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SUNDAY
January 13, 2008

WESTLAND Observer

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Voters show strong interest in Tuesday's primary

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Westland voter interest in Tuesday's presidential primary appears relatively strong, even though Democrats will be limited to casting ballots for certain candidates or declaring them-

selves as uncommitted.

More than 4,000 voters had requested absentee ballots by Thursday afternoon, and 2,300 people already had returned theirs, City Clerk Eileen DeHart said.

"That's pretty amazing," she said. "They're coming in droves.

I am a little surprised."

Voters will have to show a personal identification and declare themselves as voting Democratic or Republican.

"There are no independent ballots," DeHart said.

Polls for Westland's 59,655 registered voters will be open 7

a.m. to 8 p.m.

The GOP ballot will list candidates like Arizona Sen. John McCain, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, ex-Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani, U.S. Rep. Duncan Hunter, U.S. Rep. Ron Paul

and Fred Thompson. It also will include Colorado Rep. Tom Tancredo and Kansas Sen. Sam Brownback, who already have dropped out.

But the Democratic ticket is a wildly different situation. With the party opposing the Michigan primary's timing, the only high-

ranking candidate on the ballot will be New York Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton. Others listed will include Ohio Congressman Dennis Kucinich, former Alaska Sen. Mike Gravel and Connecticut Sen. Chris Dodd,

Please see **PRIMARY, A2**



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Students Katelyn Nelson, Gabrielle Carr and Elia Herrera (from left) twist and turn as they try to untangle their human knot.

Program gives area students Bright Futures

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

The futures of students at three Wayne-Westland schools are looking brighter, thanks a partnership with Eastern Michigan University. Second-fifth-graders at Jefferson-

Barns and Lincoln Elementaries and sixth-eighth-graders at Adams Middle School are working on reading, writing and mathematics while developing new skills and exploring the arts and technology as part of a three-hour

Please see **FUTURES, A3**



Adams Middle School students Katelyn Nelson (from left), Nina Tolentino, Quaneisha Hines and other members of the Outdoor Adventure Club attempt to untangle their human knot as part of the team building exercise.

Annual ceremony to honor Dr. King

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

The Rev. Terrance McClain will be the keynote speaker when his Annapolis Park Church of Christ hosts a city observance honoring the life and the legacy of slain civil rights pioneer Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

McClain, a Wayne-Westland school board trustee, drew accolades a few years ago for a crowd-inspiring speech he gave at his church to honor King's birthday, observed on the third Monday in January.

Westland's ceremony this year will be at 9:30 a.m. Monday, Jan. 21, and the public is invited. The church is located on the southeast corner of Annapolis and Henry Ruff roads, in an Annapolis Park neighborhood that earned a state historic marker for being one of the first U.S. suburbs to welcome African-American residents in the 1950s.

Westland Deputy Mayor Courtney Conover called the city's King celebration an important, annual event that has grown in attendance.

"The legacy of Dr. King affects all of us as Americans," she said. "What's so great and unique about this event is that it draws individuals not only from our community, but from neighboring communities as well."

Youngsters again will carry flags representing countries from across the world, in a show of peace and unity. Conover confirmed that inspirational songs will be performed by such groups as the Detroit Male Ensemble from the Detroit School of Arts.

Reather Everett, area representative for the Southeast Westland Homeowners Association, said word is being spread to city residents to encourage them to attend the King ceremony.

"We're hoping it will continue to be as successful as it has been in the past," Everett said. "It's something that the city of Westland can be proud of."

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Chamber gives Swope vote of confidence as its new president

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A Westland organization that strives to boost the city's business community, despite Michigan's gloomy economy, has a new leader.

The 360-member Westland Chamber of Commerce's new president, chosen Wednesday by the board of directors, is Brookellen Swope.

"I am very excited," she said. "It will be nice to serve the busi-

ness community in a different capacity. It will be a nice, new challenge."

Swope has worked for the chamber for seven years, most recently as executive assistant to the former president, Lori Fodale. Fodale will start a new job Monday as the city of Westland's new economic development director.

"I couldn't have left the chamber in better hands," Fodale said Thursday. "Brookellen will pick up right where I left off,

and I have all the confidence in the world in her. The chamber members have great respect for her, and I think the chamber is going to continue to grow under her leadership."

Chamber board Chairman Gary Bulson confirmed that the board voted unanimously to offer Swope the job.

"The board was overwhelmingly confident that Brookellen could handle the job," he said. "The work that she has done during her seven years with the

chamber has been second to none."

Bulson conceded that Michigan's dreary economy has forced some local businesses to close their doors.

"Our membership has tailed off a little due to a tough economy," he said.

However, he, Fodale and Swope have voiced confidence that the Westland business community will continue to thrive and, hopefully, become part of a larger economic

rebound.

Swope's duties will include helping to promote local businesses and to instill a sense of community among local merchants. She also hopes to draw new businesses into the chamber's fold.

She also will continue with three of the chamber's fundraisers, including a golf outing, already in the works for June 24; the holiday Taste Fest, which brings restaurants together in one place to give

ticket-buyers a chance to sample food; and the Restaurant Rally, which allows food connoisseurs to shuttle among various eateries to try their cuisine.

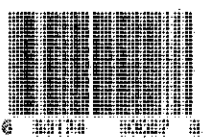
In coming weeks, Swope will be working to hire her own executive assistant. She said working with Fodale has helped prepare her for her new role as chamber president.

"I've been working with Lori for so long," Swope said, "and she has set a wonderful example."

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LPS lawyers deny whistleblower claims

BY REBECCA JONES
STAFF WRITER

In answer to a whistleblower lawsuit filed against the district, lawyers for Livonia Public Schools claim that two administrators had "legitimate, non-retaliatory" reasons for their actions.

In a response filed Jan. 2, attorneys with the firm Keller Thoma assert an affirmative defense and state that plaintiff Margaret Flower cannot make a case under the Whistleblower Protection Act.

In September, Flower, an LPS employee since 1986, filed suit against the district, Supt. Randy Liepa and director of business services Lisa Levesque. They were served with the suit last month.

Flower, who formerly served as the district's controller, filed for whistleblower protection. She also claims breach of contract and that the district did not comply with requirements of a state law that governs non-renewal of an administrator's contract.

Flower, who is represented by attorney Douglas Webster, said she criticized accounting practices related to the district's Legacy Initiative school closings and reconfigurations. She states that Levesque asked her "to engage in deceptive accounting practices on several occasions."

She stated she took concerns

to three school board members last spring and that the elimination of her position was a result of that discussion.

Flower has been on leave since November 2006. Since then, the district reorganized the business office, eliminating the position she once held.

LPS denies many of the statements claimed in the lawsuit.

The district does not deny that Flower was suspended from her job in November 2006, after she used a profanity directed at Levesque when she called in sick.

In the suit, Flower states that that was joke and she wants the suspension removed from her record.

She's also seeking damages in excess of \$25,000, including the loss of the position that she held for more than 20 years, a reduction in salary that would come with a new position and loss of vacation pay.

LPS' response also states that the plaintiff failed to mitigate her damages and failed to exhaust other remedies before going to court.

The case, assigned to Third Circuit Judge Kathleen MacDonald, now moves to the discovery phase. According to a court clerk, the parties will also go before the Mediation Tribunal Association, which provides alternative dispute resolution services, before a trial date is set.

Hoover students learn chess rules, piece by piece

BY REBECCA JONES
STAFF WRITER

They don't yet know the name of the chess piece that looks like a horse, let alone how the knight moves.

That's next week's lesson for the Hoover Chess Club.

On Monday, students learned the pawn's complex rules, including the little-used *en passant*, conditions that allow for a pawn's capture, "in passing."

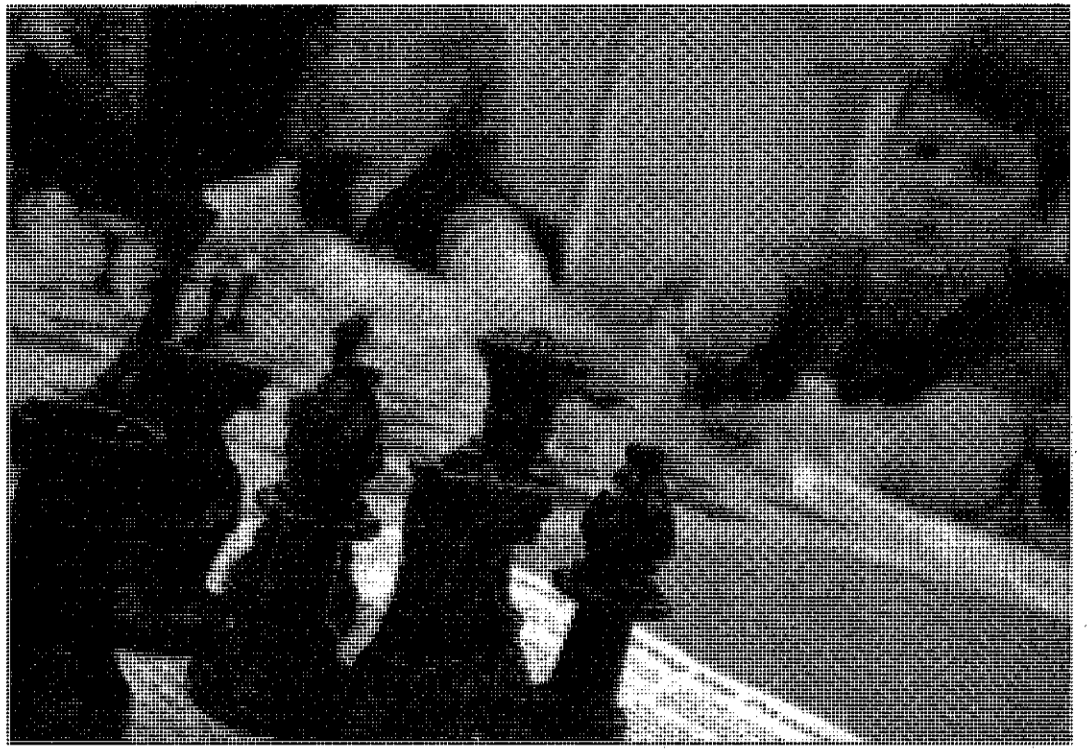
"(Pawns) are very different from all the other pieces we have learned about before," parent Dawn Gilmore told the students, who assembled during recess for their weekly lesson. "They have a special power that no other piece has," she went on, describing how a pawn that makes it all the way across the board can be promoted, up to queen.

After a five-minute explanation, students played a few quick games with just pawns and kings.

Fourth-grader Marlene Magewick collected five of Katherine Golinski's pieces. "Payback," Magewick said to her classmate. Golinski won their first game.

"I always wanted to play chess," Magewick said. "I think it's cool because it's a really old game."

Fifty-two Hoover third- and fourth-graders signed up for chess club. That's more than 20 percent of the students.



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Hoover Elementary School students Kimberly Beier, left, and Tristan Bonifield join other classmates for a chess club meeting during recess.

"I've been thrilled at the response," Gilmore said. "They catch on fast. They seem to really be enjoying the Chess Club and that makes it fun for me, too."

Soon students will learn chess notation.

"In just a few weeks, they can play with anybody in the world whether they speak the same language or not," Gilmore said.

Gilmore picked up chess in

high school, but wanted to help students get off to an earlier start. In addition to Chess Club twice a week, she volunteers as a Masterworks presenter and helps in the school library.

Gilmore developed 20 five-minute chess lessons and tries them out on her kindergarten daughter, Heather, at home.

Gilmore's third-grade son, Ian, a member of the Chess Club, opted to learn the game

along with friends at school.

Hoover principal Andrea Oquist said her fourth-grade opponent gave her a run for her money in Monday's matches.

"He kept setting me up," she said, adding that even though she's been playing for years, she's still learning.

"I didn't know *en passant*," Oquist said.

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Prosecutor: Officers acted appropriately in shooting incident

The Wayne County Prosecutor's Office has cleared two Westland police officers of any wrongdoing in the shooting death of a man who fired a 22-caliber pistol at them when they went to his house to investigate an earlier domestic dispute.

Prosecutors last month ruled that two officers involved in the Dec. 13 incident acted appropriately after 41-year-old Kenneth Sundman Jr. fired at them in the 5900 block of Morley, near Ford and Newburgh.

The officers had gone to Sundman's house to investigate an earlier incident in which he threatened his wife at gunpoint. She had gone to the police station for help.

An internal investigation by Westland police had found no wrongdoing, and the findings by the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office have supported the conclusion.

Westland Police Chief James Ridener had indicated early on that it appeared the officers acted appropriately after being fired upon, but the case was turned over to the prosecutor's office for an independent review.

PRIMARY

FROM PAGE A1

who already has dropped out.

Two high-profile Democratic candidates, Illinois Sen. Barack Obama and former North Carolina Sen. John Edwards, will not be listed on the ballot due to their party's concerns about the primary. Many of their supporters plan to cast their ballots as "uncommitted" in the primary.

Write-in candidates cannot be counted, DeHart said.

Some people didn't realize they could cast uncommitted ballots until recently, she said.

"We've had several people come in and ask to get their ballots back," DeHart said. "We can spoil their ballots and give them a new one, but we can't give the ballots back to them."

Absentee voters may go to City Hall until 4 p.m. Monday to cast a ballot, but if they wait that late they'll have to fill it out on the premises. Voters may cast absentee ballots on Tuesday only

in "dire emergencies," DeHart said.

A small number of voters who live in the Taylor school district on the city's southeast side will help to decide whether to renew an 18-mill, non-homestead tax. In all, DeHart said, 336 voters in Westland may help to decide that issue.

Some political observers aren't happy that Michigan voters will have to ask for either a Democrat or Republican ballot. Just ask Paula Bowman, president of the Northwest Wayne County League of Women Voters.

"Here at the league, we're all about voting," she said. "But the closed primary, where you have to choose one party or the other, makes that ballot public knowledge."

In Tuesday's primary, the actual vote will be secret but the party ballot chosen by voters will not.

Staff writer Alex Lundberg contributed to this story.

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AROUND WESTLAND

Council sessions

The Westland City Council will have two public study sessions Monday. At 5:30 p.m., the council will discuss a plan that would give preference to local businesses that make city bids. At 6 p.m., the council will discuss the city's annual audit. The meeting will be on the second floor of City Hall, on Ford Road east of Newburgh.

Election day closings

Because of the Presidential primary election, city offices in the City of Westland will be closed on Tuesday, Jan. 15. The Bailey Recreation Center, William P. Faust Public Library and 18th District Court, however, will remain open. The Westland City Clerk's Office, located inside Westland City Hall, also will be open from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m.

Free testing

The William P. Faust Public

Library of Westland is offering a free blood pressure test 11 a.m. to noon Wednesday, Jan. 16. Testing will be performed by a Westland firefighter. The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland is at 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford Road. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

Free seminar

Dr. James Froelich, director of vascular medicine at University of Michigan Hospital will talk about preventing heart disease at a free seminar at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 23, at the Forum Fitness Center, 34250 Ford, Westland. To reserve a seat, call (734) 729-7000.

Financial program

Kirk of Our Savior in Westland hosts a free preview 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 10, (baby-sitting will be available) to allow families to review the Dave Ramsey Financial Peace

University Program.

Dave Ramsey is a personal money management expert and a popular radio personality, author of the New York Times best-sellers *The Total Money Makeover*, *Financial Peace* and *More Than Enough*. Ramsey knows first-hand what financial peace means in his own life after having had a multi-million dollar business and then losing it all.

Those interested in following the program will have an opportunity to sign up and purchase a 13-week seminar the night of Feb. 10. For those who purchase the program, it will begin 7-9 p.m. Monday, Feb. 25, and run for 13 weeks.

For more information, contact Bonnie at (734) 994-0569 or see the Dave Ramsey Web site at www.daveramsey.com.

Astronomy program

Join the Nankin Mills' naturalist on a journey through the celestial wonders of the

night sky at "Winter Sky for Beginners" 6-8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 18. The winter constellations have many bright stars, making them easy to locate. Orion, the mighty hunter, is the "guide" for the program. Bring a T-shirt to create your own star show. A short outdoor viewing session is included - weather permitting - sponsored by the Friends of Nankin Mills.

Program will be held at Wayne County Parks' Nankin Mills Interpretive Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. Cost is \$4 per person, ages 7 through adults. Pre-registration is required at the park office. For more information, call (734) 261-1990.

King ceremony

The city's tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. Monday, Jan. 21, at the Annapolis Park Church of Christ, on the corner of Annapolis and Henry Ruff on Westland's southeast side.

WESTLAND Observer

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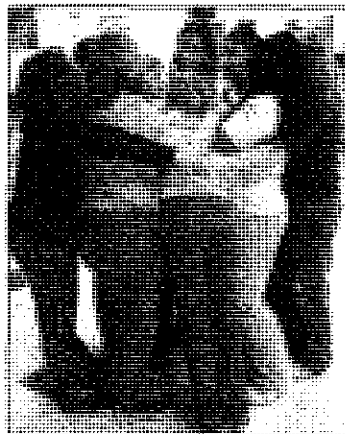
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after-school program called Bright Futures. "We're really trying to increase their life experiences and open up possibilities for them," said Lynn Malinoff. "We have the luxury of not basing programs on standards and as a result, so they get to have fun."

Malinoff is director of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers for EMU's Institute for the Study of Children, Families and Communities. A former Wayne-Westland school psychologist, she was approached by the university to write a grant that would provide a new program to address the different needs of at-risk students and the community.

She agreed and was successful in landing a five-year \$749,694 grant from the Michigan Department of Education to fund the Bright Futures. The program is being offered at the three Wayne-Westland schools as well as Willow Run Elementary and Willow Run Middle School in the Willow Run school district.

Four days a week students gather in a classroom at each of the schools where they play games like *Set* and *Deal or No Deal*, write stories, create art and even spend time doing their homework. There



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Students "tie up" in a human knot during the Outdoor Adventures Club meeting.

also are clubs focusing on art, drama, sports and leadership.

A lot of what they do has academics as an underlying theme, but students don't mind it, according to Jefferson-Barns site coordinator Kate Porter.

"The students love it, they really love it," she said. "For them, it's a place to go after school and be safe and do activities."

DIFFERENT STYLES

No two programs are alike. While all three sites offer the same basics, they have different ways of presenting them. Porter concentrates on behavior and socialization and works on team buildings with her students. She has Abakadoodle provide the art and EMU dance students

come in to teach the students how to dance.

Adams coordinator Sam Froomkin has representatives of Rocker Soccer come in and do drills and hang out with the students and a leadership club that lets his middle school boys focus on social growth and becoming good members of the community while the girls work on self-image.

Sara Bliss has her Lincoln students cooking cold recipes in a cooking club and learning the fine art of digital and video photography.

"The average attendance is 30-35 kids, they're excited about the program and continue to come even though they don't have to," said Bliss.

According to Malinoff, the objective and goal of the program is to go beyond what students do in the classroom. Parents had to attend a presentation and register their students for the program which also includes a six-week summer session as well as opportunities for parents to participate in activities, like technology workshops.

"I was surprised to get so many parents at the middle school," said Malinoff. "Sam was successful in getting the students. But the biggest success seemed to be with the kids talking to their friends. We had to cut off the number of kids."

FUN ACTIVITIES

One student who got in the

Adams program was seventh-grader Nina Tolentino who admits that initially she didn't think she'd like the Bright Futures.

"It only took one day for me to realize it was going to be fun," she said. "The outdoors club is my favorite because we do a lot of fun activities. We play *Deal or No Deal*. We're the bankers. We do the averages and win candy. We're doing math, but it's still fun."

Sixth-grader Alexandria Kudlinski knew from the get-go the program would be fun. She doesn't even mind doing her homework there.

"I used to do it at home, watching TV," she said. "No, I leave here and it's done. It's a lot easier. I even made the honor roll this year."

"It's a good activity to have after school, we do different things," added eighth-grader Dylan Dottor. "I used to do my homework at home and then call my friends. Now I do it here."

The program is starting out small with enrollment around 35 students to work out the bugs. A new round of sign-ups started in December and the plan is to increase enrollment to 50 students at each site. Over the next six months, student and parent advisory boards also will be developed and become the program's driving force.

"We present an opportunity for them to take what they learn and apply it," said

Froomkin. "Each week they get better because they're responding to an adult."

"We're trying to increase their life experiences and open up possibilities for them," added Malinoff. "I think they care that they're in school for three more hours. They don't mind doing homework, they don't mind the academic time."

Adams Principal David Ingham is glad to have the program at his school. It partners well with Gear Up, a program that helps seventh-graders.

"This program and Gear Up are great, but this one touches kids that can't be touched by Gear Up," he said. "I hope students make some connections so it can keep them in school."

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Gunman holds up 7-Eleven

A masked gunman robbed the 7-Eleven at Cherry Hill and Hix roads Friday morning, police said.

No shots were fired, and no one was injured. Police Lt. Daniel Karrick said the incident happened around 5 a.m. The gunman, described as a black male of medium height and 170 pounds, revealed a handgun and demanded money out of the cash register, Karrick said. He escaped with an undisclosed amount of money.

The incident was similar to robberies in several other communities, Karrick said.

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

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Families donate land to conservancy

Two families from Westland and Plymouth have donated an eight-acre parcel of land in Ocoola Township to the Livingston Land Conservancy.

Ron and Diane Winfrey of Westland and John and JoAnn Normile of Plymouth made the donation, now known as the Logan Lakes Nature Preserve, to the conservancy in memory of Joseph and Victoria Fink, Diane and JoAnn's parents.

The eight-acre wetland is located on Hughes Road, south of M-59, and is part of a vast wetland complex in the Logan Lakes ecosystem.

"We are sincerely grateful to Dianne and Ron Winfrey of Westland and Jo Anne and John Normile of Plymouth who donated this piece to the Conservancy," said Sara Thomas, president of the Conservancy. "Protecting part of such a nice wetland ecosystem is very rewarding since it helps preserve good wildlife habitat."

The Finks purchased the property in 1971 as a potential "get-away" spot from their home in the Detroit area. The family spent time there fishing and picnicking and eventually the sisters brought their own young children there. They developed a genuine appreciation for the

natural area and have many fond memories to take with them, Thomas said.

The Conservancy will be planning a spring dedication and look forward to seeing the extended Fink family to honor their donation, she added.

The eight-acre parcel of land has been donated to the rattlesnake grass, sweet scented water lily, and the wild black currant — just a few of the unique plant species that exist eight-acre parcel, and since the habitat is appropriate, the property may also be home to the Massasauga rattlesnake, a species of special concern, although there haven't been any sightings as of yet, Thomas said.

Founded in 1991, the Livingston Land Conservancy is a private, non-profit, tax-exempt organization working to protect the natural heritage and rural character of the Greater Livingston County Area. In recent years, the fastest growing means of protecting land has been through the use of conservation easements, a legal agreement between a private landowner and a land trust that permanently limits the scope and type of development while leaving the land in private ownership.

The conservancy funds



Diane (left) and Ron Winfrey of Westland and John and JoAnn Normile of Plymouth have donated eight acres of land own by the two women's parents, Joseph and Victoria Fink, to the Livingston Land Conservancy.



Called the Logan Lakes Nature Preserve, the eight acres of land is part of a wetland complex in the Logan Lakes ecosystem.

its land protection activities through private donations, gifts from corporations and founda-

tions, and fund-raisers. It currently has more than 526 acres under protection.

For more information, call the Livingston Land Conservancy at (810) 229-3290, contact it by e-mail at info@livingstonlandconservancy.org, or visit the organization's Web site at www.livingstonlandconservancy.org.

Sorority turns 100

Jan. 15, 2008 marks the 100 year anniversary of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, the oldest Greek-letter organization established by African American college-trained women. The sorority was founded in 1908 at Howard University by Ethel Hedgeman Lyle and eight other women, just one generation removed from slavery.

Alpha Kappa Alpha has more than 200,000 members in more than 975 chapters in the United States and several other countries. Members work with communities through service initiatives and progressive programs relating to education, family, health and business that have a direct impact across the country.

The motto of Alpha Kappa Alpha is "By Culture and By Merit." The purpose of the sorority is to cultivate and encourage high scholastic and ethical standards, to promote unity and friendship among college women, to study and help alleviate problems concerning girls and women, to maintain a progressive interest in college life, and to provide service to all mankind.

Some famous members of Alpha Kappa Alpha, both regular and honorary, include opera singer Marian Anderson, jazz singer Ella Fitzgerald, author Maya Angelou, TV personality Star Jones, Nobel Prize winning author Toni Morrison, actress Jada Pinkett-Smith, Marietta Tree, the first female U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, and Georgiana Simpson, the first African American woman to get a doctoral degree.

Alpha Kappa Alpha will celebrate

in a week of tributes in Washington, D.C. More than 20,000 members are expected to make the pilgrimage to Howard University to honor the sorority's founders and celebrate its 100-year history.

To learn more about Alpha Kappa Alpha you can go to its Web site at www.aka1908.com or its centennial celebration Web site at aka1908.com/centennial. To learn more about the history of Alpha Kappa Alpha and other historically African American sororities you can come to the library and check out "The Divine Nine: The History of African American Fraternities and Sororities" by Lawrence C. Ross, Jr.

Whatever your need, whatever your interest, the Public Library of Westland is at your service. Visit us soon, call us at (734) 326-6123 or view our Web site at www.westland.lib.mi.us.

Highlighted Activities

Internet 101: 7 p.m. Jan. 14. For the very beginner- what the Internet is, how to get there, what is a mouse, what is a monitor, how to get around a Web site and what is a Web site. This is a hands-on class. Space is limited. Register in advance at the reference desk or call (734) 326-6123.

Adult Book Discussion group: 7 p.m. Jan. 15. Join us as we discuss "The Namesake" by Jhumpa Lahiri. Please read the book before the meeting. All are welcome.

Internet 201: 2 p.m. Jan. 18. An inside look at Internet search engines. This is a hands-on class. Space is limited. Register in advance at the reference desk or call (734) 326-6123.

Information Central is compiled by reference librarian and library Web designer Kristy Cooper. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

Benefit moved to larger site

Friends and those wishing to help a tragedy-touched family have overwhelmed organizers so a fund-raising dinner to help that family has been moved to a larger location.

Ten-year-old Jordan Griffin is dead and her sister, eight-year-old Sidney, is in critical condition following the Dec. 30 traffic crash that took the lives of four other members of their family on an Ohio interstate. The two attended Clarenceville

Schools' Grandview Elementary, where their mother, Jodie, is a paraprofessional.

A 24-year-old Adrian man is facing multiple felonies including aggravated homicide in connection with the crash; police say his blood-alcohol level was three times the legal limit at the time.

Because of great public response, a spaghetti and pizza dinner fund-raiser to help the Griffin family after its

loss will still be held at 6 p.m. Friday, Jan. 18, but has been moved to Ward Evangelical Church, 40000 Six Mile Road, Northville.

Bob Evans, Munchies Pizza, Westborn Market, Jet's Pizza, Gordon Food Service and The Deli — all of Livonia — are supporting the event.

Tickets are \$12. They're available at the school after Jan. 7 or by calling Charlotte Tripp at (248) 471-2075.




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<p>Every Monday @ 6:30 pm</p> <p>Every child receives a new bowling ball at the end of the season!</p> <p>Starts Jan. 14th!</p>	<p>Any combination 3 people</p> <p>Tuesdays @ 7:30 pm</p> <p>Starts Jan. 15th!</p> <p>Every bowler receives a new bowling ball when paid in full!</p>
9 PIN - NO TAP - DOUBLES & SINGLES	BUMPER LEAGUE
<p>Prize \$ Mystery Game</p> <p>Lucky Strike</p> <p>Fridays starting January 11th @ 10:30 pm</p>	<p>Ages 4-8</p> <p>Saturdays @ 12:30</p> <p>Starts Jan 19th!</p>

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FREE SMALL ENGINE WORKSHOP

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Saturday, January 26, 2008

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

This Workshop is Free of Charge and Open to Any Child in 7th or 8th grade!

Parents are Invited to Attend.

Lunch will be provided.

Please take this opportunity to participate and learn by calling us at 313-537-9311 to reserve your space. We look forward to seeing you on January 26.

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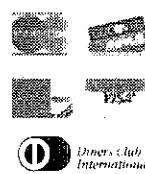
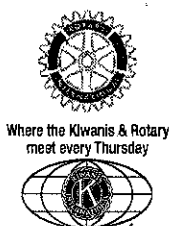
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ITALIAN & AMERICAN CUISINE • COCKTAILS

PASTA SPECIALS

Includes tossed salad or cole slaw, bread & bread sticks, butter & grated cheese

Real Italian Spaghetti:

- With meat, tomato or butter sauce
- With mushrooms or meatballs
- With mushrooms & meatballs
- Mostaccioli:
- With meat & tomato
- With mushrooms or meatballs
- With mushrooms & meatballs
- Gnocchi:
- With meat & tomato
- With mushrooms or meatballs
- With mushrooms & meatballs

Baked Lazagna.....12.45
Delicious & Homemade. Prepared in our kitchen.

PASTA A LA Parmesan

Includes egg noodles with garlic, spices, romano cheese and cheese sauce

- Mostaccioli
- With mushrooms extra
- Spaghetti Parmesan
- Ravioli Parmesan
- Gnocchi Parmesan
- Fettuccine Alfredo

APPETIZERS

- Assorted chilled juices
- Pepperoncini
- Olives (ripe or green)
- Onion rings
- Anchovies

Shrimp Cocktail Supreme. .8.95

SOUPS

- Chicken soup (Homestyle)
- Vegetable soup
- Clam Chowder (Fridays only)
- Cream of Broccoli (Saturdays only)

SALADS

- Tossed Salad
- Antipasto Salad for 1, 2, 4 or 6

Caesar SALADS

Dressings made with raw egg. Served with bread sticks or crackers. With anchovies upon request

- Grilled Chicken Caesar Salad
- Small Caesar Salad
- Large Caesar Salad
- Substitute Small Caesar Salad for dinner salad with dinner only

VEAL SPECIALTIES

Veal Parmigiana.....14.45

- Petite Veal Parmigiana
- Veal Scallopine
- Lean & tender veal sauteed with green peppers, mushrooms & onions in a special wine & tomato sauce.
- Veal Cutlet Milanese
- Breaded Veal Cutlet

STEAKS & CHOPS

We serve only fresh cut prime beef. We are not responsible for steaks ordered medium well or well done.

- N.Y. Cut Sirloin Strip Steak
- Choice T-Bone Steak
- Tender Filet Mignon
- Giant Porterhouse Stea
- Pork Chops (Center Cut)
- Surf & Turf Plate

Tender Loin Tip Scallopine...14.45

Tips of tenderloin sauteed in mushrooms, green peppers, onions & a very special wine & tomato sauce.

RIBS

**WWJ-950 News Radio
Jim Brandsatter BBQ Ribs
Fest First Place Winner:**
Long End BBQ Ribs.....12.45
Short End BBQ Ribs.....14.25

1st Place BBQ Ribs!

- Ribs & Shrimp Combo
- Slab of Ribs for Two
- With sauteed mushrooms extra

POULTRY

- Broasted Chicken
- All white meat extra
- BBQ Chicken
- Ribs & Chicken Combo
- Breast of Chicken Parmigiana
- Chicken Cacciatore.....13.45
- Boneless breast of chicken simmered in a savory wine and tomato sauce with green peppers, onions and mushrooms. Served on bow-tie pasta with one side dish.

Half orders on request less.....1.00

ON THE SIDE

- Meatballs (2) & sauce
- Italian sausage (2)
- Hot garlic bread
- Hot garlic bread Parmigiana

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- GARLIC ROSEMARY ROASTED POTATOES

FULL PANS (serve approx. 30 people)...\$40.00
HALF PANS (serve approx. 15 people)...\$28.00

- COMBINATION SALAD: FULL PAN...\$33.00 HALF PAN...\$22.00
- LASAGNA: FULL PAN...\$65.00 HALF PAN...\$35.00
- SLAB OF RIBS ALA CARTE...\$13.95
- MEATBALL...70¢ • COCKTAIL SHRIMP \$1.75 ea.

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FISH 'N' CHIPS.....

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SLAB of RIBS for TWO \$17.95
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 FEB 1 AVALANCHES 7:30 PM
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 FEB 14 DEERS TBA
 FEB 15 FLAME JACKETS 7:30 PM
 FEB 22 CHARRERS 7:30 PM

FEB
 FEB 29 CHARRERS 7:30 PM

MAR
 MAR 6 CHARRERS 7:30 PM
 MAR 13 CHARRERS 7:30 PM
 MAR 20 CHARRERS 7:30 PM
 MAR 27 CHARRERS 7:30 PM

APR
 APR 3 FLAME JACKETS 7:30 PM
 APR 10 BLACKHAWKS TBA

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Equity-index annuity provides tax-deferred investment option



Money Matters
 Rick Bloom

I just received a settlement from a lawsuit for about \$90,000. I have a very specific goal for this money. I bought property Up North a number of years ago on a land contract and I have a balloon payment in seven years. I want to use this money to pay off that land contract. I want to be very conservative with this money and, therefore, I am considering either a CD or an annuity. I am 60 years old and I expect to retire in about five years. What would you recommend?

I lean towards an annuity — an equity-index annuity vs. a traditional fixed annuity for a number of factors. The first is the time frame you have to achieve your goals. By investing in a no-load quality equity-index annuity you will have more money at the end of the seven years than if you invested into a CD.

The second reason is taxes. Although I have always been a believer that you never let the tax tail wag the dog and that you should do things that make good economic sense, that doesn't mean you forget about the tax consequences.

In a CD you will pay taxes on the interest on a year-by-year basis. Since you are working, I am making the assumption that you are in the highest brackets. On the other hand, the equity-index annuity grows tax deferred. You only

pay taxes when you withdraw the money. It would be doubtful that in seven years, when you are not working, that you will be in a higher tax bracket.

Equity-index annuities are like mutual funds — some good, some bad. They are not all the same and you have to be careful.

Some equity-index annuities have high fees thus making it difficult for investors to make money.

One of the problems with annuities is companies have many different types of annuity products. It's not unusual for an annuity company to offer a half dozen or so different types of equity-index annuities. Unfortunately, in most cases, only a few make sense for investors.

The majority of annuities are sold through representatives of the company. Individuals cannot purchase them directly.

One of the first issues is to deal with an individual you trust. You may also consider dealing with someone who specializes in equity-index annuities. There are a lot of nuances and different ways you can structure an equity-index annuity and you want

someone who understands the differences between different products.

I recommend Jim Hutton from Hutton Financial, (800) 870-4444.

Another important issue to consider is the time period. Just about every annuity program requires a time period similar to CDs. However, the typical period of time for an annuity is longer than in a CD. In most cases, I recommend a five to seven-year period for the equity-index annuity. I am not a big fan of annuities that require a 10-15-year commitment period. Unfortunately, many people who sell annuities tend to encourage investors to lock up for longer periods of time so they can receive higher commissions.

One of the many changes that have occurred for equity-index annuities is the expanded index options. For example, Jackson National, a Michigan-based company, now has an equity-index product that offers U.S. large and small company stocks as well as international companies. This product allows an investor to have a diversified portfolio. Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at moneymatters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit Rick's Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com. You can hear Rick noon to 3 p.m. Sundays on WDTK 1400 AM.

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Hospital wellness programs focus on health

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

Monday, Jan. 14
Get Up and Move at 10 a.m. This is an invigorating exercise program designed to help you get up and get moving, and is the perfect compliment to your diet program. These classes will help you to make an easy transition back to an exercise program or help you to get started for the first time. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

Step It Up at 6 p.m. Step It Up is an intermediate aerobic exercise and strength training program geared to help you move to the next fitness level.

Childbirth Education (second of six classes) at 6 p.m. This six-week course prepares the expectant mother and coach for labor and delivery. Class runtime is 2½ hours and there is a \$60 fee. Medicaid is accepted. A refresher course also is available. Call (734) 458-4330 for more information or to register.

Tuesday, Jan. 15

Diabetes Self-Management Education (first of four classes) at 9:30 a.m. This comprehensive series is planned to help people Live Well With Diabetes. Participants learn self-care skills of nutrition, exercise, medication management, monitoring of blood sugar levels, foot and skin care, prevention of problems and psychosocial issues. The program is certified by the Michigan Department of Community Health to assure quality and compliance with State and National Diabetes Education Standards. Physician referral is required. There is a

fee, but reimbursement is available by Medicare, Medicaid and most commercial insurance plans. Call (734) 458-3481 for more information or to register.

Get Up and Move at 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. This is an invigorating exercise program designed to help you get up and get moving, and is the perfect compliment to your diet program. These classes will help you to make an easy transition back to an exercise program or help you to get started for the first time. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

Strength and Stretch at 11 a.m., 2 and 5 p.m. This is a non-aerobic exercise class designed to help you strengthen and define your muscles, as well as increase your flexibility. Each class will combine a variety of equipment, including free weights, medicine balls, balance balls, and Therabands in order to isolate and tone each of the major muscle groups. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

Step It Up at 4 p.m. Step It Up is an intermediate aerobic exercise and strength training program geared to help you move to the next fitness level.

Yoga (second of four classes) at 4 p.m. Learn how to relax, stretch and breathe while creating balance, strength and flexibility for both the body and mind. This four-week session is \$32. Classes meet at Garden City Hospital's Cardiac Rehab. Call (734) 458-3242 for details and to register.

Cerebral Aneurysm and Stroke Club at 7:30 p.m. Support is offered to those who have had an aneurysm or stroke as well as to their family and friends. The club meets every third Tuesday of the month to listen to various presentations and to promote interaction between people who have something in common. This free group is held in Garden City Hospital's Rehabilitation

Unit dining room. For more information, please call (734) 458-4392.

Wednesday, Jan. 16
Get Up and Move at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. This is an invigorating exercise program designed to help you get up and get moving, and is the perfect compliment to your diet program. These classes will help you to make an easy transition back to an exercise program or help you to get started for the first time. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

Free blood pressure testing for senior citizens at 10:30 a.m. The staff of Garden City Hospital's Community Services offers blood pressure testing free of charge every other Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. at the Maplewood Community Center on Maplewood just west of Merriman. Call (734) 458-4330 for more information.

CPAP and BiPAP Mask Fitting Clinic at 5 p.m. Attention, CPAP and BiPAP users: Did you know that most insurances cover new supplies every year? Have you been wanting to try a new style of mask, but don't know how to get one? Garden City Hospital's Sleep Disorders Center can help. Visit the Sleep Disorders Center in Room 329 at Garden City Hospital, 5-6 p.m. any Wednesday for a free mask fitting clinic. No appointment is needed. Call (734) 458-3330 with any questions or for more information.

Step It Up at 6 p.m. Step It Up is an intermediate aerobic exercise and strength training program geared to help you move to the next fitness level.

CPAP and BiPAP Mask Fitting Clinic at 5 p.m. Attention, CPAP and BiPAP users: Did you know that most insurances cover new supplies every year? Have you been wanting to try a new style of mask, but don't know how to get one? Garden City Hospital's Sleep Disorders Center can help. Visit the Sleep Disorders Center in Room 329 at Garden City Hospital, 5-6 p.m. any Wednesday for a free mask fitting clinic. No appointment is needed. Call (734) 458-3330 with any questions or for more information.

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6701 Harrison, just north of Maplewood. There is a \$40 fee. Participants will receive certification upon successful completion. Call Community Education at (734) 458-4330 for more information.

Eating Disorders Support Group at 7 p.m. This support group is for those individuals with anorexia, bulimia, and compulsive and binge eating disorders. Both males and females are invited to attend. This meeting is held in the Garden City Hospital Auditorium. Call (734) 458-4330 for more information.

Thursday, Jan. 17

Strength and Stretch at 11 a.m. This is a non-aerobic exercise class designed to help you strengthen and define your muscles, as well as increase your flexibility. Each class will combine a variety of equipment, including free weights, medicine balls, balance balls, and Therabands in order to isolate and tone each of the major muscle groups. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

Step It Up at 4 p.m. Step It Up is an intermediate aerobic exercise and strength training program geared to help you move to the next fitness level.

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

Step It Up at 4 p.m. Step It Up is an intermediate aerobic exercise and strength training program geared to help you move to the next fitness level.

Yoga (second of four classes) at 6:30 p.m. Learn how to relax, stretch and breathe while creating balance, strength and flexibility for both the body and mind. This four-week session is \$32. Classes meet at Garden City Hospital's Cardiac Rehab. Call (734) 458-3242 for details and to register.

Friday, Jan. 18

Get Up and Move at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. This is an invigorating exercise program designed to help you get up and get moving, and is the perfect compliment to your diet program. These classes will help you to make an easy transition back to an exercise program or help you to get started for the first time. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

Strength and Stretch at 2 and 5 p.m. This is a non-aerobic exercise class designed to help you strengthen and define your muscles, as well as increase your flexibility. Each class will combine a variety of equipment, including free weights, medicine balls, balance balls, and Therabands in order to isolate and tone each of the major muscle groups. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

Step It Up at 3 p.m. Step It Up is an intermediate aerobic exercise and strength training program geared to help you move to the next fitness level.

Daily Programs

Garden City Hospital's Health Enhancement Center offers daily programs Monday through Friday in Phase II and III Cardiac Rehabilitation/ Cardiac Wellness, a Peripheral Vascular Disease Exercise and Strength Training Program, and a Diabetes Exercise Program. These classes are presented and monitored by certified exercise physiologists. Contact the Health Enhancement Center at (734) 458-3242 to select an exercise program specifically designed for you.

Bill prohibits use of undocumented labor for state jobs

As a means of putting Michigan workers first, State Senator Glenn S. Anderson, D-Westland, has announced legislation that would prohibit state government contracts from being awarded to companies who hire undocumented workers.

"This legislation represents a tangible reform in the way our state conducts business," said Anderson. "Michigan's citizens have a right to know how their tax dollars are being spent by the state. We shouldn't be rewarding businesses who hire undocumented workers when we already have access to such a talented workforce right here in our own backyard."

"We must make sure that if we're going to dedicate scarce tax dollars to stimulate the economy, they're supporting Michigan workers."

The legislation would require vendors who want to conduct business with the State of Michigan to meet several requirements. Among them:

- The company may not directly or indirectly employ a person who is unauthorized to work in the United States in performing the government contract.
- The company cannot have been convicted of employing, or found in an administrative or civil hearing to have employed, persons not legally authorized to work in the United States for a period of at least five years.

"I am confident that Michigan workers can compete for 21st century jobs in the global marketplace," said Anderson. "However, we shouldn't keep them at a competitive disadvantage by rewarding companies who don't play by the rules."

"In order to get our economy back on track, we need to put Michigan workers first, which is exactly what this legislation will do."

Friends of Rouge look for volunteers for annual frog, toad survey

The Friends of the Rouge have scheduled training workshops in preparation for the 2008 Frog and Toad Survey.

The workshop will offer training on how to identify frogs and toads in area streams and rivers. The information will help in keeping the river system healthy.

To participate, volunteers must attend one of the four scheduled workshops, where they will receive everything necessary to do the survey.

The workshops are free but pre-registration is required.

Workshops are 7-9 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 12, at Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi; 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 26, at Bloomfield Township Hall, 4200 Telegraph Road,

Bloomfield Township; 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 1, at Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road, Livonia; and 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, March 5, at Canton Summit on the Park, Walnut Room, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton.

To register, call (313) 792-9621 or e-mail picoordinator@therouge.org.

Surveying involves visiting a nearby wetland site at least twice a month beginning as soon as temperatures are above 46 degrees (late February or early March) and continuing through July. Surveys are done after sunset and require listening for three minutes.

Data collected by volunteers is mapped and summarized and

this information is provided to participants, Rouge communities and other interested parties.

The Rouge Watershed is 466 square miles and there are more than 1,000 blocks that need coverage. Surveys are best done in teams to increase safety at night.

Because amphibians depend on clean water for breeding and need good quality upland habitat for the adult portion of their life, their presence is an indication of a good quality habitat. The more species a site can support, the better the habitat.

Eight species of frogs and toads call the Rouge River Watershed home. They are the wood frogs, chorus frogs, spring peepers, American toads, leopard frogs, gray treefrogs, green

frogs and bullfrogs. American toads and green frogs are the most abundant.

Friends of the Rouge are also holding a Winter Stonefly Search, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 16, at Environmental Interpretive Center on the campus of the University of Michigan-Dearborn, 4901 Evergreen Road, Dearborn.


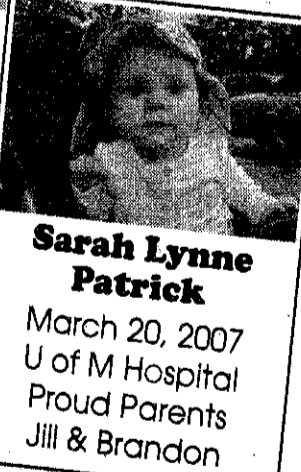
Volunteers will be assigned into teams prior to their arrival on Jan. 26. Teams of volunteers,

led by trained volunteers, will travel to two different sites in the headwaters of the Rouge River Watershed to sample. Volunteers sort through samples collected from the stream by team leaders for stoneflies. Results are given to Rouge Rover watershed communities, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, volunteers and others.

Registration is required. Call (313) 792-9621 or send an e-mail to picoordinator@therouge.com.

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Do you have an adorable baby that was born in 2007?

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Fill out the coupon below and send it along with a photo of your cute adorable baby. Be sure to include a stamped, self-addressed envelope, if you'd like your photo returned.

All entries MUST be received no later than January 21, 2008.

Two lucky entries will be picked from a random drawing for the dinner gift certificates, one valued at \$100 and the other valued at \$50. The winners will be announced on the "Oh, Baby 2008" page, January 31, 2008.

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Kucinich promises Iraq pullout in 3 months

BY SANDRA ARMBRUSTER
STAFF WRITER

A wildly cheering crowd of several hundred Thursday night heard Congressman Dennis J. Kucinich promise that if he is elected president, he will eliminate the Patriot Act.

"I'm the only one in Congress who voted against it," he said, pausing, "because I read it."

Kucinich, who was introduced by Mike Whitty of Birmingham as "a Democrat's Democrat," spoke at the Troy Community Center. While the Ohio congressman was there to address members of the Troy Democratic club on the first stop of his five-day stay in Michigan, the largely middle-aged audience came from throughout southeastern Michigan and drew national media attention.

His anti-war stance that took up the bulk of his speech, and his call for a federal department of peace, resonated with Shelly Browning who said she had "come back to the community to read up on the different candidates."

"When I was at Yale, I heard the idea for a department of peace," she said. "That was a paradigm shift for me. It was innovative. If you don't want war, why would you have a department of defense?"

Browning and others who came "to see him in the flesh" applauded so loudly they sometimes drowned out the words of Kucinich, who is one of the few candidates on the Democratic ballot in Tuesday's pri-

mary election.

Kucinich, who did not participate in the Iowa caucus and who placed fifth in the New Hampshire primary, attacked those who urged Michigan voters to cast their ballots as "uncommitted," saying that "I'm one person in the race to challenge my party."

Michigan was "punished," he said, for holding an early primary. The congressman is the only Democratic candidate expected to campaign in Michigan.

He added that he is asking for a vote recount in New Hampshire, though he concedes it "won't change my numbers."

The candidate said that his proposals for economic reform would return the country as "a manufacturing power," something that he said would help Michigan's economy. "I want to put America back to work."

He added that if elected, he would establish a WGA — a Works Green Administration, saying that "peace and sustainability ... can go together."

Calling for fuel efficient cars, Kucinich said he wanted automakers to build cars that "people will buy and buy."

One of the students from Cranbrook Kingswood asked the congressman in a meeting with the press how he would attract young people to his campaign.

"By telling the truth," murmured his wife, Elizabeth, who sat near him on an adjacent couch.

"By telling the truth," repeated



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Democratic presidential candidate Dennis Kucinich answered questions from Leah Spink (left) of Berkley and Stephanie Babb of Huntington Woods during an appearance before the Troy Democratic Club on Thursday. The 11-year-old girls attend Norup International School.

Kucinich. "That's a novel idea."

During his speech, Kucinich claimed that the U.S. was sent into war on the basis of lies.

"It's time for a new direction in America, a new approach to deal with the challenges ... I call it peace," Kucinich said.

He added that, within three months of taking office, he would have all troops out of Iraq and an international security force in place.

Later asked where his anti-war leanings originated, Kucinich said it was from his religious upbringing, including reading the epistles of Paul who, he said, spoke of love.

Referring to his effort to impeach Vice President Dick Cheney, Kucinich said that he plans to introduce a 50-count article of impeachment against President George Bush.

Kucinich, taking a question from

two sixth grade girls, said he would abolish the federal No Child Left Behind act.

As part of his education program, he said he would set up a pre-kindergarten program for ages 3-5. To pay for it, he said he would cut the Pentagon budget by 15 percent.

The congressman also would provide for a free public school college education for everyone, in return for two years of community work. The candidate's call for a single payer health care system that he said would take the overhead "skimmed off" by private insurers and provide everything from medical to dental care received a standing ovation.

"I can't be bought and I can't be bossed," he told the cheering crowd. "This is a new day and it starts here in Michigan."

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Donation keeps meals rolling

Homebound seniors received their holiday meals on Christmas Day, thanks to a donation by AT&T to The Senior Alliance.

Responding to a TSA request, AT&T contributed \$5,000 to the agency's Holiday Meals on Wheels and Information and Assistance programs. The donation helped offset some of the costs needed to meet the increased demand for these services.

According to Lori Vail, TSA program manager, requests for the holidays meals, served on Christmas Day by volunteers to homebound seniors, increased by more than 300 over last year. The AT&T donation helped meet the demand, especially at a time of reduced state and federal funding.

TSA also provides a crucial service to thousands of disabled and older adults every year, helping them navigate through all the community, state and federal programs and accessing assistance that's available, Vail said.

Committed to providing pertinent information to enable older adults to stay in their home of choice, TSA is working diligently to create a computerized resource directory that is intended to be shared with the entire state upon project completion, she added.

The Senior Alliance is an Area Agency on Aging that is dedicated to preserving and enhancing the independence of older persons and individuals with disabilities in southern and western Wayne County. Its services include home delivered meals (Meals on Wheels), Holiday Meals, care management, family caregiver support, home care, information and referral, advocacy, support services and many other services critical to the welfare of older adults.

The agency has offices at 3850 Second St., Suite 201, Wayne. For more information, call Vail at (734) 727-2017.

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OUR VIEWS

Voters don't need pollsters to vote

There is an important lesson to be learned from the New Hampshire primary, held last Tuesday. That lesson has more to do with how John McCain and Hillary Clinton topped the list of candidates than with the candidates themselves.

That lesson clearly showed that it's not pollsters or the polls themselves who elect candidates. It's individual voters who listen to everything said and then make up their own minds without having someone tell them what to do.

Voters can do likewise Tuesday, Jan. 15, in Michigan, at least for those who choose to vote Republican, where all the candidates are listed on the ballot.

On the Democratic side, many candidates, like Barack Obama, have chosen not to be on the ballot. Others have dropped out of the race, while some politicians are encouraging Democrats to vote "uncommitted."

If you decide to be part of the political process come Tuesday, here are some things you should know.

First, only those who are registered to vote by Dec. 17, 2007, may vote.

Second, this is a partisan primary, meaning you will be asked to choose either a Democratic or Republican ballot. There is no opportunity to vote as an independent, but you also don't have to be a registered Republican or Democrat to vote. Voting in the primary does not register you as a member of that party.

Third, the Michigan Secretary of State's office cautions that, if you actually write in a candidate's name, your ballot will be tossed out. That's because no candidates filed with that office for write-in status by the deadline.

Fourth, voters once again must show picture identification, or sign a statement saying they don't have it. This is the same voter ID law requirement as was first used in the November 2006 general election.

Fifth, the deadline has passed for requesting an absentee ballot. However, qualified absentee voters have until 4 p.m. Monday, Jan. 14, to cast a ballot in person at their local municipal clerk's office.

Sixth, for other questions regarding the election, visit the Michigan Voter Information Center at www.michigan.gov/vote, or contact your local clerk's office.

That's about it. Voters can show that, in Michigan's primary they can show their own mind by casting a ballot Tuesday.

... It's not pollsters or the polls themselves who elect candidates. It's individual voters who listen to everything said and then make up their own minds without having someone tell them what to do.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Are you going to the North American International Auto Show in Detroit? We asked this question at the Redford Township District Library.



"My mother is a union carpenter who puts (the show) up. Me and five friends go for free every year."
Roman Robinson
Redford



"No. I went there once as a kid."
Kevin Krul
Redford



"I go there every year."
Bill Cash
Redford



"I've been there the last two years. I like to see how the technology is evolving, it's what this area does."
Kevin Bennett
Redford

LETTERS

Flip a coin in primary

Please vote Jan. 15 in the State-of-Michigan-taxpayer-paid Presidential primary. How should you vote? We'll get to that in a minute.

First, let's point out that the publicly-funded election is actually the property of the two major political parties in our state. They picked who you can vote for. And whether you take a ballot for the Republicans or for the Democrats will be told only to the two parties — who supposedly cannot tell anyone else. (If you believe your ballot will be a secret, then you'll want to invest in the new Disney-theme Casino currently being planned for the soon-to-be-privatized St. John's Seminary in Plymouth.)

The legislators — Democrats and Republican party members every one of them — voted to have taxpayers spend upwards of \$10 million to hold these primary elections for their two parties. They'll then use the voters' primary information (that is, which party ballot you take) for future marketing purposes. Add to this outrage: the Michigan Supreme Court ruled this private marketing play was Constitutional.

As voters, what can we do about this arrogance on the part of the parties and their lap-

dog legislators?

We could skip voting — as many political pundits believe will happen to the great majority of Michigan voters.

But not voting would only play further into the parties' "kingmaker" arrogance. The chair of the Michigan Democrats has issued "instructions" for voting the Democratic ballot which essentially urges voting "uncommitted." Doesn't this defeat the whole idea of taxpayers paying to hold his primary in the first place?

Everyone should vote. But how do we do that without jeopardizing our voters privacy?

Flip a coin. When we get to the precinct, we take out a coin and flip it in front of the election clerks. Then ask for whichever ballot the coin flip dictates and use it to vote for "the least-likely to succeed." Later in the year, we'll start receiving campaign literature and phone calls from the party for which we voted — proving that the parties never had any intention of keeping our ballot's partisanship secret.

To further register our disgust with this public-paid debacle, we send that same coin to our state legislator. Imagine if all Michigan voters did that. Would the state representatives and senators then get the voters' point that we do not want to declare our partisanship any

more than for whom we actually vote?

To answer that question: Flip a coin!

W. Edward Wendover
retired Michigan newspaper publisher

Where are checks, balances?

In response to the letter from Patricia Linna of Westland regarding Bills: HR 1955 & S 1959 I agree 100 percent with her. Those bills are highly flawed, especially if you read the Constitution.

Why should we allow the president or any government official to tap our phones, spy on us? They say to protect us from terrorism. Who will protect us from them? If we allow these bills to pass, we are giving up our Constitutional rights and moving ever so close to becoming a dictatorship not a democracy.

I was taught in school that our government has three main branches (executive, judicial and legislative) so that our government would have checks and balances so that our government would be fair and balanced. Each division could keep watch over the other. What happened? It sure doesn't appear that way to me.

Yvonne Nemeth

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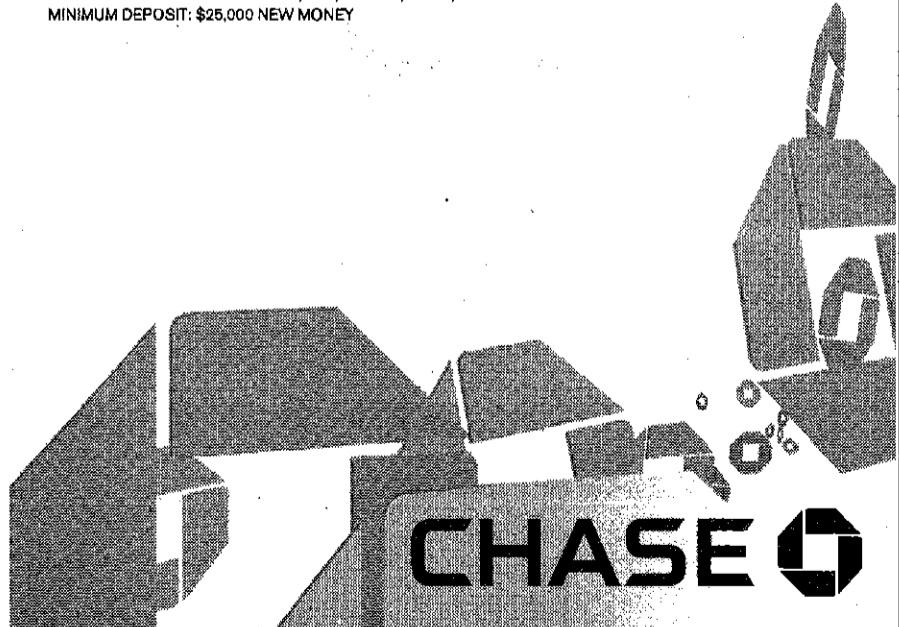
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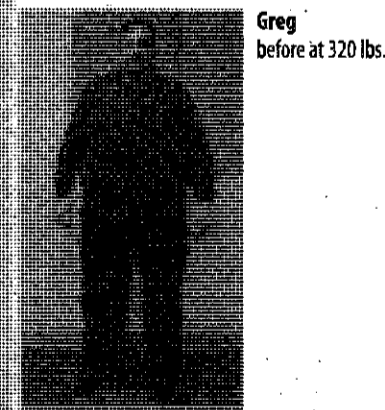
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The Wayne County Young Marines learn self-respect, self-discipline and a healthy amount of drug resistance education. What they don't get, according to club sponsors, is indoctrination into the military.

'Young Marines' looks to draft youth for projects and service

BY ALEX LUNDBERG
STAFF WRITER

A group that grew out of the U.S. Marine Corps is looking for a few good men. And by "men" they mean boys and girls — and they also mean between 8 and 18 years old.

The Wayne County Young Marines is a youth education group for boys and girls designed to promote mental, moral and physical development. The group meets at the Disabled American Veteran's Hall, 30905 Plymouth Road, in Livonia.

Unit Adjutant Charlotte Tripp's children have been involved for the past three years.

"It's an awesome program," the Livonia resident said. "It's incredible how they've developed."

The group just started a new platoon after graduating 14 members. Kids in the program learn drills, rank structure and military history as well as participating in community

service projects.

"Last summer they went to Traverse City to be the honor guards for the traveling Vietnam wall," Tripp said. "They do at least 50 hours of community service every year."

The Young Marines have also provided escort at the Michigan State Fair and marched in Fourth of July events in several nearby cities.

What the group isn't, she said, is a recruiting tool for the USMC.

"A good portion of the kids have no interest in a career in the military," Tripp said. "It's about developing themselves. My two girls are not going in the military and they'll never be asked to join or be expected to join. Some kids have already said they would, but the majority are not interested."

Jason McAnalley is a former Marine and member of the Northwest Detachment of the Marine Corps League — the sponsor of the Young Marines. He heard about the organization from Charles Volker who

started a Young Marines group in Canton and decided to start one for the county.

"I looked online and liked the program so I got chartered in Wayne County," he said. "I was the first commander, now I'm an instructor."

An instructor is a lot like a scoutmaster and the organization of the Young Marines is a lot like the Cub Scouts or the Boy Scouts in that most of the activities are based around preparedness skills, outdoor living and safety.

His son, 10-year-old Cody, is a member and he gets a lot out of the experience.

"We do a lot of physical fitness stuff, pushups and situps," he said. "I think it's good for me, I like the challenge."

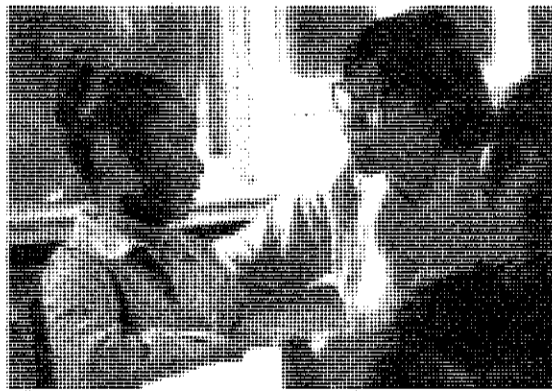
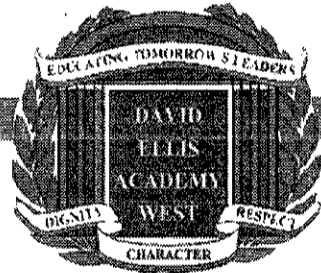
He says he'll stick with the group through his 18th birthday.

Anyone interested in learning more should contact Charlotte Tripp at (248) 471-2075.

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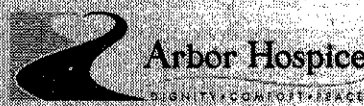
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TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stevenson's Mike Cruce swims the butterfly leg of the 200-yard individual medley on his way to a first-place finish during Thursday's 98-88 dual-meet setback at Northville.

Duel in the pool

Mustangs touch out Spartans in top-tier battle

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

There are *dual* meets, and then there are *duel* meets.

And this is one that certainly lived up to its advance billing.

That was the consensus Thursday night at Northville's state-of-the-art eight-lane pool as two of the state's top-ranked Division I boys swim teams collided with the host Mustangs emerging with a 98-88 dual-meet victory over Livonia Stevenson.

It was also a precursor to the Western Lakes Activities Association meet, Feb. 21-23, at Salem, when Northville will try and repeat its title against the rival Spartans.

"This is one of the most fun meets of the year because in every single race neither kid wanted to let it go and contested it to the last stroke," Northville coach Rich Bennetts said. "Both teams will benefit from this. Going into the (WLA) league meet now it's us versus Stevenson. And to see what you saw tonight it was a matter of touches and we got little lucky. It's a learning experience for everyone and it's going to be a great league meet."

Northville (3-0), ranked No. 5 in Division 1 and coming off a dual-meet triumph over No. 3-ranked Birmingham Brother Rice, rode the waves of seniors Brody Blickle and John Bardsley.

Blickle took firsts in the 100 butterfly (52.57) and 100 backstroke (54.16), while Bardsley won the 200 freestyle (1:49.63) and 100 freestyle (50.06).

Blickle and Bardsley also teamed up with Kyle Adams and Joe Kargula to capture the 400 freestyle relay in 3:22.28.

The Mustangs also got a big boost when freshman diver Kevin Bain garnered first with 192.20 points.

"Bardsley and Blickle carried us tonight, but our diver (Bain) took first and that was huge for us," said Bennetts, a Stevenson grad who also serves as the Spartans' assistant girls coach under Greg Phil.

Stevenson, which slipped to 5-1 overall, was led by senior Mike Cruce, who took firsts in the 200 individual medley (2:02.87) and 500 freestyle (4:52.68). He also teamed up with Robert Luke, Joey Wingett and Ryan Scott to win the 200 medley relay in 1:42.32.

"Mike Cruce is a great worker with a great attitude who never stops," Stevenson coach Jeff Shoemaker said.

Stevenson also got individual wins from senior Kyle Hermann in the 50 freestyle (22.94) and Wingett in the 100 breaststroke (1:03.3). The Spartans' quartet of Scott, Chris Behler, Aaren Marecki and Hermann also out-touched Northville for first in the 200 freestyle relay - 1:33.20 to 1:33.66.

But the Spartans didn't post enough seconds and thirds to win the overall meet.

"We got touched out left and right," Shoemaker said. "Both teams are evenly matched, but they (Northville) wanted it more at this point. We swam O.K., but we did not step it up like we had to at this time of year."

Shoemaker couldn't pin the loss on the holiday break. He put his team through five hours of training with two-a-day practices. The Spartans posted a double-dual win a week earlier against Saline and the University of Detroit-Jesuit.

"Vacation was frowned upon," the Stevenson coach said. "Last week we stepped up. Today we didn't finish races the way we needed to and if we do the same at the league meet we'll get edged out. But us and Northville should be good stuff because we've been competitive awhile."

The two teams will be back in action again this Saturday in the six-school Salem Invitational, a meet which features Ann Arbor Pioneer, No. 1-ranked in Division 1; Zeeland, No. 1-ranked in Division 2; Northville, Stevenson, Canton and the host Rocks.

"Zeeland might be the best team in the state," Shoemaker said. "There actually may be more competition in Division 2 this year, but that cycles around."

MU pulls off cage upset vs. Aquinas

The Madonna University men's basketball team proved to be Battle-tested Wednesday night, evening its Wolverine-Hoosier Conference record at 1-1 with a convincing 74-52 triumph at home over Aquinas College, the NAIA's No. 13-ranked team in Division II.

Jon Battle, a 6-foot-2 senior guard from Cleveland Heights, Ohio, led the victorious Crusaders (9-8, 1-1) with a game-high 20 points and nine rebounds. The Indiana Tech transfer also had a team-high nine assists.

The Crusaders, who led 37-30 at halftime and pulled away in the second half with a 37-22 run, also got 14 points apiece

from Cedric Sims (Wayne Memorial) and Charlie Henry (Canton Agape Christian).

Keith Hearn (Livonia Stevenson) and D.J. Bridges (Canton) each chipped in with 11 as MU shot 54.2 percent from the field (26-of-48) including 9-of-20 from three-point range.

James Telman led the Saints (13-5, 1-1) with 14 points. Pedja Lazic added 12.

Ocelots thumped, 93-41

Flint Mott Community College, ranked No. 7 in the latest NJCAA Division II national poll, took no prisoners Wednesday night at home with a 93-41 win over Schoolcraft College.

Mott, led by 6-2 guard Jeremie Simmons' game-high 23 points, improved to 12-2 overall and 5-0 in the Eastern Conference of the Michigan Community College Athletic Association.

Four other Bears scored in double figures including DeAndre Nealy (19), Thomas Kennedy (16), Andrew Charlesworth (11) and Alvin Pegues (11).

"They (Mott) were tenacious in the ball, they took us off the box and pressured us all over," said first-year Schoolcraft coach Randy Henry, whose team committed 33 turnovers.

Alex Nason (Clawson) scored a team-high 13 for the Ocelots (2-12, 2-3), who trailed 37-15 at halftime.

Ryan Matthews added eight points and Greg Leavell chipped in with seven.

Sidelines

Whitfield gym meet

The 17th annual Whitfield Invitational gymnastics meet will be Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 19-20,

at the University of Michigan's Cliff Keep Arena, 1000 S. State Street, Ann Arbor.

The meet is in memory of former Olympic hopeful Jason Whitfield, a Westland native

and Livonia Franklin High student who died tragically in a 1991 motor-cycle accident in Iowa City, Ia.

The Whitfield foundation has thus far awarded a total of \$144,500 to 55 male gymnasts from across the country.

Among this year's recipients, who will receive \$3,000 each in scholarships, included Joseph Hagerty, Sean Golden, Alexy Bilotzerchev and Jacob Lee.

Competition on Saturday at Keen Arena features Session 1 (levels 6-7), which begins at 9:55 a.m. followed by Session 2 (levels 8-10) at 3:05 p.m.

Competition resumes Sunday at Keen Arena for Session 3 (level 4) at 9:45 a.m. followed by Session 4 (level 5) at 2:25 p.m.

For more information, e-mail Cathy Whitfield at cathywhit@comcast.net; or call (734) 968-2469.

Whitfield

Carson lifts ISU

Idaho State University sophomore guard Donnie Carson (Livonia Clarenceville) hit three-of-four free throw attempts in the final 37 seconds to lift the Bengals to a 58-56 Big Sky Conference men's basketball win Thursday night at home over Eastern Washington.

Carson finished with 11 points in 23 minutes of action as the Bengals improved to 5-10 overall and 2-0 in the Big Sky.

Carson was coming off a 10-point performance in the 75-65 non-conference win over Northern Colorado.

LJAL registration

Registration for Livonia Junior Athletic League baseball and softball will be from 6-8 p.m. Monday, Jan. 21 and 28, at Frost Middle School, 14041 Stark Road (just south of Schoolcraft).

The program is open for all boys and girls who are residents of the City of Livonia, or reside in the Livonia Public Schools district.

Local umpires call it like they see it: Internationally

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Livonia's Tom Fitzsimmons and Westland's Bobby Allen may never be confused with Henry Kissinger, but the two umpires have certainly become ambassadors when it comes to the game of international softball.

The pair have been selected once again to work games next week in Schiedam, Holland at the World Indoor Cup, a premier women's open fastpitch tournament drawing teams from all over the globe.

It will be the third trip for both umpires, who also traveled

to Holland in 2004 and 2006. They will be joined by fellow area umpires Doug Zimmerman (Brighton) and Harold Younce (St. Clair Shores).

The umpires were recommended for the trip by Division 1 college coaches and will be among a pool of 20 that will work the five-day tourney.

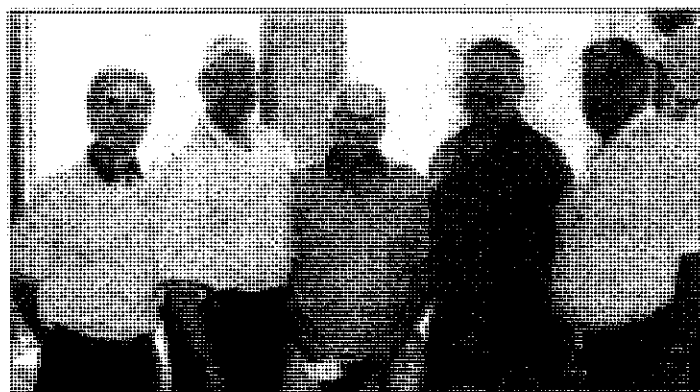
"It's fun, it's different, and I tell myself how many more years can I do this and how much more will I be able to do this?", said Fitzsimmons, who has 10 years experience umpiring women's collegiate games, including the Mid-American Conference, and over 30 years officiating

high school football, volleyball and softball. "It's very competitive, but it's a different mindset than Division I ball. There are more things to watch because of the space you're confined to."

Games are played at three different sites in fieldhouses or gymnasiums with a rubberized floor. There are eight players to a team.

"They use a full set of infielders, a pitcher and catcher, and two outfielders," said Fitzsimmons, who works as a stock and mail room employee for the *Observer & Eccentric*

Please see **UMPIRES, B3**



Westland's Bob Allen (center) and Livonian Tom Fitzsimmons (to his immediate right) will visit Holland for the third time to umpire a series of women's fastpitch softball games in the World Indoor Cup. Allen and Fitzsimmons are pictured with MHSAA Executive Director Jack Roberts, Joe McCormack and Sam Ellis in last summer's Officials For Kids golf outing.

Churchill nips Vikings; Zebras, Glenn win handily

Livonia Churchill continues to make a habit out of winning close boys basketball games.

The Chargers ran their overall record to 7-2 and remained tied for first at 4-0 with Westland John Glenn in the Lakes

Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association following a nail-biting 43-41 win Friday at Walled Lake Central.

Senior center Ryan Rosenick led the Chargers with 13 points and 12 rebounds, while senior guard Andrew Vagnetti added nine points.

Churchill, coming off last-second victories in their last two outings, nearly squandered a

BOYS HOOPS

six-point lead in the final minute against the Vikings, who slipped to 4-4 overall and 2-2 in the Lakes.

Ryan Woods made the second of two free throws with only 10 seconds remaining to give Churchill a two-point cushion.

Brian Indianer's eight-foot shot rimmed off in the final seconds as Churchill survived.

"It was a great win on the road against a tough team," Churchill coach Jim Solak said. "Defensively we played well the second half and our rebounding

was outstanding. We just have to do a better job of finishing the game."

Seniors Cody Rzeznik and Ian Sherman paced Central with 13 and 11 points, respectively.

Churchill was only 9-of-17 from the line, but outrebounded the Vikings 27-16.

On Tuesday, Churchill will host Glenn (8-1, 4-0) in a battle for first place in the Lakes Division.

WAYNE 81, FRANKLIN 58: Senior guard Mike Lee blistered the nets for 17 first-quarter points en route to a game-high 26 Friday night as WLAA-Western Division leader Wayne Memorial (7-2, 4-0) rolled past visit-

ing Livonia Franklin (3-6, 2-2). Wayne jumped out to a 30-11 first-quarter advantage as Lee connected on five of Wayne's six 3-pointers.

Senior forward John Hill added 12 points, while junior Robert Woodson and senior Martez Abney contributed nine each as 10 Zebra players scored.

Senior Jeremy Lovelady, a 6-foot-10 center, pulled down a team-high 10 rebounds.

Franklin had three players score in double figures - Ryan Matthey (15), Israel Woolfork (11) and Jeff Poole (10).

Wayne was 8-of-9 from the foul line, while Franklin hit 11-of-19.

JOHN GLENN 78, STEVENSON 46: Earl Hardison's game-high 21 points propelled WLAA-Lakes Division co-leader Westland John Glenn (8-1,

4-0) to an easy win Friday at Livonia Stevenson (3-6, 1-3).

The Rockets jumped out to a 23-8 first-quarter lead and never looked back.

Senior point-guard Keshawn Martin chipped in with 13 points, while seniors Daris Smith and Dorian Prather each contributed 12.

All of Smith's 12 points came on 4 triples, while Prather grabbed seven rebounds.

"Glenn is very good and well-coached," Stevenson first-year coach Mike Allie said.

The Spartans got 10 points from sophomore Austin White and eight from junior Mark Grisa.

Stevenson was only 6-of-19 from the free throw stripe, while Glenn hit 4-of-8.

Holbrook's triple-double fuels Rockets

Brittany Holbrook made "the paint" her neighborhood Friday night in leading Westland John Glenn to a 69-39 girls basketball triumph over visiting Livonia Stevenson.

The 6-foot-1 junior center finished with a triple-double - 12 points, 12 rebounds and 10 blocks - as the Rockets broke a three-game losing streak to improve to 4-7 overall and 1-3 in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

"Defensively inside, it was one of her better outings,"

WLAА GIRLS HOOPS

Glenn coach Mike Schuette said of Holbrook.

Nyah McReynolds and Brittany Brown shared team-high scoring honors for Glenn with 14 points apiece. Andrea Gordon-McClain chipped in with 13.

Stevenson (3-8, 0-4) was outscored 22-7 in the third quarter after trailing 32-21 at halftime.

The Spartans got eight points apiece from Kaylee McGrath and Courtney Lewis.

Stevenson made only 14-of-32 free throws, while Glenn connected on 13-of-23.

FRANKLIN 70, WAYNE 27: On Friday, junior Briana Taylor scored 23 points and pulled down 10 rebounds to spark Livonia Franklin (8-3, 2-2) to a convincing WLAА-Western Division win over visiting Wayne Memorial (3-8, 0-4).

Senior center Ashley Price contributed 14 points and nine rebounds in the victory, while Brittany Taylor added 11 points.

Samantha Floyd also pulled down seven rebounds from the guard slot.

The Patriots used a box-and-one to slow down Wayne's high-scoring guard Trenia Barbee, who finished

with 16 points. Nastassia Goines added six.

Sophomore Seneca Scott (six points) drew the assignment on Barbee with help from Nicole Emery and Alex Gortat.

WALLED LAKE CENTRAL 49, CHURCHILL 19: Brooke Gustafson scored 14 points and Kelly Costello added 13, including three 3-pointers, to propel Walled Lake Central (7-4, 3-1) to a WLAА-Lakes Division triumph Friday at Livonia Churchill (3-8, 1-3).

The Vikings led 19-10 at halftime before pulling away in the third quarter with a 13-4 run.

Chelsea Manasian scored a team-high eight points for the Chargers, who shot 5-of-12 from the foul line.

Clarenceville's Stewart scores 32 in victory

BOYS BASKETBALL

Jamie Stewart was nearly a one-man wrecking crew Friday night, scoring a career-high 32 points and grabbing 13 rebounds to spur host Livonia Clarenceville to a 70-61 boys basketball victory over Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett.

Stewart, a 6-foot-3 junior guard, was efficient from the floor making 14-of-22 shots, including two triples. He was also 2-for-2 from the foul line.

"Jamie played really hard, he got offensive rebounds, handled the ball and played his best game of the year," said Clarenceville coach Corey McKendry, whose Trojans improved to 6-1 overall and 2-0 in the Metro Conference.

Stewart also had plenty of help as senior point-guard Lonnie Fairfax added 16 points and 11 assists. Junior center Jeremy Gainer added 11 points.

Patrick Gustine paced Liggett (4-2, 1-1) with 14 points.

The Knights were 13-of-23 from the foul line, while Clarenceville made 11-of-14 (78.5 percent).

HAMTRAC 58, LUTH. WESTLAND 52 (OT): In a Metro Conference game Friday, the visiting Cosmos (1-6, 1-2) earned their first victory of the season

Friday at the expense of Lutheran High Westland (1-5, 0-3) in overtime.

Hamza Alsadahi and DeWayne Slappy paced Hamtramck with 17 and 16 points, respectively.

The Cosmos outscored the Warriors 9-3 in the four-minute extra session after being tied at 49-all at the end of regulation thanks to Sam Ahlersmeyer's putback with 1.6 seconds left following a missed free throw.

Josh Kruger led the Warriors with 12 points, while Ahlersmeyer and Ryan Baglow each added 11.

"They (Hamtramck) killed us on (20) offensive rebounds," Lutheran Westland first-year coach Brandon Bekius said. "Our free throw shooting (8-of-20) also hurt. We just didn't do the little things to win the game."

MACOMB CHRISTIAN 51, HURON VALLEY 45: Senior forward Joel Battjes scored a game-high 21 points Friday to lift host Warren Macomb Christian (3-7, 1-0) to the MIAC-Red Division victory over Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (1-5, 0-1).

Christian Darnell added 12 points for the Crusaders, who outscored Huron Valley 26-22 in the second half.

Ryan Jones, a senior point-guard, paced the Hawks with 17 points.

Junior center Kyle Tacia added 16.

Both teams shot 11-of-21 from the foul line.

State-ranked Ladywood cagers romp at home

State-ranked Livonia Ladywood earned its eighth straight girls basketball victory of the season Friday at home with a 52-28 triumph over Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard.

Nine players scored as the Blazers, who jumped out to a 31-12 halftime lead, improved to 8-2 with the Catholic League inter-sectional victory.

Alison Szczycka and Jenna Anastos led the way with 14 and 11 points, respectively.

Stacey Szerlag scored 13 for the Fighting Irish (6-6), who hit only 6-of-35 shots from the

floor (17 percent) and 13-of-24 free throws (54 percent).

Ladywood was 22-of-57 from the floor (38 percent) and outrebounded Richard 31-28.

LUTHERAN WESTLAND 64, HAMTRAC 17: Becca Refenes, a 6-foot-2 junior center scored 17 points and grabbed seven rebounds Friday night as Lutheran High Westland (7-1, 5-0) romped to a Metro Conference triumph over the Cosmos (0-10, 0-3).

Junior guard Allyson Yankee chipped in with 16 points and three assists. Rachel Storck added eight and Jessyka Welser added five as all 10 Warrior players scored.

Dazshavon Hall scored 10 for

Hamtramck, which couldn't overcome a 40-14 halftime deficit.

CLARENCEVILLE 50, LIGGETT 29: Chenay Kemp and Jenna Burgess combined for 20 points and 16 rebounds Thursday as Livonia Clarenceville (6-5, 3-1) rolled to a Metro Conference win at Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett (2-9, 1-3).

Kemp finished with 10 points and nine rebounds, while Burgess also scored 10 and grabbed seven rebounds. Amanda Moody and Amber O'Halloran each added eight points for the Trojans, who won their third straight.

Ke'Ana Bryant led the Knights and all scorers with 14 points.

HURON VALLEY 30, MACOMB CHRISTIAN 25: A 12-0 run during the opening four minutes carried Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (6-3, 2-0) to the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference Red Division win Friday at Warren Macomb Christian.

Senior forward Lauren Adlof led the victorious Hawks with nine points and 15 rebounds. Senior point-guard Nicole Schaffer added seven points and seven rebounds.

Junior Laura Tucker scored 12 points for the Crusaders, who made only 7-of-20 free throws.

Huron Valley committed 19 fouls to Macomb's nine and shot only 4-of-14 from the line.



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Lady Ocelots whip Bears

It was no contest Wednesday night in the battle for women's basketball supremacy in the Eastern Conference of the Michigan Community College Athletic Association.

Janelle Harris scored 18 points, while Heidi Warczinsky and Antoinette Brown each added 16 to lead Schoolcraft College to a convincing 72-52 win over Flint Mott CC.

The Lady Ocelots, ranked No. 5 in the latest NJCAA Division II poll, are 12-2 overall and take over sole possession of first place in the conference at 5-0.

The loss drops the Bears to 8-6 and 4-1.

Freshman Suzy Jerisk was the only Mott player to score in double figures with 15 points.

Schoolcraft led 38-29 at intermission and hit 10-of-17

free throws.

Mott was 15-of-22 from the foul stripe.

Lady Saints stop MU

On Wednesday night, a second-half shooting slump cost Madonna University's Crusaders, who suffered a 63-51 setback to host Aquinas College.

Madonna (6-10, 1-1) led 34-24 at halftime, but opened the door by making just 6-of-28 field-goal tries (21 percent) in the second half, as the Saints outscored MU 39-17 to win going away.

Senior Caryn Inman and freshman Tabatha Wydryck tallied 14 and 10 points, respectively, for the Crusaders.

Claire Hogan led Aquinas (13-4, 1-1) with 17 points.

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UMPIRES

FROM PAGE B1

Newspapers. "They have special indoor rules. The sidewalls and ceiling are foul balls."

Allen is no stranger to working big games.

He recently officiated the Livonia Stevenson-Macomb Dakota Division 1 state football championship game at Detroit's Ford Field, his second MHSAA title game. Allen has also umpired two MHSAA girls softball finals and has over 30 years officiating softball, football and basketball. Now retired, he also stays busy as an assigner for both the Kensington Valley and the Michigan Independent Athletic conferences.

"This keeps me young and running," said Allen, who retired from Armco Steel in 1992 followed by working six years in the door and window installation business. "It's fun experiencing the different cultures. And it's an honor for these guys to select us."

Each umpire will do approximately 10-to-15 games during the tournament, which attracts teams as far away as Japan, Egypt, Canada, England, Germany, Czech Republic and the U.S. (which features high school players).

"This year they have four U.S. teams," Allen said. "An American team won it the first time I was there (2004) and the Dutch National team won it the last time (2006). The Holland team had a Division I pitcher from Florida State. There are a few different rules, but it's great because all three places are within walking distance. Everything is pretty much (communicated) in English, so the language is not a big problem."

While Fitzsimmons was planning a side trip prior to the tournament in Rome, Allen was making a return visit to Paris.

"There's some things there I didn't get to see the last time I was there that I need to see this time," Allen said.

Meanwhile, Allen remains amused by cultural differences — even when it comes to the softball tournament.

"You'll see the German women sitting there drinking beer and smoking cigarettes, and the U.S. kids are there drinking Cokes and eating French Fries," he said. "It's kind of funny."

Yes, that's why even softball makes the world go-round.

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Blazer icers hitting their stride

The combination of solid defense and timely scoring has propelled Livonia Ladywood to a five-game winning streak in the Michigan Metro Girls High School hockey League.

The Blazers, coming off a 4-0 win over previously unbeaten and Metro leader Port Huron, improved to 7-5-1 overall and 7-3 in the league.

Goalie Michelle Wyniemo made 22 saves in the victory for the Blazers, who led 1-0 after two periods thanks to Ashley Ballarin's power-play goal from Heather Sartorius.

In the third period, Sartorius tallied a short-handed goal from Ballarin. Northville's Carrie Pichon cut the deficit to 2-1 with seven minutes left, but Kienbaum put it away with a goal from Elise Sawarski and Niki Jacobs with five minutes remaining.

Northville falls to 3-7 in the league.

NORTHVILLE 5, FRANKLIN 3: The WLLA-Western Division leading Mustangs (8-2-1, 3-0) scored three unanswered goals over the final two periods to hold off Livonia Franklin (4-8, 0-2) in a WLLA-Western Division game Friday at the Novi Ice Arena.

Franklin led 3-2 after one period

PREP HOCKEY

on goals by Tyler Miller (from Jordan Chisholm), Jordan Short (unassisted slap shot) and Robbie Beattie (from Eric Volk on a power-play).

Franklin only had 14 shots on goal in the game.

The Mustangs countered with goals from Alex Brewin and Matt Kreaeger.

Wes Gates knotted the game at 3-3 at 1:09 of the second period followed by Jordan Duff's game-winner at 6:52.

T.J. Hohl added an empty-netter with eight seconds left in third period.

Franklin netminder Austin Mesler made 41 saves.

"He was outstanding," Franklin coach Scott Wirgau said of Mesler. "And I'm very, very pleased with the progression and maturity our guys are showing given the kind of quality teams we've played in December and early January."

CHURCHILL 8, W.L. CENTRAL 2: Hat tricks by Garrett Miencier and Nate Milam carried Livonia Churchill (11-2, 2-0), the state's No. 3-ranked team in Division 1, to a convincing WLLA-Lakes Division boys triumph Wednesday night over visiting Walled Lake Central (2-11, 0-2) at Edgar Arena.

Milam now has 29 goals on the year as the Chargers led 2-0 after

one period and 5-2 after two periods. Keith Yackley added a goal and three assists for the Chargers, while Cody Atkins tallied the other Churchill goals.

Miencier also finished with two assists as the Chargers outshot Central 34-14.

Cody Farber and Evan Flynn tallied goals for Central.

Derrick Daigneau started in goal for Churchill before giving way to Aaron Crouse with less than eight minutes left in the game.

Brett Malbin made 26 stops in net for the Vikings.

FRANKLIN 7, A.A. GABRIEL RICHARD 3: Dan Ostrosky scored a pair of goals and added one assist as Livonia Franklin (4-7) snapped a six-game losing streak Wednesday with a non-league boys win over visiting Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard (0-10) at Edgar Arena.

Tyler Miller also scored twice for the Patriots, who led 4-2 after one period and 6-2 after 30 minutes.

Alex Wypych, Eric Volk and Brandon Pump also scored for Franklin, which outshot the Fighting Irish, 34-25.

Jordan Chisholm finished with three assists, while Jacob Wirgau and Jordan Short added two each.

Other Franklin assists went to Pump, Robert Beattie, Cameron Wludyka, Derek Davis and Dalton Pennington.

Jordan Niemann scored all three goals for Gabriel Richard, while Shaun Walters added two assists.

Austin sparks Glenn mat win

Senior co-captain Jeremiah Austin continue to be "The Million Dollar Man" as he remained unbeaten Thursday as Westland John Glenn posted a 46-18 dual match wrestling triumph over host Livonia Stevenson.

The win improved the Rockets' overall record to 16-5 and 2-0 in the Lakes Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association.

Austin, who improved to 27-0 on the season, won by technical fall, 23-8, over Stevenson's Tommy Myshock at 125 pounds.

Other Glenn winners by pin included Steve Wakeford (103), Dan McCahill (140), Jeff Adkins (152), Gary Lawrence (171) and James Kelly (215).

Earning decisions for the Rockets included Anthony Pavlich (112) and Jared Stephens (130).

Stevenson, which slipped to 9-5 overall and 1-1 in the Lakes, got victories from Anthony Mainella (135), Raz Markosian (145), Andrew Schramm (160), Emanuel Onwuemene (189) and

PREP WRESTLING

Austin Micallef (285).

DUAL MEET RESULTS
WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 46
LIVONIA STEVENSON 18
Jan. 10 at Stevenson

103 pounds: Steve Wakeford (WJG) pinned Adam Moyer, 0:57; 112: Anthony Pavlich (WJG) decisioned Michael Fobar, 11:7; 119: Mark Thompson (WJG) won by major dec. over Colin Casey, 17:4; 125: Jeremiah Austin (WJG) won by technical fall over Tommy Myshock, 23:8; 130: Jared Stephens (WJG) dec. Mitch Gonzales, 9:3; 135: Anthony Mainella (LS) dec. Nick Shak, 13:11; 140: Dan McCahill (WJG) p. Charlie Kokenakes, 2:36; 145: Raz Markosian (LS) dec. Zaid Ammari, 11:9; 152: Jeff Adkins (WJG) p. Jonny Myshock, 3:12; 160: Andrew Schramm (LS) dec. Zach Redden, 5:4; 171: Gary Lawrence (WJG) p. Jacob Burns, 2:28; 189: Emanuel Onwuemene (LS) p. Jon Meyer, 2:57; 215: James Kelly (WJG) p. Kenny Folsy, 1:35; 285: Austin Micallef (LS) dec. Dustin Gajowiak, 4:3.

Dual meet records: John Glenn, 16-5 overall, 2-0 WLLA-Lakes Division; Stevenson, 9-5 overall, 1-1 WLLA-Lakes Division.

LIVONIA FRANKLIN 66
WAYNE MEMORIAL 9
Jan. 10 at Wayne

135 pounds: Matt Hintz (LF) pinned Tevin Hines, 5:04; 140: Brandon Smith (LF) won by major decision over Brandon Whitenberg, 15:3; 145: Josh Mills (WM) p. Brandon Conger, 1:06; 152: Elvin Ferreira (LF) p. Robert Walsh, 5:13; 160: Don Stratz (LF) dec. Ryan Nesbitt, 5:2; 171: Garrett Hay (LF) p. Mike Gallagher, 3:10; 189: Dan Woodall (LF) won by void; 215: Cody Hay (LF) won by injury default over Clifton Copeland; 285: Mike Moces (LF) p. Andy Moiton, 3:07; 103: Steve Tuyo (LF) p. Darryl Ison, 2:36; 112: Chad Dunn (WM) dec. Jared Pieknik, 4:2

(overtime); 119: Justin Jacobsen (LF) won by technical fall over Mike Wallace, 20:5; 125: Adam Tweedy (LF) won by void; Chris Shihadah (LF) won by void.

Dual meet records: Franklin, 12-2 overall, 2-0 WLLA-Western Division.

CLARENCEVILLE TRI-MEET
Jan. 9 at Livonia Clarenceville
CLARKSTON (B) TEAM 38
CLARENCEVILLE 29

119 pounds: Mike Henige (Clarkston) decisioned Jake Ruth, 6:5; 125: Blaine Bowman (Clarkston) dec. Steve Courtney, 7:4; 130: Justin Wisser (Clarkston) pinned Scott Convery, 3:15; 135: Cody Sillanpaa (C'ville) p. Kevin Broughton, 5:58; 140: Ryan Brown (Clarkston) won by technical fall over Patrick Walker, 17:1; 145: Spencer Kerrick (Clarkston) dec. Tony Brandt, 6:0; 152: Matt Vandemeer (Clarkston) dec. Derek Robbins, 7:5 (overtime); 160: Andrew Farise (Clarkston) won by void; 171: Kevin Fugia (Clarkston) won by void; 189: Andrew Jasmer (C'ville) won by void; 215: Muamer Mesinovic (C'ville) won by void; 285: Matthew Neal (C'ville) p. Mitchell Manns, 2:13; 103: Brent Gilman (C'ville) p. Kyle Kenyon, 1:56; 112: Raymond Wilke (Clarkston) dec. Coy Sillanpaa, 4:2.

CLARENCEVILLE 56
DETROIT CESAR CHAVEZ 9

125 pounds: Steve Courtney (C'ville) won by void; 130: Scott Convery (C'ville) decisioned George Fajardo, 11:7; 135: Cody Sillanpaa (C'ville) pinned Miguel Guerra, 5:55; 140: Patrick Walker (C'ville) dec. Allonte Little, 9:3; 145: Tony Brandt (C'ville) p. Eric Gutierrez, 1:50; 152: Derek Robbins (C'ville) won by void; 160: double void; 171: double void; 189: Luis Reyes (Chavez) dec. Andrew Jasmer, 6:0; 215: Muamer Mesinovic (C'ville) won by technical fall over Reuben Day Lopez, 21:3; 285: Javier Guerra (Chavez) p. Anthony Giordano, 1:40; 103: Brent Gilman (C'ville) dec. Daniel Garza, 11:10; 112: Coy Sillanpaa (C'ville) won by void; 119: Jake Ruth (C'ville) won by void.

Clarenceville's dual meet record: 8-2 overall.



BOYS SWIM RESULTS

NORTHVILLE 98
LIVONIA STEVENSON 88
Jan. 10 at Northville

200-yard medley relay: 1. Stevenson (Robert Luke, Joey Wingeit, Mike Cruce, Ryan Scott), 1:42.32; 2. Northville, 1:43.53; 3. Northville, 1:49.03.

200 freestyle: 1. John Bardsley (N), 1:49.63; 2. Charles Turio (LS), 1:53.37; 3. Ben Schoeneck (N), 1:53.76.

200 individual medley: 1. Cruce (LS), 2:02.87; 2. Gregg Sheppard (N), 2:04.22; 3. Anthony Adamowicz (N), 2:10.36.

50 freestyle: 1. Kyle Hermann (LS), 22.94; 2. Kyle Adams (N), 23.2; 3. Joe Kargula (N), 23.68.

1-meter diving: 1. Kevin Bain (N), 192.20 points; 2. Jeff Kinsvater (LS), 184.70; 3. Luke McKay (LS), 138.85.

100 butterfly: 1. Brody Blicke (N), 52.57; 2. Luke (LS), 55.67; 3. Joe Kargula (N), 56.57.

100 freestyle: 1. Bardsley (N), 50.06; 2. Hermann (LS), 50.5; 3. Adams (N), 51.34.

500 freestyle: 1. Cruce (LS), 4:52.68; 2. Schoeneck (N), 5:02.9; 3. Adamowicz (N), 5:09.83.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Stevenson (Scott, Chris Behler, Aaron Maracki, Hermann), 1:33.2; 2. Northville, 1:33.66; 3. Stevenson (Adam Dabkowski, Jared Diebel, Jimmy Vavis, Jerome Pesta), 1:37.19.

100 backstroke: 1. Blicke (N), 54.16; 2. Luke (LS), 56.3; 3. John Lubisco (N), 1:00.25.

100 breaststroke: 1. Wingeit (LS), 1:03.3; 2. Sheppard (N), 1:06.28; 3. John Loria (LS), 1:07.23.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Northville (Bardsley, Adams, Kargula, Blicke), 3:22.28; 2. Stevenson (Cruce, Behler, Maracki, Blicke), 3:22.28; 3. Stevenson (Diebel, Scott Goverink, Luke, Turio), 3:36.25.

Dual meet records: Northville, 3-0 overall; Stevenson, 5-1 overall.

LIVONIA FRANKLIN 107
LIVONIA CHURCHILL 79
Jan. 10 at Franklin

200-yard medley relay: 1. Franklin (Scott Ansteth, Brandon Larkins, Nick Anthony, Shane Shelton), 1:52.11; 2. Churchill (Steve Jones, John Yurgil, Ricky Scully, Matt Hope), 2:02.23; 3. Franklin, 2:13.67.

200 freestyle: 1. Anthony (LF), 1:57.56; 2. Scott James (LF), 2:07.47; 3. Greg Van Gorp (LC), 2:12.09.

200 individual medley: 1. Larkins (LF), 2:16.61; 2. Shelton (LF), 2:18.89; 3. Matt Castelli (LC), 2:36.2.

50 freestyle: 1. Lee Tyler (LF), 26.18; 2. Joe Michniewicz (LF), 26.21; 3. Sean Wilson (LF), 26.25.

1-meter diving: 1. Hope (LC), 192.75 points; 2. Travis Holt (LC), 176.65; 3. Andrew Richards (LC), 159.70.

100 butterfly: 1. Anthony (LF), 58.49; 2. Ansteth (LF), 1:03.66; 3. Scully (LC), 1:13.31.

100 freestyle: 1. Jones (LC), 54.88; 2. Shelton (LF), 54.88; 3. Michniewicz (LF), 57.53.

500 freestyle relay: 1. James (LF), 5:37.17; 2. Van Gorp (LC), 5:59.93; 3. Steven Liberati (LC), 6:12.68.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Franklin (Lee, Michniewicz, Wilson, James), 1:44.37; 2. Churchill (Hope, Castelli, Liberati, Van Gorp), 1:50.6; 3. Stevenson (Diebel, Scott Goverink, Luke, Turio), 3:36.25.

100 backstroke: 1. Jones (LC), 1:04.79; 2. Ansteth (LF), 1:08.18; 3. Scully (LC), 1:14.87.

100 breaststroke: 1. Larkins (LF), 1:09.16; 2. Yurgil (LC), 1:17.59; 3. Wilson (LF), 1:19.71.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Franklin (Anthony, Shelton, James, Larkins), 3:46.46; 2. Churchill (Castelli, Van Gorp, Scully, Jones), 3:59.19; 3. Churchill, 4:19.57.

Dual meet records: Franklin, 2-0 overall; Churchill, 0-2 overall.

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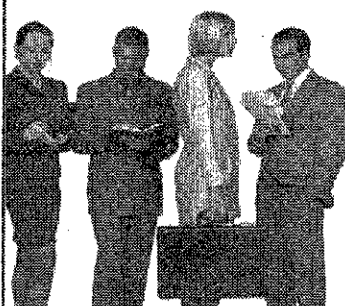
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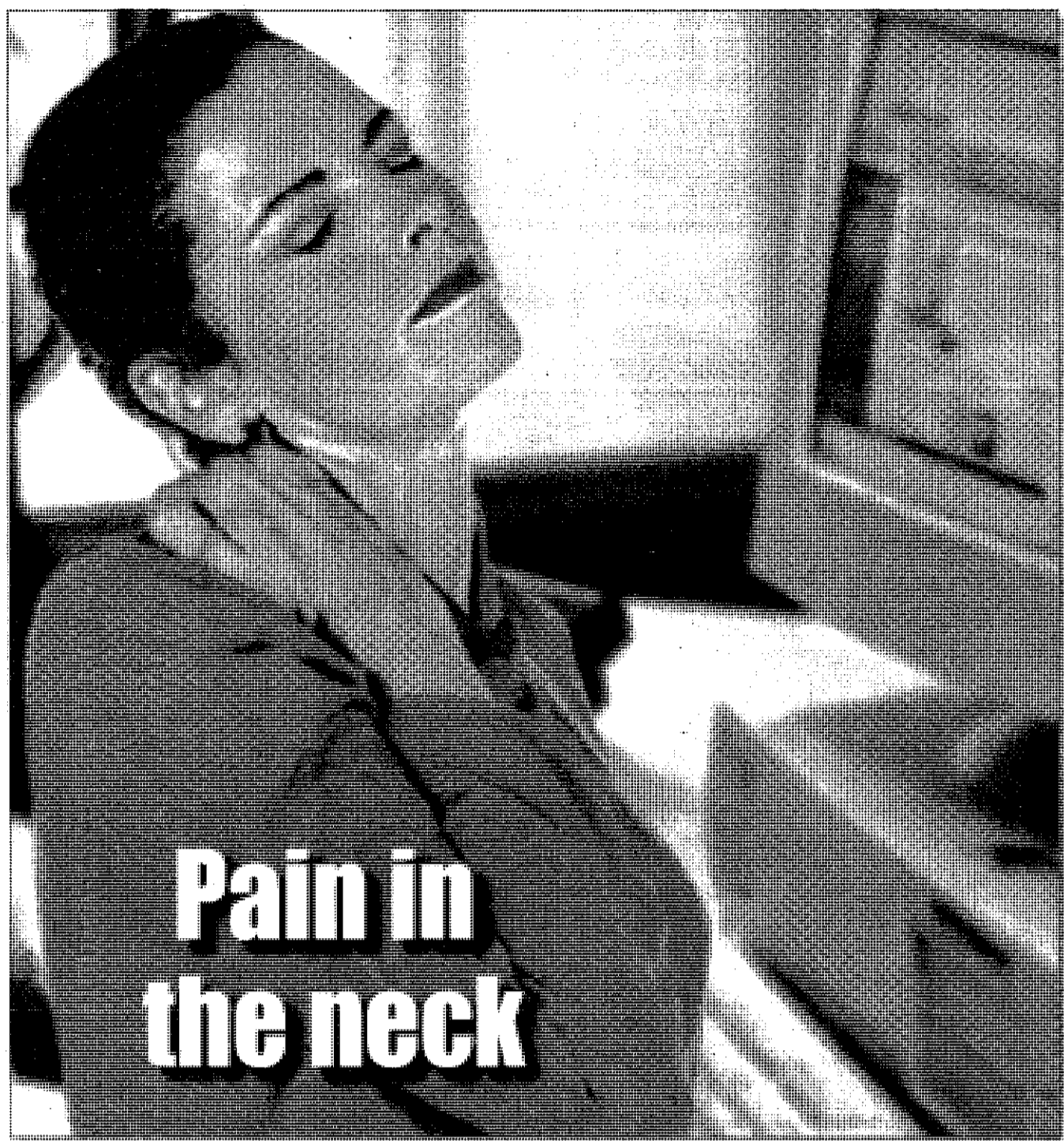
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Pain in the neck

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Find relief online for computer-related pain

Rob Tworek started thinking about a way to help people in offices everywhere after more and more of his physical therapy patients were mentioning the stiffness in their necks and backs from working at a computer.

First came the e-book, *How To Avoid That Pain in the Neck at the Office*, and shortly after the Web site which offers exercises to do while at the keyboard (www.officecoachplus.com).

So far, Tworek's had visitors from more than 60 countries.

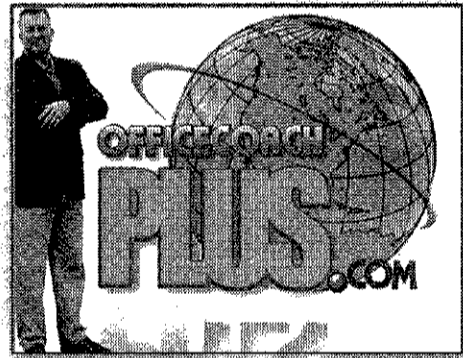
The *Pain in the Neck* e-book and Web site provide streaming video of a model performing exercises to relieve the discomfort but warns users to seek medical attention when there is severe, continuous neck pain lasting a week or more; pain, numbness and tingling that radiates to the arms or legs, and muscle weakness.

"I gave them exercises when you can't get away from your computer. They want relief now," said Tworek, a physical therapist for St. John Providence Health System and Heartland Rehabilitation. "The problem is when you start getting discomfort you need to break up that activity."

"At a computer you want people moving around, getting up and down out of their chair, but it's usually a static position. Even if you use the best posture over time those muscles will have a tendency to fatigue. It's advisable every hour to

21-DAY EXERCISE WORKSHOP

What: Physical therapist Rob Tworek leads a one-hour session featuring exercises and a discussion about starting and maintaining a program
When: 1 p.m. Saturdays, Jan. 26, at the Livonia Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard; Feb. 9, at Costick Activities Center, 28600 11 Mile, Farmington Hills; and Feb. 23, at the Ford Community & Performing Arts Center, 15801 Michigan Ave., Dearborn
Cost: \$25 in advance, \$29 at the door. To pre-register, call (313) 244-8048 or send e-mail to 21dejs@officecoachplus.com.



Rob Tworek hopes his Web site helps people around the world relieve the neck and pain discomfort caused by working at a computer for extended periods.

take a break, to get up and do movement. As soon as you enter the Web site you're prompted to get moving."

The Web site and e-book offer simple movements to prevent neck or low back injury before medical treatment is required.

"I wanted to make it convenient for people," said Tworek of Livonia. "The Web site is set up as a resource. They can go to the stretch pages follow these along and work out the stiffness."

Lisse Egler first tried the exercises after a physi-

cal therapist friend told her about the Web site. A mechanical engineer in the automotive industry, the South Lyon resident uses the movements whenever her muscles feel tight.

"On the Web site there's lots of stretching that I wouldn't have known to do before," said Egler. "I like the exercises because they can be done at work at your desk. I like that they have a little video with Liz (the model). That helps me a lot. It's good to have that visual."

After initially doing the suggested movements, Egler

progressed to Tworek's Three Day Exercise Jump Start. The program helps prevent and reduce neck and low back pain caused by extended periods of time at a computer. All that's needed is a stationary chair and two optional weights (one for each hand), either books, bottled waters or hand weights.

"It helped me get back into moving on a regular basis," said Egler. "I felt comfortable, I wouldn't be overstraining myself or my heart."

Tworek is expanding the exercise jump start to 21 days in time for people to start moving on a regular basis in the new year.

The program is intended for anyone who spends most of their workday at a computer or simply wants to exercise. The American Physical Therapy Association, American Heart Association and the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention recommend 30 minutes of activity five days per week.

"It's a 30-minute workout for 21 days straight and by then you have established a habit of exercising," said Tworek, who is giving one-hour workshops on the new program beginning in late January and early February at the Livonia Recreation Center and Costick Activities Center in Farmington Hills.

"Once they build the habit they want to keep on going with it. It allows them staying power at the computer."

lchomin@hometownlife.com
(734) 953-2145

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

JANUARY

Health classes

Heartsaver AED 6-9 p.m. Jan. 14, Feb. 11, at Mission Health Medical Center, 37595 Seven Mile, Livonia. Cost is \$55. This is a course for non-health care providers and/or individuals who need to learn basic CPR and AED for non-health care work requirements. Call (888) 440-7325 to register or for information or visit www.stjohn.org.

CPR Family and Friends: for Infants-Part 1 is scheduled 6-7:30 p.m. Feb. 14 (\$25), for non-health care providers ages 12 and older who want to learn basic CPR and foreign body removal (choking) techniques for infants. CPR Family and Friends for Adults/Children-Part 2, 7:45-9:15 p.m. Feb. 14 (\$25), for non-health care providers ages 12 and older.

Baby Care Basics. Call for schedule of classes. Cost is \$20 per couple. This class provides practical information about bathing, feeding, safety, health care and more. New this year, a baby doctor, will be joining the baby care class to give you more information about your infant and infant/baby care.

Lung cancer workshop

Deadline to register is Friday, Jan. 18 for the American Lung Association of Michigan workshop 2-4 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 23, at Weisburg Cancer Center, 31995 Northwestern, Farmington Hills. No charge. To register, call (248) 784-2000. The newly updated workshop will be presented by Dr. Antoinette Wozniak of the Karmanos Cancer Institute and includes information on current lung cancer treatments, strategies for symptom/side effect management and tools for survivorship. Lung cancer patients, friends and family members are welcome to learn how to build a more proactive relationship with their health care team. Free booklets about lung cancer treatment and care will be provided.

Fibromyalgia lecture

7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 22, at the Farmington Community Library, 32737 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills. Please RSVP if you will be attending a few days before the lecture to smo23915@aol.com or call (248) 344-0896. Admission is \$5 to help pay for cost of room. April Valierand, Ph.D. from Wayne State University School of nursing, will speak on medications for chronic pain/fibromyalgia including the newest medications available for Fibromyalgia. This will be an opportunity to ask your questions on the medications you may be on or thinking of asking your physician to prescribe.

Grand opening

St. Mary Mercy Hospital physician, Nabil Suliman, is opening Premier Medicine by offering free cholesterol, blood sugar, and blood pressure checks, refreshments, giveaways and a chance to meet the staff noon to 2 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 22, at 5958 Canton Center Rd., Suite 200, north of Ford Rd., Canton. Premier Medicine is a primary care provider that also offers urgent care services. The physicians are also available to make homebound visits for those unable to reach their office. For information, call (734) 454-5454 or visit www.premiermedicine.com.

Divorce support group

Legal aspects of divorce 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 22, with Laura Reyes Kopack, attorney with Brashear, Tangora law firm. Kopack presents an overview of the process of divorce including information on property settlements, custody, child support, visitation, spousal support, etc., in the Women's Resource Center (Room 225) of the McDowell Center, Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia. Call (734) 462-4443.

Thyroid cancer support

The support group is free and open to all thyroid cancer patients and survivors as well as their family members and friends, and meets monthly. The next group takes place 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 23, at 1641 Charlevoix Drive, Troy, MI 48065. For more information, call Gwynne at (248) 740-9759. This support group is a local chapter of a National non-profit organization http://www.thyca.org.

Organic foods workshop

The difference between organic and conventional foods with Dr. William Karl, D.C. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 23, at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile. To reserve a seat, call (734) 425-8588.

Joint replacement seminars

To educate the community about joint replacement options Thursday, Jan. 24, at the Center for Joint Replacement at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile at Levan, Livonia. No charge. To register or for information, call (734) 655-2400.

Sharing & Caring

Reducing cancer risk one meal at a time with registered dietitian Betty Boscarino, 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 24, in Classroom 3-4, Area D on the ground floor at Beaumont Troy. Sharing & Caring offers education and support programs for breast cancer survivors.

All are welcome. For more information, call (248) 551-8586. For possible schedule changes, call (248) 551-8588 prior to meeting.

Think trim classes

Give up dieting and find out why willpower or deprivation never work. Instead, change your thinking about food and learn how to develop a healthy approach to eating and exercise. You won't have to give up the foods you love and you will acquire skills to be trim and healthy for a lifetime. Classes take place 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 24, at Macomb Community College, 44575 Garfield, Clinton Township (\$29); 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Jan. 26 and 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 6, at Madonna University, 36600 Schoolcraft, Livonia (\$27), and 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, March 5, at The Community House, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham (\$24). Presented by Lorraine Stefano, A.C.S.W. For details, call (248) 828-7333 or visit thinktrim.com.

Free yoga classes

Astare Yoga is offering free weekend classes in honor of Yoga Awareness Day (Jan. 26), at Astare Yoga, 21894 Farmington Rd., Farmington. For information, call (248) 427-0550. The sessions take place 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 25 (Level 1-2); 8:45 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 26 (Level 1); 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 26 (Gentle); 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 26 (Level 2), and 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 27 (Level 1).

Medical research is now confirming what those who practice yoga have been reporting for decades. Studies have demonstrated that practicing yoga postures (asanas), meditation or a combination of both reduced pain for those with cancer, multiple sclerosis, autoimmune diseases and chronic conditions such as hypertension, arthritis, asthma, and carpal tunnel syndrome among others.

Hospice benefit

Internationally renowned and award winning photographer Linda Solomon will be a special guest at A Grand Night for Hospice XX, a black tie extravaganza with An Enchanted Evening theme, Saturday, Jan. 26, at The Ritz-Carlton, Dearborn. The annual event hosted by The Women's Committee for Hospice Care (WCHC), a nonprofit organization that raises money and grants funds for nonprofit hospices in Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties. Tickets \$300 patron, \$500 benefactor. For information, call (248) 680-7150, or visit www.wchcinc.org. For information about corporate ticket rates and tables, call Susan Kiltie at (248) 359-1167.

SAD forum

Depression: Seasons and Reasons, a closer look at Seasonal Affective Disorder 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 29, at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main. No charge. To register, call (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4, or online at plymouthlibrary.org. The program is a joint effort with the University of Michigan Comprehensive Depression Center and features an overview of the latest SAD research with Dr. Melvin McGinnis, a psychiatrist and professor of bipolar disorder and depression at the U-M center. His presentation will be followed by a panel discussion with Dr. J. Todd Arnedt, director of the U-M Behavioral Sleep Medicine Program, and Dr. Neera Ghaziuddin, assistant professor of psychiatry.

Workshop series

Teens Using Drugs: What To Know and What To Do, an ongoing series, will be presented by Ronald Harrison, SW, in the St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, Classroom EC4, 5305 Elliott Drive, Ypsilanti.

Part One: What To Know, runs 7:30-9 p.m. Tuesdays, Feb. 5 and March 4, and provides information on understanding and recognizing teen substance abuse problems. Part Two is repeated every first Tuesday of each month, from October through June. Part Two: What To Do, will be presented 7:30-9 p.m. Tuesdays, Jan. 15 and Feb. 12, and provides information on what should and should not be done when a teen substance abuse problem is suspected or identified, and will include a recovering teen speaker. Part Two is repeated every second Tuesday of each month, from October through June each year. The workshops are free and open to the public. Parents, other family members, teens, and people who work with teens are all welcome. Free literature about alcohol/other drugs and teens is provided. For more information, call (734) 973-7892, send e-mail to jessa@med.umich.edu or visit www.teensusingdrugs. There will be a special presentation of this two-part series in Howell on Wednesday March 12, 2008 (part 1) and Wednesday March 19, (part 2), 7:30-9 p.m. at Saint Joseph Mercy Livingston Hospital, 620 Byron Road, Howell. Registration is requested but not required for these presentations only; For information, visit Web site or call (517) 545-6213.

Hospital seeking patients for study to regrow lung tissue

Henry Ford Hospital is seeking patients for a new treatment option that shows promise for regrowing lung tissue in emphysema patients.

Emphysema is a debilitating lung disease caused in large part by years of smoking.

It is the fourth leading cause of death in the U.S. Patients suffer from shortness of breath, coughing and limited exertion because their lungs are less elastic, cutting off oxygen to the bloodstream.

Several treatment options exist to relieve and prevent complications including lung

volume reduction surgery and transplantation.

"This is the first emphysema study that will use computed tomography (CT) scans as well as standard lung function tests to measure participants' lung function," said Paul Kvale, a Henry Ford pulmonologist and lead study investigator. "CT scans can assess the extent of tissue damage in the lungs and whether the study drug is making a difference."

Eligible participants in the two-year study will be randomly selected to receive either a placebo or gamma specific reti-

noid agonist, a new drug that in earlier studies has shown to effectively regrow lung tissue.

The study is open to former smokers who have not smoked for the past year, were diagnosed with emphysema, are age 45 and older, and have a history of smoking more than 10 packs of cigarettes a year.

Eligible participants will receive medication, undergo various testing procedures and make 15 office visits, all free, during the study.

To enroll or for more information, call (800) 996-0206.

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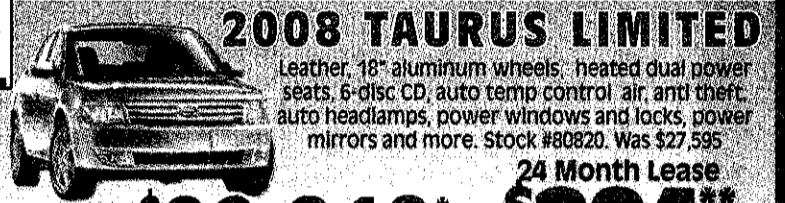
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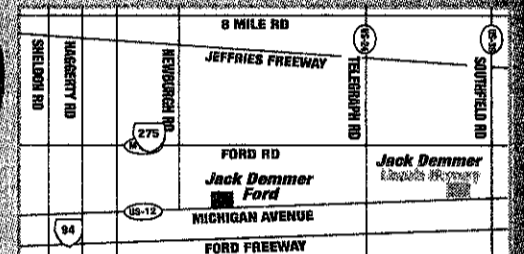
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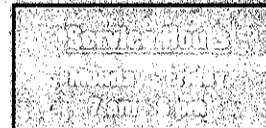
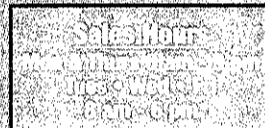
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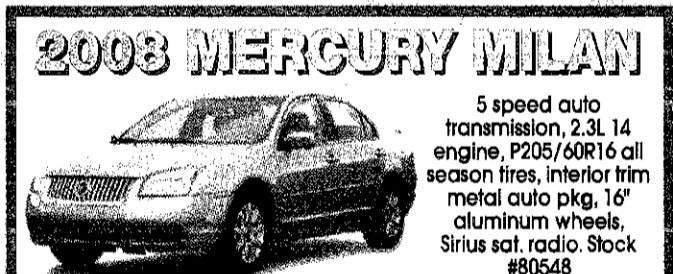
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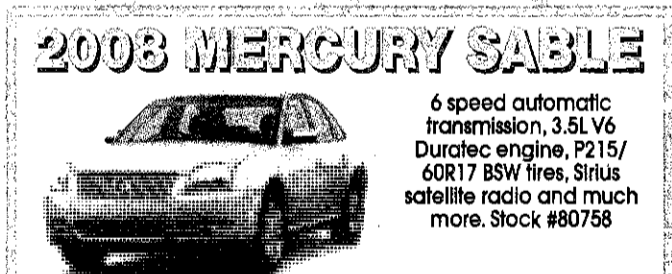


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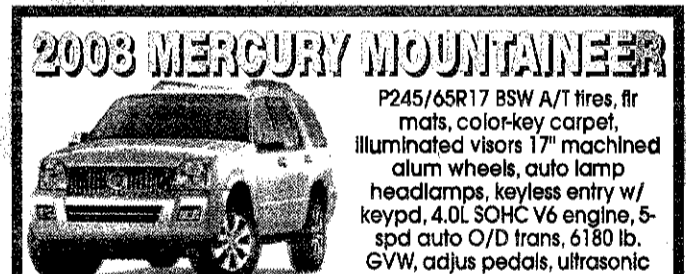
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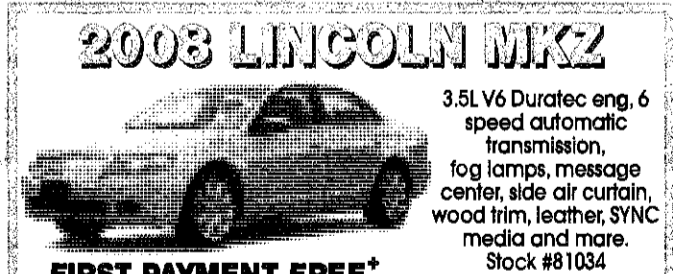
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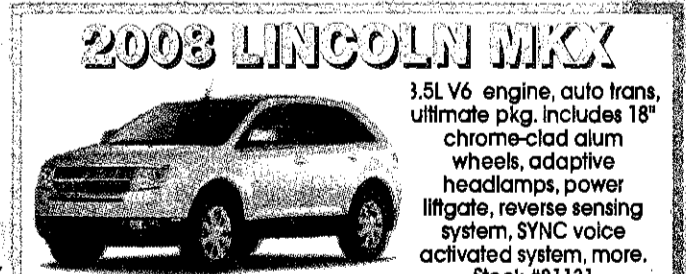
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Privileges of being a grown-up

When Sophia came downstairs 45 minutes after I'd tucked her in the other night, her worst fears were confirmed: Everything fun happens after she goes to bed.

Because my husband Don and I had eaten a late lunch, we'd passed on dinner with the kids, choosing instead to indulge in a late-night snack. Sophia left her room to complain of a sore throat and caught us pigging out in front of *Family Guy*. Yes, Sophia, it's true. After their kids are in bed, mommies and daddies eat popcorn and ice cream and watch cartoons.

Mom's the Word

Rebecca Kavanagh

"It's not fair," she groused as we escorted her back upstairs. "I can't wait to be a grown-up."

I remember feeling exactly the same way when I was her age. Long after my 8-year-old self was supposed to be asleep, I'd spy down the stairwell at my parents laughing with friends over euchre, sipping drinks from fancy glasses and snacking on — no fair! — homemade Chex Mix.

I had a plastic Holly Hobbie purse that couldn't fit more than a handful of change and my Bonnie Bell lip gloss. My mother's MacGyver-like handbag held everything a person could want or need. In addition to safety pins and tissues, she carried lipsticks I couldn't wear until I was 14. Doublemint I couldn't chew because of my braces and shopping lists devoid of the very items that I personally would have put at the top, such as Twinkies and Faygo. I especially craved the delicious power Mom held when she cruised the grocery aisles to determine whether we'd be eating meatloaf or tuna noodle casserole for dinner that night.

Now, of course, I know better. I've come to discover that although grown-ups do occasionally have fun after the kids go to bed, those precious few hours before we collapse ourselves are filled mostly with the mundane and the essential. We're whooping it up with laundry, bills, work deadlines and, these days, everything necessary to ensure that our sugarplum-dreaming darlings have a magical Christmas.

I laugh hardest these days at my childhood jealousy over Mom's dinner-planning privilege. It's not so much fun, I now realize, to come up with new and different ways to meet your children's nutritional needs when the only foods they're passionate about are pizza and PB&J. The other day, looking to mix things up a bit, I dared to pull out my mom's old meatloaf recipe. Mind you, Don abhors meatloaf. But he'd never tried this particular recipe, I reasoned, so maybe it would change his mind!

The last time I'd made the dish was 5½ years ago, when I was eight months pregnant with Jackson. Don was leaving on a business trip and, craving some comfort food, I decided to take advantage of my husband's absence to make a meal I wouldn't think of serving him. Perhaps I chopped the onion a bit too vigorously, because it was right around then that I felt my first contraction. Luckily, my frantic call to Don's cell phone caught him before he stepped on the plane, and cold meatloaf sandwiches hit the spot two days

Please see **KAVANAGH, C2**



James Ritchie of Westland photographs subjects ranging from classic cars and hood ornaments to the last night game at Tiger Stadium.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ro Lambert of Farmington Hills arranges one of her tassled home accessories. She also creates sterling silver and 14K gold filled jewelry with gemstones, cultured pearls and Swarovski crystals.

365-day art fair

Co-op gallery offers work by local artists

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

James Ritchie likes to call the gallery at Laurel Park Place mall a year round art fair. The 18 artists make it possible for the cooperative to offer paintings, ceramics, photography and jewelry 365 days a year by each working 30 hours a month.

Debbie La Pratt came up with the idea to share the rent and hours after signing a lease to open Art-is-in-Market in the mall in Livonia two years ago.

"I get over 300 hours of exposure a month," said James Ritchie, a Westland photographer whose images range from classic cars to the last night game at Tiger stadium. "The gallery's open seven days a week and I don't have to be here."

The customers seem to be as enthusiastic about the concept. When La Pratt first opened she planned to only

Please see **GALLERY, C3**



Anthony DeCesco of Redford started painting 14 years ago after taking a class at Schoolcraft College.



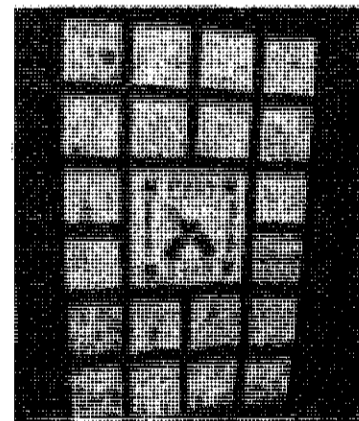
Elizabeth Walther of Plymouth exhibits jewelry, scarves, and whimsical salt and pepper shakers. Walther studied printmaking and ceramics during and after college.



Debbie La Pratt came up with the idea to open a cooperative gallery. Her clay architectural work is in the background.

Events to raise funds for First Step

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER



Children in First Step's Art Expressions Program created this quilt. First Step helps children cope with their problems through art.

It's hard for Rachel S. to explain why she stayed in an abusive relationship so long. Family and friends saw warning signs years before the couple married. It wasn't until after Rachel became pregnant that her eyes opened to the controlling and erratic behavior which included outbursts of anger.

"He would yell, throw things or get sarcastic. The twins were 7 months old when he swiped everything off the table while I was feeding them," said Rachel

S. "I was cleaning my daughter's room when he kicked her crayon box and chair and then grabbed me by the arms and threw me against the wall."

Rachel didn't call 911. Instead she fled to her parents' home. A few days later her ob/gyn handed her First Step's card. It took Rachel two to three days to call the hotline for the agency that helps survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Although she's been divorced since March 2006, Rachel still visits the Plymouth office every couple of weeks. She continues

Please see **FIRST STEP, C2**

FIRST STEP FUND-RAISERS

18th Annual Charity Ball: Presented by Brian Duggan 7:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Feb. 8, at Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft, west of Inkster, Livonia. Featuring Steve King & The Ditties, a casino, celebrity impersonators, hors d'oeuvres, and pizza. Tickets \$45 in advance. No sales at door. Call (734) 422-4333 or visit www.firststepcharitydance.org.

Chocolate Fantasy Ball: Includes presentation of the Westland Athena Award Saturday, Feb. 16, at the New Hawthorne Valley Country Club, 7300 Merriman, north of Warren, Westland. Tickets \$60 per person, \$100 a couple, call (734) 467-9113, (734) 261-3680 or visit www.womenofwestland.com. Cocktails at 6 p.m., 7:30 p.m. award presentation to an individual who's excelled in their business or profession, contributed time and talent to help others, and assisted women in realizing their full leadership potential. Event features strolling supper, silent auction, dancing, and 80-foot chocolate fantasy dessert table by Mary Denning Cake Shoppe.



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KAVANAGH

FROM PAGE C1

later when we all returned as a family of four.

I told the kids that story as I was chopping the onions for this more recent loaf, and I also assured them that I'd loved this recipe as a kid when their grandma made it weekly. All of this emotional seasoning made them, and Don, really want to like dinner, bless their hearts.

Nobody did. Oh sure, they all gamely chewed that first bite. But after I celebrated the initial chorus of "mmm," and after I pledged to make meatloaf once a week from now on, I noticed that everyone was concentrating a lot of eating energy on their potatoes and corn. Don cleaned his plate, but confessed to me later that it took Herculean effort. Sophia and Jack stopped at one bite, and apologized profusely for not liking this treasured meal.

It's OK, I assured them. I can handle it; I'm a grown-up.

Rebecca Kavanagh is a Farmington Hills writer and mother of two. Contact her at momsthewordcolumn@gmail.com.

FIRST STEP

FROM PAGE C1

to turn her life around. This semester Rachel resumes classes to earn a degree in social work at Schoolcraft College. In the future she hopes to help people on an individual basis but for now she is speaking to groups to increase awareness about the women and children whose lives turn into nightmares at the hands of an abuser.

"There are still a lot of misconceptions out there, still a lot of stereotypes that it happens to underprivileged women, that it's always physical," said Rachel. "There's a lot of mental intimidation. People would say why don't you leave. You get worn down. It becomes normal. It's important for people to talk about it even if you tell one other person. Don't ignore intuition or gut feelings you have and don't stay for your kids. I didn't know how I was going to do it. You learn to use your resources. You find out you're not alone and it's not always people who are married. Teenagers need to be aware.

It's possible to start over. It's scary, hard but home is all what you make it."

Thanks to First Step Rachel and her three young children are living in a small apartment far from the abusive environment. Their new life wouldn't have been possible without the programs of First Step. That's why fundraisers like Brian Duggan's charity dance on Feb. 8, and the Women of Westland's Chocolate Fantasy Ball on Feb. 16, are so important. The money goes to support the shelter program for those fleeing their homes; counseling services at First Step offices in Plymouth, Redford and Taylor, and a 24-hour help line for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault at (734) 459-5900, toll free (888) 453-5900.

"We don't have a big fundraising staff. When you have an outside group that select us it expands the number of people we can reach and provide these essential, critical services," said Theresa Bizoe, an associate director of First Step.

"We have trained counselors

available and it is confidential," added Amy Youngquist, First Step associate director. "You don't have to be a survivor. We get calls from concerned family members, teachers to help the one they're concerned about."

Laura C. received counseling as a teenager when her mother decided to leave an abusive marriage. Laura recently graduated and plans to help others as a police officer.

"My dad always had a real bad temper. We started going to First Step because my mom didn't want us to think it was OK," said Laura C. "What I learned was how to interact and talk to kids in those situations to calm them down. One of the things that stands out the most is First Step had a ton of toys in the waiting area. I always keep stickers and coloring books in the back of the car. That was one of the best things about First Step that it was child friendly."

While many in the community know First Step as a shelter or refuge from domestic violence, the agency also runs a sexual assault program with



Carrie Madison is a First Step special projects volunteer.

prevention and intervention services.

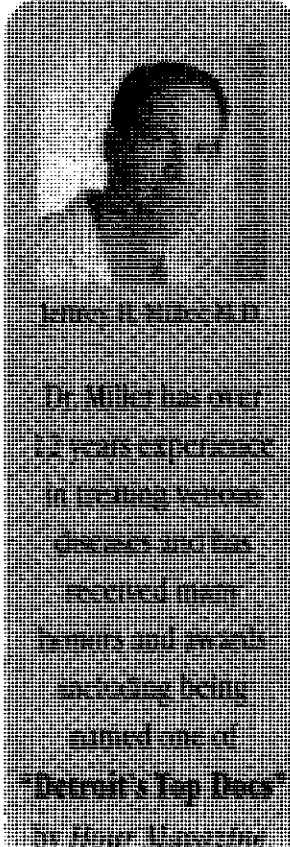
"We see a lot of young women," said Youngquist. "The 15-24 range is a crucial time, a very risky time for teens. They become victims of sexual assault a lot of times

with people that they know. According to the FBI 1 in 4 women, and 1 in 7 men will be victimized by sexual assault during their lifetime."

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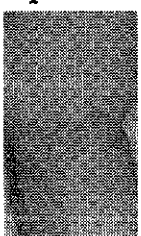
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GALLERY

FROM PAGE C1

operate the gallery through the Christmas holiday.

"People begged us please don't leave. They liked the Michigan concept featuring local artists," said La Pratt of Sterling Heights. "I signed up for another three months then six months and then a year. Customers can always meet an artist and not a salesperson and it gives people who don't do art shows a spot to have their work."

La Pratt annually exhibits her clay architectural work on Detroit landmarks at the Ann Arbor State Street Art Fair; Art & Apples, Rochester, and Arts, Beats and Eats.

"We offer everything from \$6 for a tiny night light to \$700 for a large painting," said La Pratt. "I think we have something for everybody in everybody's price range and artists will actually go to a person's home and hang their art work."

Each member of the cooperative has different reasons for belonging. Bev Ellis gets "great satisfaction when people like her work." At age 84 the Farmington Hills jeweler is the oldest artist in the gallery. She taught in Farmington Hills schools from 1960 to 1986. She also has worked at Clothes Encounter in downtown Farmington.

Tony DeCesco of Redford hasn't stopped painting since he took his first class at Schoolcraft College 14 years ago. He also exhibits his acrylic and oil paintings at Native

West in Plymouth.

Like DeCesco and Ritchie, Ro Lambert says the gallery lets customers know about the sterling silver and 14K gold filled jewelry she creates with gemstones, cultured pearls and Swarovski crystals. She does have a showroom in her Farmington Hills home that's open by appointment only to view her fiber tassels for hanging on doorknobs or tying back curtains.

Barb Teubert, who owns Barn Antiques in Northville, displays jewelry at the gallery. Annie Johnston of Northville embellishes jackets and handbags.

"What I like about it is coming into contact with other artists," said Alan Casadei of Livonia, who does abstract painting and makes clocks out of 45 RPM records. "I like talking to them about different venues for art. They can guide you to which ones to do, which ones not to do, even where to buy supplies."

Susan Crespo couldn't keep with the demand for her wreaths, swags and centerpieces this holiday season. The award-winning designer has been in the gallery 1 1/2 years.

"I'm doing wonderful here," said Crespo of Farmington Hills. "It's a fun place to work. We all like the same things. You get a whole different perspective."

"It spurs your creativity. You get ideas looking at everything," said Elizabeth Walther of Plymouth.

Walther crafts whimsical clay salt and pepper shakers as well as jewelry and scarves. She is a member of the Greater Ann Arbor Quilt Guild and has shown work

at the Ann Arbor Art Center.

Ann Hofman hopes viewers get inspiration from the spiritual images which can be seen in her photographs of clouds. Her series, Divine Faces of God, were not manipulated.

"My goal is to bring people back to God, to the Divine, to appreciate God's presence on earth through nature," said Hofman of Farmington Hills. Hofman graduated from the College for Creative Studies in 2006. She has displayed work in a New Mexico gallery; Scatter Joy Gallery of Faith, a local moveable gallery; Art in the Corridor in Farmington Hills, the Scarab Club, and Our Town exhibition. She also does encaustic paintings with beeswax.

"While I was at CCS my instructors wanted me to show God's presence with symbols. As a Catholic for me that was really hard. I took some clouds in and my instructor wanted me to stick with the clouds," said Hofman. "My senior thesis was on clouds. One is a photo of God sitting upon a throne in the clouds. There are multiple images within each photo. I get different reactions from everyone related to their beliefs. It's kind of in the eyes of the beholder."

For more information, call the gallery at (734) 432-9177.



James Ritchie (left back), Anthony DeCesco, Annie Johnston, Debbie La Pratt, Ann Hofman, Susan Crespo, Ro Lambert, and Elizabeth Walther (front row left), Bev Ellis, and Barbara Teubert stand in front of the Art-is-in-Market gallery at Laurel Park Place Mall in Livonia. The glass walls showcase the paintings, photographs and jewelry, attracting shoppers passing by.

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Individuals with forms of inflammatory bowel disease such as Crohn's or ulcerative colitis will often experience recurrent swelling of the knees or ankles. The arthritis may come on years before the bowel problem, or the bowel disease may be present for years before the individual notes the onset of recurrent knee swelling.

The theory for these associations between arthritis and other organ involvement is that the joints and these other sites share a common antigen. Therefore an attack on the joint by an antibody will lead to a similar assault on the eye because the eye has the same or a similar antibody-attracting site as the joint.

What remains unexplained is why a time lag occurs between the first attack say in the eye with iritis, and the much later appearance of joint inflammation in the back and sacroiliac joints.

The doctor's role is to ask the seemingly unrelated questions such as when you first felt back pain or noted an isolated red eye. Knowing these associations allows him to make a timely diagnosis and institute therapy appropriate for the fundamental problem.

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Chorus to hold open auditions

The Farmington Community Chorus will hold open auditions for new members 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 15, at the Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, east of Middlebelt, Farmington Hills. All voice parts are welcome. Singers must be at least 19 years of age.

The Farmington Community Chorus, directed by Steve SeGraves and accompanied by

assistant director Susan Garr, is now in its 28th year. The 75-voice mixed chorus is composed of singers from throughout the metro Detroit area. The group rehearses 7:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the Costick Center. Beginning in January, the chorus will rehearse a new repertoire of music for their 28th annual spring concert on May 9-10. These concerts will

feature the musical theme "a day in the life" and will include several Beatles tunes as well as music by Stephen Sondheim, Stevie Wonder and many other composers and arrangers of jazz, pop and classical vocal music.

For more information, call manager Kathy Hall at (248) 471-4516 or visit www.farmingtonchorus.com.

Dinner dance features culinary extravaganza

The Italian American Club of Livonia presents its 13th annual Dinner Dance Sunday, Jan. 27, at the Italian American Banquet & Conference Center, 39200 Five Mile in Livonia.

Tickets are \$50 with proceeds to benefit the St. Louis Center, a nonprofit residential community for people with

developmental disabilities. Deadline for reservations is Jan. 18. Call Gianna Prokop at (866) 990-1ABC of Joe Yekulis at (734) 475-8430.

The 2008 event includes a Culinary Extravaganza with appetizers and desserts provided by area restaurants, delis and specialty shops. A sit-down

dinner follows. The day begins at noon with Mass followed by a social gathering. The sit-down dinner is at 2:30 p.m.

The Verdi Opera Theatre of Michigan performs arias at 3:30 p.m.

The afternoon ends with dancing to live music from 4-6 p.m.

ENGAGEMENTS



Henry-O'Donnell
Nancy Robertson and Dean Henry of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Erin R. Henry, to Kevin O'Donnell, son of Robert and Terry O'Donnell of Indianapolis.

Henry graduated from Livonia Franklin in 2001 and holds a bachelor's degree from Michigan State University. She is the Development Manager at the Capital Area Humane Society in Lansing.

O'Donnell graduated valedictorian of Broad Ripple High School, Indianapolis in 2002. He graduated with a bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degree from Michigan State University and will attend graduate school for sports administration with plans to coach collegiate football.

Their wedding is planned for June at the MSU Alumni Chapel.

Walsh-Lusk

Richard and Diane Walsh of Redford announce the engagement of their daughter, Stephanie Walsh, to Jeffrey Lusk, son of Ronald Lusk of Milford and Julie Clingman of Frankfort, Mich.

The bride-to-be graduated from Mercy High School in 1996 and from Eastern Michigan University in 2001. She is employed at Stout, Risius, Ross as marketing coordinator.

The future groom is a 1988 graduate of Clarenceville High School. He is employed at Ace Sprinkler Co. as a journeyman sprinkler fitter.

A May wedding is planned for St. Valentine Church in Redford, followed by a recep-



tion at Glen Oaks Country Club in Farmington Hills. The Rev. Charles Fox will officiate.

The couple will honeymoon in the Caribbean and make their residence in Redford.

Wright-Hamp

Robert and Dorothy Wright of Westland announce the engagement of their daughter, Kimbetly Wright, to Jason Hamp, son of Jerry Hamp of Lake Odessa and the late Barbara Hamp.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Schoolcraft College and is accounts manager at HPM Sharnoa Inc.

The future groom is a graduate of Michigan Tech University and is a packaging designer with Nissan Technical Center North America.



A Sept. 26, 2009, wedding is planned.

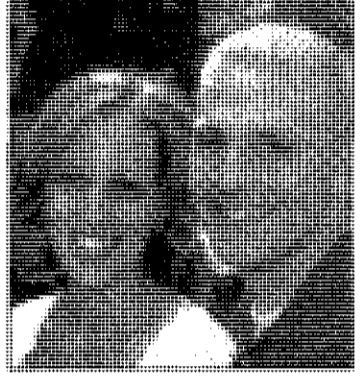
McDonnell-Van Patten

Mary and Bernie McDonnell of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Marti McDonnell, to Brad Van Patten, son and Jeannine and Gary Van Patten on Litchfield.

The bride-to-be is a 2001 graduate of Mercy High School and a 2005 graduate of St. Mary's College in Notre Dame, Ind. She currently teaches sixth grade at St. Edith School in Livonia.

The future groom is a 1997 graduate of Litchfield High School and a 2002 graduate of Michigan State University. He is a financial analyst at Robert Bosch Corp.

A May wedding is planned for St. Edith Church in Livonia.



WEDDINGS

Huff-Fry

Nicole Marie Huff and Joseph Hanley Fry of Redford were wed Dec. 28, 2007, in Ocala, Fla.

The bride is the daughter of John and Janet Huff of Somerset, Ky., and Redford. She is a 2002 college graduate and is currently a full-time mother of two children.

The groom is the son of the late C. Thomas Fry and Marcia and Jim Reimer of Waterford, and Munith, Mich. He is a 2005 graduate of the University of Detroit Mercy. He is employed by the Department of Homeland

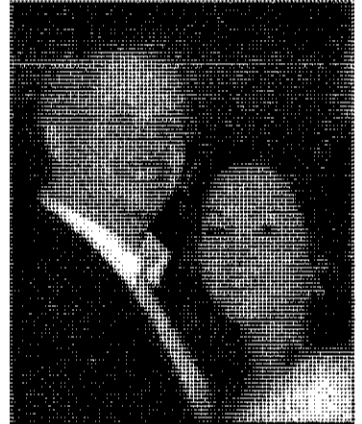
Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement in Detroit.

The ceremony was officiated by the bride's aunt, Barbara McGreal.

The bride's mother Janet Huff gave her away. The bride's daughter, Alexus Huff, was the maid of honor and flower girl.

The bride and groom's son, Cole Fry, was the best man and ring bearer.

The bride's maternal grandmother hosted a dinner with cake and a champagne toast, followed by a carriage ride for the bride, groom and their children.



The couple is planning a honeymoon cruise. They will make their home in Redford.

Kendra-Catanzarite

Leslie Michelle Kendra and Dominic Francis Catanzarite were united in marriage at 5 p.m. Friday, June 29, 2007, at St. John's Chapel in Plymouth. The Rev. Robert Humitz officiated the ceremony.

Parents of the couple are Mitchell and Mary Joan Kendra of Livonia and Robert and Kathy Catanzarite of Livonia. Her father, Mitchell Kendra, gave the bride away.

Attending as matrons of honor, were Dina S. Tudor, sister of the bride and Marissa Testa, longtime friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Kelli Kennedy, Amy Donaldson, Candice Tudor, niece of the bride, Sarah Lott, Ellen Talos, Kelly Modrezski and Leslie

Hinkle, sister of the groom.

Attending as best man was Darren Catanzarite, brother of the groom. Groomsmen were David Proctor, Eddie Souler, Tom Tudor, brother-in-law of the bride, Thomas Tudor, nephew of the bride, and Josh Hinkle, brother-in-law of the groom.

Following the ceremony, the bride's parents were hosts of a reception at the Grand Ballroom at St. John's Conference Center in Plymouth. The groom's parents entertained the wedding party, friends and family members with a rehearsal dinner at Karl's Cabin in Plymouth.

The couple honeymooned in Orlando, Fla., at Disney World. They currently reside



in Huntington Beach, Calif., where Dominic is a junior high school science teacher and Leslie teaches junior high English and currently working toward her master's degree.

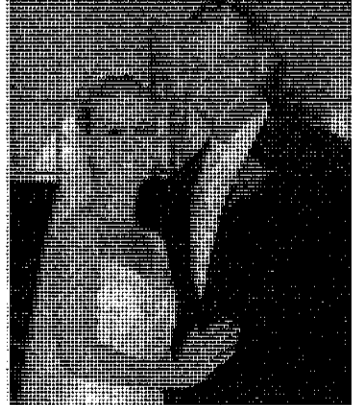
Markowski-Ellis

Amy Beth Markowski of Livonia and Jason Joel Ellis of Dryden were married Sept. 8, 2007, at Sunset Pointe at the Polynesian Resort in Disney World with the Rev. Jack Day officiating. A reception was held a week later at the Thomas Edison Inn in Port Huron.

The bride is the daughter of Walter and Christine Markowski of Livonia. The groom is the son of Walter and Cindy Ellis of Dryden.

The bride was attended by maid of honor Marilyn Holcombe and bridesmaid Stacey Kemp. The groom was attended by best man Brian Ellis and groomsmen Pete Holcombe.

The couple honeymooned in Disney World. They are marking their home in Livonia.



Spaghetti dinner to fund music scholarships

Come enjoy a spaghetti dinner and help support the Music Scholarship Program that the Livonia Civic Chorus sponsors every year for local students.

The fund-raiser takes place 6:30-10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 18, at

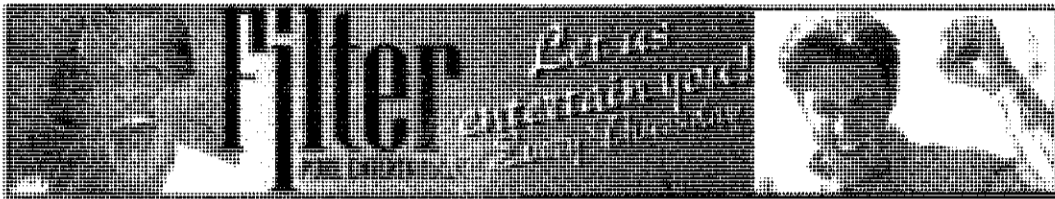
St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, Livonia.

Tickets are \$10 adults, \$8 seniors and children. Please bring a canned good for the church's pantry. Scholarship supporters will also have the opportunity to purchase

tickets for raffle baskets and 50/50 raffles.

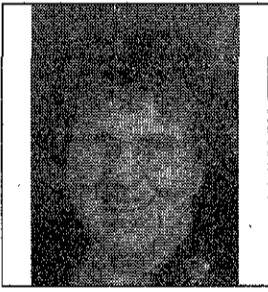
Be part of the fun and entertainment for the evening with a Karaoke twist.

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Passages

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MARIANNE ALBERT

January 8, 2008 Beloved wife of Roy Albert, AIA. Dear mother of Joanne Walle (James), Peter (Mary Jo) and Paul. Grandmother of Patrick, Michael, Mary, Peter, Theresa, Anna and Steven. Services were held Saturday at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Church. Memorial tributes: Right to Life-Lifespan, 29200 Vassar St., Ste 545, Livonia, MI 48152 or Mother & Unborn Baby Care, 27330 Southfield Rd., Lathrup Village, MI 48076. A.J. Desmond & Sons 248-549-0500. View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com



J. MYLES BECKLEY-AMAYA

Suddenly, January 5, 2008 in Costa Rica after a horseback riding accident. Age 5, of Bloomfield Hills. JK student at St. Regis School. A loving son, brother, grandson, nephew, friend and classmate. "Myles had smiles for everyone." Extraordinary son of Jay and Virginia. Dearest brother of Theresa Pearl and Casey Renee. Grandson of Yvonne and Lou, and John and Janet. Nephew of Dawn and Gordon, Carol, Kate and Dave, Lola and Darryl, Pilar and Reinier, Abel, Nathaniel and Lady, Sheila, Walter, Bernie, Celia, Lucy, Michael, Olga and dear Tia Winnie. Family will receive friends at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward Ave. (btwn 13-14 Mile) Sunday 1-8pm. Scripture service and sharing of memories 7pm. Funeral Mass Monday 10:00am at St. Regis, 3695 Lincoln Dr., Bloomfield Hills. Visitation begins at church 9:30am. In lieu of flowers, the family would love support for the SMyles Scholarship Fund at St. Regis School, 3691 Lincoln Dr., Bloomfield Hills 48301. The SMyles Fund will provide a tuition scholarship to St. Regis each year and send the Ice Cream truck to a Raider football practice every season. Myles made everyone happy. We want to continue his work of doing for others. View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com



SISTER MARY ANGELA SCHNEIDER, RSM

Sister of Mercy, Educator
(Farmington Hills, MI) - Sister Mary Angela Schneider, RSM, a Sister of Mercy for 53 years, died on January 9, 2008 at St. Joseph Mercy-Oakland. She was 71. Born in Detroit to George and Angela (Steger) Schneider on July 11, 1936, she was named Mary Angela at her baptism in St. Gregory's Church. Her primary education was at St. Mary of Redford followed by graduation from Our Lady of Mercy High School in June 1954. In September of that year she joined the Sisters of Mercy at their motherhouse in Detroit and the following year received the name, Sister Mary George Ann at her formal reception into the religious community. After a five-year period of religious and professional preparation she made perpetual vows on August 16, 1960. Sister Mary Angela earned a bachelor's degree from Mercy College of Detroit and a master's degree in education from St. Xavier College, Chicago. Her many years of teaching were divided among Michigan catholic schools in Berkley, Temperance, Dearborn, Ludington, Hemlock, Detroit, Belding, and Remus. She also taught at St. John's School, Independence, Iowa and served as a pastoral minister at Our Lady of Mercy Hospital, Dyer, Indiana. Other pastoral ministries included St. Richard's Parish, Westland, St. Gertrude's Retirement Center, Grand Rapids and McAuley Center, Farmington Hills. In 1996, when her health no longer permitted active ministry, she retired to McAuley Center. There she assisted other Sisters as a volunteer, reading to them and praying with them. Sister Mary Angela is remembered for her gentle presence, her genuine interest in others and her devotion to prayer. She enjoyed reading and music, especially singing for she was gifted with a "perfect pitch" soprano voice. She is survived by her brothers, Richard (Naam) of Hickory, North Carolina; George (Angela) of Buffalo Grove, Illinois; her sister, Janet (Robert) Joyce of West Redding, Connecticut; several nieces and nephews, many friends and her Mercy community. A welcoming service took place on January 11, 2008 at 3pm at McAuley Center, 28750 W. Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, followed by a remembrance service at 7 pm. The Mass of Resurrection was celebrated in McAuley Center's Sacred Heart Chapel on January 12, 2008 at 10:30 am, with burial in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield. McCabe Funeral Home, Farmington Hills is in charge of arrangements. Memorial contributions may be made to the Sisters of Mercy Ministry Fund, 29000 W. Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI, 48336.

ROBERT C. SMITH

West Bloomfield, January 8, 2008. Husband of Bette. Funeral Mass Monday, January 14, 11am at St. Hugo of the Hills Church. View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com



BARBARA UNDERWOOD

Age 84 December 21, 2007. Beloved wife of the late Arthur. Loving mother of Peggy (Stefan) Marenich, Nancy Randall and Barbara J. Underwood. Grandmother of Andrew Borromeo, Sister of Leigh B. (Hannelore) Dennison. Sister-in-law of Barbara U. Mullin. Memorial Service to be held Saturday, January 19th, at the Village Players, 34660 Woodward, Birmingham (two blocks south of Maple on the east side of Woodward), visitation 10am until time of memorial at 11am. Memorials appreciated to Cranbrook Hospice Care, 281 Enterprise Court, #300, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302. Arrangements entrusted to Lynch & Sons Funeral Directors, 248-435-0660. Obituary and condolences at: lynchfuneraldirectors.com

OBITUARY POLICY

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

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A NEW TAKE ON 20-SOMETHINGS' JOB SATISFACTION



WORKWISE
by
Mildred L.
Culp

The fact that 70 percent of workers in their 20s are unhappy with their organizations, according to Leadership IQ of Roswell, Ga., comes as no surprise. Its survey of 11,244 employees in

approximately \$150 to \$200, Irvine notes, is critical for this generation, which has grown up with many amenities. He points out that sporting goods and electronics are frequent choices, as are luxurious dinners for two and hotel weekends away.

"This generation doesn't take loyalty for granted," Irvine reports. "Corporations are not good at saying, 'Thank you,' to employees." His service creates "a culture of appreciation."

"PSYCHIC INCOME"
Globoforce promotes the "recognition moment, a moment of genuine, well-considered appreciation, which varies greatly across the globe, according to individual circumstances and preferences," Irvine comments. However, in an obsessively-driven consumer culture, external rewards might well not be the answer. Spoken recognition might be. However, why not tip the balance and focus upon achieving job satisfaction from the inside out, rather than the outside in?

Leadership IQ finds that a boss's recognition matters more to this generation than anything else. Doesn't this mean that external rewards confuse the situation? If, as Irvine maintains, "thank you" is an underused expression, this would seem to be a very good time to reverse that trend.

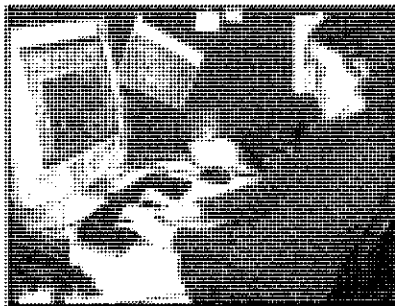
Still, that "thank you" is external. It's one step closer to

what the generation wants, but Gen Y needs an awareness of job satisfaction. How do they learn that there is something extremely special about their relationship to their work, which makes their relationship with their boss and organization only secondary? Leadership IQ maintains that job satisfaction increases as people age. How can companies bring maturity to younger workers in relation to job satisfaction?

Job satisfaction emerges when you grasp that your relationship to your work is exceedingly personal, that it's not driven by a boss's reaction or an organization's reward system. Job satisfaction comes from loving the work you do, not from constant recognition of your last step. It is a love of process. A sense of accomplishment is enhanced by external rewards, but the emotional satisfaction that comes from loving your work cannot possibly, in any context, be installed or instilled by anyone or anything outside.

The secret to increasing job satisfaction is to distract employees less with external rewards and teach them the value of doing something they love to do. Of course, that assumes that the employees are on a career track that suits them well. Bruce Tulgan, founder of Rainmaker Thinking Inc., in New Haven, Conn., advises 20-somethings to "figure out what you really need and want out of your job." This might well be the time to awaken them to the fact that one of their options is to enjoy doing their work, period.

Jaimee Ryan, Client Services account manager at Boston's Globoforce Ltd., is shopping on the company's reward redemption site in recognition of her excellence at work. Like many Generation Y employees, she enjoys selecting something special from the thousands of merchandise available on the site.



"While you are at work," Tulgan recommends, "you should be all about the work. (BEGIN ITAL)your work(END ITAL). Focus on playing the role assigned to you -- your tasks, responsibilities and projects -- before you ever try to reach beyond that role. Focus on doing them very well." Tulgan also suggests developing a "diary of your accomplishments." While doing so may help lead to a promotion or the next job, it nurtures joy in the fulfillment of work.

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp is an award-winning journalist. Copyright 2007 Passage Media.)

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Hours..... 8:30 - 5:00 Monday - Friday

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All advertising published in the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. Copies are available from the advertising department, Observer and Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 (734) 991-0900. The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Observer and Eccentric Newspaper sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, no credit will be given unless notice of typographical or other errors are given in time for correction before the second insertion. Not responsible for omissions. Publisher's Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. (FR Doc. 724983 3-31-72) Classified ads may be placed according to the deadlines. Advertisers are responsible for reading their ads the first time it appears and reporting any errors immediately. The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers will not issue credit for errors in ads after THE FIRST INCORRECT INSERTION. Equal Housing Opportunity Statement: We are pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage and support an affirmative advertising and marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtaining housing because of race, color, religion or national origin. Equal Housing Opportunity slogan: "Equal Housing Opportunity". Table III - Illustration of Publisher's Notice. CE08497250

Help Wanted-General 6000

AUTO DETAILER EXP. ONLY. Detail shop in Dearborn Heights. Now hiring. Jim or Paul. (313) 278-2550

AUTO PAINTERS HELPER For Milford area shop. Some light body work. \$650 per week to start + benefits. Must have 2 yrs. exp., valid driver's license & clean record. Drug free. 313-995-2519 E.O.E.

AUTO TECHNICIANS CRESTWOOD DODGE (734) 421-5700

REAL-ESTATE
at it's best!
Observer & Eccentric

AUXILIARY SERVICES COORDINATOR
Covenant House Michigan serving homeless & at-risk youth in Detroit is seeking a FT Coordinator to assist Director with food service, purchasing and property mgmt departments. Will be responsible for supervising and overseeing all kitchen activities. Must have exp in purchasing, supervising and other facilities mgmt duties. Food handlers or ServSafe certification strongly desired. \$28K - \$32K
Please send resume to:
Attn: HR, UHM, 2959 Martin Luther King Blvd, Detroit, MI 48208. Fax: 313-463-2222 or email: dnmrdon@covenanthouse.org No phone calls please. For more information on Covenant House Michigan please visit our website at www.covenanthouse.org EOE

Help Wanted-General 6000

BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY INSTRUCTOR
Oakland Schools seeks a Business Technology Instructor to work at their Technical Center in Wixom, MI. Successful candidates will possess Bachelor's degree with specialization in Business Education or foreign equivalent & 2 yrs exp in job offered or substantially similar position. Must have State of Michigan Teaching License & Vocational Certificate w/ Endorsements in Business Mgmt and Administration. Interested candidates should send their resume to Mark Hansen at mark.hansen@oakland.k12.mi.us or via mail to Mark Hansen Director, HR, 2111 Pontiac Lake Road, Waterford, MI 48328

Cabinet Maker Moulder/Bench Hand Operator
Fax resume: 248-347-4095

CAREGIVERS Immediate Openings 24 hr. Live-In 3-5 Days/week
Experienced professionals w/ excellent references. Smoke free, drug free.
TRILLIUM HOMECARE
Call Mon-Fri., 8am-5pm 248-539-0714

CAREGIVERS NEW YEAR / NEW JOB
Make a real difference in the lives of the elderly. Non-medical in home help Flexible hours/days/overnights Call (734) 838-0671 M-F 9am-4:00pm

CAREGIVERS, PART-TIME
Exp. preferred. Plymouth, Canton & Westland. Comfort Keepers: 734-771-7404

CARPENTER HELPER
Needed for interior trim crew. Call between 9am-12 noon 810-225-0637

CARPENTERS & HELPERS
For local builder. Please fax application with work history & pay request to 248-435-9887

CASHIER/SALES
F/T. Livonia Vitamin Store has an opening for a reliable and friendly Team Member. Flexible hours and weekends is a must. Please email your resume to Tinaw@thebesthealthstore.com or fax (248) 203 1273

CHIROPRACTIC ASSISTANT
Fun loving assistant needed for busy chiropractic clinic. Will train. Must type and be very active. 25-30 hrs. per week. Call 734-421-0101

BOOKKEEPER
Wixom company is looking for an experienced full charge bookkeeper. This position requires handling all day to day accounting including AR, AP, cash management and monthly financial statements. E-mail resume with salary requirements to jooveyassco@aol.com or fax to (248)740-9316

Help Wanted-General 6000

CITY OF LIVONIA ACCOUNT CLERK I EQUIPMENT MECHANIC I
For complete information visit our website at: www.ci.livonia.mi.us or apply in person at Livonia City Hall, 3rd floor, 33000 Civic Center Dr., Livonia, MI 48154 E.O.E. M/F/H

CLEANERS
Dependable cleaning people needed, day shift. Apply: www.cleanbyjc.com or call (734) 483-2171

CLEANING AUTHORITY
Of Plymouth seeking house cleaners. No nights or weekends. Earn \$350+ per week. Car required. 734-455-4570

YOU FOUND ELMO!
A VEI CORPORATION PRODUCTION
JANUARY 25 - FEBRUARY 10

Cleaning Equipment Technician
KBS is hiring for the Greater Detroit area. Will perform small engine service, propane equipment experience a plus! Tools & training provided. Part time daytime hours w/ opportunity for full time. \$12-\$13 per hr. d.o.e. Call 1-800-537-1376 extension 880 & leave a message to apply. www.kbs-clean.jobs EOE

CNC MACHINIST
Metro Airport area machine shop needs exp'd. machinists for night shift. Exc. benefits, paid vacation/holidays. Steady overtime. 5 or more yrs exp. Fax resume: 734-946-0922

CNC MILL PROGRAMMER/ OPERATOR
Afternoon shift. FAUNG Controls. 2 Years + Experience Required. Apply in Person: Global CNC Industries, Ltd. 11865 Globe Street Livonia, MI 48150 Fax: 734-464-2225

DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT
Do work you enjoy. Assist special population adults. \$7.50 plus good benefits. Livonia 248-474-0283, 734-953-8911, 734-425-8334

DIRECT CARE WORKER
Wayne/Westland area. Call Mon-Fri. 734-397-6955, 734-625-7731

Direct Care-- Make a difference! Support people with disabilities living their life the way they want to! Assist with personal care, meals, taking care of their homes, getting places etc. Many locations, many shifts! If you are at least 18 years old, have a valid Michigan's Driver's License & are CLS, Inc. trained, call our Job Line 734-728-4201, 06.

Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL(7355)

Help Wanted-General 6000

COLLECTIONS
Republic Waste Services is now seeking applicants for **Collections Specialist**. Applicants must be highly efficient in daily administrative tasks, and have good computer and phone skills. Must have at least 2 yrs. collection experience. We offer a competitive benefit package, including major medical, dental & 401K
Please send resume to: Republic Waste Services Attn: T. Bayer PO Box 68 Wayne, MI 48184 EOE/AA/M/F/D/V and Drug-Free Workplace.

COLLECTOR
Plymouth law firm looking for collector. Legal collection experience preferred. Fax resume: 734-254-1025 Attention: Hiring Partner

CUSTODIAN Part-Time, Weekends
For Church in Plymouth. Call Mon-Fri 9-5 734-453-5280

CUSTOMER SERVICE
Livonia medical equipment company. Mon-Fri., Full-time. Mandatory criminal and drug screen check. Fax or Email resume, Attn: Karen: 734-522-9380 metromedical@sbcglobal.net

CUSTOMER SERVICE/SCHEDULER
Seeking a HIGH-ENERGY, detail-oriented individual to work in an extremely busy non-medical home care company to perform all scheduling responsibilities. Customer service, patience, humor, and adaptability to change are required. Send resume to: Home Instead Senior Care, fax 734-525-8439 or hisc430@aol.com

DENTIST
Licensed in Dentures. Part-Time. 248-224-7246

DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT
Do work you enjoy. Assist special population adults. \$7.50 plus good benefits. Livonia 248-474-0283, 734-953-8911, 734-425-8334

DIRECT CARE WORKER
Wayne/Westland area. Call Mon-Fri. 734-397-6955, 734-625-7731

Driver/Warehouse- Novi
FT. entry level position w/growth potential. \$8-\$13/hr. Chauffeur's license & good driving record a must. Some heavy lifting req'd. Call btwn 8-9am M-F (248) 449-9100

DRIVERS - TOW TRUCK \$1000 Signing Bonus
Now hiring experienced professional flatbed & wrecker operators. Westland Car Care Towing 6375 Hix Rd. Westland, MI

Observer & Eccentric Classifieds
Just a quick call away.... 1-800-579-SELL

Call Classifieds today! 1-800-579-7355

Help Wanted-General 6000

DIRECTOR, NEW BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society seeks candidates for full time Director, New Business Development in Madison Heights. Responsibilities include: securing corporate sponsorships statewide, writing and development of proposals, marketing Society programs/events and networking with local community leaders and develop new business opportunities. Position requires a Bachelor's degree, 4 years sales experience and strong local business network. Candidate must be detail oriented, able to work on multiple projects at once, a team player, and have excellent communication and sales skills, non profit background a plus.
Please fax or email resume with salary requirements: Fax: 248-582-2925 Email: peggy.shriver@lls.org

DRIVER OTR
1B mos. exp. Call 734-748-5940

DRIVER TRAINEES Needed At
Werner Enterprises Earn \$700+ per week 401k & Benefits No Experience Needed! CDL & Job Ready in 3 weeks at Nu-Way! 2 Training Centers! No Money Down! Carrier may cover costs! 1-868-822-8743

DRIVER- \$500 ORIENTATION PAY
Earn Avg. \$1.77 gpm + avg. \$4.30 cpm fuel surcharge Home Most Weekends Flatbed Training Available Call Peggy Today! 666-513-2778 Class A/V6 mo. OTR exp. req. Lease Purchase Available. www.maltoncontractors.com

FINANCIAL COUNSELORS
Now hiring patient financial counselors exp. preferred in collections, media/billing or call center, but not req'd. Flexible hrs. Hrly pay + comm. Send resume: Fax: 248-281-0175 cwatts@accrativehealth.com

FITTERS
5 yrs. exp. including blueprint reading needed for Detroit area metal fabrication shop. Call for appointment. 313-653-4220

FRONT DESK
Exp. preferred. Afternoon & Nights. Part-Time. Fax resume to: 734-721-1300

Is the stuff in your house piling up?
Call Classifieds today! 1-800-579-7355

5000-5980
Help Wanted-General 6000

2008 POSTAL POSITIONS \$14.80-\$36/hr.
Federal hire/full benefits No Experience, closed Sun. 1-800-370-0146 x243

ACCOUNTANT
Risk Management & Insurance Co. is seeking a qualified candidate for Accountant
Must have a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, 3-5 years relevant experience, competent in MSExcel, Intuit Quickbooks. CPA designation is preferred. Salary \$50-\$80K depending on exp. with benefits.
- Send resume by January 28 to: Box 1653 O&E Newspapers 36251 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia, MI 48150 ceeresume@hometownlife.com (Code 1653)

SENIOR ASSOCIATE Grant Thornton LLP
Is seeking a Senior Associate, Audit in Southfield, MI
with the following requirements: BS in Accounting plus 2 years related experience. Prior experience must include: experience as an Accountant/Auditor in public accounting; financial services industry knowledge; experience with U.S. and international GAAP and GAAS. Must have CPA designation or ability to sit for exam.
Please apply at: www.gt.com by clicking on "seeking a job?" link.

"It's All About Results" Observer & Eccentric 1-800-579-SELL

Help Wanted-General 6000

Accounting/Bookkeeping
Growing business Services company in Oakland County seeking computer savvy individual experienced in all facets of accounting. Must be proficient with GL, payables, budgeting, inventory, and payroll, and databases. This is a hands on job. Experience with MS office required. Excellent opportunity for an aggressive, energetic individual to join our established team. Full benefits including 401k, salary commensurate w/ experience plus bonus program. Send resume and salary history resumes@traadefirst.com with ACCT in the subject line.

ADMINISTRATIVE POSITION
Attorney office is looking for a former insurance adjuster experienced in PIP claims. Full time. Call 248-890-5694 or fax resume: 248-968-5099.

ADULT CARRIERS NEEDED
Western Wayne County & Farmington Area
Previous experience preferred. Must be available on Thursday morning, Saturday evening/Sunday morning. Reliable transportation. Possible earnings of \$40-\$80 per delivery. Some Porch delivery.
No Collections.
Call Toll Free 1-888-887-2777
Observer & Eccentric

APARTMENT PREP
Full-Time position at Green Hill Apartments. Basic knowledge of maintenance, plumbing & electrical. Will train. Own basic tools & reliable transportation required. Salary & benefits. Apply in person at: Green Hill Apts. 9 Mile Rd. W. of Farmington Rd. Or fax resume to: 248-478-7690

ASST. MANAGER/ CASHIER
Full Time. Apply 1-3pm, Food Court at Renaissance Center. 313-259-6720

AUTO BODY PERSON
Busy shop in Wayne. Benefits. Call: (734) 841-0750

AUTO BODY TECHNICIAN CRESTWOOD DODGE
(734) 421-5700

Help Wanted-General 6000

APPLIANCE RESIDENTIAL TECHNICIAN
Candidates must have a minimum of five years experience repairing residential appliances: washers, dryers, microwaves, etc. Interested Candidates can send their resume to 11847 Levan Rd Livonia, MI 48150 or call 734-464-4444.

APPLICATOR
Motivated individuals for long-term employment with new construction waterproofing company. Will train. Must be drug free and have a valid driver's license with clean record. Call: 248-755-8598. Fax resume to: 419-822-4157.

APPOINTMENT SETTER
Ideal for anyone who cannot get out to work. Work part-time from your home, scheduling pick-ups for Purple Heart call 9-5PM, Mon-Fri. (734) 728-4572

Appointment Setter
25-35 Hrs Wk. No Exp. Req'd. Apply on 1/16: 37895 Ann Arbor Rd. Livonia, MI 48150

ASSISTANT MANAGERS
Universal Gas & Electric North America's fastest growing energy company has opened 2 offices in Michigan. Immediate openings for Asst Mgrs., Mr. Trainers, Customer Service Reps, Marketing and Office needed immediately. No experience necessary. Must be reliable, hard worker & possess a great attitude. For a personal interview, call Mike 1-866-843-9947

ASST. MANAGER/ CASHIER
Full Time. Apply 1-3pm, Food Court at Renaissance Center. 313-259-6720

AUTO BODY PERSON
Busy shop in Wayne. Benefits. Call: (734) 841-0750

AUTO BODY TECHNICIAN CRESTWOOD DODGE
(734) 421-5700

CUETER
Jeep Dodge
JOB FAIR
JAN 15TH 5PM-7PM
No Experience Necessary!

Cueter Chrysler Jeep Dodge has immediate openings for up to 5 applicants. No previous auto sales experience required. Men and women are encouraged to apply.
Hurry Now! We Require:
✓ No experience
✓ A good attitude
✓ Appropriate dress
✓ Willingness to learn
✓ Burning desire for a career and success
You Get:
• Promotions from within
• Medical benefits
• Dental benefits
• 401K plans
• Great community reputation
• Appreciation for work done
• Family owned
• A fun and challenging place to work
• Industry's best pay plan
• Selling Sales
• Company car plan
• Paid vacation

CUETER
1-800-579-7355

HELP WANTED: CUSTOMER SERVICE
Growing Belleville company has a position available in Customer Service. Monday-Friday; 8 hours/day, subject to change.

Qualified applicants must have the following skills:

- Computer & telephone usage.
- Arithmetic
- Friendly customer service aptitude.

We offer:

- Benefits
- Great work opportunity

Email resume or contact information to:
Rusty Wigal
rustyw@banksupplies.com
banksupplies.com
National Bankers Supply Corporation

"We will hire over 300 associates in 2008."
Join us for Career Talk*
Call for details or for an interview 800 889-9001

Jan 26 • 10am Southfield	Jan 29 • Noon & 6pm Southgate
Jan 28 • Noon & 6pm Sterling Inn	Jan 30 • Noon & 6pm Troy Community Center
Jan 31 • Noon & 6pm Schoolcraft College	

Real Estate One
*FREE license classes



careerbuilder.com

Observer & Eccentric
HOMETOWNlife.com

Help Wanted-General 6000

FORMWORK CARPENTERS
Rough carpenters for multi-story & bridge construction. Starting min \$20/hr plus health ins.

INDUSTRIAL JOURNEYMAN ELECTRICIANS
And/or Dual ticket Electrical/Instrumentation. Starting minimum \$28/hr plus health ins.

WELDERS: MINING, MANUFACTURING
Arc welding machines, new fabrication, etc. Long-term. Good salary, health insurance.

(734) 765-4566 or email: success@CarlosAndersonInfo Must Travel

Help Wanted-General 6000

HOSPITALITY PROFESSIONALS
Southfield - Limited service hotel seeking Hospitality Professionals. Immediate openings include guest service agents, housekeeping, maintenance, sales and back office management. Offering full and part time positions with competitive wages, flexible schedules, medical/401k benefits and hotel discounts. Hotel experience preferred, but will accept a candidate with a proven track record of superior customer service. Forward resume and salary requirements to: hotelrecruiter@sbcglobal.net.

When seeking out the best deal check out the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds! 1-800-579-7355

HOUSECLEANING MOLLY MAID
Training provided, weekly pay. No weekends or evenings. Apply at: 36977 Amrhein, Livonia.

HOUSEKEEPING Erickson Retirement Communities has an exciting opportunity at Fox Run, located in Novi, MI.

Housekeeping Supervisor
The desired candidate will provide leadership and supervision to the daily operations of the housekeeping department, maintaining and monitoring the cleanliness of the facility. This person will be able to motivate, communicate and problem solve in a teamwork-based setting. Administrative skills and a flexible schedule are required.

To apply, visit us online at www.erickson.com and search careers/Novi. You may also fax your resume to: (248) 668-8710 or mail it to: Fox Run, 41100 Fox Run Rd., Novi, MI 48377. Please indicate that you are applying for the Housekeeping Supervisor position. EOE

HVAC SERVICE TECHNICIAN
Growing, well established mechanical contracting co. located in Detroit metropolitan area seeking hvac technician experienced in the commercial and industrial field for immediately available positions. Base salary negotiable, full medical benefits, AFLAC and retirement plan. Strong leadership skills, good customer relations, professionalism and dependability highly recommended. Great clientele base with guaranteed steady year-round work. Serious applicants only please.

Please call: (734) 287-4111 or fax resume: (734) 287-4011

HVAC/R INSIDE/COUNTER SALES
Behler-Young, Michigan's largest wholesale distributor of heating, cooling and refrigeration products is currently seeking an experienced Refrigeration Counter Sales Rep for our Bloomfield Hills Branch. Qualified candidates will have three years HVAC/R inside/counter sales experience. Behler-Young offers a competitive wage and benefit package, including a 401k profit sharing plan. For confidential consideration, please apply in person Mon. - Fri. from 8am-4pm. The Behler-Young Company 1501 Telegraph Road Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302 Or email: jobs@bebler-young.com

Help Wanted-General 6000

JANITORIAL WORK
Mature individual P/T, 2-4 day/ week per week Commercial bldg cleaning, pull trash, tile/carpet, cleaning, warehouse work, or office detail. Livonia/Plymouth areas Call 734-522-0983 9am-5pm

WAL-MART JOB FAIR
Wal-Mart 2912 7555 Telegraph Rd. Taylor, MI 48180

Jan. 14, 2008 and again on Jan. 21, 2008
Hours: 9am until 6pm
Appointments Preferred (Walk-ins will be taken as time permits)

Wal-Mart will be interviewing for the following full time/ part time positions:

- Set-Up - Cashiers
- Sales Floor Associates
- Overnight Stockers
- Maintenance
- Deli - Bakery - Produce
- Dairy/ Frozen
- Grocery

In order to be considered for these positions you MUST do the following prior to the Job Fair:

Apply on line at www.wal-mart.com/apply

Please make sure all the phone numbers you list on the application are accurate. Inaccurate information will slow the process and could result in your not being interviewed.

After you complete the online application process, call the store Personnel Manager at: 313-292-3474 ext. 190 to schedule an appointment for an interview.

During the application process, please indicate your interest in the following store: 2912 Taylor.

Walk-ins must complete the application process at the store kiosk. There could be long delays. The application process, including reference checks, must be completed prior to the interview being conducted. This could take as long as 4 to 5 hours or longer.

In order to be considered for these positions, you must have open flexibility - this includes the ability to work weekends and holidays. This is a 24 hour store.

Wal-Mart offers its associates benefits including, but not limited to: Medical, Dental, Life Insurance, 401(k), Profit Sharing, etc.

Wal-Mart conducts pre-employment drug testing and background checks.

LEAD BUSINESS ANALYST
Valassis Communications, Inc. a Livonia, MI Marketing Services Company is looking for Lead Business Analyst with experience in the following areas: Bachelor Degree in Computer Science, Mathematics, Engineering plus 5 yrs. Exp. in software development and 1 yr. exp. in BizTalk, Oracle, SQL, .Net, Valassis Communications offers competitive salaries. Please send resume to: Jeff Barham, 19975 Victor Parkway, Livonia, MI 48152. Please refer to Ref.#J507 in your cover letter.

Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL(7355)

Help Wanted-General 6000

LOOKING FOR A CAREER (not a job) Free Pre-Licensing Real Estate Agent Seminar January 17, 2008

At 12pm & 6pm. This is the time to buy homes in Michigan, be the one to sell the House. Change your life personally & financially register today.

CALL ED BOWLIN AT 734-591-5940, EXT. 107

MACHINE SHOP
Experienced shop help. Basic skills in machine assembly, Bridgeport, Lathe.

Attn: HR, Wm. P. Young, Co. 41575 Ann Arbor Rd. Plymouth, MI 48170 Fax: (734) 453-5041 Email: HR@wp-young.com

MACHINISTS
Openings in:
CNC LATHE CNC MILL INSPECTION GRIND DD/D
Days Overtime Delta Research 32071 Capitol St., Livonia For interview: 734-261-8400 or fax resume: 734-261-0908 www.deltarec.com

Machinists General Labor
As a leader in the tool and die industry, we offer a competitive benefit package, paid holidays, overtime and room for advancement. Available are Day and Afternoon Shift General Labor and Machinist positions. Some positions require minimum 5 years experience. Wages commensurate with experience.

PAINTER
Full-time position at Green Hill Apartments. Must have exp. with oil & latex. Interior/exterior. Salary & benefits based on exp. Apply in person at: Green Hill Apts. 9 Mile Rd. W. of Farmington Rd. Or fax resume to: 248-478-7690

POLICE OFFICER
The City of Westland
Accepting applications 1/22/08 thru 2/5/08
Qualifications: Minimum 21 yrs. old, high school diploma/GED, valid MI driver's license, resident of MI for 1 yr., MCOLES certified or certifiable. Applications available at:
Westland City Hall 36601 Ford Rd. Westland.
No applications will be mailed. Equal Employment Opportunity Employer

MAINTENANCE
Needed for Novi apartment community. Must have minimum of 2 years experience in carpentry, plumbing, electrical & HVAC. Must have strong leadership capabilities. Position requires on-call responsibilities. A drug screen, criminal and driving check will be run prior to employment. Apt. available after 30 days, includes benefits and advancement opportunity. Fax resume to Denise at 248-568-1508 or apply in person at 45265 Gateway Rd., Novi, MI 48377 (Phone 248-624-8555)

MAINTENANCE PERSON
Exp. for apt. complex in Plymouth/Novi area. Good salary & benefits. Call: 734-463-1597

MANAGER or MANAGER COUPLE
On site needed for apt complex in S.W. Oakland County. Must be capable of assuming responsibilities for operation & leasing. Good benefits & housing for qualified personnel with minimum of 3 yrs management & maintenance experience. Mail resume: H.R., 2111 Ellwood Berkley MI 48072

Help Wanted-General 6000

MACHINE OPERATORS
CNC LATHE/ MILL
Some Exp. Req'd. Immed. Openings Nights Good Benefits
Apply in person btwn 9-11am and 2-4pm 9495 Inkster Rd. Taylor, MI 48180

MEDICAL ASST.
P/T. Livonia. Assist w/ office procedures. comfortable w/ patient contact, starting 1/15. Fax resume: 586-979-8758

MEN'S LOCKER ROOM ATTENDANT
Provide member services, clean and maintain facilities. Must be courteous, personable, service-oriented, and knowledgeable about cleaning and supplies.
Apply Mon.-Fri., Employee Entrance, Detroit Athletic Club. Fax: 313-963-5995; email: humanresources@thedac.com

OFFICE ASSISTANT
Full time position, must know Microsoft programs. Send resume to: officeposition@yaho.com

OUTSIDE CANVASSERS
Home Improvement co. looking for door-to-door canvassers. Salary, commission, & bonuses pd w/ky. Will train self-motivated individuals. Mr. Allan, 248-875-9050 Mr. Joseph, 714-422-9070

SALES/ CASHIER
F/T. Livonia Vitamin Store has an opening for a reliable and friendly Team Member. Flexible hours and weekends is a must. Please email your resume to: Evan@thebetterhealthstore.com or fax: (248) 471-4538

SHIPPING ASSISTANT
With exp driving record. Heavy lifting, packaging parts, banding crates, preparing shipments, loading & unloading, delivery & pick up. Apply at Lyon Mfg. 13017 Newburgh Rd. Livonia, MI 48150.

START YOUR OWN AVON BUSINESS FOR JUST \$10
Pay off debt. Unlimited earnings. Wendy, (734) 819-0988

TAX PREPARER
Needed for CPA firm in Troy for the upcoming tax season. 3 yrs. or more exp. Ultra Tax knowledge a plus. Friendly environment, flexible hrs. Send resume & salary requirements to: Box 1651 O&E Newspapers 36251 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia, MI 48150 oeresume@hometownlife.com (Code 1651)

TAX PREPARER
Southfield accounting firm desires person exp'd in preparation of individual income tax & payroll. Knowledge of Pro-FX a plus. Email: m-e_accounting@sbcglobal.net Fax 248-557-3560

TEACHERS PRE-K OR Kindergarten
Montessori School is offering an exciting opportunity for teachers. Excellent environment. Exp preferred. Contact Leila A.S.A.P at 248-736-2949. Fax resume and references to 248-851-4237 or email to leila@montessoricenterfr.com

TEACHERS/ ASSISTANTS
Childcare. Only exp'd apply. Livonia area. Call 9am-3:30pm: 248-474-0001 or after 4, 248-926-1656

Title Examiner - EXP'D
Southfield Agency. Send resume with salary requirements to: (Ref. Box 1652) oeresume@hometownlife.com

TRAVEL AGENT PART-TIME
Must have experience. Fax resume: 734-522-5193

WRECKER DRIVER
Must have experience & good driving record. Call 248-356-5399

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020
ADMINISTRATIVE
DETROIT COMERICA PARK Hourly & Seasonal Office/Suites Coordinator
Ability to coordinate orders, excellent written, verbal & interpersonal communication skills, computer literate, strong multi-tasking ability & detail oriented skills req'd.
Interested candidates MUST include cover letter with hourly wage request & forward resume to: ATTN: D. Gardner Fax ONLY: 313-471-2699 EOE/M/F/V/D

REAL-ESTATE at it's best!
Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!

Help Wanted-General 6000

ADMINISTRATIVE
GUEST PATH COORDINATOR
Comerica Park
Highly skilled in Training & Facilitating Seminars. Ability to coordinate, keep accurate records, supplies ordered, excellent written, verbal & interpersonal communication skills, computer literate, strong multi-tasking ability & very detail oriented to perfection req'd. Hryly & seasonal with no benefits.
Qualified candidates MUST submit cover letter with hourly wage request & forward resume to: ATTN: D. Gardner Fax ONLY: 313-471-2699 EOE/M/F/V/D

BOOKKEEPER/ SECRETARY
Property mgmt. co. in Canton seeks mature individual to work 20 hrs per week. Must have QuickBooks exp. exc administrative skills. \$9/hr. Please contact: 734-216-1371

CLERICAL
PT, 10am.-3pm, Mon.-Fri. \$5.75/ hr training, \$6.25 after 30 days. Call Leslie after 10am, 734-427-7700

CLERICAL, FT
Answer phones. Mon-Fri., 8-5pm. Starts at \$7.15/hr. Apply at: 987 Manufacturers Dr., Westland. For directions call: (734) 728-4572

GENERAL OFFICE, PT
AR/AP, QuickBooks, Exp'd. Property Mgmt, Farmington. 248-626-8622

LEGAL SECRETARY
Busy Farmington Hills law firm seeks reliable, full-time Legal Secretary. Litigation experience necessary. Please forward resume to: newjoo1024@yahoo.com

OFFICE ASSISTANT
Livonia, P/T, Mon.-Fri. Must have computer skills. Fax resume: 734-522-1708.

OFFICE/ CLERICAL
Property mgmt. Exp. in working with tenants. Mail resume to: Owner, PO Box 85530, Westland, MI 48185

RECEPTIONIST PART-TIME
Busy CPA office in Farmington Hills has immediate opening. Please FAX resume to D. Maggio at 248.851.6205 or email: dmaggio@hshw.net

RECEPTIONIST, P/T
Weekdays. Long-term. 734-437-9254

Help Wanted-Engineering 5030
Engineering
Lead Engineer sought by Eaton Corporation at its Innovation Center in Southfield, responsible for supporting the development of functional seats, test procedures and schedules for a multi-year, multi-disciplinary team project involving real-time sensor algorithms. The position requires an advanced degree in Electrical or Electronics Engg and relevant professional experience. If you are interested in joining our team, please apply online at www.eatonjobs.com. EOE. No phone calls, please.

Help Wanted-Dental 5040
DENTAL ASSISTANT
Part-Time. EASTPOINTE Tues., 8:30am-3pm, Thurs. 10am-8pm, (586) 779-6777 REDFORD Mon. 8:30am-8pm, Wed. 8:30am-3pm. (313) 592-1100

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

ADMINISTRATIVE
GUEST PATH COORDINATOR
Comerica Park
Highly skilled in Training & Facilitating Seminars. Ability to coordinate, keep accurate records, supplies ordered, excellent written, verbal & interpersonal communication skills, computer literate, strong multi-tasking ability & very detail oriented to perfection req'd. Hryly & seasonal with no benefits.
Qualified candidates MUST submit cover letter with hourly wage request & forward resume to: ATTN: D. Gardner Fax ONLY: 313-471-2699 EOE/M/F/V/D

BOOKKEEPER/ SECRETARY
Property mgmt. co. in Canton seeks mature individual to work 20 hrs per week. Must have QuickBooks exp. exc administrative skills. \$9/hr. Please contact: 734-216-1371

CLERICAL
PT, 10am.-3pm, Mon.-Fri. \$5.75/ hr training, \$6.25 after 30 days. Call Leslie after 10am, 734-427-7700

CLERICAL, FT
Answer phones. Mon-Fri., 8-5pm. Starts at \$7.15/hr. Apply at: 987 Manufacturers Dr., Westland. For directions call: (734) 728-4572

GENERAL OFFICE, PT
AR/AP, QuickBooks, Exp'd. Property Mgmt, Farmington. 248-626-8622

LEGAL SECRETARY
Busy Farmington Hills law firm seeks reliable, full-time Legal Secretary. Litigation experience necessary. Please forward resume to: newjoo1024@yahoo.com

OFFICE ASSISTANT
Livonia, P/T, Mon.-Fri. Must have computer skills. Fax resume: 734-522-1708.

OFFICE/ CLERICAL
Property mgmt. Exp. in working with tenants. Mail resume to: Owner, PO Box 85530, Westland, MI 48185

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Help Wanted-Dental 5040

DENTAL ASSISTANT
A progressive dental office desires enthusiastic, multi tasking exp. person who is committed to providing quality care. Call (248) 474-0224

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Bloomfield Hills endodontic office is seeking a full-time, highly motivated, energetic Dental Assistant to join our team. Experience preferred, but willing to train.
Fax: (248) 647-0576

DENTAL ASSISTANT W/ EXP
3-4 days; Friendly office; Competitive pay/possible benefits. chrisamanz@yahoo.com

DENTAL ASSISTANT
West Bloomfield orthodontic office. Dental experience. Friendly & enthusiastic. 4 days, no Sat's, 9-5pm. 248-851-7272

DENTAL RECEPTIONIST
Experienced only. Busy group dental general practice seeking full-time front desk receptionist. Candidate must be organized & work well with others. Benefits including health insurance, Van Buren Twp. (S. Canton). 734-897-4400

FRIENDLY & ENERGETIC
Dental assistant needed. In a modern state of the art dental office in Novi. Part time. Fax resume to: 248-675-0963

FRONT DESK
Part-time for busy Livonia dental office. Dentech exp. preferred. Please fax resume: 734-464-7836

ORTHODONTIC CHAIRSIDE ASSISTANT
For our high-quality, fun, orthodontic practice. 3 or 4 days per week. Health insurance, pension plan available. Experience preferred. Call 734-681-2444

Help Wanted-Medical 5060
CAREGIVER (SPANISH SPEAKING)
Needed for elderly woman. Ref. Exp. req'd. 248-350-8700

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LPNs/ RNs
Newly renovated Autumnwood of Livonia with its expanded sub acute and rehab dept., is seeking full and part-time nurses with LTC experience.

WAGES: RNs - \$26/hr. LPNs - \$23/hr.
Please fax resume or apply in person to: Autumnwood of Livonia 14900 Middlebelt, Livonia, MI 48154 Phone: 734-425-4200 Fax: 734-425-4327

Family Nurse Practitioners
Join our growing healthcare team!
The Little Clinic, a nationwide healthcare service company managing convenient neighborhood walk in clinics, is committed to providing high quality medical care that is convenient and easily accessible to our patients in their neighborhoods. We are looking for certified Family Nurse Practitioners who share this commitment and would like to work independently by providing care of common illnesses, minor injuries and wellness care like routine check-ups, screenings and vaccinations.
A rewarding career beyond the traditional practice setting including professional autonomy, independence, freedom to build your own practice, great benefits, compensation and incentive pay, with flexible schedules and outstanding career advancement.
Requirements: Family Nurse Practitioner licensed in Michigan with 1 year exp. and national certification (ANCC or AANP).
Full-time or P/M and weekend shifts available in **Roseville, Lake Orion & Brighton!**
To apply, visit our website at www.thelittleclinic.com or call Angela Sales at (502) 290-0192.

The Little Clinic
Convenient Neighborhood Medical Care

HOPELESS?
We are looking for volunteers to participate in a research study of an investigational medication for depression. Qualified participants receive all research related care, study medication, and office visits at no cost. Please call Institute for Health Studies at 1-877-908-CARE. Ask about compensation available for participation.

HAIRSTYLISTS
Transition Salon in Livonia is looking for EXP'D hairstylists. Clientele preferred. Call 734-812-4537, or apply in person @ 19017 Farmington Rd.

HAIRSTYLISTS
Snip-its Haircuts for Kids is rapidly growing and looking to add two top-notch people to our stylist staff. If you are energetic and enjoy working with children of all ages. Please contact Karen for an immediate interview. 734-464-7487 or email resume to: Michigan@snipits.com

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National City

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Banking dfcu FINANCIAL

looking for friendly, outgoing, service oriented individuals to work

Part-Time MEMBER SERVICE AGENTS

for our incoming call center, located in Dearborn. Open Monday thru Friday 8-6, Saturday 9:30-2. Will work PT hours 5 days per week, as scheduled. 6 weeks full time training mandatory. Sales exp. in a financial or retail environment required. Excellent communication skills a must.

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Accepting applications through Thursday, January 31, 2008

Apply in person at any DFCU Financial Branch Office

Credit record in good standing required.

E.O.E.

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We are a fun, flexible, family-oriented business. We provide a great working atmosphere, company paid medical benefits, dental and vision benefits, 401k, paid vacations, professional training and a constant stream of customers. If you are ambitious, driven, and motivated to succeed ...

We want to talk to YOU!

Apply in person at: 21100 W. 8 Mile Rd., Between Evergreen & Lahser Ask for Karen (248) 357-1380

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Or E-Mail Your Ad To careers@hometownlife.com



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HOMETOWNLife.com

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST

IHA's Associates in Internal Medicine Cherry Hill has an opportunity for an experienced, full-time Medical Receptionist to greet and assist our patients, answer phones and check-in/out patients. This position requires excellent customer service skills, previous experience working in a medical office, with solid computer skills.

We offer a competitive salary with an excellent benefits package, including: paid time off, medical, life, disability insurance, 401(k), and tuition assistance along with optional dental. Please e-mail your resume to:

employment@ihacares.com
Fax to 866-282-8067 or apply online at www.ihacares.com

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

Nuclear Medicine Staff Physician

wanted for Royal Oak, MI hospital. Send resumes to M. Strybel, Human Resources, Beaumont Hospital, 3601 W. 13 Mile Rd., Royal Oak, MI 48073

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NURSES

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Help Wanted-Medical 5060

SENIOR RN

IHA's Cherry Hill Associates in Internal Medicine and PHA Canton offices are seeking full-time highly-skilled and experienced Senior RNs. Duties include coordination of Clinical Quality Improvement, telephone triage, clinical resource, patient education, and communication between patient and provider. Ability to use a computer and strong computer skills are important. Must be licensed to practice in the state of Michigan with previous Internal Medicine and Pediatric experience strongly preferred.

We offer a competitive salary with an excellent benefits package including paid time off, medical, life, disability insurance, 401(k) and tuition assistance along with optional dental. Interested candidates should email their resume to Human Resources at:

employment@ihacares.com
Fax to: 866-282-8067 or apply online: www.ihacares.com

Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5060

RESTAURANT

DETROIT COMERICA PARK 2008 Season SUPERVISORS

ALL F & B Hourly Supervisors will need 3-5 yrs. exp. in a high volume restaurant/catering environment including supervising union employees. Strong food knowledge, exp. with a variety of menus & previous exp supervising service personnel req'd. Seasonal only, no benefits.

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START \$1500 weekly++

National company restructuring it's Detroit branch, fast track management opening available. Must be highly motivated & coachable. Company car & benefits provided. Ambition is more important than a resume. For further details & personal interview. **Call office btwn 8:30-3PM Ask for Al Office: (734) 464-0115 or Cell: (248) 921-8566**

Earn One THOUSAND DOLLARS each day with tested, proven, easily duplicate "Three Step Success System" that is creating MILLIONAIRES! 24 hour info line 800-887-1897. Change your life. Call now.

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Help Wanted-Sales 5120

TELEPHONE CUSTOMER SERVICE

Must have positive attitude & be driven & motivated. 1-3 yrs exp. in outbound calling. Associate degree preferred. FT & PT, days/eve.

Email resume to: caroleemorris@aol.com
Call 8am-9am ONLY 800-781-0898
The Home & Garden Lead Generator

Job Opportunities 5310

ENVELOPES 1000-\$8000 GUARANTEED! Receive \$6 for every envelope stuffed with our sales material. Free 24 hour information. 1-888-834-0717 code 703

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GOVERNMENT JOBS \$12-\$48/hr. Full benefits/Paid Training. Work available in areas like Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Wildlife and more!
1-800-320-9353 x. 2002

Help wanted earn extra income, assembling CD cases from home. Start immediately, no experience necessary. 1-800-341-8573 ext 1395 www.easywork-greatpay.com

MAKE A NEW YEARS RESOLUTION YOU WON'T REGRET! OTR drivers wanted. Pre-pass EZ-pass. Every 60K miles raised. 2006/newer equipment. 100% no touch. Butler Transport. 1-800-528-7825

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SECRET SHOPPERS NEEDED for store evaluations. Get paid to shop. Local stores, restaurants & theaters. Training provided, flexible hours. 1-800-585-9024 ext 6600.

Sign on bonus \$500! Start today, seeking 5 guys & girls to join young-minded, rock-n-roll bluejean environment. Skateboards, X-Gen, music lovers welcome. Call Debbie 877-539-8973-Trevel

Childcare Services-Licensed 5360

LICENSED IN HOME DAYCARE
Now Enrolling, full or part time, reasonable rates. Call Nicole for info: 734-722-7537

Childcare/Baby-Sitting Services 5370

EXPERIENCED MOTHER OF THREE
Offering childcare out of home in Livonia. Call: 248-426-8436

Childcare Needed 5380

SITTER NEEDED Tues. thru Fri., 7am-8:40am or someone who can drop off student at 7am to Kettering School, Westland. Call 734-812-9894.

Education/Instruction 5600

ATTEND COLLEGE ONLINE from home. Medical, business, Paralegal, computers, criminal justice. Job placement assistance. Financial aid and computer provided if qualified. Call 866-858-2121, www.OnlineTidewaterTech.com

Can you dig it? HEAVY EQUIPMENT SCHOOL. 3 week training program. Backhoes, bulldozers, trackhoes. Local job placement assistance. Start digging dirt NOW. 866-382-6497 or 888-707-8866.

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New Horizons C.L.C. Knows what Michigan employers want - we train them every job! Obtain those same marketable computer skills and certifications. Call: 1-866-387-1436 to enroll. Financing options and job placement assistance available - grants and GI Bill accepted. Associate member of MI Works.

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Over 1.7 million Healthcare support jobs will be available by 2014. Are you ready? Enroll now in Medical Billing and Pharmacy Tech programs with New Horizons C.L.C. Call: 1-866-387-1436 Financing options and job placement assistance available - grants and GI Bill accepted. Associate member of MI Works.

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Own a mattress sanitizing business. Earn \$200+/hour. In on the Green Movement. Dry, chemical-free process removes dust-mites & harmful allergens. New to the USA. Free kits available. 1-888-999-9030 or www.hygiene-tech.com

SALES \$59K AVERAGE INCOME FOR TOP EARNERS! MLM leaders and entrepreneurs in 40 years! Work with TOP leaders. Please ONLY call if you are dead serious! 678-461-6466

Seriously looking for a lucrative business? You can start today. See if you qualify. Free 2 minute message (800) 856-8498 www.AbundanceLifestyle.com

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Full Time. OB/GYN office, Farmington Hills. **EXPERIENCE ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY.** Call Elaine at: 248-469-1070

MEDICAL ASSISTANT & RECEPTIONIST
Exp. Full-time busy internal medicine office in Livonia. Fax resume: 734-542-3115

Medical Assistant
Medical office seeks experienced Receptionist. Must have strong computer & medical insurance knowledge. Full time with exc. pay & benefits. Ann Arbor area. Fax resume to: 734-996-8767 or Email: a2derm@aol.com

Medical Assistant
PT, allergy office, Livonia. 6 mos. exp. 248-478-5221

MEDICAL ASSISTANT/RECEPTIONIST
Experienced. 25-30 hrs/wk. Fax resume: 734-464-9797

MEDICAL ASST.
for busy Dermatology practice. Must have dermatology exp. Must be motivated team player. Fax resume: Attn: Alyssa/ Karen (248) 353-3646

MEDICAL ASST/RECEPTIONIST
Westland office. Full time. Call 734-729-4343 or fax resume to 734-729-0222

MEDICAL OFFICE CAREERS
\$28K-\$60K. 2+ yrs exp req'd. *Biller-Oncology *Receptionist-Sterling Hgts PT *Office Manager-Cardiology *CMA-West Bloomfield
Resume: kelli@harperjobs.com
Fax: 248-932-1214
Kelli's phone: 248-932-1204
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NEED IMMEDIATELY
Michigan Dept of Corrections; RN's up to \$34 per hour. LPN's up to \$24 per hr. Call Bonnie at Care One Inc. 734-480-0011

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Resume: kelli@harperjobs.com
Fax: 248-932-1214
Kelli's phone: 248-932-1204
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www.harperjobs.com

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A PART-TIME POSITION with Flexible Hours!

This excellent opportunity with a Wixom based company pays between \$8 and \$11 per hour for light electronic assembly in a clean, comfortable environment. Candidates must be reliable and have good manual dexterity. Email to: anathan@natsco.net Fax 248-380-6268 Mail to: Part-Time Position, 28045 Oakland Oaks Court, Wixom, MI 48393

Help Wanted-Domestic 6240

HOUSEKEEPER - GARDENER/HANDYMAN - COOK

3 positions. Exp. references. Non-smoking. 800-436-2193

SEEKING IN-HOME CARE PROVIDER

for mostly independent elderly Northville woman. Needs assistance with meals, bathing, activities of daily living. Ability to spend the night a plus. Call Merry, 313-951-0425, Mon-Fri., 8am-3pm.

Job Opportunities 6310

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\$28K-\$60K. 2+ yrs exp req'd. *Biller-Oncology *Receptionist-Sterling Hgts PT *Office Manager-Cardiology *CMA-West Bloomfield
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2008 Dodge Caliber SRT 4 offers great performance, at an affordable price

Advertising Feature

CA Report



By Dave Menard
Avanti News Features

Is there such a thing as an "entry-level" performance car? Is it possible to get a fun-to-drive performance car at a price that won't break your wallet? Dodge thinks so, and offers the 2008 Caliber SRT 4 as proof.

The Caliber SRT 4 (SRT stands for "Street and Racing Technology") is a five-door vehicle, and my first thought when I saw it was that it's the Dodge Charger's little brother.

The front fascia features functional brake cooling ducts and a larger grille opening. The hood features a functional air scoop for better underhood cooling. A large integrated spoiler above the rear glass is tuned for smoother air flow and lift reduction. The headlamps wrap from the grille to the fender and fog lamps are included, as well.

The rear features an integrated spoiler and 19-inch aluminum wheels are standard (chrome-clad wheels are optional). It's a sharp, tough-looking package.

The interior is nicely done, as well. The "alloy silver" finish instrument panel is well laid-out and includes a tachometer and coolant temperature gauge, and there's a turbo gauge on the far left of the dash.

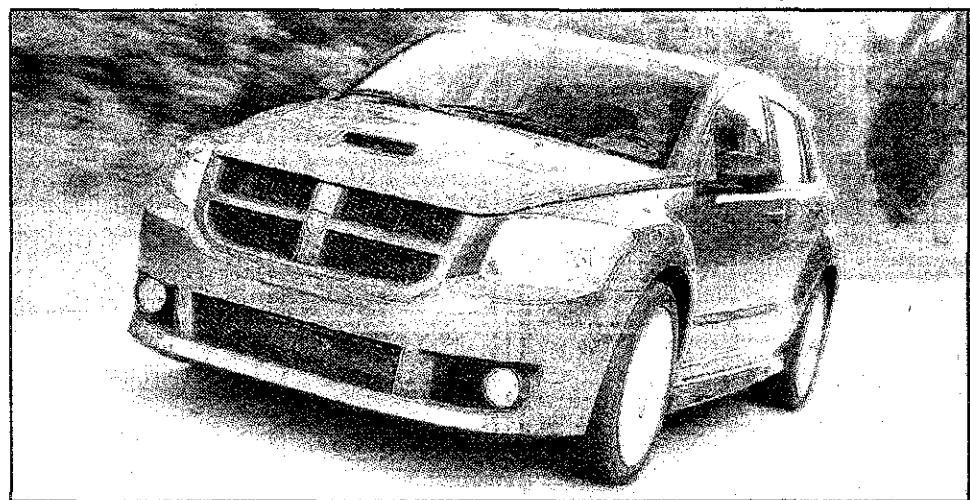
The alloy silver finish extends to the shift bezel, and bright aluminum pedal pads feature rubber studs for enhanced grip.

An optional Reconfigurable Display is available, with "performance pages" that provide lateral and longitudinal G-force, one-eighth-mile and one-quarter-mile acceleration time and speed, 0-60 mph time and braking distance.

The interior offers some cool features, and I mean that literally. Above the glove compartment is what Dodge calls a "chill zone." It's a compartment that will hold up to four bottles or cans of your favorite beverage, and the compartment is cooled by air from the air conditioner.

The center console holds a flip up compartment to hold a cell phone or mp3 player. There are plenty of cupholders and other storage areas built in, and there is a power outlet available, as well.

The seats feature "performance fabric," whatever that is, and provide very good support. The seats can only be adjusted manually, though. The passenger seat can be



The new Caliber SRT 4 looks like the Dodge Charger's smaller sibling.

folded forward to create a table-like surface. And 60/40 rear seats are available that can also be folded flat, giving you a good amount of cargo space.

Of course, if you'd prefer to carry passengers in the rear seating area, you can. While I wouldn't want to go cross country in the back seat, for normal driving distances there's enough room for two adults in the back. In the front, there's plenty of leg- and headroom.

The Caliber SRT 4 comes with air conditioning; a tilt-steering column; a leather-wrapped steering wheel; rear window defroster; a theft-deterrent system; keyless entry; power windows, locks and mirrors; and cruise control. A power sunroof is available as an option.

The standard audio system is an AM/FM/CD system with a jack for an auxiliary source, like an mp3 player, and four speakers. You can upgrade to a Kicker high-performance audio system that includes 13 speakers in seven locations, and is powered by a 322-watt amplifier and 200-watt subwoofer.

So much for the aesthetics - how does it drive? Actually, it's fun to drive. The standard powerplant for the SRT 4 is a 2.4-liter, 4-cylinder, turbocharged DOHC engine that features variable-valve timing and an intake manifold design with flow control valves.

It'll give you amazing power for a 4 cylinder. It's rated at 285 horsepower and 265 lb.-ft. of torque -- enough to get you blazin' off the line; 0-60 mph performance checks in at under six seconds. It's EPA-rated at 21, 26 mpg and you will need premium fuel.

It has a 6-speed manual transmission that is a breeze to shift when you're accelerating, but I found downshifting to be tricky. I had to engage in gear-hunting as the Caliber sometimes seemed to want to select a different gear than I did. Overall, though, going through the gears can be a lot of fun if you consider yourself to be even a little bit of an auto enthusiast type.

Ride and handling is a mixed bag. The ride can be rough, but the Caliber's handling is excellent. The front suspension is an independent MacPherson strut system, with coil-over-spring gas-charged shocks and stabilizer bar. In the rear, it's a multi-link independent system with coil springs, link-type stabilizer bar and gas-charged shocks.

Electronic Stability Program is standard. It's a nice system for a compact car. Rough roads will jar you a little, but the ride is smooth and quiet at highway speeds. Power-assisted rack-and-pinion steering is standard, and the turning circle is tight enough for quick U-turns (don't ask me how I know that; I won't tell you!) and for easy parking.

The SRT 4 Caliber comes with anti-lock 4-wheel disc brakes, which are excellent, and side-window curtain airbags. Side front seat airbags are optional.

The 2008 Dodge Caliber SRT 4 starts at about \$22,500. Add the sunroof and upgraded performance tires and you're at about \$24,000 -- not bad for a performance car.

There's a lot to like about the 2008 Dodge Caliber SRT 4. You'll get excellent performance, handling and braking, a sharp-looking interior and nice exterior styling, as well.

And if you're looking to dip your toe in the performance pool, this might be a good way to get your feet wet.

Auto critic Dave Menard is senior editor of Avanti NewsFeatures. Write to him at autodave@bellsouth.net. Distributed by Fracassa News Group. ©2008, Fracassa Communications LLC.

2008 Dodge Caliber SRT 4.
Vehicle class: Compact car.
Power: 2.4 liter turbocharged 4-cylinder engine.
Mileage: 21 / 26 mpg (premium fuel).
Where built: Belvidere, Ill.
Base price: \$22,435.
Price as tested: \$23,990.

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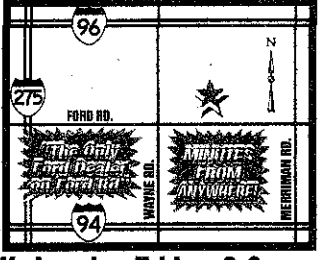


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