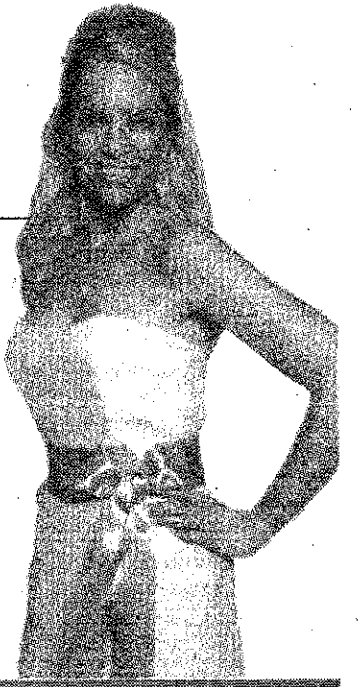




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THURSDAY
 February 28, 2008

WESTLAND Observer

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The Rev. Jack Baker, pastor of St. Mary Catholic Church in Wayne, blesses the new Westland senior Friendship Center bus, called Friendship Express.

PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Seniors' Friendship Express ready to roll

You'll find more on the Friendship Express in our Photo Gallery of the Westland home page at www.hometownlife.com.

BY DARRELL CLEM
 OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland senior citizens are ready to turn some heads when they roll up in their new travel bus, dubbed Friendship Express.

Seniors plan to board the 26-passenger GMC bus Friday for their first field trip, an educational seminar at Schoolcraft College. The new ride replaces two smaller vans.

"The sky's the limit as far as traveling now," Senior Resources Director Barbara Schimmel Marcum said. "The seniors are thrilled. They are so proud of this bus."

The bus is painted mostly white, but its detailing includes its name on the front, a slogan "On the Road Again" on the rear, part of a U.S. flag near the back, and a catch-



Friendship Center members Lou and Dot Brown (from left), Leonard Kozel, Janet Shirey and John Westra receive kudos and commemorative keys for giving the bus its slogan, On the Road Again, and its name, Friendship Express.

phrase of Westland as an all-American city on the side.

A large crowd of seniors last Friday joined Mayor William

Wild and other officials for an unveiling ceremony outside the city's senior Friendship Center, a social gathering spot.

"The bus makes a big statement as far as our dedication to providing senior programs in Westland," Schimmel Marcum said.

The bus was bought for \$63,429 using federal Community Development Block Grant programs. A local nonprofit organization, the Westland Community Foundation, gave \$2,400 for the detailing.

Seniors last year had a contest for naming the bus and giving it a slogan. Janet Shirley, Leonard Kozel and John Westra entered the winning name Friendship Express.

Lou and Dot Brown offered the slogan "On the Road Again." Although country singer Willie Nelson wasn't on hand last Friday to sing his hit song by the same title, local senior Robert Cassidy did perform *The National Anthem*.

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

City prepares for calls about assessments

BY DARRELL CLEM
 OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Despite a sharp decline in the housing market, many Westland homeowners will likely see a tax increase as their new assessment notices arrive this week.

"That's the dark side of Proposal A," a property tax-reform measure approved by Michigan voters in 1994, Westland Assessor James Elrod said.

Only residents who bought their homes within the last three years or so will likely see their taxable value

— and, therefore, their taxes — decrease, he said.

Elrod's office braced for a flurry of phone calls this week as 28,000 homeowners receive assessment notices that were mailed Monday. The city usually gets 200 to 500 inquiries a year.

"We'll definitely get our share of calls," Elrod said.

In one of the quirks of Michigan's property tax laws, homeowners could see their property values decrease, but still get hit with a tax increase. Here's why:

Please see **ASSESSMENTS, A3**

City officials agree to recycling study

BY DARRELL CLEM
 OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Efforts by Westland city leaders to start a curbside recycling program with no user fees reached a milestone Monday as officials agreed to hire a consultant to investigate options and start-up costs.

Ultimately, city officials hope to implement a program that could bring in new revenue and reduce the amount of trash hauled to landfills.

"We've really got some great opportunities here," Mayor William Wild said, during recycling talks with city council members and consultant Jim Frey, CEO for Resource Recycling Systems Inc.

Hundreds of residents last year signed petitions imploring the city to start a curbside recycling program. Some of them attended Monday's meeting and applauded when it became clear that officials intend to push ahead.

Resident Mary Murphy described herself and husband Jim as longtime recycling proponents who have advanced into their senior years while waiting for the city to start a workable curbside program.

"We are so looking forward to curbside recycling in Westland," she said. "Before we go to the land of glory, we want to see it."

Earlier curbside programs twice failed when the city charged user fees, and officials have called it imperative for the new plan to avoid that pitfall. Several residents urged the city to make recycling mandatory. The council is expected in

early March to formally approve a \$10,000 study that RRST's Frey said could be completed within three months. It will explore a range of options, such as whether the city should use its own workers or hire an outside company to pick up plastics, paper, glass, metals and other recyclables.

Currently, residents who recycle have to drop their materials off at the city's public service yard on Marquette east of Newburgh. Frey, who made a pro-recycling presentation, told officials that a curbside program would be convenient and lead to higher participation rates.

Frey also said recycling can be made easier by adopting a program that allows residents to put all their recyclables in one container without separating them — a method that left some local officials with renewed enthusiasm for recycling.

"It's easier than it ever was," Councilwoman Cheryl Graunstadt said.

RRST's study will even explore whether it would be feasible for the city to have its own recycling processing facility, one that could be used by other communities.

Regardless of what plan the city adopts, Frey said its success could hinge on education efforts through the media, schools, neighborhood groups and billboards, among other avenues. He said communities on the front line of recycling now bring in as much revenue in one month as they formerly did in an entire year.

"It's a good time to be doing this in many ways," he said.

Firefighter loses battle with brain cancer

BY DARRELL CLEM
 OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Todd Stanaway, a Westland firefighter who battled brain cancer as bravely as he worked to save lives on his job, died Sunday afternoon at his home in Warren. He was 36.

"He was an extremely well-liked firefighter, and he was a great asset to our department," Fire Chief Michael Reddy said.

Mr. Stanaway, husband of Julie and father of 4-year-old Samantha, had earned the



Mr. Stanaway

rank of sergeant before he died from an aggressive form of brain cancer. He also was involved with a western

Wayne County hazardous materials team.

His death comes 11 months after friends and supporters raised more than \$70,000 to help Mr. Stanaway and his family while he was battling his disease. His wife said at

the time that she was moved by the show of support.

"We're just so very thankful and overwhelmed with the outpouring of people's generosity," she said.

Mr. Stanaway had endured surgeries, chemotherapy and radiation as he fought glioblastoma multiforme grade four — a form of brain cancer that has a 5 percent survival rate. He had worked when he could until about three months ago, Reddy said.

Firefighters from across the state, particularly in southeast

Michigan, are expected to attend Mr. Stanaway's funeral. A fire truck that serves as a hearse will be borrowed from the Detroit Fire Department, Reddy said.

"Our department has come together in the grieving process," the chief said, adding that counselors were brought in to help on-duty firefighters cope with news of Mr. Stanaway's death.

Mr. Stanaway, a 13-year veteran of the department,

Please see **STANAWAY, A3**

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Coming Sunday in Health



Inexpensive drug could prevent kidney damage from dyes used during CT and other imaging scans

AROUND WESTLAND

Nursery School Olympics

The Westland Parks and Recreation Department, Westland Civitan Club, Westland Junior Civitan, Dads' Athletic Club of Westland and Westland Jaycees are again sponsoring the Nursery School Olympics, a chance for toddlers and preschoolers to go for the gold in games designed especially for them. Some of the activities include the Big Wheel Grande Prix, the Marshmallow Shot Put and the I-Did-A-Rod Hurdles. The event, open to youngsters ages 18 months to 5 years, will be 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 1, at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford. Every child will receive a certificate of participation. The course takes about 30-45 minutes, so children can register and join in the fun right up to 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$4 per child/athlete; parents/spectators are free. For more information, call the Bailey Center, at (734) 722-7620.

Just a test

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

rity situation, is checked routinely on the first Saturday of every month.

Poker Run

The Westland Chamber of Commerce is celebrating Leap Year with Leap Year Poker Run Party 6-10:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 29. Sponsored by the Electric Stick, Ford Road Bar and Grill, Malarkey's Irish Pub, Stryker's Bar and Grill and Vision Lanes, the poker run will award a grand prize of \$500 to the team with the best five cards still sealed in their envelopes at the end of the night.

The poker run calls for teams of three-five people with a pre-determined captain who will be responsible for getting a sealed playing card from the bartender or volunteer at each location. The evening will include drink specials, appetizers and raffles which will increase each participant's chances of winning a prize.

The cost is \$100 per team. For more information, call the Westland Chamber of Commerce at (734) 326-7222.

Lenten fish fry

The Sgt. Stanley Romanowski VFW Post 6896 is holding fish fries 5-7:30 p.m. Fridays during Lent and 3:30-8 p.m. Good Friday at the post, 28945 Joy, east of Middlebelt, Westland. There's also a bake sale every week. The cost is \$6.95 for adults and \$3.50 for children under

ON THE WEB

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

age 8. Carryouts are available. For more information, call the post at (734) 525-9454.

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 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) 722-7632.

Constituent hours

The staff of U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, will hold office hours in several locations in January. The time is set aside so that the citizens served by the congressman have the opportunity to speak with a staff member one on one regarding any federal issue that they might have. Tuesday, March 4, office hours are 9-10 a.m. at Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, 10:30-11:30 a.m. at the Redford Community Center, 1-2 p.m. at the Maplewood Community Center in Garden City and 2:30-3:30 p.m. at the Westland senior Friendship Center. The Thursday, March 6, hours are 9-10 a.m. at the Canton Summit Senior Center, 11 a.m.-noon at the Northville Senior Center, 1-2 p.m. at the Plymouth District Library and 2:30-3:30 p.m. at the Van Buren September Days Senior Center. The congressman has two offices in Livonia and Milford the district to serve constituents. The Livonia office can be reached by calling (734) 632-0314 and the Milford office is available at (248) 685-9495.

AAUW ready to present 'Snow White'

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

As an eighth-grade drama teacher, Melissa Mosquera requires her students to see a play, and she's made it easy for them to do so by inviting them to see her in the Plymouth-Canton AAUW's production of *Snow White* next weekend.

"The boys are groaning and complaining, but I told them if their teacher is going to get up on stage and perform, they can be there to watch," said Mosquera.

The Livonia resident is playing Snow White in the play which will be presented at Garden City High School's O'Leary Auditorium Thursday-Saturday, March 6-8.

Mosquera is excited to play the role of Snow White. It was one of two roles — the other was Happy — she auditioned for last fall. She admits she's nervous about playing the lead role, especially since it's a step up from a "minor role" she had in last year's production. But it gives her the opportunity to create her own version of the fairy tale character.

"I've decided Snow White is a little naive," Mosquera said. "I'm trying to go through her lines with a naiveté like when the woodsman tells he's taking her to the woods to kill her. She thinks it's a joke."

Monica Nick of Plymouth also is stepping out of the supporting cast to play Snow White's nemesis, Queen Braggamore. This is her third production and has had roles as a candlestick seller in *Jack and the Beanstalk* and a playing card in *Alice in Wonderland*. She tried out for the part because she thought "it would be neat to be a queen and wear a crown." She admits now she didn't realize the queen has the most lines in the play.

"I've been studying my lines every night," she said. "I love doing this because it's creative and challenging, the role is the opposite of what I see myself as."

This is the 48th year the Plymouth-Canton American Association of University Women has presented live children's theater. The organization, with members from Plymouth, Canton, Garden City, Livonia, Ann Arbor, Novi, Northville and Wyandotte, takes classics



Monica Nick of Plymouth is Queen Braggamore and Melissa Mosquera of Livonia plays Snow White in the upcoming Plymouth-Canton AAUW production of "Snow White."

like *Pinocchio*, *Snow White* and *Cinderella* and crafts hourlong AAUW versions. Its first production was *Hansel and Gretel*. It now has a repertoire of seven plays that are rotated through and updated every few years.

"We took out some older lines that the dwarves say," said Becky Copenhaver, who is sharing directing duties with Kay Paupore, Diana Wilcox and Shirley Zaetta. "In the palace scene, when they talk about Prince Michael, they talk about seeing him on Myspace. We make it a fairy tale, but update it for the kids."

The play will be presented at 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, March 6-7, and 10 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m. Saturday, March 8, at the high school at 6500 Middlebelt north of Ford.

Presale tickets cost \$5 and are available at Fanatic U, 30409 Ford, Garden City, call (734) 266-0893; The Book Cellar, 840 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, call (734) 455-2665; and Perkos Shoes, 33426 Five Mile, Livonia, call (734) 427-

3477. They also will be available at the door on performance dates at \$6 each.

The Thursday evening production will include an interactive cast presentation about theater at 6:15 p.m., so Girl Scouts, Brownies and Daisies can work on requirements for patches and badges. The AAUW has done the presentation on Saturday for several years, but moved it to Thursday evening to accommodate the Scouts. The event will include a fun patch for those Scouts who attend. However, they need to register in advance by sending and e-mail to aauw_plymouthcanton@yahoo.com.

According to Copenhaver, who's been involved with the AAUW since 1985, the play is a nice time for members to spend with each other and get caught up on what has happened in their lives.

But the production goes beyond that. Members see it as a "powerful tool to reach children" and lets them tap in to "their instinct to explore."

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Students' calculations help St. Jude Hospital

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It's become a tradition at Edison Elementary School - spending the last few hours before the start of midwinter recess doing math problems.

But instead of doing it for grades, students do it for money that's donated to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

"We do it all afternoon, about three hours," said fifth-grade teacher Barbara Case. "What they don't finish here, they do over the break."

The school has been doing the math-athon for six years. According to Case, only fifth-graders did it the first two years. The last four years the entire school has participated.

"We've raised close to \$29,000," said Case who gets help with the math-athon from fifth-grade technology supervisor Debbie Mayo. "We usually make \$3,000-\$4,000 a year."

The students receive grade-appropriate booklets filled with math problems. For 10-year-old Brianna Detherage, there were fractions, multiplication and division and story problems to do.

"Some of them are hard and some are easy," Brianna said.

Brianna is an honor roll student who says math is her favorite subject. By the time she started doing her math problems, she had \$42 in pledges and had expected to increase that amount over the break.

"My mom's going to get more at work," she said.

"The kids get pledges from relatives



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Edison Elementary fifth-graders Andrea Macek (from left), Abby Baker, Carissa Holbrook and Katie Kobos work on their math problems as part of the math-athon for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Baker already had \$80 in pledges before starting her math problems.

and neighbors, the biggest flat pledge is \$10, but one of the moms' friend is giving \$20," Case said. "One student, Abigail Baker, has already turned in \$80."

The math-athon is one of several activities students do to help others. In the fall, they made fleece throws for cancer patients at the University of Michigan Hospital. They've also collected canned food for the Bolde Food Depot at St. Mary's Church in Wayne and written letters to the soldiers.

"We probably collected 250 cans of food from the fifth grade," Case said, adding the those students also made Valentines that they delivered to senior citizens who live in residential communities near the school.

In addition to the math-athon, students also paid \$1 to wear their pajamas to school to raise money for St. Jude. And on Valentine's Day, the students sold flowers, the money raised going to buy fleece for the UM blankets.

Students collect their pledge money over the break. They receive prizes, depending on what they collect. If they raise \$35, they receive passes to Six



Fifth-grader Jaylin Anderson works out an answer to a math problem in the math-athon booklet.

Flags Amusement Park and T-shirts, and everyone gets certificates, Case said.

"The kids enjoy getting the T-shirts," she added. "It's pretty popular with the students."

But it's more than the T-shirt for Brianna who said she does the math-athon to "help the kids."

"I feel bad because we get good stuff and they have to stay in the hospital," she said.

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

Livonia schools on alert as three more fires are reported

BY REBECCA JONES
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A series of small, apparently intentionally set fires at three Livonia Public Schools buildings has followed the Feb. 18 blaze that closed Webster Elementary.

The district has additional people monitoring the school buildings and asks anyone in the community to report suspicious activity to the police.

Three fires have been reported: on Wednesday, Feb. 20, Webster was struck again. That day, someone also put papers and an accelerant in a heating vent at Randolph Elementary, just blocks away. The fire burned itself out. It was discovered the next morning. On Monday morning, someone set a newspaper on fire outside Hoover Elementary on Levan.

Livonia Lt. Greg Winn said investigators believe the same people are involved in the fires at Randolph and Webster. They do not have any suspects.

Whether Webster will reopen after a fire that destroyed 10 classrooms is the question administrators are getting most often, but it's too early to answer, according to Supt. Randy Liepa.

"We're really focused right now on making sure we have the best environment at Taylor," he said at Monday's school board meeting.

Webster's 350 students and 60 staff members are back at class in a temporary location, the former Taylor Elementary.

On Monday, "school at Taylor went off without a hitch," Liepa said.

Everyone should be proud of the efforts, he added.

"It was an unbelievable transformation," Liepa said. "Something like that

only happens when you have hundreds and hundreds of caring people."

Last week, the fire department estimated the damage at Webster to be roughly \$2.5 million to \$3 million, based on the value of the structure and the amount of it that burned. Liepa said it will be a few weeks before the district has a better idea.

"The damage is rather extensive," he said. Salvaged items are being cleaned and deodorized, boxed up and sent over to Taylor.

"They'll be coming for quite some time," Liepa said.

Three fund-raisers are planned to help Webster:

■ Barnes & Noble, 17111 Haggerty Road, will donate a percentage of sales from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Thursday, March 6, to support the Library Media Center. The fund-raiser was planned prior to the fire. Shoppers must present a voucher at the time of purchase to indicate their support. It is available online at http://webster.livonia.k12.mi.us/webster_updates/webster_bn_fundraiser.pdf.

■ The Webster PTA has organized a spaghetti dinner fund-raiser at Taylor, beginning at 6 p.m. Friday, March 7. Tickets are \$10 for adults, and \$5 for children. A silent auction is also planned.

■ The LPS Transportation Department will sell baked goods from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 17 at their office on Farmington Road next to the central administration building.

Crime Stoppers and the Michigan Arson Prevention Committee are offering cash rewards for information about the arson. Call (800) SPEAK UP or (800) 44-ARSON. Callers can remain anonymous.

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ASSESSMENTS

FROM PAGE A1

Assessment notices list the state equalized value, or SEV, and the taxable value of properties.

The SEV is supposed to be half the market value of a home, based on recent sales of comparable houses in the community. But the taxable value is generally lower than the SEV, and the gap means that taxes can still increase while assessments drop.

Proposal A tied taxable value increases to inflation

and protected homeowners from sharp increases in taxes. However, the measure created a gap that essentially allowed for inflationary increases even when assessments decline.

The confusion, coupled with an embattled housing market, is expected to prompt numerous calls to the city assessor's office.

Overall, Westland's property assessments dropped about 7 percent on the latest notices, Elrod said.

"That's an average," he said, adding that some neighborhoods saw as much as a 20-percent drop.

Mayor William Wild and Councilman Charles Pickering

earlier called for a one-year market study to determine this year's assessments to potentially provide some relief amid a housing market in decline. Still, longtime residents will likely see their taxes go up.

Homeowners who want to appeal their assessments may call Elrod's office at (734) 467-3160 to schedule an appoint-

ment with the city's Board of Review.

Due to problems in the housing market, Elrod said, Westland and other cities are dealing with "untraveled times" this assessment season. Moreover, the situation could potentially cause the city to lose tax revenues, although that impact isn't yet known.

"The jury is still out," Elrod said.

Board of Review appeal forms may be obtained at City Hall or by going online to www.cityofwestland.com, clicking on the drop-down menu for assessments and scrolling to near the bottom.

According to a published legal advertisement, the Board

of Review will meet from 9 a.m. to noon and 1:30-4:30 p.m. Monday, March 10; 1-4 p.m. and 5:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 11; from 9 a.m. to noon and 1:30-4:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 12; and 1-4 p.m. and 5:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, March 13.

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STANAWAY

FROM PAGE A1

was diagnosed with brain cancer in early 2007 after he started having short-term memory loss and speech problems. Firefighters from Westland, Garden City, Livonia, Redford and many other communities helped raise money for him.

Services were today (Thursday) at Edward Swanson & Son Funeral Home, located at 30351 Dequindre in Madison Heights. Reddy expected there would be a large procession to the burial site at Christian Memorial Cemetery, 521 East Hamlin, Rochester Hills.

In addition to Mr. Stanaway's wife and daughter, other survivors include his father, Thomas (Loretta) Stanaway; his mother, Vicki Hubbard; a grandfather, Lee Hubbard; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Michael (Sandra) Belz; a stepfather, Jerry Betts; two brothers, Mike (Kimberly) Betts and Bill Betts; a sister, Toni (Mike) Lauria; and a brother-in-law, Michael Belz.

Memorials made to the Westland Firefighters Charity Scholarship Fund. Please write Todd Stanaway's name on the memo line on checks and mail them to P.O. Box 858187, Westland, MI, 48185.

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TSA accepts signups for holiday meal

The Senior Alliance Holiday Meals program is gearing up to provide hot, festive meals to homebound seniors in the 34 southern and western Wayne County communities on Easter Sunday. And it's still not too late for individuals to sign up.

Seniors interested in receiving the meal must be homebound, age 60 years and older, or disabled and be home alone and without a meal on the holiday. Current recipients of home delivered meals are eligible for the holiday meal.

TSA has a meal request form available at senior centers in its service area that can be mailed to The Senior Alliance, 3850 Second St., Suite 201, Wayne, MI 48184. Meal request forms can also be obtained by calling Lori

Tooles-Carrington at (734) 727-2063.

On the forms, the individual or individuals must indicate if they will alone on Easter Sunday. They must include their names, address and telephone number and name of apartment complex where applicable, as well as their age and if the receive home delivered meals. One meal will be given to each eligible person.

With Easter on the horizon, Pete the Fuzzy Peep is back again to help The Senior Alliance raise money to serve even more homebound seniors this Easter holiday. Peeps are sold for \$5, which covers the cost of the meal for a homebound senior. Watch for the Peeps sale Friday, March 14, when TSA volunteers who will be at many neighborhood

banks, credit unions, and grocery stores raising funds for the Easter holiday meals.

The holiday meals program serves dinners on Easter, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas, however, there are 12 holidays throughout the year that holiday meals are not served due to lack of funding. There is no state or federal funding for holiday meals; its existence is entirely dependent upon the generosity of individual donors. Anyone interested in contributing toward the program can make a check, payable to The Senior Alliance Holiday Meals, or "SAHM" in the memo area.

People who would like to volunteer to help or make a contribution, call Jaelyn Kochis at (734) 727-2060 or by e-mail at kochis@tsalink.org.



Twins Aniya and Nekia Norris, fourth-grade students at Gaudior Academy, play with their class pet, a chinchilla. The sisters live in Westland. PHOTOS BY SHARON LEMIEUX

Academy holds annual auction

Looking for entertainment tickets at the right price?

You may find them at the annual Gaudior Academy auction slated for Saturday, March 1, at the school, located in Inkster.

In addition to different entertainment tickets, there will be a variety of gift baskets, sports memorabilia and more available to the highest bidder

during the event that runs from 1:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. There also will be a kids' carnival 1:30-4 p.m. Admission is free.

Proceeds will benefit the K-8 school which has been in operation for 15 years. For more information, call the academy at (313) 792-9444. Gaudior Academy is at 27100 Avondale, east of Inkster Road, in Inkster.



Fourth-grader Kyra Thompson of Garden City concentrates during math class.



CITY OF GARDEN CITY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

March 10, 2008

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, March 10, 2008, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan. At the hearing, all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard.

ZA 08-001, The purpose of the Public Hearing is to solicit public comments on proposed text amendments to the following sections of the Zoning Ordinance.

- Section 154.005, Definitions,
- Section 154.067, Minimum Off Street Parking
- Section 154.136, Automotive or Vehicles Sales
- Section 154.162, Regulated Uses
- Section 154.301, Permitted Uses
- Section 154.352, Permitted Uses and Structures
- Section 154.357, Development Standards

The proposed text amendments would add sections to the Zoning Ordinance to allow and regulate automotive and / or vehicle rental establishments in the Central Business Zoning District. Existing language would be revised for consistency with the proposed new automobile and / or vehicle rental establishment regulations.

Written comments may be submitted prior to the public hearing and should be addressed to: The Office of Community Development, City of Garden City, 6000 Middlebelt Rd., Garden City, MI 48135. The sections provide that the Ordinances shall take full force and effect upon publication. Copies of the complete text of this Ordinance are available at the office of the Community Development Department, Garden City Hall, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan 48135, during regular business hours.

PAUL C. ZELENAK
Community Development Director

Publish: February 28, 2008

0E0868943 2X6

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SEMI-PRO (R)
1:00, 3:05, 6:10, 7:20, 9:30
FR/SAT LS 11:40
NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN (R)
1:40, 9:40
CHARLIE BARTLETT (R)
12:10, 2:30, 4:45, 7:05, 9:25
FR/SAT LS 11:40
JUMPER (PG-13)
12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:35, 9:45
FR/SAT LS 11:50
DEFINITELY, MAYBE (PG-13)
11:00, 4:20, 7:00
WELCOME HOME ROSCOE JENKINS (PG-13)
11:20, 1:55, 4:40, 7:15, 9:50
27 DRESSES (PG-13)
11:55, 6:55
THE BUCKET LIST (PG-13)
6:45, 9:00 FR/SAT LS 11:15
JUNG (PG-13)
2:25, 4:40, 9:20
FR/SAT LS 11:35
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (PG)
12:00, 2:15, 4:30

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- For more information on the Expo or to view a map of the exhibitor layout visit www.canton-mi.org

* Joe Gagnon will be broadcasting his talk radio program live during the entire Expo weekend!

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

- 10 a.m. - Speedy Drywall Repair
HandyPro Handyman
- 11 a.m. - Be Green - Save Green \$
Mechanical Energy Systems
- 12 p.m. - "Faux" Finish Your Walls
Home Depot
- 1 p.m. - How to Install Brick Pavers - Patios & Walkways
Michigan Pete Landscaping
- 2 p.m. - How to Install Ceramic Tile
Home Depot
- 3 p.m. - Dressed for Success: "Putting the Finishing Touches on your Room"
Interiors by Decorating Den
- 4 p.m. - Electrical Updates and Safety Tips for Your Home
Van Buren Electric

SUNDAY, MARCH 2

- 12 p.m. - Going Green with Plymouth Nursery
Plymouth Nursery
- 1 p.m. - Ponds-Installation and Maintenance
Michigan Pete Landscaping
- 2 p.m. - Fun & Easy Tips to Create the Home of Your Dreams!
Room Revisions
- 3 p.m. - How to "Faux" Finish Your Walls
Home Depot
- 4 p.m. - How to Install Ceramic Tile
Home Depot

For more information call:

734/394-5200



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---	--	--	--

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Other Locations:

Weather spotter training available for volunteers

Free severe weather spotting training is being offered just in time for the volatile spring season.

Garden City and Wayne County Emergency Management, the Wayne County Amateur Radio Public Service Corps and the National Weather Service are sponsoring severe weather spotter training 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 1 at the Maplewood Community Center in Garden City.

The training is designed for community volunteers including the local Community Emergency Response Team, amateur radio operators and public safety officials to enable them to identify key cloud formations and storm effects and report their findings to weather service meteorologists at the Detroit/Pontiac Forecast Office.

This information is used, along with sophisticated technology, including Doppler radar, to issue severe thunderstorm and tornado watches and warnings to protect the public.

"Skywarn spotters are a key component of our community's emergency management activities, and annual training is an important step to assure their readiness in an emergency," said Fire Chief Bill Forbush, who also is Garden City emergency management director.

The Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service program fields about 50 volunteer amateur ham radio operators during storms to act as the eyes of the Weather Service at the local level.

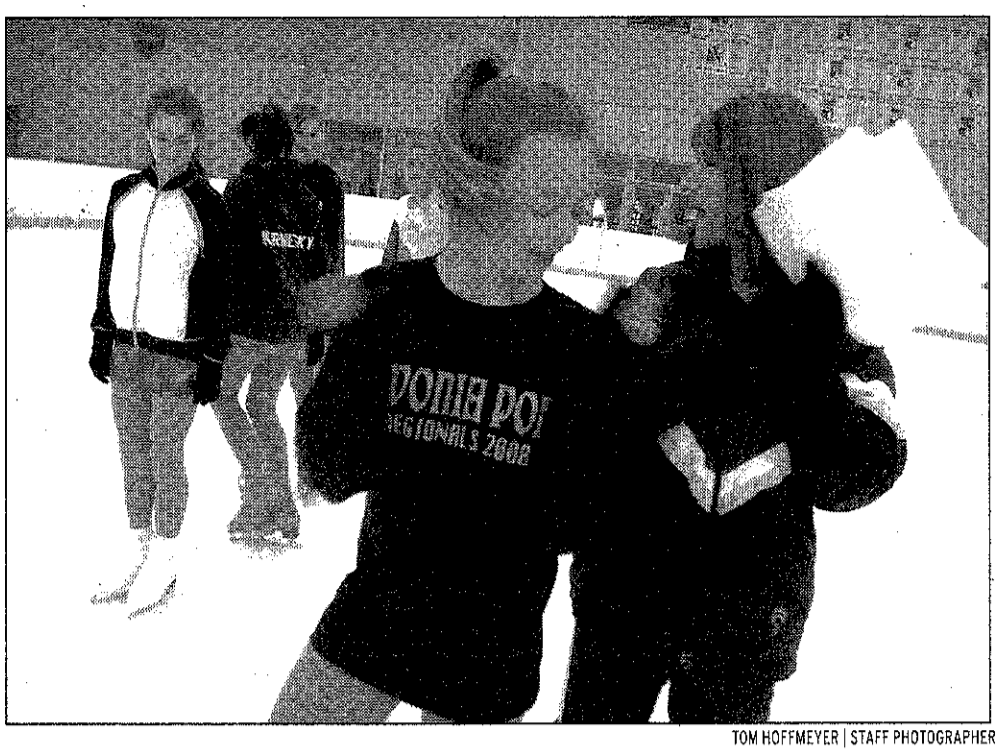
"Public service, and particularly emergency communication, is one of the cornerstones of amateur radio," said RACES Skywarn coordinator Tom

Staley of Garden City.

The RACES volunteers are trained and equipped to provide supplemental communication support to agencies like the National Weather Service, county and local emergency management authorities and public safety officials when needed, according to Staley.

Emergency management radio stations are in place at the Maplewood Center and at the Garden City Emergency Operations Center, both staffed by the Garden City Amateur Radio Club.

The Skywarn training class is open to the public and is offered free of charge. Citizens who are unable to attend the March 1 class are welcome to attend an additional session scheduled for April 5. To register, contact Martha Griggs at (734) 793-1790 or e-mail fire@gardencitymi.org.



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ice practice

Thirteen-year-old Jessica Hatfield of Westland follows along with instructor Dawn Forgacs working on a routine for the upcoming Livonia Parks and Recreation ice show, "On The Radio," which will be presented March 14-15 at the Eddie Edgar Ice Arena, Lyndon at Stark. Times are 7 p.m. Friday; 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday. Tickets are \$8; senior citizens pay \$7; children up to 12 pay \$4.75. They're sold at the Livonia Community Recreation Center on Five Mile and Hubbard. For details, call (734) 466-2900.

Paws, purrs: Pet therapy help in patient recovery

With their warm noses, calm demeanor and ability to love unconditionally, animals are having a positive impact on the health and wellness of patients at Garden City Hospital.

For almost 20 years, Garden City Hospital's Rehabilitation and Oncology departments have been hosts to various pet therapy programs, such as Therapy Dogs International Inc. and Pet-A-Pet, a non-profit, charitable organization providing pet therapy to hospitals and patients.

"The positive emotional and physical health responses we receive from patients when therapy dogs come to visit are truly amazing," said Tatiana MacLean, therapeutic recreation coordinator for the hospital's Rehabilitation Services.

"Patients sometimes feel alone and sad during their hospital stays. When a therapy dog is brought in, it makes them smile and encourages healthy reminiscing about their own pet experiences."

The Rehabilitation Services department offers a 24-bed inpatient program in a comfortable setting where a team of therapists help individuals who have had strokes, injuries or illnesses improve their physical abilities and functions. Rehabilitation Services has recognized the link between animal visits and an increased receptiveness to medical treatment. Pet therapy's benefits include lower



Vicky Lezotte of Garden City and her therapy dog Charlie share affection with Rick Stone of Novi. A mathematics teacher at Detroit's Southwestern High School, Stone is affected by cerebral palsy and is recovering from spinal fusion surgery with the assistance of rehabilitation therapists at Garden City Hospital.

blood pressure, increased relaxation, social interaction and mental stimulation and reduced depression.

Heidi, a 10-year-old smooth-coat collie and retired U.S. and Canadian champion show dog, and owner James Fox of Lincoln Park have been meeting with patients at Garden City Hospital since she was six months old.

As a certified therapy dog and a member of TDI, Heidi was tested and evaluated by a certified TDI evaluator. She passed the American Kennel Club's Canine Good Citizen Test as well as a temperament evaluation for suitability to become a therapy dog.

"Heidi enjoys meeting with patients just as much as they look forward to seeing her," said Fox. "Some patients have even cried out of happiness

when they saw her because they realized how much they missed their own pets. Spending a few moments petting Heidi and bonding with her lifts their spirits."

A true University of Michigan fan, Heidi visits with patients twice a month wearing a blue and maize collar and a University of Michigan scarf.

As a reward for her hard work, James takes Heidi for a White Castle hamburger and french fries after her "shift."

Pet-A-Pet volunteer and Garden City resident Vicky Lezotte and her 5-year-old golden retriever, Charlie, have lifted patient spirits at Garden City Hospital for the last four years. Lezotte is so aware of the positive impact Charlie's visits have on patients that in that time, she's only rescheduled twice. "Visiting patients with Charlie is a priority," she said. "I work my schedule

around it."

Prior to any animal visit, each patient consents to the experience. Every step of the interaction is guided by the patient's wishes. In addition to certified therapy dogs, patients are able to coordinate with staff at Garden City Hospital to bring in their own pets. Patients may visit with their own dogs, cats, birds and fish during normal visiting hours privately in their own room. All animals must be good natured, quiet and friendly.

Garden City Hospital's Rehabilitation Services department provides comprehensive treatment for stroke, amputation, total joint replacement, major multiple trauma, polyarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, neurological disorders, such as multiple sclerosis and polynuropathy, and other temporarily incapacitating conditions.

Specialists offer physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech language pathology and audiology, recreational therapy, nurse case management, home evaluation and support groups. For more information about rehabilitation services at Garden City Hospital, call (734) 458-4396.

Garden City Hospital provides comprehensive health care services, osteopathic medical education, and health care related programs to the community at large. For more information, call the hospital at (734) 458-3300 or visit its Web site at www.gchosp.org.

ORDINANCE NO. 248-A-60

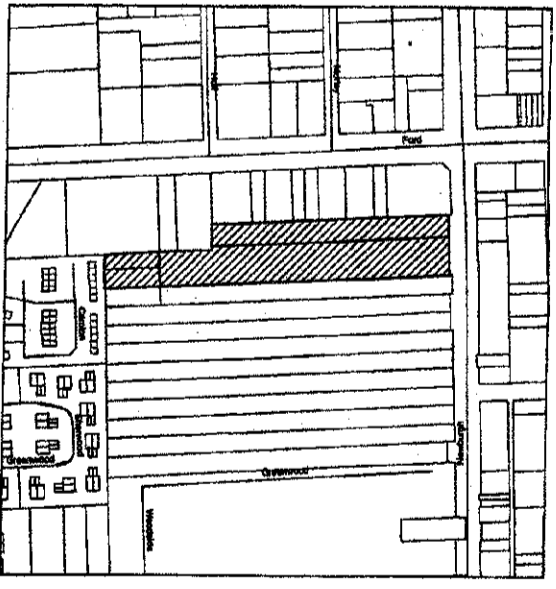
AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE AND RESTRICT THE USE OF LAND AND STRUCTURES BY DIVIDING THE CITY OF WESTLAND INTO DISTRICTS AND ESTABLISHING THE LOCATION AND BOUNDARIES THEREOF BY ADOPTION OF AN OFFICIAL ZONING DISTRICT MAP; TO SPECIFY THE DISTRICTS WITHIN WHICH LANDS MAY BE USED FOR BUSINESS, INDUSTRIAL, RESIDENCE AND OTHER SPECIFIED PURPOSES; TO ESTABLISH STANDARDS, REGULATIONS, RESTRICTIONS AND PROHIBITIONS GOVERNING THE LOCATION, ERECTION, CONSTRUCTIONS, RECONSTRUCTION, ALTERATION AND USE OF BUILDINGS, STRUCTURES AND LAND WITHIN SUCH DISTRICTS; TO LIMIT THE HEIGHT AND BREADTH OF BUILDINGS, SIGNS AND OTHER STRUCTURES; TO REGULATE THE INTENSITY OF USE OF LOT AREAS AND TO DETERMINE THE SIZE OF YARDS AND OTHER OPEN SPACES; TO ESTABLISH SITE DESIGN REGULATIONS AND TO PROVIDE SITE DESIGN REVIEW PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS; TO ESTABLISH PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS FOR SPECIAL LAND USE AND SPECIAL PLANNED DEVELOPMENT; TO LIMIT CONGESTION IN THE PUBLIC STREETS BY PROVIDING OFF-STREET PARKING AND LOADING REQUIREMENTS; TO PROVIDE FOR THE RESTRICTION AND GRADUAL ELIMINATION OF NON-CONFORMING USES OF LAND, BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES; TO REGULATE SIGNS BY ESTABLISHING RESTRICTIONS UPON THE SIZE, HEIGHT, LOCATION AND NUMBER OF PERMISSIBLE SIGNS AND PROHIBITING CERTAIN SIGNS; TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION, ENFORCEMENT AND AMENDMENT OF THE ORDINANCE, TO DEFINE CERTAIN TERMS, TO ESTABLISH PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS WITH RESPECT TO ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS AND TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION OF THE ORDINANCE; AND TO REPEAL THE PRIOR ZONING ORDINANCE.

Section 1. That the zoning map of Ordinance No. 248 of the City of Westland be and the same is hereby amended to show CB-1 district classification on the westerly (rear) 1.12 acres of the site and CB-3 district classification on the easterly (front) 4.18 acres of the site where R-5 district classification are now shown in the area situated in the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan, described as:

A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN TOWN 2 SOUTH, RANGE 9 EAST, BEING LOTS 14, 15 AND 16, EXCEPT THE EASTERLY 10 FEET THEREOF, NANKIN LITTLE FARMS SUBDIVISION AS RECORDED IN LIBER 39, PAGE 46 WAYNE COUNTY R

Case #16358

Proposed Rezoning



- Subject Property

Section 2. The other classifications in effect in all other areas of the zoning map shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 3. **Severability.** The various parts, sections and clauses of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section or clause is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a Court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

Section 4. **Repeal.** All other Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

Section 5. **Publication.** The City Clerk shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

Section 6. **Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon publication thereof.

EILEEN DEHART, CKC
CITY CLERK

ADOPTED: February 19, 2008
EFFECTIVE: February 28, 2008

Publish: February 25, 2008

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to state law a sale will be held at: Secured Self Storage, 2460 Guley Rd., Dearborn Hgts., MI, March 1, 2008 @ 1:10 PM.

#141 Davis W. Tully; #304 Sherrand Scott; #308 Marilyn Berry; #525 Mary H. Smith; #603 Ted Cardiff; #639 Isaias Quezada; #1211 William Gabrys.

Units contain misc. household items.

Publish: February 21 & 26, 2008

CITY OF WESTLAND SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES MTG. 4/2/19/08

- Presiding: President Godbout
Present: Graunstadt, Johnson, Kehrer, Pickering, Reeves, Stottlemeyer
- 40-Approved minutes of 2/4/08.
 - 41-Approved Motor City Chptr. H.O.G. to hold Toy Run on 9/21/08.
 - 42-Approved bid from Summit Transportation for Dorsey Rd. Repaving; amt. \$281,547.50.
 - 43-Adopted Budget Amend. 2008-10; Library Fund \$39,350.00.
 - 44-Renewed Contr. w/Alternate Services Concept, LLC.
 - 45-Renewed Contr. w/Safety Nat'l Ins. Co.
 - 46-Renewed Life Ins. Agrmt w/Sunlife Ins. Co.
 - 47-Adopted Ord. 248-A-60, to rezone from R-5, to CB-1 & CB-3, Parcels #049-01-0014-002, -0014-003, & -1106-301, w. side of Newburgh, s. of Ford.
 - 48-Adopted Res. to designate DPS Dir, P & R Dir, the Mayor & City Clerk
 - to make application to state for trunking rights-of-way permits.
 - 49-Approved Don Nicholson Enterprises Cruisin' Michigan Ave.
 - 50-Approved 1 year ext. of site plan, Mobile Serv. Sta., 124 S. Merriman Rd.
 - 51-Approved Prelim. Plan Ext. for rezoning from CB-3, and R-1 Res. to PUD, Parcels #018-99-0014-600 & -0015-703, e. side of Newburgh Rd., s. of Joy Rd.
 - 52-Approved Spec. Land Use for cafe rest. 34795 Ford Rd.
 - 53-Approved Site Plan for addition to VFW Post #6896, 28945 Joy Rd.
 - 54-Confirmed re-appt. T.Sabotchick to Westland Brd of Rev.
 - 55-Confirmed appt. of B.Prough to the P & R Adv. Co.
 - 56-Confirmed re-appt. of N.Brazier to Plan. Comm.
 - 57-Confirmed re-appt. of S.Scott to DDA.
 - 58-Confirmed re-appt. of M.Lewandowski to Cable Comm.
 - 59-Accepted City Council Policies & Procedures.
 - 60-Approved Checklist Activity: \$964,505.58 and Prepaid: \$680,136.63.
 - 61-Confirmed appt. of J.Lezotte to DDA.
 - 62-Meeting Adjourned at 9:13 p.m.
- Minutes available at the Clerk's office.

James R. Godbout
Council President

Eileen DeHart
City Clerk

Publish: February 28, 2008



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 current year:

Tuesday March 4, 2008 9:00 a.m.

The Board of Review will meet in session on the following days and times to hear appeals on the assessment roll:

NOTE: Meetings located in THE GARDEN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM with late night appointments on Tuesday & Wednesday

Day	Date	Time
Monday	March 10, 2008	9:00am -5:00pm
Tuesday	March 11, 2008	1:00pm -9:00pm
Wednesday	March 12, 2008	1:00pm -9:00pm
Thursday	March 13, 2008	9:00am -5:00pm
Friday	March 14, 2008	9:00am -5:00pm

APPEALS BY APPOINTMENT or WRITE-IN. Write-ins must be received by Monday, March 10, 2008.

Tentative ratios and factors for the 2008 tax year are:

CLASS	PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT RATIO	PROJECTED EQUALIZATION FACTOR
Commercial	47.71%	1.0480
Industrial	47.27 %	1.0578
Residential	53.43%	0.9358
Personal Property	50.00%	1.0000

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 ownership or an addition to the property.**

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

Not an easy thing: Workshop tackles the topic of divorce

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Mediation is the new gentler divorce, says Eudora Adolph, and the smarter way to go not only because of finances but family matters.

As a financial planner with AverTrust Advisors in Farmington Hills, Adolph has seen the results of a messy divorce. That's why she founded Money Caretakers Forum to help people so they don't end up in a costly court room battle. On Monday, March 3, Adolph will be joined by experts in the areas of law, tax and psychology for a divorce management workshop sponsored by AverTrust

DIVORCE MANAGEMENT: HOW TO MAKE IT AMICABLE

What: Panel discussion with experts in the financial, legal, tax, and psychology fields address the issues of money, law and family

When: 6-8:30 p.m. Monday, March 3

Where: Livonia Civic Center Library Auditorium, 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington Road.

Cost: \$20, payable at the door. For reservations, call (248) 553-320, Ext. 3109

Advisors, a holistic financial consulting and planning company.

"Mediation is kind of like arbitration," said Eudora Adolph, a financial growth engineer for AverTrust Advisors in Farmington Hills. "It doesn't go to trial and is cheaper, easier. One of the attorneys will speak on

this, another attorney on traditional divorce. A psychologist is speaking on family issues, how can you still be a good parent after divorce."

Generally, says Adolph, her clients come to her for advice when it's too late.

"From a tax and financial standpoint it's like a business. You have people blend-

ing their entire financial picture. People need to take certain steps and plan to make it the least painful," said Adolph. "Try to put emotions aside. It's like a business breaking apart. It's a big change. It's emotional but there's certain things you can do."

Financially, Adolph advises clients to look at the whole picture.

"You need a clear view of what all the assets are. If a couple married 20 years, what is the 401k picture, the house, credit cards, retirement plans, how do you go from me to me," said Adolph. "All of this acts together. Think about this from a

legal aspect. An attorney is not going to know the ramifications. Once all the tax ramifications hit it may not be equitable anymore. Lots of times people get hung up over something inconsequential, sometimes it may be the house. She thinks she wants the house. She may not be able to afford the house. What do you do when you're selling a house in a market that is declining? When you marry you're throwing all assets together. After divorce you're going to have two separate households. The separate households might not be as luxurious as one household. Now you have a financial loss as well."

Adolph says that from an emotional standpoint many people don't have a realistic view of finances and this leads to fighting between the parties.

"Attorneys make more money the more you fight," said Adolph. "We're going to have a psychologist discuss the many family care issues, what makes the divorce easier? The perfect divorce works out the business issue and then has the attorneys make it legal. We want to help people with this and see how holistically it fits together."

lchomin@hometownlife.com
(734) 953-2145

It's time to tap the sap as spring nears

A few weeks have passed since Punxsutawney Phil, the Seer of Seers, the prognosticator of prognosticators, cast his eyes on Pennsylvania's Gobble Hill and proudly proclaimed his wisdom, "As I look about me, a bright light I see and with a shadow beside me six more weeks of winter it will be."

So said that famous top-hatted old groundhog. You may know the groundhog as a woodchuck. Same animal, two names, but once they emerge from hibernation, probably another month, they will be dreaming of your future garden greens. Thinking spring? You bet.

That's one forecaster of spring's approach. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Center for Environmental Prediction is a bit more high tech than the babble and antics of rotund media-seeking rodents. NOAA has the super computer of super computers to monitor our nation's climate and weather and forecast daily outlooks, hazard assessments and long term seasonal out-



On Nature

Jonathan Schechter

looks. It's fast, taking in 1.7 billion observations per day and makes 14 trillion calculations per second. NOAA provides that information to federal, state and private meteorologists; all well and good for weather fanatics and those who need to know. And more often that not the science of weather forecasting gets it quite right. And NOAA told us quite correctly of the past few week's freezes and thaws, snow and ice storms.

But sometimes you don't need a weather man or a groggy groundhog to know which way the wind is blowing, especially when looking for seasonal trends. Mother Nature has other forecasting vanguards of spring. I'm watching the maple trees. Look to their broken twigs and you can't miss a fact: Some already sparkle with drops of sap. As a matter of fact on sunny days when the

temperature climbs about the freezing mark, and is preceded by a night below freezing, the sap flows in collectable amounts.

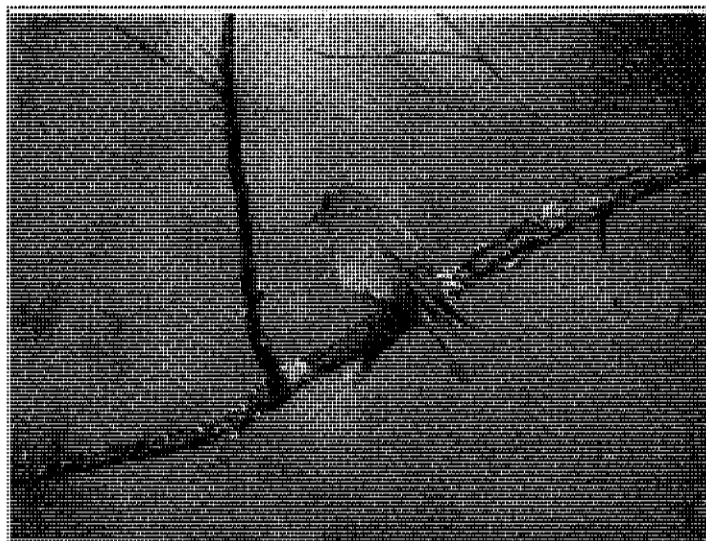
When afternoon temperature drop rapidly below freezing, small sparkling fascicles hang from these fractured twigs. What's this all mean? Forget the snow we have and the storms to come and remember the great Michigan tradition of sugaring. Michigan remains the sixth largest producer of this sweet pancake drowning natural wonder.

Public relations spokeswoman Denise Semion of the Huron Clinton Metropolitan Authority may not be a naturalist, but she is sweet on sap, and reminds us now is the time to mark calendars for "Maples Sweet Story" at the Kensington Metropark Learning Center and "Maple Sugaring" at Indian Springs. Both parks have excellent interpretive programs. (Explore other Metropark maple programs and winter events at www.metroparks.com. "Maples Sweet Story" is held every Saturday and

Sunday in March. A hot breakfast from 9 a.m. to noon precedes the trek down to the sugar bush to watch the boiling of the sap from noon to 3 p.m. (The art of sugaring is a visual and taste bud treat not to be missed. I hang a few buckets up on my Ortonville maples, a passion I developed many waning winters ago back in Plainfield, Vt., when as part of a work-study college job I spent many nights in the sugar house.) Registration is not required for the Kensington weekend programs. If you want to partake in the sweetness with an organized group appointments can be made for weekdays. Full information: 800-477-3178 or (248) 685-1561

"Maple Sugaring" at Indian Springs, near White Lake, is on Saturdays and Sundays on March 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16, 29 and 30 and includes sap boiling and the history of maple sugaring. Registration is required. Times and full details. 800-477-3129 or (248) 625-7280.

Might as well take heed of the weather forecasters and enjoy the waning days of winter. It's over soon. Daylight



JONATHAN SCHECHTER

An eastern bluebird trumpets in the sap season.

already battles darkness at 6:30 a.m. and lingers to 6:30 p.m. Spring signs are everywhere: Bluebirds warbling. Owls breeding. Icicles dripping. Under ice crappie are moving to shallows. Lake ice groans. Red squirrels restless. Spring fashions bloom in Birmingham window displays. Skunks are out and about - mating. Raccoons in hormonal frays. Chickadees and crows full of song. And one day in that not too distant future the red winged blackbirds return. Don't wait for robins to mark

springs return. They never left. But with the tease of spring here, it's time to tap and sap. For me. And why not for you. The other choice: Sit about indoors blissfully ignorant and unplugged from the wonders of winter. A real shame when nature's way is so assessable in Oakland County. At least that's the way I see it.

Jonathan Schechter writes on nature's way. He can be reached at oaknature@aol.com.

Lending a helping hand: Zonta events are for and about women

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Judy Lombardo is looking forward to shopping till she drops at the Farmington/Novi area Zonta Club's annual fashion event 6:30-9:30 p.m. Sunday, March 9, at Parisian in Laurel Park Place Mall in Livonia. She'll not only be able to purchase clothing and accessories at a 20-percent discount, but support First Step programs to help victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Lombardo and her Zonta sisters put on Stepping Out in Style as part of the international organization's mission to advance the status of women through service and advocacy. Each club chooses its own philanthropy projects to reflect the interests of its executive and professional women members. Lombardo and the Zonta Club of Farmington/Novi area, which includes members from Livonia and Plymouth, dreamed up the evening of shopping, culinary offer-

ings from more than a dozen local restaurants and caterers, live entertainment, and raffles for \$500 cash and a \$500 Parisian shopping spree. Advance tickets are \$25 until March 3, or \$30 at door. Call (734) 414-0553 or send e-mail to hbrenke@comcast.net. For information, visit www.zontafarmingtonnovi.org.

Since it was begun 14 years ago, the event has raised over \$300,000 for First Step. Lombardo would like to see more women become involved so the club could help even more women through a variety of projects. Meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of every month at Embassy Suites in Livonia. Call Lombardo for details at (248) 982-9740 or (248) 349-6246.

Zonta is derived from a word in the Lakota language of the Native-American Sioux peoples. It means honest and trustworthy, and symbolizes the club's mission to work together for service and world understanding.

"We also make mastectomy pillows, a soft flannel heart

shaped pillow to go around the patient to support the arm on the mastectomy side. We give them to hospitals, the American Cancer Society, anyone we hear about that's had surgery. We're doing the sewing, the cutting and meet once a month on a Saturday," said Judy Lombardo who retired in 2005 after 31 years as an industrial relations manager. "We're also a very social group and like to get together with one another. We have a district conference once a year and international conference every two years that's been in Australia, Japan."

Women can take their pick of these two events to learn more about Zonta. At

6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 28, the Southfield Club hosts a Membership Information Night for women interested in joining one of the 10 Zontas in the tri-county area. The event takes place at the John W. English Administrative Center (Southfield Public Schools), 24661 Lahser. Call (248) 346-5262 for information or send e-mail to zontasouthfield@comcast.net.

Zonta Southfield recently held their Glass Slipper Ball to benefit the Wayne County Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners program (SANE) which provides advanced training for registered nurses so they can conduct compassionate and comprehensive

forensic examinations of sexual assault victims.

"We want to attract young members, women actively engaged in employment, professional business women, any age who have the willingness to devote time and effort," said Amy Maple of Zonta Southfield. "We're a volunteer organization and we require commitment to the causes. There will be representatives from tri-county clubs to answer questions and share information about what makes their club unique. The Detroit club is involved

with Alternative for Girls. The Southfield club has scholarship initiatives and has supported the OCC women's center and Detroit Demolition (a women's football team)."

Maple has been involved with Zonta for almost 20 years. In addition to helping others, Zonta helped hone her leadership skills when she was given the opportunity to chair committees.

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What are you waiting for? Cash in Savings Bonds

I recently met with a new client who has a substantial number of U.S. Savings Bonds. The majority of the bonds had already matured, which means they were no longer paying interest. This is a problem I see with many

individuals. They put the bonds in a drawer and forget about them or they don't want to cash out because they would have to pay taxes.

This strategy makes no sense and ends up costing money. I have always said don't

let the tax tail wag the dog.

Savings Bonds grow tax-deferred. When redeemed, the individual is taxed on the interest that has accumulated. The interest is subject to both state and federal income taxes. If you redeem U.S. Savings



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

Bonds for \$2,000 and you originally paid \$1,200, \$800 would be subject to ordinary income tax. Between state and federal income taxes, it will cost most people between \$200-\$250. After taxes, you'd be left with approximately \$1,800. Someone who does not cash out U.S. Savings Bonds because of the tax consequences is losing \$1,800.

Another issue with matured U.S. Savings Bonds deals with the Internal Revenue Service. Under federal law, when a bond matures is when the income — whether the bond is cashed in or not — should be reported. If the IRS decided to be aggressive in enforcing this provision, it could cause many taxpayers to pay interest and penalties.

When U.S. Savings Bonds mature, cash them out, pay

the taxes and then focus on what to do with the rest of the money.

One mistake people make with U.S. Savings Bonds is that they think the bonds are all the same. That is not the case. The maturity of the bonds and the interest paid has changed dramatically over the years.

When I was a kid, you bought a bond for \$18.75 and down the road it was worth \$25. In today's world, some U.S. Savings Bonds pay a substantially higher rate than other bonds. Some U.S. Savings Bonds pay a fixed rate throughout the life of the bond, while others have an interest rate that adjusts.

If you own U.S. Savings Bonds, know what the bonds are worth and what interest rate is paid. One online resource is the U.S. Treasury at www.publicdebt.treasury.gov.

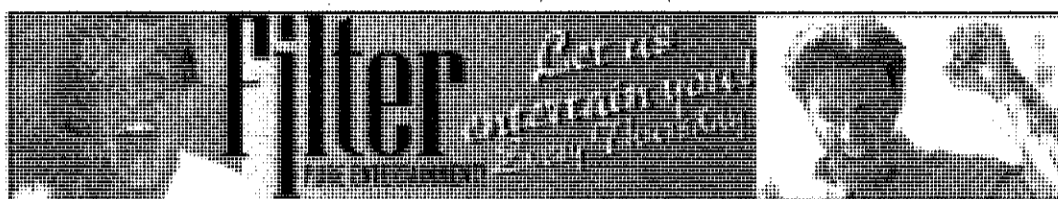
I am often asked about U.S. Savings Bonds as an investment vehicle for a child's or grandchild's college education. U.S. Savings Bonds are

a patriotic investment and that is why people should purchase them. However, there are better ways to save for a child's college education. Unfortunately, the rate of return on U.S. Savings Bonds does not keep up with the increased cost of a college education. I recommend other investment vehicles, such as the Michigan Education Savings Plan (MESP).

Most U.S. Savings Bonds have a 30-year maturity. Therefore, if you purchased U.S. Savings Bonds before the late 1970s, there is a good chance the bonds have matured. Instead of giving the government an interest-free loan, a better alternative would be to cash out, pay your taxes and put the money to work for you.

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

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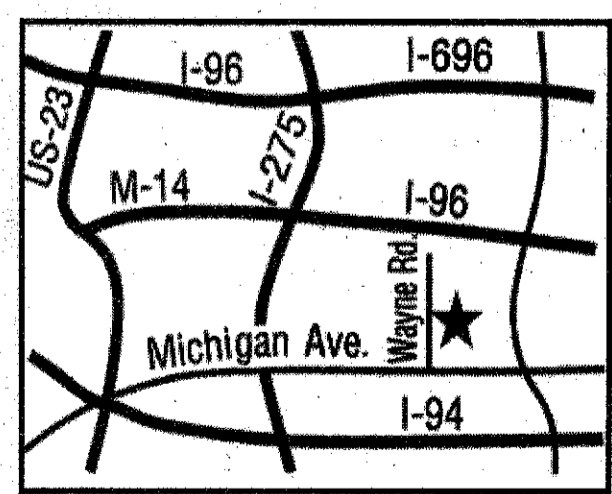
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OUR VIEWS

Theater closing was inevitable

We have to say we are not surprised at the announcement last week that National Amusements is closing the Showcase Cinema on March 2, considering the brouhaha it found itself in last fall.

The theater giant had come to city officials seeking approval of a liquor license transfer and entertainment license so it could transform Showcase Cinema into a dinner and movie venue, making it more competitive with entertainment venues in neighboring communities. City officials were split on the proposal which became mired in a controversy over the type of entertainment that could be offered there.

At the time, the concern was that such licensing could open the door to more than dinner and drinks with a movie and that the city would lose a family-oriented business. The difference of opinion may have played a part in National Amusements pulling its requests before it came before the council for a vote.

Now the city is scrambling, hoping to entice National Amusements to keep the theater open. While we hate to see yet another vacancy, this may be a losing battle. National Amusements has been losing its own battle in the Michigan market since 2002, when it closed four theaters, including the Quo Vadis in Westland.

Since that year it has shuttered theaters in Pontiac, Auburn Hills, Sterling Heights, Dearborn and the Flint area. By and large, the explanation has been the same — aging facilities with declining attendance unable to compete with new theaters offering amenities like stadium seating.

It would be easy to point a finger at the city and say Showcase's closing is due to the controversy that surfaced last fall, but there's more to it than that. Technology has changed the way we view entertainment. You can go to theaters and stadiums for live shows or stay at home and order events on pay-per-view. Toss in a big screen TV, surround sound and theater seating and, voila, your own home theater. No need to spend a fortune on tickets and snacks.

National Amusements was hoping the city would buy into its game plan, but quite frankly, it came too late. If National had been concerned about making the Westland theater competitive, it should have done it long before this. You need only look to the Canton 6 Cinema to see what can be done to compete with megaplexes like Emagine.

It is a shame the city will now have a second shuttered theater on its main thoroughfare. We can only hope that it doesn't take six years to fill that vacancy.

Green consensus forming on state's energy future

Gov. Jennifer Granholm has been in Washington, D.C., this week at the winter meeting of the National Governors Association on a mission to promote alternative energy and energy research.

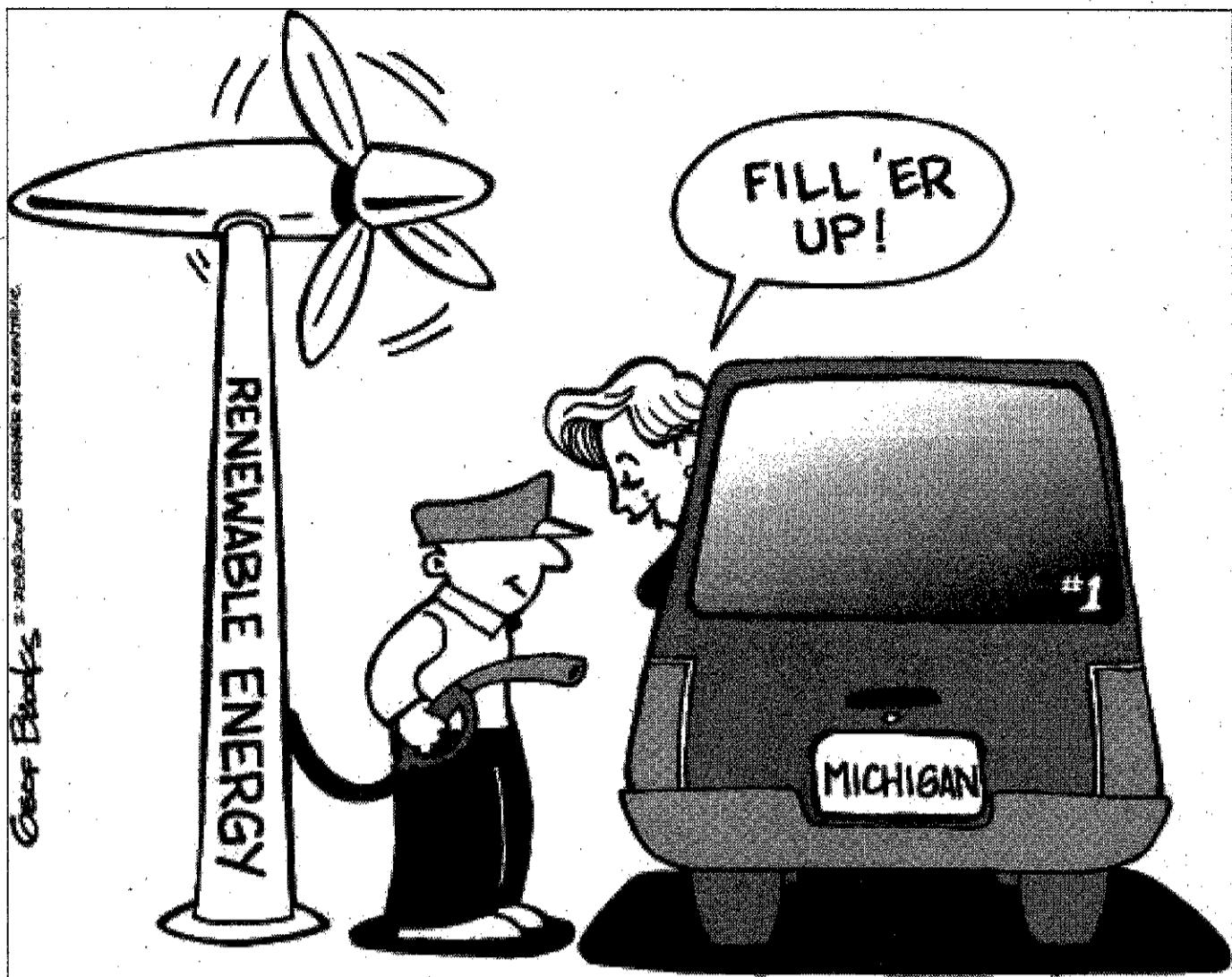
Michigan, other state governments and the federal government have all been wrestling with ways to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels, cited by many as the major factor in global warming. In a volatile global political environment, we are also trying to find ways to decrease our reliance on foreign oil.

Granholm and other state leaders have long touted alternative energy as a growth industry for Michigan, an industry that would build on Michigan's engineering and manufacturing history. In addition to finding alternate methods for fueling automobiles, the state is working on developing a workable renewable energy portfolio standard to partially replace coal-generated electricity with alternate renewable energy sources (wind, solar, biomass, etc.).

"Michigan is uniquely positioned to take advantage of the evolving green energy revolution," Granholm was quoted in a press release prior to leaving for Washington. "Our untapped wind resources offer us an almost unlimited source of clean, zero-carbon electricity; our productive farm and forest land can be put to use to grow the fuels of the future; our universities and corporate research centers are becoming leaders in alternative energy science; and our manufacturing know-how can build the components of the green-energy economy."

State Sen. Bruce Patterson, R-Canton, chairman of the state Senate Energy Policy and Public Utilities Committee, has been taking testimony from the state's "energy stakeholders," everyone from the two dominant utilities, DTE Energy and CMS Energy, to environmental groups, to alternative energy companies, to the Big Three auto companies, to property rights groups. While there seems to be a growing consensus on the need for alternative energy, how much and when are still major issues. Also at issue is the role of nuclear energy and whether it is still necessary to proceed with new coal plants.

Patterson is confident that an acceptable energy bill will emerge, but it won't be easy. Still, it is encouraging that everyone on all sides of this issue understand that it is critical to Michigan's future that we move toward a cleaner, greener energy future.



Make city a campus town

Dear council members, I recently read we are losing Showcase Cinema Westland (*Observer*, Feb. 21, 2008, "Last picture show"). Oh well, times change, tastes change and new fads will bring new business. Our city officials do have an obligation to help local businesses up to a point then the rest is up to them.

As our city leaders, it is your responsibility to bring new ideas that will help improve our city's image, image being the key word here. The '90s image campaign to make Westland "The Place to Be" was rather successful. But toxins found in Central City Park, Wayne-Westland schools losing large numbers of students and recent crime due to economy low points have left Westland with a "Not the Place to Be" image. We are becoming a city on the defense instead of a city with an offense.

Exactly what is the image this city council of 2008 wants for the future Westland?

If I may be allowed to give some helpful hints as to what can be Westland's future. We have the William D. Ford Career Technical Center, a vocational facility across the street from Churchill High School and the Schoolcraft College Radcliff satellite on Ford and Wildwood. Let's promote these learning centers and build on to them.

Now that we're going to add another empty building to our list (Westland Cinema) we can start counting the empty buildings (Sam's Club, Best Buy, Service Merchandise, maybe Westland Cinema) we can use as technical facilities or offer to local universities for use as satellite learning centers. Let's create a new image, a learning environment image, a higher level learning center image. It's a fact that our youth lack in higher level education. This compounded with state manufacturing jobs being lost amplifies the need for technical skills re-training centers.

Universities are losing students due to growing costs. A two-year technical education outlet at lower costs can encourage students to continue higher level education and universities may look at local cities (cities of our size) as an outlet for their programs. Yes, Wayne County Community College District and Schoolcraft College offer similar services, but Westland offers low-cost apartments and an existing bus transportation service that would help poorer students that can't afford their own transportation. Can you imagine Sam's as a CMU technical facility, WMU technical studies in Best Buy or computer technician studies in Westland Cinema?

Studies show college towns have always done well even during economic hard times.

Let's put together a plan to offer our city as a learning center that offers hope and not just low-income housing. Let's offer a city with a campus environment.

Carlos Manzo
Westland

A worthy recipient

I am very pleased, but not surprised, to learn that Sue Mason is the 2008 recipient of the Westland ATHENA award for outstanding professional women.

Bud Somerville
Westland

LETTERS

Presidential observations

The media and Obama's chief strategist David Axelrod have packaged and promoted Barack Obama as a Lincoln-esque, black (yet flawless) JFK as the best person to lead the U.S. during these crucial times. The campaign has stressed character and inspiration instead of policy, issues, and experience in leadership skills. With Oprah as his chief "lobbyist" and using quasi-religious allusions in messianic messages, Obama has embodied the hopes of dreams of all Americans.

We have lived with lies, fear, loss of personal privacy, an illegal, unjust war, and have watched our country lose respect throughout the world since 2000. Yet, his tenure in the Senate has not been notable. He has voted "present" rather than yes or no.

If he is the Democratic nominee for president, let us hope his conciliatory views are not overcome by confrontational views and tactics. Let us hope he can survive real, bitter, personal negative attacks from the opposition. Let us hope his youth can compete with and overcome McCain, the experienced elder statesman.

Leonard Poger
Westland

Save Showcase Cinema

Access to high-speed Internet — some of us take it for granted. Others would do almost anything to have it. The economic growth and livelihood of nearly every city, town and rural area throughout the nation depends on it.

Hearing that the Showcase Cinema is closing down is unbelievable. I think that the City Council needs to give them the entertainment license they asked for to allow dinner and drinks, and if some council members are worried about nude dancing or whatever, stipulate in the license that they CANNOT do that.

We are about to have a major business in our city leaving town again. We have far too many businesses that are gone and the buildings sit vacant. I urge the city council to hold an emergency meeting, give them the license they asked for, with the stipulations they can't have the "nude dancing" or whatever else they are worried about. This is a major decision that is going to affect our city.

We have the Quo Vadis being torn down fairly soon to build a fitness gym and what happens to the fitness center across the street that offers the same thing? Some of the decisions that are made to "HELP" our city, well, it is more damaging than it should be.

March 1 will be here real quick. I strongly urge the city to get with the program and work with the owners of Showcase Cinema immediately. Give them what they ask for before it is too late. Times are tough, things are bad all over, and now one of the biggest businesses in our city will be gone. Hey, if you don't help them now, why don't you just have the demolition crew come on down the street when they tear down the Quo Vadis, and save us the eye sore Showcase will turn into. Tear them both down the same day.

I think that the city council is a very important part of our city. Change your ruling NOW before we lose an intricate part of our city. And please do it ASAP.

LETTERS

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Hannah Provence Donigan
Commerce

They're leaving

"Estimates by the U.S. Census Bureau indicate that Michigan's population has decreased by 30,500 from 2006 to 2007.

"According to the new estimates, Michigan had the nation's third-highest rate of net domestic out-migration in 2007, surpassed only by New York and Rhode Island.

"Michigan has the nation's seventh-highest rate for the entire period since the 2000 Census, surpassed by New York, the District of Columbia, Louisiana, Massachusetts, New Jersey and Illinois." (www.michigan.gov).

Tax decisions such as those recently made by our Legislature and that described above will only exacerbate the migration to other states. And they will not serve to beckon new people and manufacturers to our state.

Tom Shipley
Birmingham

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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

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

QUOTABLE

"It's all about jobs and the economy, and I don't see those improving."
- Wayne-Westland School Superintendent Greg Baracy about the effect of the state's economy and loss of student enrollment

Doug Fraser worked tirelessly to improve all Americans' lives

We lost a good man. Doug Fraser, the retired president of the United Auto Workers from 1977-83 and distinguished professor of labor studies at Wayne State University, died Feb. 23. He was 91.

Doug Fraser was a measuring stick of goodness. There was a sense of decency and integrity that seemed to permeate his very being.

There was never a time that I had the opportunity to be with him that I did not walk away feeling good about the world and knowing that I had learned and grown from our conversation. This happened recently as we bumped into each other in our hometown of Northville. We talked about state and national politics and how there is a need for leaders, at every level, to realize the economic anxiety and stress that many working people are under in Michigan, America and across the globe and the need to take action to help.

Doug, as he liked to be called, lived a long and productive life. Born Dec. 18, 1916, in Glasgow, Scotland, he spent his life working — and looking out — for the working people of this country. He understood that America's success was built on the blood, sweat and tears of the American worker.

Today, America is a better place because of labor leaders like Doug Fraser. Yet, in that brief encounter standing in the doorway of a Northville restaurant a month or so ago, Doug Fraser lamented about how it seems we have lost the shared sacrifice and common good of what has woven us together as a country.

"A great country extends a ladder, a helping hand, to those below and helps lift them up; this is slipping away," he bemoaned as he took a deep breath, inhaling oxygen from his portable respirator, a remnant of a lifetime of smoking.

Doug had a room-illuminating smile and a quick wit. His roots and rooting for the working man began in the working-class neighborhood of Glasgow, were varnished during the struggles of the Great Depression and were cemented in the auto plants in Hamtramck and Detroit. He was a tough adversary during labor negotiations. He carried out his role with integrity that earned the respect of his members and management alike.

He was a leading American trade unionist and advocate for civil and human rights around the world.

As a Ford Rouge Plant employee, I knew of the legendary Fraser and his fight to save Chrysler Corp. from bankruptcy in 1979. With then-young congressman and later Gov. James Blanchard, they successfully lobbied

Upon retirement from the UAW in 1983, Fraser began a second career as a distinguished professor of labor studies at Wayne State University. It was there that he shared his wisdom and experience with students who were growing up in the "irrational exuberance" of the past 20 years. I recall seeing the young students gather around the gray-haired old labor leader on the WSU campus as he spun a labor or political tale and challenged them to get involved in the struggles to make America the best it could be for all.

Congress and President Jimmy Carter to support \$1.5 billion in federal loan guarantees. I admired the work Fraser did not only to save a company, but also the lives and livelihood of many working people. This should never be forgotten.

Further, as a life-long Democrat, he proudly marched with the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. during the civil rights struggles of the 1960s. He was a strong champion for the auto industry to recruit more minorities and women.

I met Doug Fraser during the first Blanchard for Governor campaign, where I served as deputy campaign manager. The awe and admiration only grew from there.

His wife and partner, Dr. Winnie Fraser, a psychologist, shared Doug's passion for people and remains a strong advocate for the weakest among us, the mentally ill.

Upon retirement from the UAW in 1983, Fraser began a second career as a distinguished professor of labor studies at Wayne State University. It was there that he shared his wisdom and experience with students who were growing up in the "irrational exuberance" of the past 20 years. I recall seeing the young students gather around the gray-haired old labor leader on the WSU campus as he spun a labor or political tale and challenged them to get involved in the struggles to make America the best it could be for all.

The former UAW president is now in heaven — organizing the angels, doing what he has done here on earth, focusing his energies on improving the economic and social well-being of working men and women everywhere.

Doug Fraser was a good man and he will be sorely missed.

Tom Watkins is a business and education consultant. He served as Michigan's state superintendent of schools from 2001-05. He welcomes reader comments at tdwatkins@aol.com.



Tom Watkins

ATHENA Award an honor to be cherished forever

A late colleague of mine was famous for saying, "When you work with words, words are your work." So if that's what I do, why has it been so hard to say what I want to say?

For more than a week, I've been carrying on a conversation with a faceless mass of people, telling them over and over how honored I am, trying to find just the right words to convey to them how honored I am to be the 2008 Westland ATHENA Award winner.



Sue Mason

I was all but tongue-tied the night I won and, although I did give a speech, I'm not sure of what I said. What made it most difficult was not knowing who had nominated me for this honor, who had thought so much of what I do to say I should have this honor.

I did find out, but I still struggled to find the words. Kim Rourke was one of several people I met in 2007. A fourth-grade teacher at St. Damian School, she was the voice at the end of a telephone line asking if the *Observer* would cover a long-distance conversation between St. Damian students and Astronaut Sunni Williams aboard the International Space Station.

I didn't take a breath before answering, no hesitation, absolutely I would be there. The closest I'd come to covering anything related to the final frontier was getting reaction to the loss of the space shuttle Challenger in 1986. For someone who grew up during the race to land a man on the moon, it was something I would have given all the tea in China to do.

Standing along a wall, looking at a photograph of Williams and listening to her, I was taken back to when I was a student at St. Alfred School in Taylor. Hearing that voice from Johnson Space Center and the clarity of what Williams said in space, I remember the day in May 1961 that Alan Shepard was catapulted into space.

That day, I sat with my classmates and listened to a scratchy nine-volt transistor radio someone had given to our teacher to use. We prayed for a safe launch and then prayed for Shepard's safe return to Earth. We hung on the

I have never looked at what I do in terms of the ATHENA Award. I went to journalism school because writing gave me a voice. Writing let a shy kid speak, and I haven't shut up since my first story was published. I have spent my entire career in one way or another covering the news in western Wayne County. Along the way, I have met so many people that I count as friends.

reporter's every word as he described the events unfolding before him.

I wish I could say that it was that moment in my life that led me to go into journalism, but it didn't. But that day at St. Damian, I saw myself in those students as they hung on every word Sunni Williams said. It was as powerful and inspiring as that day in 1961.

I have never looked at what I do in terms of the ATHENA Award. I went to journalism school because writing gave me a voice. Writing let a shy kid speak, and I haven't shut up since my first story was published. I have spent my entire career in one way or another covering the news in western Wayne County. Along the way, I have met so many people that I count as friends.

I have no idea how many stories I have written over the years. Nor how many people I have talked with. To this day, I am amazed at the trust people have in me. They invite me into their homes, tell me their stories and trust I will do right by them. I believe I have, and I'm committed to doing that until I'm no longer able.

I am honored beyond belief by what Kim did. I now know it took some inside help and I thank Darrell Clem, Sue Rosiek and LeAnne Rogers for all they did. I am humbled by what they did for Kim ... and for me. It was a totally unexpected honor, one I will cherish forever.

I think the kindergarten teacher I interviewed after she was Educator of the Year may have said it best: "Thank you, thank you, thank you."

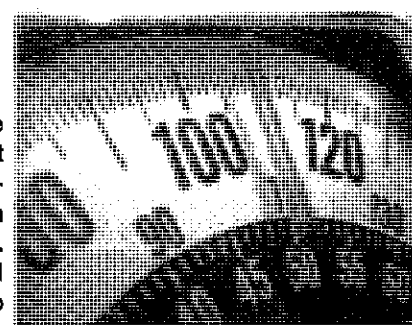
Sue Mason lives in Westland and is editor of the Westland and Garden City editions of the *Observer*. You can send your comments to her by e-mail at smason@hometownlife.com.

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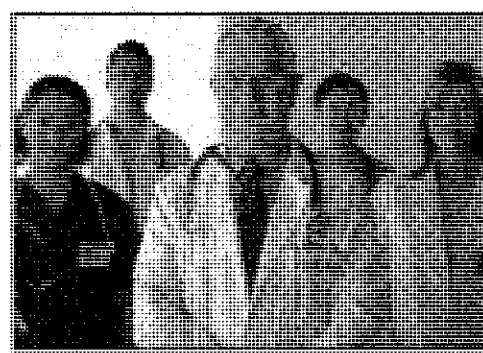
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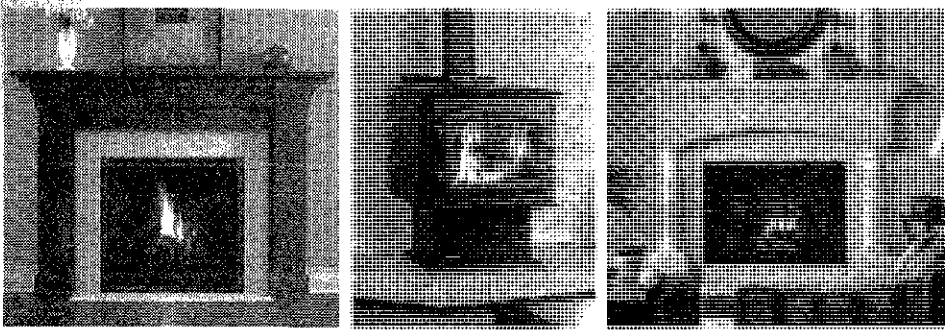
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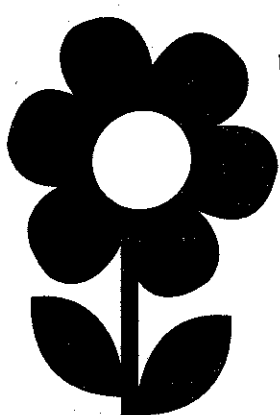
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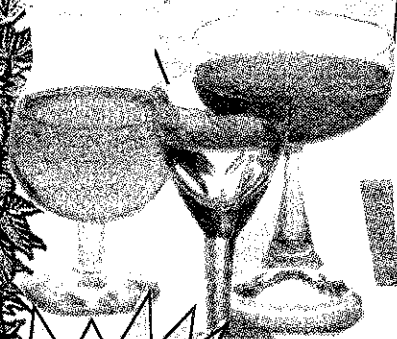
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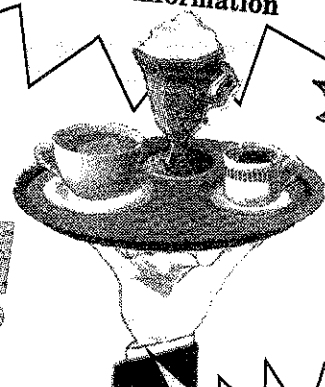
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Thursday, February 28, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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Pats collapse down stretch in OT defeat

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Livonia Franklin couldn't stand prosperity in Tuesday night's Class A girls basketball regional semifinal.

The Patriots wasted a seven-point lead in the final 1:21 of regulation before succumbing in overtime to Brighton, 60-56, at Walled Lake Western.

Franklin ends its season at 18-5 overall, while Brighton (18-6) earned a spot in today's regional championship game against North Farmington (21-2), which

GIRLS BASKETBALL ousted Livonia Ladywood in the other semifinal, 55-41.

The Patriots appeared to be in good shape when senior Ashley Price split a pair of free throws with 1:21 remaining for a 50-43 advantage.

But Brighton stormed back behind a key triple by Dayna Modrzynski with 34.7 seconds left followed by Morgan Albert's two free throws with only 12.7 to go, knotting the count at 51-51.

Franklin, meanwhile, converted only 1-of-4 free throws during the final 45 seconds, turned the ball over twice, and did not get a shot off on its final possession.

To make matters worse, leading scorer Brittany Taylor (18 points) fouled out at the end of regulation and her twin sister Brianna (12 points) exited during the overtime with five fouls.

Brighton outscored the Patriots 9-5 in the extra four-minute session, but Franklin still had a chance to tie it with 14 seconds to play when Nicole Emery's triple try rimmed off.

Albert's free throw with 10.9 remaining in OT sealed the victory.

"We beat ourselves with free throws," said Franklin first-year coach Dave McCall, whose team made only 9-of-19 compared with Brighton's 26-of-38. "We missed two big free throws and had the game iced. They (Brighton) killed us at the free-throw line. And we missed a lot of layups. We didn't do a good job of burning up the clock. We made some bad decisions."

Please see **PATS, B4**

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stevenson's Robert Luke emerged victorious in the 100-yard butterfly during Saturday's Western Lakes finals at Salem. Luke's time was 53.66.

Going out in style

Spartans rally to win final WLAA championship

BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Saturday marked the last chapter of the 25th and final Western Lakes Activities Association boys swim meet at Salem High School.

And the finish did not disappoint as Livonia Stevenson stormed back in the final three events for the win to unseat defending champion Northville, 652-643. Walled Lake Northern took a distant third with 378 points, followed by the host Rocks (254), Canton (237) and Plymouth (225) in the top six.

The Spartans, along with the other 11 WLAA members, will merge next year with the Kensington Valley Conference and two schools from Waterford to form the Kensington Lakes Conference.

They washed away the stain of a 98-88 dual-meet loss to the Mustangs in January and did it the hard way, overcoming a clerical error in the 1-meter diving event, which disqualified Stevenson's top two divers, including the leader after eight attempts.

Stevenson, the Lakes Division champion, spotted the Mustangs 43 points in the event, but clawed back and eventually regained the lead following the 100-yard breaststroke, 612-595.

"We knew we had a lead to play with, but they (Northville) were coming fast," Stevenson coach Jeff Shoemaker said. "It was a shame for the divers. We should have won by a 100."

Shoemaker credited the performance two days earlier in the prelims as the catalyst.

"You don't swim for the regular season, you swim for the championship meet," he said. "The playoff season is where it's at. We swim so well on Thursday. That's the best (prelim) swim overall we've had in a championship meet."

Stevenson captured just three events, including a victory in the 200 medley relay as senior Robert Luke, junior Joey Wingett, junior Mike Cruce and junior Ryan Scott combined for a time of 1:39.81.

Luke added a victory in the 100 butterfly (53.63), while Wingett took the 100 breaststroke (1:00.8).

Shoemaker, however, pointed to the unsung performances turned in by

Please see **SPARTANS, B5**

Forten Academy eliminates Warriors

Detroit Charlotte Forten Academy used a big second half Tuesday night to oust Lutheran High Westland from the Class D girls basketball regional, 65-41, at Warren Immaculate Conception.

Lutheran Westland ends its season at 16-6 overall, while Forten Academy, now 14-4 overall, advances to tonight's regional final against Birmingham Rooper.

Guard Brittany Williams paced the victorious Bulldogs with a game-high 22 points, while running mate Kalvonia Nichols chipped in with 10 as Forten eliminated the Warriors from the state tourney for the second straight year.

Junior guard Allyson Yankeel led the Warriors with 18 points and four assists.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

She also became the third player in school history to reach 300 points in a season, joining Stephanie Locke and teammate Becca Refenes, a 6-1 junior who finished with 12 points and 10 rebounds.

Refenes also became the school's all-time leading rebounder for a season.

It was 17-17 after one quarter before Forten outscored Lutheran Westland 18-13 in the second to take a 35-30 halftime lead.

"We played well the first and we were able to beat their 2-2-1 full-court pressure and get layups on the other end," Lutheran Westland coach Kevin Wade said. "I think

we surprised them a little. They went on a little run to end the first half, but we were more than in the game at that point."

Forten outscored the Warriors 16-4 during the third quarter to take command.

The Bulldogs shot 27-of-64 from the field (40.2 percent), while the Warriors were 18-of-44 (40.9 percent).

"They pressured us in the half court and we struggled with turnovers, which they were able to turn into quick points," Wade said. "We definitely are disappointed to lose, but it doesn't take anything away from the great season we had. Sixteen wins is fourth all-time in school history and winning a district was a great experience that no one will forget."

North guard Beller stellar vs. Blazers

BY DAN O'MEARA
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Recalling last year's loss to Rochester, North Farmington's players were eager to produce a favorable outcome in their second straight Class A regional tournament appearance in girls basketball Tuesday.

Led by senior Cassie Beller's 30-point game, the Raiders played with inspiration and followed through with a 55-41 victory over Livonia Ladywood

GIRLS BASKETBALL at Walled Lake Western.

North (21-2) will play Brighton (18-6), a 60-56 overtime winner over Livonia Franklin in Tuesday's other semifinal, for the regional championship at 7 tonight.

"(Senior) Kelly Harbron said after the game our experience playing Rochester in the regional last year was invaluable," North coach Tim Carruthers said. "We played a good game and Rochester took it to us in the last four minutes. The girls didn't want that to happen again. Our experience last year at this level helped us a lot."

From the start, nobody was more motivated than Beller, who scored 14 points in the first quarter and got the Raiders off to a good start.

North scored the first seven points, with Beller attacking the basket for six. Her last two field goals of the quarter were

Please see **BLAZERS, B4**

Renaissance stymies Clarenceville cagers

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It was an Oscar-winning performance displayed during the first half by the Livonia Clarenceville boys basketball team, who trailed state power Detroit Renaissance by only a point, 28-27.

But the script suddenly turned sour for the host Trojans, who went scoreless for the first 4 minutes, 32 seconds of the third quarter as Renaissance went on an 11-0 run en route to a 65-48 first-round win in the Class B district tournament.

Host Clarenceville cut the deficit to 44-38 after three quarters with 42.8 seconds left on a basket by 6-foot-3 junior swingman Jamie Stewart, who led all scorers with 26 points. But the Phoenix reasserted themselves in the final quarter, outscoring the Trojans 21-10.

"We talked at halftime that they're one of the best teams in the state and they were ready for a run," said Clarenceville coach Corey McKendry, whose team finishes 18-3 overall. "We haven't seen that kind of pressure all year. And it was a credit to them. They came out ready."

The Trojans found themselves plugging holes in the dike, especially after senior guard Craig VanNostrand, the team's best outside shooter, went down just 2:36 into the game with a badly sprained ankle.

And to make matters worse, 6-foot-3 junior center Jeremy Gainer (eight points, 10 rebounds) picked up a costly third foul with 5:09 left in the half.

"We lost our secondary ball-handler when Craig went down and with Gainer in foul trouble it forced us to use Jamie

Please see **C'VILLE, B2**

TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Clarenceville's Jamie Stewart lays on in during Monday's Class B district game against Detroit Renaissance as Ian Larkin defends on the play.

C'VILLE FROM PAGE B1

more as the secondary ball-handler," McKendry said. "We wanted to get it to him (Stewart) instead of making him go up and bring it down. "But the story of the game was depth. They (Renaissance) ran a lot of guys at us."



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

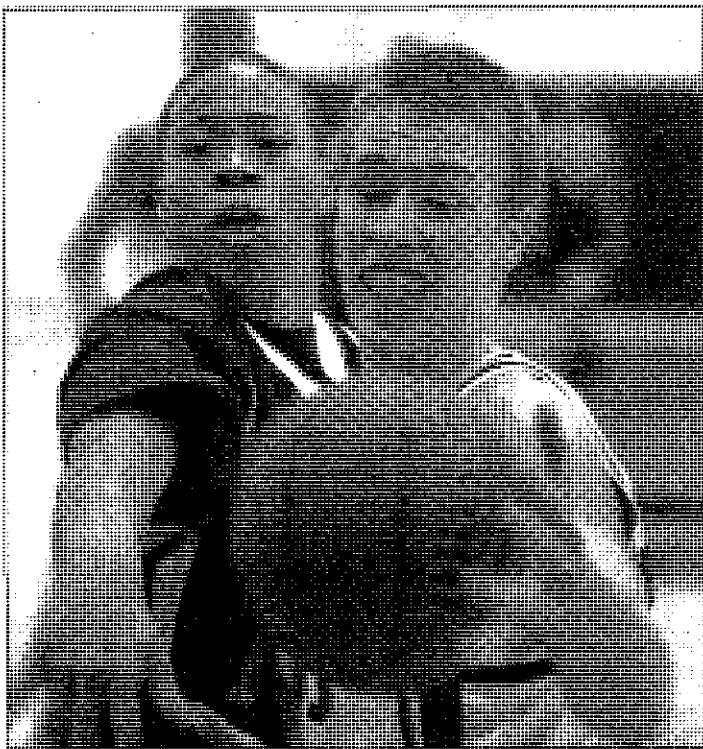
Clarenceville's Jeremy Gainer fights to put up a rebound Detroit Renaissance's Daniel Sutherland attempting the block.

Clarenceville ends one of its most successful seasons at 18-3 with two of those losses coming in the final week (the other was to Detroit Community). "We needed a game like this," McKendry said. "I'm proud we came back to six-point deficit. Jamie (Stewart) was outstanding. He defended Paul (Williams) and got his points. He showed me he's got a lot of heart. I think we took a step in the right direction this year and hopefully we'll take another step."

Franklin digs hole in boys district loss to Thurston

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Throughout the season, Livonia Franklin's boys basketball team found itself battling from behind and giving opponents all they could handle. That mindset, however, couldn't deliver the Patriots a victory in Monday's first-round Class A district match-up against Redford Thurston as the Eagles prevailed, 80-65, at Livonia Stevenson. After falling into a 26-6 hole entering the second quarter, Franklin (5-16) did make life uncomfortable for Thurston - even cutting the deficit to 67-58 with 3:27 remaining following a pair of free throws by senior stand-out Ryan Matthey (25 points). "We made better decisions, better choices," said Franklin first-year head coach Jeremy Rheault about how his team actually outscored Thurston 17-13 in the third. "I just thought these guys played with a lot of heart, these guys really hung in there this year." Rheault added that it "wasn't that much of a shock" that his team did not mail in the rest of the game after the Eagles (18-3) got off to their fast start. "We've played from behind so much this year... we've come back against teams and hung in there against Western Lakes teams," he noted. Thurston coach Brian Bates said his team lost its concentration after the first quarter. But he credited the Patriots' work ethic for having a lot to do with that. "Franklin played hard," he said. Monday's contest featured teams taking turns having the hot hand. Thurston senior Kyle Crockett drained a triple



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Thurston's Marcus Jones applies the pressure on the Franklin inbound pass to Connor Leidal in during Monday night's Class A district opener.

from the left corner as the first quarter ended, to give the Eagles their 26-6 lead. But as soon as the second frame started, the Patriots were a different team, albeit probably too late. Matthey and junior Jeff Poole (11 points) keyed a 12-2 run over the first three minutes of the quarter, each registering a pair of field goals to help Franklin close the gap to 28-18. "He (Matthey) took it on his shoulders, he was frustrated with their pressure," Rheault said. "But he wanted this really bad. We just didn't have enough guns." Another Thurston run ended the first half, with the Eagles ahead 44-26. Both teams then traded scoring surges in the third, with Matthey tallying 11 of Franklin's 17 points. But whenever the Patriots had a glimmer of hope

that they could claw back, Thurston's Marcus Jones (21 points) seemingly connected on a trey. Jones did that twice during the fourth. "The key to Thurston's team is they have a lot of depth," Rheault said. Leading Thurston with 23 points was senior forward Jarmel Bloodsaw. Also scoring in double figures for Franklin was senior Kevin Percin (12 points). FARMINGTON 60, STEVENSON 38: In a Class A district opener Monday, host Livonia Stevenson (9-12) couldn't dig itself out of a 18-3 first-quarter hole as the Falcons (12-9) advanced behind 13 points from Evan Blackwell and 11 from Ethan Blackwell. Andre Tillman contributed 10 points in the Farmington victory. Tillman also dished out eight assists. Bobby Naubert and Gary Cobb each scored six for the

BOYS DISTRICT BASKETBALL

Spartans, who did not tally a field goal in the first quarter. "Anthony Dostel was the only player who came in and played well for us tonight," Stevenson first-year coach Mike Allie said. WAYNE 76, GARDEN CITY 50: Senior Mike Lee scored 22 of his game-high 23 points in the opening quarter Monday as host Wayne Memorial (19-2) rolled to a Class A district victory over the Cougars (4-17). The 5-foot-10 point-guard nailed triples each in the first and second periods as the Zebras outscored Garden City, 29-9 and 22-16 for a 51-25 halftime advantage. Jeremy Lovelady, a 6-10 senior center, added 16, while Daniel Hill contributed nine for Western Lakes Activities Association champions, who shot only 8-of-10 from the foul line (42.1 percent). Mark Brissett paced the Cougars with 11 points, while Joe Felice and Bryan Grace each added 10. Belleville defeated Ypsilanti in the first game, 62-43, as Kyle Gupton scored a game-high 21 points for the Tigers. Marvin Sanders scored 11 for the Phoenix. PCA 68, HURON VALLEY 50: In Class D district action Tuesday, host Plymouth Christian Academy eliminated Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (4-17) to advance to Thursday's semifinal game against Redford Covenant Christian. The first semifinal game pits Lutheran Westland vs. West Village Academy at 6 p.m. followed by the Covenant-PCA matchup. The final is 7 p.m. Friday also at PCA.

Advertisement for Detroit Tigers 2008 Season Schedule. Includes headline 'GET THE HOTTEST TICKETS IN DETROIT BEFORE THEY'RE GOING, GOING, GONE!', a list of weekend events, a list of special events, and a vertical schedule grid on the right side. Features a photo of a player and the Detroit Tigers logo.

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Regional champions Woodall, Kemp pace Palace qualifiers

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Rip, Chauncey and Sheed will have to take a back seat next week for three days as prep wrestlers from around the state will invade The Palace of Auburn Hills for the annual MHSAA individual finals.

In Division 1, Livonia Stevenson leads the way with four qualifiers from last Saturday's Southgate Anderson regional followed by Westland John Glenn with three; Livonia Franklin and

Livonia Churchill, two each. Lutheran High Westland had one advance in Division 4.

Stevenson's contingent is led by senior 160-pounder Ziad Kharbush, who took third at the regional and boasts an overall record of 43-2.

Kharbush is joined by fourth-place regional finishers Michael Fobar (112), a senior with a 34-17 mark; Raz Markosian (145), a junior at 38-14; and Emanuel Onwuemene (189), a senior at 31-11.

Glenn is led by senior 125-pounder Jeremiah Austin, who

saw his 50-match winning streak end Saturday when he was pinned 1:40 during the regional by Monroe senior Zac Stevens in a rematch of the district final (won by Austin, 7-5).

Austin is joined by regional 103 runner-up Anthony Pavlich, a sophomore who lost a close 2-1 decision in the final to Monroe senior Ryan Jones. Pavlich is 48-3 overall.

Also headed to the Palace is junior Jared Stephens, who took third at the regional and sports an overall mark of 43-7. Franklin sent 10 to the

regional, but only got two through led by Southgate regional champion Dan Woodall, who captured the 171-pound division with 12-5 decision in the final over Rodger Kropp of Canton. Woodall is now 54-2 overall.

Patriot teammate Jared Pieknik (112) was a regional runner-up as well to Wyandotte's Leon Shannon (7-4) and will take a 48-8 mark to Auburn Hills.

"Jared and Dan getting to the finals was nice because it puts them in good position for next week," Franklin coach

Dave Chiola said. "Both of these guys have been solid for us all year and guys that we always turn to when we need a win. Plus, they're both great students and genuinely nice kids."

"I also like the fact that neither of them had any wrestling experience before the ninth grade. With kids starting so young now it's nice for kids to know that they can start as a ninth-grader and still compete at a high level."

Churchill's Andrew Murray (135) and J.P. Gaffke (140) are also moving on after finishing

fourth at Southgate. Murray is 29-9 overall, while Gaffke is 33-10.

Joining Woodall as a regional champion is Lutheran High Westland junior Stephen Kemp (152), who captured the Division 4 regional title Saturday at Manchester.

Kemp, the Observerland champion with a 47-3 overall record, handed Reading's Matt Tuttle his first loss in 41 matches with a 7-6 decision in the finals.

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PREP WRESTLING

MHSAA INDIVIDUAL REGIONAL WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS (top 4 finishers qualify for state meet)

DIVISION 1

at SOUTHGATE ANDERSON

103 pounds: Ryan Jones (Monroe) d. Anthony Pavlich (Westland John Glenn), 2-1; 3rd place: Derek Davison (Monroe) d. Waleed Faraj (Canton), 6-2.

112: Leon Shannon (Wyandotte) d. Jared Pieknik (Livonia Franklin), 7-4; 3rd: Justin Fieeson (Belleville) won by major dec. over Michael Fobar (Livonia Stevenson), 13-3.

119: Paul Hancock (Dearborn Fordson) d. Chris Schneider (Belleville), 13-7; 3rd: Jonny D'Anna (Northville) d. Isaac Morisset (Southgate), 9-6.

125: Zac Stevens (Monroe) d. Jeremiah Austin (John Glenn), 14-0; 3rd: Donnie Watkins (Canton) d. Mike Roberts (Southgate).

130: Christian Cullinan (Wyandotte) d. Billy Osborne (Temperance Bedford), 9-6; 3rd: Jared Stephens (John Glenn) d. Kevin Hayter (Salem), 9-4.

135: Steve Cox (Canton) p. Dario Farrugia (Wyandotte), 3-17; 3rd: Jason VanWassenhenova (Lincoln Park) d. Andrew Murray (Livonia Churchill), 6-2.

140: Brent Winekoff (Canton) won by major dec. over Jacob Losen (Belleville), 12-4; 3rd: Aaron Jeffrey (Bedford) p. J.P. Gaffke (Churchill), 5-39.

145: Steve Coak (Belleville) d. Dan Taylor (Monroe), 12-5; 3rd: Brian Bagjan (Northville) d. Raz Markosian (Stevenson), 5-3.

152: Ryan Thomas (Novi) won by major dec. over Matthew Washelewski (Woodhaven), 14-4; 3rd: Patrick Nusbaum (Bedford) d. Khodor Hoballah (Dearborn), 2-0.

160: Alex Ortman (Bedford) d. Jeremy Epley (Salem), 6-2; 3rd: Ziad Kharbush (LS) won by void over Brian Householder (Romulus).

171: Dan Woodall (Franklin) d. Rodger Kropp (Canton), 12-5; 3rd: Devin Duncan (Monroe) d. John Schneider (Woodhaven), 8-5.

189: Nick Whitenburg (Bedford) d. Ryan Ridenour (Novi), 7-3; 3rd: Emanuel Onwuemene (LS) d. Jabreel Naser (Fordson), 3-1.

215: Marcel Dubose (Oak Park) p. Jacob Moore (Southgate), 12-3; 3rd: DIMarco Scarber (Oak Park) d. Dan Wanshon (Canton), 3-1.

285: Alex Doman (Birmingham Brother Rice) p. Adam Love (Garden City), 15-2; 3rd: Mason Cole (Bedford) p. Travis Brown (Southgate), 11-9.

MHSAA INDIVIDUAL WRESTLING FINALS AREA 1ST-ROUND PAIRINGS

March 6 at Palace of Auburn Hills

DIVISION 1

285 pounds: Adam Love, Sr., Garden City (40-5) vs. Jared Cowan, Sr., Davison (36-8).

103: Anthony Pavlich, Soph., Westland John Glenn (48-3) vs. Zack Worthing, Sr., Utica Ford (37-12); Waleed Faraj, Soph., Canton (35-17) vs. Gary Cicotte, Soph., L'Anse Creuse North (50-4).

112: Jarek Pieknik, Sr., Livonia Franklin (48-8) vs. Cody Robins, Soph., Davison (41-7); Justin Fieeson, Sr., Belleville (44-2) vs. Devin Borja, Soph., Milford (40-12); Michael Fobar, Sr., Livonia Stevenson (34-7) vs. Terrance Frank, Sr., Grand Blanc (47-7).

125: Jeremiah Austin, Sr., John Glenn (50-1) vs. Michael Bibble, Jr., Rochester Hills Stoney Creek (44-13); Donnie Watkins, Soph., Canton (40-9) vs. Tyler Bunting, Jr., Rochester Adams (39-15).

130: Jared Stephens, Jr., John Glenn (43-7) vs. Alex Poop, Jr., Clarkston (38-3); Kevin Hayter, Sr., Salem (38-8) vs. Josh Houldsworth, Soph., Holly (54-2).

135: Andrew Murray, Sr., Livonia Churchill (29-9) vs. John Houseman, Sr., Grand Haven (33-0).

140: Brent Winekoff, Soph., Canton (46-4) vs. Richard Newbill, Sr., Utica Ford (36-21); J.P. Gaffke, Sr., Churchill (33-10) vs. Robert Nash, Jr., Roseville (46-7).

145: Steve Coak, Sr., Belleville (33-3) vs. Evan King, Soph., Clarkston (32-25); Raz Markosian, Jr., Stevenson (38-14) vs. Jeremy Bonmarito, Sr., Hartland (55-2).

160: Jeremy Epley, Sr., Salem (41-4) vs. Mike Wransky, Jr., Macomb Dakota (29-8); Ziad Kharbush, Sr., Stevenson (43-2) vs. Fadi Moosa, Sr., Sterling Heights (48-9).

171: Rodger Kropp, Sr., Canton (35-18) vs. Kyle Summerfield, Jr., Hartland (35-7); Dan Woodall, Sr., Franklin (54-2) vs. Max McGoldrick, Sr., Holly (43-10).

189: Emanuel Onwuemene, Sr., Stevenson (31-11) vs. Seth Holt, Sr., Grand Haven (44-1).

215: Dan Wanshon, Sr., Canton (38-12) vs. Jarrett Lintz, Sr., L'Anse Creuse (54-2).

DIVISION 4

152: Stephen Kemp, Jr., Lutheran High Westland (47-3) vs. Casey Rickill, Sr., Martin (46-8).

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BLAZERS

FROM PAGE B1

3-pointers, giving North a 15-10 lead.

The pattern was established and the Blazers (20-4), who missed their first nine shots, were playing catchup the entire game.

"(The Raiders) definitely came out and shot the ball very well," Ladywood coach Andrea Gorski said, citing Beller's 30 points. "A lot of teams struggle to score 30 against us."

"I don't know what else we could have done defensively. They flat out shot the ball. They were scoring over us; they were scoring with a hand in the face. She had 30 and their other kids stepped up and played well."

Lyndsey Booker, who played a good floor game and helped offensively when Beller was in foul trouble in the second half, scored 12 points and Jenna Bachouche, who dribbled and rebounded well, added six.

Senior center Alexandra Serowoky scored 12 of her 16 points and Jenna Anastos nine of her 12 in the second half for the Blazers. Alison Szczypka added nine.

"(North) did a good job of holding us to one shot," Gorski said. "They're very athletic and

very strong. Those two things together are a tough combination, and that made it hard for us to get to the boards."

"We've gone at the basket hard in the state tournament games and done a nice job of rebounding the ball as well," Carruthers said. "That's been huge for us in these four games."

Ladywood tried to get the ball inside early, but North played good post defense and didn't allow many second chances with its solid rebounding.

The Blazers started kicking the ball out to the perimeter for threes, but they made only 4-of-22 for the game, which was due in part to the Raiders getting out on the shooters.

"It would've helped if we hit a couple shots at the beginning of the game, but we didn't," Gorski said. "And they didn't have to come out; they were able to focus on Alex. In the second half, we did a better job of getting the ball inside, and we didn't finish particularly well."

The Raiders, who led 28-15 at halftime, struggled at the start of third quarter with turnovers and missed shots, while the Blazers closed to 28-22. North went on an 11-4 run and was up 39-28 after three.

Beller got her fourth foul with six minutes left and was

out of the game until 2:43 remained. In the meantime, Ladywood pulled within five, 42-37, on an Anastos 3-point-er with 5:16 to play.

"We came out of a timeout down five and had two wide-open looks — a six-footer and a putback — and missed," Gorski said. "If we had hit that, we could've had something going."

North weathered the storm, however, as the other players stepped up and maintained the five-point lead in Beller's absence, 46-41.

The Raiders scored the last nine points to clinch the win. Beller, who had the last seven, made 9-of-19 field goals, including 3-of-5 triple attempts, and 9-of-10 free throws. She was 5-of-6 at the line in the final 43 seconds.

"We knew Ladywood was a good team and would make runs like that," Carruthers said. "I told our players, 'It's how you respond that will say what you are as a team.'"

"I was really proud. I don't know how it happened to the lead at that point (in the fourth quarter), but we maintained it. We kept our composure and played through it."

Each team made 17 field goals; North shot 41 percent and Ladywood 26 percent. The Raiders made 17-of-30 free throws, the Blazers 3-of-6.

USBC Women's Championships primed, ready for Super Bowl

Fifty-thousand women bowlers from all over the country along with foreign nations will be coming to town, April 10 through July 6, for the U.S. Bowling Congress Detroit 2008 Women's Championships at Super Bowl in Canton.

The economic boost to our area is sure to be a much needed shot-in-the-arm for the Detroit area as this community has a lot to offer for out-of-town visitors. The actual numbers are not in just yet but it will be somewhat between 40,000 and 65,000 bowlers. That includes the great numbers from our own backyard who will be able to compete in the national championship tournament without the added burden of travel costs.

Each year a different city is chosen for this event. The Detroit boosters were successful in bringing this major event to our area this year.

All female members of USBC are eligible to bowl, and there are five divisions based on skill level including: Classic for bowlers with averages of 190 or more; Division 1, 170-179; Division 2, 150-169; Division 3, 131-149; Division 4, 130 and below.

They will vie for millions



Ten Pin Alley

of dollars in prize money. The actual winnings are spread out pretty much, therefore a lot of bowlers who make a decent showing will cash.

Hats off to the Detroit committee, whose tireless efforts a few years ago brought this event to reality.

Metro Detroit has a lot to offer visitors who, in many cases, may bring to whole families along and enjoy vacationing here for awhile.

The headquarters hotel will be the Dearborn Hyatt Regency, making it convenient to fine shops and restaurants nearby as well as attractions like Greenfield Village, casinos, Greektown, nearby Canada, the Detroit Zoo and so much more.

Many readers have probably read or heard about this event by now, as the publicists have been working hard to bring the public awareness to the highest possible level. The USBC Queens and Senior Queens events are held in conjunction with the Women's Championships, April 26-30,

for the high average female bowlers.

By selecting Detroit, competitors will compete in the city that has the most registered bowlers in the USA and the largest local bowling association in the world.

Most of the time, they will be bowling in a packed house, and that generates excitement. This is the world's largest participatory sporting event for women.

For more information, visit www.USBCwomenschampionships.com; or call (800) 514-BOWL, Ext. 3173.

■ Congratulations to Ozzie Hovsepian of Dearborn Heights, who finally fulfilled his dream after 62 years of bowling following his first 300 game recently at Mayflower Lanes in Redford in the Monday Seniors.

His ex son-in-law is pro bowler Chris Warren, who had given him some good coaching over the last few years.

"It helped me a lot," Ozzie said, who came close last year with a 299 game. "I have really improved even at my old age."

Al Harrison is a resident of Southfield, and a member of the Bowling Writers Association of America. He can be reached by e-mail: tenpinalley@sbcglobal.net.

PATS

FROM PAGE B1

Modrzynski, a junior, led the Bulldogs with 17 points. Albert, also a junior, added 14, while Genevieve Sixbey-Spring and Kelly Cieslak each added eight.

Price contributed 13 for Franklin, while Emery had seven.

Emery, a sophomore guard, had to leave the game twice after taking two hard falls and was unable to shoot a free throw after going down with 31.1 seconds to go in regulation.

Franklin made 23-of-55 field-goal attempts (41.8 percent) on the night, while Brighton hit 15-of-47 (31.9 percent).

The Patriots had a total of 26 turnovers to Brighton's 16.

"Even when we were down

seven late, we did not feel we were out of it," Brighton coach Jason Piepho said. "The last game we were down six (to Walled Lake Western) with four minutes to go and came back."

"When number 13 fouled out (Brittany Taylor), we felt like we could handle one of the twins. We had the momentum going our way and we had them on their heels. Plus, they helped us out at the free-throw line."

Brighton led 14-13 after one quarter and it was 26-26 at the half.

Franklin's best quarter was the third, when it outscored the Bulldogs, 17-10.

"For some reason we did not have good ball movement versus their zone," Piepho said. "There was too much dribbling instead of quick passing."

"But the Taylors are tough. They're athletic and they play within the team concept."

They make others better and rebound with a passion."

McCall, meanwhile, reflected on the missed opportunity.

"They (Brighton) are a good free-throw shooting team," he said. "We had the game won, but nobody told Brighton that."

PREP GIRLS HOOPS

2007-08 ALL-METRO CONFERENCE GIRLS BASKETBALL

FIRST TEAM: Katie Ross, Sr. G, Clawson (MVP); Sarah Edwards, Sr. F, Clawson; Olivia Delgado-Price, Jr. F, Clawson; Christine Vlasic, Sr. C, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood; Abby Cohen, Jr. G, Kingswood-Cranbrook; Allisen Kuppe, Jr. G, Macomb Lutheran North; Becca Refenes, Jr. C, Lutheran Westland; Jenna Schlieben, Sr. G, Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest; Amanda Moody, Sr. G, Livonia Clarenceville.

AT-LARGE: Allyson Yankee, Jr. G, Lutheran Westland.

SECOND TEAM: Meghan Morin, Sr. G, Clawson; Ariel Roddy, Jr. G, Cranbrook-Kingswood; Michelle Irvin, Jr. F, Lutheran North; Rachel Thomas, Sr. G, Lutheran North; Sarah MacDortney, Jr. F, Lutheran Northwest; Cheney Kemp, Sr. C, Clarenceville.

AT-LARGE: Rachel Schienke, Sr. C, Lutheran North; Loren Stankovich, Sr. F, Cranbrook-Kingswood; Amber O'Halloran, Sr. F, Clarenceville.

C'ville bowlers qualify 4; Rocket wins D-1 regional

The Livonia Clarenceville girls are the area team still standing in the state tournament.

Last Friday, the Trojans placed runner-up to Tecumseh in Region 11 at Super Bowl in Canton.

Tecumseh, with a 3,490 pin total, Clarenceville (3,467) and Dearborn Heights Annapolis (3,209) will all make the trip this Friday to the Division 2 finals Sunnybrook Lanes in Sterling Heights. Action starts at 8:25 a.m.

In Saturday's individual Region 11 tournament, Clarenceville's Sara Brown and Danielle Maples made the cut, along with Livonia Ladywood's Jessica Stamper. Tawni Vollmer of Tecumseh

led the eight state qualifiers with a six-game set of 1,213.

Brown placed third with a 1,091 (181.8 per game); Maples was fifth with a 1,026 (171 per game); and Stamper took eighth with a 1,011 (168.5 per game).

In the Region 11 boys tournament last Friday at Super Bowl, Dearborn Divine Child (4,103), Mason (3,871) and Annapolis (3,738) earned spots this Friday at Sunnybrook Lanes.

Travis Valentine of Mason was the individual regional champion with a 1,246.

Clarenceville Cody Kissandi and Jason Bertera took fourth and fifth, respectively, with totals of 1,163 and 1,156.

Kissandi averaged 193.8 for the six-game set, while Bertera averaged 192.6.

In last Friday's Division 1-Region 6 tournament at Farmington Hills Drakeshire Lanes, the top three qualifiers for this Friday's team state finals including Woodhaven (4,294), Taylor Truman (4,288) and South Lyon (4,222).

Westland John Glenn's Justin O'Hara was the regional champion with a six-game set of 1,359, averaging 226.5 per game. Wayne Memorial's Cory Harden grabbed the 10th and final individual spot with a 1,271 (211.8 average).

Individual action starts at 8:25 a.m. Saturday at Norway Lanes in Muskegon.

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Lady Ocelots cap off regular season 24-3

With the state playoffs looming, Schoolcraft's women's basketball heated up with a 76-62 victory Saturday over visiting Oakland Community College.

The Lady Ocelots finished the regular schedule with a mark of 24-3 and 17-1 in the Eastern Conference of the Michigan Community College Athletics Association, good for first place and the top seed in this week's playoffs.

Janelle Harris paced Schoolcraft with 24 points and

10 rebounds, while Antoinette Brown (19 points, 11 boards) and Brittney Ivey (14 points) also scored in double figures. Sophomore sparkplug Heidi Warczinsky tallied nine points and seven assists, while freshman forward Sheray Brown chipped in with six points and nine rebounds.

Solid defense by the Lady Ocelots also slowed the Raiders (20-7, 12-6), who could not make a single field goal over the final 5:09.

Tabytha Harvey and Anne

Rosbjerg scored 23 and 10 points, respectively, for Oakland.

Ocelot men lose finale

After snapping a 17-game losing streak, the Schoolcraft College men's basketball team ended its season Saturday at home with an 88-69 setback to visiting Oakland Community College.

Both teams finish 3-15 in the Eastern Conference of the Michigan CC Athletic Association.

Lawrence Hicks paced the victorious Raiders (5-22 overall) with 24 points. Victor Boss and Prince Miles-El added 22 apiece. Justin Greene chipped in with 10, while Franklin Murdoch grabbed 12 rebounds.

All five Ocelots (3-24) scored in double figures led by Anthony Wafer's 13 points.

Larry Wilson (Livonia Churchill), Ryan Matthews and Anthony Harbin each added 12, while Narmar Dudley contributed 10.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Devon-Aire softball

The Devon-Aire Softball League will stage registration from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, March 4-6, at the McKinley Elementary School lobby, 9191 Hillcrest (located north of Joy between Henry Ruff and Merriman roads).

Registration is for Junior Boys League (ages 7-12), Junior Girls league (7-12) and Seniors Coed League (13-18). Ages must be as of June 1, 2008. (Bring a birth certificate if new to the league).

The cost is \$40 for the first child (\$35 for each additional child in the same family).

For more information, call Tom or Becky Wood at (734) 427-3095.

On July 26 at Devon-Aire Park, the league will mark its 50th anniversary with its all-star game and picnic. Former managers and coaches, along with any players, are urged to be a part of the special celebration.

For more information, e-mail mistergraphics1@yahoo.com; or call Tony Perez at (734) 890-1586.



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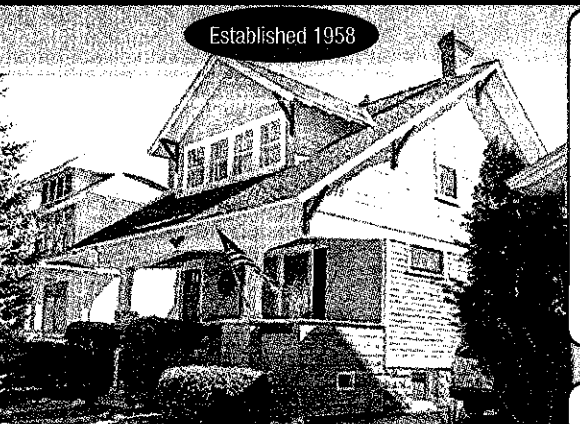
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Heat up winter with catered organic Caribbean cuisine

BY LANA MINI
O & E STAFF WRITER

Everyone, it seems, is *so over* winter and dreaming of warmer lands.

Here's an idea to escape the blahs: host a dinner party with Caribbean recipes — spicy dishes to heat both the body and spirit.

Fried plantains. Apple Cinnamon Empanada. Stir-fries with island spices and coconut plus a garden winter soup with tortilla toast, and seasonal vegetables like squash, asparagus, carrots, and corn.

Metro Detroit is packed with secrets the rest of the country isn't aware of, and that's lucky for us.

For example, there's actually a catering business, based in Rochester Hills, that specializes in Caribbean food.

Amazingly, it's also organic.

Maria LeMay Erlandson is the owner of OrganiKiss, a catering company that serves corporate events, weddings, summer BBQs, winter house parties, non profit groups and more. Erlandson's catered meals reflect several themes. There's the Italian-inspired menu of Italian stew with gnocchi; and a Japanese-themed party menu that includes Teriyaki Vegetables with battered tofu. *The Bambino* kids parties include organic items like pizza bagels and Neapolitan Ice cream with melon balls. *After the Sports Game Parties* feature battered ravioli and *A Night in Acapulco* includes black bean tamales.

There's also the *Night At the Chocolate Party* with lick-able wallpaper and daffodil shaped cups with a main course example of "Luxury Nut and Seed Loaf" with cranberry, apple and brandy sauce. The meal ends with desserts like a chocolate fountain and personalized organic candy bars.

Whew! That's a lot of party ideas! For now, let's focus on the islands.

Erlandson relocated to Michigan from New York just recently. Her business there was strong and now she is launching it in the metro Detroit market.

She tries to be as organic as possible.

"Domestic vegetables, grains and produce are 100 percent organic," she said. "Imports like mangos and plantains are not always organic. Poultry is sometimes organic, always free range and hormone free."

Erlandson specializes in world fusion cuisine.

"Which means I use and mix techniques and flavors from Caribbean, Chinese, Indian, Italian, Puerto Rican, Mexican, and of course American cuisine."

Her training?

"Life," Erlandson said. "My mother was a chef. She inspired my love for cooking. Also, I've moved around a lot. I spent four years living with a girl from Taiwan and learned about Chinese cuisine from her. I lived in California, and while there I learned a lot about Indian cuisine. I'm Puerto Rican, so all of my Caribbean food knowledge comes from my upbringing. I also took Gourmet Cooking, Food Safety, and Catering certification courses."

She's been an unofficial caterer since childhood, when she would help her mom cook for parties.

"After moving out on my own I continued doing the same. I just love cooking and watching people eat food I've prepared. That may sound semi-creaky but it's true."

Her reason for going organic is because she wants to serve her clients foods that are healthy, but also at their optimum flavor.

"Looking a little deeper at current day conventional agricultural practices is disturbing," she said. "The effect that pesticides, hormones, etc. have on our ecosystem: Pollution, destroying our planet in a way that will eventually lead to our own extinction. It all just sounds crazy to me."

For more information visit www.organikiss.com



STEVE CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Maria LeMay Erlandson strives to use organic ingredients in her catering company that focuses on a variety of themes from Caribbean to Sushi bars.

Recipes

CARIBBEAN STIR FRY

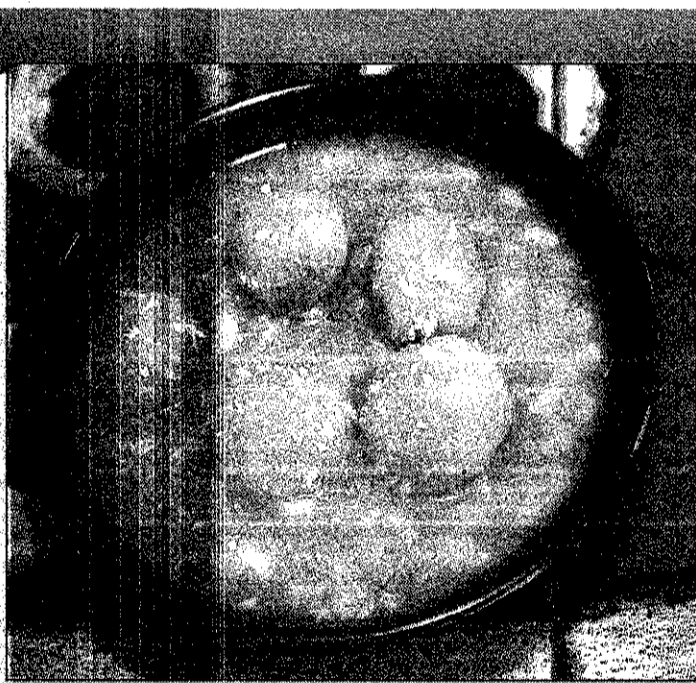
2 tablespoons olive oil
1 yellow plantain (If you can only find green plantains, place green plantains in paper bag and let sit in a cool dry place for about a week or until they fully ripen.)
5 ounces firm or extra firm tofu
½ teaspoon Sofrito (can be found in most major supermarkets with an international or ethnic foods aisle)
1 tablespoon soy sauce
salt to taste
head of broccoli (cut into florets)

In a wok, heat the oil on medium high for 3 minutes. Peel and slice yellow plantain. Single layer plantain slices into wok and let fry for three minutes each side.

Once the plantain is slightly browned on both sides, add tofu, soy sauce and Sofrito, and salt. Stir to distribute seasonings evenly and let simmer (covered) for 10 minutes
Add broccoli, cover and let simmer for another 5 minutes.
Serve warm.

TAMARIND COCONUT PLANTAIN BALL

Sweet, Tangy, and HOT. Can be served over rice with a side of vegetables. Used as a substitute for



OrganiKiss' Tamarind-Coconut Plantain ball soup.

meatballs in tomato sauce and served over pasta. Or, add in your favorite vegetables and turn it into a vegetable stew.

20 tamarind pods or 5 tablespoons of tamarind paste (the paste may be in the Thai food section of your local grocer)

1 large coconut
1 yellow bell pepper
1 red pepper

1 orange bell pepper
juice from ½ lemon or 1 teaspoon real lemon juice.
½ red onion
¾ cup raw cane sugar
3 green plantains

Bring 6 cups of water to a boil.

Please see **RECIPES, D2**

Morel hunter highlights our favorite fungi



Theresa Maybrier, a morel mushroom hunter from Missouri, appears at Outdoorama Feb. 28-March 2 at the Rock Financial Showplace in Novi.

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
O&E STAFF WRITER

It's time to look beyond the icy sidewalks and snow shovels, and think about the outdoors, with a little warmer temperatures, thank you very much.

Outdoor sport enthusiasts can attend the 36th Annual Outdoorama Feb. 28-March 2 at the Rock Financial Showplace in Novi. The show is a popular destination for hunters, anglers, campers, boaters, hikers, conservationists and canoeists.

Show attendees will have a chance to think more about spring with seminars from Theresa Maybrier, a morel

OUTDOORAMA

Dates: Feb. 28-March 2
Hours: 2:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday.
Where: Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave., Novi.
Admission: \$9 adults; \$4 children 6 to 14; free for children 5 and under.
Information: www.Outdoorama.com or 800-328-6550.

mushroom-hunter from Missouri. Maybrier will speak at 7 p.m. tonight (Thursday) and Friday, 3 p.m. Saturday, and 1 p.m. Sunday.

Other hunting and fishing seminars will be conducted by Greg Abbas, Denny Geurink and Mark Martin, along with special appearances by *Michigan Outdoors* hosts Jimmy Gretzinger and Kelly Gotch and MUCC magazine editor Tony Hansen.

"Big Buck Night," "Wildlife Encounters," a daily fish fry, and Milt Wilcox's "Ultimate Air Dogs" are among many special features. Kids' activities include a trout pond and beach play area. The show will be held in conjunction with the first annual Cottage and Lakefront Living Show, providing the public with

Please see **OUTDOORAMA, D2**

'BROWNIE POINTS'

Greyston Bakery recently launched a new line of Do Goodie brownies. Profits from the Do Goodie brownie sales help the Greyston Foundation, which supports jobs, child care, health care and housing for the underprivileged. The bakery was founded in 1982 in Yonkers, N.Y. and produces baked goods and desserts for many of New York City's top restaurants.

The Do Goodie is made with Belgian chocolate and all natural ingredients. Flavors range from the original Chocolate Fudge Brownie, Walnut Fudge, Espresso Bean Brownie and a Brown Sugar Blondie.

Locally, the Do Goodie brownies are available at Good Foods East, 74 W. Maple, in Troy; Plum Market, 3675 W. Maple in Bloomfield Township and Westborn Market, 14925 Middlebelt in Livonia, and 27659 Woodward in Berkeley.

HELP THE HOMELESS

For three more days, Kroger customers can help the homeless. Kroger will help feed hungry families within the Detroit metropolitan area by donating a loaf of 24 oz. Kroger White Buttercrust Bread to the Salvation Army Bed and Bread program for every 24 oz. of Kroger White Buttercrust Bread that customers purchase.

According to Rick Going, president of Kroger's Michigan Division, more than 80 stores in the greater Detroit Metro area are participating in the program with a goal to donate 15,000 loaves of bread to the Bed and Bread program. The donation period will continue through March 1.

IT'S CRUNCH TIME

Time is running out to get your Girl Scout Cookies. Cookie booths throughout Wayne and Oakland counties will be set up through early March, selling old favorites as well as two new flavors for 2008 — Lemon Cremes and Sugar Free Chocolate Chips.

The Girl Scout Cookie Program helps girls gain valuable knowledge while providing the community with wonderful treats. Through voluntary participation in this comprehensive leadership program, girls ages 6-17 gain experience and expertise in finance, marketing, and public speaking. Troops that sell Girl Scout Cookies earn money to fund their troop's activities, with additional proceeds benefiting the troop's council. Financial aid, tutoring, diversity awareness, drug abuse and teen pregnancy prevention programs, leadership, creative arts, science and technology programs, and camp maintenance are among the council programs and activities funded in part by the Girl Scout Cookie Program.

To find cookies in your neighborhood, visit www.girlscoutcookies.org.

OUTDOORAMA

FROM PAGE D1

two shows for one admission. Visit www.outdoorama.com for more information.

Maybrier educates the public about morel mushroom hunting, sells books, morel collection bags, crafts and souvenirs related to morel mushrooms.

In 2003 she and her husband, John, officially formed Team Morel. They self-published a hunting guide and created a mesh mushroom collecting bag with safety colors on the storage pouch in addition to guiding weekend mushroom hunts and giving seminars throughout the Midwest.

The Maybriers offered two recipes, listed below, for morels.

SAUTÉED MORELS

Prepare morels: clean and pat dry.

cut into ringlets, separating caps from stems.

Use a 8-10" skillet on medium high heat. Melt 2-3 tablespoons of butter with 1-2 tablespoons of canola oil or extra virgin olive oil (regular olive oil is too strong in flavor). Start with stems, they take slightly longer to cook, add in the caps. Give a shake of granulated garlic. Save salt and pepper until the end. Do not overcrowd the skillet. Stir occasionally, turning over the morels. The butter and oil will get soupy, then the butter/oil will clarify. Shortly thereafter the morels will start to pop like bacon. That is when they are done.

Serve in a pool of the butter/oil. Add salt and pepper to taste.

Good with everything, or serve alone as appetizer.

MOREL QUICHE

1 pound morels
½ pound bacon or ham
½ cup chopped red onion
½ cup chopped green, yellow or red pepper

½ cup cooked asparagus tops
½ cups shredded Swiss cheese
¾ cup Bisquick mix
3 eggs
Shake of pepper
Shake of granulated garlic

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Chop ham or bacon, cook to sizzle. Spoon out the meat, leaving the fat. Add morels, cook to sizzle. Spoon out the morels, save 2 tablespoons or less of fat.

In a bowl combine the Bisquick, eggs, pepper and garlic.

Use a quiche dish or 10-inch glass pie pan. Put the morel meat mix in first, spreading out the fat.

Add all the vegetable ingredients. Pour the egg and Bisquick mix with seasoning on top. Bake 35-45 minutes or until toothpick comes out clean.

Serve hot or cold.

GINGER BEER

Serves 16 or more

1 pound organic ginger
8 cups water
juice and peel of 1 organic lime
4 cups organic granulated sugar or to taste
1 organic cinnamon stick
4-6 organic cloves

Wash, remove skin and grate ginger.

Place in a large bottle with about 8 cups of water and juice and peel of 1 lime.

Leave in the sun for 1 day. Next day, drain and sweeten. Pour in clean bottles and place in the refrigerator.

Allow to settle for 2 days. If too strong, dilute with club soda or water.

Source: Organic Caribbean Cookbook by Rachel Valentin

Design academy hosts annual green conference

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
O&E STAFF WRITER

Troy's International Academy of Design and Technology plans to paint the town green during its fourth annual design conference. Coordinator Barbara Marini believes this year's Campus Green event will break fresh ground.

"The mission originally was to introduce students to the concepts of environmental design and sustainability but has shifted over the last year or so," she said. "Now our goal is to reach out to students, design professionals, and this year, the public to promote green design as a way of life, not just a design concept."

This year's event features nationally-known keynote speaker Penny Bonda. She is founding chair of the US Green Building Council committee for LEED Commercial Interiors and the American Society of Interior Designers Foundation's Sustainable Design Council. During Campus Green, Bonda will introduce REGREEN, a program set to launch March 14. Marini described REGREEN as "a framework for practice guidelines and education for residential renovation projects."

According to those guidelines, she said, over the last 10 years nearly 30 million homes have undergone renovation. "With the high cost of energy

IADT CAMPUS GREEN ANNUAL INTERIOR DESIGN CONFERENCE

What: Hear Featured Speaker Penny Bonda discuss ReGreen, an environmentally-friendly residential remodeling program developed by U.S. Green Building Council and the American Society of Interior Designers Foundation.

When: 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 29

Where: The International Academy of Design & Technology, 1850 Research Drive, Troy

Tickets: Complimentary for Academy students and faculty, \$20 for the public. Tickets must be purchased at the Academy.

More information: Visit www.iadtdetroit.com or call (888) 838-2111

and other environmental and health concerns, the interest in improving the quality of the interior environment is growing," Marini said. "There is a definite need to approach interior design from a holistic perspective and integrate other disciplines — contractors, suppliers, builders, engineers, and architects — in our approach to solutions that best serve our clients."

Marini said organizers are hoping for a large turnout thanks to Bonda's participation. "That will indicate an interest in learning more about green design, for the home as well as in the workplace," she said. "Ms. Bonda can speak to both issues with a high level of expertise."

While the REGREEN presentation is considered a primary focus of Campus Green, the event serves as a place for students to showcase their work, network with industry professionals and compete in

a community based Design Challenge. It also draws attention to the school. "It's amazing that after nearly five years, many people don't know who we are or where we are located," said Marini.

The academy offers career-oriented degree programs in Interior Design, Graphic Design, Game Design, Fashion Design, and Digital Media. Classes provide hands-on training and a real-world perspective courtesy.

"We hope that attendees will learn that designing responsibly does not have to cost more and that there are creative ways to implement green design at many levels," said Marini. "As an educational institution, we teach environmental design and sustainability in our interior design program, but the impact across design disciplines is much greater."

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RECIPES

FROM PAGE D1

Using tamarind pods: As the water heats, peel tamarinds. Make sure to remove all of the exterior shell and the strings. Place in a bowl. Pour boiling water over pods, cover and set aside for 15 minutes.

Using a large bowl and a strainer, strain liquid. Use your hand to make sure you get as much of the tamarind as possible to go through the strainer. Set juice aside.

Using tamarind paste: Place paste into a bowl and pour boiling water over it. Set aside.

With either the paste or pods, while using a nail, jab a hole into the eyes of the coconut, drain juice into bowl and set aside. Also grate about ¼ cup of coconut flesh, set aside.

Grab your blender. Chop peppers and onion. Place them along with lemon juice and coconut juice into the blender. Switch it to the high or liquefy setting.

Let that run until it looks like juice.

Meanwhile, peel plantains. Using a grater, grate the plantains into mushiness.

Season with salt, black pepper, and/or cayenne to suit your taste buds.

Add grated coconut. Combine tamarind juice, pepper juice, and sugar into a 6 quart pot and bring to a boil.

One tablespoon full at a time, roll plantains into balls and gently drop into boiling tamarind/pepper mixture.

Once you've gotten all of the balls boiling, simmer (covered) for 15-20 minutes.

Source: Maria LeMay-Erlanson of www.Organikiss.biz

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18th-Century French Furnishings

Dr. Ian Wardropper will present Renovation of the French 18th-Century Wrightsman Galleries at the Metropolitan Museum of Art 2 p.m. March 1 at the Detroit Institute of Arts. Wardropper, the Iris and B. Gerald Cantor chairman of European Sculpture and Decorative Arts at the Met, will

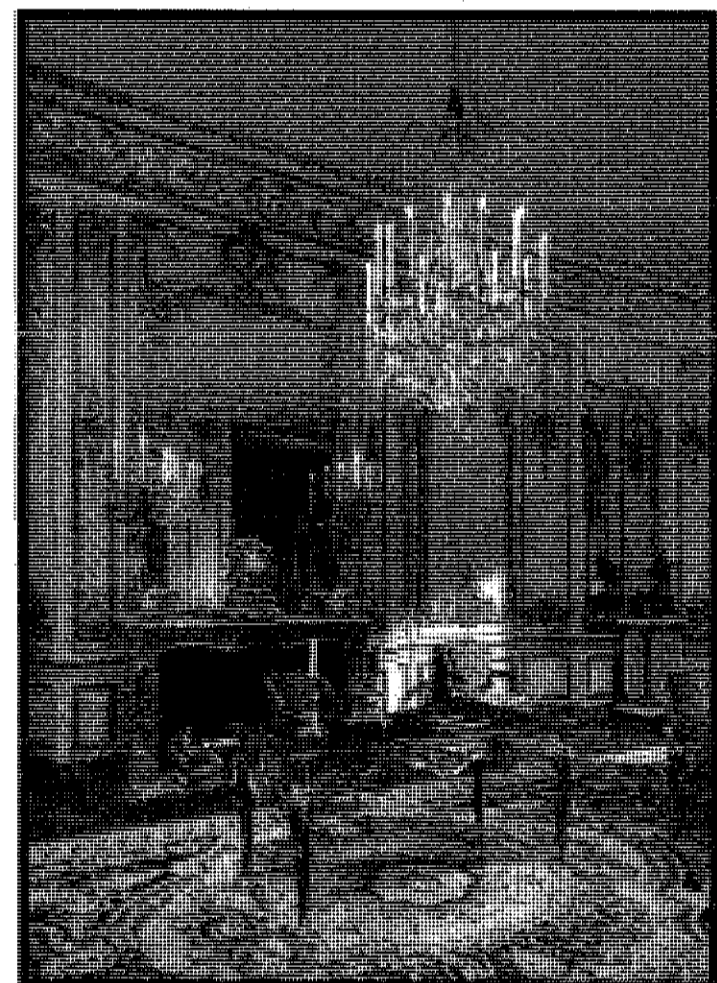
discuss the 18th-century French period rooms that house the Met's renowned collection of French furniture and decorative pieces created for Louis XV, Louis XVI, and Marie Antoinette, among others. Admission: \$8, adults; \$6, seniors; \$4, youth 6-17; DIA members, free. Call (313) 833-7900 or visit www.dia.org.

Cottage & Lakefront Living

The Cottage & Lakefront Living Show, at Rock Financial Showplace in Novi Feb. 28-March 2, will include log and cedar homes, cottage rental, furnishings, lakefront homebuilders and realtors, lakeshore maintenance, boats and docks, outdoor recreational equipment, sand art demos by Big Wave Dave, and seminars about family kayak adventures and 'green' lake practices. Show hours: 2-9:30 p.m. Thursday; 2-9:30 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday; and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. Admission: \$9; \$4, children 6-14; free, under 5. Call (800) 328-6550 or visit www.cottageandlakefrontliving.com.

Home & Garden Show

The Michigan Home & Garden Show, March 7-9 at Ford Field, will feature all aspects of landscapes, gardens, lawn care, plants, trees, garden tools, renovation advice, room additions, furniture, spas, fireplaces, floor covering and more. HGTV's Frank Fontana will present "Let's be Frank! Secrets of High Style, Low Cost Design." Show hours are noon-9 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday; and 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday. Admission: \$9; \$4, children 6-14; free, under 5; children 6-14 free on Family Day, 10 a.m.-noon Saturday. Call (800) 328-6550 or visit www.FordFieldHomeShow.com.



The renovation of French 18th-Century Wrightsman Galleries at the Metropolitan Museum of Art will be the topic of a talk by Dr. Ian Wardropper at 2 p.m. March 1 at the Detroit Institute of Arts.

Art Van Seminars

Steve Piersall and Michael Kirby of Huntington House, will share how to update a single room or entire house with the latest colors, styles and fabrics, 6 p.m. March 11 at the Warren store; and 6 p.m. March 12 in Royal Oak. Amelia Ellenstein, Art Van Furniture's Director of Visual Merchandising, will share trend information and design solutions for the season at 6 p.m. March 13 at the Novi store; and 6 p.m. March 27 in Westland. Refreshments will be served, and The Kids Castle will offer a free, supervised

play area. Call (888) 619-2199 for a free reservation.

Green Exhibitors Wanted

The deadline for exhibitors to apply for the Green Street Fair in Plymouth is March 1. The first-ever Green Street Fair will be held 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, May 3 and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, May 4 in downtown Plymouth. Presented by Whole Foods Market, the fair was founded to inform people of all ages about the benefits of green, organic, and eco-friendly products and services. For information, call (734) 259-2983 or visit www.greenstreetfair.com.

An ottoman can stand in for a coffee table

Lopa of Troy asks: "We are deciding between a coffee table in the family room or an ottoman. What kind of things should be considered before we purchase? We have two teenage children and a dog."



Design Solutions

Terri Guastella

your lifestyle to help you come to a decision.

A coffee table is generally more formal and wood surfaces can become damaged. Since this is a family room, I would strongly urge you to go towards the ottoman idea. You know that whatever you put there, your teenage children will be putting their feet up on it, setting plates of food on it, and sitting on it. A coffee table will get destroyed. Why put yourself through that torture?

Purchase a piece of furniture that works for the way you live. A nice ottoman with appropriate upholstery is a great addition. Have the top surface made of leather or good imitation leather. This way, you can wipe up the spills and the dirty shoe marks. Place a nice, large tray on the

ottoman to serve as a writing surface or dinner tray. This will hold drinks and bowls of popcorn while catching any spills.

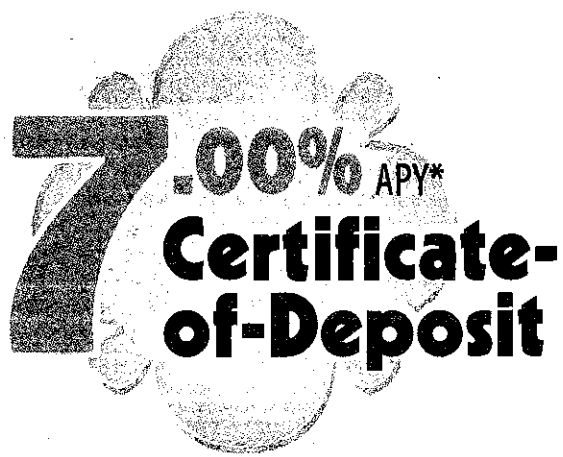
An ottoman with wheels is also an option worth considering. This way, it is easily rolled off to the side to serve as extra seating or pushed closer to the sofa for a game of Scrabble. There are many storage ottomans available, too, and this is a great place to store an extra blanket or pillow for the couch.

Terri Guastella, an interior designer and a Canton resident, specializes in space planning, design and color consultation. Do you have a question about interior design or decorating your home? Contact Terri Guastella at www.exclusivinteriordesign.com.

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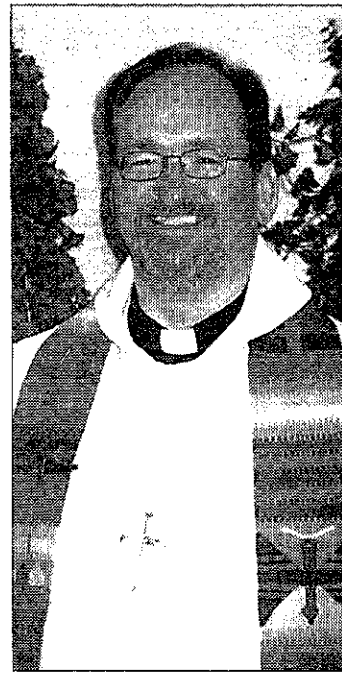
New pastor installed at Christ the King

The Rev. James Fogle was installed as pastor of Christ the King Lutheran Church in Livonia on Sunday, Feb. 24. The Rev. Bishop John Schreiber, Bishop of the Southeast Michigan Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, presided. Fogle was born and raised in Marion, Ohio. He attended Capital University in Columbus, Ohio followed by employment in a variety of settings including as a prison guard, hospital registration supervisor, business manager, at a drug and addiction recovery center, and the state of Ohio. While working at Grant Medical Center in Columbus he was mentored by the hospital chaplain. It was there

that he first contemplated a call to hospital chaplain ministry. He finished his undergraduate degree at Ohio Dominican University, and immediately began studies at Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus. He spent his internship year at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Delaware, Ohio, where he determined he felt called to parish ministry rather than hospital chaplaincy. He graduated with a Master of Divinity in May 1999 and was ordained June 1999. Fogle's first call was to the Upper Peninsula. In addition to his parish, he was involved in many activities including president of the Marquette Ecumenical Clergy Council, instructor for the Northern

Great Lakes Synod Lay School for Mission, chairperson of the Synod Worship Committee, on the board of Northern Michigan University's Lutheran Campus Ministry, a member of the Marquette Arts and Culture Commission, and as an on-call hospital chaplain. While in Marquette, he assisted in the development of a national ELCA support system for after-pastors (pastors in parishes where the previous pastor was removed for inappropriate activities). Fogle participated in the first two After-Pastor conferences giving the opening speech, writing and leading the closing worship service, and serving as a chaplain at his second conference. Fogle was called to the

Southeast Michigan Synod in March 2003, serving as a called pastor for two years and as an intentional interim pastor for the past three. While living in the Flint area, his local and cluster involvement has included serving as president of the local Kiwanis, vice-president of the Greater Flint Council of Churches, and has been an on-call chaplain at Hurley Medical Center. He has also served as dean of the Flint Cluster and as a member of the Southeast Michigan Synod Council and the synod Worship Committee. Fogle married Heather Burke April 1994. It was a church choir romance. They and their 10-year-old dog Melody plan to move to Livonia after Easter.



The Rev. James Fogle was installed as pastor of Christ the King Lutheran Church, ELCA, in Livonia on Sunday, Feb. 24.

RELIGION

FROM PAGE D4

Holy Week schedule
The Last Supper, Revelation Along the Way 7 p.m. Maundy Thursday, March 20; Expiration Along the Way Good Friday service at noon and 7 p.m. Tenebrae Worship March 21; Easter Vigil 7:30 p.m. Holy Saturday, March 22, and Sunrise Service Celebration Along the Way at 7 a.m., and 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Festival worship with Holy Communion and special music of Holy Trinity's various choirs and instrumentalists Easter Sunday, March 23, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0211.

Easter week services
7 p.m. Maundy Thursday, March 20, and Good Friday, March 21, and 10:30 a.m. Easter Sunday, March 22, at Historic Cherry Hill United Methodist Church, 321 S. Ridge, south of Cherry Hill, Canton. For information, call (734) 495-0035.

Your Invitation To Worship

BAPTIST NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH 33640 Michigan Ave. • Wayne, MI (Between Wayne Rd. & Merriman Rd.) (734) 728-2180 <i>Virgil Humes, Pastor</i> Saturday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m. Sunday Worship 7:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. • Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Wednesday Praise Service 7 p.m. • Wednesday, Children, Youth and Adult Bible Study 7:00-8:30 p.m.		UNITED METHODIST Clarenceville United Methodist 20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia 248-474-3444 Pastor Beth Libranle Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Nursery Provided		LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church 14107 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96 734-522-6830 Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional Staffed Nursery Available Sunday/Bible Class 9:45 am Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413 <i>Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ</i> Pastors: Robert F. Bayer and Anthony M. Creedon	
CATHOLIC ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH Immemorial Latin Mass Approved by Pope St. Pius V in 1870 St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8 29310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan 5 Blocks E. of Telegraph • (313) 634-2121 Mass Schedule: First Fri. 7:00 p.m. First Sat. 11:00 a.m. Sun. Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m. Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.		EVANGELICAL COVENANT FAITH COVENANT CHURCH 14 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills (248) 661-9191 Sunday Worship and Children's Church 9:15 a.m. Contemporary 11:00 a.m. Traditional Child Care provided for all services Youth Groups • Adult Small Groups		NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH "Open Hearts, Minds & Doors" 36500 Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne & Newburgh Rds. 734-422-0149 Worship Service and Sunday School 9:15 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Rev. Marsha M. Woolley Visit our website: www.newburgumc.org	
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST Cherry Hill Seventh-day Adventist Church 33144 Cherry Hill, Garden City, MI 48135 (1 block west of Venoy) Phone: 734-524-0880 Pastor: Eddie Petreaca Meetings on Saturdays for: Early Morning Bible & Health Class-8 a.m. Worship Service-English-9:30 a.m. Bible Studies English & Spanish (All Ages) 11:00 a.m. Wednesdays: Prayer Meeting-7 p.m.		NON DENOMINATIONAL BELL CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH <i>in celebration for business</i> Casual, Contemporary, Excellent Children's Program Meets at Franklin H.S. in Livonia on Joy Road (Between Merriman and Middlebelt Roads) at 10:00 a.m. 734-425-1174 Join us for coffee, bagels and donuts after the service!		PRESBYTERIAN (USA) ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.) (734) 422-0494 www.rosedalegardens.org Chapel Worship Service 9:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am WE WELCOME YOU TO A FULL SERVICE CHURCH	
CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 48801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196		CHRISTIAN SCIENCE First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth 1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI 734-453-0970 Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Wed. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m. Reading Room located at church Saturday 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. 734-453-0970		EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN WARD <i>Evangelical Presbyterian Church</i> 40000 Six Mile Road "Just west of I-275" Northville, MI 248-374-7400 Traditional Worship 9:00 & 10:20 A.M. Contemporary Worship 9:00 A.M. Nursery & Sunday School During All Morning Worship Services Evening Service • 7:00 p.m. Service Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday WRDT-AM 560 The WMUZ Word Station For additional information visit www.wardchurch.org	
PRESBYTERIAN Fellowship Presbyterian Church Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire Services held at: Madonna University's Kresge Hall 56600 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia Parking lot is on N.W. corner of Levan & Schoolcraft • Nursery provided		EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA Timothy Lutheran Church <i>A Reconciling in Christ Congregation</i> 8820 Wayne Rd. (Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road) Livonia • 427-2290 Jill Hegdal, Pastor 10:00 a.m. Family Worship (Nursery Available)		Risen Christ Lutheran David W. Martin, Pastor 46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth 1.1 Mile W. of Sheldon (734) 453-5252 Worship 8:15 & 10:45 am Sunday School 9:30 am Adult Bible Study 9:30 am Nursery Care Available Wednesday Lenten Worship Feb. 6 - March 12, 7:00 p.m. www.risenchrist.info	
ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL 17810 FARMINGTON ROAD, LIVONIA (734) 261-1360 SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. website: www.stpaulslivonia.org					

For Church Directory changes and information regarding advertising in this directory, please call Donna Hart (734) 953-2153 the Friday before publication. To mail copy: The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 or Fax to (734) 953-2121

pink

Don't miss the O&E's pull-out Wedding Guide in today's newspaper!

pink picks



Haglund Life has been a whirlwind for Kirsten Haglund, of Farmington Hills, who was crowned Miss America 2008 on Jan. 26, but the 19-year-old beauty queen took a moment out of her hectic schedule to offer us her very own PINK Picks.

Wear It!
Ultra-feminine pieces that have movement!

DON'T Wear It!
Anything midriff baring. EVER!

Tote It!
A stuffed-animal Chihuahua or other small dog ... and see if anyone notices. Pretend it's real.

Kick It!
Any fabulous heel by Christian Louboutin. How can you resist anything from Paris?

Accessorize It!
Color is in for spring. Make it a handbag that really punches in color, or a very saturated hue of shoe with more neutral pieces.

See It!
The Other Boleyn Girl with fab actresses Scarlett Johansson and Natalie Portman

Face It!
Dior Addict Lip Gloss in sheer spring pink and peach tones

Near It!
Tune into your classical music station on the radio for a change.

DVD It!
The Tudors First Season on DVD

TV It!
The upcoming season of *The Tudors* on Showtime ... what can I say, I LOVE history.

Read It!
Atonement by Ian McEwan BEFORE you see the movie!

Shop It!
Barneys.com — the latest high fashion at your fingertips! Great for buys AND outfit ideas.

Drink It!
Water. And then ... some more water.

Eat It!
Dinner with your family. If mom can cook up some homemade spaghetti sauce, even better.

Use It!
Tanning lotion to get you through to summer — SO much better than the tanning bed. Love the skin you're in!

Understand It!
Another language ... even if it's just a few words out of a pocket dictionary, et vive la vie!

Jewel It!
Wear a crown for a day. Even if it's a paper Burger King crown. You work hard, you deserve it. If people look at you funny, tell them you're Miss America for the day.

Dream It!
Don't sit and dream. Get out and make it happen ... You can start by making sure you VOTE this year.



Barnett-Asche
Andrea Diane Barnett of Rochester Hills met her husband, Jan Albert Asche of Essen, Germany, while serving an internship overseas. They were wed April 7, 2007, in a candlelit ceremony at Woodside Bible Church in Troy. The bride's brother, Rochester Hills mayor Bryan Barnett, performed part of the ceremony. After a limo drive through downtown Rochester and a snack at Red Knapp's, the reception was held at Club Monte Carlo in Shelby Township.



PHOTO BY KATHY PICKENS

Jablonski-LeAnnais
Melissa Jablonski of Garden City and John LeAnnais of Livonia were married on Sept. 1, 2007, in the back yard of their Green Oak Township home. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Brian Tuttle.

Hometown Love Stories

We asked local newlyweds to submit photos for our 2008 Wedding Guide. The response was so overwhelming, we couldn't fit them all! Here's a look at some of the happy hometown couples. For more, check out the Wedding Guide, a pull-out section in today's *Observer & Eccentric* and *Mirror Newspapers*.



Garden-Brow
Christien Garden and Jeffrey Brow were married May 5, 2007, aboard the Marco Island Princess in Marco Island, Fla. The couple met on a blind date and were engaged exactly a year later. Jeffrey is a sergeant for the City of Farmington's Department of Public Safety, and Christien works at Main Street Bank in Plymouth. They live in Redford Township with their Black Lab Felony.



PHOTO BY AAVA WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHY

Fahner-Alexander
Julie Fahner and John Alexander, both of Garden City, were married Sept. 28, 2007, at Tri-City Christian Center in Canton. Their theme was a black and white wedding, accented with red roses. Before the reception at Burton Manor in Livonia, the couple took photos at Heritage Park in Canton. Then, they jetted off to Hawaii for a 12-day honeymoon in paradise.



PHOTO BY ANTHONY BRADLEY

Lubienski-Young
Beth Lubienski and Eric Young of Royal Oak were married June 23, 2007, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church. After the "simply elegant" wedding, a reception followed at Grosse Pointe War Memorial, overlooking the water and gardens. The couple honeymooned in French Polynesia on the island of Moorea.

If you have an item for the Malls & Main Streets calendar, please submit it at least two weeks prior to the event to Wendy Von Buskirk at wvonb@hometownlife.com.

Ashka Salon Recognized
CANTON — Ashka Salon, owned by Lisa and Steven Curry, recently was named one of the 200 fastest-growing salons in North America by Salon Today magazine, a top business publication for salon and spa owners. The magazine's eleventh annual Salon Today 200 profiled the selected salons in its January issue. The magazine honored the applicants who posted the highest increases in gross sales between 2005 and 2006, and who were on track to increase sales significantly in 2007. Ashka Salon & Spa is located at 6529 Canton Center Road. Call (734) 414-9980 or visit www.ashkasalon.com.

Macy's Suit Event
DEARBORN — Macy's Fairlane will host a Suit Event 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesday, March 5 in the Career Suit Department. Check out the latest suit styles for fall, meet with vendors from favorite brands, receive a special gift with purchase, and get free alterations up to \$50 with any suit purchase of \$150 or more during the event.

Prom Party with CosmoGirl
NOVI — Macy's at Twelve Oaks Mall will host a pre-prom party 2-4 p.m. Saturday, March 8, on the first floor. Join Macy's and CosmoGirl magazine to check out the hottest gowns for Prom 2008. Get glamorous makeovers and enjoy live music, great gifts with purchase and exciting giveaways, plus save 15 percent on regular priced gowns purchased during the event.

Upscale Garage Sale
GROSSE POINTE WOODS — The Junior League of Detroit will host an Upscale Garage Sale 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, March 8, at the University of Ligogett Upper School in Grosse Pointe Woods. Thousands of donated items, as well as crafts and new merchandise, will

be available to the public at very low prices. Admission is \$1 and parking is free. The event raises money for the League's community programs, primarily focusing on childhood obesity, nutrition and literacy. The University of Ligogett School is located at 1045 Cook Road in Grosse Pointe Woods. Visit www.jldetroit.org.

Spring Fever Fling
BERKLEY — Nikeeta Williams, owner of Evolutions Salon & Spa, will celebrate her first anniversary in business with a "Spring Fever Fling" 8 p.m. March 15. The community is invited to enjoy entertainment, sample spring beauty products and services and wish Williams a happy anniversary. Williams aims to break down the barriers between black and white beauty at her multicultural spa, located at 3257 W. 12 Mile Road. Call (248) 336-9655.

Nordstrom Partridge Creek Gala
CLINTON TWP. — Nordstrom will kick off the opening of its third Detroit-area store with an evening gala on Wednesday, April 16. The new Nordstrom at The Mall at Partridge Creek will open on Friday, April 18. Guests at the gala will enjoy hors d'oeuvres, dinner and dessert buffets, cocktails, live entertainment and the first chance to do some shopping in the new, 118,000-square-foot store. Doors open at 7 p.m. The event will be entirely underwritten by Nordstrom. Tickets \$75 per person, are expected to raise more than \$90,000 for the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute and the Henry Ford Macomb Hospitals. Call (313) 874-6734.

Easter Bunny Hops into Novi
NOVI — The Easter Bunny will hold court at Twelve Oaks Mall's Central Park Garden, decorated for spring, March 1-22. Photos are available for purchase. Each child who visits will receive a free gift. Hours are 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday. Visit www.shoptwelveoaks.com.

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