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SUNDAY

February 24, 2008

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WESTLAND

Wayne-Westland schools lose 160 students

BY SUE MASON STAFF WRITER

The February student count didn't bring good news to the Wayne-Westland Community Schools, which lost an additional 160 students since the start of school in September.

"We know that 70 students have moved out of the state," said Superintendent Greg Baracy. "We have to determine how many moved in (with) relatives. We had students move to the Upper Peninsula and the upper Leurer Peninsula "

upper Lower Peninsula." The district, which has more than 13,400 students, showed an enrollment loss of 200 from the 2006-07 school year in September. That count as well as this month's count will be blended — 75 percent of the September figures and 25 percent of the February count — for state school aid purposes.

According to Baracy, the loss of students "seems to be a trend" across the county and is tied to the state's economic problems. He added that for the first time, the state is acknowledging the loss.

At the January revenue conference, state officials said more that 25,000 students left Michigan and they expect the trend to continue through this school year and into next year, Baracy said.

According to the year-end balance estimates released in January, the state's ability to provide for per-pupil funding increases "has been significantly enhanced in recent fiscal years by a steep decline in the number of pupils funded." The report noted that the number of pupils funded statewide declined 86,267 students from fiscal 2002-03 to fiscal 2008-09.

"It's all about jobs and the economy, and I don't see those improving," Baracy said.

He added that the "stateof-the-art" William D. Ford Career Technical Center has the ability to provide retraining for unemployed adults. However, a cut in state funding has shrunk the adult education program from 2,000 students to just 200.

"We could give these workers the skills to find jobs," he said. "The state used to pay for that retraining."

He added that students are continuing to graduate, leave their families and leave to find jobs out of state.

"How does that help our economy? It doesn't," he said. "We'll continue to lose students as families leave Michigan."



Man charged with trying to shoot girlfriend

BY DARRELL CLEM STAFF WRITER

A Westland man was arraigned Friday afternoon on charges of trying to shoot and kill his girlfriend as she drove away from a domestic dispute at their home on Genessee Court, on the city's south side.

The shot struck the driver's

and an interpreter was brought to court for the arraignment. Magistrate Donald Vandersloot entered a not-guilty plea for the defendant and ordered him back in court March 6 for a preliminary hearing that will determine whether he should stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court.

The incident began unfolding in the Norwayne neighborhood

Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy speaks to seniors about elder abuse at Westland's senior Friendship Center.

Prosecutor warns: Elderly abuse on the rise

BY DARRELL CLEM STAFF WRITER

Abuse of elderly people, even by their own children, has become the fastest-growing crime in Wayne County and the nation, and the problem will only worsen as baby boomers age, officials said Wednesday.

"It can be financial, physical or emotional, and the consequences can be deadly," Westland Mayor William Wild told nearly 150 seniors who attended a seminar at Westland's senior Friendship Center.

Elder abuse by nursing home and assisted-living facility workers, financial predators, siblings, adult children and even spouses has spiraled into one of the most troubling crimes facing law-enforcement agencies, Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy said.

"Elder abuse is the fastest growing crime we have in



Seniors listen as Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy offers tips for avoiding financial scams.

in 2004 and includes just two

prosecuting attorneys who

investigate some 250 cases

every year. Despite the work-

load, they boast a 99 percent

conviction rate on crimes that

Nearly two-thirds of elder

abuse crimes involve finances

get reported.

America," Worthy said during the seminar, which she led along with Wild, Westland Police Chief James Ridener and county Adult Protective Services investigator Monique King.

Worthy's office has an Elder Abuse Unit that was started stolen by health-industry workers, relatives and other caregivers, Worthy said. Some seniors have had to find jobs after losing their life savings, she said.

One mortgage industry worker, now in prison, bilked tens of thousands of dollars from 83 seniors in southeast Michigan by swindling elderly homeowners of money they were supposed to receive from reverse mortgages — loans made possible by converting home equity into cash.

BE AWARE

Other scams involve caregivers who steal personal checks or credit cards from seniors and use the information to pay for items ranging from groceries to vehicles, Worthy said. One defendant stole from an elderly couple battling dementia and Alzheimer's disease, she said.

Please see ELDERLY, A3

side of the victums car around 5:45 a.m. Thursday, police Sgt. Michael Harhold said, but the woman escaped injury.

Kevin Antonio Reid, 29, was jailed in lieu of a \$100,000 cash/surety bond after he was arraigned in Westland 18th District Court on charges of assault with intent to murder, having a short-barrel shotgun, felonious assault, felony firearms and domestic violence.

Both Reid and his 28-year-old girlfriend are hearing impaired,

their relationship, Harhold said. Reid is accused of assaulting the woman before she fled the house.

The woman's car was parked in front of Reid's vehicle in the driveway, and she caused damage to both vehicles and to a fence as she tried to get away, Harhold said.

The woman briefly got out of her car, then got inside and started to drive away as Reid was

Please see CHARGED, A3

Webster fund-raiser planned

A rocking chair and a rug used for second-grade story time, a quiz bowl game, and other touches made Webster Elementary classrooms feel like home to students and teachers are the kinds things that insurance probably won't cover after Monday's fire.

The PTA is planning a spaghetti dinner fund-raiser for 6 p.m. Friday, March 7, at Webster's new headquarters, the Taylor Elementary building.

ing. "Obviously the school has insurance," said Shelly Morell, mother of a second-grader and organizer for the fund-raiser. "Those things aren't going to be replaced unless we get some money to replace them."

A September PTA walk-athon raised \$14,000, which provided funding for items the teachers requested, like digital cameras, mobility aids and other learning tools.

Some of those items arrived a week before the fire. "Those teachers put even more of their own personal money into their classrooms," said Morell, of

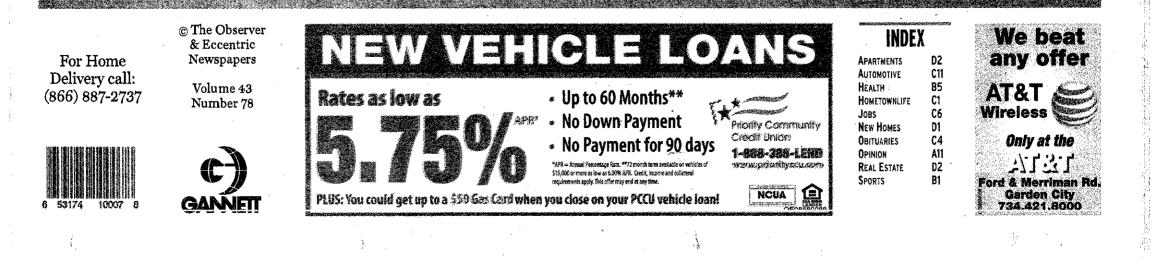
See related story on Page 2A

Westland. Restaurants including Buca di Beppo, Eastside Mario's, Laurel Manor, Corsi's Banquet Center, Luigi's and Valentino's offered to help.

Two Westland Ćity Council members pledged funding.

Tickets for the fund-raiser are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Organizers plan to serve salad, entrees (including some appropriate items for a Friday in Lent), beverages and desserts. The event is open to families from all the schools.

Donations are also being collected for a silent auction. Anyone who can help, should e-mail Morell at smorell@ wowway.com.



LOCAL SPORTS

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, February 24, 2008

Westland Bowl among hosts for Goodwill's Bowlathon for jobs

Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit is registering participants for its first annual Goodwill's Motor City Bowlathon, a month-long event to encourage Metro Detroiters to "Bowl for Jobs" at 11 area bowling centers. The event, which runs March 1-31, aims to raise thousands of dollars to put people to work in Southeast Michigan.

Westland Bowl in Westland is among the 11 area bowling centers participating. Registration information and other details are available at www.MotorCityBowlAThon. com.

"The Bowlathon is an opportunity for families, co-workers, neighbors and friends to get together, have a fantastic time and contribute to a cause that impacts everyone in Michigan," said Ed Deeb, president and CEO of the Michigan Food & Beverage Association and the Michigan Business & Professional Association, and co-chair of the event. "Every pin that falls and every dollar raised will help put people to work in this region."

The total cost to participate in Goodwill's Motor City Bowlathon is \$150 per team of three, four or five. Each participating team member will receive two games of bowling, shoe rental, two pieces of pizza or two hot dogs, and a soft drink. Proceeds from all registration fees benefit Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit.

"Everyone in Southeast Michigan recognizes the importance of jobs to the future of our communities," said Jerry Harris, proprietor and general manager of bowling centers in Novi and Farmington Hills and co-chair of the event. "We're looking forward to providing the places where bowlers from across the region can come together to support this initiative."

Event registrants may bowl at any of the following Blue

Ribbon Quality Bowling Centers locations. Along with the two in Redford, participating centers include Woodland Lanes in Livonia, Drakeshire Lanes in Farmington Hills, Beech Lanes and Mayflower Lanes in Redford, Cherry Hill Lanes and Ford Lanes in Dearborn Heights, Novi Bowl in Novi, Thunderbird Lanes in Troy, Taylor Lanes in Taylor and Luxury Lanes in Ferndale.

Eligible participants will have the opportunity to win a number of prizes, including a lease on a new vehicle for the individual bowler with the highest score among all participants and two trips to tropical destinations. Any bowler recording a perfect 300 score during the Bowlathon will have the chance to win an all-terrain vehicle from Motor City Harley-Davidson.

The first bowler rolling a "turkey" (three strikes in a row) on each team will win a \$15 Meijer Gift Card courtesy of Meijer. Every participant will also be entered into a raffle for a number of other prizes.

Those who are wishing to contribute, but are unable to bowl may submit a suggested donation of \$30 via the event Web site. By doing so, donors will be eligible for the raffle.

Prizes will also be awarded to the team producing the best one- to two-minute video promoting the fund-raiser. All entries will be judged by representatives from Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit and Blue Ribbon Quality Bowling Centers, with entries shown on Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit's YouTube Web site, www.youtube.com/ goodwilldetroitpr. Instructions for entering the contest are at www.MotorCityBowlAThon. com. The winning team will receive up to five digital video camcorders.

"At its core, the mission of Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit is to put people

to work, not just in the city of Detroit, but throughout Southeast Michigan," said Lorna G. Utley, president and CEO of Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit. "This area is recognized as the bowling capital of the world and the Bowlathon is an opportunity for residents to pull together to create jobs, retool the workforce and make an impact, all while having fun.'

The organization's clients include individuals facing a wide range of barriers to employment. Many were recently laid off and left lacking the skills to find new work in the changing economy. Others require assistance developing the "soft" life skills necessary to communicate with customers and handle stressful situations. Still others suffer from physical or mental disabilities or have transportation or housing issues.

Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit provides people with opportunities to become independent, self-supporting citizens through training, work experience and employment. In 2007, the organization successfully put nearly 1,500 residents to work in the counties of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb and provided nearly 14,000 individuals with employment

and training services. Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit also provides people who have disabilities and other barriers to employment with opportunities to become independent, selfsupporting citizens through training, work experience and employment in the community. Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit is a Michigan Works! affiliate, funded in part by the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth and Detroit Workforce Development Department. For information, visit www.goodwilldetroit.org.

TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Webster Elementary School students gather Friday at the Livonia Recreation Center for a pizza party and to create a mural for their temporary building, Taylor School.

'We are still Webster'

Staff, community push to get Taylor ready for new students

BY REBECCA JONES STAFF WRITER

If you stand in one place too long at Taylor Elementary, you'll get spun around, says music teacher Melodie Provencher, one of many people helping prepare the building for Monday's arrival of students.

The school they're calling Webster @ Taylor is a whirlwind of activity.

For a few days now, trucks have been arriving, with computers, equipment salvaged from Monday's fire at Webster Elementary and donations from parents.

A box of new squishy balls was delivered, another good sign, but somebody had to figure out where they go. In the front office a woman called out, "Phone, I need a phone." All the phones were busy.

To principal Shellie Moore's amazement, it's all coming together.

(On Thursday), we started getting some of our stuff back." Moore said Friday. "Today, the first boxes of contents from teachers rooms started arriving."

The media specialist drew a layout on a dry erase board for carpenters to set up the library. Books, which were not damger to see if music instruments survived despite smoke and water damage, Provencher said.

Moore said the school community is eternally grateful for the outpouring of support.

Just hours after the suspected arson fire broke out, everyone put their focus on getting Taylor ready. As soon as the heat was turned on, "people were here to help," Moore said. "I have never seen an effort like this before."

The school will have an open house for Webster families from 2-4 p.m. today, Sunday, Feb. 24, so students can see where their classrooms are and parents can learn about transportation issues.

"I know I'm going to be with the same people, but the whole school is going to be different," fourth-grader Alexann Zahara said. "My class is Room 15, Door 7. I don't get it."

Taylor is set up differently. "It's going to take some adjusting for us, but it's nothing we can't manage," Moore said. Things like privacy screens to accommodate special needs of students in the moderately cognitively impaired program will be in place. The school has also been working with local special education directors in 13 other school districts that bus students ented students.

Sixth-grader Alexia Anagnostopoulos cried when she heard about the fire and she's sad she won't be able to graduate from Webster after attending since second grade. "I guess we're just going to have to deal with it," she said.

In school, students will work on a memory board, sharing photos and memories of Webster. ^{*}It's all part of dealing with the loss," Moore said.

"We are still Webster," said program specialist Ellen Stefaniak.

Webster students gathered Friday afternoon at the Livonia Community Recreation Center to make decorations for their new school.

Fifth-grader Grace Owen thinks going to Taylor will be exciting. "We'll have desks finally," she said, instead of big plastic tubs to hold their stuff and tables to work at. It will be nice to have air conditioning, too.

Students set up a blog to share their feelings. A third-grader wrote: "I feel like a million pieces of my heart is breaking. ... I am very sad about all of my stuff being destroyed. I also am sad about all the hard work I have done in art class. ... I hope they find the person who did this to

Just a test

The city's siren warning system will sound at noon Saturday, March 1. The city's high-power voice and siren sys-

AROUND WESTLAND

are also available at the Village of Westland. There is no age requirement for the program. Appointments at both locations may be scheduled by calling the Friendship Center at (734)

host an open house 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, March 11. The preschool offers programs for children ages 3 and 4. Potty training is not required. The school has a certified teacher. For more

tem will be heard at 10 locations throughout Westland. The system, which would alert residents in case of emergencies such as a tornado or other inclement weather conditions or homeland security situation, is checked routinely on the first Saturday of every month.

Tax help

Residents with low to moderate income may obtain free tax preparation through AARP at Westland's Friendship Center located every Monday and Friday through April. The assistance, which is by appointment only, is available 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Wednesday appointments

722-7632.

St. Patrick's party

The Village of Westland will have a St. Patrick's Day party for seniors at 1 p.m. Monday, March 17. Entertainment will be provided by Dell & Friends with their Irish music. Refreshments will be provided. Wear green and receive a gift from the village's "pot of gold." The village is located at 32001 Cherry Hill. For more information call (734) 762-8928.

Open house

Academic Pathways Cooperative Preschool, 30330 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, will

information call (734) 459-6689 or visit www.academicpathwayspreschool.com.

Dems meet

The Westland Democratic Club's next meeting will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 26, at the Dorsey Center, 32715 Dorsey, south of Palmer and east of Venoy. The public is invited. Lucille Naughton from

MichUHCAN will speak about the health care ballot initiative. She will be assisted by Margie Mitchell, MichUHCAN president.

Club meetings are typically held on the last Tuesday of the month.

aged, will arrive the first week in to Webster. Webster also serves March. It will take a little bit lon- the district's academically tal-

my school and throw him/her in jail."

Public comment policy changes upset council watchers

BY DARRELL CLEM STAFF WRITER

A group of Westland residents has accused city leaders of par-

tially muzzling them by changing the rules for public comment at city council meetings.

City officials responded that they are simply trying to streamline business meetings while still protecting free speech.

In a 6-1 vote Tuesday, the council eliminated one of the two general citizen comment sections from business meetings. Residents still may raise issues and concerns near the end of the meeting, but no longer near the beginning. Residents may continue to

address specific agenda items -but not general topics - during a section early in the meeting. A five-minute speaking limit hasn't changed.

Councilman Michael Kehrer, who chaired a policy-revision committee, said the council wants to streamline the business portion of the meeting, but some council watchers view the changes as infringing on their speaking time.

"I think it's a very unfriendly thing you're doing," resident Donna Dewitt told the council.

Resident Larry Fowler agreed and said, "We're part of the business of the city, too."

Council watcher Elenor Swistak told city leaders that "you just want to shut us up."

Resident Lida Hartman said Westland has an active citizenry, "and we don't want to stifle their ability to speak."

Kehrer responded that the council's decision wasn't an

NAN S

attempt to circumvent citizens who want to speak. Rather, he said the goal was to "simplify the meetings" and allow the council to conduct city business before hearing general comments.

Resident James Davis said the new rules aren't citizen-friendly.

"I'm starting to think that somebody from the Bush administration came here and put this stuff together," he said.

Council members said some residents have suggested moving the general comment portion of business meetings to the end. Some residents have said it reflects poorly on the city when business representatives have to sit through "negative" citizen comments early in the meeting.

Councilwoman Cheryl Graunstadt cast the lone dissenting vote against the changes, saying she didn't have a problem with the way meetings had been run. She said citizens can have a positive impact by offering snggestions to officials.

Councilman Dewey Reeves said citizens can still bring issues to council.

"No one ever intended to silence, stymie or stop the citizens from speaking," he said.

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Woman awaits trial on fraud charges

BY DARRELL CLEM STAFF WRITER

A Westland woman, charged with forging a neighbor's checks while on probation for embezzling in her former job with the city's housing department, has been released from jail as she awaits trial along with her teenage son.

Tonya Yvonne Cramier, 40, was released after a visiting judge in Westland 18th District Court reduced her bond Thursday from

\$500,000 cash or surety to just \$25,000/10 percent, allowing her to walk free after \$2,500 was posted for her.

Visiting Judge Anthony Nicita reduced the earlier bond set by 18th District Judge Sandra Cicirelli, who had said a cocaine charge against Cramier might explain four counts of forgery, legally referred to as uttering and publishing.

Cramier already was on probation from April 2007 for embezzling money from

a client she was supposed to help while working for a family-assistance program at the city's Dorsey Center. Now she is accused of forging checks totaling \$3,800 that belonged tion for a marijuana charge. to a neighbor woman who was hospitalized for a car accident.

Cramier is accused of making the checks out to herself and, in one instance, to a nonprofit organization she had formed, called Ways To Family Self-Sufficiency.

Her 18-year-old son, Jason David Cramier, is charged

with one count of uttering and publishing on allegations he cashed a \$150 check belonging to the 55-year-old neighbor. He was on proba-Police Sgt. David Heater has said that Cramier's other son, who is not charged, had been given the keys to watch the alleged victim's house and feed her dog while she was in a hospital. She told police she

after she came home. Heater has said in court

noticed the missing checks

found in Tonya Cramier's house when police executed a search warrant.

Cramiers were ordered to stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court after they waived a preliminary hearing – a move that averted pretrial testimony. The forgery charges are punishable by up to 14 years in prison upon conviction. The cocaine charge against Tonya Cramier can carry a four-year term.

that cocaine and a straw were dclem@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2110 dclem@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2110

In court Thursday, the

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accused of getting a shotgun, the detective said.

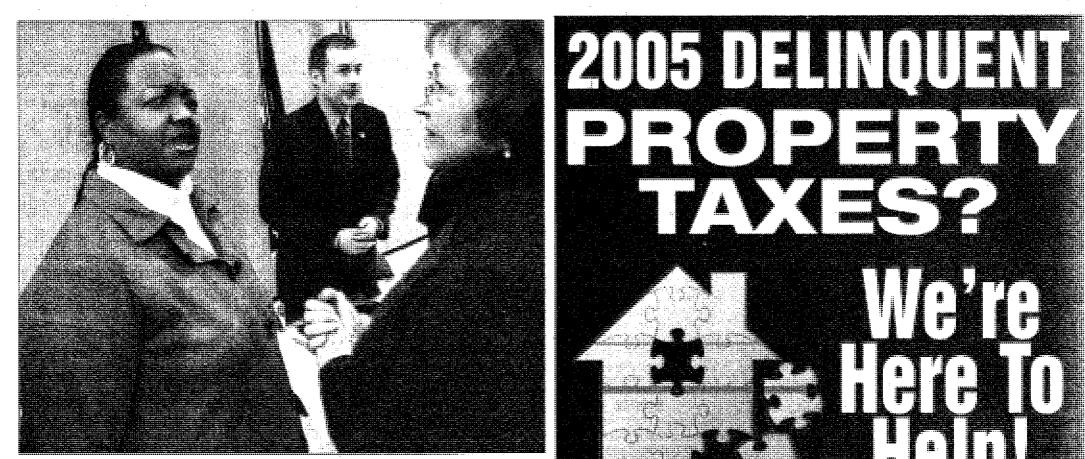
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(W)

"She drove her car around the corner to Grand Traverse and heard a shot that struck the driver's side of her vehicle,' Harhold said. "She crashed into a neighbor's fence, but she was not injured."

Reid is accused of fleeing the scene, but he was arrested a short time later at a relative's house in Westland, the sergeant said.

If convicted as charged, Reid could face penalties ranging up to life in prison.



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy speaks with Donna Yurich of Wayne after the elder abuse seminar. Yurich, a member of Westland's senior Friendship Center, said, "It was good to hear about the scams." In the background is Westland Mayor William Wild, who brought the program together.



"I don't want you to be paranoid," Worthy told the crowd. "I just want you to be aware."

Elderly people can be victims of home-improvement scams, mortgage fraud, bogus sweepstakes offers and inheritance theft, Worthy said. Even going shopping has its risks to those who aren't careful, she said, because a predator can use a cell phone camera to take pictures of credit cards that are pulled from purses and wallets. Worthy offered warning signs of possible elder abuse: Caregivers often have expensive gifts supposedly given to them, or their names are added to bank accounts. Financial records are missing. Victims may appear fearful, depressed or confused, and they may make contradictory

statements. Offenders may exhibit aggressive behavior or try to prevent seniors from talking to others.

In all, two-thirds of elder abuse victims are women. Worthy said, and 80 percent of victims have annual incomes of less than \$10,000 a year. The average age of those abused is 75.

Wayne County prosecutors have asked officials with the county purse strings to try to allocate more money to hire elder abuse attorneys, but that has been difficult amid tough economic times, Worthy said.

King also said complaints may be made to Adult Protective Services by calling (877) 963-6006 in Wayne County or (800) 996-6228 elsewhere. King said investigations can range from one day to several months.

tation.

Seniors who attended Wednesday's seminar found it helpful.

"It makes us aware that it



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Legal As 1 & Dielegades

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She urged anyone who suspects elder abuse to call their local police departments, which work with the prosecutor's office to get convictions. In Westland, the phone number is (734) 722-9600.

Ridener said local police aggressively investigate complaints they receive, whether those involve physical or emotional abuse, neglect or exploiis not only a local concern du also a national concern," said Reasther Everett, area representative for the Southeast Westland Homeowners Association.

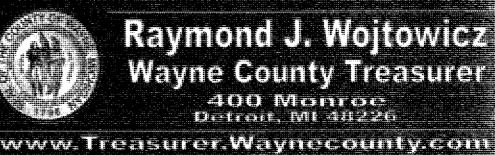
Everett voiced hope that victims will come forward with suspected abuse, even though they may feel embarrassed that they allowed someone to take advantage of them

"It's OK to admit that something is wrong," she said.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Crop for a Cure

An all day scrapbooking event, Crop for a Cure, will be held 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, March 29, in the gymnasium at the Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood, west of Merriman, Garden City. The cost is \$35 per person and includes lunch, dinner, beverages and snacks. Pay by March 20 and receive five free prize tickets for a raffle of scrapbooking and non-scrapbooking related merchandise. A Close to My Heart consultant will be on site with some cash-and-carry stock and limited supplies for purchase. Registration fee is non-refundable. First come. first serve. For more information, call Dawn Downer at (734) 502-4277 or contact her by e-mail at downt@ comcast.net. All proceeds will benefit the 2008 Michigan 3-Day Breast Cancer Walk.

Play Sessions

The Arc of Northwest Wayne County's Lekotek Program offers unique play sessions, toy loans and a play library of nearly 2000 toys for children with developmental disabilities. Children ages 0-12 years can enjoy play activities led by a certified Lekotek play leader who will introduce toys and play ideas to the child while encouraging him or her to take charge of their play and interact with others. Play sessions are always centered on the child with a developmental disability and focus on the child's play abilities while keeping the child's enjoyment as the primary goal. Parents, siblings, caregivers and friends are invited and encouraged to join in the fun! For more information, please contact Lana Richardson, Lekotek Play Leader/Special Projects Assistant, at (313) 532-8524 or go online to www.thearcnw.org.

Baseball registrations

The Wayne Ford Civic League will hold baseball registrations for children ages 4-10 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays at the leagues hall at 1645 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Registration fees are \$65 for T-Ball and Coach Pitch leagues and \$80 for Mustang League. Registrations will continue each Saturday until all the teams are full. For additional information, call the hall at (734) 728-5010 or by e-mail at vbarra@comcast.net.

Love of Lace XV The Great Lakes Lace Group Inc. will

present Love of Lace XV 11 a.m. to 4 o.m. Saturday, May 3, at the Livonia

March 8. Admission will be \$1 or two dry good items. Children age 12 and under will be admitted free. For more information, call the Jaycee hotline at (734) 226-0400, send a stamped, self-addressed envelop to Suesanna Towne, 622 N. Brandon, Westland, MI 48185 or visit the Jaycees Web page at www.westlandjaycees.org.

Wrestling Club

Westland Bottle Rockets is a wrestling club for ages 5-14. The club meets on Monday and Wednesdays from 5:30-7:00 p.m. in Gym 4 of John Glenn High School, 36105 Marquette, west of Wayne Road, Westland, Michigan. The club runs from November through March and costs \$20. For questions or more information, contact Judy at judylaw1122@yahoo.com or calling (734) 634-4595.

Higher Rock Cafe

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

Fish Dial-A-Ride

A new volunteer organization, F.I.S.H. Dial-A-Ride, provides assistance for Westland residents in need of rides to locations beyond the Westland's local Nankin Transit service area. Free rides to medical and social service appointments are available to both seniors and disabled Westiand residents by calling (888) 660-2007. The free transportation is available Monday through Friday, except holidays. Those interested in volunteering may call Gary Simon at (734) 751-4101.

Free workshops

Dr. Carol Ann Fischer, a holistic physician, wellness consultant and clinical nutritionist, is present several free workshops now through March 19. Reservations required for the workshop, cali (734) 756-6904 or go online to www.TLCHolisticWellness.com. The workshops include:

"How Hormones Effect Weight Loss" 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 27, also at the Noble Library, 32901 Plymouth Road, Livonia. Learn how hormones control food cravings, body temperature and the ability to gain or lose weight. Discover now the pancreas, thyroid and adrenals influence the size and shape of the body. Seating is limited to 30 guests. "Detox-is it Right For You? 7-9 p.m. Tuesday March 4, at the Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road Livonia, Learn about detoxification of the human body, what are toxins, where do they come from, what do they do to your body and how do you get rid of them. Seating is limited to 15 people.

"Eat Your Way Thin" 7-9 p.m.

Mentally III, a self-help and advocacy group, meets at 7 p.m. the first and

third Thursday of the month at St. John's Episcopal Church, 555 S. Wayne Road, at Bayyiew, Westland. Call (734) 362-8825

Substance abuse support

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

A Menopause & More support group for women meets 7-9 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month in Classroom 2 of the west addition of the Marian Women Center of St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. No registration is necessary, and the group is free of charge. Call (734) 655-1100.

Fibromvalgia

The Great Lakes Fibromyalgia and CFS Association Support Group meets 1-3 p.m. the first Thursday of each month at Merriman Road Baptist Church on Merriman south of Ford. There are guest speakers and discussion on a variety of topics. There is no membership fee, however a small donation is greatly appreciated. For additional information, call Lucy Rowley at (734) 462-1768.

Counterpoint

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

Toughlove

A Toughlove support group meets 7:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Northwest Wayne Skill Center, Ann Arbor Trail between Merriman and Farmington roads. Newcomers welcome. Call (734) 261-7880 or (248) 380-7748.

EDUCATION

St. Damian

St. Damian Catholic School at 29891 Joy, Westland, offers preschool for 3-4-year-olds and full day kindergarten through grade 8. For more information or to schedule a tour, call (734) 427-1680 or check out the school's Web site at www.stdamian.com. Academic Pathways

Academic Pathways Cooperative Preschool at 30330 Schoolcraft. Livonia, has open enroliment for 2008-2009 school year. Openings for the 3- and 4-year-old programs are available. Potty training is not required. There is a certified teacher. The 4-year-old program runs Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. The 3-year-old program runs Tuesday and Thursday mornings. For more information, call (734) 459-6689 or visit the Web site at www.academicpathwayspreschool.com.

The YWCA of Western Wayne County's

Education Department offers quality

preschool programs to children aged

2+ to 5 years old at no cost to most

families. There are many locations

available throughout the community.

Home-based programs are also avail-

programs, or to enroll your child, call

the YWCA's Education Department at

able. For more information on these

County and Downriver communities for more than 20 years, is looking for volunteers. Interested people must be at least 18, willing and able to travel to the Downriver, area and complete a 55-hour training program. Call (734) 416-1111, Ext. 223.

Drivers

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

VNA Hospice

Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan's (VNA) hospice program needs volunteers to comfort and support patients at the end of life. Volunteers can provide companionship, write a memoir, provide respite for family or work as office support. A free 18-hour training program is provided at the VNA headquarters, 25900 Greenfield Road, Suite 6DO. Registration is required. (248) 967-8361 or visit www.vna.org.

Seasons Hospice

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

Literacy Council

The Community Literacy Council (CLC) is looking for volunteer tutors in Western Wayne County to help adults improve their reading, writing and communication skills. The CLC will provide training to interested volunteers. Previous experience or a bachelor's degree is not required. The council will provide free training and materials, and then match you with an adult student in your area. Call (734) 416-4906 for more information.

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

ORGANIZATIONS

Friends of Eloise The Friends of Floise group meets 6

June) in Room 5 of the Maplewood Center, Maplewood west of Merriman. For more information, call Billy Pate at (734) 427-2344.

Citizens for Peace

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

MOMS club

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

Vietnam Vets

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

In Harmony

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

Veteran's Haven

Veteran's Haven operates a car, boat, camper and real estate-donation program. Donations are tax-deductible. For information, call (734) 728-0527. Food is distributed to veterans once a month throughout the month and there is a supplemental food program 9 a.m. to noon Wednesdays. The Veteran Haven's Outreach Center 4924 S. Wayne Road two blocks south of Annapolis in Wayne. Any honorably discharged Veteran that is in need or homeless and wants a better quality of life can call (734) 728-0527.

Silver Strings Dulcimer Musicians and listeners are welcome

to stop by and visit a traditional music jam 7-9 p.m. the first and third Thursday of the month at Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City, Acoustic instruments include hammered and mountain dulcimer, guitar, banjo, fiddle, harmonica, concertina, autoharp, recorder,

volunteering, call Tyrone Peterson, (734) 722-3660. Tutors need to have at least a high school education.

Hospital retirees

The Oakwood-Annapolis Retirees meet at 1 p.m. the first Monday of the month at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center, Venoy at Howe in Wayne, All Oakwood Retirees are welcome to attend.

Radio Club

The Garden City Amateur Radio Club meets at 7 p.m. the third Tuesday. of the month at the Maplewood Community Center, Maplewood west of Merriman. The club is open to people who are interested in ham radio. Call Ben (W8AAA) at (734) 425-2629. Garden City Lions

The Garden City Lions meet at 7 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of every month at the Maplewood Community

Center, Maplewood west of Merriman. Call Dave Fetter at (734) 425-4382. Garden Club

The Garden City Garden Club meets at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month at the Maplewood Center. Everyone may attend to hear guest speakers on a variety of gardening topics and plan events around the city. Call Della Haydon at (734) 427-9410.

Genealogical society

The Western Wayne County Genealogical Society meets the third Monday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Livonia Civic Park Senior Center on Farmington Road, south of Five Mile. Beginning genealogy and computer classes start at 6:30 p.m. Guests are welcome.

Purple Heart

The Military Order of Purple Heart meets at 8 p.m. the third Wednesday of the month in the VFW Hall, on Fordwest of Venoy. Meetings are open to combat-wounded veterans.

Girl Scouts

Girl Scouts of Metro Detroit welcomes girls ages 5-17 to discover fun and friendship, while enjoying opportunities to develop leadership skills. Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. Girl Scouts of Metro Detroit also is looking for volunteers who want to make a difference in girls' lives. To learn more, call (313) 972-GIRL (4475) or visit www. gsofmd.org.

Explore Girl Scouting

Girls ages 5-17 can discover how much Girl Scouts has to offer all. Scouting isn't just about camping and cookies anymore. Girls learn a lot about themselves and the world around them, form lasting friendships, become more confident, independent, helpful and resourceful. Through Girl Scouting, girls learn the importance of community service and challenge themselves and develop value systems they use the rest of their lives. Call the Girl Scouts of the Huron Valley Council at (800) 49-SCOUT (497-2688.)

Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington, in Livonia. The event is a day of lace making, with demonstrations, try-it tables, vendors and displays. Admission is free, public is welcome. For more information, go online to www.GLLGi.org.

Spring craft shew

current year:

Tuesday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

CLASS

Commercial

Industrial

Residential

Personal Property

times to hear appeals on the assessment roll:

appointments on Tuesday & Wednesday

be received by Monday, March 10, 2008.

ownership or an addition to the property.

Space is available for vendors and crafters for the Westland Jaycees' spring craft show at the senior Friendship Center on Newburgh south of Ford 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday.

Wednesday March 19, at the Civic Center Library. Take a natural approach to a healthier, new you... Learn why diets do not work, ways to avoid weight gain and how to lose weight with diet, nutrition and exercise. When to eat, what to eat and how to eat will be discussed. Seating limited to 15 guests.

FOR YOUR REALTH

Advocacy group The Wayne-Westland Alliance for the

9:00am -5:00pm

1:00pm-9:00pm

1:00pm-9:00pm

9:00am -5:00pm

9:00am -5:00pm

PROJECTED EQUALIZATION

00/304 - dx/.0

FACTOR

1.0480

1.0578

0.9358

1.0000

CITY OF GARDEN CITY

BOARD OF REVIEW DATES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO all property owners of the City of

Garden City that the Board of Review will meet in session on the

following date and time to examine the assessment roll for the

The Board of Review will meet in session on the following days and

NOTE: Meetings located in THE GARDEN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM with late night

March 10, 2008

March 11, 2008

March 12, 2008

March 13, 2008

March 14, 2008

Tentative ratios and factors for the 2008 tax year are:

RATIO

47.71%

47.27 %

53.43%

50.00%

APPEALS BY APPOINTMENT or WRITE-IN. Write-ins must

PRELIMINARY

Taxes are paid on TAXABLE VALUE, which is the lesser of the

calculated Assessed and Capped value, unless there is a property transfer. The capped value is based on the CPI (Consumer Price

Index), which will increase 2.3% for 2008. As a result, all Taxable Values will increase 2.3% unless there has been a transfer of

ASSESSMENT

March 4, 2008

VOLUNTEERS

(313) 561-4110, Ext. 10.

YWCA preschool

Karmanos Institute

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

First Step

9:00 a.m.

First Step, which has been active in the effort to end domestic violence and sexual assault in western Wayne

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

Toastmasters

The Wayne-Westland Easy Talkers Toastmasters Club can help people overcome their fear of speaking in front of people by teaching public speaking in a friendly and supportive atmosphere. The club meets at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Rana' Restaurant, 35111 W. Michigan Ave. at Wayne Road, Wayne, For more information, Curt Gottlieb at (734) 525-8445. TOPS

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) MI28 of Westland meets at 7 p.m. Mondays at Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne Road, at Hunter, Westland, For more information, call Pat Strong at (734) 326-3539 or Mary Lowe at (734) 729-6879.

Democratic Club The Garden City Democratic Club meets at 7 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month (September through

CITY OF GARDEN CITY WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

To all residents and interested parties, the Council minutes will be available for review on the internet at:

http://www.gardencitymi.org You can access this information at City Hall or the Garden City Library during regular business hours or in the Police Station Lobby 24 hours a day.

ALLYSON M. BETTIS, City Clerk/Treasurer OEOB

Publish: February 7, 10 24, 2008

CITY OF WESTLAND RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL 2008 SCHEDULE FOR BOARD OF **REVIEW MEETINGS**

Monday, March 10 Tuesday, March 11	9:00 A.M 12:00 Noon 1:00 4:00 P.M.	1:30 – 4:30 P.M. 5:30 - 8:30 P.M.
Wednesday, March 12	9:00 A.M 12:00 Noon	1:30 - 4:30 P.M.
Thursday, March 13	1:00 – 4:00 P.M.	5:30 - 8:30 P.M.

CALL (734) 467-3160 TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT

Board of Review Meetings will be held at Westland City Hall 2nd Floor - Council Chambers 36601 Ford Road Westland, MI 48185

Written Appeals Must Be Received by 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, March 13, 2008

Publish: February 24 & March 2, 2006

pennywhistle, ukulele and upright bass. Call (734) 482-2902 or check out the Web site at http://geocities. com/ssdsociety.

Garden City Kiwanis

The Garden City Kiwanis Club meets for lunch at 12:15 p.m. each Thursday at Amantea's Restaurant, 32777 Warren. Guests and potential new members are always welcome. Garden City Rotary

The Garden City Rotary Club meets at 12 noon Thursday at Amantea Restaurant, 32777 Warren. Community service planning, lunch and socializing are enjoyed. Please ioin us there. Habitat helo

The Western Wayne affiliate of Habitat for Humanity is seeking volunteers to help with building homes. office duties and fund-raising. No experience necessary. Training will be provided. For information, call (734) 459-7744.

Tutorial program

A tutoring program for students is offered at the Salvation Army Wayne-Westland Corps Community Center, 2300 Venoy in Westland: The program, 3:45-5:15 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays, is for students 9 and older in Wayne, Westland and Romulus. For information on participating or

FOR SENIORS

Friendship Center

The Senior Resources Department (Friendship Center), 1119 N. Newburgh, Westland, offers a variety of programs for older adults. The Web site www.ci.westland.mi.us offers more information. Call (734) 722-7632.

Dyer Center

The Wayne-Westland school district's Dver Senior Adult Center offers activities Monday-Thursday at the center, on Marquette between Wayne and Newburgh roads. Mondays, Senior Chorus at 1:30 p.m.; Tuesdays, arts, crafts and needlework at 9:30 a.m.; Wednesdays, kitchen band, 10 a.m., bingo at 1 p.m.; Thursdays, ceramics, arts, crafts at 9:30 a.m.

Senior fitness

Seniors can get in shape through some programs offered at the Maplewood Center, The Senior Fitness Room is open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday. Annual membership is \$50 per year or \$1 for a daily pass. Aerobic classes are held 8:45-9:45 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

WESTLAND HOUSING COMMISSION 32715 DORSEY ROAD Westland, Michigan 48186 (734) 595-0288

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Westland Housing Commission (WHC) has developed the fiscal year 2008 Agency Plan in compliance with the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 and applicable regulations issued by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The plan reflects the goals and objectives of the agency and the administration of housing and community development programs. The Agency Plan and supporting documentation is available for public review for a period of not less than 45 days at the Westland Housing Commission's administrative office located at 32715 Dorsey Road, Westland, Michigan 48186.

The Commission's hours of operation are 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. The comment period will end on April 10, 2008. The WHC Board of Commissioners will conduct a pubic hearing at 6:00 pm, Tuesday, April 15, 2008 at the Housing Commission's Administrative Office. The purpose of the public hearing is to obtain citizen comments on the Agency Plan, which will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development no later than April 17, 2008.

Joanne A. Inglis, Director William Wild, Mayor

-2.4

Publisb: February 24, 2008

The 2008 Assessment Roll will be open for inspection from March 5, 2008 through March 7, 2008 in the assessment office from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. And 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.. ALLYSON BETTIS TREASURER-CLERK

Publish: February 24, 28 & March 2, 2008

Hospital programs focus on wellness

Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, offers a weekly schedule of health and wellness programs for residents. The lineup this week includes: Monday, Feb. 25

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

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

Tuesday, Feb. 26

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

Diabetes Self-Management Education (second of four classes) at 9:30 a.m. This comprehensive series is planned to help people Live Well With Diabetes. Participants learn self-care skills of nutrition, exercise, medication management, monitoring of blood sugar levels, foot and skin care, prevention of problems and psychosocial issues. The program is certified by the Michigan Department of Community Health to assure quality and compliance with State and National Diabetes Education Standards. Physician referral is required. There is a fee, but reimbursement is available by Medicare, Medicaid and most commercial insurance plans. Call (734) 458-3481 for more information or to register.

Strength and Stretch at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. This is a non-aerobic exercise class designed to help you strengthen and define your muscles, as well as increase your flexibility. Each class

will combine a variety of equipment, including free weights, medicine balls, balance balls, and Therabands in order to isolate and tone each of the major muscle groups. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

Power Hour at 3 and 5 p.m. An intense exercise class designed to take you to the next level in fitness. Every class will be different, but we guarantee that each one will be challenging and fun, with a variety of aerobic exercises to experience. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

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

Wednesday, Feb. 27

Power Hour at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. An intense exercise class designed to take you to the next level in fitness. Every class will be different, but we guarantee that each one will be challenging and fun, with a variety of aerobic exercises to experience. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242

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

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

Thursday, Feb. 28 American Red Cross Blood Drive 7

a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Garden City Hospital will host an American Red Cross Blood Drive in the Lower Level Classrooms of the Allan Breakie Medical Office Building, located on the Garden City Hospital campus, 6245 inkster Road. Appointments may be scheduled by

calling (734) 458-4259. Walk-ins are always welcomed.

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

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

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

Diabetes Self-Management Education (second of four classes) at 6:30 p.m. This comprehensive series is planned to help people Live Well With Diabetes. Participants learn self-care skills of nutrition, exercise, medication management, monitoring of blood sugar levels, foot and skin care, prevention of problems and psychosocial issues. The program is certified by the Michigan Department of Community Health to assure quality and compliance with State and National Diabetes Education Standards. Physician referral is required. There is a fee, but reimbursement is available by Medicare, Medicaid and most commercial insurance plans. Call (734) 458-3481 for more information or to register. Friday, Feb. 29

Get Up and Move at 9 a.m. This is an invigorating exercise program designed to help you get up and get moving, and is the perfect complement to your diet program. These classes will help you to make an easy transition back to an exercise program or help you to get started for the first time. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242. Power Hour at 10 a.m. and 1, 3

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and 5 p.m. An intense exercise class designed to take you to the next level in fitness. Every class will be different, but we guarantee that each one will be challenging and fun, with a variety of aerobic exercises to experience. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

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

Daily Programs

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

the first semester at Huron Valley Lutheran High School in Westland were: Ninth Grade

Named to the honor roll for

Highest Honors - David Joseph Adlof of Plymouth and Leah Marie Miller of Chelsea.

High Honors - Ivan Christopher Bell of Livonia, Meghan Shelby Brennan of Livonia, Shane Robert Bunde of

Good of Plymouth, Sarah Elise Helwig of Livonia and Matthew Lester Kemppainen of Livonia.

High Honor's - Michael John Cyr II of Westland, Bryan Thomas Gruenewald of Livonia, Kimberlee Faith King of Plymouth and Michaela Danielle Van Patten of Howell.

Honors - Katherine Marie Cromwell of Livonia, Kelly Anne Kubinski of Westland, Rachel Marie Purdue of

HURON VALLEY HONOR ROLL

Westland, Mark Patrick St. John of Livonia and Claire Elizabeth Wood of Westland. 11th Grade

Highest Honors - Samantha Jane 🕚 Barber of Westland and Kayla Ann Stockdale of Westland.

High Honors - Abby Rose Hoff of Livonia.

Honors - Lindsay Michelle Bushong of Redford, Chad Allen Fielek of Livonia, Crystina Maria Gutierriez of Livonia, Lauren Ashley Lovell of Plymouth, Katie Jane Markham of Westland, Eric James Schaffer of Westland, Marrissa Ann Stalker of Westland and Kyle Ronald Tacia of

Highest Honors - Lauren Elizabeth Adlof of Plymouth, Colin John Beerbower of Livonia, Emily Ruth Helwig of Livonia, Katie Marie Kipfmiller of Flat Rock and Catherine Elizabeth St. John of

High Honors - Lorna Renee Sweet of Livonia.

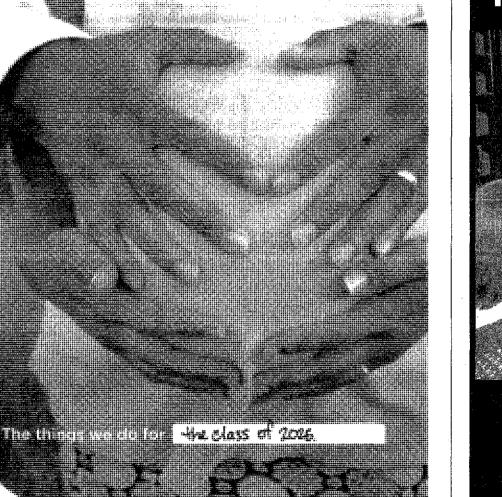
Honors - Ryan Matthew Jones of Westland, Brandy Lynne Nocella of Monroe and Robert Andrew Alian Russ of Westland.

Westland and Matthew Robert St. John of Livonia. Honors - Rebecca Lynn Lovell of Plymouth, Lindsay Lou Nocella of Monroe, Ashley Kristina Samuel of Livonia and Shawn William Schaffer of Westland Plymouth. 10th Grade 12th Grade Highest Honors - Hannah Ruth





Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, February 24, 2008



GOAL SETTER SAVINGS

Another thing Fifth Third does for dreams? Goal Setter Savings. Save towards your goal-a vacation, a new car, whatever-and get premium rates of interest with no minimum balance requirement and no monthly service fee. Another bonus? No internet banking or ATM access-stay with us for a second—which means you'll be less tempted to spend it and more likely to save it. We'll give you a bonus when you reach your goal. Give us a call at 1-877-579-5353 or visit 53.com to see what we can do for you.



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MADONNA UNIVERSITY



OPEN HOUSE Sat., March 1, 1-4 p.m.

- Explore our bachelor's and master's programs
- Meet our caring, experienced faculty and staff
- Learn about financial aid and scholarships
- Tour campus
- · Apply for admission (fee waived)

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Livonia • Orchard Lake Main Campus: 36600 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia, MI 48150

53.com

LOCAL NEWS

www.hometownlife.com

Library provides a kick with books on coffee

Coffee

A6

(WGc)

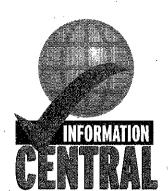
Enjoy the aroma of coffee brewing in the morning? Who doesn't. In fact, if you're like a majority of people in the world, you rate coffee as the number one drink in the morning to get you going.

According to The Book of Coffee by Jacki Baxter, a young goatherd noticed his goats "had become exceptionally lively" after munching on some red berries, so he decided to taste them himself. Lucky for us he liked what he had tasted and felt the same invigorating and uplifting behavior that the goats felt. It has turned into an \$18 billion industry (U.S.) full of lattes, mochas. cappuccinos, iced drinks, and regular, black coffee.

Coffee became very popular in the Arab and Turkish worlds (the first coffee shop culture!) in the 13th century and eventually made its way into Italian culture via a trade between the regions in 1615. The church at first wanted to banish the drink, but decided later that its taste and aroma would inspire too popular of an uprising to quell, so Pope Clement VIII blessed it and coffee quickly became an essential part of European culture.

There are two different types of coffee beans grown in the world, Arabica and Robusta. Of the two, Arabica is milder and better suited for drinking than Robusta, but the Robusta is a more resilient plant containing 40-50 percent more caffeine, so Robusta is most often used by commercial coffee companies. Coffees can range in roasting from light to medium to high to Italian Roast, with light containing higher amounts of caffeine and darker roasts being a smoother flavor.

In addition to The Book of Coffee, the Public Library



of Westland also has many other resources for your use, including The Book of Coffee and Tea, by Joel Schapira, Making Your Own Gourmet Coffee Drinks by Matthew Tekulsky, and The Art of Coffee (VHS). If you are a big fan of the Starbucks way or want to learn how they got so big by selling coffee, we have Pour Your Heart Into It: How Starbucks Built a Company One Cup at a Time by Howard Schultz and Starbucked: A Double Tall Tale of Caffeine, Commerce, and Culture by Taylor Clark.

Please visit us on Central City Parkway or give us a call at (734) 326-6123 to learn more about these materials. You can also see if the books or video are in by visiting www.westland.lib.mi.us. - Andy Schuck

Highlighted Activities

"CSI: lessons of life from the dead" Feb. 25, 7 p.m. Join us for another installment in our medical lecture series hosted by The Foundation for Wellness Professionals featuring Dr. Brian K. Brackney. Learn how to really live while you are alive and how to unlock your healing potential. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

Information Central is compiled by reference librarian Janet Sowards. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

McCain tours Ford Wayne Assembly Plant

John McCain wasn't talking. The Republican presidential candidate toured Ford Motor Co.'s Wayne Stamping and Assembly Plant Thursday but canceled a planned post-tour press conference. Ford Motor officials kept the press at arm's length from the Arizona senator, the presumptive Republican nominee.

McCain made his visit on the afternoon following a New York Times article quoting anonymous sources about McCain's relationship with a woman lobbyist during the senator's first run for the presidency in 2000. The article quoted former campaign aides who said they were concerned about whether McCain's relationship would be seen as "inappropriate" and whether the relationship had any influence over pending telecommunications legislation before the Senate Commerce Committee which he chaired.

McCain, standing with his wife, Cindy, held a press conference Thursday morning in Toledo to deny the substance of the accusations. He said he was "disappointed in the article."

The Times has been criticized for the timing of the article and its use of anonymous sources. The article received more than 2,000 online comments, the majority opposing



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Republican presidential candidate John McCain, his wife Cindy, and Michigan Attorney General Mike Cox, right, are given some information on some of Ford's new environmentally friendly vehicles from Ford director of vehicle environmental engineering Robert Brown, left, during a tour of the Ford assembly plant in Wayne Thursday afternoon.

the newspaper's decision to run Ford's new hybrid technology the story.

At the Ford plant, McCain, his wife, Attorney General Mike Cox, who had resigned as McCain's Michigan campaign chair last year, and others were given an escorted tour of the assembly plant. Robert Brown, Ford's director of environmental engineering, explained

and the new Sync System in the Ford Focus. The system provides hands-off access to several computer operations from cell phones to MP3 players.

Around the plant, Ford workers had posted signs supporting Democratic candidates Barack Obama and Hillary

Clinton. There weren't any McCain signs visible.

Later Thursday afternoon, McCain met with executives from Ford, Chrysler and General Motors at the Somerset Inn in Troy to discuss his plans for helping the ailing U.S. auto industry.

- By Hugh Gallagher

Deadline is Monday for video contest

The deadline to register your high school team for the Buddy's Pizza/Observer S Eccentric and Mirror Newspapers public service video contest is 5 p.m. Monday, Feb. 25.

The winning team will receive \$1,000 to be divided among the participating students.

Schools throughout the tricounty area are invited to produce a 30-second PSA video focusing on teen issues.

"The contest will give high school students an opportunity to send a powerful message that impacts their peers and the community on topics including, but not limited to.

drugs, bullying, cyber-bullying and violence," said Marcv Brontman of Buddy's.

Completed student PSA videos are due by midnight Tuesday, April 1. They will stay on the Buddy's Web site throughout April for the public to view and vote for their favorite video. Detroit media professionals will select the winner from the top 10 public favorites.

Student teams interested in participating should e-mail or fax their school name, student project manager and name of high school adviser with address, telephone and e-mail contact to Buddy's Pizza, Attn:

the dangers of tobacco, alcohol, Michelle at (248) 855-6329 or mlawton@buddyspizza.com by 5 p.m. Monday, Feb. 25.

CONTEST RULES

Each video must include some representation of Buddy's Pizza and the Observer S Eccentric or Mirror Newspapers (i.e. filmed at a Buddy's Pizza location, Buddy's logo in video, Observer S Eccentric and/or Mirror Newspaper visible at some point in video). Also included must be the tagline "Sometimes you just need some Buddy's ... Seriously!"

A school team (one per high school) entering the contest must have a school staff mem-

ber to supervise the project. No copyrighted audio or video materials will be allowed. Only public domain and royalty free music is allowed. No obscenities, vulgarity or lurid material will be permitted and disqualification will be at the discretion of the judges.

Each school can submit only one video for judging.

For more information on uploading submitted videos to YouTube and a complete list of rules, contact Michelle Lawton at (248) 855-6222, ext. 212, or via e-mail at mlawton@buddyspizza.com or Brontman at (248) 626-0250 or visit Buddy's on the Web at www.buddyspizza.com

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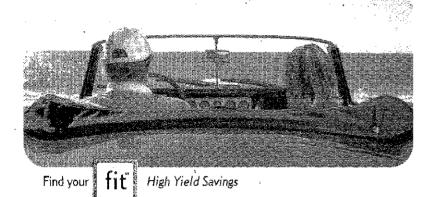
COUNTY NEWS

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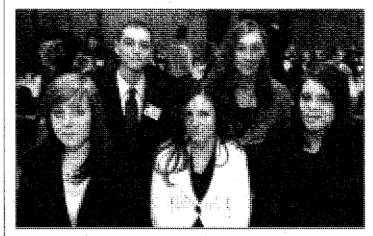
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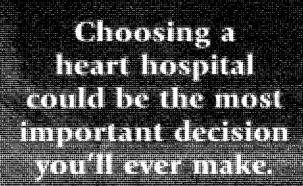


PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Receiving academic awards for their efforts in obtaining their GED were, from left, Patrick Young, Anthony Tyler, Anton Mills, Nick Jadczak, Julius McCants, Theodore Storm, and Jomiah Washington during the Growth Works Recognition and Awards Dinner held Thursday night at the Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center in Plymouth.



Receiving awards for their efforts in the Growth Works program were, from left, Stephanie Watt, James McCormick, Ashley Holland, Linda Langford, and Mariah Mikesell during the during the Growth Works Recognition and Awards Dinner held Thursday night at the Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center in Plymouth.



, Something is wrong with your heart. , And suddenly your world turns upside

BY JULIE BROWN STAFF WRITER

They could have given up on themselves, but they didn't. For their efforts, young men who earned their GEDs were among honorees Thursday at Growth Works' annual dinner.

"What these young men have done is certainly commendable," said master of ceremonies Marc Smith as the honorees assembled in caps and gowns with *Pomp* and Circumstance playing in the background.

Growth Works Inc., serving at-risk youth and their families in western Wayne County, held its 19th annual Recognition & Award Dinner Thursday, Feb. 21, at the Fox Hills Golf & Conference Center. The agency, providing services in the areas of juvenile justice and chemical dependency for more than 35 years, celebrated the achievements of young people and their parents and community members that have contributed to their success.

Honoree Theodore Storm of Canton is now a student at Eastern Michigan University, while honoree Nick Jadczak will enroll in community college. Anthony Taylor of Livonia has been accepted at Delta College in Saginaw. "I want you to stay positive about what you started in these past few months," Growth Works executive director Dale Yagiela told the young people. "What I see today is a lot of promise in you guys. There are going to be times when you get discouraged."

Yagiela urged the young people to remember the Feb. 21 dinner and their recognition.

Youth Program Recognition Awards were received by Stephanie Watt of Dearborn, Mariah Mikesell of Dearborn, Ashley Holland of Westland, James McCormick of Westland and Adam Vega of Beverly Hills for their special achievements and outstanding efforts over the past year. Linda Langford, whose child also receives services, was recognized for her commitment to change while participating in the parent program.

Achievement Awards were presented to a number of youth who received their GEDs while participating in agency programs. They include Patrick Young of Wixom, Jomiah Washington of Redford,



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Westland resident Holland was lauded for her commitment to recovery. She was brought to Growth Works by her grandmother in October 2005, and later began to make recovery a priority. Holland's made good peer choices, attends AA and has a good relationship with her grandmother. McCormick, also a Westland resident, was cited for helping others in his unit and his dedication to treatment. He's been accepted at Delta College. "I just want to thank Growth Works for always supporting me," said McCormick, who also thanked his group.

GWI board member Tom Fielder, former mayor of Belleville, received a Community Award for his efforts aimed at improving the lives of young people. Fellow board member Bill Ventola of Plymouth was honored for his role as chair of the Growth Works golf outing for the past 10 years. Master of ceremouies Smith also took a moment in remembrance of Charles "Chuck" Allegrina, a longtime board member and supporter of Growth Works, who died last fall.

Outgoing board member Rita Lowenstein of Plymouth Township was also recognized. Yagiela thanked the board members, noting their significant involvement. "They come because they have their hearts in it," he said of the board members and their expertise. "They keep us honest and they keep us on the straight and narrow."

Yagiela also thanked partners including the Conference of Western Wayne, Southeast Michigan Community Alliance, which helps with residential care for drug treatment, and Wolverine Human Services.

"We have a great staff, a great staff," Yagiela said. "I'm very proud of all of you." Tough economic times have made staffers' jobs even more challenging, he added. For further information about Growth Works, Inc., call (734) 455-4095 or visit www.growth-

works.org.

COUNTY NEWS

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, February 24, 2008

Photographer sees gradual change for a Cuba without Fidel

BY HUGH GALLAGHER STAFF WRITER

On Tuesday, an ailing Fidel Castro, 81, resigned as president of Cuba, ending almost 50 years as leader of the Caribbean island communist country. Today, the Cuban parliament will select a new leader, probably Castro's brother Raoul, 76, who has been acting as president since Castro fell ill in 2006.

Photographer Jack Kenny, the owner of Quicksilver Photo Service in Plymouth who has traveled to Cuba more than 40 times in the last decade, said Wednesday that any changes in the government would be gradual.

"A year and a half ago, Raoul took over as acting president. In that time he has talked about changing to the China model, which is free-market communism, a contradictory term, but that's what China does and we know what we do with China, our number one trading partner," said Kenny, 63, who lives in Ann Arbor.

Kenny said it is possible that Raoul may move back to his position as leader of the military, opening the way for council vice president Carlos Lage, 56, to move into the political leadership.

"Lage is a good choice and we'll know more on Sunday," Kenny said. "If Raoul is the leader of the country, I think you'll see some changes. But you won't see anything on this side of the border. I don't think he'll do anything drastic. But he's talking about opening up travel for the Cuban people, where they have freedom to come and go, which they don't have now, and expanding private businesses, which they've been doing since the 1990s."

IN LOVE WITH CUBA

Kenny's love affair with Cuba began in 1996, when he was invited to accompany some friends who were shooting a documentary. On that trip, he met Roberto Salas, a noted photographer who has worked with Forest astrossment hese

"I net him the second day I was there, became fast friends, brought some of his pictures back. All my friends loved them, all my revolutionary friends," Kenny said. "They said



Jack Kenny, photographer and owner of Quicksilver Photo Services in Plymouth.

I got there it was a vital place, lots of art and culture."

Kenny, who began taking photographs when he was serving in the army in Vietnam in 1967, said Cuba was an enigma to him. It had good educational and health care systems, but the people lived in poverty. He said some of that is the result of U.S. policies, but some the result of Cuban government actions.

"They are educated, healthy people with no economic opportunities. The average wage is \$20 a month," he said. "But the people were inviting, open, gregarious. As I walked around with my camera, I would be invited into people's houses, invited for a cup of coffee and I didn't speak Spanish at the time."

He began taking pictures of Havana street scenes and scenes from the countryside. He created a Web site, www. cuba-photo.com, to sell his photos and photos by noted Cuban photographers. In 2005, he published a coffee table book of black and white photos, *Cuba* (available from Corazon Press at www.corazonpress.com).

"In 1933, Walker Evans went to Cuba on assignment and did street photography in Cuba and that book has inspired me," Kenny said. "What I have tried to do is update what he did in the '30s. Several of these photos could be picked up and put into his book and you wouldn't notice the difference,"

Kenny also met and fell in love with a Cuban woman. In May 2006, he married Niurka Sanchez Cutino. Last November, Cutino and her 13-year-old son moved to Michigan from Havana and experienced their first snowfall.

Kenny said he hasn't been bothered by the State Department about his travels. He flies from Toronto under a general license as a publisher.

Cuba is a complex problem for the United States, which is home to a large Cuban expatriate community in Florida. They have been strong vocal critics of Castro.

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"The problem with the expa-

triates is that the core group left 45 years ago," Kenny said. "They are very disconnected from the country. I've talked to some who don't even know there was a highway built in the country 15 years ago. They are largely a white population, not representative of Cuba and people in Cuba do not respect them or want them back."

Kenny said the U.S. made a mistake in not opening up Cuba long ago. "Fidel gets all of this power

from the embargo. He blames all of his economic woes on the embargo. Most are selfinflicted, but some are from the embargo," Kenny said. Kenny is also critical of the "One Foot on Dry Land" policy, that allows any Cuban who reaches U.S. soil to remain. He called the policy "propaganda."

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JACK KENNY

'I want to get some of those.' So I started a little enterprise to bring back art and photography and went three more times that year."

Kenny's Quicksilver office is decorated with dramatic, iconic photos by Cuban photographers of boxing champ Rocky Marciano, Ernest Hemingway, Ernesto "Che" Guevara, Fidel Castro and Havana street scenes.

"When I first went, the questions were, 'Aren't you afraid to go? Don't you know you'll be followed everywhere? Don't you think it will be dangerous?' So I went," he said. "When I got there, it was the complete opposite of all the impressions given to me. Not having studied Cuba particularly, it was 180. It was presented as a small island with a dark cloud over it, military oppression. When

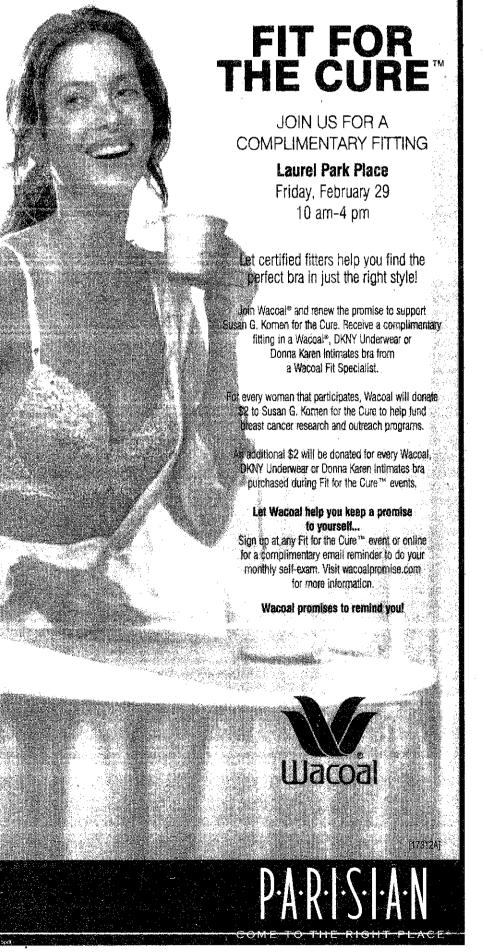




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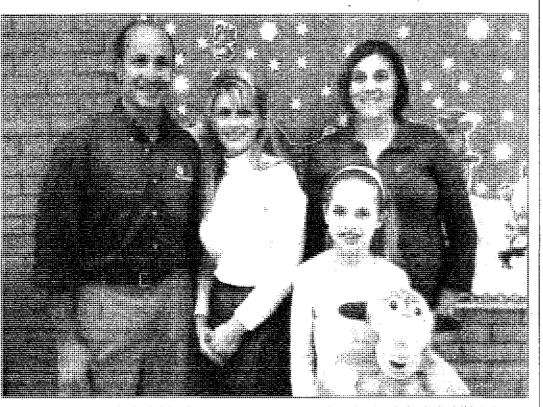
Dental team brings tooth health to kids

Doctors and hygienists at Parkside Dental Team are again preparing for their annual, Children's Dental Health Awareness Month Program, a program they're introducing to Westland schools.

National Children's Dental Health Awareness Month is sponsored by the American Dental Association each February in an effort to raise awareness about the importance of dental health. The month-long program aims to improve oral health habits among young people and ultimately, to prevent dental disease later in life.

"We know that the key to a healthy adult smile is learning the basics of proper dental care early in life," said Dr. Steven Cohen, one of Parkside's four dentists. "Our goal is to make oral hygiene both fun and rewarding so that good habits stick."

This March, Parkside Dental Team is relocating to a new facility in Westland and the staff plans to continue the tradition of dental health education in its new home. Program coordinators already have lined up a dozen schools, including St. Damien, Cooper, Kettering and Patchin Elementaries, and



Dr. Steven Cohen and dental hygienist Kelly Brumwell meet with a student and teacher during their visit to Edison Elementary School.

are confident that the program will be a huge success.

"Students love our multimedia presentation. They look forward to us coming back year after year," said Kelly Brumwell, a dental hygienist at Parkside

Dental Team.

Parkside team members have volunteered their time and efforts to promote dental health awareness for the past 15 years. The program has reached more than 20,000 students to date.

The free program is designed for kindergarten through fourth-grade students and is both fun and educational. For more information or to reserve a presentation date, call (313) 271-6160.

Westlander celebrates 1st race win as trainer

For Natalie Zabrzenski of Westland, winning her first race as a trainer was nothing special. Until she realized it was.

Zabrzenski got her first training win on Jan. 28 when Brooklyn Khaki won by 2 1/4 lengths over Junes Jaguar at Monticello Raceway in New York. The 4-year-old pacer, owned by Zabrzenski, was driven by Jordan Stratton.

"At first, it was kind of a delayed reaction," Zabrzenski, 26, said. "I treat ever horse I've ever groomed as my own personal horse and want them to do well. I was just so hyped on the fact the horse had won. My boyfriend (Jon McFadden) was standing next to me and said, That was your trainer win.' I said, 'Oh, my God.' That makes it twice as good.

"It still trills me. It's an awesome feeling.

Less than two weeks later, Zabrezenski picked up her second triumph with Brooklyn Khaki. It also gave her the first win streak of her burgeoning career.

Zabrzenski's interest in har-

ness racing stems from her father, owner Joe Zabrzenski.

"He used to take me to the fairs with him," Zabrzenski said. "In the middle of my senior year of high school, I started going to the farm and helping the trainer my dad had. When I graduated, I wasn't sure what I wanted to do, but this just felt right. It's all I've ever known to do. I get a kick out of doing it."

In addition to harness racing, Zabrzenski has been involved in racing Standardbreds under saddle and during a stretch of time spent in South Carolina was a groom for polo horses. She once even participated in a practice match.

Currently, Zabrzenski has five horses, three of which are racing. She is stabled in Middletown, N.Y., not far from Goshen.

"I like it here a lot," Zabrzenski said. "We've thought about going up to Toronto to see if our horses would fit up there. We were up there for three months last year and did all right. We want to try to make our mark somewhere."



A10 (WGc)





Cox's license opinion sends wrong message

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

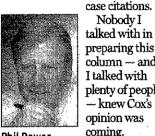
wo days after Christmas, while Lansing was silent and largely deserted for the holiday season, Michigan Attorney General Mike Cox issued an opinion indicating that only permanent Michigan residents may get a driver's license. It appeared to say that people living here legally, but on a temporary basis, couldn't get one.

(WReGc)

Page All

Sunday, February 24, 2008

That opinion came in response to a request by state Rep. Rick Jones, R-Grand Ledge. It was clearly not produced overnight. The opinion was five singlespaced pages in length and was accompanied by 13 footnotes and



Nobody I talked with in preparing this column --- and I talked with plenty of people – knew Cox's opinion was coming.

But it was a

Phil Power

bombshell. It provoked a round of furious finger-pointing with Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land, his fellow Republican. Her office was responsible for implementing Cox's complex ruling. It enraged the business community, which employs nearly 400,000 aliens legally in Michigan on valid visas. It infuriated state universities when they suddenly discovered that thousands of their students and faculty members living legally in Michigan could not get a driver's license.

It wounded economic developers across the state, who found themselves trying to explain that Michigan really didn't want to slam the door against international business expansion. And it provoked official protests from the governments of Japan and India.

All this from one little opinion by a state attorney general.

Of course, there was a political dimension to all this (surprise, surprise). The subject of illegal aliens has been one of consuming interest during the presidential campaign, especially to many Republicans, who want the border chucked out. (That is, unless they employ any on the sly.)

And the issue has more than just Republicans squirming. Sen. Hillary Clinton got herself into trouble during the presidential debates with a series of confusing and contradictory responses when asked whether illegal aliens should get driver's licenses.

Most Lansing sources I talked with figure that Cox was doing little more than pandering to the anti-immigrant wing of the GOP. I tried to ask Cox's PR guy about this, but my call was not returned.

In any event, once people returned to Lansing and the national press started saying that Michigan was now the toughest state in the country for aliens to get driver's licenses, all hell broke loose

Jim Epolito, CEO of the Michigan Economic Development Corp., was politely furious. He fired off a letter to Cox noting that his troops "have been receiving frantic telephone calls, e-mails and letters from Michigan's international business community regarding this issue. Your opinion, issued with no advanced warning to the business community and with no opportunity for a hearing or public comment, has given the international business community the perception that Michigan is not open for business.'

Epolito cited more than 375,000 employees who were in Michigan on perfectly legal visas, who could not effectively conduct their business without being able to drive a car.

And Birgit Klohs, the highly effective economic developer for Grand Rapids, told me she'd been on the phone at all hours trying to explain what was going on to angry foreign companies considering — at least, they had been Michigan as a possible place for expansion.

Universities were just as dismayed. University of Michigan President Mary Sue Coleman pointed out that our universities are on the front line of bringing capable people to Michigan. I got a call from Linda Lim, the head of

with Mexico closed and all illegals U-M's Southeast Asia Center, saying that she had an office full of students in tears.

Meanwhile, once the secretary of state's office started figuring out what the opinion really meant, they ran into all kinds of trouble trying to work their way through the complex opinion. Lawyers quickly pointed out that Cox's language appeared to mean that even U.S. citizens living in Michigan temporarily could not obtain a driver's license. Implementing rules were issued Jan. 22, and were promptly attacked by a suit from the American Civil Liberties Union

Cox's office complained that the secretary of state "misread" the opinion, which is the legal equivalent of "I wrote it, but it's your problem to figure out what I meant."

Fingers were pointed back and forth all over Lansing, with feelings (mostly anger) running especially high between the attorney general's office and that of the secretary of state, both Republicans.

Meanwhile, Gov. Jennifer Granholm urged the Legislature to find a fix to overturn the Cox opimion. Acting with unusual speed and bipartisanship, both the House and Senate overwhelmingly passed legislation that allowed foreign citizens living temporarily in Michigan to obtain a driver's license. The governor promptly signed the bill last Friday.

But the damage has been done. With his state facing terrible economic times, with Michigan desperate for skilled immigrant workers and students, Cox's opimion succeeded in holding our foot up to be shot with our own pistol. What's sad, embarrassing and all-too predictable about this particular episode of panderinggone-wrong is that it was totally. and completely, unnecessary.

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

Grateful for generosity

I am writing on behalf of the 30,000 children who received holiday gift packages from the Old Newsboys' Goodfellow Fund of Detroit this past Christmas. The Detroit Goodfellow organization is extremely grateful for the overwhelming support we received from the metropolitan Detroit community.

Our thanks go to the generous individuals who purchased a newspaper from a Detroit Goodfellow member or a Detroit Police Officer on our Sales Day. We also appreciate the individuals, corporations, churches and foundations, which made contributions through the mail or on our Web site, www. oldnewsboysgoodfellows.org.

Their donations enabled us to surpass our goal of raising \$1.375 million for 2007 and helped to ensure our 93-year pledge of "No Kiddie without a Christmas."

We are truly grateful for the continued support and generosity of the residents of metropolitan Detroit especially during these difficult economic times. On behalf of all of the children in Detroit, Highland Park and Hamtramck who benefited from your generosity, thank you, thank you. Sincerely,

Peter W. Waldmein

president, 2007, Detroit Goodfellows

Diminish discrimination

In support of your editorial position of Feb. 17, it is our fervent hope that the gender, race, religion, or lack of religion, will have diminished relevancy in this year's presidential election. We are quite hopeful that the next four years, these irrelevant factors will be complete non-issues.

The celebration of diversity is a core strength of this country. If voters disagree with the policy positions of Mrs. Clinton, Mr. Obama, Mr. Huckabee or Mr. McCain, fine. But not because of race, gender or religion. These are all fine candidates and we can choose because we live in a country that celebrates diversity.

Of course, there are a handful of people holding onto there individual hatreds. Hopefully, this number also diminishes.

Thanks for a quite good Presidents Day editorial. **Geraid and Dolores Maxey**

Farmington Hills

Lack of experience a concern

Hope is not a presidential platform. In reading The Audacity of Hope, I grew very concerned at a potential Obama presidency. This light, uplifting but lowcalorie book screamed of a lack of experience.

One can hope that he will not make the same mistakes of a JFK (Bay of Pigs, escalating the arms race, venturing into Vietnam, sex scandals, the Cuban missile crisis, etc.) due to his lack of experience or



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

others' perceptions of that actual lack, should he become president. Here's hoping.

Edward A. Johnson Jr. Royal Oak

Has Hillary pulled another scam?

First, her faked crying. Second, more crying at Yale. Third, has she faked the writing of her personal check of \$5 million to her campaign in order to make her followers feel bad so they would send the \$6 million she received after the announcement from her staff that they were not being paid?

Of course the Clintons have the plan to have the superdelegates to vote her in instead of being elected by the people and will do so if Obama is the choice. Just look at the superdelegates she trusts -- Gore, Berger, Carter, Dean, Reno, and the list goes on and on. The entire group has lots of baggage and carries no credibility in the Washington political scheme.

Haven't we experienced enough untruths with the Clintons since coming out of Whitewater and the other disgraces the president and the first lady did while they reduced our national security with all their cuts in military spending, the opening of several gate scams and the expense of the impeachment process?

Every voter should be made aware of all the scams we in the Detroit area have seen with our own elected governor and mayor's election --- it will be the same no matter which Democrat is the final candidate. Either Democrat will disgrace the U.S.A. by pulling our troops out of Iraq before we win this war. **Don Wharff**

Rochester Hills

Superdelegates disfranchise vote

As a reasonably intelligent senior - my academic credentials are somewhere between a G.E.D. and a Ph.D. — and having passed Civics 101 during the building of the Great Pyramid, and just when I was beginning to fathom the RNC/DNC-controlled gobbledygook of the Electoral Kindergarten, a new and further bastardization of the system envisioned by the founders has racheted up my political quandary. As the King said: "It's a puzzlement!"

Now we're told that if the Clinton-Obama race becomes inconclusive, another anomalous, mindboggling, quixotic political obfuscation called superdelegates will decide the nominee. Who are these supers? Ostensibly they're a coven of 800 super wise, contemplative Merlins, i.e., party big shots and a smorgasbord of unknown political lackeys, who will tell us who our choice is. Gawd! And to think we used to make jokes about the Soviets' one-candidate system!

> William Carruth Royal Oak

8ETWEEN \$50,000 - \$99,999

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COUNTY NEWS

IRS won't allow you to apply rebate to taxes you owe

Dear Rick: I completed my 2007 tax return and I owe money. I want to apply the tax rebate to the taxes I owe. Can I do it and if yes, how?

Unfortunately, you cannot offset your tax liability with the rebate. What you need to do is file your return and pay your taxes. If necessary, borrow the money from another source and when you receive a rebate later this year settle up your accounts.

The government will begin issuing rebate checks in May and will probably continue sometime into the summer.

Although there are no forms to complete to get the rebate (it is done automatically), it is

important to file a 2007 return. You will not get a rebate until you file a 2007 tax return. Therefore, if you file for Money Matters an extension. it will delay when you

Rick Bloom receive your tax refund.

Although I could not confirm this with the IRS, I believe if you electronically file a 2007 tax return, your rebate check also will be directly deposited into your bank account.

In addition, the IRS has not issued any rules as to

whether taxpayers who owe money to the IRS will get that rebate, or whether the money will be withheld.

One last note regarding the rebate. The rules are still somewhat unclear for some individuals who do not have to file tax returns but who are eligible for a rebate. If you're in this category, contact the IRS.

Dear Rick: A group of friends meet every quarter to discuss our investments. A few of us have our money professionally managed and an issue has come up with regard to fees. I pay 1.5 percent in management fees. I recently found out in addition to management fees, I am

paying commissions on many funds. When I asked my advisor about this, his explanation was less than convincing. I generally like my advisor, however, now I'm not so sure. What should I do?

I congratulate you and your friends for spending time to discuss investing. I believe the more you know the better. Even if you use a professional advisor, it is important to be informed.

My philosophy with any professional – lawyer, doctor or financial advisor - is you must have trust and confidence in them. If you can't count on them to give you straightforward answers, particularly about fees, it's probably an

indication you should move on.

Having money professionally managed is something more and more people are doing because it is difficult to stay current with investments.

The theory behind professional management is that the advisor establishes a game plan then watches and manages the portfolio for a fee.

The manager, since he/she is receiving a fee, should be independent of the investments and make decisions good for you - the client.

In regard to fees. The standard is generally a certain percent of the money under management. The

norm is around one percent. When you pay a fee to have your money professionally managed, why should there be commissions paid in addition? I believe it is double dipping.

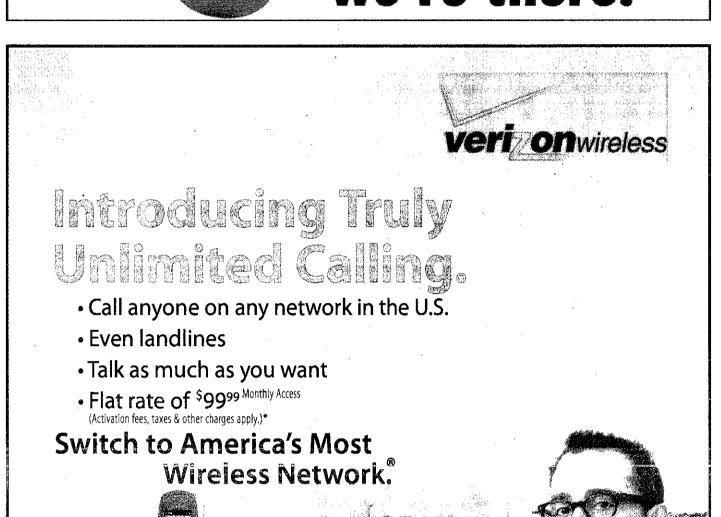
www.hometownlife.com

A true professional has no problem discussing fees. When it comes to handling your money, if you pay for the service, make sure you pay for a professional.

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

734-728-2130

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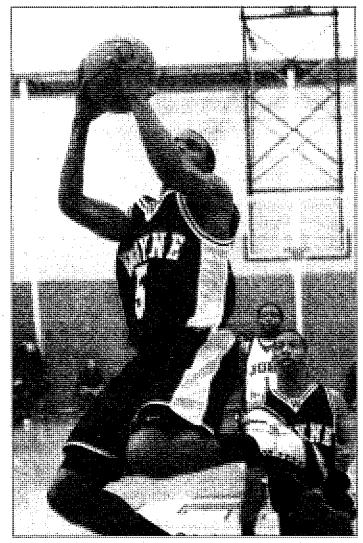


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Brad Emons, editor . (734) 953-2123 . bemons@hometownlife.com



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wayne's Martez Abney drives to the hoop for two points with teammate Mike Lee trailing on the play. The duo combined for 45 points in a 74-53 triumph in the WLAA final over host Westland John Glenn.

Wayne takes home WLAA boys cage championship

Lee catalyst in 74-53 win vs. Glenn

BY BRAD EMONS STAFF WRITER

To say the Wayne Memorial boys basketball team is in a groove right now would be a huge understatement.

The Zebras walked into Westland John Glenn's gymnasium Thursday night and walked out with a Western Lakes Activities Association championship trophy thanks to a convincing 74-53 win over the Rockets in a battle of divisional winners.

Both teams enter Class A state tournament play with 18-2 records and could meet again in next Wednesday's district semifinal at Wayne.

Glenn won the first meeting at Wayne back on Dec. 21 by a 72-63 score, but in the rematch, senior point-guard Mike Lee was the catalyst for Wayne, scoring a game-high 31 points with a dazzling display of shots and

moves to the basket. Lee also had plenty of help as senior guard Martez Abey added 14, while junior guard Robert

Woodson contributed 10. Five other Zebras also scored. Lee's crowd-pleasing dunk

with 2:31 left in the first quarter, subsequent three free throws - two courtesy of a Glenn bench technical foul - gave the Zebras a lead they would never relinquish, 17-14.

Wayne held a narrow 30-29 halftime advantage, but came out roaring in the third quarter as Lee scored 10 points to spark a 20-11 run.

The Zebras continued to dissect the Glenn defense in the fourth guarter as Lee scored six quick points within a span of 1:23 to open up a 14-point cushion and the Zebras coasted from there.

"Mike was pretty tough," Wayne coach Wayne Woodard said. "Sometimes he gets a little too excited and he needs to harness his passion, but tonight he was pretty focused the whole game. He was money."

Wayne, winners of 15 in a row, stopped Glenn's 13-game winning streak. The state-ranked Rockets hadn't lost since Dec. 29 (against Detroit Renaissance).

'Everything seemed like a struggle, we could not get anything going," Glenn coach Dan Young said. "For whatever reason we could not make any shots. When you can't score, you run out of gas, than you start chasing people.

Wayne was pretty patient. Their guards controlled the tempo and they made all their free throws (21-of-25)." Earl Hardison paced the

Glenn scoring attack with 20 points, but he had only two field

Please see BOYS HOOPS, B3





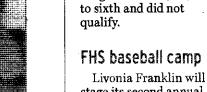
BY BRAD EMONS STAFF WRITER

It's been 15 years since Livonia Franklin last appeared in a girls basketball regional.

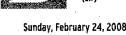
The Patriots punched their ticket Friday night with a 57-32 win over rival Livonia Churchill in the Class A district badly sprained ankle which final at Redford Thurston.

to victory despite a late firsthalf slip-up. Briauna Taylor, coming

off a 31-point effort against Thurston, scored eight of her game-high 27 points in the first quarter as the Patriots took a 14-6 lead. Twin sister Brittany, recovered from a limited her to five minutes th



stage its second annual Future Stars Spring Baseball Camp for boys and girls in grades 4-6 on Saturday, March 1



The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers www.hometownlife.com

C'ville bowlers 2nd

For the fifth straight

bowling team is headed

to the Division 2 state

In Friday's team regional at Canton's

Trojans finished run-

ner-up to Tecumseh to

qualify for next weekend's state team finals

hosted by Sunnybrook

The Trojans posted

baker games of 209,

161, 143, 216, 201 and

In the regular game

set, Clarenceville first and 828, 703 and 814. Kayla Barber rolled a 216 in the first game,

while Sara Brown had a set of 180-140-204. Amber Cummins added a 171 game. The Clarenceville

boys, second after the six-game Bakers, fell

Lanes in Sterling

Heights.

192.

Super Bowl, the

season the Livonia

Clarenceville girls

finals.

Franklin, 18-4 overall,

tangles with 17-6 Brighton in a 6 p.m. regional semifinal Tuesday at Walled Lake Western. Brighton won 46-44 Friday at Western (a team Franklin split with during the regular season).

In 1993, Franklin, coached by Mary Jarvis, reached the regional finals with a sub-.500 record (12-13) at Ann Arbor Huron before losing to Adrian.

The Franklin girls were jubilant afterwards, but also took it all in stride as they hoisted the championship trophy.

"These girls have been very humble, they have not looked past anybody or any game," Franklin first-year coach Dave McCall said. "And because of that, they accomplished a great season."

Coming off a heart-stopping 60-58 win Wednesday night over host Thurston, the Patriots took control early against Churchill and cruised previous game, contributed six of her eight during the surge.

Franklin built a 24-6 lead with 3:38 to go in the second quarter on a basket by freshman Chelsea Williams, but Churchill responded with a 9-0 run in the final 1:35 to pull within nine at halftime, 24-15.

Chelsea Manasian, who led Churchill with 12 points, hit a shot with 6:52 left in the third quarter to cut the deficit to seven, 24-17. But Franklin regrouped and went on a outscore the Chargers 33-15 the rest of the way as Samantha Floyd (10 points) nailed a pair of triples in the final period to spark an 18-7 Patriot run. Turnovers were Churchill's

Achilles Heel. The Chargers committed a total of 31 on the night, while

Franklin had 23. "Offensively, we could not get started or even enter the ball

Please see FRANKLIN, B2

Franklin's Briauna Taylor drives to the basket in Friday's Class A district final at Redford Thurston. Defending on the play for Churchill is Alysa Boldiszar.

Serowoky stars as Blazers stop Salem in showdown

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Arguably the toughest Class A girls basketball district in the state was won Friday night with arguably the best defensive effort in the state.

In a battle of top 10-ranked teams, host Livonia Ladywood applied the defensive clamps on the Rocks early and often to claim a 47-32 victory.

The 20-3 Blazers earned a berth in next week's regional semifinal showdown against North Farmington at Walled Lake Western High School. The game is set to tip off at 8 p.m. Salem capped its season with a 20-3

mark.

The tournament included three champions - Ladywood (Catholic League Central Division), Salem (Western Lakes) and Novi (Kensington Valley) - who entered the postseason

with a combined record of 52-8. The usually hot-shooting Rocks connected on just 10-of-38 field goals (26.3 percent) against Ladywood's relentless defense that was about as easy to penetrate as barbed wire.

The Blazers forced the Rocks into 16 turnovers, 10 of which came in the momentum-changing second quarter when Ladywood outscored Salem 9-4.

"Number one, we wanted to keep (Alaya) Mitchell in front of us and I thought we did a pretty good job of keeping her from getting to the basket," said Ladywood coach Andrea Gorski, whose squad held the Rocks' biggest offensive threat to nine points. "I thought Mary Fitzgerald did an outstanding job on Mitchell. And our help defense was good on the times we did get beat."

Please see GIRLS HOOPS, B2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Chelsea Davis (left) defends Ladywood's Alex Serowoky during Friday night's Class A District final.

at the high school fieldhouse.

Session 1, consisting of hitting and base running skills, will be from 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m. followed by Session 2 focusing on pitching, infield and outfield defense will be from 12:30-3 p.m.

Each camper will bring their own sack lunch, which break between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

The cost is \$25 per session or \$45 for both. Campers should bring a glove, bat and athletic shoes.

Checks should be made payable to Franklin High School and sent to: Matt Fournier, Franklin Baseball Camp, 31000 Joy Road, Livonia, MI 48150.

For more information, call Fournier at (734) 968-0499; or e-mail him at mfournie2@livonia.k12. mi.us.

Livonia ice show

The City of Livonia **Department of Parks** and Recreation will stage its 21st bi-annual ice show "On the Radio" at 7 p.m. Friday, March 14 and 1 and 7 p.m. Saturday, March 15 at Edgar Ice Arena, 33841 Lyndon (north of I-96 between Stark and Farmington roads).

Tickets go on sale beginning Monday, Feb. 25 at the Livonia **Community Recreation** Center, 15100 Hubbard (at Five Mile Road). Tickets are \$4.75

(children 12-andunder); \$7 (seniors 55-and-up); and \$8 (adults).

For more information, call (734) 466-2900.

LOCAL SPORTS

THE WEEK AHEAD

Friday, Feb. 29: Championship final, 7 p.m. (Winner advances to the Tecumseh regional semifinal vs. Temperance Bedford district champion.

CLASS B at LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE Monday, Feb. 25: (A) Livonia Clarenceville vs. (B) Detroit Renaissance, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 27: Hamtramck vs. A-B winner, 5:30 p.m.; Highland Park vs. Detroit Old Redford Preparatory, 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 29: Championship final, 7 p.m. (Winner advances to the Detroit Renaissance regional semifinal vs. Beverly Hills-Detroit Country Day district champion.)

CLASS D at PLYMOUTH CHRISTIAN ACADEMY Monday, Feb. 25: (A) Lutheran High Westland vs. (B) Detroit Westside Christian, 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 26: (C) Plymouth Christian vs. (D) Westland Huron Valley Lutheran, 6 p.m.; (E) Redford Covenant vs. (F) Detroit Urban Lutheran, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 28: Detroit West Village Christian vs. A-B winner, 6 p.m.; C-D winner vs. E-F winner, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 29: Championship final, 7 p.m.

(Winner advances to the Birmingham Roeper regional semifinal vs. Detroit City district champion.) PREP HOCKEY

PRE-REGIONAL DRAWS OIVISION 1

at PLYMOUTH CULTURAL CENTER Tuesday, Feb. 26: Livonia Stevenson vs. Redford Unified, 5:30 p.m.; Livonia Churchill vs. Thursday, Feb. 28: Championship final, 8:30

p.m. (Winner advances to the regional final 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 1 at the St. Clair Shores Civic Arena vs. St. Clair Shores Lakeview preregional champion.) DIVISION 2

at LIVONIA'S EDGAR ARENA Monday, Feb. 25: (A) Plymouth vs. (B) Canton.

7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 27: Livonia Franklin vs. A-B winner, 7 p.m. (Winner advances to the regional final 6:30 p.m. Saturday, March 1 at the Novi Ice Arena vs. Novi pre-regional champion.) PREP BOWLING

Friday, Feb. 29 MHSAA Division 1 Team State Finals at Northway Lanes (Muskegon), 8:25 a.m. MHSAA Division 2 Team State Finals

at Sunnybrook Lanes (Sterling Hts.), 8:25 Saturday, March 1 MHSAAA Division 1 Individual Finals at Northway Lanes, 8:25 a.m. MHSAA Division 2 Individual Finals at Sunnybrook Lanes, 8:25 a.m.

COMPETITIVE CHEER REGIONALS Saturday, March 1 Division 2 at Allen Park, 10 a.m.

Division 1 at Wayne Memorial, 11 a.m. ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE

Friday, Feb. 29 Whalers at Sarnia Sting, 7:35 p.m. MAJOR INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUE Sunday, Feb. 24 Detroit Ignition vs. Baltimore Blast àt Compuware Arena, 4:35 p.m. Friday, Feb. 29

Detroit Ignition vs. California Cougars at Compuware Arena, 8 p.m. TBA - time to be announced.

Romulus shoots down Rockets

Romulus emerged Friday from the Class A district tourney at Wayne Memorial with a 52-39 triumph over Westland John Glenn.

Christine Wells and Ashley Moore tallied 12 and 10 points, respectively, for the victorious Eagles, who improved to 15-5 overall, and advance to Tuesday's regional semifinal at Wyandotte Roosevelt against either Temperance Bedford or Monroe.

Jasmine Brown and Kanaya Williams also tallied nine apiece for Romulus; which took a commanding 36-16 halftime lead.

Brittany Holbrook and Shantinique Baker scored 11 points apiece for the Rockets. who made 12-of-18 free throws. Romulus won despite hitting

only 12-of-28 from the line. JÕHN GLENN 63, WAYNE 42: Brittany

Brown scored a game-high 19 points

OISTRICT GIRLS HOOPS

Wednesday to lead Westland John . Glenn (10-11) past host Wayne Memorial (4-18) in a Class A district semifinal matchup.

The Rockets, who beat Wayne for the third time this season, were led by Andrew Gordon-McClain and Chanel Payne with 11 and 10 points.

Wayne, outscored 34-17 in the second half after trailing 29-25 at halftime, got a team-high 17 points from senior guard Nastassia Goines.

Senior guard Trenia Barbee contributed 14 for the Zebras. CHURCHILL 47, FARMINGTON 25: A quick

start enabled Livonia Churchill (7-14) to post a Class A district semifinal win Wednesday night over Farmington High (9-13) at Redford Thurston.

Churchill led 20-5 after one quarter and held the Falcons scoreless with an 8-0 second-period run.

"Our defense keyed everything," Churchill first-year coach Chad Jenkins said. "We were also able to use the pick-and-roll and get open

looks.

Senior Chelsea Manasian led Chnrchill in scoring with 13 points. Juniors Kia Griffin and Alysa Boldiszar added nine and eight, respectively.

Senior forward Christina Wassman scored 12 to lead Farmington.

LADYWOOD 47, NORTHVILLE 34: In a Class A district semifinal Wednesday, host Livonia Ladywood (19-3) shot 52 percent from the floor to beat the Mustangs (11-10).

Senior Alison Szczypka paced Ladywood, now 19-3 overall, with 16 points.

Senior Jenna Anastos contributed 13 points and eight rebounds.

The Blazers led 27-22 at halftime before outscoring the Mustangs 16-6 in the third quarter on 7-of-11 shooting to take command.

We hit some shots that opened us things for us against their zone," said Ladywood coach Andrea Gorski, whose team made 19-of-36 shots on the night.

Sarah Stern and Chelsea Atzinger each scored nine for Northville.

to the regional semifinals

6 p.m. Tuesday at Warren

Academy. LUTHERAN WESTLAND 53, PCA 41:

In a Class D district semifi-

Valley Lutheran.

the Warriors.

nal Wednesday, Lutheran High

Westland (15-5) relied on the one-

two punch of Allyson Yankee and

Becca Refenes to beat Plymouth

Christian Academy (9-11) at Huron

Yankee tallied a game-high 24

throws in the final quarter. Refenes

added 19 points and 12 rebounds for

fourth-quarter run which sliced the

deficit to 39-33, scored 17 to lead the

Meghan Polera, who keyed

Eagles. Sara Ross added 11.

points, including 12-of-14 free

Immaculate Conception to

face Detroit Charlotte Forten

Northville stuns Churchill, 5-2

Northville pulled rank Friday against Livonia Churchill, toppling the host Chargers, 5-2, in the Western Lakes Activities Association first-place hockey crossover game held at Edgar Arena.

B2

7:30 p.m.

champion.)

(LW)

GIRLS BASKETBALL REGIONAL TOURNAMENT DRAWS CLASS A

at WALLED LAKE WESTERN

Tuesday, Feb. 26: Livonia Franklin vs. Brighton, 6 p.m.; Livonia Ladywood vs. North Farmington,

Thursday, Feb. 28: Championship final, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 26: Lutheran Westland vs. Detroit Charlotte Forten Academy, 6 p.m.; Allen Park Inter-City Baptist vs. Birmingham Roeper, 730 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 28: Championship final, 7 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL DISTRICT TOURNAMENT DRAWS CLASS A

at LIVONIA STEVENSON Monday, Feb. 25: (A) Livonia Franklin vs.

Stevenson vs. (D) Farmington, 7 p.m.

(B) Redford Thurston, 5:30 p.m.; (C) Livonia

Wednesday, Feb. 27: Livonia Churchill vs. A-B

winner, 5:30 p.m.; Redford Union vs. C-D winner,

Friday, Feb. 29: Championship final, 7 p.m. (Winner advances to the Walled Lake Northern regional semifinal vs. Highland-Milford district

at WAYNE MEMORIAL

Monday, Feb. 25: (A) Belleville vs. (B) Ypsilanti, 5:30 p.m.; (C) Wayne vs. (D) Garden City, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 27: Romulus vs. A-B winner, 5:30 p.m.; Westland John Glenn vs. C-D winner,

(Winner advances to the state quarterfinals Tuesday, March 4 at Ypsilanti Lincoln vs.

Wyandotte Roosevelt regional champion.)

Northville, ranked No. 7 in Division 1, got a pair of goals from Alex Brewin.

Case Moerman (power-play), Wes Gates and Kevin Uetz also scored for the Western Division champion Mustangs, who avenged a 5-3 loss to the Lakes Division champion Chargers on Nov. 30.

Northville improved 20-3-1 overall.

"Northville wanted it more than we did," said Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni, whose

into the post," Churchill first-

year coach Chad Jenkins said.

'We did not give ourselves a chance offensively. There was

Franklin shot a respect-

able 22-of-47 from the field

connected on 12-of-37 (32.4

(46.8 percent), while Churchill

no flow. no rhythm."

FROM PAGE B1

BOYS HOCKEY

second-ranked Chargers end the regular season at 19-5 overall. "And their goaltender (Ted Keranen) played well." Churchill outshot the

Mustangs, 30-26. Travis Satkowiak's first-period goal from Josh Proben and Mike Woynick made it 1-all. Scott Sundberg added a second-period goal from Garrett Miencier and Keith Yackley as the Chargers trailed 3-2.

STEVENSON 5, PLYMOUTH 2: Mike Voran scored a pair of goals Wednesday as host Livonia Stevenson (21-1-2), ranked No. 1 in Division 1, defeated the Wildcats (13-9-2) in the secondplace WLAA crossover at Edgar Arena.

Stevenson led 3-1 after one period.

At 7:58, R.J. Kierdorf scored from Ryan Baratono and Cole Rochowiak. Voran followed at 12:39 from Sean Lerg and Tyler Vines and just 57 seconds later Ian Curran scored from Ian Montgomery and Marc Villaire.

Jerry Pitts scored for Plymouth at the 13-minute mark of the first period, while Jake Jossey (from Steve Smith and Kyle Rockov) added the Wildcats' second goal at 8:34 of the second period.

Ryan Schultz was in goal during the first period for the Wildcats before being replaced by Christian Blick.

Baratono scored for the Spartans 58 seconds into the third and Voran notched his second from John Vella just 36 seconds later.

Plymouth goaltender Ryan Schultz stopped 42-of-47 Stevenson shots, while counterpart Pat McHugh had to make just 13 saves.

Warriors romp to 2nd district championship

Lutheran Westland remains alive and well in the state Class D girls basketball tour-

nament. Eleven of 12 players scored

Friday as the Warriors earned their second district title in school history with a 63-36 triumph over Detroit Urban Lutheran in the finals at Westland Huron Valley Lutheran.

Junior guard Allyson Yankee led the victorious Warriors, now 16-5 overall, with 23 points. Becca Refenes, a 6-foot-1 junior center, added 12 points and 12 rebounds.

Refenes also joins Stephanie Locke as the only Lutheran

Westland players in school history to surpass the 300-point mark for a season.

The Warriors, who last captured a district title in 2005, jumped out to a commanding 33-6 halftime lead over the Vikings.

"Our goal was to play a zone (defense) and force them to shoot from the outside and secure rebounds," Lutheran Westland coach Kevin Wade said.

Urban, bowing out at 5-16 overall, missed eight 3-pointers in the opening quarter. Brenee Draper led the

Vikings with 15 points. Lutheran Westland advances

Phoenix ousts Trojans in district

The Phoenix dressed just

Team in turmoil Detroit Renaissance was back at fullstrength Friday night and the result was a resounding 73-27 victory in the Class B district

six players in its first district game Monday as a result of player suspensions and only five available during the Operation-Friendship final against Livonia Ladywood following a player boycott. Aysha Boston scored 10 to pace Renaissance, which led 18-6 after one quarter and 44-17 at halftime. Samantha Harper, Elizabeth Badgett and Kiara

Smith each contributed eight. The Phoenix made 13-of-14 free throws.

Clarenceville, which bowed out with a 9-12 record, got

said. "The last game we got away from our inside post girls. We got lazy trying to beat everybody from the out-, side.

"Briauna (Taylor) is now learning to see more of the floor. She's running more (of the offense) at the point and recognizing more openings. And Brittany (Taylor) was better tonight with the leg. She goodness for youth because they heal so fast. Churchill, which also received seven points from

was much more mobile. Thank

Alysa Boldiszar and six from Lindsey Graciak, ends the season with a 7-15 record. "Even though our record

> was 7-15, we made the (Western Lakes) conference tourney for the first time in awhile and made a district final," Jenkins said. "I think things are going in the right direction. The positive is that our younger players played in a lot of pressure situations and next year we'll be able to

percent). "Good ball movement was the focus going in," McCall

GIRLS HOOPS

Ladywood senior Alex Serowoky was a force at both ends of the court. She netted a game-high 22 points and nine rebounds and was the Blazers' primary help defender.

Just as importantly, Serowoky drew two early fouls on Chelsea Davis, who was mired in foul trouble the entire game until eventually fouling out with 4:40 left.

"Alex was more assertive tonight than I've seen her in a

New to

handle them better.

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long time," Gorski said, smiling. "She likes to pass, but we'd like to see her be a little bit more of a ball hog. She was tonight, thank goodness."

Caitlin Szczypka and Jenna Anastos both added six points while Alison Szczypka added five.

Salem's Sara Stone closed out her sophomore season in fine style with team highs in points (10) and rebounds (11). Brett deBear scored five points for the Rocks before leaving with an apparent eye injury with 3:38 remaining in the contest.

"I give a lot of credit to

Silly Rabbit,

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Ladywood," said Salem coach Fred Thomann. "Their No. 42 (Serowoky) got off against us a little bit and they knocked down a number of three-point shots. They were a hard cover for us."

Both teams came out firing on all cylinders in the first quarter, which ended with the Blazers ahead, 11-9.

Ladywood amped up its defensive effort in the second stanza as it held the Rocks to 1-of-7 shooting.

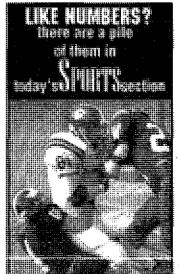
The Blazers padded their lead to 26-15 with 4:35 to go in the third quarter on an Anastos fast-break layup, but Salem whittled its deficit down to 32-25 at the end of the quarter thanks a stealand-layup from Stone.

Salem drew to within 32-26 19 seconds into the fourth quarter on a Mitchell free throws, but that's as close as it got.

"We were still right there, only down six in the fourth quarter," said Thomann. "If we make the next basket, we have a shot. Well, we never made the next basket."

Ladywood shot well from the floor, sinking 18-of-38 attempts (47.3 percent), but struggled from the free-throw line (7-of-16).

The Rocks sizzled from the stripe, canning 11-of-13 (84.6).



girls basketball final against host Livonia Clarenceville.

The Public School League runners-up, now 17-4 overall, had all 15 players in the lineup to advance to Tuesday's semifinal to face top-ranked Beverly Hills-Detroit Country Day.

seven points each from Amanda Moody and Amber O'Halloran.

"I give our girls credit, they played hard and did not quit the whole game," Clarenceville coach Julie Patterson said. "They just had too much talent to handle."

Taylor twins eclipse Eagles as Pats survive test, 60-58

BY BRAD EMONS STAFF WRITER

Not even Wednesday night's spectacular lunar display could eclipse the performance of Livonia Franklin's Taylor sisters, who propelled the Patriots to a riveting 60-58 girls basketball win over host Redford Thurston.

Briauna Taylor scored 29 of her game-high 31 points through the first three quarters before twin Brittany, fighting off a gimpy ankle, came in cold off the bench during the final 4:41 to score 10 points of her own as the Patriots, sporting an overall record of 17-4, advance to the Class A district championship game to face Livonia Churchill (7-14). The final is set for 7 p.m.

Friday at Thurston. The Chargers, meanwhile, won the first game of the doubleheader with a 47-25 win over Farmington.

Thurston's 5-foot-10 sophomore forward Chelsea Carradine was heroic in defeat, scoring 24 points and adding a eye-popping 24 rebounds.

The Eagles (15-6) played inspired basketball all night, but couldn't gain the lead until 5-3 sophomore guard Ashley Wheeler (14 points) nailed a three-pointer as time expired to end the third period.

Thurston took a 46-45 advantage into the final quarter and led by three points on three different occasions during the final 4:05. Desperate to get some addicoach Dave McCall went against his own best wishes and inserted Brittany Taylor, the 5-8 junior, into the lineup.

"She hurt her ankle hadly in practice on Monday and I was not going play her unless we really needed her," McCall said. "She begged me to play at halftime. We had a situation where we had to resort to Brittany. She just makes everybody around her better. And I have to give the girl credit. She showed a lot of courage."

Franklin senior center Ashley Price's triple from the wing - her only points of the game – with only 1:57 left knotted the game at 56-all, but Thurston's Jacynta Green split a pair of free throws just seven seconds later to give the Eagles a one-point edge.

Brittany Taylor responded with two big baskets with 1:33 and 29.3 seconds remaining after Thurston turned the ball over twice.

Carradine answered with a free throw with 20.4 seconds left to cut the deficit to two, 60-58.

Franklin then tried to play keep-a-way and it worked for almost 15 seconds before committing a turnover.

Thurston, however, couldn't get a clear shot at the basket after taking over possession with 4.9 seconds to play and the Patriots escaped with state tournament win.

"It was a great ballgame, you won't see a better game in a district," Thurston coach

tional offensive spark, Franklin Bob Ostrowski said. "We did the best we could. As far as the effort. I couldn't be more proud of our girls. We just didn't get it done at the free throw line."

Thurston made 15-of-33 free throws, while Franklin was 12-of-16.

'That was the ballgame," Ostrowski said. "We go to the line 33 times and not shoot 50 percent, and they did not even shoot 20 (attempts). We've struggled at the line at times this season. But if we even shoot 55 percent, we win the ballgame. But give credit to Franklin."

Ostrowski's strategy was to put the clamps on Franklin's top three scorers – Briauna and Brittany Taylor, along with Price.

"My entire philosophy in basketball revolves around defense," the Thurston coach said. "I thought we did a great job on everybody else, but (Briauna) Taylor. We held the others down, but she's capable of that. She's got great moves around the basket."

Following the game, McCall was breathing a sigh of relief.

"We couldn't rebound," the Franklin coach said. "We scouted them twice and I don't know if our girls underestimated them. Maybe the six days off affected us. It was a great awakening. We kind of forgot how we got here.

"But Thurston is a good team. They made us play."

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LOCAL SPORTS

match.

"Nobody came to wrestle

except for maybe two kids,"

Chiola lamented. "Whatever

the reason - they don't want to

go to the state meet, they were

nervous or they're getting bad

coaching - they weren't ready.

seemingly small 21-20 deficit

through the first nine matches

"We needed to be up about

CANTON 49

LIVONIA FRANKLIN 20

Feb. 20 at Novi 145 pounds: Braden Price (C) pinned Brandon Billiau, 1:13; 152: Elvin Ferreira (LF) won by major decision over Anthony Abro.

Won by major decision over Annuoly Auto, 12-3; 160: Don Stratz won by disqualification; 171: Rodger Kropp (C) dec. Garrett Hay (LF), 10-6; 189: Dan Woodall (LF) p. Adam Powers, 4:22; 215: Dan Wanshon (C) dec. Cody Hay.

3; **285:** Luke Konsitzke (C) dec. Mike Modes ; **103:** Waleed Faraj (C) p. Steven Tuyo, 3:59;

112: Jared Pieknik (LF) won by major dec. over Connor Johnson, 15-1; 119: Carl Lucke (C) p.

Justin Jacobsen, 3:53; **125:** Donnie Watkins (C) p. Grant Phillips, 2:33; **130:** Jeremy Filippelli

(C) won by major dec. over Matt Hintz, 14-2;
 135: Steve Cox (C) p. Nick Clendennin, 1:01;
 140: Brent Winekoff (C) won by default. Dual meet records: Canton, 26-7; Franklin,

CANTON 47

NOVI 15 Feb. 20 at Novi 152 pounds: Ryan Thomas (N) won by default; 160: Pat Durocher (C) dec. Luke

default; **160**: Pat Durocher (C) dec. Luke Maxfield, 11-5; **171**: Rodger Kropp (C) dec. Joe Pritchard, 6-5; **169**: Ryan Ridenour (N) dec. Adam Powers, 11-6; **215**: Dan Wanshon (C) dec. Joey Shada, 8-4; **285**: Luke Konsitzke (C) pinned Charles Satterwhite, 0:42; **103**: Connor Caldwell (N) dec. Waleed Faraj, 7-4; **112**: Cohnor Johnson (C) dec. Beau Bielski, 10-3; **119**: Robbie Yusko (N) dec. Carl Lucke, 2-0; **125**: Donnie Watkins (C) D. Ryan Pollard, 126; **130**: Leremy

Wałkins (C) p. Ryan Pollard, 1:26; 130: Jeremy Filippelli (C) p. Clayton Caldwell, 4:07; 135:

Steve Cox (C) won by technical fall, 16-1, over Tom Symanski; 140: Brent Winekoff (C) p. Steve

Debono, 0:30; 145: Braden Price (C) p. Aditya

21-5 overall;

Sathi, 3:37

Rodk TONGSTANKS

31-15 at that point to have a

chance," he said. "All of our

strength was early on."

They're never ready."

was deceptive.

Chiola said his team's

Livonia Blue gymnasts claim 1st

The top three teams at Wednesday's Western Lakes Activities Association gymnastics conference meet at Hartland High School were separated by the width of a balance beam.

www.hometownlife.com

When the final points were tallied, Livonia Blue was crowned champion with 142.475 points. Northville was second with 141.250 and Livonia Red was third with 140.150

Salem placed fourth with 138.725, Canton was fifth with 138.300 and Plymouth was 10th with 118.425.

Livonia Blue excelled in the floor exercise (36.700) and bars (34.750), the two events in which it placed first. The Mustangs took first in the beam (35.400) while Livonia Red earned the top spot on the vault.

Red's Paula Guzik won the all-around with a score of 37.175.

Rounding out the top five spots were Blue's Emily Quint (36.450), Salem's Katie Koetting (36.400), Northville's Cassidy Winter (36.350)

and Canton's Jessie Murray (36.300)Northville won the regular-

season title with a 10-0 record.

WESTERN LAKE **GIRLS GYMNASTICS MEET**

Feb. 20 at Hartland H.S. TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Livonia Blue, 142.475; 2. Northville, 141.250; 3. Livonia Red, 140.150; 4. Salem, 138.725; 5. Canton, 138.300; 6. Walled Lake Northern, 136.075; 7. Howell, 132.075; 8. Walled Lake Central, 131.675; 9. Brighton 126.800; 10, Plymouth, 118.425; 11, Hartland 86.850

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

DIVISION 1 VAULT: 1. Katie Koetting (S), 9.550; 2. Paula Guzik (LR), 9.450; 3. Emily Quint (LB), 9.350; 4. Alicia DiMauro (LR), 9.325; 5. Taylor Meredyk (WLC), 9.200; 6. (tie) Meghan Powers (LB) and Robyn Plwowar (C), 9.150; 8. Jessie Murray (C), 9.050; 9. Kelly Charniga (LB), B.950; 10. Alexis Johnson (HWL), 8.90.

UNEVEN BARS: 1. Paula Guzik (LR), 9.250; 2. (tie) Jessie Murray (C) and Liz Sommer (WLN) 9.00; 4. Meghan Powers (LB), 8.90; 5. Katie Koetting (S), 8.750; 6. (tie) Robyn Piwowar (C) and Cassidy Winter (N), 8.70; 8. Alexis Johnson (HWL), 8.60; 9. Brittany Janis (LB), 8.550; 10. Alicia DiMauro (LR), 8.40. BALANCE BEAM: 1. Cassidy Winter (N),

9.350; 2. Liz Sommer (WLN), 9.30; 3. Paùla Guzik (LR), 9.20; 4. Robyn Piwowar (C), 9.10; 5. Autumn Collins (S), 8.850; 6. Katie Koetting (S), 8.750; 7. Jessie Murray (C), 8,70: 8, Alicia DiMauro (LR), 8.650; 9. Emily Quint (LB), 8.625; 10. Meghan Powers (LB), 8,40.

FLOOR EXERCISE: 1. Emily Quint (LB), 9.625; Z. Jessie Murray (C), 9.550; 3. Katie Koetting (S), 9.350; 4. Paula Guzik (LR), 9.275; 5. Cassidy Winter (N), 9.175: 6. (tie) Alicia Dimauro (LR) and Kelly Charniga (LB), 9.100; 8. Liz Sommer (WLN), 8.925; 9. Taylor Meredyk (WLC),

8.90; 10. Meghan Powers (LB), 8.80. ALL-AROUND: 1. Paul Guzik (LR), 37.175; 2. Emily Ouint (LB), 36.450; 3. Katie Koetting (S), 36.40; 4. Cassidy Winter (N), 36.350; 5. Jessie Murray (C), 36.30; 6. Liz Sommer (WLN), 35.625; 7. Alicia DiMauro (LR), 35.475; 8. Meghan Powers (LB), 35.250; 9. Robyn Piwowar (C), 35.050; 10. Taylor Meredyk (WLC), 34.500.

DIVISION 2

VAULT: 1. Allison Kemp (N), 9.275; 2. (tie) Hannah Saarinen (WLN) and Margarita Lazarevska (LR), 9.050; 4. Laura Nomura (LB), 9.00; 5. (tie) Katerina Kariotis (S) and Kelly Tapella (LB), 8.950; 7. Tiffeny Wysocki (B), 8.900; 8. Monica Cauley (HWL), 8.800; 9. Amy O'Brien (N), 8.750; 10. Jamie Marihugh (LR), 8.700. UNEVEN BARS: 1. Hannah Saarinen (WLN).

9.350; 2. Allison Kemp (N), 9.050; 3. Jordan Brodehl (P), 8.900; 4. Tatiana Palafox (WLC), 8.750; 5. Julie Davison (N), 8.650; 6. Monica Cauley (HWL), 8,60; 7, Kelly Tapella (LB), 8,450 8. (tie) Laura Nomura (LB) and Brittany Young (S), 8.350; 10. (tie) Amy Reynolds (N) and Amy O'Brien (N), 8,20

BALANCE BEAM: 1. Allison Kemp (N), 9.40; 2, Laura Nomura (LB), 8.850; 3. Jordan Brodeh (P), 8,825; 4, Carley Lukas (LB), 8,70; 5, Amy Reynolds (N), 8,550; 6, Mallory Hudak (C), 8,50; 7. (tie) Brittany Young (S) and Chelsea Foss (WLC), 8.450; 9. (tie) Jamie Marihugh (LR) and Alicia Potchynok (WLC), 8.350. FLOOR EXERCISE: 1. Monica Cauley (HWL),

9.350; 2. Mallory Hudak (C), 9.150; 3. Katie Bridges (Lb), 9.075; 4. (tie) Allison Kemp (N) and Katerina Kariotis (S), 9.0; 6. Hannah Saarinen (WLN), 8,975; 7, Laura Nomura (LB), 8,90; 8, Caileigh Deacon (N), 8.850; 9. Shannon Slayton (WLN), 8.80; 10. (tie) Tatiana Palafox (WLC) and Brittany Swazey (LR), 8.750.

ALL-AROUND: 1. Allison Kemp (N), 36.725; 2. Hannah Saarinen (WLN), 35.675; 3. Laura Nomura (LB), 35.100; 4. Monica Cauley (HWL), 35.050; 5. Jordan Brodehl (P), 34.525; 6. Mallory Hudak (C), 34,350; 7. Katerina Kariotis (S), 34,250; 8. 8rittany Young (S), 34.00; 9. Tatiana Palafox (WLC), 33,80; 10. Julie Davison (N), 33.70

Churchill corrals Mustangs in 2 OTs; Clarenceville falls

It took awhile, but Livonia Churchill was persistent, wrapping up third place in the Western Lakes Activities Association boys basketball playoffs with a 64-55 doubleovertime victory over Northville in a game played Thursday at Westland John Glenn.

Ryan Rosenick and Andrew Vagnetti each scored 15 points to lead a balanced scoring attack for the Chargers, who end the regular season at 12-8 overall.

"It was huge step for our program," Churchill coach Jim Solak said. "Third place is a great accomplishment for our kids, and I'm proud of them.'

Rosenick pulled down 21 rebounds, while Vagnetti made 1-of-3 free throws with only 0.6 seconds remaining to send the game into a second OT tied at 51-all.

Churchill then outscored the

Churchill, which couldn't hold a 10-point four-quarter advantage.

It was 46-46 at the end of regulation as Northville stormed back with a 19-8 fourth-period run.

The Mustangs (11-9) got 14 points from Dan Kirkpatrick and 13 apiece from Greg Hasse and Steve Anderson.

Churchill was 18-of-29 from the foul line, while Northville hit 15-of-22.

"They (Northville) were taking us to the rack, it got sloppy, and we were fouling way too much," Solak said. "They (Northville) made a ton of free throws and we missed a lot of shots ourselves inside. But we hung in there."

COMMUNITY 67, CLARENCEVILLE 46: The regular season ended Thursday with a thud for host Livonia Clarenceville (18-2), which had its 15-game winning streak snapped by Detroit Community (11-6) in a non-conference encounter. The Trojans lost senior pointguard and second-leading scorer Lonnie Fairfax to a leg injury in the opening quarter as Community went

on a 17-7 run

Clarenceville's leading scorer, junior forward Jamie Stewart, also went down with an eye injury early in the third quarter after scoring 11 first-quarter points. He did not return.

Joey King led the Trojans with 12 points and 12 rebounds.

Raymar Porter led the Hurricanes with 15, while 6-10 junior James Till added 10

Community made eight 3-pointers and hit 7-of-15 free throws

Clarenceville was 11-of-18 from the foulline

"This is probably a good wake-up call for us," said Clarenceville coach Corey McKendry, whose team opens Class B district play 7 p.m. Monday at home against state-ranked Detroit Renaissance

URBAN 64, LUTH, WESTLAND 53: Jordan Jefferson scored 17 points and David Atkins contributed 11 as Detroit Urban Lutheran (6-13) earned the non-conference win Thursday at Lutheran High Westland (4-16). Josh Kruger scored a game-high

22 points for the Warriors, who

Battle Creek bound

Canton pins Patriots, Novi in regional

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Much like the face on the life-sized cardboard cutout image of coach Casey Randolph that was propped up beside its bench, the Canton wrestling team never lost its intensity during Wednesday night's Division 1 regional tournament at Novi High School.

As a result of their relentless tenacity, the Chiefs are headed to the D1 state finals in Battle Creek for the second time in the past three years.

Working in machinelike fashion. Canton (26-7) knocked off WLAA-Western Division rival Livonia Franklin, 49-20, in a semifinal showdown before derailing Novi, 47-15, in the final match.

Canton will face No. 1ranked Davison (31-1) in a quarterfinal tilt set for Friday, Feb. 29, at 5:30 p.m. at Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek.

The Chiefs were ranked No. 10 in Division 1 in the latest Michigan Grappler rankings. Randolph was suspended for the 2008 post-season after attending an off-season senior national event that one of his former wrestlers was competing in. He can still run prac-

tices. Although he wasn't in attendance Wednesday night, Randolph still had an impact on his on-a-roll contingent. "The kids were very inspired to get Casey a victory tonight,"

Spartan baseball clinics

The Livonia Stevenson

baseball program will stage a

pair of clinics for grades 3-6

including a session for young

pitchers from 10 a.m. to noon,

along with a hitting and field-

ing session, 1-3 p.m., both on

Saturday, March 8, at the high

Enrollment for the young

pitchers clinic is limited to 40,

school fieldhouse.

said Canton interim head coach Mike Pantaleo, "He's our leader; he's the one who's shown us the way. We dedicated tonight's wins to him.

"Everybody in this program has been building up to this. moment all season. Ever since our pre-season conditioning started, these kids have put their whole hearts into it. They believe in the coaching staff, they believe in themselves and they're putting it all together right now."

In the much-anticipated semifinal match, Franklin jumped to a 16-9 lead on a Dan Woodall pin at 189 pounds. However, the Chiefs rebounded to take the next three decisions - Dan Wanshon's 10-3 triumph over Cody Hay at 215, Luke Konsitzke's 5-2 decision over fellow heavyweight Michael Modes, Jr. and Walled Faraj's pin of Steven Tuyo at 103 - to forge a 21-16 lead.

Jared Pieknik registered a 15-1 major-decision victory over Connor Johnson at 112 to bring the Patriots to within 21-20, but Canton's 119-pound Carl Lucke rocked Franklin's hopes when he pinned Justin Jacobsen at 3:53.

"We had a lot of big wins tonight, but Carl's was the one that kind of set us off," said Pantaleo. "We caught fire after that pin.'

Franklin coach Dave Chiola was less-than-thrilled with his team's mental preparedness during Wednesday's

SPORTS ROUNDUP

while the hitting and fielding is limited to 60. The cost is \$40 for each clinic session.

For more information, call Stevenson head coach Rick Berryman at (734) 455-8623: or e-mail him at Berry3724@ aol.com.

LJAL needs umpires

The Livonia Junior Athletic League needs experience and non-experienced umpires for

financial

PRESENTS

the upcoming baseball and softball season.

Games begin Monday, April 28 and run through mid-July.

The LJAL will also stage a mandatory umpires clinic from 9 a.m. until noon Saturday, March 8 at Frost Middle School. Those interested should

contact Dave Carlson at eaglesbball@sbcglobal.net; or Bill Rowlett at ljal_basball@ yahoo.com.

B3

(LW)

Mustangs 13-4 in the second four-minute extra session. Ryan Woods and Ryan Whittum chipped in with 14

and 13 points, respectively, for

trailed by one at intermission, 28-27. Adam Zehel chipped in with 13 for the Warriors, who made 18-of-25 foul shots.

Urban connected on only 10-of-25.



goals after making up the difference by hitting 16-of-19 free throws.

Junior guard Austin Anderson was the only other Rocket in double figures with 12.

Senior forward Stefan Marken, who torched Wayne in the last meeting with 28 points, including seven 3-pointers, was limited to six.

"We had a couple of different matchups this time because the last time Stefan had 28 and Earl had 21," Woodard said. "We used smaller and quicker guards. We didn't want them to shoot as many threes and not let them get to the line.

"We couldn't keep Earl away from the basket, but we used Matt Lewis on Stefan to get up and crowd him."

Woodard said the key to the second-half surge was "playing one possession at a time."

"Ŵhat we addressed at halftime was not getting complacent," the Wayne coach said. "We wanted to divide it into four-minute games.

"We felt the last time we did not play our best basketball in the second half (Wayne had led 38-31 at the half)."

Lee, meanwhile, said his first-quarter dunk got the team jump-started.

We got all the momentum from there, it was a team thing and the lockerroom was excited," the senior guard said of the halftime atmosphere. "We knew we had it in the books, but we had to keep fighting."

Wayne not only shot 84 percent from the foul line, but also hit 23-of-41 shots from the floor (56.9 percent).

Glenn was only 14-of-55 from the floor (25.4 percent).

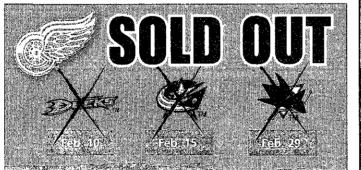
"This situation did not go well, I just wish it would have

gone better," Young said. "This is the one of the best group of kids I've had as far as working hard, listening and doing what I tell

them to do. It hurts." Wavne. meanwhile, got a boost with the return of senior forward John Hill, who had been out since Jan. 29 with a

shoulder and neck injury suffered in a fall against Livonia Franklin. "He's a four-year varsity guy, a team guy," Woodard said. "His

brother (Daniel) got more playing time and it made us even better. In a game like this going seven and eight deep helps us."



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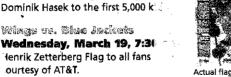
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Wings us. Blue Incluets

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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, February 24, 2008

B4



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Page B5 (*)

Sunday, February 24, 2008 The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Hugh Gallagher, editor . (734) 953-2149 . hgallagher@hometownlife.com

Family time Beat boredom and get moving together

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

From cardio kick boxing to aqua pilates, now there's no excuse not to get moving. Maybe it's just time to try something fun. Exercise doesn't have to be boring --- and what's even better – families can do it together at the YMCA, community recreation centers or even church. The Farmington Family Y offers everything from a state-of-the-art Wellness Center with cardio and strength training equipment to salsa dancing on Friday nights.

"We have activities for everybody in the family from shooting baskets to walking on the track or using one of our two swimming pools," said Rick Durei, YMCA district vice president. "New starting now we have family time within the Wellness Centers so kids 11 to 13 can come in with adults after school and evening, and weekends."

Tom Spring recommends alternating resistance or strength training with cardio to stay fit and reduce health risks. Obesity continues to skyrocket causing a variety of diseases from Type 2 diabetes to cancer. As an exercise physiologist in the cardiac rehabilitation program at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Spring works with heart patients on advanced weight training techniques.

"We coordinate high intensity weight or resistance training with heart patients already on an aerobic program with treadmill, biking," Spring said. "We're built of skeletal muscle and bones that work together. If we're working on heart we have to be working on other muscles in the body. The way we do that is adding resistance and adding a load

to muscles and bones. Resistance exercise be it dumbbells, soup cans or body weight is the best way to do that.

"With the advance weight training program we found patients improving strength and flexibility but our primary finding was it reduced their blood pressure and heart rate during that exercise. As part of the program published data shows absolute strength has increased and the work load on the heart has decreased."

For flexibility and balance Spring recommends stretching, yoga or tai chi. He exercises during his lunch hour and in the evening goes for long walks with his wife and kids.

"I do a lot of exercise with resistance bands which are portable, easy to use and cheap," Spring said. "We need to be active on a daily basis. Whatever we can fit into our schedule to get moving is a key. Most of us don't move enough."

American Heart Association and American College of Sports Medicine guidelines recommend all healthy adults ages 18-65 get at least 30 minutes of moderate intensity activity five days a week (www. americanheart.org).

"The key for people is to schedule time for them to do exercise. It's as important for our health as taking a vitamin, eating right, brushing our teeth," said Spring. "Dancing requires a great deal of energy and aerobic. Anything that gets you moving off the couch is fantastic. And any time you can do it with somebody else it helps with motivation. Do it regularly with your friends. I like to spend time with my family when I'm home.'

Spring says, children don't need a structured exercise program.

"Kids are built to be active, meant

Royal Oak. Sharing & Caring offers education and support programs for

to be moving around. They don't need exercise. They need to be outside running around. From age 5 to 10 and into the teen years you have to keep your kids active whether it's a sport or kicking them out to climb a tree. We're seeing the effects of it (healthwise) if we don't do something about it."

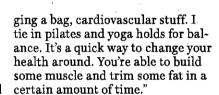
Participants exercise in the pool during aquatic fitness class at the Farmington YMCA.

Brenda Woody has a family who comes to exercise class with sons 11 and 13 and loves it. Woody and her husband, Randy, have been doing personal training and ongoing exercise classes for 8 years.

Beginning March 1, they'll offer something new at the Total Life Fitness Center in Redford - 3- and 5-day-a-week exercise boot camps for those looking to step up their workout, families included. Woody continues to teach exercise classes for free through Detroit World Outreach in Redford.

For information about the 4-week camps affiliated with the church, call (313) 561-LIFE or (313) 622-2837.

"It's straight forward weight training exercises to teach form and technique, breathing," said Brenda Woody of Westland. "They'll be kicking and punching a bag, drag-



Woody tests participants' level of endurance during the first session. Exercises are modified for the elderly or those with injuries if necessary. The only criteria for participants is attitude.

"I don't want anybody to have fear that they can't do it. I want people with a certain level of attitude that they can do this," said Woody.

"I'll be giving handouts on nutrition. You can't sustain a great workout program without good nutrition.'

ichomin@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2145



Instructor

PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHE

runs an aerobic and weight training class at the Farmington YMCA.

Lvnn Drywer

www.hometownlife.com

St. Mary Mercy Hospital is offering fitness classes in Tai Chi, an ancient Chinese discipline combining agile steps, joint-friendly movement. relaxed breathing, and mental challenge to promote mobility and wellbeing 6:30-7:30 p.m. Mondays, Feb. 25 to March 31, (classes also available on Fridays) in the hospital's Classroom 10 on the 4th Floor of the Marian Professional Building at 36475 Five Mile at Levan, Livonia. Please use Five Mile entrance. Registration required, call (734) 655-8950. Enrollment limited. A registration fee payable to St. Mary Mercy Hospital is required prior to first class.

FEBRUARY

Tai Chi for Arthritis

Divorce support group

Gaining financial control of your divorce and how to plan for your future with Jacqueline Gold-Rosesler 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 26 in the Women's Resource Center (room 225) of the McDowell Center. Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia. Call (734) 462-4443.

Families in Action program

Presented by the National Alliance on Mental Illness the 10 week educational program is designed specifically for any individual with a loved one that has been diagnosed with a mental illness. The two hour weekly sessions cover topics relative to mental illness, facilitated by family members trained by NAMI- Michigan. Sessions begin 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 27, at St. Regis School Campus, 3695 Lincoln Rd. (14 1/2 Mile and Lahser), Bloomfield Hills, Cost \$20 per person, \$30 a couple. Call Mary Ellen, (24B) 348-7196, or send e-mail to mejudd@comcast.net. Another session is set to begin 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 21, at Oakwood Heritage Hospital, 10000 Telegraph, Taylor. Call Dr. Huebl, (313) 359-0253, or Art, (734) 427-1435.

Pandemic response

Conference and strategic planning 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 27, at Best Western Executive Plaza, 2900 Jackson Ave., Ann Arbor. The forum is on issues related to emergency planning is for professionals in home health care, seniors centers, community/public housing, assisted living, homes for the aged. Contact hours available for nursing home administrators, nurses. Cost \$50. To register, call (800) 968-8195 or visit www.affordablehomecare,

org. Blood drive

7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb.

building at Garden City Hospital. 6245 Inkster. Appointments may be scheduled by calling (734) 458-4259. Walk-ins welcome.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

28, in the lower level classrooms

of the Allan Breakie Medical Office

Sharing & Caring

Pain and shoulder dysfunction of breast cancer survivors with Justin Riutta, M.D. 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 28, at Beaumont Hospital Cancer Center, Royal Oak. Sharing & Caring offers education and support programs for breast cancer survivors. For more information, call (248) 551-8586.

UPCOMING

Art of aging

Deadline for registration is March 1 for the 9th annual Art of Aging Successfully 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, March 27, at Greater Grace Temple, 23500 W. 7 Mile, Hear Detroit icon Sonny Eliot talk about his decades of working in radio and TV and his personal triumphs and tragedies. Sign up for any of five workshops on exercise, nutrition, masterpiece painting, aging issues, and humor. Cost is \$18 for age 55 and older, and includes a hot, sitdown lunch. To register, call (313) 577-2297 and ask for Donna. Art of Aging is hosted by the Institute of Gerontology at Wayne State University.

Exercise boot camps

Begins Monday, March 3, 6-7 a.m. Monday-Friday (\$300) or Monday, Wednesday and Friday (\$180) for four weeks, and 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday (\$180), at Total Life Fitness Building, 9562 Telegraph, Redford. One day women only boot camp Saturday, March 1 (\$60). Space limited to first 15 people. Call (313) 561-LIFE or (313) 622-2837.

Breastfeeding classes

10:30 a.m. to noon Monday, Feb. 25, and March 3, 10 and 17, at the Oakland County Health Division, 27725 Greenfield, Southfield. Classes for mother and baby are taught by public health nurses and cover everything from pumping to starting solids and weaning. Information targeted to first year of breastfeeding. For information or to register, call (248) 858-4003 or (888) 350-0900, ext. 84003.

Sharing & Caring

Dinner and support for newly diagnosed breast cancer patients and their partners with Annette Spencer, Phd. 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 6, at Beaumont Hospital Cancer Center.

breast cancer survivors. For reser vations, call (248) 551-8585. Food for thought

Workshop with Dr. William Karl, D.C. on how nutrition affects health and longevity 7 p.m. Monday, March 7, at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington Rd.

No charge, Call (734) 425-8588 for more information and to reserve your seat.

Volunteers needed

For Camp Discovery for children with epilepsy (June 29 to July 3, at Sherman Lake YMCA Outdoor Center in Augusta, northwest of Kalamazoo). Volunteer training from experts on epilepsy and camp procedures Saturday, June 28. Free room and board. Opportunities include camp counselors, junior counselors, medical staff, recreation assistants, dietary aides, behavioral specialists and support staff. Forinformation or an application, visit www.epilepsymichigan.org, call (800) 377-6226, option 1, ext. 231, or send e-mail to sdarroch@epilepsymichigan.org.

Self-defense class

For women and men 11 a.m. the first Saturday of every month at the Sanctuary Chiropractic & Wellness Spa, 35275 Plymouth, Livonia. Call (734) 421-7100. The techniques, tactics and information will be new each month and will add to any prior class instruction. No charge, but a \$5 donation will be sent to a shelter for abused women and children. Fibromyalgia lecture

7-9 p.m. Tuesday, March 4, with Dr. Peter lanni, a behavioral pain psychologist, present a demonstration of surface EMG and Biofeed back, at the Farmington Community Library, 32737 West 12 Mile, Farmington Hills. RSVP a few days before the lecture if you will be attending, by sending e-mail to smo23915@aol.com. Cost is \$5 to help pay for the cost of the room.

For more information, call (248) 344-0896. Loren DeVinney, P.T. will discuss the role of physical therapy in the treatment of fibromyalgia and how Biofeedback and physical therapy complement each other in a multidisciplinary treatment program.

There will also be a round table question discussion. New Fibromyalgia patients, spouses or friends are welcome to attend the meeting.

Greg K., Flat Rock, 185 lbs.

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HOMETOWN

Hugh Gallagher, editor . (734) 953-2149 . hgallagher@hometownlife.com

Gifts in relationships can come in many forms

everal years ago, when I first began writing for the Observer newspapers, 🐨 I wrote an article I called "A Gift for Valentine's Day." In it, I suggested that often the gift of a card is to make nice with your partner after a big blow out or blow up. Sometimes, the card is the only way that a couple communicates. It keeps up appearances and gives both the public and that couple the impression that they still have a relationship.

Now, it is true that there are all kinds of relationships. In the consulting room,



I and other therapists see many different kinds of relationships. While many would not be the kind of relationship I might want to be a part of, my job is to help the couple develop the kind of relationship that will work best for them.

Paul Melrose

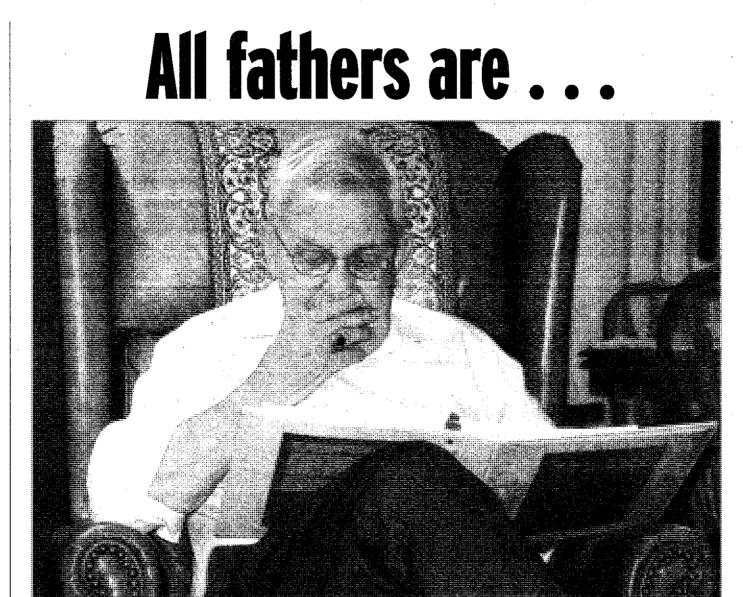
But having said this, there is still a sense with many couples that they are unhappy, dissatisfied,

don't know what to do about it, have even given up, are willing to stay with the status quo because it is familiar or get to the point where one party feels that nothing about this relationship can be saved; in that case someone walks.

The faith aspect of my work has given me a sense that there is often hope when one thought there was none. Let me be clear, however; hope often leads one down a road of different possibilities, not the re-creation of what was and no longer is.

In the case of relationships, the sense of hope might be that a couple has reached the breaking point, they will split, but each, after they have worked at it, may gain some important new insights and/or skills which will improve relationships and make for greater potential in a future relationship.

The caveat here is that one or both par-



Wallace Caminsky reads through the manuscript of 'All Fathers are Giants' during his 85th birthday celebration at his Redford home.

Author inspired by childhood in Hamtramck



BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Wallace Caminsky's short stories might have remained hidden in a filing cabinet if not for his son, Jeffrey. The two sit side by side to talk about the project to publish All Fathers are Giants. The collection of short stories and poems was inspired by the elder Caminsky's childhood experiences as the son of immigrants in Hamtramck and later as a young father raising a family in the suburbs of Detroit.



Wallace and Alice Caminsky enjoy Jeffrey's first Christmas at home in Royal Uak.



Sunday, February 24, 2008 The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

ties to a relationship that is on the rocks will have had enough commitment to themselves and those they love to look carefully, with the help of counseling, at what is not working, stay with the process long enough to see if it can be saved, and if not, what are the possibilities for the future that are best for all concerned.

I think the gift I would suggest we offer our partner is the gift of honesty; let's see how our relationship really is and how we feel about it. After that, if there is work to be done, give yourself and your partner the gift of commitment, the willingness to explore the situation fully and completely, as hard and as complicated as that may be, to work together for, as Christian scripture puts it, "a more abundant life."

It is both a psychological and a spiritual truth that you must pay as much attention to yourself as you need to pay to vour partner for both to be happy. That, perhaps, is the final gift. Take your life seriously enough to pay attention to those areas that need care: your loneliness, your low self-esteem, your lack of selfconfidence, your depression, and your anxiety. You know what those parts are. This kind of attention to self and relationship could provide a greater life-fulfilling gift than you might have thought.

Dr. Paul J. Melrose is executive director of the Samaritan Counseling Center of SE Michigan, based in Farmington Hills. He can be reached at www.paulmelrose.com or through (248) 474-4701. The staff of the Samaritan Center can be reached through www.samaritancounselingmichigan.com or through (248) 474-4701.

Wasii Caminsky and his son, Wallace, in the back yard of their Hamtramck home.

Sassy has a

career outside of

the show ring as

well. She recently

North American

black tie charity

preview as one

of the Celebrities

Against Autism.

Pictured with

Sassy is owner

Terry Seraceno of

Farmington Hills.

The two also do

pet therapy work

with Doctor Paws.

attended the

International

Auto Show's

Wallace Caminsky speaks fondly of his father, who was born in a little town outside of Kiev. Wasil graces the cover of the book. His long-suffering death from cancer was very traumatic for Caminsky.

"My favorite is still the first one about my father," said Caminsky,

85, of Redford. "It was written about 40 to 50 years ago. My father spent most of the Depression out of work. We were poor. One time my mother gave me a plate of mashed potatoes (and nothing else) for dinner and

crying." Caminsky went on to earn a scholarship to Wayne University

I liked it but it sent her upstairs

and for the next 20 years worked at one of the Big Three automobile companies. It wasn't until President John F. Kennedy's assassination in 1963 that he decided to go to law school at night. He retired as an administrative law judge for Aid to Dependent Children in the late 1980s.

Please see FATHERS, C2

DKC shows to spotlight pampered pooches

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Terry Seraceno starts conditioning her golden retrievers Blue and Sassy about a month before big shows like the two presented by the Detroit Kennel Club at Cobo Center Saturday and Sunday, March 1-2. That takes a lot of shampooing and blow drying not to mention exercising them on a treadmill to keep their muscles in shape.

"I take better care of the dogs than myself," said Seraceno of Farmington Hills.

"I bathe and blow dry them every other day. Goldens have a lot of fur. For a shiny coat, there's a special shampoo with conditioners. I'm feeding a good healthy diet, give them vitamins mixed in with food every day. In the winter it's hard to exercise your dog. Many owners train the dog to run on a treadmill at home."

After all of her hard work Seraceno plans to enjoy the show as a spectator. She's hired a professional handler to show and stay with

Please see POOCHES, C3

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HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, February 24, 2008

Guests to share laughter at March 13 fund-raiser

Humor heals and it's good for our health. That's the reason Angela Hospice is hosting Laughter Lifts You Up Thursday, March 13. More than 300 women are expected to attend the event at Laurel Manor in Livonia.

"Our invitations have gone out and so far the response has been very positive," said Barbara Paul, events coordinator at Angela Hospice in Livonia. "Ladies are very excited about coming to this event and having a fun night out with their girlfriends."

The evening begins at 5:30 p.m. with registration, appetizers and serenading from a

Meadow

Brook C Theatre

barbershop quartet. A plated dinner of Chicken Wellington will follow before the main event with guest speaker Maureen Burns who has presented to groups in the U.S., England and Canada, and is the author of the bestselling book Run With Your Dreams. She has been called warm, witty, down-to-earth, uplifting, and memorable.

"Some of our committee members saw Ms. Burns speak a number of years ago and are still raving about her," said Paul. "She'll be talking about how humor affects our health."

Following Burns message, guests will be treated to a fruit

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PRESENTS

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BY NEIL SIMON

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NEWSPAPERS

HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Coming March 19: Moonlight and Magnolias

Reservations are \$40 per person and can be made by calling Barbara Paul at (734) 953-6014. Proceeds from the event will benefit ALS patients at Angela Hospice. For more information or to download an invitation, visit www.angelahospice.org.

and dessert bar.

Reservations are \$40 per person and can be made by calling Barbara Paul at (734) 953-6014. Proceeds from the event will benefit ALS patients at Angela Hospice.

For more information or to download an invitation, visit www.angelahospice.org.



Nationally known speaker Maureen Burns explores how humor affects our health at Laughter Lifts You Up, a women's event hosted by the staff and volunteers of Angela Hospice.





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FATHERS

LOVE OF WRITING

"I enjoyed writing from high school and overseas while serving in the Army on a ship. I came home and started working for Buick and wrote at night," said Caminsky. "The stories are based upon what happened to me or I heard about. *Always* is about a retarded boy my sons grew up with."

Caminsky started writing novels about being on the ship but never finished them. In fact after returning home from the Army, Caminsky didn't do much writing. He was busy courting Alice, his soon-to-be wife. Alice is a former speech teacher and later tanght English as a second language for Redford Union Schools. The couple has lived in Redford since 1954. They married nearly 60 years ago.

"After we were married one of the things she said to me was you're not going to quit writing, are you. She encouraged me," said Caminsky. "She liked the stories. She proofread the stories and sometimes made suggestions."

A FAMILY AFFAIR

Jeffrey began editing the stories early last spring after wading through file cabinets full of manuscripts with the hope of publishing his father's book as a surprise for his 85th birthday on Oct. 28, 2007. Jeffrey remembers reading his father's writing as a kid then he started writing. Jeffrey Caminsky and his New Alexandria Press published his book, *The Referee's Survival Guide*, last year. The Livonia man's next project was *All Fathers are Giants*. Wallace Caminsky continues to work on new stories. Jeffrey has a series of science fiction novels he's written coming out later this year.

Both of Wallace's sons, Jeffrey and Christopher, followed in his footsteps and became lawyers. Jeffrey is an assistant prosecutor for Wayne County. He admires his father's writing.

Jeffrey says short stories are very challenging to write since the author doesn't have much time to capture the reader's attention or develop the story, but his father has a very poetic writing style and a good ear for a descriptive turn of phrase.

"Since I shared some of the same experiences from a different perspective, I can recognize many of the people and places in many of the stories, but like any artist he uses his life as a point of departure and paints his stories with words."

All Fathers are Giants can be ordered through any bookstore, autographed copies through the publisher's Web site www.newalexandriapress. com. Locally, copies are available at the Book Connection in Livonia.

Arthritis Today

JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY 18829 Farmington Road Livonia, Michigan 48152 Phone: (248) 478-7860



OE08585664

The drug of choice for treating gout is Zyloprim (brand name) or Allopurinol (generic).

The medication works by preventing the body from producing unit acid, the chemical that causes gout. High body production of unic acid causes its concentration to reach levels sufficient to precipitate an attack of gout, particularly the great toe, ankle and knees. By stopping the production of unic acid, Allopurinol prevents the chain of events that lead to en attack of gout.

ead to en attack of gout. However, several features of Allopurinol make physicians careful in ordering its use. First is side affacts. The drug can cause mouth some and a rash, in rare instances, but still more

are side effects. The drug can cause mouth sores and a rash. In rare instances, but still more frequently than physicians want, the medication can cause a life threatening hepatitis. Second is the timing in starting Allopurinol. You cannot use the drug during an acute attack of gout or begin Allopurinol soon after an attack ends. If used during such times, the

attack of gout or begin Allopurinol soon after an attack ends. If used during such times, the drug will make the gout worse or cause another flare of the arthritis. If you wait too long to start the medication, you may have another attack of gout and need to further delay the start of this effective medication.

Third is the difficulty in determining the proper dose. Some individuals need as much as 900 mgm a day, while others because of prior kidney or liver damage should take no more than 100 mgm.

Allopurinol is a fine medication but as good as it is, it is not the ideal. Better gout medications are in development, and may soon become the treatments of choice.

www.drjjweiss.yourmd.com



CONTINUED FROM PAGE C1

POOCHES

Blue and Sassy in an area separate from the golden retrievers. Benched shows like the DKC require dogs to be on a bench from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. during show hours so visitors can learn more about the breed. Sassy and Blue will be in the professional handlers benching area.

SPEAK UP

"People can come up and ask questions," said Seraceno, "If anybody is looking to buy a dog tell them to come down to the shows before they get a dog and remember if the price sounds cheap, you get what you pay for. Goldens have heart, hip, eye problems. If you're looking for a dog, contact your local club. They have a puppy referral system for reputable breeders. Ask to see the mother or father. Ask questions. Get some kind of guarantee. Hopefully this is a member of the family and they'll be with you for quite a while."

Blue has been with Seraceno 6 1/2 years, Sassy for 3. Both have careers outside of the

ring. Blue is a Doctor Paws therapy dog that visits patients at Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills on a regular basis. Seraceno founded the organization and tests dogs to see if they qualify to work with not only patients but staff (www.drpaws.org or www. drpaws.info).

Sassy, whose registered name is Harbourfleets Sugar and Spice, recently attended the North American International Auto Show's black tie charity preview as one of the Celebrities Against Autism. Seraceno accompanied the golden imported from Canada. She's been showing dogs 20 years and breeds them as well (sarabaygoldens.com).

The dogs truly are members of Seraceno's family. Sons Kevin, 15, and Christopher, 12, help out with Doctor Paws, events and shows like the DKC which judges different breeds including four new ones this year — Tibetan mastiff, the Beauceron, Swedish valhund, and the Plott hound. In addition to watching the dogs compete in conformation, obedience and agility trials, visitors can learn more about Leader Dogs for the Blind, the Children's Hospital of Michigan Pet Therapy Program, retriever and field training, herding, and first aid, CPR and arthritis in animals with Michigan Veterinary Specialists.

GOOD FOR KIDS

"It's (showing) something kids can do too," said Seraceno. "They can get involved with junior handling."

Like Seraceno, Cheryl Zink believes shows are a good place to learn about dogs. She's showing Izzy, a 21-monthold Lhaso apso. The breed originally is from Tibet, weighs about 12 to 17 pounds and classified as a small dog in the nonsporting group.

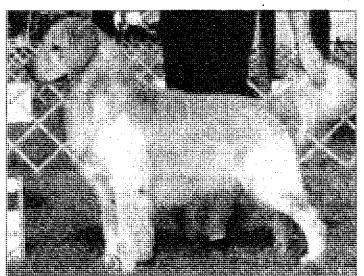
"Twe been raising and showing Lhaso for over 30 years because I love the breed," said Cheryl Zink of Westland. "They're eye catching in their beauty with their long coat but can be stubborn and independent. Some people describe them as cat-like. They're loving dogs and not always patient with children like many small breeds but I raised two boys myself and with training they do make good pets." The beautiful long hair on

DETROIT KENNEL CLUB SHOWS

What: An annual celebration featuring more than 2,500 canines from the 169 breeds recognized by the American Kennel Club When: Two separate shows run 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, March 1-2, with Best of Show going into the ring at 6 p.m. each day

Where: Cobo Center, Detroit Tickets: \$12 adults, \$8 children under age 12 and seniors age 60 and over, \$35 for family packs of 2 adults and 3 children. For information, call (248) 352-7469 or visit www.detroitkennelclub.com.

the Lhaso apso is a lot of work. Zink will not only be brushing Izzy before but at the show. Zink has shown dogs in DKC events for more than 20 years. The only time she missed one of the Detroit shows was when her second son was born too



Etaw is a galidee redriever energied by Terry Servicence of Farmington Hills. At age 6 1/2, he is going to retire soon from the show ring but not from pet therapy work with Doctor Paws.

close to show time.

"They should be mat free so you brush them constantly," said Zink whose husband David frequently helps with grooming. "Lhaso don't shed a lot except for a major coat change at 6 to 18 months of age. I bathe them in the l'aundry tub, blow dry by hand, brushing as you go along. There's a lot of grooming. Most people keep them on the shorter side."

(*)



Parkside DENTALTEAM WE COME RECOMMENDED!

Deanna was so afraid of the dentist, that she lived with dental pain for years. My face would swell and my whole mouth would throb," she explains. "Then a visit to Parkside Dental Team changed my life."

"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!"





Faith & Family Night Featuring a post-game GLON with Josh Rife and the Life

- Church Band

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Checking that goes the extra mile.

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ENGAGEMENTS

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Irish heritage day celebrates dance, music and food

STAFE WRITE

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The Rose Kennedy Division of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians invites everyone to Irish Heritage Day 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 1, at the AOH Hall, 24242 Grand River, Detroit.

There is no admission charge. Traditional Irish food is available throughout the day.

Una Bonner says the event is a perfect way to learn about the Irish. The day kicks off at 11 a.m. with a presentation on Irish soda and griddle breads by Peggy Boland and Sadie O' Boyle.

"They're going to talk about and show you how to make it and come with bread already made to pass out samples," said Una Bonner of Detroit.

Bonner is especially excited about the 1 p.m. performance of Siobhan McKinney who plays harp. McKinney is just one of the musicians entertaining during the event. Lynne and Mick Reid, and The Celtic Harpers of Detroit play at 11:30 a.m.

"Siobhan's father is a piper. She won the all Ireland for three years. Her dad is steeped in Irish tradition of uilleann pipes," said Bonner. "One of the nice features this year is a Mass at the ending. Religion is a big part of our heritage. After the Mass they're going to keep a musical session going."

Learn about Irish Scones the Irish Baker way with Charlie French at 12:40 p.m. or Irish literature with Tony Johnston at 1:30 p.m.

Redford fiddler Mick Gavin and Anne McCallum set dancers kick up their heels at 2:30 p.m. after a discussion on the concertina and it's music at 2 p.m.

John Heinzman II talks about step dancing before a demonstration by Kitty Heinzman's ceili and step dancers at 3:30 p.m.

The day offers a variety of ways to experience Irish culture from a noon lesson in conversational Irish to a bodhran demonstration and workshop at 12:20 p.m.

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



Grand Rapids, Michigan, March 7, 1920, to R D and Louise Ashton

Barron McNutt. He was City Manager for Harper Woods and Southfield from 1955-1960. In 1960 Bob moved out west. He was a retired Consulting Civil Engineer. He is survived by his wife, Patricia, of 60 years, two daugh-

ters Marcia Ann Thornton of

Magdalena, New Mexico and Jane Roberta McCoy of Las Vegas,

Nevada. He is also survived by two

granddaughters, two grandsons and two great grandsons. Cremation has

occurred. A service celebrating his life

was held at First Presbyterian Church,

1515 West Charleston Boulevard, Las

Vegas, Nevada, on Tuesday, February

JAMES EDWARD "ED" SCHWARTZ

Age 77, of Howell, passed away Saturday, February 16, 2008. He was born October 28, 1930 in Detroit, son

of Edward I and Elizabeth (Sause)

Schwartz. Beloved husband of Barbara

(Latham) Schwartz whom he married

19, 2008 at 10 AM.



GARLAND B. BORDEN, SR. Age 92, received by the Lord February 20, 2008. Beloved husband of the late Maryalice. Loving father of Landy (Debra), Toni (Marc) Heinonen, Cary, Brooke (Michael) Ruggiero, James, Margaret and Rebecca. Grandfather of 15. Great grandfather of 3. Brother of Suzanne. Proceeded in death by his daughter Elizabeth. Will be missed by his family and friends. Respected teacher and administrator for Livonia Public Schools for over 30 years. Was an active member of the Goodfellows, Kiwanis Club, and the Livonia Housing Commission. Visitation Sunday 1-7pm at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home; 37000 Six Mile Rd, service Monday Ir ivonia. Funeral

Age 77, Farmington Hills, MI. Thayer Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI



WOODWARD ALFRED "CHIP" WARRICK

Of Plymouth, MI, age 86, died February 7, 2008. Born in Indianapolis, IN. Parents, Charlotte Barksdale & Woodward Warrick, Sr. "Chip" mar-ried Janet Anderson on June 14, 1952.

He was a Stockbroker beginning in 1965 for E.F. Hutton, also worked for Prudential Bache, First of Michigan, and Robert W. Baird. In 1940 he entered U of M and received his commission in the NROTC in 1944 and rved in active duty in the North Atlantic. Returned to U of M in 1946 and earned his varsity letter in wrestling and was President of the "M" Club in 1975. In 2008 "Chip" was awarded "The Bob Ufer award". Chip was an avid tennis player and was a long time member of the Racquet Club of Ann Arbor, and the Huron Valley Tennis Club, and Barton Hills Country Club. He won the Nat'l Paddleball Championship in 1977. His survivors include his loving wife, Janet; his daughter, Courtney (Andrew) Cherna; three grandchildren, Andrew, Regan and Mary Cherna. His daughter, Cecily predeceased him in 1979. A memorial service will be held on February 11, 2008 at 11:00am at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Ann Arbor, with Rev. Fr. Alan Gibson officiating. Contributions can be made to: Humane Society of Huron Valley, 3100 Cherry Hill Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48105, Arrangements by Muehlig Funeral Chapel Ann Arbor, Michigan

May You

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Foley-Kasten

Kristen Colleen Foley and Timothy Robert Kasten are engaged to be married.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Debbie Foley of Plymouth and Pete Foley of Plymouth. She is a graduate of Canton High School. She will be graduating in May 2008 with a bachelor's degree in architecture from Lawrence Technological University. She is employed at Studio Design.

The future groom is a graduate of Salem High School. He is attending the University of Michigan-Dearborn, majoring in mechanical engineering. He is employed at Power Sports. A May wedding is planned for Weller's in Saline.

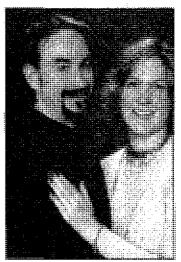


Jim and Linda Courtney of Plymouth announce the engagement of their daughter, Melissa Lynn Courtney, to Giuseppe Ianni, son of Theresa and Hasan Nazeer of Canton and Joe and Pam Ianni of Westland.

The bride-to-be is a 1999 graduate of Plymouth Salem High School and a graduate of Western Michigan University with a degree in cable and broadcast production. She is currently a closing coordinator at 1st Security Title.

The future groom is also a 1999 graduate of Plymouth Salem High School and a graduate of Western Michigan University with a degree in sales and business marketing. He currently works at Azox, an e-commerce solution provider, as a channel sales manager.

A summer 2008 wedding is planned.



Pawloski-Zurawski

Sharon and Al Pawloski of Greenbush, Mich., announce the engagement of their daughter, Dana Pawłoski, to Eric Zurawski, son of Paula and Don Zurawski of Livonia.

The bride-to-be has a bachelor of science degree from Grand Valley State University and master of library science degree from Wayne State University. She is the head of circulation at Marygrove College.

The future groom has a bachelor of fine arts degree from Center for Creative Studies. He is self-employed as a free lance art director.

An August 2008 wedding is planned for Greenbush, Mich.



Trosell-Schwartz

Michael and Joann Trosell of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Stacy Trosell, to Jonathan Schwartz, son of Craig and Linda Schwartz of West Bloomfield and Ilene Schwartz of Franklin.

The bride-to-be is a 2003 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and received a bachelor of science degree from Central Michigan University in 2007. She is employed by MetroDetroit YMCA.



Riley-Rzetelny

William and Laura Riley of Romulus announce the engagement of their daughter, Kelly Ann of Livonia, to Randy Joseph Rzetelny Jr. of Livonia, son of Randy and Kim Rzetelny of South Lyon.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of the International Academy of Design and Technology of Troy. She is employed at Outback Steak House.

The future groom is a graduate of Livonia Franklin High



Zazula-Brcka

Ann-Marie Zazula of Royal Qak and Joshua Brcka of Berkley are engaged to be married. Ann-Marie is the daughter of Arlene Zazula of Westland and the late Thomas Zazula.

Joshua is the son of Robert Brcka of Plainwell, Mich., and the late Kay Brcka.

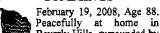
The couple met at their place of employment and will make their home in

state 9:30am until the time of service at 10:00am at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church: 9601 Hubbard. Livonia. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the church.

DOLORES G. CLARKE, February 21, 2008 age 64. Cremation rites entrusted to Uht Funeral Home.



CYNTHIA HOLT CUMMINGS



Peacefully at home in Beverly Hills, surrounded by loving family. Proud WWII veteran serving in the West African Theatre and the Italian Theatre as 1st US Army Nurse Corps. Accomplished author and publisher of 11 books of Christmas poetry. Beloved wife of Richard Howe Cummings for 60 years. Dear mother of Roger Holt Cummings (Buff). Grandmother of David Michael Cummings (Michelle), Julia Cummings Dick (Casey), Jessica Lynn Cummings and Amanda Susan Cummings. Great-grandmother of Andrew Dylan Cummings. Preceded in death by her parents and three brothers. Family will receive friends at A. J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel) 32515 Woodward (btw 13 -14 Mile) Monday (February 25) 4-8pm. Memorial Service at First United Methodist Church, 1589 West Maple, Birmingham, Monday, (March 3) 11am. Interment in Mt. Vernon Cemetery, West Boylston, Massa-chusetts. In lieu of flowers, memorial tributes may be made to the charity of donor's choice. View obituary and

share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com



LEO J. McGUE

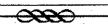
February 16, 2008. Age 85, of Plymouth Twp. Beloved husband of Nancy. Loving father of Jerry (Shelly) and James. Dear brother of June and Joyce. Grandfather of Rachel, Jake and Brett. Member of the Westland Planning Commission for 5+ years. Active in Westland politics and with the Senior Center of Wayne. Funeral, Friday 11:30 AM, at the Uht Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood Road, Westland, Family will receive friends Friday 10 AM until time of service. Please visit and sign a tribute at www.uhtfh.com

father of Ellen L. Schwartz of Howell. Ed received a degree in chemical engineering from MIT and an MBA from the Harvard Business School. He was a chemical engineer and Founder of Great Lakes Laboratories, Inc. and a past president of the Marine Historical Society of Detroit. Private graveside services have taken place at Woodlawn Cemetery, Detroit. Memorial services will he held Friday, March 28th at 11:00 a.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 504 Prospect Street, Howell. Memorial contributions may be made to American Lung Association, St. John's Episcopal Church or any charity of your choice. Arrangements by MacDonald's Funeral Home, Howell (517-546-2800). Please visit the family's online guestbook at:

www.macdonaldsfuneralhome.com

LYNN ANN (Moore) SEARS

Age 46 died in Oklahoma on February 15th, 2008. Born in Farmington Hills, MI, she is survived by her beloved Dr. Rupert Anderson. She is also survived by her loving son Ryan, her parents Richard and Joan Moore of Cheboygan MI, sister Lisa and her husband Steve, of Milford, brother Durk and his wife Cyndi, and their builden Calking and Libella. children Calvin and Isabelle, of Farmington Hills, and loving Aunts, Uncles and Cousins, Lynn Graduated from North Farmington High School in 1980 and went on to pursue a career in the Culinary Arts, cooking from Texas to Chicago. A graveside memorial was held February 18th, 2008 in Brinkley Arkansas. Memorials can be made in Lynn's name to: Vitalcare Hospice of the Straits, 761 Lafayette Ave, Cheboygan, MI 49721, and are very appreciated



EVELYN MAY STANIBLE

Age 96, passed away February 21, 2008. A long time resident of Plymouth. She was born December 27, 1911 in Nankin Township, the daughter of the late Fred and Lillian Stanible. The family moved to Plymouth in 1923 where she graduatfrom Plymouth High School in 1930. Mrs. Stanible also graduated from the Acme Business College in Lansing, Michigan. She worked for Burton Abstract of Ann Arbor for two years, then the City of Plymouth for thirty-three years, retiring in 1976. Her memberships include the Rebekah Lodge, where she served as past-President of the the Northwest Wayne District # 8. She was also involved with the Plymouth Senior Citizens Club. Mrs. Stanible was a long time member of the First United Methodist Church of Plymouth, its 60+ Senior Citizens Club and the Women's Society. She also voluntered as a Gray Lady at Garden City Hospital. She is the dear friend of Melvin Litke. Visitation will be Tuesday, February 26, 2008, 10am until time of funeral service 12 Noon at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main St., Plymouth. Contributions suggested to Ángela Hospice.

School. He is employed by Formen Brothers Trucking. A September wedding is

planned at Crystal Gardens in

Inn.

BIRTH

Alyssa Noelle Gerwing

Southgate.

Jeff and Heather Gerwing of Livonia announce the birth of their daughter, Alyssa Noelle Gerwing, on Dec. 29, 2007 at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia.

Alyssa weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces and was 21 1/2 inches long at birth. She has an older sister,

Hayley Elizabeth Gerwing. Grandparents are Nard and Pat Cossaboon of Bridgeton, N.J. and Ted and Carole Gerwing of The Villages, Fla.

ANNIVERSARY



Maycocks celebrate 50th

Mr. and Mrs. Duane Maycock or Livonia celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov. 23, 2007. They celebrated with their family while on a cruise to the Caribbean.

Check us out on the Web everyday at hometownlife.com

Berkley. A November wedding is planned at the Dearborn

The future groom is a 2000 graduate of Birmingham Groves High School and received a bachelor of arts degree in political science from the University of Michigan in 2004. He received a juris doctorate of law degree from Wayne State University in 2007. He is employed by a Farmington Hills law firm.

A wedding is planned for September in Pontiac.

GIVING TRADITION

The Farmington/ Farmington Hills Foundation continues its tradition of giving, with the latest round of grants.

"In these difficult economic times, the Foundation is glad to be able to help organizations that help residents of our community," said Bill Dwyer as he presented a check to Dick Tupper for Neighborhood House. Neighborhood House provides assistance to members of the community in need of food, shelter, clothing or assistance with utility bills. Referrals are made through schools, religious organizations, police and fire departments. In addition, clients receive counseling to enable them to develop long-term solutions.

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Grants were also awarded to the Farmington Musicale in support of their monthly music programs; Farmington Players for the educational component of the recent production of Cat on a Hot Tin Roof; Farmington Youth Assistance for the Summer Activity Camp; the Multicultural Multiracial Community Council; North Farmington High School's "Link Crew Program," and Pastways, an organization promoting local history.

The next grant deadline is April 15, 2008. Interested community organizations are encouraged to contact Executive Director, Barbara Yuhas, at (248) 345-9090.



religious

Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: American Flags,

Deadlines:

symbols, etc.)

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

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

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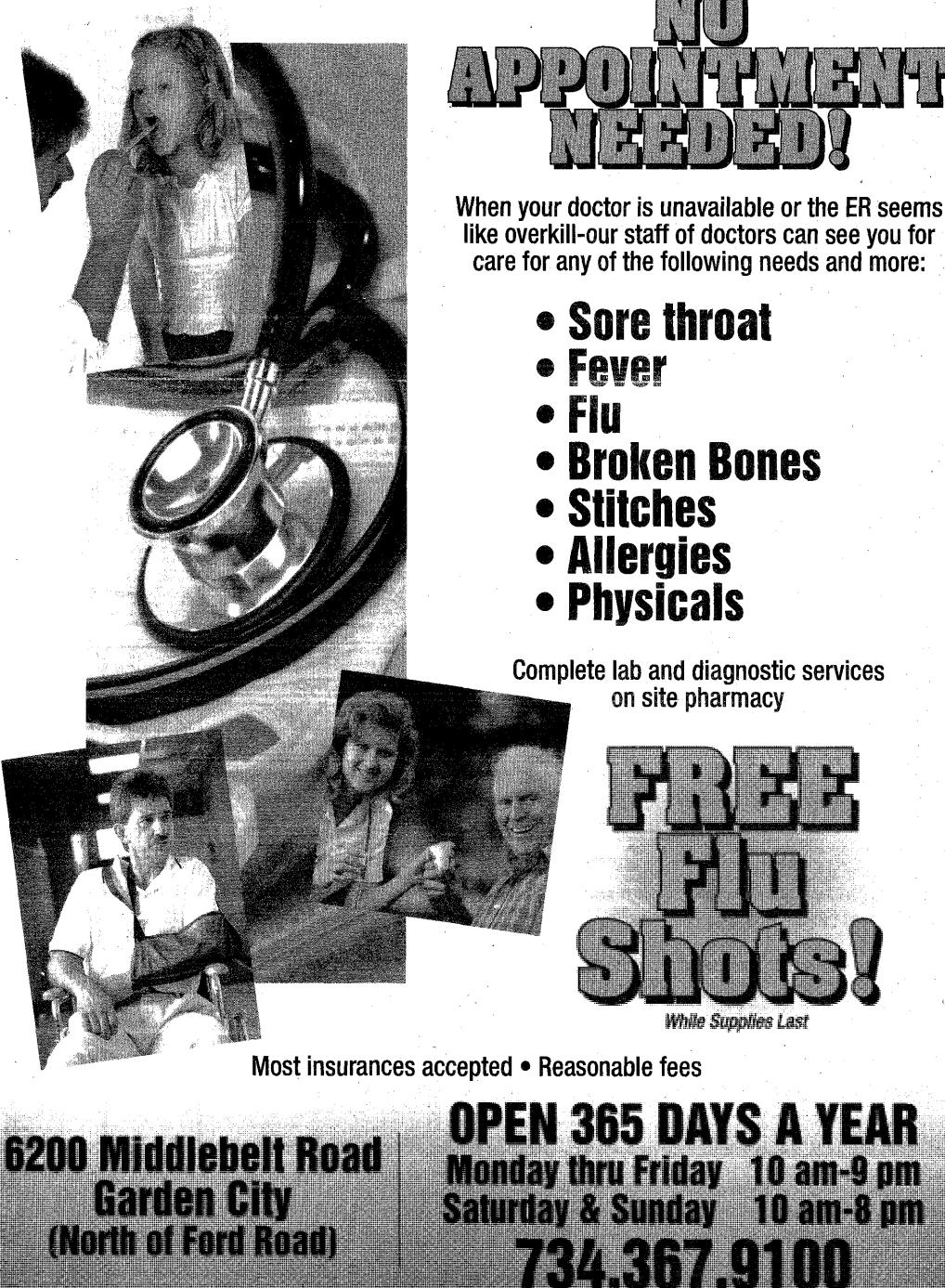
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STENING AS MANAGING FOR WORKING RETIRED



The belief that the working retired need to be managed may seem bizarre to you, but not when managing is equated with listening. Mary Young, senior researcher and author of "Gray Skies, Silver Linings," a research

report from The Conference Board, writes: "To retain mature workers and keep them engaged, employers must manage them better, rather than leave them alone to manage themselves, as is common. When companies take the trouble to listen to their older workers, they can

bv

Culp

manage them more effectively Do the working retired -- people with careers or jobs into their 60s, which they then left, either by choice or company design -- want to be listened to? You bet.

WORKING RETIREDS

Alfred Kline, 76, is a case in point. He delivers 24-ft. fiberglass VIP boats part-time for Vivian Industries Inc., in Vivian, La. -- work quite unrelated to his career as a draftsman at a leading intercontinental pipeline company, where he also installed a CAD system and managed about 80 permanent and part-time employees. He accepted

early retirement after a buy-out in 1986 and subsequently left Houston for the house he built on Caddo Lake, in Oil City, La., 15 miles northwest of Shreveport.

"Before I went into drafting," he says, "I wanted to be out and see the country, not sit at a desk. I spent 30 years at a desk. This job affords me the luxury of going anywhere."His neighbor recruited him for a special run, and he's been driving three kinds of trucks ever since. clocking up to 74,000 miles per year since June, 2000.

Blanche Sobun, 69, is another working retired, a cake decorator part-time in the bakery of a national grocery chain store in Joliet, Ill. She also decorates cupcakes, brownies and as many as 50 pies per day, and waits on customers. Like Kline, she worked in a very different field, medical underwriting, until she was laid off into forced retirement at 63. She babysat her grandchildren for three years, for which she was paid. "I got tired of it," she concedes.

LISTENING

Are employers listening? Some may be. Vivian Industries paints the picture, but the driver fills in the particulars, which Kline loves. There is a time frame, and he's paid per mile (for the shortest route) and per size of the truck. He chooses the itinerary. "They want me to get there as soon as I can legally do it," he explains. When he's near Maryland, he visits his 95 year-old mother.

"I wanted to get into something with a little freedom

but didn't want to commit," he says. "Companies need to build a pool of part-time people without asking them to commit. They need to call you on an as-needed basis. That way, if you can't accept, there are no hard feelings and we don't have to feel guilty about telling them no.'

Sobun, who was a manager in her previous company, maintains, "Part of management's job is to help this person."This includes listening. She filled in her boss when she was being hired. No work Tuesdays or Thursdays, because those were grandchild days, but weekends are fine.

"When we go into the freezer," she says, "we wear gloves and a hat. I won't stand on top of boxes. I'm not going to break my hip. I have to lift 35 pounds, but my boss knows that I'll ask for help if I need it." She doesn't want special privileges.

She's also not afraid to point out that if she's making a mistake, "the company needs to give me tools to correct it, "including the hours to make it happen. In other words, she wants management to listen and act upon what she says.

The Conference Board's Young comments, "You don't have to create different programs for mature workers if you have very effective HR practices and systems for employees of all ages." One of these is "a very robust career mobility process (encouraging employees) to look for a different job elsewhere in the organization" when



Alfred Kline, at 76, is working retired, preparing a boat he's about to deliver. Before driving away from Vivian Industries Inc., in Vivian, La., he secures every part of a boat -- one of the most important parts of his lob.

they so choose. Companies that are listening will know that working retireds go for variety. Sobun has her eye on pharmaceutical tech.

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp is an award-winning journalist. Copyright 2008 Passage Media.)



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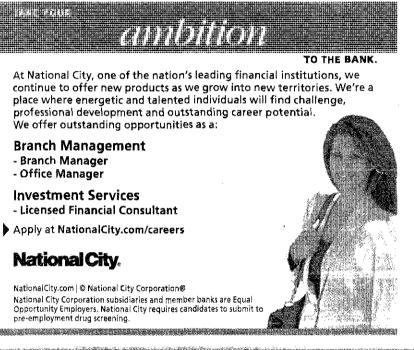


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