

Downtown Hoedown comes to Hart Plaza

filter

Bobby Flay to autograph new book on Monday

Academic All-Stars 23rd Annual Team - Special Section



THURSDAY
May 8, 2008

WESTLAND Observer

75 cents

WINNERS OF STATE AND NATIONAL AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

www.hometownlife.com

Police question ex-boyfriend in woman's death

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland police found a woman's body early Wednesday near a back yard of the Millpointe subdivision on the city's southwest side, and her boyfriend was in custody as authorities investigated an apparent homicide.

Police Lt. Dan Karrick identified the woman as 22-year-old Laci Green, a 2004 graduate of Wayne Memorial High School.

The cause of her death remained under investigation Wednesday.

"We don't know how she was killed," Police Chief James Ridener said. "We're waiting on the (Wayne County) Medical

Examiner's report. There were no obvious signs of trauma."

Green was found after her parents woke up between 4 and 5 a.m., noticed her missing and called police, Ridener said. Her body was found near the Glenwood side of Millpointe, in what the chief described as an easement area where power lines are strung.

"What I can tell you is that it's a girlfriend/ex-boyfriend situation," Ridener said. "She was receiving some text messages and phone calls from him, and he eventually came over to her house. She got up and went for a walk with him and never returned. The parents got up around 4 or 5 a.m. They called police, and our guys fanned out,

searched the area and found the body."

A Westland detective was interviewing the ex-boyfriend Wednesday morning.

It was not immediately known when possible criminal charges might come, Ridener said.

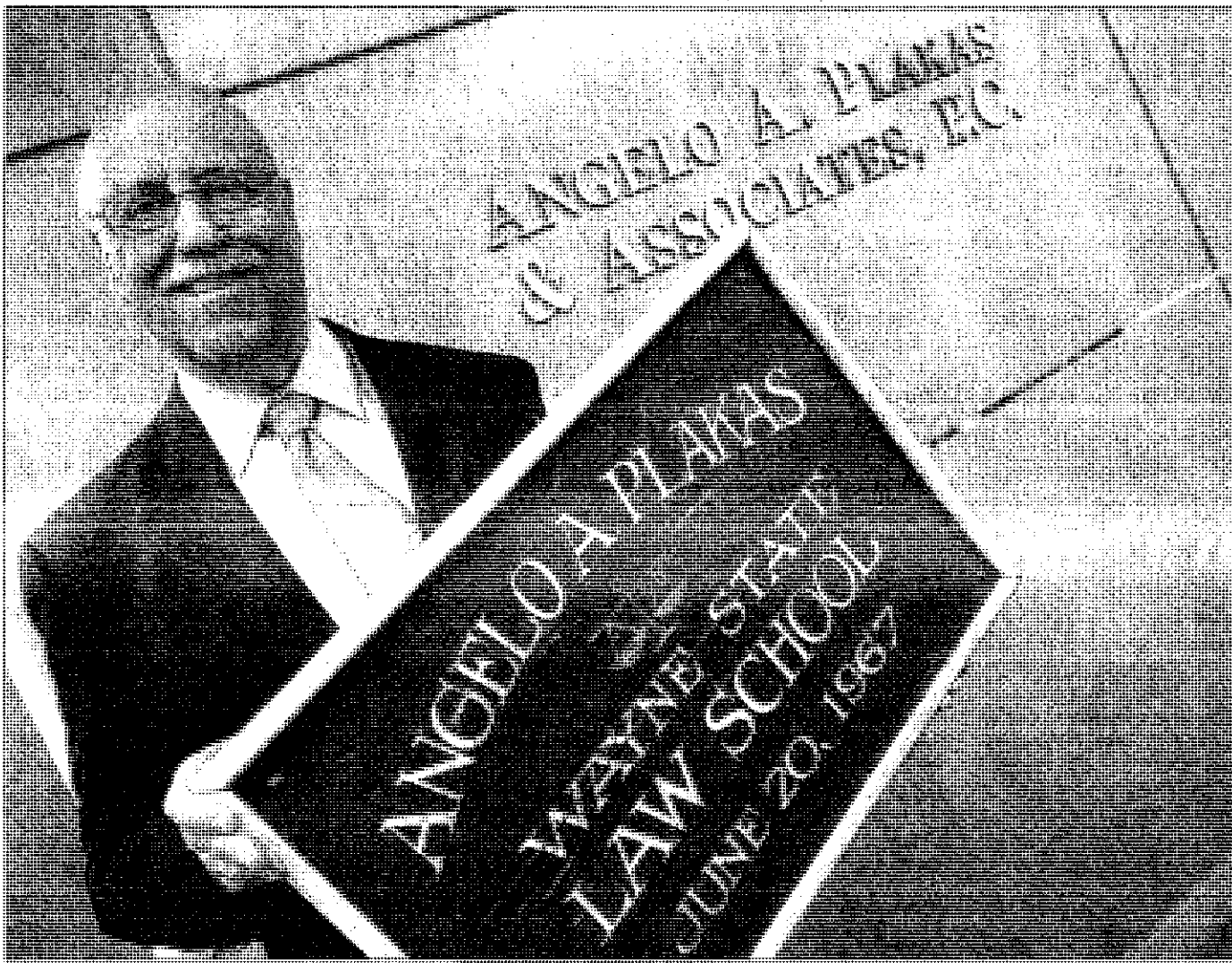
According to Brian Baker, who lives near the scene, police officers cordoned off a section

an area where the body was found. Baker drove by around 7 a.m. when he was taking his daughter to school.

The area is part of DTE property, and Baker said "the police had a whole corner section cordoned off."

Staff writer Sue Mason contributed to this story.

Business Person of the Year



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

In the more than 40 years since graduating from law school, attorney Angelo Plakas has made a name for himself helping others. That work has earned him recognition as Westland's Business Person of the Year for 2008.

Plakas honored for 'wonderful things' he's done for the city

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Attorney Angelo Plakas doesn't measure success in the number of cases won. He measures it in how it improves the lives of those he represents.

The Livonia resident counts taking on the state high school athletic association over the issue of a transfer student sit-

ting out a semester. He counts representing a Romanian priest who denounced his bishop for being a member of the Nazis' Iron Guard. He counts helping make Boulevard Gardens homeowners whole for losses sustained when their homes flooded in 1997 because of a construction mistake.

But it's other work, like helping to retrieve money

from the state set aside for the William P. Faust Public Library and setting up the Westland Community Foundation and the S.P.A.R.K. (Sports, Parks and Recreation for Kids) Foundation, that has earned Plakas accolades as the Westland Business Person of the Year for 2008.

"He really has been a strong activist in community pro-

grams," said Glenn Shaw, president of the Westland Community Foundation. "He's a wonderful person who has done a lot of wonderful things in the community."

"What I like is the different facets of what I do," said Plakas, the Westland city attorney. "If I had to do wills and trusts every

Please see **PLAKAS, A2**

Schofield, Gabriel top vote-getters in W-W election

Results of voting in the Livonia school board race can be found on Page A2.

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Wayne-Westland school board incumbent Cindy Schofield handily won a third consecutive four-year term Tuesday night, while voters chose Westland Planning Commissioner William Gabriel to replace a departing trustee.

Schofield and Gabriel, victors in unofficial vote totals, will help steer a 13,800-student district that Superintendent Greg Baracy said is facing serious funding shortfalls he blamed on "Michigan's budget crisis."

With combined tallies reported by city clerk offices in Westland and Wayne, Schofield accumulated 1,431 votes and easily outpaced four other candidates. School board newcomer Gabriel clinched a four-year term and garnered 982 votes compared to 927 for Shawna Walker, 816 for Brian Mulligan and 678 for Jennifer Finley.

Gabriel will replace departing board member the Rev. Terrance McClain, who decided not to seek re-election.

Only 4.3 percent of Westland voters cast ballots in Tuesday's election — a light turnout that City Clerk Eileen DeHart attributed to voter apathy in the election.

Schofield was congratulated by board colleague Martha Pitsenbarger as vote totals came in at Westland City Hall. They already knew Schofield had won in Wayne, where she lives.



Schofield Gabriel

HOW THEY FINISHED
Cindy Schofield: 1,431 votes
William Gabriel: 982 votes
Shawna Walker: 927 votes
Brian Mulligan: 816 votes
Jennifer Finley: 678 votes

"I'd like to thank the citizens of Wayne-Westland for the confidence they have shown in me by re-electing me to my position," said Schofield, who works for a family-owned rental property management business in Westland. "I look forward to continuing to work with my fellow board members."

Schofield and Gabriel will join board holdovers Pitsenbarger, Steve Becher, Skip Monit, Ed Turner and Fred Weaver.

Gabriel, whose background includes airline management, is a former Westland Library Board member who now serves on the city's Planning Commission.

"I feel like school is just about to let out (for the summer) for the students, but I'm going into a four-year school board term myself," he said. "I've got a lot of homework to do."

Please see **ELECTION, A2**

Historical Society's fashion show features the styles of yesteryear

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

And the Oscar for Best Costume Design goes to ... the Westland Historical Society.

OK, so local historians might not earn a golden statuette. They didn't shoot a feature film, after all.

But they are hoping to turn some heads — and make a little

money — by designing a fashion show highlighting styles of days gone by, whether models want to represent the flash of the Roaring Twenties or a more repressive Victorian era.

The fashion show featuring styles of days gone by will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 4, at the Bailey Recreation Center, behind City Hall on Ford Road between Wayne and

Newburgh.

"Watch as volunteer models wearing clothing styles from as far back as the early 18th century strut down the catwalk," Westland Historical Commission member Bethany Stawasz said, in an announcement she issued about the historical fashion show. "As each model walks the runway, a narrator will discuss what her

outfit says about the woman who would have worn it years ago."

Admission will be \$10. Refreshments prepared by the William D. Ford Career Technical Center will be available. The event will provide money for efforts to continue improving the Westland Historic Village Park, which includes buildings

like the restored, 1800s-era Octagon House on Wayne Road between Cherry Hill and Marquette.

The historical society is looking for wannabe models, too, including people who have their own historical clothing from any past time period or those who are willing to pick up a pattern and make their own costume.

For more information, contact Stawasz through the historic park at (734) 326-1110 or by e-mail at bethstawasz@yahoo.com.

Tickets will be available at the Bailey Center, the historic park and from any member of the Westland Historical Society.

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

© The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

For Home Delivery call: (866) 887-2737

Volume 43 Number 99

Parkside DENTAL TEAM

At the corner of Warren and Central City Parkway Westland

Ph. (734) 261-6060
www.parkside-dental-team.com

NOW OPEN!
We'd love to meet you!

Stop in to redeem your FREE toothbrush!

INDEX

APARTMENTS	C4
AUTOMOTIVE	C8
CROSSWORD PUZZLE	C6
HOMETOWNLIFE	D1
JOB	C10
OBITUARIES	D4
OPINION	A10
PINK	D6
REAL ESTATE	C3
SERVICE GUIDE	C3
SPORTS	B1

Coming Sunday in Health

Autism service dogs help children, parents

AROUND WESTLAND Volunteer opportunity

The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland is looking for teen volunteers to help with the 2008 Summer Reading Program, "Catch the Reading Bug!"

'Stamp Out Hunger'

U.S. Postal Service employees are asking Westland residents to join them in the fight against hunger by putting their non-perishable donation in a bag by their mailbox on Saturday, May 10.

5K walk/run

The city will join North Brothers Ford in urging walkers and runners to help cancer research by joining the company's 10th annual 5K run/walk, scheduled for 9 a.m. Saturday, May 17.

Oke, Mang set to roll up sleeves on LPS board

BY REBECCA JONES OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Patrice Mang and Greg Oke, who faced each other in last year's race for the Livonia Public Schools board, both won four-year terms in Tuesday's election.

Incumbent Tom Bailey was defeated. Oke, an incumbent, was top vote-getter, taking 36 percent of the votes. Mang came in second, with 2,792, or 33 percent. Bailey had 2,600, 31 percent.

"I feel pretty good," Oke said. "It's nice to have some validation that people think I've been doing a good job."

Mang said she hopes people see "her willingness to work with everybody on the school board."

"I will do my best to represent all voters in Livonia Public Schools," she said.

Both Oke and Mang work for school districts. Oke is a middle school assistant principal in Center Line. Mang teaches special education at Allen Park High School.

Mang cited her knowledge of education and school finance. "Voters wanted someone who had experience in the field," said Mang, at a gathering of supporters at Giulio's restaurant on Plymouth.

Some Mang supporters advocated that voters vote only for her, even though voters could cast ballots for two. Mang said



Challenger Patrice Mang is applauded by her supporters as she gives her victory speech. She won a seat on the Livonia Public Schools board in Tuesday's election.

BY THE NUMBERS: Gregory Oke - 3,850 votes; Patrice Mang - 2,792 votes; Tom Bailey - 2,600 votes.

she had no part of that, and had no knowledge of whether that led to her victory.

"I was out there to market myself," she said.

In his first year, Oke said he focused on getting to know fellow board members and recently received his Michigan Association of School Boards certification.

"I know what I'm in for this time around," said Oke, at a gathering of supporters at the home of school board president Lynda Scheel.

He has raised the issue of all-day kindergarten, which he said will be a part of the upcoming budget discussions. He said the issue requires more study.

LPS is predicting a \$5 million budget shortfall and loss of about 400 students for the upcoming school year.

Oke said he's feeling more pessimistic about this round of budget talks than he was last year at this time.

"I don't think any district is being optimistic about their



Livonia Public Schools board incumbents Greg Oke (left) and Tom Bailey share their thoughts, as results from Tuesday's election roll in.

standpoint," he said. "For districts with declining enrollment, there are a lot of challenges that go along with it. I think we'll do the best we can with it."

Bailey said he was happy to see Oke would make it to a full four-year term. He was disappointed, however, with low voter turnout and sign-stealing around town.

"I wish more people had found it important to vote," Bailey said, adding "I ran the best race I possibly could."

Less than 6 percent turnout of Livonia's 67,000 voters and about 4 percent of Westland's 66,500 cast ballots. Candidates had different opinions about whether stand-alone school board elections make sense. A

bill introduced last year would have forced districts to piggy-back with other elections, but that did not make it out of committee.

Mang said she would support moving them — preferably to August when local issues such as city council primaries are decided, but she would not be opposed to having them in November.

Oke said moving school elections would save money, but voters would probably not get to know the candidates as well.

If elections were to take place in November, holding them in odd years, would be a nice middle ground, he said.

rrjones@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2054

Man sentenced to prison for home break-in

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

An Inkster man will spend six to 20 years in prison following allegations he broke into a Westland home, robbed and pistol-whipped a resident, then fled across city limits to Garden City, where he was captured.

Lawrence Keith Patterson, 40, recently learned his fate after he pleaded no contest in Wayne County Circuit Court to a charge of first-degree home invasion, stemming from an afternoon incident last Aug. 17 on Cowan near Venoy.

An intruder broke into a house but was caught when a 22-year-old resident, accompanied by his girlfriend, came home unexpectedly, police Lt.

Dan Karrick has said. Police arrested Patterson amid allegations he "pointed a gun at the victim, hit him on the head with it, demanded money and then reached in his pocket and took some (prescription Vicodin) pills," Karrick said.

Patterson fled the scene but a police dog and witnesses helped police find him hiding in a garbage can on residential Dover Street, near Warren and Venoy in neighboring Garden

City, Karrick said.

No shots were fired during the incident. The victim was treated at a hospital and released for injuries he received during the assault.

Patterson had been ordered to stand trial by Westland 18th District Judge Sandra Ference Cicirelli last August on charges of first-degree home invasion, armed robbery, assault with intent to do great bodily harm and being a habitual

offender with four prior robbery convictions.

In return for his plea, Wayne County prosecutors agreed to drop charges other than first-degree home invasion. His plea also averted a potentially longer prison term. If he had been convicted at trial, he could have faced penalties ranging up to life in prison.

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

ON THE WEB: For an e-newsletter, visit www.hometownlife.com

CITY OF GARDEN CITY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING. Monday, May 19, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Garden City Council will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, May 19, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan.

ELECTION FROM PAGE A1. Gabriel had extensive backing from Westland city officials, and he said some residents told him they wanted Westland to have more representation on the school board. His election will leave the seven-member board with three Westland members, compared to what had been two.

PLAKAS FROM PAGE A1. I went to the law school and asked for an application," he said. "I graduated in 1967 just in time to see Detroit burn." Plakas continued teaching while in law school. Thanks to a guy in his study group, he applied for and got a position at Plymouth High School teaching American history.

Mang (606) and Bailey (548) over Oke (517). Earlier Tuesday, Baracy, the Wayne-Westland superintendent, said the school board will face major issues related to inadequate state funding. He said the district already has made some budget cuts without hurting programs, but he is worried the situation could change. "If the state doesn't start funding our schools ASAP, we will have to make program cuts," he said, predicting that "we're a year away from cuts."

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION. On Thursday, May 15, 2008, various items of the City Westland Police Department will be sold at public auction. The auction will be held at Insurance Auto Auction, 8251 Rawsonville Road, County of Wayne, at 10:30 a.m. The following items will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

Observer WHERE HOMETOWN STORIES UNFOLD. HOW TO REACH US: Home Delivery/Customer Service.....1-866-88-PAPER (866-887-2737) Newsroom.....(734) 953-2104 Fax.....(734) 591-7279 Sports Nightline.....(734) 953-2104 Classified Advertising.....1-800-579-SELL (7355) Display Advertising.....(734) 582-8363

Police seek information about holdup suspect

A fast-food worker was robbed at gunpoint Saturday night while making a night deposit at the Chase branch near the southeast corner of Cherry Hill and Merriman, police said.

No shots were fired, and no one was injured during the 10 p.m. incident, Westland police Sgt. Jeff Trzybinski said.

A female employee of a nearby Burger King told police that she was robbed by a black male described as 5-foot-10 and 160 pounds. She told police he wore dark clothing a scarf over his face.

"He just approached her, got (the money) from her and took off," Trzybinski said.

The lone bandit fled on foot.

Anyone who has information about the incident is encouraged to call the Westland Police Department at (734) 721-6311 or (734) 722-9600.



A Westland firefighter works on knocking down a fire that severely damaged a home in the northwest section of Westland Wednesday morning.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Investigators probe cause of fire

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A large fire damaged a house on the city's northwest side Wednesday morning while the homeowner was out of town, Westland Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Riley said.

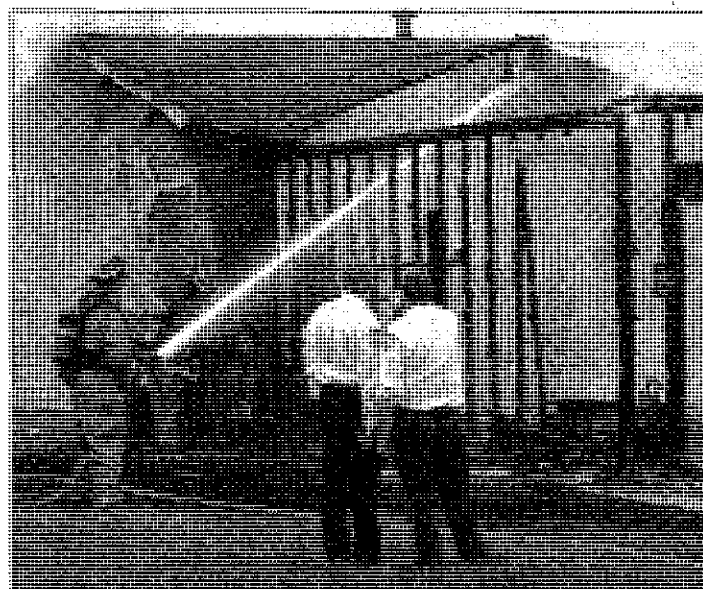
Fifteen firefighters from fire stations across the city quickly battled the blaze after several neighbors called for help around 10:10 a.m., he said.

No one was inside the single-story, three-bedroom ranch home when the fire started, Riley said. The house is located on the corner of Chestnut and Deer Creek, southwest of Hix and Koppernick roads, he said.

"Right now we're not positive what caused it," the deputy fire chief said. "The investigators are trying to figure it out. We have suspicions that it was electrical. The homeowner was out of state, and no foul play is suspected."

The fire destroyed a garage and spread to the attic of the house.

"There was severe smoke



Fifteen firefighters were on hand to battle the house fire on the corner of Chestnut and Deer Creek.

damage throughout the house," Riley said.

Firefighters managed to douse the main body of the fire within about 10 minutes, he said. They kept the flames from engulfing any other homes, although Riley confirmed that

some of the siding was melted on a neighboring house.

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

THE BEST HANDS DOWN! *Make Everyday A Backyard Adventure!*

Save 30-45% Big Beam Construction! Lifetime Warranties!

Ends 5/17/08
100s Of Models! Best Prices! Check The Competition & Save!

Factory Direct Units	
Madison	\$ 799
Overlook	\$ 999
Country Cottage	\$1,099
Cascade	\$1,199

Limited quantities
On-line Catalog: dollhospital.com

Save \$1000 Minimum on any BA unit!
The Doll Hospital & Toy Soldier Shop
3947 W. 12 Mile, Berkley, 248-543-3115 Mon-Sat 10-5:30 Thurs 10-8:30 Sun 12-4

THINKING ABOUT...
CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING

LENNOX
Innovation never felt so good.

- Quietest Units
- Affordable Pricing
- Quality Installation
- Extended Warranties
- EZ Financing

(734) 525-1930

Our 34th Year!
UNITED TEMPERATURE
8919 MIDDLEBELT • LIVONIA

WANTED HOMES THAT NEED ROOFING

Thank You for letting us Showcase the look of our new metal roof system in your community. You can still be a part of our pilot guide roofing opportunity and have a Permanent One Metal Roof!

If your home qualifies for our pilot guide roofing opportunity, we will certainly mark it with you while you will also have access to our special low interest financing.

An One Metal Roofing System will provide your home with unsurpassed beauty and protection... guaranteed!

Don't miss this opportunity to save!

1-800-952-3743
www.OneMetalRoofs.com

Copyright © 2007 One Metal Roofing

The Temperature Is Rising

Give Your Furs The Very Best Summer Care!

340 STORAGE, EXPERT CLEANING & GLAZING ALL ON OUR PREMISES

\$95 For Your First Fur Coat
\$85 For Each Additional Garment

PRESENT THIS AD TO SAVE **ADDITIONAL \$5** ON EVERY CLEAN & STORE UNTIL 5/24/08

Dittrich
Since 1928

Detroit (313) 873-8300
Bloomfield Hills (248) 642-3000
www.dittrichfurs.com

Spinal Stenosis

Severe Back, Sciatica or leg pain guide that You Should Know About... Available free.

Detroit, MI. - Have you tried pills, injections, therapy, surgery or massage? Shane L. Stanley DC offering *The Severe Back, Sciatica, And Disc Pain Guide* for local residents suffering from severe back, sciatica, and leg pain. Discover why your treatments have failed and a possible new solution that most doctors have not heard of. Call 1-800-469-3618 (24 hour recorded message) or go to: www.midischerniation.com

American House Is Now Renting...

FURNISHED MODEL APARTMENTS!

Daily Meals, Housekeeping and Activities also included in monthly rent. Enhancing the lives of seniors since 1979!

Livonia II 11525 Farmington Rd. S. of Plymouth Rd. 734.425.3050	Carpenter 3470 Carpenter Rd. N. of I-94 in Ypsilanti 734.677.0071	Dearborn Hts 26600 Ann Arbor Trail W. of Telegraph Rd. 313.278.6430
Westland I* 1660 Venoy Rd. N. of Michigan Ave. 734.326.7777	Westland II 39201 Joy Rd. E. of I-275 734.454.9838	Westland III 35700 Hunter Ave. W. of Wayne Rd. 734.728.8670

mom's royal treatment **sale!**

extra 10% off diamonds and gemstones, already 40% off.
Plus, save even more when you use the 20% off coupon.

Valid now through Sunday, May 11, 2008.

extra 20% off sale price fine jewelry
Valid on one entire purchase; choose as many items as you like.

P·A·R·I·S·I·A·N

C0020010BMW

Cannot be used in conjunction with any other coupon or special offer. Coupon will not be available in stores. Coupon must be presented at time of purchase. Duplicate coupons will not be honored. Excludes Incredible Value merchandise, Bonus Buys, Door Busters, Fine Jewelry Super Values, Fine Watches, Fine Jewelry special event merchandise, regular price merchandise, service departments, special orders and gift cards. Cannot be applied to previously purchased merchandise or mail/phone/Internet orders.

extra 10% off gold, already 50% off.
Plus, save even more when you use the 20% off coupon.

\$900 with coupon 17" 6mm reversible omega. Reg. \$2500, sale with extra 10% \$1125.	\$306 with coupon Sea-life slide. Reg. \$850, sale with extra 10% 382.50.
203.04 with coupon Green amethyst drop earrings. Reg. \$435, sale with extra 10% 234.90	

P·A·R·I·S·I·A·N
COME TO THE RIGHT PLACE!

For the store nearest you, visit us at bonton.com.
Sale prices effective now through Sunday, May 11 2008. No price adjustments for previously purchased clearance merchandise. Entire Stock offers exclude Clearance and Incredible Value merchandise. Regular and original prices reflect offering prices in effect during the 90 days before or after this sale, but not necessarily during the past 30 days. Savings may not be based on actual sales. Intermediate markdowns may have been taken. Merchandise, style and color availability may vary by store. Ct. t.w. = carat total weight. All diamond weights are approximate. All gold 14K, unless otherwise indicated. Sale excludes Fine Jewelry Super Values, Fine Jewelry special event merchandise, Moissanite Fine Jewelry Collection and Fine Watches. Sorry, not available by mail, phone or Internet order. [18143D]

Visit us and learn how to save \$1,000.00 instantly!

Welcome Home
American House
Senior Living Residences

www.americanhouse.com / TDD#: 800-649-3777



WANTED!

**50 PEOPLE
TO TRY**

**“Revolutionary Hearing Devices
that Combine Comfort and Clarity”**

DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY:

50 PEOPLE WANTED WHO ARE EXPERIENCING ONE OR MORE OF THESE PROBLEMS:

- Hear words but can't understand what they are.
- Complain that your TV or radio are too loud.
- Difficulty hearing in restaurants or group settings
- Your spouse, family or friends complain you are not hearing what they say.
- People seem to mumble and you are always asking them to speak up or repeat themselves.

Remember Hearing loss does not discriminate, if you feel that you or a loved one has one or more of these problems come into Fluke Hearing for a **FREE HEARING EVALUATION**

Fluke Hearing Instruments will perform a comprehensive hearing evaluation at **NO CHARGE** for the first 50 callers to determine if you a candidate for this **“RISK FREE”** program. Applicants selected will be asked to evaluate the latest in Hearing Aid technology.

EXCEPTIONAL SAVINGS FOR THOSE WHO QUALIFY.

Fluke Hearing Instruments is a family owned, multi line hearing aid distributor including: NU Ear, Starkey, GN ReSound, Seimens, Phonak, Audina, Electone, Magnatone, Widex, Interton and Vivatone. Why limit yourself to just one product choice!

Some as small as a dime!

Candidates will be selected:

May 8th-16th from 9am-5pm
Call **734.591.4327** TODAY to be one of the 50 selected for a **“RISK FREE”** trial.



*May is Better Hearing Month
Have Your Hearing Checked Today!*

In Conjunction with National Better Hearing Month, Fluke Hearing Instruments would like to encourage every person in your family to get a free hearing evaluation.

Hearing loss does not discriminate age, 1.4 million children have a discernible hearing loss (Nationally) that goes uncorrected, this can cause long term problems with social skills, language and speech development, grades, emotional health, and self esteem issues. It affects

job performance, earning power, and creates relationship problems in adults and frequently causes discrimination against the person who suffers from it. Hearing loss can cause depression, feelings of isolation, anger and frustration.

If you feel you or a loved one is experiencing a hearing loss please contact us today for your Free Hearing Evaluation. Risk Free Trials available.

20% OFF All Rhapsody Products

FLUKE OF LIVONIA

37771 7 Mile Rd. • Livonia, MI 48152 • Phone (734) 591-4327

www.flukehearing.com We accept most insurance and Care Credit Financing is available.



Hear like nature intended

FLUKE HEARING INSTRUMENTS
866-334-7712

Lansing | St. Johns | Portland | Charlotte | Jackson | Brighton | Ann Arbor | Livonia

Schoolcraft holds two commencement ceremonies

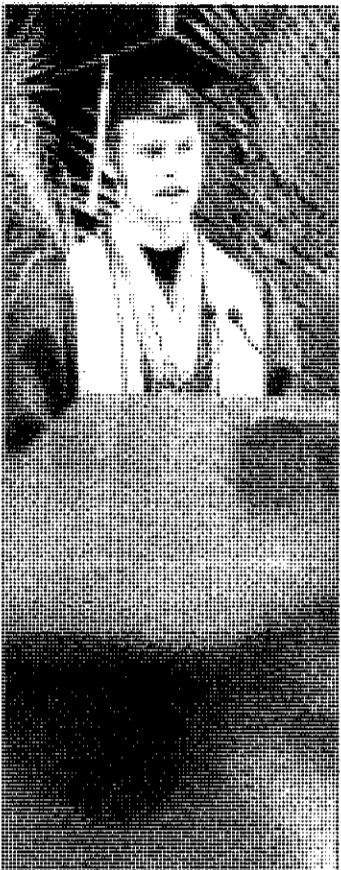


Graduate Cindy Babcock of Canton makes sure everything is in place before the start of Schoolcraft College graduation ceremonies Saturday afternoon.



Schoolcraft College graduate Patricia Manning smiles as she receives her degree from Schoolcraft College president Dr. Conway Jeffress during graduation ceremonies Saturday.

PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Schoolcraft graduate Andrew Brown gives the student reflections address during graduation ceremonies Saturday at the Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth Township.



Students from the Wayne County Regional 5-08 police academy salute during the national anthem of Friday's public safety programs graduation at Schoolcraft College.

On Saturday, Schoolcraft College celebrated its 43rd commencement at Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth Township. More than 1,300 students were eligible to receive diplomas in the ceremony, with about 420 students participating in the actual ceremony.

Nancy L. Gioia, director, Sustainable Mobility Technologies and Hybrid Vehicle Programs for Ford Motor Co., gave the commencement address. Andrew Brown, president of college's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the national honor society for community colleges, also addressed the graduating class.

Graduates were honored for their pursuit and completion of a wide range of associate degrees in arts, applied science, engineering, general studies and science; post-associate certificates and skill certificates in a number of areas.

In addition to the general commencement ceremony on Saturday the Public Safety programs, including police, fire, emergency medical technician, homeland security, and associate academies, celebrated their commencement in the Physical Education building on the college's Livonia campus on Friday.



Telaine Hill of Southfield has the hood of her graduation gown put on by Dan Milewski of Schoolcraft College during graduation ceremonies Saturday.

By Molly Abraham (Detroit News)

By Sylvia Rector (Free Press)

Make your reservations for

Mother's DAY

We will open at 11:00 am. Sunday prices.

Cauchos
Brazilian Steakhouse

The Authentic Brazilian Steakhouses

248-380-7770

39550 7 Mile Road - Northville Twp, MI 48167

www.CauchosSteakHouse.com



1 TROPHY, 6 PLAYERS, 659,976 GERMS.

Kids are the #1 spreader of germs that can cause colds, flu and other illnesses. Eliminate 99% of germs and bacteria with Inner-Clean® Anti-Bacterial detailing, available only at Ziebart! This exclusive anti-bacterial cleaning process kills 99% of germs in a vehicle's interior. It cleans, disinfects and sanitizes every surface in your vehicle including leather, carpet, fabric, plastic, vinyl and glass.

A Healthier Car Means Healthier Kids!

Inner-Clean®
Anti-Bacterial Detailing

Window Tint
Any 5 Windows

\$79.95 Most Vehicles
Reg. \$109.95
Expires 5/17/08

\$169.95 Most Vehicles
Reg. \$199.95
Expires 5/17/08

plus **FREE Fabric Protection!**

- Chesterfield..... 48850 Gratiot..... **586-949-3311**
- Dearborn..... 3251 S. Telegraph..... **313-585-2030**
- St. Clair Shores.. 19706 E. Nine Mile Rd... **586-773-8300**
- Utica..... 44033 Van Dyke..... **586-254-1116**
- Westland..... 32932 Ford Rd..... **734-425-5170**

Ziebart

DETAILING • WINDOW TINT • PROTECTION

M-F 8-5:30, Sat. 8-4:30

*2008 Ziebart International Corp. Cannot be combined with any other offer.

PRICES SLASHED FURTHER
JUST IN TIME FOR
MOTHERS DAY



HOWARD'S

DISCOUNT JEWELRY
Low Prices Since 1948

NOW TAKE AN ADDITIONAL **15%** OFF EVERY SALE PRICE

FARMINGTON HILLS STORE GOING OUT OF BUSINESS

STERLING HEIGHTS STORE

CONTINUES TO SEEK A BUYER TO
CARRY ON THE 60 YEAR TRADITION

SAVE UP TO 73% OFF

SHOWCASES MUST BE CLEARED TO BRING
DOWN SELLING PRICE OF BOTH STORES

STERLING HEIGHTS VAN DYKE @ 14 1/2 MILE 586.268.9500 MON-THURS 10AM-6PM FRI 10AM-8PM SAT 10AM-5PM & SUN 11AM-5PM	FARMINGTON HILLS 8 MILE - 2 BLKS W. OF GRAND RIVER 248.476.1921 MON-THURS 10AM-6PM FRI 10AM-8PM SAT 10AM-5PM & SUN 11AM-5PM
---	--

Can not be combined with any other offer.

©2008 Ziebart International Corp.

Israeli bonds offer a solid investment

At a recent talk I gave, I was asked about what I thought of Israeli bonds as an investment. Since this week marks Israel's 60th anniversary, I thought it would be a great time to discuss bonds and, in particular, Israeli bonds.



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

From an investment standpoint, a bond is an obligation — an obligation to repay the face amount of the bond plus interest. Therefore, in any bond obligation, one of the first issues is the strength of the issuer of the bond; in other words, the quality of the bond.

The highest quality bonds are the bonds issued by and backed by the U.S. government. There is no risk of default involved in those bonds. On the other hand, in bonds issued by companies that are having financial difficulties, the risks of default are much greater. Therefore,

entities with low credit ratings, in order to attract investors, must pay a substantially higher rate of interest on their obligations than entities in good financial shape and those issued by the U.S. government.

The state of Israel bonds are considered high-quality bonds. The state of Israel has been issuing bonds since the beginning of its existence and has never defaulted on its obligations to either repay the principal amount of the debt or to make an interest payment. In addition, all the rating services highly rate Israeli bonds. Therefore, from a standpoint

of quality, there is no issue that Israeli bonds are considered high-quality.

With regards to the interest rate, there are a variety of different bond programs. Some of these obligations pay interest on a regular basis, while others are zero coupon bonds which mean that you receive your interest upon maturity of the bond. If you compare other high-quality investment grade obligations with Israeli bonds, you will see that Israeli bonds are paying competitive rates of return.

The key elements when you consider investing in a bond are its quality, maturity and interest rates. However, there is another intangible when it comes to Israeli bonds. Most investors, when it comes to bonds, do not really care as to how the proceeds from the

bonds are used. Many people who invest in Israeli bonds do take into consideration the quality of the bond and the return on investment; however, they also factor in what the bonds are being used to finance. Israeli bonds are used by the state of Israel to build the infrastructure of the Jewish state. Therefore, many investors and individuals who want to express their support for the state of Israel purchase Israeli bonds, not for the investment value, but as an expression of solidarity with the state of Israel. There are very few investments that you can make where the motive may not be primarily financial in nature and at the same time receive a fair rate of return.

For investors who wish to purchase Israeli bonds, whether it is to show support for

Israel, for the financial rewards or even for both, we are lucky enough to have an Israeli bond office in our community. Its phone number is (248) 352-6555. In addition, to find out more information about purchasing Israeli bonds, you can go to the Web site, www.israel-bonds.com.

There are a variety of different types of Israeli bonds with different maturities and face amounts. There is no one bond that is necessarily better than the other. Like all investments, the key is which one best suits your individual situation.

The Detroit area has had a history of purchasing Israeli bonds. Most people assume that Israeli bonds are only purchased by people who are Jewish because of their natural attraction to Israel. However, what may surprise you is the

number of Israeli bonds that have been purchased by non-Jews, corporations, unions, pension plans and by nonprofits.

For investors who are looking at showing their solidarity with Israel on its 60th anniversary, Israeli bonds are definitely an investment worth considering. After all, it's one of the few investments where you can have your cake and eat it, too, in the fact that you can get a fair rate of return and at the same time demonstrate your support and confidence in the state of Israel.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial advisor. If you would like him to respond to your questions, please e-mail Bloom at rick@bloomassetmanagement.com. You can hear Bloom live on Sundays from noon to 3:00 p.m. on WDTK-AM (1400).

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Listings for the Community Calendar can be submitted by e-mail at smaison@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

'Springtacular'
The Wayne Business and Professional Women will hold a fashion show, "Springtacular," Thursday, May 22, at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe at Annapolis in Wayne. The event, which includes dinner, begins at 6 p.m. The fashions are by Dress Barn and Dress Barn Women. Accompanying the local models will be local male celebrities, such as Mayor Al Haidous and City Manager John Zech. Tickets cost \$25 per person or \$20 for seniors and students. Proceeds will fund a scholarship for a high school senior as well as a scholarship for a woman returning to school. Tickets are available by calling Paulette Medvecky at (734) 641-3571.

Installation of officers
Westland American Legion, Westland

Post 251 will be having its second annual installation of officers dinner/dance Friday, June 20, at the VFW Post 3323 Hall on Wayne Road at Avondale, Westland. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with a buffet dinner served at 7 p.m. There will be an open bar, door prizes and dancing to the music of the Walt Liepec Band 11 p.m. Installation of officers will take place at 8 p.m. Veterans and the public are welcome. Tickets are \$20 per person. For more information and tickets, call (734) 751-2275 or (734) 326-2607.

Spa Day
Starfish Family Services and Gateway Community Health are hosting a "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun" Spa Day to give moms an opportunity to relax and pamper themselves in honor of Mother's Day. Spa Day will be 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, May 12, at Starfish Family Services, 30000 Hivley Road, Inkster. The day of free pampering includes massages, manicures, Tarot card readings and makeup consultations with Mary Kay representatives. The American Cancer Society, Social Security for Women, Community Healthcare Resources, American Diabetes Association, American Heart



Team tryouts

Metro Cheer with locations in Westland and Bloomfield Hills will hold team placements Saturday, May 10, for children ages 3 to 18. No experience is necessary. Metro Cheer has earned more than 30 national championships, five High Point, and six Grand Champion honors in addition to receiving a partial paid bid to the 2008 Dance World Championship in Orlando, Florida. Call (734) 722-9664 or send an e-mail to michmetrocheer@aol.com to reserve a spot.

Association and First Step will have representatives on hand to talk to women. The event is open to the public. To register, call Renee Lige at (248) 615-9730 by May 8. Starfish Family Services is the largest private, non-profit human service agency in western Wayne County. It offers 12 specialized programs to help educate and empower vulnerable families and children. For more information, visit the Web site at www.starfish-online.org.

In concert
The American Liberty Pops Singers are

the featured group in a '60s concert at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 17, benefiting the Veterans Program of the Brain Association of Michigan. The concert is sponsored by Christus Victor Lutheran Church of Dearborn Heights in cooperation with Hope Lutheran Church on 12 Mile east of Haggerty in Farmington. All proceeds will go to benefit our brain injured heroes from the War in Iraq and Afghanistan. For more information, call Christine Baldwin at (313) 706-3266. All tickets are complimentary and available at the door. Seating is limited.

Free workshop
Dr. Carol Ann Fischer, a holistic physician, wellness consultant and clinical nutritionist, is presenting "Detox-Spring Cleaning for a Healthier You" 6-9 p.m. Wednesday May 14, at the Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, Livonia. Learn about the toxins in our environment and what they are doing to your body and health and about the different types of detoxification that are available at the free workshop. Seating limited to the first 15 callers. For reservations, call (734) 756-6904 or go online to www.TLCHolisticWellness.com.

Gain inner peace
University of Detroit Mercy professor Mike Whitty will lead a talk and workshop to empower people to gain more inner peace at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 13, at Unity of Livonia, on Five Mile Road. He'll be the guest speaker at the Citizens for Peace regular monthly meeting. All meetings are open to the public.

A builder of regional, community, and human unity, Whitty offers free talks on peace, spirituality, economics, politics, ecology and business. He is the National Chancellor of the International Association of Educators for World Peace, and a member of Peace Action of Michigan and the Gray Panthers. Donations are accepted by the Citizens for Peace for use of the church facilities. For additional information, contact Colleen Mills, (734) 425-0079.

Fish Dial-A-Ride
Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is seeking volunteer drivers. A nonprofit community service group, it provides door-to-door rides to non-emergency medical and other necessary appointments for senior and disabled residents of Garden City, Livonia and Westland who are unable to drive and have no alternative transportation. Volunteers can specify days, times, and areas they're willing to drive. For additional information, call (888) 660-2007 and leave a message.

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 taken to support the bands. Check out Higher Rock on the Web at www.tsa.higherrockcafe4t.com or call (734) 722-3660.

Even Weird Al can't believe the things you'll find at a garage sale! He found this accordion...



along with a lava lamp, trampoline and a pair of hiking boots. Some people will buy anything, so if you have anything to sell, call us and we'll place your ad, give you some great free stuff, and hope this guy comes to your sale!

GARAGE SALE KIT INCLUDES: Kits are available only with purchase of a Garage Sale Package

- Signs • Price Stickers • Inventory Sheets
- 2 pages of great advice for a successful sale
- 2 FREE passes to Emagine Theatres
- Free 4 Square Buddy's Pizza • Buddy's Food Discount Card

THE
Observer & Eccentric
NEWSPAPERS

CALL **1-800-579-7355**

OR VISIT **HOMETOWNLife.com**

Your kit will contain 4 FREE Emagine Theatre passes when you place your ad online. Grab Your Scissors, Clip And Enjoy!

\$2.00 OFF the purchase of any LARGE COMBO at our Concession Stand

One coupon per purchase - not valid with other coupons. No cash value. Offer expires 11-30-08

EMAGINE
THE MAGIC OF MOVIES & MORE

EMAGINE CANTON
39535 Ford Road, just East of I-275
EMAGINE NOVI - 44425 W. 12 Mile Road,
1/4 Mile West of Novi Road

www.emagine-entertainment.com
FOR SHOWTIMES & TO PURCHASE TICKETS
BY PHONE CALL:
1-888-319-FILM (3456)

\$3.00 OFF ANY 8 SQUARE CHEESE PIZZA

*Offer not valid with any other coupon or discount. **One coupon per person, per pizza, per table.

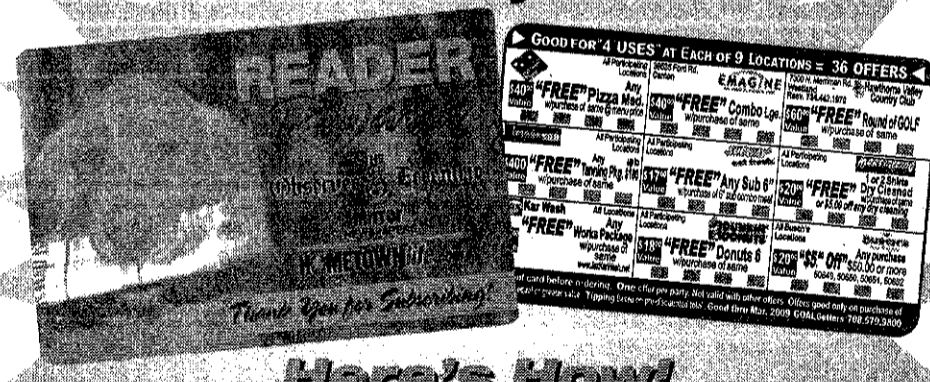


Restaurant / Bar / Carry-out
Detroit 313-892-9001 • Warren 586-574-9200
Farmington Hills 248-855-4600 • Livonia 734-261-3550
Dearborn 313-562-5900 • Auburn Hills 248-276-9040
Carry-out / Cafe
Pointe Plaza 313-884-7400
Carry-out Only
Royal Oak 248-549-8000 • Bloomfield Hills 248-645-0300
Join Our Email Club at www.buddyspizza.com

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers is not responsible for garage sale kits that are not received

Reader Rewards

Get Your
"Reader Rewards Card"
today!



Here's How!

Simply subscribe to or renew your subscription for 6 months and we'll send you a Readers Rewards Card!

Call 866.887.2737 or mail today...

Featuring... **\$600 in FREE STUFF!**

36 MORE REASONS to subscribe to your hometown newspaper!

THE
Observer & Eccentric
NEWSPAPERS

CLIP AND MAIL OR CALL 1-866-887-2737

Mail to: Circulation Department, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150

I'd like to subscribe to my hometown newspaper every Sunday and Thursday for six months at \$34.95 and receive a Reader Rewards Card

PAYMENT ENCLOSED BILL ME

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Credit Card Information: VISA MasterCard Discover Amex

Please automatically renew my subscription at expiration.

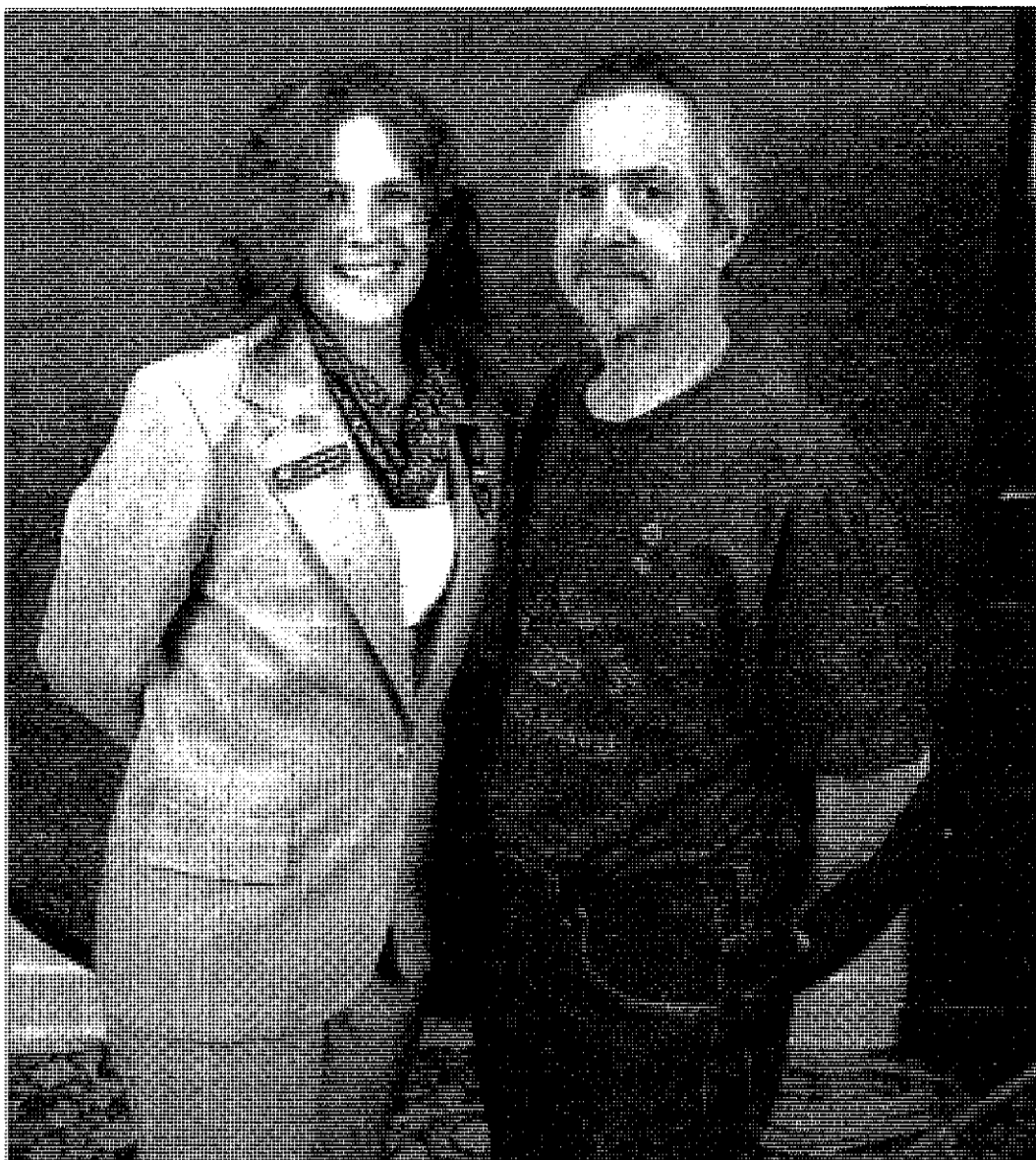
Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Participating Merchants:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Busch's Super Market | Dunkin Donuts | Image Sun Tanning |
| Subway | Domino's Pizza | Jax Car Wash |
| One Hour Martinizing Dry Cleaners | Emagine Theater | Hawthorn Valley Golf Course |

Reader Rewards



Candace Myshock (left) received the Thanks Badge, while Joseph Anthony Rodriguez, (right) received the Adult Appreciation Pin.

Girl Scouts honor 3 volunteers

Girl Scouts of the Huron Valley Council recently honored three volunteers for their work with the organization.

Linda Gartner of Monroe and Candace Myshock of Belleville with the GSUSA Thanks Badge, the organization's highest volunteer recognition for outstanding service to girls, while Joseph Rodriguez of Westland received the Adult Appreciation Pin.

The trio were honored at council's 2008 Volunteer Recognition Dinner held April 16 at Kensington Court, Ann Arbor.

Gartner has been active in Girl Scouting for 42 years. Many volunteers in GSHVC are certified in first aide, due to her efforts, training them herself or training their instructors. She has been active in adult development, fund-raising and troop support.



The Girl Scout Council of Huron Valley presented Linda Gartner with the Thanks Badge, the highest adult award in Girl Scouting.

Gartner was recently appointed area chair for the Run of the Rivers Area Association.

Myshock is currently a Service Unit Manager, a leader for two Girl Scout troops, a trainer and a member of several committees. Her enthusiasm and commitment have impacted not only the girls in her troop, but also the service unit and the entire council.

Rodriguez has been a Girl Scout member for 19 years. He has served as annual meeting delegate, troop first aider and first aide trainer for the council at various locations. Rodriguez has participated in Fall Ball, older girl program planning, life guarding and Girl Scout Cookie delivery for many years.

Girl Scouts of the Huron Valley Council serves one in six girls living in Livingston, Monroe and Washtenaw Counties and parts of Oakland and Wayne counties. For more information, or to join Girl Scouts, call (800) 49-SCOUT, or visit the Web site at gshvc.org.

Parents upset by proposed changes in special ed staffing

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When Pam McLean's daughter Ally, 12, started at Old Village School in Northville she was 3 years old. She couldn't walk, communicate or feed herself. She wasn't toilet trained.

"Now she can do all those things," said McLean of Plymouth.

But she and other parents are concerned that a proposal to increase the number of students per teacher for the severely cognitively impaired and the severely multiple impaired will jeopardize their children's safety and reduce their chance to learn.

The Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency is proposing changing the teacher/student ratio for severely multiple impaired from 1 to 9 to 1 to 30 and the aide ratio from 2 to 9 to 1 to 10 and changing the teacher ratio for severely cognitively impaired from 1 to 12 to 1 to 30 and the aide ratio from 2 to 12 to 1 to 10.

The proposal does not affect autistically-impaired, moderately-impaired or trainable programs. The plan does make small changes in programs for the emotionally impaired, hearing impaired, visually impaired and in speech and language services.

State law limits the number of students per teacher to 12 for severely impaired children, but RESA can request a waiver from the state Superintendent of Public Instruction Michael Flanagan.

A meeting is scheduled tonight by the Wayne County Parent Advisory Committee to take public comment on the proposals, which were announced to parents on April 24. The changes can be read at www.resa.net. RESA is accepting comments through May 15 by e-mail at proposedchanges@resa.net.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

What: Hearing on RESA staffing proposal
When: 6 p.m. Thursday, May 8
Where: 5454 Vandy Road, Wayne

net, by fax at (734)334-1494 or by mail at Proposed Rule Changes, Wayne RESA, 33500 Van Born Road, PO Box 807, Wayne, MI 48184-2497.

Mark Francis, RESA director of special education and early intervention, said Wednesday that special education programs are facing difficult budget problems.

"We are looking at funding we receive from the state and federal government and it has gone flat, 1 to 2 percent over the last three years. Costs are up 5 to 8 percent," he said.

He said the proposals were an attempt to get ahead of the issue and to avoid having to go to local districts and get the money from them.

"I've read the e-mails. We take this seriously," Francis said. "If there is enough concern, we have to take a step back and make recommendations."

Francis emphasized that these changes will not be implemented in the coming school year if approved.

Safety is a key concern for parents.

"They are putting 30 children in one classroom," said McLean. "I cringe at the potential safety issues that can come up."

McLean said Old Village was built in 1905 and that children have to be helped down stairways. She said some children are in wheelchairs.

Leslie Terrian of Livonia is worried that her son, Ben, 10, could have a seizure and not receive proper attention.

"If he gets a seizure, an adult staff member has to give him an injection of

Diastat. How can they take care of Ben if they have 29 other kids."

Ben has cerebral palsy and seizure disorder.

Francis said that all 30 students would not be in a single classroom. He said about 10 would be in a classroom with a teacher and para-pro and other students would be with therapists and in physical education, music therapy and other programs.

"There are a lot of adults in the program," he said.

But as concerned as parents are about safety, it is the loss of individual attention that worries them most.

"During much of the day our kids will be basically unsupervised," said Jo Ann Johnson of Plymouth, whose son Randy, 12, attends Old Village.

"These kids are still learners," said McLean. "The state of Michigan has been in the forefront of special education. These kids do learn."

The parents were enthusiastic about what the schools have accomplished with their children.

"Best story: When Ben started at the school he was 5, he would only eat pureed baby food," said Terrian.

"They taught him to eat. Now he can eat cheeseburgers to salads and he loves to eat. We owe everything to that school. Now that won't happen with 30 kids in the classroom."

Johnson said her son has learned to walk up and down stairs, dress and undress himself and be independent.

"Education would be compromised," she said. "I can't say enough positive things about this school."

Francis said RESA will take comments through May 15 and give serious consideration to alternate approaches.

"It's like everything else in education, anytime you makes changes it's very emotional for people," he said.

Cheer for the hometeam, read today's **SPORTS** section

JCPenney Optical

LIMITED TIME ONLY!

Buy one Get one **FREE!**

or 40% off a single pair of eyeglasses!

includes:

- Any frame
- Scratch-resistant lenses
- Your choice single vision, lined bifocals or **No-Line Bifocals!**

We Accept Most Vision Care Plans.
Call today for your eye exam or bring in your Rx.

Canton: 43690 Ford Road (734) 207-4346
Chesterfield Township: Waterside Marketplace (586) 949-0639

BIGGEST CONTACT LENS SALE OF THE YEAR!

All Major Brands on Sale
May 1st-31st!

CALL 1-877-537-1775

DIXBORO GENERAL STORE

MOM'S LOVE US!

Everything For Your Home!

Our Wood Furniture and Upholstered Furniture is one of the best selections of furnishings anywhere! Combined with our selection of accessories, your house becomes a home!

Come visit now, and you can also roam through our garden filled with Plants, Garden Furniture, Yard Decor and more!

AT THE BEST WDIV, Channel 4, selected us the area's **Best Gift Shop!**

Dixboro General Store
5206 Plymouth Road
1½ miles east of US-23
(15 Minutes from Downtown Plymouth)
Just east of Ann Arbor
(734) 663-5558
www.dixboro.com



Lending a hand

Temeka Bush of Westland who works in the Comcast's Westland office, Lanora Summersett of Comcast's Southfield office) and 7-year-old Kerrigan Coleman of Westland steam a prom gown for students at Vista Maria in Dearborn Heights. Comcast volunteers, family and friends sorted and organized donated prom attire as part of Comcast Cares Day, the company's nationwide day of service, on Saturday, May 3. More than 30 nonprofit organizations throughout the state of Michigan benefited from the efforts of thousands of Comcast volunteers.

'Catwalk' benefit addresses pet overpopulation

BY REBECCA JONES
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

If there are stray cats roaming neighborhoods, a Redford couple would at least like them to be spayed or neutered. Louis Sabo and Rebecca Godo started Project Kitty Connect a year and a half ago. A fund-raiser Saturday, May 10, will raise money for a Trap, Neuter, Return program, which Sabo describes as a humane way to manage and reduce the number of homeless cats. Catwalk 2008 registration

begins at 9 a.m. and the walk starts at 10 a.m. in the Nankin Mills picnic area. Registration is \$10, and walkers can also collect pledges prior to the event. So far, 20 to 40 walkers have signed on, including some local Girl Scouts. Through Project Kitty Connect, local veterinarians have agreed to offer vaccinations and spay or neutering operations at a discount, Sabo said. Project Kitty Connect is getting its start in Redford, but Sabo said the hope is to expand

it throughout the metro area. After they are trapped, kittens and adoptable adults, many of which were abandoned pets, will be placed in homes. Other stray adult cats will be returned to the streets from which they came, Sabo said. Where a willing caregiver can be found to monitor the stray colony, Project Kitty Connect will help supply food and a winter shelter. "Stray cats have a useful service to the neighborhood," Sabo said. "Typically it's a choice between cats and rats."

The nuisance, he said, comes from urine spraying or tom-cats getting into a fight over a female. Neutering addresses that, and cuts down on overpopulation, he added. Females can get pregnant five or six times per year, resulting in overpopulation. The "trap and euthanize" method doesn't stop the population explosion, Sabo said. Other cats move in and take the captured cats' place. For information about Project Kitty Connect, e-mail rebecca-godo@hotmail.com.

MDEQ sponsors compliance conference

A western Wayne County lawmaker is inviting local community members and businesses to attend the Michigan Environmental Compliance Conference to learn about ways to improve environmental health and safety standards. The conference will take place on Tuesday, June 7, at Laurel Manor Banquet and Conference Center, 39000 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia. "I encourage our community

to take advantage of this opportunity and attend the conference," said state Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland. "The natural resources we enjoy in Michigan are a vital part of what makes our community so special. By working together to strengthen our environmental consciousness, we will attract more visitors and investments to our community - and that will create more jobs for our workers." The Michigan Environmental

Compliance Conference is sponsored by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). More than 20 sessions will be offered, ranging from proper waste management to environmentally friendly ways to expand facilities. An expert exhibit area will also be offered to provide attendees one-on-one assistance with DEQ agency representatives. "As the Great Lakes State, we must be especially vigilant in

protecting our precious resources," LeBlanc said. "Programs such as this educate our residents and help ensure that our community is a great place to live, work and raise our families." People can register online at www.michigan.gov/deqworkshops. The registration fee for the conference is \$100. For more information, call the DEQ at (517) 373-0607 or LeBlanc's office at (888) 737-5325 or at (517) 373-2576.

PURE ENTERTAINMENT
Get on the ball. Read today's **SPORTS** coverage!

Woman charged in sex case wants charges dismissed

A Westland woman charged with prostitution is asking District Court Judge William Bolle to dismiss charges against her.

Alycia Martin appeared Monday for a pretrial conference in 52-4 District Court in Troy. She had turned herself in to the court last week after having missed an earlier pretrial hearing. Martin's attorney, Frank Cusumano of Macomb, alleges the search of her hotel room violated the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution, according to Troy City Attorney Lori Grigg-



Martin

Bluhm. "It was a warrantless search," she said. Martin's attorney did not immediately return a phone call. She is accused of having been paid for sex in a Troy hotel with the husband of a U.S. senator. Thomas Athans,

husband of U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, told police that he paid Martin for sex when he was stopped after leaving the hotel. Her room was later searched by Troy police. However, Grigg-Bluhm said her office will be filing a response, noting that the search was after the investigation. Martin's next court date is 1:30 p.m. June 3. She remains out on a \$100 bond.

Wedding Workshop
How To Plan Your Wedding In 90 Minutes Like Speed Dating But It's All About Your Wedding
Tuesday May 13, 2008 6:30 p.m.
Meeting House Grand Ballroom 499 S. Main Street Plymouth, MI
Free Engagement Portrait To All Couples Attending!
Reservations in Advance Are Complimentary Tickets at the Door \$10.00
Call Today for Reservations (734) 710-9492

SPORTS Gridiron, Court, Pool, Arena, Greens, Diamond
We're there!

Great futures take root right here.
Your Choice for Schools
Now open to ALL (K-5) Wayne County residential limited enrollment. Call today!
Take a look at how we're growing!
Wayne-Westland COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
734-419-2683 | www.wcsd.net

OPENING SOON!
A state-of-the-art premier education facility is opening in PLYMOUTH, MI.
CALL TODAY TO ENROLL AND SAVE \$200!
Pre-Grand Opening Celebration Saturday, May 10, 11 am - 2 pm
CHILDTIME CENTER

WESTBORN FRESH SAVINGS

May 11th Give Your Mom...

A WHOLE BUNCH OF I LOVE YOU'S!



BUNCHES OF Fresh FOR MOM!

Beautiful HANGING BASKETS

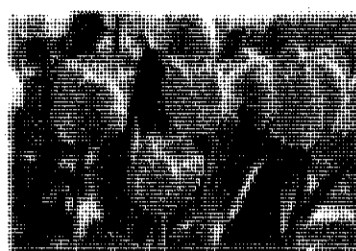
10" and 12" Available

Combination PATIO PLANTERS & COLORFUL SHRUBS

10" and 12" Pot

Large Selection of Mother's Day Arrangements

Fresh Cut TULIPS



\$7.99 bunch

Short Stem ROSES

\$12.99 doz.

SCRUMPTIOUS DESSERTS

BLAZO'S
Pie Shoppe

FRESH STRAWBERRY PIE 9" \$11.99
Save \$2.00

the Cheesecake SHOPPE

Heart-Shaped CHEESECAKE \$3.99

GODIVA
Chocolatier
CHOCOLATES

SAVORY SURF & TURF

SALMON FILLETS \$5.99

USDA CHOICE DELMONICO STEAKS \$8.99

ALWAYS THE BEST PRODUCE

Crimson Red SEEDLESS GRAPES \$1.49 lb.

Sweet Seedless PEE-WEE WATERMELON \$3.99

Grilling PORTABELLA MUSHROOMS \$4.00
Sliced or Caps 2 pkg.

Fresh CALIFORNIA STRAWBERRIES 2/\$4
1 lb. pkgs.

Sweet GEORGIA VIDALIA 49¢ lb.

14925 Middlebelt, LIVONIA

734-524-1000

Store Hours: Mon.- Fri. 8:30-8; Sat. 8-8; Sun. 8-7

Specials Valid in Livonia Only!

Prices Valid May 8th through May 17th



OUR VIEWS

Toarmina, Plakas deserve honors

Friday evening, the community came together to honor two individuals who have given of their time and energy to make Westland a better place in which to live. Lou Toarmina received the 2008 First Citizen Award, while City Attorney Angelo Plakas was honored as the Westland Chamber of Commerce's Business Person of the Year.

Enough cannot be said about what these two men have done for Westland. They have heard the call to help time and time again and gladly stepped forward in answer.

Toarmina is modest about his work to improve the lives of youngsters in the Norwayne Subdivision. Easily the city's poorest area, many of its youngsters head for school ill-prepared for the academics. Toarmina saw that and came up with the idea of providing backpacks filled with school supplies. He wasn't able to do it alone and gladly shares credit for the highly successful project with the Westland Rotary, Wayne County Community College District and Judge Sandra Cicirelli.

He also saw a need to show the residents of Norwayne that despite their poverty they can be somebody by publishing a Good News letter filled with stories about people who grew up in Norwayne and went on to rewarding careers.

That's just the tip of the ice berg of what Toarmina does. He also is involved with the American Red Cross, serving on a disaster relief team, and serves on the Salvation Army advisory board. As a businessman, he has supported the Relay for Life, the Wayne-Westland school board's Project 180 Can Do! and the Westland Chamber of Commerce's Taste of Westland.

Plakas also has a keen eye for giving help where help is needed. He lent his legal expertise to help organize the S.P.A.R.K. (Sports Parks and Recreation for Kids) Foundation, which raises money for long-range parks projects that benefit youth of the city. He also helped the Westland Community Foundation get up and running and has been a strong supporter ever since.

But his greatest legacy may be the work he did in making sure Westland got the more than \$1 million from the state for construction of the William P. Faust Public Library. Plakas went toe-to-toe with the state when it tried to take the money back and won. He did the legal work for pro bono and did it to "ratchet up the quality of life in the community." No truer statement was ever spoken. The library is a vibrant addition to the city.

There is a simple explanation behind what he does and it can be summed up in three words — for the kids. Plakas is committed to helping wherever he can to help kids, even if it means taking on the state high school sports association over its rule that a transferring player must wait six months before competing in a sport. As he sees it, "if the kids don't have a chance, God help us."

We applaud the selection of Lou Toarmina as First Citizen and Angelo Plakas as Business Person of the Year for 2008. We can think of no other individuals so deserving of the honors. Their commitment to the community has definitely made Westland a great place to call home.

Academic All-Stars represent the best our area has to offer

Congratulations to the 2008 *Observer Newspapers* Academic All-Stars — 17 students from Farmington, Farmington Hills and western Wayne County who are among the brightest and best soon-to-be graduates of local high schools.

They are smart, caring and concerned. They are determined to make a difference in the world.

Read all about them and 27 other runners-up in the special Academic All-Star section inside today's *Observer*. All of the students — All-Stars and runners-up — are intelligent, motivated and eager to expand their world. They are generous with their time and talent. They act locally, but they think globally. They are eager to make their communities, the state, the nation and the world a better place. They are grateful to their teachers and parents who have mentored them along the way.

The *Observer* has been honoring academic excellence in a special way for the last 23 years. We hold these students up for public recognition so that readers can see the tremendous talent and potential that exists in our communities.

We're pleased to continue the tradition in 2008 and to be joined by our partners — the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham and Huntington Bank — in honoring the outstanding Class of 2008.

Congratulations to the 2008 Academic All-Star Team of Catherine Kent, Franklin High School; Xavier Ziemba, Churchill High School; Sarah Londal, North Farmington High School; Meghan Murray, Churchill High School; Krithika Shanmugasundaram, Farmington High School; George Wasylshyn, Canton High School; Ted Wakar, Plymouth High School; Halimah Oral, Salem High School; Xin-Kan Su, Canton High School; Kathryn LaBelle, Stevenson High School; Matt Durak, Plymouth High School; Marc Lecerf, North Farmington High School; Gina Rotondo, Mercy High School; Rene Perry, Salem High School; Molly Roseland, Stevenson High School; Deanna Abrash, Plymouth Christian Academy; and Alexandra Buckley, Farmington High School.



LETTERS

Doesn't understand problem

I believe it was Mayor Wild who suggested that a homeowner in Westland who had purchased a home in the previous three to four years should request a reassessment of the taxable value by the Board of Assessors in order to obtain an accurate up-to-date assessment of the property.

We did just that. In 2004, our parents' home changed ownership upon their death. The property was reassessed according to property values as of 2004 for a non-homestead classification.

As everyone is well aware, housing prices have fallen drastically in Michigan in the last few years. The rate of foreclosures has gone through the roof. The medium price of a home sold in March 2008 dropped by 13 percent from March 2007. The 2007 medium price was 20 percent less than in 2006. The inventory of unsold homes on the market exceeds an 11-month supply.

Armed with these facts and a list of comparable homes for sale in the area, I went before the Westland Department Assessment Board of Review. I was shocked to receive a letter stating: "This notice is to inform you that there was no change made to your 2008 assessment by the March Board of Review because: The assessment determined to be accurate."

We have been unsuccessful in selling the home — it was on the market for more than two years. We lowered the asking price by \$40,000 — no takers. We resorted to renting the home, which resulted in filings with the Landlord/Tenant Division to have the tenant evicted for non-payment — not to mention the extensive repairs that were required when the home was vacated.

Can someone tell me what it is the Westland Department Assessment Board of Review is not understanding about what's going on in the housing market in Westland, and, indeed, all over Michigan.

Margaret Reilly
Westland

Pandering to conservatives

Congressman Thaddeus McCotter's continued pandering to the endlessly whining cadre of Christian conservatives comes as no surprise, given his past legislative record. However, they are not content with merely trashing the United States Constitution and engaging in wholesale historical revisionism. Indeed, conservative Christian efforts to indoctrinate our nation with a frightening and ignorant form of theocracy continue on many other fronts, most notably within the public education system.

Currently making the rounds at local theaters is a remarkably dishonest, even shameful anti-evolution film entitled "Expelled — No Intelligence Allowed." Even while United States students fall ever farther behind their peers in other nations by nearly every measure of academic accomplishment, conservative Christian thought police continue their attempts to usurp the established facts

of evolutionary biology with religious dogma that is cleverly labeled "intelligent design" but which is actually warmed over creationism.

The proven facts of evolutionary biology have long been beyond reproach. Christians who are secure in our faith know and understand that the majestic scope of our God is well beyond human reason. The last thing America needs is more religious propaganda taught in place of real science while we technologically fall behind the rest of the world.

The film is merely a right-wing polemic designed to appeal to those who are unable to think for themselves. Even worse, it deceitfully links the sound teaching of evolution with the Holocaust, atheism and abortion, thereby pandering to the ignorance and paranoia of conservative Christians and their phony claims of persecution by that evil secular world.

"Intelligent design" ranks with another goofy conservative favorite, "Islamofacism," in terms of sheer absurdity. The ultimate truth of our existence is found in God and empirical truth is found in science. However, there is neither truth nor intelligence allowed in "Expelled."

Joe Golonka
Westland

Disgusted about closing

I am thoroughly disgusted with the people who live in Westland and voted for the mayor. He has taken away our largest and prettiest park, and you sit there and vote for him to do this. WHY? I just don't understand it. Don't you like the park? It been this way for a long, long, long, long time. Whatever is there, we have already gotten it, don't you think? We are all fat, we don't want to walk in that park.

This is got to be worse than what Kilpatrick is doing by far. It is stupidity. We are all missing some good times in that park, and when those kids of the mayor grow up, he will wake up and realize he missed some good opportunities there.

One park is a whole lot better than all the others put together. That is Central City Park, and I feel we have let it down. Shame on each and every resident of Westland for letting him do it.

I hardly doubt, Charles Pickering would do any better either. I heard his views, too.

Mari Squire
Westland

Cleanup help appreciated

The Friends of the I-275 Bike Path would like to thank the following people for their donations to the recent cleanup that we had between Michigan Avenue and Van Born Road in Canton:

Kurt Kuban of the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* for his story about it. Mitch Albom and his time to help volunteers. Paul at Vizzy's Pizza in Westland for feeding all of us. Fuzzy

Stott and The Home Depot for their help every year.

The following businesses/organizations donated items for raffle prizes: The Livonia YMCA; Dream Dinners of Livonia; American Cycle & Fitness of Walled Lake; Rob Kelley and his students from the massage therapy program at Schoolcraft College; Leslie Briggs at REI; manager Debbie Stewart of the Holiday Inn Express and her facilities employee John, where the event was held.

Without all of your kind donations and help, this event would not have been at all as successful as it was. Thank you so much!

Dave Duffield
director, League of Michigan Bicyclists

An instrument

Former Rev. Jeremiah Wright Jr. is a talented black man. No doubt about that. He is a talented orator, singer, dancer and he plays his instruments well. If you think you didn't see him playing an instrument in his speech, you would be wrong. You are the instrument.

We notice that the primary theme of Dr. Wright's speech was "A Change is Gonna Come." Sounds vaguely like the slogan of Sen. Obama's campaign but most likely there is no connection. What the speech didn't explain is what this "change" is going to be or who is expected to affect this "change." In fact, Sen. Obama hasn't explained what this "change" is going to be either. We aren't expected to notice this.

What the speech didn't explain is why Dr. Wright felt that he could damn America. The same America where young men fight for his freedom. The same America where he was provided tax exempt status while he used the pulpit to damn the country that provided him that right.

Any distance between Sen. Obama and Dr. Wright is contrived. We are the instrument they are playing. Dr. Wright owes America an apology. We will be waiting.

A. Parrish
Troy

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
Westland Observer
36251 Schoolcraft
Livonia, MI 48150

Fax:
(734) 459-4224

E-mail:
smason@hometownlife.com

QUOTABLE

"They leave here feeling they're well trained and we feel they're well trained, but they need to go on for more. This is the carrot to keep them going."

— Principal Ginny Kowalski about an articulation agreement between the William D. Ford Career Technical Center and Davenport University

WESTLAND
Observer

GANNETT

Sue Mason
Community Editor

Susan Rosiek
Executive Editor

Peter Neill
Vice President
General Manager

Hugh Gallagher
Managing Editor

Marty Carry
Director of
Advertising

Richard Aginian — Publisher Emeritus

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.

Proposed RESA staffing changes pose risk for special ed students

Michigan special education question of the day, Part 1: How many Michiganians are aware of their Intermediate School District (ISD) Plans and "alternate" Special Education Plans? Part 2: How many Michiganians know that our state superintendent of public instruction has sole authority over better than 90 percent of public education and the decisions that directly impact our 1.8 million students and their teachers?



Marcie Lipsitt

Parents and teachers should be shocked into action on the Wayne County RESA proposal that if passed will warehouse 30 students with severe multiple or cognitive disabilities per teacher and three aides. However, all parents need to understand that Michigan intermediate school districts are allowed to alter the Special Education Administrative Rules through waivers and one insidious and egregious special education rule, R 340.1832e (ISD Alternate Plans), and both approvals go through the very same non-elected individual — our state superintendent of public instruction, currently Mike Flanagan.

Michigan's special education class sizes, teacher caseloads, age-spans of students and their number of school days are in an absolute free-for-all in school districts across this state and, frankly, our legislators, policy makers and Gov. Jennifer Granholm don't care.

The educational lives of 250,000 students with disabilities and approximately 3,000 in our severely multiply-impaired and severely cognitively-impaired programs are at risk and being lost to absolute neglect. Better than 26 percent of Michigan's students with disabilities are dropping out of school after entering the ninth grade. Just think about that as we come to the end of yet another mediocre at best and abysmal at worst, 2007-08 school year for Michigan's students with disabilities and especially those in our poverty-ridden communities like Hamtramck, River Rouge, Highland Park, Flat Rock, Detroit, Pontiac, Saginaw and Flint.

Former Gov. John Engler devastated Michigan's students with disabilities with his Executive Orders of 1996 (EOs 1996-11 and 1996-12) that stripped our elected state Board of Education of 100 percent of its authority over all of special education and gave sole and dictator-like authority to the state superin-

tendent of public instruction.

Former Supt. Arthur Ellis crafted and former Supt. Tom Watkins promulgated very quietly and against the wishes of the Michigan Association of Education (MEA) and American Federation of Michigan Teachers (AFT-Michigan) this vile rule, R 340.1832e, that overrides all of Michigan's state-imposed special education rules that govern class size, teacher caseload, age-span and number of school days.

So while the Wayne County RESA is proposing to warehouse 30 of its most fragile students at one time (current state rules R 340.1738 and R 340.1748 allow no more than 12 students) in one classroom, to one teacher and three aides (kind baby-sitters at best), you have ISDs like Oakland Intermediate Schools that allows students age 3-13 and 14-25 in one classroom at one time.

Parents pick your evil — or lesser evil, if such a condition exists in our abysmal special education classrooms across Michigan — but recognize that most of our children with special needs are in special education warehouses where the "I" in their "individual education plan" is forever lost; academics are on no one's priority list and social skills, life skills and an adult future that includes maximum productivity and true quality of life is almost as rare as winning the Michigan lottery.

Dr. Martin Luther King once said, "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." Michigan's 1.8 million students that include 250,000 with disabilities and approximately 3,000 in severely cognitively and severely multiply-impaired programs matter to their families, themselves and to Michigan's ill and dehydrated economy.

Lend your support and speak up against these proposed changes — and Michigan's broken and failing public education system — by e-mailing your concerns to: Supt. Mike Flanagan at flanagamp@michigan.gov; Gov. Jennifer Granholm's senior education advisor Chuck Wilbur at wilburc@michigan.gov; House Education Committee Chair Tim Melton at timmelton@house.mi.gov; Senate Education Committee Chair Wayne Kuipers at senwkuipers@senate.michigan.gov; state Board of Education President Kathleen Straus at StrausKN@aol.com; and your legislators — e-mailing the Wayne RESA is not even a start.

Marcie Lipsitt of Franklin is with the Michigan Alliance for Special Education.

Rev. Wright and Col. North sure know how to play to an audience

It made for a pretty interesting weekend in the Detroit area, when big hitters the Rev. Jeremiah Wright and former Marine Lt. Col. Oliver North came to town on speaking engagements.

Just about everyone in the country, at least those remotely following what's going on in American politics, was waiting to hear what the Rev. Jeremiah Wright, Barack Obama's controversial former pastor, had to say to the Detroit Chapter of the NAACP. The speech, as well as one Wright gave to the National Press Club the next morning, was the only thing on the minds of the cable news talking heads that day.



Kurt Kuban

I attended a lesser-publicized event at Laurel Manor in Livonia where Oliver North, a controversial individual in his own right, spoke to nearly 1,000 people at a benefit for the Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund. Once known for his role in the Iran-Contra affair, North is now mostly famous for his affiliation with Fox News, on which he has a segment called "War Stories."

At first glance, it seems you couldn't get two people so different from one another. One is black and one is white. And they are certainly situated at the two polar ends of the political spectrum. But watching them both (I watched Wright's speech live on CNN), I couldn't help notice they actually have a lot in common, especially when it comes to their oratory skills. In fact, anyone with an interest in becoming a public speaker could learn a great deal from these two guys.

Both Wright and North delivered exactly the kind of speeches that were hoped for by the groups that paid them to speak. The two men knew how to play to their audience.

According to the Rev. Wendell Anthony, president of the Detroit NAACP, Wright was invited to speak because he is the "hottest brother in America right now."

Members of the Fallen and Wounded Soldiers' Fund, a Michigan-based non-profit that raises money for veterans and their families, invited North because he is a tireless promoter for our troops, both former and current.

I found it interesting that both men, during their speeches, were critical of the media. In Wright's case, he said all of the attacks against him since the video of his now infamous sermon where he proclaims "God damn America" began making the daily rounds on cable news have actually been attacks on the "black church."

North, addressing why the Iraq War has become so unpopular in America, blamed the mainstream media (with the exception of Fox News) of essentially trying to destroy America. He was particularly critical that the media covered the heinous abuses that took place at the Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq. He also blamed the media for America's defeat in the Vietnam War.

What was interesting to me is that neither man actually addressed the issues that have drawn so much criticism. In Wright's case, he never explained why he said "God damn America" in response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks. And North never addressed any of the myriad of reasons why people have been critical of the Iraq War — there was no mention of weapons of mass destruction (or lack thereof), lack of long-term planning for the war, no proven link between Saddam Hussein and Osama bin Laden as

President Bush claimed, etc.

But, hey, those are probably not the topics that either of the audiences came to hear. While I would say both the Detroit NAACP and the Fallen & Wounded Soldiers Fund got their money's worth from Wright and North, I wonder if the two groups didn't hurt their case in the long run by inviting such divisive individuals.

In the case of the NAACP, I'm left scratching my head why they would give Wright a public forum to do such harm to Obama, the first African-American candidate to have a legitimate chance of winning the White House. While I'm a huge proponent of people of different races addressing the issues that have caused such a divide in this country, I have to question the timing of the Wright speech.

Back in March, Obama addressed the race issue with more honesty than I have ever heard from a politician. It gave me hope that with Obama in the White House, we might have a legitimate opportunity to solve some of the race issues we have in this country. If Hillary Clinton somehow defeats Obama, I don't think there is any doubt people will look back and blame Wright for his undoing.

I've got news for the Detroit NAACP, the in-your-face, finger-pointing rhetoric of Rev. Wright will not bring this country closer together — just the opposite.

Although it bills itself as a non-partisan organization, the Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund could've picked someone a lot less partisan than North. He is anything but non-partisan.

Many of the other speakers at the event, which included Brigadier Gen. Carol Ann Fausone of Canton, a number of veterans (some of whom have been seriously wounded in wartime service), and family members of soldiers that have been killed in action, chose not to be partisan and instead implored the audience to support our troops, who are true heroes.

On that note I can certainly agree. No matter what you feel about the war in Iraq, the troops that are over there have put their lives on the line for all of us. The sacrifices they have made are extraordinary to say the least. That is something we should all be proud of. In fact, we should be more than proud. We should do everything we can to help them readjust back to life here stateside. Many are coming back with serious injuries and are in need of financial support.

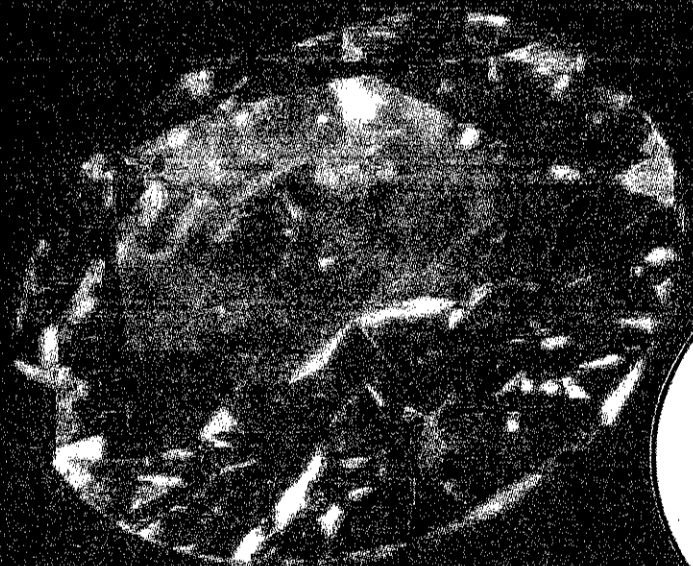
That is why I think the Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund, which was formed three years ago by some local volunteers, is a fantastic organization. To learn more about them or to donate to their cause, please visit www.FWSF.org. Canton's Herb Scott, who is on the FWSF board, said the group raised close to \$250,000 at Saturday's fund-raising dinner.

While North was certainly entertaining, I'm not sure if his own brand of finger-pointing rhetoric will endear the group to a cross-section of society. Despite what North might think, so-called "liberals" also care about our troops, even if they don't support the war in Iraq.

While I doubt Wright and North will ever be accused of being friends, they proved to me they do have a lot in common. As my football coach used to say, it is so much easier to point the finger than the thumb. Both men proved they certainly know how to point fingers. And fire up a crowd.

Kurt Kuban is community editor of the Canton Observer. He welcomes feedback at kkuban@hometownlife.com or (734) 459-2700.

Fabulous Jewelry



Save 20% to 50%
In Both Stores!*

Take an extra

10% OFF

our already low sale prices!

Offer Good through May 10, 2008

Limit one coupon per person per purchase!

75th Anniversary Celebration SALE!

Register to WIN Over
\$10,000.00
In Fabulous Prizes!

Sale Hours:
Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday
10:00 AM to 6:00 PM
Thursday and Friday
10:00 AM to 8:00 PM
Saturday 10 AM to 5 PM

Join Our
FOOD DRIVE
to benefit
"The Capuchin Soup Kitchen"
Bring in non-perishable food items
and you can Win A Fabulous Prize!
See store for complete details!

Don't Forget
Mom
This Mother's Day
Take Advantage of 75th Anniversary Sale

75 RIN

1933 JEWELERS 2008

75 Years of Family Trust

29317 Ford Road
Garden City, MI 48135
734.422.7030

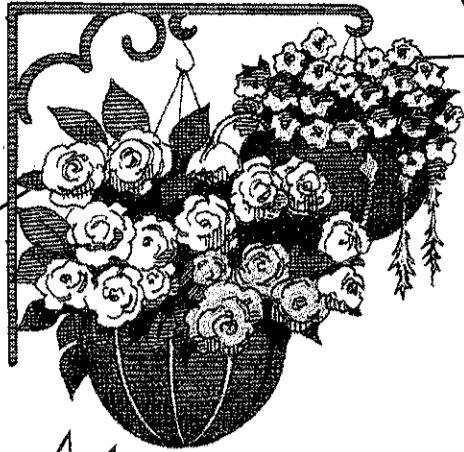
101 East Main Street
Northville, MI 48167
248.349.6940

*Sale excludes loose diamonds, Hearts On Fire®, Mikimoto, Pandora, and some select designers. Prior sales, special orders, layaways, and repairs excluded. See store for complete details. Return this ad for 1,000 Diamond Points. Limit one ad per day. Expires 5/13/08.

OE05501054

Show Mom You Care...

With the Gift that keeps on giving all season long - with a Joe's Premium Hanging Basket or Deck Pots



Joe's Gourmet Catering & Events! Moms, Dads & Grads!!!

Full service event planning to make your special day extraordinary! Incredible party platters made to order for pick up or delivery. Tasty seasonal menus starting at \$12.95 per guest. (248) 477-4333, Ext. 226



Organic Grape Tomatoes
2/\$5.00

Proven Winners 12" Hanging Baskets Starting at \$15.99 ea. Lobelia, Torenia, Begonia, Geraniums, New Guinea, Reiger Begonias and much more. Deck Pots starting at \$24.99.

Parrano Cheese \$15.99 lb.
New York Cheddar Cheese \$6.99 lb.

Paringa Sparkling Shiraz \$11.99
From one of Australia's longest established wine families. Add bubbles to Shiraz, get a dark, rich and juicy full fruit flavor.

Joe's Eggplant Rollantini \$3.99 ea.

Joe's In-store Fresh Roasted Coffee \$6.99 lb. Save \$1.00 a lb. All Flavors...All Varieties

Al Dente Pasta 2/\$6.00 All Flavors

Driscoll's California Strawberries 2/\$5.00

Jumbo California Broccoli 2/\$3.00

Boarshead Oven Gold Turkey \$6.99 lb.
Sweet Sliced Ham \$5.99 lb.
Muenster Cheese \$4.99 lb.

Seaglass Sauvignon Blanc \$13.99
This Sauvignon Blanc captures the best Santa Barbara has to offer. Tropical fruit aromas, lemon grass, crisp, clean citrus. Great with shellfish, light pasta dishes & summer salads.

Joe's Crab Cakes \$3.99 ea.

Long Coffee Cakes \$2.99 ea. All Varieties

Kettle Chips \$3.99 15 oz. Bag

Georgia Vidalia Onions 69¢ lb.

Florida Seedless Mini Watermelon 2/\$4.00

Joe's Specials!
Sara Lee Smoked Chicken & Sara Lee Maple Honey Ham \$6.99 lb.

Verdet du Suds \$10.99
Au Fils du Temps (as time goes by)
A handcrafted jewel by one of the most creative Burgundy producers in France. Syrah, Grenache, Cabernet and more.

Joe's Mediterranean Salmon \$8.99 ea.

Jumbo Cookies Baked fresh & decorated daily for Mother's Day!

Mother's Rice Cakes 2/\$5.00

Florida Supersweet Sweet Corn 8/\$2.00

Florida Crisp & Sweet Jumbo Grape Tomatoes 2/\$3.00

Dietz & Watson Black Forest Turkey \$5.99 lb.
Gourmet Chicken \$5.99 lb.
Black Forest Ham \$5.99 lb.

Relax Riesling \$9.99
Wine Enthusiast "Best Buy"
Slightly drier than traditional German Rieslings, Relax has clean, crisp fruit. No complicated names or labels, just great wine - so relax!

Joe's Coconut Shrimp \$1.29 ea.

Joe's Strawberry Pie is Back \$12.99 ea.
Very Berry Pie \$8.99 ea.

Vitamin Water Case of 24 \$25.99 Individual \$1.29 each

Organic Mini Carrots 2/\$3.00

Beautiful Spring Fresh-Cut Bouquets Starting at \$8.99 ea.

Order your Mother's Day Tray Early!

Novellum Chardonnay \$10.99
This little custom cuvee from Languedoc is a marvel in a bottle. No Oak - exotic aromas of honeysuckle & peach. Easy drinking - A great summer wine!

Select Meals To Go for Mom!

Give the Perfect Gift - Gourmet Gift Baskets & Fruit Baskets. Come in, call in or visit www.joesproduce.com

Garlic Expressions 2/\$8.00

Orange Roughy Fillets Only \$6.98 lb.
American Loin Lamb Chops Only \$10.98 lb.

Walking distance from Joe's!

Byrds Choice Meats

Fresh Ham Steaks Only \$4.39 lb.

Beef or Chicken Kabobs Only \$5.89 ea.

Trimmed Choice Beef Tenderloin Only \$19.89 lb. Cut to order into Steaks!
All Great on the Grill!

248-478-8680 • 33066 W. Seven Mile
Byrds Hours: Mon-Sat 9am-7pm • Sun 9-5

JOE'S PRODUCE

33066 W. Seven Mile • Livonia
(248) 477-4333
joesproduce.com

Prices Good Through May 11, 2008

Joe's Hours: Mon-Sat 9-8 Sun 9-6

SPORTS

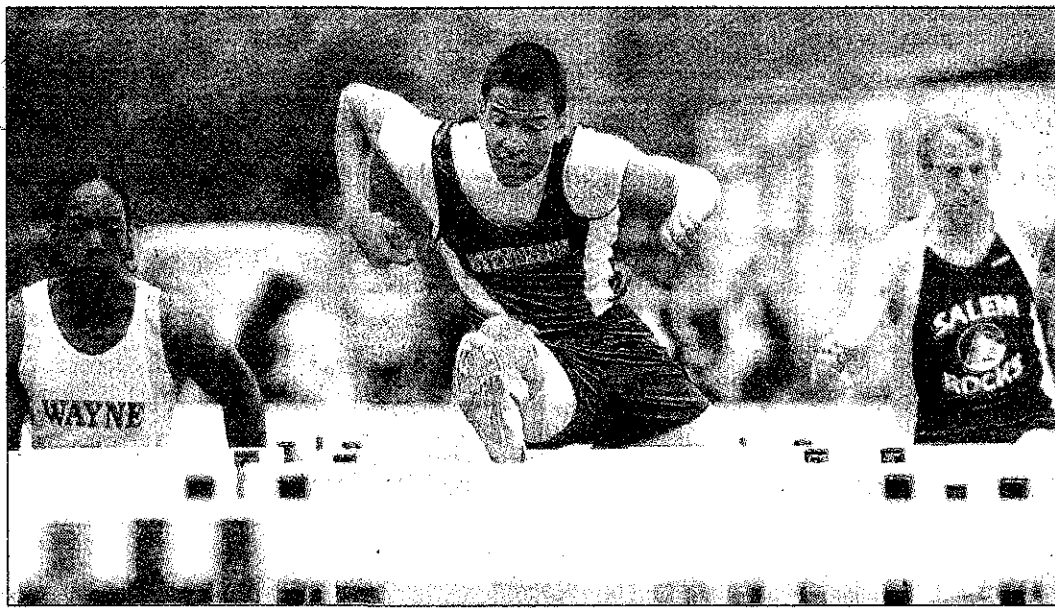
B (W)

Thursday, May 8, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

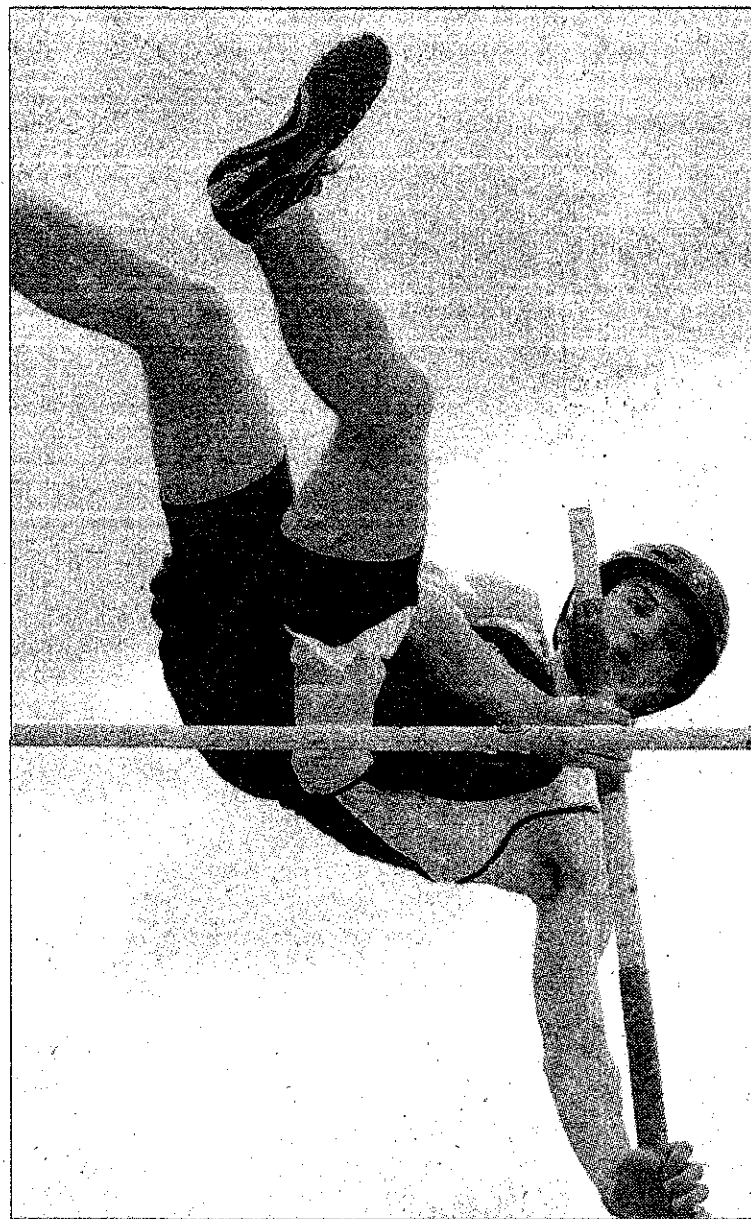
Brad Emons, editor . (734) 953-2123 . bemons@hometownlife.com

www.hometownlife.com



Stevenson's Miles White pulls away from the pack as he makes his way down the track to a first place finish in the preliminary heat of the 110 meter high hurdles during Saturday's Observerland Relays.

PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Churchill's Derik Peterman clears 13 feet in the pole vault during Saturday's Observerland Relays.

Sidelines

Best track times

All Observerland boys and girls track-and-field coaches are encouraged to e-mail their athletes' best times and distances in all events to ewright@hometownlife.com so that Plymouth-Canton Sports Editor Ed Wright can compile a girls track leaders standings.

The deadline to appear in next Thursday's leaders is 9 p.m. Tuesday, May 13.

Demolition romps

Coming off a bye week, the Detroit Demolition will take 2-1 record into Saturday's Independent Women's Football League matchup Saturday against the host Wisconsin Wolves, also 2-1, beginning at 3 p.m. (CDT).

The Demolition are coming off a 53-0 triumph April 26 over the Iowa Crush, while Wisconsin downed the Columbus (Ohio) Phantoms, 25-0.

Both teams are 2-1 in the Midwest Division of the IWFL's Eastern Conference.

The Demolition and Wolves both lost to the first-place Chicago Force.

"The Wolves are a very physical team that will test us both on offense and defense," Demolition coach Tony Blankenship said.

Spartan grid camp

Livonia Stevenson will stage its annual youth day camp for grades 2-6 from 9 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. Saturday, May 17.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. The camp is free.

The Spartan High School camp for current ninth, 10th and 11th graders will be from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, July 30-31.

Stevenson will also stage a weight room orientation for all current eighth graders interested in playing football in the fall from 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 4.

For more information, e-mail varsity coach Tim Gabel at tgabel@livonia.k12.mi.us.

Spartans repeat

Stevenson rules 38th Observerland Relays

BY DAN O'MEARA
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Coach Scott Shaw hopes a repeat victory by his Livonia Stevenson team in the 38th annual Observerland Relays is a harbinger of good things for the Spartans.

Stevenson won the boys track and field competition for the second straight year and fifth time overall Saturday at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

The Spartans, who had five first places, racked up 91 points and won the meet by 20

points over Northville.

The top five included Novi-Detroit Catholic Central (67), Farmington Harrison (45) and last year's runner-up, Livonia Churchill (44).

The Spartans will return

Please see **SPARTANS, B4**



Mike Unger, Lutheran High Westland's boys track and field coach and athletic director, will have the Warriors' new track dedicated in his name on Saturday.

TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The ultimate Warrior

New track to be dedicated in Unger's name

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER SPORTS WRITER

Mike Unger wears a variety of hats at Lutheran High Westland — math teacher, athletic director, track and field coach, even bus driver.

But Unger's refuge is the track, which will be dedicated in his name between sessions of Saturday's 12-team Cougar-Warrior Invitational.

Unger has coached for 35 years — 28 as a head coach — and has distinguished himself with four boys track and field state titles, three at Detroit Lutheran West (1981, 1982 and 1987) and one at Lutheran Westland (2001). He has also won eight regional championships and 21 conference crowns, along with one MITCA Meet of Champions title (2007).

"I like the mental stimulation of math and physical stimulation of track. I like it both ways," the 57-year-old Unger said. "I don't see myself retiring from coaching until I retire from teaching. I like it so

THE MIKE UNGER FILE

Age: 57.

Family: Wife Andrea; daughters Elizabeth, Sarah and Deborah; son Dan.

Duties: Athletic director, math teacher, boys cross country, boys track and field coach at Lutheran High Westland.

Coaching: 35 years (1973-2007); 28 years head coach (1979-2007).

Conference championships: 21.

Regional championships: 8.

State championships: 4 (1981, 1982, 1987, 2001).

MITCA champions: 1 (2007).

much. The last couple of years, the kids have been great."

Unger moved to Lutheran High Westland the year after it opened (1986-87) and has been a fixture ever since.

Dave Ruth, his longtime assistant and lifelong friend, goes all the way

back to grade school with Unger. The two are four years apart.

"We do a nice job of compromising with each other or I wouldn't be his assistant because he does a good job of letting me do things," Ruth said. "We bounce ideas off each other all the time. He still goes to clinics because he feels he still hasn't learned everything. He wants to know everything about track and field."

Ruth said Unger is meticulous about keeping records dating all the way back to his days at Lutheran West.

"And Mike is very, very good at getting his teams to run their best and to their potential," Ruth said. "He wants a full team. His greatest quality is to get the athletes to realize what they can do. We let them know we have high expectations."

"But Mike also knows when you have good athletes, you're a good coach. He's been here with good teams and bad teams. It balances out, but he just keeps at it."

Please see **UNGER, B6**

Sanborn sharp as Patriots turn back Western, 7-0

Turnabout was fair play Monday as Livonia Franklin avenged an earlier softball loss to visiting Walled Lake Western, 7-0, on Natalie Sanborn's four-hit shutout.

Sanborn, who struck out two and walked only one, improved to 10-1 in the year. She did not pitch in the first meeting, an 8-5 Western victory, because she

PREP SOFTBALL

was sidelined with a rib injury.

Offensively, Jessica Staley went 3-for-3 with a triple and RBI, while Brittany Taylor went 3-for-4 with a pair of doubles and RBI.

Nicole Emery also chipped in with two hits, including a triple, RBI and run scored.

Franklin, which scored seven times in the sixth inning, is now 14-5 overall and 3-3 in the Western Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association.

Losing pitcher Emily Carlson gave up 11 hits and struck out five in six innings.

The loss drops Western to 7-6 overall and 3-3 in the division.

On Saturday, Franklin won

two of three in the Salem Tournament.

Sanborn pitched a two-hitter and struck out nine in a 7-0 first-round win over Flat Rock.

Briauna Taylor clubbed a two-run homer, while Emery and Sanborn each contributed two hits and an RBI.

In the second round, tourney runner-up Lincoln Park downed

the Patriots, 6-3, as Natalie Polakowski went 2-for-3 with an RBI, while Sanborn added a pair of hits, including a double.

Losing pitcher Alecia Geraghty (3-4) allowed four earned runs on five walks over two innings before being relieved by Sanborn.

Please see **SOFTBALL, B6**

Family Heating, Cooling & Electrical

Free Estimates on All Our Services! Prompt Work! Call Us Today at..... **734-422-8080**

www.familyheating.com

GENERATORS

- Natural Gas Powered
- Fully Automatic
- Whole House
- Stand By

SOLD • INSTALLED • SERVICED

Finally affordable for everyone

Call for a quote

AIR CONDITIONING

Get Ready For Summer!

SALES • SERVICE • REPAIR

We Sell, Install, Service & Repair All Brands and Models!

Quality Products, Dependable Fast Service You Can Trust

Specialists in HOT WATER TANKS

SALES • SERVICE • REPAIR

- Installed with the Same Quality Products
- Dependable Fast Service
- Reasonable Prices You Have Come to Trust

ELECTRICAL SERVICE DEPARTMENT

MASTER ELECTRICIANS!

- Service changes & upgrades
- Installation of fixtures, ceiling fans, etc.
- Wiring of hot water heaters, appliances, hot tubs & more
- Outlets added • Interior & exterior work

Churchill boots Northern, 3-0

State-ranked Livonia Churchill turned in workmanlike effort Monday with a 3-0 girls soccer triumph Monday at Walled Lake Northern.

Churchill improved to 11-1-1 overall and leads the Lakes Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association at 6-1. Northern falls to 4-3 in the division.

"It was a comprehensive win, we had a lot of pressure in their box," Churchill coach Dave Hebestreit said. "They (Northern) played us straight up and I liked the way we moved the ball in-and-out, and wide. We played calm and collected."

Midway through the first half Julie Greco left-footed a shot into the corner of the Northern net off a scramble in front of the Knights' box.

Diana Busch made it 2-0 before the half on a one-touch from Kayla Johnston and Hannah Otto completed the scoring in the second half from Johnston.

Bailey Brandon's long balls initiated both goals.

WLAAL GIRLS SOCCER

Hebestreit singled out the midfield play of Lindsey Marlow, Julianne Puroll, Otto and Johnston in the midfield. Goalkeeper Stefanie Turner, who made two saves, earned her ninth shutout.

Churchill has not given up a goal in the last five games.

SALEM 2, STEVENSON 1: In a WLAAL-Lakes Division match Monday, the host Rocks (6-5-3, 4-3) earned the victory over Livonia Stevenson (6-5-1, 3-3-1) on goals by Ariel Dews and Taylor Burgoon.

Shannon Merritt's unassisted goal late in the second half gave the Spartans life, but it was too late.

"Unfortunately that woke us up and we began really pressuring Salem," Stevenson coach Chris Pinta said. "Had the game gone on another 10 minutes, who knows? But it didn't so that's kind of irrelevant. I told the girls again as I have before, you can't wait until it's too late."

"The time to be ready to go is well before the first while, and we've really been struggling with that."

Pinta singled out the play of Merritt, Stephanie Gutkowski and Molly McConnell.

"They really played with some desire tonight," Pinta said.

W.L. WESTERN 5, FRANKLIN 0: Chelsea Hunter had a goal and three assists Monday as host Walled Lake Western (8-4-1) downed Livonia Franklin (1-12, 1-6) in a WLAAL-Western Division game.

Western led 1-0 at halftime and put it away with four second-half goals.

"We had a few chances that their goalkeeper made good save on or their defenders stepped in to block," Franklin coach Jen Barker said. "The second half we were still last and it began to show. They found some of our holes and picked up two in the next 20 minutes. We still kept going with our attack, but couldn't finalize and couldn't break their goalkeeping. She made some key saves that let the game get away from us."

W.L. CENTRAL 3, JOHN GLENN 1: Marley Tisdall scored a goal and an assist Monday as host Walled Lake Central (5-5-3, 3-3-1) earned the WLAAL-Lakes Division triumph over Westland John Glenn (1-11, 0-7).

Megan Nikula scored for the Rockets.

NORTHVILLE 5, WAYNE 0: Sarah Stern's hat trick carried WLAAL-Western Division leader Northville (11-0-2, 7-0) to the victory over Wayne Memorial (0-13, 0-7).

Blazers tie, wrap up No. 2 seed

Livonia Ladywood wrapped up the second seed in the upcoming Catholic League girls soccer play-offs with a 1-1 deadlock Tuesday at home against Farmington Hills Mercy.

Ladywood is now 5-4-4 overall and finishes 4-3-3 in the Central Division. The Blazers will tangle with Madison Heights Bishop Foley in a first-round play-off game beginning 5 p.m. Friday at home.

Mercy falls to 3-6-3 overall and 1-6-3 in the division.

After a scoreless first half, Ladywood took a 1-0 lead in the 69th minute on Alison Szczyпка's goal off a corner kick from Alessia Vagnini.

GIRLS SOCCER

Mercy's Jordan Mueller tied it four minutes later on a 25-yard free kicks.

Mercy goalkeeper Tracy Whalen made seven saves, while Ladywood's Michele Ring had three stops.

LUTH. WESTLAND 3, LUTH. N'WEST 0: Second-half goals by Jessica Welsler, Miranda Kasprovicz and Ashley Pniwski carried Lutheran High Westland (6-6, 3-4) to the Metro Conference win at home over Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest.

Assists went to Hannah Mielke and Kasprovicz.

Goalkeeper Chelsea Kyles recorded 10 saves to post the shutout.

On May 1, host Macomb Lutheran North needed a goal in

the final 10 minutes to beat the Warriors, 1-0.

MARIAN 3, LADYWOOD 1: On Saturday, Catholic League Central Division leader Birmingham Marian (10-0-1, 9-0), ranked No. 2 in Division 2, scored three times in the first 33 minutes to subdue visiting Livonia Ladywood (5-4-3, 4-3-2) in a match at Birmingham Seaholm.

Danielle Kamenec, Anina Ciccone and Erin Ring scored for the victorious Mustangs.

Ladywood's Alessia Vagnini scored in the 75 minute on an assist from Alison Szczyпка.

"I was worried about us coming out flat after an emotional win Thursday over (Warren). Regina and that's what happened," Ladywood first-year coach Ken Shingledecker said. "We finally woke up the second half, but it was too late."

What are you hungry for?

A new career
43 associate degree programs
46 certificate programs
Admissions and Enrollment Center
734-462-4426

A promotion
100+ professional development courses
Continuing Education and Professional Development
734-462-4448

A great meal
Schoolcraft College Culinary Arts Department
American Harvest Restaurant
Open to the public for breakfast, lunch and dinner
734-462-4488 reservations

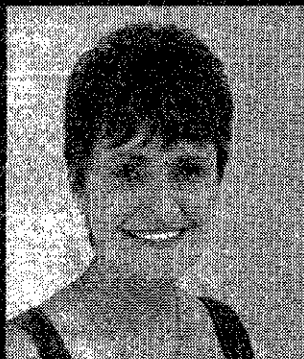
Schoolcraft College
734-462-4400

NIGHTINGALE HONOREES

Presented annually by Oakland University in recognition of nursing excellence in Michigan.



Pamela Thompson, R.N., B.S.N., C.C.R.N., C.C.M.



Linda Yoder, R.N., C.C.R.N., C.C.M.



Debra Williams, R.N., B.S.N., T.N.C.C.,
Chief Nursing Officer

Good Health.
Generation To Generation.

Saluting Our Nurses

This week Garden City Hospital recognizes every nurse who educates, nurtures, and cares for their patients.

Every day.

24/7.

Around the clock.

THANK YOU!



6245 Inkster Road • Garden City, MI 48135 • (734) 458-3300

Visit hometownlife.com for daily updates of news, sports and photos

BOYS GOLF RESULTS

CANTON 155, LIVONIA FRANKLIN 163
May 5 at Idyl Wyld
Canton scorers: Zack Conrad, 35 (medalist); Aaron Blase, 39; Andrew Rickerman, 40; Brendan Muir and Jeremy Lindbauer, 41 each; Clark Albers, 42.

LIVONIA STEVENSON 161
LIVONIA FRANKLIN 164
April 30 at Fox Creek
Stevenson scorers: Drew Mossoian, 35 (medalist); Adam Giordano, 39; Tom Cullum, 43; Joe Attman, 44; Tim Milsk, 46; Christian Debbay, 47.

SALEM 148, WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 159
May 5 at St. John's G.C.
Salem scorers: Patrick Doty, 35 (medalist); Tyler Jeleniewski, 37; Aaron Thompson and Adam Powers, 38 each; Joel Cheesman, 40; Alex Murray, 42.

LIVONIA FRANKLIN 167
WALLED LAKE NORTHERN 167
(Franklin wins tiebreaker on 5th score)
May 2 at Bay Pointe C.C.
Franklin scorers: Dan Ostrosky, 39 (co-medalist); Jordan Chisholm, 41; Tony Semonick, 42; Chris Grund, 45; Justin Adams, 46; Jimmy Johnson, 47.

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 158, SALEM 161
May 1 at Whispering Willows
Churchill scorers: Josh Proben, 38 (medalist); Kevin Robinson, 39; Adam Yarber, 40; Matt Charnley, 41; Thomas Wagner and Dan Bostick, 43 each.

FRANKLIN scorers: Jordan Chisholm, 38; Justin Adams, 40; Tony Semonick, 42; Dan Ostrosky, 43; Josh Stokes, 44; Chris Grund, 46.

FRANKLIN scorers: Chris Grund, 39; Dan Ostrosky, 40; Josh Stokes, 42; Jordan Chisholm and Tony Semonick, 43 each; Justin Adams, 46.

FRANKLIN scorers: Dan Ostrosky, 39 (co-medalist); Jordan Chisholm, 41; Tony Semonick, 42; Chris Grund, 45; Justin Adams, 46; Jimmy Johnson, 47.

FRANKLIN scorers: Dan Ostrosky, 39 (co-medalist); Jordan Chisholm, 41; Tony Semonick, 42; Chris Grund, 45; Justin Adams, 46; Jimmy Johnson, 47.

FRANKLIN scorers: Dan Ostrosky, 39 (co-medalist); Jordan Chisholm, 41; Tony Semonick, 42; Chris Grund, 45; Justin Adams, 46; Jimmy Johnson, 47.

Spartans wear City boys golf crown

It came down to the last grouping Tuesday as host Stevenson emerged the winner in Livonia Boys City Golf Tournament held at Fox Creek. The Spartans took three points apiece in scrambles, alternate shots and stroke play in the nine-hole mixed format for 10 points. Churchill was runner-up with eight, while Franklin finished third with six.

Stevenson's Drew Mossoian (37) and Adam Giordano (38) took medal play over Churchill's Josh Proben (40) and Kevin Robinson (41). Franklin's Dan Ostrosky (40) and Jordan Chisholm finished third.

In best ball, Franklin's Tony Semonick and Justin Adams took first with a 36 followed by Churchill's Brian Bint and Thomas Wagner with a 37, and Stevenson's Tim Milsk and Nick Collins with a 41.

Stevenson's scrambles winners were Jordan Rayburn and Jim Vayis, who combined for a 35; followed by Churchill's Dan Landstrom and Ryan Cioch, who carded a 38. Franklin's Chris Grund and Josh Stokes were third with a 41.

TEELTUP! MICHIGAN GOLF ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN
Golf Guide SAVE ON GOLF! Get In The GAM!
Public Courses LESSONS

HUNTER'S RIDGE GOLF COURSE
4 Golfers 18 w/cart \$100
REDDERMAN FARMS
Seniors-18 holes w/cart Mon-Fri. \$20
HICKORY CREEK
Mother's Day Special! Bring 3 People & MOM GOLFS FREE

St. Clair Shores Country Club
Saturday Family Special
After 1pm on Saturdays Juniors (17 & Under) accompanied by a full paying adult play for FREE

STONEBRIDGE
Senior Weekdays 18 holes w/cart \$28.00
WEEKEND SPECIAL! 18 Holes w/cart...\$35.00

HUNTMORE GOLF CLUB
NEW OWNERSHIP SPRING SPECIALS!
2008 Memberships Starting at \$595.00

Rattle Run Golf Course
Golf Digest ***** Places to Play 2008
Book Outings For 2008 Now & Save \$\$\$

Mother's Day Brunch
Special Mothers Deserve Special Dining!
Northville Hills Golf Club
Sunday, May 11, 2008

HISTORY plays HERE
THE BUICK OPEN JUNE 23 - JUNE 29, 2008
TIGER WOODS, 2002 & 2006 CHAMPION

THE WEEK AHEAD
PREP BASEBALL
Thursday, May 8
Plymouth at Franklin, 4 p.m.
Huron Valley at Macomb Christian, 4:30 p.m.

COREY'S
Dinettes, Bar Stools and Pub Tables
STORE CLOSING SALE
7 Mile Location • 29508 Seven Mile (Located in Livonia Mall)

Subscribe to the Observer - call (866) 88-PAPER

2.75% APY
BALANCES OF \$50,000 OR HIGHER
Charter One
Not your typical bank.
Security and flexibility. Together at last.
The smart savings option from a bank you can count on.

To advertise in this directory, call Jim Sabatella at (586) 826-7388.

Log on to www.TeeltUpMichigan.com for everything you need to know about golf in Michigan.

Charter One Member FDIC. High Yield Savings account Annual Percentage Yield (APY) based on collateral balances for new personal accounts: 0.75% APY for balances of \$50,000 and greater, 2.50% APY for balances of \$10,000 to \$49,999, 1.00% APY for balances up to \$9,999. Fees may reduce earnings. See a banker for FDIC coverage amounts and transaction limitations. Accounts cannot be accessed using an ATM or Debit Card. \$10,000 minimum opening deposit is required. Minimum transaction of \$10,000 for withdrawals. Nonqualifying transaction fee of \$25 each for any withdrawal under \$10,000 in a statement period. All accounts and services subject to approval. APYs accurate as of publication date and may change before or after account opening. Personal accounts only. \$5,000,000 maximum deposit per customer. Offer valid in MI only. This offer is subject to change and may be withdrawn at any time. Charter One is a division of RBS Citizens, N.A.

SOFTBALL

FROM PAGE B1

In the final game, Farmington jumped out to a 5-0 lead after two innings before Franklin stormed back on Brittany Taylor's three-run homer and Brianna Taylor's two-out three-run homer. Emery also had an RBI single. Sanborn recovered from a rough start to pitch a complete game. She scattered nine hits, walked five and struck out three in the six-inning time limit.

Host Salem beat Lincoln Park in the tournament final, 1-0. SALEM 4, CHURCHILL 1: Freshman pitcher Brianna Lee struck out 14 and allowed just three hits Tuesday as the host Rocks (16-4, 6-1) downed Livonia Churchill (9-13, 3-4) in a WLLA Lakes Division encounter. Emily Meade had two of Salem's seven hits and scored a run. Two Churchill errors resulted in two unearned runs. Paula Guzik had two of the Chargers' three hits and scored the lone run. NORTHVILLE 10, WAYNE 0: Winning pitcher Jenna Dumbleton helped her own cause, reaching base with a pair of doubles and three runs scored Monday as the Mustangs (18-4, 6-

0) took five innings to mercy host Wayne Memorial (5-14, 0-6) in a WLLA Western Division matchup. Catcher Sarah Rounsifer added a pair of doubles and scored twice. SALEM 9, STEVENSON 6 (9 INNINGS): The Rocks (15-4, 5-1) won a marathon contest Monday at Livonia Stevenson (6-5, 3-3) in a WLLA Lakes Division. The hitting hero for the Rocks was Emily Meade, who knocked in the game-winning run with a ninth-inning single that scored Kelli Janiczek. The Rocks received some insurance when the next batter, Lizzy Mazorowicz, doubled in Meade and Mary Johnson. Brianna Lee earned the mound win for the Rocks as she yielded

11 hits and one walk. The Rocks drilled 11 hits. W.L. CENTRAL 11, JOHN GLENN 0: In a WLLA Lakes Division game Monday, host Walled Lake Central (13-6, 4-2) won as Lindsay Okena allowed just four hits against Westland John Glenn (1-11, 0-6). Okena struck out five and walked only one. Glenn used two pitchers, Brittany Holbrook, who took the loss, and Amanda Caudill. Stacey Truskowski had two of Glenn's four hits. CHURCHILL 6, W.L. NORTHERN 0: Natalie Hiser hurled a complete-game, five-hit shutout Monday as host Livonia Churchill (8-12, 3-3) beat Walled Lake Northern (7-7, 3-3).

Hiser struck out four and walked only one in notching the win. Katie Stodolski collected three of Churchill's 10 hits and scored three runs. Deanna Wagner, the losing pitcher, fanned five and walked two. Kari Knight had two of Northern's five hits. On Saturday, Churchill went 2-1 in the Whitmore Lake Tournament with wins over Ottawa Lake-Whiteford, 9-4, and Morenci, 11-2. The only loss came against Adrian Lenawee Christian, 12-1. Recent JV callup Andrea Jewell pitched the first two games and recorded her first varsity win. Jordan Kerr and Emily McShane homered in Game 1 and Game 3, respectively.

UNGER

FROM PAGE B1

After he was cut from the Lutheran West baseball team during his freshman year, Unger migrated to the track, where he ran distance for Ruth's dad Erv. He later ran two seasons for Henry Ford Community College and transferred and graduated from Concordia Teachers College in Seward, Neb.

When he was in college, Unger knew he wanted to coach cross country, but admitted, "I didn't know a lot about track."

"I ran into Dave's dad, I went out for track, and found out I could run," Mike said. "It was the will of the Lord that I ended up coaching and teaching."

Unger got his coaching start in January 1973, when a West math teacher left to go into the insurance business.

"What I learned from Dave's dad is how to relate to kids," Unger said. "The way he interacted was so positive. He was my mentor. He let me try things and I would read and read."

"I would go to coaches clinic; you'd find out what you don't know. My dad (Ernie) and Dave's dad would drive to meets together and that was neat, too."

Unger never gets bored with coaching. It's quite the contrary, according to Dave Ruth.

"He gets excited and I kind of hold him down," the Lutheran Westland assistant said.

Unger, however, admits he isn't as high-strung as he used to be. "I used get bent out of shape about rules and regulations," he said. "I'd get pretty wound up. But I don't let things bother me like I used to be. I've mellowed and I enjoy it more now."

Winning the 2001 Division 4 state championship ranks as one of Unger's most cherished moments.

"At West, we were expected to win a couple of times, but when you don't think you can win and watch it all unfold in front of you is just as exciting," he said.

In 1982, Unger had a premier high jumper, Louis Cox, who became only the second prep in the state to clear 7 feet. The other top high jumper at the time was Ypsilanti's Dennis Lewis.

"It was at the Huron Relays and I couldn't eat dinner," Unger recalled. "That's something I'll never forget."

Through the efforts of the Lutheran High School Association of Greater Detroit, along with Lutheran Westland parents, boosters and alumni of West like Cincinnati attorney George Vincent, the new six-lane track, estimated to cost nearly \$140,000, became a reality.

The track also features new runways and approaches for the long jump, pole vault and high jump, along with a new long jump pit and pole vault area outside the track for easier track administration.

No more converting yards to meters.

And now Lutheran High Westland will even host a Division 4 regional May 17.

"We never thought we'd get a track," Dave Ruth said.

The dedication ceremony will begin around 12:30 p.m. Lutheran Westland is located at 33300 Cowan Road, eight blocks east of Wayne Road. A light lunch will be served in the school lobby at 11:30 a.m. If you plan to attend the luncheon, call (734) 422-2090 or e-mail mwalker@lhsc.com.

bemons@oe.homecomm.net | (734) 953-2123

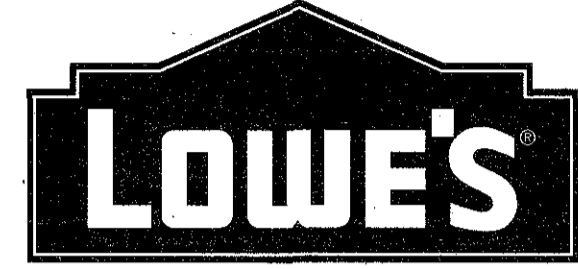


99¢ 4" pot
Assorted Annuals
•Annual •Wide range of flower colors (Impatiens shown) #93432

- Great in containers
- Blooms until first frost
- Great for borders
- Easy to grow

Get a One-Year Subscription with each purchase of \$50 in Lowe's Gift Cards.

Via mail-in rebate. Single receipt purchase of \$50 or more includes subscription to Cottage Living®, Coastal Living® or Health®. Offer valid now through 5/11/08. See store for details.



Special Values for Mom
May 8th through May 11th



\$898 10" pot
Annual Hanging Basket
•Shades of red, pink, salmon, coral, blue, purple, white, cream, and yellow (Petunias shown) #90639

- Blooms June to September
- Sun or partial sun



SPECIAL VALUE!
now **\$12.97** was **\$14.97**
Two 16 oz. Bottles
LiquaFeed™ Starter Pack #233859
4-Pack All Purpose Plant Food Refill #233865 \$10.97

ASK FOR ZERO PAYMENTS & INTEREST



YOUR CHOICE SPECIAL VALUE!
now **\$88** was **\$98**
12-Pack Metal Solar Accent Lighting Set
•Antique copper finish or bronze #282818, 282822

20% off
ALL SMALL APPLIANCES
Includes in-stock and Special Order
Discount taken at register.
Offer valid 5/4/08-5/11/08. See store for details.

YOUR CHOICE SPECIAL VALUE!
now **\$74** was **\$88**
Traditional Porch Rocker
•White or black
#227591, #243813

\$100 MAIL-IN REBATE
HIGH EFFICIENCY WHIRLPOOL WASHER & MATCHING DRYER PAIR
when you purchase any in-stock or special order High Efficiency Whirlpool Washer and matching Dryer pair. Offer valid 5/8/08-5/11/08. Purchases must be made on the same receipt. Purchase price excludes tax, installation, and delivery. Rebate form prints at register. Void where prohibited by law. See associate for details.

\$199 ENTIRE HOUSE CARPET INSTALLATION EVERY DAY!
or get one room installed for \$159*
WHAT'S INCLUDED?
✓ delivery of carpet and pad
✓ basic furniture moving
✓ carpet & pad tear-out
✓ carpet & pad haul away
✓ basic installation of carpet & pad
At Lowe's, our \$199 basic carpet installation is available on Special Order carpet every day and includes the services most customers need. See store associate for details.

free DISHWASHER INSTALLATION
*A MAIL-IN REBATE
Free basic dishwasher installation available with the purchase of any dishwasher priced \$183 or more. Dishwasher must be installed on countertop and must be connected to a water supply line. Dishwasher must be connected to a drain. Free basic installation of pad. Price for basic installation of carpet and pad in one room (up to 30sq/ft) is \$159. Prices stated for basic installation require purchase of both Special Order carpet and pad from Lowe's for installation in single family residential homes. Basic installation includes removal and haul away of old carpet and pad, installation on existing tack strip, and moving of normal household furniture. Additional charges will apply for glue down carpet, installing on steps, outside or moving excessive household furniture and other additional services not included in basic installation. Prices do not include cost of materials to be installed. No offset or deduction for any included services which are not used. Prices are not valid for multi-family and/or commercial properties, which projects will be priced by quote only. Not valid on prior purchases. May not be available in all areas. See store for details and listing of all available special order carpet. See store for details regarding product warranties. We reserve the right to limit quantities. While Lowe's strives to be accurate, unintentional errors may occur. We reserve the right to correct any error. Prices and promotions apply to US locations only. © 2008 by Lowe's. All rights reserved. Lowe's and the gable design are registered trademarks of L.F. LLC. (080592) 00180592/005.041.002

For the Lowe's nearest you, call 1-800-993-4416 or visit us online at Lowe's.com

ROLLING MEADOWS COUNTRY CLUB
6484 Sutton, Whitmore lake
Family Owned & Operated
Best Value Public Golf for League & Open Golf
Check Our Weekly Specials
734-662-5144
website: Golfmcc.com

Install an office suite on your PC for free

Question: I just bought a new PC and need an office suite (for word processing, spreadsheets, etc.). Is Microsoft Office 2007 my only option?

Answer: Absolutely not. If you own an older version of Office, it should work just fine on any new PC — even one running Windows Vista. Just make sure to download all the latest updates from Microsoft so the program is current in terms of security and reliability.


Tech Savvy

Rick Broida

On the other hand, you could always download one of two extremely good alternatives — both of them free. The first is one I've mentioned before: OpenOffice (openoffice.org).

This amazing suite of programs affords virtually all the same tools found in Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access, and even Visio. It's not quite as pretty, but it should get the job done for most users.

The best news, aside from the fact that OpenOffice is available free of charge, is that it offers full file compatibility with its Microsoft Office counterparts. Thus, you can open, say, Word-formatted documents, save spreadsheets in Excel format, and so on.

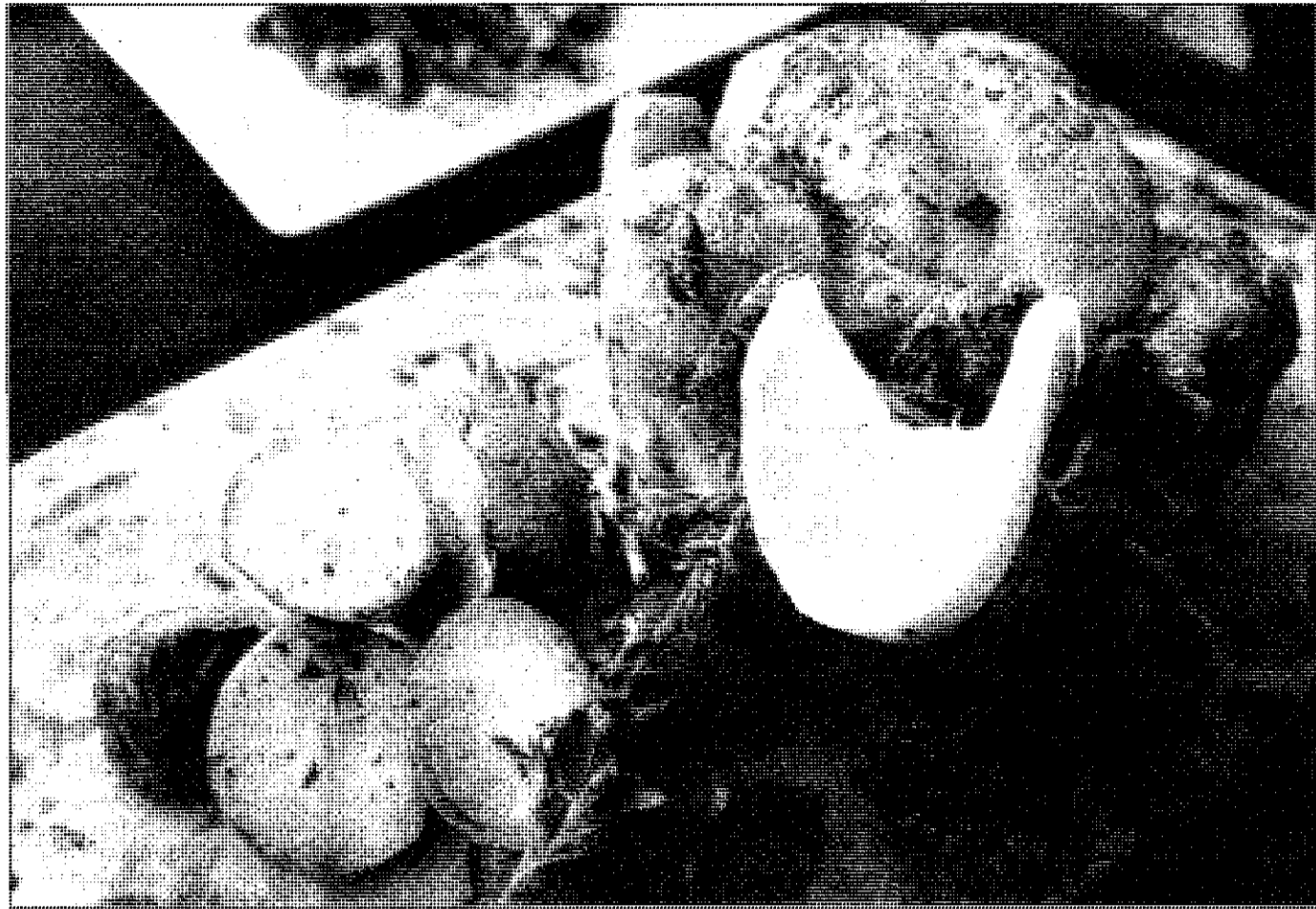
(Actually, OpenOffice doesn't yet support Office 2007 documents—only earlier versions, but the upcoming 3.0 version will.)

Some users find OpenOffice to be overkill. For those folks I'd recommend Lotus Symphony (symphony.lotus.com), which also offers word processing, spreadsheets, and presentations.

Interestingly, Symphony uses the same core software as OpenOffice. But it wraps it in a much prettier, easier-to-use interface. Thus, I'd recommend it for novice users and those who don't need database and drawing tools.

If all you need is a word processor, try AbiWord (abisource.com). It's fast, easy to use, and free.

Rick Broida writes about computers and technology for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Broida, of Commerce Township, also writes the CheapSkate blog for CNET (blogs.cnet.com/cheapskate). He welcomes questions sent to rick.broida@gmail.com.



Schellig prepared this chicken with a rub of onion powder, garlic powder, paprika and black pepper.

Mother's Day: Set her table with roasted chicken and seasonal dishes

 BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
O & E STAFF WRITER

Cheryl Heppard has always loved food.

She remembers her childhood, growing up in Livonia. Her mother, Cathy Howton, was a stay-at-home mom before she decided to become a nurse. She always had dinner ready at home, Heppard remembers.

"She was a 'meat-and-potatoes' woman," said Heppard, who is a board certified holistic counselor (or health coach) at www.MichiganHealthCoach.com. "She knows the importance of cooking to bring the family together."

Sometimes Cheryl and her mother cooked together. Spaghetti, chicken soup and roasts often filled plates at the Howton home.

Matt Schellig, owner of Aunt Olive's Good Food 2 Go in Birmingham and a Culinary Institute of America graduate, said he enjoyed his mother's scrambled eggs and cheese, a dish he still enjoys to this day. "My mom (Sue Ann Schellig) cooked a great Swiss steak," said Matt. Schellig, always the chef, wants to cook foods his way, so much so that he tried to add to Mom's stir fry by tossing things from the other side of the kitchen into the stir fry, he said with a sly grin.

Schellig and Heppard con-



Cheryl Heppard, holistic counselor at www.MichiganHealthCoach.com, and Matt Schellig, chef and owner of Aunt Olive's Good Food 2 Go in Birmingham, remember the culinary influences of their mothers.

duct cooking classes at Aunt Olive's twice a month.

As a teenager Heppard enjoyed fast food, pizza and brownies, "everything you eat in high school," she said. She said she was about 20 pounds overweight back then. In her 20s, she turned to a vegetarian diet, but found she was replacing animal proteins with pastas and sugar. "That didn't work for me," she said. "Instead of chicken, we would have pasta, and you can only eat so many beans and lentils each day."

Today she maintains a plant-based diet, with salads and vegetables along with a protein, including chicken and fish, but she avoids red meat. She tells clients to fill up on salad, then eat vegetables and finally eat the protein last.

Heppard's mother died four years ago, but Heppard continues a tradition of mother-and-daughter meals with her own 8- and 10-year-olds. "The kids love to peel and chop cucumber," Heppard said.

Heppard's grandmother, Evelyn Button, taught Cheryl how to make "awesome" Italian meatballs and eggplant parmesan, Heppard said, and she still lives in Livonia. (Button is an astrologer and once did New Year's predictions for all the zodiac signs in the Observer & Eccentric.)

"A few of (my mother's) recipes I still use, like the chicken soup and spaghetti," Heppard said. "I work toward more of a marinara sauce, and serve the meatballs on the side. And I make it with a lot more onions."

What works for a Mother's Day or late spring meal?

Roasted chicken is great for a meal and leftovers. "You can cook one day, then stretch it into two or three meals," Heppard said.

"Chicken is an easy dish and everyone likes it," Schellig said. "It's good roasted and it's the best way to do it. It's a simple roast with an herb rub. You truss it and roast it." The chicken is neatly and tightly trussed.

"We called this recipe 'proposal chicken,'" Heppard said.

Schellig cooks half a chicken per person.

Add that to an asparagus mushroom salad with light sherry vinaigrette, and you're pulling in some local flavors,

 Please see **MOM, D2**

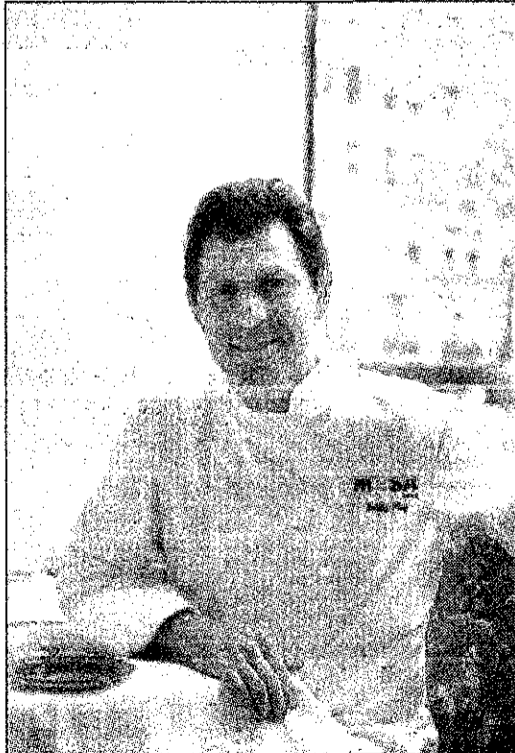
Bobby Flay visits Monday

Bobby Flay, the host of numerous cooking shows on the Food Network, including *Iron Chef America* and *Throwdown*, will autograph his new book, *Bobby Flay's Grill It!* at 7 p.m. Monday, May 12, at Borders, 34300 Woodward Ave. in Birmingham.

Flay's latest cookbook is organized by ingredients with chapters covering juicy beef steaks and succulent shrimp as well as less traditional grill fare such as asparagus, fruit, lamb, scallops, potatoes, and squash.

Flay teaches how to cook while also offering an arsenal of ideas for transforming favorite ingredients into something inventive and satisfying, such as Grilled Chicken Thighs with Green Olives and Sherry Vinegar-Orange Sauce or Beer-Marinated Skirt Steak with Pickled Red Onions and Grilled Tortillas.

Flay is also the food correspondent for *The Early Show* on CBS.

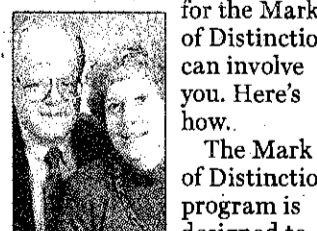


Bobby Flay

He has authored eight cookbooks and he owns several restaurants. Call (248) 203-0005 for information.

Compete for Mark of Distinction grants

Last month, Napa Valley's Markham Vineyards upped its participation in a long history of community involvement. The winery's call for applicants



Focus on Wine

Ray & Eleanor Heald

for the Mark of Distinction can involve you. Here's how. The Mark of Distinction program is designed to empower individuals to make positive, tangible change across America. The nationwide initiative will award \$25,000 grants to individuals to help complete community projects.

Markham Vineyards is searching for local leaders who are dedicated to improving their neighborhoods, cities or town. Passionate, inspiring candidates with a project that could make a lasting change in their community can enter at www.MarkhamMarkofDistinction.com.

In July, 10 finalists and their dream projects will be selected and posted on the Web site. The public will then vote to determine two winners, who will be awarded \$25,000 each to make a lasting local change — a Mark of Distinction — in their communities.

Do consider entering the grant competition and bring

 Please see **WINE, D2**

Accents

FOOD PICKUP IS SATURDAY

The National Association of Letter Carriers and Campbell Soup Co. will work together to help Stamp Out Hunger, the nation's largest single-day food drive, on Saturday.

To help Stamp Out Hunger, leave a sturdy bag containing nonperishable foods, such as canned soup, canned vegetables, pasta, rice or cereal, next to your mailbox before the time of your regular mail delivery. Food items should be in nonbreakable containers, such as boxes and cans.

For more information, ask your letter carrier, contact your local post office or visit www.helpstampouthunger.com.

MAY IS VINEGAR MONTH

The Vinegar Institute encourages everyone to discover the joy of vinegar this May and let their imagination run wild throughout their entire home. White distilled vinegar has secured its position as a must-have household cleaner. And, because it is an all-in-one cleaner, it can take on most any cleaning challenge, no matter the size. With a bottle in your cleaning arsenal, there's no need to worry about harmful effects typically associated with harsh, chemical cleaning agents. Just take a look at some of the many ways to clean while maintaining your eco-friendly mantra.

- Use full-strength vinegar to banish grease and eliminate mildew.

- Dilute with water to remove grease and grime on mini-blinds.

- Use full-strength to clean chrome fixtures and whiten grout.

- Dilute with water to brighten brickwork.

- Dilute with ammonia and baking soda to freshen a musty closet.

- Mix with salt and baking soda to unclog drains.

- Dilute with water to deodorize your garbage disposal.

For more information, visit www.versatilevinegar.org.

WINE PICKS

In addition to the 2004 Markham Merlot cited in the column, we recommend the following as taste treats:

- 2006 Redwood Creek \$8
- 2006 Red Rock Reserve \$12 - superb value
- 2005 Kendall-Jackson \$19
- 2005 Donati Family Vineyard Claret (43% merlot) \$22
- 2005 Ghost Pines \$23
- 2005 Milbrandt Vineyards Legacy \$25
- 2005 Sbragia Home Ranch Dry Creek \$25 - full throttle with lots of barrel spice notes
- 2005 Kendall-Jackson Grand Reserve \$26
- 2004 Matanzas Creek \$29

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

WINE

FROM PAGE D1

the Mark of Distinction to metro Detroit!

MARKHAM AT 30

It has been said that 30 is the new 20. So, when we learned that Markham Vineyards was celebrating its 30th anniversary this year, we asked "has it been that long?" It has, and if you've not tried a Markham wine lately, you've not experienced the era of winemaker Kimberlee Nicholls at the helm since 2001.

In its early years, Markham's focus was cabernet sauvignon but the introduction of its first merlot with the 1980 vintage was the start of the image as a merlot winery. "I'm really proud of the success we've had with merlot," Nicholls said.

"It's our flagship wine and I want it to be feminine and fleshy," Nicholls says masculine cabernet sauvignon is fine with her but she wants consumers to be able to tell the difference between the two varietals.

Like its entire wine portfolio, Markham makes high quality Napa Valley wines at

very fair prices.

This is so refreshing in an era when it seems that any wine bearing the Napa Valley designation has skyrocketed in price. We recommend the following as best buys from Markham: 2006 Sauvignon Blanc \$15, 2004 Merlot \$23 and 2003 Cabernet Sauvignon \$29.

Buy a bottle (or all three) and while sipping, develop your community project ideas in no more than 300 words. Then, log on to the Web site above and submit it.

You could win this competition!

Eleanor & Ray Heald 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.

MOM

FROM PAGE D1

Heppard said. It's better to buy produce from a local farmer.

"You can go to a farmer's market and it's better because it was picked a day before, rather than being shipped in from another place."

"What a great way to say 'I love you' to your mom, by cooking her a healthy meal," said Heppard. "It's important to cook at home. With restaurants, you don't always know if the chicken has no antibiotics or is hormone free. You don't know how much salt or sugar is used. It's important to take control of your and your family's health."

For more information, visit www.MichiganHealthCoach.com or www.auntolives.com.

MOTHER'S DAY MEAL

CHICKEN

Before baking the chicken, brine it overnight in a mixture of 1 cup of salt, 1 cup agave nectar (available at Aunt Olive's and specialty markets) and one gallon water. (See note.)

The following day, rinse the chicken, then rub with a mixture of 1 tablespoon each of onion and garlic powder, paprika and black pepper. If desired, add a pinch of cayenne pepper.

Truss the chicken by tying its legs with butcher's twine or use skewers to hold the legs in. Bake at 350 degrees for about 1 1/2 hours, figuring approximately 15 minutes for each pound. If desired, sear the chicken near the end of the cooking by increasing the oven temperature to 450-500 degrees. Watch closely so the chicken does not overcook.

(Note: If agave nectar isn't available, use 1 cup of sugar.)

served with a grilled piece of salmon, chicken or beef. Makes one quart of salad.

Note: For the sherry vinaigrette, combine 1/2 cup of sherry vinegar, 1/2 cup extra-virgin olive oil, 1 cup vegetable oil, 1 bunch thyme, and salt and pepper to taste, then whisk. Taste to adjust seasonings to your personal preference. Makes 3 cups.

CREME BRULE

- 2 quarts cream
- 3 cups sugar
- 1 vanilla bean
- 30 egg yolks
- 1 cup milk

Combine cream, sugar and vanilla bean in a stainless steel pot and bring to a boil. Whisk the egg yolks and milk together. Temper the cream into the egg mixture. Strain and place in the ramikens. Bake at 350 degrees (on low fan) for 25 minutes or until done.

DARK CHOCOLATE FONDUE (Sin)

1 pound dark chocolate
3 cups rice or almond milk
Assorted cut and washed fruit
Cut the chocolate into little pieces and place into a double boiler. Bring the milk up to a simmer, then add to the chocolate. Cut and wash fruit, then pat with a dry cloth. (It's best if you let the washed fruit sit on a towel to dry.) Dip fruit into chocolate.

(Note: To make the chocolate sin in the photo, prepare recipe to the point of cutting the fruit and instead, pour chocolate into molds and let harden.)

Recipes courtesy of Matthew Schelling, owner of Aunt Olive's Good Food 2 Go in Birmingham.

MOREL AND ASPARAGUS SALAD

- 1 pound morel mushrooms
- 1 pound asparagus
- 1 small diced red onion
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1/4 cup sherry vinaigrette (see note)

Toss the morel mushrooms and asparagus with a little bit of olive oil, salt and pepper. Roast in the oven at 350 degrees until fully cooked. (The asparagus will have a bright green color and the mushrooms will have lost a significant amount of moisture. Taste a mushroom to see if it is done the way you like them.) Quarter or half the mushrooms and cut the asparagus into 1-inch long pieces. Toss all the ingredients together and serve. This salad also could be

JUST FOR MOM

HANGING BASKETS
BUY 1, GET ONE*
\$5.00 OFF
*equal or lesser value

KNOCKOUT ROSES
\$2.00 OFF
Potted, in bloom

GLAZED POTTERY
25% OFF

Instore flyer now in progress

PLYMOUTH NURSERY
HOME & GARDEN SHOWPLACE

734-453-5500
www.plymouthnursery.net

Extended Spring Hours:
Mon-Fri 9-8 • Sat 9-6 • Sun 9-6
Offers Expire 5/14/08

9900 Ann Arbor Rd./Plymouth Rd.
7 Miles West of I-275
1 1/2 Miles South of M-14
Corner of Goffredson Rd.

KITCHEN REFACING

\$500 Countertop*
Includes installation
50% SAVINGS OR MORE!

FREE ESTIMATES

cabinet clinic
The Leader in Cabinet Refacing
West 734-421-8151
North-East 586-751-1848

www.cabinetclinic.com
*Limited time offer-50 sq. ft. max. with refacing installation

Need Fertilizer?

Use Earth-Friendly Fertilizer for Green Grass & Water Quality Protection

- Slow-Release Nitrogen
- Low or No Phosphorus
- Free of Pesticides

Funded in part by the Wayne County Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project. For more information, please call the Wayne County Dept. of Environment at 888.223.2363 or see our website at www.rouge.com.

Nurses
Making a Difference Everyday

Heartland wishes to take this opportunity to thank their dedicated team, along with all of the area nurses that have partnered with us, to provide care to our community. It is your positive attitude and philosophy of ongoing encouragement and respect that ensure our patients and residents live with the greatest dignity and comfort possible.

Together your commitment and contributions make a difference and we honor each of you.

If you would like more information about our services, call the location nearest you.

- Heartland - Allen Park 313-386-2150
- Heartland - Ann Arbor 734-975-2600
- Heartland - Canton 734-394-3100
- Marvin & Betty Danto Health Care Center 248-788-5300
- Heartland - Dearborn Heights 313-274-4600
- Heartland - Dorvin 248-476-0555
- Heartland - Georgian Bloomfield 248-645-2900
- Heartland - Georgian East 586-778-0800
- Heartland - Oakland 248-729-4400
- Heartland - Plymouth Court 734-455-0510
- Heartland - University 734-427-8270
- Heartland - West Bloomfield 248-661-1700

M
University of Michigan
Geriatrics Center

Open House
Geriatrics Center Clinics & Turner Geriatric Clinic

Join Us!
Saturday, May 17 • 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Fall prevention presentation • Free balance assessments
Exhibits • Prescription Assistance Program information

Parking, entry and refreshments are free
If you plan to attend, please call (734) 764-2556

East Ann Arbor Health and Geriatrics Center
4260 Plymouth Road • Ann Arbor, MI
Now accepting new patients: (734) 764-6831

Heartland is part of HCR ManorCare, selected for the second year in a row by FORTUNE as America's Most Admired Companies among Health Care Facilities.

Heartland

www.hcr-manorcare.com

Newly Expanded - Same Quality Service



Plymouth Nursery's New Greenhouse and Garden Center, with its expanded focus not only on landscaping but also on outdoor living, inspires all to become not only gardeners, but well-rounded "outdoor lifestyle" experts.

Rooted in excellence since 1963, Plymouth Nursery has grown into a 16 acre state-of-the-art Home and Garden Showplace. This spring, Plymouth Nursery proudly unveils its "extreme makeover" inviting all homeowners, gardeners and outdoor décor enthusiasts to sample a wider variety of product lines, including indoor and outdoor foliage and brand-name products.

A brand new, 12,000-square-foot greenhouse, along with the new garden center's 5,000-square-foot addition will offer the space needed to display more new and exciting plant varieties. Wider aisles, more covered shopping, improved entries and exits, better checkouts and our newly paved parking lot will offer customers a more enjoyable visit.

To help clients enhance their Outdoor Living,

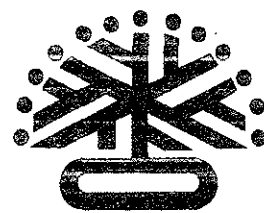
Plymouth Nursery offers patio furniture and high-end Weber grills, but Landscape Design is still Plymouth Nursery's specialty.

Plymouth Nursery has staff on site available to create complete landscape designs to include not only plants, trees, shrubs and flowers but also retaining walls, pond and waterfalls to make your yard a personal oasis. They will hand pick materials to complete your landscape project through installation. Plymouth Nursery guarantees quality workmanship on all of their landscaping projects with a 100% one-year guarantee on plants and labor. The design staff is also available to do-it-yourselfers. They will quick sketch a design for you, help you find the tools you'll need and have the plants, mulch and soil delivered to your door.

The new Plymouth Nursery offers the same quality customer service clients have come to expect, in a one-stop shopping environment they'll come to love.



PLYMOUTH NURSERY
HOME & GARDEN SHOWPLACE



9900 Ann Arbor Road - Plymouth
734-453-5000
www.plymouthnursery.net

CONGRATULATIONS!

from

PW
PROVEN WINNERS

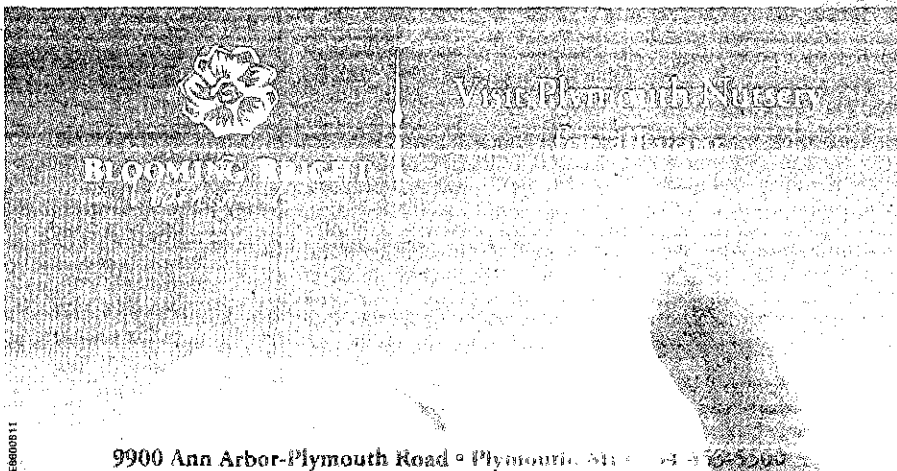
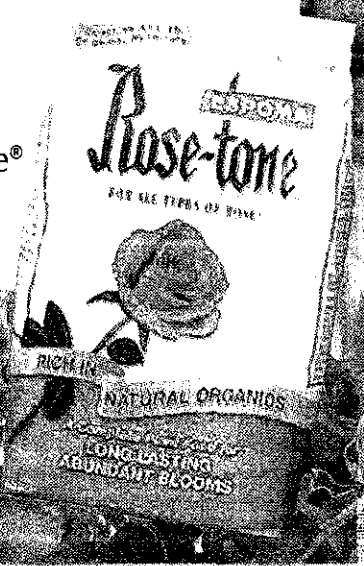
The #1 Plant Brand



Espoma
The Best Plant Foods Possible From The Finest Quality Organic Ingredients
Congratulations, Plymouth Nursery!

Our products include...

- Rose Tone®
- Holly Tone®
- Bulb Tone®
- Flower Tone®
- Plant Tone®
- Tomato Tone®
- Tree Tone®
- Turf Tone®



9900 Ann Arbor-Plymouth Road • Plymouth, MI • 734-453-5000

MESSENGER

FROM PAGE D4

Family). To register, call (734) 455-0022, Ext. 4 or visit www.vchurches.com/cbcwomen.

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

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

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

Registration Christ Our Savior Lutheran Early

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(734) 425-6360. Farmington Women Aglow Meets the second Monday of each month 7-9:30 p.m. at the Longacre House on Farmington road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Call Vikki for more information at (248) 497-7755. A Christian women's group.

Worship services Sunday worship services are at 8 a.m. (traditional) and 10:30 a.m. (contemporary), at Grace Lutheran Church, 46001 Warren, between Canton Center and Beck, Canton. For more information, call (734) 637-8160. Sunday school and Adult Bible Study at 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study series: Heaven Can't Wait.

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

Celebrate Recovery Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Northville launches Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered recovery program helping men and women find freedom from hurts, habits and hang-ups (addictive and compulsive behaviors), meets every Friday for 6 p.m. dinner (optional), 7 p.m. praise and worship, 8 p.m. small group discussion, 9 p.m. Solid Rock Cafe (optional coffee and desserts). Child care during Celebrate Recovery is free and available by calling (248) 374-7400. For information, visit www.celebratercovery.com and www.wardchurch.org/celebrate.

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

Worship service At 10:30 a.m. Sundays at New Beginnings United Methodist Church,

16175 Delaware at Puritan, Redford. Congregation is hearing lessons from Peter. Call (313) 255-6330.

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

Personal ministry Due Season Christian Church is a nondenominational, multicultural, full gospel church that offers Sunday worship services at 10 a.m. and Tuesday night Bible study at 7:15 p.m. Services are currently held at Stevenson High School on Six Mile, west of Farmington Road, Livonia. All are welcome. For information, call (248) 960-8063 or visit www.DueSeason.org.

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

Clarenceville United Methodist 20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia 248-474-3444 Pastor Beth Lillbrance

Redford Aldersgate 2 blocks South of Plymouth 10000 Beech Daly 313-937-3170

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96 734-522-6830

CATHOLIC

EVANGELICAL COVENANT

"More than Sunday Services"

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH Immemorial Latin Mass Approved by Pope St. Pius V in 1670

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH 14 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills (248) 661-9191

First United Methodist Church of Plymouth 45201 North Territorial Road (West of Sheldon Road) (734) 453-5280

36500 Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne & Newburgh Rds. 734-422-0149

25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY 313-532-2266 REDFORD TWP.

HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL 9600 Levene • So. Redford • 313-937-2424

St Genevieve Roman Catholic Church St. Genevieve School - PreK-8 29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-6220

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

NON DENOMINATIONAL

PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

Risen Christ Lutheran David W. Martin, Pastor 46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth (1 Mile W. of Sheldon) (734) 453-5252

St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church 32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-622-1618

Cherry Hill Seventh-day Adventist Church 33144 Cherry Hill, Garden City, MI 48135 (1 block west of Venoy) Phone: 734-524-0860

BELL CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH Casual, Contemporary, Excellent Children's Program

ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) 9801 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.) (734) 422-0494

WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church 40000 Six Mile Road "just west of I-275" Northville, MI 248-374-7400

LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525

Meetings on Saturdays for: Early Morning Bible & Health Class-8 a.m. Worship Service-English-9:30 a.m.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

St. James Presbyterian Church, USA 25350 West Six Mile Rd. Redford (313) 534-7730

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL 17810 FARMINGTON ROAD Livonia (734) 261-1360

PRESBYTERIAN

Fellowship Presbyterian Church Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth 1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI 734-453-0970

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

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

080606033

