



THURSDAY
January 31, 2008

WESTLAND Observer

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New look Public library 'freshens up' for patrons

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

The weather outside might be frightful, but the atmosphere inside the William P. Faust Public Library is warm and inviting, thanks to a fresh coat of paint.

Gone is the original color that had a gray tint and an undertone that was dreary and cold. In is a creamier tone and forest green, blue and yellow accents.

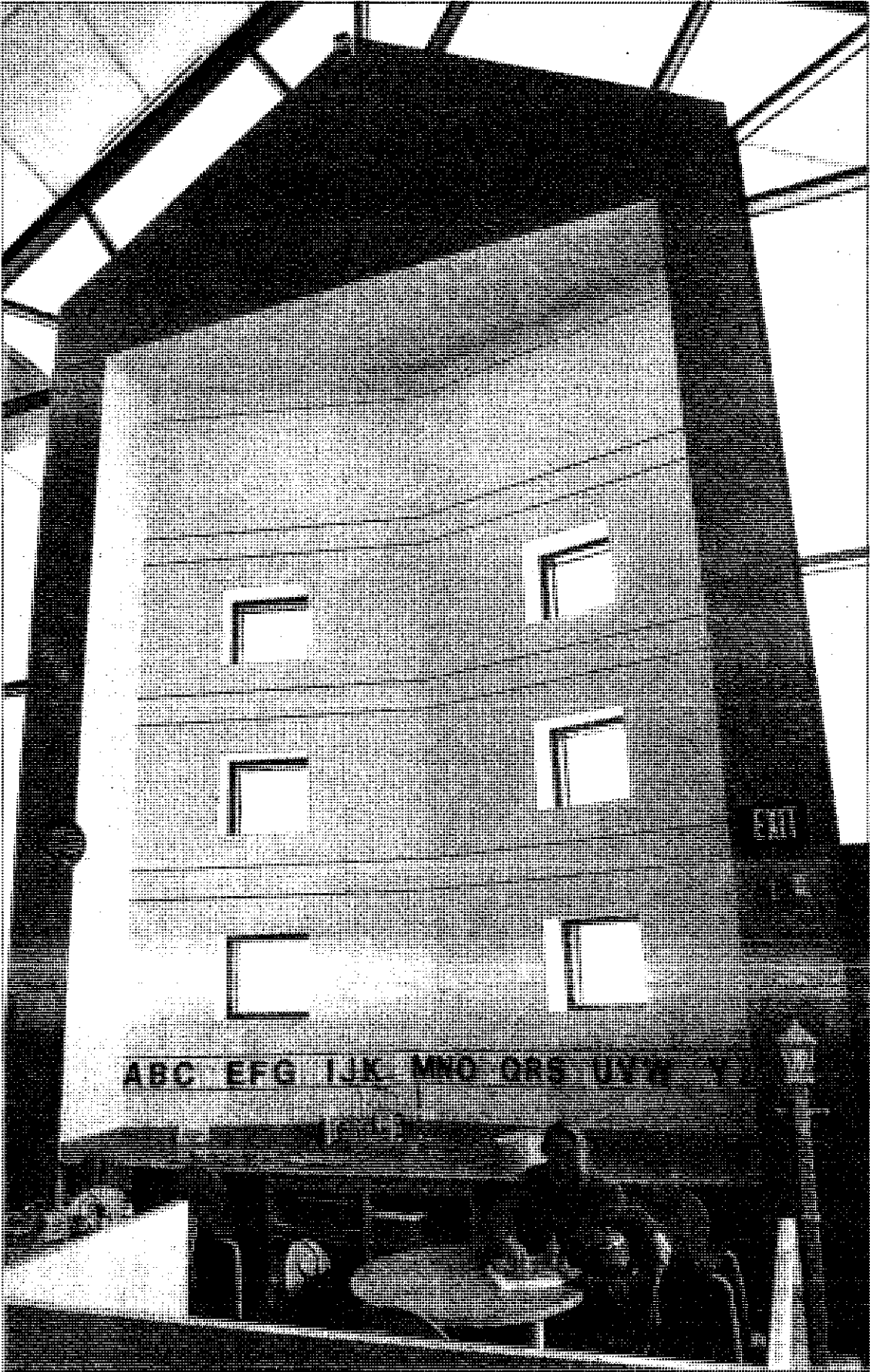
"This building has interesting architecture and by framing out the arches, it highlights it better," said library Director Cheryl Napsha, who had the job of picking the colors. "This building is 11 years old. It was time for a change."

On the south walls, squares of green accent the lighting on cream walls and cover the massive arches that frame the fireplace. But at the north end, the accent colors change to blue and yellow.

The towering arch at that end is framed in blue while the balls that support the canopy which covers the entrance to the children's department are painted yellow.

"The colors are joyful for the children's department," Napsha said. "The memory children have of the library affects their view throughout their lives. If they view it as a happy place as a child, they'll want to be here more and read more as adults."

Industrial Painting Contractors Inc. of Taylor won the bid and over a four-day period, Dec. 31-Jan. 3 — yes, they



Magdalena Duleba of Westland helps her 3-year-old son Patrick with a reading exercise, using Leap Frog, at the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland.

were working on New Year's Day — they did the bulk of the painting. The remainder of the work was done after the library was closed in the evening.

"Because we were closed for four days, it only took eight days

to do," Napsha said. "They did an awesome job."

And those eight days included a second coat of paint. According to Napsha, the company wasn't happy with how the walls looked after the first coat.

"It didn't meet their standards, so they did a second coat at no charge," she said. "We got lucky. It's such a happy place now."

Napsha used two staff develop-

Please see **LIBRARY, A2**

Gas levels prompt more park tests

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Elevated methane levels have been found near the Bailey Recreation Center and Westland 18th District Court, but officials confirmed Tuesday that tests inside those buildings showed no evidence the gas had seeped indoors.

Still, the new results of soil tests conducted late last year have triggered another round of methane probes that could produce results by early spring, amid hopes that officials can move toward a remedy for Central City Park.

The once-popular park has been fenced off since last January after it was revealed that the site — a former landfill — was contaminated, mostly with lead.

Findings of elevated methane levels prompted the Westland fire marshal's office to conduct tests in the Bailey Center basement, where methane would mostly likely enter, and inside the main floor of district court, which has no basement.

"They found zero methane in both buildings," Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Riley confirmed Tuesday.

Wayne County, which owns the park and leases it to the city, led the latest round of soil and groundwater tests, which have been analyzed by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. Officials for the county, the city and MDEQ met Monday to discuss the latest results and a new round of testing.

The methane probes found nothing on the park's east edge at Carlson.

"That was good news," MDEQ project manager Beth Vens said Tuesday.

However, results showed two areas — one near the Bailey Center and one near the court — with methane levels of 20 percent by volume in soil gas. That is close to the 5 to 15 percent that environmental experts consider a low-end risk for a potential explosion, Vens said.

"If it migrates off site, in a perfect storm set of events there can be a fire or explosion hazard," Vens said.

For that to happen, however, methane would have to get into an enclosed area like a basement, fill up the air space and be ignited, possibly by a sump pump, she said.

Methane was found within 180-200 feet of the Bailey Center and a short distance south of the court. Aside from those findings, officials cited only one other spot where elevated levels of methane were found — near a wooded area closer to the park's south end.

The latest results prompted the MDEQ to call for further methane testing even closer to the city buildings, in hopes of finding the area where methane levels completely drop off, Vens said.

Please see **PARK, A3**

'We do make a difference' – Youth Assistance honors teens, mentors, volunteers

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Westland's Youth Assistance Program, which helps troubled youths improve their lives, celebrated what its director called "our biggest night of the year" Monday by honoring teens, mentors and volunteers who contributed to the latest round of success stories.

"We do make a difference," Director Paul Motz told a crowd that gathered for dinner at DeLuca's restaurant in Westland. "We've made a difference, and we're going to con-

tinue to make a difference."

In the last 15 years, Youth Assistance has had 3,515 referrals from courts, police and families for teens who have gotten into trouble and who work to improve their behavior with help from adult mentors and classes that teach them to make good decisions.

Last year alone, Youth Assistance took in 201 youngsters, and it marked another year that brought success stories like that of 15-year-old Chelcie Munson, a John Glenn High School 10th-grader whose grade-point average jumped

from 1.0 to 3.6.

Munson's efforts earned her the program's Female Youth of the Year award Monday, and she brought along her family, her boyfriend and mentor Linda Klebba, who, according to Munson, helped steer her on the right path.

"She's like the best thing that ever came into my life," Munson said.

Volunteer mentors agree to spend an hour or two a week with youngsters. Their activities can range from going to a sports event to shopping to taking a walk in a park.

Two more Glenn students won honors Monday, including 16-year-old 11th-grader Taylor Cleary III for Male Youth of the Year and 17-year-old senior Jacqueline Garrett for a Special Recognition Award. Like Munson, they made tremendous strides to improve their lives.

Volunteer Cathy German, a Glenn science teacher, was named Mentor of the Year.

"She's always willing to go the extra mile in working with a young person," Motz said.

German said she tells youngsters that they will make mis-

takes in life. The key, she said, is to "learn from them and grow from them."

Youth Assistance officials honored the Westland Fire Department as Agency of the Year for the time that firefighters have spent helping youngsters. Capt. Gary Leirstein accepted the award.

"We have one of the finest fire departments in all of Michigan," state Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, said, presenting a congratulatory certificate also signed by Gov. Jennifer Granholm.

Anderson and state Rep.

Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, honored all of the award winners, who also received certificates from Westland 18th District Judges Sandra Ference Cicirelli and C. Charles Bokos.

To volunteer for the Youth Assistance Program, call (734) 467-7904. Aside from spending an hour or two a week with youngsters, mentors also have to prepare by attending a class for 12 to 15 hours, getting fingerprinted and agreeing to a background check.

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INDEX

APARTMENTS	C3
AUTOMOTIVE	C8
CROSSWORD PUZZLE	C6
HOMETOWNLIFE	D1
JOBS	C10
OBITUARIES	A6
OPINION	A10
PINK	D4
REAL ESTATE	C2
SERVICE GUIDE	C2
SPORTS	B1

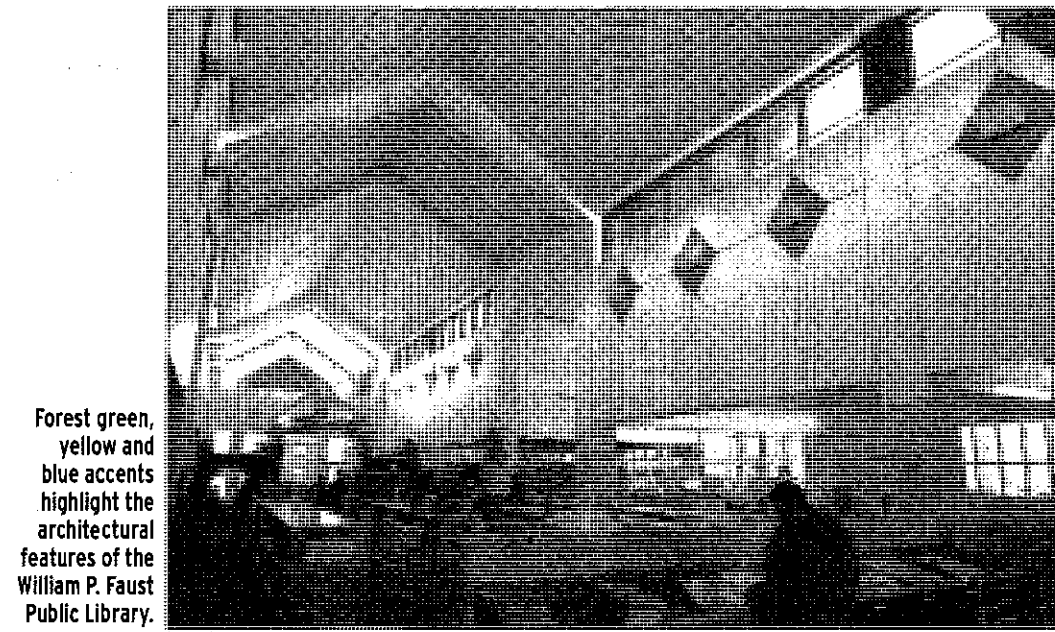
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Forest green, yellow and blue accents highlight the architectural features of the William P. Faust Public Library.

TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

LIBRARY

FROM PAGE A1

ment days each set aside to extend the closing beyond New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. The decision to close the extra days wasn't an easy one for the Library Board. The members "really struggled with the closing," she said.

"This was the first time this library was closed, but we were dealing with things like paint fumes and the company had to use electrical industrial lifts," she added. "The company did an excellent job with scheduling."

According to Napsha, as many as 1,400 individuals visit the library during an 11-hour day. Two librarians staff the reference desk and are always

busy. "There's always a lot of action here," she said. But there may be more. According to Napsha, the coolest part was that when they were painting, a lot of the men got library cards. "We're connecting with readers one at a time," she said.

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Four teenagers face trial for home invasion

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

All four teenagers charged in a Westland home invasion on Glen near Schuman are now facing trial in Wayne County Circuit Court.

The defendants are accused of a Dec. 18 home invasion in which police said intruders broke into a home and stole items like a flat-screen television, jewelry, digital camera and loose change.

Daniel Hutcherson of Garden City and Kyle Brewer of Westland, both 18, became the latest defendants ordered to stand trial after they appeared last Thursday in

Westland 18th District Court for a preliminary hearing, police Sgt. Ed Price confirmed.

Brewer voluntarily waived his hearing, but Hutcherson was ordered to stand trial only after he was implicated by testimony, Price said.

Two other Westland teens, Mark Zimmerman and Cody Wazelle, both 18, already had been ordered to stand trial — meaning that all four defendants are now awaiting the outcome of their cases in Wayne County Circuit Court.

Price pieced together evidence about the home invasion in what his colleague, police Sgt. Thad Nelson, called

"excellent police work."

All four defendants were charged with second-degree home invasion. Brewer also was charged with larceny in a building and larceny over \$1,000.

The charges started unfolding in December after authorities executed a search warrant at Wazelle's residence and found what they described as some of the stolen items.

The teens' arrest came after police reported a rash of home invasions in the Westland, Garden City and Wayne area. Some of those incidents remain under investigation.

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AROUND WESTLAND

Valentine Card Party

Ss. Simon and Jude Church will hold a Valentine Card Party 6:30-10 p.m. Friday, Feb. 1, at the church, 32500 Palmer, east of Venoy, Westland. There will be door and table prizes, 50/50 raffle, cards, games, light meals and snacks. Tickets are \$8 and are available at the door. Proceeds will go to the building fund.

Meet and Greet

The Westland Jaycees will hold a "meet and greet" with local officials 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 7, at Marvaso's Italian Grille, 6569 N. Wayne Road, south of Warren Road. The gathering is designed to better acquaint citizens with their local elected officials. The entire community is welcome to attend the event which is designed to foster dialogue between residents and officials in a more casual,

ON THE WEB

For expanded versions of Around Westland, visit our online edition at www.hometownlife.com and click on Westland.

relaxed setting.

Vegas nights

St. Theodore Parish will hold Vegas Nights 6 p.m. to midnight Friday and Saturday, Feb. 1-2, at the church, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland.

There black jack, Let It Ride, roulette and the money wheel as well as hourly Texas Hold 'em and three-card poker games as well as 50/50 drawings every hour. Food, beer, wine and soft drinks also will be available. Maximum win per person is \$500.

Admission will be \$2. For more information, call (734) 425-4421 (voice mail #10).

■ 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 pop will be available for purchase.

For advance reservations or more information, contact Sean Leonard by e-mail at seanleonard83@aol.com or phone at (734) 377-3517, or contact the hall by calling (734) 728-5010 or by e-mail at vbarra@wayneford.org.

Wayne-Westland Community Schools will offer district residents a Schools of Choice program for the 2008-2009 school year for students in kindergarten through grade eight.

The Schools of Choice program provides parents the opportunity to move their child from one school to another within the boundaries of the school district provided there is room available in the school. Transportation to and from the school of choice must be provided by the parents or legal guardian.

School district residents who would like their child to attend an elementary or middle school other than their school of residency must submit a 2008-2009 Schools of Choice application. These applications will be available in every Wayne-Westland school as of today, Jan. 31.

Schools of Choice applica-

tions for middle school students will be accepted in the Pupil Accounting Office at the Board of Education, 36745 Marquette, Westland, through March 3. Schools of Choice applications for elementary school students will be accepted in the Pupil Accounting Office between March 10 and April 21.

No new Schools of Choice applications will be accepted for high school students.

Applications received according to the time lines will permit, if space is available, selected students to begin the 2008-09 school year in their school of choice. If more students apply for a grade/building than there are openings, a random selection process will be used to select students. The names of students not selected at this time will be placed on a waiting list for the 2008-2009 school year.

Current Schools of Choice

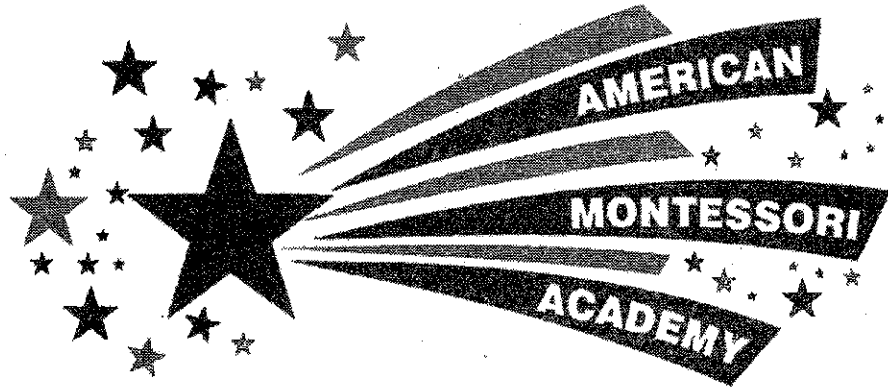
students must reapply to remain eligible for the program.

After the deadlines, Schools of Choice applications will be accepted until Sept. 7 at the elementary or middle school the parent/guardian would like the child to attend. These names will be added to the 2008-2009 school year waiting lists on a first-come, first-served basis.

Building principals will use the waiting lists to notify qualified students of an opening. They will be allowed to place Schools of Choice students only through Sept. 19.

A Schools of Choice student will be moved back to his or her home school, if an overcrowding situation occurs within the first 10 weeks of the school year. After 10 weeks, the student will be permitted to remain in the school of choice for the remainder of the school year, provided all other conditions continue to be satisfied.

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"As soon as I met the doctors, I knew everything was going to be alright," Deanna continues. "For the first time ever, I actually looked forward to going to the dentist."

Deanna received crowns and bridges and used Dream Dentistry to alleviate her fears. "Parkside was the miracle I had been waiting for," she says. "I felt no pain and I was never afraid!"

Since her treatment, Deanna says her self-esteem has skyrocketed. "I no longer cover my mouth when I smile and I love being photographed! I haven't felt this good in 40 years!"

Deanna recommended Parkside Dental Team to all her family and friends and advises, "If you're suffering from dental pain, don't wait another minute. Give Parkside Dental Team a chance!"



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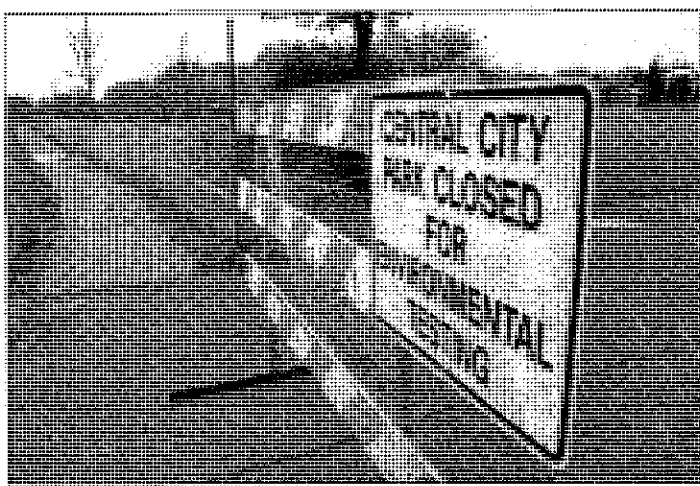
Construction almost complete!

Observer wins SNA environmental, feature writing awards

Ongoing coverage of the contamination at Westland's Central City Park and a story about a former Westland resident fund raising for medical treatment in Thailand have been honored with first-place awards in the 2007 Suburban Newspapers of America Editorial Contest.

Westland Observer staff writer Darrell Clem was recognized for Best Environmental Coverage for his ongoing coverage of the park contamination. Observer Editor Sue Mason received Best Feature honors for her story about Tammy Henderson who is going to southeast Asia to get stem cell treatment in hopes of repairing her damaged heart. Both awards were in Class A of the contest.

The awards were among 27 received by the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. An American Press Institute panel comprised of professors from the nation's top journalism schools and editors and journalists judged the contest which drew more than 3,000 entries.



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Central City Park has been cordoned off with chain-link fencing and signs since January 2007 after it was discovered there was contamination from an old landfill that it's built on.

"O&E staff members received top awards for reporting, editorial, column and feature writing, sports and photography — all important categories of community journalism," said Susan Rosiek, executive editor.

"The O&E is committed to publishing the finest community newspapers and the SNA

honors are testimony to our staff's dedication and ability." Also receiving awards was the O&E's "Student Voices," a student journalism project in which staff members mentor high school students and publish their work throughout the school year. It won second place for best young people's coverage in Class D — the large-

est and most competitive category in the competition.

Mentors for the 2007 award-winning series included Greg Mullin, Stephanie Tardy, Tom Hoffmeyer, Wendy Von Buskirk, Karen Smith, Joe Bauman, Sharon Dargay, Stephanie Casola, Tiffany Parks and Kurt Kuban. The sections were designed and/or edited by presentation staffers Beth Jachman, Greg Mullin, Stephanie Tardy, Dan Dean, Bill Emerick, Julie Brown, Jennifer Foley and graphic artist Randy Masters.

Other award winners included:

■ **Garden City Observer**, Tom Hawley, second place Class A Best News Photo.

■ **Plymouth Observer**, Brad Kadrich, first place tie for Best Editorial Writing Class A.

■ **Livonia Observer**, Dave Varga, second place Best Editorial Writing Class C.

■ **Plymouth Observer**, Brad Kadrich, honorable mention Best Column Writing Class A.

■ **Plymouth Observer**, Brad Kadrich, third place Class A Best Opinion Column.

■ **Observer & Eccentric Newspapers**, Hugh Gallagher, second place Class D Best Opinion Column.

■ **Canton Observer**, Tiffany Parks and Kurt Kuban, honorable mention, Class B Best Continuing Coverage.

■ **Plymouth Observer**, Tony Bruscato, first place Class A Best Breaking News Story.

■ **Plymouth Observer**, second place Class A Best Local Election Coverage.

■ **Plymouth Observer**, second place Class A Best Coverage of Local Education/School District Issues.

■ **Redford Observer**, Matt Jachman, second place Classes A and B combined for Best Coverage of Investigative Reporting.

■ **Southfield Eccentric**, Mike Rosenbaum, third place Class B Best Sports Writing.

■ **Birmingham Eccentric**, Marty Budner, honorable mention Class B Best Sports Writing.

■ **Rochester Eccentric**, Jim Toth, first place Class B Best Sports Section.

■ **Southfield Eccentric**, Larry

McKee, honorable mention Class B Best Feature Photo.

■ **Rochester Eccentric**, Annette Kingsbury and Gary Winkelman, second place Class B Best Continuing Coverage.

■ **Birmingham Eccentric**, Greg Kowalski, third place Best Editorial Writing Class B.

■ **Troy Eccentric**, Megan Pennefather and Sandy Armbruster, third place Class B Best Continuing Coverage.

■ **Southfield Eccentric**, Wayne Peal, third place Best Column Writing Class B.

■ **Southfield Eccentric**, Wayne Peal, second place Class B Best Opinion Column.

■ **Troy Eccentric**, Megan Pennefather/Sandy Armbruster, first place Class B Best Breaking News Story.

■ **Birmingham Eccentric**, Jay Grossman, first place Class B Best In-Depth Reporting.

■ **Birmingham Eccentric**, Jay Grossman, honorable mention Class B Best Feature.

■ **West Bloomfield Eccentric**, third place Class B Best Coverage of Local Education/School District Issues.

Ann Arbor man faces exam in holdup case

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

An Ann Arbor man accused of wearing a mask and holding up a Westland convenience store is expected to learn today (Thursday) whether he will face trial on multiple felony charges.

Noel Anthony Napper's preliminary hearing in Westland 18th District Court will come one week after he was arraigned

on charges of armed robbery, felony firearm and being a felon in possession of a firearm.

Napper, 40, could face penalties ranging up to life in prison, if he's convicted in Wayne County Circuit Court of an armed robbery that happened early Friday, Jan. 11, at the 7-Eleven store at Cherry Hill and Hix roads.

No shots were fired, and no one was injured, police Sgt.

Michael Harhold has said.

Napper appeared last Thursday in front of Westland 18th District Judge Sandra Ference Cicirelli for an arraignment. Cicirelli ordered him jailed in lieu of a \$750,000 cash or surety bond and scheduled him for today's hearing.

Cicirelli entered a not-guilty plea for Napper as he awaits the outcome of his case.

Napper also is suspected of

armed robberies in other communities. He was charged as a habitual offender because he already has two armed robbery convictions from the early 1990s.

During the 7-Eleven robbery, a worker told police that a masked gunman demanded money and then fled the store with an undisclosed amount of money.

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TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Royal event

Wayne Memorial High School students Jordan Dottor (from left), Kenny Ester, Nathan Byberg, D.J. Freeman as well as Jack Zimmerman (not pictured) are vying for the honor of being Cominghome King at this weekend's festivities.

PARK

FROM PAGE A1

Ultimately, efforts to vent the methane above ground and ease any potential for problems could become part of the park's cleanup plan.

Assistant Wayne County Executive Alan Helmkamp confirmed Tuesday that a new work plan could be submitted to MDEQ officials by mid-February.

"We're looking to get some closure to the testing phase," he said, adding later, "We continue to work cooperatively with the

city and MDEQ, and we look forward with the city to the end of the testing and evaluation phase and getting to the remediation phase."

Westland City Council President James Godbout, who sat in on Monday's talks, agreed.

"We want to get this thing moving forward," he said. "I think this next round of testing will provide the results so we can put a plan forward. That would be my hope."

Godbout indicated he will call

a council study session for 6 p.m. Monday, Feb. 11, at City Hall to discuss the latest park developments with other city officials. The session will be open to the public.

In another development, the latest testing found low levels of two metals, selenium and vanadium, in the park's groundwater — but nothing that indicated a real concern. More significant, officials said, was that no lead was found in the groundwater.

"The fact that we did not find

lead in groundwater samples is very, very significant," Helmkamp said.

That comes in contrast to earlier, widespread findings of lead in the soil.

Even so, officials still plan to conduct further tests of groundwater as a precautionary measure, Helmkamp said.

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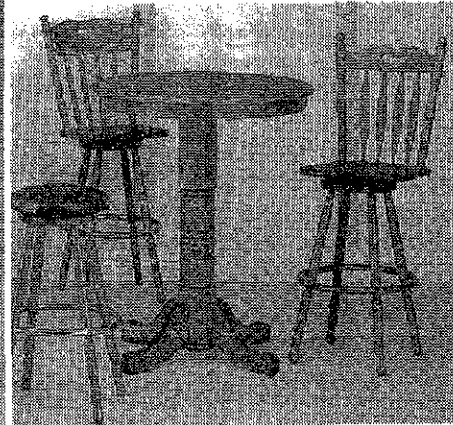
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Granholt to lawmakers: Residents are angry; focus on needs of the state

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

In her sixth annual State of the State address Tuesday, Gov. Jennifer Granholm told state legislators it was time to end the bipartisan bickering that "angered" Michigan residents during last year's bitter budget debates and to focus on four key areas: jobs, health care, public safety and education.

"Last year, people wanted decisive action on jobs, on health care, on schools. What they got was partisan rancor over a budget," she said. "So when we listen to the people of Michigan, we'll hear their anger. But we will also hear their hopes for this great state."

Granholm offered some ambitious ideas in these areas and emphasized her continued support for making Michigan a leader in alternative energy. She said bills were already in the process that show strong bipartisan support and she specifically named legislators from both parties who are working together toward common goals.

Key proposals included:

- The Michigan Job Creation Tax Credit, a one-time offer for businesses in the 50 fastest growing industries in the country to cut or eliminate their taxes for coming to or staying in Michigan.

- A Michigan Invests Fund, a fund of about \$300 million from the Michigan pension fund and other funds to invest in young businesses.
- A 21st Century Schools Fund to support up to 100 smaller high schools emphasizing rigor, relevance and relationships.
- A bill to raise the school dropout age to 18.
- Full-day kindergarten
- Increased funding for K-12 and early childhood education.
- Expanding the No Worker Left Behind Program to provide college educations to up to 100,000 displaced workers.

The governor announced that Consumers Energy and DTE were committed to jointly investing up to \$6 billion in Michigan, much of it to build wind turbines and wind farms on the passage of a comprehensive energy bill. She said this would create 17,000 jobs in the state.

"Alternative energy companies have watched closely as 25 other states have set aggressive goals for their alternative energy use," she said. "We have to meet and beat other states' goals here in Michigan if we are going to attract those companies here."

Granholm said she is asking the Legislature to set a goal of 10 percent renewable electric energy by 2015 and 25 percent by 2025.



Gov. Jennifer Granholm outlined initiatives for Michigan during her sixth State of the State Address Tuesday night. Applauding in the background is House Speaker Andy Dillon, D-Redford, and standing in the center background is Lt. Gov. John Cherry.

The governor said the budget she will submit to the Legislature next month will contain \$200 million in additional cuts and reforms, a \$100 million deposit in the state's rainy day fund and, she promised, to rousing applause, "every new initiative I'm proposing will be paid for, no new fees and no new taxes."

She said her economic stimulus package would be "made possible by refinancing and lower interest rates — not new taxes."

The governor suggested reforms in the Corrections Department and streamlining dealings with the business community to cut through red tape.

Speaker of the House Andy Dillon, D-Redford, said the

governor "hit all the right themes" in her speech.

"It set the right tone for Michigan," Dillon said at a brief press conference following the speech.

He said he supported the call for bipartisan action.

"The biggest challenge in the state is diversifying the state's economy," he said. "It's not going to happen without capital, without a good educational system and it's not going to happen without a government that works well with business."

State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, called the governor's speech "very pragmatic."

"I think the governor recognizes as most of us do that the items she mentioned are most important to our citizens, specifically the economy and how we can assist people with either retraining or having other opportunities for employment," LeBlanc said after the speech.

He said he was intrigued by the energy portion of the speech.

LeBlanc said not all of the proposals are economically viable.

"I think some of them are more attainable than others. But it sets some lofty goals and the legislature should do its due diligence and move forward with committee hearings and other processes and find out what our opportunities and options might be."

He said he was happy that public safety was mentioned several times.

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, said the governor had focused on the right goals.

"The governor's focus this evening on education and alternative energy laid out a strong plan for revitalizing our economy," he said in news release. "She addressed the immediate pocketbook issues — like skyrocketing mortgage rates and education costs — that families face everyday while charting a path for the future. I look forward to working with my colleagues to help make Michigan a leader in the 21st Century economy."

State Rep. Paul Condino, D-Southfield, said he thought the speech was Granholm's best State of the State.

"She is a visionary and has some good ideas, especially in alternative energy, which will take off in a bipartisan fashion," he said.

Condino said the residents of Michigan want government officials to work together.

"The governor said it, the electorate is mad, mad as hell and they don't want to take it anymore," he said. "It's a challenge to all of us to work together. If we get a third done of what the governor asked us to do tonight, it will go a lot farther than we did last year, so I'm hopeful."

University of Phoenix holds naming rights at Sunday's 'big game' stadium

BY WAYNE PEAL
COMMUNITY EDITOR

The New England Patriots and New York Giants aren't the only ones hoping for a big win in Sunday's big game.

The University of Phoenix is hoping for a little Super Bowl glory of its own — even without a football team.

The Arizona-based adult learning university, with metro campuses in Southfield, Troy,

Macomb County and Livonia, holds the naming rights to the stadium in which Super Bowl XLII will be played.

"There's definitely been a buzz from students," said Jan Cardwell, director of the university's metro campuses. "They're wondering if we're going to start a football team."

That answer is no, but football fever is building on the local campuses.

"We're had a charity fundraiser in which we'll be asking staff to dress in their favorite team colors," Cardwell noted.

Opened little more than two years ago, the University of

Phoenix stadium in Glendale, Ariz., is a state-of-the-art facility with a retractable dome. It was the site of this month's college football championship game, but observers acknowledge the Super Bowl's impact makes it a whole different ball game.

"From an emotional standpoint, it's huge," said Frederick Marx, founder of Farmington Hills-based Marx Layne, one of the metro area's largest public relations firms and a nationally-recognized expert of marketing and advertising.

That impact, he added, will go beyond the 73,000 people in

attendance.

This year's Super Bowl matchup, pitting the undefeated Patriots against the underdog Giants is among the most anticipated in the event's history and the game could prove the most-watched ever.

Advertisers will pay upwards of \$2.5 million for every Super Bowl ad they run.

While there's no similar dollar figure for every mention the University of Phoenix receives, the near-month's worth of Super Bowl exposure can't be underestimated, Marx said.

"Companies pay quite a lot

for this privilege, but it's about positioning yourself and standing out from your competitors," he said. "It's no different from putting your name on an office tower in Southfield or sponsoring an ice festival. It builds the brand."

Being affiliated with the National Football League's biggest game not only ups that impact but spreads it nationwide.

"It puts you in league with Anheuser-Busch, with Comerica and with Ford," Marx said.

Like the NFL, that's the big leagues.

CITY OF WESTLAND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On Thursday, February 7, 2008, various items of the City of Westland Police Department will be sold at public auction. The auction will be held at Insurance Auto Auction 8251 Rawsonville Road, County of Wayne, at 10:30 a.m. The following items will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

Stock	Year	Make	Model	Vin
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3688250	1991	CHEVROLET	GMT-400	1GCDK14K6MZ102725
3688285	1994	PONTIAC	GRAND AM	1G2NW55M0RC794298
3688316	1997	FORD	RANGER	1FTCR10A9VUD25523
8736112	1997	PONTIAC	GRAND PRIX	1G2WP12K2VF212014
3741068	1996	OLDSMOBILE	AURORA	1G3GR62CXT4118608

Vehicles are sold in "as is" condition.

The referenced vehicles, as well as many others, may be previewed by prospective buyers on Wednesday, February 6, 2008, from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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

Terms and Conditions will be applicable to any item sold.

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OEO8579247

Insurers battle over bills to reform individual insurance market

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

Legislation to reform medical insurance laws in Michigan has set off a fierce battle between Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and commercial insurance carriers.

Hearings began last week in the Michigan Senate on four bills that were quickly approved in October in the state House (HBs 5282-5285) by a bipartisan vote.

The four bills are designed to reduce risk on individual health care policies for the non-profit, state-regulated Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

The bills would:

- Create a high-risk pool or guaranteed-access plan for those denied coverage, to spread some of the losses across all health care insurers in the state. Blue Cross is mandated by law to be an insurer of last resort.

- Allow Blue Cross to replace "community rating" with rate bands, which would allow the insurer to set different rates based on age, place of residence and other factors.

- Set a loss ratio of 70 percent, meaning an insurer must spend 70 cents of each dollar collected on health care.

- Set limits on renewal rate increases.

- Allow Blue Cross Blue Shield for-profit subsidiaries to sell other kinds of insurance (their largest subsidiary, The Accident Fund of America is restricted to selling worker's compensation insurance).

STRONG OPPOSITION

The bills have drawn strong opposition from commercial carriers, Michigan Attorney General Mike Cox, the UAW, AARP, the Consumer's Union and others. Commercial carriers have organized the Coalition for Access and Affordability in Michigan to lobby against the legislation.

Mark Cook, Blue Cross Blue Shield vice president of governmental affairs, argues that the nonprofit Blue Cross is at a severe disadvantage as an insurer of last resort at a time when the individual insurance market is growing. The individual insurance market represents 6 percent of those insured in Michigan but is expected to grow as more employers drop insurance benefits and more people retire without company insurance.

"It's a small but growing part of the marketplace and there are some regulatory challenges to that marketplace," Cook said at a meeting last week with *Observer & Eccentric* editors. "Right now we have Blue Cross, who is a community-rated carrier predominantly, alongside commercial carriers who are virtually unregulated in the commercial marketplace."

He said commercial insurers are able to "cherry-pick" healthy customers by having potential customers fill out health questionnaires to find out if they're healthy. Commercial insurers can deny coverage but Blue Cross must accept anyone who is willing to pay their rates, which are regulated by the state's insurance commissioner. Cook said the law requires insurers to renew anyone who develops a condition but doesn't limit rate increases. He said that often drives customers to Blue Cross.

"We lose money in that marketplace," Cook said. "We've been able to sustain those losses. It could grow to 15-25 percent of the marketplace. We lost \$145 million last year in the individual market for those types of policies."

IN THE HIGH-RISK POOL

Blue Cross, which issues 60-70 percent of all health insurance policies in the state, is supporting a high-risk pool model used in 34 other states.

"What happens is someone applies for insurance and they are rejected by another carrier. They would qualify under the high-risk pool," Cook said. "Premiums are capped for those folks. The high-risk pool is a money loser."

Insurance carriers are assessed for the loss based on their market share. Cook said under the proposed legislation, Blue Cross would assume administrative cost and up to 35 percent of claims losses above the minimum 70 percent loss ratio.

Attorney General Cox has opposed the legislation for several reasons.

According to Cox, the legislation would:

- Force seniors and sicker citizens to pay more than current law by eliminating the community rating.

- Allow Blue Cross to charge new customers with serious illnesses up to 250 percent more, without challenge.

- Double the time available to deny coverage for pre-existing illnesses, up to 12 months from the current six months.

- Triple the margins Blue Cross can keep from every premium dollar.

- Enable Blue Cross to raise rates without consideration of their surplus.

- Allow Blue Cross to charge individuals more for

health insurance based on where they live.

- Eliminate the role of the attorney general to argue against rate hikes and eliminate the ability of the Office of Financial and Insurance Services to set rates.

"Every change in this package of bills is aimed at increasing profits for a benevolent charity that is already making record profits now," Cox said in a press release issued in December. "And the people, especially the old, sick and most vulnerable, will pay more or lose insurance coverage. This is not about improving the quality of health care. These changes promote profits over people."

The Blue Cross's Cook said

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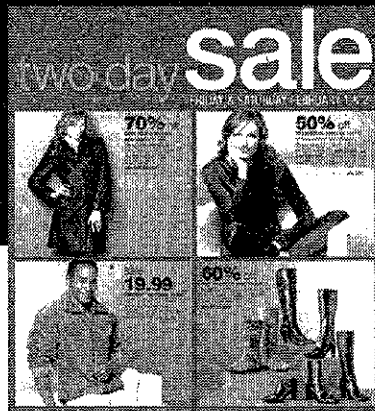
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RELIGION CALENDAR

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

FEBRUARY

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. 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 register, call (734) 434-8545.

Single Place Ministry

Upcoming activities include 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.

Pancake Supper

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church presents its Shrove Tuesday All You Can Eat Pancake Supper 6-8 p.m. Feb. 5, at 16360 Hubbard, between Five Mile and Six Mile, Livonia. \$4 adults, \$1 children under age 12, \$10 families (2 adults and children under 12). Tickets available at the door.

Ash Wednesday services

The Anglican Church of Livonia and Trinity Church will hold joint services at noon and 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 6, at Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, west of Farmington Road, Livonia. A freewill offering will be collected for local pregnancy centers.

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.

Lenten services

Noon and 7:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday, Feb. 6, 13, 20, and 27, and March 5 and 12, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 27035 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights. The Pulpit Theme is The Places of Passion. Holy Week services 10:30 a.m. Palm Sunday, March 16 with Confirmation; 7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday, March 20; noon and 7:30 p.m. Good Friday, March 21 and Easter Sunday, March 23.

Prince of Peace Church

Recovery, Inc., meets at 10 a.m., every Wednesday at the church, Walnut Lake Road and Green, West Bloomfield. Recovery, Inc., is an international, non-profit, self-help community based service organization that helps people with nervous and emotional disorders reduce their suffering and improve their quality of life. Call Martha Paul at (248) 682-9362 or e-mail her at marthapaul@sbcglobal.net.

Lenten fish dinners

St. Michael the Archangel Parish of Livonia invites everyone to it's All You Can Eat Lenten Fish Dinners, beginning 4:30-7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 8 and continuing Feb. 15, 22, 29, and March 7 and 14, in the cafeteria of St. Michael School, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Rd. Livonia. The dinners feature a choice of hand-dipped fried or baked cod along with a large assortment of side dishes and beverages. Cost is \$B adults, \$4 for children ages 3-11, free for age 3 and under. Carryout orders available at \$7 each. For information, call (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200.

Hunger workshop

Presented by Bread for the World, a Christian non-partisan hunger legislation organization, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 9, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 814 North Campbell, Royal Oak. For information, call (734) 487-9058, send e-mail to wolverbob@yahoo.com or visit www.breadmichigan.org. No charge. During an offering of Letters, individuals and congregations are asked not to donate funds, but write Congress on specific hunger-fighting legislation.

Widowed Friends

Italian buffet dinner, conversation and cards for widowed men and women of all ages Wednesday, Feb. 13, at Corsi's Italian Restaurant, Seven Mile near Inkster, Livonia. Social time from 5 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m. followed by social time and music until 9:30 p.m. Cost \$15, includes buffet. Send payment by Feb. 9. For information, call Chet at (734) 459-4316 or Gloria at (313) 381-4187.

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.detroit-rish.org. Deadline for application is Friday, Feb. 9.

Christian comedian

Ed Thompson (www.edthompsonlive.com), 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 10, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14775 Farmington Road, 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 Gili, two blocks west of downtown Farmington. Admission is free. A Love Offering will be taken. Call (248) 474-0584.

The Catholic Marriage FAQ

Deacon William Meahan presents the things you thought you knew but didn't, things you didn't think you knew but, 10:45 a.m. to noon Sunday,

Feb. 17, in Bixman Hall at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Rd., north of Six Mile, Livonia. Pre-registration requested, call (734) 425-5950. No charge.

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.

Clothing bank

Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank is open 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 23, and the fourth Saturday of every month, 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.

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 barbaramm@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.

UPCOMING

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

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.

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.

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.

Cost is \$6. Call (313) 534-7730.

Thrift store

Open Tuesdays 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 over-all 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.

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 Mulleris 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 mtschmidt@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 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

Sundays: 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, 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.

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. 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.

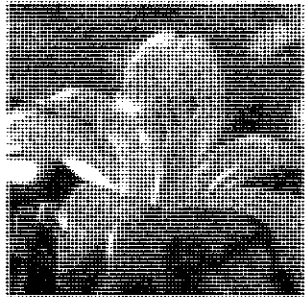
MOPS groups

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

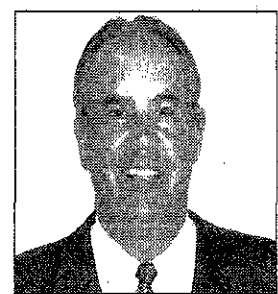
Calling all youth grades four-12 to join the LOGOS Youth Club at Northville First United Methodist Church. Recreation, dinner, Bible study and music Wednesdays, 5:15-8:15 p.m. began Wednesday, Sept. 26. For information or registration, visit www.fumcnorthville.org or call (248) 349-1144.

Please see **RELIGION, A7**



HENRY A. BERNs

Age 72, Farmington Hills, MI, passed January 26, 2008. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI



SCOTT WEILER LOVE

Age 54, died on Tuesday, January 22, 2008. He was born on May 22, 1953 to R. Robert Love and L. Jean Weiler. Originally from Franklin, MI, he and his family moved to Macclenny, FL three years ago. He was the Branch Manager at H.D. Supply in Jacksonville, FL, and an avid supporter of the Baker County Girls Softball League. Scott was graduated from Ohio University with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business and Marketing. He also played basketball and golf for the university and remained an avid golfer throughout his life. He was devoted to his family and loved by all who knew him. He is predeceased by his brother Keith Love. Family members include his wife of 15 years, Karen Love of Macclenny, FL; his children: Lindsey Jean Love and Lia Nicole Love of Macclenny, FL; parents Robert and Jean Love of Novi, MI; and brother Craig (Julie) Love. Memorial services will be held on Saturday, February 2, 2008 at 2:00pm at First Baptist Church of Glen St. Mary with Pastor Randy Williams officiating. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made in Scott's honor to Baker County Girls Softball Foundation - Mercantile Bank of Glen St. Mary, FL. Arrangements are under the care and direction of V. TODD FERREIRA FUNERAL SERVICES, (904) 259-5700. You may share memories and condolences at: www.vtoddferreira.com

PHYLLIS S. PETERSON

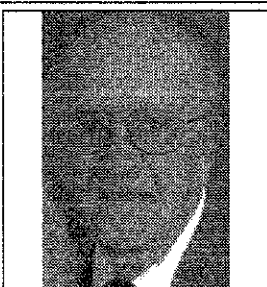
Died January 28, 2008, age 78. Beloved wife of the late Steve. Dear mother of Lynn (Chuck) Rounte and John (Cindy) Peterson. Grandmother of David, Andrew (A.J.), Ashley, Stephen, Adam, Ian and Emily. Memorial services at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago in Livonia, on Saturday, February 2nd at 12 noon. Share a memory at: www.mannsfuneralhome.com

Passages

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

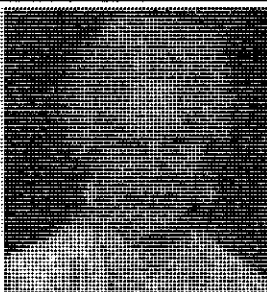
1-800-579-7355 ♦ fax: 734-953-2232

e-mail: oebits@hometownlife.com



ERNEST E. SAUTER

Age 87, of Farmington Hills. January 26, 2008. A proud Coast Guard Veteran of World War II in the Pacific Theater, and the Korean Conflict. Retired from Michigan Bell Telephone Co. after 41 years of service and Director Emeritus and Board of Director Member of the Farmington Community Library for 40 years. Beloved husband of Dorothy for 65 years. Loving father of Eric Sauter (Beth Olano), Cherished grandfather of Molly Rebecca Sauter and Aaron Richard Sauter. Dear brother of Arden Pierson and Lois Ann Parker. Memorial Service Friday 10 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church of Farmington, 26165 Farmington Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 48334. Memorial Visitation Thursday 2-7 p.m. at THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME, 33603 Grand River Ave., downtown Farmington (1 blk. W. of Farmington Rd.). Memorial tributes may be made to the Farmington Community Library, 32737 W. 12 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 48334. www.thayer-rock.com



IRENE SUSZYLO

Age 88, of Westland, MI. Passed away January 29, 2008. Beloved wife of the late Bronislaw. Loving mother of Diane (Richard) Marisnick, Kenneth Lince, Peggy Stanley, Cindy Suszylo, and Bron (Anita) Suszylo. Dear grandmother of 11 and great-grandmother of 16. Visitation Thursday 2-9pm at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 980 N. Newburgh Rd., Westland (btwn Ford and Cherry Hill). Funeral service Friday (time pending) at the funeral home. Interment Cadillac Memorial Gardens-West. To view obituary and share memories log on to: www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com

DOUGLAS D. VOGAN

January 28, 2008, age 80. Beloved husband of Shirley. Dear father of Lynn (Lee) Moore, Mary Sanders & son, Paul (deceased). Brother of Edna Heck and Joyce Newton. Grandfather of eight; Great-Grandfather of nine. Instate Saturday 12 Noon until 1 p.m. service at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 5885 Venoy, Westland. Family will receive friends Thursday 5-9 pm and Friday 12-9 pm at the Uht Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood, Westland, MI. Memorials would be appreciated to the Josephine Ford Cancer Center or American Cancer Society. Please visit and post a tribute at: www.uhtfh.com

May You Find Comfort in Family & Friends

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
oebits@hometownlife.com

or fax to:

Attn: Obits c/o Charlotte Wilson
734-953-2232

For more information call:
Charlotte Wilson
734-953-2070

or Liz Keiser
734-953-2067

or toll free
866-818-7653

ask for Char or Liz

0206150962

RELIGION

FROM PAGE A6

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.

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

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. A Christian women's group.

Worship services

Sunday worship services are at 8 a.m. (traditional) and 10:30 a.m.

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

Worship services

Praise and worship 10 a.m. Sunday, at Westwood Community Church, 6500 Wayne Road and Hunter, Westland. Contemporary music and casual dress. Children church and nursery. Call (734) 254-0093. Doughnuts and coffee served.

Celebrate Recovery

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Northville launches Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered recovery program helping men and women find freedom from hurts, habits and hang-ups (addictive and compulsive behaviors), meets every Friday for 6 p.m. dinner (optional), 7 p.m. praise and worship, 8 p.m. small group discussion, 9 p.m. Solid Rock Cafe (optional coffee and desserts). Child care

during Celebrate Recovery is free and available by calling (248) 374-7400. For information, visit www.celebraterecovery.com and www.wardchurch.org/celebrate.

Sunday service

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

Worship service

At 10:30 a.m. Sundays at New Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware at Puritan, Redford. Congregation is hearing lessons from 1 Peter. Call (313) 255-6330.

Adult literacy classes

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

Your Invitation To Worship

BAPTIST

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

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



Saturday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
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.

UNITED METHODIST

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

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

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

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ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Immemorial Latin Mass
Approved by Pope St. Pius V in 1570
St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8
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Mass Schedule:
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First Sat. 11:00 a.m.
Sun. Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m.
Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

EVANGELICAL COVENANT

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH

14 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills
(248) 661-9191
Sunday Worship and Children's Church
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
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• Outreach Opportunities
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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.pfumc.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

25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY
313-532-2266 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

9800 Laverne • So. Redford • 313-937-2424
"Vacancy Pastor" - Rev. Carl Rookroff
Sunday Morning Worship 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Education Hour 9:45 a.m.
Christian School
Pre-Kindergarten-8th Grade
For more information call 313-937-2233

St Genevieve Roman Catholic Church

St. Genevieve School - PreK-8
29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220
(East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries)
MASS: Tues. 7 p. Wed., Thurs. 9 a.
Sat. 4 p., Sun 11a
St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church
32766 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616
(between Merriman & Farmington Roads)
MASS: Mon. 8:30 a., Fri. 8:30 a., Sat. 6 p., Sun 9a

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!

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

PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

9801 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

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

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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 560
The WMUZ 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
Wednesday Lenten Worship
Feb. 6 - March 12, 7:00 p.m.
www.risenchrist.info

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.stpaulslivonia.org

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

0208082394

'She dazzled'

Michigan's Haglund shines as Miss America

BY STACY JENKINS
STAFF WRITER

Kirsten Haglund was the youngest contestant in the Miss America pageant on Saturday in Las Vegas and she was turning heads on and off the stage.

"She was the buzz all weekend," said Ashlee Baracy, of Westland, who is reigning Miss Wayne County, and one of about 100 Kirsten Haglund supporters at the Miss America pageant held at Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino. "She made quite a statement for herself. You would never know she's 19 years of age when speaking to her. We kept hearing all over the place, 'She rocked the house last night!'"

Baracy, along with a large crowd in the audience, held paddles that spelled out "Miss America Kirsten!" "We knew, going into it, that she had a phenomenal chance," said Baracy. "And, nobody could beat that evening gown — she was flawless."

Haglund's evening gown was created by Larry Kralowski, co-owner of the former Salon Kray Chic in downtown Farmington. Her hair was done by Farmington Hills stylists Dorrine Roberts and Carole LaBute, co-owners of The Mane Connection on Grand River in Farmington Hills.

Baracy was second runner-up to Haglund in the Miss Michigan pageant last June in Muskegon, where Baracy will again compete this year.

"It would be amazing to be crowned by Miss America!" she said.

Samantha Steckloff, of Farmington Hills, who is reigning Miss Oakland County, knows that feeling. Haglund crowned Steckloff Miss Oakland County in July.

Steckloff was in Las Vegas with her mother, former Farmington Hills Mayor Vicki



PHOTO COURTESY MISS AMERICA ORGANIZATION

Farmington Hills own Kirsten Haglund was crowned Miss America Saturday night at Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino in Las Vegas.

Barnett, to support Haglund and first runner up Miss Indiana, Nicole Rash, whom Steckloff befriended during the Miss Indiana pageant.

Barnett said Haglund was "just dazzling."

"We all know her around town as a sweet, caring, brilliant young woman, but to see her on stage with the cream of the crop from around the country, she dazzled," said Barnett.

The Miss Michigan group also included former Farmington Mayor JoAnne McShane and many friends and family of Haglund's, including her grandmother, Iora Hunt, who was crowned Miss Michigan in 1944.

"I looked back at her grandmother and she was standing there, almost in disbelief," said Baracy. "It was so special to have her grandmother there."

Haglund, who was immediately whisked away by pageant officials and security, won a \$50,000 scholarship and year of nationwide travel, where she'll promote her platform of raising awareness of eating disorders.

She is a graduate of Walled Lake Western High School and is pursuing a degree at the University of Cincinnati's Conservatory of Music. She hopes to pursue a career on Broadway.

sjenkins@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2131

Westland firm is part of recovery zone

A Westland tool and die firm is benefitting from a decision by the Michigan Strategic Fund to establish the Global Tooling Alliance LLC Tool and Die Recovery Zone.

According to State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, and Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, the designation will allow tool and die companies throughout Michigan to operate virtually tax free and allow them to compete effectively in the expanding global marketplace.

Artcraft Pattern Works in Westland is one of only 16 tool and die companies to receive the Global Tooling Alliance designation.

As part of the Recovery Zone designated by MSF, Art Craft Pattern Works Inc. of Westland will be exempt from taxes levied by the city, county, and other units of government for a period of 10 years. The state's authorization comes after members of the Westland City Council voted unanimously at a July 2007 Westland City Council meeting to designate the business as a tool & die recovery zone.

"Michigan's manufacturing economy has long relied on the presence of local tool and die shops," said State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, in hailing the MSF decision. "The establishment of the Tool and Die Recovery Zone will help Michigan keep and retain skilled jobs while lowering the operating costs for these companies."

In order to receive a Recovery Zone designation, tool and die makers must demonstrate synergistic opportunities and must include the elements of sales and marketing efforts, development and standardized processes, development of tooling standards, standardized management methods and improved ability for specialized shops to develop expertise and compete on larger programs.

ArtCraft, which has cultivated a long history in the automotive industry dating back to 1945, designs and produces gages and fixtures for bent and formed tubing and hoses. The company relocated from downtown Detroit to Westland in 1986, and went on to expand by

two-thirds its previous size in 2000. But ArtCraft President and CEO Blair McKendrick said that while ArtCraft has enhanced its market advantage by developing and patenting its processes, the accomplishments alone are not enough to sustain the company's future in the wake of Michigan's economy.

"When our resolution was passed there was even applause by the Westland residents who were present at the council meeting," said ArtCraft President and CEO Blair McKendrick. "The companies that are designated a Tool & Die Recovery Zone will have an extra 'boost' that may very well make the difference between being a financially viable company that maintains a skilled workforce or simply not being able to compete."

"We support ArtCraft's efforts to diversify and broaden their customer base," said Westland Mayor William Wild. "This designation will also serve to protect the future of ArtCraft employees, many of whom live right here in Westland."

ACHIEVERS

Named to the honor roll for the first marking period at the Tinkham Alternative High School in Westland were Desiree Clark, Dominique Henderson, Amyre Hogue, Ashley Holland, Tressie Howell, Brittany Jackson, Jemie Roberson and Ernest Singleton.

Jessica Clark and Stephanie Wood, both of Westland, received their degrees during winter commencement ceremonies at Adrian College.

Clark received her bachelor of arts degree in business administration and philosophy. Wood received a bachelor of fine arts degree in art - studio art - and K-12 education.

Several Westland and Garden City residents have been named to the Dean's List at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. Students on the Dean's List must earn a minimum 3.5 grade point average while carrying at least 12 credit hours a semester.

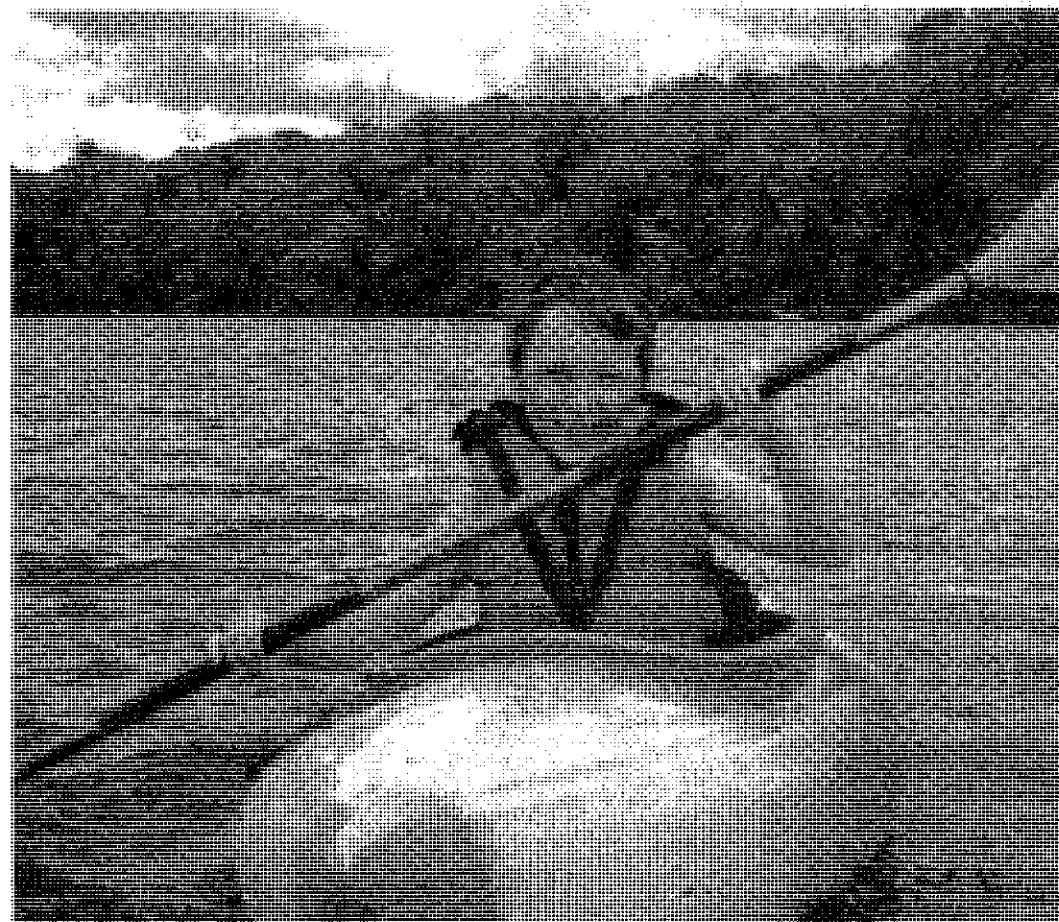
Named to the list were Garden City residents Joshua Arsenault, Candice Callender, Richard Dobson, Andrea Dunn, Alison Flathers, Heather Macey, Shannon Matevia, Beth Murawski, Krystal Staley, Talia Rowley, Laurel Frizzell, Bret George, Daniel McCall, Matthew Porter, Elizabeth Shnerpuna, Jennelle Richie, Kerry Prew, John Morrison, Kimberly

Koch, Monica Goley and Keith Martin.

Westland residents named to the list were Stephen Beahon, Malina Bickford, Christopher Bomya, Ashley Dobos, Renee Laidler, Mehul Master, Yasmany Santana Merlo, Erin Watson, Julia Stulock, Ashwinderjit Mahal, Linda Cleary, Jennifer Greenshields, Matthew Randolph, Barbara Partrick, Tiffany Cotton, Amanda Budnick, Ali Zuqair, Jason Brendel, Lucian Popa, Jessica Studnick, Nicholas Thorne, Michael Velasco, Erica Vendal, Gerald Gresham, Michelle MacPhail, Matthew Darin, Timothy Gougeon, Ashley Pucci, Lindsey Saunders, Paulina Tlok, Dustin Trosper and Jaclyn VanGemert.

Several Westland and Garden City residents have been named to the fall 2007 dean's list at Western Michigan University. To be eligible for the dean's list, students must have earned at least a 3.5 grade-point average on a 4.0 scale in at least 12 hours of graded class work.

Named to the list were Jeffrey Rabe of Garden City and Westland residents Caleb Baker, Kara Blaharski, Shannon Bowerson, Steven Fidele, Jessica Hutchison, Chelsie Jackson, Lyndsey Morgan, Vanessa Schacht and Bryan VanToll.



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Buying a house quality of life issue, not an investment decision

I was recently approached by a couple thinking about buying their first house. They live in an apartment and are looking in the \$200,000-



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

\$250,000 price range. They can put 20 percent down. They wanted to know if this was a good time to buy, is it a good investment and what type of mortgage do I recommend? I believe homes are not necessarily great investments. My view has nothing to do with what has happened with the home market over the last couple of years, although it does confirm some of my beliefs. When you look at an investment you look at real return and houses, when you consider all the factors, have never been a great investment.

There is no house in America that doesn't require maintenance, and eventually, updating to keep the house in good shape. In addition, even in more normal times when

a house increase in value it's mostly an inflationary gain.

That doesn't mean people shouldn't buy a home.

While houses may not be good investments, they offer a great quality of life.

As to the current market, there is no doubt that home prices have tumbled here and throughout the country. Houses are much more affordable than they were a few years ago. However, I do not believe

we have seen the bottom of the market. Home prices will continue to decline but that doesn't mean I wouldn't purchase a home now.

The most important aspect of buying a home is the quality of life issue. If you find a house that fits your needs and will increase your quality of life, buy it. Even though I think that housing prices will continue to decline over the short term, it is very difficult to try

to time the housing market.

When it comes to financing a new home, there is no one good mortgage for everyone. If you are purchasing a home and will live in it long term, I would recommend a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage. The rates are near historic lows.

I only recommend adjustable rate mortgages for someone who is going to live in the house for only a few years. This loan is fine for the first

few years, but when the rate starts adjusting upward some individuals find they have trouble making their mortgage payment because they never understood or planned for the potential of a higher monthly payment.

Beside the right type of mortgage, it is important to deal with the right mortgage person. When you obtain a mortgage, a good mortgage professional will present a

variety of options and explain all the costs and fees. For a referral for any professional, e-mail Rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.

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

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Business tax seminar set

The Michigan Manufacturers Association (MMA) will offer a seminar, "The Michigan Business Tax - A Work in Progress," 10 a.m. to noon Friday, Feb. 8, at Madonna University. Chuck Hadden, vice president of government affairs for MMA, and tax professionals from the law firm Varnum, Riddering, Schmidt & Howlett LLP will present.

The seminar will be held at Madonna University at 36600 Schoolcraft in Livonia.

The cost is \$85 for MMA members and \$175 for non-members. To register or for more information go to www.mma-net.org or e-mail LeAnn Hicks at hicks@mma-net.org or call (517) 487-8557.

INSURERS

FROM PAGE A5

that all insurers are required to keep a reserve and that Blue Cross's \$2.6 billion in reserve is in keeping with industry standards and appropriate for a company paying out \$1.5 billion a month in benefits. He said the reserve was to keep the company's revenue margin at one-tenth of 1 percent.

Cook also defended corporate salaries. Cox was especially critical of the compensation package of more than \$4.2 million paid to former Blue Cross President and CEO Richard Whitmer in 2006. Cook said that figure reflected more than 20 years of deferred payments for the outgoing executive.

Cook said the legislation changes the role of the attorney general but does not eliminate his oversight.

"Right now what he can is call a hearing, object to a rate. What we want to do is supplant that existing system with what we call a true up," Cook said.

Under this system, Blue Cross would file rates for review by the insurance commissioner, the company would also file results and the commissioner would review results to make sure rates are not excessive relative to claims payouts.

Opponents of the legislation have also argued that Blue Cross receives \$112 million a year in tax breaks. Cook said that estimate is wrong and that the Blues receive about \$80 million in tax breaks because of its nonprofit status.

"For that \$80 million benefit, we return more than \$300 million in doing things like subsidizing senior rates, group conversions and money we pay to hospitals for charity care, subsidizing the MiChild program for Michigan, a total that adds up to multiples of that tax. We think it's a good return," Cook said.

A study by the Anderson Economic Group, commissioned by the Coalition for Access and Affordability, disputes Cook's figures. It estimates its total burden at \$129 million.

Hearings on the legislation are under way in the Michigan Senate's health policy committee.

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OUR VIEWS

School election: Chance to serve

The presidential primaries have been hogging a lot of the election attention these days, overshadowing a just as important vote on May 6.

That's when local voters will decide who they want to represent their interests on their local board of education.

Twenty years ago, school elections were an interesting event. Voters not only picked candidates, they decided on such things as tax levies and bond issues. But the passage of Proposal A in 1994 shifted school financing to the state. With no tax issues to bring out voters, school elections have become quiet, hardly-any-one-votes affairs, pockmarked with uncontested races.

But just because the state provides the money, it doesn't mean serving on the school board is a drag. It's the job of the school board to decide how the money is spent. And in these difficult times, that's no simple task.

Wayne-Westland is at a crossroads. Continued cuts in state aid for school districts and funding constraints presented by Proposal A have left administrators and school board trustees finding ways to cut costs and maintain the existing educational program.

There is no better time to get involved. A board trustee helps set policy for how the money should be spent. Managing the budget is a primary role of a local school board and, with two seats open the Wayne-Westland school board, there is plenty of opportunity to serve this year.

In these critical times of tough decisions, residents must realize that they need to take an active role in making education work. And make no mistake, being a school board member, while not work, isn't a cake walk. It requires preparation for meetings, accessibility and visibility throughout the district.

For those who are not afraid of the challenge, petitions can be picked up at the Westland City Clerk's Office in Westland City Hall on Ford west of Wayne Road. A minimum of 40 signatures of registered voters in the district are needed on the petitions for a candidate to make the ballot. Or, you can pay \$100 in lieu of collecting the signatures.

There's still a few weeks to do it. The filing deadline is Tuesday, Feb. 12.

The Wayne-Westland district is only as strong as its residents. Flex your muscle and get involved.

Lengthen your life – don't drive distracted

It's the last day of January. By now, many — if not most — of us have failed to keep our well-intentioned New Year's resolutions to take better care of our health.

We have not followed through with our diets, exercise routines or promises to quit smoking.

But there's still something we can do to improve our chances of living longer: stop driving distracted.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that 25 percent of all traffic crashes are caused by driver distraction. That includes talking on a cell phone, even hands-free; eating; continuously operating a CD player; reading; applying makeup; shaving; and brushing your teeth.

Any activity that distracts our attention for even a split second increases the chances we will be involved in an accident.

Traffic accidents remain a leading cause of death, according to National Center for Health Statistics.

About one out of every 55 deaths that occurred in 2002 was in a motor vehicle traffic crash. For males, traffic crashes were the sixth ranked cause of death, accounting for one out of every 40 deaths. For females, they were the 10th ranked cause of death, or one out of every 88 deaths that occurred.

Of course, accidents also cause serious injuries that can lead to lifelong health problems.

Some cities, like Southfield and Royal Oak, have adopted or considered adopting local ordinances against distracted driving.

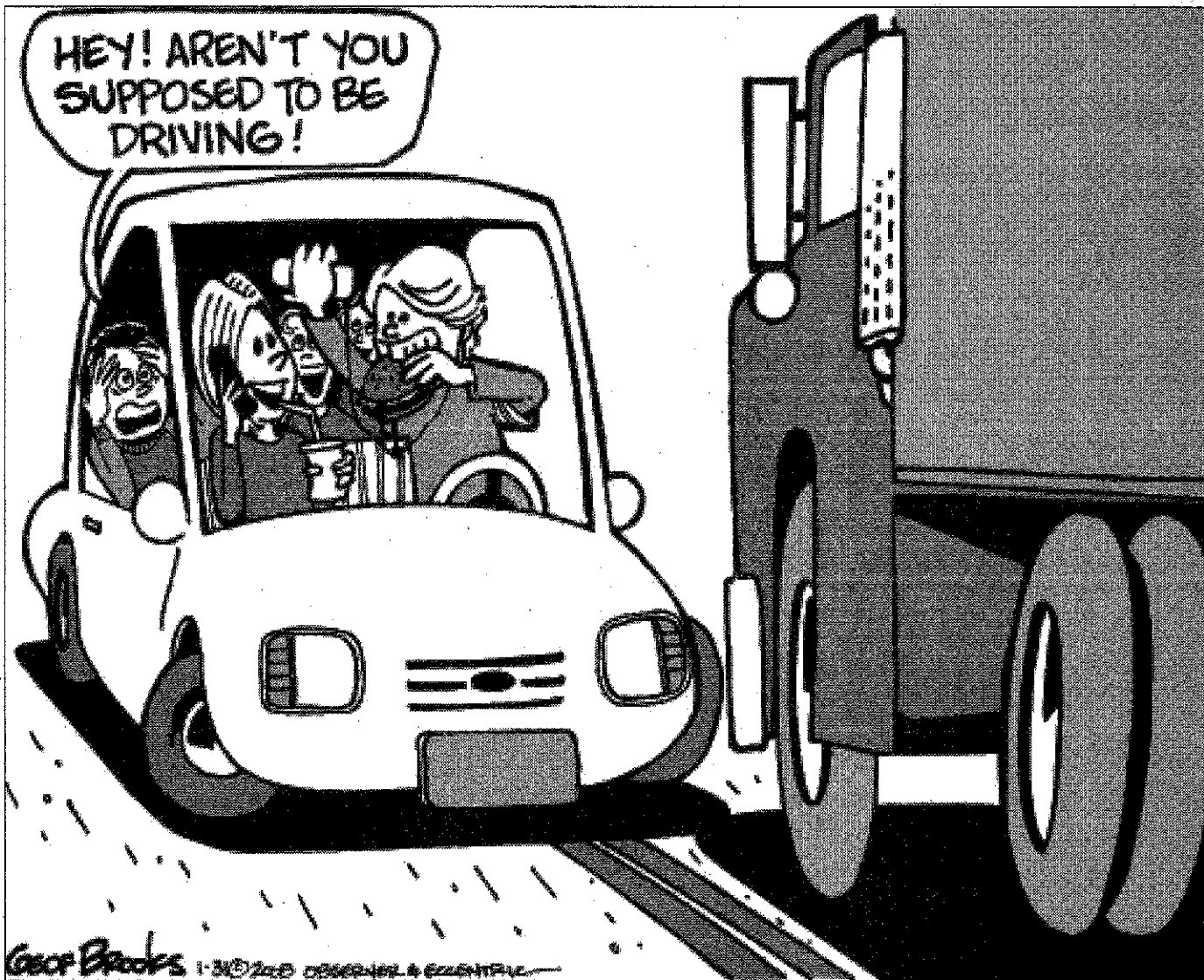
But why wait until it's against the law to stop driving distracted?

A ticket shouldn't be the main motivator here.

Think about the family you would leave behind if you were killed in an accident and ask yourself if the few minutes of time you save using your cell phone, putting on your mascara or eating in the car are worth it.

Resolve today to give driving your full attention when you're behind the wheel. Set an example for others — especially teens, who are just learning to drive.

It may require some sacrifice, but the health benefits are immediate.



LETTERS

Simply stated

Recently an article was written regarding "Rental costs cut at Holliday Park." This is always welcoming news to read, especially residing in a state with a very sluggish economy.

In the last two years, residents of Holliday Park experienced two increases in their monthly rent to support funding for a soil erosion project and a new furnace program. The added charges were to subside at the end of 2007 of which they did. This was the reason for the rent to drop in 2008 and not because the mortgage will be paid off in May.

Members are looking forward to added improvements when we no longer have a mortgage, however, if another rent decrease is part of the plan, that would be an added bonus!

We are proud of our community and look forward to welcoming new members who may be interested in embracing a cooperative lifestyle.

Lee Borycz
Westland

Reduction is good news

As a resident of Holliday Park Townhouses, it was interesting to read that our rent will be reduced because the mortgage is being paid off. My understanding is that our fees are being reduced now (in February) because a special assessment has been paid off.

Based on the information you were given, it appears we will see an additional reduction in May. That is indeed good news.

As your article states, Holliday Park is a very nice, well-maintained community. Thank you for your positive article.

Sherron Schultz
Westland

Story was misleading

As a resident of Westland's Holliday Park Townhouse Cooperative for 40 years, I was pleased to read the Jan. 10 story about the financial advantages of living here. But the headline and several key elements in the story call for a clarification.

First, the 694 residents of Holliday Park don't pay "rent," as claimed by the cooperative's treasurer. The residents pay a carrying charge which includes the remaining few months of a mortgage, property taxes, outside and interior maintenance, building insurance, contractors' services and the administrative costs of the office and maintenance staff.

Second, the story was misleading in claiming that our monthly "rent" was reduced ranging from \$31 to \$34. The reductions are not related to the carrying charge or so-called rent.

The recent reductions in our basic monthly carrying charges, unchanged for many years, consisted of the expiration of an \$11 monthly assessment that was to be levied for only three years, through Dec. 31, 2007, and a reduction of the natural gas payment which is procedurally included as part of each resident's carrying charge payment.

The projected gas payment rate is adjusted by the Holliday Park Board of Directors each fall for the following cal-

endar year, based on an analysis of the supplier's price and a projection of the severity of the upcoming winter season. Previously, the budgeted gas payment was increased almost every year. This year is the first time in many years that the projected gas payment was reduced.

Leonard Poger
Westland

Keep citizen's comments

It is my understanding that the Westland City Council is planning to remove one of the citizen's comments time slots. I hope this is not the case. Since different members of the council keep bringing up the past and the recall, I hope this is not what they want again. I didn't enjoy the walking the last time and many of us still have the battle scars, but if they intend on taking away the rights of the citizens to speak, I'll be first in line.

And if they are plotting to do this, how do they know they have enough votes? Some of the citizens can only speak at the beginning of the meeting and have a hard time doing that. Is this the one they want to remove? Many of us like to wait until after things are said and done and want to comment while it's fresh, if we comment at all. Will this be the one they want to remove?

I will take notes and talk the full allotted time, something I don't do now. Haven't they noticed that it's a rarity, if the first half hour is used to the full and when it is, it's usually with announcements and special presentations?

And I know the last citizen's comments never take a half hour anymore. The only time the meeting is long is when one or more of the members babble on and on themselves. Maybe they should be timed, especially when it has nothing to do with city business.

I encourage everyone in the community to attend the study session on this. You may not have had a reason to speak in the past, but you may in the future. If you can only speak at one time or the other you may lose that right. If you can't attend the study session then call or e-mail each member of the council.

With each right we lose at the local government, it is one step closer to losing all our rights.

Judy McKinney
Westland

Oversight not needed

For all the Fern Katzes out there: Comparing Ricky Holland's story to the need for home school oversight is outrageous! How many home-schooled children are in the foster care system, on probation, see a social worker, in detention centers, boot camps or jails?

We are not a burden on the state. We provide our own class material. There is no link to better grades, if the government is involved. Home schoolers, when tested, usually fare as good or better than their public school counterpart. Instead, check out the college graduation rate of home schoolers vs. those publicly monitored.

Why is it that a system that works well needs interference? Home schoolers choose to keep their

kids at home for many reasons. God is a big one and another one is to keep our children from bad behavior. Bad behavior is so rampant among children because parents have given up their power to the professionals. They think a stranger knows more than their own parental instinct.

Ricky's mom had good parental instinct. She did the right thing. She thought she was giving her son a better life than she was capable of. It was the oversight committee that allowed Ricky's tragic end.

This is the same committee you want me to subject my kids to? My parental instinct is better than that!

Rosemarie Rembisz
Westland

Inhumane law needs change

As a social worker, I have worked on juvenile justice issues for five years. I have researched many policies that impact the lives of youth involved in the juvenile and criminal justice systems. But even through my extensive work, I was not aware that children are sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole until two years ago.

Since then, I have met with more than 100 families who are affected by this law. These families represent victims and incarcerated individuals from all races and backgrounds from northern Michigan, southern Michigan, and all areas in between.

Michigan's policies of locking up children for life are some of the worst in the country. There are 306 individuals serving life without parole in Michigan for crimes they committed as children. Nearly half of the individuals affected by this law were sentenced for crimes committed when they were 16 years old or younger. It is the harshest sentence available in Michigan for any crime and we dish it out to children with little discussion about maturity or culpability.

All the research says that children can be rehabilitated. On Wednesday, Jan. 23, the House Judiciary Committee was expected to hold a hearing on a package of bills to eliminate this inhumane practice. I for one will be calling my legislator to support these bills and I urge you to do the same.

Neila T. Johnson
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

"It will make a huge improvement on a key corner in a highly visible area of our city. I think it's a great project. I'm excited about it, and it's long overdue in making something happen on that site."
- Council President James Godbout about a \$5 million fitness center that will replace the closed Quo Vadis Theater

Real estate trust could help school districts meet costs

If you can understand the language of accountants, you'll often find that their dry words all too often mask a rotting cesspool of financial trouble lurking beneath the surface.



Phil Power

For example: "Restrictions in credit availability and instability in the sub-prime housing mortgage market," sounds pretty tame ... that is, unless you just got a note from your friendly mortgage company saying your house is about to be repossessed.

Here's another and even scarier case: A 2004 report from the nonpartisan Citizens Research Council found "unfunded pension and health liabilities" for Michigan school employees

now amount to around \$19.3 billion. In this case, a "liability" means money legally owed to pensioners who have retired, confidently faithful their pensions would take care of them after their years of service. "Unfunded" means just that. There are no assets on the books allocated to cover the \$19.3 billion in pension and health care liabilities promised by the system.

School districts make annual contributions to cover pension and health care obligations for their employees, both active and retired. These contributions today consume around 23 percent of all local school budgets. And they're rising fast. Estimates by Citizens Research Council economists predict their contribution rate will increase to around 32 percent in about a decade.

And that means that school districts, already hit hard by inflation and the funding rigidities imposed by Proposal A, risk being eaten alive by their fixed costs. Even then, what the school districts are paying in isn't going to be enough to cover their obligations.

Think of it as the world's biggest elephant in the room. Those \$19.3 billion in pension and health care obligations are long term, legally binding and — duh! — very important to the nearly 410,000 active employees in the system and the 157,000 pensioners. The number of pensioners, by the way, will soon dramatically increase.

Sooner or later, Peter is going to have to pay Paul, and we might as well start thinking hard about how to do it. Most people I talked with don't have the beginnings of a clue. They throw up their arms when pressed for a solution. So here's one possible approach:

Pick up on the idea the auto companies and the United Auto Workers union just adopted to meet their health care obligations. Take all the school buildings and real estate in the entire school system. Sell them to, say, a real estate trust. Lease back the buildings needed for school purposes. Take the excess and use it to fund the unfunded pension and health care liability.

Bingo! You've resolved the problem by, in the language of the accountants, "securitizing the asset value."

Want evidence that this idea might work? Here are the numbers: A 2005 report from the Education Policy Center at Michigan State University and the Citizens Research Council puts total depreciated book value of buildings and infrastructure of Michigan schools at \$32.6 billion. A state Department of Education file listing

current capital assets shows a slightly lower number — \$27.1 billion.

So let's take \$30 billion as a reasonable estimate. Now suppose that school buildings and land could be sold for \$30 billion, once the dismal real estate market begins to revive.

From that, you take \$19.3 billion to fund the entire unfunded pension and health care liability. That leaves you \$10.7 billion.

(Maybe you use some of that money to fund the \$8.7 billion that the Education Policy Center estimates is needed to fix the building and infrastructure needs of Michigan's poorer school districts.)

Naturally, the schools will have to pay rent on the buildings they've leased. If the trust needs to get a 5-percent return on its \$30 billion investment to buy the buildings, that's \$1.5 billion a year.

But consider that the real estate trust would without doubt manage and maintain the buildings far more efficiently than school districts do. Department of Education figures for 2006 show a \$1.8 billion cost for building operations and maintenance.

Could that be halved?

Possibly. What seems certain is that the figure could be greatly reduced. So even without counting building maintenance savings, there's enough money to provide a return for investors in the trust.

Here's another advantage. Selling school buildings to a real estate trust makes it possible for the trust to dispose of obsolete and unoccupied buildings on the open market.

School districts are typically hobbled by local politics and neighborhood pride that interfere with the need to close and sell old schools to match population changes. Allowing the trust to take on this cumbersome task spreads fixed assets to match school needs better than is now possible.

Moreover, there's a lot of evidence that school districts don't do a very good job in managing the costs of new construction. A new high school in Ann Arbor, for example, is going to come in more than double the original estimated cost. A competent real estate trust could make a big difference in holding construction costs down.

Naturally, there are all kinds of serious objections to this proposal. The biggest is that school districts and their citizens own the buildings in their district. That means they'd have to be persuaded that it's in their advantage to sell and lease back.

But if a consequence of the deal was to shed their rising pension and health care payments, they might be very interested.

The point here is that our state is in a financial bind, big time. And the best method of getting out of tight binds is to think outside the box. This proposal does that. It may well need tweaking.

But it would make a lot of sense for the school system, the Legislature and the governor to take a careful look.

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 own and do not represent official views of The Center. Power welcomes reader comments at ppower@the-centerformichigan.net.

Step by step, women reach for roles in leadership

A man carrying a huge briefcase was quite a few steps ahead of me Saturday as we both walked up to a Panera restaurant, he obviously to combine work with lunch and me to meet some friends.



Sandra Armbruster

He opened the outside set of doors, looked my way and waited. I said thanks and scurried to catch up with him.

"I'm glad you're not one of those women who say they can open doors for themselves," he said as I walked past him.

I was stunned, and speechless. So stunned, in fact, that I almost missed what he said next.

While waiting to order, I noticed a front page story on U.S. Sen. Hillary Clinton. So we have a woman running for president, the ultimate glass ceiling for women seeking elective office, I thought. But I wondered how far we really have come.

As it turns out, we've made some progress in the political arena, but it hasn't come without a significant struggle.

According to the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame Web site, women who were taxpayers won the right to vote in school elections in 1867, but it would be 1917 before we won the right to vote in presidential elections, and the right to vote in statewide elections in 1919. The 19th Amendment gave the right to vote to all women in 1920.

It wasn't long after that women sought leadership positions. In 1919, Phoebe Ely Patterson of Plymouth was the first to be a justice of the peace. Eva McCall Hamilton of Grand Rapids was the first to serve in the state Senate in 1925, while Cora Reynolds Anderson of Lansing was the first woman in the state House.

Eighty-three years later, we have women serving as governor, secretary of state and on circuit court. But for Clinton to break that ceiling, it will take a groundswell of support. That groundswell is unlikely to come unless both genders have gotten used to voting for women on a local level and seeing them in positions of leadership.

Certainly, Livonia voters seem to have made the leap, as evidenced by Laura Toy. A city council president, she also has served in the state Senate and House. Currently, women make

up only about 18 percent of the state House. Despite being outnumbered by men in elected and leadership roles, women have their hands on the door to the future. But it will take agreeable male voters to ensure their passage, so I thought of the man holding the door for me last week.

Other examples of women leaders include those as mayor in Troy, Southfield, Bloomfield Hills and Farmington.

A number of women enjoy positions as county commissioners, and municipal clerks and treasurers, but a quick survey of areas served by *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* shows that the most popular avenue of leadership for women is on the school board.

In eight of our school districts — Plymouth-Canton, Southfield, Troy, Avondale, Rochester, South Redford, Redford Union and Clarencville — women serve as school board presidents.

In some cases, women predominate on councils and boards. Four of seven members are women on the Troy City Council and Farmington school board, and five of seven members are women on the Troy school board.

Even though not elected, women are making strides in leadership positions. Troy and Farmington have women leading as school superintendents, while women also are leading chambers of commerce in Troy, Westland, Garden City and Rochester, the Rochester Downtown Development Authority and The Community House in Birmingham.

Despite being outnumbered by men in elected and leadership roles, women have their hands on the door to the future. But it will take agreeable male voters to ensure their passage, so I thought of the man holding the door for me last week.

"I'm glad you're not one of those women who say they can open doors for themselves," he said, pausing as I reached for the handle to the inner set of doors.

"Because I know you can."

Sandra Armbruster is editor of the Troy Eccentric. She welcomes comments by e-mail to sarmbruster@hometownlife.com.

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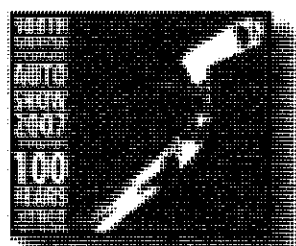
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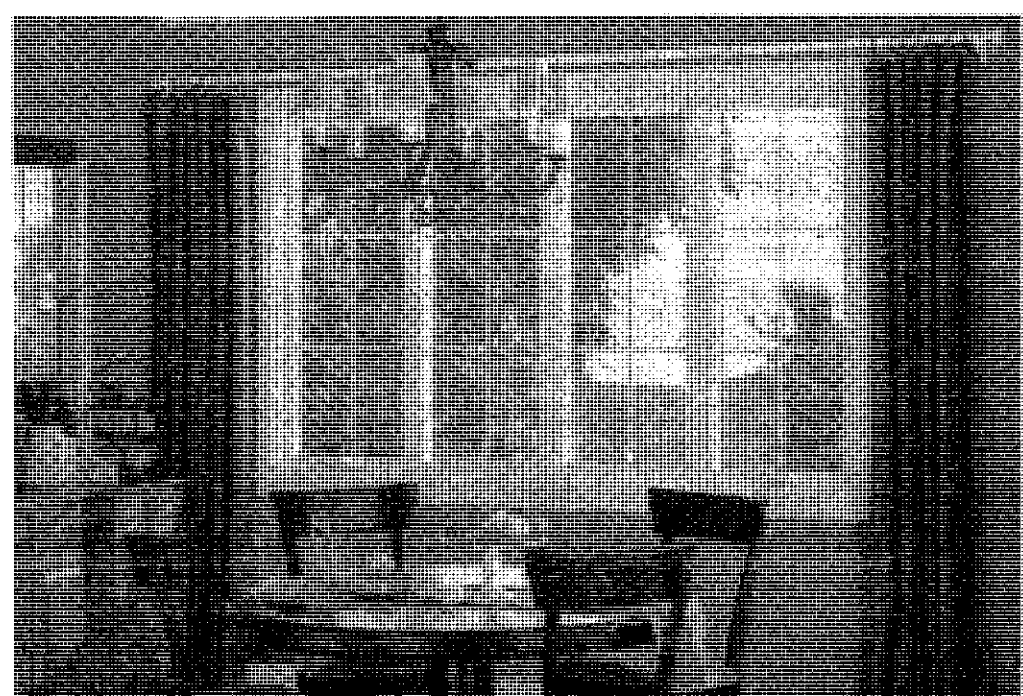
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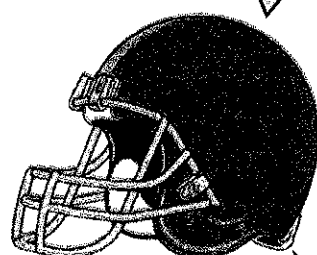
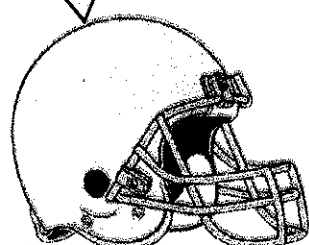
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SPORTS

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Thursday, January 31, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

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

Stewart unloads for 40 as C'ville takes Metro lead

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

BOYS BASKETBALL

The stakes were high Tuesday night and Livonia Clarenceville's Jamie Stewart played a hot hand that couldn't be beaten.

The 6-foot-4 junior swingman poured in a school-record tying 40 points as the host Trojans defeated Macomb Lutheran North, 80-67, in a showdown for first place in the Metro Conference.

With the win, Clarenceville improved its boys basketball

record to 12-1 overall and 6-1 in the Metro. The loss drops North to 8-5 and 5-1.

Senior point guard Lonnie Fairfax added 23 points, including 12 in the decisive fourth quarter as Clarenceville outscored the Mustangs, 29-14. Fairfax also dished out 10 assists, while junior center Jeremy Gainer chipped in with 10 points.

Stewart, who had 26 in the second half, tied the point total

established in January 2006 by Donnie Carson, now a sophomore starter at Idaho State.

Lutheran North led 35-31 at halftime and took a seven-point lead during the third quarter before Stewart took over with a 15-point surge, including three of his four triples. He added 11 more in the final quarter. The junior finished with three dunks.

"Every time they (North) would make a run, Jamie would hit a big shot," Clarenceville coach Corey McKendry said.

"He hit three 'threes' in the third quarter. He was fantastic

tonight. He just put on a great show."

Guard Andrew MacDonald and forward Brian Budchuk scored 24 and 22 points, respectively, for North.

"They (North) led the entire first half, we were not playing good defense and we gave them a lot of open looks," McKendry said.

Sophomore guard Levonte Brooks came off the bench in the fourth quarter, limiting MacDonald to two points after he tallied 12 in the third.

"Levonte was fantastic, I

can't say enough of how he played and I'm proud of him," McKendry said. "Jamie scored 40, but Levonte might have been our MVP tonight."

The Mustangs hung around by making 21-of-23 free throws (91 percent), while Clarenceville hit 17-of-26 (65 percent).

"Shooting free throws is their forte, that's their thing," McKendry said. "North has all its starters back from last year, they're well-coached, a very good team."

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Sidelines

MU adds Spotts

Madonna University women's basketball coach Carl Graves announced his fifth signee last week with the addition of 5-foot-9 forward Kayla Spotts of Ida.

Spotts is a two-sport standout who also played volleyball.

As a junior in basketball, Spotts made second-team All-Lenawee County Athletic Association and was team MVP.

"She's a heck of an athlete and we couldn't be happier to have her in the fold," Graves said.

Spotts is joined on the 2008-09 MU recruiting list by Ida teammate Erin Bentley, Taylor Truman's Vanessa LeMay, Almont's Brandy Ullum and Temperance Bedford's Jennifer Redmond.

Academic spikers

Among the area players named to the Michigan Interscholastic Volleyball Coaches Association Academic All-Region and All-State teams included Samantha Terranella and Julie Jongsma, both of Lutheran Westland; Natalie Fenech, Livonia Stevenson; and Jillian Novak, Wayne Memorial.

S'craft nets Denter

Schoolcraft College recently signed 5-foot-7 setter Brittany Denter of Kingsley to a NJCAA letter-of-intent to play volleyball for the 2008 season.

While at Kingsley, located near Traverse City, Denter helped the Stags to a pair of Class C regional tournament berths.

Denter played on the varsity squad for three seasons and earned a long list of honors. She was two-time team MVP, a nine-time all-tournament team selection, three-time all-conference and two-time Class C All-State honorable mention selection by the Michigan Interscholastic Volleyball Coaches Association.

"We are very excited to have Brittany on our team for next season," Lady Ocelots coach Rich Lamb said. "She has some big shoes to fill (the loss of the conference's top setter, Stacey Urbats), but her experience in high-pressure matches should assist her in the transition."

"We are looking for Brittany to come in and make an instant impact on our program. She has all the tools to be an incredible setter in our league, including her strong vertical leap and soft setting hands."

Hail to the Chiefs:

Canton first, Pats third in Observerland tourney

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Canton is back in the winner's circle as Observerland Invitational wrestling champion.

The Chiefs put five in the finals and took 11 places in 14 weight classes to upstage tournament favorite Novi-Detroit Catholic Central in the 17th annual event Saturday.

Canton captured the 17-school field by scoring 212.5 points, followed by the runner-up Shamrocks (194.5) and three-time defending champion Livonia Franklin (178.5).

Rounding out the top 10 were Belleville (172), Westland John Glenn (139.5), host Livonia Churchill (131), Livonia Stevenson (124), Salem (94.5), Garden City (60) and Plymouth (59).

"We're getting better, it's a young team," said Canton coach Casey Randolph, whose team last won the Observerland title in 2001. "It's a tough tourney and great tourney to win. It's great for our boys."

Canton's individual champions included 135-pounder Steve Cox and 140-pounder Brent Winekoff.

Waleed Faraj (103), Carl Lucke (119) and Donnie Watkins (125) also reached the finals.

"Having five in the finals helped us pull away," said Randolph, whose team carried a 24.5-point advantage heading into the finals. "We placed 11 kids and we might have placed a couple more. All the kids wrestled well and a couple placed higher than their seeding."

Randolph was referring to the third place by Rodger Kropp (171); a fifth by Keith Zech (152); and a sixth by heavyweight Luke Konsitzke.

"Keith Zech taking a fifth when he was unseeded was tremendous," Randolph said. "That was big, that was great. It showed guts and toughness the way he battled."

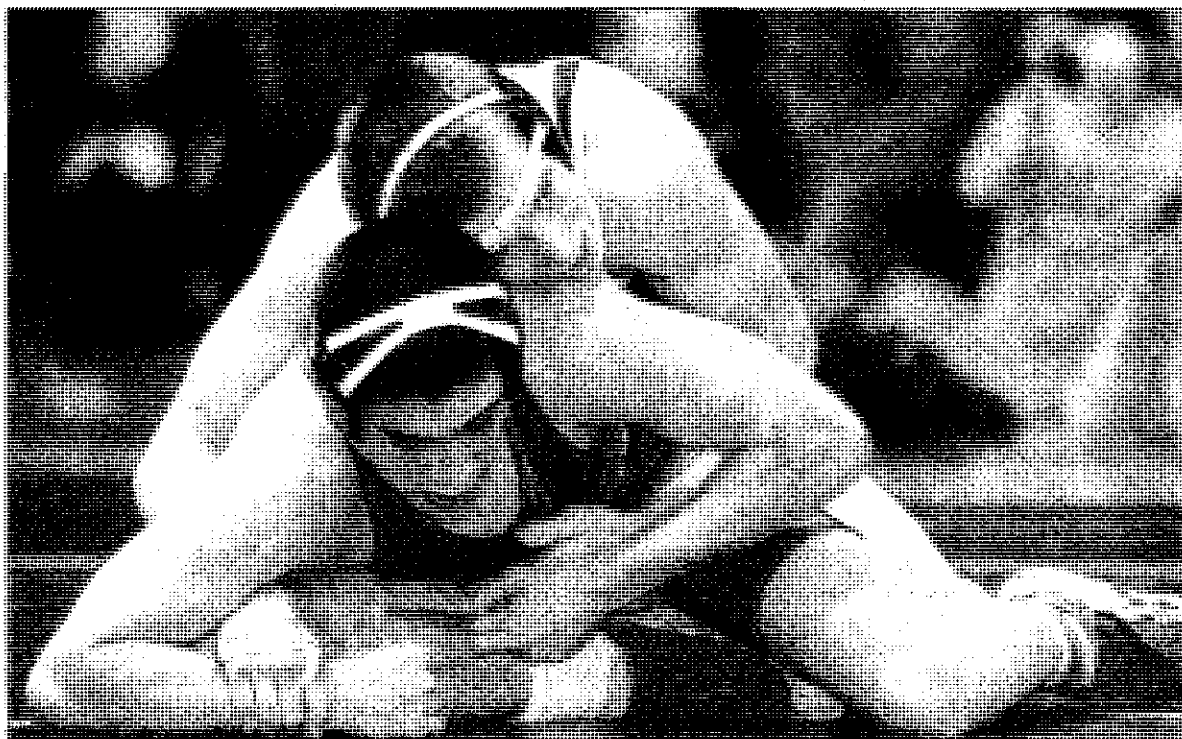
"Kropp is our senior captain and he was seeded fifth and took a third. And Konsitzke placed for us when he was seeded ninth."

Winekoff, third a year ago, captured his first Observerland title while raising his overall record to 27-4 with a 9-3 decision over Belleville's Jacob Losen.

"This is pretty important because it gives us an idea of who wrestles what and who for the districts," said Winekoff, a sophomore. "It's more or less the postseason. Our team is improving their technique and intensity in practice. We have a great coaching staff and we're starting to peak."

CC boasted three individual champions, including heavyweight Mike Martin, 215-pounder Joe Kinville and

Please see **WRESTLING, B2**



PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lutheran Westland's Stephen Kemp (top) takes control against Franklin's Elvin Ferreira as he works to a first-place finish in the 152-pound weight class during Saturday's Observerland Tournament at Churchill High School.



Wayne Memorial's Chad Dunn (top) looks for a move against Belleville's Justin Flesoon during the 112-pound finals match.

OBSERVERLAND MAT RESULTS

17th annual
OBSERVERLAND INVITATIONAL
WRESTLING TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Jan. 26 at Livonia Churchill

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Canton, 212.5 points; 2. Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, 194.5; 3. Livonia Franklin, 178.5; 4. Belleville, 172.5; Westland John Glenn, 139.5; 6. Livonia Churchill, 131; 7. Livonia Stevenson, 124; 8. Salem, 94.5; 9. Garden City, 60; 10. Plymouth, 59; 11. North Farmington, 56; 12. Farmington Hills Harrison, 32; 13. Lutheran Westland, 26.5; 14. Farmington, 24.5; 15. Wayne Memorial, 24; 16. Redford Union, 16; 17. Livonia Clarenceville, 12.

INDIVIDUAL FINAL RESULTS

103 pounds: Anthony Pavlich (WJG) pinned Waleed Faraj (Canton), 3:38; 3rd place: Steve Cox (Canton) won by major dec. over Jacob Meadows (LC), 13-4; 5th place: Matt Thompson (CC) dec. Jordan Russell (NF), 10-4.
112: Justin Flesoon (Bell) dec. Chad Dunn (WM), 4-0; 3rd: Justin Melick (CC) dec. Jared Pieknek (LF), 3-1; 5th: Matt Jaisle (NF) p. Michael Fobar (LS), 4-39.
119: Chris Schneider (Bell) dec. Carl Lucke (Canton), 3-2; 3rd: Doug Eldridge (CC) dec. Justin Jacobsen (LF), 6-2; 5th: Steve D'Annunzio (Ply) dec. Greg Hogan (NF), 8-7.
125: Jeremiah Austin (WJG) won by major dec. over Donnie Watkins (Canton), 17-7; 3rd: Tommy Kozak (Bell) won by major dec. over Tommy Myslock (LS), 12-1; 5th: Mike Jaisle (NF) won by technical fall over Charlie Joseph (CC), 17-0.
130: Jared Stephens (WJG) dec. Kevin Hayer (Salem), 5-4; 3rd: Jeremy Filippelli (Canton) won by major dec. over Tyler Twigg (CC), 14-5; 5th: Andrew

Murray (LC) dec. Tom Cook (Bell), 10-6; 135: Steve Cox (Canton) dec. J.P. Gaffke (LC), 9-4; 3rd: Justin Johnson (GC) p. Matt Hintz (LF), 3:59; 5th: Kevin Sullivan (CC) dec. Anthony Marinella (LS), 6-5.
140: Brent Winekoff (Canton) dec. Jacob Losen (Bell), 9-3; 3rd: Trevor O'Connor (CC) p. Brandon Smith (LF), 3:19; 5th: Kyle Muller (Farm) dec. Dan McCall (WJG), 8-7.
145: Shea Hasenauer (CC) dec. Steve Cook (Bell), 7-6; 3rd: Raz Markosian (LS) dec. Brandon Billiau (LF), 3-1; 5th: Zaid Ammari (WJG) won by major dec. over Justin Kane (Salem), 9-1.
152: Stephen Kemp (LW) won by major dec. over Elvin Ferreira (LF), 14-2; 3rd: Danny Small (LC) dec. Chadd Scruggs (Bell), 3-1; 5th: Keith Zech (Canton) dec. Colin Gross (Salem), 8-2.
160: Jeremy Epley (Salem) p. Don Stratz (LF), 4:28; 3rd: Gary Lawrence (WJG) dec. Vince Rizzo (Ply), 3-0; 5th: Curtis Castleberry (LC) dec. Alex Juchartz (Bell), 10-6.
171: Ziad Kharbush (LS) dec. Brian Ziemba (LC), 12-5; 3rd: Rodger Kropp (Canton) p. Mike Nordby (GC), 0:30; 5th: Mike Kinville (CC) dec. Garrett Hay (LF), 4-0.
189: Dan Woodall (LF) dec. Vince Daroffi (Ply), 9-8; 3rd: Emanuel Onwuemene (LS) dec. Matt Aubrey (CC), 8-6; 5th: Adam Powers (Canton) p. Roger Roper (Bell), 6:44 (OT).
215: Joe Kinville (CC) dec. Matt Greenman (LS), 2-1; 3rd: Dan Warshaw (Canton) dec. Anthony Pomerson (Ply), 11-6; 5th: Kaare Cigan (Bell) dec. James Kelly (WJG), 6-5.
235: Mike Martin (CC) p. Mark Mouawad (FHH), 3:55; 3rd: Adam Love (GC) dec. Mike Modes (LF), 9-4; 5th: Mark Parrish (LC) p. Luke Konsitzke (Canton), 1:28.

Good vibrations at electric football convention

Imagine how ESPN's Chris Berman would have described a typical electric football play during the game's pre-PlayStation prime in the early '70s:

"He's at the 20, the 15, the 10, the 5, HE COULD GO ALL THE ... WAIT! He's doing a U-turn at the 2-yard line! He's at the 5, the 10, the 15 ..."

Anyone who's ever experienced the buzz that accompanies playing electric football can relate to the unpredictability factor involved with the all-time favorite game of my youth.

The vibrating players would turn at the worst possible second as if they were allergic to the end zone grass.

The guys with their arms spread wide would grab hands and do a series of spins that would make Tanith Belbin and Ben Agosto envious.

And the kickers must have been made of some kind of performance-enhancing plastic because more often than not they booted the felt ball so far



Ed Wright

it'd clear the uprights by 60 yards and get lost in our inch-thick shag carpeting.

The game was far from perfect, but my friends and I still loved it

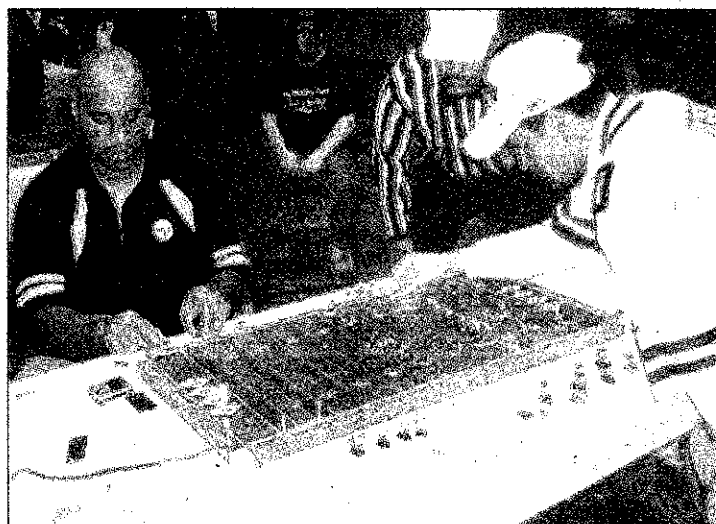
— from the down-to-the-slightest-detail painted NFL players to the cardboard grandstands that made it look as if there were 50,000 screaming fans at every game.

BAD ASSUMPTION

Until a few days ago, I assumed electric football had followed Jarts, BAS-KET and Sizzler race cars down the path to toyland oblivion.

After all, we're living in the PlayStation/Nintendo era that offers graphics so realistic you can count the number of fillings in Randy Moss's virtual teeth.

Who in this instant-gratifi-



With a referee looking on, two combatants set up for the second-half kickoff during Sunday's 14th annual Electric Football World Championships and Convention at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Livonia.

cation world of ours would opt for the imperfect pleasures of electric football when the life-like realism of EA Sports is just a controller button away?

The answer: more people than you might expect — at least judging by the close to

400 people who attended the 14th annual Electric Football World Championships & Convention held last weekend at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Livonia.

I found out quickly that the hobby is alive and kickin'.

Sports fans from across the country converged on the three-day event to compete in an annual tournament that rivals the real-life NFL playoffs. They also competed in a skills challenge, attended clinics and swapped strategies with their electricity-loving gridiron brothers.

And almost all of the gamers shared the unbridled enthusiasm of Waterford's Steve Martin, who's been flipping the on and off switch on the electric board games since the early '70s.

"Like football, electric football is a game of unlimited creativity," Martin said when asked about his passion for the game. "You can paint the players, manipulate their poses and customize the fields with everything from lights to scoreboards."

"And the best thing about the hobby is that it's an active game, a game of great strategy."

Please see **FOOTBALL, B2**

FOOTBALL

FROM PAGE B1

So when you're done putting everything together, you don't just sit there and look at it, you actively participate in it."

IT'S COME A LONG WAY

Following a quick Sunday afternoon tour around the main Embassy Suites ballroom, I discovered how far the hobby has advanced since I last played.

Players are not only painted to the smallest detail in their NFL and college uniforms, they even come with attachable face masks and chin straps.

The most notable enhancement is that, unlike the scatter-brained ways of the mini-players in the '70s, today's electric gladiators can actually be controlled to some extent.

"The development of the equipment is almost a science in itself," said Martin, who coaches the Cleveland Browns in a flourishing metropolitan Detroit electric football league. "The No. 1 thing is that the bases have gotten better. There are dials on the bases now that allow you to control the direction the players go. They'll move laterally or stay in one place so that your defensive backs and linebackers can actually play a zone."

"Unlike the early days of the hobby, the players don't just spin around uncontrollably anymore."

If you're getting a nostalgia rush and would like more information on the hobby, visit www.miggie.com.

A starter set that includes two teams, a field and a scoreboard costs around \$70 — not a bad price considering the memories it could generate are priceless.

Ed Wright is the sports editor for the Plymouth and Canton Observers. He can be reached at (734) 953-2108 or ewright@hometownlife.com.



Stevenson's Ziad Kharbush looks for a takedown against Churchill's Brian Ziemba in Saturday's Observerland Tournament. Kharbush won the match, 9-3, to repeat as champion.

WRESTLING

FROM PAGE B1

145-pounder Shea Hasenauer.

John Glenn's Anthony Pavlich (103), Jeremiah Austin (125) and Jared Stephens (130) also won titles. Austin is the top-ranked wrestler statewide in his class, while Stephens held off Salem's Kevin Hayter in the finals, 5-4.

Belleville's Justin Fleeson (112) and Chris Schneider (119) also added firsts. Fleeson stopped Wayne Memorial's Chad Dunn, 4-0, while Schneider, named the lower weights MVP, edged Lucke, 3-2.

Livonia Stevenson senior Ziad Kharbush repeated as an Observerland champion, this time at 171 after winning 160 a year ago. Kharbush's older brother Imad is a former Observerland and MHSAA champion who qualified twice for the NCAA tourney at Stanford University.

Meanwhile, Lutheran Westland's Stephen Kemp (152) and Salem's Jeremy Epley (160) cruised to titles.

Kemp's older brother Neal was Observerland champ at 152 four years ago before going on to wrestle for Triton (Ill.) Junior College, where he

took seventh in the NJAA nationals. Neal recently helped Lindenwood (Mo.) University capture the NAIA national championship.

Epley was named upper weights MVP. His father Randy wrestled for Franklin and later was a standout linebacker at Wayne State.

In one of the closest matches of the night, Franklin's Dan Woodall nipped Vince Darolfi in a see-saw battle for the 189 crown, 9-8.

Franklin had 10 in the semifinals, but only came away with one first, a pair of seconds and one third in relinquishing its crown.

"Overall, I was pretty disappointed at the way we wrestled," Franklin coach Dave Chiola said. "We needed some people to step up and it just didn't happen. I need to take the bulk of the blame since the majority of the team looked flat. Outside of Woodall, who won it, and (Steve) Tuyo (at 103), who wrestled great as a freshman, the rest of the team has a lot of room for improvement. Once we got to the semifinals, it looked like instead of trying to win, we were trying not to lose. It really was a rough day."

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Reserves come through

Churchill bench difference in 49-42 win vs. Vikings

Credit the bench for preserving Livonia Churchill's grip on second place in the Lakes Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association boys basketball race.

On Tuesday, the host Chargers beat Walled Lake Central for the second time this season, 49-42, to improve to 9-5 overall and 6-3 in the division, one game up on Salem.

Senior guard Andrew Vagnetti's 13 points paced the Chargers, who outscored Central 17-10 in the decisive fourth quarter.

Senior center Ryan Rosenick added 10 points and nine rebounds for Churchill, but it was the playoff the bench by senior forwards Shauntez Thomason and Nick Kirby which turned the tide.

Thomason scored all nine of his points in the second half, while Kirby made 5-of-7 free throws in the final period.

"Our bench did an incredible job," Churchill coach Jim Solak said.

Central jumped out to a 11-0 lead at the start, but Churchill closed the gap to 27-25 at halftime.

"We started playing defense, got our rotations down and scored some hoops," Solak said. "We rebounded the ball

BOYS BASKETBALL

and took care of the ball."

WAYNE 97, FRANKLIN 67: All 13 players scored Tuesday night as Wayne Memorial (12-2, 9-0) lit up the board with a WLAA-Western Division triumph at Livonia Franklin (4-10, 3-6).

Jeremy Lovelady, a 6-foot-10 senior center, led a balanced Wayne scoring attack with 16 points.

Mike Lee added 14, while Matt Lewis and Martez Abney contributed 12 and 11, respectively.

Wayne led 47-22 at halftime, but lost starter John Hill to an injury in third quarter.

Ryan Matthey and Jeff Poole tallied 16 and 12, respectively, for the Patriots, who made 19-of-35 free throws.

Wayne, which has already clinched the division title, connected on 10-of-13 foul shots.

JOHN GLENN 76, STEVENSON 66: WLAA-Lakes Division champion Westland John Glenn (13-1, 9-0) used a strong start Tuesday to win at home over Livonia Stevenson (5-9, 3-6).

Senior Earl Hardison, who made 8-of-9 free throws, finished with a team-high 21 points for the Rockets, who led 39-21 at intermission.

Senior swingman Stefan Marken added 17, including three triples in third quarter. He also grabbed a team-high 12 rebounds.

Junior Derrick Crosby also chipped in with 16 points and 10 rebounds.

Stevenson junior guard Mark Grisa scored 27 of his game-high 29 points in the second half.

Sophomore forward Austin White added 13.

Stevenson was 15-of-26 from the foul line, while state-ranked Glenn was 14-of-17.

CLAWSON 57, LUTH. WESTLAND 54: A fourth-quarter rally Tuesday fell short as host Lutheran High Westland (1-10, 0-6) suffered a Metro Conference setback against the Trojans (4-9, 1-7).

Junior guard Josh Kruger scored a career-high 27 points in the loss for the Warriors. He nailed 8-of-9 free throws and was 8-of-14 from the floor, including three triples. Junior forward Sam Ahlersmeyer contributed 15 points.

Rob Feeman led Clawson with 16 points, while Greg Dinkens, Jr. added 12.

The Warriors led 29-28 at halftime, but were outscored 29-25 in the second half.

Clawson was 12-of-22 from the foul line, while the Warriors made 16-of-22.

LUTH. SOUTH 50, HURON VALLEY 43: Brad Puchalsky pumped in 20 points Tuesday as host Newport Lutheran South (7-4) downed Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (2-11) in a non-conference matchup for the second time this season.

Junior guard Aaron Howell paced the Hawks, who trailed 25-24 at halftime, with 20 points.

Huron Valley missed all seven free throw attempts, while the Saints were 20-of-40.

Lutheran South beat Huron Valley in the first meeting between the teams, 55-52, in overtime on Jan. 8.

Lutheran Westland stumbles

in 1st-place Metro showdown

Katie Ross thwarted Lutheran High Westland's bid to move into first place in the Metro Conference girls basketball standings.

The senior guard scored a game-high 23 points and made 4-of-5 free throws down the stretch to give the host Trojans a 49-42 win over the Warriors.

"Ross shoots it, she drives it to the basket, she's a good player," Lutheran Westland coach Kevin Wade said.

Olivia Delgado-Price added 10 for Clawson, now 13-3 overall. The Trojans also improved to 8-0 in the conference and will be the No. 1 seed in the upcoming Metro playoffs.

"We missed a couple of 'bunnies' early and we let them get out on transition against us the first half," said Wade, whose team couldn't overcome a 26-16 halftime deficit. "We picked up the pressure the fourth quarter, but we couldn't get stops after we go scores."

Junior center Becca Refenes led the Warriors with 18 points and 14 rebounds, while junior guard Allyson Yankee added 16 points and six rebounds. Lutheran Westland, 13-3

GIRLS BASKETBALL

overall, is tied for the second seed in the Metro along with Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook and Macomb Lutheran North at 6-2.

TAYLOR BAPTIST 44, HURON VALLEY 29: Christina Downs tallied 16 points and Jamie Janice added 14 Tuesday to lead Taylor Baptist Park (7-7, 5-1) moved into a first-place tie in the Red Division of the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference with a win at Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (9-6, 5-1).

Taylor Baptist won despite making only 5-of-18 foul shots.

Katie Kipfmiller scored nine for the Hawks, who couldn't overtime a 25-11 halftime lead.

LUTH. NORTH 54, CLARENCEVILLE 21: Michelli Irvin scored 13 points Tuesday as host Macomb Lutheran North (8-7, 6-2) rolled past Livonia Clarenceville (7-9, 3-5) in a Metro Conference encounter.

Amber O'Halloran scored five for the Trojans, who made only 1-of-12 free throws and trailed 27-11 at halftime.

LADYWOOD 58, A.A. RICHARD 25: Nine of 12 players scored Monday as state-ranked Livonia Ladywood (14-2) romped to a Catholic League inter-sectional win at Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard (8-9). Sophomore guard Mary

Fitzgerald led the victorious Blazers with 12 points. Senior forward Alison Szczypka added 10, while junior guard Courtney LaValley contributed eight (all in the second half).

The Blazers jumped out to a 20-4 first-quarter advantage and never looked back.

Ladywood made 23-of-51 shots from the floor (45 percent) and 8-of-12 from the foul line (66 percent).

The Fighting Irish made only 9-of-35 shots from the field (25 percent).

Ladywood opens Catholic League Central Division semifinal playoff action 4 p.m. Saturday against Farmington Hills Mercy at Novi-Detroit Catholic Central.

ROEPEL 46, HURON VALLEY 15: It was no contest Monday as divisional leaders in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference clashed.

Brianna Barton scored 12 points to lead Blue Division leader and state-ranked (No. 4 in Class D) Bloomfield Hills Roeper (14-0) past Red Division leader Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (9-5).

"They (Roeper) shot the lights out the first quarter and they don't have a girl over 5-8," said Huron Valley coach Eric Ruth, whose team fell behind 22-4 after one quarter and 35-9 at halftime. "They are very athletic, deep, quick and well-coached."

Autumn Beach scored four to lead the Hawks.

Chargers, Rockets vie for WLAA playoff spot

Livonia Churchill put itself in playoff position Tuesday night with an upset 47-45 Western Lakes Activities Association girls basketball victory at Walled Lake Central.

Chelsea Manasian and Kia Griffin scored nine and eight, respectively, for the victorious Chargers, who improved to 5-11 overall and 3-6 in the Lakes Division (tied for fourth and final playoff berth with Westland John Glenn).

Churchill won despite making only 7-of-20 free throws, while Central was 9-of-13.

Kelly Costello led the Vikings (9-7, 5-4) with a game-high 24 points, while

WLAA GIRLS BASKETBALL

Porsche Dudley added 12.

JOHN GLENN 54, STEVENSON 41: Four players scored in double figures Tuesday as Westland John Glenn (6-10, 3-6) earned the WLAA-Lakes Division victory over host Livonia Stevenson (3-13, 0-9).

Nyah McReynolds paced the victorious Rockets with 12 points, while Brittany Holbrook chipped in with 11. Brittany Brown and Andrea Gordon-McClain each contributed 10.

Stevenson, which led 20-16 at halftime before being outscored 22-9 in the third quarter, got 14 points and eight rebounds from Kaylee McGrath. Becca Bartek and Courtney Lewis each added seven points.

Both teams were spotty from the foul line — Stevenson 11-of-21 and

Glenn 10-of-21.

Glenn is tied for Churchill for the fourth-and-final playoff spot for the upcoming WLAA playoffs is up for grabs between the two teams Friday at Churchill.

FRANKLIN 53, WAYNE 35: Senior center Ashley Price scored 17 points, including 8-of-8 from the foul line along with a triple, to propel Livonia Franklin (13-3, 7-2) to a WLAA-Western Division triumph Tuesday at Wayne Memorial (3-13, 0-9).

Brianna Taylor added 14 points and 12 rebounds, while twin sister Brittany Taylor finished with eight points and 14 rebounds for the Patriots, who led 25-15 at halftime and 36-18 after three quarters.

Trenia Barbee paced Wayne with 15 points, while Nastassia Goines added nine.

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BOYS BOWLING RESULTS

DUAL MATCH RESULTS
WAYNE MEMORIAL 25
LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE 5
Jan. 29 at Country Lanes
 Wayne's top scorers: Eric Robertson, 266-192-460; Mike Solarz, 190-194-384; Nate Mosley, 197-204-401; Ryan Gabriel, 236-204-440; Zac Kyle, 266-177-143.
Regular game totals: 1,157-971-2,228; **Baker games:** 177-300-477.
 Clarenceville's top scorers: Christian Grates, 225; Jason Bertera, 201.
Regular game totals: 960-832-1,792; **Baker games:** 204-247-451.
 Clarenceville's dual match record: 2-7 overall, 1-6 (Wayne-Oakland Bowling Conference).

NOVI-DETROIT CATHOLIC CENTRAL 17
LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE 13
Jan. 25 at Country Lanes
 CC's top scorers: Kerry Kirsch, 257-235-492; Mike Clemente, 212-212-424; Mike Erlingis, 217-238-475; Brian Graham, 190-219-409; Tommy Langan, 205-180-385.
Regular game totals: 1,081-1,104-2,185; **Baker games:** 212-174-386 (0 points).
 Clarenceville's top scorers: Christian Grates, 254-179-433; Jason Bertera, 226-174-400; Chris Diaz, 200-197-397; Phillip Heidler, 20-1; Austin Bentley, 204-181-385.
Regular game totals: 1,085-90-1,988; **Baker games:** 213-234-447 (10 points).
 Clarenceville's dual match record: 2-6 overall.

LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE 28
NORTH FARMINGTON 2
Jan. 24 at Drakeshire Lanes
 Clarenceville's top scorers: Jason Bertera, 173-246-419; Chris Diaz, 180-210-390; Phillip Heidler, 207-181-388.
Regular game totals: 872-985-1,857; **Baker games:** 192-171-363.
 North's top scorer: Ryan Turner, 232.
Regular game totals: 822-908-1,730; **Baker games:** 170-156-326.
 Clarenceville's dual match record: 2-5 overall, 1-7 (Wayne-Oakland Bowling Conference).

FLAT ROCK 18.5
LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE 11.5
Jan. 22 at Country Lanes
 Clarenceville's top scorers: Austin Bentley, 228-177-405; Chris Diaz, 221-190-411; Phillip Heidler, 195-211-406.
Regular game totals: 989-936-1,925; **Baker games:** 157-203-360 (0 points).

Flat Rock's top scorer: C.J. Lazarz, 215-212-427.
Regular game totals: 909-994-1,903; **Baker games:** 200-204-404 (10 points).
 Clarenceville's dual match record: 1-7 overall.

WAYNE MEMORIAL 22
NORTH FARMINGTON 8
Jan. 17 at Westland Bowl
 Wayne's top scorers: Zac Kyle, 217-220-437; Lonnie Lawrence, 233-202-435; Eric Robertson, 236-185-421; Mike Solarz, 233-148-381; Cory Harden, 168; Ryan Gabriel, 170 (338 total).
Regular game totals: 1,087-925-2,012 (12 points); **Baker games:** 214-211-425 (10 points).
 North individual scorers: Sean Miller, 186-256-442; Steve LaPierre, 211-220-431; Marshal Vortried, 167-243-410; Cody Purcell, 171-156-327; Alex Novak, 166; Sam Shreeman, 155 (321 total).
Regular game totals: 901-1,030-1,931 (8 points); **Baker games:** 213-184-397 (0 points).

2nd annual
WAYNE COUNTY INVITATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT
Jan. 19 at Cherry Hill Lanes
Boys championship final: Taylor Truman defeated Wayne Memorial, 193-204, 212-198, 215-187.
Semifinals: Truman def. Westland John Glenn, 165-161, 22-158; Wayne def. Flat Rock-Woodhaven, 186-212, 193-159, 228-137.
Quarterfinals: Truman def. Dearborn Heights Crestwood, 196-193, 218-147; Wayne def. Flat Rock, 173-175, 179-176, 194-154; Woodhaven def. Southgate Anderson, 200-194, 227-209; John Glenn def. Dearborn Divine Child, 163-158, 213-207.

BOYS QUALIFYING ROUND RESULTS
TEAM STANDINGS (3 regular & 2 Baker games): 1. Dearborn Divine Child, 3,957; 2. Flat Rock-Woodhaven, 3,697; 3. Wayne Memorial, 2,984 (regular) 690 (Baker); 3,674; 4. Taylor Truman, 3,661; 5. Dearborn Heights Crestwood, 3,656; 6. Flat Rock, 3,644; 7. Southgate Anderson, 3,593; 8. Westland John Glenn, 3,575; 9. Northville, 3,512; 10. Dearborn Heights Annapolis, 3,471; 11. Taylor Kennedy, 3,396; 12. Trenton, 3,369; 12. Riverview Gabriel Richard, 2,960.
High game: Jake Racisz (Flat Rock), 289.
High series: Justin O'Hara (John Glenn), 756.
Wayne individual scorers: Eric Robertson, 249-221-216-686; Cory Harden, 198-195-247-640; Lonnie Lawrence, 236-207-170-613; Mike Solarz, 166-185-165-516; Ryan Gabriel, 213-213-426; Zac Kyle, 174-142-316.

2nd annual
WAYNE COUNTY INVITATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT
Jan. 19 at Cherry Hill Lanes
GIRLS QUALIFYING ROUND RESULTS
TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Taylor Kennedy, 3,778; 2. Southgate Anderson, 3,263; 3. Flat Rock, 3,154; 7. Livonia Ladywood, 3,055; 9. Westland John Glenn, 2,884; 12. Wayne Memorial, 2,783.
OAKLAND COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS
Jan. 19-20 at Wonderland Lanes (Walled Lake)

Girls championship match: Walled Lake Central def. Farmington Hills Harrison, 396-360.
Third place: Walled Lake Northern def. Clarkston, 328-287.

Semifinals: Harrison def. Clarkston, 298-287; W.L. Central def. W.L. Northern, 342-336.
Quarterfinals: Harrison def. Waterford Mott, 357-310; Clarkston def. White Lake Lakeland, 320-312; W.L. Central def. Farmington Hills Mercy, 344-271; W.L. Northern def. South Lyon, 417-347.

Round of 16: Harrison (16) def. Milford (1), 402-400; Mott (9) def. Livonia Clarenceville (8), 289-287; Lakeland (4) def. Troy Athens (13), 371-347; Clarkston (5) def. Novi (12), 347-330; Mercy (11) def. Waterford Kettering (6), 354-326; W.L. Central (3) def. Oxford (14), 358-308; W.L. Northern (7) def. Lake Orion (10), 330-289; South Lyon (2) def. North Farmington (15), 383-266.

Team qualifying scores: 1. Milford, 3,569; 2. South Lyon, 3,562; 3. Walled Lake Central, 3,488; 4. White Lake Lakeland, 3,445; 5. Clarkston, 3,431; 6. Waterford Kettering, 3,425; 7. Walled Lake Northern, 3,319; 8. Livonia Clarenceville, 3,280; 9. Waterford Mott, 3,129; 10. Lake Orion, 3,084; 11. Farmington Hills Mercy, 3,056; 12. Novi, 3,021; 13. Troy Athens, 3,011; 14. Oxford, 2,953; 15. North Farmington, 2,844; 16. Farmington Harrison, 2,834.

Top individuals: 1. Tori Brown (Milford), 735; 2. Caitlin Mein (Walled Lake Northern), 670; 3. Jenna Law (Milford), 669; 16. Danielle Thomas (Clarenceville), 577; 17. Kayla Barber (Clarenceville), 575.

LEVEL 5 RESULTS
 Ashley Williams: first, vault (9.25); floor (9.225).
Other participants: Brooke Allgayer, Megan Baumeister, Shannon Rice, Jessica Semaan and Nicki Stezak.

LEVEL 4 RESULTS
(10-year-olds)
 Jillian Zafarana: first, bars (9.25); beam (8.8); floor (9.0); all-around (36.05); fourth, vault (9.0).
(9-year-olds)

Emily Divens: second, beam (9.05); third, all-around (36.325); fourth, floor (9.05); fifth, vault (9.05); bars (9.05). **Jessica Weak:** fourth, beam (8.775); seventh, floor (8.8); all-around (34.9). **Jessica Lynch:** sixth, vault (9.075).

(8-year-olds)
Morgan Justice: fifth, all-around (35.424); sixth, beam (8.65); floor (9.0).

YOUTH GYMNASTICS RESULTS

TWISTERS INVITATIONAL
Jan. 11-13 at Lansing
LIVONIA GYMNASTICS ACADEMY
LEVEL 7 RESULTS
 Elizabeth McCormick: tied for second place, floor exercise (8.9); Leah Sheffield: third, balance beam (8.9); Alex Kitz: tied for third, uneven bars (8.95); Sara Bridges: tied for fourth, vault (9.4).
Other participants: Tara Dudley, Stephanie Lozano and Paige Whitaker.

LEVEL 6 RESULTS
 Robyn Lowes: first, beam (9.275); third, vault (9.53); Kylee O'Brien: second, vault (9.375); fourth, floor (9.0); fifth, beam (8.85) and all-around (35.585). **Jennifer Reahm:** second, vault (9.3); third, bars (8.8); sixth, all-around (33.75).
Other participants: Emily Brewer.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Little League signups

■ The Redford American Little League, for boys and girls ages 5-12 whose parent(s) or guardian(s) reside within the official District Five boundaries, will hold 2008 registration from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 9 at the Redford Township Community Center, located at 12121 Hemmingway Avenue (west of Beech Daly off of Capitol), between Schoolcraft and Plymouth roads.

Boundaries for R.A.L.L. are as follows: Joy Road north to Six Mile Road; and Telegraph Road west to I-275. The coverage area includes a portion of Livonia.

The cost is \$115 for Major, Minor and Coach Pitch leagues and \$80 for T-Ball. Each new player should provide a photocopy of their birth certificate.

Late registration will be Tuesday, Feb. 26 at the Redford Township Community Center (\$25 late fee applied).

For more information, call Mike Pawlowski at (586) 759-2405 or e-mail him at mpaw-

loski@sbcglobal.net.

■ North Redford Central Little League will hold registration for several baseball and softball divisions 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 16 at the Redford Public Library.

Signups will be for players between ages 5-16 who will participate in T-Ball, Minor B, Minor A, Majors, Girls Fastpitch Softball and Challengers.

Boundaries for N.R.C.L.L. are as follows: Six Mile north to Nine Mile and Telegraph west to I-275. The coverage area includes a portion of Livonia.

For more information, call president Robert Mockeridge (734-904-7578), executive president Darrell Hively (248-990-1315) or vice president/baseball Kelly Collard (313-971-2679).

Meanwhile, registration questions about NRCLL Junior/Senior baseball (boys ages 13-16) can be addressed to Bill Sullivan (313-535-8143) or Michelle Faur (586-243-9136) and inquiries about girls softball (ages 9-16) can be directed to Mary Anderson (313-717-1307).

Lady Ocelots stall Henry Ford

The Schoolcraft College women's basketball team apparently didn't want another taste of losing.

The Lady Ocelots, who lost their first conference game on Jan. 23 against Oakland Community College-Highland Lakes, totally took their frustration out against their next opponent as eight different players scored at least eight points Saturday as the Lady Ocelots rolled to a 106-44 victory against Henry Ford CC.

Schoolcraft (16-3, 9-1), the fifth-ranked team in the NJCAA Division II polls, went off during the first 8:15 on a 29-0 run and that merely got things started.

Shooting 56 percent from the floor and 73 percent from the free-throw line, the Lady Ocelots found scoring from many sources.

Janelle Harris led the team with 23 points, and also grabbed 12 rebounds (Schoolcraft held a commanding 63-29 edge in that department). Freshman Sheray Brown tallied a career-best 19 points, along with nine boards.

Also productive for head coach Karen Lafata were Shannon Collins (11 points), Antoinette Brown and Salem product Tayler Langham (10 points each), Brittney Ivey (nine points), Wayne's LaDwan Jones and Regina Crawley (eight each).

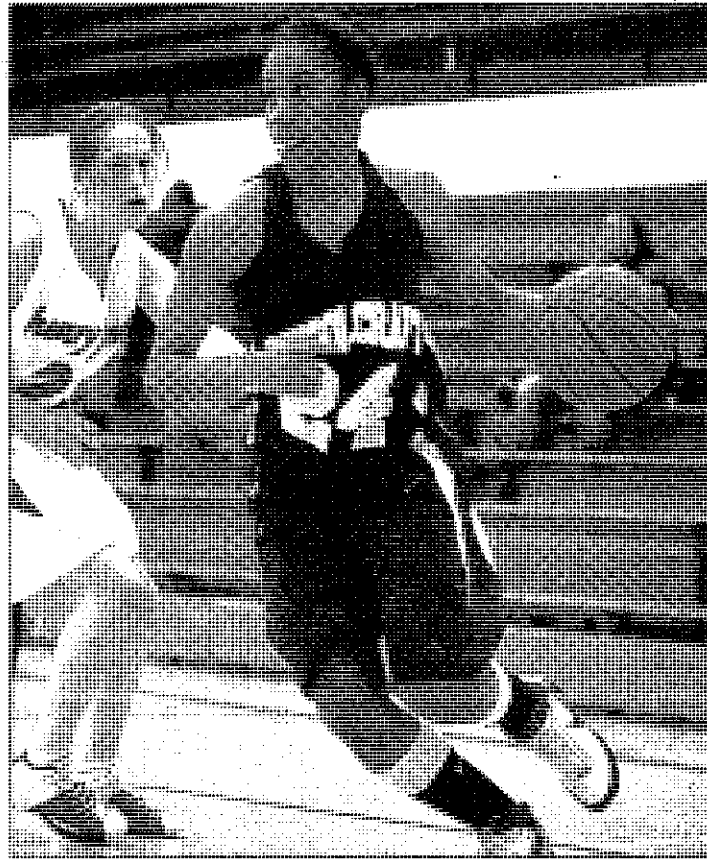
Tiera Derrick-Jones scored 14 points for Henry Ford (0-16, 0-10).

DAVENPORT 74, MADONNA 70: A 20-point night by senior forward Caryn Inman as Madonna University (9-12, 4-3) fell Saturday to Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference leader Davenport (20-3, 7-0).

Jeanette Woodberry paced Davenport with a game-high 33 points and 14 rebounds.

The Crusaders enjoyed a 34-28 halftime lead, but could not stem the tide of three-balls by the Panthers during the final 20 minutes. Davenport connected on 4-of-9 three-point attempts in the second half, while all four of MU's 'threes' missed the mark.

In addition to Inman, solid offensive nights for MU were turned in by freshman guard Tabatha Wydryk (16 points), junior forward Christie Carrico (15 points) and senior guard Rebecca Ruffi (11 points).



RENA LAVERTY

Dribbling against a Henry Ford defender during Saturday's game is Schoolcraft College freshman forward and Salem alum Tayler Langham (24).

Crusaders back in business with 92-70 win

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Guard Jon Battle bounced back into the good graces of head coach Chuck Henry with a 22-point night against the Panthers (8-14, 2-5).

Tallying 15 points each in their returns were senior point guard Charlie Henry (Agape Christian) and senior forward D.J. Bridges (Canton), while Wayne Memorial alum

Cedric Sims started in the third guard spot and chipped in with 13 points and six rebounds.

Bridges led the Crusaders with seven rebounds.

Another player benched for the Concordia game, forward Mike Rashad (Wayne), collected nine points.

The top scorer for Davenport was forward Nathan Cox, who registered 23 points along with 10 rebounds.

HENRY FORD 64, SCHOOLCRAFT 48: In an MCCA Eastern Conference game on Saturday, host Henry Ford Community College (6-11, 3-7) avenged a December setback while handing Schoolcraft College (2-17, 2-8) its 11th straight setback.

Narmer Dudley finished with a double-double for the Ocelots with 11 points and 12 rebounds. Alex Nason and Ryan Matthews each scored 12 points.

Schoolcraft won the first meeting on Dec. 5 at home, 63-60.

Chargers win physical battle against Northern

PREP HOCKEY

NORTHVILLE 6, FRANKLIN 3: On Jan. 23 at Edgar Arena, the Mustangs (12-2-1, 4-0) earned the WLA Western Division triumph over host Livonia Franklin (4-11, 0-5) thanks to T.J. Hohl's hat trick.

Livonia Churchill pitched a shutout Saturday with 4-0 boys hockey win Saturday afternoon over host Walled Lake Northern at the Lakeland Ice Arena.

Goaltender Greg Wirick turned away all 14 shots to post the shutout for the Chargers, who improved to 15-2 overall and 4-0 in the Lakes Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association.

"It was definitely the most physical game we've played in all season," Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni said. "I like where we are defensively - one goal (allowed) in the last three games."

Churchill, outshooting the Knights 21-3 over the first two periods, led 3-0 on Josh Proben's first-period goal from Cody Atkins at 7:54 of the first followed by Nathan Milam's second period goal at 3:11 from Nick Harakas; and Keith Yackley's goals from Garrett Miencier at 9:09 of the same period.

Milam notched his 34th of goal of the season at 7:37 of the final period from Tyler Cotter.

Northern netminder Connor Hellebuyck stopped 30 Churchill shots.

LADYWOOD 3, KINGSWOOD 0: Goalie Michelle Wyniemko stopped 27 shots to earn the shutout Saturday as Livonia Ladywood (9-6-1, 9-4) blanked Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood in a Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League matchup at the Arctic Pond in Plymouth.

Heather Sartorius scored a pair of goals for the Blazers, who led 2-0 after two periods. Abby Kienbaum had the other goal, while Elise Sawarski and Kaitlin Gaule drew assists.

Kingswood, which slipped to 4-9 in the league, outshot the Blazers, 27-20.

FRANKLIN 2, WOODHAVEN 2 (OT): Goalie Austin Mesler stopped 47-of-49 shots Thursday as Livonia Franklin (4-11-1) played to an overtime draw with host Flat Rock-Woodhaven at the Ice Box.

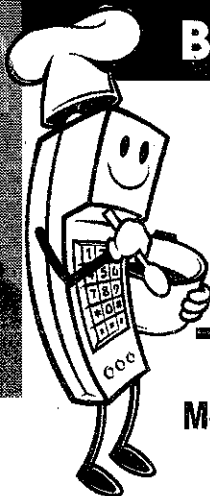
Woodhaven led 1-0 after one period on Nate Taylor's goal from Adam Marusza.

Franklin took a 2-1 advantage on second period goals by Jordan Chisholm (shorthanded unassisted) and Robbie Beattie (from Ryan Hudie and Chisholm on a power play).

Nick Magee's goal from Mike Ross and Corey Olsen in the third period sent the game into an 8-minute overtime as both teams went scoreless.

"It's the best game our team has played all year," said Franklin first-year coach Scott Wirgan, whose team was outshot 49-27. "We've turned the corner."

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New England New England N.Y. Giants New England N.Y. Giants New England New England New England N.Y. Giants N.Y. Giants Under 47	New England New England N.Y. Giants New England N.Y. Giants New England New England New England N.Y. Giants New England 47 Or More	New England New England N.Y. Giants New England N.Y. Giants New England New England New England New England N.Y. Giants 47 Or More	New England N.Y. Giants N.Y. Giants New England New England New England New England New England N.Y. Giants New England 47 Or More	New England New England N.Y. Giants New England New England New England New England New England N.Y. Giants New England 47 or more	N.Y. Giants N.Y. Giants N.Y. Giants New England New England N.Y. Giants New England N.Y. Giants New England New England Under 47	New England N.Y. Giants N.Y. Giants New England New England New England New England New England N.Y. Giants New England 47 Or More	New England N.Y. Giants N.Y. Giants New England New England New England New England New England N.Y. Giants New England Under 47	New England New England N.Y. Giants New England N.Y. Giants New England New England New England N.Y. Giants New England 47 Or More	New England New England N.Y. Giants New England N.Y. Giants New England New England New England N.Y. Giants New England 47 Or more	New England New England N.Y. Giants New England N.Y. Giants New England New England New England N.Y. Giants New England 47 Or More

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AN AMERICAN REVOLUTION

How to satisfy Super Bowl fans without missing a play

Feeding the



Serve the football faithfuls with a spread like this one, courtesy of Matt Prentice's Tavern on 13 in Beverly Hills. Chicken wings, mini Reuben sandwiches, a heaping plate of nachos and two kinds of chili all pair perfectly with cold beer.

PHOTOS BY LAWRENCE MCKEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

football crowd

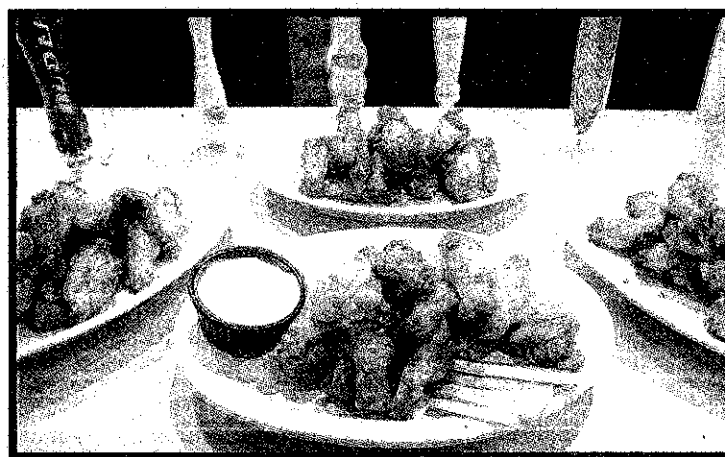
BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
STAFF WRITER

With the Super Bowl XLII just around the corner, your mind might be set on football stats or catching the commercials. But if you're inviting your fellow sports fans over to see the big game, it's time to consider the cardinal rules of serving up Super Bowl foods.

According to restaurateur Matt Prentice, of the Bingham Farms-based Matt Prentice Restaurant Group, there are just five ingredients to a successful menu on Sunday - it's got to be simple, spicy, plentiful, fun-to-eat and served up family-style.

Prentice starts the party with four varieties of chicken wings, ranging from the traditional, like fiery hot wings or sweet honey barbecue, to the positively mouth-watering like the Asian-flavored Korean barbecue made with brown sugar and soy sauce, and locally-inspired Michigan cherry barbecue, crafted from pureed

Please see **SUPER BOWL, D2**



You can't host a Super Bowl bash without plenty of wings. Matt Prentice offers up the traditional hot wing, alongside honey barbecue, Korean barbecue and Michigan cherry barbecue flavors. Turn inside today's hometownlife section for wing sauces and chili recipes.

FOOTBALL FOOD

Football fans will feast on these chicken wings and chili this Sunday, courtesy of Matt Prentice. See below for recipes from Hiller's Market and Garden Fresh Salsa.

MICHIGAN CHERRY BARBECUE SAUCE

Slather this liberally on chicken wings for a delicious sweet and tangy flavor.

- 1 cup plumped dried Michigan cherries
- 6 ounces cider vinegar
- ½ cup brown sugar
- ¼ cup molasses
- ½ ancho chilies
- 2 cups Open Pit barbecue sauce

Please see **RECIPES, D2**

Mardi Gras Menu

Local chef explores two approaches to Fat Tuesday food

BY WENSdy VON BUSKIRK
STAFF WRITER

Mardi Gras literally means "Fat Tuesday," so what better way to celebrate than with food?

Chef Mary Brady, owner of Diamond Jim Brady's Bistro in Novi, is preparing for the holiday with dishes inspired by two locales famous for Mardi Gras revelry.

In preparation for catering the upcoming Venetian Carnivale in Northville, Brady has researched cuisine that arose out of the famous masked balls of Venice, Italy.

For her restaurant, she's planning menu specials inspired by New Orleans.

Mardi Gras is the day before Ash Wednesday, the start of Lent. During Lent, the six weeks preceding Easter, many Christians give up something they love — but not before one last feast.

Whether you're eating the traditional foods of New Orleans, Venice, Italy or Metro Detroit (think Paczkis), one thing that ties Mardi Gras celebrations together is overindulgence.

NORTHVILLE'S VENETIAN CARNIVALE

When: 7 p.m. to midnight, Saturday, Feb. 2

Where: Historic 1929 English Tudor home at 800 Griswold

What: A masked ball, with strolling dinner by Chef Mary Brady of Diamond Jim Brady's; music, entertainment, and an auction of Italian-inspired art, vintage jewelry and martini glasses decorated by local artists.

Attire: Formal or Venetian costume

Tickets: \$100, benefit Northville Art House
Call: (248) 344-0497

"The food is a lot more decadent, more calorie-laden," Brady said.

Venice, Italy boasts one of the most famous and oldest Carnivale traditions, and the Northville Art House is throwing a Venetian Carnivale fund raiser on Saturday, Feb. 2.

Brady's menu reflects food revelers

in Venice likely would have enjoyed during festivals that date back to the early 1200s.

"Being on the water, Venice was a mecca for travelers. In the early shipping days every different culture came through Venice so it was quite a melting pot," Brady said.

She was inspired by chicetti (small portions) traders would eat when they rented rooms or beds in large warehouses during their stay in Venice.

"They would serve little bites of food instead of big meals. These little portions of food were so that they could eat with their hands and continue on with their business. They could trade their wares and wouldn't have to sit down for a meal," she said. "Chicetti facilitates this

Please see **MENU, D3**



"Venetian Eve," a transparent watercolor by Edee Joppich of West Bloomfield, captures the spirit of Northville's Venetian Carnivale on Feb. 2. It will be among artwork on display at the event.

Recipes courtesy of Mary Brady, certified executive chef at Diamond Jim Brady's Bistro in Novi.

MUSHROOM BRUSCETTA WITH GARLIC CROUTES AND PICKLED RED ONION CONFIT

1 pound mushrooms (Brady likes to use a mix of domestic, portabella and shiitake mushrooms.)

- ½ pound butter
- ½ onion, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1 small French roll
- 1 pound cream cheese
- 2 tablespoons freshly chopped parsley

Melt the butter in a heavy skillet. Sweat (saute over very low heat) mushrooms, onions and garlic. Add the roll torn into small pieces. Cool mixture. Blend with cream cheese and parsley. Season.

Yield: About 2 pounds.

Garlic Crousties

- 1 18-inch sourdough baguette
- 1 cup olive oil
- Seasoning salt, to taste

Cut the baguette into thin slices on the diagonal. Toss with olive oil and salt. Bake in a 350 degree oven until crisp, turning half way through.

Pickled Red Onion Confit
1 large red onion

Please see **MARDI GRAS, D3**

SUPER BOWL

FROM PAGE D1

Michigan cherries. (Prentice said he's not a fan of hot wings. They trade in complexity of flavor for heat, he said.)

From there his menu goes traditional, with cheesy jalapeno-topped nachos and two kinds of hearty chili. A can't-miss meaty variety packed with beans is thick enough to scoop up with a tortilla chip. And the slow-cooked, root-vegetable-based vegetarian chili packs just as much flavor. Prentice called it "friendly spicy." Skip the sour cream and cheese topping and it's fit for vegans.

Chili might be the perfect Super Bowl fare. "It's cold outside," said Prentice. "Chili warms the soul. It's good with beer."

Bartender Matt Ervin, who works at Tavern on 13 in Beverly Hills, can vouch for that. "You can't go wrong with chili," he said. Ervin's ideal Super Bowl foods range from wings to burgers, though he's the first to admit he won't be manning the grill once the game starts.

According to Tavern's Head Chef John Arnold, it's ground porterhouse, a mixture of black

beans and red kidney beans, and seven herbs that makes these chili recipes stand out from the pack.

"It's hearty, it's filling, it tastes good," said Arnold. Among his favorite party foods this time of year, Arnold listed wings, ribs and spinach and artichoke dip.

Another item sure to be a hit with guests, Prentice's mini Reuben sandwiches are made with all the traditional ingredients — corned beef, tangy sauerkraut, mild Swiss cheese and Russian dressing tucked inside crust-free crunchy rye toast triangles. They're easy to grab and completely delicious to eat. Prentice shared a few of these prized recipes, promising they're simple enough for the home cook. "I wanted it to be something people could make at home," he said. Multi-taskers could whip up this entire feast in about two hours. But most of it — from the wing sauces to the chili — could also be made ahead of time.

Party hosts who'd rather go for a quick and easy catered affair can call Matt Prentice Restaurant Group at (248) 646-0370, Ext. 402. For more information, www.mattprenticerg.com.

scasola@hometownlife.com | (248) 901-2567

RECIPES

FROM PAGE D1

1 cup water
Combine first 5 ingredients, bring to a simmer and reduce by half. Stir in barbecue sauce and water and return to simmer for 5 minutes. Place in a food processor and blend until smooth. Yields one quart.
Recipe courtesy of Matt Prentice Restaurant Group, Inc.

KOREAN BBQ SAUCE

Soy sauce gives this chicken wing sauce an Asian flair.

1 cup honey barbecue sauce
1 cup sugar
1 cup and 1 tablespoon soy
6 ounces cider vinegar
1 cup and 3 tablespoons ketchup
1/2 cup Worcestershire
1/2 cup corn oil
6 ounces sesame oil

Mix all ingredients except oil. Cook over medium heat for 20 minutes. Add oil and simmer for five minutes. Cover, label, refrigerate until needed. Yields one quart.
Recipe courtesy of Matt Prentice Restaurant Group, Inc.

HEARTY CHILI

1 pound ground beef
1 quart onions, medium dice
1 1/2 cups green peppers
1 1/2 cups red bell peppers
1/2 cup poblano pepper
1/2 cup jalapeno peppers

MEDICARE NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Notice is hereby given that on February 15, 2008 the agreement between Circle of Life Center, Detroit, Michigan and the Secretary of Health and Human Services as a hospital in the Medicare program will be terminated.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has determined that Circle of Life Center is not in compliance with the following Medicare Condition of Participation for a hospital:

42 CFR 482.11 Compliance with Federal Laws
42 CFR 482.13 Patients' Rights
42 CFR 482.41 Physical Environment

The Medicare program will not make payment for inpatient hospital services furnished to patients admitted on or after February 15, 2008. For patients admitted prior to February 15, 2008, payment may continue to be made for up to 30 days of covered services furnished on or after February 15, 2008.

Illia Villanueva
Branch Manager
Non-Long Term Care Certification & Enforcement Branch
Division of Survey and Certification

Publish: January 31, 2008

00083205 - 243.5

1 ancho chilies
2 1/2 cups kidney beans
2 1/2 cups diced tomato
pinch of crushed red peppers
1/2 teaspoon oregano
2 tablespoons minced garlic
2 teaspoons salt and pepper
2 tablespoons cumin
2 tablespoons chili powder
2 cups tomato juice
4 tablespoons sugar
1/4 cup tomato paste

Sauté the ground beef until slightly brown. Add onions and cook for 5 minutes. Add all peppers and sweat them out for 5 minutes. Add all remaining ingredients. Once chili comes to a boil, simmer, turn on low heat and cook for one hour. Yields one gallon.
Recipe courtesy of Matt Prentice Restaurant Group, Inc.

HEARTY VEGETARIAN CHILI

1 ounce olive oil
2 tablespoons garlic, minced fine
1 cup onions, small dice
1 cup celery, small dice
1 cup carrots, small dice
1 cup green peppers, small dice
1 1/2 cups zucchini, small dice
1 1/2 cups yellow squash, small dice
2 teaspoons jalapenos, chopped fine
3 pounds and 3 ounces tomatoes, diced
2 ounces tomato paste
3 cups V-8 juice
1/2 cup cumin
1/2 cup chili powder

1 tablespoon Lawry's seasoning salt
1 1/2 cups kidney beans, cooked
1 1/2 cups black beans, cooked

Heat oil in soup pot. Sauté onion, celery and carrots. Add tomatoes and paste. Add seasonings and simmer for 15 minutes add remaining vegetables and beans. Cook for 5 minutes and remove from heat. Yields one gallon.
Recipe courtesy of Matt Prentice Restaurant Group, Inc.

FOUR CHEESE MAC

10 cups whole milk
3 bay leaves
1/2 onion, finely chopped
8 ounces butter
10 tablespoons flour
2 teaspoons paprika
3 tablespoons Coleman's mustard
4 ounces mozzarella
4 ounces parmesan
10 ounces Gruyere
24 ounces sharp cheddar
4 eggs
2 tablespoons kosher salt
2 teaspoons white pepper
2 pounds Prince casserole elbow pasta, cooked al dente (firm to touch)

Topping:
8 ounces cheddar
4 cups panko (Japanese bread crumbs)
4 ounces melted butter

Bring milk to a simmer with salt, pepper, bay leaves and onion. Meanwhile, make a roux by slowly cooking butter until it just stops foaming, whisk in flour and continue to cook 2 more minutes over low heat. Remove from heat and whisk in mustard and paprika. When the milk comes to a simmer strain and quickly whisk into roux. Turn up heat and continue whisking until the sauce thickens. Simmer 5 minutes and remove from heat. Slowly add the cheeses, one handful at a time, stirring constantly. Wait for one batch of cheese to melt before adding the

next. Add the eggs one at a time, stirring well after each one.

Combine sauce with pasta. Pour into buttered and bread crumbed hotel pan. For the topping, toss panko and butter to evenly distribute. Top the dish with cheddar, then buttered panko. Bake, fan on, at 375 degrees.
Recipe courtesy of Hiller's Markets

POTATO SKINS

10-12 medium redskin potatoes
1 pound ground beef
16 ounces Garden of Eatin' Special Salsa

8 ounces cheddar cheese
Scrub potatoes and prick with a fork. Bake at 400 degrees for 45 minutes. While potatoes are baking, cook ground beef. Drain grease. Combine salsa and ground beef. Mix well. When potatoes are cool enough to handle cut each in half and scoop out potato from the inside leaving a 1/2 inch shell and redskin. Spoon in beef and salsa mixture. Sprinkle cheddar on top of each potato. Put back into the oven until the cheese melts. Serve warm.
Recipe courtesy of Garden of Eatin' Salsa.


FIESTA CORN AND BLACK BEAN TOSS

1 can (15 1/2 ounces) Del Monte Fiesta Corn, drained
1 can (15 ounces) black beans, rinsed and drained
1/2 cup green onions, sliced
1 can (14 1/2 ounces) Del Monte Petite Diced Tomatoes with Zesty Jalapenos, drained
2 tablespoons oil
1/2 teaspoon ground cumin (optional)

Combine all ingredients in medium bowl. Toss then garnish with cilantro and serve with squeeze of lime juice, if desired. Serve with warm tortilla chips. Prep time is 10 minutes. Serves 4-6.
Recipe courtesy of Just One More For Healthy Living by Del Monte

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MARDI GRAS

FROM PAGE D1

3 tablespoons granulated sugar
 1/4 cup rice wine vinegar
 Pinch red pepper flakes
 Pinch mustard seeds
 2 garlic cloves
 Thinly slice onion in food processor. Heat all ingredients other than onions to boiling in a saute pan. Add onions and stir constantly until they turn pink. Cool, remove garlic cloves.
 To serve, spread mushroom pate on croute, top with onion.

GUMBO

2 pounds chicken breasts
 2 pounds andouille sausage
 1 1/2 pounds chopped fresh spinach or greens
 2 medium onions, chopped
 2 red peppers, julienne
 4 stalks celery, bias cut
 8 tablespoons browned flour
 5 cups chicken stock
 2 bay leaves
 1 (16-17 ounce) can of crushed tomatoes with puree

Browned flour

2 cups all purpose flour
 Heat a non-stick sauté pan over medium heat, add flour and stir constantly until the flour is toasted and brown. Remove from pan immediately to prevent burning. Cool.
 Reserve extra in a plastic storage bag.

Seasoning mix

2 tablespoons paprika
 1 tablespoon dry mustard
 3 teaspoons sweet basil
 3 teaspoons garlic powder
 2 teaspoons oregano leaves
 2 teaspoons thyme leaves
 Pinch of cayenne
 2 teaspoons kosher salt
 2 teaspoons fresh ground pepper
 Combine all.

Toss chicken with 3 tablespoons of the seasoning mix. Refrigerate. Reheat heavy pot over high heat until a drip of water dances when sprinkled on. Sauté the onions, peppers, and celery until opaque. Add greens and cook until wilted.
 Add the remainder of the

seasoning mix, bay leaves and browned flour, mixing in well. Slowly add warm stocks and tomatoes, stirring until thickened. Simmer for 5 minutes. Add the chicken. Cook until done. Add sausage do not overcook the shrimp or they will toughen. Serve over rice. This low-calorie preparation serves 4-6.

SAFFRON RISOTTO

1 pound risotto
 1 medium onion, diced
 1 tablespoon olive oil
 3 cups warm chicken stock or fumet
 1 cup warm white wine
 Heat oil in a heavy pot. Add the onions and cook until opaque. Add risotto, stirring until it is coated with the oil and turns white, about two minutes. Add pinch of saffron, stir. Heat stock with wine and add slowly just covering the rice. Add additional stock as it is absorbed stirring often. Cook until tender. Season.

SPANISH MEATBALLS WITH ROMESCO SAUCE

1 pound ground pork
 1 cup bread crumbs, fresh preferably
 1 egg, beaten
 1/4 cup chopped parsley
 3 large cloves of garlic, chopped
 Zest of 1/2 lemon
 1/4 cup pine nuts
 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
 Salt and pepper, to taste
 Mix all. Fry a small amount and taste for seasoning, adjust if necessary. Form into 1-inch balls placing onto a cookie sheet. Bake at 350 degrees until well done (160 degrees). Serve with sauce.

Romesco Sauce

1 cup olive oil
 1 tablespoon bread crumbs
 1/4 cup roasted almonds
 4 medium chopped onions
 8 cloves garlic
 1 1/2-ounce can chopped tomatoes
 2 16-ounce cans roasted red peppers
 Cook the garlic and onions in 1/4 cup of the oil until soft. Cool and puree with almonds, crumbs, tomatoes, peppers and olive oil. serve hot or at room temperature.

MENU

FROM PAGE D1

type of an event, where there won't be places to sit down and eat."

One of the chiceti is Meatballs With Romesco — pork and beef with pinenuts and roasted pepper-almond sauce — as "carne val" actually translates to 'farewell to meat.'

"Carnivale meant the warmer weather was coming and it would be harder to preserve food," Brady said. "They'd eat up all their meat

and their dairy that they had been storing up all winter long."

Brady also will incorporate some New Orleans flair into her catering menu, including an antipasto plate.

"It will have a lot of the brine foods — olives, pickles. One of the dishes I'm bringing is Bruschetta Al Tapenade, which is an olive and anchovy paste," she said.

She also plans serve a gumbo special at Diamond Jim Brady's the weekend preceding Mardi Gras.

"New Orleans is very much the same as Venice as far

as it's a melting pot of the United States, with all types of cultures that have contributed to the food," she said. "Being on the water, fish is very big. There are oysters on every corner. Everyone's got a gumbo or a jumbalaya."

Brady also concocted a drink to go with her Mardi Gras fare. The Venetian Martini combines limoncello (an Italian lemon liquor) peach nectar, Chambord and a splash of Asti Spumante.

At Northville's Venetian Carnivale, the drink will be served in martini glasses decorated by local artists and

auctioned off for charity.

At Diamond Jim Brady's Bistro, guests can order similar drinks at the bar, all in the spirit of gluttony that is Mardi Gras' hallmark.

"You have a couple drinks, and you don't care what you eat," she said.

Diamond Jim Brady's Bistro (which went completely non-smoking on Jan. 1) is located at 26503 Town Center Drive in the Novi Town Center. Call (248) 380-8460 or visit www.djbistro.com. For more information on Northville's Venetian Carnivale, visit www.ci.northville.mi.us and click on Arts Commission.




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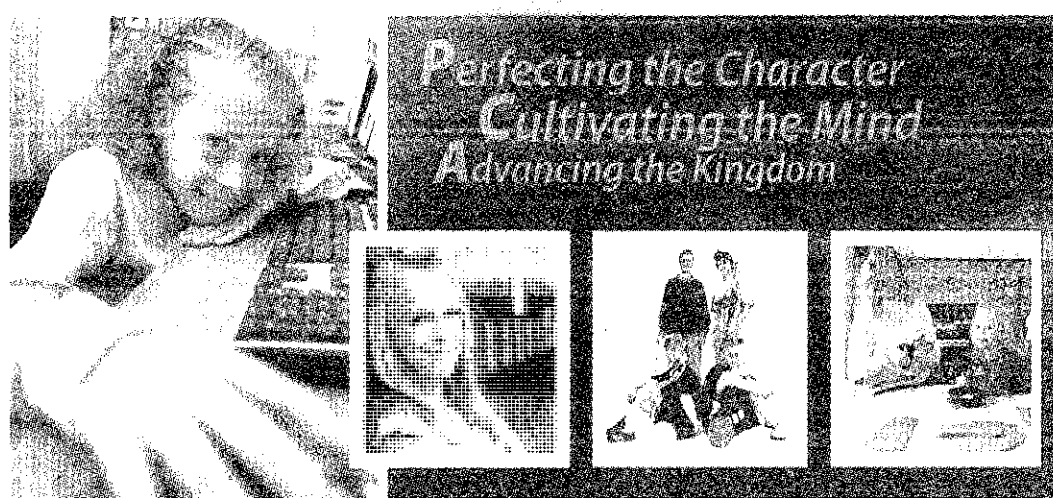
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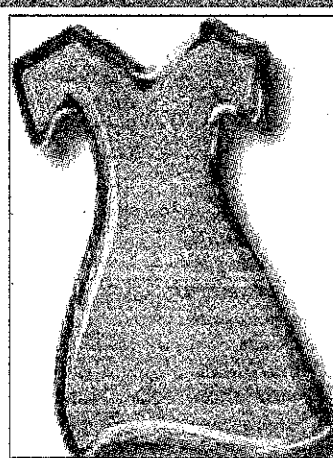
DON'T Wear It!
Body glitter, unless you are 13 or under

Kick It!
Zalla's Wide Shoes in Livonia for hard-to-find sizes

Tote It!
Canvas bags the next time you go to the market

Read It!
The Friday Night Knitting Club by Kate Jacobs

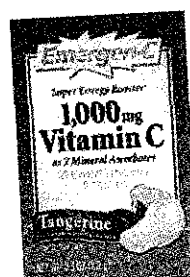
TV It!
How to Look Good Naked with Carson Kressley



See It!
Atonement — find out what the Oscar buzz is all about

DVD It!
Lars and the Real Girl

Shop It!
Lexie Drew in Birmingham



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Paczki on Mardi Gras (split one)

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Detroit Roller Derby Girls on Feb. 9 at Masonic Temple

Royal Oak rocker mom pens memoir

I knew the first time I saw the Mydols, the band was a story.

I never realized their story would someday be a book, (or that I would be in it!)

Mydols guitarist Judy Davids, 47, recently wrapped up her memoir *Rock Star Mommy: My Life as a Rocker Mom* (Citadel Press, \$12.95, 208 pages).

Her book will hit stores in April, but I got my review copy in the mail a few weeks ago and devoured it cover to cover. I was delighted to find



Wensdy Von Buskirk

Judy included me as the 'young reporter' who did one of the first articles on her band.

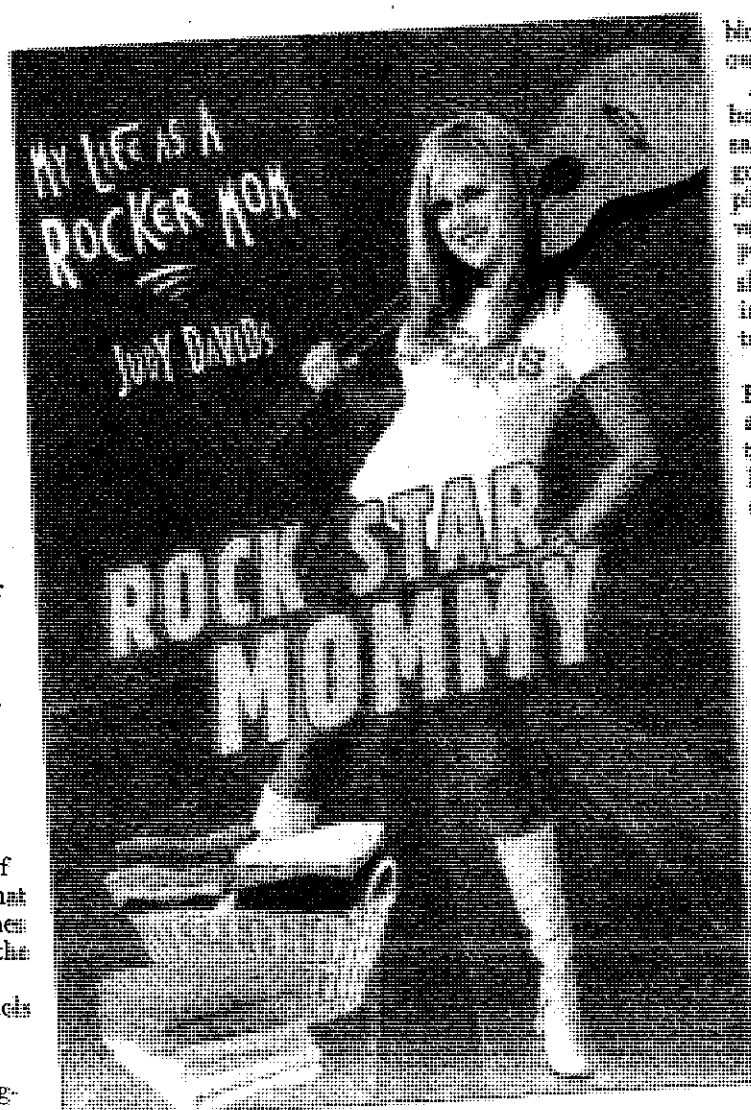
If you've had anything to do with the Detroit music scene in the past few years (or the Longfellow Elementary PTA for that matter), don't be surprised if you're mentioned too. The fact that Judy includes so many local names and faces is part of what makes this book such a fun read.

The first time I heard the Mydols was at Lily's Seafood Diner in downtown Royal Oak. I had just finished practicing with my fledgling band, the Basements, and we decided to check out the self-proclaimed soccer moms turned rock stars.

The "Mom's Night Out" at Lily's was among the Mydols' first gigs, but the place was packed, mostly with well-dressed, middle-aged women, sipping Mother's Little Helper martinis and dancing to songs like "The Mydol Twist" and "Soccer Mom Stomp."

There's no doubt the Mydols had struck a chord.

Judy, Kara, Paige and Pat were unpolished, unpracticed, and slightly unsure of themselves, but they looked great, and the show was a blast. I went back to work the next day at The Daily Tribune, and told our features editor she simply had to cover these girls.



Royal Oak author Judy Davids' book "Rock Star Mommy," which recounts her experience in the Mydols, comes out in April.

The subsequent article, "Rock On, Soccer Moms," paled in comparison with the flurry of press that would follow. When a reporter at the Wall Street Journal picked up the story, the Mydols found themselves at the center of a national mom-band phenomenon.

Within the next few years, they would play virtually every venue in Detroit, and go on to such big gigs as the Mamapalooza Festival in New York City and North by Northwest in Toronto.

Not bad for four women who formed the band over beers at a neighborhood

black party, before any of them earned musical instruments.

As Judy recounts in her book, the Mydols followed the same path every new band goes through in Detroit. They played successively larger venues, from End of the Park to the Magic Stick, and schmoozed music industry insiders from Gusoline Alley to 54 Sound.

Yet as bands like the Basements struggled to stand out in the competitive local music scene, the Mydols took off in a league of their own.

It helped that they were all adorable, self-deprecating, and passed out lots of free swag at their shows.

With a wonderful family and full life outside of music, Judy had nothing to prove except that you can get your first guitar and pull off pink go-go boots after 40. The rest — doing laundry for Blood Hag, becoming BFFs with Kathy Valentine of the Go-Gos, appearing on *The Today Show* and recording several CDs — was gravy.

In the end, Judy writes that the big gimmick of being a mom band eventually became their dilemma. As the Mydols grew more successful, she found it harder and harder to balance a full-time job, family and rock stardom. When the band's bassist moved to Seattle, it seemed like the right time to take a break.

In Judy's terms, that meant writing a memoir.

Now she's back on tour, promoting *Rock Star Mommy*.

The Mydols still play gigs, but Judy now seems more focused on chasing her new dream of being a nationally-known writer. Once you've read the story of the Mydols, you just know she'll succeed.

That's the true inspiration behind "Rock Star Mommy."

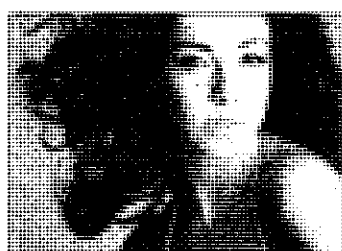
Judy proves it's never too late to rock, even if you don't really know how.

Locally-based Purely Pro crafts makeup that lasts

Long lasting makeup is the sort of thing models rely on and most women covet.

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"Purely Pro Cosmetics evolved thru Productions Plus Talent Management Agency — in Bingham Farms in 2005 — originally to provide our spokesmodels and talent with a superior quality makeup line that would last under the long days and intense demands of the bright lights and show room floors," said Lisa Pisano, sales manager for the line. "We have continued over the past several years to expand our formulas through comprehensive product development and feedback from our models and talent who have been wearing Purely Pro Cosmetics. They have been some of our toughest critics and ultimately a driving force to uphold our excellent quality ingredients, rich pig-



Bingham Farms' own Purely Pro crafted a line of makeup that shines under stage lights.

ments and continuous coverage that we pride ourselves on."

Chrystal Ashmore, Purely Pro's in-house makeup artist, recently worked at the North American International Auto Show, where she designed long-lasting looks for automotive models. With more than 30 products, Purely Pro offers everything from crushed mineral eye shadow pots to glossware, a highly-moisturizing gloss made with vitamin E and a hint of vanilla.

According to Pisano, Purely Pro went retail in December, selling products through upscale spas, makeup boutiques and salons. Her typical clientele

includes "those individuals who know quality makeup and are looking for both a classic and mineral line of makeup with sensational color options, long lasting coverage and amazing vibrancy," she said. "Whether a day at the office or a night on the

town, Purely Pro Cosmetics provides the luminous look and feel that all women desire."

To find Purely Pro Cosmetics and facial products, call Productions Plus at (800) 437-9815.

— By Stephanie A. Casola

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