the community that it is.

It may be the worst of times, but it's the best time to recognize these volunteers. The list is too long to name each and every one of you, but know that what you do is truly appreciated.

Thank you for all you have done and keep up the good work.

An attitude of gratitude makes us healthier, happier

Thanksgiving is the one day each year we set aside to reflect on the many blessings in our lives.

Families and friends gather together from near and far to enjoy a meal together, often turkey with all the trimmings topped off with pumpkin pie.

Some families begin with grace; others go around the table asking each one seated to say what they are most thankful for over the past year.

But we don't need to wait until Thanksgiving to reflect on what's good about our lives. We can be thankful every day.

It's better for our emotional and physical health when we are.

That's what two psychology professors from the University of California and University of Miami found

when they studied how being grateful affects people's well-being. The researchers studied three groups of volunteers. They asked one group during the study period to focus on things that went wrong or irritated them, another group to focus on the things they were grateful for and the last to focus on ordinary life occurrences.

The people who focused on being grateful had fewer headaches, colds and other negative physical symptoms, exercised and slept more and were noticeably more optimistic than the people in the other two groups.

Trying to find things to be thankful for may be difficult for people going through tough times.

But the researchers found an attitude of gratitude can be developed over time with practice, starting with writing down anything that makes you smile or lifts your spirits during the day — from a little child's laugh to an e-mail from a friend.

If you still can't find something right with your life, reach out to others who are hurting more. You'll get far more than you'll ever give.

Next Thanksgiving, when it's your turn to say grace or tell what you're thankful for, you may discover you have a list of 365 items, something from every day of the year.



Find out about WYAA

At a recent city council meeting, a citizen asked a question about the new signs that were put up at the corners of Warren and Farmington and Ford and Farmington. The signs say Westland Youth Athletic Association (WYAA).

Then she asked why this organization "throws out" equipment. That was what she said she heard. I would like to clear up a few things for the citizens of Westland. First we do not ever throw out equipment unless it is damaged or unsafe. We take great pride in making sure the kids in our program have the best equipment available. We don't want kids to get hurt because we dropped the ball and gave them damaged stuff.

We spend thousands of dollars every year for the kids. We are the largest kids organization in Westland. We have been here since 1958. If you do the math, as of January, that's 50 years ... yes, 50. Our 50th anniversary will be coming in 200, but that is beside the point.

How dare anyone question our program throwing out stuff the kids need and use daily. We invite any and all citizens of Westland to come to our board meetings on the third Tuesday of every month, and with the new signs it should be easy for you to find us now.

We would love to have you, that way if you have any questions, we can answer them for you. You can find out who the dedicated people in our organization are. We can help you understand just how much money it costs for the kids to play safely. Please take into consideration we pay insurance for each kid, we provide uniforms that the players get to keep at the end of the season. Each year we have to send our football helmets out to be reconditioned. That means they X-ray each helmet to make sure they are safe and certified safe. It would probably in the long run be much easier to just get a new helmet since it costs \$25 just to check it out, but we can't do that.

We have a budget of over \$100,000 a year. It is expensive to run a safe and productive program, but we do it each year. So if anyone would like to come to our board meetings, we are at 6050 Farmington. Just follow the signs.

Bud Somerville
Westland

Story too graphic

After reading the article in Sunday, Nov. 16, 2007, on page A3, "Turning tragedy to triumph" by Tiffany L. Parks, I mused that it's no wonder we have so much violence in our society.

The opening sentence of her article reads like a "C" horror book crime. The graphic violence she describes (regardless of whether or not it is factual) has no business in a family newspaper.

It's no wonder that we have the type of violent crime described on page A1 when "journalists" describe crime in such detail. You should use better judgment.

Bettiann Page
Plymouth

Better options

Michigan is at a crossroads right now, one that unfortunately has led to very poor economic conditions. As we transi-

tion between an automotive and industrial state into whatever our future may hold, Michigan residents are suffering.

The unemployment rate is higher here than any other state in the nation and homes are being foreclosed daily.

Yet, as the state fights to keep afloat despite these realities, Democrats in Lansing raised taxes by nearly \$1.35 billion, a number which is derived from taking money out of paychecks and away from businesses. Unfortunately, this tax means that as residents leave the state in droves, lawmakers are forcing businesses out, too.

Of the new taxes approved, the most egregious is the tax on services. This tax is targeted at some of the few areas of growth left in Michigan, including business-to-business transactions.

This tax, which equates to \$614 million, must be immediately repealed to prevent any further damage to Michigan's economy. This can be done without having to make many tough cuts, as there is funding available that no one has proposed using.

The question "how did we get here?" is equally relevant to "how do we get out?"

So how did we get here? By spending your tax dollars at an unprecedented level.

The final FY 2008 budget that was completed Oct. 31, 2007, increased spending in the general fund budget by 8.5 percent. As they raised your taxes, Democrats claimed that the budget was "cut to the bone."

Absolutely not true. Since 2005, general fund spending has grown by more than a billion dollars. How can anyone justify spending one billion dollars more in an economy with a shrinking tax base?

The state is spending your tax dollars at this alarming rate to make sure we can provide lifetime benefits to welfare recipients; Medicaid for non-eligible adults; training for volunteers; and millions of dollars more to the treasury department so they can raise your taxes.

How do we get out? We must repeal the service tax, but we do not need to replace it with another tax. Let's use the additional revenue that is being realized from the MBT transition, the state departments, and the income tax and enact cost-saving, sensible reforms.

state Rep. John R. Pastor
19th House District

Wrong way

Parks and fisheries are government assets that should be encouraged. Tourism is a profitable industry essential to Michigan.

School and road expenses require better auditing. Teachers unions run education and children do not get much bang for their buck. Educator pay and benefits are among the nation's best, but reading, writing and arithmetic results are shameful.

Politicians suffer from inbreeding; They talk mostly to each other. Maple Road suffers "roundabout" panacea. MDOT statistics may claim they reduce accidents, but many drivers fearfully avoid them. These expensive replacements for stop lights would not survive a vote by the drivers or taxpayers.

If Michigan shuts down, common sense might return. It happens when all other options fail.

Hank Borgman
Farmington

You got what you voted for

I am replying to your report "Granholtz message: State must be bold, innovative," *Observer & Eccentric*, Oct. 28, 2007. The governor's quotes:

"Michigan is a precursor to what will happen in other states ..."

"... have a strategy that allows us to invest in making our businesses competitive."

"... talk about trade, and battling to keep the playing field level ..."

I believe what the governor is saying is both true and false.

1. Michigan has just gone through a legislative exercise to replace a hated SBT with the MBT, which is worse. The hated business personal property taxes are not eliminated and replaced. There are 15 states, two south of the Michigan border, Ohio and Illinois, which do not have the business personal property tax. So, after all this, Michigan still cannot compete in the national and global economy.

2. What is happening in Michigan will not happen in other states unless the voters, legislatures, and governors, Congress and the president are stupid.

3. All the problems with international trade, tariffs on American products, and currency irregularities can be fixed, yet Michigan will not benefit from them unless it fixes its own house.

4. The business taxes have been purposefully structured not to keep a level playing field. The MBT has biases against small- and medium-sized businesses, finance companies, and businesses headquartered out-of-state. Keeping the business personal property tax biases against manufacturing, high-tech, and information technology companies, and taxing capital. Any businesses attracted to come to Michigan need to make a stop at the MEDC or the 21st Century Jobs Fund to get their tax abatements so they will not have to compete on a level playing field with their Michigan competitors, if any.

5. The new 6 percent service tax on services between businesses sends the message maybe that Michigan has the highest business tax structure in the nation. Businesses have to make the decision to absorb the tax, raise prices, close up, or leave the state.

All these changes to the business taxes leaves the business situation and the economy in a muddle for the next one to four years. I hope that is OK with you. You get what you voted for.

Neil Karl
Livonia

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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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.

QUOTABLE

"You wouldn't believe the amount of calls we're getting. I personally have been getting 15 to 20 calls every day from people."

- Public Service Director Kevin Buford about adding a third round of leaf pickups to accommodate an unseasonably warm fall

UAW pacts signal needed shift toward collaborative efforts

Michigan, as we all know, needs to regain not only prosperity, but also an informed belief in — and hope for — a better future.

Right now we are home to a domestic auto industry struggling through the greatest and most difficult transformation of modern times. We're facing a 7.7-percent unemployment rate,



Phil Power

highest in the nation. We have thousands of homes under repossession, with more to come, all the consequence of the sub-prime mortgage crisis.

For the first time since the Great Depression, we are seeing reductions in the absolute value of real property, even in wealthy Oakland County. And at bottom lies a political and policy system that is — putting it charitably

— broken, as the spectacle of how our lawmakers behaved during the budget crisis has made all too clear.

Yet there are other less obvious, but perhaps even more important, factors. Long-standing, deeply-embedded cultural attitudes hinder progress. We have a baffling and unjustified scorn for education; according to a *Detroit News* poll, only 27 percent of Michigan families consider post-high school education critical to their kids' success. Too many of us are reluctant to accept risk and are too willing to tolerate failure. All this has worked to stall the development of a take-charge, creative entrepreneurial economy that our state desperately needs if we are again to be competitive.

The problem with cultural issues, of course, is that they are intransigent, hard to get at and even harder to change.

But now for the — very — good news: The recently concluded labor agreements between the domestic automobile manufacturers and the United Auto Workers represent the single most important cultural change in Michigan in more than half a century.

Since the 1930s, confrontation between labor and management has been the hallmark of the auto industry, our most important. Its history has been one of shop-floor anger, out-of-touch management, repeated strikes and restrictive and complex contracts.

Now we have a series of labor contracts that reduce the labor costs to the car companies by something like \$30 an hour, putting them nearly on a par with the foreign transplant plants. They also offer a two-tier wage structure that significantly reduces the wages paid to non-core job classifications. In return, the companies are committed to make investments in existing and new plants and to manufacture new products in UAW-represented facilities.

David Cole, president of the Center for Automotive Research, told me this is a historic shift in the culture, from confrontation to collaboration. Cole thinks this change has been developing for around a decade, but the threat of disaster facing the domestic manufacturers

and their union partners has been so terrifying as to speed this up, inspiring new contracts that call for a completely different way of working together. "Instead of framing the choice as between gold and silver," Cole told me, "both the union and the companies realize the real choice is between silver and lead."

After all, the word "collaboration" comes from "co" ("together") and the Latin verb, "laborare" ("to work"). A collaborative relationship, like a marriage, doesn't mean the partners never argue or disagree.

But it does mean they recognize that it is in each party's basic interest to work together. Many people have remarked about southeast Michigan's preference for conflict, argument, confrontation. And many have suggested that this long-standing cultural attitude stems from the labor relations pattern in the automobile industry.

Perhaps the new auto contracts represent a change that will spread much farther. Imagine what a culture of collaboration might do to relationships between Detroit and the suburbs!

Another deeply ingrained cultural attitude hindering Michigan has been "entitlement thinking," the attitude that gold-plated health care coverage or generous pensions are to be expected from any job. Plus, the attitude that workers are entitled to such benefits regardless of what they do or how successful their employer is.

Consider, now, the VEBAs (Voluntary Employers' Benefit Associations) in the new contracts. Setting up these trusts inside the UAW to pay for retirees' health care takes that liability off the balance sheets of the auto companies — and doesn't stop there.

The trusts are funded by complex financial instruments called "convertible debentures" which can be converted into company stock. That means UAW members have become major equity owners of the auto companies. Preliminary calculations suggest the UAW's stake in General Motors is now around 16 percent, nearly 15 percent at Ford.

Both sets of cultural changes — moving from confrontation to collaboration and from entitlement to shared responsibility — are enormous in their implications for the future health of our state.

And both are driven by the most powerful objective facts in Michigan — the workings of the auto industry.

Yes, the new contracts will be important — maybe revolutionary — in their long-term economic impact. But what they might do to overcome and reverse long-held cultural patterns in our state may in the long run be far more important for our futures.

Phil Power is the founder and president of The Center for Michigan, a centrist think-and-do tank. The opinions expressed here are Power's own and do not represent the official views of The Center. Power welcomes your comments at ppower@thecenterformichigan.net

Repealing new services tax won't get Michigan out of hole

The recent announcement of more job losses at Chrysler was just another sign that Michigan's economy is in the toilet.

In the meantime, Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson has started another statewide petition drive to repeal the new sales tax on



Kurt Kuban

certain business services that state lawmakers approved in the wee hours of Oct. 1 to avoid a state government shutdown.

Patterson, along with the Coalition To Ax the Tax, is collecting petitions to get something on the ballot so voters will be able to repeal the new tax, which would apply to business consultants and other small businesses, including landscapers, fortune tellers and hair salon owners. It is part of a \$43 billion state budget. The tax is set to take effect Dec. 1.

Patterson says the new services tax will be devastating for the businesses — a claim also made by the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, an organization that has never seen a tax it likes.

"The (service tax) was concocted under the cover of darkness, passed at 4 a.m. a month ago today, and when the light of day hit and the tax was examined, the impact was nothing short of devastating," Patterson said last week at a meeting hosted by the Troy Chamber of Commerce. "The uproar has been loud ever since."

Petition leaders need to gather more than 304,000 signatures to put a statutory initiative on a 2008 ballot.

They may not get the chance, however. It seems their threats have gained some traction in Lansing. Leaders in both the Senate and House, fearing public scorn, have said they will introduce legislation to repeal the services sales tax.

Gov. Jennifer Granholm has said she is open to having the tax repealed — as long as there is some kind of revenue to replace it. In other words, another tax of some kind.

And that leads us to the big question here: How will lawmakers — if they repeal this new tax before it even kicks in — replace the \$750 million per year it is expected to generate? Granholm doesn't seem to care, as long as any replacement tax is permanent.

If it is repealed, lawmakers will have until Dec. 1 to balance the budget, or they will be right back in the same boat they were in the wee hours of Oct. 1. They won't have a balanced budget, and the government will likely shut down.

And this brings us back to Patterson, who a year ago, led another petition drive to remove the state's Single Business Tax, which was done without any plan to replace the revenue it produced. Here we go again. In a high risk poker game, Patterson is trying to force the hand of state government.

Right now doesn't seem to be a good time to draw the line in the sand, and force an embarrassing situation where we look dysfunctional to everyone looking in from the outside, includ-

ing companies wanting to expand operations. Just as importantly, it will also be financially damaging to our bond status and in so many other ways (funding our public schools comes to mind).

We are in the midst of one of the worst economic times in our state's history. Almost everyone agrees that we are in the middle of a monumental shift in our state's economic history, moving away from our traditional manufacturing base — the Chrysler announcement was just further evidence of this.

I understand Patterson's argument that the tax could really hurt these businesses. However, rather than a repeal, it seems to me the better way to go about this is let this services tax stand on a temporary basis, and get to work at real structural reform of our state government to cut costs so we don't need the tax.

State Rep. Phil LaJoy, a Republican from Canton, has been advocating this for a long time. After a couple of years of fighting, he finally was able to get his government efficiency legislation passed and signed into law. The legislation will create a nine-member commission that will look at cutting out the fat in state government.

LaJoy said his intent was to appoint top professionals from corporations around the state who have experience with their own organizations to find ways to be more efficient. He said it is vital that these appointees have no political ties or agendas, but he hasn't received much support on this front, even from leadership within his own party.

LaJoy has become increasingly frustrated, and sent off a terse letter to Republican House leader Craig DeRoche last week, because the commission needs to be selected and have met by the end of the month, according to the new law.

It would be a great shame if the Legislature lets this opportunity slip away, especially when you hear LaJoy, who has a long career in human resources, discuss all the jobs in state government that are being duplicated. He said each of the government's 17 agencies all do their own purchasing, human resources, and other tasks that he believes could be handled by a single department.

According to LaJoy, there are currently 2,356 government employees (just 4 percent of all state employees) who are earning a total of almost \$230 million. He thinks this could be significantly trimmed. Ultimately, he feels this new commission could save the state "hundreds of millions of dollars."

I certainly agree with Patterson that real reform can't take place under the cover of darkness with a state government shutdown looming. Unfortunately, that's exactly where his latest attack on state government is going to take us.

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

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SPORTS

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Thursday, November 22, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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Ford Field-bound Spartans eye the prize

Stahl's TD catch clips Troy, 40-35

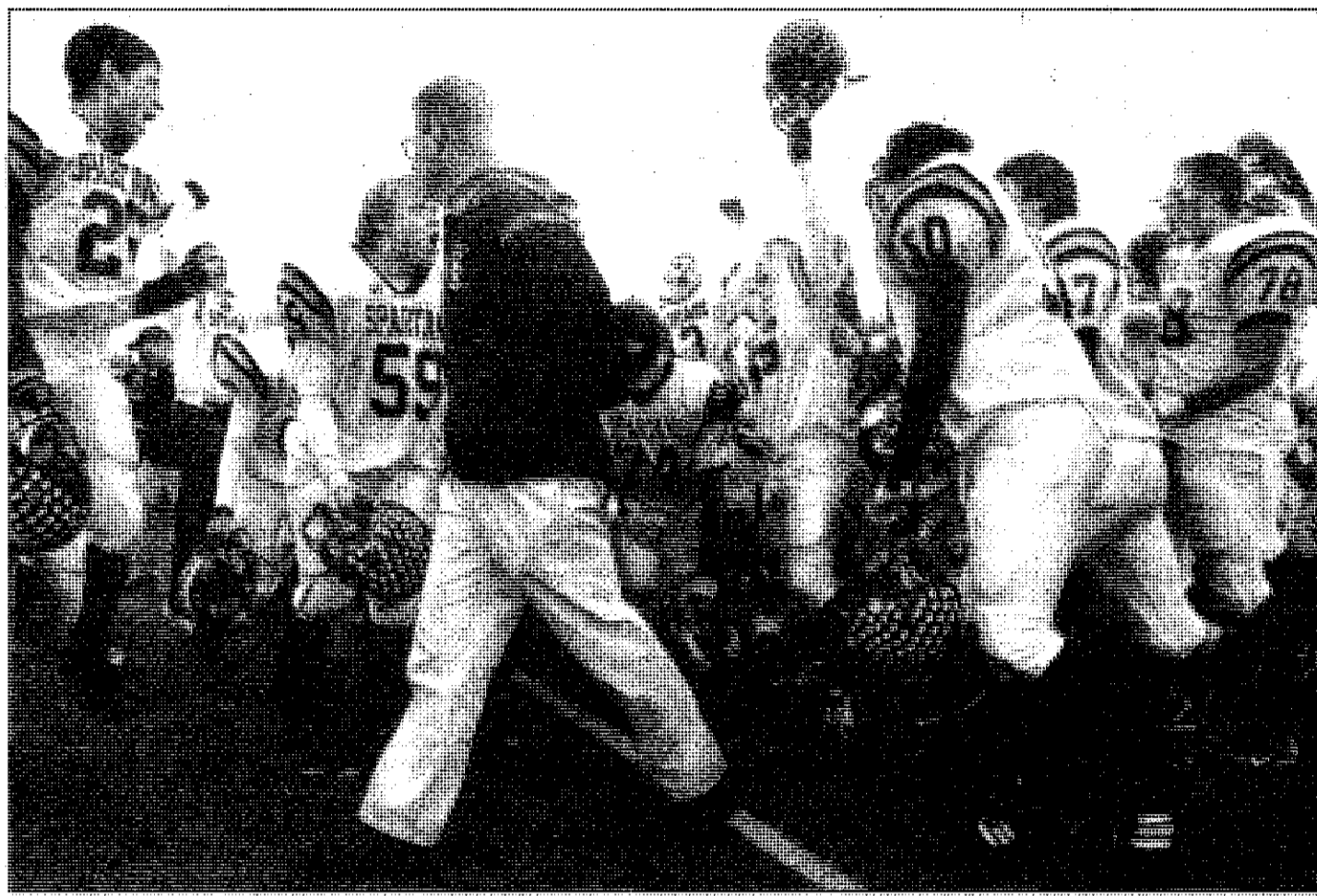
BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Saturday's Division 1 state semifinal football game between Livonia Stevenson and Troy High was like a cup of Maxwell House coffee — Good To The Last Drop.

Both teams were percolating on offense with Stevenson emerging with a dramatic come-from-behind 40-35 victory at drizzly Southfield-Lathrup, putting the Spartans in their first-ever state championship game this Saturday at Detroit's Ford Field.

The 1 p.m. start features a matchup of 13-0 teams with Stevenson facing defending Division 1 state champion Macomb Dakota, which disposed of Novi-Detroit Catholic Central in the other state semifinal, 17-7.

Troy (10-3) roared back from a 21-7 second-quarter deficit and enjoyed second-half leads of 28-21, 28-27 and 35-27 and 35-33, only to be stung by a late turn-



Stevenson varsity football coach Tim Gabel watches his team celebrate following Saturday's dramatic 40-35 state semifinal victory over Troy at Southfield Lathrup High School. The Spartans play defending champion Macomb Dakota in a battle of unbeaten, 1 p.m. Saturday at Detroit's Ford Field.

Please see **SPARTANS, B7**

Sidelines

Fecso honored

University of North Carolina-Fayetteville freshman Danielle Fecso (Livonia Clarenceville), sporting a season average of 184.0, recently earned 2007 Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association All-Conference honors in women's bowling.

Fecso is joined on the All-CIAA team by teammates Jessica Donnelly (Fayetteville, N.C.) and Akira Turner (Detroit).

MU's Horka lauded

Madonna University junior Joe Horka (Livonia Churchill) became the first cross country student-athlete in the three-year history of the program to earn NAIA All-America Scholar-Athlete honors.

The criminal justice major adds to the latest honor to the All-Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference and Academic All-WHAC selections earlier this season.

The Westland native was MU's top individual men's finisher at the WHAC meet with an 8-kilometer time of 26 minutes, 50 seconds as the Crusaders took fifth in the team standings.

Cole nets award

Livonian Michael Cole, co-captain and No. 1 singles player for the University of Detroit Jesuit boys tennis team, recently received the Catholic League's All-Academic and All-League awards.

Cole is a member of the National Honor Society, a National Merit semifinalist and AP scholar with honors.

His brother Patrick Cole, a sophomore at U-D High, was the Division 2 regional champion at No. 2 singles.

College grid note

Olivet College sophomore running back Pat Clasgens rushed for 118 yards on 24 carries and caught four passes for 20 yards in the Comets' first-round 38-17 NCAA Division III football playoff loss Saturday to host Central (Iowa) College.

Dakota provides final obstacle

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

This is brand new territory for Livonia Stevenson's football program.

The 13-0 Spartans are appearing in their first-ever state championship game against defending Division 1 champion Macomb Dakota, also 13-0 and riding a 21-game winning streak dating back to Sept. 29, 2006.

Stevenson is the third Livonia school to make an appearance in the finals. The last team to do so was Livonia Clarenceville, which lost to Jackson Lumen Christi in the 2001 Division 5 championship game at the Pontiac Silverdome. Livonia Franklin won the first-ever MHSAA Class A title back in 1975.

After studying Dakota on film over the weekend following Stevenson's thrilling 40-35 state semifinal triumph Saturday over Troy, Spartans head coach Tim Gabel knows

FOR ALL THE MARBLES

Division 1 Football Championship

Who: Livonia Stevenson (13-0) vs. Macomb Dakota (13-0)

When: 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 24

Where: Detroit's Ford Field

Tickets: \$10 per session.

that his team has its work cut out for it.

Dakota is coming off a 17-7 victory over Novi-Detroit Catholic Central.

It's understandable the Spartans come in as underdogs.

"They (Dakota) are extremely impressive, starting with the size of their offensive line," Gabel said. "They're gigantic. And their tight end (Mike Kwiatkowski) is 6-5, 235. They combine that with skill players. They're both a big-play and ball control team that can spread you out. They had an eight-and-a-half minute (TD) drive versus CC. The challenge will be to

stand in versus their big kids and not get pushed around. And you can't give up the big plays obviously, either."

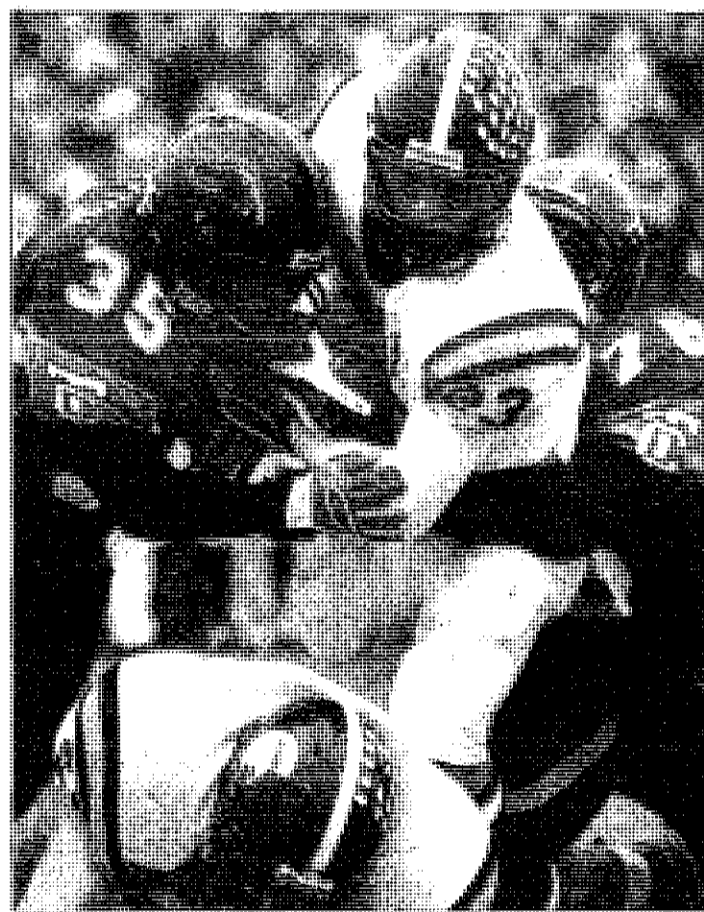
Dakota, which has outscored its opponents 446-127, relies on the passing of 6-foot-2, 170-pound senior quarterback Mitch Lovett. Senior Kyle Demaster (6-1, 205) is Lovett's favorite target.

Senior Terrance Shelby (5-10, 170) is the team's leading rusher, while senior slotback Rodney Hush (5-8, 170) is the Cougars' big-play threat.

Defensively, the Cougars are led by tackle Charles Martin (6-1, 250), end Mike Laamanen (6-1, 235) and linebacker Ryan Krebs (6-1, 225). The secondary includes Hush, Demaster and Dave Meurer (5-11, 185).

"They only used a four-man front against CC," Gabel said. "They're big up front, very athletic and their linebackers are fast and they get to the ball in a hurry."

Please see **FINAL, B7**



Stevenson's Austin White runs into Troy's Kyle Payton during Saturday's state semifinal game at Southfield Lathrup. Stevenson won the Division 1 semifinal, 40-35.

Marecki stars in Stevenson's runner-up finish

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Brynn Marecki and her Livonia Stevenson teammates were riding in style during last weekend's the Division 1 girls swimming and diving state finals held at Eastern Michigan University's Jones Natatorium.

No bumpy yellow school bus rides for these girls.

The Spartans' contingent annually rents a limousine to and from the state meet and the result was an impressive



Marecki

performance led by Marecki, a senior who earned individual a state title in both the 200-yard individual medley (2:06.09) and 100 breast-stroke (1:05.13).

As a team, the Spartans wound up with 181 points to finish runner-up behind defending champion Ann Arbor Pioneer, which garnered

its eighth consecutive crown by scoring 340.

Rounding out the top five were South Lyon (151), Rockford (144) and Northville (113).

Marecki also teamed with sophomore Ashley Gordon, senior Megan Holycross and senior Laura Timson for a runner-up finish in the 200 medley relay (1:48.93). Pioneer won the event in 1:46.5.

The Spartans' 400 freestyle relay team of Timson, Gordon, freshman Savannah Hatt and

Marecki also added a fourth in 3:37.05 (Pioneer captured first in 3:26.19).

Marecki describes two-day state meet, which began Friday and ended Saturday afternoon, as physically, mentally and emotionally draining, but also calls it "the most fun meet of the year."

"It's good to leave it like that my senior season," Marecki said. "What I'll miss is Greg (Phill) being my coach and all the girls I've been with on the team. It's been fun and I can

never replace them."

Marecki is a year-round swimmer who trains during the off-season under Stevenson assistant coach Rich Bennetts with the Farmington Stingrays. She began her competitive swim career at age 6 following in the footsteps of her older sister Jordyn, who also swam and competed in track and field at Stevenson.

Brynn Marecki is currently mulling a scholarship offer

Please see **SWIMMING, B5**

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Madonna spikers earn 10th NAIA Region title

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

After getting a wake-up call during Saturday's NAIA Region VIII semifinal, Madonna University cranked it up and finished off Indiana Tech in four games.

The host Crusaders then swept Indiana Wesleyan in the final to earn a sixth consecutive trip to the nationals.

Madonna University head coach Jerry Abraham's team will take a 33-10 record into the NAIA National Tournament starting Nov. 28 at Columbia (Mo.) College.

But he wiped his brow following the two triumphs at MU's Activities Center.

"I wanted this team to go to nationals so bad," Abraham said. "Every year it seems to get tougher and tougher. I think we had a little bit of a rough start, but we have meshed into a strong unit."

The Crusaders won 30-18 in the opening game against Indiana Tech, but found themselves in a battle after the Warriors took a 30-21 win in Game 2.

Madonna settled down, sparked by 24 kills from sophomore sparkplug Mary McGinnis (her career best) and 19 more from NAIA Region VIII Player of the Year Lubovj Tihomirova to take 30-26 and 30-22 wins and polish off the Warriors (25-19). Sophomore setter Inta Grivals orchestrated the attack with 57 assists.

"Mary has been one of our most valuable players as of late and she has been getting better and better as the season went on," said Abraham, about

the outside hitter. "Offensively, she was our most valuable player of today."

"She had so many clutch shots and she responded the best when the chips were down and the game was on the line."

Game 3 against Indiana Tech probably was the turning point for MU, which trailed 13-9 before a three-point service run from senior defensive specialist Amy Szymanski (Redford/Livonia Ladywood) put the Crusaders on solid footing.

The Warriors weren't done, however.

They regained the lead, 24-23, but sophomore defensive specialist Brynn Kerr (Livonia/Schoolcraft CC) saved the day with a five-point service run to give the Crusaders a 29-25 advantage, helped by two kills from McGinnis and another from junior middle hitter Whitney Fuelling (16 kills).

The game-point was scored when Indiana Tech's Tiffany Aiken missed on a spike attempt.

Indiana Wesleyan (32-8) started slowly in the final, losing 30-22 in Game 1.

And Madonna did not let the Wildcats off the mat, taking the next two games by 30-25 and 30-28 scores. Only in Game 3 did MU face a real challenge. But

the Crusaders hung in there, sparked by junior outside hitter Tihomirova (27 kills), McGinnis (17 kills), Grivals (49 assists) and senior libero Jacqui Gatt (13 defensive digs).

For Gatt, a Livonia Churchill alum, going to the nationals for the fourth straight year of her college career perhaps will be the sweetest trip of them all.

"I was nervous earlier this year that we weren't going to get there after we had a few slip-ups," said Gatt, who tallied 40 defensive digs in the two matches. "To finish out my career going to nationals means so much to me."

Gatt played so well that she was rewarded with the NAIA Region VIII Libero of the Year Award.

Meanwhile, Abraham said the team's postseason success so far could be at least partly due to having a challenging regular season schedule.

"We did that (scheduling) intentionally," said Abraham, about to make his 10th trip to the nationals. "I wanted this group that has worked so hard to experience this opportunity. We want to make a good showing. All I'm going to do is ask them to play their hearts out and if we do that I am excited about our chances."

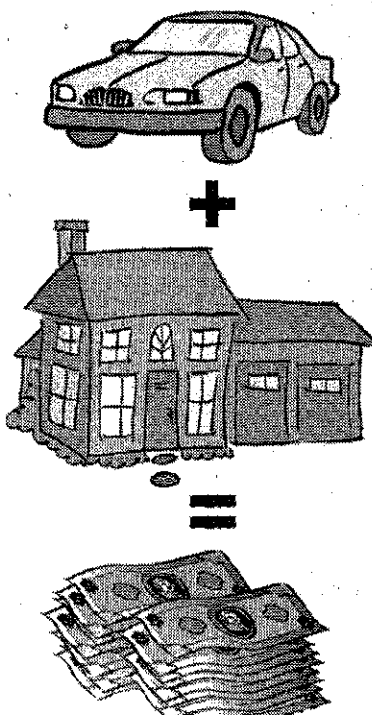
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Proudly displaying the 2007 NAIA Region VIII championship plaque following Saturday's triumph are Madonna seniors Jacqui Gatt (left), Redford native Amy Szymanski (right) and Sister Rose Marie Kujawa.

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Stevenson (13-0) vs. Dakota (13-0), 1 p.m.

PREP HOCKEY
Wednesday, Nov. 21
Churchill vs. Novi-Detroit Catholic Central,
Stevenson vs. Port Huron Northern
at Edgar Arena, 6 & 8 p.m.

Friday-Sunday, Nov. 23-25
Ladywood at Silver Stick Tourney, TBA.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Friday, Nov. 23
(Kalamazoo Valley Thanksgiving Tourney)
Schoolcraft vs. Owens CC (Ohio), 3 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 24
Madonna at Wayne State, 1 p.m.

(Kalamazoo Valley Thanksgiving Tourney)
Schoolcraft vs. Edison CC (Ohio), 4 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 25
(Kalamazoo Valley Thanksgiving Tourney)
Schoolcraft vs. Lake Michigan CC, 2 p.m.

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
Wednesday, Nov. 21
Whalers vs. Saginaw at Compuware, 7:05 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 23
Whalers vs. S.S. Marie at Compuware, 2 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 24
Whalers vs. Sudbury at Compuware, 7:05 p.m.

TBA - time to be announced.

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- Livonia Auto Body 5-7-5/15 points
- Coldwell Banker/G&G Plumbing 4-9-4/12
- Daly Restaurant 4-12-1/9 points

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 30300 Plymouth Rd. Livonia MI 48150 (734)622-2274 on 11/29/07 at 9:30 am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due. Personal property described below in the matter of:
9021 - Jacqueline Jolly - Bike, Microwave, Misc Items
5110 - Thareasa Williams - Leather Couch, 6 Chairs, 10 Boxes
4126 - Paul Serkel - Lawnmower, Dresser, 6 Totes
4098 - Lewis C Barber - Riding Lawnmower, Snow-blower, Misc Items
4080 - Kim Bey - Mattress, Box-springs, Frame
3129 - Isha Harris - Stereo, TV, DVD Player
1011 - Rachel King - 5 Bags, 5 Boxes, TV

Publish: November 15 & 22, 2007

**CITY OF LIVONIA
PUBLIC NOTICE
FORFEITED VEHICLES AND
MISCELLANEOUS CITY VEHICLES AUCTION**

Under Provisions of Sections 2.32.070 and 3.05.1006 of the Livonia Code of Ordinances, the Police Department will be conducting an Auction of Forfeiture and Miscellaneous City vehicles.

November 30, 2007
Inspections begin at 9:30 a.m.
Auction begins at 10:00 a.m.

Location: Midwest Auto Auction & Services, Inc.
14666 Telegraph
Redford, MI 48239

ALL VEHICLES TO BE AUCTIONED MAY BE VIEWED BETWEEN 9:30 A.M. AND 10:00 A.M., ON THE MORNING OF THE AUCTION. Vehicles ARE SOLD 'AS IS' AND ALL SALES ARE FINAL.

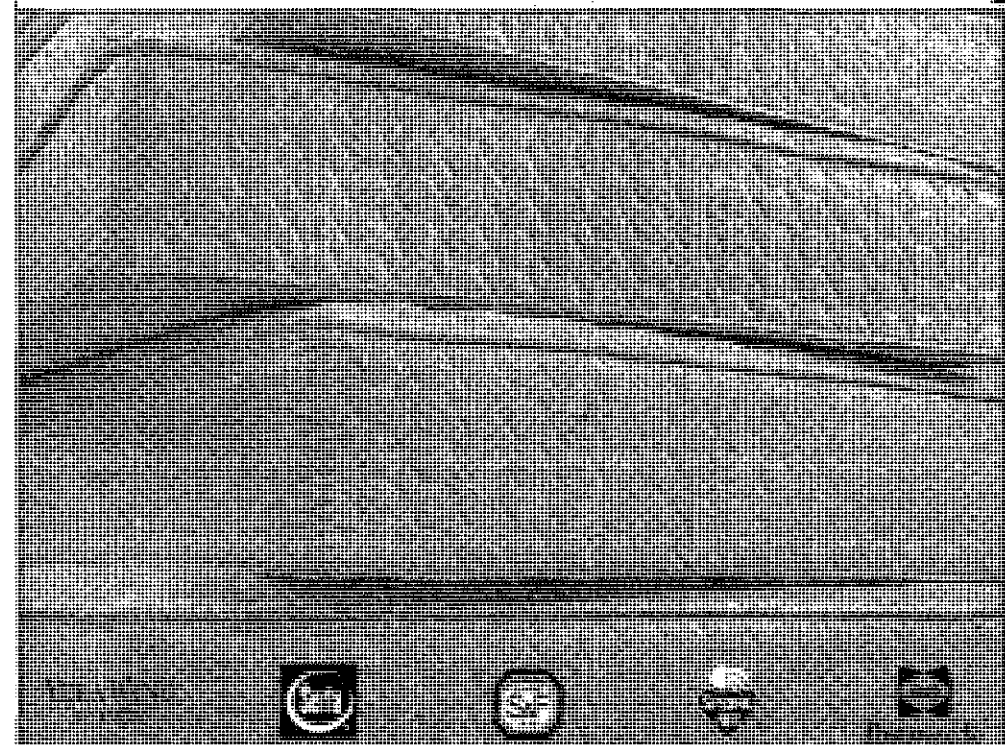
ALL SALES MUST BE IN CASH AND ARE DUE IN FULL THE MOMENT THE BID IS ACCEPTED.

VAL VANDERSLOOT, City Clerk

Publish: November 22, 25 & 29, 2007

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PLUS AN ADDITIONAL 15% OFF ALL MATTRESS SETS

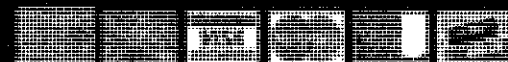
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2nd Place **\$50 GIFT CERTIFICATE** (Not interchangeable)

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Advertisers Pick of the Week!

THIS WEEK'S GAMES! ADVERTISER PICKS
Thursday, Nov. 22, 2007
Green Bay at Detroit
New York Jets at Dallas
Indianapolis at Atlanta
Sunday, Nov. 25, 2007
Buffalo at Jacksonville
Denver at Chicago
Houston at Cleveland
Minnesota at N.Y. Giants
New Orleans at Carolina
Tennessee at Cincinnati
Washington at Tampa Bay
Baltimore at San Diego
Philadelphia at New England

											
9-3 79-53	9-3 77-55	9-3 89-43	9-3 80-52	9-3 85-44	11-1 83-49	11-1 83-49	9-3 89-43	10-2 86-46	9-3 81-51	11-1 84-48	8-4 85-47
Green Bay Dallas Indianapolis Jacksonville Chicago Houston New York Giants New Orleans Tennessee Tampa Bay San Diego New England	Green Bay Dallas Indianapolis Jacksonville Chicago Cleveland New York Giants New Orleans Tennessee Tampa Bay San Diego New England	Green Bay Dallas Indianapolis Jacksonville Chicago Cleveland New York Giants New Orleans Tennessee Tampa Bay San Diego New England	Green Bay Dallas Indianapolis Jacksonville Chicago Cleveland New York Giants New Orleans Carolina Tennessee Tampa Bay San Diego New England	Green Bay Dallas Indianapolis Jacksonville Chicago Cleveland New York Giants New Orleans Tennessee Tampa Bay San Diego New England	Detroit Dallas Indianapolis Jacksonville Chicago Cleveland NY Giants New Orleans Cincinnati Tampa Bay San Diego New England	Green Bay Dallas Indianapolis Jacksonville Chicago Cleveland NY Giants Carolina Tennessee Tampa Bay San Diego New England	Green Bay Dallas Indianapolis Jacksonville Chicago Cleveland New York Giants New Orleans Tennessee Tampa Bay San Diego New England	Green Bay Dallas Indianapolis Jacksonville Chicago Cleveland NY Giants New Orleans Tennessee Tampa Bay San Diego New England	Detroit Dallas Indianapolis Jacksonville Chicago Cleveland NY Giants New Orleans Carolina Cincinnati Tampa Bay San Diego New England	Detroit Dallas Indianapolis Jacksonville Chicago Cleveland NY Giants New Orleans Carolina Cincinnati Tampa Bay San Diego New England	Green Bay Dallas Atlanta Jacksonville Denver Cleveland New York Giants New Orleans Tennessee Tampa Bay San Diego New England

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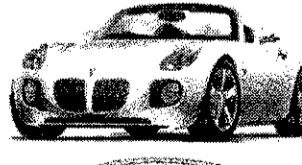
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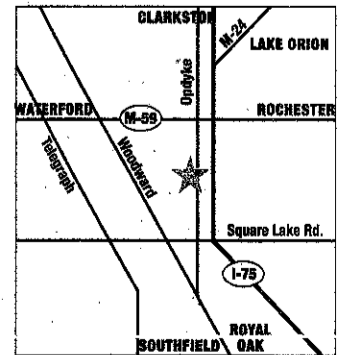
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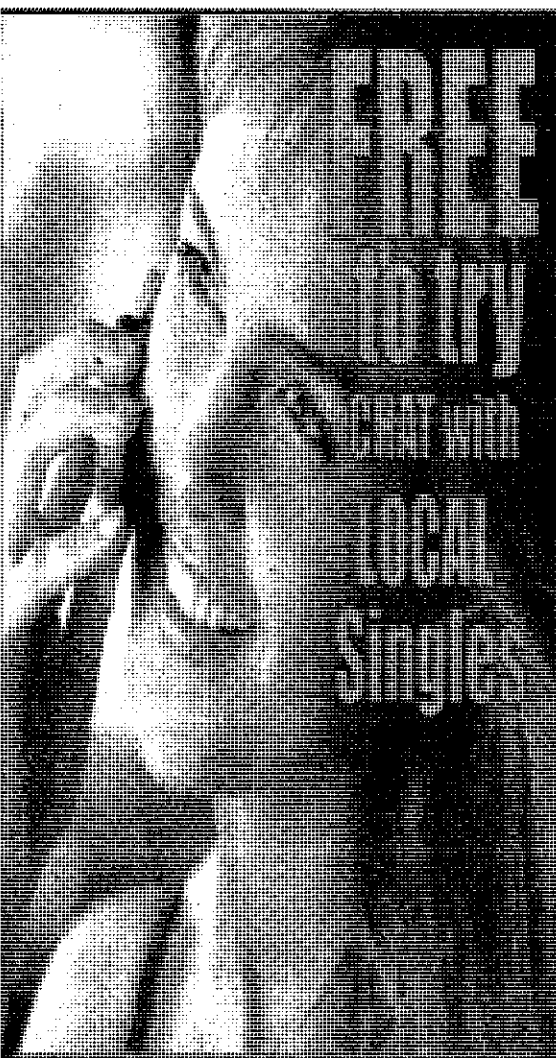
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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

SEARCHING FOR A MAN...
45-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. I'm a 45-year-old who's bright, spunky and pretty. Only Jewish men please. ☎982317

HELLO OUT THERE
SWF, 39 years young, seeks SWM, who enjoys life simple pleasures. I enjoy dining out, computers, movies, the parks walks, travel and life in general. Friendship first. ☎241298

SINCERE ONLY
SBF, 36, feminine, beautiful, sexy, seeks confident, similar lady to share nights on the town, good talks and simple fun. Will it be you? Friendship first, possibly more. ☎210970

PERSONABLE AND SPECIAL
SWF, retired, talented, fun-loving, attractive, 132lbs, 5'5", blonde, seeks well-groomed gentleman, 65+, to share life and enjoy each other's company. ☎891247

HELLO
DWF, 57, 5'4", 160lbs, size 16, attractive redhead, retired RN, housewife, smoker, loves cooking, movies, good company, conversation and travel. Give me a call. All call returned. ☎229066

GET TO KNOW ME
Loving, open-minded SBF, 60, 145lbs, attractive, enjoys music, dining, concerts, travel, ISO honest, compassionate SM, 57-65, N/S. Possible LTR. ☎963780

HIDDEN TREASURE
I'm the needle in the haystack, and there you will find true love. Seeking SM, 65+. ☎212730

SHORT GUYS A PLUS
SWF, 46, petite, attractive, nature girl, looking for life partner, who's life is as together as mine. Someone who's 40-50, and looking for a great girl for LTR. ☎11652

TAKE A CHANCE
SWF, 25, 5'2", medium build, athletic, enjoys sports, working on cars, bowling, pool, Italian food, music, my dogs, having fun. Seeking outgoing, fun-loving guy to get to know, share fun. ☎213228

COULD U BE THE ONE 4 ME?
Active SWF, 52", blonde, fun-loving, nurse likes boating, traveling, sports, dancing and dining, seeking a SWM, 70-78, who enjoys the same, for friendship, maybe more. ☎231724

YOUR SOULMATE IS WAITING
SBF, 27, 5'4", chocolate complexion, pretty brown eyes, dimples, thick build, looking for SBM, 28-30, for friendship and possibly more. ☎226722

SEEKING FRIENDSHIP
SBF, young 60s, w/good morals, caring, nice-looking, 5'3", 156lbs, N/S, N/D, N/Drugs, clean, honest living, party retired, enjoys art, card playing, casinos, and movies. Seeking honest man 50-60, nice open. ☎194425

CLASSY LADY
SBF, 36, 5'3", N/S, seeking a SBM, 35-49, who enjoys sports, dining, traveling and movies, for friendship first, maybe more. ☎192050

SWEET SEXY LADY WANTS...
to be swept off my feet! Very pretty SWF, 42, brunette, 5'6", 133lbs, N/S, seeks good-looking, tall SWM, 40-45, honest, medical professional, college-educated, romantic, sensual, for friendship first, possible LTR. ☎236308

LET'S TALK SOMETIME
SBF, 38, 5'8", 120lbs, smoker, loves jazz. Seeking BF, 30-45, smoker, for dining out and movies. For friendship, possible romance. ☎152389

BF SEEKING MR. RIGHT
SBF, 38 mother, N/S, seeking WM, 40-60, N/S, for a friendship that could turn into something more. I enjoy life, reading, travel, camping, fishing and trying new things. ☎232181

COULD IT BE YOU?
SBF, 44, professional, hard-working, independent, enjoys church, shopping, more. Looking for a SPM, 44, employed, open-minded, warm-hearted and considerate, to share all life has to offer. ☎236988

HI THERE
SWF, 46, blonde/blue, 5'5", slim, enjoys outdoor activities, sports, Nascar, cooking, reading and animals. Seeking compatible man to share talks, casual dates and then who knows? ☎228166

LOOKING FOR A COMPANION
Tall, attractive W/WF, 60s, enjoys good conversation, walks, playing board/board games, antiques and more. Looking for honest gentleman, 64-80, with a wide variety of interest to share all life offers. ☎236416

AWAITING YOUR CALL
Honest, attractive SBF, 25, 5'2", 150lbs, mother, employed, caring, looking to meet outgoing, child-friendly, respectful Christian man to enjoy dinner dates, good talks, family, friendship and fun. ☎237322

LOOKING FOR ME?
SBF, 46, 5'8", dark complexion, slim, cute, looking for tall, attractive, sweet guy, kind and understanding to share all the good things life offers. ☎216297

DO YOU EXIST?

DWF, 58, 5'7", slender, very attractive, college-educated, enjoys movies, theater, sports, concerts, dining and travel. Seeking widowed/divorced WPM, 55-63, athletic, healthy, tall, N/S, DID-free, with good sense of humor. ☎202936

DO-WOP TO CLASSICS
DWF, 56, 5'4", N/S, with traditional values, shapely blond, enjoys concerts, dining, classic cars, the lake, dancing, ISO christian +, N/S, gentleman, 50+, for dating, open to new activities. Rochester. ☎225822

CLASS ACT & GOOD CATCH
Free kitten to good home. Affectionate, attractive intelligent DWPF, 5'8", N/S, upbeat with class, warmth and sense of humor, seeks LTR with monogamous, romantic gentleman, 55-69. Make me purr. ☎238978

WILD AND SOPHISTICATED
Ebony woman desires shared love relationship for mental, emotional, physical, spiritual and financial uplift. 40-50. ☎147056

BUSY GIRL
Very cute 48-year-old SWF, could easily pass for 35, 5', 115lbs, long brown wavy hair, looking for someone to spice up my life. ☎230116

HI THERE
SBPF, 35, 5'8", 135lbs, sexy, curvy, golden-brown complexion, long hair, beautiful smile, seeks SWM, 45+, to share life and all it offers. I enjoys water sports, travel, fine dining, art. ☎218986

LOOKING FOR ME?
SBF, 37, attractive, trustworthy, down-to-earth, with grown son likes walks, movies, dinners, park, music. Seeking BM, 36-55, for friendship, possible romance. ☎220303

VERY CUTE
SBF, 56, 5'3", 122lbs, interested in fit, good-looking, confident male, 45-58, N/S, intelligent, sincere, down-to-earth, who wants to commit to someone special. ☎113198

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL
Attractive SWF, 50s, 5'7", 125lbs, loves all life, animals, arts, family, nature, spirituality, Masters helping professional. Seeking big-hearted, financially/emotionally secure, intelligent DPM, 48-68, for fun, friendship, depth, etc. ☎892242

IN THIS BOX U CAN FIND...
a 42-year-old SWF, ISO SWM, 38-45, for friendship and possibly more. I'm sociable, affectionate 5'7", 120lbs, long dark curly hair, N/D, N/S, DID-free, never married, no children. Interested? Call ☎224748

COULD YOU BE THE ONE
Bright, spunky, pretty SF, 46, educator, outgoing, pretty eyes, wishing to meet a kind Jewish man, 45-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. ☎230864

HERE I AM GUYS
Loving, sexy SBF, 34, caramel complexion, 5'3", 150lbs, brown eyes, independent, employed, secure, Seeking warm-hearted intelligent, commitment-minded man who wants to share something real. ☎238307

ITALIAN/SICILIAN MAN...
wanted. 40-year-old SWF, 5'8" looking for handsome, fun, older Italian or Sicilian Male, 40-55 years old. I like shopping, movies, and cooking. ☎218623

ARE YOU SEEKING?
DWF, 63, 5'2", Italian, brunette, attractive, well-dressed, sincere, loving, optimistic, likes, theater, travel, dining, fitness. Wishing to meet N/S WM, 58-70, financially secure, easygoing, good morals, loves family, for dating. ☎630806

HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU
W/WF, 57, homeowner, independent, a little lonely, dog owner, enjoys quiet times, good talks and togetherness. Seeking a kind man to share these. ☎211330

CALLING ALL GOLFERS!
W/WF, 61, seeking golfer, best friend, 62-70, must be honest, N/S, and active. Looking for LTR, don't delay call now. ☎376914

HEY GUYS
SBF, 28, mother of 3, dark complexion, 5'4", 120lbs, red/brown, likes chilling at home, hanging with friends. Looking for a loving SM, to get to know. ☎234678

HEY GUYS
SBF, 20, 5'9", slim, long black hair, enjoys movies, concerts, and just having fun, looking for a nice, respectful man, to enjoy talks, casual dates, and see what happens next. ☎258810

COULD YOU BE THE ONE?
SBF, 27, self-sufficient, up front and real seeks employed, respectful, nice man independent and not about games, to get to know and have a good time. ☎231868

LOOKING FOR A FRIEND
SBF, 19, full-figured, 5'4", caramel complexion looking for a good man to enjoy talks, hang out with and just get to know. ☎230300

CREATIVE MAKEUP ARTIST
Sincere, kind SWF, 53, proportionate, 5'6", 124lbs, professional attractive, intelligent and educated, loves music, dancing, outdoors, cooking, movies and creative pursuits. Seeking attractive gentleman, 42-53, with like interests/qualities, for friendship/LTR. ☎230791

POSSIBLE LTR

SWPF, 58, 5'7", attractive, slender, athletic, N/S, enjoys sports, concerts, dining out, seeks SWPM, 55-62, N/S, college degree, healthy, SOH, possible LTR. ☎933381

READ THIS AD!
SWF, 61, N/S, homebody, enjoys cuddling, scary movies and antiques, searching for a SWM, 52+, with various interest and qualities. ☎164114

IS IT YOU?
SF, 65, employed, outgoing, honest and fun-loving, Libra, wishing to meet a southern gentleman, social drinker with good sense of humor, to share all life offers. ☎226734

COULD IT BE YOU?
Employed SWF, 50, 5'3", blond/hazel enjoys day trips, quiet times, getaways, sightseeing, window shopping, trying new restaurants, moonlight strolls. Seeking like-minded gentleman who would appreciate the same. ☎227075

SEEKING MR. RIGHT
Cassy SBF, hoping to meet mature SBM, 45-60. I'm a very passionate, affectionate, loving person, who enjoys a variety of activities. If you're seeking your soulmate, why not try me? ☎965794

NURSE
Attractive SWF, 64, 5', 135lbs, dark hair, blue eyes, fair skin, looking for N/S, honest gentleman, 60-70, who has numerous interests including history, traveling, and home life. ☎409879

I'LL MAKE U SMILE
Loving, open-minded, spontaneous SBF, 18, DID-free, N/S, no children, looking for SW/M, to share friendship, fun times, talks laughs a little romance and see what happens next. ☎212804

LET'S TALK
SF, 31, 5'9", brown/blue, Pisces, enjoys romantic dinners, movies, nice talks, quiet walks, simple fun. Looking for a nice, easygoing, simple guy to share friendship and fun. ☎213820

WHY NOT CALL?
SBF, full-figured, seeks a SM, 37-80, for friendship, possible LTR. Call me, let's get together and get to know each other. ☎217234

UNAFRAID OF A LITTLE...
strangeness. Quirky, compassionate SF, 27, mother with 11 month old who is my world, loves reading, friends, animals, and exploring life. Seeking someone compassionate to share a friends first relationship. ☎236616

LOOKING FOR AN EXPLORER
SWF, 58, looking for a cultural man who enjoys restaurants, cafes, the Arts, French culture, stimulating conversations, reading, cooking and more. Let's meet and see if we connect. ☎226494

CLASSY LADY
SBF, middle-aged, attractive, enjoys dining, movies, plays and bowling, seeks a SM, 48-68, N/S, good sense of humor and good values/morals. ☎207254

LADY IN THE WOODS
SWF, 50, looks younger, nice smile, blonde/hazel, 5'5", average build, employed, educated, homeowner, dog lover, seeking compatible, outdoorsy, rugged, good-hearted male to share the good things in life. Livingston county. ☎210247

I NEED A LOVE...
to keep me happy. Attractive, classy, delightful, charming WF, 49, no kids, seeks SWM, 45+, no kids, N/S, fun, loving, caring. ☎588059

READY FOR A FRESH START?
DWF, 47, 5'5", 120lbs, long blonde/blue, well-proportioned, very feminine, attractive, self-employed. Seeking SWM, 45-57, 6'1", 225lbs+, good sense of humor, energetic, traveler, outdoorsman, adventurer, marly gentleman. ☎692549

FUN AND SIMPLE
SBF, 19, dark complexion, artsy, easygoing, passionate about music and art. Looking for creative, fun SM, to chill with and just get to know. ☎222583

HOW ARE YOU?
SBF, 29, mom of 2, N/S, fun-loving, caring, compassionate, likes cooking, painting, walks, beaches, family times. Seeking a nice guy with zest for life, to share a little happiness. ☎200770

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

CALL THIS MAN!
Easygoing, expressive DWM, 43, nice looks, no kids, enjoys traveling, outdoors, romantic evenings. Seeks warm-hearted SWF. ☎112288

A SPECIAL GUY
DWM, 56, 5'10", handsome and secure, seeks honest S/DWF, w/sense of humor, who enjoys travel, candlelight dinners, plays, dancing, concerts, boating, and movies. Friendship, possible LTR. ☎269646

BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS WANTED
SBM, early 40s, seeks attractive, younger lady, 28-45, for romance, companionship, must be independent and shapely. Serious replies only. ☎684501

HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU

SBM, 44, 5'9", 150lbs, father, enjoys gourmet cooking, beach walks, sunshine, soft rock, much more. Seeking a loving, happy lady to share the special times in life. ☎151943

LET'S GET GOING!
SWM 40s, attractive, good shape, great listener, enjoys good conversation, friendship, spontaneous fun, and laughter, seeks personable SWF for dating and more. ☎128302

HI LADIES!
DHM, 48, kind, hard-worker, N/S, seeks a H/WF, 37-57, N/S, for sharing of conversations, dates, fun and more. Possible LTR. ☎218527

WANTS A LADY TO LOVE
SWM, 47, 5'10", 170lbs, N/S, sincere, loyal, honest and warm-hearted, enjoys dining out, walks, the zoo and weekend getaways. Looking for LTR with sincere, sweet woman. ☎231715

A GOOD CATCH
SBM, 35, 5'8", 220lbs, dark complexion, shaved head, mustache, correctional officer, father, looking for a loving, good-hearted, child-friendly lady with whom to share life and all it offers. ☎144595

COULD IT BE YOU?
SBM, 48, 6'2", brown complexion, wavy hair, mustache/goatee, employed, mature, intelligent, hard-working, enjoys soulfood, good company, romance. ISO very attractive, intelligent, down-to-earth and independent lady, for life and love. ☎189723

FRIENDLY AND FUN
SBM, 48, brown complexion, open-minded, sincere, warm and patient, seeks SF, 21-60, to get to know and share all the good times in life. ☎235738

LET'S TALK SOMETIME
Affectionate, sincere SWM, 40, 5'11", 190lbs, salt-n-pepper/brown, looking for a loving, sweet lady to share fall fun and friendship. ☎236283

TAKE A CHANCE
SBM, 46, on disability, enjoys romance, having fun, hockey playing, watching. Seeking a loving, kind, truthful woman, 37-48, who loves to have a good time in life. ☎238575

WHAT'S UP LADIES?
Simple, honest, respectful, romantic SBM, 42, 6'6", 280lbs, light complexion, brown eyes, looking for a nice, romantic lady to get to know and share good times. ☎237959

WAITING FOR YOUR CALL
Affectionate SWM, 40, 5'9", 210lbs, dark brown/brown, easygoing, friendly, enjoys dining, movies, talks, walks, and waterfront talks, quiet times home. Looking for compatible lady who knows how to enjoy life. ☎236130

LOOKING FOR ROMANCE
SM, 70, 6', 194lbs, retired salesman, enjoys cycling, dining out, movies travel and life in general. ISO SF, 57-75, who appreciates the same, for sharing happiness and LTR. ☎253204

HOPE ABOUT A CALL?
Loving, real separated BM, 28, business owner, father, looking for genuine, sexy, sweet, child-friendly SWF, goal-oriented and affectionate who knows how to have a good time in life. ☎240443

HEY LADIES
SBM, 22, 6'2", brown complexion, brown eyes, 175lbs, looking for sexy, thick, shapely ladies to kick it with and have a good time. ☎240985

SERIOUS WOMAN WANTED
SBM, 46, looking for that special persona for LTR, someone who enjoys walks, movies, sporting events, cuddling at home. Please be shapely, independent and know what you want in life. ☎692418

TALL ATHLETIC
SWM, 48, 6'2", 200lbs, part-time personal trainer, brown/blue, degree, outgoing personality, enjoys outdoors, working out, new activities, seeking friendly SF affection. ☎531308

A TERRIFIC GUY
SWM, 45, 6', blue/brown, 200lbs, N/D, little on the shy side, enjoys quiet times, classic cars, bowling, more. Seeking SWF, N/D, trustworthy, 35-55, in good shape, w/similar interests. Possible LTR. ☎224488

WORTH A SHOT
Easygoing honest, fun-loving guy, 36, 6'2", 250lbs, former Marine, father of 2, ISO romantic, outdoorsy, sensitive, sweet, child-friendly lady who can make me laugh and smile. Is it you? ☎237256

WORTH THE CALL
Healthy, romantic, happy, reliable SWM, 36, well-built, attractive, open-minded, likes bowling, movies, good talks and laughter. Seeking similar, commitment-minded SF into having a good time, to share friendship maybe more. ☎235790

HELLO SEXY LADIES
Romantic, honest SBM, 36, brown/brown, 165lbs, looking for slim, attractive, sociable, open-minded SF commitment-minded and caring who knows how to enjoy life to the fullest and appreciates a good man. ☎235840

ENJOY THE VIEW
Romantic, thoughtful SWM, 39, is looking for love, enjoys hugs, kisses and cuddling, seeks kind, attractive SWF, age and area open. ☎113835

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SEARCHING FOR LADY LOVE
SM, 51, 5'11", 185lbs, enjoys the outdoors, boating, dining out, music, long walks, etc. Seeking honest, caring SF, who enjoys same activities, for companionship, friendship and romance. ☎145012

HANDSOME MALE
SBM, 6', HWP, professionally employed, kind, considerate, confidence, likes concerts, travel, dining. Seeking WF, 30-58, attractive, passionate, loving, affectionate. ☎984967

LONELY & READY
SWM, 49, average build, Italian, heart of gold, Virgo, N/S, seeks WF, 45-55, with a nice build, ready for LTR. Serious replies only. Redford Area. ☎860305

LET'S GET TOGETHER
DWM, DID-free, east area, great sense-of-humor, interested in music, outdoors, pets, gardening and evenings in front of a fireplace. ISO WF, 35-55, with similar interests for friendship, possible LTR. ☎202143

EASYGOING
Sharp, sociable SWM, 45, with good character and pleasant personality, likes the outdoors, fishing, motor sports etc. W/LTM SWF, for dating and fun times. ☎187514

ISO MY COUNTERPART
Adventurous, energetic, handsome, laid-back SWM, 48, looks younger, 5'11", N/S, enjoys traveling, dining out. Seeking fit, energetic, pretty woman, 28-58, N/S, with same qualities, and interests, for LTR. ☎218526

SEEKING A TRUE HEART
SM, 44, self-employed, honest and hard-working, modest and humble, loves music, long walks, parks, movies, dinners, plays. Seeking a kind, like-minded woman to share companionship, happiness, maybe love. ☎231534

MAN WITH CUTE DIMPLES
Friendly, affectionate, warm, respectful BM, 43, N/S, in search of a easygoing, honest, active woman, with God in her heart, hwp, for friendship, romance and more. No head games/drama. ☎165436

WANT TO JOIN ME?
SWM, 38, social drinker, smoker, electrician by trade, looking for an outgoing, honest, fun lady with like interests. I enjoy biking, hiking, snowmobiling, outdoor activities, quiet times. ☎200127

BOATER SEEKS 1ST MATE
SWM, 35, N/S, good-looking, trustworthy, enjoys boating, good music, working out. Seeking very attractive SF, 28-40, race unimportant, for friendship leading to possible LTR. ☎205048

ARE YOU OUT THERE?
SBM, 51'1", likes swimming and having fun, searching for a down-to-earth woman, 21-30, to enjoy what life has to offer. ☎212235

HOPE TO FIND U SOON
SBM, 51'1", 170lbs, black/brown, brown complexion, enjoys playing chess, walks, concerts, plays, more. Looking for drama-free, romantic, kind lady, good-natured and fun-loving to share the good things in life. ☎216113

HI LADIES
Simple, honest SM, 35, 5'6", brown/hazel, medium build, seeks nice, kind-hearted, non-judgmental woman to share talks dates, fun and more. ☎217053

WORTH YOUR TIME
Attractive, clean-cut SM, 46, 5'11", 155lbs, self-employed, respectful, open-minded, enjoys cooking, music, movies, comedy shows. ISO attractive, pleasant SWF, 28-42, DID-free, slender-medium build, classy, kind, compassionate and caring, for friendship/LTR? ☎217334

TRY THIS ONE
Loving, young-looking SM, 36, 5'9", 200lbs, well-groomed, health-conscious, likes action and horror films, seeking a nice, cool, honest lady who knows what she wants in life, for friendships and fun. ☎219704

HANDSOME & FUN-LOVING
Sincere, fun-loving, down-to-earth SBM, 44, ISO romantic, honest, intelligent BF, 25-55, with great SOH, for companionship, possible LTR. ☎988147

LOOKING FOR ME?
SWM, 36, 6', 240lbs, brown/brown, muscular, attractive, well-built, likes movies, dining out, travel, trying new things. ISO attractive, fit, honest, fun SF, to share the good times in life. Friendship/LTR. ☎222019

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TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stevenson's Wade Stahl moves his way downfield during Saturday's 40-35 state semi-finals win against Troy at Southfield Lathrup High School.

FINAL

FROM PAGE B1

Ironically, Dakota returned only two starters on offense and two on defense. The Cougars graduated All-State quarterback James Stallons (now at Wisconsin) and star running back-defensive back Greg Gay (now at Grand Valley State) off last year's state championship team.

"We don't have any superstars," Dakota coach Mike Giannone said. "Both Stallons and Gay were key players. We hung our hats on them. We had quite a few returnees, but not many starters. But we had some extremely hungry players that did not play last year that had to sit back and watch. They wanted to be players and this year they were given the opportunity."

"Our defense has done a remarkable job," Giannone said. "All of our linebackers are brand new. They're bigger than what we had last year, but not quite as fast."

Giannone, meanwhile, has plenty of concerns about the Spartans, who have outscored their opponents 474-172. "They seem they have a lot of speed collectively and they buzz to the football," Giannone said. "They run a lot of stuff and throw a lot of things at you. You have to be on your toes. They definitely do some things that we haven't seen."

Saturday's Division 1 state championship kicks off at 1 p.m. Tickets are \$10 per session.

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SCOUTING STEVENSON

Head Coach: Tim Gabel, 82-46 overall record (13th season).
Varsity assistants: Conrad Newman, Scott Shaw, Matt Fielder.
Probable starters (offense): Jason Bajas, Sr. LT (6-0, 213); Joe Cantrell, Sr. LG (5-8, 202); Ricky Bell, Sr. C (6-0, 248); Travis Austin, Sr. RG (5-9, 231); Matt Broome, Sr. RT (6-3, 235); Mike Flynn, Sr. TE (6-2, 204); Myles White, Sr. SE (6-1, 165); Mitchell White, Sr. QB (6-1, 170); Austin White, Soph. RB (5-11, 180); Emanuel Onwuemene, Sr. FB (5-10, 201); Wade Stahl, Jr. SB (5-10, 170).
Probable starters (defense): Bajas, Sr. DE; Chris Golonka, Sr. DT (6-2, 310); Trent Judis, Sr. NG (5-10, 245); Matt Broome, Sr. DE; John Saaman, Sr. LB (5-10, 208); Joe Doulette, Sr. LB (5-9, 186); Wyatt Stahl, Jr. DB (5-10, 165); Myles White, Sr. DB; Pat York, Sr. DB (5-10, 154); Mark Grisa, Sr. DB (6-0, 161); Chris Summers, Sr. DB (5-10, 164).
Specialists: Wade Stahl (punt returns/kickoffs); Austin White (kickoffs); Derek Buskey (punter); Jonny Myshock (PATs-FG kicker); Jacob Gudeman (holder); Derek Lienhardt (long snapper).
Leading passer: Mitchell White, 74-for-136, 1,416 yards (18 TDs, 2 INTs).
Leading rushers: Austin White, 186-for-1,545 (23 TDs); Wade Stahl, 88-for-730 (8 TDs); Emanuel Onwuemene, 69-for-480 (7 TDs); Mitchell White, 56-for-328, 3 TDs.
Leading receivers: Myles White, 25-for-645 (10 TDs); Wade Stahl, 24-for-401 (3 TDs); Austin White, 18-for-198 (2 TDs); Derek Buskey, 11-for-230 (2 TDs).
Scoring leaders: Austin White, 156 points (26 TDs); Wade Stahl, 78 (13 TDs); Jonny Myshock, 72 (60 PATs, 4 FGs); Myles White, 60 (10 TDs).
Passes intercepted: Pat York, 9 (1 TD); Mark Grisa, 6; John Saaman, 3; Myles White, 2.
Points for/against: 474/172.

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 B040 - Joseph A DeSanto - Misc Items, Boxes
 B053 - Jo Ann Stoudemire - Stove, Sofa, Misc Items
 C011 - Mario Mickel - 15 Boxes, Toys, Entertainment Center
 C056 - Robin Justin - Guitar, Amp, 10 Boxes
 D015 - Anthony Fica - Washer, Dryer, Dresser
 D162 - Jamie Williams - Sofa, Table, Boxes
 E108 - Frederick Justin - Treadmill, Snow-blower, 3 Bikes
 F018 - Michael Nation - 2 Boxes, Clothing, Misc Items
 F035 - Bonnie Wilson - Dresser, Chairs, Misc Items
 Publish: November 15 & 22, 2007

SPARTANS

FROM PAGE B1

over leading to Stevenson's game-winning score.

"I think these kids have worked themselves into such a state throughout the season, as far as goal-setting, their approach to practices, to their preparation, that they play with a lot of pride and were able to show some resiliency today," said an elated Stevenson coach Tim Gabel afterward.

Troy appeared to be on the doorstep of its first state finals appearance since 1994 when running back Nick Gallina scored on an 11-yard touchdown run with only 7:40 remaining. Kevin Muma's extra point gave the Colts an eight-point cushion, 35-27.

That TD occurred after the Spartans' Austin White had scored on a 2-yard TD run with 9:47 left in regulation to pull Stevenson within one, 28-27, but it remained a one-point difference in Troy's favor after the extra point attempt was botched.

But Austin White, the sophomore running back who led all rushers with 173 yards on 16 carries, answered with an 80-yard TD run just 18 seconds later to pull the Spartans to within two, 35-33.

The Spartans, however, had to burn a pair of timeouts, including one because there were only 10 players on the field while lining up for the two-point conversion. The Colts' defense then stacked up White short of the goal line.

Troy took the ensuing kickoff from its own 35-yard line and drove down to the Stevenson 32 with less than four minutes to go and appeared to be in command. But after quarterback Branko Hamilton threw an incomplete pass with 3:21 remaining to stop the clock, the Colts tried a screen pass to Gallina that Stevenson linebacker Joey Doulette picked off and returned to his own 48.

"They scouted it; they read the book on us and they were ready," Troy coach Gary Griffith said. "It (the screen) is a play we've used all year and normally he (Gallina) is magic."

The Stevenson linebacker, meanwhile, had an inkling the

screen was about to happen. "We knew it was third-and-8 and that they needed it," said Doulette, who came up with his second interception of the year. "We practiced against it all week, and we knew it was a big play for them all year. I told our guys 'the screen' was coming because they hadn't used it the entire time."

The Spartans, however, found themselves on the ropes with a fourth-and-12 at their own 46, only to have Mitchell White hit Wade Stahl over the middle for a key 18-yard first down pickup to keep Stevenson's hopes alive with only 2:10 to go.

After the Stevenson quarterback connected again with Stahl on a 9-yard pass down to the Troy 25, White's twin brother, Myles, took the ball on a reverse handoff. The senior wide receiver was nearly tackled for a substantial loss, only to reverse his field and find a wall of blockers for a 15-yard gain.

On the very next play with only 1:34 remaining, Mitchell White located Stahl open in the end zone for the game-winning, 10-yard TD pass.

Trailing for the first time in the second half, Troy had one more shot and crossed the Spartans' 50 during the final minute, but a 5-yard sack by linebacker John Saaman and another big tackle by Wyatt Stahl on Hamilton on fourth down short of the first-down marker sealed the victory for Stevenson with just 18 seconds left.

Mitchell White was 13-of-23 passing for 169 yards, while Hamilton was 10-of-18 for 112. Hamilton also rushed for 162 yards on 16 carries, while Gallina had 124 on eight attempts.

"When they (Stevenson) showed up on the field, I was surprised they were not only bigger, but faster than I thought," Griffith said of the Spartans. "After they got 21 (points), I didn't know if we could stick around, but I give our kids a lot of credit. They settled down the second quarter and made stops."

"But I never felt comfortable of being able to stop them. We wanted to make them drive it, but they'd get a 70- or 80-yard touchdown. We had some key breakdowns. They (Stevenson) are very strong, physical and very well coached."

Stevenson scored on its first possession just 2:12 into the game after Wyatt Stahl recovered the opening pooch kick at the Troy 35 resulting in an 11-yard TD run by Austin White. Gallina then took an option pitch from Hamilton and raced 67 yards for a score just 1:25 later.

Stevenson marched 78 yards on 10 plays on its next possessions capped by Wade Stahl's 1-yard TD run with 3:15 left in the first quarter. Mitchell White hit 5-of-5 passes during the drive for 78 yards.

Wade Stahl followed with a 54-yard TD run with 1:20 to go in the first quarter to give the Spartans a 21-7 lead (following Jonny Myshock's extra point).

Troy, however, responded with a pair of second-period scores — both by the 6-foot, 180-pound Hamilton — on runs of 23 and 40 yards.

The Colts then controlled the third period as Hamilton found Robert Pardun wide open for an 11-yard TD pass with 5:16 to play for a 28-21 advantage.

"We had kind of a meltdown in the third quarter," Gabel said. "And, as strange as it is to say, we needed it, because our kids said to themselves, 'We gotta come back and make plays.'"

Stevenson had a total of 492 yards and 20 first downs to Troy's 398 total yards and 18 first downs.

Stevenson's senior starting center, Ricky Bell, played with a knee injury suffered the previous week in a 10-7 Region 4 championship win over rival Livonia Franklin.

"It's a stage 2 tear of the MCL ligament; it's painful but the adrenalin is pumping and you just have to keep going," Bell said. "You just have to dig in; you can't think about it. When we got the ball back (following Doulette's interception), I knew we'd score. We just turned to each other and played as one."

Gabel, meanwhile, also commended his senior captain. "I don't have the words to express how I feel about what Ricky did today," he said.

What words Gabel, Bell and the rest of the Spartans can express is that they're going to Ford Field to play for a championship and the first state football title in school history.



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Spartans' football program retains Jack's imprints

Tim Gabel's streak of playing touch football with his old buddies from the neighborhood in their annual "Turkey Bowl" at Wilson Elementary School has come to an end.

The Livonia Stevenson football coach, whose last name is pronounced "Gobble," has another commitment on Thanksgiving morning, but he has a legitimate excuse.

"This would have been my 32nd year, but I've got practice at 11 a.m.," Gabel said. "I guess I'm not sorry this time I won't be there."

Gabel has to get his 13-0 Spartans ready for their biggest game of the year, a 1 p.m. showdown against defending Division 1 state champion Macomb Dakota, also 13-0, at Ford Field, home of the Detroit Lions.

Following Saturday's dramatic come-from-behind 40-35 semifinal victory Saturday over Troy, Gabel has been flooded over the past few days with congratulatory calls and e-mails.

He even got an e-mail from a former Spartan grider now living in China and has heard from numerous former teammates when he played linebacker at Livonia Franklin.

"I've been taking a lot of phone calls and responding to a lot of e-mails, there hasn't been much time for all coaching duties," Gabel quipped.

But don't worry Spartan fans, Gabel will have his team ready to play come Saturday amid all hoopla and excitement this week.

Gabel, now in his 13th year, is only the second varsity coach in the school's history dating back to the 1966.

And his bloodlines run deep. After graduating from Wayne State, Gabel side-stepped a career in civil



Brad Emons

engineering and went into teaching and coaching.

He took over in 1995 for Jack Reardon, who spent 30 years building and crafting one of the

Detroit metro area's most successful programs. Gabel, in fact, has been around coaches all his life. His father Jack, who passed away last February at age 77, was Reardon's long-time assistant.

Before becoming Stevenson's head coach, Tim served on Reardon's staff from 1985 through 1994, first coaching the freshman squad for four years while his father served on the varsity staff.

And to this day, he still tries to take a piece of coaching philosophy and wisdom from each of the two Jacks.

"As far as Jack Reardon's approach, the most important thing was the environment he would create around him, the discipline and the structure," Tim said. "He's impeccable in that regard, and I admit I can't live up to that."

"For my dad, I think he had the advantage of not being the head coach. The burden was not as heavy. He had fun. He'd tell funny stories all the time, whether it was about kids jumping off sides . . . all kinds of funny stuff that happened over the years."

Even during the gravest of moments and Stevenson staring down a 35-33 deficit during the final two minutes in Saturday's semifinal game against Troy, Tim Gabel took the Jack Gabel approach prior to the Spartans' game-winning 52-yard TD drive.

"I told Mitchell (White) 'this is fun,'" Tim recalled telling

his senior quarterback, "but it doesn't mean we're not working hard or we're not serious. It's just fun for me to watch kids have fun."

Jack Reardon and his wife Rosemary now live in Tallmidge, Ohio (outside Akron) not far from their daughter Mary.

Jack doesn't have access to the internet, but often calls former young assistant for updates.

"I've talked to him a couple of times this season," Tim Gabel said. "He's been calling me, but usually he's a week behind on getting the scores. I talked to him Saturday night. His daughter went online and got him the score."

Jack Reardon twice came close to making it to the promise land of Michigan high school football.

In 1979, his Spartans lost to Escanaba in the state semifinals, 28-26. And in 1994, his final year as Stevenson coach, it took a great fourth-quarter open-field TD run by Westland John Glenn's Brent Washington to keep the Spartans out of the Final Four, 21-20.

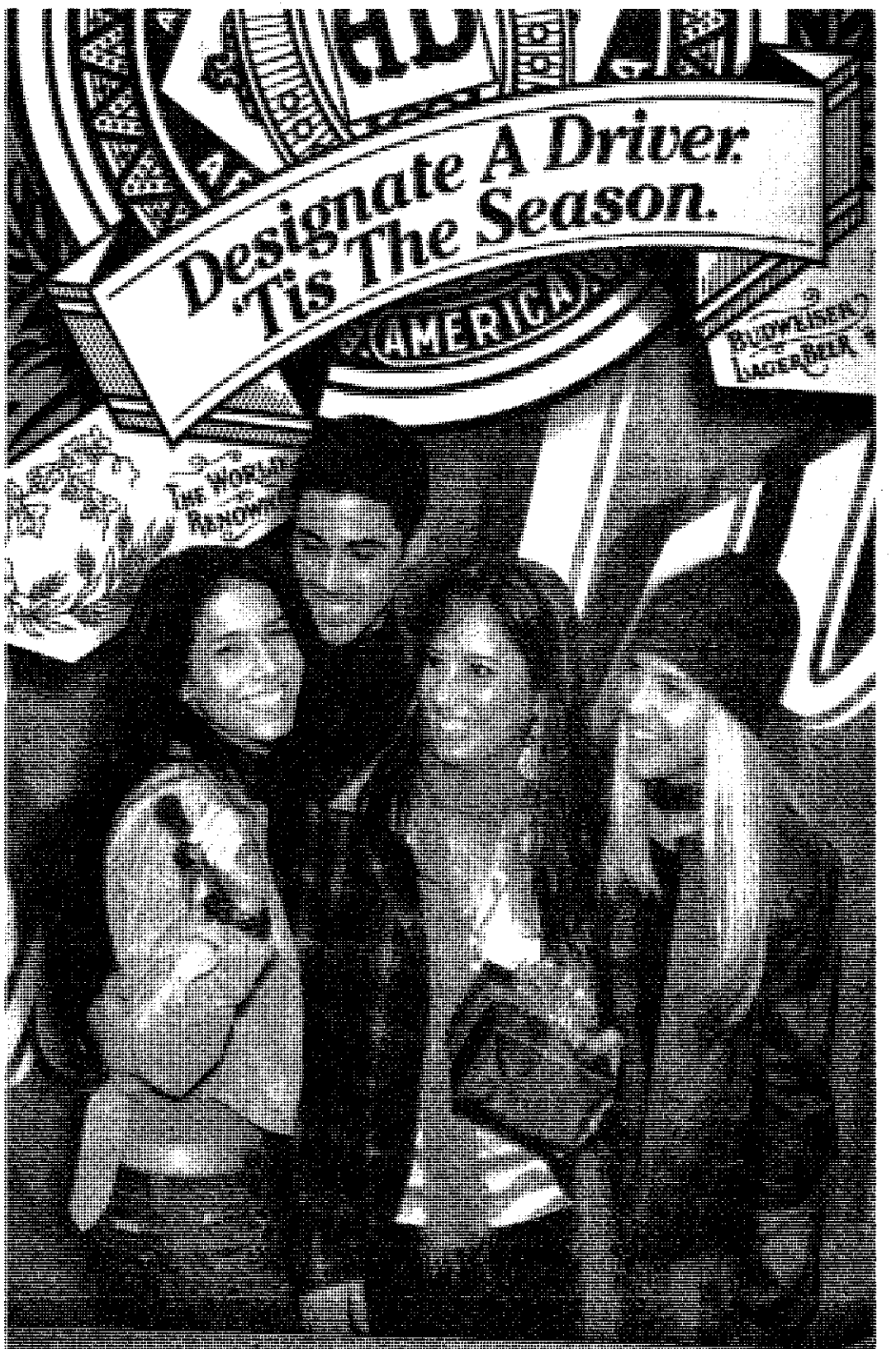
"He (Reardon) might try to come in with his daughter, his wife, I don't think, is well enough to travel," Tim Gabel said. "But I hope he makes it."

Knowing Jack Reardon myself, he'd want to remain inconspicuous and remain in the background.

But it would be something if Reardon could be there and see the Spartans win a state title.

He'd be tickled pink for his former assistant more than anything else.

Brad Emons is the sports editor for Livonia-Westland. He can be reached via e-mail at bemons@oe.homecomm.net or by phone at (734) 953-2123.



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Turkey is great on Thanksgiving, and even better beyond.

New ideas for Thanksgiving leftovers

More leftover turkey recipes, D3.

BY J.M. HIRSCH
AP FOOD WRITER

The beauty of Thanksgiving leftovers is that they taste great pretty much no matter what you do with them.

Slap stuffing, turkey and cranberry sauce between slices of bread and you have a great sandwich (add cheese and pop the whole thing in a 350 degrees F oven for 10 minutes and it's even better).

Or simmer the turkey meat, mashed potatoes, vegetables and gravy with a few quarts of chicken broth for a hearty soup (season with salt, freshly ground black pepper and a touch of cayenne).

Then there's Thanksgiving

macaroni and cheese. Toss cooked noodles with chopped turkey, shredded cheese and vegetables, then transfer to a baking pan. Top with a thin layer of stuffing and more cheese, then bake until browned.

And, of course, there are fritters, an easy way to use just about any leftovers. These are served with a sauce made from cranberry sauce and tomato salsa, but leftover gravy would be delicious, too.

THANKSGIVING FRITTERS

Start to finish: 30 minutes
Servings: 4 to 6

1/2 cup cranberry sauce
1/2 cup tomato salsa

2 cups mashed potatoes
1 cup stuffing
1 cup chopped cooked vegetables
1 1/2 cups chopped turkey meat (or more)
1/2 cup chopped fresh parsley
1/2 cup minced onion
2 eggs
Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste
1 teaspoon smoked paprika
1 cup breadcrumbs
2 tablespoons canola or vegetable oil
Preheat oven to 200 degrees F.

In a small saucepan, combine the cranberry sauce and salsa. Mix well and bring to a simmer over low heat.
Meanwhile, in a large bowl,

combine the mashed potatoes, stuffing, vegetables, turkey meat, parsley, onion, eggs, salt, pepper and paprika. Mix well. Place the breadcrumbs in a large, shallow bowl.

In a large skillet, heat the oil over medium-high. With lightly floured hands, form about 1/2 cup of the mashed potato mixture into a patty, then set it in the bowl of breadcrumbs, turning it to lightly coat both sides.

One or two at a time, place the patties in the skillet and cook 3 to 4 minutes per side, or until lightly browned. Transfer the fritters to a baking sheet and place into the oven to keep warm. Repeat with remaining ingredients.

Serve fritters with warm cranberry salsa.

Hashbrowns are another leftover highlight



Enjoy this two-potato, apple and cranberry hash, flavored with stuffing seasoning, with leftover turkey this weekend.

BY DANA JACOBI
FOR THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

2 green onions, white and green parts, thinly sliced
1/2 Granny Smith apple, finely chopped

This two-potato, apple and cranberry hash is flavored with stuffing seasoning and highlights the best of Thanksgiving's flavors. Although this recipe calls for mashing fresh potatoes, leftover mashed potatoes can be substituted. Enjoy it with turkey on Friday, then accompanied by a poached egg over the weekend.

SWEET POTATO, APPLE AND CRANBERRY HASHBROWNS

1/2 cup fresh or frozen cranberries, coarsely chopped
1/2 teaspoon each of ground thyme, sage and ginger
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
Low-fat sour cream (optional)

1 large (3/4 pound) orange-flesh sweet potato, peeled and cut into 1/2-inch pieces
2 medium yellow-flesh potatoes (1/2 pound), peeled and cut into 1/2-inch pieces
2 tablespoons canola oil
1 medium onion, finely chopped

Boil the peeled potato pieces in large pot of water until tender, about 15-20 minutes. Drain. When cool enough to handle, place in a large mixing bowl. Set aside.

Heat 1 tablespoon of the oil in a skillet over medium-high heat. Sauté the onion, green onions and apple until the onions are translucent, about 4 minutes. Add them to the potatoes. Add the cranberries, stuffing seasoning, salt and pepper. Using a fork, gently mix, slightly mashing the potatoes to help the mixture hold together a bit. Carefully wipe out the hot pan with a paper towel.

Heat the remaining tablespoon of oil in the pan over medium-high heat. Add the hashbrown mixture to the pan, forming eight mounds. Press lightly with the back of a fork.

Cook until the hash is dark brown on the bottom, 6-8 minutes. Using a wide spatula, turn the patties over, pressing them back together if they crumble. Continue cooking for an additional 6-8 minutes. Serve immediately. Garnish with low-fat sour cream, if desired. Makes 4 servings.

Nutritional information per serving: 181 calories, 7 g total fat (<1 g saturated fat), 27 g carbohydrate, 3 g protein, 4 g dietary fiber, 169 mg sodium.

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As you may have guessed, the MagicJack relies on voice-over-IP technology, much



Tech Savvy

Rick Broida

like Vonage, ViaTalk, and other Internet phone services I've mentioned in the past. The difference here is that it's a plug-and-play — make that plug-and-dial — experience: You're

not abandoning your landline, but rather adding a new line that costs peanuts.

The device currently works with Windows XP and Vista systems, but a Mac-compatible version is imminent. Whatever system you use, it needs to have a broadband Internet

connection.

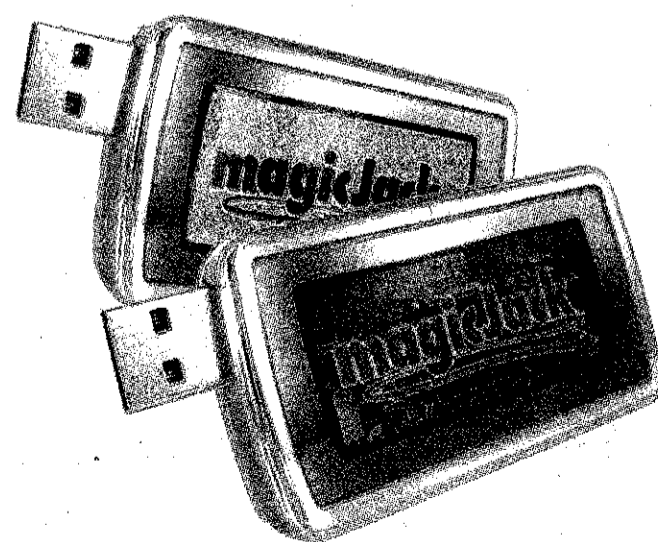
The experience of using MagicJack is totally transparent: You pick up your phone and dial it like you normally would. When a call comes in, your phone rings. The only real difference is that the phone itself is plugged into your PC instead of the wall.

Obviously, that means your PC must remain on 24/7, which isn't exactly convenient (or energy-efficient). Of course, you could always turn it off and let inbound calls go to voicemail -- one of MagicJack's many included features. Other features include call waiting, three-way calling, and even Enhanced 911 service.

At first I didn't think this was a worthwhile tool for travelers: Who wants to schlep a bulky corded handset? But then I discovered that it also works with corded headsets; toss a cheap one in your bag and you're good to go. In fact, you can use the MagicJack in just about any foreign country to make free calls back to the U.S. You can also make free overseas calls from the U.S. to other MagicJack users worldwide.

Who else would benefit from owning one of these? Kids who want their own phone line; cash-strapped college students; home-based business

Please see BROIDA, D3



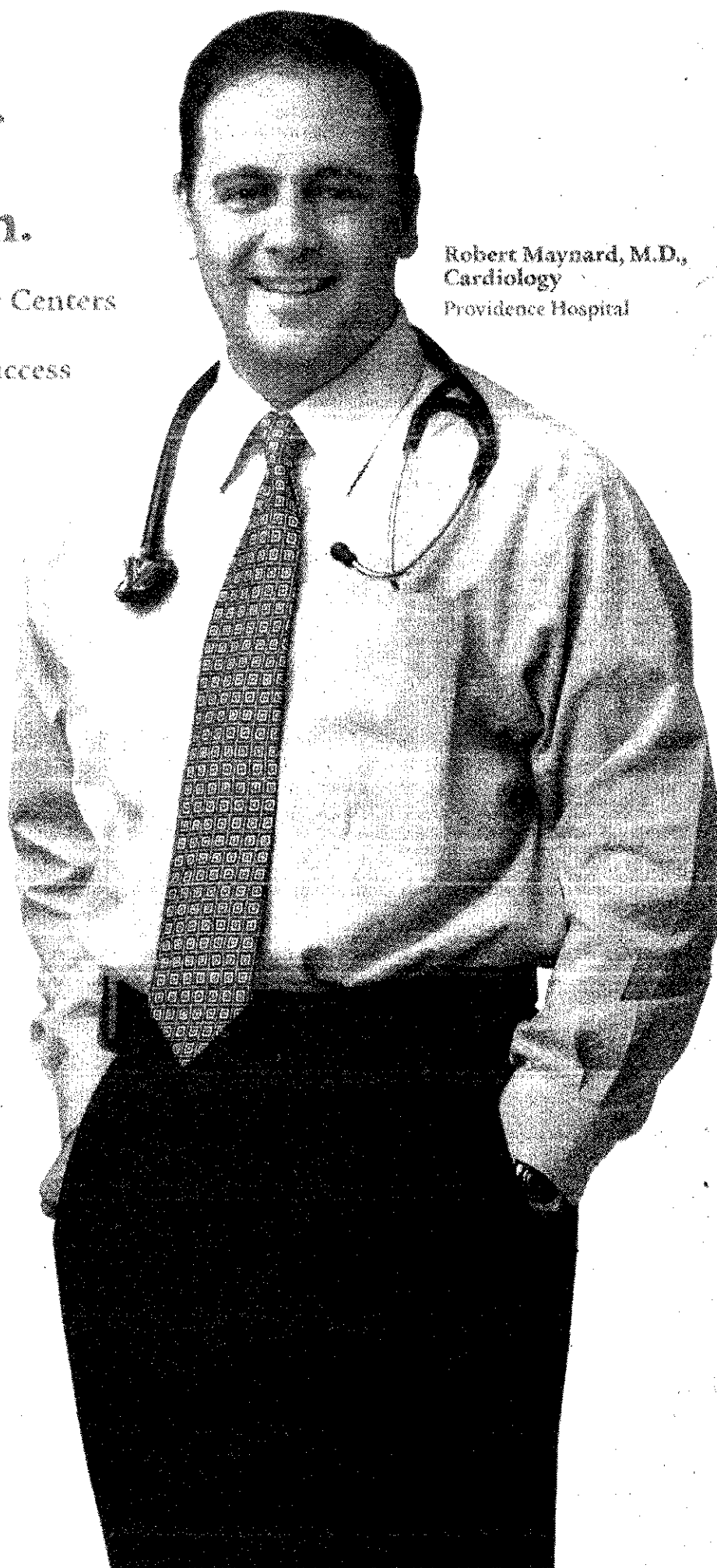
Plug the MagicJack into your PC and you can make a year's worth of unlimited calls for \$40. After that, service costs just \$20 per year.

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Leftover turkey with Asian flair

Have you ever noticed some of the best tasting meals are those that evolve from leftovers? Leaving flavors to meld and deepen for even a day can have a major impact on flavor. Stir-fries are a great way to recycle - and reinvigorate - the extra food left on your table.

DAY-AFTER STIR-FRY

- 1 tablespoon canola oil
- 1 cup chopped green vegetable (for example, snow peas, string beans, broccoli)
- 1 cup chopped red or orange vegetable (for example, carrot, bell pepper, red onion)
- 1 cup fresh, chopped bok choy, spinach or cabbage
- 3 cups steamed brown rice
- 1 tablespoon sesame seeds, for garnish
- 1/4 cup reduced-sodium soy sauce plus 2 tsp., divided
- 2 teaspoons sugar, divided
- 2 tablespoons mirin, sweet wine or sherry, divided
- 1/2 teaspoon minced green onion
- 1/2 teaspoon minced ginger
- 1 cup cooked turkey, cut into bite sizes
- 1 teaspoon cornstarch

In a shallow pan, mix 1/4 cup soy sauce, 1 teaspoon sugar, 1 tablespoon mirin, the green onion and ginger. Add turkey

and marinate 10 to 30 minutes. Discard the used marinade and pat the turkey dry with paper towel.

Meanwhile, in a small bowl or cup, mix together the remaining soy sauce, sugar and mirin with the cornstarch until well blended. Set aside.

Heat a wok or a large sauté pan. Add the turkey and cook over high heat until warmed through. Remove with slotted spoon and set aside.

Add half of the oil and heat the vegetables in batches, making sure not to overcrowd the pan. Add the remaining oil as needed. If using leftover vegetables, stir-fry just long enough to reheat, 30 seconds to 1 minute. The bok choy, spinach and cabbage cook quickly as well; heat until just wilted.

When all of the vegetables are tender-crisp, add the turkey back to the pan. Add the remaining soy sauce mixture and stir until sauce thickens. Serve immediately with steamed rice. Sprinkle with sesame seeds to garnish.

Makes 6 servings.
Nutritional information per serving: 207 calories, 5 grams total fat (<1 g saturated fat), 29 g carbohydrate, 10 g protein, 3 g dietary fiber, 274 mg sodium. AICR's Web address is www.aicr.org.

Source: American Institute for Cancer Research

TURKEY CHOP SUEY

- 2 cups cooked, cubed turkey
- 2 cups sliced celery
- 1 cup sliced onion
- 1 cup chicken broth, fat removed*
- 1 tablespoon soy sauce
- 1/2 teaspoon salt (optional)
- 2 1/2 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1/2 teaspoon ginger
- 1 tablespoon molasses
- 1/2 cup water
- 1 can (16 ounces) bean sprouts, drained (or 1 1/2 cups fresh)

Spray a large frying pan with non-stick cooking spray and brown turkey. Add celery, onion, broth, soy sauce and salt (optional). Cover and simmer for 5-10 minutes. Meanwhile, mix cornstarch, ginger, molasses and water. Stir into hot mixture and cook until thickened. Add bean sprouts and heat thoroughly. Serve over noodles or quick-cooking brown rice.

Makes 5 cups (4 servings); Each Serving: 1 1/2 cups; Carb Servings: 1; Exchanges: 3; very lean meat, 3 vegetable; calories 197, total fat 3g, saturated fat 1g, cholesterol 68mg, sodium 398mg, total carbohydrate 15g, dietary fiber 2g, protein 28g

Source: Quick & Healthy Volume II, ScaleDown Publishing, Inc., © by Brenda J. Ponichera, R.D. www.QuickandHealthy.net.

BROIDA

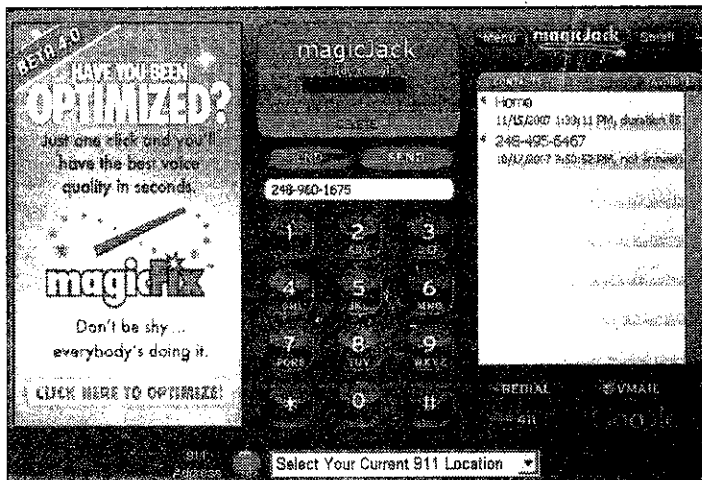
FROM PAGE D1

users; and second-home owners who don't want to pay the phone company for year-round service.

I tested the MagicJack on a couple PCs and came away mighty impressed - eventually. When I first plugged it into a Windows Vista system, it didn't work. A trip to the MagicJack Web site revealed that I needed a software update, which I downloaded and installed.

From there it was smooth sailing: I set up my account, chose a phone number, and plugged in my phone. I immediately heard a loud, clear dial tone. During my test calls, voice quality proved to be excellent, easily on par with my full-time phone service (ViaTalk).

I then headed to Coffee 'N' More in Wixom (order a warmed-up cinnamon twist, you won't regret it), connected my Windows XP notebook to their free Wi-Fi network, and plugged in the MagicJack. After a few seconds of automated installing, my account



The MagicJack automatically loads its own software, which provides an address book, phone dialer, and other handy features.

popped up on the screen. The gizmo remembers all your details, including contacts you add to its address book. Then I plugged in my embarrassingly bulky corded phone and picked it up: instant dial tone. Admittedly, there was a bit of drop-out during my test calls, probably owing to the relatively slow network, but overall they sounded great.

I've saved the best part for last: The MagicJack costs just \$40, which includes your first year of service. Each additional year is \$20. How incredible

is that? Whether you're looking for a dirt-cheap second line or you just want a simple way to test-drive VoIP, you'll absolutely love the MagicJack. It's one of the coolest things I've seen all year.

Rick Broida writes about computers and technology for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Broida, of Commerce Township, is the co-author of numerous books, including How to Do Everything with Your Palm Powered Device, Sixth Edition. He welcomes questions sent to rick.broida@gmail.com.

FOOD CALENDAR

If you have an item for the food calendar, please submit it at least two weeks prior to the event to Ken Abramczyk, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009, e-mail kabramcz@hometownlife.com, or fax (248) 644-1314.

2 Unique Classes

Chef Kelli Lewton, owner of 2 Unique Catering & Event Planners, offers classes throughout the fall, includ-

ing Cookie Exchange, 5-9 p.m. Nov. 23; 4303 Delemere Court (south of 14 Mile, two blocks east of Coolidge), Royal Oak, (248) 549-5242, www.twounique.com.

Hanukkah Cuisine Tasting

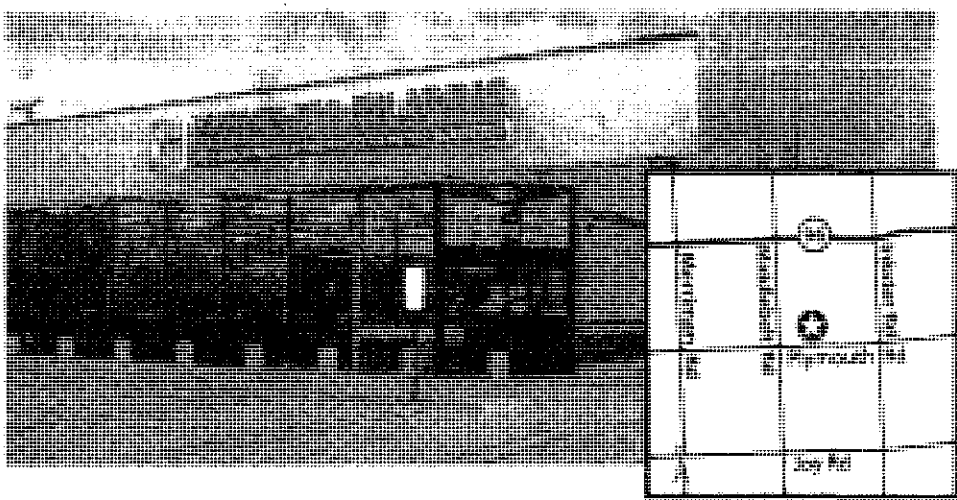
Try new items from a Hanukkah menu at Whole Foods Market, traditional cuisine will be available for sampling, as well as some new unconventional, yet delicious, Hanukkah options,

noon- 4 p.m. Dec. 2, Whole Foods Market Rochester Hills, 1404 Walton Blvd., Rochester Hills (248) 652-2100.

The Community House

Cooking classes are offered at The Community House, including Italian Holiday Sweets, 7:30 p.m. Dec. 5; to register, contact The Community House, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham, (248) 644-5832, or www.community-house.com.

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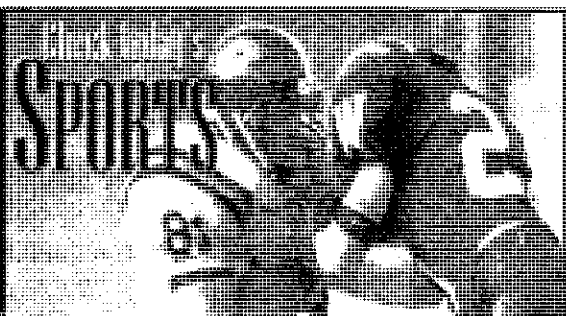


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Rosemount refocuses on Show Reserve wines

Over the years, the name Rosemount has become synonymous with fine Australian wines.

For any company with a longer than 30-year history crafting award-winning wines, the concern is always staying on top in the mind of consumers.

Following that thought, Rosemount recently redoubled efforts and set its sights on its "Show Reserve Tier," complete with new styling inside and outside the bottle. The Show Reserve wines are single appellation releases of key varietals from Australia's best-known viticultural areas. In essence, they are a step up from Rosemount's price-friendly Diamond Tier and, depending on varietal, retail for \$15 to \$25.

"Our intent is to emphasize regional fruit flavor and palate softness in wines with balanced oak," says Matt Koch, senior winemaker.

REGIONAL CHARACTERISTICS
As a first example, Koch cites the 2006 Rosemount Show Reserve Mudgee Chardonnay \$15. "Mudgee appellation vineyards are at elevations of 1,300 feet and cooler," he says. "Soils are unique and chardonnay has grapefruit and citrus notes in a crisper, more refreshing style."

While coming across crisp and clean, a defined creaminess establishes the palate softness Koch spoke to.

An excellent comparison pairs the Mudgee chardonnay with 2006 Rosemount Show Reserve Hunter Valley Chardonnay \$18. The Hunter Valley appellation is warmer and the wine has an overall richer impression, highlighting peach and tropical fruit. Koch matured the wine in 20 to 25 percent new French oak cooperage and retained the wine on its lees, with stirring for nine months, which built in layers of texture with fruit and oak in wonderful harmony.

A similar comparison can be made between two Rosemount Show Reserve reds, 2005 Mudgee Shiraz \$16 and 2004 McLaren Vale Shiraz \$21. Mudgee is loaded with spice, pepper and savory tannins over delicious ripe red fruits. McLaren Vale experiences a maritime and warmer climate influence that highlights blueberry and cherry aromas and flavors in the wine, which can get up to 50 percent new oak, depending on the vintage, and comes across bigger and richer with supple and generous flavors.

NEW POSITIONS
Since their inception some years ago, both Rosemount's McLaren Vale GSM and McLaren Vale Traditional, two of Rosemount's top wines, seemed to hang out in wine world without a tie-in. No longer. Both wines from the 2004 vintage at \$25 each, are now in the Show Reserve Tier.

GSM (standing for a blend of grenache, shiraz and mourvedre) has had something of a cult following. Its raspberry and cherry juicy fruit fills the mouth, complemented by nice oak touches. It's a big wine that's approachable and seductive.

Traditional, a blend of cabernet sauvignon, merlot and petit verdot is a steak wine, hard to beat at the price. If both Napa Valley and Bordeaux prices are beyond your reach, try this wine with outstanding length. A medium-rare grilled rib-eye comes to mind!

Eleanor & Ray Heald are contributing editors for the internationally respected "Quarterly Review of Wines" and Troy residents who write about wine, spirits, and restaurants for the "Observer & Eccentric Newspapers." Contact them by e-mail at focusonwine@aol.com.



Focus on Wine

Ray & Eleanor Heald

Pedi-Care welcomes new Certified Pediatric Physican Assistant Corah J. Senik, PA-C



Corah J. Senik, PA-C and Trinity, age 4

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Kenneth E. Hoffman, PA-C and Trinity, age 4



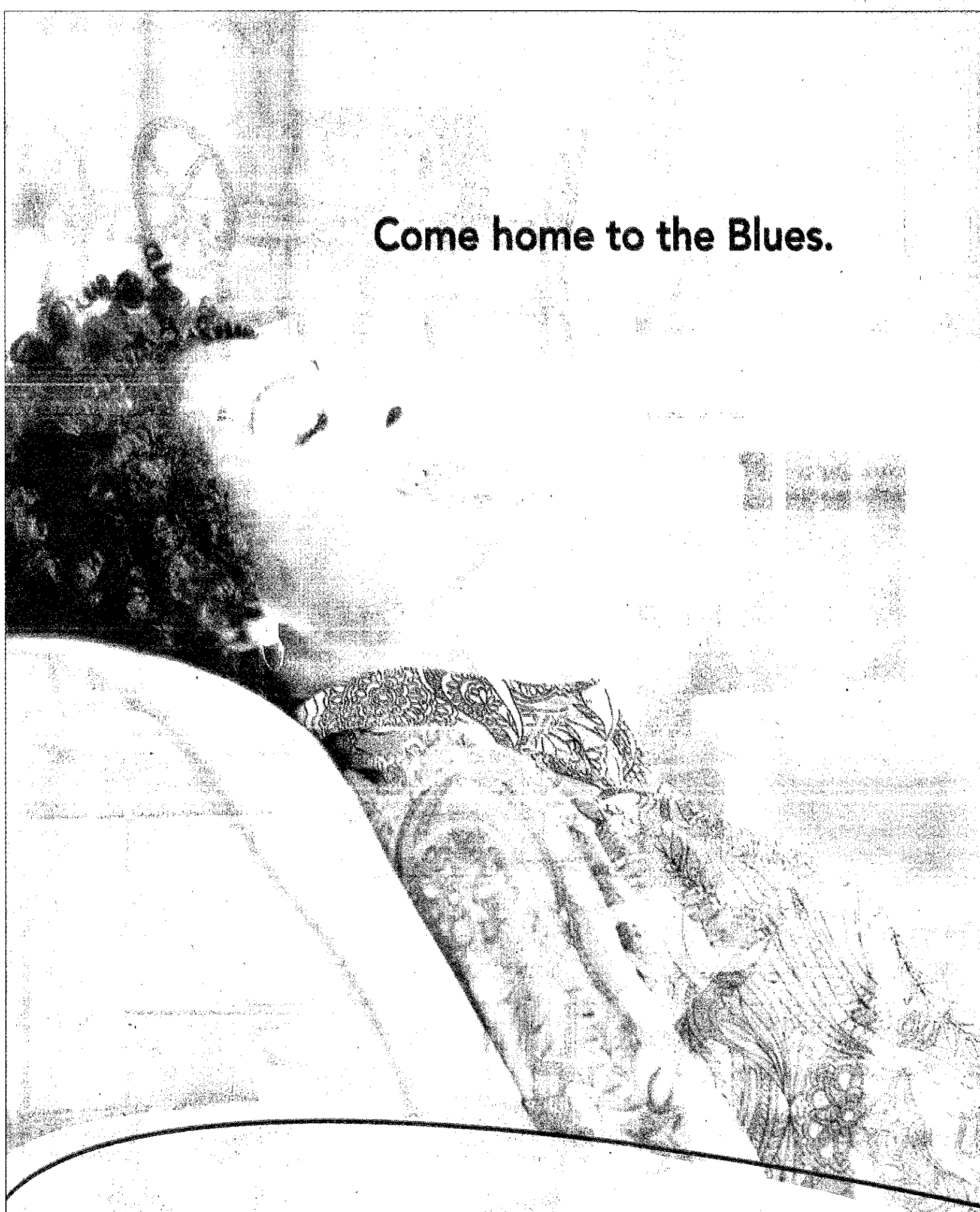
Verna Jean Turkish, D.O., Kenneth E. Hoffman, PA-C, Corah J. Senik, PA-C

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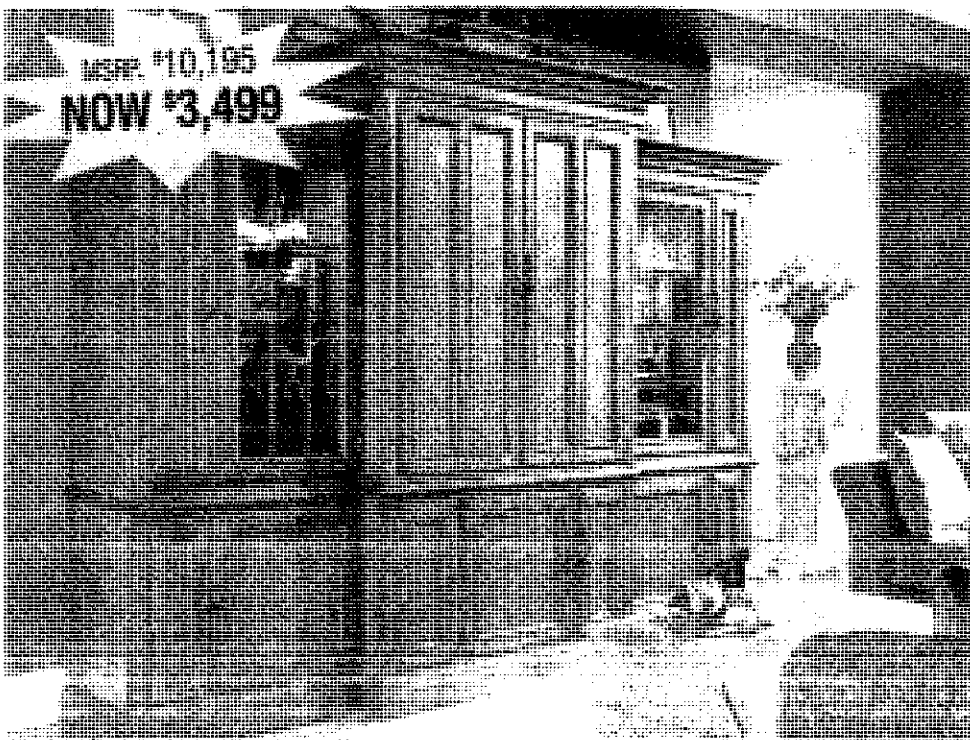
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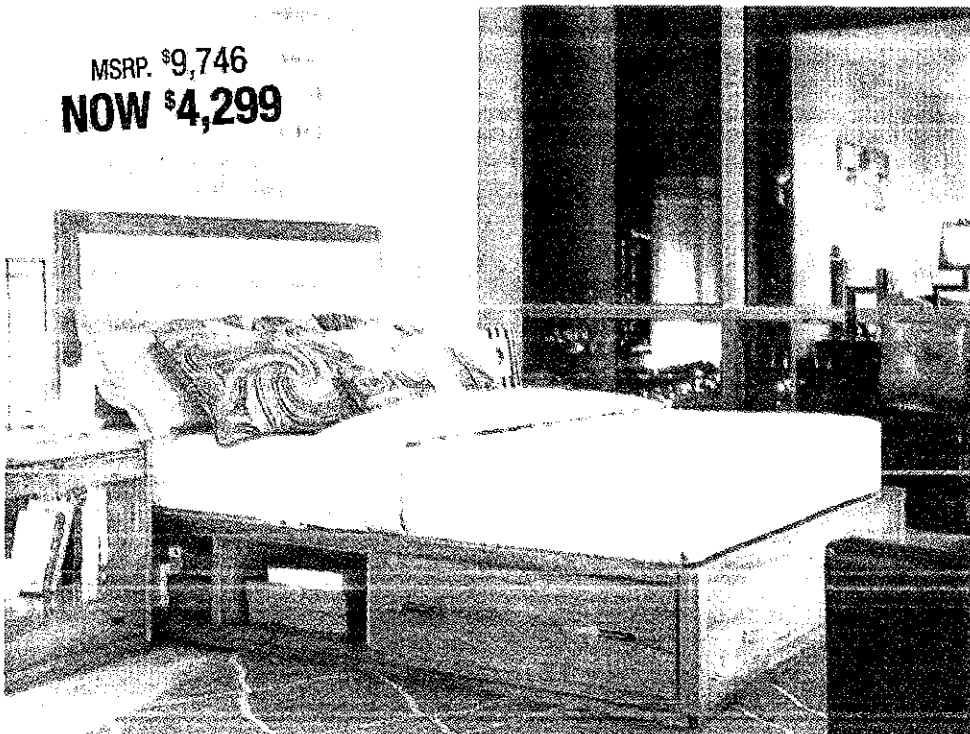
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RELIGION CALENDAR

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.

NOVEMBER

Course in Miracles

Introduction seminars based on A Course in Miracles spiritual self-study book 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 8; 6-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 12, 28660 Five Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt. Understanding A Course in Miracles takes place 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 24, and Dec. 15. For more information, contact Jim White at (734) 259-0207 or send e-mail to love.com@hotmail.com.

Heroes

Series explores the lives of five ordinary heroes 9:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 25, and Dec. 2, at Life Covenant Church which meets at East Middle School, 1042 Lilley (S. Mill), Plymouth. For more information, call (734) 634-2697.

Upper Room Ministries

Meets 6 p.m. Sundays, in Room 111 in Our Lady of Loretto School on Beech Daly and Six Mile in Redford. Upper Room Ministries is a spirit filled, charismatic ministry sponsored by Living Water Church in Livonia. All faiths welcome to attend. For information, call Pastor Luke Willis at (734) 425-6360, or Bishop Dan Strength at (734) 812-1099.

UPCOMING

The Golden Glide

The Mt. Hope Congregational Church Youth Group hosts a dinner dance with music from the Big Band Era 7-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1, at the church on the north side of Schoolcraft road, between Middlebelt and Merriman, Livonia. The \$9.50 per person charge includes a spaghetti dinner with salad, dinner rolls, and dessert. To reserve tickets (to be picked up at the door), e-mail all guest names to soccer@schika@hotmail.com. Please include phone number or other contact method. Tickets may also be purchased at the door the night of the event. For more

information, call the church at (734) 425-7280 weekdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Proceeds will help support their 2008 mission trip to Waterloo, Iowa. **Gingerbread open house** The Inn at St. John's Gingerbread Open House takes place 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2, at 44045 Five Mile at Sheldon, Plymouth. The free family event features live reindeer petting, carriage rides, a gingerbread house display, visits with Santa, music and refreshments. Donations of non-perishable food items are requested to benefit St. Vincent De Paul. Additional information can be found at www.theinnatstjohns.com or call (734) 414-0600.

Nativity displays

More than 200 Nativity displays from around the world in a Celebration of the Christmas Creche 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 8-9 (\$7 per person at the door, \$5 per person for groups of 10 or more; Preview party and lecture by Bengt Swenson 6:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7 (tickets start at \$50 and benefits the Detroit Institute of Ophthalmology, RSVP required by calling (313) 824-4710) at their building, 15415 E. Jefferson at Somerset, Grosse Pointe Park. The nativity displays are from the private collection of Bengt and Elaine Swenson.

Christmas concert

St. Aidan Adult Choir and friends perform a concert 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9, at the church on Farmington road, north of Six Mile in Livonia. Proceeds from this event help provide assistance to our Christian Service Commission in the preparation of Christmas Baskets for those in need. Admission is \$5 and 2 non-perishable food items.

ONGOING

F.I.R.E. ministries

With theme scripture, He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire (Luke 3:16), is organizing in Livonia at Living Water Church, 11663 Arcola in the Inkster and Plymouth roads area at 7 p.m. Fridays under the leadership of Luke Willis. F.I.R.E. Ministries. For more information, call (734) 425-6360.

New worship schedule

Regular church service 10 a.m. Sundays with Communion and Nursery, 9 a.m.

Sunday School for all ages and Faith Forum, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414. All visitors welcome. Visit www.holycrosslivonia.org.

Sunday worship

11 a.m. Sunday worship service, 9:30 a.m. Sunday school, 7 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study, at Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne Rd. at Hunter, Westland. For information, call (734) 721-0800.

Worship services

10 a.m. Sundays Divine Liturgy followed by a fellowship/coffee time, at Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church, 36075 W. Seven Mile, between Newburgh and Wayne roads, Livonia. Church school for children and adults begins at 9 a.m. Sunday. Vespers are celebrated 5 p.m. Saturdays. Visitors are always welcome. For more information, call (248) 476-3432 (church), (248) 477-4712 (rectory) or Web site at www.orthodoxlivonia.org.

Fall worship schedule

Chapel service begins at 8:45 a.m. and includes simple worship and Holy Communion; adult Sunday school and Bible Cinema are at 9:30 a.m. nursery care provided. Worship and Sunday school for children through eighth grade is during the 10:30 a.m. hour. Nursery care also provided during the service. On the fourth and fifth Sundays they will be participating in community worship which includes everyone. Senior High youth are invited to meet 7 p.m. Sundays, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, between Middlebelt and Merriman, Livonia. For information, call (734) 422-6038.

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. For more information, call (734) 464-0990.

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. Adults, \$5; children ages 4-11, \$3; children ages 3, free; and family (2 adults and all children), \$15. Everyone is welcome.

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. Sponsored by Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990.

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 Leverage, 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.

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.

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. 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. For information, call (734) 455-0022, Ext. 4, or send e-mail to cbtwomensministries@hotmail.com.

LOGOS Youth Club

Calling all youth grades 4-12 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 information or registration, visit www.fumnorthville.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.

Worship change

Began 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.

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.vchurche.com/cbcwomen.

ENDOW

St. Michael the Archangel Parish of Livonia hosts two different sessions of the Archdiocese's ENDOW program, the study group focuses on dignity of women of all ages and faiths. The group meets 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays to Dec. 5, in the Convent Meeting Room behind the school, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road. 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 runs Thursdays to Nov. 15, in 8ixman 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.

Fellowship Dinners

6 p.m. Thursdays. Dinner catered by The Cookie Lady, Susan Navarro. \$6. At

St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313)534-7730.

Thrift Shop

9:30-11:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford.

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.

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.

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.

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 the second Monday of each month 7-9:30 p.m. at the Longacre House on Farmington road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Call Vikki for more information at (248) 497-7755. Farmington Aglow is a Christian women's groups.

Worship services

Sunday worship services are at 8 a.m. (traditional) and 10:30 a.m. (contemporary), at Grace Lutheran Church, 46001 Warren, between Canton Center and Beck, Canton. For more information, call (734) 637-8160. Sunday school and Adult Bible Study at 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study series: Heaven Can't Wait.

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.

Celebrate Recovery

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.celebrate-recovery.com and www.wardchurch.org.

org/celebrate.

Sunday service

All are welcome to attend worship service at 10 a.m. Sunday in the sanctuary at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, one block west of Inkster, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 422-1470.

Worship service

At 10:30 a.m. Sundays at New Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware at Puritan, Redford. Congregation is hearing lessons from I Peter. For more information, call (313) 255-6330.

Adult literacy classes

Adult and English as a Second Language literacy classes are available for those wishing to improve reading, writing and English conversational skills. Open to adults age 18 and over. Trained tutors available for day or evening. For information, call Merriman Road Baptist Church in Garden City at (734) 421-0472. Leave your name and phone number and someone will contact you.

Personal ministry

Due Season Christian Church is a nondenominational, multicultural, full gospel church that offers Sunday worship services at 10 a.m. and Tuesday night Bible study at 7:15 p.m. Services are currently held at Stevenson High School on Six Mile, west of Farmington Road, Livonia. All are welcome. For information, call (248) 960-8063 or visit www.DueSeason.org.

Scripture studies

From 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays in the lower level of Our Lady of Loretto Church, Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford. Call (313) 534-9000.

TOPS

Stands for Take Off Pounds Sensibly, meets at 7 p.m. every Thursday evening at St. Thomas a' Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley, Canton. Weigh-in is from 6:15-6:55 p.m. It is a weight support group that encourages members to lose weight and keep it off. Call Margaret at (734) 838-0322.

Learner's Bible study

At 7 p.m. Mondays, in Room A101, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville. Call (248) 374-5920.

Church service

Loving God by loving people, meets at 10 a.m. Sunday at Westwood Community Church, 6500 N. Wayne Road at Hunter, Westland. Doughnuts and coffee served. Call (734) 254-0093 for information.

Eucharistic adoration

The monthly program of Parish Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration continues the third Wednesday of each month at St. Michael's Church of Livonia, corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads. The church will be open for worship from 10 a.m. until the 7 p.m. Benediction service. For information, call (734) 261-5331.

Senior activities

Gathering for seniors 50 years and older at 11:30 a.m. on the third Friday of every month at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 464-0990. Put together a salad dish and come out and meet other seniors. Lunch is served followed by fellowship with some games and stories. St. James Presbyterian Church offers a Thursday dinner at 6 p.m. for \$5 prepared by Susan Navarro, The Cookie Lady, followed by Bible study at 7 p.m. and Chancel Choir rehearsal at 8 p.m.; Thrift store is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Saturday; 10 a.m. women's study group second Saturday of the month, and Sunday worship at 10 a.m. (nursery available) and children's class at 10:15 a.m. at 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730.

Eucharistic adoration

The monthly program of Parish Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration continues the third Wednesday of each month at St. Michael's Church of Livonia, corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads. The church will be open for worship from 10 a.m. until the 7 p.m. Benediction service. For information, call (734) 261-5331.

Unity of Livonia

Services at 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays at 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads. Call (734) 421-1760.

Shabbat services

The doors of Congregation Beit Kodesh, a Conservative synagogue at 31840 W. Seven Mile, between Farmington and Merriman, Livonia, are open to the Jewish community of southeastern Michigan. Call (248) 477-8974.

Bet Chaverim

Services are open to all living in the western counties including Canton, Plymouth, Livonia, and Northville. The congregation follows traditions of Reform Judaism. Interfaith families welcome to attend services at 321 S. Ridge, south of Cherry Hill, Canton. Call (734) 646-3864 for information or visit www.betchaverim.com.

Detroit World Outreach

A nondenominational church with cutting edge drama productions, energized contemporary music, high-tech video and lighting, programs for kids and teens, for college students, singles, married adults and seniors. Services are at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday (6:30 p.m. the first Sunday of

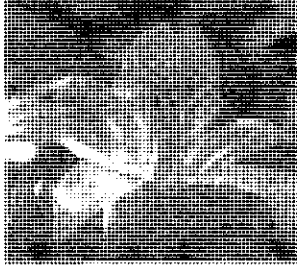
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Passages

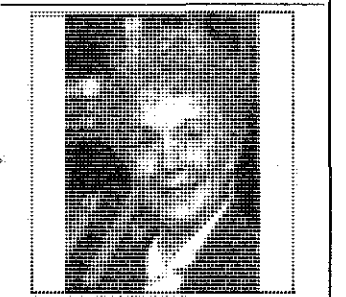
Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

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LEWIS JACK AKEY, SR.
Age 86, Farmington Hills, MI. Passed away Nov. 16, 2007. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI



MARGARET "Peg" HAWKINS
Age 82, of Plymouth, died November 19, 2007. She was born July 20, 1925, in Detroit. On June 13, 1946, she married her beloved husband, William. She was a member of Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Plymouth. She was a proud Irish lady who loved her family. She is survived by her children, Nancy (Dennis) Johnson, Kathy, Jim (Pam), Dan (Denise), and John (Deanna) Hawkins; her grandchildren, Dennis (Laura) Johnson Jr., Amy (Darrell) Murfee, Tim Johnson, Benjamin, Zachary, Megan, Stephanie, Kim, Jamie, Kelly, Daniel, and Haley Hawkins; and seven great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her husband, William J. Hawkins. Funeral from Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 47650 N. Territorial, Plymouth, Friday, November 23, 10:30am. Friends may visit at church beginning at 10am. Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association. Share condolences with the family at: www.schrader-howell.com.

BEATRICE MAE WAY

Age 86, of Rapid City, MI, formerly of Plymouth, passed away on November 16, 2007 in Traverse City. Beatrice was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 54 years, Kenneth. She is survived by her son Bill (Joyce) Way and daughter Olivia Way; grandchildren Jennifer (Scott) Weaver and Jonathan (Heather) Way; great-granddaughter Ana Weaver. Bea and Ken were married in 1950 and lived in the city of Plymouth until they built a home in Rapid City, MI and moved north. Bea was a member of the Kalkaska United Methodist Church. She had a great love for music, the out of doors, and spending time with family and friends. Bea played the cello in the Benzie Orchestra and loved fishing in the northern rivers and lakes. She will be greatly missed by not only her children and grandchildren, but also by her large extended family and many friends. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Interment Riverside Cemetery, Plymouth. Arrangements entrusted to the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth. Share memories at schrader-howell.com. Memorials to National Stroke Association, 9707 E. Easter Lane, Centennial, CO 80112, or Kalkaska United Methodist Church, 2525 Beebe Rd, 49646, or to the Humane Society.

DAVID JOSEPH NINOWSKI

Of Westland, MI. Age 49. Died November 17, 2007 after a 4-1/2 year battle with esophageal cancer. Devoted husband of Donna for 20 years. Loving father of Jennifer, David and Dane, and grandfather to Rylee Payne. David is also survived by his mother, Barbara Diles and father, Charles (Lynn) Ninowski and his sons, Steve (Kathy) Ninowski, Larry Ninowski, Scott Wedemeyer and Eric (Cristy) Wedemeyer. Son-in-law of Charles (the late Dorothy) Dubauskas. Nephew of Mickey (Dan) Barr, Donna (Greg) Lenar, Ann Schrader, Olga (Bert) Show and Jim (Judy) Ninowski. Also survived by many cousins, nieces, nephews and his loyal dog, Gunny. Memorial visitation Sunday, Nov. 25, 2007 from 2-8 p.m. at the Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Home, 705 W. 11 Mile Rd. (4 blks E. of Woodward), Royal Oak. Memorial Mass Monday, Nov. 26, 2007 at 10 a.m. at St. Damian Catholic Church, 30055 Joy Rd., Westland. In lieu of flowers, contributions to fund his children's education in c/o Donna Ninowski would be appreciated. Share your memories at: www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com

ROBERT J. WILLIAMS

Age 60, Moorpark, CA, November 17, 2007. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI

WILLIAM D. BAXTER

Age 66, of Orlando, passed away November 15, 2007. Mr. Baxter was born on November 25, 1940 in Keokuk, Iowa, the son of William and Evelyn Cusac Baxter. He came to Central Florida in 2002 from Plymouth, Michigan. He worked in sales in the plastic industry. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Orlando. He was a board member of Penrickton Center for Blind Children for 13 years. Mr. Baxter is survived by his loving wife, Mary Baxter. A memorial service for Mr. Baxter will be held on Tuesday, November 20, 2007 at 11:00 AM at the First United Methodist Church of Orlando, 142 E. Jackson Street, Orlando, Florida. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Penrickton Center for Blind Children, 26530 Eureka Road, Taylor, Michigan 48180. Arrangements entrusted to COLLISON FAMILY FUNERAL HOMES & CREMATORY SOUTH SEMINOLE CHAPEL 335 E. State Rd 434 Longwood, Florida 32750. Phone (407) 260-5400.

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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

RELIGION

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the month), Sunday school for all ages at 10 a.m. and Wednesdays at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Call (313) 255-2222.

Trinity Episcopal Church

Sunday services at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m., Wednesday service at 6:15 p.m., Bible Studies and Worship Center for all ages, at 11575 Belleville Road, (four miles south of Michigan Avenue), Belleville. Parents with Young Children Bible Study at 6 p.m. Sundays, includes dinner, child care. Call (734) 699-3361.

Shabbat Rocks

A musical celebration precedes traditional Shabbat service once a month at Adat Shalom Synagogue, 29901 Middlebelt in Farmington Hills. For more information, call (248) 851-5100 or visit www.adatshalom.org.

English classes

Conversational English as a Second Language classes are being offered for adults of all ages and backgrounds

at 7 p.m. Monday and Tuesday at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia. Tutors will work on a one-to-one ratio to help students better understand and speak the English language. No charge. To register, call (734) 525-0191 or (734) 522-6830.

Sunday school

Congregation Beit Kodesh, at 31840 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Merriman, Livonia, is registering children, age 4 and up, for Sunday school. Financial assistance available. Special discounts for new members. For more information, call (248) 477-8974.

Services

St. John Lutheran Church, 23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills, invites the community to a new worship service at 5:30 p.m. Saturdays. Also, Sunday traditional worship services are at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.; contemporary service is at 9:50 a.m.; and Sunday school hour for all ages is at 9:45 a.m. Call (248) 474-0584 for more information.

Single Point Ministries

For ages 30 and older, join more

than 350 single adults at 11:30 a.m. Sundays for fellowship and related topics in Knox Hall at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Coffee, doughnuts, conversations are present. Call (248) 374-5920. Tennis continues from 1-5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, and 4-7 p.m. weekdays any time the weather is above 45 degrees, at Rotary Park, Six Mile and Hubbard, Livonia.

Bible talks

4 p.m. Sundays at the Friendship Center, 119 Newburgh, Westland. Call (734) 728-9157.

The Gap

A new youth Sunday School (God Always Present) at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt, south of Ford Road. Lessons are taught using various media, computers, storytelling, games, cooking, music and art, and a small theater complete with popcorn-making machine. Adult Bible study at 8:30 a.m. with a traditional service and The Gap at 10 a.m. Child care available. Mustard Seed contemporary service at 6 p.m. with refreshments served afterward.

Call (734) 421-7620.

Qigong

The ancient form of Chinese energetic medicine. A safe and effective way to rid the body of toxic pathogens and years of painful emotions. Learn the art of natural movement and breath to cultivate vital life energy. Classes at Livonia Unity, 28660 Five Mile. Monday movement Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.; Thursday Qigong meditation, 10-11:15 a.m., and Friday Therapeutic Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m. Call (810) 813-4073 for more information or send e-mail to gary@energeticarts.org.

Worship services

At 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays with an education hour from 9:30-10:40 a.m. at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, Westland. Social hour follows each service. Call (734) 722-1735.

Community Bible study

Studying the Book of Corinthians, breakfast at 7 a.m. for Bible study 8-9 a.m. at the Kerby Coney Island, Haggerty Road just north of Eight Mile. Come when you can, leave when you must. Call (248) 924-2779.

Contemporary service

New informal service in a casual environment 6 p.m. Sunday at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt, south of Ford. Fellowship hour after services including 10 a.m. traditional. Call (734) 421-7620.

Trinity Episcopal Church

Sunday worship 8 a.m. and 10 a.m., Bible studies Sundays at 8:50 a.m. and Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. at the church 11575 Belleville Road, four miles south of Michigan Avenue, Belleville. Call (734) 699-3361.

New contemporary service

9 a.m. on the last Sunday of the month, at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard, Livonia. A group of church members present a short drama on a theme relevant to the season, a church event, or current newsworthy situation. For more information, call (734) 422-0494.

Prayer group

Join in 7 p.m. Thursdays for music, singing, prayer and friendship at St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Come to the back of the church, enter entrance No. 2. For more

information, call Grace at (734) 464-1896, Shirley at (734) 464-3656, or Geri at (734) 464-8906.

Women of the Word

Tuesday Ladies Bible Study from 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesdays, at Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile. \$15 registration fee includes interdenominational study materials. Child care available for children through age 5. Call (248) 348-7600.

New modern-style worship

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia, just north of I-96, presents a modern-style worship service. The multimedia service is informal, using modern and praise music, led by vocalists and various instruments. Dramas, led by the members, are often a part of this service. The service is held at 9:45 a.m. each Sunday, between the traditional services at 8:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday School, youth and adult Bible classes at 9:45 a.m. and 11 a.m. each Sunday. For information, call Linda Hollman, Outreach director, at (734) 522-6830.

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Pastor Beth Librande
Worship Service 9:30 AM
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10000 Beech Daly
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9:30 - Trad. Worship & Sun. Sch.
11:00 - Contemp. Family Worship
www.redfordaldersgate.org

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96
734-522-6830

Sunday Worship
8:30 & 11:00 am • Traditional

Sunday/Bible Class
9:45 am
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Sunday School
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Nursery Provided

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Education Hour 9:45 a.m.
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Evening Service • 7:00 p.m.
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(1 block west of Venoy) Phone: 734-524-0860
Pastor: Eddie Petreaca
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Worship Service-English-9:30 a.m.
Sabbath School (all ages)-11:00 a.m.
Worship Service-Hispanic-12:30 p.m.
Wednesdays
Prayer Meeting-7 p.m.

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1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI
734-453-0970
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Reading Room located at church
Saturday 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
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Traditional Service
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Christmas Carol Collage Concert
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St. James Presbyterian Church, USA
25350 West Six Mile Rd.
Redford (313) 534-7730

Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 A.M. Sunday
School - 10:15 A.M., Thursday Dinners - 6:00 P.M.,
Thrift Store every Sat. 10am-2pm
Nursery Care Provided • Handicap Accessible
Rev. Paul S. Bousquette

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Timothy Lutheran Church
A Reconciling in Christ Congregation
8820 Wayne Rd.
(Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road)
Livonia • 427-2290
Jill Hegdal, Pastor
10:00 a.m. Family Worship
(Nursery Available)

St Genevieve Roman Catholic Church
St. Genevieve School - Pre-K-6
20015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220
(East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries)
MASS: Tues. 7 p. Wed., Thurs. 9 a.,
Sat. 4 p., Sun 11a

St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church
32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616
(Between Merriman & Farmington Roads)
MASS: Mon. 8:30 a., Fri. 8:30 a.,
Sat. 8 p., Sun 9a

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
45601 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525
Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.
Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.
NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER
(734) 455-3196

PRESBYTERIAN

Fellowship Presbyterian Church
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire
Services held at: Madonna University's Kresge Hall
36600 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia
Parking lot is on N.W. corner of Levan & Schoolcraft • Nursery provided

For Church Directory changes and information regarding advertising in this directory, please call
Donna Hart (734) 953-2153 the Friday before publication.

To mail copy: The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 or Fax to (734) 953-2121

pink



WENSDY VON BUSKIRK · EDITOR · (734) 953-2019 · wvonb@hometownlife.com

PINK PICKS

Wear It!
Seven Jeans at Dress Barn for \$49.99!

DON'T Wear It!
Banana clips in your hair

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Jessica Simpson shoes — the expanded line is now available at Macy's!

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Mane It!
Principessa Bianco Breeze Hair & Body Powder

Hear It!
The Pipettes

Tivo It!
Project Runway

DVD It!
La Vie en Rose

Read It!
Detroit Noir, edited by E.J. Olsen and John C. Hocking

Shop It!
Lava Couture and Gifts in Keego Harbor

Make It!
Homemade pumpkin pie

Drink It!
Frappofays at First Cup Organic Coffee in Redford

Do It!
Get a flu shot

Experience It!
The new Detroit Institute of Arts

Tote It!
Patent leather Palazzo bag at Crate & Barrel

To shop or not to shop?

BY AMANDA ABUKHADER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

After you've gotten your fill of turkey and cranberry sauce set your alarms, because black Friday will be here. The day after Thanksgiving: one of the most well known shopping days, great deals and chaotic crowds. With shopper's doomsday almost upon us, Pink went out to ask the shoppers at Westland Shopping Center:

"Are you going to brave the crowds to go shopping on the day after Thanksgiving?"

girl talk



"I'm working, but if I wasn't I would definitely go because there are some really great deals."
Christina Milne, Garden City



"Of course I will, if I have the money that is."
Melissa Tyree, Taylor



"No, I changed jobs so we're going to try to be more frugal this year."
Angie Harris, Wayne



"Nope, it's just too crowded!"
Darcy Blakemore, Westland

Every mommy deserves a night out

With 52 fabulous entries for our "Mommy's Night Out" contest, it was difficult to choose a winner. One entry, however, stood out amongst the rest; the heartfelt story of Sheila James from Westland (see entry below). Sheila and her three guests won a Mom's Night Out package to see "MommyHood" on Nov. 15 at Andiamo Italia in Warren. The prize package included four tickets to the play, dinner for four at Andiamo Italia, and a signature "MommyHood" pendant designed by Lucido Fine Jewelry. Believe us when we say that making this decision was not an easy one, and to commend all the magnificent entries that we received, we would like to show case our top ten choices. Enjoy!



Sheila James invited three special people to share the evening with her. Left to right, Linda Mullins, of Whittaker, she is Sheila's mother, Sheila James, Cheryl Meade, her cousin from Taylor, and Sheila's aunt Bonnie Wallace from Romulus.

TOP WINNER:

My name is Sheila and I have been raising three boys, now teenagers, since their daddy died in 2002. It's been an emotional roller coaster, but I know there's a light at the end of the tunnel. I work full-time, go to school for nursing, and take care of my boys, which is a full-time job itself. If I win, I would take my Mom, who is my heart, my Aunt Bonnie, and my cousin Cheryl. We all NEED A MOMMY'S NIGHT OUT!!!!

Sheila L. James, Westland

JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

RUNNERS-UP:

I am Mom
Mom I am
Is each an exhausting day?
Do I need time away?
Yes! With munchkins 2, 5, 8
Cooking ... cleaning ... laundry ...
LATE!
Would PINK get "thanks" for a reprieve?
Yes! Then I'd leave!
I'd go with special gals.
I'd share with mommy pals.
Say! I do need OUT!

Mary Biber, Westland

I have 4 children (including twins) and haven't had a break since 1989. I also teach kindergarten and have 36 more little ones to take care of all day every day. A night out with grown-ups would be a chance to recharge. HELP!!!

Terri Proben, Livonia

My name is Delaney. I am six months old and I am writing you to tell you why my mom deserves a Mom's Night Out. My mom has four children: me, my two sisters and ... my dad. We range in age from me to my sister

Kennedy who is 7 years old. In addition to the normal shuttling kids around for school and playdates, mom is a leader in Brownies, active on PTA, and started up a womens' neighborhood group. Also, my sister Kennedy requires physical therapy several times a week and mom works hard to make sure sis is getting the best therapy available. I think she REALLY deserves a moms night out.

Cheryl Jagnow, Northville

I'm a full time, employed, single mother of two boys who are busier than little bumblebees. I'm pursuing my MBA, take care of our home, car and all three of us without federal, state or family help, but still manage to provide the best for my sons and myself. As much as I need a getaway, I can barely be away from my children when they're on an overnight visit to Grandma's. I haven't gotten a chance to buy myself new work clothes because I'm constantly trying to save or when I do spend, I spend on them. Even if I don't get chosen, it's been very interesting telling about my boys. I love them to death and even though

I really need a getaway. I'd take them right along with me.

Tiara A. Riley, Detroit

Mom's night out? Do moms really go out? Where do they go? What do they do? Do they get to eat meals that don't involve peanut butter or goldfish? Do they get to eat without being interrupted for "more milk" or a potty break? Do they get to talk about stuff other than Dora, sales on diapers and mysterious rashes?

Rosie Whitcher, Garden City

My husband decided he "needed to go find himself," my employer decided it needed to downsize, and the toilet decided it just won't flush on the same day the dryer decided it just won't dry. I am still smiling and taking care of my kids as I write this (you know you can't make this stuff up). That is why I need a mom's night out.

I'll take three other deserving moms with me!
Linda Busse, Northville

FROM THE DADS:

I am writing on behalf of my wife,

Mary Ellen Whittington. I think she needs a girl's night out! She is a wonderful wife and mother to our two children. Working part-time, she raises the family, providing love and support. With many friends, who reflect her kindness, she finds time to volunteer at school. She laughs, cares and listens. And because I love her.

Robert Whittington, Birmingham

I am entering on behalf of my significant other, Kristy. We have two children one year apart, Naveah and Vincent. When Naveah was only five months old, I enlisted in the National Guard. A week after signing the contract, we found out she was pregnant with Vincent. I was in training for eight months and she went through the birth of Vincent without my presence — I got emergency leave, but did not arrive until several hours after the birth. She is now going to school for massage therapy and remains a great mother.

PFC Randy Hockenberry, Westland

— Compiled by Amanda Abukhader

HOLIDAY SHOPPING



Center's Holiday Shop during "Shop & Champagne" 6:30-9 p.m. Nov. 28. Tickets, \$50-\$100 include 10 percent discount, valet, strolling dinner, champagne and gift wrapping. The Holiday Shop is free and open to the public Nov. 30-Dec. 16, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Saturday; Noon-4 p.m. Sunday. Call (248) 644-0866 or visit www.BBArtCenter.org.

A PLYMOUTH HOLIDAY

Santa Claus will arrive at his house in Kellogg Park accompanied by a tree lighting ceremony and winter concert on Friday, Nov. 23. The Michael King Band and Karen Newman take the stage at 5 p.m. Come early to enjoy hot cocoa and carolers, and to see "Gingerbread Houses on Parade." Vote for your favorite of the 55 gingerbread houses by handing in your vote at the Chamber or Michigan Made, and enter to win great prizes. Santa will receive visitors 5-8 p.m. Fridays, and noon-5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays through Dec. 23. Call the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-1540 or visit www.plymouthchamber.org.

TOYS FOR TOTS

Help less fortunate children enjoy holiday magic by donating to Toys for Tots. There will be a live broadcast from WMGC 105.1 of Jim Harper and the Magic Morning Show in support of Toys for Tots in the Lifestyle Cafe Food Court at 12 Oaks Mall on Monday, Nov. 26. For more information call (248) 348-9400.

SHOP & CHAMPAGNE

Get first peek at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art

HOLIDAY JEWELRY FESTIVAL

Native West will celebrate its 18th annual "Holiday Jewelry Festival" with a fabulous selection of Native American jewelry from the Southwest, all made in the U.S. Festival Hours are 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday, Nov. 30; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2. Native West is located at 863 W. Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth. For more information call (734) 455-8838.

MICHIGAN CHRISTMAS SHOW

The Michigan Christmas Show and Marketplace will be open Nov. 29-Dec. 2 at Rock Financial Showplace in Novi. Decorated trees will be raffled off as a benefit for Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Center. Attendees of all ages can make an ornament from Arts & Scraps. Photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus are available for a \$5 donation to the University of Michigan Burn Center. An Opening Night Benefit will be held 6-9 p.m. on Nov. 29, \$25. Call (800) 849-0248 or visit www.MichiganChristmasShow.com.

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