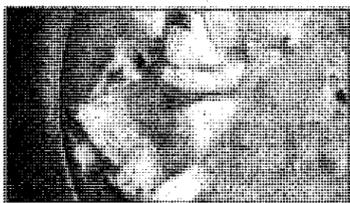


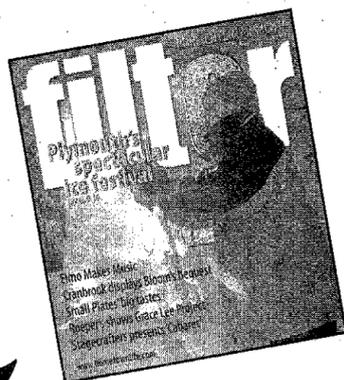
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WESTLAND Observer

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Fitness center proposed for Quo Vadis site

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

The Quo Vadis, a once-plush movie theater shuttered since 2002, could be demolished as early as spring by developers who hope to build a \$5 million fitness center on the prime real-estate site.

Lake Bellaire Properties LLC has proposed a site plan to tear down the Quo Vadis and build a nearly 42,000-square-foot fitness center across Wayne Road

from Westland Shopping Center.

Mayor William Wild disclosed the proposal Tuesday night during a Westland City Council meeting, drawing applause from an audience that appeared as eager as city officials to see the dilapidated theater torn down.

Lake Bellaire's plans will be discussed during a Westland Planning Commission meeting scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 5, at City

Hall. The developer hopes to move on the project this year.

"We're real happy about that," Westland Planning Director Bruce Thompson said.

City officials hope the project, if it happens, could spur other redevelopment efforts around the mall, particularly in long-vacant, big-box stores like the former Sam's Club, Best Buy and Service Merchandise.

The new center, yet unnamed publicly,

would be built near the longtime Fitness USA at Wayne and Central City Parkway, providing fitness-industry competition in the city's core shopping district.

"It will make a huge improvement on a key corner in a highly visible area of our city," council President James Godbout said. "I think it's a great project. I'm excited about it, and it's long overdue in making something happen on that site."

The Quo Vadis opened in the mid-1960s with a futuristic look created by

world-class architect Minoru Yamasaki, who also designed New York City's former World Trade Center. It became one of the early theaters to offer cocktails to patrons.

The theater stood for many years next to the old Algiers drive-in theater, which was torn down in the 1980s and replaced by a shopping center and sprawling parking lot.

dclem@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2110

Remembering the dream

40 years later, racial equality, justice elusive

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Despite gains in civil rights, a Westland minister Monday cited escalating poverty, anti-affirmative action measures and noose-hanging incidents as troubling reminders that the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream of racial equality and justice remains elusive.

Nearly 40 years after King was shot dead outside a Memphis, Tenn., motel, the Rev. Terrance McClain gave a crowd-rousing speech to hundreds of people who gathered inside the Annapolis Park Church of Christ for the city's King holiday. McClain envisioned what King might have said, if his message hadn't been silenced by an assassin's bullet.

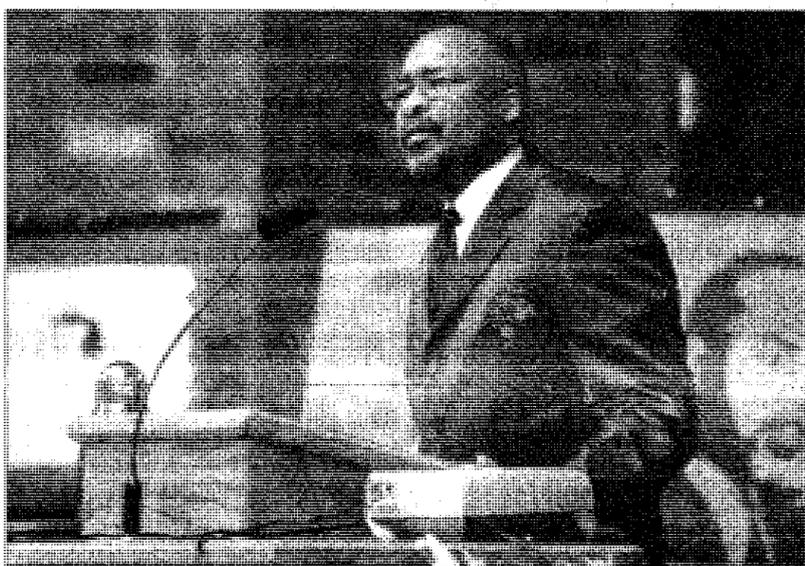
McClain hailed gains in political offices made by women, blacks, Hispanics and other minorities, and he said Hillary Rodham Clinton and Barack Obama — the only African-American currently serving in the U.S. Senate — have broken down barriers by emerging as front-runners for the Democratic presidential nomination.

McClain pointed to gains of such leaders as Kwame Kilpatrick, Detroit's youngest-ever mayor, and Shirley Franklin, elected in 2001 as Atlanta's first female mayor and the first African-American woman to head a major Southern city.

Still, McClain predicted that King, who died at age 39, would be saddened by the lack of "moral and spiritual progress" made since his days as a civil rights pioneer. McClain said President Bush last year sought a military budget that averaged \$44 billion a month.

"Just one month's military expenditure is more than twice as much as is needed to provide all 9 million uninsured children with health coverage," McClain said.

He also stressed that less than 1 percent



The Rev. Terrance McClain of the Annapolis Park Church of Christ gives the keynote address during the city's observance of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. Behind him are posters designed by local students.

of the U.S. population controls more than 40 percent of the nation's wealth, while the bottom 20 percent of citizens fight for less than 4.5 percent of it.

"I am concerned about that America," McClain envisioned King as saying. "I'm concerned that 37 million Americans live below the poverty line, and since 2000, 5.4 million people have fallen into poverty."

In the first four years of this century, McClain said, the number of children living in "extreme poverty" rose by 20 percent. He related that to how blacks once fought against segregated lunch counters, public buses and residential neighborhoods.

"The question is no longer where shall we eat, but whether we will eat," he said. "The question is no longer where shall we ride, but



Michael Coats, 9, a third-grader at P.D. Graham Elementary School, and his mother, Sylvia Coats, applaud the Detroit School of Arts Male Ensemble, which performed at the ceremony honoring the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

Please see KING, A3

McConnell to seek district judge post

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Backed by high-ranking endorsements, longtime Assistant City Attorney Mark McConnell has announced he will campaign for the judicial seat that will become vacant when Westland 18th District Judge C. Charles Bokos retires at year's end.

Bokos will turn 70 before the November election, an age that by state law will prevent him from seeking a new term. Bokos was appointed as judge in 1992 by then-Gov. John Engler to fill a vacancy, and local voters elected him in 1994, 1996 and 2002.

McConnell has worked as a local prosecutor and as an assistant to City Attorney Angelo Plakas. He has formed a campaign committee chaired by Bokos, the court's other judge, Sandra Ference Cicirelli, and retired Judge Gail McKnight.

McConnell also has started accumulating other endorsements, including those of Mayor William Wild, state Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, state Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, and the city's top public safety officials, Fire Chief Michael Reddy and Police Chief James Ridener.

"It is my belief that public confidence in our judicial system relies upon the assurance of well-qualified judicial candidates," McConnell said in a statement he issued about his decision to seek a six-year judicial term. "With my significant experience in the 18th District Court and courts throughout the state, I feel I am qualified to fill that role, and I look forward to serving this community as a judge for all people."

McConnell has worked for Plakas' office since June 1995. His duties, among others, have included drafting city ordinances and legal opinions, prosecuting cases and negoti-



McConnell

Please see MCCONNELL, A3

Mayor fills senior resource, community development director jobs

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Mayor William Wild continued to realign his administration Tuesday, announcing his choice of a new housing director and confirming a popular senior Friendship Center employee, Barbara Schimmel Marcum, as his

senior resources director.

Wild named a former Northville Housing Commission director, Joanne Inglis, as Westland's new housing and community development director. Inglis will start her new \$87,303-a-year job Feb. 4, replacing former Director Terry Carroll.

Inglis, who will work out of the Norwayne neighborhood's Dorsey Center, also formerly worked as a revitalization specialist for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

"I think Ms. Inglis has a chance to be a superstar here in the city of Westland," Wild said.

Inglis has won accolades from officials like Carroll's predecessor, former Westland Housing Director James Gilbert, Wild said.

"She comes highly recommended," the mayor said, describing her as "a people person."

Wild drew praise for naming Marcum as his senior director. Marcum,

longtime deputy director, had headed the department on an interim basis since former Director Peggy Ellenwood retired in December.

Marcum has worked as deputy director for 10 years, and many of her supporters years ago believed she had earned the department's top job. Her starting

salary will be \$70,083 a year.

Westland City Councilwoman Cheryl Graunstadt welcomed Marcum's appointment and said, "it's so deserving."

Marcum will work out of the senior center on Newburgh south of Ford.

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Coming Sunday in Health

Miss Junk Food fights her way back to health

Livonia school board debates consultant's energy plan

BY REBECCA JONES
STAFF WRITER

When a company makes big promises — even with a money-back guarantee — consumers tend to be skeptical.

That's the case with Livonia Public Schools Board of Education, which is considering a consultant's energy conservation program.

"It's hard for me to see how they can come in and make this sweeping change and within a year we're saving a million dollars on behavior-based changes," Trustee Cynthia Markarian said.

Dallas-based Energy Education

Inc. presented a plan last month that they claim would result in a net savings of about \$514,000 in the first year — and at least \$10.8 million in utility costs over the next decade.

Here's how it works: The district would hire an in-house energy manager, trained by Energy Education, to work with staff to reduce consumption of electricity, water, natural gas and fuel oil, as well as to work with experts from Energy Education to make sure systems operate at maximum efficiency.

The company said the district is guaranteed to save at least as much as the program costs. If LPS meets the projected savings, Energy

Education would get a bonus equal to their consulting fee.

Markarian said she wants to make sure the guarantees are outlined in a contract before the board's approval.

Trustee Steve King, however, has argued against paying a consultant, at a cost of \$262,080, and investing millions of dollars in the program. "This is something we can do ourselves."

King said the district should establish an energy policy and hire a manager to implement suggestions staff members have provided.

"We could probably do that and save some money," agreed Rod Hosman, director of administra-

tive services. But, he said, based on attempts to do that in the past "we would not save the dollar amount that they're projecting for us to save."

Sixty-seven Michigan districts have signed on with Energy Education.

"This is a turnkey program for us," said Supt. Randy Liepa. "We think that the opportunity for savings is most significant with something like this."

"If there's a guarantee there, I don't know how we can go wrong," said Trustee Dan Lessard. "The numbers are just mind blowing. ... I'm ready to go."

"Me too," King said of his plan. Trustee Robert Freeman said he

was concerned about the cost of the program and wants to get a better feel for what Energy Education would do.

Board members planned to talk with officials in Northville Public Schools, which attempted to establish its own energy policy before switching to Energy Education.

In the meantime, they asked Liepa to have one of the district's law firms begin contract talks with Energy Education.

The issue will come before the board for more discussion and a vote in a few weeks.

rrjones@hometownlife.com

Teacher turnover, lower utility costs save money for W-W

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

A larger than expected turnover in the teaching staff and lower retirement costs are among the \$2.9 million the Wayne-Westland Community Schools will save during fiscal 2007-08.

That was the message in a budget amendment approved by the school board last week.

"With a slightly better than anticipated beginning of the year fund equity, coupled with this budget revision, it is

expected to result in an end of the year general fund equity position of \$13.4 million," Gary Martin, deputy superintendent for administrative and business services, told the school board in the budget amendment report.

According to Martin, an increase of \$82 per student in state school aid and an increase in property taxes helped to offset losses related to declining enrollment. As a result, the shortfall the district had predicted for revenue in June 2007 will be down just \$67,000.

The district had projected expenditures of \$122.9 million, but that number has been trimmed to \$119.9 million, due in large part to teacher turnover and staff reduction to handle the lower student count, translating in \$1.7 million less in salaries.

"Normally, we have 20-25 teachers leave, but it was more than 40, so there's a more significant variance between those going out and those coming in," Martin said. "The teachers we hire to fill the positions generally come in at

Step 1; they have lower base salaries."

The district also is realizing an \$819,000 savings in what it must pay the state for employee retirement. The state reduced the percentage of payroll charge from 17.4 percent to 16.72 percent this year. The district also will spend \$440,000 less for utilities as the result of favorable rates negotiated for electricity and natural gas by a cooperative the district works with. Martin said the district generally spends around \$4 million for utilities, but it will

be more like \$3.6 million this year, an amount "that's lower than what we spent a few years ago."

Even with the costs savings, the expenditures still exceed revenue by \$2.6 million. The district is covering the shortfall by tapping into its fund equity. What's left — the \$13.4 million — represent 11.2 percent of expenditures and "falls below the fund levels generally targeted for a school district of this size," Martin said.

"That's slightly below the state average of 11.8 percent

and represents 41 days of operation," he added.

One of the revenue losses was the state-funded middle schools math grant, a loss school board Trustee Cindy Schofield called "unfortunate."

"I find it particularly frustrating that after school has started they finally tell us they're not going to fund the program," she said. "The state takes the option out of our hands to make a wise decision about the money."

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

Man enters guilty plea in fake holdup

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

One of two defendants charged with faking a robbery at a Westland cash-advance business has pleaded no contest to charges of embezzling \$1,000 to \$20,000.

Jeremy Russell Wagner, 33, was accused of helping his girlfriend, an employee of Cashland on Wayne Road near Glenwood, who told police a masked intruder robbed her and bound her with duct tape when she opened a back door to smoke a cigarette.

Wagner pleaded no con-

test Friday in front of Wayne County Circuit Judge Thomas Jackson, averting a trial. His sentencing is pending, but authorities said Wagner is expected to receive probation rather than prison time.

The second defendant, 23-year-old Ashleigh Nicole Adkins, is still facing trial for the July 19 incident.

Wagner and Adkins had been ordered to stand trial following testimony in November during a preliminary hearing in Westland 18th District Court.

An alert neighbor near Cashland testified during the

hearing that Wagner was seen behind the store before Adkins called police to report a robbery.

The testimony confirmed what police Sgt. Steve Borisch had said authorities believed all along — that the robbery was an inside job.

The Cashland incident happened just weeks after Wagner had been released from prison, where he had served about 14 years for driving drunk and causing a death, according to the Michigan Department of Corrections.

dclcm@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2110

AROUND WESTLAND

Senior party benefit

A "Flapjack Fund-raiser" will be held 8-10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 9, at Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar, 36475 Warren Road, Westland, to raise funds for John Glenn High School senior party. Tickets are \$6 for all-you-can-eat pancakes with meat. For more information, call Sheila at (734) 422-4599 or Debbie at (734) 326-4305. Information also is available by sending an e-mail to rocketseniors@aol.com.

Z-PAC dinner

The Wayne Memorial High School Parent Advisory Committee will host its third annual fund-raiser dinner, "Spring Festival of Taste," 7 p.m. Friday, March 14, at the William

D. Ford Career Technical Center on Marquette in Westland.

The dinner will be by the award-winning culinary arts staff and students. Entertainment will be by magician William Heine. There also will be a silent auction, featuring student artwork and selected items. Tickets cost \$30 each and are available at Wayne Memorial High School or by calling Wayne Memorial Principal John Albrecht at (734) 419-2200.

Proceeds will benefit the Wayne High Class of 2008.

Dems meet

The Westland Democratic Club will hold its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 29, at the Dorsey Center on Dorsey at Venoy, between Palmer and Michigan Avenue. The board will meet at 6:30 p.m.

Toys and trains

Ss. Simon & Jude Ushers Club will sponsor a buy-and-swap toys and trains show noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 3, at the church hall, located at 32500 Palmer

Road one mile west of Merriman. Admission is \$2 per person or \$4 per family. Food is available and parking is free.

There will be operating train layouts of various gauges and over 150 dealer tables. Tables are available for \$10 each. To reserve tables, call (734) 595-8327. Dealer set-up is at 9 a.m. on the day of the show.

St. Pat's party

The Grange 389 and Westland Parks and Recreation Department are once again sponsoring a family-style St. Patrick's Day Feast Sunday, March 16, at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford, Westland.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m., and an Irish dinner, prepared and served by the Grange, will be at 6 p.m. Irish entertainment will follow at 7:45 p.m.

Tickets cost \$15 for adults and \$7 for children. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Grange's third-grade dictionary program. For more information, call (734) 722-7620

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- Roeper Parent Council,
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ON THE WEB

For an expanded version of Around Westland and a gallery of photographs from the Martin Luther King Day Celebration, visit our online edition at www.hometownlife.com and click on Westland.

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CORRECTION

Pink Picks recently recommended Hot Flash Lingerie at Susan's Special Needs, but we told you it was in Birmingham. Actually, the store, which targets women undergoing chemotherapy, radiation and the effects of menopause, is at 24052 Woodward Ave. in Pleasant Ridge. Call (248) 544-4287 or visit www.sussanspecialneeds.com.

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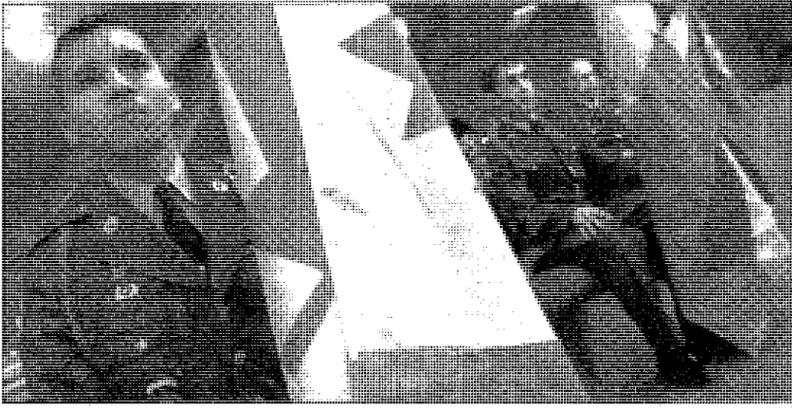
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John Glenn JROTC senior Frank Bazan holds the Canadian flag among the other cadets that carried flags representing various nations.

KING

FROM PAGE A1

whether we will ride. The question is no longer where shall we reside, but whether we will survive."

McClain, a Wayne-Westland school board trustee, predicted King would be troubled that "many of the gains of the civil rights struggle are being snatched away by the sinister yet ingenious strategy of declaring affirmative action as discriminatory." He cited Arizona, Colorado, Missouri, Nebraska and Oklahoma as states engaged in campaigns to put affirmative action bans on the November ballot, and he said Michigan, California and Washington already approved such measures.

"To all Americans, despite the progress that has been made, the playing field is far from level," McClain said, adding that "black people continue to have twice the unemployment rate of white people."

McClain bemoaned recent

incidents involving nooses being placed in a Coast Guard cadet's bag, a Long Island police station locker room and on college campuses. He also referred to a Golf Channel anchorwoman's remarks that the only hope Tiger Woods' rivals have of topping him is to lynch him in a back alley.

"The noose — like the burning cross — is a generations-old means of instilling racial fear," McClain said. "The noose evokes the lynchings of the Jim Crow South."

In other segments of Monday's ceremony, the crowd enjoyed spiritual songs by the Detroit School of Arts Male Ensemble and the Annapolis Park Church of Christ PUSH (Pray Until Something Happens) Choir. Westland John Glenn High School's JROTC students carried the flags of many nations during a flag ceremony.

Westland City Council President James Godbout remembered King as a man "who brought hope and healing to America" in a peaceful way for people of all races.

Mayor William Wild praised King for helping to rectify "unspeakable flaws and injustices" in the nation.

Westland, itself, has made gains during the last year. Local voters for the first time in more than three decades elected an African-American, Dewey Reeves, to the city council, and Wild made the city administration more reflective of the city's diverse population with two black appointees, Deputy Mayor Courtney Conover and Public Service Director Kevin Buford.

On Monday, Wild also honored winners of this year's poster contest honoring King. The winners included Candace Papineau, a Wayne Memorial High 11th-grader from Westland; Samuel Whitfield, a Hicks Elementary fifth-grader from Inkster; and Stephanie Rainey, a Franklin Middle School seventh-grader from Westland.

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Police charge Ann Arbor man with robbery at convenience store

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

An Ann Arbor man is facing armed robbery charges in Westland amid accusations he robbed a local convenience store at gunpoint.

Noel Anthony Napper, 40, is named in a criminal warrant and could be arraigned as early as today (Thursday) for brandishing a gun and robbing the 7-Eleven at Cherry Hill and Hix early Friday, Jan. 11.

Napper, already charged in a Livonia robbery, is facing Westland charges of armed robbery, felony firearm and possession of a firearm by a felon, police Sgt. Michael Harhold said.

Napper will be charged as a third-degree habitual offender because he already has two armed robbery convictions from the early 1990s.

During the latest 7-Eleven incident, a masked gunman went inside the store around 5 a.m., revealed a gun, demanded money and fled with an undisclosed amount of cash, police Lt. Daniel Karrick said at the time.

No shots were fired, and no one was injured.

Westland authorities became interested in Napper after learning that he had been arrested and ultimately charged with armed robbery in Livonia.

Napper already is being held in the Wayne County Jail in lieu of a \$500,000 cash bond, but he could face yet another bond when he is arraigned in Westland 18th District Court.

If convicted, he could face penalties ranging up to life in prison.

dclem@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2110

Kym Worthy schedules seminar on elderly abuse prevention

It's a seminar worthy of Wayne County's top prosecutor.

Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy will visit Westland next month for a seminar about abuse of the elderly.

The seminar, What Constitutes Elder Abuse: An Educational Seminar, will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 20, at the city's senior Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh Road south of Ford.

Worthy will discuss the physical, emotional and financial aspects of elder abuse and will answer questions. Mayor William Wild will host the forum.

"We are encouraged by Ms. Worthy's proactive efforts to raise awareness about abuse, neglect, and exploitation of the senior community," Wild said.

Elder abuse, an umbrella term which refers to any knowing, intentional, or neg-

ligent act by a caregiver or any other person that causes harm or a serious risk of harm to a vulnerable adult, may include not only physical abuse, but also sexual and emotional abuse as well. It also includes the illegal taking, misuse, or concealment of funds, property or assets of a vulnerable elder.

protective services, an agency that assists elderly abuse victims also will participate. Westland Police Chief James Ridener also will define the roll of law enforcement and intervention.

Those interested in attending the seminar should register by calling (734) 722-7628.

Representatives from adult

MCCONNELL

FROM PAGE A1

ating plea agreements.

He earned his degree from the University of Detroit School of Law and worked for nearly two years for the Michigan Court of Appeals as a prehearing research attorney, before taking a job with Plakas' office.

McConnell also cited his extensive community involvement. He is president of the nonprofit S.P.A.R.K. (Sports, Parks and Recreation for Kids) and has been involved with the Westland Chamber of Commerce, the Youth Assistance Program advisory board, the Wayne-Westland Federal Credit Union and the city police department's local block grant advisory board. He is the immediate past presi-

dent and a board member for the Westland Rotary Club.

His community involvement earned him the award of Westland First Citizen 2007.

McConnell is married to wife Sherry, a labor and delivery nurse and clinical nursing instructor at Schoolcraft College and U-D Mercy. They have two daughters, Allison and Grace.

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Visitors like what they see at this year's auto show

BY JAY M. GROSSMAN
STAFF WRITER

Like a kid in a candy shop, Joe Dale darted from one exhibit to the next at the North American International Auto Show, snapping photos of Cadillacs and pickup trucks, convertibles and concept cars.

The Southfield resident was taking in his first car show Monday.

"I live just down the road and I wanted to see what they have here," Dale said. "I think it's amazing. I love GMs, I love Chevys. I really like the new Camaro."

Ken Skicki of Canton was checking out the pickup trucks with his wife, Shawna, and three of their kids.

"We probably want a truck," he said. "Either the Ford Expedition, Excursion or F-150 — something like that. We have seven kids, so we're looking for something big."

Brad Kellman has no such concerns. The Troy resident is single and doesn't own a car. He rides the bus instead.

"It's much easier that way," Kellman said. "It's better than sitting behind the wheel of a

car through all that heavy traffic. This is much more relaxing."

It took him about an hour Monday to take the SMART bus from Troy to the Cobo Center.

"This is my first time down here," he said. "It's just a grand time."

Chris Allen of Westland, a longtime member of the Michigan Teamsters, has delivered cars to the NAIAS for the past 16 years. He's a huge fan of the 2009 Corvette ZR1, and was admiring the Chevy display with his family and dozens of other spectators Monday.

"I think this is the most beautiful car we ever brought in," Allen said. "It doesn't have a bad angle. When I walk around and look at all the angles, it takes my breath away."

"The interior is impeccable ... the rear end ... the tail lights — everything is just gorgeous."

Duane Canapini was cruising around the show with his wife Katherine and their 6-year-old son, Vincent "Vinnie the Vin Man."

After recently totaling his Toyota Scion on I-275 near Ford Road, the Southfield man was at the show to check out the new models. While Canapini likes the Dodge Dakota and Plymouth Neon, he's sticking with a foreign brand.



Tiffany and Amber Allen (at left) listen as their father, Chris Allen, describes his favorite cars at the auto show. The family is from Westland.

"I do 80,000 miles a year and tit for tat it's the best quality you can get," he said about the Scion.

Words his mother probably doesn't want to hear, Canapini admits, since she worked in a Chrysler factory her entire career.

What will it take for Canapini to buy American? "Better gas mileage and improved reliability," he quickly replied.

Standing nearby, Mike Kranig of Canton was taking a close look at the Chevy Malibu — selected as the 2008 North American Car of the Year.

"I love the interior and dashboard layout," he said. "The color and fabric kind of contrast nicely on the seats ... and I think the outside styling looks real classy. It looks a lot more expensive than it really is."

Kranig has attended the NAIAS every year since the show first came to Detroit 20 years ago.

As for buying American, Kranig admits he's a bit mixed about the message.

"They're made in Ohio and all over the place now, so it's hard to say," he said about Honda and other foreign car manufacturers that opened plants in the U.S. "But I do like to support the hometown and Michigan really depends on this."

The NAIAS runs through Sunday.

grossman@hometownlife.com | (248) 901-2529

Westland Jaycees select new officers

The Westland Jaycees, a local organization dedicated to training young leaders through community service, has named its new officers.

They are Kimberly Torres, president; Frank Gilbert, board chairman; Dan Austin Jr., management vice president; Ryan Mills, management director; Debi Goetz, community vice president; Brigette Felix, community director; Tom Johns, individual devel-

opment vice president; Jennifer Wood, individual development director; David Mitchell, membership development vice president; Darby Mawby, membership development director; Patrick Torres, treasurer; and Suesanna Towne, secretary.

For more information, leave a message on the Jaycees hotline at (734) 226-0400 or go online to www.westlandjaycees.org.

Academy recertifies GC funeral director



Santeiu

John N. Santeiu Jr. of Garden City recently qualified for recertification as a Certified Funeral Service Practitioner by the Academy of Professional Funeral Service Practice.

The academy, founded in 1976, recognizes those practitioners who have voluntarily entered into a program of personal and professional growth. It also has goals of raising and improving the standards of funeral service and to encouraging practitioners to make continuing education a lifelong

process in their own self-interest, the interest of the families they service and the community in which they serve.

To initially receive the award, Santeiu had to complete a 180-hour program of continuing education activities and events. In addition, he was required to accumulate 20 hours of continuing education per year to recertify.

Credits are awarded for work leading to personal and professional growth in four areas - academic activities, professional activities, career

review for retroactive credit and community and civic activities.

President of John Santeiu and Son Funeral Home, Santeiu, 69, has been a Garden City resident since 1962 when the funeral home was built on Inkster Road at Marquette. He serves on the Downtown Development Authority Board and the Garden City Hospital Board and has been active at Schoolcraft College and St. Dunstan Catholic Church. He also is a past Garden City First Citizen.

Nominations sought for alumnus award

In the midst of the pomp and circumstance of John Glenn High School's Class of 2008 graduation, there will be time to recognize the achievement of a distinguished alumnus. Each year, the high school recognizes an outstanding graduate, and the award presentation has become

one of the highlights of the graduation ceremony.

The most difficult task is to locate the many alumni who have distinguished themselves since their graduation. The Faculty Council at John Glenn High School is asking the community to help in the selection process by nominat-

ing a John Glenn graduate who has earned distinction in their field of endeavor following graduation. The council feels "that successful graduates, such as these, could have a positive motivational effect on the graduating seniors as well as the school community and the faculty."

Nominations can be made by contacting Robyn Brennan at John Glenn High School, 36105 Marquette, Westland, MI 48185. The Faculty Council will review all applications and select the nominee to be honored with this year's graduating class.

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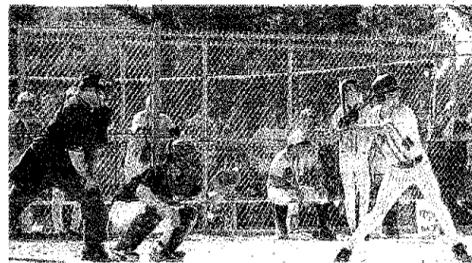
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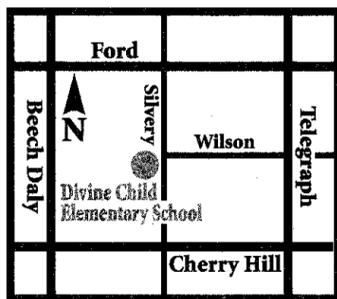
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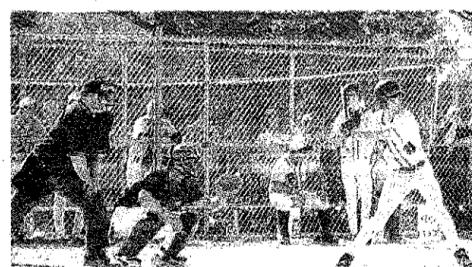


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7 - 8:30 pm



Test/College Data: *Graduating Class of 2007*

ACT Standings

	English	Math	Reading	Science	Comp
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Michigan	20.7	21.3	21.8	21.7	21.5
Divine Child	23.8	21.7	24.0	22.5	23.1

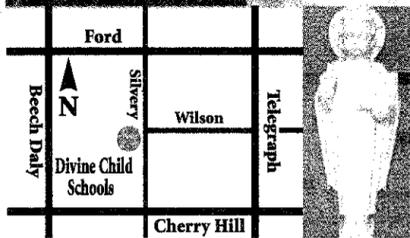
Class of 2007: Attending College 100%
Academic Scholarships 36%
Scholarships Earned \$5 million



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RELIGION CALENDAR

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

JANUARY

Swiss steak dinner

Newburg Church Missions Committee is sponsoring a home cooked Swiss steak dinner with all the fixin's 4:30-7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 25. Proceeds will go to housing the homeless. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$4 children. Mac-n-cheese will be available for kids. Carryout will be available or stay for dinner and afterwards play board games or cards. Donations accepted. Tickets will be available January 6-20 in the office at 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Call 734-422-0149.

Grand opening

Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank Grand Opening 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Jan. 26, at the church, 8775 Ronda Drive, south of Joy, between Haggerty and Lilley. Free clothing for men, women and children. For more information, call (734) 404-2480 or visit www.CantonCF.org.

Single Place Ministry

Upcoming activities include a walk in Heritage Park 10 a.m. and Whaler's Hockey Game 5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 26, and a Superbowl House Party Sunday, Feb. 3. Single Place Ministry

meets Thursdays 7:30-7:45 p.m. for social time, 7:45-8 p.m. opening, 8-9 p.m. program, at First Presbyterian Church, 200 East Main Street, Northville. Call (248) 349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org. Cost is \$5 per person.

Open house

St. Michael the Archangel School Open House hosts an open house for prospective students and their families 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 27, at the school, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth, Livonia. Honor Society students will conduct tours of the school facilities and staff will be available to explain programs and answer questions. The school, which has been under the direction of the Felician Sisters since it opened in 1941, is the largest parochial school in Livonia with more than 800 students currently enrolled in grades K-8. For more information, call (734) 261-1455.

Blood drive

The Red Cross blood drive takes place 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 27, in the Parish Hall at St. Edith Catholic Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Walk-ins welcome. For information, call (734) 464-1222, Ext. 309.

Reformed Protestant services

Continue Sundays at 3:30 p.m. The doctrines and teachings of Reformed Protestantism will be preached at the worship services of the Free Church of Scotland (Continuing). A new preaching station has been established at Cherry Hill School, 50440 Cherry Hill,

corner of Ridge Road, Canton. The Rev. Sean Humby will preach each Sunday. For more information, call Margaret Waldecker at (313) 530-6170, visit www.westminsterconfession.org, or e-mail Humby at sean.humby@fuse.net.

Church offerings

Riverside Park Church of God, Sunday worship is at 10 a.m., Wednesday bible classes (child through adult) at 7 p.m. Youth outings held monthly. The senior group (age 50 plus) has lunch together every month. The men get together for breakfast the first Saturday of the month plus we offer choir practice for all singers. All visitors welcome. The church is at 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth Road, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990 for details.

Staying afloat

ABC's of personal/family finance 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 30, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, Livonia. No charge but pre-registration is encouraged. Call (734) 422-6038.

Open House

All Saints Catholic Schools continues its celebration of Catholic Schools Week with an Open House for prospective families 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 30. At this time the Community Activity Committee members with the National Junior Honor Society students will provide tours of the school which serves students from Preschool through grade 8 of the Archdiocese of Detroit. Interested families are invited to visit the Web

site www.allsaintscs.com, call (734) 459-2490 or send e-mail to asc9@hotmail.com.

Court of St. Brigid

Scholarship Program sponsored by the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Rose Kennedy Division, will be held Saturday, Feb. 16, at the AOH Hall, 24242 Grand River, Detroit. Educational scholarships will be awarded to the winner and her court. Eligible for the program are girls, ages 17-22, who are Irish and Catholic. For application and more information, call Maureen Kelly at (734) 632-0334 or visit www.detroitirish.org. Deadline for application is Friday, Feb. 9.

Special services

Sundays in January the focus is on how life would be different if you only had 30 days to live, 10:30 a.m. at Friendship Church which meets at Michigan Theological Seminary, 41550 Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth. For information, call (734) 710-9370 or visit www.CantonFriendship.org.

Thursday fellowship dinner

All are welcome, 6 p.m. dinners catered by The Cookie Lady, Susan Navarro, at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730.

Thrift store

Open Wednesdays 9:30-11:30 a.m. and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730.

Tai Chi class

Orchard United Methodist Church (30450 Farmington Rd., Farmington Hills) is hosting a Tai Chi Class by Sam Purdy, Wu Style Tai Chi. This meditative form of Martial Arts is great for reducing stress and is great for overall health memory and balance. Everyone is welcome from beginning to experienced participants at any time. Classes began 7-8:30 p.m. Jan. 14, and continue every Monday thereafter. Cost per class depends on number of participants. For information or to reserve your space, call (248) 701-1587 or (248) 626-3620. Visit www.orchardumc.org for updates.

UPCOMING

Heart workshop

Living a Heart Centered Life workshop 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 2, at Unity Church of Ann Arbor; 4599 Carpenter Road. Tap into your heart's wisdom for health and healing. Find your life's purpose. Learn how to overcome the negative emotions that can cause heart disease. Dr. Kirk Laman, board certified cardiologist, author, trainer, and assistant Professor of Medicine Michigan State University. For cost and to registration, call (734) 434-8545.

Lenten services

Start on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 6 at 7:30 p.m. in the chapel and continue every Wednesday through March 13, at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford, (313) 534-7730. Maundy Thursday service will be 7:30 p.m. March 20, the Easter Worship Service at 10 a.m. March 23 in the sanctuary.

Lenten services

7:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday, Feb. 6. Mid-week Wednesday Lenten Services 7:30 p.m. Feb. 13, 20, 27, March 5 and 12. Holy week services 10 a.m. Palm Sunday, March 16; 7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday, March 20; Good Friday (March 21) Reflections on the Passion 12:30-2 p.m., Tenebrae Service at 7:30 p.m.; Easter Vigil 7:30-9 p.m. Saturday, March 22, and 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Easter Sunday, March 23, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. For information, call (734) 427-1414. Weekly worship services 10 a.m. Sundays with nursery, Adult Learning and Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. No 6 p.m. Sunday services during Lent or Easter Sunday. All are welcome to join us.

Widowed friends

Meet for an Italian buffet dinner, conversation and cards 5-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 13, at Corsi's Italian Restaurant, Seven Mile near Inkster, Livonia. Cost is \$15, includes buffet, beverage, dessert, tax and gratuity. Send payment by Feb. 9. For mailing information, call Chet at (734) 459-4316 or Gloria at (313) 381-4187.

Christian comedian

Ed Thompson (www.edthompson-live.com), 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 10, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Rd., north of I-96 (Schoolcraft service drive), Livonia. Call (734) 522-6830.

Curt Collins concert

Top 20 Christian Music performer Curt Collins will be performing 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 10, at St. John Lutheran Church 23225 Gill Rd., two blocks west of downtown Farmington. Admission is free. A Love Offering will be taken. Call (248) 474-0584.

Single Place Ministry

Divorce recovery workshop continues to Feb. 21, at First Presbyterian Church, Emeritus Room, 200 E. Main, Northville. Topics include networking/midlife crisis, stage of grief, putting your "ex" in focus, legal aspects of divorce (includes pot luck dinner), spiritual help and forgiveness, helping children through divorce, and relationships old and new. Cost \$35, includes book, Growing through Divorce. Scholarships available. Childcare available for toddlers

through grade six. To register, call (248) 349-0911.

Lenten symposium

Saturday, Feb. 23, at St. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church, 41233 Ryan, Sterling Heights. Featured speaker is the Rev. Monsignor Charles Mangan of the Vatican's Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life. Cost is \$40 advance (\$45 at door), \$20 students, free for seminarians. All speakers also attend the youth symposium (cost \$15 for ages 12-17). Registration begins at 7 a.m., followed by Mass at 8 a.m. For more information, visit www.holytrinityapostolate.com, send e-mail to barbaremm@sbcglobal.net or call Shirley at (313) 277-8905, Jerene (248) 625-2461 or Bonnie (586) 781-8523. Registration form must be received by Feb. 20.

Men's retreat

Feb. 29 to March 2, at St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center, Outer Drive and I-96. Single rooms, own bath, all meals. Cost is approximately \$125. Call Ruben at (734) 261-5321 for appointment.

VBS summer ministries

The International Christian Education Association presents its 42nd preview 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 1, at Ward Church, Six Mile and Haggerty, Northville. Get a head start on your church's summer program by viewing exhibits and demonstrations from national publishers, attend 4 of 20 workshops on organizing, planning and administering summer programs, also make and take puppetry and teaching techniques, morning refreshments and lunch included in registration fee. The event is non-denominational and open to the public. Call (248) 557-5526 or visit www.iceaonline.org.

Sisters in Christ

Women's conference 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 19, at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, east of Beech Daly, Redford. Cost is \$40 pre-conference registration, \$50 at door. Call (313) 534-7730. This is an interdenominational conference to help women connect their Christian life to one another. Speakers are Brenda Josee who's been active in Christian publishing 25 years, and Nancy Moser who's published 17 inspirational novels.

ONGOING

Church services

Want a unique church experience? Join in Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. for a service that will lift your entire family, but be prepared for what will happen after just one service at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh (corner of Plymouth Road), Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990 for information.

Living Water series

Mark McGilvrey leads a 10-week video series called H2O starting 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 13, at Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-6722. The group is open to men and women who would like to review the basic teachings of Jesus who claimed to be living water. It is also intended for those who have never made a commitment to Jesus.

Couple prayer series

St. Colette Church, 17600 Newburgh, Livonia, is offering a life-changing Couple Prayer Series (www.coupleprayer.org) for married or engaged couple, began 7-9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 4, in the Activity Center Hall. Couples who pray together daily have a divorce rate of less than 1 divorce in every 1000 marriages. For registration information, call Mary Ellen at (734) 464-4435.

ENDOW

St. Michael the Archangel Parish of Livonia hosts two different sessions of the Archdiocese of Detroit's ENDOW program, a continuing women's study group focused on the dignity of women of all ages and faiths. Based on Pope John Paul II's Letter to Women, the group meets 9:30 a.m. Thursdays (began Jan. 10). The second session is called Different Times, Abiding Dignity and deals with a woman's inherent dignity at all stages of her life from 0 to 100. The group meets 9:30 a.m. Tuesdays (began Jan. 8). Both groups meet in the convent basement meeting room. Women of all ages and faiths welcome. There is a \$60 charge for materials, but no woman will be turned away because of inability to pay. Register by calling (734) 261-1455, Ext. 207 or online at www.endowonline.com. St. Michael's complex is at 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Rd., Livonia.

ENDOW

Educating on the Nature and Dignity of Women sessions 7-9 p.m. Thursdays, to March 6, (explores Pope John Paul II's Mulieris Dignitatem-On the Dignity and Vocation of Women), in Bixmal Hall church building at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Rd., Livonia. Second session begins 7-9 p.m. Mondays, Jan. 14, to March 3, (explores Pope John Paul II's Letter to Women), in conference room in parish office. Registration required for both sessions. \$60 for materials for each session. Contact Michele Schmidt at (734) 367-0353 or send e-mail to mtscmidt@sbcglobal.net.

Grief support group

Offered by Romulus Wesleyan Church and Hospice of Michigan for 13 weeks began 9 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 6, at the church, 37300 Goddard, and 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 10, continues to March 16 and March 20, respectively, at the Romulus Public Library on Wayne Road at Goddard. For information, call (734) 941-1511, (734) 942-7589 or visit www.griefshare.org.

Day of service

Beginning in January, a Day of Service and Spirituality will be made available by the Capuchin Soup Kitchen and the Solanus Casey Center. The purpose of the day is to serve, to meet, and to have one's faith grow. The day allows groups to help at the Capuchin Services Center and dine with guests at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen. A tour of the Earth Works urban garden, which provides six tons of produce each season, will also be made available. The day concludes with a self-guided tour of the Solanus Casey Center, a spirituality center dedicated to the Capuchin friar who is credited with miraculous cures and valued for his wise and compassionate counsel. The minimum age is 7th grade and the maximum size of the group is 30. The day starts at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 2:30 p.m. There is no cost. Lunch included. For more information, send e-mail to ccrane@thecapuchins.org. To learn more about the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, visit www.cskdetroit.org.

New schedule

9 a.m. Sunday school for all ages and Faith Forum, 10 a.m. worship Service with Communion and nursery, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. All visitors welcome. For more information, call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia.org.

Worship Service

10:30 a.m. Sunday, Adult Bible Class at 9:30 a.m., Children's Sunday School during worship at 10:30 a.m., at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 27035 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights. For more information, call (313) 278-5755.

Worship

Sundays: 10 a.m. Worship Service with nursery, 9 a.m. Sunday School for tots through high school and Adult Faith Forum at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile Road, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia.org. Visitors welcome.

Sunday worship

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

Worship service

10:45 a.m. Sundays, Adult Sunday School at 9:30 a.m., Children's Sunday School during worship, Youth Group 5-7 p.m. and Catechism for Grown-ups 5:30-6:30 p.m., at Trinity Church of Livonia, 34500 Six Mile. For information, call (734) 425-2800.

Upper Room Ministries

Meets 6 p.m. Sundays, in Room 111 in Our Lady of Loretto School on Beech Daly and Six Mile in Redford. Upper Room Ministries is a spirit filled, charismatic ministry sponsored by Living Water Church in Livonia. All faiths welcome to attend. For information, call Pastor Luke Willis at (734) 425-3369, or Bishop Dan Strength at (734) 812-1060.

F.I.R.E. ministries

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

New worship schedule

Regular church service 10 a.m. Sundays with Communion and Nursery, 9 a.m. Sunday School for all ages and Faith Forum, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414. All visitors welcome. Visit www.holycrosslivonia.org.

Sunday worship

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

Worship services

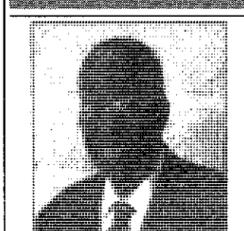
10 a.m. Sundays Divine Liturgy followed by a fellowship/coffee time, at Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church, 36075 W. Seven Mile, between Newburgh and Wayne roads, Livonia. Church school for children and adults begins at 9 a.m. Sunday. Vespers are celebrated 5 p.m. Saturdays. Visitors are always welcome.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

Pancake breakfasts

The Ushers' Club of St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Livonia continue their 30-year tradition of all-you-can-eat pancake breakfasts on the third Sunday of each month from 8:30 a.m.

Please see RELIGION, A7

Passages
Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances
1-800-579-7355 ♦ fax: 734-953-2232
e-mail: oeobits@hometownlife.com



ALBERT ABRAHAM WARD, Ed.D.

Age 78 of Westland passed away on Saturday, Jan. 19. Beloved husband of Doris for 47 years; loving father of Albert M. (Betty), Cheryl, David, and Donald (Fern). Dr. Ward was an educator and school administrator for 29 years. Dr. Ward received his B.A. and M.A. degrees from Wayne State, and his Ed.D. from the University of Michigan. Dr. Ward was an avid supporter of the Boy Scouts of America. He was the founder and National Director of Scouting Ministries for the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church. Honors and recognitions include District Area of Merit, the Silver Beaver, and the God and Service Award. Dr. Ward was also involved in numerous community activities. He was a member of the Wayne-Westland Friends of the Library. He was also honored with the "Dr. Albert A. Ward Day" by Westland City Council and Mayor. The funeral will be at 11am at Grace CME Church at 642 W. McNichols, Detroit on Thursday, January 24th.

ANNABELLE WYZLIC

Age 95, Warrenton, MO, Jan. 19, 2008, formerly of Farmington, MI. Visitation 1-2pm Thurs., Jan. 24 at Pitman Funeral Home, Warrenton, MO. Graveside service at Warrenton City Cemetery following visitation. Memorials may be given to a charity of the donor's choice.



D. PAT SPARROW

Age 80, January 22, 2008. Beloved wife of David. Loving mother of Susan (Michael) Carson, Nancy (Michael) Sparrow and Joanne (Dick) Stewart. Proud grandmother of Sarah Carson, Julie (Kevin) Vranes Carson, Jessie, Lizzie and Molly Stewart and Evan Sparrow and great grandmother of Stella Vranes. She was a 50-year member of Christ Church Cranbrook, a trustee emeritus of the Michigan Humane Society and a long time resident of Harbor Springs. Memorial Service Friday 11 a.m. at Christ Church Cranbrook, Bloomfield Hills. Memorials to the Michigan Humane Society appreciated. Arrangements by Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Home, Royal Oak, 248-541-7000. Share your memories at: www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com

EARL WILLIAM BRACKEN

Age 69, of Farmington Hills. Passed on December 20, 2007. Beloved son of Earl N. Bracken & the late Dorothy Bracken; brother of the late Nancy Bracken. Memorial Service at Clarenceville United Methodist Church, 20300 Middlebelt Road in Livonia, on Jan. 26, 2008 at 1:00pm.



NORMA V. McALLISTER

Age 87, of Lima, Ohio, died 7:10 a.m., Saturday, January 19, 2008 in the Ridge at Shawnee. She was born May 31, 1920 in Calgary, Alberta, Canada to Walter J. And Bessie Evelyn (Hope) Coffin. Both parents are deceased. On January 31, 1942 she married Roy William McAllister, who died in 1983. Mrs. McAllister was a homemaker. She was a member of the Market Street Presbyterian Church where she had taught a Senior High Sunday School Class. She also was a member of the Child Conservation League, Lost Creek Country Club, Lima Memorial Hospital Auxiliary and the Shawnee Township Board of Appeals. She had been a presiding judge in her precinct for the Allen County Election Board. She was a volunteer for Johnny Applesed Park District for 15 years and the Y.W.C.A. since 1977. She had been a salesperson at Gregg's and Lazarus and had worked in the Girl Scout office. She loved birds, especially cardinals. Survivors include four children, Janet (Tom) Wright of Cornelius, NC, Nancy (Paul) Stoner of Lima, Ohio, William "Bill" (Cathy) McAllister of Fostoria, Ohio and Gail (Tom) LeSavage of Boulder, Colorado, nine grandchildren, Lori, Pam, Kelly, Jason, Matthew, Jay, Mary Ellen, Thomas W. and Andrew; five great-grandchildren; one brother, Lionel (Petre) Coffin of San Diego, California. She was preceded in death by two step-sisters, Eileen Whiteman and Wilma Post and one step-brother, Ford Lounsbury. Private family service will be held in Bayliff & Son Funeral Home, Cridersville with Rev. Susan T. Reichenbery officiating. Burial will follow in Shawnee Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be given to Lima Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, to the Y.W.C.A. or to Johnny Applesed Park Districts. No public visiting hours are planned.

RUDI R. RABE

Age 52, of Canton, passed away January 20, 2008. Rudi worked for the University of Michigan as a Operating Room Manager, for the East Ann Arbor Surgery Center. Loving father of Alexandra and Erich. Dear son of Erich Rabe. Brother of Bruce (Sheila) and Erich. He was a member of A.O.R.N. He loved to travel, enjoyed photography, and rowing. Funeral from the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home 280 South Main, Plymouth, Thursday 8pm. Visitation Thursday 5:00pm until time of service. Memorials may be made to the family. Share memories at schrader-howell.com.

Paying Tribute to the Life of Your Loved One

CLARA BETTINA BUESSER

Age 89, died January 21, 2008 in Ann Arbor, MI while lovingly attended by the combined Buesser-Rieveschl family that she created, nurtured and cherished. Born Clara Bettina Smith on August 17, 1918 in Louisville, KY, the daughter of Thomas Gardener Smith and Helen Peake Smith, she was raised and educated in the greater Cincinnati area. Asked once how she developed her wide ranging interest in and knowledge of art, design, music, and gardening, she replied, "I had a library card." With her first husband George Rieveschl, inventor of the antihistamine Benadryl, she raised their two boys in a modern home she helped design and landscape in Grosse Pointe Farms, MI. Married in 1973 to Detroit attorney Anthony C. Buesser, she set about building a new close-knit family consisting of her two boys and his three children and their families. Listing her occupation, with a straight face, as "Homemaker", she designed, then built or renovated ten personal residences and two cottages. She bound us together with laughter, trust and love and presided with quiet tact and grace. We expect that when she meets God, He will say to her; "Welcome. I have a design project for you." She is survived by her husband, Anthony C. Buesser of Ann Arbor, two sons, Gary T. Rieveschl of West Harrison, Indiana, Jan L. (April) Rieveschl, of Santa Rosa Beach, Florida, three step-children, Kent Buesser Baumkel of Ypsilanti; Anthony C. (Iris) Buesser Jr. of Dexter, and Andrew C. (Ojen) Buesser of Ann Arbor, five grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Burial will be private. A Memorial Service celebrating her life will be held in late Spring, her season of the year, at a time and place to be announced. The family suggests memorial contributions be made to Arbor Hospice, 2366 Oak Valley Dr, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. To share memories with the family, please visit vermeulentfuneralhome.com



OBITUARY POLICY

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

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

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

e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to: Attn: Obitis c/o Charolette Wilson 734-953-2232 For more information call: Charolette Wilson 734-953-2070 or Liz Keiser 734-953-2067 or toll free 866-818-7653 ask for Char or Liz

RELIGION

FROM PAGE A6

to noon. The breakfasts are served in the school cafeteria at 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road. Adults, \$5; children ages 4-11, \$3; children under age 3, free; and family (2 adults and all children), \$15. Everyone is welcome.

Men's breakfast

Ham & eggs, hash browns, pancakes, and more when you come to the Men's Breakfast at 8 a.m. on the first Saturday of every month at The Senate Restaurant, located off Haggerty Road between Five Mile and Six Mile in Northville. All men are invited for fellowship and food. Sponsored by Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990.

MOPS meetings

The Hosanna-Tabor Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) group began meeting this fall at a new time at the Lutheran church, 9600 Leverage,

Redford. Meetings continue the first and third Thursdays of the month at 9:30 a.m. Join in for teaching, discussion, creative projects and presentations. For more information, call (248) 470-5202 or send e-mail to nikki.tiernan@gmail.com.

Bible studies

Regular Bible Study program continues at 7 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays of the month, focus is on St. Paul's Letters to the Romans, at St. Michael's Catholic Church on the corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads, Livonia. To register, call (734) 261-1445, Ext. 200.

MOPS groups

Mothers of Preschoolers meets on the first and third Friday mornings or first and third Wednesday evenings at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy Road, Canton. For information, call (734) 455-0022, Ext. 4, or send e-mail to cbcwomensministries@hotmail.com.

LOGOS Youth Club

Calling all youth grades four-12 to join the LOGOS Youth Club at Northville First United Methodist

Church. Recreation, dinner, Bible study and music Wednesdays, 5:15-8:15 p.m. began Wednesday, Sept. 26. For information or registration, visit www.fumcnorthville.org or call (248) 349-1144.

HeartCry

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

Women of the word

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

Bible study

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

Fellowship Dinners

6 p.m. Thursdays. Dinner catered by The Cookie Lady, Susan Navarro, \$6. At St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730.

Thrift Shop

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

Registration

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

Morning prayers

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

J.O.Y. meeting

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

Higher Rock Cafe

Second and fourth Friday of the month, doors open at 7:30 p.m., live bands begin at 8 p.m. presented by Salvation Army of Wayne/Westland, 2300 S. Venoy, between Michigan Avenue and Palmer. For information, call (734) 722-3660 or visit www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com.

Worship service

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

Sunday worship

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

Sunday services

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

Farmington Women Aglow

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

Your Invitation To Worship

BAPTIST

UNITED METHODIST

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

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



Saturday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Sunday Worship 7:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. • Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday Praise Service 6:00 p.m. • Wednesday Children, Youth and Adult Bible Study 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Clarenceville United Methodist

20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia
248-474-3444
Pastor Beth Librande
Worship Service 9:30 AM
Sunday School 11:00 AM
Nursery Provided

Redford Aldersgate United Methodist

2 blocks South of Plymouth
10000 Beech Daley
313-937-3170
9:30 - Trad. Worship & Sun. Sch.
11:00 - Contemp. Family Worship
www.redfordaldersgate.org

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

14175 Farmington Road, Livonia just north of I-96
734-522-6830

Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional
Staffed Nursery Available



Sunday/Bible Class 9:45 am
Early Childhood Center
Phone 734-513-8413

Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ
Pastors: Robert F. Bayer and Anthony M. Creeden

CATHOLIC

EVANGELICAL COVENANT

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Immemorial Latin Mass
Approved by Pope St. Pius V in 1570
St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8
23310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan
5 Blocks E. of Telegraph • (313) 534-2121
Mass Schedule:
First Fri. 7:00 p.m.
First Sat. 11:00 a.m.
Sun. Masses 7:00 & 9:30 a.m.
Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH

14 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills
(248) 661-9191
Sunday Worship
9:15 a.m. Contemporary
11:00 a.m. Traditional
Child Care provided for all services
Youth Groups • Adult Small Groups

"More than Sunday Services"

Worship Services
9:00 & 11:15 a.m.
• Dynamic Youth and Children's Programs
• Excellent Music Ministries
• Small Groups For Every Age
• Outreach Opportunities
Pastor:
Dr. John Grenfell III
Associate Pastor: Rev. David Wichert

First United Methodist Church of Plymouth

45201 North Territorial Road (West of Sheldon Road)
(734) 453-5280
www.pfume.org

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"Open Hearts, Minds & Doors"
36500 Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne & Newburgh Rds.
734-422-0149
Worship Service and Sunday School
9:15 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Rev. Marsha M. Woolley
Visit our website: www.newburgumc.org

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

25830 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALEY
313-532-2265 REDFORD TWP.
Worship Service
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Nursery Provided
The Rev. Timothy R. Halboth, Senior Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor

HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

9600 Leverage • So. Redford • 313-937-2424
"Vacancy Pastor - Rev. Carl Rockrohr"
Sunday Morning Worship
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Education Hour 9:45 a.m.
Christian School
Pre-Kindergarten-6th Grade
For more information call
313-937-2233

St Genevieve Roman Catholic Church

St. Genevieve School - PreK-8
28015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-6220
(East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries)
MASS: Tues. 7 a. Wed. Thurs. 9 a, Sat. 4 p. Sun 11a

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

Cherry Hill Seventh-day Adventist Church
33144 Cherry Hill, Garden City, MI 48135
(1 block west of Venoy) Phone: 734-524-0880
Pastor: Eddie Petreaca
Meetings on Saturdays for:
Early Morning Bible & Health Class-8 a.m.
Worship Service-English-9:30 a.m.
Sabbath School (all ages)-11:00 a.m.
Worship Service-Hispanic-12:30 p.m.
Wednesdays:
Prayer Meeting-7 p.m.

NON DENOMINATIONAL

BELL CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH
Casual, Contemporary, Excellent Children's Program
Meets at Franklin H.S. in Livonia on Joy Road (Between Merriman and Middlebelt Roads) at 10:00 a.m.
734-425-1174
Join us for coffee, bagels and donuts after the service!

PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)
9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.)
(734) 422-0494
www.rosedalegardens.org
Chapel Worship Service 9:00 am
Traditional Service 10:30 am
WE WELCOME YOU TO A FULL SERVICE CHURCH

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church
40000 Six Mile Road "Just west of I-275" Northville, MI
248-374-7400
Traditional Worship 9:00 & 10:20 A.M.
Contemporary Worship 9:00 A.M.
Nursery & Sunday School During All Morning Worship Services
Evening Service • 7:00 p.m.
Service Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday WRDT-AM 580
The WLUZ Word Station For additional information visit www.wardchurch.org

Risen Christ Lutheran

David W. Martin, Pastor
46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth (1 Mile W. of Sheldon)
(734) 453-5252
Worship 8:15 & 10:45 am
Sunday School 9:30 am
Adult Bible Study 9:30 am
Nursery Care Available
www.risenchrist.info

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church
32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616 (between Merriman & Farmington Roads)
MASS: Mon. 8:30 a, Fri. 8:30 a, Sat. 6 p, Sun 9a

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth
1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI
734-453-0970
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Reading Room located at church
Saturday 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
734-453-0970

St. James Presbyterian Church, USA

25350 West Six Mile Rd. Redford (313) 534-7730
Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 A.M., Sunday School - 10:15 A.M., Thursday Dinners - 6:00 P.M., Thrift Store every Sat. 10am-2pm
Nursery Care Provided • Handicapped Accessible
Rev. Paul S. Bousquette

LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
17810 FARMINGTON ROAD, LIVONIA (734) 261-1360
SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES 8:30 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.
website: www.stpaulsilivonia.org

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

45821 W. Ann Arbor Road • (794) 455-1525
Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.
Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.
NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER
(734) 455-3195

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

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

PRESBYTERIAN

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

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

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

St. Mary Mercy joins with St. Joseph in new health system

BY ALEX LUNDBERG
STAFF WRITER

Starting the first of next month, two well-known hospital systems will merge, bringing western Wayne County residents and their neighbors around the Ann Arbor area together under one central health care umbrella.

The new Saint Joseph Mercy Health System will include St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor, Saint Joseph Mercy Livingston Hospital and Saint Joseph Mercy Saline Hospital. The new collaboration will cover more than 8,500 staff members and 1,600 physicians.

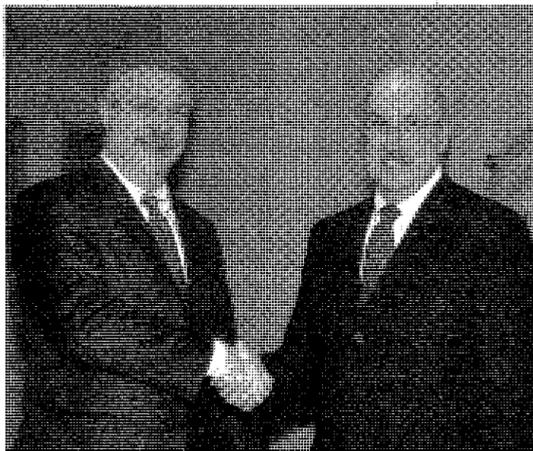
The four hospitals were already joined under the banner of Trinity Health Care, a merger that was made eight years ago. President and CEO of St. Mary Mercy Hospital David Spivey said the decision was made that as long as they essentially shared a market,

HOSPITALS

St. Mary Mercy Hospital:
 ■ Established in 1959, Felician Sisters
 ■ 304 beds
 ■ 1,700 associates
 ■ 500 physicians
St. Joseph Mercy Health System:
 ■ St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor — 529 beds
 ■ Saint Joseph Mercy Saline Hospital — 82 beds
 ■ Saint Joseph Mercy Livingston Hospital, Howell — 136 beds
 ■ Satellite sites — Saint Joseph Mercy Woodland Health Center and Urgent Care, Saint Joseph Mercy Woodland Cancer Center, Saint Joseph Mercy Canton Health Center and Urgent care, and Saint Joseph Mercy Maple Urgent Care in Ann Arbor.

it made better sense to work together than separately.

Spivey said talks with the St. Joseph hospitals started a year ago, when the Trinity Health Care members started



St. Mary Mercy Hospital CEO David Spivey and Saint Joseph Mercy Hospital CEO Garry Faja join together to announce their new partnership.

looking at the things on which they already collaborated and their stature in individual markets.

"We felt that if we came together, we could be even more successful," he said.

He said a planning group of the senior leadership at the hospitals — both boardroom and medical officials — has met several times over the past year putting the merger together. The effect,

he said, is that patrons of both St. Mary Mercy and Saint Joseph will get better service and amenities.

"There is going to be a focus on developing regional delivery systems," Spivey said. "There will be program development and technological development assuring access to the newest systems."

Each hospital in the new system will have its own upgrade master plan that will include technological updates as well as physical additions. St. Mary Mercy will see a renovation and expansion of emergency room capacity as well as an addition of a new tower with all private rooms. Spending for the renovations at St. Mary Mercy and the other hospitals is not available, but Spivey called the amounts "significant."

Of course, all of the hospitals will be able to talk and share with one another.

"Part of the renovations will include all of them

being on the same information platform," Spivey said. "Patients visiting any site will have access to their records."

He said the new group would get the growing cancer treatment service resources of St. Mary Mercy, its bariatric surgery program and also benefit from the clinical research groups Saint Joseph participates in.

St. Mary Mercy Chief of Staff Dr. Roy Misirliyan said the changes are exciting. He said the new technology will give patients access to state-of-the-art care and the newest facilities. It's a continuation of the features that have made the hospital pre-eminent in the area.

"We're number one in the I-275 corridor," Dr. Misirliyan said. "We are that way because of the high level of care we deliver and the changes will allow us to provide more care."

alundberg@hometownlife.com

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Open house
 St. Dunstan Catholic School will hold an open house 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 27, at the school, at 1615 Belton, Garden City. St. Dunstan is a fully accredited Catholic school that offers a quality, faith-based, Catholic education, using a challenging curriculum that is taught by highly qualified and dedicated teachers in classrooms that offer an excellent teacher-student ratio. During the open house, the staff will be available to discuss with parents all of the activities taking place in their classrooms. Current parents and families also are invited to view all the work our students have done and discuss what is planned for next year. The school offers a reasonable tuition. After the visit, families are invited to a spaghetti dinner the

parish community room inside the church. The dinner is sponsored by the PTG. For more information, call (734) 425-4380.

Texas Hold 'em-Vegas Night

The Wayne Ford Civic League will hold a Texas Hold 'em Tournament and Vegas Night Saturday, Feb. 2, at the league hall, 1645 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Texas Hold 'em seating is limited to 200 participants and advance reservations are available. On the Vegas side, guests can enjoy black jack, Let It Ride, big money wheel and roulette games or try their luck with Michigan Charity Game Tickets. There also will be 50/50 raffles conducted every hour with all the proceeds being donated to the Westland Goodfellows. Beer, wine, wine coolers, Mike's Hard Lemonade and Pepsi products will be available for purchase. For advance reservations or more information, contact Sean Leonard by e-mail at theleonard83@aol.com or phone at (734) 377-3517, or contact the hall by calling (734) 728-5010 or by e-mail at ybarra@wayneford.org.

Old cards needed

Have no use for those leftover calendars of yesteryear?

Don't pitch them just yet. The Westland Grange No. 389 is collecting the artwork of both calendars and greeting cards which will be re-made into post cards and distributed at local nursing homes. The cards also will be given to local doctors' offices so that health information may be documented and given to elder patients. For more information, contact the Grange at (734) 722-4857.

Apply for scholarships

The 41st annual Court of St. Brigid Scholarship Program, sponsored by the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Rose Kennedy Division, offers educational scholarships to winners, who must be Irish, Catholic and between the ages of 17 and 22. The program is Saturday, Feb. 16, at the AOH hall in Detroit. Contact, Maureen Kelley at (734) 632-0334 or visit www.detroitirish.org. Apply by Feb. 9.

Railroadians

The Ss. Simon and Jude Ushers Club is sponsoring Railroadians, a buy-and-swap toys and trains show, noon-4 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 3, at the church hall, 32500 Palmer, one mile west of Merriman. Admission is \$2 per person, \$4 per family. Food is avail-

able and parking is free. There will be operating train layouts of various gauges and more than 150 dealer tables. Tables are available at \$10 per table. To reserve tables, call (734) 595-8327. Dealer set-up is at 9 a.m. on the day of the show.

Hospice volunteers

The Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan is looking for kind, compassionate individuals to help support hospice patients and their families in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. Volunteers are needed Monday through Friday during day time hours. There is a particular need for male volunteers to support male hospice patients. The next training session is 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 9, 16, and 23. Attendance at all three sessions is required. All training takes place at the Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan headquarters at 25900 Greenfield, Suite 600. An interview is required. Call (800) 882-5720, Ext 8361, or direct at (248) 967-8361. Also visit the VNA Web site at www.vna.org.

Wrestling Club

Westland Bottle Rockets is a wrestling club for ages 5-14. The club meets on Monday and Wednesdays from 5:30-7:00 p.m. in Gym 4 of John Glenn High School, 36105 Marquette, west of Wayne Road, Westland, Michigan. The club runs from November through March and costs \$20. For questions or more information, contact Judy at judywlaw1122@yahoo.com or calling (734) 634-4595.

Higher Rock Cafe

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

Fish Dial-A-Ride

One-day-a-month volunteer drivers

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

Free classes

Dr. Carol Ann Fischer, a holistic physician, wellness consultant and clinical nutritionist, will present "New You in the New Year" 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 29, at the Civic Center Library, 35000 Civic Center Dr., Livonia. Fischer will teach participants the secrets on how to detox, eat properly and lose weight for a new you. Her approach is all natural, safe and doctor-supervised. Class is limited to 15. Call (734) 756-6904 to make a reservation.

ORGANIZATIONS

Friends of Eloise

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

Toastmasters

The Wayne-Westland Easy Talkers Toastmasters Club can help people overcome their fear of speaking in front of people by teaching speaking in a supportive atmosphere. The club meets 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Rana Restaurant, 3511 W. Michigan Ave. at Wayne Road, Wayne. For information, Curt Gottlieb at (734) 525-8445.

TOPS

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) M128 of Westland meets at 7 p.m. Mondays at Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne Road, at Hunter, Westland. For more information, call Pat Strong at (734) 326-3539 or Mary

Lowe at (734) 729-6879.

Democratic Club

The 27th City Democratic Club meets at 7 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month (September through June) in Room 5 of the Maplewood Center, Maplewood west of Merriman. For more information, call Billy Pate at (734) 427-2344.

Citizens for Peace

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

MOMS club

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

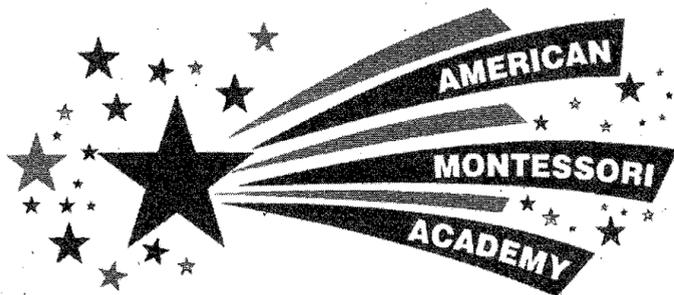
Vietnam Vets

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

In Harmony

The Wayne Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society meets at 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland. Gentlemen interested in the chapter's Renaissance Chorus or who enjoy quartetting can call membership chairman Bob Wolf at (734) 421-1652, or attend a rehearsal.

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Students tell governor their ideas on diversity

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

Gov. Jennifer Granholm got an earful Monday, as a group of students told her their hopes and dreams for a more diverse Michigan on Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Granholm came to Schoolcraft College to listen at the second annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day Youth Roundtable on Diversity and Michigan's Future.

Ken Ester, an African American student from Canton who attends Wayne Memorial High School, said the first thing he noticed when his family moved from Detroit to Canton was that white students sat with white students and black students sat with black students. He said at Wayne Memorial they have a Mix It Up day every year to break that pattern. Students are asked to sit with students they don't usually sit with.

"If other schools invested in Mix It Up programs, everything would get better," he said.

On Monday Schoolcraft gave an ethnically and racially diverse group of students from 14 area high schools and Schoolcraft College a chance to mix it up with each other and the state's chief executive.

Granholm and Linda Parker, the state's director of the Department of Civil Rights, played masters of ceremony to



Student Miatta McCrumady and Gov. Jennifer Granholm talk about getting students to take Advanced Placement classes in school.

hear the students discuss their views about their education, about the tension between the races and about how politicians can help to change things.

"You are special; you have leadership capabilities," Granholm told the students. "What I want to do is hear from you. What do you see as the best opportunities to carry on Dr. King's legacy?"

Miatta McCrumady said she isn't used to giving advice to politicians but she had some advice for educators. McCrumady, an African-American student at Ann Arbor's Pioneer High School, said the achievement gap between black and white

students has become a major issue in Ann Arbor.

She said she is one of the few African American students pursuing Advanced Placement classes. She told Granholm it was important for students to build solid relationships with teachers who are passionate about teaching. She said she had learned a lot from her young advanced placement English teacher.

Many students acknowledged that getting to know each other better was key.

"It is important to get information and know what other ethnic groups have accomplished. Everyone of us has so much in common," said Candice Kashat, a Livonia

Churchill High School student.

Andrea Abbate, a Schoolcraft student, took the idea a step further.

"We need to come together, we need to have a passion for other cultures," she said.

Erica Bartoszyk of Churchill said it was important that teachers be advocates for diversity.

"It helps when a teacher is passionate about it in our schools," she said.

Bartoszyk said the True Colors program at Churchill has done a lot to bring different groups together.

"We have a motto, 'Cross the lines that divide,'" she said.

Several students noted the lack of diversity in metro Detroit. Grady Ward of Inkster High School said the only time he experienced diversity at his high school was when he participated in an ROTC program with the school's two white students.

Yaksh Patel of Canton High School said at his school he sees "tolerance" but little diversity. He said the school clubs have been coming together to share dances and that more clubs like this might help.

Carolyn Clifford and Stephen Clark, news anchors at WXYZ-TV, Channel 7, opened the program by describing their own experiences dealing with racial situations.

hgallagher@hometownlife.com | (734)953-2149

IRS offers programs that listen to taxpayers' concerns

recently interviewed Luis Garcia, the local spokesman for the IRS and he reminded me about how much the agency has changed over the last 10 years. I know this is hard to believe but it is true. The IRS has become friendlier and easier to deal with. In fact, it has set up programs to help resolve disputes and improve service.

The Tax Advocate Service is an independent organization within the IRS. Taxpayers — individual or business — can use this free service to resolve disputes that arise in the normal course of problem resolution with the IRS.

The IRS has also established a Taxpayer Advocacy Panel whose mission is to listen to the concerns of taxpayers, identify taxpayer issues and then make recommendations to the IRS for improving service and customer satisfaction.

The IRS has also set up Free File which allows a taxpayer to go online, complete their tax return and e-file the return for free. To qualify, your adjusted gross income for 2007 has to be \$54,000 or less. If you qualify, go to www.irs.gov and click on Free File and follow the instructions.

What is interesting about Free File program is that



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

it is not the IRS doing your return but rather online tax preparation companies. The IRS has set up an alliance with the online tax preparation

companies and just about all of them participate in this program. The service is free and there is no obligation to purchase anything. To use the Free File program you must go directly to the IRS Web site at irs.gov and then link to the company you choose. If you go to the company's Web site first, you end up paying for the service.

As Luis Garcia said on my recent radio show, the IRS has changed for the better and there is no reason to be afraid of it. It is a new era when it comes to the IRS.

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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OUR VIEWS

Consider in-house energy cutting plan

Livonia Public Schools board members do have options on ways to trim its yearly bill for energy.

The proposed plan, supported by the administration, would hire a contractor, Energy Education Inc., to implement its program to cut costs on electricity, water, natural gas and fuel oil.

The plan involves basically paying the firm \$262,000, buying software and hiring an in-house district energy manager that the firm will train and then watching the savings happen. First-year costs would total about \$354,000 and energy savings are guaranteed to hit more than \$500,000 the first year.

If a benchmark of even more savings is hit the next year (around \$800,000 or 20 percent of costs), the consulting firm's fee doubles to \$524,000, the limit of yearly consulting fees.

School officials promote the plan because it has been successful in some 67 other districts, because it won't take any time from the district's already thinly stretched staff, and because it has a money-back guarantee.

Some board members have sounded a bit skeptical about the savings and the high costs, and those concerns are valid. Trustee Steve King goes beyond that, urging fellow board members to try to do something like this in-house. He suggests that they set an energy policy, gather a committee to come up with ideas, and then hire someone to implement them.

Obviously such an in-district plan doesn't come with a guarantee. But King says staff members have shared many, many ideas — beyond simply dialing down the thermostat — to save energy costs. And school officials agree that some savings can be found through staff-produced ideas.

The question comes down to a level of savings and when it's implemented. It seems that school officials could first take a serious look at how an in-district energy cost savings plan would work, set a policy and some conservation goals, and consider giving that a shot for a year. If still needed, the consultant's proposal could then be pursued the next year.

DNR loses credibility after budget fiasco

Michigan lawmakers recently offered their constituents a bit of good news when they announced state government was entering the new year with a \$350 million budget surplus, which was largely the result of higher than expected tax receipts.

After all the talk about deficits and government shutdowns, the news was a nice surprise, indeed. Still, it left many people scratching their heads coming on the heels of all the doom and gloom that has come out of Lansing over the course of the last year. For many, it has called into question the entire budgeting process.

Take the Department of Natural Resources, for example. Throughout 2007, DNR officials were projecting huge budget deficits, including a \$10.8 million deficit in the Fish and Game Protection Fund. To combat this dreary budget forecast, the DNR proposed major increases to the cost of hunting and fishing licenses — in some cases, doubling current fees.

As might be expected, the 750,000 licensed hunters and 1.5 million anglers weren't happy with this plan. But the DNR lobbied the media and sporting organizations hard to make the case for the increases. It said the alternative was to close fish hatcheries, wildlife research stations and waterfowl areas, as well as lay off conservation officers, who are the state's front line of defense against poachers.

Facing this choice, many sporting groups — most notably Michigan United Conservation Clubs, which is the largest statewide conservation organization in the nation with nearly 100,000 members and more than 500 affiliated clubs — supported the DNR and the increases.

Despite this, the increases did not go into effect, because DNR officials failed to get the support of the state Legislature.

Then in December, DNR Director Rebecca Humphries dropped a bomb when she told state lawmakers that the Fish and Game Protection Fund actually had a \$10 million surplus — a positive swing of \$20 million. While it was excellent news, Humphries didn't do a very convincing job of explaining the discrepancy.

The news left the MUCC and other groups red-faced because they supported the very unpopular proposed increases. Without a doubt, the whole episode has caused more ill will than the DNR already had among the state's hunters and anglers. There is little trust left. In fact, the MUCC even announced it will be doing an independent audit and evaluation of the DNR's budget.

This is the kind of fiasco that makes residents lose faith in their state government. It also makes people question the gloom and doom coming out of Lansing.



LETTERS

Refugees were displaced

Regarding the *Observer* of Dec. 27, we read a letter from a writer titled, Time for Middle East humanity. It seems that the letter writer is wondering why Egypt and Jordan did not extend citizenship to the millions of refugees that were unarmed and forced to leave their homes, businesses and orange groves.

My family of six were one of those refugees who decided to leave Palestine for a safer ground, leaving all our furniture locked in our house in Jaffa City, next to Tel Aviv. I was employed by the British government but could not go to our offices two days before the British mandate ended May 15, 1948, because of the heavy bombardment by the three Jewish terrorist gangs.

Many of us Palestinians had our travel passports as usual and others even had British passports, so why would Egypt and Jordan absorb us when we were displaced by Israel by force?

Cool heads and wise men are always available on both sides, all the Palestinians need is for Israel to abide by the U.N. resolutions. Fairness and above all, justice for all, not just Palestinians, but also for the mothers and fathers of Israelis and very soon we all hope and pray for peace all over the world.

Sid and Jenny Shahin
Westland

WYAA turns 50

Well, here it is 2008, the 50th year for Westland Youth Athletic Association (WYAA). Yes we started in 1958, and this year we are going all out to let people know about it.

We do need the help of anyone out there that can help us with information. We are looking for lifetime board members, former coaches and players. We are going to have a dinner banquet in December and we are going to have a program with pictures, history etc.

If you were affiliated with WYAA and you went into the military, we also are going to run a picture of you as a player and in your military uniform. We want to salute everyone we can find.

If you know anyone who was with this organization, please tell them to notify us so we can get information. We are going to have an all out blitz, trying to find these people. We want as many people as possible to be a part of this proud moment for WYAA.

We are right now trying to get a count on exactly how many kids have gone through this program. It is somewhere between 175,000 and 200,000. That is a lot of kids. So if you are reading this, please call us at (734) 421-0640 and leave us a message. If you have pictures, individual or team, and you want to share it, make a copy and call us. We will pick it up. We want Westland to be proud of all the kids in this program, but we also want you to know how committed our volunteers are, and that IS what we are. Nobody gets paid. We do it because we are here "FOR THE KIDS," so help make 2008 a huge year for us by

helping us with any information.

Our opening day for baseball is May 3 at Marshall Middle School. The past several years we have had Josh Gracin and Sarah Lenore singing the National Anthem. We have had the John Glenn ROTC Color Guard and many dignitaries throw out the first pitches. We hope to see you there.

Bud Somerville
Westland

More than meets the eye

Seems to me that even if this is not a whistleblower lawsuit, as the high-priced, overcharging, ever-present, cover-the-central-office LPS lawyers claim, there is still a lot more here than meets the eye. Why did LPS end up with millions in surplus funds after they specifically stated they would be millions in deficit just prior to the Legacy Initiative? Why is the timeline for all of this so coincidental with the actions as stated by the controller and the Legacy Initiative having to be voted on by the BOE?

Why is it coincidental that the very next budget amendment review immediately after the LI vote showed millions in surplus, not millions in losses as the BOE was told in an apparent move by Liepa and Levesque to justify passing the LI? Why didn't the BOE say or do anything when they were informed of the financial skulduggery? Why couldn't they wait just one year as the majority of the public had asked them to do? What really was the rush?

What the public needs to know is the full truth, the full disclosure, everything regarding the whole handling of the financial matters in the years prior to the LI and this event, and let us all know what OUR PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM has really been doing with our children's educational funds. It clearly appears as though neither the BOE or the public had been told the complete truth about LPS financial situation prior to the LI being rushed through in a hasty push by Liepa and Levesque.

There is much, much more here than just a whistleblower lawsuit. We the citizens, parents, students, constituents, taxpayers, etc., of the Livonia Public Schools School district have the full right to know everything, and it must be disclosed in a public court of law tried by a jury of our peers.

Elizabeth Hinze
Livonia

Need part-time Legislature

The famous Albert Einstein postulated a theory of parallel universes that might exist in galactic cyberspace — universes that are duplicates of earth. He said that if such universes exist, they would probably consist of antimatter.

The professor was only part right. There is another universe, one that's anything but parallel — and it's only a few miles from Royal Oak, not light

years distant. It's the Valhalla-like universe of the Michigan Legislature where the 148 are anointed:

- Are the second highest paid legislators in the United States behind California;
- Enjoy automatic compensation increases unless they vote against them;
- Have benefits superior to most taxpayers — insurances for themselves and their families for life after only six years of service;
- Do not have a boss to whom they are responsible for attendance or meeting objectives;
- Frequently legislate in the wee hours — out of sight of "taxpayers" — in favor of special interest groups not Michigan citizens.

This is not PolySci 101. These are facts alien to most Michiganders. Why? Because most hard-working citizens are too busy in these trying times to pay attention to what's going on in Lansing. Many are waiting for the next tax shoe to drop or be downsized. It's "the organized few (148) controlling the destinies of the disorganized majority (9.6 million)." California has 120 lawmakers for 33 million citizens. Are we being snowed — or what?

"Oh, we do have a boss," they'll argue. "The citizens are our bosses." True! But how many citizens would like a boss who only shows up every couple of years? If the citizen-bosses bother to vote. And many don't! Because they feel disenfranchised, helpless to do anything about the costly, time-wasting mess in Lansing.

What's the remedy? A part-time Legislature! "In more than 30 states, the position of state legislator is a part-time job with a salary of \$30,000 or less," according to Michigan Capitol Confidential.

Michigan does not need and cannot afford the annual \$120-million plus it costs to keep the 148. Petitions for a part-time Legislature will be available shortly. Wanna take your state out of the clutches of self-serving, over-compensated, do-little-or-nothing politicians and special interests? Sign a petition to tell the 148 that this is the winter, spring, summer, and fall of your discontent.

William J. Carruth
Royal Oak

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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

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QUOTABLE

"We'll have to make some adjustments to our existing calendar. The February break will be a week earlier. There were concerns, but the districts have a calendar and it's where they want it."

Wayne-Westland Superintendent Greg Baracy about the proposed county-wide common school calendar.

WESTLAND
Observer

GANNETT

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

Views vary on what's needed to bring businesses to Michigan

Here we go again.

General Motors is now going to offer buyouts to another 46,000 employees, while it's beginning to look like the smart guys at Cerebus Capital Management missed stuff like the recession and high oil prices when they did their due diligence before buying Chrysler.



Phil Power

Meanwhile, Michigan's unemployment rate for December inched up to 7.6 percent, easily the highest in the nation, nearly a full point above floundering Mississippi. And prospects of a national recession keep growing ... as if we weren't already in trouble.

With all this grim news in mind, I went over late last week to moderate a panel at the 2008 annual Collaboration for Entrepreneurship meeting in Ann Arbor. It's the area's big gathering of entrepreneurs. I was told there were twice as many people there this year as last, and certainly the hall at the local community college was a beehive of Type A personalities buzzing around wearing intense expressions and brandishing business projections.

The panel I ran wound up talking about why some start-up businesses locate in Michigan and, conversely, why others don't. My fellow panelists made up a pretty good cross-section of Michigan's emerging entrepreneurial economy.

They included: Neal Clinthorne, co-founder of Xoran Technologies, which makes CT scanners for ear, nose and throat physicians; Michelle Crumm, co-founder of Adaptive Materials Inc., which is in the alternative energy business; and Andrew Wykes, at IDV Solutions, an artificial intelligence software company.

We had an audience of around 50 hard-driving types who brought added dimension to the conversation.

Reasons people gave for locating in Michigan varied. Some said it was simply because their founders lived in Michigan. Others, manufacturing-based and therefore interested in knocking pennies per unit off the cost of making stuff, spoke about taking advantage of the existing manufacturing infrastructure that could get jobs done cheaply and quickly.

Some spoke about the quality of the work force, whether skilled blue-collar workers or university grads. "Oddly, even though this appears to be not a very competitive market for very highly-qualified engineers and technicians, we bite and scratch to find every one. We're especially interested in finding people who are imaginative and fearless and who can help us innovate," Crumm said.

Clinthorne's Xoran is a spinoff from the University of Michigan, and a number of people in the room spoke about how technology transfers from university laboratories seed new business start-ups.

So why don't companies locate in Michigan? The litany and the list were very long indeed. There is very little venture capital around these days, and what's available is mostly on either coast. They complained of inadequate infrastructure to help new companies, such as lawyers, accountants, bankers

(people were especially grumpy at these) and proven managers.

We have a statewide culture that is much too risk-averse. Somebody located in Lansing suggested, "Lansing is not a well-known center for high tech," while another participant pointed out that the resources in biology and life sciences at nearby Michigan State were as strong as anywhere else in the country.

Many complained about the state's efforts to help entrepreneurial companies. "They're well-intentioned," one audience member said, "but they are very bureaucratic and really don't understand what we're all about." Others warned that investing public dollars in private enterprises is intrinsically conflict-laden. This was, however, distinctly a minority view.

The showcase presentation at the conference was given by Dave Morin, founder and CEO of Cielo MedSolutions. Started in 2005 and now with nine employees, Cielo makes electronic medical records software that automatically reminds physicians to remind patients to get their flu or pneumonia shots or screen for lead in the blood of younger kids. "There is so much to remember about health care and there's so little time to deliver these services in the typical brief office encounter, so automatic patient-specific prompts are a huge timesaver," says Dr. Jean Malouin, assistant professor at the University of Michigan Department of Family Medicine.

I asked Morin how he feels about having his company located in Michigan. "Great," he says. "I live in South Lyon, so it's close to home, and this kind of company helps diversify the Michigan economy." His greatest frustration is the "craziness" of information technology in the health care field, which deals with doctors who are increasingly pressed for time and is often dominated by big, expensive software companies whose products are too expensive and clumsy for smaller physician practices.

"What about the state?" I asked.

"Through Ann Arbor-SPARK (the local economic development organization), we received a 21st Century Jobs Fund investment that matched a grant we received from a venture capital firm. That was great, but the bureaucracy and the paperwork were complicated and difficult to get through. But at the end of the day, they came through for us."

I have to confess I know Morin pretty well — he was the vice president for technology in my former newspaper company, HomeTown Communications Network, Inc. And he's a great example of the kind of folks I saw at the meeting last week: smart, intense, innovative, modest (in a Michigan kind of way) and very hard-working (another part of Michigan's culture).

True, our economy may be contracting just now because of the ongoing transformation in the auto industry, but if the entrepreneurs now beavering away in Michigan are any indication, we're on the way to creating a much healthier, more diversified economy.

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

In basketball and in life, Bing lets his actions do the talking

Dave Bing is a man of action. Whether as a basketball superstar or the head of one of the country's largest minority-owned businesses, the longtime Detroit walker walks the walk when it comes to leading by example.



Joe Bauman

Many older metro Detroiters probably have fond memories of Bing's playing days with the Detroit Pistons. For 12 years, he was a model citizen on and off the court, being named the NBA's Rookie of the Year in 1967 and voted into the Basketball Hall of Fame in 1990.

But anyone concerned with the future of the city of Detroit and indeed all of southeast Michigan should be thankful for what Bing has done since retiring from basketball. Every day, his burgeoning business empire employs thousands of local residents and he works tirelessly behind the scenes to improve the region's quality of life.

"I landed in Detroit for the first time ever after I was drafted by the Pistons," Bing told members of the Birmingham Rotary Club at its meeting last week. "Here I was a 22-year-old kid coming to town in the summer of 1967 in the aftermath of the riots, so I had to work extra hard to gain acceptance and dedicated myself to doing all I could to improve the situation."

Bing is not one to wait around for someone else to solve problems. Distressed by the living conditions in the neighborhood where much of his Bing Group enterprise is located, he began buying up vacant lots and built \$200,000 homes to attract families back to the city. To date, 15 homes have been built and he hopes to increase the number to 50.

His work in the neighborhood eventually became the model for Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick's neighborhood revitalization initiative, where six areas throughout the city have been targeted

Anyone concerned with the future of the city of Detroit and indeed all of southeast Michigan should be thankful for what Bing has done since retiring from basketball.

for improvement.

When the Detroit Public Schools rebuffed an offer by philanthropist Robert Thompson to pump \$200 million into the beleaguered system and open several specialized, charter schools, Bing refused to let the opportunity pass.

So Bing contacted Thompson and pledged his support, convincing Thompson to go forward with or without the school district's support. "Now the district, under the quality leadership of a new school superintendent, is interested in working with us to bring competition into the buildings and help drive excellence," Bing said. "Now that's progress."

Today, Bing has his eye trained toward Detroit's riverfront. He has sunk a large chunk of his assets, and those of his friends and fellow business leaders, into the Watermark housing development. When completed, the \$60 million project will bring 112 upscale condominiums to the riverfront near Chene Park.

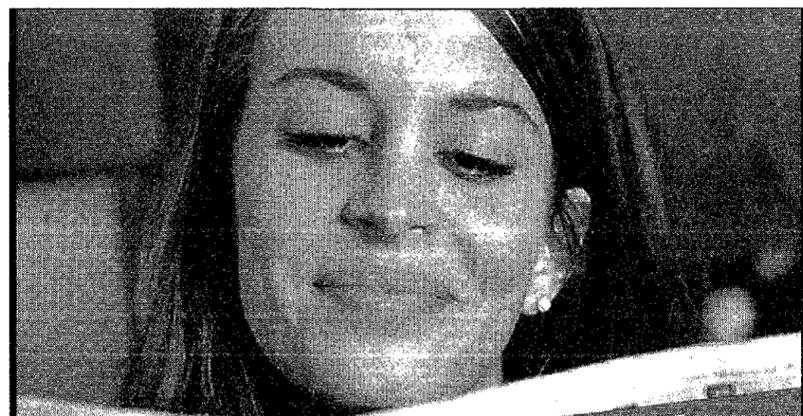
Bing said financing is in place, but he needs to pre-sell at least 45 units before construction can begin. Only a dozen units have been sold to date, so the project is on "temporary hold."

"It didn't help that the real estate market crashed about the same time we were putting this project together, but it is what it is," Bing said. "But this project will go forward, and the city of Detroit will come back. It just might take a little longer than we had hoped."

With a guy like Dave Bing involved, failure does not appear to be an option.

Joe Bauman is managing editor for The Eccentric Newspapers. He welcomes feedback at jbauman@hometownlife.com or (248) 901-2563.

Cheer for the hometown, read today's SPORTS section



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SPORTS

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Thursday, January 24, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com

Observerland Invitational mat field loaded

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

It has become the mother of all of Observerland events, something area high school wrestling fans don't want to miss.

The 17th annual Observerland Wrestling Tournament, featuring 17 area schools, promises to provide a rock concert-like atmosphere Saturday at Livonia Churchill High School.

Opening round action starts at 9 a.m. with the finals in 14 different weight classes beginning at approximately 5 p.m. All-day admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for students.

Livonia Franklin is the three-time defending champion, but the Patriots come in this time as darkhorses.

The most recent Observerland rankings listed Novi-Detroit Catholic Central as the favorite, followed by Belleville, Canton, Westland John Glenn and Franklin.

"They (CC) had five out of the lineup in their last meet, but if they're healthy ... they'll be hard to beat," Churchill coach Marty Altounian said. "There's also Canton, Belleville, John Glenn and Franklin. We'd love to be in the top five. I think there will be some unbelievable matches.

"In normal tourneys where a lot of these kids would get to the finals, this one is going to be tough throughout every weight class. It's going to be interesting."

CC, coached by former Central Michigan University standout and Shamrock grad Mitch Hancock, boasts five top-ranked wrestlers, including defending state heavy-weight champion Mike Martin, an all-state football lineman who took his official visit last weekend to Michigan. He was third at last year's Observerland.

Martin is joined by defending Observerland 189-pound champion Joe Kinville, who has moved up to 215. Other top-rated grapplers for the Shamrocks include Doug Eldridge (119), Stefan Gatt (160) and Matt Aubrey (189).

John Glenn, runner-up last season, boasts a strong squad

Please see **WRESTLING, B3**

MAT EXTRAVAGANZA

What: 17th annual Observerland Wrestling Invitational.
When: Saturday, Jan. 26. First round action starts at 9 a.m. with the finals at approximately 5 p.m.

Where: Livonia Churchill H.S., 8900 Newburgh Road (between Joy and Ann Arbor Trail).

Admission (all day): \$5 (adults); \$3 (students).

Participating schools: Livonia Churchill, Franklin, Stevenson, Clarenceville; Westland John Glenn, Wayne Memorial, Lutheran High Westland, Canton, Salem, Plymouth, Garden City, Redford Union, Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, Farmington, North Farmington, Farmington Hills Harrison and Belleville.

Past winners: Catholic Central (1993, 96, 99, 2000, 02, 03); Franklin (2005, 06, 07); Stevenson (1994, 95, 97); Canton (2001); Salem (1998); Churchill and John Glenn (2004); Farmington (1992).

Signelines

LJAL senior hoops

Registration for Livonia Junior Athletic League senior boys and girls basketball (grades 9-11) will be from 10 a.m. until noon Saturday, Feb. 9 at the Frost Middle School cafeteria.

Registration is open to residents of the City of Livonia or within the Livonia Public Schools attendance area.

The cost is \$115 per player. Forms will be available on Feb. 9 or you can visit online at www.ljal.com

For more information, e-mail basketball@ljal.com.

LHA hockey night

The Livonia Churchill boys hockey team will stage a Livonia Hockey Association Night during its 6 p.m. game Wednesday, Feb. 6 against Walled Lake Northern.

Any LHA player who wears their game jersey will be admitted free with a paying adult.

It will also be Churchill Senior Night for its final home date.

LJAL Hoop Night

The Livonia Franklin boys basketball team will stage a Livonia Junior Athletic League Night on Friday, Jan. 25 when the Patriots host Canton.

All LJAL players only need to wear their jerseys to be admitted free. Tickets for adults is \$5.

The junior varsity game starts at 5:30 p.m. followed by the varsity game at 7 p.m.

For more information, visit franklinbasketball.googlepages.com.

WYAA registration

Registration for Westland Youth Athletic Association baseball and softball will be from 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays and 7-10 p.m. Wednesdays beginning Jan. 19 through March 29 at the Lange Compound Building, 6050 Farmington Road (north of Ford road and south of Warren).

The WYAA, celebrating its 50th anniversary, will offer baseball programs for T-Ball (ages 5-6), Coach-Machine Pitch (7-8), Mustang (9-10), Bronco (11-12), Pony (13-14), Colt (15-16) and Palomino (17-19).

WYAA softball programs included: slow-pitch (local travel), ages 9-10, 11-12, 13-15, 16-18. A competitive fast-pitch program is also offered for ages 10-, 12-, 14- and 16-and-under. Call (734) 421-0640; or visit www.wyaa.org.

Glenn job posted

The Westland John Glenn High School varsity football head coaching position has been officially posted.

Interested candidates can apply at www.wwcsd.net; or contact Glenn athletic administrator Brian Swinehart via e-mail at swinehartb@wwcs.k12.mi.us.

Still standing

Unbeaten Stevenson icers rally by Falcons, 5-1

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Livonia Stevenson looked very deserving of its No. 1 state ranking in a battle between undefeated hockey teams Saturday evening.

The Spartans, the leaders in the Division 1 coaches poll, improved to 14-0 overall with a 5-1 victory over host Farmington (12-1-1).

Stevenson overcame a slow start and scoreless first period at Farmington Hills Ice Arena, led by senior forward Mike Voran's hat trick.

"Obviously, we have to be happy with the win," Spartans coach David Mitchell said. "We want to continue to try to get better every game. Farmington is a solid opponent, so we're happy with the victory.

"(Voran) is a good leader and captain. He was very good again tonight and so was our goaltender, Pat McHugh. It was a nice win for us."

Junior forward John Vella and Voran scored goals 24 seconds apart in the second period to erase a 1-0 Farmington lead and set Stevenson on the path to victory.

Thirty-one seconds after the Falcons had killed off a Stevenson power play, Vella's wrist shot from the right side snuck under the crossbar for the tying goal at 12:17.

Voran brought the puck out of the Farmington end, going one-on-one with a defender, when he let fly a hard shot from six feet inside the blue line to put the Spartans on top at 11:53.

"In the first period, we didn't play very well," Mitchell said, adding it has usually been a strong period for Stevenson. "We were able to weather the storm and get a couple goals in the second to get us going.

"It was something we needed at the time. We were struggling to get into the flow of the game. It helped us to relax and play more our style of hockey."

Farmington, ranked No. 6 in Division 2, had three power plays after that in the second period, but couldn't get the equalizer.

The Spartans capitalized instead on a late power play to go up, 3-1. Senior Joe Byrne scored on a shot in front off a nice centering pass from senior Ian Curran with 17.3 seconds left.

The Falcons had a shorthanded chance early in the power play. Senior Andy Hall went one-on-one with McHugh after a turnover, but the two collided in the crease and knocked the net off its moorings.

"If we score there, the crowd was into it and it could have been a different game," Farmington coach Mark Vellucci said, adding the Falcons had a couple of breakaways and a number of other good chances. "It could have been 5-1 the other way.

"We outshot them, 26-24. It could've gone either way. But give them credit. They're 14-0 for a reason. They're a good passing team and a good shooting team. Unfortunately, we came out on the short end."

Please see **STEVENSON, B3**



CHRIS FLECK | PHLECK PHOTOS

Stevenson's R.J. Kierdorf takes control of the puck in front of Farmington's Tophier Gendron during Saturday night's battle of unbeaten.

Franklin stymies divisional leader

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Livonia Franklin isn't about to throw in the towel just yet when it comes to deciding the Western Division girls basketball champion in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

On Tuesday, the host Patriots moved within a game of the divisional lead by upending first-place Walled Lake Western, 58-56 in overtime, avenging a 62-51 setback Jan. 4 to the Warriors.

Junior Briana Taylor was the catalyst, scoring a team-high 22 points to go along with 12 rebounds as Franklin improved to 11-3 overall and 5-2 in the division.

Ashley Price, a senior center, chipped in 14 points and nine rebounds, while senior guard Samatha Floyd chipped in nine points.

Shooting guard Melanie Wilkerson paced Western (12-2, 6-1) and all scorers with 24 points. She hit a pair of 3-pointers and was 7-of-10 from the foul line. Carly Zeitlin added 14 points.

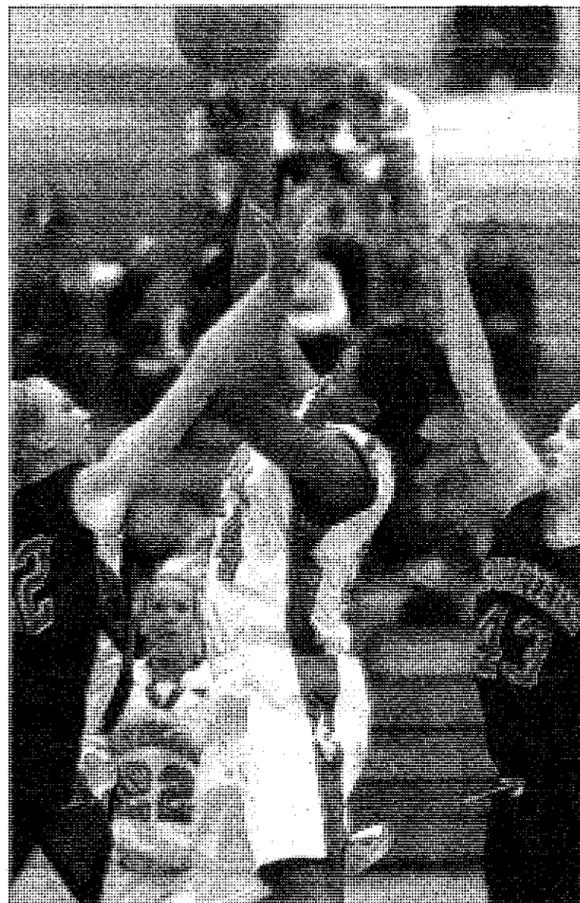
Franklin led 27-16 at intermission, but the Warriors closed the gap 34-31 after three quarters with a 15-7 run.

Taylor's 10-foot jumper at the end of regulation rimmed off as the two teams were tied at 49-49.

Franklin then outscored the Warriors 9-7 in the four-minute extra session.

"After the third quarter we regained our composure, but we got into some foul trouble in the fourth quarter," said Franklin coach Dave McCall, whose starting forward Brittany Taylor exited with five personals. "The defensive play by Samantha Floyd and Nicole Emery at the top of our two-three zone was key. Seneca Scott also came off the bench to give us a lift.

"Both Ashley (Price) and Briana controlled the boards offensively and defensively. Our girls did a great job and kept their composure."



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Extending a hand

Stevenson's Rachel Stevens goes for the block as Churchill's Nakia Griffin takes it over the top for the shot in Tuesday's Lakes Division clash. Churchill defeated Stevenson, 47-41. For a roundup of area girls basketball games, see page B3.

C'ville's 'triplets' too much for RU

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Livonia Clarenceville unleashed its version of the "The Triplets," reminiscent of Arkansas' 1978 NCAA Final Four team of Sidney Moncrief, Marvin Delph and Ron Brewer.

Jamie Stewart took care of the scoring, Jeremy Gainer took care of the boards and Lonnie Fairfax took care of the ball, leading to a 43-35 non-conference boys basketball win Monday night at Redford Union.

Stewart, a do-it-all junior guard, finished with 20 points, seven blocks and four steals, while junior center Gainer played taller than his listed 6-3 height, contributing 12 points (on 6-of-6 shooting) and 13 rebounds.

Fairfax, a senior, was steady at the point with seven points and nine assists.

It was a much lower scoring game than Clarenceville was accustomed to, but the 10-1 Trojans adapted after averaging 75.6 points per game in their last three outings.

"We like to fly all over the court and score as many as possible," Clarenceville coach Corey McKendry said. "We've been running and gunning, but what I learned about my team tonight is

Please see **C'VILLE, B3**

GIRLS BASKETBALL

BOYS BASKETBALL

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TV show targets locals for \$1,000,000 Giveaway

Free uncut sheets of real money will be given away on Saturday at 2:00 PM, on NBC Channel 4 to all who cover the \$88 release fee for the Bank Books loaded with free money

By MARY BETH ANDREWS
Universal Media Syndicate

(UMS) If you have plans Saturday afternoon cancel them.

Because whatever you do, don't miss the TV show that is giving away free uncut sheets of real money to all local viewers who tune in.

Readers of today's newspaper will have just 30 minutes during the show to get in on the \$1,000,000 giveaway.

But don't thank the government for this monumental giveaway. It's actually the World Reserve who has authorized everyone in the local area to claim the Money Ledger loaded with a free sheet of scarcely seen uncut money.

"These sheets of money are very valuable. Not only are they uncut but they are also uncirculated," said Thomas C. Harris, former Deputy Director of the U.S. Treasury's BEP, who will be helping to giveaway the money during the show.

"The U.S. Government will periodically leave a limited number of money sheets like this for dealers and collectors," Harris said.

"It's a surprise to most people when I tell them that only during select periods of our country's history, the U.S. Treasury has allowed private citizens to own full sheets of U.S. currency," says Harris. "This happens to be one of them," he said.



Thomas C. Harris
Deputy Director, retired, of the BEP, United States Treasury Department helps give away the money



GETTING FREE MONEY: A rare uncut sheet of real money worth \$3,500.00 went to Randi and Richard Pottratz who celebrated during the TV show giveaway. They called to get the \$88 Money Ledger for a gift. Now everyone in the local area can claim the same Money Ledger loaded with a free full uncut sheet of real U.S. legal tender by watching the show this Saturday at 2:00 p.m. on Channel 4.

All this scarcely seen money remains under the control of the private World Reserve Monetary Exchange who is making no secret about advertising its plans to release thousands of crisp new full uncut sheets of \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20 and \$50 dollar bills.

"The U.S. Government places a much higher value on money when you buy an uncut sheet so they are already worth so much more than face value," he said.

It's real money backed by the U.S. Government so it will always have value. If times get tough you could actually take a pair of scissors, cut the full sheets apart and spend them as singles.

"Of course you could, but why would you. That would be almost like mailing a letter with a priceless stamp or putting a rare coin in a parking meter," Harris explains.

So parents and grandparents giving the valuable Money Ledgers as gifts should be sure to explain the value of the uncut sheets of money. Younger children should be warned to never cut the sheets apart or take them out of the protective pages of the Money Ledger.

"Oh, she was so excited, she thinks she's really something that she has all this money and nobody's allowed to touch it but her," said Joyce Applefeld, 72, who gave her 7-year-old granddaughter a Money Ledger for Christmas.

"I told her you can't cut them and she said 'Why Nanna' and so I told her that they have to be like that cause they're worth more," said Applefeld.

Those who get in on this now are the really smart ones. Just think what they could be worth years from now.

During the TV show Thomas C. Harris appraises a rare uncut sheet of dollars from 1935 for \$3,500.00 and then gives it away for free. If

that doesn't get you excited nothing will. The beautifully bound assembled Money Ledger is the secret to maintaining your valuable cash asset. Values of currency always fluctuate. With the Money Ledger your uncut sheets of currency will remain in uncirculated condition and even have the potential to appreciate in the future.

"It's like keeping a classic car in a garage versus leaving it outside. Which do you think will have more value as time goes by?" said Harris.

Anyone who already collected free money from the TV show is not eligible to claim the money again in this free giveaway. There is a limit of one claim per person.

"But this is the lucky day for those who beat the TV show deadline. Not only are they getting the full sheet of one's but we are actually giving a brand new Presidential Dollar Coin to the first 1,000 callers," Harris said.

If the claim lines are busy keep trying. They promise to get to all the calls.

So whatever you do don't miss this TV show. When the show ends it will be too late to get the phone number to claim the free money.



Joyce Applefeld, 72
Grandmother, who claimed her very own Money Ledger full of uncut sheets of real money

Here's how local readers can claim the free money

Watch Channel 4 (NBC) Saturday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. Then call the Official Claim Number given to viewers during the show.

2PM

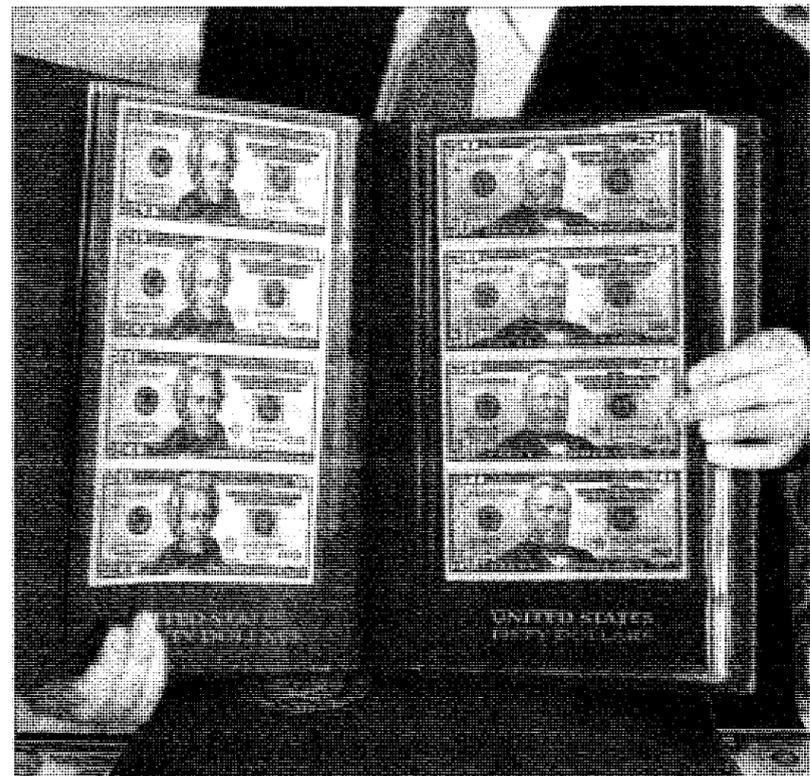
Saturday
JANUARY 26, 2008

4-NBC \$1 Million Dollar Giveaway

Viewers can call the hotline displayed during the show to get Money Ledger loaded with a free uncut sheet of real United States currency.

Watch the show this Saturday at 2:00 p.m. on WDIV - Detroit Channel 4 (NBC) to get the Claim Number to call and claim the free money. All readers in the viewing area should claim the cash during the show beginning at 2:00 p.m. If lines are busy, keep trying. All calls will be attended to during the show and for 22 minutes after the show. Sorry, dealer requests cannot be accepted. All those who beat the deadline just by covering the \$88 Money Ledger transaction fee plus shipping are guaranteed to receive a full uncut sheet of \$1 bills and the first 1,000 callers will also get a valuable never-circulated Presidential Dollar Coin for free. Uncut Sheets of \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20 and \$50 dollar bills are also available. If you miss the deadline for the show you will be turned away and required to wait for future public announcements if authorized by the World Reserve in this or other publications. THE INCREASE IN COLLECTIBLE VALUE OF CERTAIN PRIOR ISSUES OF U.S. COINS AND CURRENCY DOES NOT GUARANTEE THAT CURRENT ISSUES WILL ALSO INCREASE IN VALUE. THE WORLD RESERVE MONETARY EXCHANGE IS NOT AFFILIATED WITH THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT OR ANY GOVERNMENT AGENCY. ALL TRANSACTIONS LESS SHIPPING ARE BACKED BY THE WORLD RESERVE MONETARY EXCHANGE WITH A 90 DAY MONEY BACK GUARANTEE OF THE PURCHASE PRICE UP TO \$10,000.00.

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VALUABLE: As also shown here, these massive Money Ledgers hold every single uncut sheet of real currency printed by the U.S. Government. Everyone beating the TV show's order deadline gets the Money Ledgers loaded with a free uncut sheet of money by calling the Claim Line before the show is over.



MONEY EXPERT: "This happens to be one of those special times that the U.S. Treasury has allowed private citizens to own uncut sheets of currency," said Thomas C. Harris, retired Deputy Director now currently representing the World Reserve. During the TV show local viewers will be given the Special Claim Number to call to get the free uncut sheet of money that Harris is showing here.

WRESTLING

FROM PAGE B1

paced by Anthony Pavlich (103), Jeremiah Austin (125) and Jared Stephens (130). Meanwhile, Scott Brown (171) was a runner-up at 160 in 2007.

"I don't think anyone is the clear cut favorite, any of the top five teams could win Observerland depending on who is at what weight and what team shows up the most prepared for battle," Glenn coach Bill Polk said. "I think this year we'll be very close with the first five or six places. I don't think the point differential will be much from first to sixth."

"I think we have as good of a chance as any other team. Our kids have shown that they can win this year and we will be ready to wrestle hard."

Belleville, third a year ago, is led by defending 112-pound champion Justin Fleeson, along with Steve Cook (145), who was runner-up at 140 last year.

Canton, meanwhile, will be gunning for its first Observerland crown since 2001 led by defending 103-pound champ Donnie Watkins (now at 125), last year's 112 runner-up Carl Lucke (now at 119), Steve Cox (135) and Brent Winekoff (140).

Not to be discounted in the scheme of things is Franklin.

Despite having only three starting returnees from last year, the Patriots have compiled an impressive 18-2 dual-match record and are led by Dan Woodall (189), Matt Hintz (135), Brandon Smith (140) and Jared Pieknik (112).

"I really like the way the team is progressing," Franklin

coach Dave Chiola said. "Each week we look a little better, which hasn't happened in past years."

"We only have three kids who have ever wrestled in this tournament and we have some seniors who have never wrestled in it. For most of them it's a brand new thing. That's why I always make my JV kids come and watch because we want them to carry on the tradition and step up. It's one we all look forward to. You'll see some awesome wrestling throughout the day."

Chiola, however, knows that the Shamrocks could have the edge.

"If CC brings all their kids in their lineup, they'll be a heavy favorite," he said. "If they're all assembled, they'll be tough to beat. After CC, there's a group of teams like Canton, John Glenn, Belleville, Franklin and Churchill, which could finish in any order."

"Even the lower-echelon teams have gotten better and the teams who have been up there have stayed pretty much the same."

Stevenson senior Ziad Kharbush, last year's 160-pound champ, returns at 171.

Also competing for individual crowns after placing runner-up a year ago include Wayne Memorial's Chad Dunn (112), Salem's Jeremy Epley (160) and Plymouth's Vince Darolfi (189). Lutheran Westland's Steve Kemp is favored at 152.

"I guess the best weight class will be determined on what bumping goes on," Polk said. "I think on paper, 160 will be the most competitive, with 140 and 145 right up there as well. As I said, our guys will be ready for battle."

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C'VILLE

FROM PAGE B1

part of that was their defensive pressure and their athleticism inside. They (Clarenceville) have got a nice team."

McKendry, in his second season as varsity coach, called it "my biggest win so far, it feels good."

It also feels good to have players like Stewart, Gainer and Fairfax in the fold.

"We put a lot of pressure on Lonnie," McKendry said of his point guard. "He changed his game to play a slowdown style and I'm proud of him."

"Gainer is the heart and soul of our team. He's only 6-2, but he moves well, patrols the paint and gets loose balls in there for us. They (RU) did a good job of limiting Jamie's touches, but he stayed patient."

Clarenceville, leading the Metro Conference at 4-0, returns to action Friday at Clawson.

"We know up the road that if we don't keep improving, it will only be a good record and not a good season," McKendry said. "We have bigger goals."

RU, meanwhile, battling a two-game losing skid, returns to Mega White action against Dearborn Fordson.

"We've got a tough schedule ahead, round two starts in our league and like most teams at this time of the season, we can get either better or get worse," Steele said.

that we can adjust to different styles, and that's good to know. RU makes you run your sets and they did a good job of scouting."

Clarenceville led 10-6 after one quarter and 22-15 at halftime thanks to a triple by the 6-4 Stewart with 52.3 seconds left.

Clarenceville increased its lead to 32-22 after three quarters and led by as many as 14 in the final quarter despite three triples by RU senior guard Terrell Beard, who led the Panthers with 17 points.

The shooting chart told the story as the Trojans made 19-of-35 shots from the floor (54.2 percent), while RU was only 13-of-42 (30.9 percent), including several misses from close range.

RU Senior guard Yourye Wilson added eight points, but did not score any points in the second half. Anthony Wash finished with six.

"We did some nice things, but there were too many mental things on both ends that we did not capitalize on," said RU coach Brett Steele, whose team fell to 7-6 overall. "There were a lot of situations where we did not finish plays. We did miss a lot of easy shots, but

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STEVENSON

FROM PAGE B1

to 17, resulted from a short-handed takeaway in front of the Farmington net with 2:11 remaining.

The Falcons took a 1-0 lead at 6:22 in the first period when junior Zach Jugan skated from behind the Stevenson net and tucked the puck inside the post.

Farmington controlled the puck most of the period, although Stevenson was more aggressive after giving up the goal. It was the first time all season the Spartans were outshot in a period, 10-5.

"I was a little disappointed in our power play," Vellucci said. "We didn't move the puck that well. Our power-play unit is one of the best in state. We got a little nervous, trying to do too much instead of moving the puck."

"They wore us down a little late in the third. Once we couldn't get the puck in early, it kind of deflated us. It wasn't a 5-1 game; that's the bottom line."

Senior Mark Bekkala had two assists for the Spartans; senior Jake Harbowy and junior Tyler Vines had one each. Junior Tyler O'Hara and senior Rick Lethemon assisted on the Farmington goal.

Voran scored his second goal at 11:23 in the third period when the puck slid between the pads of Farmington goalie Chris Newton after he had made the initial save.

With the Spartans ahead 4-1, the suspense was gone, although Stevenson was a man short for the rest of the game. The Spartans took eight of their 11 penalties in the third period.

Farmington, which had seven penalties, seemed to have a continuous power play in the last period, but the Falcons were unable to crack the Spartans' defense.

"That's a credit to our penalty killing, but we have to work on discipline and not putting ourselves in that situation," Mitchell said. "Fortunately, we got through it."

"I don't think we put together three periods of hockey. We have to work on our consistency and strive to do that."

Voran's third goal, which raised his team-leading total

Refenes stars in Warriors' win with 28 vs. unbeaten Cougars

Junior center Becca Refenes poured in a career-high 28 points and grabbed seven rebounds Tuesday as Lutheran High Westland handed visiting Dearborn Heights Annapolis its first girls basketball setback of the season, 50-37.

Junior guard Allyson Yankee contributed 10 points for the Warriors, who led 27-20 at halftime before putting it away with a 10-4 fourth-quarter run.

"We had the size advantage and we did a good job of getting the ball into the post, and Becca (at 6 feet, 2 inches) did a good job of passing it out," said Lutheran Westland coach Kevin Wade, whose team improved to 10-1 overall. "Yankee, along with Abi and

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Lauren Gieschen knocked down some outside shots to open things up inside."

The Warriors also made 8-of-11 free throws, while Annapolis hit only 3-of-9.

Justina Williams led the Cougars (12-1) with 13 points. CLARENCEVILLE 46, RU 38: A triangle-and-two defense did the trick Tuesday as host Livonia Clarenceville (7-7) overcame a seven-point halftime deficit to beat Redford Union (5-7) in a non-conference encounter.

Stacey Gavin and Jasmine Johnson each scored 10 first-half points to stake the Panthers to a 27-20 lead, but both were held scoreless in the second half.

"That enabled us to get the lead and it slowed them down," said Clarenceville coach Julie Patterson,

whose team outscored RU 25-11 in the second half.

Senior guard Amanda Moody sparked the Trojans with 17 points and eight assists, while 5-11 senior center Chenay Kemp added 14 points and 16 rebounds.

HURON VALLEY 41, FRANKLIN ROAD 34: Senior guard Katie Kipfmiller led the way with 14 points and 10 rebounds Tuesday as host Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (8-4, 4-0) downed Novi Franklin Road Christian (5-7, 2-4) in a Michigan Independent Athletic Conference-Red Division matchup.

Senior guard Nicole Schaffer and senior forward Lauren Adlof chipped in with 14 and 11 points, respectively, for the Hawks, who outscored Franklin Road 24-14 in the second half.

Freshman Maureen McSweeney finished with 11 points for the Warriors, who hit three triples in the first quarter to jump out to a 14-6 advantage.

LADYWOOD 53, REGINA 44: Senior center Alex Serowoky scored 14 points and grabbed five rebounds as state-ranked Livonia Ladywood (12-2, 7-0) earned the Catholic League Central Division triumph over host Harper Woods Regina (6-8, 3-4) at the Saddledome.

Caitlin Szczyzka contributed 11 for the Blazers, who made a 21-11 first-quarter lead stand up.

Mary Fitzgerald, Alison Szczyzka and Jenna Anastos each added six points.

Ladywood was 18-of-24 from the foul line (75 percent) and 16-of-42 from the field (38 percent).

Regina made 18-of-29 foul shots (62 percent), including 10-of-14 from leading scorer Hannah Sabol, who finished with a game-high 14 points.

"We settled for quick shots the second half, it seems like we just did enough, but it's always tough to win at Regina, no matter the record," Blazers coach Andrea Gorski said.

Guard tandem sparks Chargers over Stevenson

Junior guards Alysa Boldizar and Lindsey Graciak proved to be a valuable commodity Tuesday as host Livonia Churchill made it two-for-two this season against rival Livonia Stevenson with a 48-41 girls basketball win.

Boldizar led all scorers with 19 points, while Graciak contributed 16 as the Chargers improved to 4-10 overall and 2-5 in the Lakes Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association.

Churchil, which won a Jan. 4 meeting against the Spartans,

WLAA GIRLS BASKETBALL

47-35, led 25-20 at halftime before breaking putting some space on their opponent with an 11-4 third-quarter run.

"It was our guard play, especially in the third quarter," Churchill first-year coach Chad Jenkins said. "They ran our offense to perfection. They found open teammates. They penetrated to the basket, took care of the ball did a good job overall."

Kaylee McGrath and Sara Smith scored 12 and 10,

respectively, for the Spartans, who slipped to 3-11 overall and 0-7 in the Lakes Division.

CANTON 62, WAYNE 32: Senior center Baylee Hollowell scored 29 points and grabbed 20 rebounds Tuesday to propel the host Chiefs (4-10, 2-5) to a convincing WLAA-Western Division triumph over Wayne Memorial (3-11, 0-7).

Kaylie Martin contributed 11 points for Canton, which exploded in the third quarter with a 23-9 run after leading 20-13 at halftime.

Trenia Barbee scored 16 to lead the Zebras, who made only 13-of-32 free throws. Nastassia Goines added nine points, while Christina Davis pulled down nine rebounds.

W.L. NORTHERN 48, JOHN GLENN 38: Poor free throw shooting - 12-of-29 for 41.3 percent - led to Westland John Glenn's (5-9, 2-5) undoing Tuesday in a WLAA-Lakes Division defeat at Walled Lake Northern (10-4, 6-1).

"Normally we shot 65 percent as a team, and tonight this happens," said Glenn coach Mike Schuette, whose team made only 1-of-11 in the third quarter and 5-of-11 in the final period.

Malissa Guiles paced the Knights with 13 points, while teammate Katie Hockstad added 12.

The Knights hit 16-of-22 foul shots (72.7 percent).

Chanel Payne and Andrea Gordon-McClain each tallied 11 for the Rockets.

Spartans even count against rival Churchill with 63-47 win

Turn-about was fair play Tuesday night as host Livonia Stevenson avenged Jan. 4 one-point boys basketball setback with a 63-47 victory over rival Livonia Churchill.

Juniors Gary Cobb and Brian Rowe led the Spartans' balanced scoring attack with 14 and 13 points, respectively. Sophomore Bobby Naubert chipped in with nine.

Senior Pat York and junior Mark Grisa added eight apiece.

"We rebounded well, limited turnovers and had better shot selection this time," said Stevenson first-year coach Mike Allie, whose team improved to 5-7 overall and 3-4 in the Lakes Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association. "It was definitely a revenge game and we were determined to come out and make a better showing."

Stevenson led 24-20 at halftime and 41-33 after three quarters before breaking it open with a 22-14 fourth-quarter surge.

"We did not do anything well," said Churchill coach Jim

BOYS BASKETBALL

Solak, whose team fell to 8-4 overall and 5-3 in the Lakes.

"They (Stevenson) outworked us, got easy lay-ups and offensive rebounds. You name it, they did it. It was definitely a disappointing effort."

Senior center Ryan Rosenick scored 11 for the Chargers, who connected on 14-of-18 free throws but shot only 28.3 percent from the floor (15-of-53) and committed 21 turnovers.

Ryan Whittum and Ryan Woods added nine and eight points, respectively, for the Chargers, who made only 3-of-20 from three-point range.

One of Churchill's two leading scorers, Andrew Vagnetti, was limited to five points.

WAYNE 70, CANTON 46: John Hill tallied 16 points as WLAA-Western Division leader Wayne Memorial (10-2, 7-0) rolled to a victory Tuesday at home over the Chiefs (3-9, 2-5).

Robert Woodson and Martez Abney chipped in with 14 and 13, respectively, for the Zebras, who led 33-27 at halftime before going on a 21-11 third-period run to put the

game away.

Neil Sharma and Sherif Hassanian scored 18 and 12 points, respectively, for Canton, which made only 10-of-20 free throws.

Wayne was 12-of-15 from the foul line.

JOHN GLENN 75, W.L. NORTHERN 48: Eleven players scored Tuesday as WLAA-Lakes Division leader Westland John Glenn (11-1, 7-0) cruised past visiting Walled Lake Northern (0-12, 0-7).

Earl Hardison's 15 points paced a balanced Rockets' scoring attack. Stefan Marken added 10, while Keshawn Martin and Austin Anderson each tallied nine. Daris Smith chipped in with eight.

Northern's Leroy Jackson paced all scorers with 18 points, but the Knights couldn't overcome a 24-4 Glenn run in the second period.

W.L. WESTERN 66, FRANKLIN 59: Dramel Hogan and Quinton Cooper notched 16 and 15 points, respectively, propelling Walled Lake Western (6-6, 3-4) to the WLAA-Western Division triumph Tuesday over visiting Livonia Franklin (3-9, 2-5).

Ryan Matthey and Jeff Poole each scored nine for the Patriots, who trailed 30-23 at halftime and 46-33 after three quarters.

"We hung in there throughout the game like we usually do, but offensive rebounds was the story

of the game," Franklin first-year coach Jeremy Rheault said. "We're still struggling as far as not allowing second-chance opportunities."

AGAPE 52, LUTHERAN WESTLAND 36: Mark Mullett scored 21 points, including three triples, to lift Canton Agape Christian (7-5) to a non-conference win Tuesday over host Lutheran High Westland (1-8).

Ty Majeski added 11 for the Wolverines, who trailed 25-22 at halftime before outscoring the Warriors 15-1 in the third period.

Junior guard Josh Kruger scored 13 for the Warriors, who made only 1-of-6 foul shots.

"The third quarter they (Agape) did a good job of keeping us out the paint and making us take outside shots," Warriors' first-year coach Brandon Bekius said.

FRANKLIN ROAD 64, HURON VALLEY 40: Alex Fikes netted 17 points, while David Mansfield and Ryan Carlson each contributed 12 to power Novi-Franklin Road Christian (9-1, 5-1) to a Michigan Independent Athletic Conference win Tuesday over visiting Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (2-8, 0-4).

Junior guard Aaron Howell scored 12 for the Hawks, who couldn't overcome a 36-19 halftime deficit.

Franklin Road was only 9-of-19 from the foul line, while Huron Valley was 9-of-12.

PREP GYMNASTICS

DUAL MEET RESULTS

LIVONIA BLUE 143.05, CANTON 137.25

Jan. 21 at Canton

Vault: 1. Emily Quint (Blue), 9.55; 2. (tie) Laura Nomura (Blue), Robyn Piwowar (C) and Jessie Murray (C), 9.25 each; 3. Cathy Huang (C), 8.95; 4. Meghan Powers (Blue), 8.8.

Uneven bars: 1. Quint (Blue), 9.35; 2. Powers (Blue), 9.2; 3. Kelly Tapella (Blue), 9.0; 4. Huang (C), 8.95.

Balance beam: 1. Murray (C), 9.05; 2. Meredith Albers (Blue), 8.9; 3. Nomura (Blue) and Quint (Blue), 8.85 each; 4. Powers (Blue), 8.65.

Floor exercise: 1. Murray (C), 9.2; 2. Nomura (Blue), 9.1; 3. Quint (Blue), 9.05; 4. Tapella (Blue), 8.75.

All-around: 1. Quint (Blue), 36.8; 2. Murray (C), 35.95; 3. Nomura (Blue), 35.7; 4. Powers (Blue), 35.35.

LIVONIA RED 138.7, CANTON 137.25

Jan. 21 at Canton

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

Vault: 1. Paula Guzik (Red), 9.5; 2. (tie) Jessie Murray (C) and Robyn Piwowar (C), 9.25 each.

Uneven bars: 1. Guzik (Red), 9.3; 2. Cathy Huang (C), 8.95; 3. Piwowar (C), 8.9; 4. Alicia DiMauro (Red), 8.65.

Balance beam: 1. Murray (C), 9.05; 2. Jamie Marinhugh (Red), 8.9; 3. Margarita Lazarevska (Red), 8.7; 4. Guzik (Red), 8.65.

Floor exercise: 1. Murray (C), 9.2; 2. Piwowar (C), 8.7; 3. DiMauro (Red), 8.65; 4. Guzik (Red), 8.55.

All-around: 1. Guzik (Red), 36.0; 2. Murray (C), 35.95.

35.95; 3. Piwowar (C), 35.15; 4. DiMauro (Red), 34.45.

Livonia Red's dual meet record: 4-2 overall.

FARMINGTON INVITATIONAL

GIRLS GYMNASTICS MEET

Jan. 19 at Maxfield Training Center

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Farmington (A), 144.350 points; 2. Grand Rapids Forest Hills, 142.775; 3. Livonia Blue, 141.200; 4. Northville, 140.800; 5. Canton, 139.675; 6. Livonia Red, 138.800; 7. Salem, 135.575; 8. Freeland, 130.150; 9. Howell, 128.525; 10. Farmington (B), 127.700; 11. Brighton, 126.600; 12. Fraser, 125.000.

LIVONIA BLUE INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

Vault: Emily Quint, 9.35; Laura Nomura, 9.3; Meghan Powers, 8.65; Kelly Charniga, 8.3.

Uneven bars: Quint and Kelly Tapella, 9.05 each; Powers, 8.8; Nomura, 8.4.

Balance beam: Nomura, 9.05; Powers, 8.5; Quint, 8.25; Charniga, 8.05.

Floor exercise: Quint, 9.5; Powers, 9.4; Tapella, 8.9; Nomura, 8.65.

All-around: Quint, 36.15; Powers, 35.35; Nomura, 35.40.

LIVONIA RED INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

Vault: Paula Guzik, 9.45; Alicia DiMauro, 9.05; Jamie Marinhugh, 8.825; Brittany Swazey, 8.8.

Uneven bars: Guzik, 9.35; DiMauro, 8.0; Katina St. Pierre, 7.95; Marinhugh, 7.9.

Balance beam: Guzik, 9.35; Margarita Lazarevska, 8.85; St. Pierre, 8.3; DiMauro, 8.15.

Floor exercise: Guzik, 9.1; DiMauro, 8.75; Swazey, 8.55; Lazarevska, 8.35.

All-around: Guzik, 37.225; DiMauro, 33.95.

Blazers ice Penguins, 4-0

Heather Sartorius scored a pair of goals and added one assist Tuesday as Livonia Ladywood moved into fourth place in the Michigan Metro High School Girls Hockey League with a 4-0 shutout of host Plymouth-Canton-Salem at Canton's Arctic Edge.

Abby Kienbaum and Ashley

Ballarin each added a goal for the victorious Blazers, who improved to 8-6-1 overall.

Goaltender Michelle Wyniemko made 21 saves to post her third shutout of the season for Ladywood.

The loss dropped the Penguins to 3-9 overall and 3-9 in the MMHSGHL.

Patriot matmen place 2nd

Livonia Franklin tuned up for tonight's Western Division dual meet showdown with Canton by placing second last weekend in the Warren Woods Tower wrestling tournament.

Highland Park placed first, just six points ahead of the Patriots, while Roseville took third.

"This was the perfect tournament for us before Observerland (Saturday) and the post-season," Franklin coach Dave Chiola said. "All of our kids got some really good matches and that's what we need. I wasn't as concerned about winning this, as I was about getting tough matches and staying healthy."

Franklin's Justin Jacobsen, the top seed at 125 pounds, missed the tourney because of illness.

Picking up the slack were runner-up finishers Brandon Billiau (145), Don Stratz (160), Dan Woodall (189), Cody Hay (215) and Mike Modes (285).

Brandon Smith (140) and Elvin Ferreira (152) each added thirds, while Matt Hintz (135) placed fifth. Jared Pieknik (112) and Garrett Hay (171) contributed fifth places.

"Just was really sick Friday and we thought he could go,

but he just couldn't," Chiola said. "As long as he's ready for this week for our big matchup with Canton."

Spartans runner-up

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- Larry Brown was the first defensive back to win the MVP Award.
- The Oakland Raiders were the first wild-card team to win a Super Bowl.
- Terry Bradshaw holds the record for most career fumbles in a Super Bowl.
- Miami has hosted the most Super Bowls.
- Rob Griese attempted only 8 passes, completing 6 but lead his team to a 24-7 victory.
- Jason Elam holds the record of the longest field goal in Super Bowl history.
- Adam Vinatieri set a record last year with 49 post-season points.
- Marcus Allen holds the Super Bowl record for longest run from scrimmage with 74 yards.
- Miami holds the record for the most consecutive games in a Super Bowl.
- Timmy Smith holds the record for running 206 yards giving his team a Super Bowl victory.
- Emmitt Smith hold the Super Bowl record with the most touchdowns in a game.

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As DVD format war draws to a close, another battle brews

What a couple weeks it's been for the movie biz. First, Warner Bros. announced plans to drop HD DVD and release titles exclusively on Blu-ray.

That means the high-def DVD format war could be over, though Toshiba (the largest maker of HD DVD players) fought back in the best possible way: lower prices.

You can now buy the entry-level Toshiba HD-A3 player for \$149.99, the HD-A30 for \$199.99, and the HD-A30 for \$299.99.

But should you bother? If HD DVD is headed the way of Betamax, is this just throwing good money after bad?

Yes and no. A number of movie studios, including Paramount, Universal, and DreamWorks, still support the format (for the moment). That means you should be able to get new releases for a while longer and great closeout deals on older ones.

Furthermore, because the players can "upconvert" regular DVDs, they're a big boon to your existing DVD library.

In fact, speaking of that, I was all set to write a review of the Oppo Digital DV-980H (<http://tinyurl.com/2awxcr>) upconverting DVD player.

I was going to explain the logic of buying such a player over choosing sides in the format war. The DV-980H performs feats of technical wizardry to make ordinary (i.e. non-high-def) DVDs look almost high-def on your HDTV.

I tested the player with my 46-inch LCD, and it worked quite well. Spider-Man 2, for instance, looked noticeably sharper than it did



The Oppo DV-980H is an upconverting DVD player that makes ordinary DVDs look a lot better on HDTVs, but at \$169.99 it's no bargain.

when viewed on a regular, non-upconverting player.

The DV-980H delivers a pretty impressive feature set, too, including an HDMI output, support for resolutions up to 1080p, and even a USB port for video, photo, and music playback from external devices.

Unfortunately, it's not as good a deal this week as it was when HD DVD players started at \$300: The DV-980H sells for \$169.99, \$20 more than Toshiba's far more advanced HD-A3.

THE DOWNLOAD WAR BEGINS

Of course, DVDs are an endangered species as it is. At some point in the future, we'll mostly get our movies from the Internet.

At this point in the present, there are two intriguing new ways to do exactly that. The first is Netflix, which now lets you stream unlimited movies and TV shows to your PC as part of any monthly subscription of \$8.99 or higher.

Let me say that again: For as little as \$8.99 monthly, you can watch any of 6,000-plus movies or TV shows on your PC. (Netflix stocks around 90,000 DVD titles, but the streaming library is, for the moment, much smaller. And the movie selection is mediocre at best.)

After installing a small player, all you do is click Play for the title you want to watch. Streaming begins almost immediately and looks just shy of high-def.

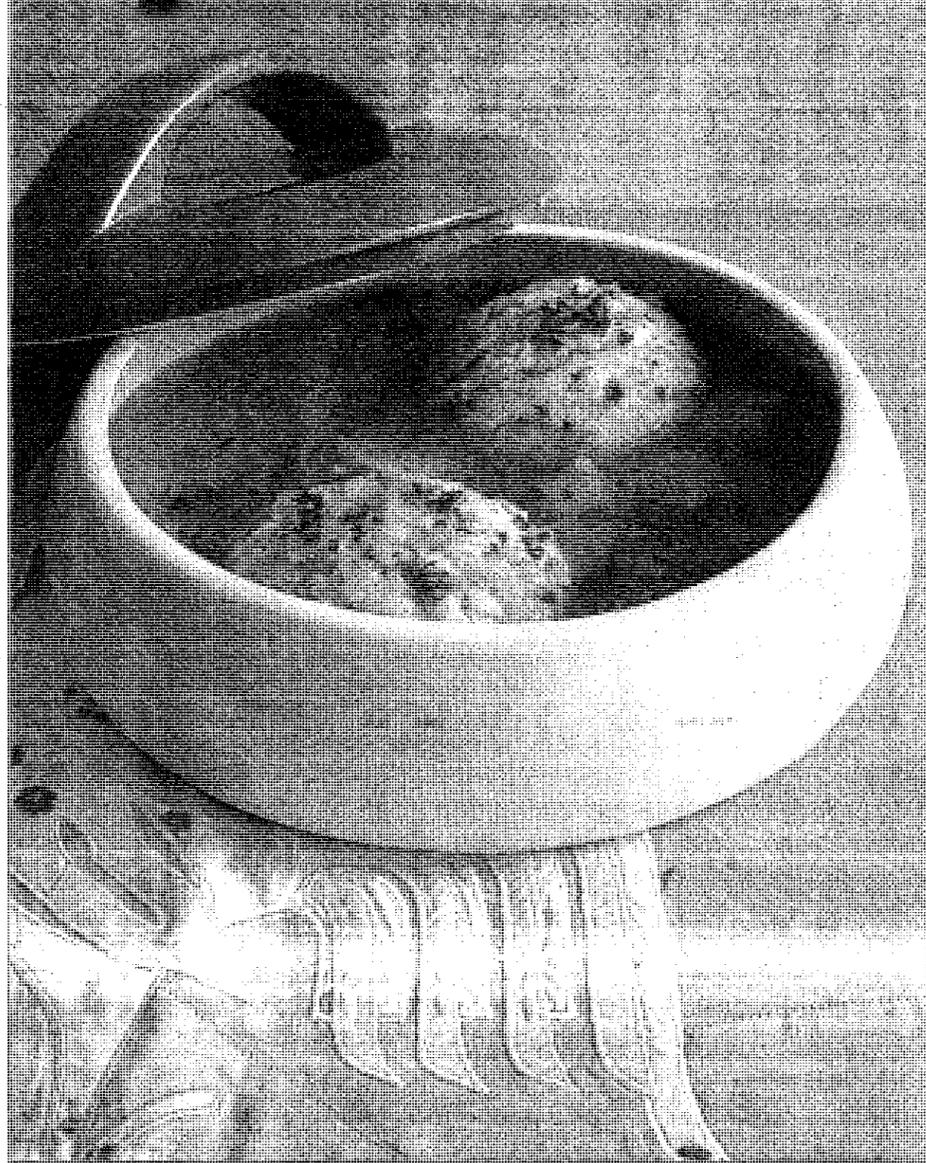
The downside is that you can't actually download anything for mobile viewing on, say, your notebook or iPod.

Please see **TECH SAVVY, D2**



Netflix now lets you stream unlimited movies and TV shows to your PC as part of most subscription plans, but the current movie selection could be better.

Soup 'feeds your soul'



Druker included Grandma Florrie's Chicken Soup with Matzo Balls as a tribute to one of her biggest culinary influences.

Chef, author maintains Detroit ties

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

Marjorie Druker remembers Stone Soup, the fable she read as a child about cooperation within a community.

Like the story about the pot filled with water and a stone, soupmaking still brings together a neighborhood, she said.

"You can share that soup with everybody," Druker said. "Soup is meant for sharing. When you have something good like soup, there is always someone there who needs it. Maybe they had surgery, or they are suffering from an illness."

"That's the beauty of soup. It heals beyond the colds and flu. It feeds your soul and well-being."

Druker has made a living as a chef. Druker and her husband Paul Brophy own the New England Soup Factory with two locations in the Boston area. Druker is the chef, while Brophy runs the business end of it.

But she also has Detroit roots, too. Both her sets of grandparents were from Detroit and lived in Southfield. Her grandmother's name was Florence Druker, the other grandmother was Sylvia Frimet. Her uncle, Gilbert Frimet, was an attorney who still lives in Birmingham. She has fond memories of trips to Greektown with him for lamb chops, she says, and her aunt, Nancy Kraywitz, resides in Bloomfield Hills. Druker still has several cousins in the Detroit area.

Druker said she treasures the old pots and pans and recipes she has from her grandmothers. "My grandmother Florence Druker could get a

Please see **SOUP, D3**



Marjorie Druker, co-author of the New England Soup Factory Cookbook, says soup creates a sense of community.

SOUP TIPS

Marjorie Druker, author of the "New England Soup Factory Cookbook" with Clara Silverstein, has a few pointers for the home cook making soups.

Fresh ingredients are key, so don't use old vegetables. "You wouldn't put old makeup on a beautiful face," Druker said. "Start with fresh vegetables, crisp, sweet, juicy onions, and freshly chopped garlic, not the stuff in the jars. Use good stock."

Take a chance. "Cookbooks are a wonderful guide. They give you the body of a recipe, but don't be afraid to take liberties. If you like something, add it. If you don't like something, delete it. Trust your instincts and take some risks."

Use good equipment. "If you don't want to burn (scorch) the soup, buy the heaviest pot with the thickest bottom."

Maintain good sharp knives to cut vegetables.

RECIPES

Recipes courtesy of Marjorie Druker, co-author of "New England Soup Factory Cookbook."

GRANDMA FLORRIE'S CHICKEN SOUP WITH MATZO BALLS

Matzo Balls
7 eggs, separated
1 tablespoon kosher salt, divided
1/2 cup chicken fat or vegetable oil, such as canola

1 1/2 cups matzo meal
2 1/2 tablespoons club soda
2 teaspoons onion powder
1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley
Soup
3 pounds chicken thighs
1 veal bone
2 large Spanish onions, peeled and diced
4 ribs celery, diced
10 carrots, peeled and diced
2 gallons water, plus additional as needed
Kosher salt, to taste
3 sweet potatoes, peeled and diced
1 bunch chopped fresh dill
2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley

For the matzo balls: Fill an 8-quart pot three-quarters of the way with salted water or chicken stock. Bring to a boil over high heat.

Place the egg-whites in a mixing bowl and add a pinch of salt. Using an electric mixer, whip the egg whites until stiff peaks form. Set aside.

In a separate bowl mix together the egg yolks, remaining salt, chicken fat, matzo meal, club soda, onion powder and parsley. Gently

Please see **RECIPES, D3**

ACCENTS

ITALIAN CHEF VISITS

Alvise Ballarin, executive chef of Trattoria Laguna Restaurant in Venice, Italy, will be sharing his passion and expertise at classes offered by Dawn Bause, a local culinary instructor.

Bause and Ballarin will be offering cooking classes/catered meals at Bause's home in Commerce Township Feb. 1-10. With a heart healthy focus on gourmet fish dishes, fresh vegetable and pasta dishes complimented by Italian olive oils and aged balsamic vinegars that Alvise is bringing with him, Ballarin and Bause will share their passion, recipes and most coveted olive oils, and balsamic vinegars. The Bause-Ballarín team also can conduct one of their signature cooking classes for guests right in the comfort of their own kitchen.

"I'm thrilled to have Alvise visiting, ready to share his passion and expertise," said Bause, also an instructor with Birmingham's nonprofit Community House. "Our classes will enable friends to gather together, unwind, and enjoy home cooking and companionship in a cozy, warm environment. If dinner sounds overwhelming after the holidays, we can create a heavy appetizer and dessert menu sure to please."

Pricing will vary, based on the number of people in attendance, menu options and location. Bause can accommodate groups of 4 to 20.

In May 2008, and again in September 2008, Bause will lead an eight-day culinary tour to Venice, Italy. To schedule an engagement with Bause and Ballarin or for more information about the Venice 2008 cooking tours, contact Dawn Bause at (248) 363-8080, or visit her website at www.cooking-withdawn.com.

THE GREAT LAKES NATURAL SOAP CO.

So many readers have contacted us wanting more information about the Great Lakes Natural Soap Company, owned by Sharon Czekala of Canton.

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Local stores that carry the products include: PJ's Gifts, West Bloomfield; Love from Michigan, Auburn Hills; Occasionally Gift Baskets, Ann Arbor; The Basket Shoppe, Berkley; Michigan Made and More, Plymouth; Michigan Wild, Livonia and Haircolor Experts and More in Troy.

TECH SAVVY

FROM PAGE D1

Which brings us to Apple and the new iTunes movie-rental service. For \$2.99-\$3.99 you can download a movie for viewing on your PC, notebook, iPod/iPhone, or Apple TV (a nifty little box that connects to HDTVs).

Because it's a rental, you have 30 days to start watching — and 24 hours to finish once you do. After that, the movie goes poof.

iTunes currently has about 1,000 titles in its rental library — and they're all movies; no TV shows. If you want the latter, you can still purchase them outright.

Interestingly, if you want movie and TV downloads for a Creative Zen or other non-iPod player, you need to turn to Amazon Unbox. Wal-Mart, for its part, recently terminated its video-download business. (All together, now: "Wal-Mart had a video-download business?")

Let's recap. HD DVD: probably dead. Blu-ray: likely winner. Upconverting DVD players: great if you can get one cheap. Netflix: instant streaming rocks, movie selections don't. iTunes: rentals great; 24-hour window, not great.

What do you think of all these high-def DVD and movie-download developments? My inbox awaits your insights.

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

A little black dog needs a home, and other fuzzy stories

I'm pleased to announce the return of my column, "One World, Many Beings" where stories are shared about animals, the environment and the living creatures that make our world interesting.



One world, many beings

Lana Mini

In this space, you will meet the people who live in your community who give generously, without asking anything in return, to help those in need: from humans to non-human species.

Meet: The Metro Area Animal Adoption Association.

This isn't an animal shelter. This is a nonprofit group where about 35 metro-Detroit residents, some perhaps just like yourself, decided to open their houses and allow homeless animals a place to rest temporarily. They nurse abandoned animals back to health and then volunteer their time finding good families to adopt them, perhaps families like yours.

The board members are Melissa O'Keefe of Ferndale, founder Marian Harvey of Detroit, Gail Gillenkirk of Warren, Helen Denys of Detroit and Julie Sly of Lincoln Park. MAAAA rescues dogs and cats plus the occasional bird and reptile.



Luigi almost died of an immune disease that nearly strangled him. He was found wandering in a field when some kind-hearted people paid out of their pockets to help him.

And they need your help. They need giving people willing to let a dog or cat sleep at their house for few weeks until he or she is adopted.

I've fostered animals for years — gentle rescued racing greyhounds, affectionate pitbulls, energetic huskies and mellow mixed breeds.

Foster life is great for people who travel.

Perhaps you love animals, but are on the road so often you don't have time to commit to a permanent pet. In the foster world, you can enjoy an animal's company and then feel satisfied knowing you saved a life.

"The best feeling in the world is watching your foster with their new forever family and seeing the whole bonding process begin," Denys said. "When they leave with their new best friend, you cry for joy."

MAAAA hopes to expand. "If we have more foster homes, we can save more animals. We not only deal with owner give-ups and strays, but when we have foster homes open, we work with high-kill shelters to help reduce the number of animals that have to be euthanized."

Denys has seen every excuse people use to abandon ani-



Luigi is 5-month-old puppy who is now healthy, happy and ready for a home. He almost died at just eight weeks old.

mals. Once someone told her the dog just "grew too big."

Once someone told her they wanted to give up their cat because she didn't "match with the color of the new carpeting."

The one thing everyone in MAAAA has in common is selflessness, they work for love.

"We have all gotten strange stares from people as we were crawling on our hands and knees in the middle of a street, or a muddy field, trying to coax a scared kitten or puppy to get close enough to catch and take in," Denys said.

MAAAA also needs people to adopt animals, or volunteer their time showing animals to the public on adoption day.

Every Saturday, at the Southfield Petsmart, 28556 Telegraph Road, from noon to 3 p.m., the group is there with homeless dogs and cats in need.

One example is Luigi. He's a

five-month old lab mix who is sweet, smart and loves other dogs. He was found in Arenac County wandering in a field.

At just eight weeks old, he and suffered a condition called Juvenile Cellulitis, an immune deficient condition that causes the lymph nodes to swell to the point where, if untreated, literally strangles the puppy to death.

"Luigi was close to death and had we not taken him, our vet thought that he would surely not have survived the night."

Today, nearly four months later, Luigi only has some scarring around his nose.

"Watching this boy turn from near death to rambunctious puppy has been the most rewarding experience. And now he needs a home."

To foster or adopt an animal call (313) 571-2985 or e-mail MetroAAAA@aol.com.

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SOUP

FROM PAGE D1

restaurant recipe from any chef," Druker said, rattling off names from a past era, like the London Chop House Veal Chops or the fried perch from Joe Muer's.

"I'm a Bostonian, but I've always had these Detroit roots."

Those roots are evident in the new cookbook Druker wrote with Clara Silverstein, *New England Factory Soup Cookbook* (Thomas Nelson Books, September 2007, \$24.99). The book includes soup recipes, but also sandwich and salad recipes, too.

Druker also did much of the food styling in the book, setting up bowls and plates with cookery from her grandmothers and using linens and bowls from stores (Anthropologie) in Birmingham. Druker picked up many of those items with her mother three years ago when both were in town for a bar mitzvah.

FAMILY TIES

The book features anecdotes about growing up and the influences of her parents and grandparents.

"I wanted the book to be something different, something no one else had done," Druker said. "I didn't want it to have a Better Homes and Gardens feel, and even though those are great books, I didn't want it to have a 'studio' feel to it. I wanted my book so I could walk with you (the reader) through the recipe and you won't get lost. There was that human connection with the book."

Druker's restaurant has been featured on the Food Network. "Customers always wanted the recipes," Druker said of the restaurant. "As a kid and an adult, I always adored cookbooks. It was a beautiful experience to write a cookbook. It gave me an opportunity to write about my love and passion of food and cooking."

Druker always loved to cook, and she highlights her love and passion for it at a young age.

She writes about her childhood and reading *Stone Soup*, bringing lentils and spices to add to a community soup the teacher wanted the children to make. She writes about making salads at a young age and cooking at a Jewish summer camp. She once telephoned her father at home when the going got tough at camp, complaining vociferously.

But her father refused to let her come home. "Johnson & Wales doesn't accept quitters," her father told her. That's where she went to school and met her husband Paul Brophy.

Druker once catered her grandparents' 50th wedding anniversary. She remembers these Detroit relatives had a lot more formality.

"Florrie was a big influence on me," Druker said. "Even the people who worked with her, she had their recipes." Druker wants to continue Florrie's legacy and keep her memory alive by preparing her recipes.

"She used to have sayings like 'in my life, I never had such a piece of perch,'" Druker said.

Druker said she learned everything from her grandmother, who was an authority on food, telling Druker about Jimmy Schmidt some 30 years ago. The afternoon of this interview Druker has a brisket in the oven and she continues to prepare her grandmother's recipes, not letting them sit in a box elsewhere.

"I want to keep her life going, her cooking is part of my heritage, and family history. I can serve this to my daughter and say, 'this is what we ate when she was alive.' She would make things like Jello molds, and each of them would have one, and they would have bing cherries in them."

Grandma Florrie's Chicken Soup is highlighted in the book.

"It's been fun to look back at my family history, and how life's lessons go hand and hand with food. You read about the happy and sad times. Sweet and sour cabbage soup is so much like a Jewish life, it's sweet and sour. Recipes can incorporate life

into food and understand life through food. Sometimes it's salty and sour, and sometimes it's sweet and you just want to relish it."

OPENING A 'SOUP FACTORY'

Druker was operating a catering business when she decided to open a soup restaurant. "I always made soup ... but I thought I could make a living at this." She stayed home for about two or three years after her daughter was born. "I felt a piece of my life was missing," Druker said. "There was something that was always pulling me to it, and I thought this was it. And thank God, I was willing to get there."

"I didn't want to look back and say, I could have, should have and would have."

Many of the recipes are staples from the restaurant. The book is organized with chapters on the various seasons, following seasonal harvests and availability.

Others are inspired from faraway places: the Tortilla and Squash Soup was inspired by a visit to a restaurant on a vacation in Aruba.

Druker asked the waiter what was in the soup. "We were sitting in the restaurant and it was about 100 degrees. And we had to try the two soups of the day. I had a version of this soup and it tasted like something I would have made."

"My niche is highly seasoned food. It's very assertive. Not every chef will do that. I can't dilute it. It's not the intent of the spices."

"That soup was so good, and I kept asking the waiter, and he told me the chef pureed the tortilla chips into the soup. I also added a Mexican flair with lime juice, cilantro and chilis."

That soup will warm all year long. Like great chefs, Druker uses foods that fit at that time of year.

"I only cook seasonally," Druker said. "That's how people want to eat and live. They want to taste in the moment."

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Trappist ales made for winter

A recent trip to Belgium piqued our beer interest and taste-buds. One might expect this since 487 different beers are made in this small country. Bierbrasserie Cambrinus in Bruges (also spelled Brugge) serves 400 of them!

Most interesting to us and making excellent brews for cold winter nights with a variety of foods are the six Trappist monastery beers: Achel, Chimay, Orval, Rochefort, Westmalle and Westvleteren. All are stronger, higher-alcohol, top-fermenting, bottle-conditioned ales. The term "Trappist" came into common use in the first half of the 20th century, popularized by Chimay.

Focus on Wine

Ray & Eleanor Heald

Following a stricter observance of the Cistercian rule as a break-away of the Benedictine Order, the Trappists have the only monastic breweries in Belgium today.

Orval produces the oldest and driest of these ales and was founded by Benedictine monks in the 11th century. It's decidedly hoppy with an approximate 6.2 percent alcohol and a burnt orange color. It gains its complexity from a secondary fermentation with multiple yeast strains, including some wild types which impart a horse saddle aroma if brettanomyces develops. The same thing can happen with wine and is generally referred to as "brett." Aficionados believe it's a complexing element. Others can't stand it! Chimay, the first of the abbey ales to sell its beer commercially, is probably the best known. The selected yeasts that ferment this ale do so at high temperature and yield a zinfandel or Port wine-like character with alcohol around 8 percent.

Westmalle's famous Tripel has been brewed since 1836. With a unique golden-bronze color and a distinct orange-like taste, it has 9 percent alcohol. Rochefort ales are tawny to rather brown in color from dark candy sugar that's a noteworthy ingredient in the fairly sweet ales. Banana, nuts and choc-

olate flavors are attractive. Three different beers range from 7.5 to a high of 11.3 percent alcohol.

The smallest Trappist brewery is Achel which makes "Extra," copper-colored with malty sweetness and dried fruit flavors. Ending with refreshing hoppy bitterness, it has 8 percent alcohol by volume. Westvleteren is not available in the U.S.

So called abbey ales are not Trappist. The term abbey ale is associated with beer brewed non-monastically under a license. These beers cannot be called Trappist but generally derive their name from a church or some other religious icon and tend to imitate Trappist beer styles.

Besides just enjoying these ales on their own, they all make a fantastic accompaniment to a cheese course, a delightful winter treat. At Cambrinus in Bruges, the ales are served with chunks of Trappist cheese, unavailable here. The best substitute is Port Salut or a similar soft cheese of your choice.

A shaker of celery salt and a small crock of yellow mustard accompany the cheese. Eat the cheese plain or sprinkle a chunk with celery salt or dip it in the mustard for a uniquely delicious taste experience with a Trappist ale.

Merchant's Fine Wine, 22250 Michigan Ave. in Dearborn (313) 563-8700, has a top selection of Trappist ales.

Eleanor & Ray Heald are contributing editors for the Quarterly Review of Wines and Troy residents who write about wine, spirits, and restaurants for the "Observer & Eccentric Newspapers." E-mail: focusonwine@aol.com.

WINE PICKS

For a change of pace

2007 Man Vintners South Africa Chenin Blanc \$10
2006 Goats do Roam White (South Africa) \$15
2006 Dutton Goldfield Russian River Valley Pinot Blanc \$25

French Rhone Wines

2005 Domaine Berthet-Rayne Cotes du Rhone \$12
2004 Marc Kreydenweiss Ansata, Valey du Rhone \$19
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Rhone-style wines from elsewhere

2006 Goats do Roam Red \$12
2005 Peter Lehman Seven Surveys (Australia) \$15
2005 Tablas Creek Mourvedre \$35
2005 Beckmen Purissima Mountain Vineyard Grenache \$40
2005 Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel \$45

French white wines

2005 Domaine Alain Normand Macon Blanc, La Roche Vineuse \$16
2006 Chateau de Sancerre, Sancerre \$20
2001 Helfrich Gewurztraminer, AOC Alsace \$20 (semi-sweet)

If a retailer does not stock a specific wine we recommend, ask that it be ordered from the distributor, or if it's a domestic wine, order it direct from the winery.

Simply Self Storage

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Inger Vaughn - C133 - Bags, furniture, boxes
Dottie McCullough - D131 - Washer, Dryer, furniture
Futuristic Designs LLC - E140 - Lawn equipment, tools, tool chest, tool boxes
Sheree Sills - B101 - Dryer, electronics, boxes

Publish: January 24 & 27, 2008

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RECIPES

FROM PAGE D1

fold the egg whites into the batter. Place in the refrigerator for 15 minutes. Using your hands roll the batter into walnut-size pieces. Drop the matzo balls into the water and cover the pot. Reduce the heat to medium and simmer for 35 minutes. Remove with a slotted spoon. Makes 12 to 15 matzo balls.

For the soup: In a stockpot combine the chicken, veal bone, onions, celery and carrots. Add the water and salt. Bring to a boil over high heat. Use a slotted spoon or strainer to remove any foam that rises to the surface of the soup. Reduce the heat to medium and simmer for 4 hours. If the liquid becomes too concentrated, add more water during cooking time. Add the sweet potatoes, dill and parsley. Simmer for an additional 45 minutes. Remove from the heat. Using a large slotted spoon, remove the chicken pieces and veal bone to a bowl. Discard veal bone. When the chicken is cool enough to handle, remove the skin and bones and place the meat back into the soup. Serve the soup with the matzo balls floating on top. Garnish with the parsley. Makes 10 to 12 servings.

NEW ENGLAND CLAM CHOWDER

3 tablespoons butter
1 Spanish onion, peeled and diced

3 ribs celery, diced
2 small pieces (about 2 ounces each) salt pork
5 potatoes, peeled and cut into 1/2-inch cubes
5 cups clam juice
2 bay leaves
1 teaspoon dried tarragon
1 teaspoon celery salt
1/2 pounds minced clams, preferably fresh
5 dashes Worcestershire sauce
2 cups heavy cream
Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
Oyster crackers for serving

In a stockpot melt the butter over medium-high heat. Add the onion, celery and salt pork. Saute for 5 to 7 minutes. Add the potatoes, clam juice, bay leaves, tarragon and celery salt. Bring to a boil. Reduce the heat to medium, cover the pot, and simmer for 35 minutes. Add the clams and simmer, uncovered, for 5 minutes. Add the Worcestershire sauce, cream, salt and pepper. Simmer an additional 7 minutes and remove from heat. Remove the bay leaves. Garnish with oyster crackers or common crackers and a sprinkle of celery salt.

Makes 10-12 servings.

TORTILLA AND BUTTERNUT SQUASH SOUP

3 tablespoons salted butter
3 cloves garlic, minced

2 cups diced onions
3 carrots, sliced
3 ribs celery, sliced
1 pound butternut squash, peeled and diced
12 cups chicken stock
1 cup sherry
8 ounces salted tortilla chips
1/2 cup cilantro leaves
2 cups shredded Monterey Jack cheese
1 can (4 ounces) diced green chilies
1 bunch scallions, sliced
2 tablespoons freshly squeezed lime juice
8 dashes green Tabasco sauce
Freshly ground pepper, to taste

In a large stockpot, melt the butter over medium-high heat. Add the garlic, onions, carrots, celery and butternut squash. Saute for 10 minutes, stirring frequently. Add the stock and sherry. Bring to a boil, reduce the heat to medium and simmer until the squash is soft and tender, 35 to 40 minutes. Remove from the heat and stir in the tortilla chips until wilted. Add the cilantro and cheese and let the cheese melt into the soup. Puree the soup in the pot using a hand blender or working in batches with a regular blender until completely smooth. Add the chilies and scallions. Stir to combine. Season with lime juice, Tabasco sauce and black pepper. Return to the sauce and simmer for an additional 5 minutes. Makes 12 to 14 servings.

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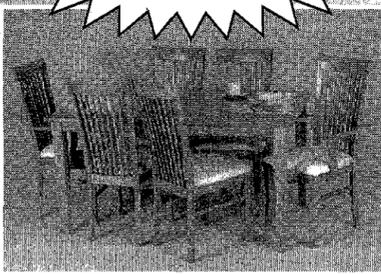
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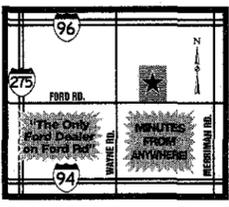
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pink

North American International Auto Show



LAWRENCE MCKEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lanvin Runway Octagonal Handbag (\$1,950), available at Tender, Birmingham.



LAWRENCE MCKEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Virtuoso Salon owner Barsoum Bouchar styles the hair of Amy Franklin, Birmingham, in preparation for 2008 North American International Auto Show events.



Productions Plus of Bingham Farms used local designers Jason Humphrey and Amanda Jurban to create this look for Honda's Product Specialists at the 2008 North American International Auto Show. The white jackets will be worn by product specialists during NAIAS.

LAWRENCE MCKEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Cocktail dresses were fitting at all the festivities surrounding the North American International Auto Show. Tender in Birmingham helped partygoers make a statement in the season's jewel tones and voluminous shapes. In this look that appeared in PINK last week, Alexi wears a silk Lanvin puff sleeve dress, accented with a skinny belt, chunky bow necklace, Valentino shoes and a Lanvin evening bag, all from Tender. Call (248) 258-0212 or visit www.tenderbirmingham.com.

FAST FASHION

The local fashion business gets a boost from the 2008 North American International Auto Show. It takes a village to make all those auto show executives, car buffs, celebrities, product specialists and partygoers look red carpet ready. Here's a look at some of the glamour of NAIAS.

pink picks

Wear It!
Cashmere YumYums at www.tdmdesigninc.com

DON'T Wear It!
Short skirts in the wintertime

Kick It!
Kors Michael Kors Patent Half-d'Orsay Wedge



Tote It!
Betsey Johnson Diamond Girl Medium Tote

Use It!
GOLD bar body soap, \$11.95 at lindenleaves.com

Eat It!
Tres Leches at Mariachi in Canton

Drink It!
Jones Soda, made with pure sugar cane — no high fructose corn syrup!



Shop It!
Tender in downtown Birmingham

See It!
27 Dresses

DVD It!
My Super Ex-Girlfriend

Tivo It!
The Cashmere Mafia, Wednesdays at 10 p.m.

Read It!
Front Row: Anna Wintour: The Cool Life and Hot Times of Vogue's Editor in Chief by Jerry Oppenheimer



Hear It!
Bang Lime Best Friends in Love

Do It!
Stay in touch with old friends

Accessorize it!
IMAN Global Chic Amber-Inspired Bold Bangle Duo at hsn.com



Malls & Main Streets

BRIDAL SHOWCASE

Lisa's Gift Wrappers will host its second annual Bridal Showcase Week Jan. 22-26. Learn to create favors, favor boxes and ribbon roses, and get ideas for invitations and other touches that make weddings unique at this free event. Between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Saturday, demos include napkin folding, paper crafts and calligraphy. The store is located at 28834 Woodward Ave. (1 block south of 12 Mile), in Royal Oak. Call (248) 547-9094 or visit www.lisasgiftwrappers.com.

ROYAL OAK MAILS CALENDAR

The Downtown Development Authority has unveiled Downtown Royal Oak's new identity on a beautiful, full color calendar that details all annual Downtown events and major city meetings. The calendar is the first of its kind and will be mailed to all Royal Oak homes and businesses this month.

AUTHOR SIGNS BOOKS

Birmingham native Amy Goldwasser will discuss and sign copies of her book "RED: The Next Generation of American Writers — Teenage Girls — On What Fires Up Their Lives Today," at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 1 at Borders Birmingham. The book includes nearly 60 teenage girls writing about everything from post-Katrina New Orleans to Johnny Depp. Borders Birmingham is located at 34300 Woodward Ave. Call (248) 203-0005.



Amy Goldwasser

CHOCOLATE DECADENCE

Celebrate chocolate — just in time for Valentine's Day — with the grand opening of the Schokolad Chocolate Factory in downtown Birmingham on Monday, Jan. 28. Owned by Doug Cale, the Chocolate Factory features over 70 truffles, chocolate-dipped fruit and pretzels, and Schako-lattes, all made on site. The Schokolad Chocolate Factory is located at 167 N. Old Woodward. Store Hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, and 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Thursday-Saturday. Call (248) 723-8008.

Baby hats auctioned for charity

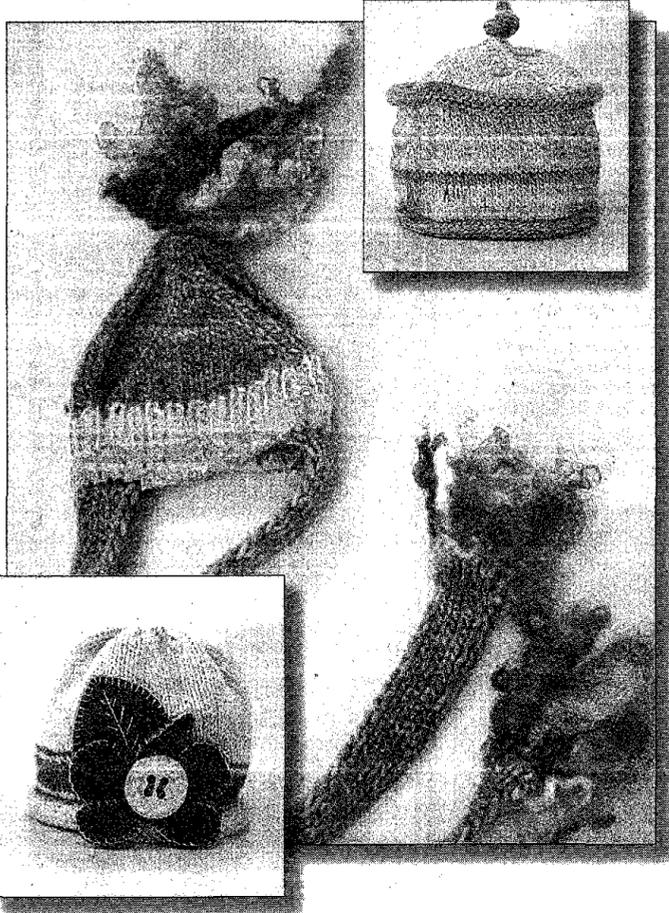
ROYAL OAK — Inn Season Café will display and auction a selection of hats donated by local artists to benefit Women for Women International. The artists, known for their skilled execution of craft, have provided wonderful examples of hand-knitted, woven and felted creations for children, adults and even a pet. All proceeds will go directly to the charity after the bidding session, which ends Sunday, Feb. 3.

"It is at this time of year that we reflect on our social responsibility to assist those in need," says Thomas Lasher, owner/chef of Inn Season. "Women for Women International is an agency that helps women in war-torn countries rebuild their lives. In spite of our depressed local economy, we cannot forget others that are still less fortunate than us and we looked for an opportunity to bring awareness of this charity to the public attention."

Women for Women International helps women rebuild their lives by giving them financial and emotional support, job skills training, rights education, access to capital and assistance for small business development.

Inn Season Café is Metro Detroit's most established vegetarian restaurant with a rotating exhibit of local artists. Since 1981, Inn Season has used locally sourced organic produce when possible has strived to present skillfully prepared classic and inventive world cuisine. The Inn Season Café is located at 500 E. Fourth Street in Royal Oak.

For menu selections, visit www.theinnseasoncafe.com. To learn more about Women for Women International, visit www.womenforwomen.org.



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