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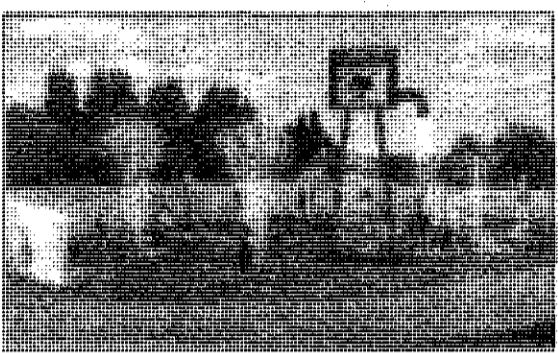
New master plan offers new look for parks

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER
Westland city leaders have rolled out an ambitious, \$15.5 million plan for ushering in far-reaching improvements to local parks within the next five years. Officials hope to tap into state grants, a Wayne County parks tax, local coffers, bond dollars and private donations

to help pay for the proposals, which contain a bold vision for a renovated Central City Park and an eye-catching blueprint for Tattan Park — neighboring recreation areas southwest of Ford and Carlson. In all, Parks and Recreation Director Robert Kosowski has unveiled a towering, 16-proposal plan that city officials view as potentially affordable,

despite a troubled economy that has given some residents strong reservations. "I'd love to see it," resident Dan Devlin said Monday during a public hearing at City Hall on the five-year parks and recreation master plan. But, he cautioned, "I just can't see it happening for quite a long time." City leaders appear much more optimistic, saying the lat-

est master plan has a sharper focus than some of the more sprawling proposals of years past. "This one is a lot more concentrated on what we want to do and what we believe we can do," Kosowski said prior to Monday's public hearing. Kosowski led the charge to



Tattan Park would receive a new water playground under a new parks and recreation master plan. The park is located on Carlson just south of Ford.

Please see **PARK PLAN, A3**

On her way to Thailand



A travel book is among the things Tammy Henderson has packed in her suitcase for her trip to Thailand, where she will undergo adult stem cell therapy to repair her damaged heart.

Heart patient hopes to heal with adult stem cell therapy

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER
What a difference six months can make. Last August, Tammy Henderson was collecting bottles and cans in hopes of raising \$50,000 to get vessel adult stem therapy in Bangkok, Thailand. Today, Henderson and her

husband John leave for the Far East in hopes that the treatment will repair her damaged heart, after taking out a loan to raise the remaining \$13,000 needed for the life-saving procedure. "My goal is to come back and go bike riding and lose weight," said Henderson who grew up in Westland and graduated from John Glenn High School. "I

want to see my doctor less, take less medicine and stay as far away from a heart transplant as I can." The Hendersons left at noon on the 19-day trip that could give her a second lease on life. The stem cell therapy isn't covered by insurance, nor is it available in the United States. It's been available for some time in Thailand and is now

being offered in the Dominican Republic, although there's no difference in cost. Henderson's road to Thailand began in 1990, when she was diagnosed with stage II Hodgkin's lymphoma. She underwent radiation and chemotherapy. In the middle of the treatment, she put on a wig and

Please see **TREATMENT, A3**

Council approves 5-year pact with command officers

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER
A Westland police union has secured a five-year contract that mirrors labor agreements already in place for two other employee groups. The 32-member Westland Police Lieutenants & Sergeants Association will receive a 2 percent pay hike retroactive to Jan. 1, followed by raises of 2 percent in 2009, 3 percent in 2010, 2 percent in 2011 and 3 percent in 2012. The labor pact, similar to contracts already negotiated for police officers and firefighters, won approval Monday in a 6-1 vote by the Westland City Council. Councilman Charles Pickering opposed the plan and renewed his concerns about whether the city can afford the raises amid tough economic times. "It's going to be worse next year," he said, "and who knows when we're going to come out of it." Other council members and Mayor William Wild called the contract fair, saying it essentially contains cost-of-living raises for an employee group that helps to protect the city and its residents. Wild, saying he refuses to balance the budget at the expense of public safety employees, said administration officials will accommodate the pay hikes as they

develop a new spending plan. "I think the contract is fair," Wild said. Council President James Godbout agreed, saying the police union could have played hardball by forcing the city into binding arbitration that could have resulted in a costlier settlement. Pickering, who also voted against the earlier contracts, said the labor agreements will chip away at the city's budget surplus, which has hovered around the \$2 million mark. He suggested that all employee groups should have accepted a one-year pay freeze. "I'm not going to balance the budget on the backs of our taxpayers," he said. Retroactive to Jan. 1, the salary range for the Westland Police Lieutenants & Sergeants Association will be \$68,694 for a first-year sergeant to \$84,046 for a deputy chief. By the end of the contract, that range will be \$75,081 to \$92,768, according to Personnel Director Keith Madden. However, Wild stressed that the new agreement also contains concessions. Newly hired police will have to set aside 5 percent of their gross pay to help fund their pensions, and they will have to accept a health insurance plan that is more cost-effective for the city.

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DPS director vows to maintain services despite fuel costs

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER
Public Service Director Kevin Buford, saying he lives in Westland and loves it, declared Monday he will not compromise city services for residents due to rising fuel costs that have walloped the city. Buford called his department the backbone of the city, whether workers are plowing snow, fixing broken water mains or removing

fallen trees. Buford publicly touted his department Monday as the Westland City Council coped with rising fuel costs by approving a \$260,000 budget amendment. The amount marked a 68 percent increase over what officials had earlier set aside to keep more than 400 city vehicles rolling. Buford said Westland's usage of unleaded gasoline has actually declined, but high-priced

diesel fuel has thinned out the city wallet. Buford's department has faced a growing demand for services like snowplowing during an unusually busy winter season. Still, it isn't the first time the city has been forced to approve fuel-related budget amendments. Mayor William Wild said previous administrations have had to increase spending for fuel by as much as 59 percent. Councilman Charles Pickering

has raised concerns that the bulk of the budget amendment, \$173,334, will come from a general fund surplus that has hovered precariously around the \$2 million mark. The rest would be paid from the water-sewer fund. Pickering suggested the city should find another way to pay for rising fuel costs rather than deplete the budget surplus. Council President James Godbout indicated that Pickering didn't offer an alter-

nate plan. Some residents have criticized the city for overspending, while others have commended leaders for doing the best they can to cope with what is now widely viewed as a recession. Resident Normie Brazier, who drives long distances for her job, said she feels safer on Westland streets than most anywhere she travels on snowy days. "Our streets are the best anywhere," she said.

With economists predicting even higher gas prices, city officials — like residents — wonder how they will pay the tab. Councilwoman Cheryl Graunstadt and others have voiced fears that, if the situation should become dramatically worse, city leaders might not be able to afford the level of services that residents have come to expect.

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Coming Sunday in Health
One woman's battle with lupus

Firm's software lets parents secretly view computer use

BY REBECCA JONES
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Phillip James of BlackFly Networks describes the company's remote monitoring software which allows a user to see in near real time the actions and keystrokes that were performed on a computer remotely.

Parents can now be a fly on the wall of a chatroom their kids are using.

A Livonia company, Blackfly Networks, has launched a new program called TRAP, which lets parents, employers and other subscribers spy on a computer's activity from elsewhere. All keystrokes and visited Web sites are logged.

This means everything children type in e-mail messages, chat rooms or instant messaging programs get logged, as does all their Internet surfing, even passwords and misspellings that were corrected before the message was sent.

"The system is very simple, but it's also very powerful," operations manager Phillip James said. "Even though mom and dad may not know much about the Internet, MySpace or chat rooms, they can at least see what their children are up to."

The software also monitors word processing, spreadsheet and other non-Web based programs. It only captures text, not images.

A week after launching, the company has about a dozen subscribers, but demand could explode as news goes national, James said. Two companies, one in Livonia and another in Novi, use it to monitor employees' workstations. Spouses can also use it to monitor each other's online activity.

Other keylogger software may not be as discrete, James said. Either a device is connected externally to a computer or the program records data on

the same machine that is being monitored. Savvy children will know how to find and get around both these roadblocks.

Blackfly TRAP (which stands for track, record and peruse) allows subscribers to access the history remotely over the Internet, almost in real time.

"If dad's at work, he can look at the data right away," James said.

Parents can also employ another feature, called On

Alert!, which sends them an e-mail or text message anytime a certain defined keyword is typed at home.

James, of Saline, paired his background in Web design and information technology with a Livonia programmer, who is a Stevenson High School graduate but did not want to be identified. The three-person staff, including two founders, may expand as demand increases.

The software will only work on personal computers, not Macs.

The free software is available for downloading at www.blackflynetworks.com. Service is \$3.95 per month or \$37.95 per year.

Internet safety and monitoring is a hot topic for parents. The state attorney general's office will present a Cyber Safety Initiative program to parents and other concerned adults at 7 p.m. Monday, March 31, at Churchill High School.

James said representatives from Blackfly Networks will be handing out flyers at the March 31 presentation.

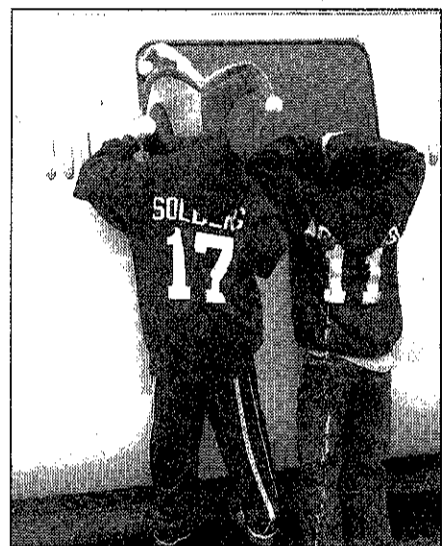
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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ready for The Joe

Members of the Westland Yetis hockey team — Cooper Walsh, Joey Robinson, Christopher Razor, Joey Burton, Tyler Hamilton, Steven Arcuragi, Aaron Taylor, Haley Robinson, David Solberg, Zoe Worosz, and Jessica Marek — pose for pictures in front of the limousine their parents hired to ferry them to the Joe Louis arena where they played the Little Caesar League finals. The team of 7-8-year-olds, which won its division, ended up as the league runner-up after being beaten by a Livingston team, according to coach Joe Burton. "It was fun being there," said Burton.



David Solberg and Steven Arcuragi peek inside the limo that took the team to Joe Louis Arena.

AROUND WESTLAND

Offices closed

On Friday, March 21, which is Good Friday, city offices in Westland and the 18th District Court will be closed. The Bailey Center and William P. Faust Public Library will remain open. In addition, the Mike Modano Ice Arena also will continue to host their Friday Open Skating from noon to 1:45 p.m. The arena is at 6210 N. Wildwood, just north of Ford Road.

Senior health

Westland's senior citizen Friendship Center will host an informational meeting 3-4

p.m. Thursday, March 27, to explain a series of state bills and how they would affect senior medical coverage.

According to the senior center, the meeting will include Bob Brown, director of Senior Alliance, state Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, and state Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland.

Kindergarten Roundup Parents and their youngsters who will turn 5 years old by Dec. 1, 2008, are invited to the Wayne-Westland Community Schools' Kindergarten Roundup 9-10 a.m. Tuesday, April 8, at their local elementary school. For more information, call (734) 419-2096 or go online to wwcsd.net.

people per lane), shoes, pizza and pop. There also will be a 50/50 raffle, a special High Rollers 50/50 raffle and silent auction.

Register by April 12. For more information, contact Patty Sheppard at (734) 414-0696 or by e-mail at Sheppard6@hotmail.com or Tracey Hrubiak at (734) 414-7431 or by e-mail at lucky_locket_tmh@msn.com.

Higher Rock Cafe

Independent artist Rachanee will be the featured performer at the Higher Rock Cafe at 8 p.m. Friday, March 28, at the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army, 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer, Westland.

The Michigan-based singer/songwriter will perform songs from her current album, "3 am," and her debut album, "Ordinary Girl." Her lyrics are described as honest and life inspiring. Many were written toward the end or shortly after she finished college and "are about finding your way in the world," she said.

"They are songs about how

ON THE WEB

For an expanded version of Around Westland and the Community Calendar, visit our online edition at www.hometownlife.com. Click on Westland.

sometimes you have to make hard choices to stick with your convictions," she added.

For more information about the performance, call Mindie O'Neill at (734) 722-3660.

Donations needed

March is Disabilities Awareness Month and the people at the Tried and True Thrift Store are asking residents who do spring cleaning to donate their unwanted goods during an open house from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, March 28, at the store, 35004 Michigan Ave., just east of Wayne Road, Wayne. The store is accepting donations of all types of clothing items, linens, jewelry, toys and bikes, books, housewares and gently used furniture.

All donations are tax deductible.

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 from 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.

Class reunion John Glenn High School Class of 1988 will hold its 20 year reunion on Saturday, Aug. 23 at Roma's of Garden City. Tickets are \$30 per person. For tickets and more information, visit jghs88reunion.com.

Clothing drive

The YWCA of Western Wayne County is accepting donations of gently used women's clothing for its Suit Rack Program. All donations must be clean, unstained, and professional looking. Donations of hangers or clothing racks are also being accepted and are greatly appreciated.

The YWCA's Suit Rack Program gives unemployed and low-income women a chance to learn and practice valuable job search skills. Women also enjoy the opportunity to select an appropriate outfit to wear for interviews. Women will also work with a Career Coach that will provide encouragement and valuable information on writing resumes, interviewing, and trips for negotiating salary options and benefits.

The YWCA is also seeking volunteers to sort and organize donations. Hours can be arranged to fit your schedule.

For more information on the YWCA's Suit Rack Program, to donate your professional clothing or volunteer your time please call (313) 561-4110 Ext. 14.

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Student-built house has spot in Parade of Homes

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A home built by students in the William D. Ford Career Technical Center's construction technology program is among 62 homes being featured in the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan's 2008 Spring Parade of Homes.

The Ashley, a 1,657-square-foot home, was built by students last year.

"It's really a great honor for the kids in this program to be allowed in this," instructor Mark Valchine said. "I was at the kickoff with (principal) Ginny Kowalski and it was pretty humbling. To let us in the Parade of Homes showed high regard for the students. It's definitely an honor."

Parade of Homes is an exhibition of 62 new model homes and condominiums located throughout southeast Michigan. It's taking place now through April 13 and is sponsored by the BIA and LaSalle Bank.

Featured homes include condominiums and single-family homes ranging in base price from \$113,000 to \$1,999,900. They range in square footage from 1,150 to 8,256 square feet. There are 25 homes base-priced less than \$250,000 and five homes base-priced more than \$1 million.

According to Valchine, this is the first time a student-built home has been included in the BIA Parade of Homes. He is a member of the BIA and his students belong to the BIA student chapter. The organization came out and saw the home and offered the opportunity for it to be in the tour.

"We're excited about that," he said.



The Ashley, built by students in the construction technology program at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center is one of 62 homes featured in the 2008 Spring Parade of Homes.

The home is on Avondale east of Wildwood in Westland. It features nine-foot ceilings, a gas- or wood-burning fireplace, four bedrooms and three baths and a deck overlooking Sassafras Trails, the Wayne-Westland Community Schools' nature preserve. It's priced at \$229,000.

The second-year construction technology students build a home each year and not far from the Ashley is this year's home. According to Valchine, it's similar to the Ashley with nine-foot ceilings and an open floor plan, but also has tile in the kitchen bathroom and hardwood flooring in the living room and hallway.

"I'm excited about this home, I really like it," he said.

The Ashley is open from noon to 5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays and weekdays by appointment. It will be closed Easter Sunday. People interested in touring the home can call (313) 550-2265. For more information, call the Career Technical Center at (734) 419-2100.

Seven-eight couples toured the

home the first weekend of the Parade of Homes and the hope is for increased foot traffic in coming weekends. The goal is to sell the home.

"The main goal is to get the home sold, plus recognize the kids," Valchine said. "This is a big honor for the kids."

A free 2008 Spring Parade of Homes magazine, listing the participating model homes, is available at LaSalle Bank locations and selected CVS locations throughout southeast Michigan. Information also is available on the BIA Parade of Homes Web site at www.biaparadeofhomes.com.

TREATMENT

FROM PAGE A1

a wedding gown to marry John.

She had been cancer free for 11 years, when she suffered a massive heart attack July 23, 2001. Five days later, she had another "episode" and doctors operated to install a heart pump. That evening, she had a mini-stroke. The next day, she had emergency bypass surgery.

In January 2002, she was told by the Henry Ford Transplant Center to start the tests and process for a heart transplant. She went through the process and was within a week of being added to the list when they determined she had improved her heart's pumping power by taking the CoQ10 supplement.

Henderson approached her doctor about stem cell therapy as an option and her doctor said it would be a good idea.

REPAIRING HER HEART

In Thailand, Henderson will meet with a cardiologist and have blood drawn that will be sent to a laboratory in Israel, where her own cells will be used to create millions of immature stem cells. Those stem cells will be injected by catheterization into her body close to her heart. If all goes well, the stem cells will go to the damaged areas of her heart and repair them.

"This procedure has a 75-per-

cent success rate," Henderson said. "I hope I'm one of the successes. I hope I will be because I'm young and have a better chance. A lot of the people doing this are 68-70 years old."

The Hendersons raised most of the money needed for the trip through a bottle and can drive that raised some \$5,000, a \$10,000 donation from a doctor who also matched the \$550 by his company, \$12,000 at a spaghetti dinner and \$2,600 at a Texas Hold 'Em Tournament.

Henderson had hoped to go to Thailand in December with her sister, but it was postponed due to lack of funds. The family finally decided they couldn't wait any longer and took out a loan to cover the remaining \$13,000. The delay allows her husband to travel with her, something Henderson is happy about.

"I'm relieved he's going with me. We've been together since we were 16," Henderson said. "I couldn't think of doing this without him."

While they're gone, her parents will take care of their two children, Cole, a student at Memorial Elementary School, and Cheyenne, a Garden City Middle School student, and the family dog.

WHILE IN THAILAND

For the plane trip, Henderson is taking her copy of Christian Wild's *Miracle Stem Cell Heart Repair*. She's already read the

book once, but says she'll read it another four or five times while she's gone. All of her medical books are well-worn from being read and re-read.

The treatment won't take up all of the time the Hendersons are in Thailand, so there will be an opportunity to do some sightseeing.

"Everyone says it's beautiful, and I do want to see an elephant," she said. "I want to pet it and love it up. I'm an animal lover."

Henderson has talked to a man who had the stem cell treatment and said his eyes seemed to be better right after the treatment. While most people begin to realize improvement right away, it "can take up to six months for the full effect," she said.

"I'm on borrowed time, I'm at high risk for sudden death," she added. "The doctors wanted to implant a defibrillator, but I don't have an electrical problem, and I don't like the option of transplant with 22 anti-rejection drugs that can damage your body."

"I want a healed heart and have to take so many drugs."

And even though she's getting the stem cell treatment, the bottle and can drive sign is still up on the front lawn of the family home. There's that \$13,000 loan that has to be paid off. If there are no unexpected expenses, they will be able to use the unused money to pay it down.

PARK PLAN

FROM PAGE A1

develop the latest plan rather than hire an outside consultant, saving the city \$30,000. His nearly 90-page report drew sweeping praise from elected officials, who said it outshone earlier parks and recreation documents.

The master plan will allow the city to apply for Michigan Department of Natural Resources grants that can cover up to 70 percent of costs for specific projects. City leaders and some residents have said Westland could attract more residents by offering better recreational programs.

AT TATTAN PARK

For the 2008-2009 budget year that starts July 1, the plan calls for \$4.7 million in improvements to Tattan Park and Central City Park, amid hopes the latter site can be returned to public use through efforts by Wayne County to remediate the lead-contaminated property.

Tattan Park, just north of Central City Park, would get several play structures, swings, a tower with slides, a climbing wall and other amenities — all woven into a so-called Play Planet with a common theme, possibly western or space-age.

"It's like a little play village that we're looking at building," Kosowski said.

Tattan Park also would receive a water playground with amenities allowing children to cool off in the summer heat.

Central City Park, a 100-acre site, would get eight new ballfields, four soccer fields, picnic shelters and gazebos, play structures, a walking path, a concession area and restroom facilities, among other amenities. On Monday, Mayor William Wild voiced hope that county officials will move swiftly to clean up the county-owned property and use a Wayne County parks tax to help renovate the park.

Residents have voiced dismay at losing what was long considered the city's recreation jewel.

"We need to get this park back open," Kosowski said.

ADDED FEATURES

For the 2009-2010 year at a cost of \$1,668,000, the new parks master plan calls for a disc golf course, described by some as Frisbee golf, at Rotary Park or Curtis Woods Park; a fenced-in dog park at one of those parks; an asphalt cart path at Westland's municipal golf course; a pet trail and other amenities near the Westland-based Michigan Humane Society; soccer fields and restrooms at Curtis Woods Park; and educational amenities, including shelters and a trail system, at a sprawling wooded area, Sassafras Trails, near Wildwood and Palmer.

Several residents have voiced concerns that any plan to make Sassafras Trails more educational for students should not intrude on the land's natural beauty. Some have suggested leaving the property — owned by Wayne-Westland Community Schools — as it is and simply taking down a fence that surrounds it.

"I don't think picnic tables belong there," resident Judy Curtis said Monday.

For the 2010-2011 year, at a price tag of just over \$1 million, Hubbard Park would get a new athletics court and other amenities; the Concrete Jungle skate park would be expanded; Voss Park would receive ballfields, lighting and restrooms; and the Westland Historic Village Park would benefit from projects like a barn, where dances, antique shows and other programs could be planned.

For the 2011-2012 year, at a cost of \$8 million, the Mike Modano Ice Arena could get a long-sought second sheet of ice; Jaycee Park could receive new ballfields, an outdoor plaza, more seating and an expanded walking path; and Corrado Park could benefit from new landscaping, parking, pathways and benches.

For the 2012-2013 year, with only a \$150,000 tab, the master plan could be completed with the Westland Youth Athletic Association property receiving new ballfields, bleachers, fencing, a concession stand, a pathway and other amenities.

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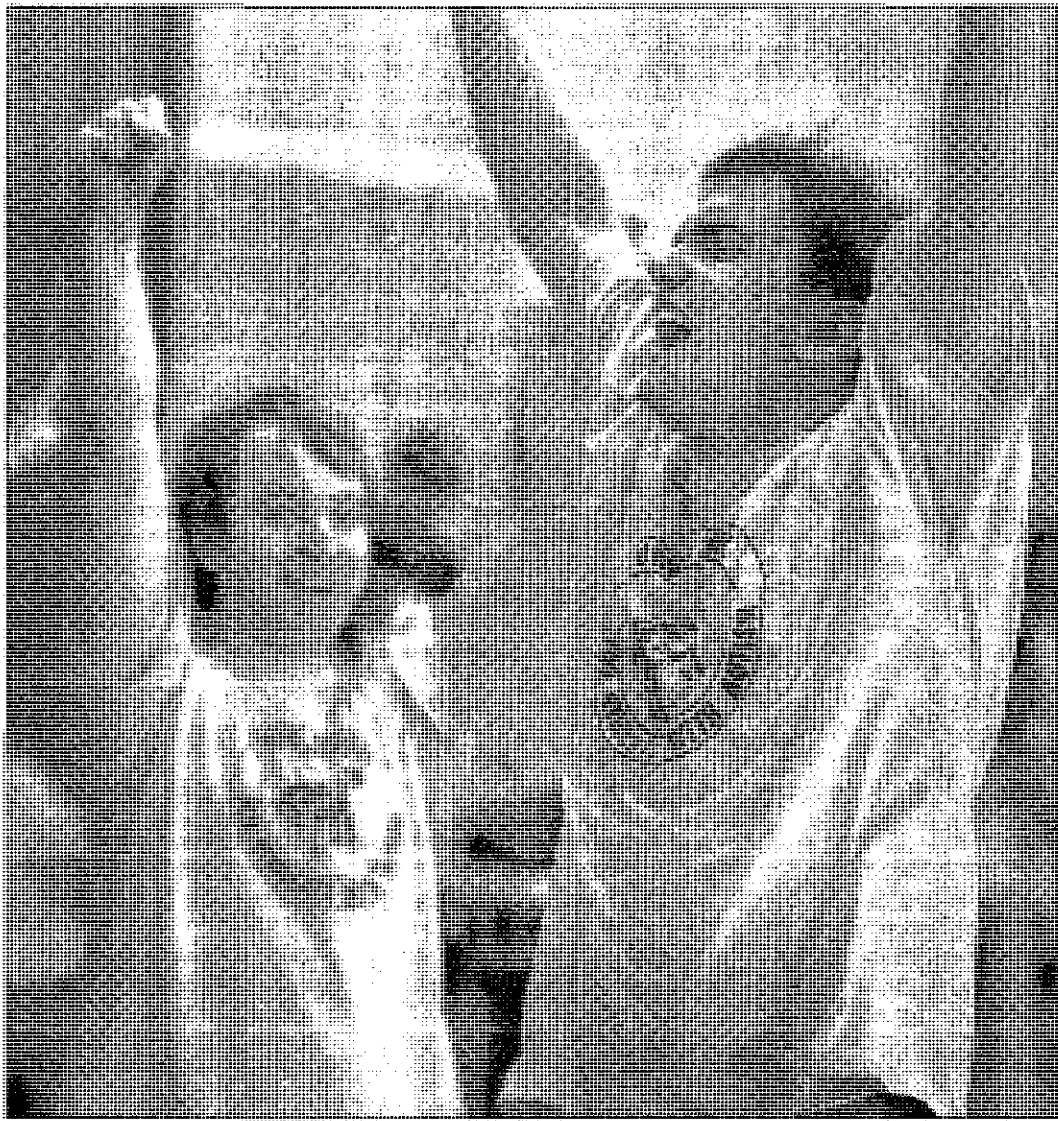
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PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Broncos Brian Corrigan (left) and Brett Charley react after Brett scores two points. The Broncos, representing the Burger Center for Students with Autism, won the annual March Madness game over Garden City High School's Cougars 92-91.

Broncos best Cougars in 'Big Game'

For more photos of the "Big Game," visit our photo gallery on the Observer home page online at www.hometownlife.com.

Ann Arbor has the Big House. Garden City has the Big Game.

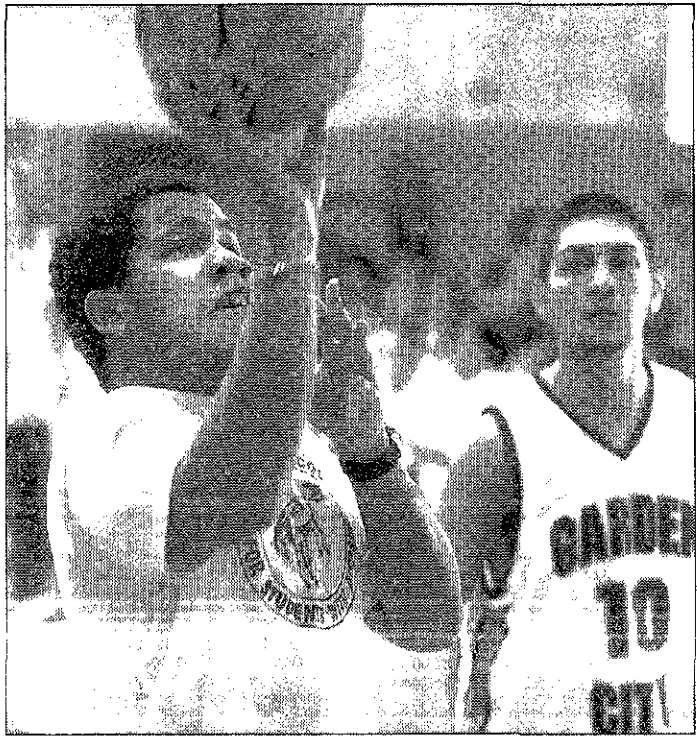
Once a year, the Garden City High School Cougars and coach Greg Williamson take on the Burger Center Broncos as part of March Madness.

For more than five years, the two teams have met on the basketball court for a game that is as exciting as it is inspiring.

For the Broncos, there is no other game that matters. The team of more than 100 players began holding half-hour practices in December in preparation to defend their winning streak.

The coaches are Mary Jimenez, Kim Mussen and Denise Gooding, who teach at the Burger Center for Students with Autism.

"It's rewarding to watch how the players find the area they're



Jeff Herrington drives to the hoop as Cougars Moses Cruz watches.

best in to help their team," said Jimenez, adding that some

players know they aren't a good shooter, but a good passer. "As coaches, they help players find what they are good at and help them strengthen those skills so that they can contribute to the team."

And contribute they did at



Erica Hill and Rylee Crawford, members of the Broncos junior varsity squad, cheer with the varsity cheerleaders during halftime.



Broncos' Chris Coleman takes the opening tipoff to the hoop and scores. Defending for the Cougars is Chris Crawford.

this year's Big Game, held at the Burger center last week. The 33-member Bronco varsity squad took on their Cougars counterparts in a game that went down to the wire.

The Bronco cheerleaders joined the high school cheer squads in rooting their teams on, and when the buzzer sounded, the Broncos, led by captains Tony Ardinger, Brian Corrigan and Chris Coleman, had kept their team's winning streak alive by squeezing out a 92-91 victory.

"All the staff at Burger school appreciate the compassion and sharing of their time put forth by the Garden City High School players and cheerleaders," Jimenez said. "We are more than grateful to these young people for helping make this such a special day for our students. We call this the Big Game and it's part of our school's March Madness."

-By Sue Mason

American House holds fund-raising breakfast

The residents of American House II on Joy Road between Hix and I-275 is inviting people to join them for breakfast on Friday, March 28, and help the less fortunate.

For a minimum donation of \$3, participants can enjoy all the pancakes they can eat, sausage, juice or coffee, between 8 and 10 a.m.

The proceeds will go to the American House Foundation which will give 30 percent to the Wayne State University Institute of Gerontology. The institute does prevention education and research on homelessness, depression and Alzheimer's disease.

The remaining 70 percent will benefit needy seniors who live in Detroit. The money will be used to provide food, medicine, housing and emergency medical equipment. In one instance, the foundation provided the \$70 needed to buy grab bars to put in a shower of an elderly man who was afraid to bath alone for fear of falling.

The foundation was created by American House residences in partnership with the WSU institute to put an end to significant aging issues.

People interested in attending the breakfast can call (734) 454-9838 to make a reservation.

Westland man named HOM spiritual leader

John Warnshuis has joined the Detroit team of Hospice of Michigan as the spiritual care advisor.

In his new position, the Westland resident will be responsible for providing emotional and spiritual care to patients and their families, as well as HOM team members.

"We are very pleased to welcome John to the Hospice of Michigan staff," said Emily Self, service line area director for the Detroit team. "Spiritual care advisors have a very important role in the hospice interdisciplinary team and we look forward to his contributions in this area."



Warnshuis

Warnshuis received his bachelor's degree in Bible from Cedarville University in Cedarville, Ohio. His Master's in Divinity degree was earned through the Baptist Bible Seminary in Clarks Summit, Pa.

"I am honored by this opportunity to help people," said Warnshuis. "I look forward to helping lead people through a time in their lives that can be very difficult."

Hospice of Michigan provides comprehensive comfort care to people living with a terminal illness, and support to their families. The organization serves more than 800 people every day in 50 counties. For information about Hospice of Michigan services in the Detroit area, call (313) 578-6200 or visit the Web site www.hom.org

Wayne High alumni hold annual banquet

Calling all graduates of Wayne and Wayne Memorial High School, the time and date has been set for the 23rd annual all class.

The get-together will be 5:30-11 p.m. Friday, May 16, at Wayne Tree Manor, 35100 Van Born, Wayne. Dinner will be at 6 p.m. and the guests of honor

will be members of Wayne Memorial's Class of 1958.

Tickets cost \$26 each if ordered by May 1, and \$31 if ordered after that date. The deadline for ordering is May 5.

For information, call Mary Ann Snodgrass at (734) 422-1237 or go online to wayne-highalumni@aol.com.

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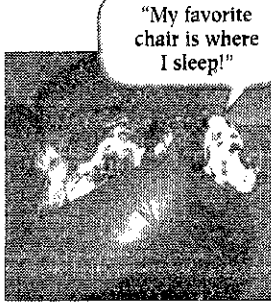
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Everyone should have a financial disaster plan

I saw the story last week about the crane disaster in New York and the tornado in Atlanta and other storms throughout the country. I have no doubt that over the next couple of months we will see some unpredictable weather here in Michigan. One story that gets lost in covering these tragedies is how people who survive and who have lost all financial records have to deal with issues that develop after a disaster.

It is never easy to deal with a natural disaster, but people who are organized have a better chance of dealing with the situation than those who are unprepared. It is important for everyone to have a plan in place to protect financial records. It is a good idea for everyone to have some sort of disaster plan in place.

A financial disaster plan



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

does not have to be complex or difficult. It has to be something that works for you. What should be in a disaster file? A disaster file should contain a list of all your financial institutions with your account number and any access information such as a PIN. Your disaster plan should also contain a list of your charge cards, account number and any other relevant account information. To have an effective disaster file, it should also contain copies of your property insurance policies and any appraisals on property that you may have. In addition, it should have a video inventory of your home.

After all, if your home was destroyed the video could be invaluable in dealing with your insurance company.

A disaster file should also contain a list of phone numbers, e-mail addresses and web sites for the professionals that you use such as insurance agents, attorneys and accountants. I also think it makes sense to have copies of your last three years worth of tax returns.

Like many things in life, we get motivated to do something and then we forget about it. Unfortunately, your disaster file is not something you can do once and forget about it. It just doesn't work that way. Every six months to a year you need to review your disaster file to make sure that it is current.

Having a disaster file is great, however, that may be immaterial unless it is kept

in the right place. My general rule is that a disaster file needs to be kept off location. Whether you use a safety deposit box at a bank or keep it at your office or even use one of the online services, don't keep your disaster file at home.

The majority of people will

never have to access their disaster file. However, think that if you were confronted by a natural disaster how much easier things will be if you do.

Before spring storms come to Michigan spend a few minutes to organize and prepare a disaster file. The time you spend now can will save you time, aggrava-

tion and a lot of money.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at [moneymatters@hometownlife.com](mailto: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).

Conference focuses on mental health care

Two national leaders in mental health will be featured at Erasing Stigma, a regional conference that looks at the types of stigma and way to remove them as barriers to improving the health and quality of life for individuals with mental illness.

Terry Cline, administrator for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services administrator of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and David Satcher, the 16th surgeon general, who oversaw a pioneering

report of the role of stigma in mental health, are among the speakers.

Other speakers include individuals who participate in mental health, employment, housing and other programs.

The conference will be 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, March 25, at the Hyatt Regency in Dearborn. Sponsors are the State of Michigan Department of Community Health, the Detroit-Wayne County Community Mental Health

Agency, providers and consumers and the Statewide Anti-Stigma Committee.

Registration is required. The conference fee is \$60 and includes meals and conference training materials. To register or for more information, call the Virtual Center of Excellence at (734) 785-7793 or email rsvp@vceonline.org.

A limited number of scholarships are available to consumers served by Detroit Wayne CMH by calling (313) 833-3984.

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Among those manning the scissors for the ribbon cutting ceremony were Jerry Jordt, director of laboratory (from left); Carol Bielaniec, director of the Sleep Disorders Center; Erika Laszlo, director of Home Medical Equipment; Dr. John H. Morrison of the Sleep Medicine/Sleep Disorders Center; Gary Ley, Garden City Hospital CEO and president; City Council President James Godbout; Scott Filgo, director of the Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Center; Ken Locklear, president of American Baromedical Corp., and Dr. Marshall Medley, a vascular surgeon.

Crowd turns out for specialty center opening

More than 250 people turned out Saturday to celebrate the grand opening of Garden City Hospital's Westland Specialty Center. Garden City Hospital President and CEO Gary Ley led the a ribbon-cutting ceremony in the center's atrium. A green ribbon stretched across the atrium and Westland Specialty Center staff gathered behind it as it was cut to mark the center's official opening.

Staff from the Garden City Hospital's Sleep Disorders Center, Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Center, Sports Rehabilitation Center, diabetes education department, Home Medical Equipment and laboratory were on hand to welcome guests and offer information, tours, blood sugar screening, gifts and massages.

The Garden City Hospital Food and Nutrition Services department also served an array of culinary delights, including fruit kabobs, scones, stuffed cookies, fresh vegetables and yogurt parfaits.

Many people stayed for more than an hour, enjoying the activities. Tours of the Sleep Center and Wound Center resulted in appointments for some, who realized the specialty center was the solution for their daytime sleepiness or stubborn wounds.

Affiliated with Garden City Hospital, the Westland Specialty Center brings together the Sleep Disorders Center of Michigan, the Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Center of Michigan and the Garden City Hospital Sports Rehabilitation Center in a newly remodeled facility at 35600 Central City Parkway across the Westland Shopping Center.

Guests were enthusiastic about the center. One visitor noted, "The staff was so nice and willing to answer every question I had," while another said she feels the center is a "gem for the community."

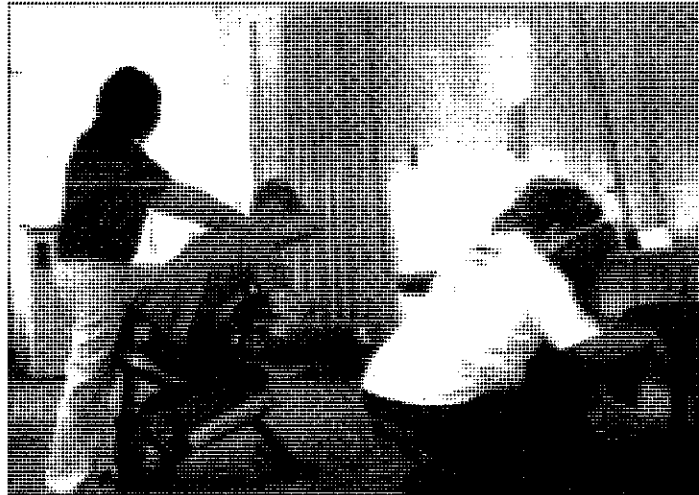
"I saw the ad in the paper and was really curious," said another guest from Westland. "I wanted to speak to someone about sleep disorders. I set up my first appointment for a sleep study today and I'm very excited."

For more information about the Westland Specialty Center and services offered, call Garden City Hospital at (877) 717-WELL.

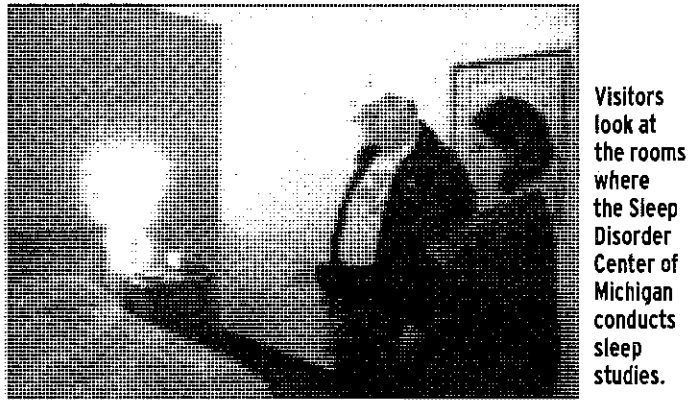
Garden City Hospital is located in Inkster Road north of Ford in Garden City. It provides comprehensive health care services, osteopathic medical education and health care related programs to the community at large. For more information, call (734) 458-3300 or go online to www.gchosp.org.



Guests at the open house had the chance to sit inside of a custom-built, \$1 million hyperbaric chamber and hear from the hyperbaric technicians how oxygen and pressure combine to heal serious wounds.



Mini-massages delivered by the expert hands of massage therapists, left guests feeling relaxed and rejuvenated.



Visitors look at the rooms where the Sleep Disorder Center of Michigan conducts sleep studies.

High schooler's blog makes case against McCotter

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Remember the year 2028. That's when you should be seeing some bright green bumper stickers that say "Fitz 28."

That's when Sean Fitzpatrick will be constitutionally old enough to run for president.

Meanwhile, the 14-year-old Canton High School freshman is working hard to bring down a congressman.

While young people are often accused of being politically apathetic, Fitzpatrick of Plymouth is a fervent political blogger who maintains the Mad at Thad blog site www.madatthad.blogspot.com. Its purpose is to make the case against U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, who is expected to run for re-election to the 11th District seat.

On Monday, St. Patrick's Day, Sean came to the *Observer* in a cap decorated with a shamrock and a vivid green Obama for president T-shirt.

"I've always been interested in politics and I saw at the time there wasn't anything about McCotter and he was the local representative," Sean said.

Politics has always been discussed at the Fitzpatrick dinner table.

"My father is really into it and so is my grandmother," he said. "I guess the 2004 election I really started to get into it."

Sean's father, Patrick, said his son's interest came early and evolved over time.

"When he was very young, when he was in first grade he used to wear a suit to school and said he was going to be president," Patrick Fitzpatrick said. "He also created a bumper sticker for himself that said Fitz 28."

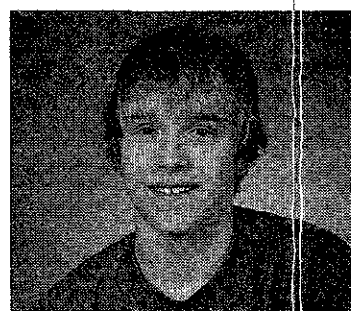
Over the years, Sean has developed strong liberal views.

"I think the government has a responsibility to help its people," he said. "I look at President Bush, who is not too popular even in Plymouth, and that's because his policies aim to help the rich, where I support policies that help the poor and middle class, like FDR and the New Deal."

For Sean, McCotter represents everything he opposes.

"He supports the war which is still the No. 1 issue," he said. "His economic policies are right in line with George Bush and Ronald Reagan. The trickle down effect that he believes in strongly I don't think has proven to work. In general he doesn't seem to represent the interest of his constituents."

So at least once a week Sean posts something on his blog site — a commentary or news about the campaigns of Democratic candidates Tom Spencer and Ed Kriewall or links to other liberal and anti-McCotter sites. His comments show a political acumen



Sean Fitzpatrick

beyond his years. He said he enjoys the political gamesmanship. In the presidential election he was originally a John Edwards supporter but then switched to Barack Obama when Edwards dropped out.

"Obama has quite a few policies for open government. The one thing I was iffy about Edwards was his initial support for the war. I thought Obama was the strongest candidate, now that Edwards is out, in opposing the war from the beginning," Sean said.

He's been closely following the controversy over counting the Michigan and Florida primary results.

"I think the best scenario, and I don't think it's all that likely, is a caucus in Michigan paid for by the candidates and primary in Florida," he said. "What I think will actually end up happening is that they'll split Michigan 50-50 and count the Florida results at a half a vote a delegate, which would leave a 19-vote advantage to Clinton, which I think Obama would find acceptable."

Sean said he hopes to go to law school on his way to a political career.

"I'd love to be a senator, a congressman or even a speechwriter some day," he said. He agrees that most students aren't as interested in politics as he is but says they do know the issues.

"I usually bring it up and we get into a debate," he said. "We take one side of the argument or the other and talk about it until we're not getting anywhere or have a consensus. I'm in the mainstream as my friends go. But I have a couple Republican friends."

One Republican he hasn't met is his nemesis and fellow Irish-American Thaddeus McCotter, but he's looking forward to a meeting.

"I'm on the radio station at school and he does fund-raisers for them. I hope to meet him, I hear he's a nice guy, but that's not going to change my mind," he said.

And while he hasn't decided which of the two Democratic candidates to support, he'll continue to make his case against the war, the Republican Party and McCotter at his blog site.

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Request for Proposals

LEGAL SERVICES

Notice is hereby given that proposals will be received for the Wayne Housing Commission until April 7, 2008 at 10:00 A.M., for furnishing fee legal services, including but not limited to, performing all work necessary and incidental to:

Providing legal services necessary for processing evictions, of Public Housing residents, responding to Fair Housing complaints, responding to Civil Rights complaints, processing FOIA requests, representing the Housing Commission on all legal matters in accordance with State and Federal law, HUD regulations and knowledge in Public Act 18 and the role of housing commission per 1996 revision of Public Act 18.

Proposers should have knowledge of the rules and regulations that govern federally assisted housing programs. Proposals must include the hourly rate for legal services. Experience in basic landlord/tenant law, in and of itself, will not be considered adequate knowledge.

Proposals shall be delivered and addressed to:

Wayne Housing Commission
Attention: Bridget Piasecki
Proposal for Legal Services
4001 S Wayne Rd
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IN AN ENVELOPE CLEARLY MARKED "PROPOSAL FOR ATTORNEY"

Any Proposer wishing their proposal to be considered must make certain that their proposal is received as specified herein.

Each Proposer must be properly insured and meet the licensing requirements of the State of Michigan.

If you have any questions please fee free to contact me at 734 721-8602.

BRIDGET PIASECKI
Executive Director

Publish: March, 16, and 20, 2008

CE0801941_216

City of Westland

Invitation to Bid

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan, 48185-2298, on or before **Wednesday, April 16, 2008, at 10:00 a.m.** (no exceptions) for the following:

Website Update/Redesign

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Jade M. Smith
Controller

Publish: March 20, 2008

08092627 - 2011

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeo, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc. will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 36001 Warren Rd Westland, MI 48185-6591 (734)729-7095 on 3/28/08 at 10:30 am.** Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:
1086 - Yolanda Charleston - 1086 - TV, Microwave, Portable Stereo
1298 - Kimberly Mathews - Loveseat, TV, Treadmill,
2054 - Norman Witkowski - Cherry picker, 2 Tool Cabinets, Shop-vac
2056 - Norman Witkowski - Refrigerator, Oven, Dresser
3050 - Marian Minor - Leather Couch, Chair, Table
3158 - Samuel Hamman - Kids Toys, 5 Bags, Misc Items
3200 - Charles W. Abner - TV, Stereo, 10 Boxes
4014 - Jessica Burton - Chair, Microwave, 5 Totes
5048 - Maureen Shepard - Bookcase, Dresser, 5 Totes
5166 - Catrina Fitch - Couch, 4 Pillows, Ottoman

Publish: March 13 & 20, 2008

CE0801947 - 203

Have lunch or dinner with Trudi Daniels of WRIF-FM

Buddy's Pizza and the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* are back for a second season of Dining with the Stars.

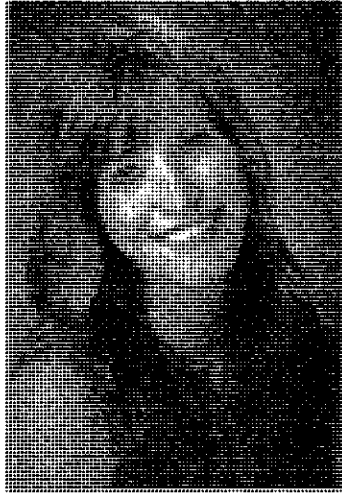
This month's lucky winner will have lunch or dinner with Trudi Daniels, the popular news host of the *Drew & Mike* show on WRIF-FM (101.1).

To enter the contest, tell us in 100 words or less why you want to dine at Buddy's with Trudi Daniels. E-mail your entry to BuddysDiningStars@gmail.com by midnight Saturday, March 22.

Daniels, the recipient of *Hour* magazine's Sexiest Voice Contest and the recent host of the WRIF Rock Girl Competition, describes herself as a wife and mom who enjoys inline skating and scuba diving. She's a certified open water scuba diver just back from sunny Mexico.

Her favorite music? "I still love Stevie Ray (Vaughan) — he's immortal — the (Red Hot) Chili Peppers and, of course, my iPod is crammed with AC/DC! Favorite new album is *Stadium Arcadium* and best new song, *Worldwide Suicide*," Daniels said.

This month's lucky winner will be treated to a limo ride to Buddy's by All Class Transportation & Limousine



This month's winner will have lunch or dinner with Trudi Daniels, news host of WRIF-FM (101.1).

Services, a \$100 gift certificate to the Reaver Diamond Co. in Southfield, a makeover by Utopia Salon in Northville and a dance exhibition courtesy of Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Bloomfield Hills.

In addition, Buddy's will make a \$500 donation to The Salvation Army in Daniels name.

Buddy's Pizza reviews all entries for "Dining With The Stars" and selects the top four to five "fan" letters. The star featured for the month makes the final selection.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mom2Mom

The Livonia YMCA will host a Mom2Mom Sale, 2-5 p.m., Sunday, March 30, at the YMCA, 14255 Stark Road, just north of Schoolcraft. Tables are still available by calling Jean at (734) 261-2161 or (248) 615-1080. There will be a large item room, with furniture and baby equipment and a bake sale and hot dogs for sale to benefit the YMCA. Admission is \$1. Strollers are allowed after 3 p.m.

Crop for a Cure

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

Explore EMU

Eastern Michigan University will hold an Explore Eastern program 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, April 5, for high school students and transfer students to learn about university and how an EMU education can launch their future careers. The free program will be held at the EMU Student Center, 900 Oakwood St., EMU's main campus in Ypsilanti. The program provides students with an opportunity to meet with representatives from various academic programs, housing, dining, career services, financial aid, scholarships and other areas. Campus tours of a classroom building, the Halle Library, the Olds-Robb Recreation and Intramural Building, and a residence hall room run every 15 minutes. All students attending Explore Eastern will be able to apply for admission, free of charge — a \$20 savings. One high school senior who enrolls at EMU will receive 12 free credit hours of in-state equivalent tuition. One transfer student who enrolls will receive six free credit hours of in-state equivalent tuition. To register for Explore Eastern or for more information, go to www.emich.edu/explore/.

Love of Lace XV

The Great Lakes Lace Group Inc. will present Love of Lace XV 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, May 3, at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington, in Livonia. The event is a day of lace making, with demonstrations, try-it tables, vendors and displays. Admission is free, public is welcome. For more information, go online to www.GLLGI.org.

Wrestling Club

Westland Bettle Rockets is a wrestling club for ages 5-14. The club meets on Monday and Wednesdays from 5:30-7:00 p.m. in Gym 4 of John Glenn High School, 36105 Marquette, west of Wayne Road, Westland, Michigan. The club runs from November through March and costs \$20. For questions or more information, contact Judy at judyawl12@yahoo.com or calling (734) 634-4595.

Higher Rock Cafe

The Wayne-Westland Salvation Army presents the Higher Rock Cafe the second and fourth Fridays of the month at its facility at 2300 venoy, south of Palmer, Westland. Doors open at 7:30 p.m., live bands perform beginning at 8 p.m. Admission is free, however, a free will offering will be

COMMUNITY CALENDAR



Posing with a copy of the Garden City Observer outside the MGM Grand 50s diner while on a trip to Disney World in Orlando are Garden City residents Margo and Adia Ciecierski, Vikki and Lloyd Worosz, Pat, Tanya, Noah and Zoe Worosz, Steve and Tanner Sweitzer and Rich, Deanna and Ryan Worosz. Take along a copy of the newspaper and have your picture taken while traveling, then submit it to Wish You Were Here, the Garden City Observer, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, Mich. 48150 or e-mail it to smason@hometownlife.com.

lent tuition. To register for Explore Eastern or for more information, go to www.emich.edu/explore/.

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taken to support the bands. Check out Higher Rock on the Web at www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com or call (734) 722-3660.

Free workshops

Dr. Carol Ann Fischer, a holistic physician, wellness consultant and clinical nutritionist, is presenting several free workshops during April. They include:

- "No Joke-Be Stress" Free 7-9 p.m., Tuesday, April 1, at the Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, Livonia.

The workshop will help participants understand when their body is heading for stress overload and what can be done to prevent it. Learn what stress is actually doing to the body, and what can be done to help increase your ability to handle stress through diet, nutrition, exercise and lifestyle changes. Seating is limited to 15 guests.

- "Eat Your Way Thin" 6-9 p.m., Wednesday April 16, at the Noble Library, 32901 Plymouth Road, Livonia. Learn why diets do not work, ways to avoid weight gain and how to lose weight with diet, nutrition and exercise. When to eat, what to eat and how to eat will be discussed. Seating is limited to 30 guests.

- "Detox-Is It Right For You?" 6:30-8:30 p.m., Tuesday April 22. Come learn about detoxification of the human body. Seating limited to 30 guests.

Reservations for the workshops can be made by calling (734) 756-6904 or online at www.TLCHolisticWellness.com

The Foundation for Wellness

Professionals also is sponsoring a seminar by Dr. William H. Karl Stress on "Hormones and Your Adrenal Glands: How to Restore Balance - Naturally" at 7 p.m., Wednesday, April 2, at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road between Merriman and Farmington, Livonia. Are you tired all day, yet unable to sleep? Do you depend on stimulants, such as coffee, energy drinks, chocolate or caffeinated pop, to get through the day? Do you have allergies, anxiety, cravings for sweets, depression, dry skin, headaches, inflammation, indigestion, irritability, pain, weakness, weight gain/loss, or inability to concentrate? If you have any of these symptoms, or just want to learn how to avoid them, you are invited to the free health care seminar to learn how to restore balance to your hormonal system. Both men and women have many hormones that must work in conjunction with each other to maintain good health, so both men and women should attend this fascinating seminar. Call (734) 425-8588 for more information. Seating is limited.

3 doctors join staff at Oakwood Center

Oakwood Healthcare Center in Garden City has three new tenants - Drs. Miguel Granados, Linda Davenport and Mariya Suchyta who have relocated their offices to the center at 29150 Ford.

Granados specializes in family medicine and has affiliations at Oakwood Hospital and Medical Center in Dearborn and Oakwood Annapolis Hospital in Wayne. He completed his residency and internship at Wayne State University/Detroit Medical Center and received his medical degree from the Universidad Nacional De Asuncion in Paraguay.

Davenport specializes in

family medicine and has affiliation at OAH. She completed her residency and internship at the University of Michigan and received her medical degree from WSU School of Medicine. She was a registered nurse for 15 years before becoming a physician.

Suchyta specializes in family medicine and has affiliations at OHMC and OAH. She completed her residency and internship at OAH and received her medical degree from WSU School of Medicine.

For more information, call (800) 543-WELL or visit the Oakwood Web site at www.oakwood.org.

2008 Update of Tax & Medicaid Law

A Workshop For Seniors

Learn How To Avoid "Cracks" in Your Nest Egg

Nothing is sold at this **FREE SEMINAR FOR SENIORS**

Learn How To:

- Avoid Probate!
- Avoid Court Management of your Assets!
- Protect your Assets from Nursing Homes without buying Nursing Home Insurance!

- Learn how to have **MORE** Spendable Income!
- Avoid Capital Gains Tax!
- Control Your IRA Dollars For Generations To Come!

For Seniors, Retirees & People Over 55! - Asset Protection Workshop™

2008 Update of Federal Estate Tax Laws, Medicare & Medical Issues and Taxation of Social Security - Probate Laws and Guidelines - Rules and Regulations to Help Protect You From Nursing Home Costs

TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED:

- **AVOID MEDICAID TRAP:** How to protect your assets from Catastrophic Illness and Nursing Homes without purchasing Nursing Home Insurance.
- **LEARN:** Facts about what is exempt from Nursing Home attachment.
- **TAXES:** How to lower or eliminate taxes on Social Security, Interest Income, Capital Gains as well as taxes upon death.
- **HOW TO:** Increase your spendable income
- **PROBATE:** Trusts, Lawsuits and Legal Issues
- **WALL STREET:** Learn how to protect your principal from market risks and downturns.
- **BANKS:** Advantages and Disadvantages

There are Federal Tax Laws that will enable you to avoid paying thousands of dollars out of your pocket for taxes, probate and nursing home costs. The government will not notify you of your eligibility. You must find out for yourself.

- Seating is limited.*
- There is no admission charge.
- Nothing will be sold at this workshop.
- The best workshop you'll ever attend.

Please call for reservations:

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(If Married, Both Husband & Wife Should Attend)

Presented by Teubert & Associates

Guest Speakers: Roger Sierens, National Senior Educator & Kathryn Gilson-Sussman, J.D., Partner at Couzens, Lansky P.C. - Estate Planning, Probate & Elder Law Attorney

Friday, March 28, 2008 • 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Summit on the Park • 46000 Summit Parkway - Canton, MI 48188

Reservations Required • Call Now! 1-248-349-4639 (24 hrs)

OUR VIEWS

Bonaparte leaves her mark on city

It goes without saying that Nancy Bonaparte will be missed. Bonaparte, the deputy city clerk, retired last week after 11 years with the city.

Bonaparte will best be remembered as the city's last appointed city clerk, a job she took on as voters were preparing to decide whether the position should be elective.

Bonaparte chose not to campaign for clerk and gave up the job to Eileen DeHart. While she could have gone quietly into that good night, she stayed on as deputy clerk, helping DeHart with the transition. That speaks volumes about Bonaparte.

She also worked with Jean Seaberg in helping the department — and the city — weather the storm created over the firing of then City Clerk Patricia Gibbons. The two women worked hard to maintain calm while handling a record number of elections, including the recall of two council members.

She may not live in the Westland community, but Bonaparte gave her all for it. By her own admission, she sacrificed a lot of time with her family to help the city during that tumultuous period.

Those are the things history will remember about Bonaparte, a clerical worker who rose to the highest position in her department and willing chose to take on a backrest. She personified grace under fire.

Her calm demeanor helped in the healing process. Her ability to work with all people is a credit to her professionalism.

We also will remember Bonaparte as the pleasant voice on the telephone line, the person who took the time to answer our questions, no matter how mundane they might be. Nothing was too small or unimportant for Bonaparte.

We thank her for all she did for the city, for all the time and effort she invested in keeping the community moving forward. That was far from the best of times for the city and what she did helped heal the wounds in the long run.

City history has been written and Nancy Bonaparte has left her mark on it. We wish her well in her retirement. She has said that she and her husband plan to move to Florida. We can say unequivocally that the Sunshine State's gain will definitely be a loss for Michigan and for the city of Westland.

Oh, thank heaven, spring has finally arrived

Considering most of us have been busy lamenting the lingering effects of a winter that has dumped more than 60 inches of snow on us, some of us might have missed the fact that the harbingers of spring have slowly started to creep back into our lives.

Flocks of robins have been returning to the area for weeks. The days are starting to get longer, and the temperatures are climbing out of the 30s. The Easter Bunny will be here this weekend. And the Detroit Tigers are nearly done with spring training, meaning Opening Day is just around the corner.

Today we can add to this list the calendar which, thankfully, tells us today is the first official day of spring. March 20 is the day most observers associate with the beginning of spring. It is the day of the vernal equinox — when the sun sits directly above the Earth's equator, and sunrise and sunset are about 12 hours apart. That means from here on out the days will grow longer than the nights until the summer solstice, when the tables will gradually be turned in night's favor once again.

But let's not think about that now. Instead, let's think about the daffodils and tulips that will soon re-emerge from the soil. Let's think about the forests that will soon be bursting with wildflowers and the new leaves of the season. Let's think about barbecuing some burgers or dogs on the grill. Let's think about the warmth of the sun that will tan up some of our pale bodies. Let's think about heading out to the golf course, or fishing our favorite lake or stream. Let's think about the Tigers getting off to a great start on their way to hopefully winning their second pennant in three years.

So, let's just say so long to Old Man Winter. Please, please don't come back until after the Tigers win the World Series.

She may not live in the Westland community, but Bonaparte gave her all for it. By her own admission, she sacrificed a lot of time with her family to help the city during that tumultuous period. Those are the things history will remember about Bonaparte, a clerical worker who rose to the highest position in her department and willing chose to take on a backrest. She personified grace under fire.



LETTERS

Orange barrel alert

Having just returned from Florida on the I-75 route, I feel compelled to share this warning:

ORANGE BARRELS are plentiful and speed limits are much slower than one could hope for as you head for time in the sun. Ohio, Kentucky and Georgia all have plenty of slow-downs as the renovations and upgrades of America's infrastructures are in progress. Some are short, but some are up to 30 miles long. A good share of the construction areas also come with a patrol car equipped with radar and/or camera. Welcome spring vacation, Safely!

Jacqie Norton
Westland

Donations needed

Spring will soon be here. Do you have things you want to get rid of but that are too good to throw away or something you really like but don't have room for anymore?

The Westland Historical Society is going to have a spot at the City Garage Sale on May 10 and can use your good things for our table. (No clothes!) All proceeds go to the Westland Historic Society for historic building restoration.

We will be taking donations at the museum on Wayne Road, north of Cherry Hill.

Any questions, you may call Ernie Johnson, president, at (734) 522-3918 or Georgia Becker, secretary, at (734) 729-1605.

Georgia Becker
Westland

Troubling times

Well here it is March of 2008, gas prices in just the past few weeks have increased quite a bit. Some people more than others are going to be in a world of hurt, but in the long run all of us suffer.

Those of us on fixed incomes — SSI or SSD — and families on welfare are really going to feel the pinch, or should I say, choke hold.

We are living on the edge now. They are saying gas prices will be up to possible \$4 a gallon by Memorial Day. Right now with insurance, gas and other things that you need day to day, my SSI check is gone the day I get it. We cash it and pay the bills. Lately food as we know it has been minimal, lots of peanut butter and jelly.

My job now that I am retired is I am the chauffeur, which means I drive everyone to work, plus with my grandson living with us. My wife and I have been taking care of him since the day after Thanksgiving. I love that he is here, however, someone has to stand up for all of us.

The politicians need to get involved and put something into the Senate or Congress to help the people get cost of living expenses. We are in a recession whether we know it or not. Like I said all of us are going to suffer, higher prices for gas bring higher prices on

everything else we need to live daily.

The truckers ... Wow, how long are they going to be able to survive? They supply most everything there is over the road. How many of them will not be able to do the job as truckers? How many people will lose jobs because food stores could possibly not get the food shipments they need to run stores?

Our government needs to figure something out, take some of the taxes off gas, that alone is killing us. It is time for people to react to the problem and not ignore it before it is too late. People like me, with two cars, well, I am thinking ahead. I will probably have to sell my car just so we can afford my wife's and she drives four days a week all over Michigan for her job.

Troubling Times and they are only just starting.

Bud Somerville
Westland

Housing ills

First the good news. What a great time to be a (housing) buyer. The smart money is buying right now. It does not get much better and one needs not buy at the lowest point or sell at the highest peak to be a winner. Just being near the top on a sale and/or close to the bottom on a purchase is important.

Now the bad news, if you own housing units in southeast Michigan. According to government statistics, the metropolitan area is suffering a 19.4 percent vacancy on nearly two million housing units of all types. For the first time in U.S. history, we have a housing excess. In southeast Michigan, that means we have more than 375,000 empty houses, apartments, manufactured homes and condominiums. That is why values have fallen and one cannot sell or rent that housing unit, at least not without big discounts from former values.

The statistics are these. From the U.S. Census Bureau estimates of American Housing Survey for the Detroit Metropolitan Area, there were 1,900,600 housing units in 2003.

To that add the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments report on new permits for 2004 through 2008 of 42,975 and southeast Michigan has a grand total of 1,943,575 housing units.

Back to U.S. Census Bureau for the annual statistics 2007 and find that Detroit-Warren-Livonia has a vacancy rate in 2005 of 15.25 percent, with 2006 at a whopping 21.2 percent and 2007 (now) at 19.4 percent. The simple math of 19.4 percent on 1,943,575 is our 377,000 vacant housing units.

The inventory of excess housing has many ramifications, nationally, internationally, and most importantly, right where you live. All real estate is "local." When one talks to the social worker, the question is, "Why are there any homeless in a time of excess housing?"

When you talk to a developer of new housing, the question is, "Does your business plan included a demand/supply analysis for the final product?"

When talking to a lender, the question begs, "Why would you lend to a

multi-family development of new units at a time when the lender's collateral asset is declining due to the oversupply?"

To the planning commissions, city councils and township boards: "Are we going to further detract from the value of our existing stock of housing by approving more housing stock to the excess inventory?"

To the new home builders: "Should you be looking at modernizing the existing stock of homes or revising your mission statement?"

Tom Goebel
Plymouth

Media show bias

With peace in their hearts, Israelis gave up all of Gaza almost two years ago yet, Iran-backed terrorists have shot more than 4,000 rockets. No country in the world would sit back and let this happen without trying to defend themselves.

These rockets are aimed at innocent civilians and many have been successful killing at least 13 Israelis and injuring hundreds of others. Yet, newspapers across the United States have condemned Israel for trying to protect their people. What am I missing?

I was outraged when I saw a major Detroit paper print a photo of a Palestinian boy being carried away, appearing only slightly injured. Where are the photos of the student, a father of four, who was innocently killed or the little boy who lost his legs? Why didn't that make the press for people to see the real victims?

I am deeply concerned over the bias the newspapers have shown and their inability to convey to the public who the real victims are. These poor people in Sderot, Israel, are living with fear every minute of every day.

I hope a newspaper will be thorough enough to seek out the truth and show it how it really is. If the attacks into Israel from Gaza stopped, then Israel would not have retaliated. It's as simple as that. They are just trying to protect their people who suffering daily.

F. Linda Cohen
Franklin

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.

Mail:
Letters to the editor
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Livonia, MI 48150

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E-mail:
smason@hometownlife.com

QUOTABLE

"I think it's a very valuable service, especially with the new drunk driving laws. About 90 percent of our runs after midnight are from bar activity, and from midnight to 3 a.m. has become a busy time for us."

- Bob Waite, owner of ABC Cab which services western Wayne County, about an increased use of his service

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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.

Airport expansion plan will devastate Romulus

The Detroit Metro Airport has proposed an expansion plan that includes building a new fifth 10,000-foot runway that will slash a southwesterly swath through existing homes, businesses and schools. This runway, if constructed, will force thousands of residents out of their homes, close business and shut down schools.



Alan Lambert

What is clear about this proposal is that it will have devastating impacts on Romulus and other nearby communities. What is not clear about this new master plan is whether or not it is needed, and whether or not it will benefit the region economically.

The runway will inflict a devastating cost on our community and our families. It will force 3,500 citizens from their homes, including as many as 310 students, raze hundreds of homes, close 50 businesses and industries and may shut down two elementary schools. Our community will lose 16 percent of our population and \$114 million in revenue overnight if the airport is allowed to push this plan through.

In addition to gutting our community, the new runway threatens our citizens' safety, homes and businesses. The new runway would cut through Eureka and Middlebelt roads — two of our region's busiest surface roads — and creep closer to additional highly populated areas, and encroach on deep-injection wells that hold hazardous chemicals. And the expansion would isolate sections of our community from each other, increasing response times for police and fire.

Furthermore, the master plan will worsen noise and pollution over many communities, from Romulus and Taylor to Dearborn, Dearborn Heights and Inkster, to name a few.

Our community has many concerns that have not been answered. Our questions are:

- Does the airport need a new runway?
- Can the airport grow without it?
- Why do other busier airports operate successfully with only three or four parallel runways?

Is the new runway safe for passengers and

surrounding land-uses?

How has previous airport development actually benefited the region?

How will the expansion impact local fire, police and ambulance service?

We also have questions about decreased traffic, the construction time-frame, whether over-building will financially burden Northwest and the Airport Authority, and whether unneeded facilities will squeeze passengers and hurt the airport and the local economy.

Romulus and others have acted in good faith in our participation with the airport. However, the airport has not shared data or answered our questions, which must be answered before this project can move forward and irreversibly affect our community.

That's why citizens and community leaders have raised their voices to ask fundamental questions about this plan, including the mayors of Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Inkster and Taylor. Other communities are also ready to support us. The runway will impact more than just Romulus. It affects all of southeast Michigan. We all deserve to know the full impact of the airport's proposal.

The airport says the new runway is needed to bring in jobs. We support any proposal that creates jobs. However, the airport has offered no evidence that a new runway will create jobs, a crucial case to make given the project's extreme cost-benefit gap.

Romulus and our citizens and local businesses have long supported the airport, viewing it as an asset and a true partner in our community. We appreciate the positive role it has played to bring opportunities, business and jobs to the region and we remain willing to work constructively with the airport to understand its latest proposal.

On March 20, the Airport Authority Board is scheduled to review this plan and may be asked to vote on it. We urge the board not to consider the plan until all concerns have been addressed. We are eager to work with the airport to come up with a positive, forward-looking proposal that will help it meet its goals while protecting our community.

Alan R. Lambert is the mayor of Romulus.

Holding interest rates firm is right medicine for economy

We all know the economic pain we're facing in Canton and the rest of the country — with falling home prices, rising gas prices and a stagnant economy.

The Federal Reserve in Washington has been aggressively cutting interest rates to revive the economy — which is what the Federal Reserve always does when the economy slows down.



Raghu Raghunathan

Manipulating interest rates is just about the only thing the Federal Reserve can do to influence the direction of our free market economy. But in the present case, lowering interest rates may be the wrong medicine for our economic illness. In fact, it may make the patient's condition worse.

The reason we are in this sub-prime mortgage mess is precisely because credit was available too easily — too much money was lent out to questionable borrowers. Lowering interest rates in the current environment does nothing to fix that problem — in fact, it makes borrowing even easier by increasing the money supply.

Interest rates are the cost of money and, by extension, are a measure of the value of our money. High interest rate means it costs a lot to borrow dollars. Lowering the interest rates implies our money is available cheaper and in more plentiful supply.

But there is a more sinister effect of lowering interest rates in our global economy. It depreciates the value of the dollar. This may not seem a serious side effect to those of us who don't invest globally. But it is a global economy we live in now, and every American is invested globally, whether they know it or not. When we spend money at a gas station, at a jewelry shop or a bakery, we are competing with buyers from Europe, China and India who are also using their currencies to bid on the same assets (oil, gold, wheat, etc.) in the world market.

The dollar has fallen more than 30 percent against the euro, and by similar percentages against other world currencies. What it means is that the value of all our financial assets, which are denominated in dollars, including our wages and salaries, our retirement plans, domestic investments, etc., has gone down by the same amount. Part of the reason the prices of oil and gold are going up so much is that the dollar in which we measure their prices is going down.

We hear news about how home prices in Canton have gone down by as much as 10 percent in the last year. But that hides the real truth. They have gone down 10 percent when measured in dollar terms. But the dollar has gone down 30 percent or more against the world currencies. So in terms of the euro, the yen and even the Indian rupee, home prices in Canton, and in many parts of the country, have fallen 40 percent or more.

To me this is the larger story. When American

asset values are being eroded so rapidly, it severely limits the options American businesses have in the world stage. Foreigners have this new-found confidence since the money they hold goes a much longer way in America in terms of buying our assets such as real estate and businesses. Americans find they are at a disadvantage and have to invest a lot more (in dollar terms) to buy assets abroad or to invest in global businesses.

For better or for worse, the U.S. is committed to globalization. We have negotiated free trade agreements with many countries, and are pushing for more open markets in many developing countries. Given our commitment to globalization, it is very important to maintain our competitive edge by keeping the economy and the dollar strong so American businesses have a fighting chance when they go abroad with their dollars to do business.

Each time the interest rates are cut, the dollar depreciates further, which makes goods cost more in dollar terms, which leads to inflation. One hopes the Bush administration is not steering this economy toward higher inflation during a period of stagnant growth — a pattern that economists call stagflation, which is what plagued Jimmy Carter's economy in the late 1970s.

The correct medicine for this economy may be to hold interest rates firm to kill inflation and keep the dollar strong. This will increase the real global wealth of Americans who largely hold dollar denominated assets. It will also wring out the excess from the economy by administering a bitter medicine for our reckless borrowing — by letting the sub-prime mortgage holders default on their mortgages, which is eventually what must be done to correct this economic mess. Trying to fix the problem by artificially keeping interest rates low may lead to more serious unexpected consequences for our global health.

Raghu Raghunathan is a longtime Canton resident.

Cheer for the home team, read today's **SPORTS** section

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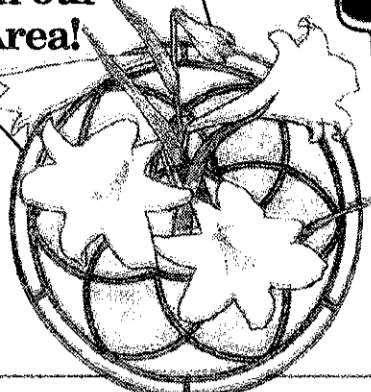
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\$14.99 lb.
Polly-o-smoked Mozzarella Cheese
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Honey Smoked Turkey **\$6.99** lb.
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Winters Fire Glazed Spiral Ham
\$3.99 lb.
(Order Early for Easter)

Dietz & Watson Pastrami **\$6.99** lb.
Gourmet Chicken Roast **\$4.99** lb.
Beef **\$6.99** lb.

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Ambrosia Salad **\$3.99** lb.

Primaterra Chardonnay **\$10.99**
The King of Chardonnay-crisp, light, pure apples and pears with a hint of sweetness

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Grigio is the sky, the clouds, the rain...But when Grigio is Pinot, it's a whole other story! Crisp, lively, apples and fresh flowers

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Which comes first, the chicken or the egg? Neither-first comes the Primitivo! Plums, blackberries and cherries. Great balance and length.

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\$10.99
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Straight from Sicily-blackberry, raspberry and black currant with great spice on the end

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Winters Spiral Glazed Ham
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Joe's Sweet Potato Puree
\$3.99 lb.

Joe's Lamb Roast w/Mint Glaze
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Joe's Scallop Potatoes with Gouda Cheese and Bacon
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\$3.99 lb.

Cuppa Joe's Cafe Lattes & Cappuccino
1/2 OFF

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\$2.00 off • Delicious!

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Thursday, March 20, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

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Confidence builder

U-M's Naurato lifts his game for CCHA playoffs

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER SPORTS WRITER

At times this season, Livonia's Brandon Naurato felt like the odd man out on the University of Michigan hockey team.

But lately, the junior has settled into his role as right winger and the No. 1-ranked Wolverines are just two wins away from the Central Collegiate Hockey Association championship.

Naurato, a 2003 Catholic Central High grad who has 13 points in his last 17 games, scored twice in last weekend's 10-1 and 2-1 sweep of Nebraska-Omaha in the CCHA quarterfinals.

Naurato now has six goals and 11 assists with a plus-7 rating in 29 games for the 29-5-4 Wolverines, who face 19-19-4 Northern Michigan in Friday's upcoming CCHA semifinal at Detroit's Joe Louis Arena. Game time is 8:05 p.m., following the Notre Dame-Miami (Ohio) semifinal at 4:30 p.m.

But it hasn't been exactly smooth sailing for the 6-foot, 193-pound Naurato, who missed nine games this season as a healthy scratch.

"It's a matter of confidence," said Naurato, who finished with 23 points last year on 12 goals and 11 assists. "My job on the fourth line is to do what I can do best — shoot the puck and chip in offensively, be an energy guy and a plus player."

Naurato has been matched up on a line with two freshmen, Carl Hagelin and Aaron Palushaj.

His opportunity to get back in the lineup occurred when Max Pacioretty was recently suspended and Matt Rust suffered an injured fibula.

"It can change," Naurato said of his status. "I've played right wing all my life, but the first time I played it this season wasn't until the last three weeks."

"I've always looked at myself as the power-play player, but I was not in a situation where I felt I should be. It's frustrating, but I just had to keep coming to the rink each day and keep working hard. I just wanted to help the team, but I really struggled mentally. The sport is all about confidence. I got an opportunity and once one (goal) goes in, you're right back there, and I've been able to get a couple of bounces."

Michigan, the regular season CCHA champion, was picked fourth during the preseason.

"We have 12 freshmen and losing all the studs we had from last year like Andrew Cogliano, T.J. Sicking and Jack Johnson (all playing in the NHL), that's why we were picked fourth," said Naurato, who played on three straight high school championship teams at CC. "The chemistry on this team has been close since day one. We've bonded

Please see **CCHA, B2**

Livonia native Brandon Naurato, a junior right winger for Michigan, had a pair of goals in last weekend's CCHA series sweep of Nebraska-Omaha.

U-M SPORTS INFORMATION

SIDELINES

GVSU runner hailed

Grand Valley State's Kelly Gibbons (Livonia Stevenson) earned All-America status along with fifth-place distance medley teammates Katherine McCarthy, Katie Mandziara and Katie Alfredson at last weekend's NCAA Division II Women's National Track and Field Championships held in Mankato, Minn.

The foursome posted a time of 11:49.73.

Gibbons, a junior, is also a three-time NCAA Division II Academic All-America.

Laker tankers star

Grand Valley State University freshman Jeff Pauza (Livonia Stevenson) competed in last weekend's NCAA Division II men's swimming and diving championships held at the University of Missouri-Columbia and helped the Lakers to a school-record time of 6:49.48 in the 800-yard freestyle, good for 11th-place and honorable mention All-America honors.

Pauza also set a pair of Grand Valley State freshman records with a 19th place in the 1,650 freestyle (16:22.29) and a 24th in the 500 freestyle (4:39.92). He also added a 24th in the 1,000 freestyle (9:49.88) as the Lakers took 21st in the team standings with 44 points.

GVSU swimmer Kim Baughman (Farmington High), recording a team-best 23.59 split, anchored the women's 200 freestyle relay team which finished seventh in a school record clocking of 1:36.06 at the nationals.

She earned All-America status along with teammates Jenny Thayer (Okemos), Allison Scholtz (Ada) and Mellisa Falletti (South Lyon). Baughman also set a Laker freshman mark with a time of 24.11 in the 50 freestyle, good enough for 19th place after being seeded 50th.

MU cage tryouts

Madonna University will stage an open tryout for its women's basketball team from 9 a.m. until noon Saturday, April 12 at the MU Activities Center.

All interested and perspective student-athletes must be registered with the MU coaching staff by April 10 to be guaranteed a spot.

For more information, call the MU women's basketball office at (734) 432-5606; or e-mail head coach Carl Graves at cgraves@madonna.edu.

No. 1 seed Kitchener on deck for Whalers

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth Whalers forward Chris Terry will lead a potent Plymouth Whalers offense into the first round of the Ontario Hockey League playoffs. Terry registered a team-leading 101 points (44 goals and 57 assists) during the regular season.

In a perfect world, gas would cost \$2 a gallon (not \$3.35), this month's temperatures would be hovering around 70 degrees (not 40), and the Plymouth Whalers would be facing Kitchener in the Ontario Hockey League finals (not in this week's first round).

If the Whalers are going to defend their 2006-07 title, they're going to have to do it the hard way, beginning Friday night when they travel to Kitchener to face the OHL's most dominant team during the '07-08 campaign.

Led by goalie Steve Mason and explosive forward Justin Azevedo — the league's leading scorer — the Rangers earned the No. 1 seed after ripping through the regular season with a 53-11-3 record (110 points).

The Whalers, on the other hand, limped in with a 2-6-0-2 mark over their final 10 games, which dropped their record to 34-28-2-4 and their seed from No. 5 to No. 8.

Making matters worse is the questionable status of Plymouth's All-Star goalie Jeremy Smith, who missed the last two weeks of the regular season with an injury. Smith started skating again early this week, but his availability was up in the air as of Tuesday.

"It's going to be a great challenge for us, there's no doubt about that," Plymouth coach Greg Stefan said, referring to his team's first-round opponent. "Ideally, we'd be a No. 4 or 5 seed and we'd have an easier first-round opponent, but I think the guys are excited about playing Kitchener and they're ready to go."

"The last three weeks have been like playoff hockey for us, battling for positioning,

FIRST-ROUND CHALLENGE

What: First round (best-of-seven) of the Ontario Hockey League playoffs

Who: No. 8 seed Plymouth (34-28-2-4) vs. No. 1 seed Kitchener (53-11-3)

When: Game 1 — Friday at Kitchener; Game 2 — Saturday at Plymouth; Game 3 — Monday at Kitchener; Game 4 — March 26 at Plymouth; Game 5 (if necessary) — March 28 at Kitchener; Game 6 (if necessary) — March 29 at Plymouth; Game 7 (if necessary) — April 1 at Kitchener; all games in Kitchener start at 7:30 p.m.; all games in Plymouth start at 7:05 p.m.

Players to watch: Plymouth is led by All-Star goalie Jeremy Smith and veteran forward Chris Terry, who finished sixth in the OHL scoring race with 101 points (44 goals and 57 assists); Kitchener is led by the OHL's top scorer, Justin Azevedo, who racked up 43 goals and 81 assists

Familiar face: Kitchener is coached by former Whalers strategist Pete DeBoer

so that will help us heading into the real playoffs."

If the Whalers' world-class netminder can't go, the defensive anchor duties will fall on the shoulders of inexperienced Matt Hackett, who turned in some solid efforts in Smith's absence.

"Our backup has done a nice job against some very good teams while Jeremy's been out," Stefan said. "But Jeremy is a big reason why the Whalers won the championship last year and his playoff experience

Please see **WHALERS, B2**

Weber gets call as new Wayne football coach

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

PREP FOOTBALL

The vacant Wayne Memorial varsity football coaching position has been filled by 26-year-old Ed Weber, who served the past two seasons as the Zebras' JV coach.

Weber, who teaches literature at Wayne, replaces Craig Hnatuk, who stepped down in January with a record of 20-26 in five seasons, including one playoff appearance (2003). Last year the Zebras finished 5-4.

Weber is a graduate of

Western Michigan University who played high school football in his native Charlotte.

"He's well-organized, respected by both the staff and students, and has a good rapport with everybody," Wayne Athletic Director Greg Ambrose said. "He has some good ideas and he's going to do some things differently. It's not all about the wins and losses, but doing what's best for the student-athletes. And if he does

those things, the other things will come forth."

Weber guided Wayne's JV to an undefeated 9-0 season in 2006, but slipped to 0-9 last season.

"We'll be a disciplined, well-executed football team that will try and be good at what we do," Weber said. "The numbers have been down. We had 12 sophomores last year on the JV, but we'll use some other athletes in the schools that don't play football and try and get them involved."

"I'm familiar with both the

junior and senior class because they played for me and they've both been great. We've just been lacking in numbers."

Weber plans to implement an option-spread offensive attack and a 4-4 defensive scheme for 2008.

"We'll go to a lot of camps and put together the crux of both our offense and defense," Weber said. "We'll be working closely with other schools."

Weber, who began coaching at Wayne in 2004, said he has already assembled a varsity staff which includes Doug

Hagedon (defensive coordinator), Ben Herman (offensive and defensive lines), Jimmy Brucker (linebackers-running backs), Terry Felan (JV coach) and Steve Vasiloff (freshman coach).

"We're really going to try to reach out to the community," Weber said. "I want to make sure our kids enjoy the high school experience like I did because I came from a small town and hopefully they can rally behind these young men."

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WHALERS

FROM PAGE B1

would definitely be a plus for us against Kitchener."

A couple of veterans will be leading the Whalers' offensive attack. Chris Terry, who racked up 44 goals and 57 assists (sixth in points in the OHL) and Andrew Fournier (35-40) should keep Mason, who was acquired mid-season from the London Knights, on his toes.

Azevedo, who had one red-hot stretch when he piled up 51 points in just 21 games, will be complemented by high-scoring forwards Mikkel

Boedker (29-44) and Nick Spaling (38-34).

The Rangers are coached by former Whalers mentor Pete Deboer, someone Stefan knows well.

"We coached together here for about four or five years, so we're good friends," Stefan said. "Pete always has his teams well-prepared, but we'll be ready, too."

Following Friday night's opener, the series will return to Compuware Arena for Game 2. The opening faceoff is set for 7:05 p.m.

Game 4 is also set for Compuware at 7:05 p.m. Wednesday.

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'Voice of the Whalers' has earned loyal following

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

You'd be amazed how far Pete Krupsky's voice travels when he broadcasts Plymouth Whalers hockey games from high above Ontario Hockey League ice surfaces two or three times a week, eight months a year.

With the help of 21st century Internet technology, Krupsky's smooth and polished play-by-play commentary flows up to Essex, Ontario, Canada, where a 77-year-old grandmother listens intently for the sound of her grandson's name.

It makes its way through high-speed wires to Waswanipi, Quebec, so the members of a Cree Indian village can catch up on the latest exploits of one of their own.

And just as importantly — if not as jaw-dropping — it echoes throughout southeastern Michigan so that die-hard Whalers fans can follow every bounce of the puck from the comfort of their own living rooms.

Trusted voice

Krupsky's words not only travel far via Internet streaming on www.plymouthwhalers.com — they travel well, thanks to the 20-plus years he's honed the craft that he embraces like a loved one.

"I get emotional when I talk about my broadcasts reaching the players' families because I know it's very, very important to them," said Krupsky, his eyes welling up with emotion. "Some nights, there may be only 50 people listening, but I know those 50 people are very passionate about the Whalers."

"I open every broadcast by saying hello to the Whalers' extended family, wherever they may be listening. (Whalers player) Joe McCann's 77-year-old grandmother has told me that when I say that, I'm saying hello to her. I'm not necessarily saying it to anyone in particular, but that's how they feel."

Patient climb

Krupsky's ascension to the lead play-by-play voice of the Whalers was a lot like the



Longtime Plymouth Whalers play-by-play announcer Pete Krupsky calls the team's home games from high above the Compuware Arena ice surface.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CCHA

FROM PAGE B1

together. The best teams don't necessarily have the best talent."

Michigan is 2-0-2 this season against Northern Michigan, which is coming off a dramatic quarterfinal series win Sunday night over defending NCAA champion Michigan State.

"They (NMU) are a good, good team, they beat MSU, they have a good coach and they play a defensive style,"

Naurato said. "We've got to play well."

Naurato, meanwhile, has faith not only in his team, but also in his coach Red Berenson.

"He's been around a long time, he's got a lot of knowledge about the game of hockey," said Naurato, who was recruited by U-M out of the U.S. Hockey League where he played at Omaha, Neb. (2004-05) and Cedar Rapids, Iowa (2005-06). "You listen to what he says because he knows what makes players better."

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D&G Heating & Cooling 6-2-2/ 14 points

Coldwell Bank/G&G 3-5-2/ 8 points

Hunt's Ace Hardware 3-6-1/ 7 points

(LeBlanc/Roskelly/St. Croix)

Stante Excavating 7-1-2/ 16 points

Livonia Auto Body 5-4-1/ 11 points

LaSalle Bank 3-6-1/ 7 points

Daily Restaurant 0-8-2/ 2 points

REGULAR SEASON STANDINGS

D&G Heating & Cooling 17-8-5/ 39 points

Stante Excavating 15-7-8/ 38 points

Hunt's Ace Hardware 13-10-7/ 30 points

LaSalle Bank 12-12-6/ 30 points

Zaschak Enterprises 12-13-5/ 29 points

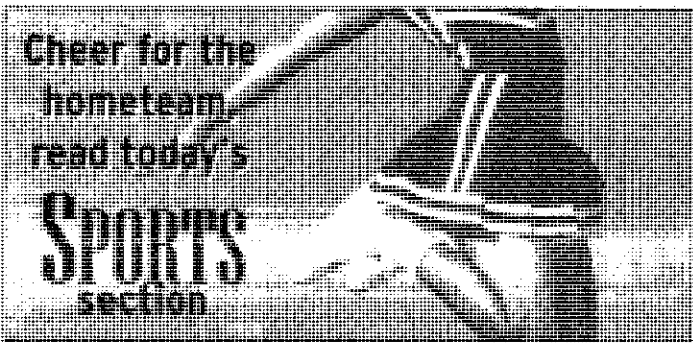
Livonia Auto Body 11-14-5/ 27 points

Coldwell Banker/G&G 9-13-8/ 26 points

Daily Restaurant 8-20-2/ 18 points

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Hockey is a 'girl thing' in Farmington Hills league

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Remember those old photographs of the stereotypical hockey player, featuring gap-toothed grins?

The image is changing. A gentle revolution is embarking at Suburban Ice-Farmington Hills, where players wear hair scrunchies and pink skate laces — and spend far too much time in the locker room chatting about pajama parties than about one-timers.

Yep, those players are girls. And they happily come from all over metro Detroit to play in Suburban's "It's a Girl Thing" house program — geared toward helping those of all experience levels (including true beginners) play hockey in a fun atmosphere.

"My daughter (Sophie) is 8 years old and has been playing for two years," said Redford's Jean Kanar. "And in her words, she 'loves, loves, loves to play hockey.'"

By the way, Sophie loves it so much that she plays on two Under-12 teams there, the Shiver and Ice (which play in different divisions).

PERSISTENCE PAYS

Farmington Hills' Jeff Keyser said he really didn't take seriously how much his daughter, Katie, wanted to play hockey until last year. Of course, like any hockey player, it doesn't take much for the sport to grab hold of someone.

"She kept bugging me for several years to play hockey and I had no idea there was even a girls league in town," said Keyser, whose daughter, 12, is on the Under-14 Freeze.

But she first came home with a flier about a Hockey Day in Michigan youth clinic at Joe Louis Arena and soon found out about the Suburban Ice program.

"I probably dragged her to enough Red Wings games," said Keyser, laughing about Katie's hockey bug. "She just wanted to play. I don't know. She's wanted to play since she was 6 or 7 and kept asking."

"And I never played hockey, so I didn't really know how to get her started. I told her if she filled out the form I'd send it in. She did, she loved it and I asked how to get her going in hockey, and we came here."

Canton resident Sheryl Kosco said her 9-year-old daughter Sarah enrolled in "It's a Girl Thing" the same way, following introduction to hockey at the Joe Louis youth clinic.

The family had moved from Kentucky, where Sarah played at age 7 in a league including 10-year-old boys.

"From there (the clinic), Suburban got a hold of us, with e-mails," Sheryl Kosco said. "In the summer, we put her in a one-week summer camp, she really loved it and we signed her up for the (fall-winter) league."

"She loves it. She loves to skate, for one thing. It's not as scary as playing with boys."

For those and many other families, Suburban Ice had the answers. Staff members handled everything about getting started — other than buying equipment and annual league fees, of course.

The Kanars signed up Sophie into the program for the same reason other families did. To play anywhere else in metro Detroit, girls would

have to join boys teams, play like boys and probably act like them, too.

FUN'S TOP GOAL

But thanks to the program, which began in 2004, the girls can be themselves and not have to worry about anything other than skating, checking ... and laughing.

"We preach fun," said Suburban assistant manager Cal McGowan, a former professional hockey player. "Obviously, with the girls camaraderie is a big thing. I've heard many people say that part of what they really like is being part of a girls team. They like the sport, too."

Enrollment into "It's a Girl Thing" has skyrocketed since the first year, 2004-05, when only 22 girls registered. The next year, there were enough girls of all ages and abilities to form four squads. This year, there are two four-team divisions (U12, U14) in that program alone.

"When we started, there were a lot of beginner girls just getting into the game," McGowan said. "So the skill range wasn't quite as wide, even though the age (range) was very wide. We were providing the opportunity to learn how to play, not necessarily the draw of competitive leagues."

What Suburban Ice offers girls is a pretty big draw. Without what they offer there, how many girls would even consider ice hockey?

It's a question parents are happy they don't have to answer. They are thrilled about the house program, which also includes the "Incredibles" developmental division for younger girls.

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CYO champs

The Livonia St. Genevieve eight-grade girls basketball team capped a six-game playoff run with a come-from-behind 36-28 victory over Warren St. Anne for its first-ever Catholic Youth Organization championship held March 8 at Dearborn Divine Child High School. The Jaguars overcame a nine-point third-quarter deficit with a 21-4 run to end the game. Team members include: Christine Bonanno, Christina Briden, Chelsea Bridgewater, Grace Elliott, Katie Gubachy, Rachael Kapchus, Molly Knoph, Tiffany Lambie, Jashia Mitchell, Jessica Smith and Jordan York. St. Genevieve, which finished 22-0 overall, is coached by Tim Jeter, assisted by Mike Trosell and John Kenger. Also pictured are Father Howard Vogan and Deacon Kevin Breen.

BOYS BASKETBALL ALL-STATE TEAMS

Below are the 2007-08 All-State Boys Basketball Teams, as selected by media members from around Michigan.

CLASS A ALL-STATE TEAM
FIRST TEAM — Draymond Green, Saginaw, 6-7, sr. (Player of the Year); Javonugh Acree-Manuel, Lansing Sexton, 6-0, sr.; Dominique Buckley, Romulus, 6-2, sr.; Blake Cushingberry, Romeo, 6-5, sr.; Eric Evans, Detroit Northwestern, 5-11, sr.; Calatre Muehlt, Saginaw Arthur Hill, 6-5, sr.; Wes Trammell, Janssen, 6-1, sr.; Daniel West, Saginaw, 6-1, sr.; Dion Sims, Orchard Lake St. Mary's, 6-5, jr.; LaDontae Henton, Lansing Eastern, 6-5, fr.

COACH OF THE YEAR — Rex Stanczak, Ann Arbor Pioneer.
SPECIAL MENTION (Nominees receiving two or more votes from the panel) — Charlie Woods, East Lansing; Adrian Hunter, Grand Blanc; Nate Robertson, Ann Arbor Pioneer.

SPECIAL MENTION COACH — Steve Hill, Detroit Northwestern.

HONORABLE MENTIONS (Nominees receiving one or no votes from the panel)
 — Matt Heneveld, Muskegon Mona Shores; Austin Harper, Grand Haven; Takari Churchwell, Muskegon; David Krombeen, Grandville; John Oostema, Grand Rapids Christian; Matt Johnson, Ann Arbor Pioneer; Grant Stone, Plymouth Salem; Kyle Larsen, Saline; Vonn Jones, Hartland; Darryl Slinson, Jackson; Drew Valentine, Lansing Sexton; Drew Maynard, Lake Orion; Karon Rose, Detroit Finney; Davide Curletti, Orchard Lake St. Mary's; Flernard Whitfield, Detroit King; Demetrius Ward, Detroit Pershing; Joe Simon, Marquette; Trey Ziegler, Mount Pleasant; Jay Thames, Port Huron Northern; Nick Carreri, Harrison Township L'Anse Creuse; Alex Marcotullo, Warren DeLaSalle; Kyle Hunt, Utica Ford II; Chris Lemm, Clinton Township Chippewa Valley; Brandon Gouch, Roseville; Doug Anderson, Kalamazoo Central; Jason Westbluff, Spring Lake; Nathan Knorr, Albena.

CLASS B ALL-STATE TEAM
FIRST TEAM — Brad Bradford, Frankenmuth, 6-1, sr. (Player of the Year); Paul Williams, Detroit Renaissance, 6-3, sr.; Nic Jobe, Ida, 6-4, jr.; Ronald

Bates, Grand Rapids Central, 5-7, sr.; Darnell Brown, Birmingham-Detroit Country Day, 6-0, sr.; Zach Saylor, Lansing Waverly, 6-8, sr.; Marquis Brewer, Muskegon Heights, 6-2, sr.; Troy Peter, Stevensville-Lakeshore, 6-4, sr.; Shane Moreland, Flint Powers Catholic, 6-2, jr.; Dustin Dibble, Petoskey, 6-3, sr.; Korey Vandussen, Zeeland East, 6-2, jr.

COACH OF THE YEAR — Scott Soodma, Hudsonville Unity Christian.

SPECIAL MENTION (Nominees receiving two or more votes from the panel) — Ben Simons, Cadillac; Brian Smith, Madison Heights Madison; Quentin Jones, St. Clair Shores South Lake.

HONORABLE MENTIONS (Nominees receiving one or no votes from the panel) — Pete Van Oosten, West Branch Ogemaw Heights; E.J. Brooks, Bridgeport; DeAndre Upchurch, Flint Northwestern Prep; Cory Jamieson, Wayland Union; Jaren Edsall, Whitehall; Luke Walker, Cedar Springs; Bryan Powell, Wyoming Park; Javontae Ford, Grand Rapids Forest Hills Northern; Tyler Vegeter, Hudsonville Unity Christian; Devon Crain, Flat Rock; Ryan Winningham, Gibraltar-Carlson; Matt Esters, Dearborn Divine Child; Antonio Green, Dearborn Heights Robichaud; Jamie Stewart, Livonia Clarenceville; James Still, Detroit Community; Isaiah Sykes, Detroit Chadsey; Neal Zott, Almont; Zak VanLooy, Marysville; Sean Romeck, Fowlerville; Brandon Binkley, DeWitt; Alex Gauna, Eaton Rapids; Austin Nichols, Lansing Catholic; Jake Blake, Alma; Jordan Duby, Birch Run; Dustin Grieling, Millington; Nick Blacken, Detroit; Matt Demler, Berrien Springs; Brad Guinane, St. Joseph; Dan Lonney, Benzie Central; Jeremy Gerth, Fremont; Lonnie Pugh, Grosse Ile; Cody Van Koevering, Hudsonville Unity Christian; Coach Sean Schroeder, Stevensville-Lakeshore.

CLASS C ALL-STATE TEAM
FIRST TEAM — Michele Talley II, Meiverville; Business Technical Academy, 5-10, soph. (Player of the Year); Fil Redman, Bay, 7-2, sr.; Sean Jones, Carson City-Crystal, 6-11, sr.; Josh Dupree, Ottawa Lake Whiteford, 5-11, sr.; Holden Brunel, Traverse City St. Francis, 6-8, jr.; Taylor Brule, Houghton,

6-10, Jr.; Ty Graham, Reese, 6-3, sr.; Paul Koviak, Holton, 6-4, sr.; Durant Crum II, Albion, 5-10, sr.; Travis Swanson, Negaunee, 6-2, sr.;

COACH OF THE YEAR — Jeff Casier, Reese.

SPECIAL MENTION (Nominees receiving two or more votes from the 10-member panel) — Donovan Ogborn, Brown City; Josh Eisenga, McBain; Brent Parrett, Stephenson; ESO Akunne, Ann Arbor Gebriel Richard; Cory Radak, Ithaca; Devon Braswell, Detroit CMA.

HONORABLE MENTION (Nominees receiving one or no votes from the 10-member panel) — D'Ante Foster, Muskegon Catholic; Stephen Gould, Kalamazoo Christian; Shiron Williams, Bangor; Will Benson, Wyoming Lee; Antonio Banks, Wyoming Lee; Zach Allen, Homer; Andrew Fleming, Olivet; Dave Gust, Ottawa Lake-Whiteford; Cimorone Porter, Ferndale Academy of Oak Park-North; Stephawn Brown, Detroit Consortium Prep; Marcus Ludy, Detroit Douglass; Jamar Regland, Detroit Loyola; Rufus Wehgar, St. Louis; Cory Schneider, Carson City; Jason Pratt, Merrill; Isaac Zimmer, Reese; Devin Kling, Memphis; Ryan Dyksterhouse; Maple City-Glen Lake; Kyle Dennis, Ewart; Nate LeBlance, Charlevoix; Adam Danelf, East Jordan.

CLASS D ALL-STATE TEAM
FIRST TEAM — Dustin Orms, Tekonsha, 6-1, sr. (Player of the Year); Dan Posselt, Wyoming Tri-Unity Christian, 6-9, sr.; Nate Bruhnsma, Muskegon Western Michigan Christian, 6-3, sr.; C.J. Paquin, Cedarville, 6-1, jr.; Nick Packwood, Allen Park Inter-City Baptist, 6-4, sr.; Jordan Langs, Climax-Scotts, 6-0, sr.; J.J. Randall, Bear Lake, 5-8, sr.; Adrian Ledesma, Lawrence, 6-0, sr.; Ryan Ross, St. Joseph Michigan Lutheran, 6-4, sr.; Chase Leskela, Ewen-Trout Creek, 6-1, sr.

COACH OF THE YEAR — Dave Duncan, Cedarville.
SPECIAL MENTION (Nominees receiving two or more votes from the 10-member panel) — Jordan Hincka, Posen; Justin Distelrath, Marine City Cardinal Mooney; David Zeis, Mio; Deondre Callahan, Lansing Christian; Ray Hill, Detroit City; Jared Mysliwiec, Wyoming Tri-Unity Christian.



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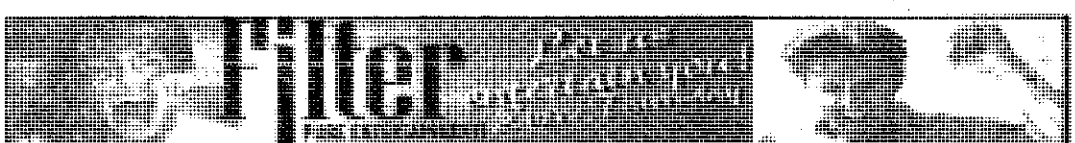
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Abigail Mikaelian of Plymouth, Ron Hamernik, of Canton, Bob White of Plymouth, and Kurt Walsler of Livonia look over baseball memorabilia.

Plymouth museum chronicles baseball

If you're a die-hard baseball fan in need of a fix before the Detroit Tigers 2008 Opening Day game against Kansas City on March 31, the Plymouth Historical Museum has an exhibit designed just for you.

The exhibit "Batter Up! Generations of Baseball" is a baseball fan's dream as it includes memorabilia from early Plymouth-area teams, the Tigers, the Negro Leagues and the All-American Girls Baseball League.

There are plenty of Tigers-related artifacts - both new and old - as well, including Tigers pitcher Justin Verlander's 2006 World Series jersey, the rubber from which Verlander threw his 2007 no-hitter; Magglio Ordonez's bat and batting helmet from the 2007 season; Al Kaline's batting helmet and jersey; and Hal Newhouser's World War II uniform.

The Tigers items are on loan from Ilitch Holdings, Inc.

Other exhibit highlights include a mock Tigers Stadium, with auctioned seats; a Civil War print of a baseball game in a Confederate prison; and uniforms worn in the movie *A League of Their Own*.

On March 13, the museum hosted a free baseball-themed lecture that was sponsored by the Plymouth Historical Society.

Among the speakers were Raymond Rolak, who spoke about the "Mystery of the Black Bat Trophy," and Bill Zepp, a Plymouth Township resident who pitched for the Minnesota Twins



Former Major League pitcher Bill Zepp talks with a crowd at the Plymouth Historical Museum.

and Tigers in the late '60s and early '70s. Zepp related stories about the history of town baseball.

Rolak, who played college baseball at Wayne State University, talked about players who were awarded the Hillerich and Bradsby Black Bat Trophy, a full-sized black ebony bat that was awarded to all national championship teams - from Little League to World Series winners.

The exhibit will run through early June. For group tours and exhibit hours, call (734) 455-7797 or visit <http://www.plymouthhistory.org>.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

WYAA registration

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

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

WYAA softball programs included: slow-pitch (local travel), ages 9-10, 11-12, 13-15, 16-18.

A competitive fast-pitch program is also offered for ages 10-, 12-, 14- and 16-and-under. Call (734) 421-0640 during normal business hours or leave a message. You can also visit www.wyaa.org.

Speed, agility training

A four-day speed and agility training session will be from 6-8 p.m., Monday through Thursday, March 31-April 3, at Adams Middle School, 33475 Palmer Road, Westland.

The four-day session will focus on proper form, flexibility, isometric drill, quickness and agility based on exercise by specific sport.

The cost is \$25 (includes T-shirt to all participants). Checks should be made payable to the Westland Comet Boosters. Registration will be at the Westland Youth Athletic Association Lange Compound, 6050 Farmington Road (north of Ford).

For more information, e-mail WestlandComets@gmail.com; or call Mark Simkow at (734) 732-1176.

Baseball lessons

The Bernie Carbo Pro Secrets Baseball Academy will be staging small group and individual skill sessions for technique in power hitting and hitting curveballs.

Fielding and power pitching training will also be offered and showcase sessions are available for high school players.

Former Phillies minor

league All-Star Mark Rutherford will be the featured instructor.

For more information, call (734) 421-4928.

LBSA registration

The Livonia Baseball and Softball Association will stage 2008 summer baseball registration from 10 a.m. until noon Saturday, March 29 and April 5 at the Livonia Civic Center Library. Eligible players must reside in the Livonia or Clarenceville school districts.

The cost is \$160. Two separate divisions will be offered including high school age (15-16) and high school/collegiate (17-19).

Within each division two levels of competitive play will be formed including a highly competitive select division for those players currently playing on their respective high school or collegiate baseball team; and a non-select division for youths currently not playing for their respective high school or collegiate baseball team.

Rosters are limited, so register early. Coaches are also wanted for both divisions.

Registration forms are available at the sign-up.

For more information, call George Coram at (248) 478-5071 or Curt Kreutzfeld at (734) 522-5413.

The new LBSA Web Site, www.livoniabsa.com, will be available shortly.

LJAL needs umpires

The Livonia Junior Athletic League needs experience and non-experienced umpires for the upcoming baseball and softball season.

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

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

Those interested should contact Dave Carlson at eaglesball@sbcglobal.net; or Bill Rowlett at ljal_baseball@yahoo.com.

Youth baseball signup

The Wayne-Ford Civic League will begin baseball registration for youths ages 4-10 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. each Saturday at the Civic

League hall, located at 1645 N. Wayne Road, Westland.

Registration fees are \$65 for T-ball and Coach-Pitch leagues; \$80 for Mustang League.

Registration will continue each Saturday until teams are full.

For more information, call (734) 728-5010; or e-mail Vic Barra at vbarra@comcast.net.

Livonia adult softball

Registration for the City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation 2008 adult softball season (April through July) on opens at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 28 for all divisions.

The entry fee is \$375 per team.

For more information, call (734) 466-2410.

Stevenson needs coaches

Livonia Stevenson is seeking coaches for the following sports: girls assistant swimming and diving (experience necessary to coach diving); boys assistant swimming and diving (experience necessary to coach diving); JV cheerleading head coach for fall sideline and winter competitive seasons (experience necessary to coach at the high school-level MHSAA format).

For more information, e-mail Stevenson athletic director Lori Hyman at lhyan@livonia.k12.mi.us.

Bucks spring camp

The Michigan Bucks of the Premier Development League will stage a spring soccer camp, led by star striker Kenny Uzoigwe, Monday through Friday, March 24-28, at the Ultimate Soccer Arena in Pontiac.

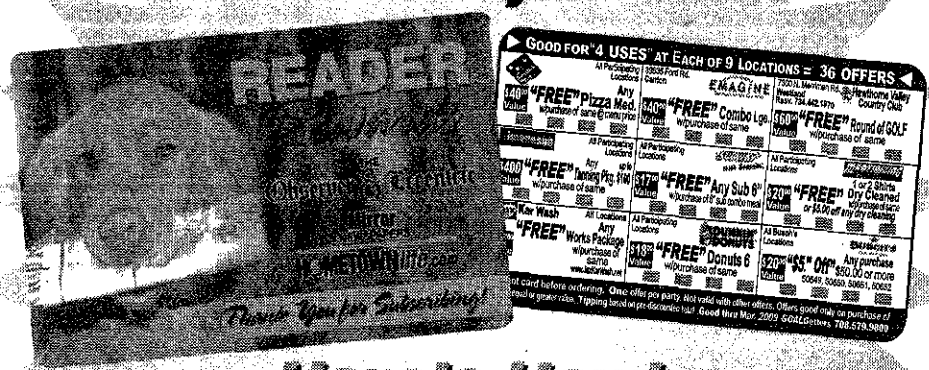
The full-day camp will be from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. (cost \$199 with discounts for multiple child families). The half-day camp will be from 9 a.m. to noon (cost \$129).

Each camp participant will receive a Bucks T-shirt, two tickets to the Bucks College Cup (either March 29 or April 5), along with individual player evaluation and course completion certificate. The camper-to-coach ratio is 12-to-1.

For more information, visit www.bucksoccer.com.

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FIRST-TEAM
PAT MCHUGH, SR. G, LIV. STEVENSON: The senior netminder went 19-1-2 with a 1.2 goals-against average and a save percentage 0.92 en route to Division 1 first-team All-State and All-Western Lakes Activities Association honors.

"Pat's numbers speak for themselves," Stevenson coach David Mitchell said. "He was outstanding. His best attribute is that he virtually makes every save look easy. He is one of the best technical goaltenders that I have ever coached. He had wins against Farmington, Catholic Central, Churchill (twice) and tied Trenton."

MARK BEKKALA, SR. DEF, LIV. STEVENSON: The senior defenseman finished with 22 points, while earning first-team All-State and All-WLAA laurels. He finished with a plus-rating of 35.

"Mark was tremendous for us this year," Mitchell said. "He was a true leader for our defensive corps. He played in all situations and was a huge reason for our success this season. He is very tough to beat one-on-one and makes smart decisions."

NATE MILAM, SR. F, LIV. CHURCHILL: The senior led the area in goals with 46 and added 19 assists for 67 points while earning All-Western Lakes and first-team All-State honors.

Milam, a four-year player, also served as a defenseman when called upon.

"He's a very dynamic skater with unbelievable puck skills," Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni said. "He plays with an edge, very competitive."

For his career, Milam had a total of 82 goals, including 11 game-winners, with 52 assists and a cumulative plus rating of 130.

MIKE VORAN, SR. F, LIV. STEVENSON: The senior forward finished with an eye-popping 33 goals and 36 assists for 69 points.

The first-team All-State and All-Western Lakes selection also finished with a team-best plus rating of 62.

"Mike was great for us all year," Mitchell said. "Not only was he consistent night-in and night-out, but he did what great players do, which is play great in big games as he demonstrated with hat tricks versus Farmington and Churchill; both in a 2-1 win over CC; and four points versus Trenton a 4-4 tie. Mike was a captain and leader both on-and-off the ice."

GARRETT MIENCIER, SR. F, LIV. CHURCHILL: The first-team All-Stater and All-Western Lakes selection wound up with 48 points on 19 goals and 29 assists during his senior year. His four-year career numbers also stand out with 45 goals and 58 assists for an overall plus rating of 97. He also had 11 game-winning goals.

"Garrett is a great leader, a classic two-way power forward," Mazzoni said.

KORY SOSNOWSKI, SR. F, CANTON: The senior forward earned First Team All-Western Lakes recognition after carving out a spectacular season for the Chiefs. A first-year high school player, Sosnowski netted 21 goals and 24 assists in just 21 games. The co-captain tallied nine power-play goals while registering an impressive plus-23 goals scored-to-goals-allowed rating.

"Kory was a great addition to our team this season," said Canton coach Dan Abraham. "He brought tough-

ness and a lot of offensive skill to our team."

SECOND-TEAM
AUSTIN MESLER, SR. G, LIV. FRANKLIN: The four-year goalie faced a lot of rubber this season and sparkled with an .855 save percentage and a goals-against average of 2.1.

"In his junior year, with a very young team in front of him, faced an average of 52 shots per game," Franklin coach Scott Wirgau said. "This year, with a little more maturity in front of him and the hope of change, he was asked: 'Is it better this year?' And he responded: 'Sure, but I still have to stop pucks or the other team wins.'"

"He hopes after leaving high school hockey that he will be able to play juniors. The coaches are hopeful he'll have time to come back and work with our up-and-coming sophomore goalies next year."

JAKE HARBOWY, SR. DEF, LIV. STEVENSON: The senior defenseman was both an honorable mention All-State and All-WLAA selection as he wound up with 14 points and plus rating of 33.

"Jake had a great year this year because he gained more confidence with the puck and was very good in his own end," Mitchell said. "He brought a great deal of passion and intensity to the rink every night."

RYAN BARATONO, SR. F, LIV. STEVENSON: The second-team All-State and All-Lakes Division pick wound up with 12 goals and 21 assists with a plus rating of 43 (only second to Voran).

"Ryan's first year of high school hockey was a successful one," Mitchell said. "Ryan was a big part of our success this season. At times he was able to run over opponents. He's a big, power forward type player who is also a strong skater."

JAKE JOSSEY, SR. F, PLYMOUTH: The senior forward led the Wildcats to the school's best record ever as they advanced all the way to a Division 2 regional final. Jossey accumulated a team-high 40 points (15 goals and 25 assists) while spending time at both forward and as a defender.

"Jake was voted our 'Most Valuable Player,' which says it all," said Plymouth coach Paul Fassbender. "He's a very versatile player and a great skater who could play both forward and defense equally well. He was a standout on our special teams."

TYLER COTTER, SR. FR., LIV. CHURCHILL: The second-year player came up with six goals and 18 assists during his senior year while making All-WLAA honorable mention.

"Tyler had an excellent senior year, he really blossomed into a scoring role," Mazzoni said. "He's a solid two-way player."

R.J. KIORDORF, JR. F, LIV. STEVENSON: The junior forward had a total of 40 points, including 30 assists to go along with 10 goals en route to All-Lakes Division and honorable mention All-State honors.

Kiordorf also posted a plus rating of 42.

"R.J. is a crafty player," Mitchell said. "He's one of our best defensive forwards, which was a nice complement to his very strong offensive skill set. He played in all situations and was a key component on our power play."

COACH OF THE YEAR
DAVID MITCHELL, LIV. STEVENSON: In his first season as the Spartans' coach, the 33-year-old Mitchell guided Stevenson to a No. 1-ranking and a 23-2-2 overall record.



Pat McHugh Stevenson



Mark Bekkala Stevenson



Nate Milam Churchill



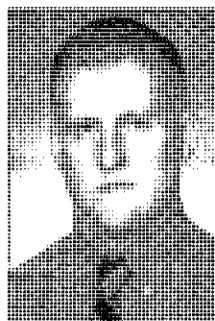
Mike Voran Stevenson



Garrett Miencier Churchill



Kory Sosnowski Canton



Austin Mesler Franklin



Jake Harbowy Stevenson



Ryan Baratono Stevenson



Jake Jossey Plymouth



Tyler Cotter Churchill



R.J. Kiordorf Stevenson



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

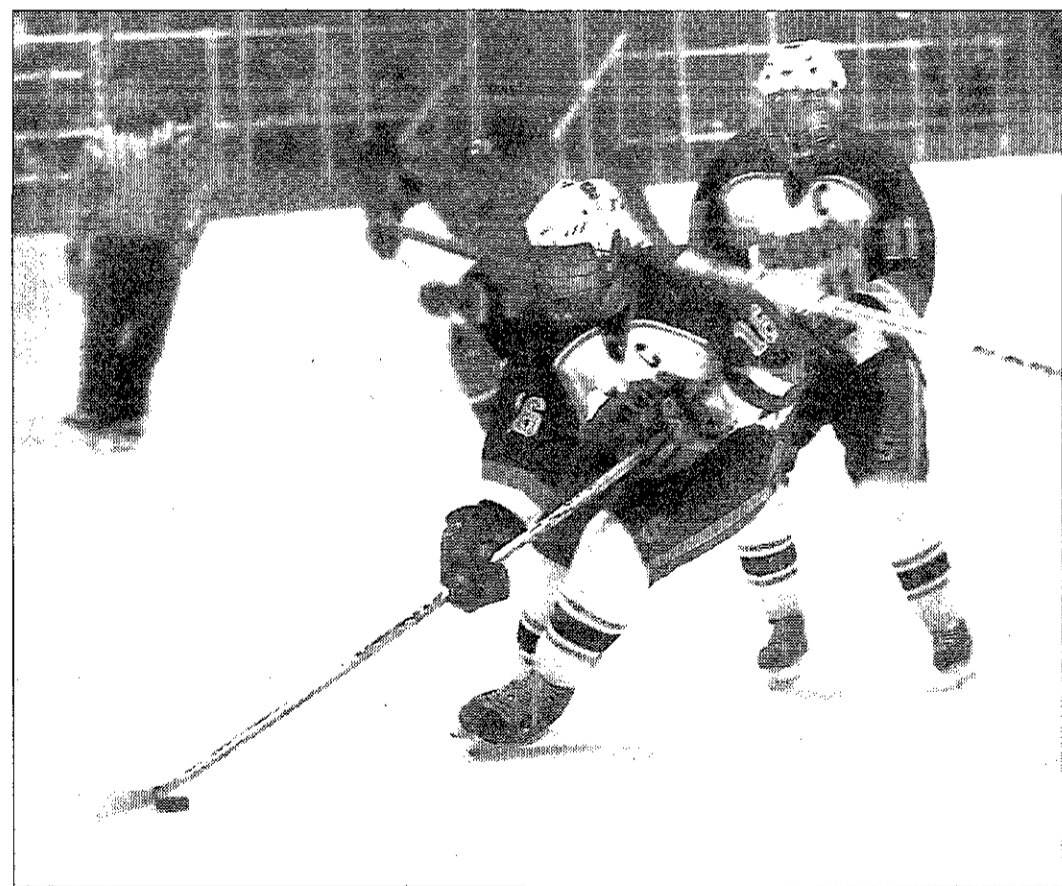
Churchill senior Nate Milam scored an area-best 46 goals this season.



Mitchell

Prior to getting the Stevenson job, Mitchell served as an assistant at his alma mater, Livonia Churchill, and coached in Compuware's AAA program for eight seasons. He said the former Western Michigan

University goaltender. "It was truly a special season," said Mitchell, who teaches at Livonia's Holmes Middle School. "I had great players and a staff - Gerry Venton, Tim Pilut and Kyle Zagata, Chris Bolovan - that was second to none. We had solid leadership from our veterans both on and off the ice."



Mike Voran (16) earned first-team All-Observer honors for the 23-2-2 Livonia Stevenson.

ALL-AREA BOYS HOCKEY

- 2007-08 ALL-OBSERVER BOYS HOCKEY**
- FIRST TEAM**
 Pat McHugh, Sr. G, Liv. Stevenson
 Mark Bekkala, Sr. Def, Liv. Stevenson
 Nate Milam, Sr. F, Liv. Churchill
 Mike Voran, Sr. F, Liv. Stevenson
 Garrett Miencier, Sr. F, Liv. Churchill
 Kory Sosnowski, Sr. F, Canton
- SECOND TEAM**
 Austin Mesler, Sr. G, Liv. Franklin
 Jake Harbowy, Sr. Def, Liv. Stevenson
 Ryan Baratono, Sr. F, Liv. Stevenson
 Jake Jossey, Sr. F, Plymouth
 Tyler Cotter, Sr. F, Liv. Churchill
 R.J. Kiordorf, Jr. F, Liv. Stevenson
- THIRD TEAM**
 Ryan Wagner, Sr. G, Red. Unified
 Don Barlow, Jr. Def, Canton
 Nick Harakas, Sr. Def, Liv. Churchill
 Colin Rolfe, Sr. F, Plymouth
 Keith Yackley, Sr. F, Liv. Churchill
 Joel Cheesman, Sr. F, Salem
- FOURTH TEAM**
 Derrick Daigneau, Sr. G, Liv. Churchill
 Sam Ott, Jr. Def, Salem
 Sean Lerg, Sr. F, Liv. Stevenson
 John Vekla, Jr. F, Liv. Stevenson
 Jordan Chisholm, Jr. F, Liv. Franklin
 Sean Phillipart, Sr. F, Red. Unified
- COACH OF THE YEAR**
 David Mitchell, Liv. Stevenson
- HONORABLE MENTION**
 Churchill: Kyle Burke, Mitch Carpenter
 Franklin: Tyler Barnes, David Muller
 Alex Wypych, Stevenson: Ian Curran
 Cole Rochowiak, Jake Wilson, Canton:
 Nick Tomljenko, Clark Albers, Bryan
 Davison, Plymouth: Ryan Schultz,
 Jerry Pitts, Connor Dresser, Salem;
 Ian Barnaby, Mike Haburne, Redford
 Unified: Nick Smith, Maxx Seicluna,
 Scott Bunzeluk, Tim Hall.

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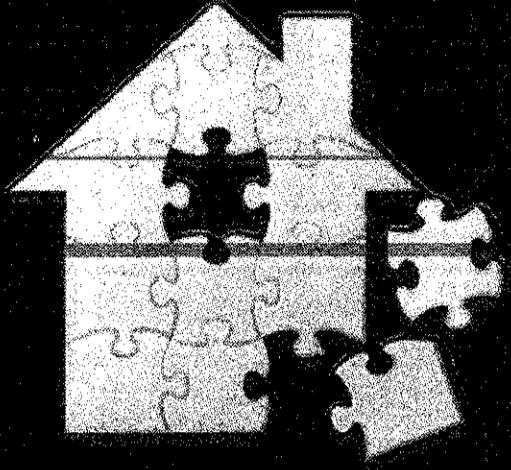
GIRLS BASKETBALL

ASSOCIATED PRESS ALL-STATE TEAMS
CLASS A
FIRST TEAM – Destiny Williams, Benton Harbor, 6-2, Jr. (Player of the Year); Cassie Beller, North Farmington, 5-9, sr.; Emma Yeach, Grand Haven, 5-10, sr.; Jalessa Jones, Detroit Pershing, 5-4, sr.; Britney Murphy, Saginaw Arthur Hill, 5-7, sr.; Ariel Braker, Grosse Pointe North, 6-0, soph.; Natasha Thames, Port Huron Northern, 6-0, jr.; Tricia Principe, Mattawan, 5-9, sr.; Rachel Woodruff, East Lansing, 5-9, sr.; Alaya Mitchell, Plymouth Salem, 5-9, sr.
COACH OF THE YEAR – Rob Smith, East Lansing.
SPECIAL MENTION (Nominees receiving two or more votes from the 10-member panel) – Robyn Veltkamp, Hudsonville; Marie Roof, Muskegon Mona Shores; Courtney Webb, Benton Harbor; Taveyn James, Detroit Mumford; Jordan LaDuke, Flushing.
HONORABLE MENTION (Nominees receiving one or no votes from the 10-member panel) – Beckie McHenry, Fraser; Claire Cannon, Clinton Township Chippewa Valley; Melissa Veltkamp, Hudsonville; Ondrea Hughes, Kalamazoo Lov-Norris; Tyler Hardy, Ann Arbor Huron; Tracy Nogle, Okemos; Sam Tucker, East Lansing; Olivia Yarell, Lansing Sexton; Sam Armstrong; Mount Pleasant; Alyssa Smith, Alpena; Rachel Gebauer, Alpena; Christina Rivette, Fenton; Chrissy Williams, East Kentwood; Jamillia Hardley, Grand Rapids Christian; Chelsea Harrison, Lowell; Violet Lindsey, Saginaw Arthur Hill; Becca Mills, Midland Dow; Amber Brewster, Rochester; Michelle Lindsey, Birmingham Marian; Lindsey Potter, Southgate Anderson; Jessica Trambly, Warren Woods-Tower; Melanie Wilkerson, Walled Lake Western; Karen Rydquist, Romeo; Lee Jones, Utica Ford II; Jasmine Woods, Holt; Gabrielle Machado, Pontiac Northern; Brittney Nelson, Rochester Stoney Creek; Lauren Allen, Rochester.
CLASS B
FIRST TEAM – Erica Solomon, Birmingham-Detroit Country Day, 6-2, sr. (Co-Player of the Year); Kellie Watson, Ionia, 6-2, sr. (Co-Player of the Year); Rachel Church, Midland Bullock Creek,

5-7, Sr. Dominique Dixon, Detroit Renaissance, 5-8, sr.; Cherilee Green, Wyoming Park, 6-0, sr.; Victoria McGowan, Inkster, 5-6, sr.; Amber Moore, Birmingham-Detroit Country Day, 5-9, sr.; Jasmine Padin, Wyoming Park, 5-3, sr.; Katy Stuppy, Dowagiac, 5-4, sr.; Nikki Arner, Ludington, 6-0, soph.
CO-COACHES OF THE YEAR – Dina Hackert, Ludington; Ray Kimball, Portland.
SPECIAL MENTION – (Nominees receiving two or more votes from the 10-member panel) – Lindsey Pettit, Portland; Sarah Davis, St. Clair; Rose Savelle, Manistee; Kortni Elsworth, Goodrich; Karlee Despres, Comstock Park; Nya Jordan, Detroit Community.
HONORABLE MENTIONS (Nominees receiving one or no votes from the 10-member panel) – Brooke Jastrzemkowski, Chesaning; Chanehl Putnam, Almont; Brianca Adams, Flint Powers Catholic; Kimon Kotarba, Williamston; Joni Miller, Haslett; Liz Brannick, Jackson Lumen Christi; Taylor Sanders, DeWitt; Kayla Crockett, Stockbridge; Astynn George, Sturgis; Carrie Grubius, Richland-Gull Lake; Bianca Harmon, Plainwell; Kassie Snyder, Marine City; Lindsey Yarkin, Almont; Hayley Cashier, Buchanan; Erin Bentley, Ida; Lindsay Holmquist, Reed City; Jordyn Skinner, Grand Rapids South Christian; Clara Juengel, Midland Bullock Creek; Molly Coldren, Pontiac Notre Dame Prep; Lorreal Jones, Detroit Renaissance.
CLASS C
FIRST TEAM – Jenny Ryan, Saginaw Nouvel Catholic Central, 5-9, jr. (Player of the Year); Brandie Baker, Flint Hamady, 6-2, sr.; Lauren Beeler, L'Anse, 5-11, sr.; Kelsey Hall, Marlette, 6-1, sr.; Ashley Huntley, Morley-Stanwood, 5-10, sr.; Brita Kuper, Olive, 5-8, sr.; Emma LaBeau, Monroe St. Mary Catholic Central, 5-8, sr.; Jessica Racine, Ispingmie Westwood, 5-9, sr.; Elizabeth Hamlet, McBain, 5-9, jr.; Rachel Sheffer, Watervliet, 6-1, jr.; Ashley Slade, Kinsley, 5-9, jr.
COACH OF THE YEAR – Jim Winter, Watervliet.
SPECIAL MENTION (Nominees receiving two or more votes from the 10-member

panel) – Anna Olvson, Muskegon Catholic Central; Amanda Childster, Allen Park Cabrini; Julie Janish, Whittemore-Prescott; Katie Krause, Kalkaska.
HONORABLE MENTIONS (Nominees receiving one or no votes from the 11-member panel) – Alicia Leipgrandt, Ubly; Kelly Kretz, Saginaw Nouvel Catholic; Kassi McConnell, Clare; Aubrey Laughlin, Hudson; Dana Cook, Addison; Emilee Yomins, Constantine; Marissa DeMott, Sandusky; Kristen Greene, Brown City; Jenna Lange, Marlette; Britny Adams, Bloomingdale; Ali Dawson, Galesburg-Augusta; Kendall Dow, Schoolcraft; Annie McGuire, Bronson; Clara Quinn, Bangor; Ashley Turnage, Lawton; Troya Berry, Flint Hamady; Abbey Hengesbach, Pewamo-Westphalia.
CLASS D
FIRST TEAM – Kelly DeNoyelles, Mount Pleasant Sacred Heart, 5-9, sr. (Player of the Year); Stephanie Pung, Portland St. Patrick, 5-4, sr.; Laura Karsten, Muskegon Western Michigan Christian, 5-9, sr.; Megan Bement, Burton Genesis Christian, 5-10, sr.; Sammy Theut, Marine City Cardinal Mooney, 5-7, jr.; Jasmine Hines, Central Lake, 6-3, jr.; Ashley Bauman, Manistee Catholic Central, 6-3, jr.; Bianca Barton, Birmingham Roeper, 5-9, sr.; Kayla Gross, North Dickson, 5-7, sr.; Jessica Roell, Iron Mountain North Dickson, 6-1, sr.
COACH OF THE YEAR – Ernie Righetti, Birmingham Roeper.
SPECIAL MENTION (Nominees receiving two or more votes from the 10-member panel) – Tonya Thelen, Fowler; Michelle Barkley, Climax-Scotts; Rachel Jaksa, Mount Pleasant Sacred Heart.
HONORABLE MENTIONS (Nominees receiving one or no votes from the 10-member panel) – Karla Cochran, St. Joseph Lake Michigan Catholic; Kayla Weaver, Fairview; Connaught Blood, Hillsdale Academy; Alyssa Hanson, Lansing Christian; Ashley Allston, Marine City Cardinal Mooney; Emily Kolacz, Kingston; Megan Schaefer, Beal City; Ashlie House, Johannesburg Lewiston; Leah Patenge, Fremont Providence Christian; Megan Murphy, Onaway; Allie Jo Nave, Onaway; Molly Poel, Bellaire.

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'The View' winner plans to update Bloomfield Township home

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
O&E STAFF WRITER

Carla Johnson isn't the sort of person who regularly buys a lottery ticket. But The Bloomfield Township resident proved to be a winner recently - and even heard her name announced on national television.

She was among 16 winners of Kimberly-Clark and *The View's* \$25,000 Room-a-Day Giveaway. As a faithful watcher of *The View* on ABC weekdays, Johnson had entered the contest last year. "This is the second year I've done it," she said.

The news was announced on Valentine's Day - and despite the snowy, cold temperatures, she said, "it brightened my day." She was the 14th person chosen out of 16 total winners.

Johnson didn't have a specific strategy when it came to winning the sweepstakes. She entered the contest once a day, as permitted, which was made easier because once you enter you receive an e-mail reminder and a link each day afterward. She got the call and was faxed forms to sign a full week before her name was announced on *The View*.

"I wanted to tell everyone, but nobody was home," said Johnson, who heard the news in the middle of the day. "It was exciting."

Though the name of the contest is Room-A-Day Giveaway, Johnson doesn't have a specific room makeover in mind. But she has thought of plenty of ways to spend the \$25,000 windfall, as she called it.

The first order of business is her mailbox. It's in need of replacement. She also hopes to purchase a new sofa to replace her old one. Her kitchen still has plenty of appliances that date back to the '60s," she said, and she may need to replace her furnace sometime soon. So the money will surely go to good use.

"It's a wonderful, wonderful feeling," said Johnson. She received calls from her family and a neighbor whom she said was "jumping up and down" when she saw the announcement on TV.

Johnson said she isn't one to enter a lot of contests.

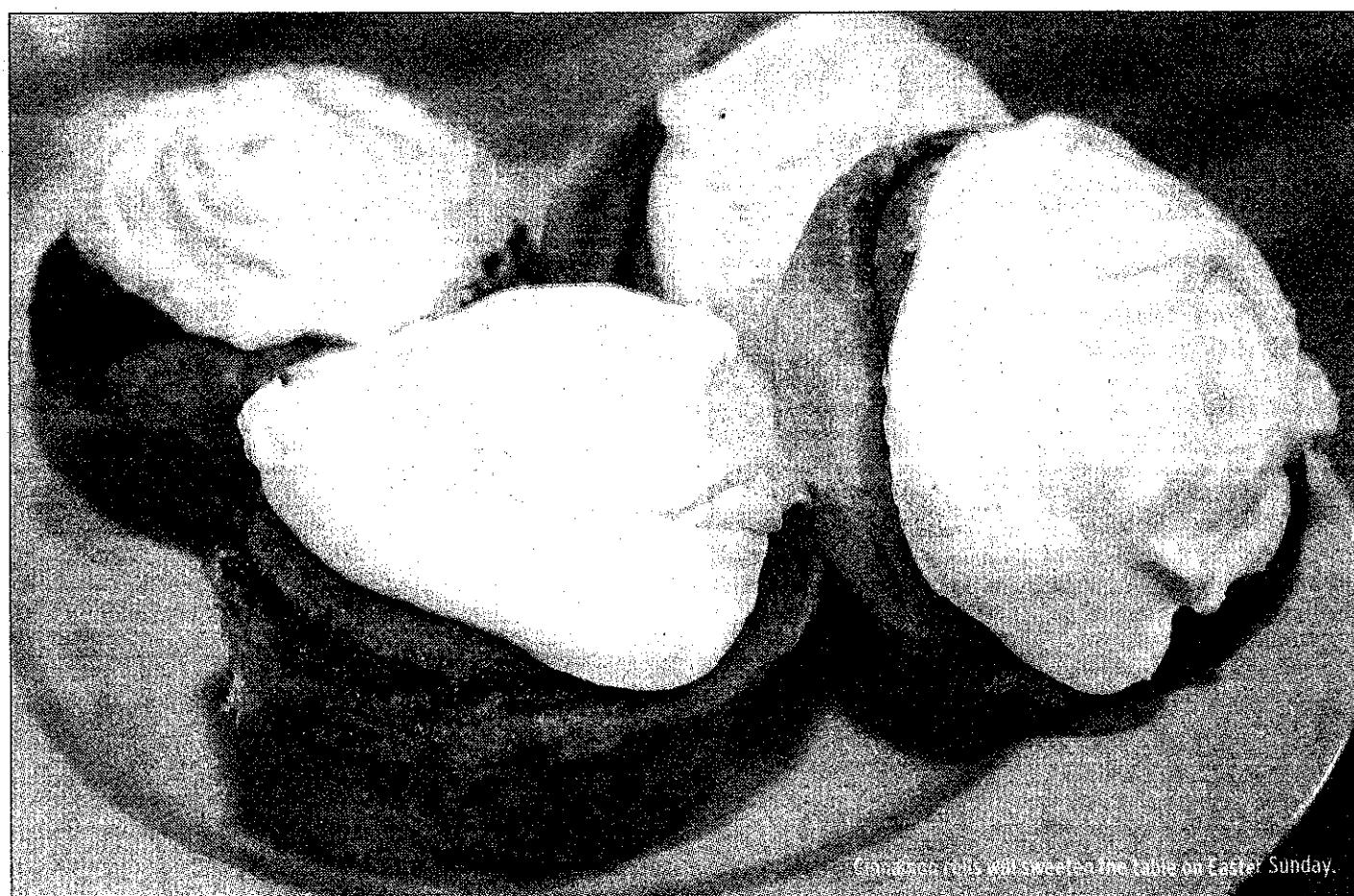
She's not a big traveler, so trips don't appeal to her. She has entered HGTV's Dream Home contest in years passed - but this is her first big win.

It will take 10 to 12 weeks for the money to come in, and Johnson said, "I'm trying not to spend it before I get it."

As a pet owner - she has two dogs and two cats - she's contemplating buying a robotic vacuum cleaner - a purchase she wouldn't have risked before. "Now I can afford to try it," she said.

All of the Room-A-Day Giveaway winners are listed on www.RoomADayGiveaway.com where, Kimberly-Clark and parenting guru Stacy DeBroff, have listed tips on tackling the daily routine and suggestions for ways to "relax, renew and restore" life at home.

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(248) 901-2567



Cinnamon rolls will sweeten the table on Easter Sunday.

Sunday special

A delightful variety to start your Easter brunch

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
O&E STAFF WRITER

This weekend marks Easter Sunday, the first holiday get-together this year for many families. The day's schedule may consist of a morning at church, followed later by a meal, which can consist of a brunch or a dinner. Some families may visit restaurants, while others may decide to celebrate at home.

Easter brunch doesn't have to be a mad dash to the store or a harried flurry of activity, according to Stacy Sloan, director of Mirepoix, Holiday Market's cooking school, in Royal Oak.

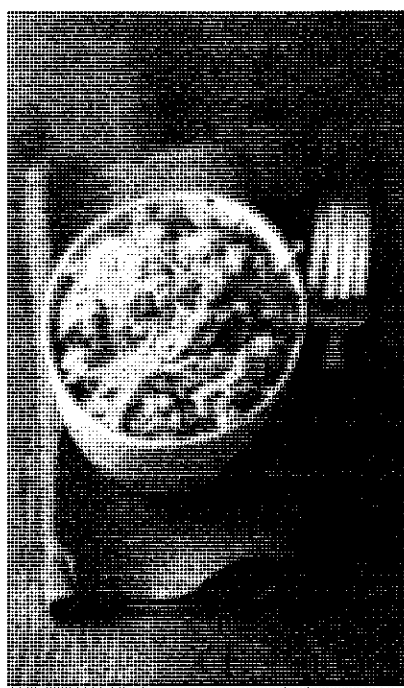
"We try to teach people to be organized and think ahead," Sloan said. "A lot of the things you can do ahead of time."

"With cinnamon rolls, you can make the dough ahead of time. You can sit down, think about the menu and organize your shopping list."

Before you head to the store or the market, check the pantry. You might save time and money, and brunch will be easier. "Keep things on hand you normally use," said Sloan.

Before you chop or mince, mix or mash, review your recipes. "Don't do anything you haven't done before," Sloan said. "If you have time to practice (that is, test a dish), we would prefer that people do that. A lot of recipes aren't written well." That means taking time

Please see **EASTER, D2**



WHOLE FOODS MARKET

Looking for a little variation on Easter ham or something to do with ham leftovers? This light salad entrée pairs smoked ham with crisp cabbage, savory green onions and sweet carrots in a salad base of whole grain barley. For the recipe, see page D2.

EASTER RECIPES

The following recipes for Easter or spring brunch are courtesy of Stacy Sloan, director of culinary education at Mirepoix, the cooking school at Holiday Market in Royal Oak.

CINNAMON PECAN STICKY BUNS

1 cup whole milk
 1/4 cup unsalted butter
 1/4 cup warm water, about 120 degrees
 2 packages dry yeast
 2 tablespoons sugar
 3 eggs, beaten
 1/2 cup sugar
 1 tablespoon kosher salt
 1 teaspoon vanilla
 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
 2 tablespoons orange zest or orange juice concentrate
 6 cups all purpose flour
 1/2 cup each brown sugar and white sugar
 3 tablespoons cinnamon (additional)
 2 sticks unsalted butter (softened)
 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
 1-1/2 cups finely chopped pecans, optional (or a combination of pecans and almonds)
Cream cheese frosting
 8 ounces cream cheese (at room temperature)
 Powdered sugar, to taste
 Vanilla, to taste

In a small saucepan scald (cook to a high temperature without boiling) milk and 1/4 cup butter (to melt). Set aside.

Fit mixer with dough hook, if available. Mix yeast, warm water, and 2 tablespoons sugar in bowl of mixer and allow to stand for 10 minutes until very foamy.

Combine eggs, 1/2 cup sugar, 1 tablespoon salt, vanilla, 1/2 teaspoon vanilla, 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon, 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg, and orange zest or juice. Add egg mixture and milk mixture to yeast/water in mixing bowl and mix to combine. Add flour and mix on low speed, just to combine; then mix on medium speed for eight minutes. Remove dough hook from bowl and cover bowl

Please see **RECIPES, D2**

Let it be known: Easter baskets aren't just for little kids

BY WENDSY VON BUSKIRK
O&E STAFF WRITER

No matter how old you get, the thrill of getting an Easter basket never goes away.

Karen and John Wezner, of Northville Township, still create Easter baskets for their five children, never mind that they're grown.

"Easter baskets aren't just for little kids... They're for big ones too and they can be filled with items they need," Karen said. "There are those of us moms who still do baskets and, yes, my kids still eagerly await this on Easter Sunday."

The Weznars wed almost four years ago, blending their

families along with their holiday traditions.

Karen had always delighted in filling Easter baskets with candy, stickers and books when her children were young. As they got older, the baskets grew with them.

Gone are pennies and jelly beans hidden in plastic eggs that grandma and grandpa used to give, Karen said.

"Since all of our kids are in college and some work and do both, they are all on a limited budget with specific needs that always seem to be there," she said.

So, for Lisa Nycek, 25, a

Please see **BASKETS, D2**



Karen and John Wezner, of Northville Township, believe their kids are never too old to enjoy an Easter basket.

Icewine: Easter dessert in a glass

Our first experience with the delicious dessert wine made from frozen grapes was with German Eiswein. Ripe grapes, left hanging on the vine until they freeze, are harvested in the dead of winter, pressed, and the sweet elixir is made into wine.



Focus on Wine
Ray & Eleanor Heald

The first record of German Eiswein is 1794, yet the story

began in the New World nearly 200 years later when Donald Ziraldo and Karl Kaiser founded Inniskillin at Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, Canada. By the 1980s, Ontario was taking its place as one of the world's best cool-climate wine regions. By the 1990s, their icewines were widely recognized as some of the world's finest.

HISTORY RECORDED

Short of making a trip to Inniskillin, we recommend *Icewine: Extreme Winemaking*, Key Porter Books, Canada \$40 hardcover, 192 pages, where Ziraldo and Kaiser skillfully describe the art, science and taste of icewine made on the Niagara Peninsula. Every step of the process is handsomely illustrated from seeing the frozen grapes on the vine covered with snow to pairing this luxury beverage with haute cuisine.

According to Ziraldo and Kaiser, icewines have two primary tastes: refreshing acidity and intense sweetness. At first, this may sound like sweet and sour, but consider that sweetness without acidity is cloying. Great dessert wines are deliciously sweet yet refreshing and that's what keeps you coming back for another sip.

The last 50 pages of *Icewine: Extreme Winemaking* present the handsomely illustrated recipes of the late Izabela Kalabis-Sacco, long-time Inniskillin resident chef who pairs icewine with food in the most creative and imaginative ways.

ULTIMATE LUXURY

For the ultimate in icewine luxury, try the Inniskillin 2006 Cabernet Franc Icewine (\$95 per 375mL). Most icewine is white, but because cabernet franc is a red variety, this wine has a deep red color.

It highlights strawberry and raspberry aromas with a creamy smooth palate impression. It's sweet but with great acid balance and the unique distinction of pairing beautifully with chocolate. How great is that?

Because of cabernet franc's thin skin, it falls victim to damage from the frigid winter winds, but the unique 2006 vintage worked its magic on the grapes to give you a rare dessert in a glass to end your Easter Sunday meal.

The Healds are contributing editors for the internationally-respected Quarterly Review of Wines and Troy residents who write about wine, spirits, and restaurants for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Contact them by e-mail at focusonwine@aol.com.

BASKETS

FROM PAGE D1

nursing student, the Weznars included jugs of car wash detergent and tire shine in her Easter basket — “items she complains are gone when she goes to wash her truck — most often due to her brothers using them up,” Karen said.

Jonathan Wezner, 25, serving in the Army in Seoul, Korea, will get an American Eagle shirt, novelty boxer shorts and flip-flops — a comfortable change from his uniforms and Army boots.

Since Brian Nycek's 1996 Monte Carlo leaks oil regularly, the 23-year-old will find a 5-quart container of 10w30 oil in his Easter basket.

Matthew Wezner, 23, and Steven Nycek, 20, will get gift certificates for Subway, Coldstone Creamery and Speedway.

For all five, the Weznars threw in fun stuff kids never outgrow, like bubbles, Silly Putty, airplane kites and sidewalk chalk.

And of course, no basket would be complete without candy, so the Weznars tucked chocolate bunnies, jelly beans and foil eggs into the Easter grass as well.

“The cost of each basket was about \$28, but our kids work hard getting their careers together so we don't mind splurging on them a little,” Karen said.

They'll hide the cellophane-wrapped baskets the night before Easter. Karen said they

IDEAS FOR EASTER BASKETS

■ Instead of stuffing the basket with sweets, send healthier options such as the dried fruit, trail mix, and other healthy snacks.

■ As an alternative to the usual plastic basket, try a small toy wagon or toy shopping cart for young children. A small laundry basket is a fun idea for kids of all ages, and you can decorate it with paint, markers or stickers.

■ Keep your “tweenager” excited about Easter with addition of a gift card or two, for music downloads, coffee or restaurants.

■ Know what your giftee likes in advance. If they don't like white chocolate, raisins or mint, avoid them. Not sure? The safest bet is a mix of traditional items such as jelly beans, chocolate bunnies, etc.

Source: Birmingham-based deLaFlowers, www.deLaFlowers.com

enjoy looking for the baskets as much as tearing them open.

The family attends Mass at St. Thomas a Becket Catholic Church, where Karen works as choir director.

“Then, we'll all meet at home for brunch and they'll have to find the baskets. They're in pretty tough spots because our home's a pretty good size, so there's plenty of places to hide them,” Karen said. “They can get pretty frustrated looking for the baskets, but that fun of finding them never goes away.”

EASTER

FROM PAGE D1

to tweak recipes that may not come out just right. “When people do follow the recipe, that doesn't always mean they will be successful,” Sloan said.

Think about seasonal produce. (OK, so you can't grow and harvest asparagus in Michigan until late May, but that product from California is cheaper at the stores right now than it was

three weeks ago.)

“Buy the highest quality ingredients,” said Sloan. “The best butter makes the best pastries. Whatever your budget is, spend within the budget, but realize the quality of the ingredients affect the quality of the final product.”

“Set the table a couple nights before the event,” Sloan said.

What should hosts serve? “Cinnamon rolls are fantastic,” Sloan said. “I'll do a fresh ham. I don't like the taste of

nitrate (or cured) ham. Fresh ham tastes like a roast.”

Serve the fresh ham with a mango chutney or a prune chutney, she suggests.

When creating the menu, start with a main course and work “backward” to the appetizer, then the fresh seasonal vegetables, she suggests. Mix green beans with garlic and olive oil, then season lightly, and add freshly squeezed lemon juice or flavored vinegars, she recommends.

Always buy “what looks good,” Sloan said.

“Think about what you can do so there's not so much scrambling around,” Sloan said. “Of course, if you know of a place to go where to get something ‘scratch made,’ you can save yourself time and energy.” Holiday Market features Dujour Island for such items.

kabramcz@hometownlife.com (248) 901-2591

RECIPES

FROM PAGE D1

with plastic wrap; allow to rise for 1 1/2 hours at room temperature.

Before dough is done rising combine 1/4 cup each granulated sugar and brown sugar, 3 tablespoons cinnamon, softened butter, kosher salt, and nuts. Stir to combine well and keep butter soft.

Push the air out of dough and dump out onto floured work surface. Dust lightly with flour, and divide dough into two equal portions.

Roll one piece of dough out to 1/2 inch thick rectangle and spread half of the butter/sugar/nut mixture over the surface.

Gently roll into a log, wrap in plastic and chill for 15 - 20 minutes. Repeat with remaining dough and butter mixture.

Remove plastic and use a serrated knife to slice dough into 1-inch pieces. Place together snugly in greased casserole dish and allow to double in size, about 30 minutes.

Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes, or until golden brown.

To prepare cream cheese frosting, stir cream cheese, powdered sugar and vanilla together and spread onto the warm sticky buns.

CUBAN-STYLE FRENCH TOAST

- 4 large eggs
- 1 cup sweetened condensed milk
- 1/2 cup cream or half and half
- 1/2 cup dark rum
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon cardamom
- 1/2 teaspoon cayenne
- Pinch cloves
- Pinch nutmeg
- 1 teaspoon sea salt
- 1 baguette sliced into 1-inch thick slices
- 1 - 2 tablespoons oil for cooking French toast

Mix together all ingredients except bread and oil. Toss all the bread slices with the custard mixture and let sit for about 5 minutes.

Pre-heat a non-stick pan over medium heat. Pour a small amount of oil on the pan and add 1 or 2 slices of soaked bread. Cook until golden brown on the first side; turn over and cook the second side for about 2 - 3 minutes.

Place cooked French toast in a 300 degree oven to keep warm, then repeat until all slices are cooked. Serve warm with powdered sugar, fruit salsa or maple syrup.

TROPICAL FRUIT SALSA FOR FRENCH TOAST

- 1 cup fresh pineapple, diced very small

Mix ham with whole grain for lighter salad entree

HAM AND BARLEY SALAD

This light salad entrée pairs smoked ham with crisp cabbage, savory green onions and sweet carrots in a salad base of whole grain barley. Mustard and shallots add depth and spice to the fresh vinaigrette dressing. Serves 4-6.

- 2 tablespoons whole grain mustard
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped shallots
- 2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- 6 tablespoons canola oil
- Pinch of brown sugar (or a bit of honey)
- Pinch of salt and pepper
- 3 cups water
- 1 1/2 cups quick-cooking barley
- 3 cups green cabbage, thinly sliced
- 4 green onions, sliced
- 2 carrots, shredded
- 12 to 16 ounces ham, julienned (about 2 1/2 cups)

To prepare the vinaigrette, place the mustard,

shallots, vinegar, oil, brown sugar, salt and pepper in bowl and whisk together until blended. Set aside.

Bring water to boil in medium saucepan. Stir in quick-cooking barley, reduce heat and cover. Simmer for 10-12 minutes or until water is absorbed, then remove from heat and let rest for a few minutes.

While barley is cooking, assemble the cabbage, onions, carrots and ham in large bowl and toss lightly together. Once barley is cooked, spoon over salad and toss. Add the vinaigrette and toss again. Serve immediately while warm or chill to enjoy later.

Nutrition information per serving (315 grams): 410 calories (160 from fat), 18 grams total fat, 2g saturated fat, 17g protein, 47g total carbohydrate (8g dietary fiber, 3g sugar), 25 milligrams cholesterol, 960mg sodium.

Recipe courtesy of Whole Foods Market.

- 1/2 cup papaya, peeled, seeded and diced small
- 1 kiwi fruit, peeled and diced small
- 1 mango, peeled, flesh removed from pit and diced small
- 1/2 teaspoon red chili flakes
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 cup lime juice (or to taste)
- 1 teaspoon minced fresh cilantro (optional)
- 1/2 teaspoon sea salt or kosher salt
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 2 tablespoons dark rum (optional)

Mix all ingredients together and taste. Add more sugar (or rum) if desired.

Store in refrigerator for up to three days.

CINNAMON RUM CHANTILLY CREAM

- 2 cups heavy or whipping cream
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2-3 tablespoons dark rum
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 4 - 6 tablespoons powdered sugar (or to taste)
- 1/2 teaspoon sea salt

Place cream in the chilled bowl of a mixer (or in any large chilled bowl if whipping by hand) and whip for about 1 minute until thickened and “soupy” looking.

Add all ingredients (start with half the sugar, then add more to taste) and continue whipping until cream forms firm peaks.

Taste and add more sugar or rum to taste. Stir to combine. Serve with Cuban-style French toast.

EGGS BAKED IN PIPERADE (SPICY TOMATO SAUCE)

- 1 large onion, small dice
- 2 roasted bell peppers, peeled, seeded, small dice
- 3 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 1/2 cup basil leaves, chiffonade (cut in very thin ribbons)
- 1 teaspoon chile flakes (or more to taste)
- 2 (14 - 15 ounce) cans petite diced tomatoes, with juice (see note)

- 6 large eggs
- 1 cup crumbled French feta cheese

Heat a heavy-bottomed, oven-proof saute pan over medium high heat. Add olive oil and onions, and sauté until onions are golden brown, about 8 minutes. Add peppers, chili flakes, and tomatoes and cook until flavors combine and sauce thickens, about 20 minutes. Season with salt and pepper to taste and stir in basil.

Crack eggs into the bowl of a ladle. Use the ladle to press each egg into the sauce so that it is about halfway submerged in the sauce. Repeat with all six eggs.

Sprinkle feta over the top of the sauce. Pour a small amount of olive oil on top of eggs and sprinkle them lightly with salt and pepper.

Bake in a 350 degree oven until yolks are just set but still slightly runny, Cook 14 - 16 minutes. Serve hot with crusty bread and a salad for brunch.

Note: As an alternative, use 2 quarts of your favorite marinara sauce instead of the tomatoes.

EGGS BAKED IN FILO PASTRY CUPS

- 12 eggs
- 2 boxes filo pastry, thawed overnight in the refrigerator
- 4 - 6 thin slices ham, Boar's Head preferred brand
- 2 tablespoons minced sundried or marinated tomatoes
- 4 ounces fontina cheese, shredded
- 2 ounces parmesan cheese, grated
- 2 cups heavy cream, reduced by half (until about 1 cup left)
- 3 cups baby spinach
- 1 teaspoon freshly minced garlic
- 10 basil leaves, sliced into tiny strips (chiffonade)
- 1 cup melted butter mixed with 2 egg whites and 1/2 teaspoon salt
- Salt, pepper, cayenne, lemon juice, and nutmeg

Reduce cream (while it reduc-

es, prepare the rest of the recipe).

Prepare filo by laying out one layer at a time, brushing it lightly with butter/egg white mixture, then repeating with two more sheets for a total of three layers with butter between each sheet.

Cut the filo into three equal pieces. Place one section in one cup of a muffin tin, then top it with another section, turned slightly so as to create an overlapped cup with eight points. Repeat with final section, then repeat entire process with more filo dough to create 12 filo cups.

Bake cups in a 425 degree oven for three to five minutes, or just until slightly crisp and set. Set aside to cool.

Pre-heat a large sauté pan over medium-high heat. Add a tablespoon of butter and the spinach; and wilt until just bright green and tender, about 30 seconds. Add garlic and cook briefly, season with salt and pepper, then remove from pan into a strainer and press out as much excess moisture as possible.

Combine spinach and reduced cream in a bowl. Add basil, parmesan, lemon juice to taste (about 1/2 teaspoon), salt, pepper, and a pinch each of nutmeg and cayenne.

Cut ham into 12 small circles, just slightly larger than the bottom of the muffin cup and place one into each filo cup.

Top the ham with some of the fontina (repeat in each cup).

Carefully break an egg into a cup, then pour it on top of the cheese; sprinkle it very lightly with salt and pepper, then top it with about a tablespoon of the spinach/cream. Repeat with all 12 eggs.

Bake in a 400 degree oven for about 15 - 20 minutes, or until eggs are just set (yolk should be slightly liquid in the center; if filo gets too brown, cover with foil while eggs continue cooking). Remove and cool 10 minutes before serving.

Garden center gives away daffodils

English Gardens ushers in the first day of spring on March 20 by giving away bunches of daffodils to the first 100 customers in each store.

The giveaway begins at 9 a.m. at all six English Gardens stores. This is the fourth year English Gardens has given away daffodils to celebrate the arrival of Spring.

English Gardens also hosts an Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, March 22 at 1 p.m. at six English Gardens stores. The Easter Bunny will be on hand for photographs from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The event is free

and open to children ages 2 through 12.

Both events occur at the following locations: 22650 Ford Road at Outer Drive, Dearborn Heights (313) 278-4433; 4901 Coolidge Highway, Royal Oak (Troy) (248) 280-9500; 6370 Orchard Lake Rd., West Bloomfield, (248) 851-7506. English Gardens also will open its seventh retail store this spring in Brighton at the site of the former Leppok's Nursery on Grand River.

Call 1-800-335-GROW (4769), or check the web site at www.englishgardens.com for information.

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FOOD CALENDAR

If you have an item for the food calendar, please submit it at least two weeks prior to the event to Ken Abramczyk, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009, e-mail kabramcz@hometownlife.com, or fax (248) 644-1314.

Artisan Cheesemaking

Demonstration of the creation of delicious homemade cheese with Dr. Larry Fallace, how four simple ingredients can be used to create high value cheeses for home use or commercially, 7:30 p.m. March 20; also a book signing at 5:30 p.m. with Linda Fallace, author of “Mad Sheep,” an account of one family's struggle against a government agency that supports corporate agriculture; Whole Foods Market, 7350 Orchard Lake Rd., West Bloomfield, cheese demonstration is free, but reserve a spot by calling (248) 538-4600.

Gluten-free Substitutes

Learn about gluten free products, check out available recipes (or bring your own for others) and discuss with others on a gluten-free diet ways to deal with the allergy, 7 p.m. March 26, Whole Foods Market, 1404 Walton, Rochester Hills, call Aimee at (248) 652-2100 or aimee.softis@wholefoods.com, for more information or to register.

KNOW THE SCORE

check out the numbers in today's Sports section

Tune into the Web for your favorite TV shows

Question: I missed my favorite TV show last night. Now what?

Answer: Head to Fancast, Hulu, Joost, or any number of new video-streaming services that offer free viewing of TV shows (and, in some cases, movies).



Tech Savvy

Rick Broida

Take Hulu (hulu.com), a joint venture between NBC and News Corp. After signing up for a free account, you can watch full-length episodes of shows like *The Simpsons*, *The Office*, and *Firefly* (one of my personal favorites).

There are caveats, of course: You have to sit at your PC to watch, and you have to sit through the occasional commercial (though nowhere near as many as broadcast TV—yet).

But Hulu's selection is quite good, and it even includes movies like *The Usual Suspects* and *Sideways*. All you need is a Web browser, a high-speed Internet connection, and a comfy chair.

Want even more choices? In addition to Fancast and Joost, check out AOL TV, Prime Time Rewind, and Veoh.

And don't forget the individual networks' sites (ABC.com, Fox.com, etc.), some of which offer streaming in high-def. ABC even lets you download some shows for offline viewing, a nice option for travelers who want to watch on the run.

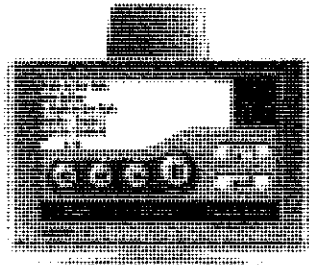
On numerous occasions I've recommended adding a TV tuner to your PC so you can watch and record shows. It's rapidly getting to the point where that's no longer necessary. Thanks to these new services, you have on-demand access to shows past and present.

Try not to turn into a mouse potato.

But it also has its own internal speaker in case there's no open FM frequency on the dial. Plus, it can auto-dial locations in its points-of-interest database, a very cool capability.

The Nuvi 660 has a staggering list price of \$749.99, but you can find it online for as low as \$350.

Rick Broida writes about comput-



The Garmin Nuvi 660 navigation system not only gets you where you're going, it offers hands-free calling and even music via your car's FM radio.

of Commerce Township, is the co-author of numerous books, including "How to Do Everything with Your Palm Powered Device," Sixth Edition. He

welcomes questions sent to rick.broida@gmail.com.

ers and technology for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Broida,



Free video-streaming services like Hulu let you watch all the TV shows and movies you want on your PC.

Happy Easter!

Stores will be open normal hours for your shopping convenience

12 Pack Pepsi Products
12 oz Cans or 6 Pack
24 oz Btls Select Varieties

4\$10

for

Limit 8, Total Plus

Cumberland Gap Whole Semi Boneless Ham
USDA Inspected

99¢

lb

WITH Plus

Q: I'm looking for a hands-free speakerphone for my car. Any suggestions?

A: I have two, actually. The first is the Venturi Mini (myventuri.com), which Verizon was kind enough to loan me for review (they're the exclusive reseller, but the device works with phones on any network).

The \$129.99 Venturi links to your phone via Bluetooth and to your car stereo via FM; all audio gets routed wirelessly to your car's speakers.

In other words, when you place or take a call, you hear the caller on your stereo. And if your phone supports Bluetooth A2DP and you've stocked it with music, you can stream your tunes through the speaker system. (You can also connect an iPod or similar player to the gizmo's line-in jack.)

As an added plus, the Venturi features a USB port that can power devices like phones, headsets, and iPods—anything that can recharge via USB.

It's a pretty cool little gadget, with a crisp little OLED display and an easy-to-master menu system.

However, because it plugs into—and juts out several inches from—your car's cigarette lighter, you may have trouble positioning it for easy accessibility. And if your lighter is positioned near the floor instead of up on the dashboard, the microphone will be too far from your mouth for callers to hear you well.

The bigger issue: Most FM transmitters don't work too well, and this one is no different. I frequently heard bits of static while listening to music, especially as I drove around town and encountered "competing" FM signals.

Furthermore, although I could hear callers pretty well, they routinely informed me that I was hard to hear and sounded "like I was on a speakerphone."

I had better hands-free luck with the Garmin Nuvi 660 GPS, which, in addition to being a terrific navigation system, connects with your phone and car stereo in much the same way as the Venturi.

Whole Golden Pineapple
A Must Have With Ham This Holiday

2\$5

for

WITH Plus

Whole Boneless Pork Half Loin
USDA Inspected Boneless Pork Half Loin, Boneless Center Cut Stuffed Pork Chops 2.99 lb

199

lb

WITH Plus

John Morrell Spiral Sliced Ham
USDA Inspected or Hickory Hills Whole Boneless Ham

188

lb

WITH Plus

Assorted Easter Lilies
6.5" Easter Lily in Wrap Limited to Stock on Hand

599

and up

WITH Plus

White, Red or Black Seedless Grapes
A Sweet and Nutritious Snack!

99¢

lb

WITH Plus

Kroger Cheese Bars or Shreds
6-8 oz Select Varieties

3\$5

for

WITH Plus

Freshlike Canned Vegetables
14.5-15 oz or Kroger Broth 14 oz Select Varieties

2\$1

for

WITH Plus

Prices and Items Good At Your Local Kroger Store March 20 thru March 23, 2008. Some items may require a deposit. Visit our Website at www.Kroger.com or call Customer Service at 1-800-KROGERS

ADVERTISED ITEM POLICY: WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. Each of these advertised items is required to be available for sale. If we do run out of an advertised item, we will offer you your choice of a comparable item, when available, reflecting the same savings, or a raincheck which will entitle you to purchase the advertised item at the advertised price within 30 days. Only one vendor coupon will be accepted per item. Copyright 2008. The Kroger Company. No sales to dealers.

RELIGION CALENDAR

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

MARCH

The Lord's Supper
A Musical Celebration of Worship 7 p.m. Maundy Thursday, March 20, at

Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, west of Farmington Road, Livonia. Written and composed by John Michael Talbot, a rock musician turned Franciscan monk, featuring Trinity Church musicians and singers and guest soloist tenor David Reilly. For information, call (734) 425-2800.

Prepare for Easter

At St. Matthew Lutheran in Westland on Venoy, north of Ford. Holy Week services Maundy Thursday March 20, 7

p.m. and 7 p.m. Good Friday March 21, and 6:30 a.m., 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Easter Sunday March 23.

Easter week services

Maundy Thursday Candlelight Communion service 7:30 p.m. March 20, and Good Friday Tenebrae 7:30 p.m. March 21 (nursery care provided), and Easter Sunday, March 23 at 9 a.m. (Chapel) and 10:30 a.m. (traditional), at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago,

Livonia. Call (734) 422-0494 for information.

Holy Week

At Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Rd., north of I-96, Livonia. Services 7:30 p.m. Maundy (Holy) Thursday, March 20, with the celebration of Holy Communion and traditional Stripping of the Altar (The Festival Choir and Jubellation Handbell Choir perform at the worship service). 12:30 p.m. Good Friday, March 21,

meditative worship service centers on The Passion of our Lord, and 7:30 p.m. Tenebrae. Featured will be the Christ Our Savior Festival Choir and soloists. Children's Easter Fair 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, March 22. A parent must accompany their children. Call (734) 522-6830 to register. Easter Sunday services 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. March 23, with various choirs of Christ Our Savior accompanied by brass and timpani and the celebration of Holy

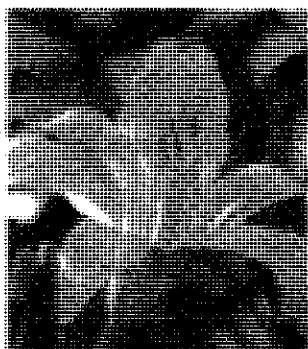
Communion.

Lenten services
Maundy Thursday service 7:30 p.m. March 20, Easter Worship Service at 10 a.m. March 23 in the sanctuary at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford, (313) 534-7730.

Holy Week

7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday, March 20; noon and 7:30 p.m. Good Friday, March

Please see **CALENDAR, D5**



ELVIRA SERB

Age 87, of Farmington Hills, passed away March 16, 2008. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI.

FRANCES I. FORTIN

Age 89. March 16, 2008 of Plymouth. Beloved wife of the late Theodore Alfred. Loving mother of Carol and Dean (Sue). Dear grandmother of Jennifer (Dan) Callen and Great-grandmother of Andrew and Evan. Predeceased by sister Helen, granddaughter Shannon and Daughter-in-law Carol. Visitation Saturday, March 29, 2008 from 2pm until time of Memorial service at 3:30 PM at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth. Memorial contributions to Alzheimer's Association or Odyssey Hospice appreciated. Leave condolences at www.schrader-howell.com

GENEVIEVE R. "GEN." MASSEY

March 13, 2008. Age 88. Beloved wife of the late Mertice "Mert." Massey and Linda (Vince) Cordero. Devoted grandmother of Graham, Nathan, Ryan and Robin. Preceded in death by her sisters Edna and Vera. Survived by brother Roy and sister Evelyn. Visitation was held Monday at McCabe Funeral Home 31950 W. 12 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills. The funeral service was held Tuesday. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association.

GEORGE A. KARKER

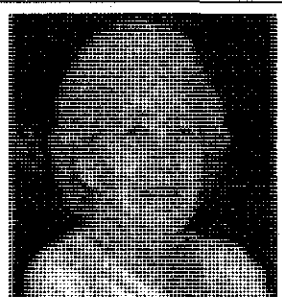
March 16, 2008, age 70. Survived by Gale Karker and their children Georgina (Dennis) Furton, James (Sharon) Karker, Casey Karker and Charles Karker. Grandfather of Taylor, Shebibe, Dylan, Brady, Maddie and Shawna. Brother of Joyce Stevenson, June Karker and the late Frances E. Karker. Visitation Thursday 1-9pm, at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth. Funeral service Friday 11 am at the funeral home.

HELEN M. SMITH

Age 91, formerly of Dearborn, MI, passed away March 16, 2008. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI.

JOYCE RUTH LEMASTER

Age 68, March 18, 2008 of Livonia. Loving mother of Kenneth and Douglas (Toni). Dear sister of Don (Carol) Larson. Funeral Service Saturday, March 22, 2008 at 10 AM (instate at 9AM) at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 W. 6 Mile Road, Northville. Visitation Friday 3-9 PM at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Road, Livonia. Her family suggests contributions to the Michigan Humane Society. Please sign Joyce's online guestbook at www.rgrharris.com.



MARY KATHERINE ROBINSON

Age 82 a longtime resident of Dearborn, died Friday, March 14, 2008 at William Beaumont Hospital in Troy, Michigan. Mrs. Robinson was born August 24, 1925 in Magee Mississippi the daughter of the late Mr. A.H. Collier and the late Mollie (nee: Thompson) Collier. She was raised in Mississippi and moved to Michigan in 1947. Mary was the beloved wife of the late Thomas Robinson. She is the dear mother of Charles (Judy) Robinson and the loving grandmother of Michael Robinson. Also surviving are her siblings, Louise "Minnie" Royal and Wiley Leroy Lucas; sisters-in-law, Dora McDonald and Mildred Czeck. Mrs. Robinson cherished her grandson and enjoyed sewing her own clothing, gardening, and cooking. She was a member of Temple Baptist Church in Redford and worked for many years at J.L. Hudson Company as a cashier in the cafeteria at the Northland Shopping Center. A memorial interment service will be held at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, Michigan at a later date. Arrangements were entrusted to D.S. Temrowski & Sons Funeral Home, Warren, Michigan. Please share memories at: www.Temrowski.com

Passages

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

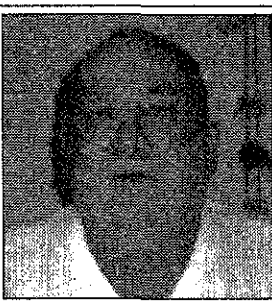
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View Obits On-line@www.hometownlife.com

ROBERT G. BROWN

Age 89 of Livonia. Beloved husband of Dorothy. Loving father of Thomas (Ceceile) Brown of Brighton and Robert T. (Barb) Brown of Livonia. Dearest grandfather of five, great-grandfather of 14. Dear brother of Vivian Cameron of Royal Oak. Visitation Tuesday 5-9PM at Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 6 Mile, Livonia. A Healing Farewell Wednesday 10:30AM Mass of Christian Burial St. Edith Catholic Church, 15089 Newburgh Rd. Livonia, Instate at Church 10AM Burial Grandlawn Cemetery. Please leave a verbal message of comfort to Robert's family at 877-231-7900 or sign his guest book at: www.borek-jennings.com. Arrangements by Borek Jennings -Funeral Home, Hamburg Chapel.



JIMMY DON ARNOLD

Age 70, March 5, 2008, of Livonia. Loving father of Lee, Brad, and Todd (Teresa) Arnold, and Becky (Kevin) Krupa, and their mother, Kay Arnold. Dear brother of Jayna Eckler and Betty Lampher. Also survived by five grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Loving friend and companion of Lois Mize. A memorial service will be held on Friday, March 21, 2008, at 10:30am at the Plymouth Church of Christ, 9301 N. Sheldon Rd. His family suggests donations to the American Lung Association. Please sign Jimmy's online guestbook www.cremationmichigan.com

SERGE JOHN SEGUIN

July 19, 1957-March 8, 2008. Age 50. Beloved father of Jamie. Son of Therese and the late John F. Seguin. Brother to Suzanne (Michael) Hudson, John F. Seguin, III, Mary (Matthew) Danko and uncle to six nephews. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. Arrangements entrusted to the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, Livonia.



Sister Marie Georgette Poulin, RSM Sister of Mercy, Teacher, Artist

(Farmington Hills, MI) - Sister Marie Georgette Poulin, RSM, a Sister of Mercy for 61 years, died at McAuley Retirement Center in Farmington Hills on March 17, 2008. She was 80. She was born to Alexander and Zenaide (Bisaillon) Poulin on April 26, 1927 and named Georgette at her baptism. The family moved from her birthplace of St. Philome, Quebec, Canada to Vergennes, Vermont where she, her three brothers and four sisters attended local schools. She joined the Sisters of Mercy in Detroit in 1947. She received the name Sister Mary Wilfrid and made perpetual vows on August 16, 1952. Sister Mary Wilfrid began her ministry as a student nurse but after two years changed to elementary school teaching. She earned her bachelor's degree at Mercy College of Detroit and studied art at Eastern Michigan University. She returned to her baptismal name and became known as Sister Marie Georgette. For 37 years she taught in Mercy staffed schools in Berkeley, Cheboygan, Holland, Muskegon, Cadillac, Auburn, Hemlock, Midland, Bay City, Posen, Traverse City and Rogers City, Michigan. Following a year of personal renewal, she served as director of clothing for the sisters at McAuley Center. She cared for her mother in Burlington, Vermont for three years, and upon her return to McAuley Center became involved in a number of volunteer activities. Sister Marie Georgette is remembered as a gentle and artistic woman who shared herself without reserve. As a teacher she was attentive to the needs of each child and her classroom bulletin boards were works of art. She was devoted to prayer and to helping others whenever she could, and used her artistic gifts to design greeting cards and create lovely, small gifts. Shortly before her death, Sister Marie Georgette designed and prepared the background scenery for Holy Week and Easter services. She enjoyed a good game of cards or dominos and was an active member of a monthly card playing group. Her warm smile and positive attitude marked her presence. Sister Marie Georgette is survived by her sisters, Sister Marie Therese, RSM of Farmington Hills; Lucille of Burlington, Vermont; and Frances Ryan of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania; her brothers, Philip of Essex Junction, Vermont; and Jean-Paul of Barefoot Bay, Florida; nieces, nephew, friends and the members of her Mercy community. A welcoming service will take place on March 18, 2008 at 3 pm at McAuley Center, 28750 Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, followed by a remembrance service at 7 pm. The Mass of Resurrection will be celebrated in McAuley Center's Sacred Heart Chapel on March 19, 2008 at 11 am, with burial at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield. McCabe Funeral Home, Farmington Hills, is in charge of arrangements. Memorial contributions may be made to the Mercy Ministry Fund, 29000 Eleven Mile Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 48336.

HOWARD HECTOR REGAL

The Villages, FL. - Heaven welcomed Howard H. Regal, 78 of The Villages, FL on March 13, 2008, following a prolonged illness at Lady Lakes Specialty Care Center, surrounded by his family. He was a native of Michigan and lived in Hendersonville, North Carolina for 18 years prior to moving to The Villages, FL in 2005. He was born on March 19th, 1929 in Detroit, MI and was the son of the late Hector and Leda Regal. He was a U.S. Marine Corps veteran of the Korean War and employed as a sales engineer in the industrial diamond tool industry. He was a lifetime member of the BPOE (Elks Club). He volunteered for Hospice and Habitat for Humanity and was a member of the Episcopal Church. He was preceded in death by his wife of 53 years, Patricia, who passed away in 2004, as well as five brothers. He is survived by five children: Dennis Regal and his wife, Lori, of Hamburg, MI, Cindy Halse and her husband, Gary of Commerce, MI, Tom Regal and his wife, Diana of Mahomet, IL., Mary Regal of Asheville, N.C. and John Regal and his wife, Amy of Fowlerville, MI; sister, Carol Simms and her husband, Lowell of The Villages, FL; 11 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. A memorial service will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 29th, 2008 at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 10585 Hamburg Rd., Hamburg, MI, ph # 810-231-3220 *Luncheon to follow. (A private burial will take place in the Memorial Gardens of St. James Episcopal Church in Hendersonville, NC at a later date) Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Lake and Sumter, 12300 Lane Park Road, Tavares, FL 32778

OBITUARY POLICY

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

Deadlines:

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

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

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



Matt Cezat, as Jesus, offers a cup of grape juice to the students at the Last Supper.

Children learn the meaning of Holy Week events

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Matt Cezat ripped the pita into small pieces as a symbol of the bread Jesus used to feed the apostles during the Last Supper. The 13-year-old Livonia boy was playing the lead role as part of a Holy Week walk through at the Catholic church of Divine Savior in Westland on Monday night. Three rooms were set up so religious education students from first to eighth grade could experience the three days of events leading up to Christ's resurrection on Easter.

Sister Gemma Legel organized the program to bring to life the story of Jesus's crucifixion and rebirth. Years ago stores closed during the traditional noon to 3 p.m. observance of Jesus dying on the cross. Today Legel says for many people it's business as usual. Jesus's suffering is all but forgotten.

"The walk through is to give kids an experience, to whet their appetite to want to come to church to experience these High Holy days, to make it concrete," said Legel, director of Faith Formation at Divine Savior.

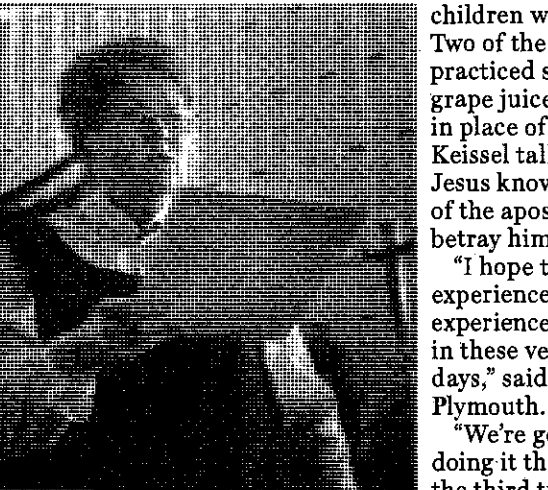
Eighth grade students took the children through the three days leading up to Easter which will be celebrated during the regular religious education class on March 31. In the Good Friday room students examined their conscience, wrote their sins down on a piece of paper which was burned, and received a nail as a remembrance of Jesus's crucifixion. For Holy Saturday the children stepped up to watch the candles being lit to teach them Christ is the light of the world.

Legel estimates there are about 100 students in the Faith Formation program taught by about a dozen catechists on Monday nights at Divine Savior. "We're forming them in faith, not just to have their faith but practice it," said Legel. "It's also worship. It all comes together and flows together: worship and service."

Throughout Lent students were encouraged to place paper flowers on a living tree which is beginning to bud inside the lobby of the church.



Eric LaBerge of Livonia washes his hands. Matt Cezat of Livonia, as Jesus, dries the hands of Tyler Demarec of Garden City.



Sister Gemma Legel explains the Holy Week experience to the children.

"The flowers represent the good deeds they've done in and outside of their homes using their hands," said Legel. "Easter lasts 50 days and it's not over in a day. Everything we do is counter cultural. Our place is in church but if we can't get there to observe we can be home - quiet, reflective, in prayer or doing good works for someone else."

For the walk through of Holy Thursday children sat on the floor just as Jesus's followers did when they shared bread and wine. Instead of washing their feet, Cezat and religion teacher Judy Keissel symbolically wiped the hands of the children after they dipped them in a bowl of water.

Keissel coached Cezat and the eighth grade students shortly before the younger

children were to arrive. Two of the students practiced serving the grape juice being used in place of wine. Later, Keissel talked about Jesus knowing that one of the apostles would betray him.

"I hope they will experience what Jesus experienced in these very important days," said Keissel of Plymouth.

"We're going to be doing it three times. By the third time it will be awesome."

One by one the eighth grade students entered the Holy Thursday room and picked up their scripts. Allison Leonhard, 13 of Westland reads that it was customary for servants to wash feet of the guests. Jesus wanted to show he was their servant as a sign that we need to take care of each other.

Brea Richard, 13, of Westland continued, whenever you wash your hands remember they are meant to help others.

Richard said she was excited to be reenacting the Last Supper "because it's helpful for kids to know what it looked like."

"It will be fun to teach everyone else what I know," said Jordan Tubaro, 13, of Canton.

lchomin@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2145

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE D4

21 and Easter Sunday, March 23, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 27035 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights. Holy Week services At Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Church, 9600 Levee, Redford. Call (313) 937-2424. Services continue 7 p.m. Maundy Thursday, March 20; 7 p.m. Good Friday, March 21, and 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Resurrection Sunday, March 23. Holy Communion second, fourth and fifth Sundays of month. Regular worship services 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays. Bible study and Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.

Lenten services 7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday, March 20; Good Friday (March 21) Reflections on the Passion 12:30-2 p.m., Tenebrae Service at 7:30 p.m.; Easter Vigil 7:30-9 p.m. Saturday, March 22, and 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Easter Sunday, March 23, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call

(734) 427-1414. Weekly worship services 10 a.m. Sundays with nursery, Adult Learning and Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. No 6 p.m. Sunday services during Lent or Easter Sunday.

Holy Week worship At Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville, 7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday, March 20, and noon to 3 p.m. Good Friday, March 21. Come when you can and leave when you must. Childcare provided through age 4 for concert and services. For information, call (248) 374-7400.

Holy Week/Easter devotions 7 p.m. Holy Thursday, March 20, Mass of the Last Supper at St. Michael the Archangel Parish, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Rd., Livonia. Good Friday services begin at 12:15 p.m. March 21, with Stations of the Cross followed by The Last Seven Words of Christ choir presentation, concluding with Liturgy of the Lord's Passion at 1:30 p.m. Holy Saturday, March 22, Easter Egg Hunt for the youngsters at 10 a.m., Blessing of Food at noon,

Easter Vigil Mass will begin at 8 p.m., Easter Sunday Masses at 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and noon. For details, (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200 or www.livoniastrmi-chael.org.

Easter exhibit Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Plymouth will host an exhibit on The Shroud of Turin (replica) 9 a.m. to noon and 4-7 p.m. and 9-11:30 p.m. Holy Thursday, March 20; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Good Friday, March 21; noon to 8 p.m. Holy Saturday, March 22, and 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Easter Sunday, March 23, in the parish social hall on the lower level at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 47650 N. Territorial a Beck, one block south of Beck Road exit on M-14). For directions and map, visit www.olgcparrish.net. For information, call (734) 453-0326 or (734) 459-9893. Due to subject matter, children under age 15 must be accompanied by adult.

Easter season worship 7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday, March 20, and 9:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Easter Sunday, March 23, at Newburgh United

Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia; noon Good Friday, March 21, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, Livonia and 7 p.m. Good Friday, at Clarenceville United Methodist Church, 20300 Middlebelt, Livonia (contemporary service), and 7 a.m. Easter Sunday at Greenmead Historical Park on Newburgh, north of Eight Mile, Livonia. For information, call (734) 422-0149.

Holy Week services 7 p.m. Thursday, March 20 The Last Supper, and noon Good Friday, March 21, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 422-6038. Easter services are 7 a.m. Sunday, March 23, at Greenmead Historical Park on Newburgh, north of Eight Mile, Livonia, and 10:30 a.m. at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church.

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.

Holy week services Noon and 7 p.m. Maundy Thursday, March 20, noon to 3 p.m. (concludes with symbolic sealing of tomb of Christ), and 7 p.m. Good Friday, March 21, and 7:25 a.m. (symbolic unsealing of tomb), 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. communion services (breakfast

8-11 a.m., free will offering) Easter Sunday, March 23, at Historic Trinity Lutheran Church, 1345 Gratiot, Detroit. For information, call (313) 567-3100 or visit www.historictrinity.org.

Single Place Ministry Upcoming activities include Maundy Thursday worship service 7:30 p.m. March 20, at First Presbyterian Church. There will be no Single Place but Single Place Ministry continues to meet the following Thursdays 7:30-7:45 p.m. for social time, 7:45-8 p.m. opening, 8-9 p.m. program, at First Presbyterian Church, 200 East Main Street, Northville. Call (248) 349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org. Cost is \$5 per person.

Good Friday service Focusing on the seven last words Jesus Christ spoke while he hung on the cross, noon to 3 p.m. Friday, March 21, at First United Methodist Church, 3 Town Square, across from the post office in Wayne. For directions, call (734) 721-4801.

Your Invitation To Worship

BAPTIST

UNITED METHODIST

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

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



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

Clarenceville United Methodist

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

Redford Aldersgate United Methodist

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

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96 734-522-6830 Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional Staffed Nursery Available



Sunday/Bible Class 9:45 am Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413 Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ Pastors: Robert F. Bayer and Anthony M. Creeden

CATHOLIC

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NEWBURGH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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.newburghumc.org

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY 313-532-2266 REDFORD TWP. Worship Service 9:15 & 11:00 A.M. Sunday School 9:15 & 11:00 A.M. Nursery Provided The Rev. Timothy R. Halboth, Senior Pastor The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor

HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

9600 Levee • So. Redford • 313-937-2424 "Vacancy Pastor - Rev. Carl Rockstrof" Sunday Morning Worship 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Education Hour 9:45 a.m. Christian School Pre-Kindergarten-5th Grade For more information call 313-937-2233

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Immemorial Latin Mass Approved by Pope St. Pius V in 1570 St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8 28310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan 5 Blocks E. of Telegraph • (313) 534-2121 Mass Schedule: First Fri. 7:00 p.m. 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.

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

St Genevieve Roman Catholic Church

St. Genevieve School - PreK-8 29015 Jamieson • Livonia • 734-427-5220 (East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries) MASS: Tues. 7 p., Wed., Thurs. 9 a., Sat. 4 p., Sun 11a St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church 32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616 (between Merriman & Farmington Roads) MASS: Mon. 8:30 a., Fri. 8:30 a., Sat. 6 p., Sun 9a

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

Cherry Hill Seventh-day Adventist Church 33144 Cherry Hill, Garden City, MI 48135 (1 block west of Venoy) Phone: 734-524-0880 Pastor: Eddie Petrecca 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 Casual, Contemporary, Excellent Children's Program Meets at Franklin H.S. in Livonia on Joy Road (Between Merriman and Middlebelt Roads) at 10:00 a.m. 734-425-1174 Join us for coffee, bagels and donuts after the service!

PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

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

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church 40000 Six Mile Road "just west of I-275" Northville, MI 248-374-7400 Traditional Worship 9:00 & 10:20 A.M. Contemporary Worship 9:00 A.M. Nursery & Sunday School During All Morning Worship Services Evening Service • 7:00 p.m. Service Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday WRDT-AM 560 The WMUZ Word Station For additional information visit www.wardchurch.org

Risen Christ Lutheran

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

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 45601 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 1180 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 11:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. 734-453-0970

ST. JAMES PRESBYTERIAN Church, USA

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

LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL 17810 FARMINGTON ROAD, LIVONIA (734) 261-1360 SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. website: www.stpaulsilivonia.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 36600 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia Parking lot is on N.W. corner of Levan & Schoolcraft • Nursery provided

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

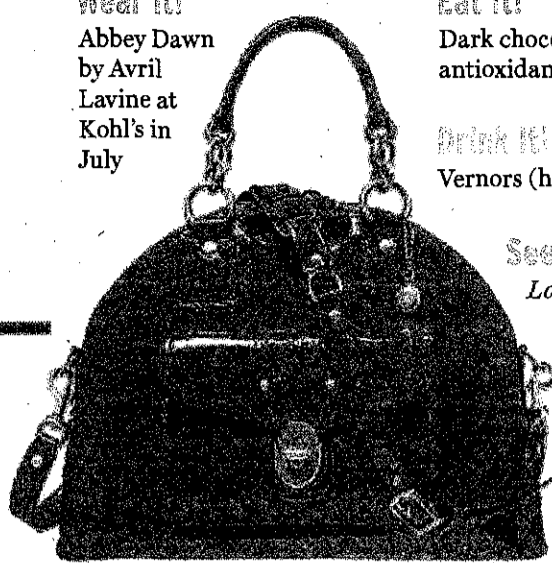
Timothy Lutheran Church A Reconciling in Christ Congregation 8820 Wayne Rd. (Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road) Livonia • 427-2290 Jill Hegdal, Pastor 10:00 a.m. Family Worship (Nursery Available)

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

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pink picks

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Tote It!
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pumps

Experience It!
Detroit Fashion Week, March
23-29 at Asian Village

Baby Loves Disco brings parents back to the club — with toddlers in tow

When I was single, I used to go clubbing at places like The Shelter, Motor Lounge and Envy. It was fun to dress up, have a few drinks, and dance with abandon.

Those days are so over. As the married mom of a toddler, I'm lucky if I can stay awake past nine. The few times I've made it out to local hotspots, I've ended up feeling old, underdressed and hopelessly out of date. And if I thought going to clubs was expensive when I was single, add the price of a baby sitter onto admission

and drinks times two. It's just not worth it anymore.

But now, Baby Loves Disco has revived the club scene for aging hipsters like me. The nationwide phenomenon was ushered into metro Detroit in February by two West Bloomfield moms, Robyn Dvoskin and Julie Hirsch. The concept opens a trendy bar, in our case Eden Nightclub and Ultralounge in Ferndale, on Saturday afternoons for family-friendly fun.

Considering every local Baby Loves Disco has sold out well in advance, I must not be the only parent jonesing for the good old days.

I took my 2-year-old to Baby Loves Disco last Saturday and soon realized the club experience isn't quite so glamorous with a toddler in tow.

After changing Verick's stinky diaper in the backseat, I stuffed supplies into my huge handbag (no stylish evening clutch for this club mama) and we made our way to the door. Despite my mom jeans and practical ponytail, the bouncer let us right past the velvet rope. Yep, this was my crowd.

Inside, we got wristbands (not for the VIP room, but to prevent Verick from wandering off with the wrong mom), collected goody bags and let our

eyes and ears adjust to the light show and loud music.

Unfortunately, my son, like most guys, refused to dance, so we staked a spot at the edge of the dance floor to scope out the scene.

It was much more wholesome than I remember from those nights at Tonic and Taboo. As DJ Ryan Richards spun disco, Moms twirled children in their arms, while dads helped sons to hula hoops and daughters to dance scarves. A machine pumped bubbles into the air.

Despite my coaxing, Verick never caught the disco fever, but it turned out there was plenty else to do.

Eden's bar was stocked with kid-friendly food, like goldfish, animal crackers and pretzels. The cash bar was open for parents, while kids got complimentary Capri Suns. The beds that constitute the Ultralounge part of Eden (normally offering refuge for romance) were filled with helium balloons and hyper kids.

En route to the bathroom, we discovered the entire downstairs was converted to a "chill out area" where parents relaxed on couches or indulged in professional chair massages, while children romped through a playground of stuffed animals, pup tents and toys.

Ten years ago I would have been surveying Eden for hot guys. This time, I picked up a mom.

"Come here often?" I asked a cute blonde with her daughter on her lap.

Turns out it was the first time at Baby Loves Disco for Mary Beth Stacy, a stay-at-home mom of three from Pleasant Ridge. She, too, used to go to clubs like Bookie's, Todd's and Nunzio's back in the day.



Sophie Dvoskin of West Bloomfield hula hoops on the dance floor at Baby Loves Disco.



Mary Beth Stacy of Pleasant Ridge with her son, Gabe, and daughter, Harper in the Chill Out Area at Baby Loves Disco.

"I grew up in punk and disco bars in the 80s," said Mary Beth, as her 3-year-old, Gabe, bounced off the walls and one-year-old Harper wriggled away on the floor. "I'm an old bar fly so this is right up my alley. I think it's great."

Mary Beth and I closed the place down as we chatted about music, family and how hard it is to get out of the house these days.

"Everything changes when you have kids," she said. Then, Donna Summer's "Last Dance" began blaring upstairs.

It was time to pack the diaper bags and call it a day. At 4 o'clock (p.m., not a.m.), I straggled out of the club covered in sweat (not from dancing, but from wrangling my son) and realized how different my life has become.

Baby Loves Disco proves late nights, last calls and sleeping in are things of the past.

Now, it's all about Verick, but I wouldn't go back to the singles scene for anything — even my old abs and size 6 wardrobe. As I drove home with my

son safely strapped in his car seat, I realized I forgot to ask for Mary Beth's number. We had a lot in common. I would have liked to ask her on a playdate.

I'll be looking for her at the next Baby Loves Disco.

Baby Loves Disco, for children 6 months-7 years and their caregivers, returns to Eden Nightclub & Ultralounge, 22061 Woodward Ave., Ferndale, 1-4 p.m. April 26 and May 31. Tickets (\$12 per walking human; non-walkers free) sell out fast so get them now at www.babylovesdisco.com.

Malls & Mainstreets

If you have an item for the Malls & Main Streets calendar, please submit it at least two weeks prior to the event to [Wensdy Von Buskirk at wvnb@hometownlife.com](mailto:WensdyVonBuskirk@wvnb.com).

Cathy Horyn Fashion Talk

DETROIT - Cathy Horyn, New York Times fashion critic and former Detroit News fashion journalist (1986-1990), returns to Detroit 7 p.m. March 20 for a free lecture at MOCAD in conjunction with REFUSING FASHION: REI KAWAKUBO. Horyn, who wrote "Bare Blasts" (Harper Collins, 2002), and blogs at runway.blogs.nytimes.com, will discuss Kawakubo's history, work process and vision. REFUSING FASHION runs through April 20. Call (313) 832-6622 or visit www.mocadetroit.org.

Craft Uprising Showcase

WYANDOTTE - Biddle Gallery will host Craft Uprising: Creating a Design Revolution, 6-9 p.m. Friday, March 21. The event features the wares of indie crafters. The theme, Green Bunny,

celebrates recycling, reusing, and, of course, Easter. Biddle Gallery is located at 2840 Biddle Avenue. Call (734) 281-4779 or visit www.biddlegallery.com.

Detroit Fashion Week Returns

DETROIT - Detroit Fashion Week will present Fall/Winter '08, Urban, Ready to Wear, Couture and Wedding lines over the course of seven days of events, runway shows, presentations and after parties March 23-28 at Asian Village, 521 Atwater, Detroit. An Accessories Marketplace will feature designer lines of jewelry, handbags, scarves, shoes and more. Call (313) 244-3066 or visit www.detroitfashionweek.com.

Custom Easter Hats

DETROIT - Forever Sweeney Millinery & Designs invites ladies to purchase custom hats for Easter Sunday. Choose from high fashion to casual styles made of various fabrics including straws, fibers and leather. Create a customer profile on the company's

Web site through the end of April for members-only benefits, and be entered to win a free hat. Call (313) 268-2245 or visit www.foreversweeney.com.

Easter Bunny at GLC

AUBURN HILLS - The Easter Bunny will hold court at Great Lakes Crossing through March 22 within steps of the children's play area, in a natural flowering Easter set courtesy of Backer Landscaping. Children will receive a free gift. Custom photo packages available at a cost. Visit www.shopgreatlakescrossing.com.

Solstice Mother's Day Event

DEARBORN - Solstice Designs self-expression jewelry invites the public to its Third Annual Project Mother's Day, 6:30-8:30 p.m. March 26 at Pizza Papalis, Dearborn. Preview the spring/summer line and help provide necklaces for First Step children to give to mom on Mother's Day. Visit www.jcidesign.com/solstice/ or call (313) 724-9400.



This embroidered Martini Tie by Taryn Boyd of TalkingSquid is among offerings available at CRAFT UPRISING: Creating a Design Revolution, 6-9 p.m. March 21 at Wyandotte's Biddle Gallery.

Sorenen fashion show fund-raiser

Be in the fashion company of Sarah Jessica Parker, Reese Witherspoon, Hilary Swank, Christina Aguilera and J-Lo by bidding on dresses by Farmington Hills native Peter Soronen at the Celebration of Creativity fashion show, auction and luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, April 5, at Oakland Community College, Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills. New



York-based designer Soronen will donate seven dresses for auction, with proceeds to benefit the Farmington Area Arts Commission. Soronen will be on hand to pay tribute to his mother, Jody Soronen, a former Farmington Hills mayor who lost her battle with cancer in 2005. His designs have been featured in Vogue, Cosmopolitan, Modern Bride, and more. Bids will start at \$200 for the gowns, which are valued at up to \$5,000. His creations may be seen at www.petersoronen.com. Tickets are \$45 and may be purchased at the Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, or by calling (248) 473-1848.

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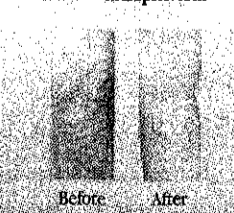
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