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SUNDAY
November 25, 2007

WESTLAND Observer

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Barra: League will avoid tax foreclosure

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Wayne County is threatening to foreclose on a Westland nonprofit organization's building for unpaid water and street-lighting bills — dating

back to winter of 2005 — that got slapped onto escalating tax bills.

But an official for the embattled Wayne-Ford Civic League said the organization will pay enough of its past-due bills by March to avoid

foreclosure, as it struggles to overcome thousands of dollars of debt.

"We are gradually climbing that mountain of debt," league President Vic Barra said. "We're not going anywhere. We fully intend to take care of

this county obligation and be here for years and years and years to come."

The civic league, established in 1952, sponsors bingo and other events to raise money for youth athletics, senior programs and other services. It

also rents its hall, on Wayne south of Ford, for wedding receptions, birthday parties and other events.

On election night Nov. 6, the league hosted a huge crowd that included political candidates and their supporters — a

party that some observers said reminded them of olden days when the league was at the height of its prosperity.

Barra became president three years ago amid an

Please see LEAGUE, A3

Thanksgiving tradition

Good deals, long lines greet shoppers on 'Black Friday'

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

The only thing Anne Dye was carrying as she left the Westland Target store at 7:40 a.m. Friday was a cup of Starbucks coffee. According to the Canton resident, it was the only line worth standing in.

"The (checkout) line was too long, it started as soon as you got in the door," she said. "It was around 7:20 when we got here and the line snaked all the around the store and maybe up and down a few aisles."

Dye and two friends made Target the second stop on their shopping spree. They hit the Meijer store first, a decision they admit needed rethinking for next year.

"We'll have to start here first next year," Dye said.

For Garden City resident Marge Hickman, planning for the shopping day started Thursday evening when she got together with her daughter Amanda, friend Barb Wolsinski, and Wolsinski's daughter Jennifer Wrobel to map out their route. They started at 3 a.m. at JC Penney to get a snow globe, a holiday tradition for Wrobel. The route also took in Target, Circuit City and Westland Shopping Center before they got home at noon.

"I got 90 percent of the gifts I need," Hickman said. "They had some good stuff. If you were looking for certain items, it was good. Barb got a leather jacket that cost \$248 for \$52."

Dorothy Tieppo of Westland also joined thousands of shoppers in flocking to the stores for the annual day-after-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Shawn Oprisiu of Petoskey and her mom, Diane Tarczynsk of Westland had a full load after shopping at Westland Shopping Center Friday. It's an annual tradition for the mother-daughter extreme shopping team. They started at 3:30 a.m.

Thanksgiving event. By 7:30 a.m., she'd made it to two stores, Sears and Target, and was loading a shopping cart full of gifts into her minivan. Among her purchases was a flat-screen TV she paid \$549 for.

"I ran into Sears and got what I needed and came here," she said. Tieppo doesn't normal shop

on what has become known as "Black Friday," the busiest shopping day of the year, but ventured out at 5 a.m. to take advantage of the early bird specials. She found the crowds "good and the stores busy."

Many retailers peg the success of the holiday shopping season on how well they do on Black Friday. Many stores open early and offer deep

discounts. If parking at the Westland Shopping Center is any indication, it will be a merry season for merchants.

At Target across the street, shopping carts may be the indicator. Tieppo got help loading her purchases in her van by a woman waiting for her shopping cart.

Please see SHOP, A10

Octagon House set for visitors

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

One of Westland's oldest buildings — the beloved, mid-1800s Octagon House — will finally be unveiled publicly in December, marking a milestone in the city's history.

"It's a good feeling, because people have talked about it and wanted to go in it," said Jo Johnson, who chairs the Westland Historical Commission.

The eight-sided house, flanked by two additions built in the mid-1930s, will be shown during an open house scheduled for 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2. The long-awaited event will crown a years-long restoration effort.

Situated in the Westland Historic Village Park, on Wayne Road south of Marquette, the Octagon House could eventually be used for small weddings and other events, city leaders have said.

Historians say the original two-story house was built by the ancestors of Clyde Smith, who owned the former Clyde Smith & Sons Farm Market & Greenhouses on Newburgh Road.

The house once stood just south of the farm market, but it was moved to Warren Road near Hix before it was relocated a few years ago to its new home — its logical home, many say — in the historic park.

Although the Octagon House still needs a few finishing touches, restoration efforts have finally made it ready for the public.

"It's a big relief," Johnson said.

The house has had much help with its spruced-up

look, including work done by students from the Wayne-Westland school district's William D. Ford Career Technical Center. Numerous other volunteers and business-people have pitched in to restore it.

Local businessman Gary Bulson's workers from Men on the Move, a moving company, has moved furniture not once — but twice — as the Octagon House's history has given way to its future, Johnson has said.

In another development, historians still are raising money to finish the Octagon House and to begin preparations for other projects, including restoration of another 1800s-era building, the so-called Rowe House, which has a Greek Revival style of architecture.

One fund-raiser nearing completion involves raffle tickets being sold for a playhouse that stands 7 feet tall and measures 8 feet by 9 feet. It even has a little porch.

The playhouse will be raffled off during a drawing at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5. Tickets are \$5 or three for \$10. They are available at the Bailey Center or by calling (734) 729-1605 or (734) 522-3918.

During a recent Westland City Council meeting, Johnson indicated that women who buy tickets could hope to win the playhouse as a tool shed "for the man in your life." Or, she said part-jokingly, the playhouse could be used "as a dog house for either man or dog."

Second prize during the drawing will be a \$100 gift certificate to Bobby's Bouncers, an indoor play place with inflatables and other amenities for children.

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Council OKs keeping officer at John Glenn High School

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A Westland police officer will continue to work out of John Glenn High School for a second year, following a renewed agreement between city and Wayne-Westland school officials.

The program allows an officer to respond quickly to in-school fights and other disruptions, and officials also say it provides a role model

who can build positive relations between teens and law enforcement.

By having Officer Daniel Serrano at the school, Police Chief James Ridener said he can keep his other officers on city streets barring some large, unusual incident.

Officials also say the in-school police officer serves as a counselor to students and as a liaison between the city and school district.

"He's a jack of all trades to

the school," Ridener said.

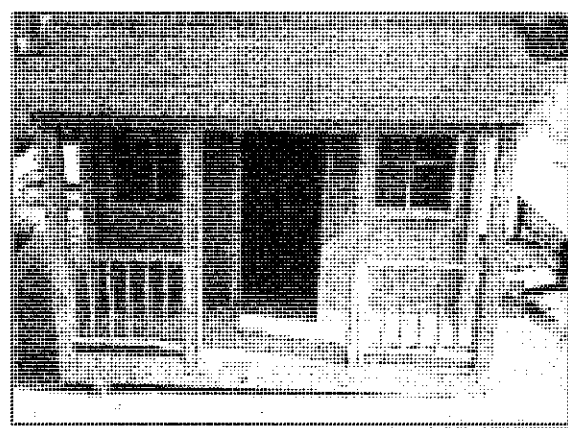
In a sweeping vote Monday, the seven-member Westland City Council approved an agreement to continue the program.

The agreement indicates that the officer will attend as many extra-curricular events as possible, becoming a recognizable face to students and providing a police presence should any incidents erupt that would otherwise warrant calling in law enforcement.

The new agreement will be for one year as officials continue to monitor and evaluate the program. Either the city or the school district could terminate the contract with 30 days' notice.

The program is similar to one that involves an officer from the city of Wayne being placed at the district's other high school, Wayne Memorial.

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This playhouse is being raffled to raise money for Westland historic preservation efforts.

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Volume 43
Number 52



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AROUND WESTLAND

Bus named

A 27-passenger bus used by Westland senior citizens for outings has a name: The Friendship Express.

Mayor William Wild announced the winning name from a contest that drew entries from nearly 250 people who visit the senior Friendship Center in Westland.

The name of the bus will be displayed on the front, Wild said. The back of the bus will sport a slogan "On the Road Again."

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.

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.

Winter crafts

A "Winter Wonderland craft show will be held at Lutheran High Westland 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Nov. 30, and Saturday, Dec. 1. Anyone seeking handmade, eclectic goods from a wide variety of artisans are encouraged to attend. The event will include hourly door-prize drawings, a children's craft room and free parking. Strollers are welcome.

The school is at 33300 Cowan Road, a half-mile east of Westland Shopping Center. For more information call (734) 422-2090.

Wrestling Club

The Westland Bottle Rockets, a wrestling club for ages 5-14, meets 5:30-7 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays at John Glenn High School. Practice will begin Monday, Nov. 26. The club meets from November to March. Fee is \$20. For more information call contact Judy at judylaw1122@yahoo.com or call (734) 634-4595.

Lightfest opens

The annual Wayne County Lightfest along Hines Drive — the longest drive-through holiday light display in the Midwest — is open 7-10 p.m. through Jan. 1. Enter off of Merriman, between Ann Arbor Trail and Warren, in Westland. Cost is a \$5 donation per car. For more information, call (734) 261-1990.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Home for the holidays

Olympic silver medalists and hometown heroes Tanith Belbin and Ben Agosto were at Canton's Arctic Edge Arena on Tuesday to announce an upcoming benefit they will host at the Compuware Arena in Plymouth Township for the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute and the Children's Hospital of Michigan. The event, Home for the Holidays: A Celebration on Ice, will take place Dec. 22 (at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.) and will feature Olympic, world and U.S. national champions plus dozens of aspiring Olympic hopefuls from the Detroit metro area. Olympic champion Oksana Baiul and U.S. national champion Evan Lysacek lead the ensemble cast. The show is being billed as a Broadway-like theatrical production with a Christmas theme. Reserved seats are on sale now at the Compuware Arena box office, all Ticketmaster outlets, and can be purchased by phone at (248) 645-6666 or online at Ticketmaster.com.

Students to teach at community art nights

AMANDA ABUKHADER
CORRESPONDENT

Livonia Franklin High School's National Art Honors Society presents its third annual "Art with the Community Night" on Wednesday, Nov. 28.

For a supply fee of \$4, guests will "learn to become an artist" through seminars designed to teach the fundamental techniques used to paint, take photographs, create pottery and draw.

Art students will guide and instruct guests through classes.

"Art with the Community Night is a great opportunity to inspire students to become active in their art department,"

said Christen Minnick, president of NAHS and a photography student. "We really want kids to get involved and to see the possibilities that art can offer. This is no longer the era of the starving artist."

Franklin NAHS students will teach about the media in which they excel and which motivates them the most. Attendees will then be set free to work on an assignment with students' help.

"The whole point of this event is to show students and parents that mastery of technical skills is possible. Creating a great piece of artwork does not have to be out of your reach," Minnick said.

The event also shows the works of students. "Most people can't believe that this high caliber art can come out of a high school student, but it can and it does."

The program is open to those 11 and older.

This will be Franklin's third year hosting Art with the Community Night, and the idea has caught on: Both Stevenson and Churchill have decided to follow in Franklin's footsteps by both hosting their first "Art with the Community Nights."

Stevenson will host two sessions on Tuesday, Nov. 27, from 5:30-7 p.m. and 7:30-9 p.m. Churchill's event will be held from 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 28.

Franklin's will take place from 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 28.

For more information on Franklin's event, contact jreault@livonia.k12.mi.us or visit franklinart.googlepages.com.

aabukhad@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2033

Nominations sought for decorating contest

So you think you or your neighbor has the best Christmas decorations in Westland?

Tell the city about it. City Council President Charles Pickering has announced the 21st annual, council-sponsored Christmas Decoration Contest.

Pickering will chair the contest, and council members will judge displays. Plaques will be awarded to first-, second- and

third-place winners at the 7 p.m. Dec. 17 council meeting, on the second floor of City Hall.

Anyone who wants to nominate a house may write to the Westland City Clerk's Office, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI, 48185 or call (734) 467-3185 or (734) 467-3191.

Deadline for nominations is 4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 4.

The clerk's office will notify those selected for the awards.

WESTLAND
Observer

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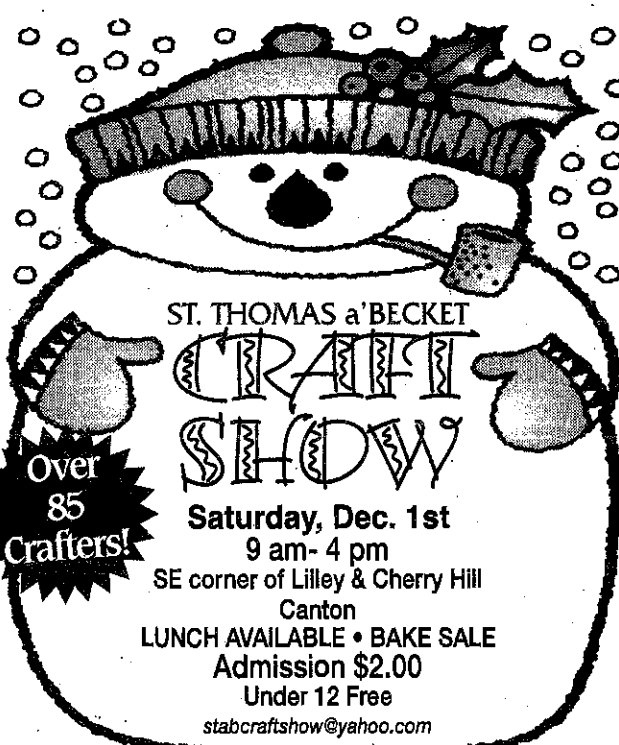
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LEAGUE

FROM PAGE A1

embezzling scandal involving former officers Neal and Shari Greenfield, and he said the league is continuing its slow climb from the brink of financial ruin — even if it does owe thousands of dollars for debt turned over to Wayne County.

The city of Westland's Web site indicates only part of the league's financial problems, mostly for unpaid water bills. The site shows that the league owed \$2,702 for winter 2005; \$1,466 for summer 2006; \$1,950 for winter 2006; and \$1,614 for summer 2007.

That's nearly \$7,750 even before the county tacks on penalties that Barra said can reach 30 percent.

In another hurdle, the league now faces a new claim in court by AT&T. Barra said \$5,600 is owed for Yellow Pages advertising, which has now been halted.

Barra has called on league members and supporters to boycott AT&T, which he suggested should forgive the debt in the spirit of a huge corporation that supports some charities.

"I think it's reasonable they would forgive the bill," he said. "They give out millions of dollars a year to nonprofit organizations. I would feel the same way, if they were suing a church or The Salvation Army or the Civitans or the VFW."

Attorneys representing AT&T couldn't be reached for comment.

It's the second time the league has had a run-in with AT&T over advertising debts. Last year, Barra said, the league's bank account was garnished for bills it didn't pay, "nearly causing the baseball children to go without uniforms that spring."

While many Westland people appear to support the league's efforts to rebound, resident James Davis has become the front-line spokesman for a small, behind-the-scenes group that opposes Barra's leadership. Davis has repeatedly asked the city to investigate the league.

Just last Monday, City Attorney Angelo Plakas said the city has no jurisdiction over the nonprofit organization unless a citizen files a

formal complaint with the Westland Police Department and has evidence of an alleged wrongdoing.

Barra has shrugged off his critics and vowed to continue rebuilding the league — a task he said is non-paid and difficult at best.

Wayne County's threatened foreclosure is for water and street-lighting bills from winter 2005. Barra said the league again will avoid the threat, which has happened before, by catching up on its bills before they are much more than two years past due, which could mark a critical turning point in the foreclosure process.

"We'll stay ahead of the wave like we have for the last few years," he said. "I have no concern whatsoever that the civic league will be foreclosed on."

Barra voiced hope that the league eventually will get all its bills paid. State officials had revoked the organization's bingo license amid the embezzling scandal, but Barra said games resumed in March.

"We're turning the corner on bingo. We have many profitable sessions," he said, adding that lower-than-expected profits have occurred due to a sour economy that has kept many would-be players at home.

"If the economy turns around and consumer confidence improves," Barra said, "then we'll make more money sooner."

The league also has some private parties, centered around occasions like Valentine's Day, that are expected to boost revenues.

"I see light at the end of the tunnel," Barra said. "And the support from the public has been absolutely tremendous."

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Third teenager still out of school

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

The third "person of interest" mentioned by police in the days immediately after the Nov. 7 murder of 26-year-old Daniel Sorensen — believed to be a Churchill High School student — was still being kept out of school as the Thanksgiving holiday came and went.

Livonia Public Schools spokesperson Donna McDowell said she didn't believe the student had returned to school, and couldn't say when he might.

"He is out of school for an investigation by school district officials," said McDowell, who declined to elaborate on the subject of the district's investigation. "We're certainly very cognizant of the needs of the prosecutor's office and law enforcement agencies, etc. We're having our own investigation of this individual. Right now, we just don't have a lot of information."

It has been widely rumored the Churchill student may have been called to the Canton garage where Sorensen's murder took place after the killing had happened. Two teenagers, 17-year-old Jean Pierre Orlewicz of Plymouth Township and 18-year-old Alexander Letkemann of Westland, have been charged in the case. Police allege the pair stabbed Sorensen, sawed off his head and disposed of his body in a Northville Township field.

The pair faces a preliminary hearing in 35th District Court Nov. 30.

The Canton garage where the murder took place belongs to Orlewicz's grandfather. Police aren't talking because of a gag



DETROIT NEWS POOL PHOTO

Kim and Jim Sorensen of Westland, parents of murder victim Daniel Sorensen, were in 35th District Court Monday for the preliminary hearing of the teenagers accused of killing their son.

"best friends." She doesn't believe, despite the charges, that Letkemann was involved in Sorensen's death. She thinks Letkemann was brought into the situation under false pretenses.

"I'm shocked, I'm in disbelief, because Alex wouldn't hurt a spider," Housholder said. "I think he was (brought there) under the misunderstanding that he was going to do something very different. He would never go along with something like this."

Jessika Adam, a junior at Churchill, said she believes if Letkemann was involved, he got involved out of fear.

"I think he was frozen with fear," Adam said. "People don't know what they're going to do in a situation like that."

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

order imposed by 35th District Court Judge Michael Gerou, but sources say Orlewicz may have called the third student for help after discovering Sorensen's body was too heavy for the two teens to move.

The third student is not expected to be charged in the case.

Meanwhile, Letkemann's

friends and family have been vociferous in their defense of the teen, who dropped out of Churchill High School in 2006, then completed his high school education through the school's adult education program.

Lisa Housholder said she considers herself Letkemann's "second mother," and said Alexander and her son were

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THU 13	STARS	7:30 PM
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Dear Rick: I read your column and I understand what you say about the market and how investors should not panic during these times. Even though I agree with everything you say, I am still nervous and have decided to sell my stock investments. I have a little over \$100,000 that I want to invest in a safe and secure area. I don't need the money now but probably will in five to 10 years. Any suggestions?



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

I understand and I know how it feels when you see your account balance go down. As I have stated many times in the past, I don't care how good an investment is, if it keeps you up at night, it's not worth it. It doesn't matter whether I believe the market will turn around or not, the reality is you're not comfortable with stock investments and because of that, I don't disagree with your decision to liquidate.

The issue is where to invest the money. Considering you are a conservative investor who does not like principal fluctuation you have a couple options. The first is certificates of deposit or CDs. They will give you a guaranteed rate of return without principal fluctuation. In addition, CDs are insured by the FDIC for upwards of \$100,000.

With regards to CDs, the first issue is to determine the length of time. Considering the slight differences between short- and long-term rates, I would consider a two- to three-year CD.

The next issue is where to purchase the CD. Consider a bank that is FDIC insured or through a credit union which also has insurance up to \$100,000. In that regard, you

don't have to consider just local banks, you can also shop CDs around the country.

You can go to one of the brokerage houses and they can shop CD rates for you or you can do it yourself at www.bankrate.com. The key in purchasing a CD is to make sure you understand the terms and conditions.

Another alternative is an equity-index annuity which allows you to invest money that will grow tax deferred until it is withdrawn. Unlike a CD that gives you a fixed rate of return, an equity-index annuity return will adjust on a year-by-year basis based upon a formula. An equity-index annuity is a fixed investment and you cannot lose principal.

Unfortunately, the majority of equity-index annuities are stuffed with fees thus, hindering the return to an investor. However, there are many annuities in the market that have very low fees. The key is to purchase one of those annuities through a firm such as Hutton Financial that deals exclusively in no-load annuities, (800) 874-4444.

Since you don't need the income for a number of years, I would lean towards the equity-index annuity as the better investment in your situation.

Dear Rick: I lost my job and have run into problems with my finances. I am maxed out on my charge cards and I've had to draw from my 401(k) just to cover bills. I want

to a credit counselor who came up with a program. I am fearful that by following the program I'll never be out of debt. A friend recommended bankruptcy. The credit counselor said there are too many negatives to bankruptcy and I should go with the work-out plan. Is bankruptcy something I should consider? I am 28 years old.

We live in a great country that believes when people get into financial difficulty — because of bad luck or bad choices — there should be a way to wipe the slate clean and start over.

Bankruptcy laws are well established in our country and for people who are having financial difficulty it is something to explore. Unfortunately, there is a stigma around bankruptcy which I'm not sure is fair. After all, many corporations declare bankruptcy and continue to stay in business and, in many cases, retain the public's confidence.

Bankruptcy laws don't exist in a vacuum. They are part of the safeguards in our system and no one should be stigmatized using the law for their benefit.

In your situation, if there is no reasonable expectation the work-out plan will be successful, then bankruptcy is a viable alternative. Because a bankruptcy remains on someone's record for a period of time, it is not something to use without proper consideration.

My recommendation is sit down with a bankruptcy attorney and discuss your options. Depending upon your situation there will be different ways to proceed with different consequences.

In many cases, someone's financial situation is not caused by bad choices but rather bad luck. Whether it is a health emergency, a lost job, things happen and when they do, bankruptcy is something people should consider.

I recognize there is a guilt feeling associated with bankruptcy, however, keep in mind when you were paying 18.5 percent interest on your charge cards, that amount was substantially more than the going rate of interest. In effect, the company was charging a premium to offset any losses they would incur in case of things such as bankruptcy. Therefore, because you paid higher interest in effect you were buying an insurance policy and now you are just collecting on that policy.

Bankruptcy should not be someone's first alternative, however, it is something that deserves consideration. The key is to understand the consequences of what is involved and to make a decision based on what's good for your future financial health.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at moneyatters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit Rick's Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com.

'Lion King' prize winners selected

Robin Spivey of Southfield is grand prize winner in the Observer & Eccentric/Mirror Newspapers "Lion King" contest. Spivey receives four tickets to the Saturday, Dec. 1, performance at the Detroit Opera House.

Other winners of "Lion King" gift packs are: Kelly Brang of Garden City, the Gaffke family of Livonia, Charlene Diehl of Farmington Hills, Gloria Miller of Westland, Shelly Stallworth of Southfield, Karen Morawski of Rochester, Norbert Ostrowski of Royal Oak, Janice Kanka of Troy, Nadine Martens of Bloomfield Hills, Betty Cespino of Canton Township, Jerry Powers of Redford Township and Cheryl Kuzmanovich of Ferndale.

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LABORATORY TESTS IN ARTHRITIS

Laboratory tests often are important in uncovering medical problems not otherwise apparent. Your doctor discovers if you have diabetes from blood work. Thyroid conditions and the presence of toxic chemicals like lead and mercury are also found through examination of the blood.

However, laboratory tests are not as useful in arthritis. You should not be told that a "blood test showed you have rheumatoid arthritis." Nor is it true that a laboratory test will tell if you have lupus or not.

The reason is because abnormal findings in the arthritic conditions are tied to inflammation or disturbances to your immune system. A variety of reactions can cause these laboratory findings. No one can say if the laboratory results present now represent past reactions to medications, viral infections, or responses to pollens or dust.

Blood testing results may be in keeping with a physician's impression that your medical history and physical examination indicate rheumatoid arthritis or a similar condition. In arthritis, your experience of joint pain and its pattern of impairment provide the best way to diagnose your condition.

The one exception is gout. For that diagnosis, the only way your physician is sure you have gout is to see the crystals of gout in a sample of fluid drawn from the involved toe or knee. Blood results no matter how high the levels, can only lend support to the diagnosis.

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TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Livonia Public Schools teachers Kitty Yost, left, and Katie Dodge celebrate the award they received for their work with Cooper Elementary School sixth-graders last year in the A World in Motion program.

Award honors teachers putting 'world in motion'

BY REBECCA JONES
STAFF WRITER

Spirited competition motivated sixth-graders to learn engineering and physics last year, and teachers Kitty Yost and Katie Dodge are now being rewarded for their efforts.

Yost and Dodge, with the help of local engineers, led Cooper Elementary students through an exercise in toy design, through a program run

by the Society of Automotive Engineers called A World in Motion.

Using math and science skills, students created balloon-powered Jet Toys that were judged for speed, distance, weight, carrying ability, time in motion, accuracy and aesthetics.

Engineers from Detroit Diesel and the General Motors Powertrain plant in Livonia visited once a week to give stu-

dents pointers.

"It was a good learning experience for them," Yost said. "Before we knew it, their cars were really cruising."

"It was fun to watch our kids absorb science and use it daily," Dodge said. "We had fabulous engineers."

Cooper students took gold for the overall competition the first Jet Toy Olympics at Cobleskill Hall in April and earned medals for weight, accuracy, design

logs, distance and speed.

But their teachers were not left out. Yost and Dodge were recently named recipients of SAE International's Lloyd Reuss Award for Teaching Excellence.

The award honors Reuss, a former GM president, who is a staunch supporter of the program. It comes with a \$1,000 gift for Cooper school and \$1,000 for Yost and Dodge to split. Both said

the money would go to their classrooms.

Yost, in her 17th year at LPS, teaches fifth-grade this year at Cooper. She plans to take part in A World in Motion again. Dodge, who has been teaching for five years, has a grade 3/4 split classroom at Webster and wants to bring the program there. Both are Livonia residents.

School secretary Judy Delgreco's son, Ken Delgreco

Jr., who works at the Powertrain plant in Livonia, introduced A World in Motion to the teachers at Cooper.

While several classrooms full of students took part, Jet Toy races in the Cooper hallways last spring determined who would represent the school in the olympics.

"We had a riot," Yost said. "I can't wait to do it again."

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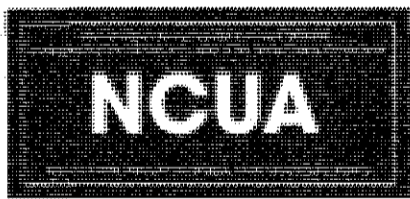
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PHOTO BY KAREN DANKE

The Upper Elementary choir students at Johnson Elementary School rehearse for the Holiday Concert with the Livonia Symphony Orchestra.

Holiday concert to spotlight children's choir

BY LINDA ANNE EDWINA
STAFF WRITER

Karen Danke takes a moment before heading out the door to share her excitement about the Livonia Symphony Orchestra's Holiday Concert 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1, at Clarenceville High School.

A callist with the orchestra, Danke just finished performing at the LSO Ballroom Ballance benefit Friday night at Laurel Manor in Livonia.

While the concert and dancing performances by professional dancers were exciting, the recapturing program is sure to put everyone in the holiday spirit.

Danke's upper elementary students at Johnson School in Livonia have already spent hours practicing their two songs - Cantic of Peace and Winter Wonderland of Snow.

"They're only 10 or 11-year-old but oh are they incredible," said Karen Danke of Redford. "It's a sweet children's sound and they are so driven. I made CDs for them to practice parts at home and parents say they're practicing for hours. We had 78 kids audition. They are so excited. Everybody's buzzing with excitement."

Danke directs choirs of 200

HOLIDAY CONCERT

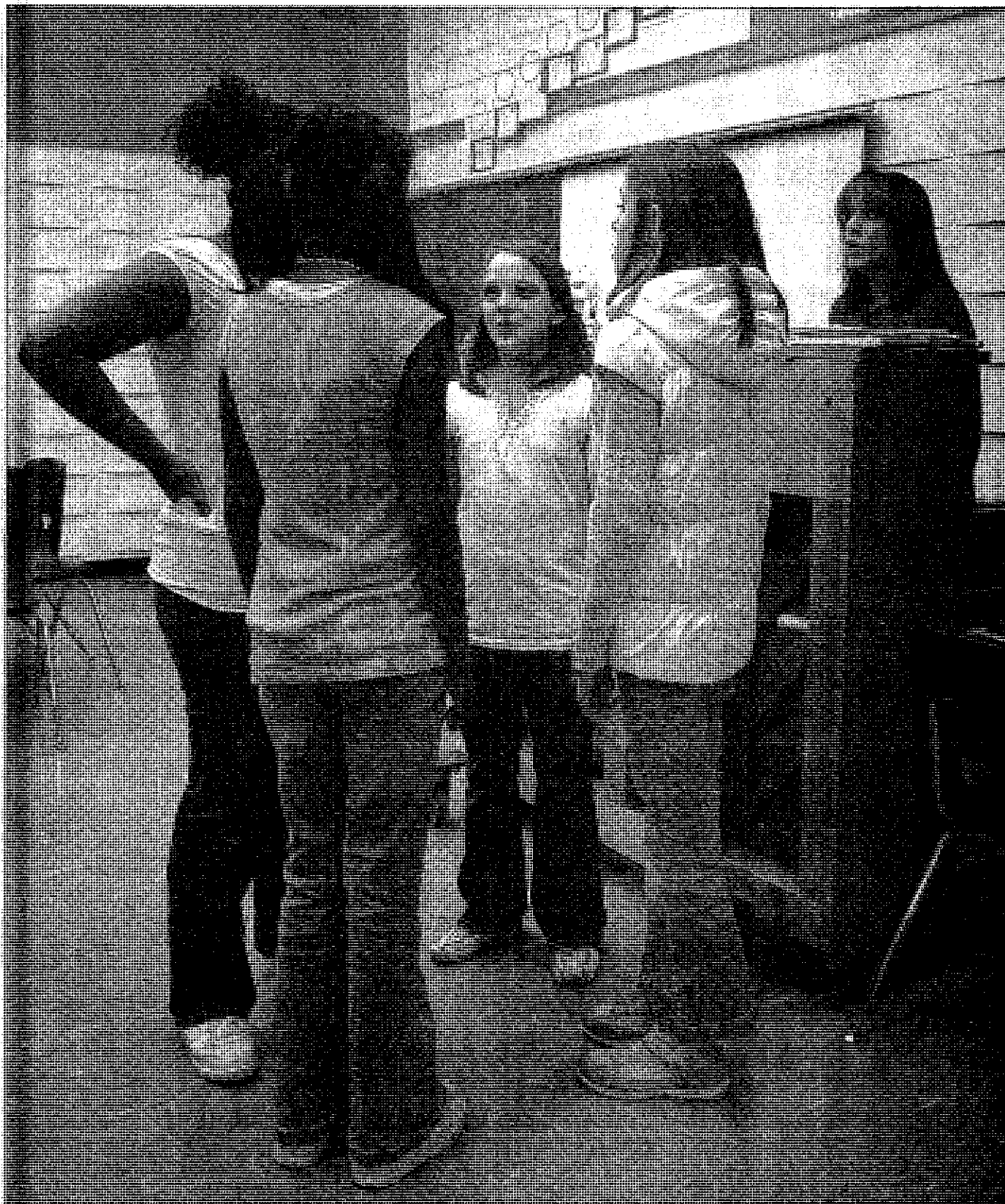
What: Livonia Symphony Orchestra presents seasonal concert featuring commercial, Christian and Jewish music
When: 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1
Where: Clarenceville High School on Middlebelt, south of Eight Mile, Livonia
Tickets: \$17 adults, \$5 children/students, and available at Livonia libraries in advance or at the door before the concert. For information, call (734) 421-1111 or visit www.livoniasymphony.com

plus children at the school, but the stage wasn't big enough so she had to choose 58 kids to sing at the Dec. 1 concert.

"We're making a DVD at the end of the month for the Book Educators National Conference. We sent in a proposal and they were accepted," said Danke, a music teacher at the school. "It's exciting when you have so many kids who want to sing."

In addition to the children's choir, one of the highlights is a performance of The Santa Claus Symphony.

"It's the Midwest premiere,"



Music teacher Karen Danke leads her Johnson Elementary School choir students through one of the songs they perform with the Livonia Symphony Orchestra.

said Carl Karoub, LSO French horn player. "There are some new themes, some favorite Christmas themes."

Bruce Sole not only helped select the symphony for the holiday program but looks forward to performing the music by Fry.

"The Santa Claus Symphony is not performed very often," said Bruce Sole, LSO music committee member and principal trombone. "I'm really excited about playing and it's kind of challenging. I love Christmas music in general. We've taken Victorian Christmas cards

and transferred them to Power Point and are programming them to fit a specific point in the piece."

Conductor Volodymyr Shesiuk says the concert is one the entire family will enjoy.

"Grandma, grandpa and kids can come," said Volodymyr

Shesiuk of Garden City. "We'll play White Christmas, Sleigh Ride and end singing Silent Night."

"It's going to be fun," added Tom Bjorklund, president of the LSO board of directors.

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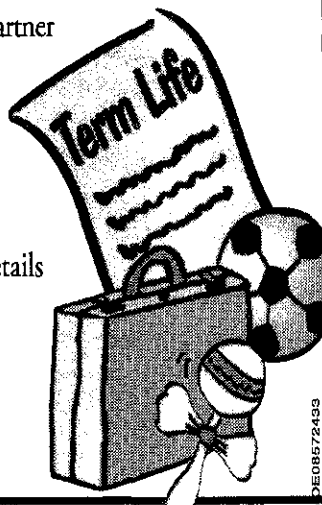
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Michigan Eye Doctor Helps Legally Blind

Dr. Sheldon Smith fits special glasses to help those with macular degeneration and other eye conditions keep reading and driving.

By Elena Lombardi

Most of us take things like reading, watching TV or playing cards for granted. But poor vision from conditions like macular degeneration, glaucoma, diabetes or cataracts makes these tasks difficult or even impossible. When people have insufficient vision to do the things they want to do, they have low vision.

Today Michigan Optometrist Dr. Sheldon Smith has the answers many of these people have been seeking. Dr. Smith, a Low Vision Specialist, helps people with these types of eye diseases see better. A Fellow of the International Academy of Low Vision Specialists, Dr. Smith is one of a select group of doctors serving the visually impaired.

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

"Many people are told by their own doctors that nothing more can be done for their eye condition, but there are ways to improve vision" says Dr. Smith. "We fit special devices to help patients meet their various visual goals."

Patients often end up using weak, clumsy handheld magnifiers trying to help themselves see better. Conversely, Dr. Smith prescribes hands free devices that are easier to use. "We use the same

telescopic devices surgeons use during operations," says Dr. Smith. "That's how powerful and convenient they are."

Special prismatic reading glasses and microscopes help make reading a little easier. Telescopic glasses primarily focus on distance objects like TV, passing neighbors or scenery. Telescopes can also be adapted to closer tasks like playing cards or computers. "Telescopes can even help people meet the vision requirement for driving" Dr. Smith explained. Michigan is one of the 46 states that allow bioptic telescopic glasses for driving.

Mr. Charles Willim, age 81, of Taylor came to get his driver license restored after macular degeneration reduced his vision to 20/70. Dr. Smith fit him with special driving telescopes that improved his vision to 20/40. A few weeks later Charles passed his road test and is now a licensed driver again. "Those telescopic glasses are pretty darn good" he said.

Buddy Standafer, age 70, of Westland had diabetic eye problems. He came to reinstate his driver license and read better. His regular vision as 20/200 but with special driving telescopes he saw 20/50. Prismatic reading glasses got him reading newsprint. Two months later his license was restored. "Now I see the traffic lights much better. I am happy to be on the road again. I tell a lot of people about Dr. Smith" Buddy said.



Buddy Standafer wearing driving telescopes

Dr. Smith also advises patients on using sun filters and nutritional supplements to prevent further vision loss. Special glasses and telescopes range in price from \$600 to \$2,500. "Every patient is unique, with different amounts of vision and individual goals," says Dr. Smith. "I strive to help patients resume doing what matters most to them. Meeting patient goals with suitable solutions ultimately improves independence and quality of life."

If you or someone you know is struggling with their vision, call Dr. Smith to find out how low vision care can help. There is help available. You just need to know where to find it. You can reach Dr. Smith and Suburban Low Vision of Michigan at

1-877-677-2020

Dr. Smith has offices in Livonia, Warren, Shelby Township and the Lansing area.

Visit Suburban Low Vision of Michigan at suburbaneyecare.com or find out more about the International Academy of Low Vision Specialists at ialvs.com.

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Trivia challenge benefits student exchange program

BY DAVE VARGA
STAFF WRITER

Trivia buffs are invited to join a contest — and help out a special student exchange program for South Redford schools — at a major fund-raising event from 6-9 p.m. today, Sunday, Nov. 25, at the Timber Wolf Tavern on Plymouth Road in Redford.

For a fee of \$30, participants join in the Trivia Challenge Fund-raiser, which will raise money to help defray airfare and other costs for students in the district's "Classroom Without Walls" Chinese exchange program.

The program began with students learning about each other using online and other means while in their own countries, before moving onto in-person visits. Last year, about 15 students from Nanao

School in China visited South Redford.

Fisher Elementary Principal Brian Galdes, who had initially traveled to China to help set up the program, said the district plans to have South Redford students make a reciprocal visit sometime in 2008. Donors can help ensure the opportunity happens.

"This is a great opportunity for the South Redford community," he said. In terms of our counterparts in China, he said, "They're so welcoming, so hospitable. They want to give every opportunity possible for their students to become global citizens."

Barb Torey, an active parent with children at Fisher and Pierce, is helping coordinate the benefit. She said the owners at the Timber Wolf were very supportive of helping kids. "I asked him and he said, 'Sure,

go ahead. Let's do it.'"

During last year's visit, Torey said one of the Chinese boys stayed with her family for a while. "It was an amazing experience for everyone involved," she said.

Will her daughter make the trip? "Oh, she's going. I'm working like heck so that she can," Torey said.

Participants in the trivia challenge will also get pizza and pop, plus the chance to win a \$200 first prize, \$150 for second and \$50 for third. Raffles and 50/50 drawings will also be held.

Raising money for the effort won't stop at the trivia night. Supporters will be selling Mackinac Island fudge at Olde-Fashioned Christmas event on Dec. 8.

For more details, contact Torey at (313) 533-2303.

dvarga@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2119



Teresa DeHart-Schultz and her mom, Westland City Clerk Eileen DeHart, fill the trunk of their car with purchases made at Westland Shopping Center on Friday.

SHOP

FROM PAGE A1

"There's none inside," said the woman.

Joy Bobby of Dearborn started her morning a little later than Hickman — at 3:30 a.m. — by standing in a long line outside Kohl's. She researched her purchases and by a little after 7 a.m. had made it to four stores. Her best deal, she said, was at Radio Shack where she bought an iPod for \$149.

Loading stuff in her car in the Kmart parking lot, she admitted that "some people were getting feisty."

"It's been smoother here," she said. "I walked in and walked out with what I wanted."

Sarah Finley of Romulus started at 5 a.m. at the Wal-Mart store in Taylor and was working her way north.

"I'm on a budget, I'm paying cash for everything, not like those people who are charging it," she said.

An oddity in the sea of shoppers was Charles Pilch of Inkster. New to the shopping frenzy, he started out at 5:15 a.m. and two hours later was ready to stop for breakfast. He'd made it to Meijer, JC Penney, Kmart and Toys R Us where the electronics department "was outrageous."

"I haven't gotten a lot, but I've got a few good buys," he said. "I've got a couple more to go, but I'll probably go home and take a break."

Chris Jenkins was another one of the 5 a.m. shoppers, but



Holly Triplett of Westland had a long walk with her purchases. She has a handicapped parking permit but couldn't find an available handicapped parking spot Friday at Westland Shopping Center.



Target employees Jerome Mbek and Latrelle Hutson load purchases for DeeDee Ballard of Detroit, Sherrie Thomas of Detroit, and Michelle Averhart of Sterling Heights.

after two hours of store hopping, she had come to the conclusion that it wasn't "worth getting up that early."

"I got some good buys at Toys R Us, but I came out more for the fun of it," she said. But Dye and her two friends

decided it was better to drink their coffee and wait for later.

"I can't spend my whole life in a line," she said.

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

Girl Scouts help shoppers wrap it up

While shoppers crowded Laurel Park Place in Livonia Friday, the Girl Scout gift wrapping booth was there to help harried shoppers make their gifts look just so.

"We also have Westland mall," where the booth was being set up Friday, said Mary Dicello of Livonia, a mom involved with the Metro Detroit Girl Scout Council. The Huron Valley Girl Scout Council also participates in the fund-raiser.

Adults and girls wrap presents for shoppers at both malls during mall hours, continuing through Christmas Eve. You can use your own

boxes or theirs, with prices based on box size.

"The bows are handmade," said Dicello, adding all gift tags are stamped. Key organizers are Sue Roy and Diane Bergendahl: "If it wasn't for them it would not be possible," Dicello said.

"I enjoy wrapping," she said. "I enjoy meeting the people. It's just a lot of fun." The volunteers watch a DVD in training. The girls choose what they want to do with money raised, such as camping or trips.

"Just come out and help the Girl Scouts," Dicello urged.

By Julie Brown

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OUR VIEWS

No shortage of need in 'season of giving'

It is no secret the state of Michigan is in the midst of a prolonged economic slump. And while there are always the less fortunate who rely on the generosity of others to make it through the day, the number of people needing a helping hand this holiday season surely has increased.

And that is putting extra pressure on area food banks, soup kitchens and emergency shelters to keep up with the additional demand. Organizations like Gleaners Food Bank and the Goodfellows need more help than ever if they are going to succeed in ensuring no child goes without a Christmas, and every family will enjoy a holiday meal.

A great way to get into the "holiday spirit" is by supporting the various charities whose volunteers work tirelessly to help those in need. There is no shortage of ways to help, either offering one's time, talent or treasure to a worthy cause.

The Salvation Army is in need of volunteer bell ringers to help with its annual red kettle campaign. If enough volunteers are not found, the organization either has to pay people to man the kettles or reduce the number of locations, both of which cut into its resources. Visit the Salvation Army's Web site at www.salvationarmymich.org to learn how to help.

Similarly, Gleaners Community Food Bank is seeking both food donations and volunteers to help pack food boxes for the needy. The organization, which serves both Oakland and Wayne counties, experienced record demand for assistance last month, distributing more than 2.2 million pounds of food. With area food pantries experiencing critical shortages, cash donations are the best way to help restock empty shelves. Visit the Gleaners Web site at www.gcfb.org to learn more.

South Oakland Shelter is another area organization experiencing record demand, coupled with dwindling resources. The Oakland County-based shelter not only provides temporary housing and meals to area homeless people, but also helps with case management, job counseling and transportation to help break the cycle of poverty and homelessness. To learn how to help, visit the S.O.S. Web site at www.sos1985.org.

In this season of giving, it is more important than ever to do as much as we can to help those in need this holiday

COMMUNITY VOICE

With costs going up, will you spend more or less for the holidays?



"We're probably spending more because the boys are older and we'd love to have a Wii."

Sonya Adams
Garden City



"Oh, yeah, for sure, we'll definitely be spending less for Christmas."

Crezelena Torres
Garden City



"I'll probably spend less for Christmas because I'm going on a big vacation."

Lee Magher
Westland



"I definitely won't be spending very much because everything costs too much."

Samantha Hamilton
Redford

LETTERS

McCotter fights for veterans

This is a response to both Dianne Marietti and B.J. Davis. It's hard to believe that they don't know how the system works. Congressman McCotter has fought for us veterans all the time. He has also fought on the Social Security that the Democrats have tried to push through.

Do these to persons know that our two senators, Levin and Stabenow, have voted to give illegal aliens Social Security benefits.

These two persons should read and study what our two Democrat senators are doing in Washington.

When I want something or some information, Rep. McCotter is right there to give it to me. Right now he is fighting to get more benefits for us veterans.

George D. Kosnich
Livonia

Hats off to teen writers

Read the article relating to the Student Voices section. Great, it provides the school children a means of freely expressing their views to all who will listen. The benefits are manifold. The children will improve their ability to organize thoughts, knowing that

there will be feedback. Helps them to recognize that all issues in life have many facets.

The power of words will become ingrained in them for the rest of their life. Learning effective communication is, as always, what makes mankind superior to the other animals on the planet. Also helps those of older generations to better understand how the world is changing for the better. After all, these are the ones that will be the leaders of tomorrow.

Perhaps they can end a practice that we have not been able to end — being misled by many glib politicians and other self-serving individuals. They treat us as dumb, gullible people who will believe any lie, if it is repeated enough. Just think how much we would all benefit if we could lose the Nation of Sheep characterization.

Hats off to all the *Observer* people who created this most worthwhile program.

Ralph E. Williams
Livonia

Catholics criticize McCotter

Please notice what U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter is saying about groups that slam him for his vote against children's health care. It is another reason we should not re-

elect him next November.

In October, Catholics United, "a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to promoting the message of justice and the common good found at the heart of the Catholic Social Tradition," launched an ad campaign targeting "pro-life Christian" politicians who voted against expanding the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). The ads criticized the members of Congress for saying that they're "pro-life," but then voting "against health care for poor children."

"That's not pro-life. That's not pro-family," concluded the ads.

One of the targets of the ads, McCotter, R-Livonia, the chairman of the House Republican Policy Committee, responded by accusing Catholics United of being the "devil" and acting in "sin."

Now Catholics United is taking to the Christian radio airwaves again. They're still hitting McCotter but are also adding four more members of Congress to their target list: Rep. Jim Marshall, D-Georgia, Rep. Virgil Goode, R-Virginia, Rep. Todd Tiahrt, R-Kansas, and Rep. Kenny Hulshof, R-Missouri.

H. Hudak
Canton



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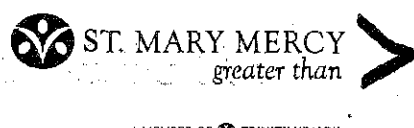
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Nov. 26	Nov. 27	Nov. 28	Nov. 29	Nov. 30	Dec. 1	Dec. 2

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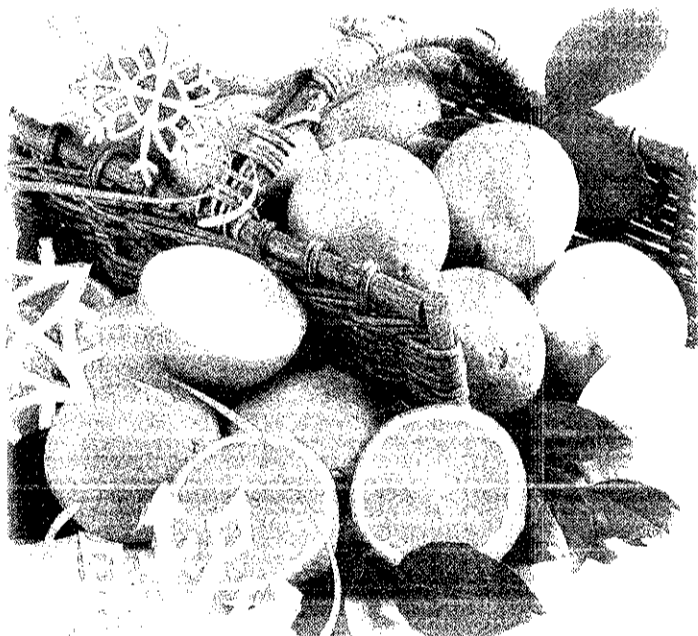
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SPORTS

B

(LW)

Sunday, November 25, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com

Churchill jolts Shamrocks in early test, 7-5

Milam's hat trick fuels win vs. CC

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

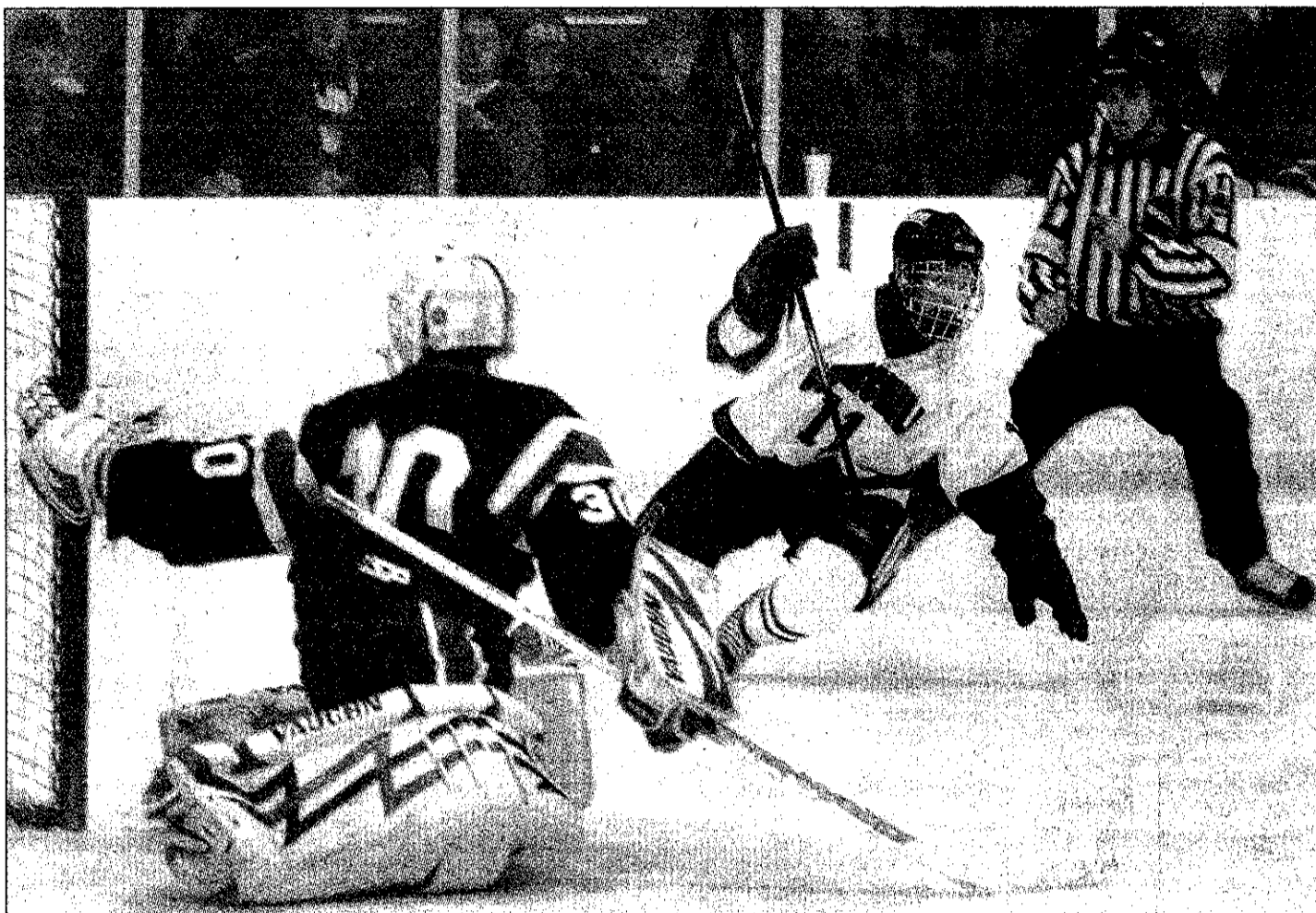
Livonia Churchill is off to a 3-0 start in boys hockey and nobody is hotter than Nathan Milam.

The senior forward notched a hat trick and added an assist as the Chargers, who battled back from a 3-1 first-period deficit, notched an eye-opening 7-5 victory Wednesday night over visiting Novi-Detroit Catholic Central at Livonia's Edgar Arena.

Milam, a second-team All-Area pick as a junior, played like a magician as he raised his season total to 10 goals and four assists.

"Churchill is a really good team," said CC coach Todd Johnston, whose team slipped to 1-1 overall. "They play with a lot of energy. Milam put up an early vote for Mr. Hockey. He was really good, the best player on the ice."

Milam ripped a quick shot off the face-off to score Churchill's first goal just 1:24 into the game off an assist from Keith Yackley.



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Churchill senior Nate Milam reacts after scoring his second goal during the second period past Catholic Central goalie Tyler Marble.

SIDE LINES

A's sign Rogowski

Former Detroit Catholic Central High School standout Casey Rogowski (Livonia) was signed to a minor league contract last week by the Oakland A's.

In 264 Triple-A games for the Chicago White Sox' affiliate in Charlotte, the left-handed hitting first baseman and outfielder hit .259 with .364 on-base average and a .418 slugging percentage.

The 27-year-old Rogowski enjoyed his best minor league season in Double-A Birmingham (Ala.) when he batted .293 with nine homers and 78 RBI.

He was a 13th-round pick of the White Sox in 1999.

Krug earns honor

For the third time in four weeks, Adrian College junior Adam Krug (Livonia Churchill) was named Midwest Collegiate Hockey Association Player of the Week.

In a weekend sweep of Finlandia, Krug netted the game-winning goal and added an assist in a 7-3 win (Nov. 16).

He had a hand on all four goals (two goals, two assists) in a 4-2 Bulldogs' win (Nov. 17).

Krug and teammate Shawn Skelly are currently tied for the most points in NCAA Division III hockey with 18 points apiece. Adrian is 5-2 overall.

Meet C'ville teams

The Livonia Clarenceville Athletic Department will hold its "Meet the Team Night" for winter sport athletes, parents and coaches from 6:30-8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 26, at the high school cafeteria.

Topics included athletic and academic eligibility requirements, sportsmanship, season schedule, team rules and consequences, team policies and banquet information.

For more information, call Clarenceville athletic director Kevin Murphy at (248) 919-0217.

Please see **CHURCHILL, B2**

It's a brand new season

Girls get early jump on '07-08 campaign Tuesday

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

At least for one week, girls basketball takes center stage.

And because of the MHSAA's court-mandated seasons switch, the girls will share the stage with boys for the remainder of the 2007-08 winter season.

And with the scheduling, you'll have your pick of plenty of games choose from on Tuesdays and Friday nights. Let's just hope there are enough (qualified) officials around.

When the girls season opens Tuesday night, here are some things to look for:

■ **New coaches:** Former University of Michigan player Leslie (Spicer) Williams becomes the fourth coach in four years at Wayne Memorial; JV coach Dave McCall takes over the reins from Mary Kay Whalen at Livonia Franklin; former Livonia Ladywood assistant Pat Cannon takes over at Livonia Stevenson; Chad Jenkins replaces Keith McDonald at Livonia Churchill; and Eric Ruth takes over for his

wife Kris at Westland Huron Valley Lutheran.

■ **All-Area players:** Junior Brianna Taylor, who averaged 13.1 points and shot 49 percent from the field, leads Livonia Franklin.

Livonia Ladywood's Alex Serowoky, also a second-teamer, leads an experienced team which finished 20-4 a year ago and captured the Catholic League A-B Division championship, as well as the Operation-Friendship and Class A district crowns.

■ **Other players to watch:** Jenna Anastos, a senior forward from Ladywood; Brittany Holbrook, a junior center from Westland John Glenn; Becca Refenes, a junior center from Lutheran Westland; Brittany Taylor, a junior guard from Franklin; Lindsey Graciak, a junior point-guard from Churchill; Trena Barbee, a senior guard from Wayne; Allyson Yankee, a junior guard from Lutheran Westland; and

GIRLS HOOP PREVIEW



Brianna Taylor Franklin

Lauren Adlof, a senior point-guard from Huron Valley; Alison Szczyпка, senior guard, Ladywood; Amber Drabicki, senior guard, Ladywood; Becca Bartek, senior guard, Stevenson;

Wendy Foster, junior center, Wayne (transfer from Detroit Cooley); Amanda Moody, senior guard, Clarenceville.

■ **District assignments (Class A):** at Livonia Ladywood (Canton, Plymouth, Salem, Northville, Novi, Ladywood); at Redford Thurston (Churchill, Franklin, Stevenson, Redford Union, Farmington, Thurston);

Class B (at Livonia Clarenceville): Detroit Old Redford Prep, Detroit Renaissance, Hamtramck, Highland Park, Oak Park-Academy of Michigan.

Class D (at Huron Valley Lutheran): Lutheran High

Please see **PREVIEW, B3**



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior Alex Serowoky returns up front for defending Catholic League A-B Division and Operation-Friendship champion Livonia Ladywood.

Ocelots boot player for chair-throwing incident

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS

A chair-throwing incident during half-time of the Schoolcraft College men's basketball game last Tuesday night against host Owens Community College (Ohio) has led to the dismissal of a player.

Schoolcraft athletic director Sid Fox confirmed Wednesday that 6-foot-6

freshman guard Darius Hardrick of Belleville has been terminated from the team following the Ocelots' 78-70 non-conference setback.

"All I can say right now is that this is something we cannot tolerate," Fox said. "The player has been informed and he will no longer be a part of this team."

Perrysburg Township (Ohio) police chief Ed Stribrny, who was in attendance at the game, said no charges were filed, but a police report had been logged.

With Owens leading 39-18 at intermission, the incident occurred as Schoolcraft players and coaches exited the playing floor and were headed down a hallway leading to the visitors locker-room.

Stribrny said a Schoolcraft assistant

coach, who tried to intervene during a dispute between Hardrick and another Schoolcraft assistant coach, was struck in the head and momentarily knocked unconscious.

"It was more of an internal thing among the team and we asked them (the Schoolcraft coaching staff) if they had everything under control," Stribrny

Please see **OCELOTS, B2**

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THE WEEK AHEAD

GIRLS BASKETBALL
Tuesday, Nov. 27
 Luth. Westland at A.P. Cabrini, 6 p.m.
 Liggitt at Huron Valley Lutheran, 7 p.m.
 Churchill at Franklin, 7 p.m.
 John Glenn at F.H. Harrison, 7 p.m.
 Farmington at Wayne, 7 p.m.
 G.P. North at Ladywood, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 28
 Dearborn at Franklin, 7 p.m.
 Hazel Park at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 29
 Ladywood at Flint Powers, 7 p.m.
 Huron Valley at Inter-City Baptist, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 30
 Lutheran South at Huron Valley, 6 p.m.
 Clarenceville at Whitmore Lake, 7 p.m.
 Franklin at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
 Novi at John Glenn, 7 p.m.
 Wayne at Brighton, 7 p.m.
PREP HOCKEY
Sunday, Nov. 25
 Ladywood at Silver Stick Tourney, TBA.
Monday, Nov. 26
 Franklin vs. Waterford Kettering at Lakeland Ice Arena, 7:20 p.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 28
 Franklin vs. W.L. Central at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.
 Churchill vs. Canton at Edgar Arena, 8 p.m.
 Ladywood vs. G.P. North at Grosse Pointe Civic Arena, 7 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 30
 Stevenson vs. W.L. Western at Edgar, 6 p.m.
 Churchill vs. Northville at Novi Ice Arena, 7 p.m.
 Franklin vs. Salem at Ply. Cultural Ctr., 8:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 1
 Ladywood vs. Plymouth-Canton-Salem at Plymouth's Arctic Pond, 6 p.m.
PREP WRESTLING
Thursday, Nov. 29
 Clarenceville Quad Meet, 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 1
 Grand Blanc Invitational, 9 a.m.
 Rocket Team Inv. at John Glenn, 10 a.m.
 Adrian Invitational, 10 a.m.
 Lutheran Northwest Invitational, 10:30 a.m.
 Lincoln Park Invitational, TBA.
MEW'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Tuesday, Nov. 27
 Madonna at St. Francis (Ind.), 7 p.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 28
 Schoolcraft at Lansing CC, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 30
 (Montana State Northern Tourney)
 Madonna vs. Montana St. Northern, 8:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 1
 (Montana State Northern Tourney)
 Madonna vs. Rocky Mountain (Colo.), 1 p.m.
 (Prime Table Classic, Freeport, Ill.)
 Schoolcraft vs. Black Hawk East (Ill.), 3 p.m.
 Highland (Ill.) vs. Lincoln Land (Ill.), 5 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 2
 Prime Table Classic, 3 p.m. and 5 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Sunday, Nov. 25
 (Kalamazoo Valley Tournament)
 Schoolcraft vs. Lake Michigan, 2 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 30
 (Schoolcraft College Classic)
 Kalamazoo Valley vs. Lakeland (Ohio), 5:30 p.m.
 Schoolcraft vs. Sinclair CC (Ohio), 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 1
 (Schoolcraft College Classic)
 Kalamazoo Valley vs. Sinclair CC (Ohio), 1 p.m.
 Schoolcraft vs. Lakeland (Ohio), 3 p.m.
ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
Friday, Nov. 30
 Whalers at Kitchener Rangers, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 1
 Whalers vs. Kingston at Compuware, 7:05 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 2
 Whalers at Sarnia Sting, 6:05 p.m.
MAJOR INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUE
Friday, Nov. 30
 Whalers vs. Baltimore Blast at Compuware Arena, 8 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 1
 Whalers at New Jersey Ironmen, 7:30 p.m.
 TBA-time to be announced.

Spartan icers cruise, 5-0

Livonia Stevenson bolted to a 3-0 first-period advantage en route to a 5-1 non-league boys hockey victory Wednesday night over visiting Port Huron Northern at Eddie Edgar Arena.

Ian Curran, Tyler Vines and Zach Roberts paced the Spartans, now 3-0 overall, with a goal and assist each. John Vella and Joe Byrne also tallied goals for Stevenson.

Chris Hopper's third-period goal spoiled Stevenson netminder Pat McHugh's shutout bid. The senior made 15 saves.

"We had a good first period, but the second and third periods had little flow due to penalties," Stevenson first-year coach David Mitchell said.

The loss drops the Huskies, who lost their opener to Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook (2-1), to 0-2 overall.

OCELOTS

FROM PAGE B1

involved were professional and we were able to get the player to cease and desist. He (the stricken) coach did not want treatment. He was given ice."

Meanwhile, Schoolcraft first-year coach Randy Henry said: "I was not there when it happened. The only comment I'll make is that 'we handled the situation.'"

Owens coach Kevin Skaggs called the incident "an unfortunate deal all the way around."

"It put a cloud over the whole thing, the guy (Schoolcraft assistant) was laid out," Skaggs added. "My assistant saw one of their players throw a chair."

Following the altercation, the stricken Schoolcraft assistant coach returned to the bench for the second half and the 1-3 Ocelots made a comeback before falling eight points short after cutting the deficit to four with 1:37 to go.

Following the second-half comeback, Henry's son Eric, a 6-3 freshman forward from Detroit Renaissance, spent the night in a nearby Perrysburg hospital after being attended to and transported by paramedics late in the game.

"Eric took a charge and got hit in the throat and he took another charge later on and was hit in the chest," coach Henry said. "He had some discomfort. He started to hyperventilate so they kept him overnight. He's fine."

On Nov. 3, Schoolcraft opened its season at home with an 83-70 loss to Owens.

In the rematch, Pontiac Northern's Deandre Hall led the Express (4-2) with 15 points and 10 rebounds.

"We had been playing pretty well, we were up 21 at the half," Skaggs said. "Things got a little weird the second half after what happened at halftime. It got pretty intense."

Owens' Berdell Billingsley added 14 points and 12 rebounds, while Wes Taylor and Fletcher Noble chipped in with 12 and 11 points, respectively.

Marvin Walker, a 6-1 freshman guard from Highland Park who did not score against Owens in the first meeting, paced Schoolcraft and all scorers with 26 points.

Alex Nason added 18 second-half points, including three triples, to spark the comeback.

Narmer Dudley (Farmington Hills Harrison) contributed eight rebounds and four blocks.

"We're a young team that doesn't understand patience - we've averaged 22 turnovers (per game)," Henry said. "We had three turnovers in the last 1:37. But we had enough pride and character to come back and not give up. If we had played with the same energy we had in the second half to start the game..."

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TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Churchill sophomore Mike Woynick (left) gets past Catholic Central defenseman Greg Merrill and scores.

CHURCHILL

FROM PAGE B1

CC, however, responded with three quick goals within a span of 1:43 at the end of the opening period to go up by two goals.

Michael Bourgon scored the first at 12:16 from Jeff Leroy and Greg Merrill followed by Nicholas Gatt's unassisted power-play goal at 13:04. Nick Bates' then stole the puck directly in front of the Churchill net and tallied goal just 55 seconds later.

"We took some bad penalties and were not moving our feet," said Churchill eighth-year coach Pete Mazzoni, who notched his first-ever win against the Shamrocks. "We got caught up in the emotions of the game."

"We had to settle down and get back to the basics. We could have gone two ways. It was fortunate for us that we dug in and stuck together as a team."

Churchill came storming back with a pair of goals to open the second period with Mike Woynick scoring unassisted at 2:31 followed by Milam's second goal from Yackley at 3:45 to make it 3-1.

Merrill put CC back up on top, 4-3, on an assist from Leroy at 7:13. But Milam

tallied his third of the night at 12:56 off a back-door pass from defenseman Nick Harakas to even the count at 4-4.

In the third period, Kody Strong's unassisted goal at 3:59 put the Chargers ahead for keeps and Travis Satkowiak's goal from Milam gave Churchill at two-goal cushion, 6-4 at 5:51.

But with only 2:59 left in the game, CC made things interesting when Steven Hensley scored from Brent Darnell and Leroy just after a Charger penalty expired.

The Shamrocks, who took 12 penalties on the night to Churchill's eight, then took a pair of costly ones including a holding call on Bourgon with only two minutes to play and another by Merrill, the senior captain, on a crosscheck and game misconduct with only 1:28 left.

With CC down two men, Churchill's Garrett Miencier took advantage of the 5-on-3 situation by tallying an empty netter to put the game away with only 19.8 seconds remaining from Satkowiak and Tyler Cotter.

"I think we're better up front than we were last year," said Mazzoni, who guided the Chargers to a regional title and a 23-3-2 record a year ago. "They're strength (CC's) is defense and goaltending. Aud like they say in base-

ball, it was the classic good pitching versus good hitting matchup, and I guess the hitting ended up winning out."

Churchill senior goaltender Derrick Daigneau made a total of 26 saves, including some key third-period stops. He is among three goalies on the Chargers' roster along with senior Greg Wirick and sophomore Aaron Crouse.

"Derrick (Daigneau) made some big saves," Mazzoni said. "So whoever is hot we'll go with."

CC, coming off a 5-2 victory in its opener against defending Division 1 state champion Orchard Lake St. Mary's, pulled goalie Tyler Marble in the third period in favor of Michael Ciurffoletti.

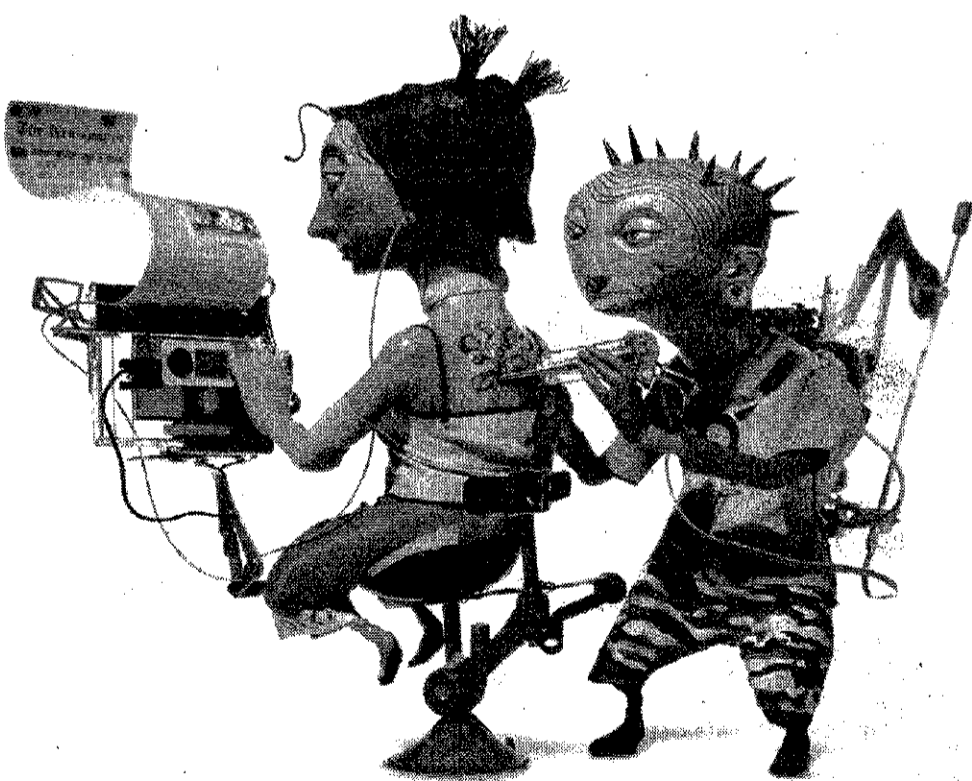
"We feel have a good number one goalie," Johnston said. "Actually we have three good goalies and I guess the competition is on."

"We knew they (Churchill) had a good first line with Milam and Miencier, they're the best line in the state. We had a good first period, then fell asleep. When it was 4-4 it was a great environment, a great game. It was hard hitting, but not nasty. There were some puzzling penalties and not a lot of flow. We just did not have a good third period."

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Patriot Pompon 1st

Livonia Franklin captured first place in the Large Varsity High Kick category at the 2007 Mid American Pompon, Inc. Championship held Nov. 4 at Eastern Michigan University. The Patriots also placed second for their hip hop dance routine. Members of the team, coached by Kyra Boprie, include Gina Ansara, Kolee Gignac, Nicole Kingsbury, Lindsay Brown, Alison Armstrong, Jenn Kuzara, Colby Gill, Mel Mueller, Hannah Urbanski, Keely Wilson, Stephanie Matroionni, Cara Jones, Jan Mueller, Kristy Lindensmith, Stacey Kuehn, Tori Barnes, Katelyne Johnston, Nicole Marzolf, Nickie Walker, Brette Gurski and Brittany Schulte. Team captains include Shannon Domzalski, Lea Bowers and Alicia Armstrong.

Whalers triumph in matinee

Jeremy Smith pitched a 26-save shutout and Joe Gaynor's first goal of the season was all the Plymouth Whalers needed in a 1-0 victory over the Sault Ste. Greyhounds in an Ontario Hockey League game played Friday afternoon at Compuware Arena.

The Whalers improved to 15-7-1-1, good for 32 points and third place in the OHL West, four points behind the Soo, which slipped to 17-6-1-1.

Plymouth is 8-1-0-1 in 10 games in November and has received points in 10 of its last 11 games.

Smith and Soo goaltender Kyle

Gajewski battled all afternoon, with Smith tying Kitchener's Josh Unice for the league lead with his third shutout of the season. Gajewski stopped 35 of 36 shots.

Sault Ste. Marie's most dangerous scoring chance in the game came at 4:46 of the first period when Dustin Jeffrey was awarded a penalty shot. Smith pokechecked the puck away from Jeffrey just outside the crease area on the penalty-shot attempt.

Gaynor scored the only goal of the game at 2:56 of the second period. Working with linemates Joe McCann and Brett Valliquette,

the line dug the puck out from the left boards in the Soo zone and Gaynor snapped a shot from the hashmarks past Gajewski.

Sault Ste. Marie head coach Craig Hartsburg called a time out and pulled Gajewski with 1:03 left in regulation, but the Greyhounds couldn't find the equalizer.

Smith (a Nashville Predators draft choice from Brownstown Township) came into the game tied with Barrie's Andrew Perugini for the league lead with a .931 save percentage. Smith lowered his goals-against average to 2.46 while raising his save percentage.

GIRLS BASKETBALL CAPSULE OUTLOOKS

LIVONIA CHURCHILL
Head coach: Chad Jenkins, first year.
League affiliation: Western Lakes Activities Association (Lakes Division).
Last year's overall record: 7-14.
Notable losses to graduation: Stephanie Bradshaw (third-team All-Area); Amber Holod, Hilary Antal, Liz Buttery.
Leading returnees: Lindsey Graciak, 5-5 Jr. PG; Darcy DeRoo, 5-10 Soph. G; Alysa Boldiszar, 5-6 Jr. G; Chelsea Manasian, 5-6 Sr. G; Shannon Gatchen, 5-11 Jr. C; Brittany Catalano, 5-7 Sr. G; Jessica Bostick, 5-4 Sr. G.
Promising newcomers: Hannah Stahr, 6-1 Soph. C; Kia Griffin, 6-0 Jr. C; Katie Stodulski, 5-4 Jr. G; Hannah Tabone, 5-6 Jr. F; Sienna Skocelas, 5-9 Jr. F.
Jenkins' 2007-08 outlook: "Chelsea (Manasian) been doing a good job being a leader, getting people in right spots and knocking down jumpers. (Alysa) Boldiszar is one of our better defenders, she's our best creator and can get to the basket. In the middle, Kia (Griffin), Shannon (Getchen) and Hannah (Stahr) will compete with each other for playing time. We'll see who steps up and take the job. All three definitely have size. Our goal is to get better every day. That's our philosophy win or lose. If we do that, everything will take care of itself."

LIVONIA FRANKLIN
Head coach: Dave McCall, first year.
League affiliation: WLA (Western Division).
Last year's overall record: 15-7.
Notable losses to graduation: Robyn Whalen (second-team All-Area), Andrea McCall, Allison Bonsall, Liz Dempsey, Heather Jaroh.
Leading returnees: Brianna Taylor, 5-10 Jr. F (13.1 ppg, 6.5 rpg) second-team All-Area; Brittany Taylor, 5-9 Jr. F (6.9 ppg); Ashley Price, 5-9 Sr. F; Melissa Davies, 5-6 Sr. F; Samantha Floyd, 5-4 Sr. G.
Promising newcomers: Allison Troseil, 5-4 Soph. G; Nicole Emery, 5-4 Soph. G; Jessica Staley, 5-9 Sr. F.
McCall's 2007-08 outlook: "We're not a big team, but we'll be aggressive. We're going to be a running and a pressing team. We're strong, we get along well and we play with a lot of continuity. They're a bunch of hard workers. My main concern is defense, making sure we work as hard on defense as we do on offense. We're not ready to name a starting lineup yet, but the Taylor twins, Price and Floyd will start. The fifth spots is up for grabs."

LIVONIA STEVENSON
Head coach: Pat Cannon, first year.
League affiliation: WLA (Lakes Division).
Last year's overall record: 5-16.
Notable losses to graduation: Kaitlin O'Hara, Janice Hollandsworth.
Leading returnees: Rebecca Bartek, 5-5 Sr. G; Julia Schroeder, 5-7 Sr. G; Rachel Stevens, 5-10 Sr. F; Kaylee McGrath, 6-1 Jr. C; Sabrina Parsons, 5-5 Sr. G.
Promising newcomers: Karli Kuchka, 5-5 Jr. G; Courtney Lewis, 5-7 Jr. G; Samantha Kliman, 5-10 Jr. F; Jenny Bartek, 5-5 Jr. G; Tasi Newton, 5-7 Soph. G; Emily Hollandsworth, 5-9 Soph. F; Sarah Smith, 5-5 Fr. G.
Cannon's 2007-08 outlook: "I think this is a team that can build. It's a very cohesive team. They work together and they're very hard workers. I think we'll be a good mixture of youth and experience. We're going to bring some strong defense and play up-tempo. We're going to have to strengthen our rebounding. We can push the ball pretty well. They like to run - we have half cross country and half soccer players."

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN
Head coach: Mike Schuette, sixth year.
League affiliation: WLA (Lakes Division).
Last year's overall record: 10-11.
Notable losses to graduation: Kiaya Montague.
Leading returnees: Brittany Holbrook, 6-1 Jr. C-F; Brittany Brown, 5-8 Sr. G; Chanel Payne, 5-5 Jr. G; Shantinique Baker, 5-8 Sr. F; Joye Clenney, 5-5 Sr. G; Marsha Brazier, 5-9 Sr. F; Ashley Montgomery, 5-7 Sr. G-F; Linda Barrett, 5-6 Sr. G.
Promising newcomers: Nyah McReynolds, 5-8 Jr. G-F; Danyelle Terry, 5-6 Soph. G; Andrea Gordon-McClain, 5-8 Fr. G-F.
Schuette's 2007-08 outlook: "What we have to do is we have to be quick in spirits, take advantage of turnovers and control the tempo of game. Our best offense will be to score in transition or get ball in side to (Brittany) Holbrook. To do that, our defense has to be sound and smart. Brittany has two years of experience and a lot more confidence. She's our number one scoring threat as far as getting layups, short jumpers or putbacks. Brown, Payne, McReynolds and Clenney are our threats from the perimeter."

WAYNE MEMORIAL
Head coach: Leslie Williams, first year.
League affiliation: WLA (Western Division).
Last year's overall record: 12-0.
Notable losses to graduation: Destiny Knight, Krystal Nelson, Natasha Owens.
Leading returnees: Trenea Barbee, 5-8 Sr. G; Nastassia Gaines, 5-4 Sr. G; Bre'Ana Sims, 5-7 Jr. F; Denetria Knight, 5-2 Sr. G.
Promising newcomers: Wendy Foster, 6-3 Jr. C (transfer from Detroit Cooley); Britanni Burroughs, 5-4 Sr. G; Delia Johnston, 5-4 Sr. F; Jalisa Simmons, 5-9 Jr. F.
Williams' 2007-08 outlook: "We'll be pretty balanced. We're going to stress the '3 D's"



Franklin's Brittany Taylor (left) and John Glenn's Brittany Holbrook will be battling under the boards again this season. Both are juniors.

- desire, dedication and discipline. We have a structured program, but it's not so structured so that I won't let them loose. As far as my style of play, we'll run the fast break. We're quick and we'll finish. We want to be fundamentally strong in the red zone - the key area - 100 percent. We're striving to convert using a structured fast break and be physically sound."

LIVONIA LADYWOOD
Head coach: Andrea Gorski, 12th year.
League affiliation: Catholic League (Central Division).
Last year's overall record: 20-4.
Titles won last year: Catholic League, Operation-Friendship and Class A district champions.
Notable losses to graduation: Kathryn Berger (first-team All-Area); Laura Guina (second-team All-Area); Stephanie DiGiandomenico, Erin McLaughlin.
Leading returnees: Alex Serowokly, 6-1 Sr. F-F (9 ppg, 7 rpg); Jenna Anastos, 5-10, Sr. G-F (7 ppg, 6 rpg; third-team All-Area); Alison Szczypka, 5-10 Sr. G-F (7 ppg, 5 rpg); Amber Drabicki, 5-7 Sr. G (6 ppg, 4 rpg); Katelyn Vitale, 5-6 Sr. G; Caitlyn Szczypka, 5-9 Jr. G; Mary Fitzgerald, 5-7 Soph. G.
Promising newcomers: Courtney LaValley, 5-6 Jr. G; Haley Ross, 5-6 Jr. G; Melissa Wickman, 6-1 Jr. F; Sarah Jury, 6-4 Jr. C; Molly Gacloch, 5-9 Soph. F; Alyssa Anastos, 5-9 Fr. G.
Gorski's 2007-08 outlook: "We are returning seven-players who contributed greatly to our success last year. We will be a physical, hard-working team that will play an up-tempo style. The key to this year will be how quickly the newcomers can contribute on a consistent basis. We want to win a third consecutive"

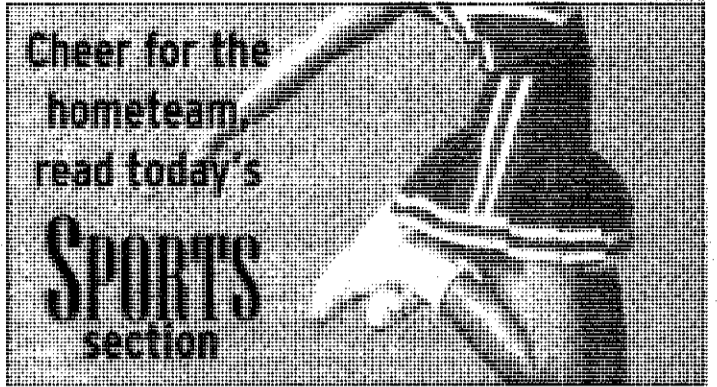
all four classes, March 6-8, in Ypsilanti, at Eastern Michigan University's Convocation Center.
Defending state champions: Detroit King (Class A); Hudsonville Unity Christian (Class B); Saginaw

Catholic League title and look forward to advancing in the state tournament."
LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE
Head coach: Julie Patterson, fifth year.
League affiliation: Metro Conference.
Last year's overall record: 8-13.
Notable losses to graduation: Jenna Mrljak, Abby Sochacki.
Leading returnees: Amanda Moody, 5-4 Sr. G (12 ppg); Ashley Hall, 6-0 Sr. G; Amber O'Halloran, 5-7 Sr. F; Cheney Kemp, 5-11 Sr. C; Ashley Devon, 5-5 Soph. G.
Promising newcomers: Kristen Jolly, 5-7 Soph. G; Marlene Azar, 5-8 Jr. F; Jenna Burgess, 5-9 Fr. F; Megan Tallman, 5-9 Jr. C; Miranda Cummings, 5-8 Jr. F; Aneta Elliott, 5-3 Jr. G.
Patterson's 2007-08 outlook: "I'm pretty happy with what I see. Our seniors are really cohesive and they're playing well together right now. Ashley (Hall) and Amber (O'Halloran) had strong off-seasons, as did Cheney (Kemp). They really developed and more versatile than a year ago. Ashley's improved tremendously and Amber is shooting the ball better. Cheney is running the floor and defending better. Amanda (Moody) is still Amanda, she's playing very well. She injured her knee at the end of soccer and missed most of the summer in basketball. She was cleared in July.
LUTHERAN HIGH WESTLAND
Head coach: Kevin Wade, second year.
League affiliation: Metro Conference.
Last year's overall record: 12-8.
Notable losses to graduation: Kayla Gieschen, Lauren Schwewe.
Leading returnees: Becca Refenes, 6-2 Jr. C (fourth-team All-Area); Allyson Yankee, 5-9 Jr. G; Miriam Storck, 5-9 Sr. F; Lauren Gieschen, 5-6 Jr. G; Sam Terranella, 5-7 Sr. G.
Promising newcomers: Kaley Ramthun, 5-9 Jr. F; Abi Gieschen, 5-6 Jr. G; Rachel Storck, 5-8 Soph. F; Hannah Mielke, 5-5 Jr. G; Jessyka Weiser, 5-8 Sr. F.
Wade's 2007-08 outlook: "I think we're going to be O.K. We're off to a bit of a slow start due to the success of our volleyball team, but we'll take it. We'll be working harder than usual to get up to speed. I think we'll be competitive in our conference and district. We lost a good senior class last year who really contributed to the team as a whole. (Allyson) Yankee will fill point-guard spot from Lauren (Schwewe). It's a different role for her this year. We have a good mix of leadership and returnees, along with young talent. The junior class is athletic."

WESTLAND HURON VALLEY LUTHERAN
Head coach: Eric Ruth, first year.
League affiliation: Michigan Independent Athletic Conference (Red Division).
Last year's overall record: 13-10.
Titles won last year: MIAC-Red champions.
Notable losses to graduation: Amanda Gruenewald (9.5 ppg).
Leading returnees: Lauren Adlof, 5-7 Sr. PG (10.9 ppg, 7.4 rpg, first-team All-MIAC; fourth-team All-Area); Katie Kipfmueller, 5-10 Sr. F (6.6 ppg); Nicole Schaffer, 5-4 Sr. G (5.2 ppg, 3 rpg); Autumn Beach, 5-4 Sr. G; Nicole Smith, 5-9 Sr. F; Catherine St. John, 5-6 Sr. G; Brittany Sherman, 5-4 Sr. G.
Promising newcomers: Emily Helwig, 5-8 Sr. G (played boys soccer last year); Samantha Barber, 5-11 Jr. F; Kayla Stockdale, 5-3 Jr. G.
Ruth's 2007-08 outlook: "Our goals are set high with eight returning seniors. We have to replace Gruenewald's ball-handling and point production, but I think Schaffer, Beach and Helwig will all fill that role nicely. We are very deep on the bench, but quickness is a problem. Our inside game should be very good with Adlof and Kipfmueller, and we're looking to improve our outside shooting."

MU women's cagers falter

A poor-shooting first half Tuesday doomed Madonna University's women's basketball team, which suffered a 68-55 non-conference setback against to host Spring Arbor.
The Crusaders (1-3) connected on only nine of 26 field-goal tries in the first half (35 percent) and trailed 30-20 at halftime.
Although MU's accuracy improved in the final 20 minutes, it wasn't enough to overcome the early deficit.
Cali Crawford led Madonna with 15 points, while Caryn Inman and Alyssa Guerin collected 12 and 11, respectively.
Christie Carrico pulled down seven rebounds for MU, with Crawford leading in the assists category with five.
Lyndsey Norman hit 12-of-13 from the floor en route to a 28-point game for Spring Arbor.



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Volleyball Leagues

Youth and Adult Coed teams now forming!
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PREVIEW

FROM PAGE B1

Westland, Plymouth Christian, Redford Covenant, Detroit West Village-Academy North, Detroit Urban Lutheran.

Dates to remember: The girls district tournament starts the week of Feb. 18 followed by the regionals the week of Feb. 25. The quarterfinals will be Tuesday, March 4 with the semifinals and finals for

Detroit King (Class A); Hudsonville Unity Christian (Class B); Saginaw

Nouvel (Class C); and Frankfort (Class D).

See capsule outlook of area girls basketball teams.

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Advertisement for HIGH VELOCITY SPORTS featuring Winter 2 (Jan. 2--Feb. 29) and Holiday Camps. Includes sections for Soccer Leagues, Flag Football Leagues, Dodge Ball Leagues, and All-Sport Camp.

Advertisement for Hockeytown Authentics featuring gifts for fans, including jerseys, hats, and accessories. Includes contact information for 1845 E Big Beaver Rd, Troy, MI 48083.

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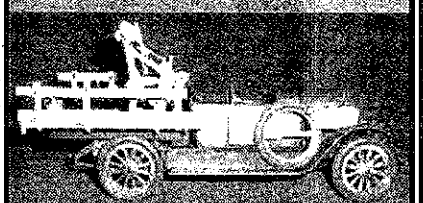
MANAGER'S SPECIAL

2007 F150 XLT SUPERCAB 4X4

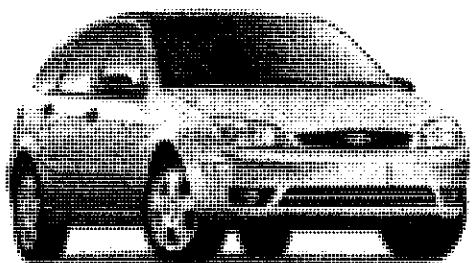
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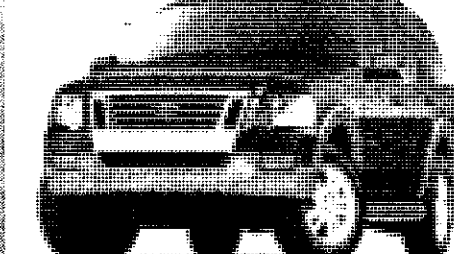
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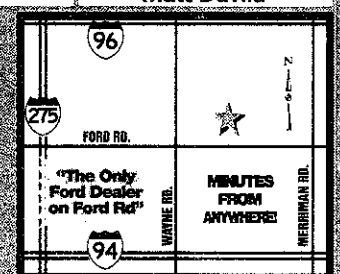
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Christmas Walk spotlights Livonia homes

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

A chorus of cuckoo clocks strike at noon, welcoming visitors to the Livonia home of Al and Marylou Larson. Al doesn't know the exact number of time keepers in the house, but there are at least 70 in the family room, more than a dozen in the living room.

The magical tick-tocking wonderland definitely won't be a quiet stop on the Livonia Christmas Walk Saturday, Dec. 1. It will be like stepping into a clock as well as antique shop.

This year, the walk includes six homes and the Hill House at Greenmead's Historic Village. Proceeds go to Friends of Greenmead for the restoration and preservation of the structures on the corner of Newburgh and Eight Mile.

Al says the couple's 54-year marriage got off to a rocky start on their honeymoon because of antiques. He wanted to visit an antique shop on Cape Cod and she referred to them as junk shops. Now Marylou loves antiques as much as he does.

"We both have collected and inherited many antiques from our family," said Marylou Larson, 78. "He's been collecting clocks forever. They are everywhere."

"I've always loved clocks," said Al Larson, 82. "Since I was a kid I used to go to the clock shops."

FAMILY AFFAIR

Daughter Christine is the official winder of the clocks that come from as far away as the Black Forest and Switzerland.

LIVONIA CHRISTMAS WALK

What: A walk featuring seven houses including the 1840s Hill House at Greenmead Historical Village
When: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1
Tickets: \$9 in advance, \$10 day of walk, and available in advance at all Livonia libraries, City Hall and Greenmead's office, and on the day of the walk at the Civic Center Library, Five Mile, east of Farmington Road, and Greenmead's Hill House (enter off Newburgh, south of Eight Mile). For more information, call (734) 425-4855.

While some chime in harmony, not all of them do. They're set at different times so some cuckoo is always going off.

"I tell them you have to figure out the right time," said Al. "With cuckoos the weather and humidity affects them."

All four of the Larsons' children return home this Thanksgiving including daughter Jane who's coming from Wisconsin with the antique ornaments Marylou gave her last year. The decorations will be placed on a tree in the couple's upstairs bedroom. Throughout the home an antique manger, Santas, family photos, a village made from paper, and a pitcher collection decorate the home the Larsons have lived in for nearly 40 years.

Like the Larsons, Jane and Mike Cuba's home is filled with furniture and objects holding special meaning. Jane's father hand-crafted nine of the tables and book case in the red-brick colonial built in 1938.

Please see HOMES, C3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Marylou and Al Larson will open their home for the Livonia Christmas Walk to benefit Greenmead Historical Village.

Holiday greetings

Card sales to support nonprofits

There's no easier way to support charities than by buying holiday cards. Here's a list of some of the organizations offering greetings this season.

Forgotten Harvest

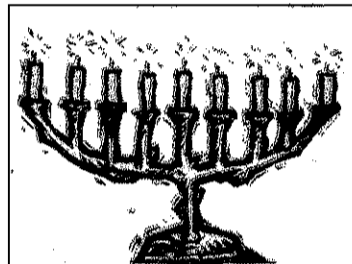
Three card selections available this year, priced at \$1 each or \$23 for pack of 25 cards and envelopes (add \$3 for shipping). Peas on Earth is a whimsical card featuring fresh peas. Inside reads "Wishing You a Peas-ful Holiday Season." Orders can be placed by calling Forgotten Harvest at (248) 967-1500 or visiting www.forgottenharvest.org. Every year Forgotten Harvest collects more than 8.5 million pounds of surplus prepared and perishable food which would otherwise go to waste and delivers it to emergency food providers in the metro Detroit area.



New Hope Center for Grief Support

Alzheimer's Association

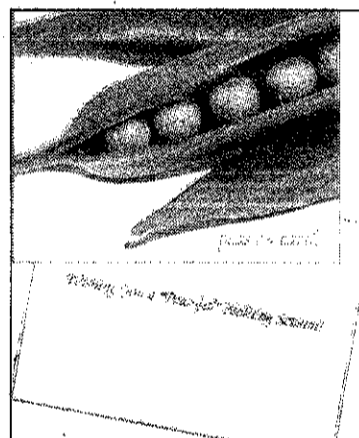
Greater Michigan Chapter cards include eight designs: 25 cards are \$36 (plus shipping) with option to add imprinting. Order online at www.alzgm.org or call (888) 487-5567. For information, call (248) 996-1048. The nonprofit provides services and support for Alzheimer's patients and their families.



Dawn Farm

Michigan Humane Society

Holiday cards available in one style. Each box costs \$9.95 and contains 15 cards and 16 envelopes, and are available at MHS centers including 900 N. Newburgh, Westland, or by calling (866) MHUMANE or visiting www.michiganhumane.org. Proceeds benefit the Michigan Humane Society which cares for homeless animals at its three adoption centers.



Forgotten Harvest

Seedlings Braille Books for Children

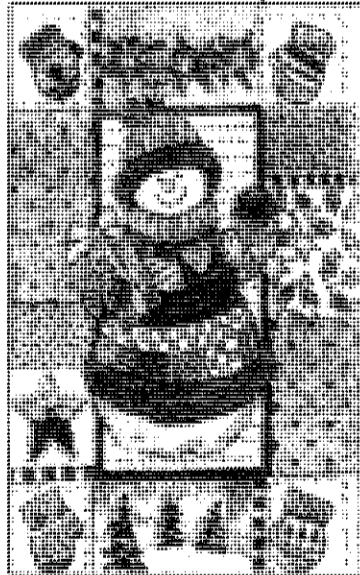
Fine art embossed cards are available in 10 designs by Pumpernickel Press. Cost is \$16 per box of 16 cards and 17 envelopes. Cards are printed on recycled paper with soy inks, made in the U.S., and packaged by occupational training workshop patrons. Cards can be purchased at the Seedlings office at 14151 Farmington Road, Livonia. For details, call (734) 427-8552. Seedlings produces children's books in Braille.

The Senior Alliance

Volunteers for the The Senior Alliance, Area Agency on Aging 1-C will be selling cards for \$5 each Friday, Dec. 7. The Senior Alliance is the agency that supports the Holiday Meals on Wheels program. The cards will be placed with meals delivered to homebound seniors on Christmas Day. For more information or to volunteer on Dec. 7, call Jaclyn Kochis at (734) 727-2060.

Right to Life-LIFESPAN

Christmas cards available in two designs — Adoration (\$16 per box of 20) and Jesus, Mary and Joseph (\$7 for 10). Call (248) 478-8878, send e-mail to mainoffice@rtl-lifespan.org, or visit the office at 29200 Vassar St., Suite 545, Livonia. The organization has been presenting the pro-life message in southeastern Michigan since 1970.



The Senior Alliance



Alzheimer's Association Greater Michigan Chapter

Children's Hospital of Michigan Auxiliary

Box of 20 cards for \$20. To buy online, go to www.childrensdmc.org and click on About CHM and then Gift Shop and Shop Now. For more information, call (313) 745-0962. The CHM Auxiliary assists various departments and programs at the hospital. Recent projects include SNUG suits for children with neuromuscular disorders, a therapeutic summer day camp, and amplification equipment for newly identified deaf infants.



Please see CARD SALES, C2

Right to Life-LIFESPAN



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Livonia Urgent Care
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734-542-6100

Saratoga Urgent Care
15000 Gratiot Ave., Suite 100, Detroit
313-527-4000

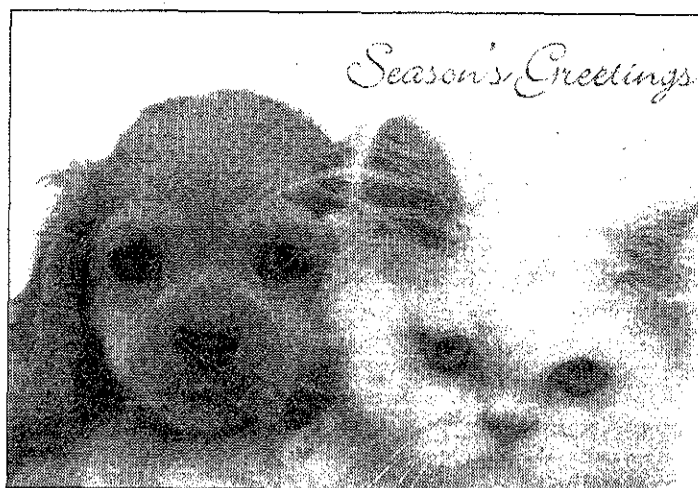
Southgate Urgent Care
15777 Northline Rd., Southgate
734-324-7800

Warren Urgent Care
31700 Van Dyke Ave., Warren
586-276-8200

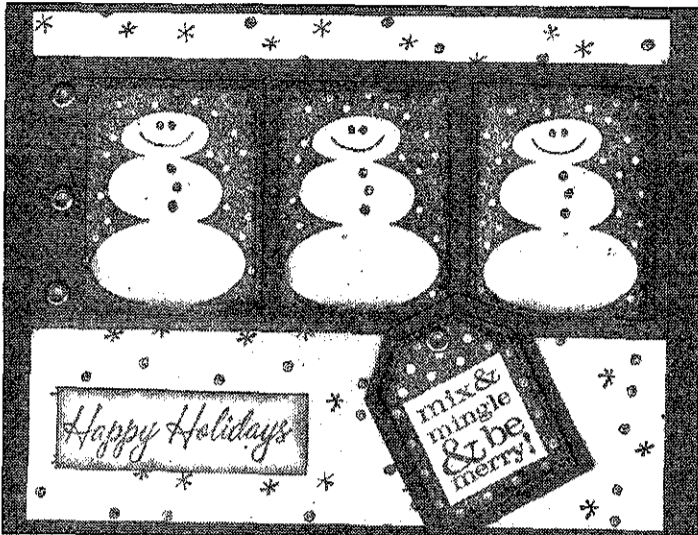
Woodland Urgent Care
22341 W. Eight Mile, Detroit
313-387-8700



Children's Hospital of Michigan Auxiliary



Michigan Humane Society



CARDS

FROM PAGE C1

New Hope Center for Grief Support

Cards are \$20 for 20 cards and available in two designs; \$15 of the price qualifies as a donation. To order, call (248) 348-0115. Proceeds to benefit grief support programs throughout southeast Michigan.

Dawn Farm

Cards available in packs

of 10 for \$12, in more than 20 designs mostly with a Victorian theme. Call (734) 485-8725. Dawn Farm assists addicts and alcoholics in achieving long-term recovery.

Youth Making a Difference

Handmade cards available at \$1.50 each. Proceeds go to a program at Randolph Elementary in Livonia for postage to send care packages to soldiers overseas. For more information, call (734) 464-6214.



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 City Of Residency: _____
 Parent/Guardian's Name: _____
 Parent/Guardian's Phone Number: _____
 Mail Your Entry To: Choya Jordan
 Observer & Eccentric and Mirror Newspapers
 36251 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia, MI 48150
 All Entries MUST Be Received By Tuesday, November 27th • 5:00pm

HOMES

FROM PAGE C1

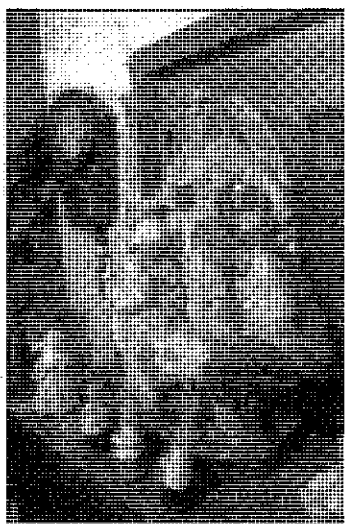
The couple doubled the space of the home in 2006 with a major addition and renovation project that lasted nine months. A plethora of windows and white enamel woodwork creates an airy atmosphere. The maple kitchen with granite counter tops provides plenty of work and storage space, especially the large pantry.

SIMPLE THEME

While the home looks like it's straight out of a magazine, holiday trimmings are kept simple.

"It was the Depression and it offends me to do designerly things," said Jane Cuba. "The greens came from the yard. We're trying to keep it how they would have decorated."

On the mantle are mementos from Jane's teaching days in Southfield. Her grandmoth-



This antique manger welcomes visitors to the Larsons' home.

er's sewing machine and a bookcase made by her father accent the dining room.

Mike hand-painted the clothespin ornaments hanging on a fern to remind them of their roles with the Spotlight

group and the 15 years they marched in the Thanksgiving Day parade downtown.

He retired as a chemistry teacher three years ago after many years at Martin Luther King High School and Wayne State University.

"Everything's special to me," said Jane. "They're some things my students gave me. Most of the furniture is family pieces."

Jan Bennett especially likes the plate rail in the dream kitchen. Bennett is president of the Friends of Greenmead which presents the walk.

"It's a major addition and a lot of neighborhood people have been watching it from outside now they'll be able to see inside," said Janet Bennett. "We'll also have two homes in Rosedale Gardens. We'll have one on the north end of town, one on the east side of town that's been on walk before, but the homeowner says she has surprises for us, and we're going to have hot chocolate and homemade cookies at Hill House."

At the Larsons' home, Al will play Christmas carols on his violin. A former member of the Plymouth Symphony, Al taught music in Livonia Public Schools for many years. This Christmas Eve, he'll provide the music for Midnight Mass at the Felician Sisters Motherhouse at Madonna University.

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

CHARLES A. HAAS, 26085 Six Mile Rd., Redford Twp., MI 48240
STATE OF MICHIGAN, PROBATE COURT, COUNTY OF WAYNE, File No. 2006-709122-DE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
Estate of DOLORES J. HILLARD AKA DOLORES JEAN HILLARD, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS:
To all interested persons. Your interest in the estate may be barred or affected by the following.

The deceased whose last known address was 35234 Atlas, Romulus, MI 48174, died February 6, 2006. Thomas Robert Hillard was appointed Personal Representative of the estate on November 13, 2006, as said will, of deceased.

Creditors of the deceased are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to the Personal Representative Thomas Robert Hillard, 421 Rustic Lane East, Belleville, MI 48111. Phone: (734) 461-0267 or to both the Personal Representative and the Wayne County Probate Court, 2 Woodward Ave., Room 1305, Detroit, MI 48226. Phone: (313) 224-5709 within 4 months of the date of publication of this notice. Notice is further given that the estate will be hereafter assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

Personal Representative: Thomas Robert Hillard, 421 Rustic Lane East, Belleville, MI 48111. Phone: (734) 461-0267

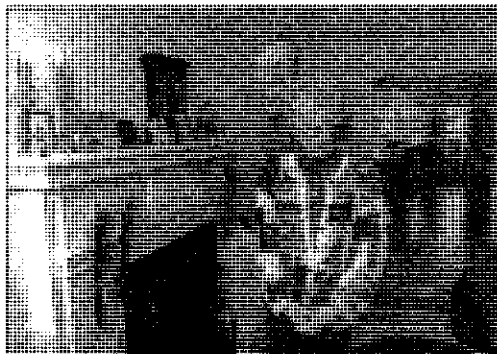
Attorney: Charles A. Haas, P-14486, 26085 Six Mile Rd., Redford Twp., MI 48240. Telephone No. (313) 539-0770

Publish: November 25, 2007



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Al Larson will entertain with Christmas carols.



Jane and Mike Cuba.

PURSUANT TO 15 USC §1692 YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED THAT THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND THAT ANY INFORMATION THAT YOU PROVIDE MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the condition of a mortgage made by Daryl Jones and Debra Lucas Jones aka Deborah Ann Jones, his wife to HOUSEHOLD FINANCE CORPORATION III by a mortgage dated August 13, 1998 and recorded on September 16, 1998 in Liber 29966 on Page 3418, WAYNE County Records Michigan on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Fifty-Four Thousand Three Hundred Ninety-Eight and 17/100 Dollars (\$54,398.17) including interest at 11.98% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, immediately inside the Southerly or Jefferson Avenue Entrance to the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center in the City of Detroit, Wayne County Michigan at 1:00 pm. on January 3, 2008. Said premises are situated in the City of Detroit, County of WAYNE State of Michigan, and are described as, North 28 feet of Lot 95 and the South 16 feet of Lot 96, Blanck's Mt. Elliott Subdivision, according to the plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 55 of Plats, Page 43 Wayne County Records The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241 a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. Dated: November 14, 2007 Michael M. Grand, Esq. GRAND & GRAND PLLC 31731 Northwestern Hwy., #151 Farmington Hills, MI 48334 (248) 538-3737 71851 FOR POSTING ONLY DO NOT PUBLISH PROPERTY ADDRESS OF 19612 Dwyer, Detroit MI 48234 ASAP# 938281 11/25/2007, 12/02/2007, 12/09/2007, 12/16/2007

Publish: November 25, December 2, 9 & 16, 2007

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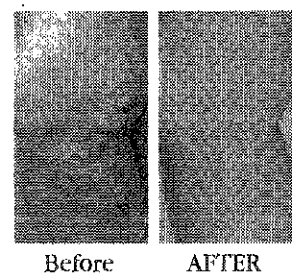
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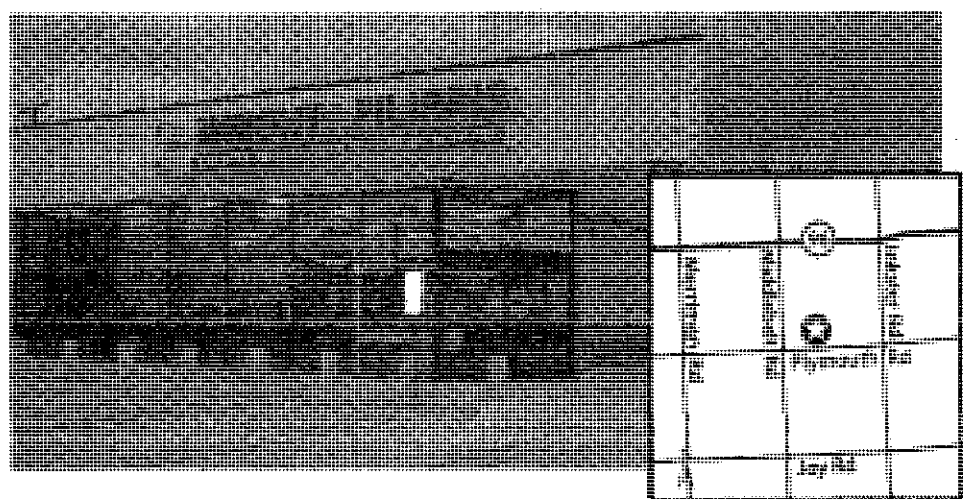
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PAID 2/2008

Don't forget seniors this season

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 nonprofit program that provides gifts and companionship to socially isolated and lonely seniors. In Wayne County, the local Home Instead Senior Care office takes 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 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. Selling meal cards not only helps the organization purchase meals, but helps support other programs throughout the year, said Vail. The holiday cards are \$5 and available by calling (734) 525-5300. For information on the meals program, call (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. Last year, 196,500 lonely seniors received 312,500 gifts through the program which has become the largest gift-giving project of its kind for older adults.

If you'd like to give a senior something to unwrap here are some ideas from Home Instead Senior Care in Livonia.

Gift certificates and pre-paid cards for 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 such as a night light or reading light, jar opener, automatic timer, weather radio, large button TV remote,

doorknob extender, magnifier, reacher/grabber, wireless TV headphones or easy-to-read watch or clock.

Gifts to provide comfort include 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, and perfumes. For safety an automobile club membership, smoke and carbon monoxide detector, fire extinguisher, installed grab bars, first aid kit, auto emergency kit, and 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 gifts include magazine subscriptions, large-print books or books on tape, bird feeder and seed, binoculars, rain gauge, oversized playing cards, stationery and stamps, calendar, large print crossword puzzles, favorite candies or treats, favorite old movies, or greeting cards.

NEW VOICES



Dallas Andrew Terski
Dave Terski and Tara Overaitis-Terski of Garden City announce the birth of their son, Dallas Andrew Terski on Oct. 23, 2007, at Providence Hospital in Southfield. Dallas weighed 9 pounds, 9 ounces and was 22 inches long at birth. Grandparents are Joe and Marlene Overaitis of Livonia and Jim and Jeanne Terski of Livonia.



Jack Dylan Wiseheart
Scott and Tracey Wiseheart of Rochester Hills announce the birth of their son, Jack Dylan Wiseheart, on Aug. 16, 2007, at Mount Clemens Regional Medical Center in Mount Clemens. Jack weighed 9 pounds, 1 ounce and 20-1/2 inches long at birth. Grandparents are Joe and Marlene Overaitis of Livonia, Rita Wiseheart of Milford and Kenneth Wiseheart of Milford. Great-grandmother is Alida Wiseheart of Milford.

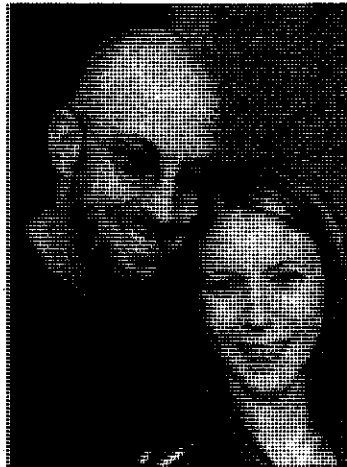
ENGAGEMENT

Mousseau-Thomas
Michael Mousseau of Livonia and Kathleen Mousseau of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Kelly Marie, to Scott Michael Thomas, the son of Roland and Mary Thomas Jr., of Plymouth.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Canton High School and a soon-to-be graduate of Wayne State University, where she's pursuing a degree in education.

The prospective groom is a graduate of Salem High School and Wayne State University. He is an English/Communications teacher at Plymouth High School.

A March wedding is planned at St. James Catholic Church in Novi.



Gingerbread open house offers fun for the family on Dec. 2

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

There's nothing like the smell of gingerbread to put even the grumpiest of Scrooges in the mood for the holiday season. This year Tawnya Johnson couldn't be more excited about the Gingerbread Open House taking place 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2, at The Inn at St. John's, 44045 Five Mile at Sheldon, Plymouth. The free family event features live reindeer petting, carriage rides, a gingerbread house display, music, and refreshments.

There is no charge, but donations of non-perishable food items are requested to benefit St. Vincent De Paul. For more information, visit www.theinnatstjohns.com or call (734) 414-0600.

"This is the first year we're doing a celebration. We'd done one on a small scale last year," said Tawnya Johnson, director of sales and

marketing for The Inn at St. John's. "It's kind of like a festival going on. We wanted to involve the community in our facility and spread good cheer. In conjunction with the open house we're doing a fund raiser for St. Vincent De Paul. Everyone's struggling now to get donations."

The contest is divided into two categories: Adult/Professional and Family/Child. Prizes include overnight stays at The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth, dinners at Five Restaurant, American Express gift cards and more.

"They need to register by Nov. 25," said Johnson. "There are forms at the web site. The adult division can't use a kit. They have to bring the actual gingerbread house here to The Inn at St. John's by Nov. 30. All will be on display Dec. 2, when we're going to have Santa here, reindeers, ciders, donuts, cookies, all kinds of fun stuff."

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

Local students to perform in play

The Henry Ford Community College Theater program presents *To Kill a Mockingbird*, directed by Judy Fletcher, from Nov. 23, to Dec. 2, in the Adray Auditorium of the Mackenzie Fine Arts Center on the main campus, 5101 Evergreen, Dearborn. Show times are 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday. Special matinees for middle and high school students will be held 10 a.m. Monday-Friday, Nov. 26-30.

Tickets are \$7 adults, \$5 for students with ID. Call (313) 845-9817.

To Kill a Mockingbird is based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by Harper Lee about a pivotal time in the

childhood of narrator Jean Louise Finch, known as Scout. The story examines social, racial and tolerance issues in the deep south in the 1930s through the eyes of Scout and her sibling Jem as they grow from innocence to experience and ignorance to understanding.

The production features Mike Fisher of Garden City as Atticus Finch; Emily Hool of Dearborn as the narrator Jean Louise Finch; Gwendolyn Hope Ulrey of Dearborn as Scout; Kirsten Koschnitzke of Lincoln Park as Jem; Patricia Castill-Bello of Farmington as Mayell Ewell; Alex Carr of Redford as Mr. Gilmer; Christian Plonka of Dearborn as Dill; Ralph Koschnitzke of Lincoln Park as Heck Tate; Tracey Kochnitzke of Lincoln Park as Maudie Atkinson; James Hodges of Detroit as Tom Robinson; Joanne Robertson of Melvindale as Mrs. Dubose; Eleanor Warner of Dearborn as Stephanie Crawford; Kenneth Scales of Detroit as Rev. Sykes; Jasmine Lewis of Taylor as Helen Robinson; Shardai Davis of Dearborn as Calpurnia; Brian Tarasiewicz of Riverview as Bob Ewell; and Jason Rooker of Brownstown as Boo Radley.

The play is the last event celebrating *To Kill a Mockingbird* in the community college's Big Read project, part of a national program to promote literacy. The Big Read was funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, with First Lady Laura Bush as the honorary chair, and is sponsored locally by the Wayne-Metropolitan Community Action Agency which awarded HFCC a \$2,500 grant for the project. Through the Big Read, HFCC promoted literacy and held many events to celebrate *To Kill a Mockingbird* including sending HFCC students to see a performance of the play in Stratford, Ontario.

Passages

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 ♦ fax: 734-953-2232
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ALBERT SAMUEL COFFMAN
Age 85, November 21, 2007. Beloved husband for 55 years of Ilene Coffman. Loving father of Joseph (Nancy) Coffman, Heidi (fiancee Craig Cesarone) Coffman and Amy (Andrew) Paberz and the late Dennis Coffman. Dearest grandfather of Alan, Adam and Anna Paberz and Sam, Joel and Lisa Tencer. Al was a racing columnist for the Detroit Free Press, under the by-line of Al Speed, for 35 years and for the Detroit News for 11 years. Services Sunday, 12:00 PM at the Dorfmam Chapel, Farmington Hills (248) 406-6000. Interment to follow at the Hebrew Memorial Park Cemetery or visit: www.thedorfmamchapel.com

JOHN GERICH
Age 79, Nov. 22, 2007. Retired captain of the Redford Twp Fire Department after 27 years. Beloved husband of Betty of 57 years. Loving father of Michael J Gerich and Susan Adams. Dear Grandfather of Michael A., Heather, Caroline, Lauren & Rachel. Dear Great Grandfather of Mikayla & Mikenzie. Brother of Mary Marino. Sunday visitation 3-9pm at Charles R. Step Funeral Home; 18425 Beech Daly Rd (btwn 6-7 mile Rds). Monday instate 10am & service 11am at Grace Lutheran Church, 25630 Grand River Ave (East of Beech Daly Rd). Interment Glen Eden. Memorial contributions to Grace Lutheran Church appreciated.

S. GEORGE BINSON
November 20, 2007 Age 93 Founder of Binson's Pharmacy and Hospital Supplies. Beloved husband of Genevieve. Dear father of James E. (Pamela), Betty Lee Bruinsma, and Nancy Carole Fink (Rick). Grandfather of Robert Allen Binson, James E., II, Brandel Marie Rijnovean, Nicholas Bonar, Robin Martin, Melissa Goodstein, Thomas Bruinsma and David Bruinsma. Also survived 13 great-grandchildren. Brother of George Binson. Stepfather of Dr. Chris Scheerer, Linda Merkwae, Martha Walsh, Tom Scheerer, Mary Ann Guillen, Joan Scheerer and Tim Scheerer. Funeral services have been held. Memorial tributes to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, 1820 Mt. Elliott, Detroit, MI 48207. A.J. Desmond & Sons 248-549-0500. View obituary and share memories at: www.desmondfuneralhome.com

FRANK J. SINELLI
Age 84, husband of the late Agnes. Dear father of Frank (Kim), John (Debbie) and Ronald (Theresa). Grandfather of eight and great-grandfather of ten. Brother of Mary Paffiuni, Beatrice MacDonald, and the late John "Doc" Sinelli. Visiting Friday 3-9pm at Charles R. Step Funeral Home, 18425 Beech Daly Rd., (btwn 6-7 Mile). Instate Saturday 9:30am until Mass 10am at Our Lady of Loretto (NE corner 6 Mile and Beech Daly). Interment Holy Sepulchre Contributions to Alzheimer's Assoc. appreciated.

KATHLEEN ELISE DIERKES-ADCOCK
Age 53, of Vero Beach, FL, died Sunday, October 28, 2007 at her residence in Vero Beach. Born July 30th, 1954 in Pontiac, MI. Kathy held a Masters in Sports Medicine and Nutrition and served as a Clinical Dietitian, she practiced in Mississippi, Michigan and Florida. She is preceded in death by her father and mother, Donald and Mary Dierkes and brother, Donald Dierkes, Jr. She is survived by her daughter, Cloe Estelle Adcock of Louisiana, sisters: Celia Fox of Okeechobee, Mary Ann Argue (Kevin) of Highland, MI, Elizabeth Anstead (Paul), Linda White (Michael), nephews: Christopher, Montgomery, Garrett, Mikgel, nieces: Shaleiah, Dawn, Siobhan and Meghan and Stephanie. She was a avid reader, learner and teacher. She had a contagious laugh and was a dog lover. She will be severely missed and will be carried in our hearts for all our days. The family has no plans for a service at this time. All arrangements are under the directions and care of Buxton Funeral Home and Crematory, 110 NE 5th Street, Okeechobee, FL.

HAZEL L. RISK
Age 87, of Fayetteville, passed away November 16, 2007 at Fayetteville City Hospital. She was born July 2, 1920 in Clarksville, AR to John L. and Francis King Johnson. She spent many of her formative years in Tulsa, OK and graduated from Clarksville High School in 1938. She attended and graduated from Sacramento, California Junior College, where she met her late husband Oliver "Ed" Risk, and was married in 1941. They moved to Michigan, her husband's home state, where they raised a family and spent most of their lives. Upon retirement, they moved to Arkansas and split time between Clarksville and Fayetteville. Survivors include a daughter Beverly Ragland and her husband Jim of Farmington Hills, MI; three sons, Mark Risk and companion Virginia Clayton of Fayetteville, John Risk and wife Annie of Costa Mesa, CA and James Risk and wife Andrea of Farmington Hills, MI. Grandchildren: Stacy, Leslie, Craig, Jimmy, Brian, and David Ragland, Kaitlin, Alyssa, Kelsey, Joy and Logan Risk. All Nieto and great-grandchildren: Alex, Mallory, Beau, Jane, and Davis. She had a love of music, teaching and composing for the piano. Her strong faith in Jesus Christ was foremost. She was a scholar of early Christianity and the Dead Sea Scrolls. She spent one fulfilling year as housemother of the Tri Delta Sorority at the University of Arkansas. She had great loyalty to the Democratic Party and a passion for politics, serving endless hours working and supporting campaigns. A memorial mass is scheduled at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church on December 15th at 10:00 am in Clarksville, AR. Interment will be at Mt. Airy Cemetery in Ludwig, AR.

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

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

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

e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to:
Attn: Obits c/o Charolette Wilson
734-953-2232

For more information call:
Charolette Wilson
734-953-2070
or Liz Kelsner
734-953-2067
or toll free
866-818-7653
ask for Char or Liz

JULIE MICHELLE RATKUS
November 27, 1946
November 29, 2001

Six years can pass like a day, or seem an eternity. Time can change many things, but time cannot diminish the memories, my love for you. 'Til we meet at sunset. Love, Carl.

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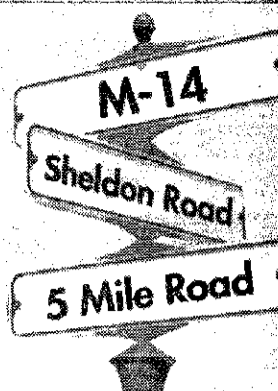


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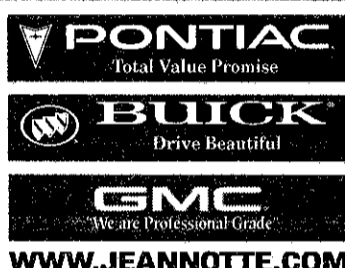


<p>30 MPG 2008 PONTIAC G6 SALE PRICE \$14,690*</p> <p>39 MONTH LEASE \$149** PER MO. DOWN PAYMENT \$1499</p>	<p>28 MPG 2008 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX SALE PRICE \$17,876*</p> <p>39 MONTH LEASE \$186** PER MO. DOWN PAYMENT \$1499</p>	<p>2008 PONTIAC G6 Hard Top Convertible Stock #6252</p> <p>39 MONTH LEASE \$268** PER MO. DOWN PAYMENT \$1499</p>	<p>33 MPG 2008 PONTIAC VIBE SALE PRICE \$14,606*</p>
<p>2007 BUICK LACROSSE CXL Was \$28,854 NOW \$22,699*</p> <p>39 MONTH LEASE \$247** PER MO. DOWN PAYMENT \$1995</p>	<p>2008 BUICK LUCERNE SALE PRICE \$22,934*</p> <p>39 MONTH LEASE \$301** PER MO. DOWN PAYMENT \$0</p>	<p>2008 BUICK LACROSSE CXL Was \$27,585 Stock #2060 \$24,293*</p> <p>39 MONTH LEASE \$276** PER MO. DOWN PAYMENT \$1995</p>	<p>2008 BUICK ENCLAVE CXL Vin #4474</p> <p>39 MONTH LEASE \$399** PER MO. DOWN PAYMENT \$1995</p>
<p>2008 GMC ENVOY Stock #4072 \$23,142*</p> <p>39 MONTH LEASE \$219** PER MO. DOWN PAYMENT \$1999</p>	<p>2008 GMC YUKON Stock #4140 \$30,621*</p> <p>39 MONTH LEASE \$347** PER MO. DOWN PAYMENT \$1999</p>	<p>24 MPG 2008 GMC ACADIA Stock #4087 \$27,246*</p> <p>39 MONTH LEASE \$319** PER MO. DOWN PAYMENT \$1999</p>	<p>Great Buy! 2007 GMC SIERRA CREW CAB Stock #3365 SALE PRICE \$21,995*</p>

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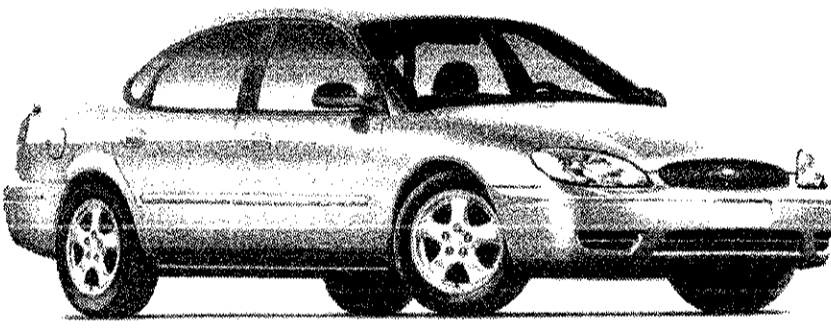


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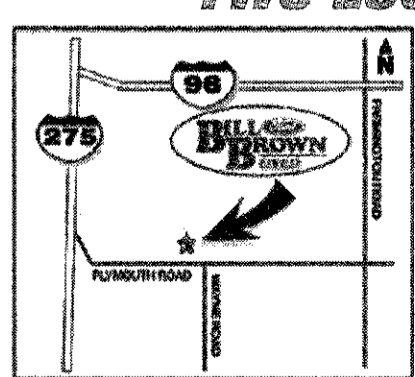
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Starting at
\$14,495

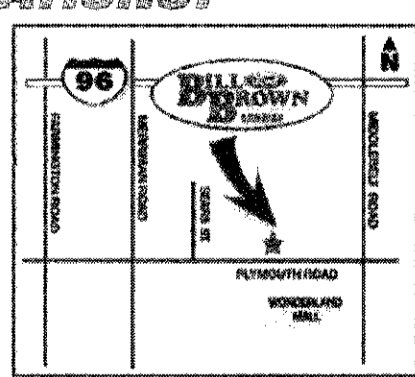
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MONTEGO 2005, certified, only 19,000 miles. Ask for Bryan O'Neil
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BONNEVILLE SSE1 2003, Black power moon, leather, chrome wheels, \$10,795.
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Pontiac (8680)

GRAND PRIXS 2007, 2 to choose, black or red, full power, low miles, choice, \$16,888.
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(734) 721-1144

Volkswagen (8740)

BEETLE 2003 Turbo Convertible, \$14,998. AVIS FORD (248) 355-7615

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Mazda 626 2001, Auto, air immaculate, \$3,799. TYME (734) 455-5566

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SABLE 2003, very low miles, certified, call for price. Ask for Bryan O'Neil
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Pontiac (8680)

G-6 2005 4 dr., V-6, silver, 18,800 miles, sunroof, alloys, like new! \$15,195.
RedHoban
(734) 721-1144

Volvo (8700)

VIBE 2006, certified, auto, gray, \$13,995
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(734) 453-2500

Saturn (8700)

JETTA 2006, 37K, Tiptronic auto, air, pw/pl, tilt, cruise, leather, alloy wheels, \$14,980.
SATURN of PLYMOUTH
(734) 453-7890

Mercury (8660)

GRAND MARQUIS 2004, certified, 3.9 Apr O.A.C. Ask for Bryan O'Neil
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Nissan (8620)

MIRAGE 2000, air, cruise, CD, tie, 42K, \$5,295. Buy here \$ pay here
COLLINS MOTOR SALES WAYNE (734) 721-1616

Pontiac (8680)

G-6 2007, 29K, V-6, auto, air, pw/pl, tilt, cruise, rear spoiler, premium wheels, \$13,890.
SATURN of PLYMOUTH
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Saturn (8700)

AURA XE 2007, 20K, V-6, auto, air, pw/pl, tilt, cruise, OnStar, ABS, \$15,900.
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Saturn (8700)

ION 2004, 16K, 5 speed, air, pw/pl, tilt, cruise, AM/FM stereo, sun roof, Sale, \$9,400.
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Mercury (8660)

GRAND MARQUIS 2004, loaded, must see. Ask for Bryan O'Neil
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Nissan (8620)

SENTRA 2005 4 dr., radium, 4 cylinder, auto, priced to save \$9,995.
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Pontiac (8680)

G6 2006, auto, air, gray, certified, 20K, \$13,995.
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Saturn (8700)

ION 2005, Red Line Coupe, 4 cylinder, 5 speed manual, Metallic Blue. Only \$14,995.
Lou LaRiche Chevrolet
888-372-9836

Saturn (8700)

ION 2005, Red Line Coupe, 4 cylinder, 5 speed manual, Metallic Blue. Only \$14,995.
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MARAUDER 2004, the mac daddy! Clean, loaded! \$17,995
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(734) 522-0030

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AURORA 2001 auto, V-6 3.5 liter, leather, absolutely spot-less! Luxury for less! \$5,995
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Pontiac (8680)

GRAND PRIX GT2 2004, black, sunroof, leather, H.U.D., loaded, hurry, \$11,995.
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Saturn (8700)

SKY ROADSTER 2007, 8K, 5 speed, air, pw/pl, tilt, cruise, Wow, save huge, \$23,990.
SATURN of PLYMOUTH
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Saturn (8700)

PASSAT 2004, air, auto, leather, sunroof, 30K, \$14,995.
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Mercury (8660)

MILAN 2007, leather, certified, low payment. Ask for Bryan O'Neil
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Nissan (8620)

ALERO 2002, dark green, sunroof, \$6,195.
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac
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Pontiac (8680)

GRAND PRIX GT2 2005, bright blue, leather, \$14,995.
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac
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Saturn (8700)

ION 2005, Red Line Coupe, 4 cylinder, 5 speed manual, Metallic Blue. Only \$14,995.
Lou LaRiche Chevrolet
888-372-9836

Saturn (8700)

ION 3 2004, 60K, auto, air, pw/pl, tilt, cruise, rear spoiler, alloy wheels, \$9,490.
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Mercury (8660)

MONTEGO 2005, AWD, leather, moonroof, 11K, certified. Ask for Bryan O'Neil
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Nissan (8620)

AZTEK 2004, AWD, white, sunroof, sharp! \$11,995.
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GRAND PRIXS 2007 SE, GT, 9 to choose, 4.9% finance available.
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2008 PONTIAC G6

WOW PRICE! \$16,463^{18*}

or lease for **\$148^{68**} MO.**

Stock #ZB00080104208
Automatic, air, AM/FM stereo/CD, convenience cargo net, remote start, front & rear mats, leather wrap steering wheel & brake handle, steering wheel with audio controls & more.
Total due \$1648 or less!!!

2008 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX

WOW PRICE! \$18,191^{23*}

or lease for **\$199^{89**} MO.**

Stock #ZB0009104207
3.8L series III V6, auto trans, air, AM/FM stereo, power seats, windows & locks, front & rear floor mats & more.
WAS \$23,780
Total due \$1699.84 or less!!!

2008 GMC ENVOY

WOW PRICE! \$22,691^{08*}

or lease for **\$229^{81**} MO.**

Stock #G80024104206 LIST \$30,220
4 speed auto trans, sun & sound pkg.; power sunroof, Bose prem. sound system, heated mirrors, lugg. rack cross bars, power drivers seat, overhead console, univ. home remote, 17" alum wheels and more.
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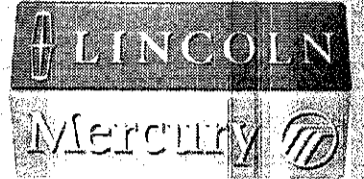
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Jack Demmer Automotive



2008 FOCUS SE COUPE
 Auto. air, aluminum wheels, power windows & locks, 15" alum wheels, remote keyless, message center. Stock #81227

24 Month Lease
\$138 Per Mo.
 \$2500 due at signing

Was \$16,510
NOW \$14,535*

5 speed auto transmission, 2.3L 14 engine, P205/60R16 all season tires, wood appearance package, 16" aluminum wheels. Stock #80682

\$126 Per mo.
 24 Month Lease
 \$2500 due at signing

2008 FUSION SE
 2.3L 14 engine, 5-speed auto trans, P205/60R16 all season tires, air, speed/tilt wheel, pwr wndws/locks, perimeter anti-theft system, 1st & 2nd row air curtains, fog lamps, 6-way power seat. Stock #80758

24 Month Lease
\$131 Per Mo.
 \$2500 due at signing

Was \$20,295
NOW \$16,818*

6 speed auto trans, 3.5L V6 Duratec engine, P215/60R17 BSW tires, Sirius satellite radio w/6 mos. service. Stock #80758

\$196 Per mo.
 24 Month Lease
 \$2500 due at signing

2008 F150 S. CAB SEL
 5.4 V8, lim. slip azle, 7700 GVW, How & go, 17" alum wheels & much more Stock #80914

24 Month Lease
\$213 Per Mo.
 \$2500 due at signing

Was \$33,775
NOW \$25,385*

Power moon roof, privacy glass, leather steering whl, roof rack w/crossbars, fog lamps, 3.0L V6 Duratec eng, 4 spd auto w/OD, 6-CD/MP3, auto headlamps, Sirius, 17" satin finish alum wheels and more. Stock #80649

\$205 Per mo.
 24 Month Lease
 \$2500 due at signing

2008 TAURUS LIMITED
 Leather, 18" aluminum wheels, heated dual power seats, 6-disc CD, auto temp control air, anti theft, auto headlamps, power windows and locks, power mirrors and more. Stock #80634.

24 Month Lease
\$195 Per Mo.
 \$2500 due at signing

Was \$27,595
NOW \$22,810*

4.0L SOHC V6 eng, 5 speed auto trans OD, crossbars, ultrasonic reverse sensing, keyless entry, 17" machined alum whls, auto headlamps, illum visors and much more. Stock #80988

\$149 Per mo.
 24 Month Lease
 \$2500 due at signing

2008 EDGE SE
 Auto head lamps, keyless entry, power windows & locks, privacy glass, speed control, tilt, front & side impact air bags Stock #81277

24 Month Lease
\$210 Per Mo.
 \$2500 due at signing

Was \$26,390
NOW \$22,835*

3.5L V6 Duratec eng, 6 speed automatic transmission, 17" chrome wheels, fog lamps, message center, side air curtain, wood trim, and more. Stock #80809

\$235 Per mo.
 24 Month Lease
 \$2500 due at signing

2008 EXPLORER
 4.0L SOHC, 5-speed auto OD trans, conven. group, cast alum whls, auto lamp headlights, and much, much more! Stock #81168

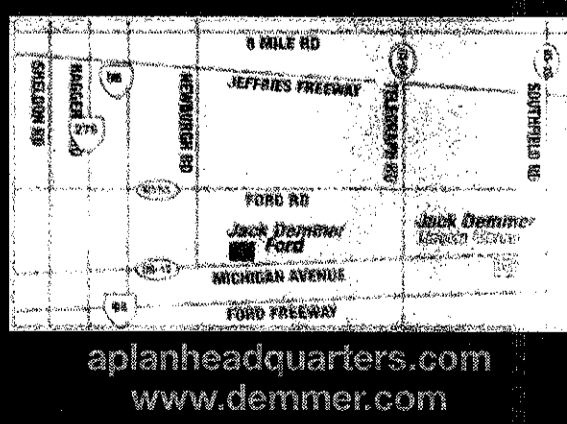
24 Month Lease
\$199 Per Mo.
 \$2500 due at signing

Was \$26,740
NOW \$20,207*

3.5L V6 engine, automatic transmission, ultimate package includes 18" chrome-clad alum wheels, adaptive headlamps, power liftgate, reverse sensing system, sync voice activated system and more. Stock #80909

\$295 Per mo.
 24 Month Lease
 \$2500 due at signing

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