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PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Westland Police officers, including members of the department's SWAT team, survey the site of a shoot-out Tuesday afternoon between undercover Romulus Police officers and five suspects outside Bob's of Canton-Westland Market at Warren and Merriman.

3 arrested in deadly shoot-out

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Criminal charges could come as early as today against three of the five men accused in a Tuesday afternoon shoot-out with Romulus police during an undercover drug sting that turned deadly outside a Westland grocery store.

With one suspect dead, one in a hospital and two in custody, only one man hadn't been caught by Wednesday afternoon, and authorities believe he fled in a dark-colored SUV, possibly a Buick Rendezvous, following a gunfight involving nine Romulus officers and an informant, Westland Police Chief James Ridener said.

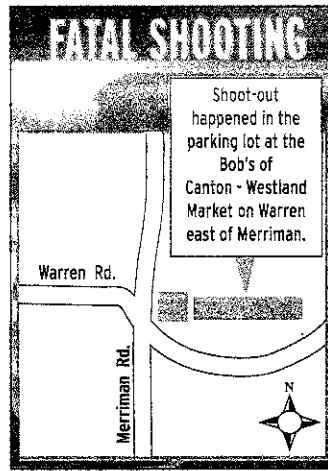
The shoot-out unfolded around 3:30 p.m. Tuesday outside Bob's of Canton-Westland at Warren and Merriman, where police said five men tried to rob an informant of three kilograms of cocaine



Bystanders embrace outside of Bob's of Canton-Westland.

rather than following through on a deal to buy the drugs. The suspects, including two accused shooters in custody, fired first after the informant had arrived in a silver Mercedes-Benz, Ridener said. The suspects fired two

handguns, including a Tech 9, prompting Romulus officers who had arrived in backup vehicles to return fire, Ridener said. "The good thing is, we got the two shooters, and that makes us feel a lot better," the



Police recovered both handguns and the cocaine, which Romulus Public Safety Director Charles Kirby said had a street value of about \$75,000.

Police hadn't released any personal information about

Please see **SHOOT-OUT, A3**

Mayor's plan takes on blight

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Mayor William Wild has rolled out a new plan to combat neighborhood blight, a problem he said has worsened amid a nationwide foreclosure crisis.

Wild has reorganized the city's building department to place more inspectors on the street to tackle property-maintenance issues like abandoned autos, dilapidated swimming pools, rodents and tall grass.

"This is ultimately about protecting the property values of Westland," Wild said in a prepared statement. "In the wake of this nationwide foreclosure epidemic, maintaining clean, safe neighborhoods will play an essential role in attracting prospective buyers to these homes."

The new program, which took effect Tuesday, will apply to vacant and occupied homes. Officials hope to nudge property owners, including banks with foreclosed houses, to address problems, but those who refuse could be ticketed or have cleanup costs tacked onto their tax bills after an outside contractor does the work.

"It's not our goal to write tickets," Building Director Sue

Dodson said. "It's our goal to get the property cleaned up."

Wild's plan divides the city into five districts and assigns five building department inspectors to spend their afternoons strictly working on ordinance enforcement. They will patrol neighborhoods and also respond to complaints by residents.

Wild said some residents who faced foreclosure simply walked away from their homes and left behind abandoned autos, unkempt swimming pools and other problems.

The new initiative requires that a building official be available at all times in the city's building department, on Marquette east of Newburgh, to respond to walk-in complaints and meet with property owners.

In his statement, Wild said the city previously had one full-time ordinance officer who tried to address blight problems across Westland's 22 square miles. He said the decision to reorganize the building department and place five inspectors in districts will come at no additional cost.

Wild hopes the new program will make Westland neighborhoods more appealing to potential home buyers.

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Panel rejects recall language

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Two recall leaders vowed to fight on after the Wayne County Elections Commission voted Tuesday to reject a proposed petition they had hoped to circulate, in hopes of ousting Mayor William Wild and four Westland City Council members.

"We are not deterred," recall leader Rosemarie Rembisz said. "This is a learning process for us."

In a 3-0 decision, the Wayne County Elections Commission ruled that the petition language wasn't clear, prompting Rembisz and recall ally Donna DeWitt to revise their wording and submit a new proposal for the panel to consider.

The women hope to spur a recall of Wild and council members James Godbout, Bill Johnson, Michael Kehrer and Dewey Reeves for supporting a \$35 million senior housing complex, including a three-story apartment building, on Joy east of Newburgh. Critics say the development will create overcrowding and traffic congestion in a north-end neighborhood long defined by larger, single-family lots.

Attorneys John Barr and Steve Weyhing, representing the elected officials, watched Tuesday's developments on the seventh floor of the Coleman

A. Young Municipal Center in Detroit. Godbout and Reeves also attended the meeting and criticized the recall effort afterward, saying it is forcing them to spend their own money to hire lawyers when all they did was support a project they consider good for the city.

"I think that's sad, very sad," Reeves said.

Godbout said the recall effort could have a chilling effect by discouraging potentially good candidates from seeking public office. He also said a special recall election could cost the city \$60,000, and he suggested state legislators should adopt laws to protect elected officials against frivolous efforts to oust them.

The dispute arose after developer Glenn Shaw Jr. proposed building a 147-unit apartment building, 20 duplex-style condominiums and 54 standalone homes. Residents became upset when the council rezoned the property in June to allow for a higher-density development.

Officials targeted for recall said they haven't heard a large outcry against them other than a small, vocal group. But recall organizers have said they believe they could collect the 6,818 signatures they need from registered voters to get the issue on a ballot, once they get petition language approved.

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Round 2: Firm to clean city hall air ducts

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A company has removed mold from Westland City Hall's basement, clearing one hurdle as another firm this weekend plans to clean the building's air ducts.

Livonia-based Belfor, a property restoration business, found "a little more" mold last weekend than workers had expected, but they worked long hours to complete the effort, company representative David Weaver said.

"We did remove quite a bit of drywall and paneling, and we took out some ceiling tiles," he said. "Anything that we sus-

pected, we just took it out." Workers then sanitized the area where mold was found in July, following an inspection triggered by basement flooding.

Belfor workers made two trips from City Hall to remove debris, which Weaver said was placed in special environmental trash bags, sealed and taken to a landfill.

"From what I've seen," he said, "everything went well and according to plan."

Ductz, an air-duct cleaning company from Ann Arbor, is expected to work inside the building this weekend in a second round cleanup effort that officials hope will lead to

a healthier work environment for nearly 40 employees and others who use City Hall.

"They can do that work in one weekend," Weaver said.

On Wednesday, Westland Finance Director Steve Smith said city officials still hadn't received a report from I.A.Q. Management Services, a Farmington Hills-based environmental testing company that looked for mold and checked air quality on the first and second floors of the building.

However, Mayor William Wild said city officials have received no preliminary indications "of anything of concern."

City workers told the *Observer* they have worried for years about possible health issues inside City Hall. Some said they have had recurring headaches, sinus infections and upper respiratory problems, and they wonder whether their problems could be linked to working in the building.

Wild brought in Belfor after he said he learned of the mold problem in July. The basement, which used to house an employee break room and a mail room, remains closed off, and workers have been moved to alternate locations on upper floors.

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Coming Sunday:
The latest, coolest stuff
for home offices

Perrinville moves into new neighborhood, bigger building

BY REBECCA JONES
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It's nice to have neighbors. Perrinville Early Childhood Center moved this summer from its own "island" to a new neighborhood on Lyndon between Middlebelt and Inkster, taking over the former Adams Elementary school building.

Perrinville preschool programs serve 250 children with special needs, and the school was outgrowing its building on Ann Arbor Trail in Westland.

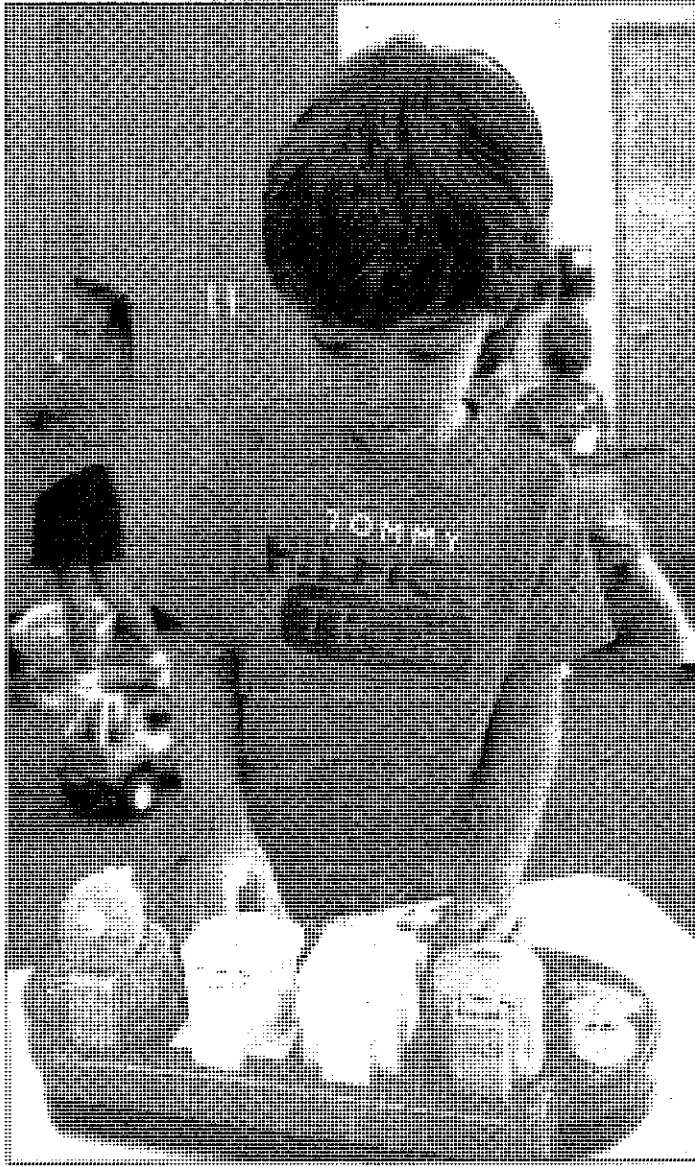
"We just kept filling up the rooms," said Kathy Donagrandi, building administrator. "We had to give up therapy rooms for classrooms."

Adams, which closed in 2006 as part of the Legacy Initiative, has 24 classrooms and is nearly 50,000 square feet (10,000 square feet bigger than the old site). It will be renamed Perrinville and keep the mascot, the Perrinville Pandas.

"The size just seemed perfect for us," said Donagrandi, who was part of the Asset Utilization Committee that looked at new uses for the district's vacant buildings and property.

At Adams, classrooms were painted, the carpet was cleaned and a new bus loop added out front to accommodate the buses from 11 western Wayne County school districts that Perrinville serves.

Forty-eight truckloads of materials — little lockers, painted benches, bikes, climbing equipment, books, desks and toys — were shipped off to Adams in time for the summer school program that began



Ali Mansour, 4, plays in one of the new classrooms at the Perrinville Early Childhood Center, which moved this summer to the former Adams Elementary School building.

two weeks after school let out. Some children in the autistic impaired program have been using the new school since June, and staff have

been working to make the rest of the building ready before school begins.

The school also serves children with cognitive, emotion-



Perrinville Early Childhood Center principal Kathy Donagrandi talks about the center's new facilities after moving into the Adams Elementary building this summer.

al, speech or physical delays, visual impairments and 4-year-olds in the state's Great Start Readiness program for children who meet certain risk factors.

The Little Theater has been turned into a climbing room. The gym is a little bit bigger. Inside, there are bikes of all different designs so that every child can find one to use, regardless of a disability. There are rooms for speech therapy, a resource library that is open to parents.

Early childhood teacher Polly Rothermel spent her summer getting her classroom ready.

"We'd like to make sure things are just right for when

the kids get here," she said.

It will be nice to have a restroom adjacent to the classroom, plenty of cabinet space, and a workroom for teachers, she said.

All but three rooms are spoken for, Donagrandi said.

The school will have an open house to meet its new neighbors on Tuesday, Aug. 26. That's also new for Perrinville, she said.

The Ann Arbor Trail site was "such a little island," she said. "We weren't part of a neighborhood," she said. "It's nice to have people walk by... we're really happy to be here."

The feeling is mutual, neighbors say. Donagrandi received a letter from one family, wel-

coming Perrinville.

"I was happy that they're back," said neighbor Dave Kinnear.

Virginia Simmer, who lives on Lyndon, had heard rumors that the building would be torn down for new houses. She even checked with the city, but then found out the latest news from her letter carrier.

"We liked it so much when it was open," she said. "Two years is a long time to have a school just sitting there."

"We're just happy to have good neighbors again," said Shelly Robinet, who had served as president of the Adams PTA.

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AROUND WESTLAND

Free Fun Fest

Bring the whole family to the Westland Convalescent & Rehab Center 3:30-7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 15, for the first annual Free Fun Fest. Both the young and young-at-heart will enjoy hot dogs, hamburgers, ice cream as well as a moonwalk, games and clown visits. Plus, some lucky guests

will take home such prizes as a gas grill, children's bicycles, restaurant gift cards, even gas gift cards. Proceeds of this event will benefit The Senior Alliance.

Westland Convalescent & Rehab Center is at 36137 W. Warren Road between Wayne Road and Central City Parkway. For more information, call (734) 728-6100 or

online at www.westlandcc.com.

Red Cross blood drive

St. Damian Parish will hold a Red Cross blood Drive 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 17. Call Gary at (734) 716-2057 for an appointment. Walk-ins are also welcome. The blood drive will be held in the Community Room of the church at 30055 Joy, Westland.

Community gathering

An evening of free family-friendly fun is coming to the north end of Westland — and the entire community is invited.

Westland Mayor William R. Wild will hold a Community Gathering on 5:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 26, at Corrado Park. The evening marks the first in a series of outdoor gatherings that aim to bring together members of the city administration and residents in an informal setting.

"This evening is about families getting together," said Wild. "Parents can bring their children down to the park for fun and great food, and also learn something about their neighborhood in the process."

Recent developments regarding the Cooper School property will be discussed and representatives of Orchard Hiltz & McCliment, Inc., Westland's consulting engineers, also will be on hand to give an update and answer questions regarding the Ann Arbor Trail resurfacing project.

There will be plenty of games and activities for children, including safety demonstrations by the Westland Police and Fire Departments, a mini golf clinic and inflatable bouncers. A free, old-fashioned barbecue will cap off the event.

Westland's Corrado Park is on Gladys at Flamingo Road, south of Joy. For more information, call (734) 467-3200.

ON THE WEB
For an expanded version of Around Westland, visit our online edition at www.hometownlife.com and click on the Westland home page.

Class reunion

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

Open house

McKinley Cooperative Preschool will have an open house 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Aug. 23. The preschool is enrolling for the 2008-9 school year for children ages 2 to 5. It offers morning and afternoon classes, affordable tuition and a teacher with over 25 years of experience.

McKinley is located at 6500 N. Wayne Road, at the corner of Hunter. Mention this announcement and get \$10 off registration fee for registrations at or before the open house. For more information, call (734) 729-7222 or go online www.mckinleypreschool.org.

Surplus food

The City of Westland will distribute surplus federal food to residents north of

Michigan Avenue 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 21, at the Dorsey Community Center, 32715 Dorsey, south of Palmer.

Senior citizens living in Taylor Towers may collect their food at Taylor Towers and must contact their building manager for their day of distribution. Greenwood Villa residents must pick up their food items at Greenwood Villa.

The August distribution will include grapefruit juice, instant potatoes, peanut butter and frozen 2-pound turkey ham. For more information, call the Dorsey Center's surplus food hotline at (734) 595-0366.

In concert

The Tyrone Hamilton All Stars will close out the summer outdoor concert series with a performance at 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 17, at the Westland Library Performance Pavilion located behind the William P. Faust Public Library. Listeners are encouraged to bring chairs or blankets to the free concert.

The library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford and south of Warren Road.

This event is sponsored by the Westland City Council with cooperation of the Westland Parks and Recreation Department. For more information, call (734) 722-7620 or (734) 522-3918.



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Westland Police Chief James Ridener talks to the media about the foiled drug bust at Bob's of Canton-Westland on Warren and Merriman.



Westland Police Officer Jeff Jedrusik stands outside Bob's of Canton Westland grocery store after a drug bust went bad. One suspect died, one was wounded and third one was arrested. However, two escaped and are being sought by police.

PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SHOOT-OUT

FROM PAGE A1

the suspects as of Wednesday afternoon, but the three in custody included a Garden City man and two Detroit men.

The wounded suspect and another man were taken into custody shortly after the gunfight, and Ridener said the third suspect was captured Tuesday night in Detroit after earlier escaping in a Lumina.

None of the Romulus officers was injured, and neither was any of the innocent bystanders who described themselves as terrified and shaken following a shoot-out that erupted in broad daylight in the strip mall parking lot.

Police said the suspects had chosen the location, outside the popular Bob's of Canton-Westland grocery store.

"The suspects didn't intend to buy the drugs," Ridener said, adding that they arrived with the intention of robbing the undercover informant rather than paying him. "I'm amazed there weren't more serious injuries. It was a gunfight basically."

Several businesses, including Bob's of Canton, Fire on Ice Cafe and Studio 1 Salon, were open when the shooting began. Some witnesses said it seemed like they heard dozens of rounds being fired.

Marcia Runchey, 72, was in the check-out line with her 41-year-old daughter, Lee, when they heard the gunfire outside.

"I heard a shot that sounded like a firecracker, and then I heard two more shots," Lee Runchey, a Garden City resident, said.

The mother and daughter followed a store cashier to the back of the store, where they crouched down, hid as best they could and hoped for the best. An employee called 9-1-1.

"I realized then the randomness to life," Lee Runchey said. "An experience like this makes you realize how random and fragile your life can be."

Keith Nutt, 20, a store butcher who lives in Westland, was working in the meat department when the shootings took place.

"A guy came in and pointed a gun at me. Then he started waving it," Nutt said. "It seemed like he was looking for an exit. I thought he was going to shoot me. It kind of freaked me out when he pointed the

gun at me." Police said the suspect who entered the store was the one who was wounded in the gun battle with police.

Witnesses said police entered the store while one gunman was still inside. Nutt said that when he came outside, "I saw another man laying dead on the ground."

The body lay in the parking lot, covered with a white sheet, for several hours after the incident erupted.

Regina Briski, a deli-counter employee at Bob's, said she heard shots fired then grabbed a co-worker and ran into the back of the store.

"I saw a man with a gun inside the store," said Briski, who is 29 and lives in

Westland.

According to Ridener, the wounded suspect was taken to a hospital and was expected to survive.

A large crowd looked on from both sides of Warren east of Merriman as police conducted their investigation.

Kirby said the location for the would-be drug deal was chosen by the suspects. He said public locations are typically chosen.

"They usually do this in the daytime," Kirby said.

Ridener said he was hopeful that the three suspects in custody could be arraigned on criminal charges as early as today.

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No shots fired as gunman surrenders to police

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A gunman who threatened a live-in caregiver was arrested early Sunday on the city's southwest side after he surrendered peacefully to special forces from the Westland Police Department's Tactical Response Unit, authorities confirmed.

The incident unfolded around 3 a.m. Sunday on Brandon, near Palmer and Newburgh, and despite a tense situation it ended with no shots fired and no one injured, police Lt. Dan Karrick said.

The dispute, which disrupted the early-morning quiet of a residential neighborhood, occurred between a 58-year-old man who has undisclosed medical problems and a 28-year-old woman who provides in-home care to him, Karrick said.

Police believe that both people had earlier been drinking alcohol.

According to statements made to police, Karrick said the caregiver had returned from a neighborhood party when she and the man she cared for became embroiled in an argument.

The man was accused of threatening the caregiver by pointing a pistol at her stomach, but he didn't fire any shots and finally told her to leave, Karrick said.

"She left and called the police," the lieutenant said. Patrol officers rushed to the house, but the man wouldn't answer the door, Karrick said.

Amid fears of a potential barricaded gunman, the officers called for the police department's Tactical Response Unit, the local version of a SWAT team.

Several officers from the special unit responded, and Karrick confirmed that a bullhorn was used to make contact with the accused gunman, who ultimately walked outside without his weapon during a peaceful surrender.

The suspect was taken into custody and remained jailed Monday as local police awaited word on felony charges from the Wayne County Prosecutor's office, Karrick said.

The gunman had no known criminal history, according to police.

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Volunteer Hector Gonzalez mans the grill for the block party.

Block party brings neighbors together

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Leda Moore of Westland had somewhere to go Saturday afternoon, the annual block party for the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army.

"I brought my grandson," said Moore, watching him on one of the ever-popular Bobby's Bouncers in the parking lots at the corps center. "He loves doing this kind of stuff. Hopefully, the weather will hold off."

The skies did threaten and some rain did fall, but Moore, who lives near the building on Venoy south of Palmer, and

several hundred of her neighbors had a good time.

"I think it's great, it's great for the kids, keeps them out of trouble," said Moore, who came to the block party last year.

"This is our fifth annual block party," said corps officer Capt. Joanna Rose, busy organizing volunteers before the fun started. The aim of the free event is to offer "a fun place where the whole community can come and enjoy with their children before school starts."

"We want to let the community know we are accessible here to them," she added. There were Christian bands

performing Saturday afternoon, with devotional times in which prayers and information on Salvation Army offerings were shared. Another block party goal is to share the gospel message, she said.

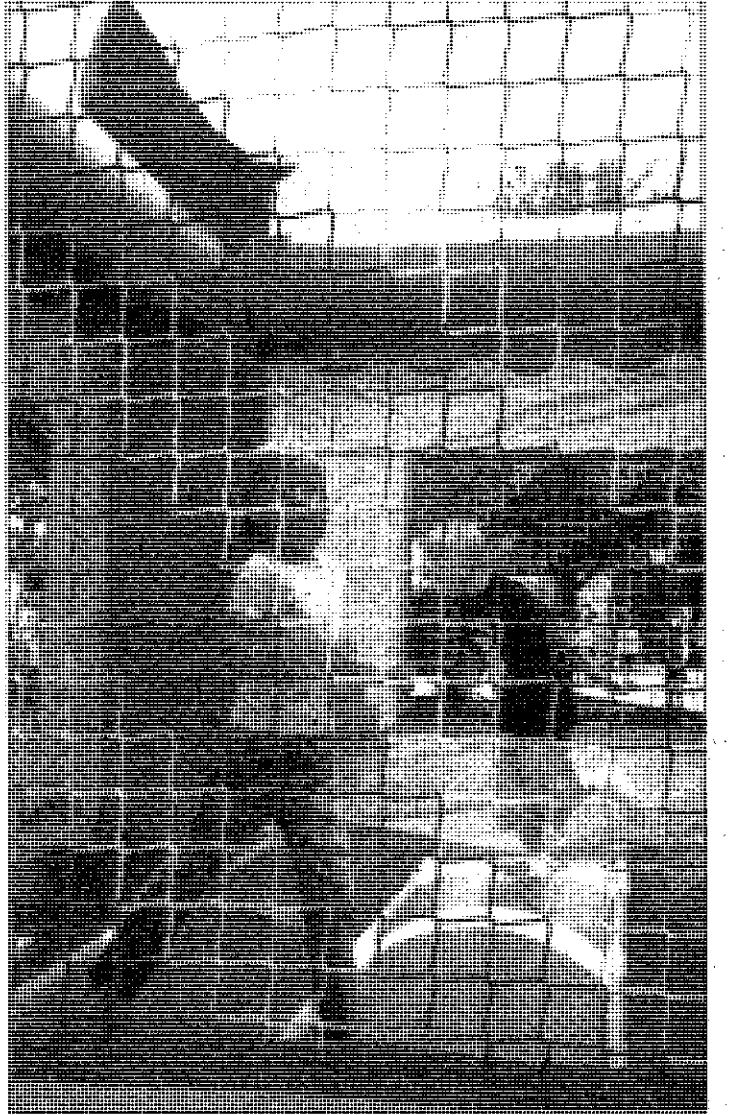
The staff and volunteers worked hard to get the word out in the Norwayne neighborhood, Rose said, with teens passing out fliers. Nearby Crazy's Pizza put fliers on pizza boxes, which helped.

Rose, with husband Capt. Derek, a new arrival to the Wayne-Westland corps officer post, agreed such events help neighbors get to know each other.

"I think that's something that has been lost, especially after 9/11," she said. "You're going to need your neighbor for support. We wanted to create community."

Volunteers at the party included five staffers from Kohl's of Westland, which also contributed \$500 to the event. Kohl's staffer Carol Struppa of Wayne said the volunteers are part of the Kohl's Cares for Kids effort and wear distinctive A Team From Kohl's shirts.

"It's fun to come out and do something different and know you're helping the community," Struppa said, adding four store volunteers were at



Courtney Romero and Andrew Meyers like the circus-themed bouncer at the party.

food concessions and one at the obstacle course.

Food was donated by a number of area businesses, while Target stores came through with four new bikes, the final prizes given out at the end of the party. Other donated toys and games were popular with the kids, whose prize numbers were called from the stage.

Joanna Rose was pleased with business support in such tough times: "Even if it wasn't a whole lot, they gave us what they could."

The Bobby's Bouncers kept the kids coming back all afternoon, with the officers' kids, Lillian and Logan Rose, as well as Courtney Romero and Andrew Meyers, eagerly entering the circus-themed inflatable as soon as the fun kicked off at 2 p.m.

The Westland Fire Department truck drew the kids during its visit. The dunk tank was popular, too, with a highlight being Derek Rose donning his Salvation Army washable uniform to sit in the hot seat and take the plunge.

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Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 3650 Enterprise Dr. Allen Park, MI 48101 (313) 441-3117 8/30/2008 at 11:30 am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:
B022 ABBAS AWADA - BOXES,BAGS,TOTES
B054 GARY GERESY - BOXES,BAGS,TOTES
B069 BOSSIE ANDERSON - BOXES,BAGS,TOTES
B104 BURT MELLUM - BOXES,BAGS,TOTES
B150 GEORGE CHENE - BOXES,BAGS,TOTES
B152 ERIC NIXON - BOXES,BAGS,TOTES
B193 JOYCE MCBRIDE - BOXES,BAGS,TOTES
B247 ROBERT HANKINS - BOXES,BAGS,TOTES
B314 AMANDA WERSTEIN - BOXES,BAGS,TOTES
D040 SHERRY LEWIS - BOXES,BAGS,TOTES

Publish: August 14 & 21, 2008

Cheer for the hometown read today's **SPORTS** section

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

Case #2152C - Preliminary Plan Approval for Proposed Cooper School Redevelopment, Parcels #001-99-0008-000 and #002-99-0080-001, South Side of Ann Arbor Trail, West of Inkster Road, Frank Jonna (Randy Liepa)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public meeting of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held in the City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 3, 2008.

Written comments must be submitted to the Planning Commission before 5:00 p.m. one (1) day prior to the scheduled meeting.

Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman
WESTLAND PLANNING COMMISSION

Publish: August 14, 2008

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 36001 Warren Rd Westland, MI 48185-6591 (734)729-7095 on 8/29/08 at 10:30 am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:
1134 - Dominique Gray - 2 TVs, 1 Tote, Suitcase
1288 - Gina Clark - 8 Boxes, Lamp, Kids Toys
2026 - Nedra Banks - TV, Microwave, Headboard
3038 - Terence Hunter Jr. - 2 Ladders, 20 Boxes, Misc Items
3180 - Marilyn Zachery - Aquarium, Tote, 6 Bags
4096 - Claudia E Barber-Martin - 10 Boxes, Suitcase, 3 Bags
4124 - Tameka Roberts - Headboard, 4 Chairs, Entertainment Center
4148 - James Tuttle Jr. - 4 TVs, Mattress, Dresser
5056 - Claire Joslin - Wardrobe, Speakers, Couch
5068 - Felicia Sadler - Washer, Dresser, Table
5094 - Barry Price Jr - Golf Clubs, 10 Boxes, Chair
5096 - Fayvian Watts - 10 Boxes, Table, 2 Totes
5102 - Marcus Mathis - 10 Boxes, 10 Chairs, Misc Items

Publish: August 14 & 21, 2008

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to state law, a sale will be held at: Secured Self Storage, 6855 Yale, Westland, MI, August 30, 2008 at 1:05 P.M.

#227 Donald Ferrell III, #302 Vanessa Smith, #331 Scott Bowles, #402 Doris Edwards, #446 Dottie Door, #718 Raquel Chantz, #623 Earl Hoffman, #1005 Fenkell Welding, #1103 Patrick Snyder, #1414 Calvin Montgomery

Units contain: misc. household items - welding supplies.

Publish: August 14 and 21, 2008

Notice Of Public Sale Of Personal Property

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 9300 Pelhem Road, Taylor, 48180 (313) 292-9730 8/30/08 at 10:30am Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:
2075 RUTH WEST - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
3010 ROBERT BRIAN JARVIS - TOYS, TOTES, VACUUM
3046 DEEANNA EIGHMEY - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
3048 TANISHA HOLSTON - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
3051 SHERYLETTE HUMPHREY - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
3054 THOMAS HOOKER - MATTRESS, TABLES
3073 SARAH PHELAN - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
3088 KLAUNA LEWIS - TABLE, BOXES, TOTES
3089 ANGELA MARTINEZ - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
3091 MICHELLE MELCHERT - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
4017 SHARON SIMPSON - BOXES, TOTES, LIFEJACKET
4083 CLAUDE ROSS - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
5057 NENA GONZALEZ - BOXES, BAGS, MATTRESS
5061 ANGEL EVANS - MATTRESS, TOTES, TABLES
5064 DAWN BARNARD - TV, BAGS, BOXES
5070 STARLA BRIGGS - FRIDGE, TOYS, AIR CONDITIONER
5083 WILLIE MAE SADLER - BOXES, DRESSER, LUGGAGE
5089 SANDRA CHURCH - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
5093 DANIELLE CARNEY - CRIB, BAGS
6042 ASHLEY GALLAGHER-MOREY - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
6057 EDWIN OMEY - BOXES, TOTES, MICROWAVE
6059 JUDITH RYAN - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
6071 TONI KINCHEN - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
6080 DONALD DAIGLE - BED, MATTRESS, BOXES
6085 RON BEMBRY - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
6091 DONALD FAULKNER - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
6191 ROBERT HOWELL - BOXES, TV, LADDER
7017 VIKKI HOOD - BAGS, BOXES, TOTES
7019 TIFFANY SCOTT - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
7055 CRYSTAL ROWLAND - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
7108 DEONTE BARBER - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
7109 BRANDY WILLIAMS - SOFA, DRESSER, TOTES
7121 DANA COUNTS - BAG, WASHER, STOVE
7128 MEGAN HOWARD - BOX, BAG, TOYS

Publish: August 14 and 21, 2008

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

Case #2152B - Public Hearing for Proposed Rezoning from **THR, Townhouse Residence and R-5, Single Family Residential to PUD, Planned Unit Development, Parcels #001-99-0008-000 and #002-99-0080-001, South Side of Ann Arbor Trail, West of Inkster Road, Frank Jonna (Randy Liepa)**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 3, 2008.

Written comments must be submitted to the Planning Commission before 5:00 p.m. one (1) day prior to the scheduled meeting.

Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman
WESTLAND PLANNING COMMISSION

Publish: August 14, 2008

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 24920 Trowbridge St., Dearborn, MI 48124 (313) 277-7940 8/30/2008 at 9:30 am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:
1138 YANCY DAVIS - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
1160 ANISE BANKHEAD - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
1333- OLIVE GARDEN - BOX, BAG, TOTES

Publish: August 14 and 21, 2008

WESTLAND CAR CARE TOWING

The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at Public Auction August 19, 2008 at 11:15 AM.

The Auction will be held at Westland Car Care Towing, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI 48185. The vehicles will be sold as is, starting bid is for towing and storage.

| YEAR | MAKE | MODEL | BODY | VIN # |
|------|---------|---------|------|-------------------|
| 1995 | Ford | E-150 | Van | 1FDEE14HXSHB44359 |
| 1995 | Pontiac | Gr Prix | 4DR | 1G2WJ52M0SF341729 |

Publish: August 14 and 17, 2008

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On August 19, 2008, the Westland Police Department will conduct a public auction of impounded, abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin promptly at 11:00 a.m. at Westland Car Care, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder.

| YEAR | MAKE | BODY STYLE | COLOR | VIN |
|------|-------------|----------------------|--------|-------------------|
| 1974 | SPEC SEARAY | BOAT/ 18' 2" | YELLOW | SERM5941M74J6634Y |
| 1997 | FORD | WINNEBAGO MOTOR HOME | WH/GRN | 1FDLE40S0VHA55155 |
| 1983 | CHEVROLET | MONTE CARLO 2 DOOR | GRAY | 1G1AZ37HLD1C03194 |

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. Bidding on all vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list any time prior to the start of the auction.

30 DAY NOTICE OF AUCTION

Due to unknown ownership, 30 day notice is hereby given that the vehicle(s) listed below will be auctioned after SEPTEMBER 13, 2008 unless it is claimed by the owner prior to that time.

| YEAR | MAKE | BODY STYLE | COLOR | VIN |
|------|-----------|----------------|--------|-------------------|
| 2001 | CHEVROLET | METRO/4DR | WHITE | 2C1MR522016706054 |
| 1996 | PONTIAC | BONNEVILLE/4DR | SILVER | 1G2HZ2K0TH211472 |

Publish: August 14, 2008

Park path a win-win for city, Rotary

Linda Rupp, who lives near Toledo, Ohio, was visiting family in Westland Thursday, Aug. 7.

"I'm baby-sitting for my grandchildren this week," she said, keeping an eye on grandson Noah, 2. She was impressed with the new walking path at Rotary Park, at Florence and Christine in the Wayne Road-Cherry Hill area.

"It's great," Rupp said of the path, the formal dedication of which was held at lunchtime last Thursday with Westland city officials, Westland Chamber of Commerce representatives and Rotarians.

Rupp noticed the park was much cleaner than in previous visits.

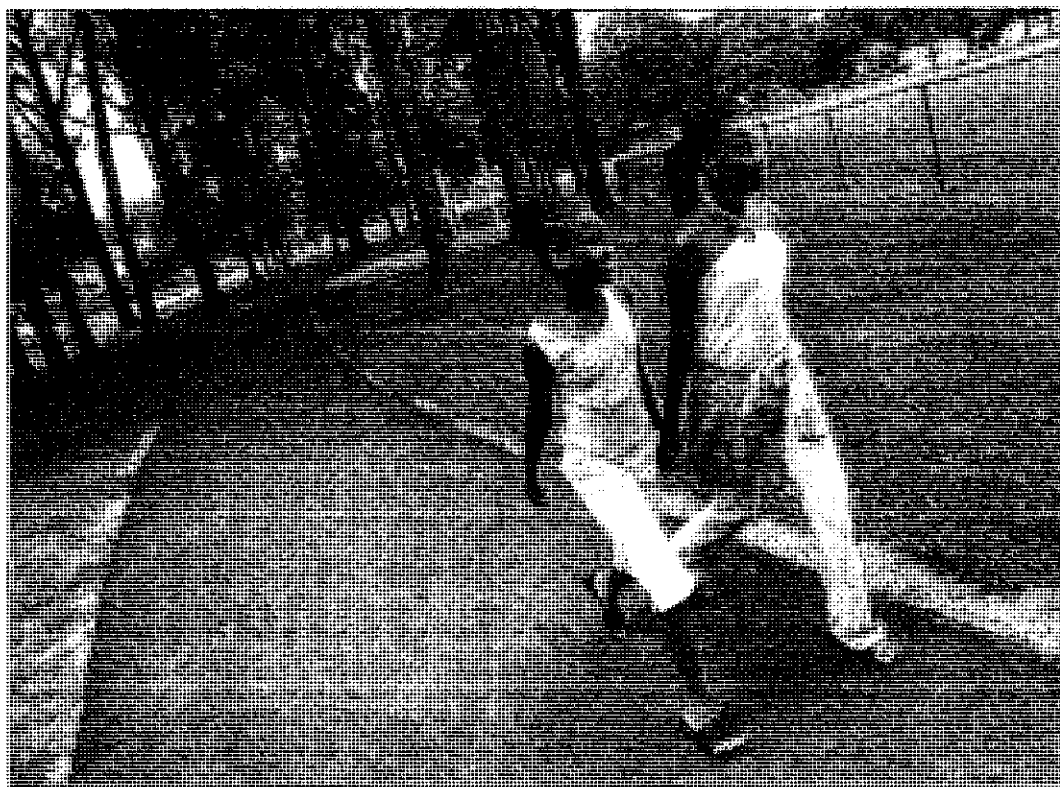
"Much better," she said, telling Noah, "You go climb on the slide."

Noah likes the park's playground equipment, and soon tried out the swings with grandma's help.

Mayor William Wild likes the city's 17 neighborhood parks (in addition to the closed Central City Park). He also appreciates the civic and service groups that contribute to the parks.

"I think they're very important, probably even more so now with the closure of Central City Park (for environmental reasons)," Wild said.

People look at parks when deciding where to live, he added.



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sisters Shanijy Reed-Ginyard, 9, and DaiJa Reed, 11, take a walk on the new City of Westland walking path at Rotary Park. Westland Rotary recently gave \$13,000 to the City of Westland for the walking path at Rotary Park which was dedicated last Thursday afternoon.

"I think that's one of the draws to our community," the mayor said.

The city spends from its coffers to maintain the neighborhood parks, so donations from service clubs and other organizations are a big help.

"It doesn't leave much money

to do improvements," said Wild. "We just appreciate all that Rotary does for the city of Westland."

Holding fund-raisers over several years, the Westland Rotarians were able to donate \$13,000 for the walking path, which circles the perimeter

of the tree-filled park. The club held its meeting at the park Thursday, joining for lunch with city and chamber representatives following the official ribbon-cutting for the path.

- By Julie Brown

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ARAB-CHALDEAN FEST IS AUG. 23

The Detroit Zoo will celebrate Metro Detroit's Arab-Chaldean community and culture at the Arab-Chaldean Festival on Saturday, Aug. 23, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event is part of Summer Festivals at the Detroit Zoo ... Like Nowhere Else, presented by

Comcast. Activities will take place in the plaza east of the Ford Education Center and are free with the cost of zoo admission.

Comcast subscribers who show their bill at the ticket booth receive \$2 off one adult admission.

The Arab-Chaldean Festival will feature live entertainment, including music by Ara Topouzian and dance performances by Troupe Ta'amullat. There will also be food available for purchase from local Middle Eastern restaurants, calligraphy demonstrations,

henna art, and enrichment activities with animals from Middle Eastern countries.

Also supported by Comerica Charitable Foundation, the Summer Festivals at the Detroit Zoo celebrate the cultural diversity of the metro Detroit community.

Following 'hot' tip might leave you in the cold

Whenever people find out what I do for a living, the first question they ask me is should they invest in what is hot. My standard answer is a question: "Should I take a heavy jacket on my next vacation?"

Of course, after the initial confusion their answer is, "Well it all depends on where you're going." I then tell them it's the same about investing. It has nothing to do with what is hot today, but rather where you want to go with your money.

Too many people are stuck in a rut when it comes to investing. They remember the old days, when a stockbroker recommend buy or sell based on the investment du jour. From an investor's standpoint, that model has proven to be a failure. Few people today refer to themselves as stockbrokers — they call themselves financial advisers or financial counselors. However, no matter what the title, if it is a strategy that encourages constant buying and selling, the

strategy will fail today just as it failed in the past.

Investors need to learn from the past or be destined to make the same mistakes. Before investing even one dollar, you must have an overall long-term strategy. That said, there are some common mistakes investors continue to make which erodes return.

Americans are preoccupied with taxes. If you want to fool an American about an investment, simply say you have an investment that will lower their taxes.

I've said many times "taxes" are not the issue. Your goal is not to lower your taxes, but to increase net worth. Lowering taxes does not automatically increase net worth. In fact, in many situations, when you lower your taxes, you are lowering your net worth.

Another common mistake is relying on tips. The best tip I can give is to avoid "hot tips" at all costs. My experience with investors who buy stocks on a hot tip is they end up losing money. When you invest based on a tip, you are gambling — and the majority of gamblers lose.

One other mistake investors make is falling in love with their investments. Your investments do not love you

and you should not love them.

The reason we invest is to make money and we should not be afraid to sell an investment that has done well in the past, but is no longer performing. That doesn't mean if the investment has a bad year, you sell. However, if the investment is underperforming other investments in the same category for a number of years, sell. I cannot tell you how many people in our area refused to sell Kmart even though the stock had many years of miserable performance. Many people in our area continued to hold Kmart stock out of loyalty. Loyalty is fine, but not in the investment world.

Even great investors who follow all the rules occasionally lose money. That is the nature of investing. However, the better investors minimize their losses and maximize their gains by reducing mistakes.

One last note and that is never beat yourself up over a mistake. Learn from it and become a better investor.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at monymatters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit Rick's Web

site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com. You can hear Rick from noon to 3 p.m. Sundays on WDTK-AM (1400).



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

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OUR VIEWS

No choice: Weaver must leave board

Webster's New College Dictionary has several definitions for the word residence, one of which states the obvious when it comes to Wayne-Westland school board Trustee Frederick Weaver. Residence is a place where you live or stay "while working, going to school, carrying out certain official duties, etc., especially long enough to qualify for certain rights and privileges, etc."

Weaver last month announced that he was putting his house in Westland up for sale, that he could no longer afford to commute from Midland where, for 18 months, he has worked as a minister with North Point Ministries. He also stressed that while his Westland home is on the market, it remains his "primary residence." He also stated that he would continue to fulfill his duties as an elected official in hopes that circumstances change and he and his family can return to Westland before the home sells.

But the announcement came a month after he had changed the address on his driver's license to his Midland address. Since the state likes things to be neat and tidy, his voter registration was switched to match. He has said he didn't know that the address change would affect his voter registration and that he would change his address once again to rectify the situation.

Unfortunately, changing his address again will not rectify the apparent: He is living and working in Midland, and to that, state election law is quite specific. A position on the school board becomes vacant when the individual moves his or her residence from the school district. It also is apparent that Weaver no longer meets the requirements to hold that office, one of which is being a qualified and registered elector of the school district.

Weaver has been an excellent school board trustee. During his six years in office, he has worked hard on behalf of residents and students. He has always been upfront and honest. As school board president, he initiated the highly successful Project 180, which has become a yearly program to help parents and their children succeed.

Weaver is not alone in having had to make difficult career choices because of the state's economy, but he cannot expect to continue to serve in a position he is no longer entitled to hold. Nor can he label a resident's challenge as a "political ploy." It doesn't matter who she knows, Nancy Froyreich has the right to question her elected officials, especially one who is serving his community from afar.

We believe Weaver should resign his seat on the school board immediately. Residents have a right to expect their elected officials to live in their communities and school district. And until the state election law is changed, Weaver no longer lives in the school district he was elected to represent.

High school, kindergarten programs promising ideas

Last week, Gov. Jennifer Granholm signed the state school aid bill assuring school districts that they would be receiving \$56 to \$112 more per pupil for the 2008-09 school year, a meager 2-percent increase over last fiscal year.

But the bill does include support for two Granholm proposals that offer some promise of improving education on both ends of the K-12 continuum.

The \$13.4 billion school aid fund will include \$15 million for a pilot project to create smaller high schools. The small school concept is aimed at reducing Michigan's high dropout rate, particularly in the city of Detroit.

Educators argue that large, impersonal high schools are a hindrance to good education. In smaller schools, with smaller class sizes, students are able to get more individual attention from teachers and have closer interaction with their classmates.

The program would provide districts grants of up to \$3 million. Districts with graduation rates of less than 70 percent would be eligible for the grants and would be required to return half of the grant money if they aren't graduating at least 80 percent of their students by the third year of the program.

Granholm had asked for a plan to raise up to \$300 million over several years by borrowing against future school aid revenue, but legislators rejected that idea over concerns about adding to the state debt.

It will be interesting to see how successful this program is in reversing a troubling trend at a time when post-secondary education is so important.

The funding bill also provides a combined \$10 million for early childhood education and school readiness programs. The aid package also will cut funding for half-day and alternate-day kindergarten and fully fund all-day kindergarten. This will be phased in over several years.

The governor has advocated for all-day kindergartens and this plan gives state support for the idea without mandating it for all districts or children.

Geoff Brooks EDITOR OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC



LETTERS

Thanks for support

I want to thank everyone who supported my campaign to remain the Wayne County commissioner for District 12. So many dedicated people committed many hours to walking in the district, talking to potential voters and working the polls. I also met many wonderful "new friends" while walking door-to-door, and I am thankful for their support.

I am forever grateful for this opportunity to serve the residents of the 12th District and I will continue to represent them through the rest of my term.

Ronaele Bowman
Westland

Recall concerned only city

This letter is in response to comments made by Bob Johnson at the council meeting of Aug. 4. Comments were made that "people from outside the community came in to do the recall."

That could NOT be further from the truth. My husband (now deceased) and I were closely involved and there were NOT (outside people). This recall concerned ONLY our city, so why would "outside people" come in? (I thought this was all behind us, but apparently not).

You are entitled to your opinion as am I. I do not believe that the city got a black eye from this. We saw a wrong to the city clerk and tried to rectify it (and we did). Recalls are hard work and it took a year out of our lives.

Would I do it again? I would leave that to the younger generation and it would have to be for a really good reason that involves the whole city. I try to stay involved in the good things in our city (and there are a lot of them).

I would suggest that you think before you speak about something you know nothing about. I am NOT going to debate this with you, but felt I needed to answer what you said.

Happy to be a Westland resident,
Georgia Becker
Westland

Recall opposed

The *Observer* should be applauded for its Aug. 7 editorial opposing a potential recall movement started by homeowners who are upset about a planned seniors complex near their semi-rural neighborhood on Joy east of Newburgh.

Recalls, while legal, should be used only for extreme and outrageous illegal actions by elected officials, not because a tiny number of residents in a city of more than 85,000 residents are upset that there will be a modest change in their neighborhood. If the recall supporters have their way, there could be a recall movement every month because there will also be a few residents who are upset about a city council decision.

I also have to chuckle about the recall supporters' complaint about noise and traffic congestion that might be generated by the planned seniors complex. Don't those residents know that there is a high school walking distance from their homes. What about the traffic, including the stopping of cars on Joy to allow school buses to pick up and drop off

students, generated by the hundreds of student drivers who clog the road twice a day during the nine-month school year. How about the Friday football games which generate even more traffic along Joy Road.

In contrast, how many drivers and resulting traffic would there be from retirees who would be giving up their cars to move into the proposed development?

I say stop the recall now before it gets too far out of hand.

If anyone opposes the rezoning, just wait until the next city council election 15 months from now and throw the bums out. In the meantime, some 99.5 percent of the city's 85,000 couldn't care a hoot about the development.

Leonard Poger
Westland

No easy oil solutions

The headlines and airwaves are full of talk right now about what to do about rising gas prices. It all shows just how much Americans still love their fairy tales and urban legends.

Americans are lining up behind the solution du jour of their political persuasion. Republicans and Democrats alike are offering quick-fix remedies ... a gas tax holiday; drilling the offshore coastal areas in Florida, California, even the Great Lakes; track down the speculators. Might as well be passing out Band-Aids in the cancer ward, or menus on the deck of the Titanic.

This political pandering for votes is astonishing. Even more astonishing is the public's willingness to believe any of these will make a difference ... and the media's failure to contrast these proposed solutions with the facts.

"Facts are stubborn things," John Adams said in the birth of our nation. My fellow citizens, please understand the facts of America's consumption of oil.

In 1970, we only imported 24 percent of our oil. Less than two decades ago (1990), imported oil accounted for 42 percent of what we consumed. Today, we import a staggering 70 percent of the oil used in the U.S. Just as important, the U.S. market no longer controls oil prices like we once did. The huge rise in the economies of China and India and the huge increase in non-OPEC production mean that the U.S. has far less leverage today on global oil prices than it once had.

Sadly, the political rhetoric of the "quick-fix" masks the true underlying problem of America's excessive use of oil ... we simply can't afford it. It is costing us \$700 billion a year. That's \$700,000,000,000 going out the door every year (four times the cost of the Iraq war). It is trashing our economy and will bankrupt us if we allow it to continue.

Even if we increased domestic production with offshore drilling as proposed, it amounts to just six months' worth of consumption. Gas tax holiday? Punish the speculators? Please!

The stubborn facts are that gas prices have dropped sharply to a seven-week low. Why? Because the market forces are working and consumption has softened.

Isn't that how the American economy is supposed to work?

Most Americans, Republican-leaning and Democrat-leaning, like to think their party and candidate have "the" solution that will fix the problem so we can all go back to our normal way of life. Well, get a grip ... it won't work.

It is time to get used to high gas prices and adjust our patterns of driving. Many of those Americans who favor the quick-fix are the same ones still commuting alone ... jack-rabbiting from the stoplight ... running errands one at a time. We are 4 percent of the world population; we use 25 percent of the world's oil. That won't work anymore in this global economy.

Look in the mirror to find the solution to this one. This one is up to each of us, not politicians or our government, to change our patterns of energy use. If you want to learn more about just how big this issue is and get a far-reaching look at solving it, study T. Boone Pickens' plan at www.pickensplan.com.

Dan Kelfer,
Rochester Hills

Obama needs Hillary

Obama is sliding in the polls and it's only early August. He has abandoned Hillary Clinton as vice president and yet she holds the key to a guaranteed victory.

The audacity of his arrogance will cost him my vote and many a Clinton voter. He must remember that unlike many past Republican candidates, McCain is a semi-tolerable moderate alternative.

Obama needs to embrace Hillary and choose her as vice president before he costs the Dems the majority in Congress and the White House. If he wants real change, he will swallow his pride and choose her as soon as possible.

Edward Johnson,
Royal Oak

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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QUOTABLE

"But the guidelines for second-degree murder are 15 to life, it was not worth the risk. This is an isolated incident in Dan's life, one day that will affect him for years."

- Attorney Jerome Sabbota, about his client, Daniel Andreassi, pleading no contest to four felony counts in connection with the May 18 death of 20-year-old Westland resident Anthony Cosenza

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

Those Dream Cruisers aren't so flighty after all, she discovers

Let me start this off by telling you about the column I wanted to write, the one you're not going to see.

Bear with me for a moment. There's an old mission in California called San Juan Capistrano. Each year on or around March 19, swarms of swallows, returning from their winter vacation spot in Argentina, stop to perch at the Capistrano mission — a place that, for reasons inexplicable to those of us without feathers, possesses a magnetism apparently built into its old stone walls.

Now, as a Royal Oak resident who lives not too far from Woodward Avenue, I feel a bit like the good folks of San Juan as I watch swarms of classic car cruisers perch themselves along the main drag of town every August.

As someone who's not only not into the whole car culture but a little baffled by it, I was going to write that given the choice between navigating around the Woodward Dream Cruise or cleaning masses of swallow poop each year, well, let's just say: Somebody hand me a squeegee.

But I'm not going to write that column anymore, and you have Port Huron resident Linda Anderson to thank for it.

You also can thank her friend, Jim Vannes. And Royal Oak residents Jim Stanfel and Val Borst.

I visited the Shell gas station at Normandy and Woodward one night last week to do a story on the so-called "pre-cruisers" who appeared for the *Mirror*. For many, one day of Dream Cruise isn't enough, and the station is a hot spot for classic car enthusiasts to come weeks — and sometimes months — in advance to show off their cars, talk and just hang out. Problem is, those I talked to were all just so, well, just so darn nice. And each one had their story, their reason for their lifelong infatuation with the automobile.

Take Anderson, for example. When I talked to her, it was the day before her wedding anniversary. It would be her first since Keith, her husband of two decades, died last fall of a rapidly progressing form of brain cancer. Seems he and Linda shared a love for each other and of classic cars.

Facing her first anniversary alone, she and close family friend Jim Vannes drove

I visited the Shell gas station at Normandy and Woodward one night last week to do a story on the so-called "pre-cruisers" who appeared for the *Mirror*. For many, one day of Dream Cruise isn't enough, and the station is a hot spot for classic car enthusiasts to come weeks — and sometimes months — in advance to show off their cars, talk and just hang out. Problem is, those I talked to were all just so, well, just so darn nice. And each one had their story, their reason for their lifelong infatuation with the automobile.

from Port Huron in Vannes' 1969 Jaguar. "Does this make you feel closer to him?" I asked her.

"Yeah," she replied softly. She didn't say anything else. She turned her head to look at the row of classic cars in the parking lot and then looked down at the pavement. She swiped a forefinger under her eye and behind her sunglasses, which she kept on after sunset because, I suspect, she wanted to shield her eyes from more than sun.

It was about that time that any designs I had on penning a snarky column were kaput. I may not understand why an XKE is better or worse than an ABC, but I do understand about how objects both big and small connect us to the intangible nature of memory. The ghosts of our past lives can fade, but that one song, that smell, that piece of jewelry, that sport and yes, that car gives them back a little color if only for a short time.

As a colleague of mine put it, my feelings about the Dream Cruise were tempered by an experience I had, so that's the column I would write. So while I can't promise I'll ever be into cars, the Dream Cruise or quite frankly, the nonstop renditions of "Devil in a Blue Dress" by Mitch Ryder sound-alikes, I can offer those who are this wish: Have a great time, though I'm sure all of you will.

But not as much fun as I've had finally being able to compare something to the swallows of Capistrano for literary effect.

Megan Pennefather is a reporter for the *Mirror* and will most likely be driven to nap in a back yard hammock on Dream Cruise day.



Megan Pennefather

The online barroom changes political discourse today

Times have changed.

As someone who has usually embraced change, I wonder if my current resistance is just a sign of advancing age.

Politics has always been a rough-and-tumble experience, dating back to the days of Jefferson and Hamilton. In those days, all newspapers were blatant partisan journals supporting one side or the other in the debate over federal power. Sometimes these journals presented cogent arguments to support their partisan positions. Most times they offered up salacious rumors, wild accusations and downright lies about their opposition.

Beginning in the 1830s, newspaper publishers found they could gather more readers and, most importantly, advertisers by the eliminating or at least soft pedaling partisan positions on their news pages and saving them for opinion pages.

Of course that hasn't stopped partisanship from creeping into news accounts and it hasn't stopped some publishers from using their newspapers for blatant political reasons. But, the principle remains in place at most newspapers and the major broadcast networks.

But now we have the Internet — blogs, comments on online stories, chat rooms. Everyone is invited to offer up an opinion or two or incessantly. There is little censorship over these comments and the result is something like the elevation of barroom arguments into written political discourse. The back and forth on almost every issue is every bit as vulgar, misinformed, bullheaded and, quite often, off-subject and distracting as your usual Friday night after work at the local friendly.

Being churlish about these things suggests a disdain for democracy and free speech. I'm with Winston Churchill about democracy being the worst form of government except in comparison to all the other forms of government that have been tried. As for free speech, well, here I am ranting so I guess if I can rant, so can everyone else.

On the national scene these comments probably have little effect. Candidates running for federal positions are pretty much immune to this stuff, although this year provides a test on dealing with one of our most prickly issues — race relations. But it is at the local level, the state, county, city and township levels that we cover that this sort of nasty business becomes troubling.



Hugh Gallagher

This isn't about taking a position on something like the annexation issue in Livonia or a particular slate of candidates in Canton or Redford townships. Everyone who lives in those communities should take an interest in those topics, speak out on their positions and be a part of the debate. The problem is when that conversation becomes vitriolic, personal, accusatory with vague and harmful charges that aren't and can't be substantiated. Quite often the writers drift off the issue entirely to launch a personal attack on someone who has offered an earlier comment. (Good thing the 'net isn't a bar because the fists would be flying all the time. Or we'd see a return to the days of Hamilton and Burr, when a duel satisfied the issue.)

This isn't about taking a position on something like the annexation issue in Livonia or a particular slate of candidates in Canton or Redford townships. Everyone who lives in those communities should take an interest in those topics, speak out on their positions and be a part of the debate. The problem is when that conversation becomes vitriolic, personal, accusatory with vague and harmful charges that aren't and can't be substantiated. Quite often the writers drift off the issue entirely to launch a personal attack on someone who has offered an earlier comment. (Good thing the 'net isn't a bar because the fists would be flying all the time. Or we'd see a return to the days of Hamilton and Burr, when a duel satisfied the issue.)

As we move into the general election season, the focus in many of our communities will switch from the local scene to the presidential election. Many of our communities are one-party strongholds in which the primary was the election. But there will be ballot issues coming in November that will set off alarms for many political junkies.

We can only hope they spend some time honing their arguments, focusing on the issues and eliminating the vitriol. ("Fat chance, Killjoy!")

Hugh Gallagher is the managing editor of the *Observer Newspapers*. He can be reached by e-mail at hgallagher@hometownlife.com or by phone at (734)953-2149.



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Truck czars: Couple embraces Dream Cruise

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Dan Czar owns a 1972 Chevrolet El Camino. Darlene Czar owns a 1937 Ford pickup. During the summer months, both vehicles can be seen at car shows and both will be in the Woodward Dream Cruise, Saturday in Oakland County.

But Dan Czar also plans to display his latest creation: a stained glass semi-truck.

For both of these Redford residents, the trucks are warm reminders of a bygone era.

Dan loved the 1970s vehicles, particularly the El Camino.

"It seats like a car, and it was the first luxury pickup," Czar said. "It was called a gentleman's pickup. You could go to work as a contractor, then go home, get cleaned up and go pick up your date."

"I love it for its handling," Czar said. "I've never had a car that handled like it."

It sports a Corvette 350 engine with a 780 four-barrel carburetor.

Darlene loves her Ford truck, an old farm truck, which she has owned for six years. "It's just a rugged looking truck," she said. "It's got a mean look to it. It's my pride and joy."

The sinister look to the truck, with its black color, is enhanced with the spider web encasing the engine, replacing the panels that were removed due to overheating. They wanted to cover the engine to prevent bystanders from reaching into it. "The kids grab it and ask, 'Is that real, is it real?'" Dan Czar said. Spider webs wrap the steering wheel and decorate the inside door panel.

The black color makes it a challenge to keep cool inside the truck in the summer. "It's cooled with 'country air,'" Dan said jokingly, referring to the lack of air conditioning in older vehicles.

The couple enjoys the Dream Cruise each year. Dan likes the old vehicles from the 1940s and the Willys, but he also loves the racy looks of the 1970s, too. "My dad had a '53 Plymouth that he used to sit me up in," Dan recalled. "The Dream Cruise always brings back those memories."

Darlene likes the cruise to



Dan Czar and his wife, Darlene, talk about Darlene's 1937 Ford truck which she is planning to take to the Dream Cruise with Dan's 1972 El Camino.



Dan Czar of Redford discusses the details on his lead glass semi truck he constructed which he will display during Dream Cruise on Friday in the 13 Mile and Woodward Avenue area.

remember when cars were built differently. "It's great to be able to see some of the old nostalgic cars," she said. "You knock on it and it's steel. Today, it's plastic."

The couple expects to be in the area of Woodward Avenue and 14 Mile Road, near Duggan's in Royal Oak.

Not only do they get into the Dream Cruise, the couple enjoys other car and truck shows, too.

And what might be more fascinating is his latest creation: a small "semi-truck" made with

stained glass.

Last year, Dan finished installing the stained glass cab over the truck, which will be on display at the Richard Crane Memorial Truck Show and Mackinac Bridge Parade of Lights in St. Ignace in September.

The stained glass and aluminum diamond plate vehicle is named Lead Poison, because it contains more than 350 pounds of cut glass, including flame-etched windows and all-glass mud flaps, held together with

more than six pounds of lead. It features white-lettered tires and real semi-truck stacks.

The truck measures 6 feet long, 2 feet, 3 inches wide and 4 feet, 4 inches high. It weighs 150 pounds.

Two car batteries power the truck — one fires up the electric motor (yes, the truck moves) and the second one operates the truck's 192 lights, including high- and low-beam headlights, turn signals, four-way flashers, strobe lights in the dashboard where the gauges are mounted in stained glass and a caution beeper used when the vehicle backs up.

The truck also glows in some of its details, including the white lettering on the tires, painted by Darlene, and the mud flaps that indicate "passing" for the left side and "suicide" on the right. The front bumper is 1/4-inch mirror with "Lead Poison" and a skull and crossbones etched so spectators can view the rainbow lights that glow behind the name.

But this weekend, they'll be cruising in the '37 Ford and '72 El Camino. Dan expects to attend every evening through Saturday night in the Woodward Avenue and 13 Mile area in Royal Oak, and will display the stained glass truck Friday night, he says.

3 sought in holdup of party store

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland police still are seeking help in finding three men who robbed a party store at gunpoint on Venoy Road south of Cherry Hill.

The holdup happened around 2:20 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 5, while a 39-year-old clerk and her 16-year-old daughter were working at Charlie's Party Store, police Lt. Dan Karrick said.

The bandits went into the store on the pretense of buying something, and one of them pulled out a pistol and jumped over the counter, Karrick said.

A second man went to the cash register and took the money that was in it, and a third male grabbed some liquor, Karrick said.

No shots were fired and no one was injured, and the trio

fled on foot in an unknown direction, the lieutenant said.

One man was described as a 5-foot-7 black male, 30 years old with a ponytail and a thin build. The victims told police he wore a white T-shirt and long gray shorts.

A second bandit was a black male believed to be 15 to 18 years old, about 5-foot-6, with a thin build and short hair, Karrick said. He was wearing a black T-shirt and shorts.

The third man was described as a black male in his early 20s, about 5-foot-10, with a thin build. He also was wearing a black T-shirt and shorts, Karrick said.

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

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

Woman gets probation in Troy prostitution case

BY SANDRA ARMBRUSTER
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A Westland woman will serve six months probation stemming from a prostitution case in which the husband of a U.S. senator reportedly said he paid the woman to perform oral sex at a Troy hotel.

Originally charged with prostitution, Alycia Martin plead guilty to a lesser charge of trespassing and was sentenced Tuesday before Judge William Bolle at the 52-4 District Court.

Martin was sentenced under the Holmes Youthful Trainee Act, which provides that her record will be erased, if she meets the terms of her probation.

Troy City Attorney Lori Grigg Bluhm said that the city did not oppose terms of her probation, which includes \$390 in fines and costs. She also must pay \$50 a month for probation costs and must make monthly probation reports.

Martin also can't leave the

state, except to attend her father's wedding, and she must notify the court of any change of address or employment.

According to a court staff member, her records have now been suppressed by the judge and no further information is available.

Not charged in the case was Thomas Athans, the husband of U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow. Athans was not charged, according to police, because he had agreed to testify against Martin. He was never called to testify in the case.

Police had emphasized that Athans did not receive special treatment, and that not charging a "john" in exchange for his testimony is a common practice in Troy. Athans had been stopped by police, who saw him leave the hotel while it was under surveillance.

Police had said the surveillance began after monitoring Web sites in which prostitution services are offered.

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Two-a-days launched

Livonia Churchill varsity football coach John Filiatraut looks to make a throw to his receivers during practice Tuesday afternoon. Teams from around the area and across the state began official practice under comfortable temperatures and dry climate.

Weather cooperates for gridders

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The first days of high school football practice in recent years have been like doing laps inside a sauna.

But on Monday and Tuesday, teams in Redford, Garden City and everywhere else in Observerland enjoyed relatively cool, comfortable temperatures and low humidity as they geared up with two-a-days.

"The weather's been wonderful," noted Redford Union head football coach Miles Tomasaitis, watching some passing drills at Tuesday evening's practice. "We haven't had as many concerns about weight loss (due to dehydration)."

Tomasaitis said the team continues doing conditioning and other weight room work in morning sessions before going out onto the field for calisthenics and various drills.

On Thursday evening, players will don the full gear for the first time.

Although the weather provided a nice change of pace for the second week of August, the veteran Panthers' coach wouldn't mind it heating up a bit before the start of the season (Thursday, Aug. 28, at Dearborn Heights Crestwood).

"They can work a lot harder (with bearable temps)," Tomasaitis said. "But my only concern and my only fear at this point in time is (that on) the 28th of August, it will be 85 at 7 p.m. and the humidity will be 65 percent."

He said that with a knowing chuckle. "That's just the way it seems to work out."

Over at Garden City, seniors Robert Snyder and Zack Griwicki were bouncing back onto the field after taking a short break.

They had been working hard, but there wasn't much perspiration to be found.

"It (weather) is not that bad," Snyder said. "But we are working hard."

Snyder added that, with the cooler weather, players will be able to keep pushing right to the end of the day.

"With it being cooler, we can work harder and not be as worried about passing out or anything," Griwicki said. "As long as we're well hydrated we can go out there."

While Snyder, Griwicki and other teammates began the next segment of practice with laps, Cougars' head coach Mike Salter concurred that the weather should prove beneficial in the area of players maintaining their energy level.

Salter, like Tomasaitis, did see one potential pitfall.

"It makes it a little easier on the kids," Salter explained. "But if it gets hot again next week or the first week of the season it might hurt us a little bit."

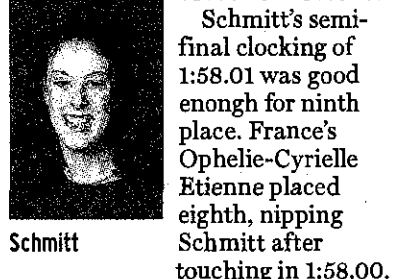
Garden City opens the season Thursday, Aug. 28, at Taylor Kennedy.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Touched out

Olympian Schmitt denied in 200 free

Canton swimmer Allison Schmitt's quest to win an individual medal in the 2008 Summer Olympics fell short by the smallest of margins Monday morning at the Water Cube in Beijing, China, when she failed to reach the finals in the 200-meter freestyle by one-hundredth of a second.



Schmitt

Schmitt's semifinal clocking of 1:58.01 was good enough for ninth place. France's Ophelie-Cyrielle Etienne placed eighth, nipping Schmitt after touching in 1:58.00.

Only the top eight semifinalists from the two heats qualified for Tuesday's finals as Italy's Federico Pellegrini, who set a world record a night earlier in 1:55.45 in the first prelim, captured the semifinal in 1:57.23.

Slovenia's Sara Isakovic posted the top semifinal time: 1:56.50, while Schmitt's U.S. teammate Katie Hoff, advanced with a second in 1:57.01.

The 18-year-old recent graduate of Canton High School was seeded seventh going into the semifinals following Sunday night's first preliminary heat where she was finished second and was clocked in 1:57.38.

But Schmitt, who swims for Michael Phelps' coach Bob Bowman, was well off of her Olympic Trials performance last month in Omaha, Neb., where she posted a personal best of 1:55.92 (finishing runner-up to Hoff).

Schmitt, headed this fall to the University of Georgia, can still capture an Olympic medal as she is expected to be a member of the U.S. 4 x 200 freestyle relay contingent that will compete for a medal on Wednesday.

The U.S. has captured the gold medal in the women's 4 x 200 freestyle relay every year it's been an Olympic event.

Signeines

MU adds cager

Madonna University men's basketball coach Chuck Henry added his third recruit for the 2008-09 season with the signing Wednesday of Kirtland Community College's 6-foot-8 forward Leroy Allen (Detroit/Dearborn Henry Ford Academy).

During his sophomore year, Allen averaged 9.5 points and 9.4 rebounds for Kirtland under coach Ty McGregor. He joins Jon Jacicuk and Kevin Henry in Henry's latest recruiting class.

"Leroy brings experience to our roster after two years at Kirtland," Henry said. "He has proven he can play on the college level and will help us in our quest to capture at WHAC championship and advance in the national tournament."

White signs SS

Madonna University women's softball coach Al White announced the signing Wednesday of Monroe High School shortstop Katie Cooley to an NAIA letter-of-intent.

As a junior Cooley made first-team All-Mega Conference Red Division for the Trojans, who captured Division 1 district and regional titles. She was also a prep teammate of fellow MU recruit Amanda Straub and Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Newcomer of the Year Jess Irwin, who just finished her freshman year at MU.

Cooley, who plans to major in Sports Management, graduated Summa Cum Laude and was a member of the honor roll and National Honor Society while at Monroe.

"Our staff was very pleased to signee Katie this late in the game," White said. "She's going to be a nice addition to our club for next season. The program Coach (Vince) Rossi has built at Monroe produces great kids and even better people. We're glad to have another one of his players to go along with Jess and Amanda."

Charity hoops

The Council of Orthodox Christian Churches and Wright & Flippis will stage charity basketball game to benefit Children's Hospital of Michigan beginning at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 4 at Livonia Franklin High School, located at 31000 Joy Road (between Merriman and Middlebelt roads).

The game will feature the Amputee Spartans against the Saints.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the door. Suggested donations are \$10 for adults and \$5 for seniors and children (ages 11-8).

For advance tickets, call Richard Shebib of the COCC at (734) 422-0278; or e-mail paschabooks@sbglobal.net; or Brad Shebib at (248) 829-8327; or e-mail bshebib@wright-flippis.com.

Crusaders thrive on competition

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Talented teams that work harder than others usually win.

Madonna University's 2008 women's volleyball team qualifies on both accounts even though the first regular season match isn't until Aug. 20 against Spring Arbor (The annual game against the alums is 7 p.m. Friday).

To illustrate, both senior outside hitter Lubovj Tihomirova and junior defensive specialist Brynn Kerr (Churchill/Schoolcraft) walked around the athletic

VOLLEYBALL

complex following a double practice late last week

with sheets of shrink-wrapped plastic holding ice packs in place on their shoulders and backs.

"We have 15 players, all talented," noted 22nd-year head coach Jerry Abraham. "From Day 1 that's been our whole sort of theme is (that) the competition is fierce, extremely fierce."

Both Tihomirova, the All-American outside hitter from Latvia, and Livonia's Kerr were part of the 2007 Crusaders team that finished 35-12 and won the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference — not to mention advancing to the NAIA National Tournament.

Yet both players are working so hard at practice they can barely move afterward because they want to finish the job this time around. They already sense this can also be a special year. All but recent Madonna graduates Jacqui Gatt (Churchill) and Amy Szymanski (Redford/Ladywood) are back, too.

"There's always a place for improvement, no matter how hard you work" said Tihomirova, 22, who lived with a Redford family during her first season at Madonna. "With this team, we're pushing really hard and we go further every day in practice. I see improvement every day."

Please see VOLLEYBALL, B3



MADONNA SPORTS INFORMATION

Strong work ethic and defensive ability make Livonia Churchill alum Brynn Kerr an important player for Madonna's volleyball team.

Dynamic boxer, 69, wins Ringside belt

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Livonia's Paul Soucy continues to prove you're never too old to step into the ring.

The 69-year-old trainer and boxer, who took a 10-member contingent from Westland's Dynamic Boxing Club to last week's Ringside World Championships, came away with the 165-pound title for men ages 65-70 with pair of victories at the KCI Expo Center in Kansas City, Mo.

Soucy garnered his third Ringside World Championship belt in four years by rallying in the final round after taking an standing eight-count in the second, averaging a loss last year to 70-year-old Ron Guidry of Baton Rouge, La.

Soucy also won his first match with a unanimous decision of Michael Tarnaw of Madison, Wis.

The tournament featured 1,500 participants from around the world, including competitors from as far away as China and just over the border from Canada.

"They have six rings going at once, two sessions per day, it's just an awesome tournament," Soucy said.

Also coming away with a title for Dynamic was 16-year-old super-heavyweight Dan Smith of Garden City, the USA Junior Olympic national champion, who finished 2-0 in the Boys 16-17 age division.

Smith defeated a pair of local boxers from Kansas City, Brandon Carmack and Chris Walker, en route to the title.

Also turning in an impressive performance for Dynamic was Wyandotte's Gabriel Garza, who fell to Indiana's Anthony Sims Jr. in the Boys 13-14 final.

The 13-year-old Garza, who finished 4-1 during the five-day tournament which started on Wednesday, lost a close decision in the final to the nation's top-ranked boxer.

"All of Gabriel's fights were tough," Soucy said. "A lot of people there thought he won that match."

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

Expectations rise for Lady Ocelot spikers

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Shortly after Schoolcraft met Madonna University in Tuesday's volleyball scrimmage, Lady Ocelots' head coach Rich Lamb thought his team gained valuable experience that will help it during the soon-to-begin Michigan Community College Athletic Association.

"I think it is" a confidence-booster, said Lamb about the four-team scrimmage that also included the host Crusaders, Owens and Kalamazoo Valley community colleges. "Jerry (Abraham, Madonna head coach) has a great program here and for us to even be close and play well against them is really good for us."

Lamb, beginning his second season at the helm, and a roster featuring five solid sophomore returnees and several promising freshmen will begin finding out just how valuable the preseason test will be.

Schoolcraft (29-17 overall and 14-2 in the conference, good for second place) opens the season Friday, Aug. 22 at Delta College with matches against the host Pioneers and Alpena Community College.

Another test will be seeing how well several talented freshmen step in to help fill the void created by the graduation of standouts Carly DeClerq (first-team All-Eastern Conference) and second-teamers Stacy Urbats, Amanda Ballnik and Lauren Braun.

FASTER, QUICKER

Schoolcraft, the coach emphasized, will attempt to mix things up this season, too.

"We're trying to play faster than we did last year," Lamb said. "That was one issue. At times (in 2007) we seemed a little slow and a little predictable. So we're trying to design some things that will make us less predictable, such as making our middles more active."

Starting at middle blocker will be sophomore Whitney Clay, who the coach said is a strong

COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

performer as well as floor leader. "She's very knowledgeable, she seems to understand everything on the floor and that's a real asset."

Clay also is breaking in promising freshmen middle blockers Emily Bronkema and Jennifer Brunik, both from McBain High School near Cadillac, Mich.

Also expected to make their presence felt in the front row will be 6-0 sophomore outside hitter Virginia Butler (Canton/Westland John Glenn) and sophomore right-side hitter and Livonia Churchill alum Sarah Button.

Lamb said Butler (about 500 kills in 2007) was an All-Region 12 player and could very well be "a candidate for player of the year" this season if she continues her upward path.

Button, meanwhile is the squad's best blocker but is improving in the passing and serve-reception areas. She also can hit. "We may use her as an outside hitter as well and move her around."

BEGINNING TO GEL

Rounding out the handful of sophomores are defensive specialists Marissa Daron (Howell) and Hillary Colomina. Daron's versatility should make her a valuable player again this season while Lamb said Colomina so far in practice is opening some eyes.

"She (Colomina) has been a surprising back row player for us so far in practice," Lamb said.

Both Butler and Button said they think the team is meshing quickly, which they partly attribute to players and the coaches being familiar with each other from last season.

"Now that it's coach's second year it's easier going into the flow and I think we're going to have a great team," Butler stressed. "... We started out a lot stronger the first week of practice than we did last year."

"We just seem to flow better, everybody plays good together."

Butler said Schoolcraft will be working toward the team

goal of winning the regionals and Button agrees that the Lady Ocelots could make a lot of noise.

"We have a good foundation of sophomores and returning with the same coaching I think it will be a real good transition from last year to this year," Button said. "And helping getting the freshmen getting settled in. We have some real good recruits."

Among the promising newcomers is Churchill grad and libero candidate Jordan Kerr.

"She's incredibly quick and can read a block really well," Lamb said. "She can read a hitter very well."

Because Kerr excelled as a softball player in high school, she also has the arm strength to be a power server.

UP TO SPEED

Other freshmen who will definitely see plenty of playing time are setters Brittany Denter and Katie Williams (South Lyon), both vying for the starting role.

Denter led Kingsley in assists and kills her senior year while Williams helped set up three players who Lamb said are bound for Division-1 colleges.

"They're both on a pretty steep learning curve right now," Lamb said. "That's typical of a freshman setter. We're asking them to do things they're not really used to and it's just going to take some time. They're just struggling with the speed of the game right now."

Also looking to make an early impact is 6-0 outside hitter Kaitlyn Litteral (Wyandotte Roosevelt), who excelled as a middle blocker in the Mega Conference.

"She can play defense pretty well and she's learning a new position," said Lamb.

Rounding out the roster are outside hitter Lauren Yoskovich (Belleville) and defensive specialist Aliza Pappas (Fowlerville), both freshmen.

Glenn alum Kirstin Kirk will sit out the season after injuring a knee shortly before training camp began.

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Taken by Storm

The Livonia Storm, a 14-and-under girls fast-pitch softball team, captured its age group division title July 27 at the Grand Blanc Tournament with a 7-5 triumph over the Sterling Heights Stingrays in the finals. The Storm finished 4-0 in tourney play with victories over the Swartz Creek Sting (7-1), Stingrays (7-6) and Otisville Stars (12-1). Members of the Storm, who also captured the 2007 Grand Blanc Tournament in the 12-and-under division, include (front row, from left): Peggy Phelen, Natalie Grimmer, Mackenzie Carlson, Kristen Baumgardner, Bailee Keesee; (second row, from left) Afton Kewsey, Katelynn Oevers, Maggie Leins, Tiffany Lamble, Jackie Tollies, Joanne Kraska; (standing, from left) coaches Tom Lamble, Bill Keesee and Jeff Tollies. (Not pictured is Kaitlyn Glowacki and coach Monica Lamble.)

REDFORD JUNIOR OLYMPICS RESULTS

(Wednesday, Aug. 6, Hilbert Middle School)

BOYS RESULTS

BASEBALL DIVISION

Long Jump: (age 2) 1. Riley Homberg, 1-foot, 4-inches; 2. Carson Beene, 1-0; 3. Andrew Murphy, 0-6; (age 3) 1. Jerry Peterson, 0-7; 2. Raymond Didonato, 0-6; 3. Joshua Washington, 0-2; (age 5) 1. Cole Johnston, 3-0; 2. Tyler Beene, 2-6; 3. Brendan Homberg, 1-4; (age 6) 1. Antonio Iuliano, 3-2.

35-meter dash: (age 2) 1. Carson Beene, 17 seconds; 2. Andrew Murphy, 3. Riley Homberg; (age 3) 1. Jerry Peterson, 11.0; 2. Joshua Washington, 3. Raymond Didonato; (age 5) 1. Cole Johnston, 8.0; 2. Tyler Beene, 3. Brendan Homberg; (age 6) 1. Antonio Iuliano, 13.0.

50-meter dash: (age 2) 1. Andrew Murphy, 25.0; 2. Riley Homberg, 3. Carson Beene; (age 3) 1. Jerry Peterson, 15.0; 2. Joshua Washington, 3. Raymond Didonato; (age 5) 1. Cole Johnston, 12.0; 2. Tyler Beene, 3. Brendan Homberg; (age 6) 1. Antonio Iuliano, 18.0.

SOFTBALL DIVISION

Softball throw: (age 7) 1. David McGrath, 97-0; 2. Drew Alsobrooks, 84-0; 3. Nicholas Snage, 65-0; 4. Jason Yocum, 56-0; 5. Kristopher Peterson, 51-0; 6. Camron Lester, 47-0; (age 8) 1. Ryan Garchar, 100-0; 2. Hunter Sepler, 99-0.

Long Jump: (age 7) 1. Nicholas Snage, 5-0; 2. Jason Yocum, 4-0; 3. David McGrath, 3-10; 4. Drew Alsobrooks, 3-5; 5. Stuart Didonato, 2-9; 6. Kristopher Peterson, 2-0; (age 8) 1. Ryan Garchar, 6-0; 2. Bryce Burgess, 4-10; 3. Hunter Sepler, 4-3.

35-meter dash: (age 7-Heat 1) 1. Drew Alsobrooks, 5-0; 2. Nicholas Snage, 3. Camron Lester; (age 7-Heat 2) 1. Kristopher Peterson, 9-0; 2. David McGrath, 3. Stuart Didonato, 4. Jason Yocum; (age 8) 1. Hunter Sepler.

50-meter dash: (age 7-Heat 1) 1. Drew Alsobrooks, 8-0; 2. Nicholas Snage, 3. Camron Lester; (age 7-Heat 2) 1. Kristopher Peterson, 12-0; 2. Camron Lester; 3. David McGrath; 4. Stuart Didonato; (age 7-Heat 2) 1. Kristopher Peterson, 6-0; 2. David McGrath, 3. Jason Yocum; (age 8) 1. Hunter Sepler.

75-meter dash: (age 7-Heat 1) 1. Christopher Peterson, 12-0; 2. Camron Lester; 3. David McGrath; 4. Stuart Didonato; (age 7-Heat 2) 1. Kristopher Peterson, 6-0; 2. David McGrath, 3. Jason Yocum; (age 8) 1. Bryce Burgess, 13-0; 2. Hunter Sepler.

PEL WEE DIVISION

Softball throw: (age 9) 1. Brandon Smith, 116-0; 2. Evan Albright, 74-0; 3. Trent Sheibels, 39-4; (age 10) 1. Tyler Powers, 94-6; 2. Aaron Chalmers, 58-8.

High Jump: (age 9-10) 1. Brandon Smith, 3-0. Long Jump: (age 9) 1. Evan Albright, 5-6; 2. Brandon Smith, 5-3; 3. Trent Sheibels, 4-7; (age 10) 1. Aaron Chalmers, 6-10; 2. Tyler Powers, 3-6.

35-meter dash: (age 9) 1. Brandon Smith, 6.5t;

2. Evan Albright, 3. Trent Sheibels; (age 10) 1. Tyler Powers, 6.57; 2. Aaron Chalmers.

50-meter dash: (age 9-10) 1. Brandon Smith, 10.33; 2. Tyler Powers, 3. Aaron Chalmers.

75-meter dash: (age 9) 1. Ryan Garchar, 13.49; 2. Brandon Smith; (age 10) 1. Tyler Powers, 13.63; 2. Aaron Chalmers.

100-meter dash: (age 9) 1. Ryan Garchar, 17.08; 2. Brandon Smith; (age 10) 1. Tyler Powers, 17.08; 2. Aaron Chalmers.

MIGRAT DIVISION

Softball throw: (age 11) 1. Brian Alsobrooks, 134-3; 2. Carlos Welch, 114-9; 3. Chris Skowronek, 104-0; 4. Joe Caruso, 82-2; 5. Ben Didonato, 62-0; (age 12) 1. Adam Chervanage, 106-7; 2. Joseph Donovan, 94-89; 3. Eric Yocum, 82-0.

High Jump: (age 11-12) 1. Carlos Welch, 4-11; 2-tie. Brian Alsobrooks, 4-6; 2-tie. Eric Yocum, 4-6; 4. Adam Chervanage, 4-2; 5. Joseph Donovan, 4-0; 6. Chris Skowronek, 3-9.

Long Jump: (age 11) 1. Brian Alsobrooks, 7-5; 2. Carlos Welch, 6-0; 3. Ben Didonato, 5-11; 4. Chris Skowronek, 5-0; 5. Joe Caruso, 4-0; (age 12) 1. Adam Chervanage, 6-9; 2. Joseph Donovan, 6-7; 3. Eric Yocum, 6-6.

35-meter dash: (age 11) 1. Chris Skowronek, 5.75; 2. Carlos Welch, 3. Brian Alsobrooks; (age 12) 1. Eric Yocum, 6.37; 2. Joel Zizi, 3. Joseph Donovan, 4. Adam Chervanage.

50-meter dash: (age 11) 1. Brian Alsobrooks, 8-18; 2. Carlos Welch, 3. Chris Skowronek; (age 12) 1. Joseph Donovan, 8.66; 2. Eric Yocum, 3. Joel Zizi.

75-meter dash: (age 11) 1. Brian Alsobrooks, 11-9; 2. Carlos Welch, 3. Chris Skowronek; (age 12) 1. Joseph Donovan, 12.57; 2. Joel Zizi, 3. Eric Yocum.

100-meter dash: (age 11) 1. Brian Alsobrooks, 16-14; 2. Carlos Welch, 3. Chris Skowronek; (age 12) 1. Joseph Donovan, 16.97; 2. Eric Yocum, 3. Joel Zizi.

GIRLS RESULTS

BASEBALL DIVISION

Long Jump: (age 3) 1. Ainsley Johnston, 1-1; 2. Cindy Rothley, 3. Arianna Peterson; (age 5-6) 1-tie. Nya Williams, Faith Piontek, 2-6; 2-tie. Alyssa Murphy, Emma Powers.

35-meter dash: (age 3) 1. Ainsley Johnston, 10-0; 2. Cindy Rothley, 3. Arianna Peterson; (age 5) 1. Emma Powers, 7-0; 2. Alyssa Murphy; (age 6) 1. Nya Williams.

50-meter dash: (age 3) 1. Ainsley Johnston, 15-0; 2. Arianna Peterson, 3. Cindy Rothley; (age 5) 1. Alyssa Murphy, 11-0; 2. Emma Powers, 3. Faith Piontek.

SOFTBALL DIVISION

Softball throw: (age 7) 1. Melissa Rothley, 51-0; 2. Alexandria Snage, 48-0; 3. Kaitlin Murray, 33-0; (age 8) 1. Jeanna Washington, 79-0; 2. Mikala Murphy, 49-0; 3. Delanie Morgan, 47-0; 4. Asia Williams, 44-0.

Long Jump: (age 7) 1. Melissa Rothley, 6-1; 2. Alexandria Snage, 4-1; 3. Kaitlin Murray, 4-0; 4.

April Makins, 2-0; (age 8) 1. Mikala Murphy, 6-7; 2. Delanie Morgan, 6-2; 3. Jeanna Washington, 4-4; 4. Asia Williams, 4-2.

35-meter dash: (age 7) 1. Melissa Rothley, 6-0; 2. Kaitlin Murray, 3. Alexandria Snage; (age 8) 1. Asia Williams, 5-0; 2. J. Campbell, 3. Jeanna Washington, 4. Melissa Rothley, 5. Delanie Morgan.

50-meter dash: (age 7) 1. Melissa Rothley, 9-0; 2. Kaitlin Murray, 3. Alexandria Snage; (age 8) 1. Asia Williams, 9-0; 2. J. Campbell, 3. Melissa Rothley, 4. Jeanna Washington, 5. Delanie Morgan.

75-meter dash: (age 7) 1. Melissa Rothley, 12-0; 2. Kaitlin Murray, 3. Alexandria Snage; (age 8) 1. Asia Williams, 12-0; 2. Mikala Murphy, 3. J. Campbell, 4. Jeanna Washington.

PEL WEE DIVISION

Softball throw: (age 9-10) 1. Samantha McGrath, 63-2; 2. Tiffany Iuliano, 63-0; 3. Alexis Lester, 63-4; 4. Annaliese Nygard, 58-9; 5. Amy Kamin, 41-8.

High Jump: (age 9-10) 1. Samantha McGrath, 3-7; 2. Alexis Lester, 3-3 (1st try); 3. Amy Kamin, 3-3 (2nd try); 4. Tiffany Iuliano, 3-0.

Long Jump: (age 9-10) 1. Alexis Lester, 6-11; 2. Amy Kamin, 5-3; 3. Samantha McGrath, 3-10; 4. Annaliese Nygard, 3-8; 5. Tiffany Iuliano, 2-11.

35-meter dash: (age 9) 1. Alexis Lester, 5-9; 2. Samantha McGrath, 3. Annaliese Nygard, 4. Tiffany Iuliano, 5. Amy Kamin.

50-meter dash: (age 9-10) 1. Alexis Lester, 8-19; 2. Samantha McGrath, 3. Annaliese Nygard, 4. Amy Kamin, 5. Tiffany Iuliano.

75-meter dash: (age 9) 1. Alexis Lester, 12-37; 2. Samantha McGrath, 3. Annaliese Nygard, 4. Amy Kamin.

100-meter dash: (age 9-10) 1. Alexis Lester, 16-18; 2. Samantha McGrath, 3. Amy Kamin, 4. Annaliese Nygard.

MIGRAT DIVISION

Softball throw: (age 11) 1. Lauren Garchar, 105-0; 2. Madeline Piontek, 75-0; 3. Jill Chervanage, 67-2; 4. Caitlin Powers, 85-6; 5. Hunter Iuliano, 84-0.

High Jump: (age 11-12) 1. Madeline Piontek, 4-6; 2. Hunter Iuliano, 4-4; 3. Lauren Garchar, 4-0.

Long Jump: (age 10-11) 1. Madeline Piontek, 7-6; 2. Jill Chervanage, 4-2; 3. Lauren Garchar, 2-6; (age 12) 1. Caitlin Powers, 5-10; 2. Hunter Iuliano, 3-4.

35-meter dash: (age 10-11) 1. Madeline Piontek, 6-34; 2. Lauren Garchar, 3. Jill Chervanage; (age 12) 1. Caitlin Powers, 5-9; 2. Hunter Iuliano, 4. Hunter Iuliano.

100-meter dash: (age 11) 1. Madeline Piontek, 16-90; 2. Hunter Iuliano; (age 12) 1. Caitlin Powers, 17-90; 2. Lauren Garchar.

Detroit Diesels get crowned by Northwest Ohio Knights

BY CHRISTIAN YOUNG
CORRESPONDENT

The Detroit Diesels jumped out of the gate, but mistakes and miscues cost them the Great Lakes Football League matchup Saturday against the Northwest Ohio Knights, 41-24, at Livonia Franklin High School.

The Diesels roared on their first drive, running the ball down the throat of the Knight defense and scoring on a Ja'Ron Embry plunge. Detroit ran in the two-point conversion to take an 8-0 lead.

In the second quarter, the Knights drove to the Detroit 1-yard line, but were stopped cold by the Diesel defense, and the Diesels took over on downs.

However, an attempted quarterback sneak resulted in a fumble in the end zone, which a Knight defensive lineman recovered for a touchdown. Northwest Ohio made their

two-point to knot the score at 8-all heading into halftime.

The Knights took the lead when a Diesel pass was tipped at the line and fell into the hands of the Knights defensive lineman, who rumbled in for the go-ahead TD.

The Knights would score again on a rushing TD and a field goal before the Diesels struck back with an Andy Hess (Lutheran Westland) pass to Jon Craven (Farmington). Venzal Russell (Dearborn Heights Robichaud) caught the two-point conversion pass.

But the Knights were not done yet.

Northwest Ohio would score twice more before Russell made yet another blinding, cross-field kick return for a TD, just as he did the previous week.

The Knights added yet another field goal to close out the scoring for the night.

Jim Cooke (Redford Union)

connected on 3-of-6 passes for 44 yards and an interception. Hess took over in the second half after spending the first half as a receiver, and finished with 35 receiving yards on two catches, as well as 3-of-9 passing for 47 yards.

Russell, playing in his final minor-league game, netted over 150 all-purpose yards as well as his score.

Defensively, Bernard Evans (Wayne Memorial), Earl Blanchette, Chuck Smith, Lamarr Miller, and Dan Hayes stood out for Detroit.

Although putting a stop to a winning streak, the Diesels (5-4 overall, 5-3 GLFL) are still in the thick of it with two games to go.

This Saturday they will head to Belleville to take on the Giants. Game time is 4 p.m.

The Diesel close the regular season Saturday, Aug. 23 on the road against the Michigan Vipers. Game time is 4:30 p.m.



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VOLLEYBALL

FROM PAGE B1

IT'S CONTAGIOUS

According to Kerr, 20, her strong work ethic is something she wants teammates to pick up on.

"I work hard and I push people with the way I play," she explained. "So hopefully, that will make everybody else around me better. Everybody is working real hard."

Abraham likes the work ethic, but doesn't mind having a deep, talented roster, either.

"We have great depth on both sides of the ball, defense and offense," Abraham said. "And other players are ready to take other players' positions on a daily basis so it should make everybody better."

"We have freshmen coming in that have the ability to make an impact immediately as a starting player. Really, the combo of veterans and freshmen make it really exciting right now."

Leading the charge are Madonna's three senior captains, including Tihomirova (967 kills), 5-10 middle/right-side hitter Whitney Fuelling (459 kills) and 6-3 middle hitter Stephanie Parslow (264 kills).

Abraham said the offense should continue to be strong led by front-row power hitting from Fuelling and Tihomirova.

"Whitney is probably the best overall athlete on the team, very fast," Abraham said. "She has a great vertical leap and attacks from the outside and middle and actually hits from antenna-to-antenna."

Tihomirova, the WHAC player of the year last season, should continue dominating "at the net, both as a hitter on the outside and in the middle. She'll be a go-to player for us, just like Whitney," the coach said.

Augmenting that duo is Parslow, described as a "dominant blocker" up front who can take the steam out of other teams' scoring attempts. Parslow "makes it very tough for opponents to hit because she's so strong and has a nice reach."

LEADERS ABOUND

Abraham said the tri-captains this season provide a different element because they are such strong players.

"We've always had great captains on our team," he said. "But to have three seniors who are major contributors, who are all All-American potential kind of players who are great leaders and great students in the classroom, ... they're really going to be extensions of the coaches on the floor."

Add to that list of leaders junior setter Inta Grinvalds (217 assists), another all-conference returnee who orchestrated the high-powered Madonna offense in 2007.

"Inta is more confident, stronger, she's a junior ready to start her third season as a starting setter," Abraham said. "You know, the setter is the one that runs the show and we just have a nice attack."

Abraham said Grinvalds brings floor savvy as well as pinpoint passing and setting abilities to the table.

Also expected to provide firepower is junior outside hitter Mary McGinnis (610 kills), who peaked down the stretch a season ago.

"It took last year (for McGinnis) to get used to us and get comfortable with our system," he said. "By the middle of the end of last year she turned it on and looks better than ever this year. We're so excited about her."

With McGinnis "hitting the ball with so much confidence" during preseason workouts, her offensive talents coupled with Tihomirova could lead to a "real strong one-two punch on the outside."

Scoring points shouldn't be a problem, and neither should containing other teams.

Helping in the latter department will be junior defensive specialist Abby Long, and liberos Kerr and Amanda Koszela (a red-shirted freshman in '07).

Long will provide "great speed, great range in the back row," and could have a breakout year in her third season with the Crusaders.

Both Kerr (who played her freshman year at Schoolcraft) and Koszela should be in the defensive lineup somewhere, although both are now vying for the all-important libero position.

"Both are excellent liberos

and both are excellent all-around defensive players," Abraham said. "I would say we're going to be a two-libero team and we'll see which one wins the position."

Add to the mix versatile sophomore and Livonia Franklin alum Liz Dempsey and sophomore Anna Gatt (Churchill), who will provide important contributions off the bench.

Dempsey will gain playing time both at outside hitter and defensive specialist while Gatt is another defensive specialist who "is fast, quick to the ball

— much like her sister (Jacqui Gatt). Just like Jacqui she has a defensive nose for the ball."

Other key returning reserves include sophomore outside hitters Martie Mazur and Amanda Lenart, who Abraham said will benefit from chipping in during last year's WHAC championship and march to the nationals.

FRESH PHENOMS

Almost providing icing on the cake for the 2008 squad will be three freshmen who the coach has great expectations for. Those are Canton alum

Marie Martin (middle hitter), Wyandotte Roosevelt grad Megan Fricke (outside hitter) and Allen Park Cabrini's Karie Altman, who can play anywhere up front.

Martin already brings a net presence with her 6-1 frame and ability to thwart offensive attempts from the other side.

"The upside for Marie is, ... her ability to get better and (that) is already showing," Abraham said. "She's going to be a great player for us. She'll just have to, like all the freshmen, adjust to the speed of the (college) game."

Fricke, although just 5-9, "has a great vertical jump and a real terminating attack. She gets up and hits over the block."

The coach also likes the potential of Altman, who was all-Catholic League first team player as a senior.

"She's extremely athletic and has great range at the net," Abraham said. "...She'll be competing for one of the starting middle hitter positions and she has the ability to come right in and contribute."

With such blue-chip first-year players, it is no wonder

even veterans like Tihomirova and Kerr are working themselves to the bone to stay at the top of the depth chart.

"We truly have a great group of kids (who) are more determined than ever to continue to have a great regular season and be tops in our conference," Abraham added.

If Madonna does, it will skip right into the national tournament because the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics has phased out the regionals.

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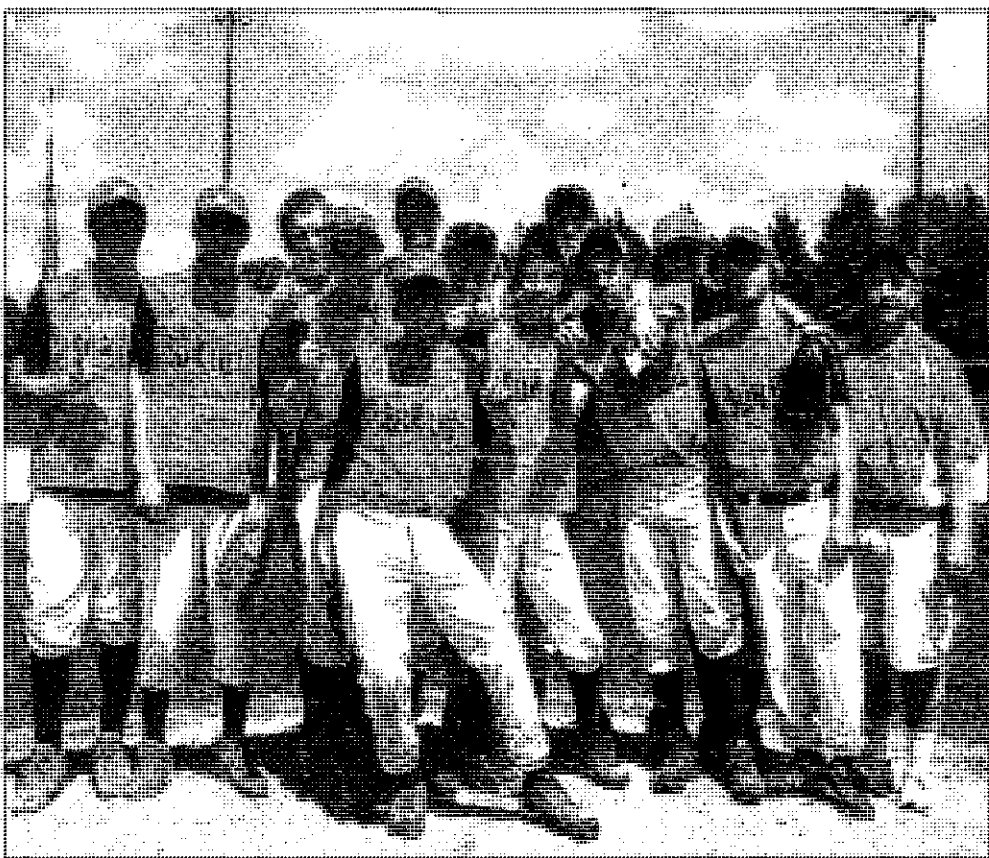


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Colt champions

The Seawolves of the Livonia Baseball-Softball Association captured the North Oakland-Wayne Inter City Colt championship with an 8-6 victory, Aug. 2, at Ford Field. Members of the Seawolves include: Nate Belyk, Troy Bogenschutz, Drew Carlson, Tad Evans, Stephen Foster, David Harris, Trey Jardine, Adam Lane, Christian Leathley, Drew Macorkindale, Cody McGaw, Sean Servalish, Chris Vincentini and Matt Windle, all from Livonia Churchill High School; and Jake Blach, Redford Union H.S.

Reliever Bertakis keeps Rams alive in Johnstown tournament

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Reliever James Bertakis provided a Roloids moment to keep the Michigan Rams alive Tuesday in the All-American Amateur Baseball Association double-elimination tournament in Johnstown, Pa.

The right-hander from Edgewood (Wis.) College allowed just one run on five hits in six innings to pick up the win to give the 20-and-under Rams, now 29-11 overall, an 11-4 triumph over Cortland (N.Y.) in a game played in nearby Portage, Pa.

Bertakis struck out six and walked only three after replacing starter Aaron Wick in the third inning after West Chester County squad jumped out to a 3-0 lead.

The Rams came back with two runs in the third, three more in the fourth and four in the fifth to take a commanding 9-3 lead.

Madonna University's Shawn Little (Canton) and Brett Mazmanian were the hitting heroes, each going 4-for-5 to pace the Rams' 16-hit attack. Little had a double and two RBI, while Mazmanian scored twice and knocked in a run.

Dan Augustine contributed two hits and two RBI, while Concordia University's Tony Pounders (Livonia Stevenson) and Brad Herman each added two RBI for the Rams.

Frank Persichino also scored three runs and knocked in a run along with Tim Cross.

Losing pitcher Mike O'Hanlon went 3-for-4 with two runs scored to lead Cortland's 10-hit attack. P.J. Rigand added two hits and two RBI, while Tom Gilleo went 2-for-4.

"Wick came in with some control trouble, he walked a bunch early and they (Cortland) got some timely hits and we were down 3-0," Rams manager Rick Berryman said. "Bertakis came in and did a great job. His slider and cutter were working. He rolled his ankle coming off the mound in the fifth inning and had trouble throwing his fastball, but was able to keep the other team off-balance."

On Wednesday, the Rams were scheduled to play Brooklyn. Both teams are 1-1 with the winner remain-

ing alive and the loser going home.

"We used only used two pitchers today," Berryman said. "And that's good thing because and we needed some fresh pitchers going into the next game."

Rams drop opener, 7-1

It was a tough draw and even a tougher opener for the Michigan Rams in the AAABA Tournament in Johnstown, Pa.

On Monday, the Rams drew five-team defending champion Youse's Maryland Orioles of Baltimore and suffered a 7-1 setback at Revloc Field.

Winning pitcher Scott Swinson limited the Rams, the Michigan Collegiate Baseball League's third-place finisher and 20-and-under representative, to just one run on four hits and one walk in seven innings. Swinson struck out six before giving way to reliever Kevin Jacob, who pitched two scoreless innings to close out the victory.

Rams starter Derek Mosher, who had trouble locating his pitches for strikes, went the first 4.1 innings, allowing four runs on six hits and five walks in taking the loss. He fanned four before being lifted in favor of Colin O'Connell, who allowed two runs on four hits and a walk during his 1.2-inning stint.

Kalamazoo College's Ben Schroeder (Livonia Stevenson) worked the final three innings, allowing one run on one hit and a walk.

The Orioles scored three times in the third inning and added three more in the sixth before adding one more in the eighth to put the game away.

"Drew (Mosher) wasn't himself like he was his last four starts," Berryman said. "He too many early walks (three in the first inning) and they (Baltimore) got some timely hits. They're a good hitting team and they hit some good pitches."

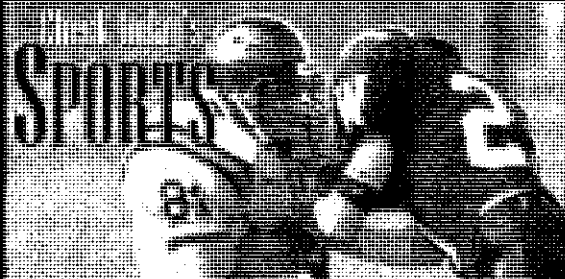
"And their pitcher (Swinson) did a good job staying in (strike) zone and he limited us to four hits."

John Hicks paced the Orioles' 11-hit attack, going 3-for-4 with two RBI. Leon Landry added two hits and two RBI, while Reed Gragnini went 2-for-5 with an RBI.

Ryan Abraham went 2-for-3 and scored the Rams' lone run in the sixth inning on a single by Josh Kirsten.

Got Game?

Yep, got scores, too.



Michigan Bucks to overhaul 2009 roster

BY DAN STICKRADT
O&E STAFF WRITER

Whether onlookers view the Michigan Bucks as a success or failure this 2008 season, given their talent level and expectations, the Premier Development League team should have a different look next season.

Of the 30 or so players that suited up for at least one game with the Bucks this summer, or were on the roster but injured, many likely won't be back when the team begins the next season in May 2009.

"It will be a new team, that's for sure," predicted Dan Fitzgerald, the Bucks' head coach the past three seasons.

With many of the team's top players set to enter their senior years of college eligibility, many of them will likely opt for new avenues: attempt to play semi-pro ball in the United Soccer League's First Division or Second Division, a step of above the PDL; possibly get drafted by a Major League Soccer team and play pro ball stateside; go overseas and attempt to play on a foreign club; or take their college degrees and enter the general workforce.

"I look at our roster and I see a lot of these guys moving on," added Fitzgerald. "Most of our top 15 guys or so likely won't be back."

Sweeper Michael Holody (University of Michigan), midfielder Nate Jafta (Lindsey Wilson College, Ky.) and goalkeeper Steve Clark (Oakland University), all three-year starters for the Bucks and All-PDL Central Conference First-Team picks this season, are seniors and will be the toughest to replace if they opt to depart.

All three have already trained with MLS teams during the past three years.

Additionally, midfielder Ty Shipalane (Lindsey Wilson), forward Doug DeMartin (Michigan State), midfielder Billy Weaver (Indiana), forward Jake Stacy (Michigan), midfielder Alex Morriset (Michigan), midfielder Piotr Nowak (Oakland), defenseman Ian Daniel (Troy Athens/Oakland), defenseman Kyle Russell (Coastal Carolina), midfielder Zac Scaffidi (Michigan State) and defenseman Dave Hertel (Michigan State) are also entering their senior seasons of college soccer and may not return.

Defenseman Adam Brent, who has used up his eligibility at Oakland and will graduate in December, may also be lost. Most of the players in the 67-team PDL are current college players.

"We'll be talking to the coaches at Michigan, Michigan State, Oakland, Lindsey Wilson, wherever we can find top-level (college) players, about bringing in

some new guys next year," said Fitzgerald. "We'll have a lot of young guys. But there's a lot of good, young, talented players out there. We'll see what we need."

Fitzgerald said that some of Michigan's class of 2008 high school players, who are starting their freshman seasons of college ball, will be targeted to play with the Bucks in the future.

The Bucks finished the 2008 season with a 13-3-2 overall record, 13-2-2 against PDL teams, which was the league's top record. Michigan's only PDL losses were to the Toronto Lynx (1-0) in the regular season and to the Kalamazoo Outrage (3-1, overtime) in the Round of 16 of the PDL national tournament.

The team was also the 2006 national champion, finished as the national runner-up in 2007 and has advanced to the PDL national tournament in 12 of the past 13 seasons.

As for potential returning players, Mauro Fuzetti (U-M), Bret Mellon (Tulane), Nosa Iyoha (MSU), Fabien Lewis (Western Massachusetts), Stefan St. Louis (Oakland), Besmir Bega (Drake), Nik Djokic (Livonia Stevenson/Lindsey Wilson), Machel James (Oakland) and Fred Braun (Rochester/Louisville) could all return, but collectively they saw little playing time with the Bucks. Braun missed the year with an injury and Mellon played in just one game as Clark's backup.

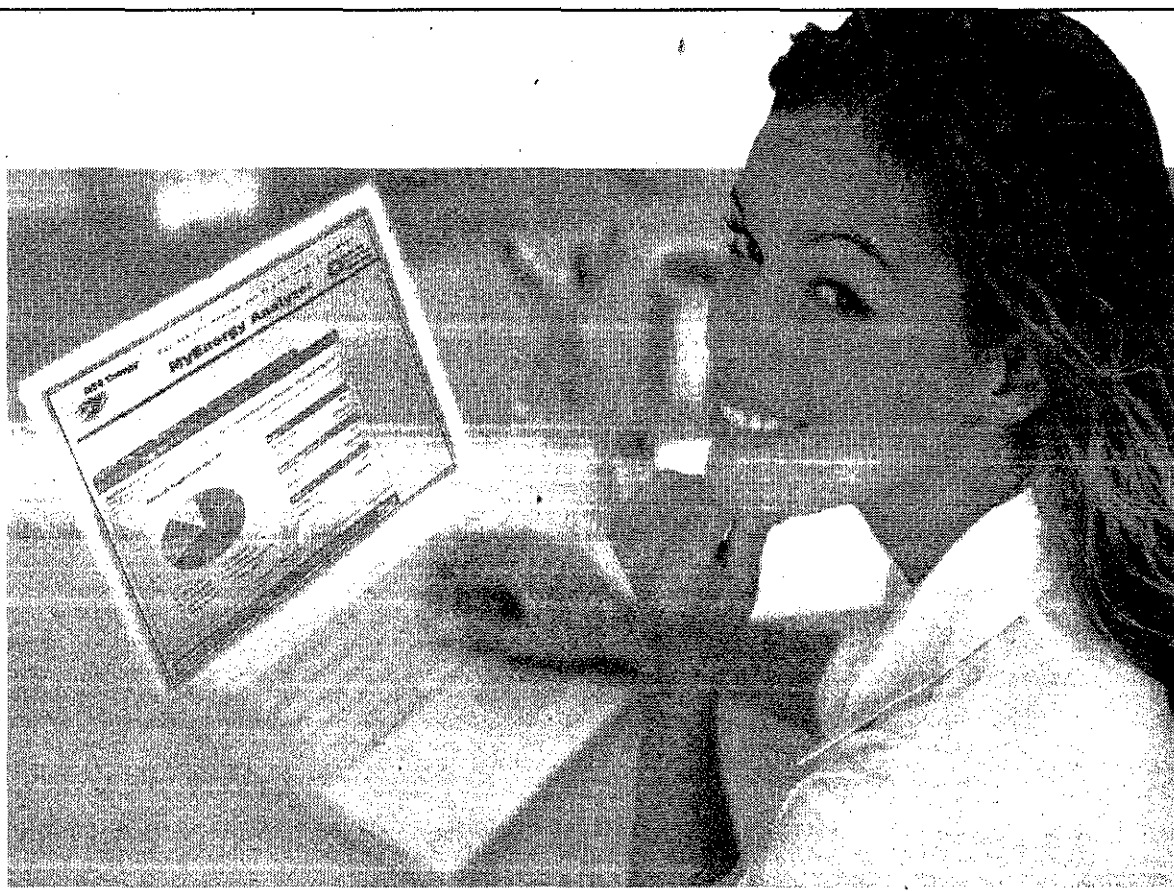
Spencer Thompson (MSU), Luke Norman (Rochester Stoney Creek/Wake Forest) and Colin Givens (Troy/Virginia) were all on the preseason roster this year, but left earlier in the season for various reasons.

The Bucks' eldest player, 28-year-old Kenny Uzoigwe, a three-time All-PDL Central pick, currently works for the Bucks organization and may also return. College players interested in trying out for the Bucks in 2009 can obtain information on the Bucks' web site at www.buckssoccer.com.

Bucks land 2 on PDL team

Although the Michigan Bucks did not reach their destination of their third straight national finals appearance of the United Soccer Leagues-Premier Developmental League, two of the Bucks' stars garnered the highest honor of the 67-franchise PDL.

Attacking midfielder Nate Jafta (Lindsey Wilson College, Ky.) and sweeper Mike Holody (Clarkston/University of Michigan) were named to the PDL Dream Team. They were chosen out of more than 1,600 players from around the U.S. and Canada, mostly collegiate players who play in the league during the summer months.



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Golf's generation gap?

Junior McCurley edges senior Johnston for title

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

If 71-year-old Claud Johnston is any inspiration, 18-year-old Zach McCurley has many good years ahead of himself in the game of golf.

McCurley, the former Belleville High standout and Canton native, repeated as individual medalist last weekend at the City Golf Championships & Challenge held at Fellows Creek G.C. in Canton.

McCurley carded a 76 on Saturday and followed up with a 74 on Sunday for a 150 total to win the tournament over Johnston by two strokes.

Westland golfers, meanwhile, captured the City Challenge portion with a five-player total of 787 led by Johnston's 152. Wayne and Canton were a distant second and third with 863 and 915, respectively.

An errant tee shot on the final hole cost Johnston, who is a well-known in the Michigan Publix and Golf of Michigan Association senior player circles.

"Claud played pretty well," tournament organizer Bill Hawley said. "He's a guy who went to Wayne High and did not play golf in high school - he played baseball.

"He told me he's won city tournaments in the 1960s, '70s, '80s and '90s, but he wanted to win one in the 2000s. He's a quality player and a real gentleman."

McCurley, who took his first tournament title of the summer after a runner-up and a third, has never been paired with Johnston.

"I heard he's a good golfer, but I've never seen him or played with him," McCurley said of Johnston.

Thunderstorms and rain called the golfers off the course twice during the two-day tournament, which attracted 30 entrants.

"The first day the weather was pretty bad, you saw what happened at the PGA (at Oakland Hills)," said McCurley, who has been busy during the summer playing close to 20 events, mostly of the junior variety. "A lot of putts were not falling. It was not as bad the second day. I just clicked a lot better. I've been working on my irons this summer, but I've been struggling. I finally got some putts to go down (the second day)."

McCurley, who qualified for last June's Division 1 state boys golf finals, would like to continue his golf career at Grand Valley State University. He'll play one more tournament at his club - Pine View C.C. in Ypsilanti - before heading off to school on Aug. 21.

"I haven't gotten a yes or a no from the coach yet about a tryout," he said. "McCurley said. "But that's the plan."

Westland's individual winners included Johnston (championship flight), Tom Kalinowski (first flight) and Bob Decker (senior flight).

Zach McCurley took the championship flight in



Canton's Zach McCurley, a recent Belleville High grad, was the overall medalist at the City Golf Championship & Challenge Tournament with a two-day total of 76-74-150 held last weekend at Fellows Creek G.C.

Canton, while his father Tim McCurley ruled the first flight.

Wayne winners included Ted Salvatori (championship flight) and Doug Tompkins (senior flight).

Sandy Felan (Westland) shot a 173 to repeat as the women's championship flight division, while Darlene Hawley (Wayne) took the women's senior flight.

In the Open Division, Livonian Matt Molnar was first with a two-day total of 167.

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AREA GOLF TOURNEY RESULTS

CITY GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS & CHALLENGE

Aug. 9-10 at Fellows Creek G.C.
MEN'S DIVISION RESULTS
TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Westland, 787; 2. Wayne, 863; 3. Canton, 915.

TOP WESTLAND FINISHERS

Championship flight: 1. Claud Johnston, 152; 2. Brian Gabbear, 154; 3. Brian Harnos, 155; 4. Don Mullett, 158.
First flight: 1. (tie) Tom Kalinowski and John Fargo, 168 each; 3. Ray Lanczki, 172.
Senior flight: 1. Bob Decker, 192; 2. Brian Pliarski, 213.

TOP WAYNE FINISHERS

Championship flight: 1. Ted Salvatori, 160; 2. Bill Hawley, 162; 3. Mike Lorenz, 181.
Senior flight: 1. Doug Tompkins, 176; 2. Rick Stoner, 184; 3. Buddy Stover, 191.

TOP CANTON FINISHERS

Championship flight: 1. Zach McCurley, 150 (medalist); Bob Selberg, 155; 3. Mike Thompson, 160.
First flight: 1. Tim McCurley, 164; 2. Ken Eck, 184.

WOMEN'S DIVISION RESULTS

Championship flight: 1. Sandy Felan (Westland), 173.
Senior flight: 1. Darlene Hawley (Wayne), 212; 3. Virgi Sexton (Westland), 216; 3. Linda Grandfield (Canton), 221.

OPEN DIVISION RESULTS

MEN: 1. Matt Molnar (Livonia), 167; 2. Greg Gilha, 176; 3. Jerry Maynor, 201.

WOLVERINE SPORTS & CONSERVATION JUNIOR GOLF TOURNAMENT

Aug. 10 at Idyl Wyld G.C.

BOYS AGE-GROUP RESULTS

17-and-under: 1. Jared Cusmano (Garden City), 77; 2. Cooper Christie (Livonia), 79; 3. Jimmy Vayis (Livonia), 80; 4. Zeb Hancock, 82; 5. Karl Allen, 83; 6. Tyler Jarosz, 85; 7. Thomas Firavich, 87; 8. Josh Perrin, 88; 9. (tie) John Marlow and Drake Herrmann, 90 each; 11. John Selinski, 91; 12. (tie) Jeremy Stover, Jeff Meek, Paul Scott and Jake Allen, 92 each; 16. (tie) Jeff Barton and Dan Wilk, 94 each; 18. (tie) Aaron Nichols, Patrick Stephenson and Josh DiDimitico, 95 each; 21. John Meek, 96; 22. Matt Wilson, 97; 23. Justin Chantres, 101; 24. Jack Chinavare, 104; 25. Scott Banzelak, 105; 26. Andrew Seton, 112; 27. Paul Cherewick, 113; 28. Stephen Klos, 122; 29. Jake Anderson, 132.

14-and-under: 1. (tie) Sam Studnicka (Northville Township) and Ben Proben (Livonia), 83 each; 3. Nick Proben (Livonia), 85; 4. (tie) Joey Hanba and Andrew Newman, 91 each; 8. Jacob Whitlow, 98; 9. Max Humitz, 104; 10. Zack Kubiak, 105; 11. Kevin Darcy, 109; 12. (tie) Adam Findlay and Brian Tulpa, 110 each; 14. Erick Anderson, 117; 15. Kaine Marnon, 137.

12-and-under: 1. Glen Plot (Canton), 86; 2. Danny Vayis (Livonia), 92; 3. Billy Bonanno (Livonia), 103; 4. Justin Bradford, 104; 5. Zack Giampola, 111; 6. Jordan Atienza, 114; 7. Nolan Bradford, 117; 8. Jake Kubiak, 122.

10-and-under: 1. Kyle Walter (Canton), 81; 2. James Plot (Canton), 90; 3. Mitchell Kubiak (Northville), 118; 4. Ian Knopp, 125; 5. Christian Nabozny, 125; 6. Chase Herrmann, 129; 7. Nathan Atienza, 146.

GIRLS AGE-GROUP RESULTS

17-and-under: 1. Marissa Briden (Livonia), 92.

14-and-under: 1. Christine Bonanno (Livonia), 121; 2. Megan Dwyer, 126; 3. Christine Briden, 127; 4. Katie Gubachy, 128.



Overall medalist

Garden City's Jared Cusmano came away as the overall individual medalist and the Boys 17-and-under age group champion by carding a 77 on Sunday in the first annual Wolverine Sports & Conservation Junior Tournament held at Livonia's Idyl Wyld Golf Course. The free event attracted 70 golfers. See results.

LIKE NUMBERS?
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of them in
today's **SPORTS** section

AREA GOLF DIVOTS

Hole-in-one club

Chuck Meagher, of Livonia, used a 5-wood to ace the 187-yard, No. 8 hole, Aug. 12, at Idyla Golf Course. For Meagher, who shot a 44, it was his first hole-in-one in 36 years.

Salem lacrosse outing

The 2nd Annual Salem Boys Lacrosse Golf outing will be Sept. 14 at St. John's Golf and Banquet Center, which is located at Five Mile and Sheldon roads, Plymouth. Registration begins at 12:45 p.m. with a shotgun start slated for 1:30 p.m. A scramble format will be used.

The cost is \$110 per golfer and \$440 per foursome if they register after Aug. 16. All those who register prior to Aug. 16 will receive a \$10 break.

The fee includes 18 holes of golf, a cart, lunch at the turn, a rib dinner following the outing, a 50/50 raffle and many contests.

To reserve a foursome, contact Lynn Kerchen at (734) 844-7336 or lynn.kerchen@comcast.net; or Eric Bielecki at (248) 351-3824 or (734) 891-3590.

The cost for dinner only is \$50.

North Brothers outing

The 19th annual North Brothers Ford charity golf outing will be Tuesday, Aug. 12, at Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center, 8768 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth. Registration starts at 10 a.m. Proceeds go to: Wayne County Family Center, Westland Youth Assistance, YMCA Strong Kids Campaign and Royal Oak Salvation Army.

For more information, call Jackie Maracocini at (734) 524-1243; or e-mail info@northbrothers.com.

Junior boys fall series

The Michigan PGA Junior Tour, sponsored by Carl's Golf and Nike Golf, will launch its 2008 Fall Series for boys and girls ages 13-16 with mid-morning tee times the first four Saturdays in September and the first two Saturdays in October.

There is no members fee for the Fall Series for Michigan PGA Junior Tour members. For juniors that are not regular season members, the fee is \$50. The cost for each event is \$50.

The schedule includes: Sept. 6, Washtenaw Country Club; Sept. 13, in Ypsilanti; Grand Valley State's The Meadows, Sept. 20, in Allendale; Sept. 20, Sunnybrook C.C., Grandville; Sept. 27, Country Club of Jackson; Oct. 4, Detroit Golf Club; Oct. 11, MSU's Forest Akers (West Course), East Lansing. Registration begins Aug. 6 at www.michigan-pga.com.

Call Justin Phillips at (517) 641-7421; or e-mail jphillips@michiganpga.com.

Disc Golf Guide

Disc Golf Michigan! A Comprehensive Guide to Disc Golf Courses of Michigan, is available for \$19.95 from Planetary Eagle Publishing through the book's web site: www.discgolfmichigan.com; or by calling (269) 342-4929.

The web site also list more than 30 retailers.

The guide book, authored by Stephanai Myers, includes 175 pages of up-to-date information on the 90 courses in Michigan. It includes regional maps, color photos, course and park information, detailed course descriptions, hole lengths, directions, relevant web sites, contacts and where to find maps and scorecards.

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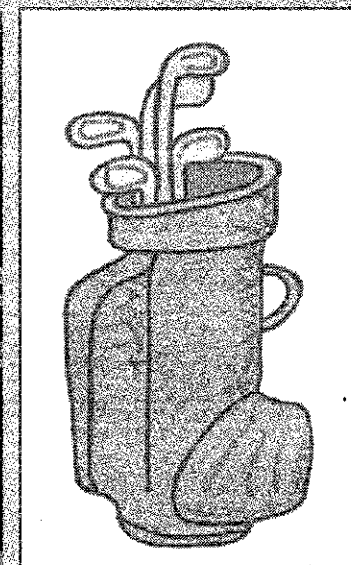
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To advertise in this directory, call Jim Sabatella at (586) 826-7388.

RELIGION CALENDAR

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

AUGUST

Open house
For Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran School 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 14, at 9600 Leverage, Redford. The school offers infant day care, preschool for 3-4-year olds, full day kindergarten and first-eighth grades. Call Laura at (313) 937-2233 or e-mail lgotdman@hosanna-tabor.org.

Vacation Bible school
Continues 5:30-8:30 p.m. through Friday, Aug. 15, at Good Shepherd Missionary Baptist Church, 20915 Evergreen, Southfield. Come join us for food, teaching, arts and crafts. To register, call (248) 353-4368. All are welcome.

Vacation Bible school
The Anglican Church of Livonia holds its Vacation Bible School 6:30-8:30 p.m. through Friday, Aug. 15. This year's theme is Bible Beach Bash - Soak up the Sun! For information, call (248) 442-0422.

Vacation Bible school
Bird Tales, adventures in the forests and jungles of the world continues 6:30-8:30 p.m. through Saturday, Aug. 16, for ages 4-10, crafts, music and refreshments, at Cherry Hill Seventh-

day Adventist Church, 33144 Cherry Hill, west of Venoy, Garden City. Please pre-register at (734) 524-0880.

Greek festival
Enjoy the culture, homemade food and pastries, music and dance, and shop the Marketplace with Greek artifacts and jewelry noon to 11 p.m. Friday, Aug. 15, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 16, and noon to 9 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 17, at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, 21800 Marter Rd., St. Clair Shores. Admission \$2, children age 12 and under free. Proceeds benefit church programs and renovation projects. Call (586) 779-6111 or visit www.assumptionfestival.com.

Rummage sale
9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 16, at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, east of Middlebelt, Livonia. Summer service time is 9:30 a.m. Sunday.

Bethany Suburban West
Monthly breakfast meeting 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 16, at Leon's 30149 Ford Rd. next to Tim Horton's, Garden City. All separated, divorced and singles welcome; for details please feel free to call, Kathy M. (734) 513-9479. Bethany is a Catholic organization under the auspices of the Archdiocese of the Detroit Office for Family Ministry and provides spiritual, social and educational assistance through peer-to-peer ministry to the divorced and separated of all Christian faiths.

Crop walk
Kick-off planning meeting for the

Walk Against Hunger Saturday, Aug. 16. All recruits are invited to share breakfast and learn what is new for 2008 and pick up their walk materials and pledge sheets for the walk on Sunday, Oct. 5, at Rosecale Gardens Presbyterian Church, Livonia. For information, call John Hirtzel at (248) 477-5181.

Concert
Karen Peck & New River, 2007 Grammy Award Nominee, perform 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 16, in the sanctuary at Joy Baptist Church, 37055 Joy Rd. at Newburgh, Westland. Admission free, but seating limited. Doors open at 5 p.m. For information, call (734) 425-0466.

Carillon concert series
10 a.m. and noon Sunday, Aug. 17, 24 and 31, at Kirk in the Hills, 1340 W. Long Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills. Call (248) 625-2515 or visit www.kirkinthehills.org.

Bible study
A Word for You Bible Study continues 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 19, in the Green Room at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford Rd., Westland. The one hour study includes Praise and Worship and the Word. All are welcome. For more information, call (313) 289-8336.

Family movie night
The Ten Commandments (from the animated series of Epic Stories of the Bible) 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 20, at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Rd., north of Six Mile,

Livonia. No charge. Popcorn and beverages provided. To RSVP, call (734) 425-5950.

Rummage sale
Garden City Presbyterian Church will hold a rummage sale 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Aug. 21-22, and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 23, at the church, 1841 Middlebelt. Lunch will be available each day. For more information, call (734) 421-7620.

Summer camp
Christ Our Savior Lutheran Early Childhood Program for Summer continues 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday for ages 18 months to 12 years to Aug. 22, at 14175 Farmington Rd., north of I-96, Livonia. For details, call (734) 513-8413.

Summer music ministry
Family Choir, all ages invited to sing at 9 a.m. rehearsal and then morning service Aug. 24, and Sept. 7. Hymn sings Sept. 7, at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730. All are welcome.

Summer day camp
Offered by Ward Church in Northville for children entering grades one-six, continues to Aug. 24. Hours 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. with extended care available at extra cost. Weekly full-time registrations range from \$135 to \$165. Information available at wardchurch.org, or by calling (248) 374-5975.

Bethany Suburban West
Free concert featuring Air Margaritaville 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 24, during Lincoln Park Days, 3525 Dix Rd., Lincoln Park MI 48146. Bring a comfortable chair, your favorite drink and a laid back mood. Call Kathy M. for details, (734) 513-9479.

Prayer service
The Metropolitan Detroit Chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Moses the Black will hold an akathist prayer service honoring the saint 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 27, at St. Innocent Orthodox Church, 23300 W. Chicago, Redford. St. Moses the Black is the Orthodox Christian patron saint of African-Americans. He was a 4th-century Ethiopian slave and gang leader who repented his sinful life and became a monastic in the Egyptian desert, known for his humility, wisdom and power over demons. An akathist is a hymn that recalls the life of a saint, a holy event or one of the persons of the Holy Trinity. No charge and open to the public. There will be an informal discussion of the life of St. Moses following the service. For information, call Sharon Gomułka at (248) 477-6411 or Robert Mitchell (313) 866-8630.

Mom's retreat
St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Livonia invites all Catholic Moms in the area to take personal time for prayer and relaxation coupled with adult discussion of topics relevant to daily faith life 8:30-10:45 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 27. Children's Ministry offered while moms enjoy Mass, continental breakfast and discussion. Cost is \$8 per session, \$2 per child for Children's Ministry care. Call (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200 or visit www.livoniastmichael.org.

Bethany together dance
8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Aug. 30, at Don Hubert V.F.W. Hall 27345 Schoolcraft (this is the I-96 service drive east of Inkster Rd., Redford. Limited to the first 450 paid admissions. Please wear proper attire. Admission \$12. For details, call Loretta at (586) 264-0284. Bethany is a Catholic organization under the auspices of the Archdiocese of the Detroit and provides spiritual, social and educational assistance through peer-to-peer ministry to divorced and separated of all Christian faiths.

Health program
U-Count Empowered to Get Health Family Edition is an eight-week, life-changing program that promotes complete health and family development. Biblically-based classes, workshops, exercise training. Breakout sessions for adults, youth (12-18), and kids (5-11). Informational meeting noon Saturday, Aug. 30, in R-201, at Detroit World Outreach Christian Center, 23800 W. Chicago, Redford. Opening Day 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13, in R-201, cost \$75. For information, call (313) 255-2222, Ext. 359, or sledlie@dw.org.

Yard sale
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 6, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Redford. Bring your own table for \$10 or rent a church table for \$15. Food and drinks available. Call to reserve your space or table no later than Aug. 31. Cash Only. Call (313) 538-2660 or (313) 533-1646.

Outdoor worship
10 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 31, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. A picnic will follow. Call (734) 464-0211.

Seekers of spiritual intelligence
Beacon Hill Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) pastors show how injustices in the Bible are played out today and why God gave you a passion for justice, during the 1 p.m. Sunday worship service in August at St. Michael Lutheran Church Chapel, 7000 N. Sheldon, south of Warren, Canton (enter through south double doors next to play area) For information, call (313) 402-6900 or (313)

806-PRAY, send e-mail to beacon-hillccdoc@aol.com.

Water works park
For families needing all-day activity, Ward offers SHINE day camp with hours from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m. Cost is \$115, requires pre-registration. Details at wardchurch.org.

UPCOMING

Bethany Suburban West
Deadline is Sept. 1 for head count for Detroit Princess Riverboat Cruise featuring Air Margaritaville 7-9:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 12. Cost is \$54.50 and includes cruise, meal, tax and gratuity. For details or reservations, call Kathy M. (734) 513-9479. Bethany is a Catholic organization under the auspices of the Archdiocese of the Detroit Office for Family Ministry and provides spiritual, social and educational assistance through peer-to-peer ministry to the divorced and separated of all Christian faiths.

Exploring the Catholic faith
Starts 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 2, in Bixman Hall (church building) at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Rd., Livonia. Call (734) 425-5950.

Charity basketball game
The Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit (COCC) and Wright & Filippis sponsor a charity basketball game 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 4, at Franklin High School, 31000 Joy, Livonia, for the benefit of Children's Hospital of Michigan. Teams are the Amputee Spartans sponsored by Wright & Filippis and the Saints sponsored by the COCC. Half-time activities include a 50/50 drawing and silent auction. Suggested donation is \$10 adults, \$5 seniors and children ages 11-18, children 10 and under free. For tickets or information, contact Richard Shebib at (734) 422-0278 or paschabooks@sbcglobal.net, or Brad Shebib at (248) 829-8327 or bshebib@wright-filippis.com. The Spartans are a team of amputees sponsored by Wright & Filippis and coached by Brad Shebib, a physical therapist at the company and a member of the Antiochian Orthodox Basilica of St. Mary, Livonia. The Saints are volunteers from COCC member churches coached by Nisreen Fakhouri, a former member of Wayne State University's women's basketball team. COCC church members interested in playing for the team may contact her at (313) 770-3733 or fakhourn@cooley.edu.

Bethany Suburban West
Monthly dance 8 p.m. until midnight Saturday, Sept. 6, at St. Robert Bellarmine, 27101 W. Chicago at Inkster Rd., Redford. No dance lesson this month. Cost \$10, refreshments included. Doors open a 7:30 p.m. Call Diane K. for information, (734) 261-5716. Bethany is a Catholic organization under the auspices of the Archdiocese of the Detroit and provides spiritual, social and educational assistance through peer-to-peer ministry to divorced and separated of all Christian faiths.

Picnic
All-church and neighborhood picnic follows festival worship and communion 10 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 7, on the lawn at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Meet new people and visit with long-time friends, get information on upcoming programs and how to grow closer to Christ, food, music, games, fellowship, moon walk, face painting. Call (734) 422-0149.

Dorje Chang is living in America
Presentation focusing on reincarnation of the highest leader of Buddhism, HH Dorje Chang Buddha III, 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11, at 960 E. Jefferson, Detroit. For information, visit www.zhaxizhuoma.net/. Respected Zhaxi Zhuoma, a close disciple of HH Dorje Chang Buddha III will lead the congrege in Detroit.

Tent sale
Begins at 9 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 13, at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, Westland. Household items, specialties like Avon, candles, tools, houseplants, books and crafts. Also a used clothing sale inside the church for \$2 a plastic grocery bag. All proceeds donated to area organizations to help people in the community. Cost to participate is \$25 if you bring your own table, \$35 to use one of the church's 8-foot tables. For details, call (734) 722-1735 or (734) 722-4363.

Bethany Suburban West
Monthly breakfast meeting 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 20, at Leon's 30149 Ford Rd. next to Tim Horton's, Garden City. All separated, divorced and singles welcome; for details call, Kathy M. (734) 513-9479. Bethany is a Catholic organization under the auspices of the Archdiocese of the Detroit and provides spiritual, social and educational assistance through peer-to-peer ministry to the divorced and separated of all Christian faiths.

Celebration
This year, Israel celebrates a significant milestone that provides a great opportunity to celebrate the achievements and history of the Jewish State. In honor of this momentous occasion, The Russian Chapter of American Friends of Magen David Adom (Israel's equivalent to the Red Cross) will host

a celebration 5:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 21, at Adat Shalom, Farmington Hills. The evening includes Russian-Jewish delicacies, entertainment by Ben Opengem, door prizes and auction. Tickets \$90, with proceeds benefiting ARMOI. Friends and families of all faiths and backgrounds welcome, but space is limited. For details, visit www.lifetosave.org.

Organ recital
Robert Bates, associate professor of organ at University of Houston, performs 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 22, at Metropolitan United Methodist Church, 8000 Woodward, north of Grand Blvd., Detroit. \$10 per person at the door or call (313) 875-7407. Reception follows concert. Free supervised parking adjacent to church.

Mom-to-Mom sale
9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 27, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Call (734) 422-0149.

Bethany hay ride
Saturday, Sept. 27, for Bethany Suburban West and Bethany South in South Rockwood. Cost is \$20, includes hay ride, hot dogs with all the fixings plus beverages and a DJ. They have an indoor facility for dining and dancing. Call Kathy M. at (734) 513-9479 or Judy at (313) 389-4730 for tickets.

Spirit of Manresa
Dinner and auction begins with 5:30 p.m. Mass Saturday, Sept. 27, at The Marriott at Centerpoint, 3600 Centerpoint Parkway, Pontiac. Cost \$150. \$250 patron, includes dinner, silent and live auctions, dancing. Call (248) 644-4933, Ext. 34 or visit www.manresa-sj.org. Manresa Jesuit Retreat House is a place of quiet, peace and prayer that seeks to help people grow in their spiritual life.

Tiny Tots Preschool
Now enrolling for 2008-2009, openings for 3- and 4-year olds at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Cost \$25 for the first child, \$20 for each child thereafter. Call (734) 464-0211.

Crafters wanted
The Women's Guild of St. Michael Catholic Church of Livonia invites all interested crafters to participate in their annual Craft Fair and Bake Sale 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 25, in the cafeteria of St. Michael's School, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Rd. 8-foot-long tables are available for rent at \$25 each. Applications available at parish office or on-line at www.livoniastmichael.org. A photo of the item(s) sold must be submitted.

Fall craft show
Applications are now being accepted for the Fall Craft Show noon to 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 24, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 25, at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia. For details, call (734) 464-0990.

ONGOING

Thursday fellowship dinner
All are welcome, 6 p.m. dinners catered by The Cookie Lady, Susan Navarro, at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Cost is \$8. Call (313) 534-7730.

Eucharistic adoration
St. Michael the Archangel Church in Livonia continues its monthly program of Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration on the third Wednesday of each month. The church will be open for prayer and private worship from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Benediction service in the evening. All are welcome. Call (734) 261-1455.

Worship schedule
11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday (9:45 a.m. Sunday School), at Community Free Will Baptist Church, 33031 Cherry Hill, west of Venoy, Westland. Wednesday prayer and Bible study is 7 p.m. Youth fellowship every other Friday at 7 p.m.

Time change
Come to hear about the love of Jesus Christ for you 9:30 a.m. Sundays (May 25 to Sept. 7) at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, west of Middlebelt, Livonia. For information, visit www.livoniafaith.org.s

Sunday worship
The early service for the Anglican Church of Livonia is at 7:45 a.m. at Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, west of Farmington Road and next to Stevenson High School, Livonia. The 10 a.m. service will continue to be at the Livonia YMCA at 14255 Stark Road, between Lyndon and the I-96 service drive. The Web site is www.hischurch.us.

Reformed Protestant services
The doctrines and teachings of solid, Reformed Protestantism are preached by the Rev. Sean Humby 3:30 p.m. Sundays at the Detroit Preaching Station of the Free Church of Scotland (Continuing), at Cherry Hill School, 50440 Cherry Hill, corner of Ridge, Canton. For information, call (734) 402-7186, send e-mail to sean.humby@att.net, or visit www.members.aol.com/rsiworship/detroit.html.

Sanskrit chanting
An ongoing, weekly class taught by Ania Kopczyński, 7-8:30 p.m. Thursdays, at Renaissance Unity, 11200 E. 11 Mile, Warren. No pre-registration required. A free-will collection taken at the session. For information,

Please see RELIGION, B7

Passages
Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances
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CLARA E. WITTE
Age 87, August 10, 2008. Beloved wife of the late Milton. Loving mother of Shirley (Dave) Speirs and Carole (the late Michael) Quinn. Dear grandmother of Mark (Sue) Speirs, Doug (Christine) Speirs and Scott (Michelle) Speirs, Kevin Quinn and Michele Quinn. Great-grandmother of Manny, Jessica, Ashley, Amanda, Patrick and Blake. Funeral Service Friday 11 a.m. at Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 Six Mile, Livonia (East of I-75). Visitation Wednesday 3-9 p.m., Thursday 1-9 p.m. Interment Glen Eden Memorial Park.

GERALD "Jerry" E. COLTON, Jr.
Age 51, of Willis, MI. went to be with his Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ after a long illness, on Sunday, August 10, 2008. Born in Hampton, Virginia on November 1, 1956, son of Gerald Edwin and Dolores (Moore) Colton, Sr. Survived by his wife of over 24 years, Waneta, two children Timothy Mischka of Newport News, Virginia and Tara Owens of Virginia Beach, Virginia, six grandchildren, his birth father, also his step-father, five sisters, one half-brother and one half-sister, one step-brother and numerous nieces & nephews. Jerry enjoyed playing pool, watching the Sci-Fi channel, as well as bird watching and he loved playing ball with his dog. He proudly served his country in the United States Army and remained a proud veteran. Preceded in death by his mother, Dolores Joyner, also a daughter Tina Eldridge. Funeral service on Thursday, August 14, 2008 at 10 AM at Belleville Church of God, 45170 Hull Rd., Belleville, MI with Pastor Allen R. Campbell officiating. Interment at Fort Custer National Cemetery, Augusta, MI following at 2:30 PM. Memorial contributions to the wishes of the family would be appreciated. Arrangements by DAVID C. BROWN FUNERAL HOME, Belleville, MI. www.davidcbrownfh.com.

MARCELLA E. (Garvin) BERGSTROM
Age 93, of Bloomfield Hills, MI, passed away August 8, 2008. She was born February 19, 1915 in Newark, NJ. Marcella was married to Swede for 58 years until he preceded her in death seven years ago this summer. After her children were grown, Marcella volunteered her time and energy to the Detroit Deaf and Blind Club for over 20 years. Following her time with the Deaf and Blind Club, she donated her services as a Braille transcriber and proofreader for 20 years. She was a generous supporter of the numerous charities including the Pearl S. Buck Foundation and the Southwest Indian Children Fund. Marcella was a lover of classical music, and was an accomplished pianist in her young adulthood. She is survived by her daughters, Christine (Geoffrey) Thornton, Janice (Thomas) Krakowski and Karen (Frank) Flanagan; seven grandchildren, Brittany, Graham, Garrett, Hillary Snyder, Lee, Giles and Brody and two great-grandchildren, Ryan and Sean. Because of Marcella's great love for all animals, her family requests any contributions be made in her memory to the Michigan Humane Society, A.J. Desmond and Sons Funeral Home, 248-362-2500

ELTA IRENE TINKHAM
Passed away August 11, 2008, age 92. Widow of Matthew H. Tinkham, Sr. and Ernest M. Hicks. Survived by daughters Erna Farrington of Caseville, Michigan and Nancy Darwin of Clayton, North Carolina. Sister of Molly Mousseau of Chatham, Ontario. Also survived by six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Cremation has taken place.

MARGARET L. HILLIARD
Age 86, of Milford, MI, formerly of Farmington, MI, passed August 7, 2008. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI

ROSEMARY A. YOUNG
Age 86, August 10, 2008. Beloved wife of the late Robert. Dear mother of Carol Bashista, Mary (John) Jones, Janet (Victor) Valliere, Sally Kochanowski, Cheryl (John) Cochran, William and the late Barbara and JoAnne Miles. Grandmother of eight. Great-grandmother of four. Visitation Thursday 1-9pm with a 7pm Rosary at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster (between Ford and Cherry Hill). In state Friday 9:30am until a 10 am Funeral Service at St. Mel Catholic Church, 7506 Inkster Rd. (just north of Warren).

EVELYN I. EVANS
Age 80, August 10, 2008. Beloved wife of the late Stanley. Dear mother of David Neil, James Stanley and Steven Thomas. Grandmother of Kristin, David, April and Ashley. Great-grandmother of 4. Sister of Robert Curfman and the late Eleanor Hopkins. Services were held. Arrangements by Santeiu & Son Funeral Home.

HAROLD W. FOSNESS
Age 83, of Farmington Hills, MI, passed August 9, 2008. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI

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

GERALD R. ENGLE
Age 93, formerly of Royal Oak and Hudson, FL. Beloved husband of 67 years to Theresa; cherished father of Janice Endress (Jim), Sandra Engle and Douglas Engle; loving grandfather of Scott (Leada), Nicole Olds (Aaron), Melissa Endress, Jaclyn Hinkle (Eric) and Jeffrey Engle (Amber) and great-grandfather of Tiffany Engle, Lauren and Tyler Olds; dear brother of Arlene Succop, Carlton Engle and the late Shirley Moody. Private cremation services by Pixley Funeral Home-Godhardt-Tomlinson Chapel, Keego Harbor. Memorials to Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Birmingham. Visit www.mem.com

JUNE TOTH
Plymouth, MI, age 77. Beloved wife of John Toth. Sons: John, Kenney, David, Daughters: Karen Hirth, Darleen Southworth, Sister Virginia. Brothers: Bill, Jim, Roy Yardbrough. Born March 23, 1931, passed July 27, 2008. Memorial Services to be held August 16 at Connection Church in Canton, Michigan. Cremation has taken place.

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.

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

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

e-mail your obit to oebits@hometownlife.com or fax to: Attn: Obits c/o Charolette Wilson 586-826-7318

For more information call: Charolette Wilson 586-826-7082 or Liz Keiser 586-977-7538 or toll free 800-579-7355 ask for Char or Liz

Pastor eager to begin new career

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER

Steven Newton wanted to be sure it wasn't just a mid-life crisis when he decided to go into the ministry so he and his wife Sharon prayed about the decision that would take them far away from the Detroit area where they grew up.

Nearly five years later the couple and their children returned home and couldn't be happier. On Sunday, July 27, the 51-year-old Newton was ordained into the holy ministry and installed as Pastor of Grace Lutheran Church in Canton.

Newton knew something was missing from his life even though he had landed a good job after graduating from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. For 22 years he worked as a transmission design engineer at General Motors in Ypsilanti.

"I grew up as a Christian but was not strongly committed. The peer pressure was too great. At age 18 I changed and since then always wanted to do what God wanted me to do," said Newton who first began

thinking about the seminary around age 36, while living in Ann Arbor with his wife Sharon who he married 21 years ago.

"I had a young family, was making money at GM and was an elder at my church and saw closer what the pastor had to do to love and serve God. By 42 or 43 I began to take it more seriously."

Before long Sharon, Newton and their sons Aaron and Charlie were moving to St. Louis, Mo. where he studied at Concordia Theological Seminary for three years. The family then moved to Grand Island, Neb. where Newton served his one year as a vicar at Trinity Lutheran Church. On April 22 he accepted the Divine Call to become Pastor at Grace Lutheran Church but had to finish the internship a Trinity Lutheran first. They returned to the Detroit area July 16, and just last week bought a house in Canton where Newton is looking forward to serving as pastor of the church with 120 members.

"First and foremost I want to get to know the brothers and sisters here and build a



Pastor Steven Newton was ordained into the holy ministry and installed as Pastor of Grace Lutheran Church in Canton on Sunday, July 27. He is pictured here with his wife Sharon and their sons Aaron, 18 (left), and Charlie, 15.

relationship between them and me," said Newton. "We know the Bible but want to understand it more and how we can impact and interact with the community and serve the community."

While Newton isn't planning any drastic changes at the church, he would like to start a Bible class for adults on Wednesdays come September. Catechism classes for 7th and 8th grade students also begin in the fall.

Newton describes Grace Lutheran as more of a contemporary church with Sunday morning services at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. He is currently looking for a guitar player for the contemporary worship team for the 10:30 a.m. service to accompany the drummer,

keyboardist and bass player. Sunday School for children, teens and adults takes place at 9:15 a.m. Youth meet at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.

"We're always looking for new members," said Newton. "Grace offers a family environment, a close environment. People love and care and look out for each other, pray for each other. We want to grow as disciples of Jesus and offer that in a contemporary, modern setting."

Grace Lutheran Church is at 46001 Warren Road, west of Canton Center. Visitors welcome.

For more information, call Newton at (734) 414-7422.

lchomin@hometownlife.com
734) 953-2145

RELIGION

FROM PAGE B6

call (586) 353-2300 or visit www.renaissanceunity.org.

Church schedule

Garden City Presbyterian Church continues its 10 a.m. Sunday worship service with traditional hymns, scripture readings and choral music (fellowship follows). Youth Sunday School and nursery care also available at 10 a.m. Adult Sunday School at 8:30 a.m. Informal gathering 6 p.m. every Sunday with scriptures and discussion at the church on Middlebelt, one block south of Ford Rd. Call (734) 421-7620.

Single Place Ministry

Single Place Ministry continues to meet Thursdays 7:30-7:45 p.m. for social time, 7:45-8 p.m. opening, 8-9 p.m. program, at First Presbyterian Church, 200 E. Main St., Northville. Call (248) 349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org. Cost is \$5.

Prince of Peace Church

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

Tai Chi and strength classes

Orchard United Methodist Church is hosting a Tai Chi class 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays in the Mac at the church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. The cost per class is \$10 or \$40

prepaid for five classes. The strength class takes place 9:30-10:30 a.m. Monday and Wednesday. Cost is \$5 per class. Drop-ins welcome. For information, call (248) 626-3620 or visit www.orchardumc.org.

Church offerings

Riverside Park Church of God, Sunday worship is at 10 a.m., Wednesday bible classes (child through adult) at 7 p.m. Youth outings held monthly. The senior group (age 50 plus) has lunch together every month. The men get together for breakfast the first Saturday of the month plus we offer choir practice for all singers. All visitors welcome. The church is at 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth Road, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990 for details.

Church services

Want a unique church experience? Join in Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. for a service that will lift your entire family, but be prepared for what will happen after just one service at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh (corner of Plymouth Road), Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990 for information.

Tai Chi class

Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills, is hosting a Tai Chi Class by Sam Purdy, Wu Style Tai Chi. This meditative form of Martial Arts is great for reducing stress and is great for over-all health memory and balance. Everyone is welcome from beginning to experienced participants at any time. Classes continue every Monday. Cost per class depends on number of participants. For information or to reserve your space, call (248) 701-1587 or (248) 626-3620. Visit www.orchardumc.org for updates.

Your Invitation to Worship

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|---|--|---|--|--|--|
| <p>BAPTIST</p> <p>NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH 33640 Michigan Ave. • Wayne, MI (Between Wayne Rd. & Merriman Rd.) (734) 728-2180 <i>Virgil Humes, Pastor</i></p> <p>Saturday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m. Sunday Worship 7:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. • Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Wednesday Praise Service 6:30 p.m. • Wednesday Children, Youth and Adult Bible Study 7:00-8:30 p.m.</p> | | <p>UNITED METHODIST</p> <p>Clarenceville United Methodist 20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia 248-474-3444 Pastor Beth Librande Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Nursery Provided</p> | | <p>LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD</p> <p>Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96 734-522-6830</p> <p>Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional</p> <p>Staffed Nursery Available</p> <p>Sunday/Bible Class 9:45 am Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413</p> <p>Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ Pastors: Robert F. Bayer and Anthony M. Creedon</p> | |
| <p>CATHOLIC</p> <p>ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH Immemorial Latin Mass Approved by Pope St. Pius V in 1570 St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8 23310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan 5 Blocks E. of Telegraph • (313) 594-2121</p> <p>Mass Schedule: First Fri. 7:00 p.m. First Sat. 11:00 a.m. Sun. Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m. Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.</p> | | <p>EVANGELICAL COVENANT</p> <p>FAITH COVENANT CHURCH 14 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills (248) 661-9191</p> <p>Sunday Worship 9:15 a.m. Contemporary 11:00 a.m. Traditional</p> <p>Child Care provided for all services Youth Groups • Adult Small Groups</p> | | <p>"More than Sunday Services"</p> <p>Summer Worship Service 10:00 a.m. thru August 31st</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dynamic Youth and Children's Programs • Excellent Music Ministries • Small Groups For Every Age • Outreach Opportunities <p>Pastor: Dr. John Grenfell III Associate Pastor: Rev. David Wichert</p> <p>First United Methodist Church of Plymouth 45201 North Territorial Road (West of Sheldon Road) (734) 453-5280 www.pfumc.org</p> | |
| <p>SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST</p> <p>Cherry Hill Seventh-day Adventist Church 33144 Cherry Hill, Garden City, MI 48135 (1 block west of Venoy) Phone: 734-524-0880 Pastor: Eddie Petreaca</p> <p>Meetings on Saturdays for: Early Morning Bible & Health Class-8 a.m. Worship Service-English-9:30 a.m. Bible Studies English & Spanish (All Ages) 11:00 a.m. Wednesdays Prayer Meeting-7 p.m.</p> | | <p>NON DENOMINATIONAL</p> <p>BELL CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH in addition to Redford</p> <p>Casual, Contemporary, Excellent Children's Program</p> <p>Meets at Franklin H.S. in Livonia on Joy Road (Between Merriman and Middlebelt Roads) at 10:00 a.m. 734-425-1174 Join us for coffee, bagels and donuts after the service!</p> | | <p>PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)</p> <p>ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) 9801 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.) (734) 422-0494 www.rosedalegardens.org</p> <p>Chapel Worship Service 9:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am</p> <p>WE WELCOME YOU TO A FULL SERVICE CHURCH</p> | |
| <p>CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</p> <p>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 48801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 458-1525 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196</p> | | <p>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p>WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church</p> <p>40000 Six Mile Road "Just west of I-275" Northville, MI 248-374-7400</p> <p>Traditional Worship 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 A.M. Contemporary Worship 9:30 A.M.</p> <p>Nursery & Sunday School During the 9:30 & 11:00 Hours</p> <p>Evening Service • 7:00 p.m. Service Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday WRDT-AM 560 The WNUZ Word Station For additional information visit www.wardchurch.org</p> | | <p>EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA</p> <p>Timothy Lutheran Church A Reconciling in Christ Congregation 8820 Wayne Rd. (Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road) Livonia • 423-2290 www.timothy.org</p> <p>SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.</p> | |
| <p>PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p>Fellowship Presbyterian Church</p> <p>Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire</p> <p>Services held at: Madonna University's Kresge Hall 36600 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia Parking lot is on N.W. corner of Levan & Schoolcraft • Nursery provided</p> | | <p>CHRISTIAN SCIENCE</p> <p>First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth 1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI 734-453-0970</p> <p>Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Wed. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m. Reading Room located at church Saturday 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. 734-453-0970</p> | | <p>CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC)</p> <p>Beacon Hill Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) "Where Your Light Shines!" Worship Service: 1 pm St. Michael Lutheran Church - Chapel! 7000 N. Sheldon Road, Canton, Michigan 48187-2753 *Enter through the south double doors next to the play area Rev. Dr. Wayne Ten Roberts & Minister Dr. Carolyn Ann Roberts, Co-Pastors 313-402-6900 & 313-806-PRAY or beaconhillccdoc@aol.com</p> | |

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 313-222-2333 or e-mail: dhart@hometownlife.com

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Youth baseball tryouts

The Livonia Travel Baseball Club, along with Livonia Baseball & Softball Association, will stage tryout evaluations for the following age groups...

Storm girls fastball softball team will be from 10 a.m. until noon (10- and 12-and-under) and from 1-3 p.m. (14-, 16- and 18-and-under)...

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

Punt, Pass & Kick

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will stage the 2008 Pepsi Punt, Pass & Kick competition for ages 8-15 beginning at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 27 at the Livonia Community Recreation Center soccer fields...

Registration starts at 4:30 p.m. the day of the event, which is free. For more information, call (734) 466-2410.

Inline hockey tryouts

Tryouts for the Wayne-Westland combined JV inline hockey team will be from 6-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 4 at Skateland West, located at Newburgh and Cherry Hills Roads.

You must attend Wayne-Westland Schools and be entering grades 8-11 in Sept. 2008 to be eligible.

For more information, e-mail wwlinlinehockey@hotmail.com.

Adult women's hockey

An adult women's hockey league will begin its fall session (Oct. 3 through Sept. 12) at Veterans Arena in Ann Arbor.

Beginners are welcome. No experience necessary. The registration fee, due by Sept. 12, is \$190 (includes jersey). Games will be scheduled at 7:50 p.m., 8:50 p.m., 9:50 p.m. and 10:50 p.m. on Fridays.

To register online, visit www.macrh.com.

Churchill Pompon clinic

The Livonia Churchill varsity pom-pom team will be offering a pom clinic (ages 6-14) from 9 a.m. until noon Saturday, Aug. 23, at high school.

All who attend the workshop will be performing a routine at a Churchill varsity soccer game. To register, call Robin Schwarz at (734) 464-0556.

Baseball Academy

The Pro Secrets Baseball Academy will be conducting showcase sessions for high school players as well as skill sessions in power pitching, hitting and fielding.

The latest pro pitch trainer

will be used and former Phillies pitcher Mark Rutherford will be the featured instructor.

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

Need flag football coach

A coach is needed for the Garden City Parks & Recreation After-School Program's boys and girls flag football team, which includes fourth, fifth and sixth graders.

Games are played 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and 10 and 11 a.m. Saturdays at Henry Ruff Elementary School with practices after school Mondays and Fridays.

Tryouts for the season will be held the week of Sept. 8. Practices begin in mid-September and the season extends through mid-November.

Those interested in the job should contact Dan Plamondon, recreation supervisor for Garden City Parks & Recreation. He can be reached at (734) 793-1886 or via e-mail at dplamondon@gardencitymi.org.

WYAA football sign up

The Westland Youth Athletic Association, entering its 50th year, is seeking football players ages 12-13-14 interested in playing varsity-level for the Comets or Meteors.

The Comets play their home games at John Glenn High School and practice and Marshall Middle School, while the Meteors' home field is Wayne Memorial H.S. and practice at Voss Park in Westland.

For more information, call the WYAA Lange Compound Building at (734) 421-0640; Meteors unit director Galen Huren at (734) 716-6047; or Comets unit director Mark Simkow at (734) 732-1176.

GC soccer happenings

There are plenty of activities going on with Garden City's boys soccer program.

The Garden City High School boys soccer team is holding an alumni game 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 16 at Pinnell Field. Alumni players are sought to participate. They should contact coach Bill Torni via e-mail, coach@gchssoccer.com.

Meanwhile, the Garden

City boys soccer program will be hosting "No-Limit Texas Hold'em" tournaments on Saturday, Aug. 23 and Saturday, Sept. 20. The events will be held at the Sports Venue Bar and Grill in Garden City at Maplewood and Middlebelt.

For more information, call coach Bill Torni at (734) 522-4094 for more information; or e-mail him at coach@gchssoccer.com. The team has a Web site: http://members.aol.com/gcvsoccer.

Churchill Meet The Team

Livonia Churchill High athletics will stage its Meet the Team Night, beginning at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 20 at the Carl Auditorium.

All athletes and their parents from the fall, winter and spring sports seasons are expected to attend.

For more information, call (734) 744-2650, Ext. 46117.

Coaches wanted

Wayne Memorial High School is seeking a boys cross country coach in the fall and a girls varsity bowling coach for the winter.

Previous high school coaching experience is preferred. Interested candidates should send a letter of interest and resume to: Greg Ambrose, athletic director, 3001 Fourth St., Wayne, MI 48184. Information can also be faxed to (734) 595-2227.

Soccer officials class

The United Federation of Officials, in conjunction with the Michigan High School Athletic Association, will conduct a rookie soccer official training class beginning at 5:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 18 at St. Alfred School, 9500 Banner, near Telegraph and Wick roads, in Taylor.

The class is open to adults and incoming juniors and seniors in high school. Those individual in high school will be trained, qualified and able to participate in the MHSA's Legacy mentor program, enabling them to officiate in junior high (also Catholic Youth Organization) and sub-varsity games per MHSA.

Pre-registration is required. For more information, call

Byron Beattie at (734) 775-4134.

Learn to Skate

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will stage a seven-week learn to skate (fall session 1) the week of Sept. 8 through the week of Oct. 23, at Edgar Arena, located at 33841 Lyndon (one-half mile south of Five Mile, just west of Farmington Road).

Classes include: Tot (3-year-olds) at 5 p.m. Mondays or Thursdays; ages 4-and-up, 5 p.m., 5:25 p.m. or 6 p.m. Mondays; 5 p.m., 6 p.m. and 6:25 p.m. Thursdays; boys hockey skills, 6:25 p.m. Mondays or 5:25 p.m. Thursdays (no equipment is needed, no sticks or pucks used). Skate rental is available.

Walk-in registration will be from 6:30-8 p.m. (residents) and 7-8 p.m. (non-residents), Wednesday, Aug. 27, at the Livonia Community Recreation Center, located at 15100 Hubbard (at Five Mile Road).

The fee is \$55 for residents and \$67 for non-residents. Private lesson are also available for all levels. For more information, call (734) 466-2412.

Falcon 5K Run

The 16th annual Dearborn Divine Child High School Alumni Falcon 5-kilometer and mile fun run, dedicated to the memory of longtime boys cross country and track coach Mark Carpenter, will be Saturday, Aug. 16 starting in Levagood Park, located on Silvery Lane between Ford and Cherry Hill roads (west of the 1-mile).

The 1-mile fun run starts at 8:48 a.m. followed by the 5K at 9:15 a.m. Race day registration begins at 7 a.m. All participants will receive a race day T-shirt. Trophies will be awarded to the top overall and male finishers, along with the top three masters (over-40). Commemorative medals will go to the top 150 male and top 125 female finishers, as well as ribbons to all 1-mile fun run finishers. Refreshments will be raffled.

For more information, e-mail tonymifud150@aol.com; or visit www.divinechildhighschool.org/alumni. You can also call Allyson Card at the Divine Child Alumni Association office at (313) 562-1990, Ext. 232.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS: Answer an ad: 1. Note the number listed in the ad 2. Call 1-900-950-3785 It's only \$2.39/minute. Must be 18+, or: Call 1-800-510-4786, and use a major credit or debit card 3. Follow the instructions to listen to the advertiser's voicemail greeting 4. Leave a personal message for the advertiser Place your own ad: 1. Call 1-800-506-5115 2. Answer some simple questions to create your ad 3. Record a voicemail greeting 4. Learn how to pick up your messages - we'll let you know when new ones have arrived!

Get more: Chat with local singles right now. Call 248-397-0123 to learn more Need help? Some Tips? Call 1-617-450-8773

Meet Local Singles 248.397.0123

Matchmaker plus Brought to you by Mirror and The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

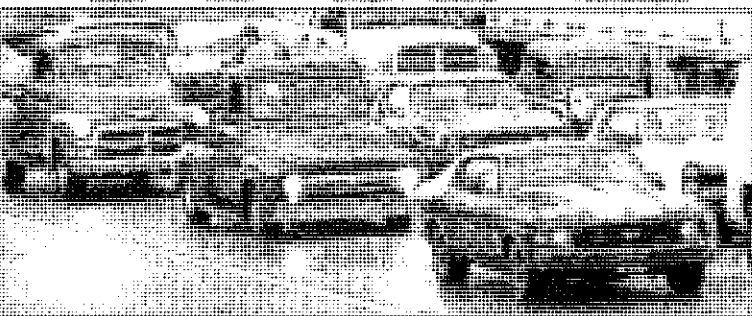
WOMEN SEEKING MEN ARE YOU THE ONE? A POLISHED DIAMOND SINCERE AND HONEST FORMER RUNWAY MODEL HELLO THERE GREAT SENSE OF HUMOR LET'S GET TOGETHER LONELY VIRGO DOWN-TO-EARTH AND HONEST LET'S DANCE IN THE RAIN! MATURE MAN WANTED WARM SMILE ONLY SERIOUS NEED REPLY A WOMAN OF CLASS LOVE IS THE GOAL WHY NOT CALL? LADY IN THE WOODS DOWN-TO-EARTH LONELY, GENUINE HEART BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS WANTED LAID-BACK GENTLEMAN LOOKING FOR M2 RIGHT FIT & FUN-LOVING

DID YOU KNOW THE FASTEST-GROWING ONLINE DATING SITE IS NOW AVAILABLE IN THE MICHIGAN AREA? Instant Messaging Video Profiles Advanced Search Tools Thousands of local members



"Red, Red Wine ... you make me feel so fine ..."
 The Observer & Eccentric and Mirror Newspapers are giving away four front row seats to UB40 this Friday, Aug. 22 at DTE, along with four \$25 gift certificates for merchandise at the venue.
 If you want to see the reggae/ska band perform simply visit www.hometownlife.com, click on "Enter to Win Tickets," and fill out the online form. We'll pick one lucky winner at random.

Wild



The past, present and future of the automobile will be on display during the 2008 Woodward Dream Cruise.

Dream Cruisers gear up for new events

For a Dream Cruise event schedule, visit us online at www.hometownlife.com

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
 O&E STAFF WRITER

Each August Woodward Avenue undergoes a transformation — a ride back in time — to honor the Motor City's cruising days of old. And it's already begun. Vintage cars rev down Michigan's Highway One and perfectly restored classics park along the road, hoods popped anywhere from Pontiac to Ferndale, all to catch the eye of car buffs across the metro area.

It's not everyday spectators can spot a 1953 Buick Skylark parked near a cherry '84 Corvette. But such a sight comes as a clear sign that it's time for the Woodward Dream Cruise.

The world's largest one-day annual event dedicated to the automobile marks its 14th year this Saturday, Aug. 16 and more than a million visitors are expected to tra-

verse the road.

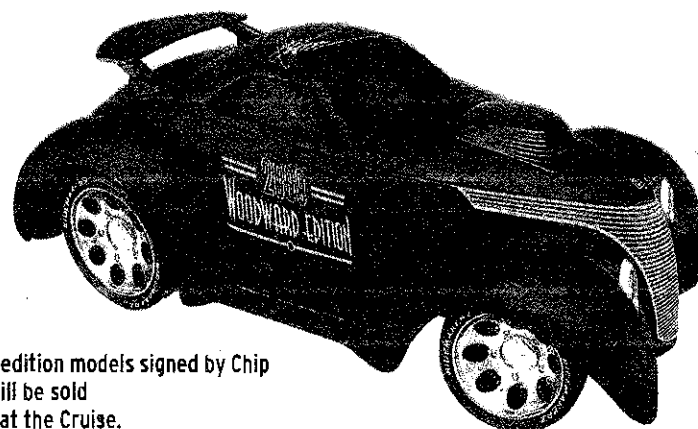
During a press preview event July 31, Dale Dawkins, president of Woodward Dream Cruise, Inc., noted that the event marks a collaborative effort — with organizers from all nine host communities and beyond working together. Those communities include Berkley, Birmingham, Bloomfield Township, Bloomfield Hills, Ferndale, Huntington Woods, Pleasant Ridge, Pontiac and Royal Oak.

A GRAND GUY

Troy Trepanier, a leading custom car designer and president of Illinois-based Rad Rides by Troy, will serve as grand marshal of this year's WDC. In addition to building cars for some of the top collectors in the country, he's developed the only EPA-certified ethanol kit, meant to keep motors running in an environmentally friendly way.

Trepanier said he has hon-

Please see **CRUISE, D7**



Limited edition models signed by Chip Foose will be sold for \$50 at the Cruise.

'Overhauled' Chip Foose comes to Dream Cruise

BY LANA MINI
 O&E STAFF WRITER



Chip Foose, the talented auto designer and star of television's hot rod show *Overhaulin'*, has attended the Woodward Dream Cruise at least five times over the years. Most of his visits have been for socializing and car cruising, not for "work."

Foose will be at the Cruise again, on Friday and Saturday, Aug. 15-16, to sign autographs, help raise money for charity and promote the cool collectible miniature cars he personally customized with The Ridemakerz Dream Collection.

Chip Foose, star of TV's 'Overhauled,' will be at the Dream Cruise to sign autographs.

Please see **FOOSE, D6**



During the Woodward Dream Cruise, the middle two lanes of traffic are reserved for classic cars. More than 40,000 vehicles from across the globe are expected to hit Michigan's Highway 1.



Leigh Scott, Bloomfield Hills, and his '66 Caprice Classic appear on wrenchHEADS.tv.

BACKYARD WRENCHHEADS AT WDC

Two-Lane Blacktop Productions, a Waterford-based company that creates online videos dedicated to car hobbyists, will be filming during the 2008 Woodward Dream Cruise.

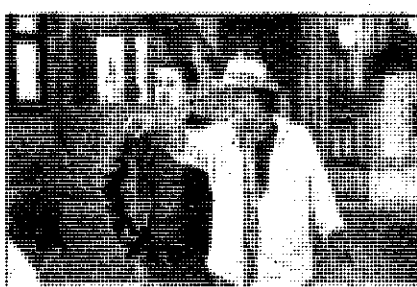
Two-Lane Blacktop Productions is dedicated to car enthusiasts who build, restore and customize classic cars, hot rods, muscle cars and low-riders, along with Gen X and Gen Y tuner cars.

Their online webisodes, which appear on backyardwrenchHEADS.tv, feature everything related to the do-it-yourself car culture, including "On the Street" driving videos, photo galleries of viewers' car restoration projects, backyard garage tours, and special events videos.

According to Donald Cenker, founder of Two-Lane Blacktop Productions, most of the 40,000 classic cars expected at this year's Woodward Dream Cruise are built, restored or fixed by the car owners themselves.

Cenker and his crew will spend all weekend at the WDC filming a special episode for backyardwrenchHEADS.tv.

By W. Von Buskirk



Warren Christie (left) stars in the ABC pilot "The Prince of the Motor City" directed by Jack Bender, known for his work on the hit drama "Lost."

MANSION OF THE MOTOR CITY

Meadow Brook Hall, on the campus of Oakland University in Rochester Hills, serves as a setting for the ABC pilot *The Prince of the Motor City*, starring Warren Christie (*October Road*) and directed by *Lost*'s Jack Bender (pictured). Location scouts chose the elegant Tudor-style mansion as a setting for show, the family home belonging to Christie's character Billy Hamilton.

Born the son of an auto baron, the young Harvard professor returns to Detroit to find he's inherited a fortune after his father's mysterious death. The hour-long pilot was created by Hamish Linklater (*The New Adventures of Old Christine*) and Jessica Goldberg, and its plot follows that of a haunting drama with *Hamlet* overtones.

For 14 days last month the cast, including Andie MacDowell, Morris Chestnut, Piper Perabo and Aidan Quinn, shot in various metro Detroit locations. "We came to Detroit because it's hard to fake Detroit," said Tara Flynn, a development associate working on the show. "Plus, this pilot is like a love letter to Detroit."

Film-goers can also look for Meadow Brook Hall as it appears in the Miguel Arteta-helmed comedy *Youth in Revolt*, which recently completed its shooting schedule in Michigan. Michael Cera (*Superbad*, *Juno*) stars in the film adaptation of CD Payne's cult classic novel and the mansion will represent a French prep school in which girl-obsessed Nick Twisp attempts to track down his love, Sheeni Saunders.

By S. Casola

Want to avoid Dream Cruise? Have fun in Wayne County

BY LANA MINI
 O&E STAFF WRITER



Daniel Dugar will make you laugh at Joey's Comedy Club in Livonia.

Looking to stay as far away from the Dream Cruise as possible this weekend?

Then, have fun in Wayne County.

Redford, Plymouth, Garden City, Westland, Livonia and Canton should be quieter as thousands upon thousands of people will descend on Woodward Avenue, north of Eight Mile Road.

If you want fun that's not about cars, you can wade in the waters in Canton; try a "West Bloomfield" sandwich in Garden City; bang your head to speed metal in Westland; giggle with comedians in Livonia; or sip on a refreshing fruit smoothie while bowling in Plymouth (smoothies at bowling alleys? yes!).

There's a lot of rocking & rolling going on in

suburban Wayne County this weekend Aug. 15-17, plus there's family fun.

Here are some suggestions:

SUMMIT ON THE PARK AQUATIC CENTER POOL/SLIDE/ RIVER

Hours: Open swim Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 16 and 17 from 1-7 p.m.

Where: 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton, (734) 394-5460; www.leisure.canton-mi.org

What: The Aquatic Center is for all ages. Enjoy the five-lane, 25-yard lap pool, the zero-depth leisure pool; a river and slide; spa and sauna and more.

Rates: Adult residents ages 18-54, \$6; other

Please see **AVOID, D3**



Joe and Bonnie Rogala offer sandwiches like the Birminghamer — right in Wayne County.

Was your neighbor a hooper?

A lot of people came out last Friday to World Hoop Day at the Temple of the American Dream — which is located on 17363 Lahser Road just south of Redford, in the Old Redford area of Detroit.

World Hoop Day was an event held worldwide to raise money to give hoops (as in Hula), to kids who might not be so fortunate — to put a smile on their faces.

Want to see who participated from The Observer Newspapers? Want to see others from your community?

Check out Lana Mini's blog online at: www.hometownlife.com
 Then click on *Voices & Views*.

THE ART OF DOMESTIC BLISS

Paint Creek Center for the Arts will present *Domestic Bliss*, a group show of works in all media which celebrates artists' takes on home life. Aug. 22-Sept. 20.

The show offers everything from pop paintings inspired by grocery store ads, to slightly disturbing photos set in a child-sized retro kitchen.

Locally-based artists include Madeleine Barkey of Ferndale, who draws from memories of her favorite childhood books; Siouxsan Miller of Ferndale, who layers canvases with vintage textiles, sewing patterns, magazine clippings, wallpaper, paint and photographs; and Steven Miller of Royal Oak, who presents three paintings from a previous show called *Trophy Husband*.

The exhibit will close with a reception 6-9 p.m. Friday, Sept. 19 — part of the Downtown Rochester Gallery Stroll, and a gallery talk with the artists at 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 20.

PCCA is located at 407 Pine Street in downtown Rochester. Call (248) 651-4110 or visit www.pccart.org.

By W. Von Buskirk

STAGECRAFTERS AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

Stagecrafters Youth Theatre has announced the recipients of the 2007-08 Jennifer DeRita Scholarship for the Performing Arts.

Nick Yocum, son of Jeannie Dolson and Mike Yocum of Royal Oak, and Elyse Moon, daughter of Rene and Eric Moon of Royal Oak, each received financial support toward their college education.

Yocum was a member of the youth theatre program for 10 years, involved in more than 25 shows, most recently playing Prince Robert in *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*.

Yocum will attend Western Michigan University in the fall.

Moon became a member of the youth theatre at age 9, and has been cast in more than 17 productions. She plans to pursue a musical theatre degree at Oakland University.

The scholarships, started in 2001, were named in memory of a former SYT member who was tragically killed in a car accident. They are awarded annually, using funds raised by youth throughout the year.

By W. Von Buskirk



Kid Rock helped give DTE its most successful months in years — with four sold-out performances.

for sellouts in its 15 year history by filling four July shows: Trace Adkins with Kellie Pickler; Crosby, Stills & Nash; and "Live" featuring Blues Traveler, O.A.R. and Collective Soul. Add James Taylor's June 4 capacity crowd, and Meadow Brook has already matched its previous best season total.

DTE Energy Music Theatre had eight sold out shows in July, with four full houses for Kid Rock and His Twisted Brown Trucker Band with Rev Run and Uncle Kracker — the longest run of shows by an artist in the 18 years of PS&E's ownership of the venue. Other July sellouts were Ted Nugent, Jonas Brothers and The Police with Elvis Costello and The Imposters.

The Palace had four sellouts: Bon Jovi, Neil Diamond and two Detroit Shock games. "We enjoyed a great July schedule of events, one of our best ever, and the concert-goers of this area showed they weren't letting the economy slow down their appetite to be entertained," said Tom Wilson, President and CEO of PS&E.

And summer isn't even over.

By Lana Mini

WE LOVE TO ROCK

Michiganders love their music! The economy can be down, the weather can be rainy or humid — it doesn't matter. We go to concerts.

The month of July was magical for Palace Sports & Entertainment's three venues. The Palace of Auburn Hills, DTE Energy Music Theatre and Meadow Brook Music Festival, had 16 sellout shows. That marks the most full houses in a one-month period since July, 2001.

And, Meadow Brook notched its best month for sellouts in its 15 year history by filling four July shows: Trace Adkins with Kellie Pickler; Crosby, Stills & Nash; and "Live" featuring Blues Traveler, O.A.R. and Collective Soul. Add James Taylor's June 4 capacity crowd, and Meadow Brook has already matched its previous best season total.

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And summer isn't even over.

By Lana Mini

TEST DRIVE SPYDER ROADSTER

Woodward Dream Cruisers can test drive the all-new 2008 Can-Am Spyder Roadster 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Aug. 15-16. Since hitting the open road in the fall of 2007, the three-wheel vehicle has made heads turn. Its unique Y-architecture, described as part motorcycle and part convertible sports car, is manufactured by Bombardier Recreational Products, makers of Sea-Doo watercraft, Ski-Doo snowmobiles, Can-Am ATVs and Evinrude outboard engines. Visit www.SpyderRyder.com to reserve a test drive.

By W. Von Buskirk

Livonia native brings his engaging sound to Ferndale

BY LANA MINI
ORE STAFF WRITER

His lyrics are poignant. His piano style is powerful, mature and catchy. The sound of music is moody, dreamy and wise.

Matthew Marsh, a Livonia native who now lives in New York to study music composition at NY University, is an upcoming singer/songwriter/pianist who is hosting a CD release party at the Magic Bag in Ferndale, on Friday, Aug. 15.

His CD, *Timeline*, includes saxophonist Nick Stone who is currently on tour with Alicia Keys.

We asked Marsh if he realizes he's hosting such an important event on Dream Cruise weekend.

"I realize that I will be performing during Dream Cruise but this was not intentional," Marsh said. "I'm very excited about this though. People who have nothing to do after the cruise can literally walk in from the street and see the show. Detroit loves both music and cars. It's the perfect mix."

And for Marsh, the Dream Cruise is special.

"My dad sells cars for a living, and has always been a car buff, so we were pretty much expected to at least drive by the cruise," he said. "The best thing about the Dream Cruise is that it doesn't just happen on Woodward. You see old cars and enthusiastic drivers all over metro Detroit. While I'm not into cars as much as my dad, I can still appreciate people with a passion."

Passion, family and music is what Marsh is all about; his love of music is intense, it's a part of him. He's been writing music since he was 11 years old.

"My first song was a piano ballad entitled *You're Never Too Far Away*. I wrote it for my dad who had suffered from a closed head injury while on a business trip in Las Vegas.

"I've been singing since I could talk, playing piano since I was five."

Although Marsh, who attended University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Stevenson High School — and St. Michael's School in Livonia for grade school — has been a composer for years, he's still new to the live music scene here.

"But I have found that it is extremely supportive," he said. "There are plenty of ways in which an artist can promote themselves in Detroit and reach an audience."

We asked him a few questions about his music: Tell us about the song, "Happy Birthday Girl" (hear it on his Myspace). How did that come about? Fiction or reality?

The song is named after a one-act play I was cast in my freshman year of high school. It was actually titled "Happy Birthday Girl." The cast consisted of me and one other girl, Liz, who became, and still is, my close friend. She is the girl whose photo appears on my Myspace when you click on the song. The song consists of me wanting the best for her, but knowing she would have to find her path on her own.



How is writing music in New York different from your hometown of Livonia?

The things I write about tend to be different when I'm in New York. (In Livonia) my lyrics tend to revolve around the rift that exists between the person I was before I moved to New York, and the person I have become.

Are you a self-taught musician? Your musical skills are very well-honed, very mature. Who else plays on the album? Who is on sax?

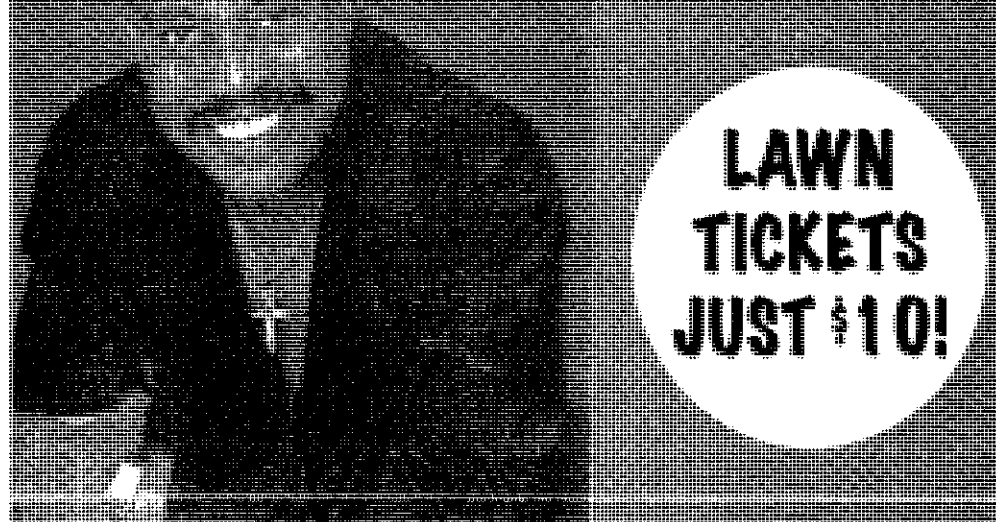
I definitely am not self-taught. I owe a lot to my teacher, Amy Sauve (Michigander). I have been her student for more than 10 years and she has taught me a lot, not just about music, but about professionalism and hard work. She was the lead singer of the former Detroit band Blush. She not only knows music, she knows the music scene and has been extremely supportive in pushing and pointing me in the right direction.

I started writing music on my own, and have had no formal voice training, and a lot of my improvisational skills have been self-taught, but I've trained in classical piano for 15 years.

Bill Higgins is a well-known jazz drummer and he plays on the album. Charles Bartels plays bass. Nick Stone is responsible for the saxophone licks. Nick and I have worked together for years. (Currently is touring with Neyo and Alicia Keys.) All of these musicians exceeded my expectations and the sound was better than I could have imagined. I learned a lot from them.

Tell us what people can expect about your show. Describe it for someone who has never seen you perform live.

Expect a lot of youthful energy from the band and crowd. I'm kind of compulsive, so I have no idea what I'm going to do once I get up there, but it's bound to be fun and new.



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FROM PAGE D1

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NO SLEEPY SUNDAY

When the cruise action ends on Sunday the Oakland County area will seem sleepy. But life will still be lively at other locations such as the Bullfrog Bar & Grill, 15414 Telegraph Road, Redford, (313) 533-4477. At 6 p.m., for those 18 and over, the Bullfrog hosts "The Eclectic Connection" a night of music with the theme "Rejected the expected. There are no rules."

Cover charge is \$5. Bands include fun acoustic pop band Color vs. Clarity, rockers Switchblade, hip hop performer Mr. Cliffnote, progressive musicians Shado, alternative punks Strange Habits and more.

SMOOTHIES & BOWLING

The whole family can enjoy open bowling at 42001 Ann Arbor Road E., Plymouth, (734) 453-4880. What's so special about this place? It's known for it's good pizzas and cooling fruit smoothies. Fun and fresh entertainment. Open bowling is Fridays and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m.

HAAAAAAA HAAAAAAA IN LIVONIA!

Daniel Dugar has made people laugh on his appearances on HBO, BET Comic and other events. He's opened for Damon Wayans and Cedric the Entertainer. Dugar is a fixture on the hip hop comedy scene and performs at Joey's Comedy Club, 36071 Plymouth Road in Livonia, (734) 261-0555. Shows are 8 and 10:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday, August 15 and 16. Cost: \$13.

TACO PIZZA? WANT TO PRETEND YOU'RE IN OAKLAND COUNTY?

On Saturday, August 16, at Rogala's Bar & Grill try the taco pizza that includes corn chips and basic taco fixings on top of the pizza dough. Or pretend you're in Royal Oak, West Bloomfield, Berkeley, or Birmingham by ordering deli sandwiches of the same name. Located at 31831 Ford Road, Garden City, (734) 522-4110. Atmosphere is super casual and it's also known for drink specials like piña colodas, lemon twists and strawberry daiquiri.

PONG, BEER AND AC/DC

Okay, they have a game called beer pong. It's Jamie's, the rocking bar in Garden City!
And this Friday, pre-Dream Cruise night, Jamie's is showcasing local musical talent. Then on Saturday, August 16th, the Livonia-based band 13th Floor performs. 13th Floor performs cover tunes from a big variety of popular rock bands such as Weezer, Aerosmith, AC/DC, The Babies and more.
Jamie's has been open for more than 35 years. Located at 33729 Ford Road in Garden City, between Venoy and Merriman.

AND CONTINUE TO ROCK...

At the Token Lounge, 28949 Joy Road, Westland (734) 513-5030, with hardcore bands H8 Inc., Bloody Knuckle Combat, U.D.I. and Wreckless Fate Token Lounge. Haven't been to the Token? This legendary rock club has hosted Megadeth, Quiet Riot, Foghat, Humble Pie, Mitch Ryder, The U.K. Subs and The Exploited. This isn't a fake rock club, this is the real deal.

Chris Isaak talks about his sound and sex appeal

BY LANA MINI
O&E STAFF WRITER

Roots rocker, rockabilly performer and actor Chris Isaak with special guest James Hunter will perform at Meadow Brook Music Festival Aug. 17.

In Isaak's career, he's released nine albums, 12 hit singles, been nominated for two Grammy awards, acted in several motion pictures and starred in his own critically acclaimed TV series. Some of Isaak's hit singles include *Wicked Games* and *Baby Did A Bad Bad Thing*.

FILTER recently chatted with the heart-throb via e-mail. Here's what he said:

Tell us about your most recent CD

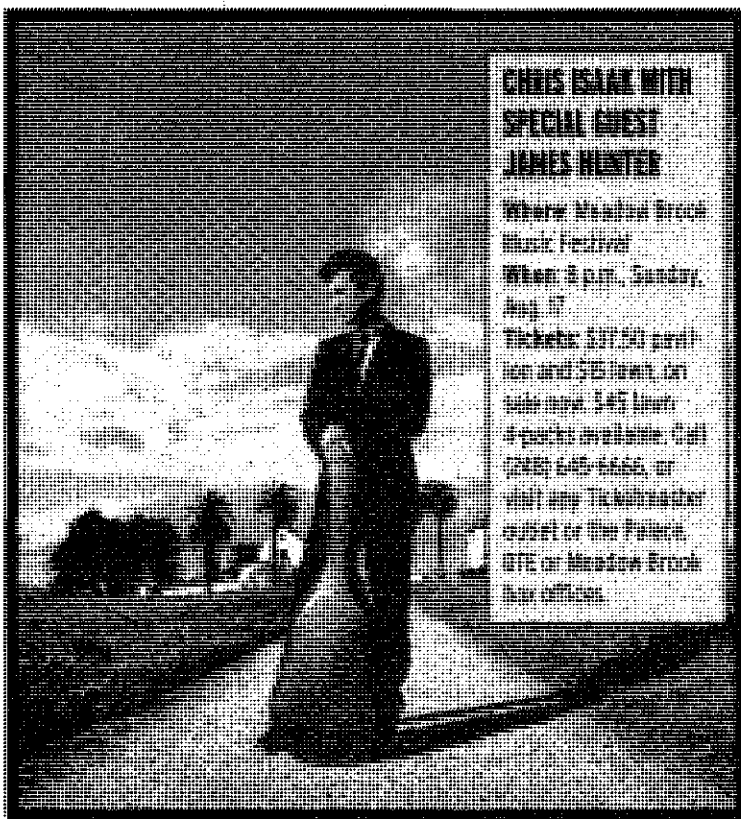
I am just finishing up a new CD. I always work up a bunch of songs then I make a tape and listen to it while I'm doing whatever the heck I gotta do around the house. The songs that stick in my head are the ones I keep working on. I think I have a good album coming up. We have been playing some of the new songs at our live shows already and people seem to like them. Of course it could be trick of some kind ...

Does being listed in the top 100 (number 68) of VH1's all time 100 Sexiest Artists change anything in your life? If so, what?

Being in somebody's "Sexiest Nitwits" list is always a secret pleasure. I guess everybody wants to think they are sexy, but then I see myself in the mirror in the morning and I get a dose of reality. I doubt I'm the top 100 anything, but I am punctual and my penmanship is good, so I have that going for me.

We love you as an actor, any roles coming up that you can speak of?

I did a film in Uruguay this year. I play a drunk. I never drink, and I haven't seen the film yet so I am hoping I got it right! Should be a good film. Winona Ryder, Billy Bob Thorton and Mickey Rourke are in it and I like to watch them in anything they do. I am also doing a new TV show for the Bio Channel and we will start shooting in September. We will have live music, I will talk to some musicians, and hopefully we will throw in some laughs and witty repartee. It's called "The Chris Isaak Hour" and I



Chris Isaak is named one of the sexiest entertainers of all time and he's coming to Meadow Brook.

think it will be the best 30 minutes on TV.

Do you regret turning down a role in "Blue Velvet"?

I didn't turn down a role in *Blue Velvet*. I have been working with David Lynch for a long time. I have music in a bunch of his films and I have acted in *Fire Walk With Me*. He is really fun to work with and if he asked me to play Gramma Moses I would do it.

The role I stupidly turned down was in a Jonathan Demme film. I didn't have a manager at the time and I called my older brother and told him I got offered a part in Demme's film.

My brother told me I had better finish my record first or people might think I was a flake. The good thing is Jonathan was nice enough to cast me in a later film *Silence of the Lambs*.

Where do you reside now? And do you often get down to Baja? (that album describes that location perfectly!)

I'm in San Francisco, but most of the time I'm living out of a suitcase in a moving bus. I travel a lot. With

an act like mine it pays to keep moving. I did get to Baja this year. We played a show but I always find some way to hit the water! My garage looks like a surf shop.

You seem to avoid the paparazzi, how do you manage that?

I don't get drunk, I don't hit people, I don't date supermodels and I pay my taxes. I never had a drug habit so I guess I don't do anything crazy enough to be exciting. I'm having a ball playing music. I don't feel like I'm missing out on anything!

Touring or recording, what do you prefer and why?

I have the right job. I like traveling in a bus and doing live shows, and I like recording. Doing both keeps it always fun. I also know how hard a lot of the other jobs I used to do were and I feel lucky to sing for a living. Try roofing for a summer and see if you like singing better!

Do you ever fantasize about being born earlier in history so that you could have shared the stage with Elvis? Do

you ever feel you were born too late? (Even though your music is still exciting today!)

I think I am lucky to be here now. I love the world just the way it is and I don't think anybody sane would want to share the stage with Elvis, except Scotty Moore and the band. If I do fantasize it usually is about me being warden at the School For Wayward Girls and not about being born earlier.

You are a fan of people like the Everly Brothers, for example. Is there any current musician you are a fan of?
I love the Everly Brothers! I think Nicole Atkins is a great talent that people are just finding out about. She sings like ... nobody else. Buy the record, you will dig it. I also dig James Hunter. He plays soul that sounds kinda like Sam Cooke only it isn't. He takes it a way out there. I have been lucky to have both these artists on tour with me.

Do you feel you have complete control over your art?

I'm working on it.

What do you want people to feel at your shows?

Good music, a good time, some words and melodies that they might think of later ... and a chance to have a damn good time and leave the world behind for a while. Enjoy yourself, it's later than ya think!

When writing today, what moves you?

When a song has a good melody and a story that is real. The rest is gift wrapping.

Thoughts/experiences about Detroit that you can share?

I was scared of Detroit until I got there. I always thought of it as a fast, big city, and coming from a small town I didn't know what to make of it. But when I got there it really is a lot like where I come from. Almost anyplace I go I think most folks are nice to you if you treat people polite and don't get outta line.

I hope if folks come to see us they can hang out and say hello afterwards. We always try to do that and shake hands and say hey. It's our chance to be "stars" for a moment before we climb back on the bus and we live it up!

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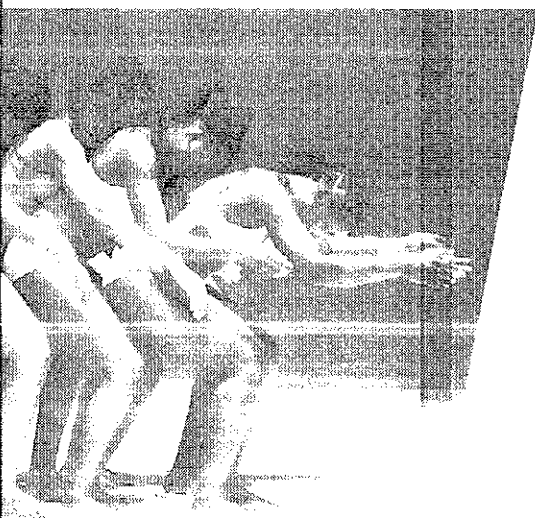
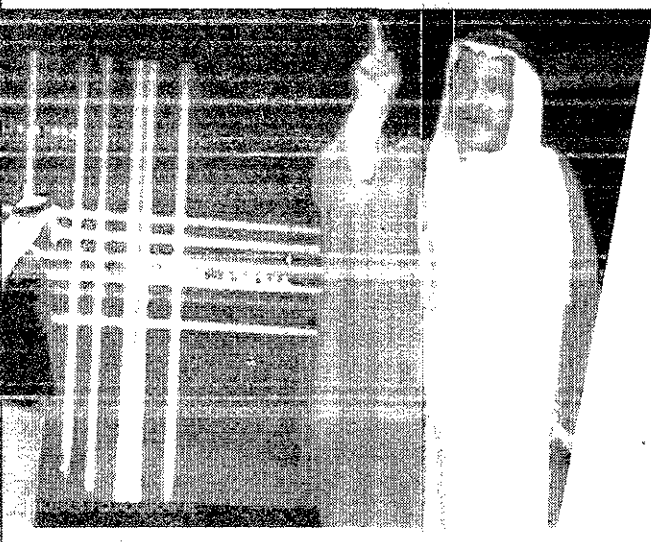
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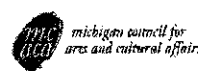
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Slide on your headband kids, Rainn Wilson is "The Rocker," in area theaters Aug. 20.

Here comes Rainn

'The Office' star drums up excitement for rock star comedy

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
O&E STAFF WRITER

Rainn Wilson made a name for himself as the co-worker that would make about any employee cringe, Dwight Schrute, in NBC's *The Office*. This month Michael Scott's second-in-command takes the reins — and a good dose of eyeliner and hairspray — in the comedy *The Rocker*. With his first lead in a feature film, Wilson captures the very essence of '80s hair metal with the swagger, skin-tight pants and sneers required of any real rock drummer.

He's Robert "Fish" Fishman. And he's half the driving rhythm section of the fictitious smoke-and-makeup headbangers Vesuvius. It's a return to an era where bands like Poison, Warrant, Cinderella, Twisted Sister and Guns 'n' Roses ruled the stage. It's a time when rock was more fun and less political and musicians like Fish lived for groupies and a major record deal.

When Fish finds himself tossed out of the band he suffers a two-decade slump and gets stuck rooming with his sister Lisa (Jane Lynch), her envious husband (Curt Your Enthusiasm's Jeff Garlin) and their kids. But in this quirky comedy of second chances Fish finds himself behind the kit once again, playing for his nephew's band A.D.D., a ragtag group of brooding teens who manage to rise within the ranks of rock stardom straight from their Cleveland garage.

On a recent press tour to promote the film, Wilson stopped in Birmingham to answer audience questions (and sign a few autographs) following a screening of *The Rocker*.

Fish is only the most recent in an impressive line of oddball characters for Wilson. That includes his breakout role as Arthur on HBO's *Six Feet Under*. "I definitely identify with people on the outside," he said in a recent interview, "people who don't fit in."

While he doesn't rule out "the well-balanced characters," Wilson said he finds the outsiders more interesting. And in the case of Fish, the weight of the film lies squarely on his shoulders. "I'm always sort of reacting to a Michael Scott or a Luke Wilson," he said. "As a lead character I have to create that

dynamic of energy. It was a difficult shift." Music is central to the film — and to that end musician Teddy Geiger makes his acting debut in *The Rocker* as sensitive songwriting frontman Curtis. "He has a great voice," said Wilson, "a rock n' roll voice." The band, A.D.D., is rounded out by *Superbad*'s Emma Stone and whisper-shy 21 star Josh Gad.

Wilson told the crowd at Birmingham's Palladium Theatre last month that he's proud of the music written for and performed in *The Rocker*. He said unlike other films with a musical backdrop the songs crafted for the movie are "memorable." And he admitted to listening to the soundtrack often. Though he tuned in to plenty of hair bands in the 80s himself — telling the crowd that Guns 'n' Roses still stands strong — Wilson said he's more of an alt-rock fan now.

He named bands like The National, My Morning Jacket and Josh Ritter among his favorites. Thanks to the film, he's been rounding the music festival circuit and recently has had a chance to meet the likes of The Cold War Kids, The Flaming Lips, Dave Grohl, Pete Townsend and Roger Daltrey.

The Rocker, filmed mostly in Toronto with a few key shots in Cleveland, is set to open in area theaters on Wednesday, Aug. 20. Since it's directed by Peter Cattaneo (*The Full Monty*), be prepared to find out why Fish earns the nickname "The Naked Drummer." The movie was clearly filmed with a nod to actors with a history of rockstar-worthy personas. *WKRP in Cincinnati*'s Johnny Fever, or Howard Hesseman, appears as the band's bus driver and *Married With Children*'s ultimate groupie, Christina Applegate's flirtatious Kelly Bundy, now plays Curtis's mother and a former rocker herself.

Look out for appearances by funny men Demetri Martin (*The Daily Show*), Will Arnett (*Arrested Development*), Aziz Ansari (*Human Giant*), Fred Armisen (*Saturday Night Live*) and Jason Sudeikis (*30 Rock*).

Wilson is currently working on the fifth season of *The Office*, set to premiere in late September. When asked what he'd like to see transpire between his character Dwight Schrute and on-again-off-again love interest Angela, he said: "I'd like to see Andy and Dwight fight it out on the paintball court — for her love."

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Movies in the park, Penn are Dream Cruise alternatives

BY LANA MINI
O&E STAFF WRITER

Maybe you are *not* one of the million people expected to attend the Woodward Dream Cruise this weekend.

Maybe you don't want to burn the gas money or get stuck in traffic. Don't skip out on having summer fun, check out movies in the park in Westland and Garden City. Or see *Iron Man* for just three bucks right in Plymouth.

Here's a schedule of local film fun:

Bee Movie, Rated PG
Dusk, Friday, Aug. 15
Where: Nankin Mills, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland, (734) 261-1990

Admission: Free
Park facts: It's a historic site in the heart of Hines Park. In the late 1700s, it was an important meeting area for the three Algonquin Indian Tribes, Ottawa, Ojibwa and Potowamami.

Bee Movie theme: The animated Dreamworks' film is about Barry B. Benson, a bee who just graduated from college, and leaves the hive. He makes a mistake by talking to a human; something bees are supposed to avoid. Barry learns that humans have been stealing honey from bees for centuries. And he decides to sue them.

Meet the Robinsons, Rated G
7 p.m. Friday Aug. 22

Where: Garden City Park, Garden City, Cherry Hill Road and Merriman Road, Garden City, (734) 261-1990

Admission: Free
Movie theme: Lewis is a smart

inventor who creates the "Memory Scanner," a machine to help him find his birth mother. But the scanner is stolen and things go wild when Lewis meets Wilbur Robinson, a man who tries to help him find his mom through a time machine.

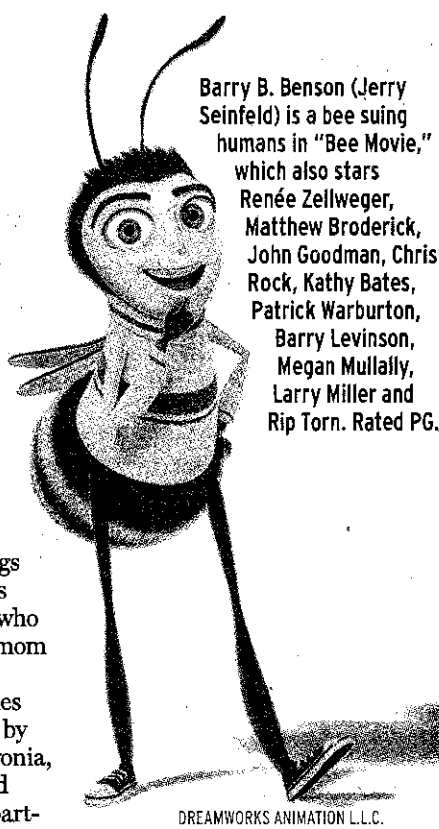
Who organizes it: Movies in the Park are sponsored by Garden City, Redford, Livonia, Woodhaven and Westland Parks and Recreation departments.

Iron Man, Rated PG
7 and 9:15 p.m. Friday, Aug. 15 and Saturday, Aug. 16; and 5 and 7:15 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 17
Admission: \$3
Where: Penn Theatre, 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth, (734) 453-0870

The theater: In downtown Plymouth, the historic Penn Theatre seats 405 and is managed by the Friends of the Penn,

non-profit organization.

The theme: You know it! Robert Downey Jr.'s character is a sexy, hip, rich, genius inventor who also heads a company founded by his father. One day he realizes the corporation his father started isn't saving the country. In fact, it's giving weapons to the bad guys. He invents an *Iron Man* suit to help save himself — and then becomes a hero.



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FILTER

FOOSE

FROM PAGE D1

And he'll be there for fun because for Foose, his auto career is also his passion.

In the middle of the Woodward stretch is the *Eaton Performance Park* at Memorial Park in Royal Oak where Foose will hang out with Ridemakerz.

To commemorate the 14th annual Woodward Dream Cruise, Foose will debut The Ridemakerz Dream Collection, a first-of-its-kind collection of 14 different miniature model "Ridez."

The collection includes classic Detroit muscle like the Ford Mustang and Dodge Challenger, a retro hot-rod and pick-up, a stock race car, a Dodge Viper, Ford and Dodge pick-ups, two Cab-over trucks, even a MINI-Cooper and a Scion xB, among others.

Each Ride measures approximately 10 to 12 inches long or about 1:14th to 1:20th scale.

Foose built, accessorized and hand-painted each Ride using BASF paints at his Foose Design Shop in Huntington Beach. He'll sign and add the final touches to each miniature when he arrives at the Cruise. Then they will go on public display at the Ridemakerz booth located next to the Main Stage at the Eaton Performance Park starting at noon on Friday through 9 p.m. Saturday.

"I just started painting them yesterday," Foose said during a telephone interview from his Huntington Beach shop eight days before his Cruise appearance.

At the booth, people can purchase their own Ride. One dollar from each sale at the booth and retail stores this weekend will be donated to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metropolitan Detroit.

"I'm excited to come to Detroit, talking to the people who actually build the cars. There is a sense of ownership and pride..." he said.

Foose plans to spend time enjoying the event on foot, and also in a car. He doesn't know whose car; he just knows that he's customized quite a few for metro Detroiters. With a sharp memory he rattles off names of countless Detroiters and the cars he built for them. He hopes one of those friends will show up and take him for a ride. Last time he was

OVERHAULIN'

Who: Chip Foose, host of "Overhaulin'" on TLC, and his shop owner and auto designer
When: 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday & Saturday, Aug. 15 & 16
What: Foose will sign autographs on the Main Stage 6 p.m.-8 p.m. Friday; and 9 a.m.-noon, 2-5 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. Saturday. He will also finish tricking-out 14 miniature cars with Ridemakerz
Where: Memorial Park (Eaton Performance Park), W. 13 Mile Road and Woodward Avenue in Royal Oak
Why: To debut the Ridemakerz Dream Collection, a collection of 14 miniature cars customized by Foose
Hurry: A 2008 Woodward Edition RZ Rod from Ridemakerz, that Foose signed and numbered, will be on sale for \$50 at the Eaton Performance Park during the Dream Cruise (while supplies last).

here, he cruised in a Roadster that he built a few years ago.

"I build cars for people who become my friends," Foose said. "And every time I do one, it brings back a memory. For me, building cars also brings back memories of when I built with my father," he said.

Foose built his first car with his dad at the young age of 7.

"If a dad builds a car with his kid, that kid never forgets," Foose said. "And that's what's cool about Ridemakerz because kids can do this with their parents."

Foose serves as an adviser to Ridemakerz, the first-ever car-customizing experience where kids ages six to 106 create cool one-of-a-kind "Ridez." It's like *Build-A-Bear Workshop* (from the same family), but with modern day model cars.

Following the Dream Cruise, the collectible Ridez will tour the country, stopping at each of the 12 Ridemakerz Shops including locations at Great Lakes Crossing and Twelve Oaks Mall.

In January, The Dream Collection will be auctioned in Scottsdale to benefit the Progeria Research Foundation. Progeria is a syndrome that took the life of Foose's youngest sister, Amy, in 1985. Progeria is a rare syndrome that accelerates the aging process of children who then rarely live past the age of 13.

Cruise over to burger heaven with our guide

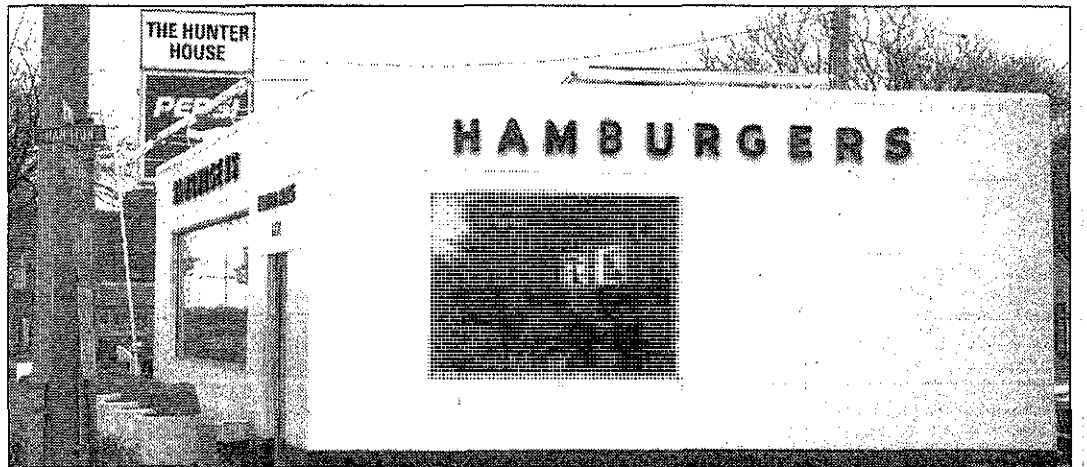
Though the culinary options stretching along Woodward Avenue from Pontiac to Ferndale are plenty, there's just some undeniable link between cruising the strip and stopping off for a classic American meal. A burger, French fries and a thick-thick milkshake seem as essential to top-down driving as poodleskirts and roller-skating waitresses. Blame *American Graffiti* for burning that iconic image into our minds, but tastebuds don't lie. And that might be why some of the Metro area's very best burgers can be found on, along or just a few miles off the beaten path of the Woodward Dream Cruise. From north to south, here are some of our mouth-watering favorites for 2008:

Hunter House: These sliders have ruled the roost since the little white iconic diner opened in 1952. Follow your nose to the steaming grill where burgers are grilled with sizzling sweet onions for a distinct old-fashioned flavor. Located at 35075 Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Call (248) 568-9911.

Duggan's Irish Pub: Formerly The Totem Pole, this double-decker open-air joint is among the landmarks of cruising Woodward. Dream Cruise weekend or anytime its seats are always packed by fans of the Big Chief burger, with its sweet pickles and special sauce crafted from yellow curry. It's a must if you can find a seat, and you'll have one of the most coveted spots to watch the cruise. Located at 31501 Woodward Ave., Royal Oak. Call (248) 549-3659.

Red Coat Tavern: While you won't be able to spot convertibles and classic cars from your seat inside this British-style tavern, it's worth the battle for a booth under dim red lights to try one of the best burgers around. Red Coat serves them up with your choice of more than 20 toppings, and the option to substitute Piedmontese beef, with just two grams of fat per burger. We suggest going all out with grilled onions and mushrooms, the zesty special sauce and Swiss cheese on an onion roll. Located at 31542 Woodward Ave., Royal Oak. Call (248) 549-0300.

A&W Restaurant: Head east on 13 Mile and go north on Livernois/Main to this classic drive-up fast food spot. While



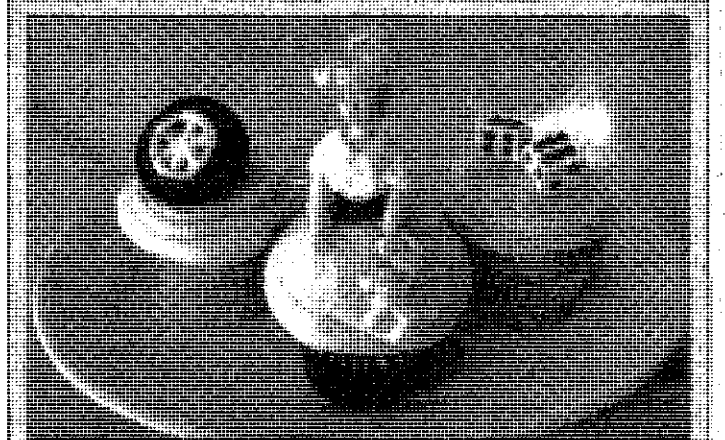
Stop in for sliders at Hunter House during the WDC and see The Beatles Tribute (1-5 p.m.) and DJ Boogie Brian (5-10 p.m.) Thursday and Friday. On Saturday, see 'Elvis', face painting and the Batmobile, all starting at noon.

there's nothing fancy about A&W's burgers, that creamy sweet root beer float is sure worth the trip. And it's one of a few places where you can order and eat right in your car. If that's not Dream Cruise-worthy, we don't know what is. Located at 303 S. Main Street, Clawson. Call (248) 588-1814.

Bagger Dave's: A new option for Dream Cruisers, veer right on 12 Mile and left at Coolidge Highway and you're on your way to building your dream burger at this Berkley hot spot. Or try a signature style — like the Cajun-spiced Tijuana burger topped with black bean chili or the Baja, a turkey burger with guacamole. Fresh is the word at Bagger Dave's, where you can indulge in sweet potato fries with honey, sea salt and cinnamon. Located at 2972 Coolidge, Berkley. Call (248) 543-3283.

Comet Burger: Best known for a late-night bite the chrome bar stools at this throw-back Main Street haunt cater to slider fans who hunger for a bigger burger. The Monster Burger is aptly named. It's a challenge to finish one, especially when paired with the popular chili cheese fries. Located at 207 S. Main Street, Royal Oak. Call (248) 414-4567.

Dino's Lounge: Grab a table at this Ferndale bar and you can choose from the Stuffed BFJ Burger, a 1/2 pounder stuffed with cheddar, Swiss, mozzarella, bacon, pepperocini and garlic, or the non-burger Portabella Burger packed with portabella caps, roasted red peppers, caramelized onions, spinach, provolone and spicy mayo. Your basic burger has



Cruise cupcakes

Birmingham's Cupcake Station, 195 N. Old Woodward, shows off its Woodward Dream Cruise 2008 with these sweet treats — say your favorite flavor with everything from cashew wheels to poppie slices and fuzzy dice. Or try this month's featured cupcake. Pucker up in a raspberry cake with lemon filling and topped with raspberry lemon curd butter cream frosting.

gone gourmet. Located at 22740 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Call (248) 591-3466.

The Emory: Find a half-moon booth or custom-wood table at this Ferndale favorite and try the house-made Black Bean Veggie Burger with your choice of toppings, ranging from grilled onions to guacamole, or the Turkey Burger made with herbs, walnuts, red and green onions and topped with red pepper aioli. All burgers come with French fries, and milkshakes and sliders are also on the menu. Located at 22700 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Call (248) 546-8202.

For those burger fans who prefer a taste of Americana without all the Woodward Dream Cruise traffic, Wayne County offers

some ultra-craveable options. We'd suggest **Stables Bar & Grill**, **Bates Hamburgers** or **Mason's Lounge** in Livonia, **Sandy's By the Beech** in Redford, **Sheehan's on the Green** or the **Box Bar** in Plymouth, the ever-popular **Miller's Bar** in Dearborn, and for the go-to chain restaurant, **Red Robin Gourmet Burgers** with locations in Livonia and Westland.

Stephanie Angelyn Casola daydreams about traveling around the country in a convertible, in search of the perfect burger. She writes about food and pop culture for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Got a favorite end-of-summer recipe to share? Call (248) 901-2567 or send it in e-mail to scasola@hometownlife.com.

MOVIE Guide

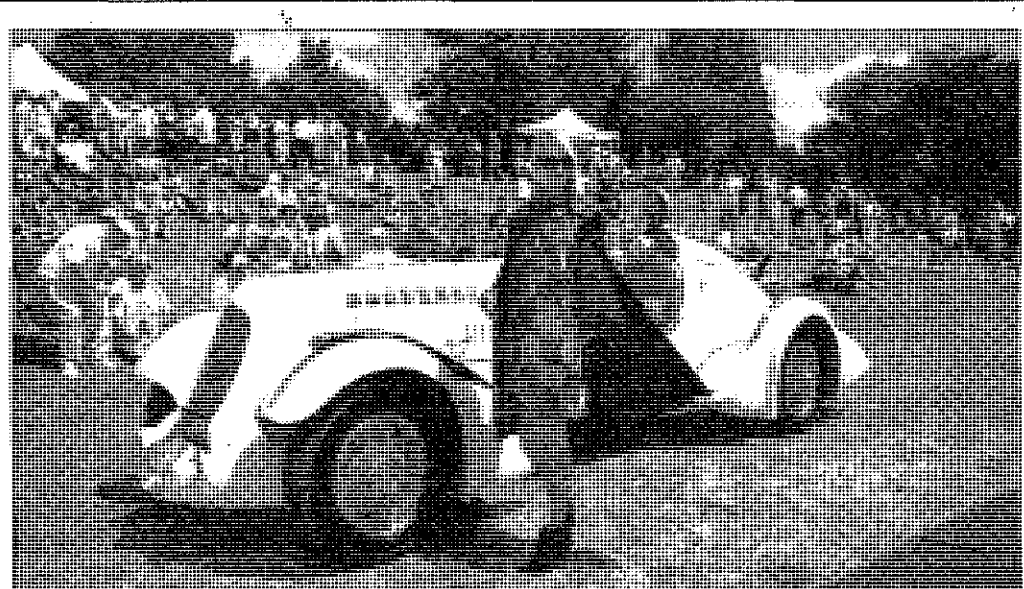
Where available by deadline, features are listed.

Observer & Eccentric
NEWSPAPERS

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Please check listings below for phone numbers and websites.

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Recalling d'Elegance

While the engines rev for the Woodward Dream Cruise, car enthusiasts catch their collective breath after a weekend of events centered on the Aug. 3 Concours d'Elegance at Meadow Brook Hall. The 30th annual event brought 230 exceptional vehicles onto the grounds of the mansion near Oakland University in Rochester Hills. Among them was this 1935 Duesenberg SJ special Mormon Meteor, owned by Harry Yeaggy. It earned the 2008 People's Choice Award.

CRUISE

FROM PAGE D1

ored to be chosen as this year's grand marshal. "I've been coming up to the Dream Cruise for 10 years and it's such a big event," he said.

Look for Trepanier at the ribbon cutting ceremony and WDC kick-off in Ferndale on Aug. 15 as well as Berkley parade. He'll judge a new element to the WDC, the Dream Show exhibition on Aug. 16.

NEW FUEL

The Dream Show will feature a total of 50 vehicles said to embody the spirit of the WDC. Winners will be chosen in each of 10 classes representing American hot rod culture -- including a Green Car category. The event will be organized on Saturday, Aug. 16, at 13 Mile and Woodward Avenue on the grounds of the Northwood Shopping Center. Listen for live entertainment by The Contours.

Dick Ruzzin, designer of this year's WDC logo, developed the Dream Show. During a recent press conference on the same spot where it will be held, Ruzzin called the event evi-

dence of the "American can-do spirit."

He said he believes the WDC to be a tribute to the past, present and future of the automobile. To that end, cruisers can expect to see more "green" vehicles, with engines made specifically to accommodate E85 fuel, all along the route.

SOUND OF SPEED

Cruising generates a sound all its own -- those revving engines, squealing tires and the hum of a vintage vehicle picking up speed. To add to that, RG Dempster and his Detroit Rocks! label offers up a new collection of original music and classic cruising songs. Titled *Drive On!* the CD is available at Dempster Designs in Royal Oak and online at www.woodward-dreamcruise.com.

While drivers are set with a soundtrack behind the wheel, spectators can enjoy live music throughout the metro area beginning Friday, Aug. 15.

"This is my third year working with the Dream Cruise and every year it seems to get better and better," said Paul Lochirco, events manager for Motor City Casino. He is coordinating entertainment for the weekend, a task that

MCC has handled for the past eight Dream Cruise events.

Lochirco excitedly announced upcoming performances by The Miracles in Pontiac, Blue Suede Shoes -- an Elvis tribute band in Berkley and, in Royal Oak, The Contours. See sidebar for a comprehensive list of music, children's events and more.

OWN THE SHOW

Drive the WDC home by bidding on a classic car or hot rod this year, during the first-ever American Concours Foundation-sponsored online auction. Those interested in owning a slice of automotive history can bid on vehicles at Ebay Motors. Some of the cars available for auction will be on display during the Dream Show, but bidding will continue throughout the month of August. Proceeds, from 5 to 100 percent, support the Woodward Dream Cruise. After all, classic car owners have the incentive of cruising the two right lanes of Woodward each year during the Dream Cruise.

For more on the classic car cultural event of the year, visit www.woodwarddreamcruise.com.

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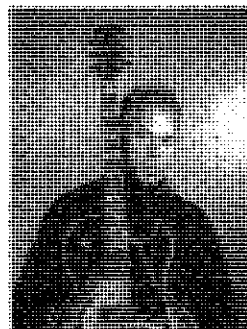


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Joe Faris of Troy puts the final touches on his Olympic look during 'Project Runway.'

A gold medal design takes home silver

PINK thinks Joe Faris of Troy should have won the Olympic Challenge on *Project Runway*. Faris ranked among the top three finalists for his athletic and fresh design, which featured a sporty jacket and skirt in red, white and blue. He captured the spirit of the challenge with an outfit that was truly wearable and appropriate to the 2008 Beijing Olympics Opening Ceremonies. He was the only one who emblazoned the letters USA on his outfit, and we loved it! Tune in to see how Faris fares on the hit fashion design show, 9 p.m. Wednesdays on Bravo.

Wensdy Von Buskirk



Joe Faris' sportswear look blended athletics and style.

Paris Hilton dons local designer's duds in viral video

BY WENSJDY VON BUSKIRK
O&E STAFF WRITER

Trisha Geftos was in New York when Paris Hilton showed up on national TV in a swimsuit Geftos designed.

"I could not believe it," said the Riverview, Mich., native. "I knew she purchased the suit and matching coverup from Lisa Kline in Los Angeles, but I never imagined it would be seen by over four million people nationwide."

Hilton is wearing the "totally hot" leopard print one-piece in a viral video that got a flurry of attention last week. It got

more than 6.5 million hits at FunnyorDie.com, and was picked up by news celebrity gossip shows like TMZ.

In the video, Hilton responds to a campaign ad by Republican John McCain that featured clips of her and Britney Spears. Hilton jokes about running for president, choosing a vice-presidential candidate — perhaps Rihanna — and painting the White House pink. But more important than what the celebutante says is what she's wearing.

Her "Animal Attraction" cut-out swimsuit is part of the up-and-coming Geftaki



Paris Hilton wears Geftaki Swimwear's Animal Attraction suit, \$136 at www.geftaki.com.

Swimwear collection, which Geftos designs and sells out of her family's business, Brothers Fine Jewelry in Southgate.

The suits are available at select boutiques in five states, and stars like Kim Kardashian, Denise Richards and Jessica Simpson have also been spotted in Geftaki.

According to Geftos, the Animal Attraction suit was

already popular, selling out within a month at MGM Grand and Mandalay Bay resorts in Las Vegas. But thanks to Hilton, sales have increased.

"I believe that people are drawn to this suit because it is unique, flashy and you probably are not going to see anyone else wearing the same suit as you," Geftos said.

Anyone, that is, except Paris.

Malls & Mainstreets

If you have an item for Malls & Mainstreets, please submit it at least two weeks prior to the event to Wensdy Von Buskirk at wvnb@hometownlife.com.

Shirt Box collects men's clothes

FARMINGTON HILLS - The Shirt Box has been designated by Neighborhood Service Organization as an official drop-off site for gently used men's professional clothing. Customers are encouraged to bring in used garments, including dress shirts, slacks, ties and sports coats, to help the non-profit organization's clients dress for success when applying for new jobs and transitioning back into the workforce. The Shirt Box is located at 32500 Northwestern Hwy. Call (248) 851-6770.

Southfield spa saves the day

SOUTHFIELD - The Green Room Salon and Day Spa has learned that Truth Spa and Salon on Orchard Lake in West Bloomfield has abruptly closed its doors leaving people stranded with unused gift certificates. Gina Coleman, owner of The Green Room, will accept Truth Spa and Salon gift certificates, for 50 percent of their value, through Oct. 31.



Ron Elkus, owner of The Shirt Box (left), hands off donated men's clothing to Joseph Howse of Neighborhood Service Organization.

The Green Room Salon and Day Spa is located at 26571 West 12 Mile Road. Call (248) 350-9322, or visit www.greenroom-dayspa.com.

pink picks

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Floral prints

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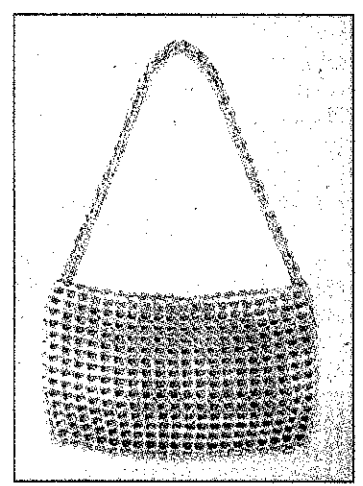
Penelope

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Los Campesinos!
Hold On Now Youngster

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