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SUNDAY August 17, 2008

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WINNERS OF STATE AND NATIONAL AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

Observer

W-W scores 'trending upward'

BY SUE MASON **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Students in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools are showing progress when it comes to the Michigan Merit Exam.

"We're pleased with the progress we've made, we're trending upward," said School Superintendent Greg Baracy, adding that, "our improvements were more significant than statewide."

More than 800 11th-graders took the MME, which includes the ACT college entrance exam, showing increases districtwide in meeting or exceeding state standards in mathematics, reading, writing and English language arts. There was a miniscule decline — two students — in science and a drop of 44 students not making the grade in social studies over last year's scores, according to state data.

Statewide, 11th-graders who scored at the proficient or advanced levels improved slightly in the subjects of reading, writing, English language arts, and science. There was

BY DARRELL CLEM

The fallout was grim, and it came swiftly, after the dust settled from a deadly drug sting that seemed more like a scene from a gritty crime movie than an August afternoon in a bustling Westland neighborhood.

One accused would-be robber was dead. Four defendants face the possibility of life in prison. A mayor who has

Pringle



Brian Thomas

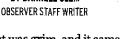
was shot four

times and died

The silver lining:

on the loose, and no innocent bystanders had been shot or killed as authorities capped an extraordinary summer week that will be remembered for a gunfight outside Bob's

www.hometownlife.com 4 men face hearing over shoot-out with police

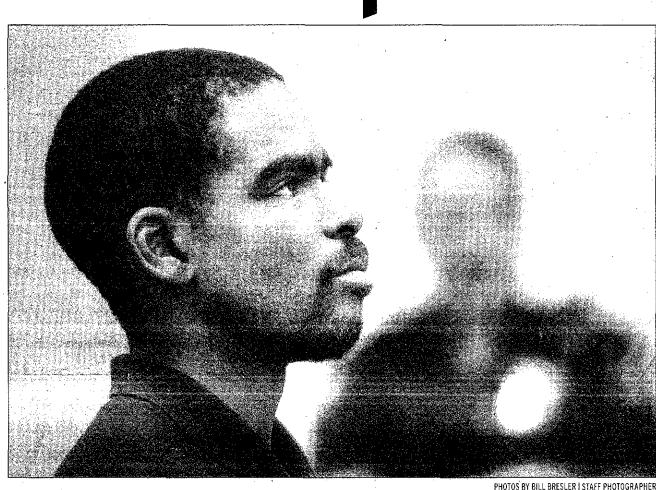


been trying to boost his

city's image was upset. Undercover police officers, merely trying to take suspected drug dealers off the streets, came under public scrutiny for the way they do their jobs.

No suspects remained

of Canton-Westland, a popular market



no change in the percentage of students scoring proficient or advanced in math and a slight decline in social studies.

Meeting or exceeding state standards at John Glenn High School were 117 students in mathematics, 222 in reading, 179 in science, 354 in social studies, 121 in writing and 174 in English language arts, while Wayne Memorial High School, students showing mastery totaled 126 in math, 198 in reading, 188 in science, 317 in social studies, 107 in writing and 160 in English language arts.

We're pleased with the progress made, it's 10 points in some areas at Wayne Memorial," Baracy said.

According to Baracy, the district has worked hard to realign the high school program to match the merit curriculum and exam. It's also providing additional support at earlier levels so that once the students get to 11th grade they will have what they need.

"That's important," he said. "The curriculum wasn't quite aligned, but with these changes, they'll be better prepared to take the tests."

He added that students also are realizing the importance of the new test. There's a bonus in passing the MME. Students who complete the tests and receive scores in reading, writing, mathematics and science can qualify for a \$4,000 scholarship.

"It's starting to get through to them," he said

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on Warren east of at the scene. Merriman.

The gravity of the situation appeared to sink in when one defendant, 49-yearold Joseph Boldizar of Garden City, was slapped - like three other men - with a \$1 million cash bond.

"Oh, God," Boldizar said, facing Westland 18th District Magistrate Donald Vandersloot.

"My record is clean," Boldizar said in court. "I've never done anything like this before."

Arraigned on Friday along with Boldizar in court were Demond Nigel Sanders, 29, and Roberto Reed, 32, both of Detroit. Defendant Benjamin Pringle, a 32-year-old Detroiter and accused gunman, learned of the charges against him from a hospital bed where he was recovering from a chest wound.

Another accused gunman, 28-yearold Detroiter Brian Thomas, fared worse. He was shot four times and died Tuesday afternoon outside Bob's market, where his body was covered with a white sheet for several hours before it

Roberto Reed appears for his arraignment in Westland District Court.

was taken away.

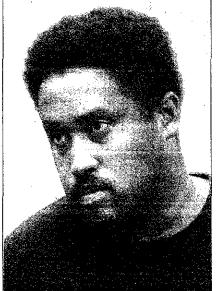
In court, Vandersloot ordered the defendants back in court for an Aug. 28 preliminary hearing that will determine whether they should stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court. If convicted, all four men could face life in prison. Notguilty pleas were entered for them.

Pringle is charged with four counts of assault with intent to murder; assault with intent to rob while armed; conspiracy to rob; delivery, possession and conspiracy to possess 1,000 grams or more of cocaine; three counts of felonious assault; being a felon with a firearm; felony firearm; and being a second-time habitual offender.

Authorities don't believe that Boldizar. Sanders and Reed fired any shots, police Lt. Dan Karrick said.

Boldizar is charged with assault with intent to rob; conspiracy to rob; and

Please see SHOOT-OUT, A2



Demond Nigel Sanders heads back to the lockup after his arraignment.

Joseph Boldizar of Garden City reacts to the \$1 million bond set by Magistrate Donald Vandersloot.

Mayor criticizes use of mall for drug bust

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland Mayor William Wild has sharply criticized the way Romulus police handled a drug sting that exploded in gunfire Tuesday afternoon outside a Westland market, leaving one suspect dead, others facing charges and scores of workers and residents terrified in their own neighborhood.

A polarizing debate over the merits of the undercover sting arose almost as quickly as the bullets stopped flying.

Wild

Why, many people wondered, would Romulus police agree to an undercover cocaine deal outside a busy shopping center near the northeast corner of the bustling Merriman-Warren intersection?

Why would they place innocent people potentially in harm's

way? Wild has sided with those critics, and even though he had no prior knowl-

edge of the sting, he offered an apology Thursday afternoon to business owners, residents, employees and customers "whose lives were placed in danger because of this event.'

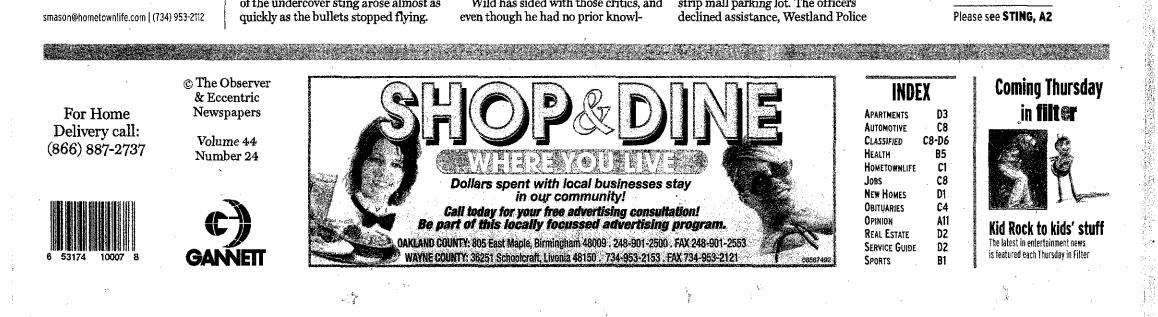
'NOT PART OF OPERATION'

Romulus notified the Westland Police Department's patrol desk around 3 p.m. Tuesday about the impending undercover operation that erupted in gunfire a half-hour later in the Merri-Warren strip mall parking lot. The officers declined assistance, Westland Police

Chief James Ridener said.

"We were not part of the operation, nor were we requested to be part of the operation," Ridener said, although he personally chose not to second-guess Romulus police.

Wild, who has heard complaints about the incident, said that "in retrospect, I believe the recent Romulus Police Department undercover operation in Westland displayed both a very poor choice of time and location and a Please see STING, A2



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SHOOT-OUT FROM PAGE AI

delivery, possession and conspiracy to possess 1,000 grams or more of cocaine. Sanders and Reed face the same charges as Boldizar, but Sanders also is charged as a third-time habitual offender and Reed as a fourthtime habitual offender.

Outside the courtroom Friday, Karrick said Thomas was the "common link" among the five men who authorities say went to the Merri-Warren shopping center intending to rob a police informant of three kilograms of cocaine.

In court Friday, police Sgt. Michael Harhold said the suspects were supposed to bring \$60,000 to buy the drugs. Instead, he said, they brought guns.

Sanders drove up in a Chevy Lumina with passengers Thomas and Boldizar, and the latter two suspects got into a silver Mercedes where the drug informant was waiting with cocaine, Harhold said. Meanwhile, Reed pulled up in a Buick Rendezvous with passenger Pringle, who approached the Mercedes.

poor decision not to involve the

Westland Police Department."

need for inter-agency coopera-

tion, but "I don't want or appre-

ciate other communities bring-

ing these types of operations to

Romulus Public Safety

Director Charles Kirby reiter-

ated earlier Thursday that the

suspects - not police - chose

the location for the supposed

drug deal. Authorities said the

sting turned sour the moment

the would-be drug buyers pro-

and fired first, in an attempt to

"The police would love it if the

duced at least two handguns

rob a police informant rather

bad guys would let us pick the

spot," Kirby said, but he main-

tained that undercover stings

One gunman, 28-year-

old Brian Lamar Thomas of

Detroit, was killed and another

suspect was injured and hospi-

talized, but no police officers or

citizens were wounded in the

are "a cat-and-mouse thing. It's

than pay him.

back and forth.'

Wild said he understands the

FROM PAGE AI

our city."

Seconds later, a struggle erupted over the guns as the informant fought for his life, police said, and Thomas and Pringle are accused of firing shots from a 9mm semiautomatic pistol and another handgun as nine undercover Romulus officers began responding. By then, Westland police, who hadn't been asked to participate in the sting, began responding to the chaotic scene.

With Thomas dead, authorities said they captured Boldizar and a wounded Pringle on the scene. Police tracked down Sanders that night in Detroit, and Reed turned himself in Wednesday night to Detroit police, Karrick said.

The gunfight stunned workers and nearby residents who gathered near the shopping center and watched as the police investigation unfolded.

Westland Mayor William Wild was critical of Romulus police for the incident, and he issued an apology to bystanders who may have been placed in danger. Romulus Public Safety Director Charles Kirby said the suspects chose the location and that police weren't able to dictate where the two sides would meet.

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in Wayne County" and said its officers "should have been involved in the planning, execution and backup stages of this operation, and should have been given the opportunity to secure the area to ensure public safety.'

Police have accused one of the suspects, a Garden City man who lives near the Warren-Merriman intersection, of arranging the location for the drug deal that turned into a botched robbery.

Numerous residents have questioned the decisions by Romulus, while others have voiced support for authorities for trying to do a difficult job of taking drugs off the street.

"What is going on?" resident Carlos Manzo wrote in a letter to the Observer. "Why are we experiencing shoot-outs in Westland in the middle of the day between Romulus police and would-be drug dealers?"

Manzo didn't fault police for doing their job, but he said city officials should move to stop such operations in busy public places.

"I'm all for getting the bad guy," Manzo wrote, "but don't invite the bad guy to my back yard - invite him to some iso-

lated woods."

Spaghetti dinner

 $P_{i}^{2} P_{i}$

The Ed Gucwa Memorial MDA Spaghetti Dinner will be held noon to 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 24, at the Sgt. Romanowski VFW Post 6896. 28945 Joy, east Middlebelt , in Westland. The dinner costs \$7 for adults and \$3 for children. There also will be music, bake sales and raffles. For more information, call (734) 525-9454.

Wildflower talk

Native plant specialist Vern Stephens will be at the Public Library of Westland Wednesday, Aug. 20, to speak on "Native Wildflowers for the Home Landscape." His native wildflower plant sale will run from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in advance of his talk 7-8:30 p.m.

People interested in attending can call the library at (734) 326-6123 to reserve a seat.

Fireside chat

State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, invites residents to join him for refreshments and an informal Fireside Chat 6-8 p.m. Monday, Sept. 8, at the William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland.

"I know we all lead busy lives, but it's important to me to hear from Westland residents about the issues that matter most to them, and at a time convenient to them," LeBlanc said. "In addition to my regular monthly coffee hours in the morning, I've decided to start hosting additional hours so we can get together for an evening Fireside Chat.

"My hope is that the additional evening hours will allow residents another opportunity to keep up to date on developments in the Capitol, especially when it involves initiatives to turn our state's economy around and creating more good-paying jobs for our workers."

For more information, call LeBlanc toll-free at (888) 737-5325 or send an e-mail to richardleblanc@house. mi.gov.

Residents can also visit his Web site at www.leblanc. housedems.com. LeBlanc's legislative home page, which is fully accessible to people with disabilities. is a portal for news, district information and video public service announcements on issues south of Joy. For more infor-

important to Westland resi-

AROUND WESTLAND

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Outdoor concert

Operas are generally presented amid dim lighting indoors, but not so with the performance at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 26, in the Friendship Center's Coburn Park. The Mary Thompson Foundation is sponsoring a performance by two Michigan Opera Theatre singers with an accompanist and will include songs of George Gershwin, Irving Berlin and more.

Anyone interested is encouraged to sign up at the Friendship Center's front desk. The center is at 1119 N. Newburgh between Marquette and Ford.

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, oldfashioned barbecue will cap

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 Dorsev Center's surplus food hotline at (734) 595-0366.

Football opener

Join the Westland Comets and the Westland Meteors as they celebrate the 50th anniversary of Westland Youth Athletic Association. WYAA began with football in 1958, and, on Sunday, Aug. 24, the Meteors and the Comets will play their inaugural game of season at Wayne Memorial High School. Games are at 10 a.m. (Junior Freshman), noon (Freshman), 2 p.m. (JV) and 4 p.m. (Varsity).

WYAA is inviting all former players, coaches and unit directors of both squads to join the group for a day of football. In addition, the WYAA will honor four Super Bowl Championship teams from both units - the 1990 JV Comets, 1995 Varsity Meteors, 2001 JV Meteors and 2001 Varsity Comets. Members of those squads can contact Keith DeMolay at (734) 722-1251 or (734) 516-9269 by Aug. 20.

Bowling fund-raiser

John Glenn High School cheerleaders will have their annual bowling fund-raiser Saturday, Aug. 23, at Merri-Bowl Lanes, 30950 Five Mile, Livonia. Tickets are \$15 each and include three games of bowling, shoes, door prizes and food. There also will be a 50/50 drawing and raffles. Adults only. Call Tammy Hudson for ticket information at (734) 729-1132

community. Past recipients have included the Salvation Army, Wayne County Family Shelter, Habitat for Humanity, World Hunger (CROP Walk), St. Mary's Outreach Center and the John Bolde Food Depot, the church's mission partner, Trinity Lutheran Church, and for food baskets for Adams Middle School families.

The cost to participate is \$25, if you bring your own table, and \$35 to use one of the church's eight-foot-long table. For more information, call (734) 722-1735 or (734) 722-4363.

School registration

St. Damian School is accepting students for its three-year-old preschool program and students for kindergarten through eighth-grade. The school is fully accredited and offers a licensed morning and afternoon latchkey program; certified, experienced teachers; hot lunch program and many other school programs and extracurricular activities. It's at 29891 Joy east of Merriman in Westland. For, more information, call (734) 427-1680 or visit its Web site at www.stdamian.com

Preschool enrollment

Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool is currently accepting enrollment into its Parent/Tot, Young 3's, 3-yearold and 4-year-old programs. Willow Creek is at 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-0078.

Meals drivers needed

Residents who have the time and available transportation can help the elderly delivering meals to homebound seniors as part of the Meals on Wheels program. The route can be done in approximately 45 minutes, and mileage is paid to the driver. Half the route is a senior high-rise lobby dropoff, the other consists of a condo route.

For more information, call Barbara Ramseur at (734) 722-7632 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Community cookout

The Lutheran Church of Our Savior holds a community cookout from 6-8 p.m. I nursdays at the church at 29425 Annapolis, Westland. The church also holds a community forum from 7-8:30 p.in. the first Tuesday of the month. For more information, call (734) 728-3440. YWCA enrollment The YWCA of Western Wayne County's preschool programs are now accepting registration for the fall. The YWCA offers quality programs to children 2-5 years old at no cost to most families. There are many locations available throughout the community. Home-based programs also are available. Children learn valuable skills needed for future socialization and educational growth. For more information on these programs, or to enroll a child, call the YWCA's Education Department at (313) 561-4110, Ext. 10.

shoot-out. Witnesses reported hearing dozens of rounds being fired.

INVOLVEMENT 'IMPERATIVE'

Wild questioned the way the sting was handled and said, "I believe that if it is imperative that an operation like this take place in our city limits, that our police department should be involved in the operation from the very beginning."

Wild called the local narcotics division "one of the best trained and equipped units

Wild agreed that drug stings need better planning.

"I apologize to the business owners, residents, employees and customers of these establishmeuts whose lives were placed in danger because of this event, and would ask that in the future, more consideration of ensuring the public's safety be taken into account with regards to the planning and execution of these types of operations," he said.

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dents. Health Expo

Patrons at Westland Shopping Center will find an added benefit when they shop on Saturday, Aug. 23. From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., the Westland Chamber of Commerce will host its annual Health and Business Expo in the mall's east court. The event, which will feature both general business and health care providers, is co-sponsored by Westland Shopping Center, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, and Parkside Credit Union.

The Westland Shopping Center is at 35000 West Warren Road at Wayne Road. For more information, call the Westland Chamber of Commerce at (734) 326-7222. 6500 N. Wavne Road. at the

Dr. Rita Sabbagh and Dr. Sandra Neal

off the event. Westland's Corrado Park is on Gladys at Flamingo Road,

mation, call (734) 467-3200.

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

Tent sale

Keep an eye out for the big tent at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church at 37775 Palmer. Westland.

The church will be holding at tent sale beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday. Sept. 13. Tables filled with household goods, miscellaneous items and specialties like Avon, candles, tools, houseplants, books and crafts will be on sale. Used clothing also will be for sale in the church for \$2 per plastic grocery bag, and there also will be a food court.

All money raised will be donated to are organizations to help people in the

Dr. M.H. Neal and Dr. Sandra Neal announce the association of Rita Sabbagh, M.D. to the practice of Obstetrics and Gynecology



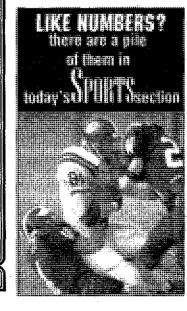
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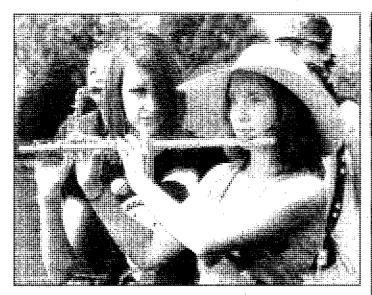
734-422-9300

Golf outing

John Glenn High School's wresting program will have its 11th annual golf outing fund-raiser on Saturday, Sept. 20, at Warren Valley Golf Course. Cost is \$85 for golf, cart, lunch at the turn, and dinner. Please contact Judy at judylaw1122@yahoo. com or (734) 634-4595 for more information or to make reservations. More information also is available at www. glennwrestling.com.



LOCAL NEWS



Wayne Memorial senior drum major Delancey Barron works with freshman Emma Karson on her posture.

Wayne High students jazz it up for band camp

BY SUE MASON **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

By last Thursday evening, 16year-old Stefanie Huffman was "pretty much packed" for band camp.

A junior at Wayne Memorial High School, she's making her third trip with the band for a week of practice at Camp Mowana in Mansfield, Ohio.

"It's a lot of fun even though it's a lot of hard work," she said. "We practice and then we get to have fun at night."

The band left at 10 a.m. this morning for the camp, about a two-hour drive from western Wayne County. They'll stop along the Ohio Turnpike for lunch and get to the camp in time to begin working on what will be their seven-minute halftime show this fall.

According to band director Matthew Diroff, this year's theme will be a tribute to New Orleans, with the music wrapping around a Dixieland tune, When the Saints Come Marching In.

"It's the first time we're doing a jazz show for halftime, that's why it's difficult for us," he said.

The band has 32 new students, 18 more than last year and, with 70 members, it's the largest it's been in years. Last

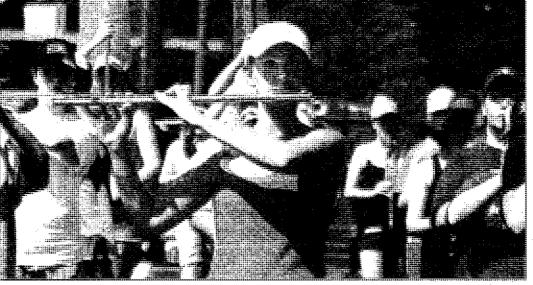


Wayne Memorial junior Megan Connolly chose a colorful hat to wear during marching band practice.

week, Diroff spent the week working on the basics in preparation for camp where the band will practice $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours before lunch and a like amount of time in the afternoon and after dinner, when they'll "put everything together they learned during the day."

"It's a lot of work, they keep a busy schedule," he said. "They're exhausted by the end of the day."

But not too exhausted. According to Huffman, there's a party, a dance, scavenger hunt and video games in the evening. The dance is Thursday night and the students have to dress up like a celebrity or a cartoon



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wayne Memorial Marching Band member Dixie Watkins practices having the correct posture, being at attention and learning steps in preparation for this week's trip to band camp.



The Wayne Memorial High School marching band works on the basics in before heading to Camp Mowana this week for band camp.

character. "I know I want to be a cartoon character, I just haven't decided which one," said Huffman during an interview last Thursday evening.

When Huffman joined the band as a freshman, she played the baritone, but her second year switched to the Sousaphone. She's glad she did. It's easier to carry when marching.

The veteran camper remembers her first trip to camp. She described herself as a "little bit shy," but by the time she got back home, she was talking a lot.

"This year, I know a lot of the people," she added.

The band will be back at Wayne Memorial Saturday afternoon and will do a show for their families and the community at 5 p.m.

"They'll run through the halftime show a couple of times; usually, they do better the second time," Diroff said. "It's a nice way to give the parents and the community a chance to see

They'll also show off their band camp T-shirts which forms during the marching

band season. According to Diroff, the shirts allow them to look uniform when they take their jackets off after performances.

With so many new members, Diroff admits it will take the group awhile to fine-tune the halftime show, but he's not worried, because "this is a great group of young kids.'

"With 32 new students, we've had to teach them scratch and they've done a fantastic job," he said. "They're like sponges, they pick up what we throw at them."

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

SMART Park + Ride moves civic center lot

Beginning Monday, Aug. 18, people who utilize SMART's Park + Ride Route 255 near Westland's City Hall will park their vehicles in a new location - one that is still in the vicinity of City Hall.

The change of location was recently proposed in part of Mayor William R. Wild's V.I.R. (Very Important Resident) program and resident complaints that the parking lot at City Hall was too full to conduct city business.

V.I.R., which began early last year, continues to manage citizen concerns and track trends in an effort to deliver quality service to residents.

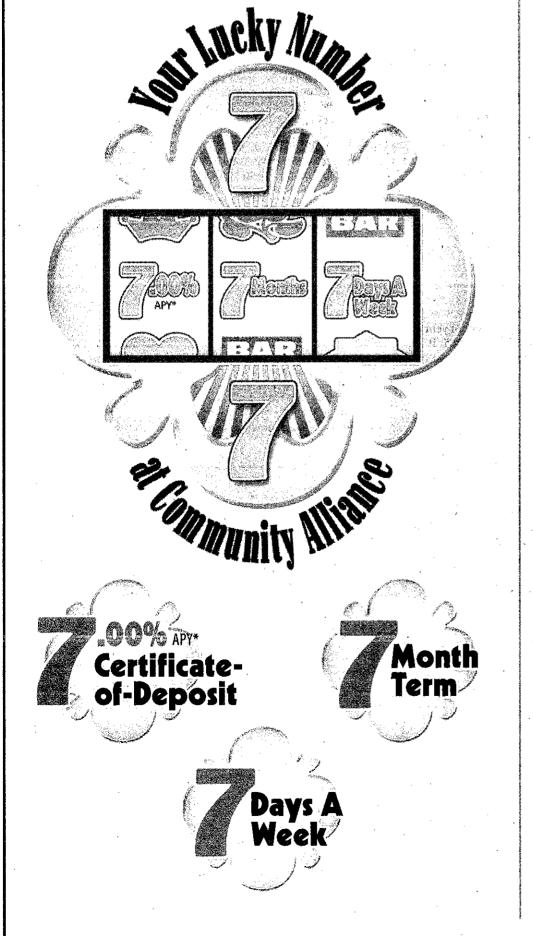
"Our residents who frequent City Hall have shared with us their concerns about finding a place to park," said Wild. "We wish to accommodate SMART passengers, vet we cannot compromise the needs of our residents."

The new parking location for Route 255 will be the northeast lot of the **Bailey Recreation Center** off of J.F. Kennedy Drive behind City Hall. Patrons can access the lot by turning onto J.F. Kennedy Drive from Ford Road or by turning onto Cliff Orr Street (which becomes J.F. Kennedy Drive) from Carlson. The bus will stop on Kennedy Drive to board passengers.

For a detailed schedule of pickup and drop-off times, call SMART at (866) 962–5515 or visit www.smartbus.org.

what they did at camp." they'll wear under their uni-

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Everyone Welcome!

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Peace Camp for Kids

Kirk of Our Savior Peace Camp takes place 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 24 (lunch will be served). The camp is open to children of all ages and religious backgrounds. Spend a few hours learning to work together in order to achieve success. Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church is located at 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland. For more information or to sign up, please contact Jenny at 313-532-4310.

Open house

Academic Pathways Cooperative Preschool, located at 30330 Schoolcraft Road in Livonia, will be hosting an open house 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 20. The three-year program runs 9:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday and the four-year program runs 9:30-11:30 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Potty training is not required. Low cost tuition. For more information, visit the Web site at www. academicpathwayspreschool.com or call (734) 844-8147.

Fall enrollment

Registration is now being accepted for the fall for preschool 3-year-olds and kindergarten through eighthgrade at St. Damian School, 29891 Joy, Westland, Call parish office at (734) 421-6130 for more information.

Free workshop

Dr. Carol Ann Fischer, a holistic physician, wellness consultant and clinical nutritionist, is presenting "Your Thyroid and Weight Gain" 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 19, at Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, Livonia. Do you have cold hands or feet? Diet and can not lose weight? Need answers? This no charge workshop will present a holistic approach to balancing your hormones naturally. Seating is limited to the first 15 callers. Reservations are required. For reservations, call (734) 756-6904 or go online to www.TLCHolisticWellness.com.

Remote-controlled race day

Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church hosts "Remote-Controlled Race Day." 2-5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 6. Racers can bring their R.C. vehicle and race it on the church's large oval track, complete with hill and jump ramp. Ribbons will be awarded to winners. No sign-up necessary, Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church is located at 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland. If you need more information, contact Jenny at (313) 532-4310.

John Glenn reunion

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

Fish Dial-A-Ride

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

Higher Rock Cafe

The Wayne-Westland Salvation Army presents the Higher Rock Cafe the second and fourth Fridays of the month at its facility at 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer, Westland, Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Live bands perform beginning at 8 p.m. Admission is free, however, a free will offering will be taken to support the bands. Check out Higher Rock on the Web at www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com or call (734) 722-3660.

CRAFT SHOWS

Sts. Peter & Paul Crafters are wanted for the 20th annual arts and crafts show Saturday, Nov. 22, at Sts. Peter & Paul Church Hail, 750 N. Beech Daly, Dearborn Heights. For more information, call Deb at (248) 946-0173 or Virginia (734) 522-9653.

St. Theodore

The St. Theodore's CCW will hold its annual Fall Craft Show 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11, in the parish social hall at 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Admission is free, and table rental is available for \$25. Call Mary at (734) 425-4421 (voice mail #10) for rental. information.

FOR SENIORS

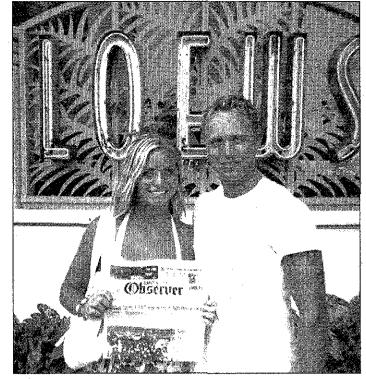
Friendship Center

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

Dyer Center

The Wayne-Westland school district's Dver Senior Adult Center offers activities Monday-Thursday at the center, on Marquette between Wayne and Newburgh roads. Mondays, Senior Chorus at 1:30 p.m.; Tuesdays, arts,

COMMUNITY CALENDAR



Wish you were here

Dina Klaus of Garden City and Rick Kolo of Philadelphia, Pa., posed with the Garden City Observer while vacationing in South Miami Beach, Fla., where they enjoyed a week in the sun. The couple posed in front of the infamous Loews Hotel while browsing through stores on Collins Avenue. If you go on vacation, be sure to take a picture with your Garden City or Westland Observer and send it to Sue Mason, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. Be sure to include your name and information about your photo.

crafts and needlework at 9:30 a.m.; Wednesdays, kitchen band, 10 a.m., bingo at 1 p.m.; Thursdays, ceramics, arts,

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

FOR YOUR HEALTH

Advocacy group

The Wayne-Westland Alliance for the Mentally III, a self-help and advocacy group, meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Thursday of the month at St. John's Episcopal Church, 555 S. Wayne Road, at Bayview, Westland. Call (734) 362-8825. Substance abuse support

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

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

services for people ages 10-17 and their families. For more information, call (734) 563-5005.

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

EDUCATION

St. Raphael Catholic School, located on City, is now accepting open enrollment for the 2008-2009 school year for preinclude 3-4-year-old preschool, technology updates and a host of extra-curricular activities. Computer labs, new classroom technology, Japanese class, and chess club are some of the school's newest additions. The school has a strong academic program and also offers religion class, weekly Mass and sacramental preparation including Reconciliation, Communion and Confirmation. Latchkey and bussing is available, and all faiths are welcome. For registration information or to learn more about St. Raphael Catholic School, contact the school office at (734) 425-9771 or visit the Web site at www.straphael-gc.org.

school through eighth-grade, Programs

St. Damian

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

Academic Pathways

Academic Pathways Cooperative Preschool at 30330 Schoolcraft, Livonia, is currently enrolling for 2008-2009 school year. Morning sessions for the 3and 4-year-old programs are available. Potty training is not required. There is a certified teacher. The 4-year-old program runs 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. The 3year-old program runs 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday mornings. For more information, call (734) 459-6689 or visit the Web site at www.academicpathwayspreschool.com.

YWCA preschool

The YWCA of Western Wayne County's Education Department offers quality preschool programs to children aged 24 to 5 years old at no cost to most families. There are many locations available throughout the community. Homebased programs are also available. For more information on these programs, or to enroll your child, call the YWCA's Education Department at (313) 561-4110, Ext. 10.

VOLUNTEERS

Karmanos Institute

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

First Step

First Step, which has been active in the effort to end domestic violence and sexual assault in western Wayne County and Downriver communities for more than 20 years, is looking for volunteers. Interested people must be at least 18, willing and able to travel to the Downriver area and complete a 55-hour training program. Call (734) 416-1111, Ext. 223.

Drivers

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

VNA Hospice

Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan's (VNA) hospice program needs volunteers to comfort and support patients at the end of life. Volunteers can provide companionship, write a memoir, provide respite for family or work as office support. A free 18-hour training program is provided at the VNA headquarters, 25900 Greenfield Road, Suite 600. Registration is required. (248) 967-8361 or visit www.vna.org. Seasons Hospice

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

Literacy Council

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

Heartland Hospice

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

Toughlove

or (248) 380-7748.

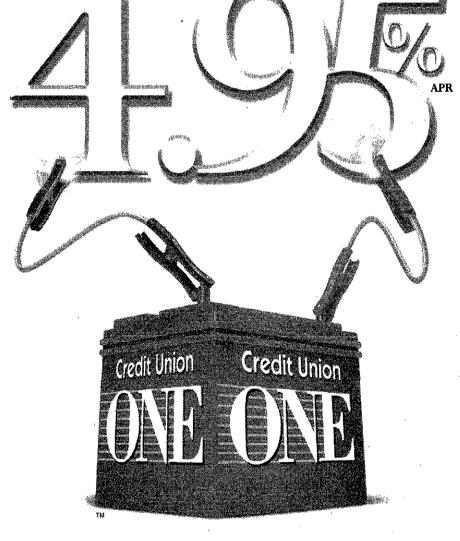
St. Raphael

Merriman just north of Ford in Garden

Counterpoint **Counterpoint Shelter and Crisis Center** offers free counseling and respite

422-1995. Menopause & More

crafts at 9:30 a.m. Senior fitness



JUMP-START YOUR BUYING POWER

WITH A 4.95% APR* AUTO LOAN, NO DOWN PAYMENT, AND A TERM **UP TO 60 MONTHS!**

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NCUA



Members of a Haitian boys soccer team show of the jerseys and cleats donated by members of the Wayne-Westland Soccer League.

Donations bring smiles to soccer team

The recognizable red and black jerseys of the Wayne-Westland Soccer League can be found in rural Haiti where a team is sporting shirts and cleats, donated by the families of local soccer players.

The league, which collected the donations of old soccer equipment and jerseys at its annual summer picnic last month. Working with the Raincatchers organization, it was able to send the uniforms with a group that went to install rainwater collection systems on houses in a small mountain-top community in Haiti.

There was group of boys that made up a soccer team in the small community. Most of the boys on the Haitian team are guides and translators for Raincatchers and have helped carry barrels and pipes for Raincatcher teams for years.

WWSL state delegate Steve Blanchard found out about Raincatchers through co-worker Craig Calkins who participates in the organization.

"We talked about how awesome it would be to send some soccer shoes with him,' Blanchard said. "From there the idea took off. We as a league were just glad we were

able to participate and make a difference!"

"This is a truly generous gift," said Bob Keesee, founder of Raincatchers. "The boys are used to playing in ripped and filthy clothes, now they will look like a professional team, and who knows, maybe even play like one."

"The kids were ecstatic over the jerseys and cleats," Calkins said.

They put the uniforms and cleats to good use taking on the Raincatchers members in a game of soccer. The boys team beat the Raincatchers team 6-4.

GISP certification

Casey Hanson Hanson of Westland is a senior analyst in Wade Trim's Municipal Services Group,

earned his Geographic Information Systems Professional (GISP) certification. With more



than six years Hanson of experience,

Hanson provides mapping and technical support to Wade Trim staff and the firm's client communities. His expertise includes parcel creation and mapping, GPS tools and techniques, and GIS utility asset management systems. He is also responsible for creating and maintaining GIS server applications. Hanson earned his bachelor

of science degree from Eastern Michigan University in 2001 and joined Wade Trim in 2002. He is a member of IMAGIN, a Michigan association for GIS professionals.

Overseen by the GIS Certification Institute, the certification program recognizes GIS professionals that have met educational and professional development requirements, professional experience requirements, contributed to the profession, and have met the standards for ethical conduct. GIS Professionals must renew their certification every five years. Hanson is one of 68 certified GIS Professionals residing in Michigan.

New pharmacist

Oakwood Healthcare System is welcoming pharmacist Dr. John Kurian to the Oakwood Annapolis Hospital

BUSINESS BRIEFS

pharmacy department. Formerly a contingent pharmacist at Oakwood, Kurian is now a full-time clinical pharmacist specialist at the hospital.

Kurian, who received his doctor of pharmacy degree from Howard University in Washington, D.C., in 2006 and brings to Oakwood several years of experience from St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. He was the chairperson for the Clinical Practice Council, has served on numerous multidisciplinary committees and was involved in the implementation of several clinical initiatives.

IGA glass certification

After 10 online modules, four online electives, 10 hours of written tests, and four hours of instructor-lead course work, glass installer Nathan Beaune of Auto One-Garden City was successfully certified by the Independent Glass Association (IGA).

"The IGA/AGRSS certification process is important to us as a corporation. With certified installers, consumers can be confident that their auto glass replacement was done by highly trained, qualified professionals," Ron Overbeck, operations manager, Auto One Glass and Accessories.

Auto One -Garden City is on Ford east of Wildwood.

New market manager

Ann Arbor's Sunday Artisan Market has announced the hiring of William T. Charley, a former of Westland resident, as market manager, to facilitate its weekly operations and expanded marketing initiatives.

William brings to the market diverse experience in customer service, policy planning and implementation, as well as graphic design/fine art

experience. He has worked at Zingerman's Delicatessen in Ann Arbor in purchasing where he coordinated the buying, receiving, and accounting departments.

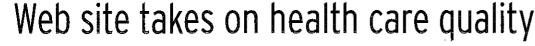
(WGc) A5

He also is a freelance illustrator and is currently working on a children's project for Huron River Press, a volunteer with several community nonprofits, including The Ark, Food Gatherers and Friends of the Library.

"The Sunday Artisan Market is a wonderful place," he says," It is steeped in wonderful traditions and offers the best hand-made pieces around. To come in as the manager now is a tremendous opportunity. Nothing about the market needs to be fixed or changed; it just wants to grow. I feel that that is my job - to offer a vision of the future, create the action steps to get there, and then help navigate the path through that growth."

The Artisan Market is a weekly venue in the Kerrytown Pavilion at 315 Detroit St., Ann Arbor, where 50-plus artists show and sell their original work in glass, textiles, ceramics, wood, fiber, jewelry, painting, drawing, digital imagery, photography, recycled and mixed media. Some produce and concession vendors with jams/jellies, nuts, popcorn, plants, holiday greens, and cut flowers also are regular or seasonal vendors.

The Market is an all-volunteer not-for-profit organization founded in 1991 to offer an affordable venue for artists to show their work, learn and practice the business of art, and contribute to Ann Arbor's diverse art community. To learn more, go online to http:// artisanmarket.org or http:// theartisanmarketblogspot.com.



A local startup company is taking on two major issues important to Michiganders, job creation and health care quality.

WhereToFindCare.com hopes to add hundreds of jobs while improving access to quality health care. They're lofty goals, yet the business is optimistic it will reach those goals with its new Web site, www.WhereToFindCare.com. The site is meant to steer consumers to the highest-quality health care facilities and compile patient experiences

facilities. Consumers use the site for free and health care facilities may purchase upgraded home pages. In order to promote health care improvement, facilities may view their ratings and comments any time, free of charge. The site's data base includes free clinics, hospitals, dialysis centers and nursing homes, among others.

According to O'Connell, the company has three full-time employees and contracts ser-

2008, the company may hire up to 10 employees in 2009, including sales, marketing and support staff. It plans to hire at least two sales representatives in 2009 regardless of 2008 performance. O'Connell added that WhereToFindCare. com's market is large enough to sustain growth requiring the support of hundreds of employees.

For more information, go online to www.wheretofind-

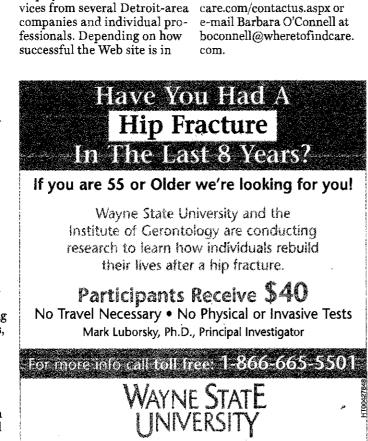
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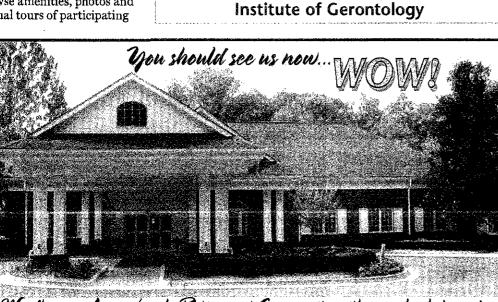
for facilities to use to improve their services.

"With all the new services we're currently developing, our goal is to grow to at least 100 employees in the next several years," said company cofounder Barbara O'Connell of Westland.

WhereToFindCare.com is a Michigan-based startup that seeks to empower people in health care decision making. The firm provides a free Web site that combines quality and satisfaction data of many different types of health care facilities and presents them in a clear, concise format which eases patients' decision making process. It also allows patients, families and visitors to rate the care they received so that others may benefit from that knowledge.

In addition to ratings, visitors to WhereToFindCare.com can also view quality data and browse amenities, photos and virtual tours of participating





Woodhaven is Livonia's only Retirement Community with every level of care!

- Assisted living private rooms, studio apartments & 1 bedroom apartments (current availability!)
- Memory services companion rooms, privacy rooms & private rooms
- Skilled nursing, rehabilitation, post hospital recovery & hospice care
- Independent living apartments 1 & 2 bedroom with 1 or 2 baths



- Michigan's only Adult Day Program that is open 5 a.m. to 11 p.m., 365 days a year Woodhaven just completed \$4,000,000 of
- enhancements & expansion providing:
- Quaint bistro dining
 Three separate & distinct neighborhoods Expanded physical, occupational & speech therapy

29667 Wentworth • Livonia (1st street north of Five Mile, on the west side of Middlebelt) 734-261-9000 www.woodh



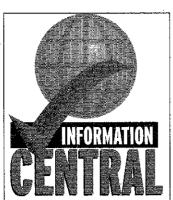
LOCAL NEWS

The 'other' China

If you think this is going to be another story on Beijing or the Olympics, you're dead wrong. This is about the other kind of china - the sort you sip tea from.

How many of you have Grandma's old china displayed in a cabinet, sitting in your cupboards, or even packed away in boxes in your basement? Do you ever wonder about its history or value? If so, a trip to the library might be in order.

The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland has books on many different types of china. Titles include "Lyle Price Guide to China," "Collectors Guide to Porcelier China"," Collectors Encyclopedia of Hall China," "Haviland China: The Age of Elegance," "Gaston's Flow Blue China Comprehensive Guide"



and "English China: Patterns and Pieces." Any of these books can be checked out and taken home with you or you can bring a piece in with you and browse the books here. Our selection isn't just limited to



china, either. The library has books and pricing guides on Depression glass, coins, stamps, antique furniture, clocks, vintage clothing and sports memorabilia.

Whether you're looking to sell, looking to insure, or just want to know how much those old dishes are worth, the library is a great place to start. And of course, if you do want books on the country of China, we have those, too!

'Stop in anytime during business hours and ask a friendly librarian to show you where books on your subject of interest are. **Highlighted Activities**

Capital Market Outlook (2nd

Quarter Market Review): 7 p.m. Aug. 18.

Join Andrew Gagne, associate financial advisor, who will help you put current market conditions in perspective to help you become a better informed investor. Sign up to reserve your seat.

Adult Book Discussion Group: 7 p.m. Aug. 19.

Join us as we discuss "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil" by John Berendt. Berendt's sharply observed, suspenseful and witty narrative reads like a thoroughly engrossing novel and yet it is a work of nonfiction. Please read the book before coming to the discussion. All are welcome.

20s-30s Book Club: 7 p.m. Aug. 20 at Biggby Coffee, 37644 Ford. west of Newburgh.

Our next selection we will be discussing is Tom Robbins' "Still Life With Woodpecker," a love story that takes place inside a pack of cigarettes. Copies are available at the Reference Desk.

Native Wildflowers for the Home Landscape: 7 p.m. Aug. 20. This program will review the

origin of native wildflowers, identify easy-care plants for the fail garden and provide maintenance tips. Native wildflowers will be available for purchase outside from 5:30-6:30 p.m., and registration for the program will begin at 6:30 p.m. Verne Stephens, native plant specialist, will present the program and conduct the plant sale. Call the Reference Desk at (734)326-6123 to reserve your seat.

Information Central was compiled by young adult librarian Bridget Sturdy. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland, For more information, call (734) 326-6123.



A bowling fund-raiser will benefit the family of the late Gary Brown (left) - son Raymond, 4, daughter D.J., 2, and wife Patty.

Bowling benefit helps accident victim's family

Donations are being accepted for a bowling fund-raiser which will benefit the family of 27-year-old man who died Aug. 4.

The Gary Brown Benefit will be Saturday, Aug. 23, at Vision Lanes, 38250 Ford, west of Newburgh, Westland. The cost will be \$20 per person for two games of bowling, shoe rental, pizza and pop and entry in a drawing for a door prize. Children age 5 and under are free. There also will 50/50 and

other raffles.

According to Westland Police, he was hit at 4:55 a.m. Aug. 3 while he was in the eastbound lane of Joy about a half mile east of Newburgh. He was transported to St. Mary's Hospital and airlifted to the Ypsilanti hospital in grave condition with blunt force trauma to the head. He died at 9 a.m. Aug. 4.

He leaves behind a wife, Patty, and two children -Raymond, 4, and D.J., 2.

A 21-year-old Livonia man, who was arrested the day of the accident within 800 feet of where it occurred. The man has been released, pending the results of blood tests to determine if alcohol was a factor.

"He was my little brother's best friend," said Tiffany Walls. "He was pretty close to us."

For more information or to make a donation, call Walls at (734) 377-0620, Damian Ekpa at (734) 560-5520 or Brian Taylor at (734) 377-7295.

Mall offers gift cards for cotton purchases

Westland Shopping Center and Cotton Incorporated, the marketing and research company representing upland cotton, have unveiled "a natural part of everyday life." a back-to-school cotton promotion which offers shoppers the opportunity to receive a \$20 gift card for use towards their next purchase at the Westland Shopping Center cotton retailer of their choice.

"A natural part of everyday life." showcases images of people enjoying life - in fashionable cotton clothing. Shoppers choosing to take advantage of this promotion simply need

to present receipts from cotton merchandise purchases totaling \$200 or more to the Westland Shopping Center Customer Service Center beginning Monday, Aug. 18, and continuing while supplies last. They will receive a \$20 gift card to use towards their next cotton purchase.

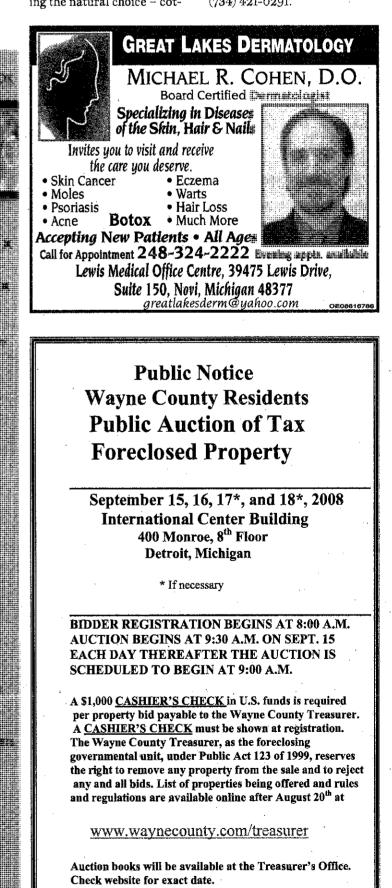
Westland Shopping Center, managed by Jones Lang LaSalle, is among 23 malls throughout the country participating in this promotion.

"This promotion communicates a sincere and relative message to consumers regarding the natural choice - cot-

ton," said Paula G. Rosario, Cotton Incorporated's vicepresident, consumer marketing - strategic alliances. "The concept 'a natural part of everyday life.' simply states the obvious."

Westland Shopping Center, at Warren and Wayne roads, is a regional shopping center offering 80 stores including Aeropostale, Forever 21, Charlotte Russe, Pac Sun, American Eagle Outfitters and Eddie Bauer Outlet. For more information about the backto-school promotion, call the Customer Service Center at (734) 421-0291.





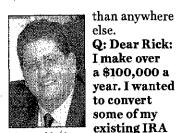
Call (313) 224-5990 **RAYMOND J. WOJTOWICZ** Wayne County Treasurer Office Hours: Monday.-Friday / 8 A.M.- 4:30 P.M.

COUNTY NEWS

Janus settlement likely won't create any new millionaires

Q: Dear Rick: I heard something on your radio show about the Janus Funds in regard to a settlement during the mutual fund scandal. I have not received my check vet. Should I be concerned?

A: There's absolutely no reason to be concerned. As of Aug. 15, Janus will distribute \$100.000.000 to investors. If you were a shareholder, you will receive a settlement. A \$100 million settlement sounds like a lot of money, however, in reality you and I will not be receiving large checks. After all, Janus Funds had millions of investors and the settlement gets divided over a large number of people. Whatever the settlement is, my philosophy is the money looks better in your pocket



I was told I do not qualify. A friend of mine

said in a couple of years I will be able to convert and use a Roth IRA. Is that true?

to convert

existing IRA

Roth IRA, but

A: Your friend is correct. In order to convert existing IRA money into a Roth IRA, your adjusted gross income, whether you are married or single, must be less than \$100,000. However, in 2010 there is a temporary change in the law

than anywhere that will allow those who earn more than \$100,000 to convert a traditional IRA into a

Roth IRA. I am a big fan of the Roth IRA because it allows money to grow tax-free, not taxdeferred, as in a traditional IRA. Even though you're investing post-tax money - money that you've already paid tax on - vs. pre-tax money (as in a traditional IRA), the advantages of a Roth are substantial.

In a traditional IRA, even though you receive a writeoff for the money you are contributing, when you withdraw the money you pay tax on the initial contribution and the growth.

In a Roth, there are no taxes when the money is withdrawn. Therefore, all the income and

growth that accumulates in your Roth will be tax-free.

Another advantage of a Roth is the money is not subject to required minimum distributions. At age 70½, you must begin taking distributions out of your traditional IRA. At that time, the money is taxed at your ordinary income tax bracket. There is no required minimum required distribution for Roth IRAs. You can let a Roth IRA grow income tax-free for as long as you choose.

One issue regarding Roth IRAs that confuses people is estate taxes. Roth IRAs are income tax-free, but they are subject to estate taxes just like traditional IRAs.

However, the major différence is the income tax

The Salvation Army of

Metro Detroit recently named

John Hale as the nonprofit's

executive director of develop-

ment. Hale had been serving

development since April 2007.

Hale has eight years of expe-

as the interim director of

consequences for a Roth IRA are income tax-free, while a traditional IRA is subject to income tax. Even upon death, if your beneficiary inherits your traditional IRA there will be income taxes paid by the beneficiary along with any potential estate tax. While with a Roth there will be no income taxes to your beneficiarv.

Whenever we're talking about tax laws, there is a caveat. Tax laws change faster than the weather in Michigan. It is possible that by 2010 the opportunity for people who make over \$100,000 a year to convert their traditional IRA into a Roth IRA could change.

If you make less than \$100,000 a year. I believe it is good strategy to consider converting a traditional IRA

Salvation Army taps development chief

into a Roth.

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, August 17, 2008

My general rule is:

Vou must have money to pay the tax due upon conversion without touching money you are converting;

Converting the money will not place you into a higher tax bracket; and

■ You should leave the money in the Roth IRA for at least five to seven years.

If you meet these requirements, you should convert to a Roth.

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

Wayne County prosecutor launches citizens' academy

Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy has launched a new program designed to give residents a firsthand look into the workings of the criminal justice system and the way her office operates.

The First Annual Wayne County



obtained online and returned via mail to office, 1441 St. Antoine, 12th floor, Detroit,

to the prosecutor's office.

Admission to rience with TSA's Development the courses is free Department. He has served but space is limas Capital Campaign manited. Participants

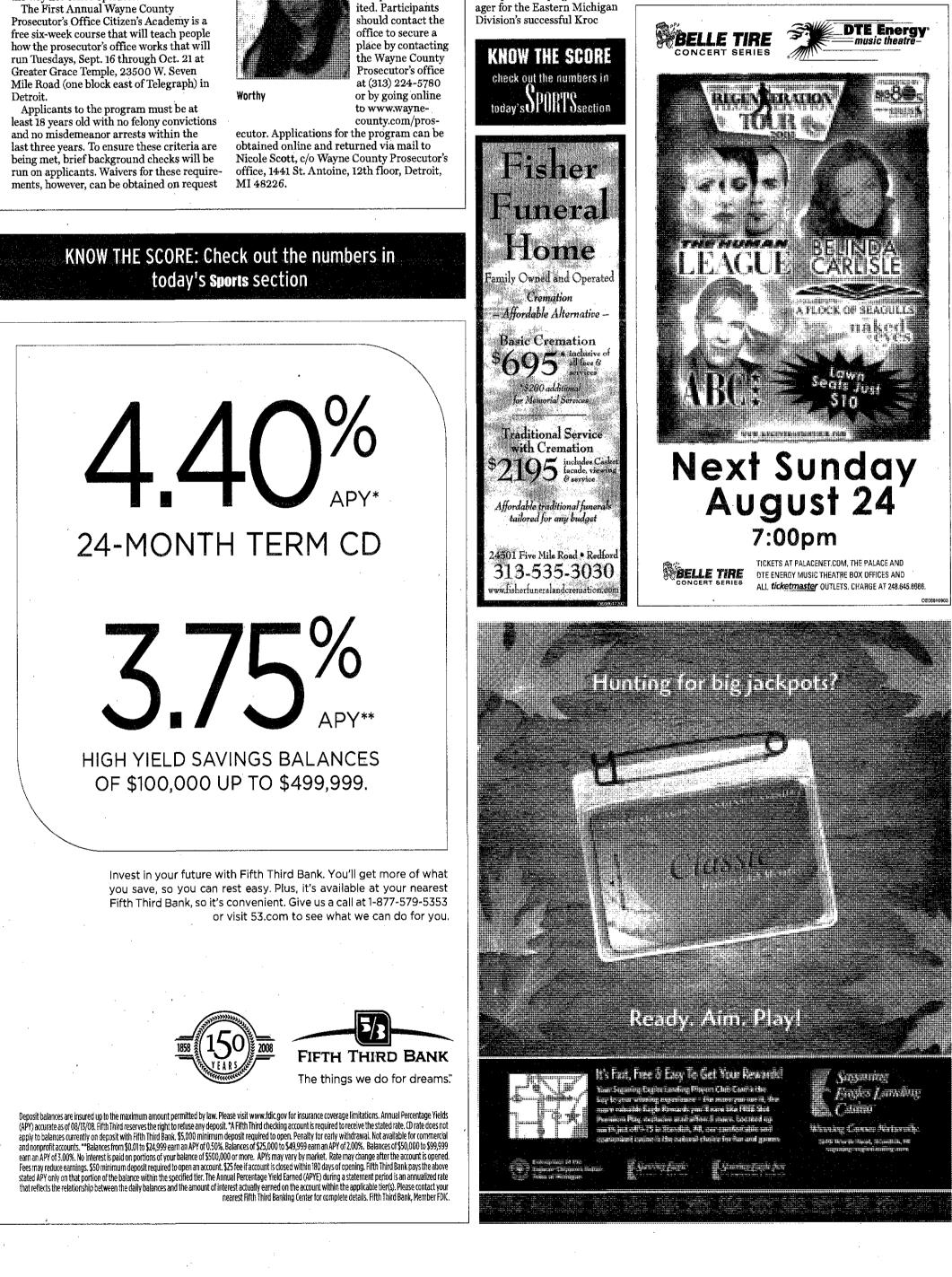


Center application, associate director of Development and as a gift-planning specialist where he closed more than \$7 million in gifts during the four years he held that position.

Prior to his work with TSA, Hale held positions as a financial and tour manager for

Christian Rock artists, The Insyderz and as an assistant branch manager for the First of America Bank in Rockford,

A graduate of Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Ill., Hale lives in Rochester Hills.



- A7



Rick Bloom

A8



Jessica Grzych poses with her boyfriend, Rob Bell, and her father, Walt, at her graduation from Northville High School in June.

Spaghetti dinner benefits cancer patient

It's know as "Team Mott's 7," the cancer ward on the seventh-floor of Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor, a place Jessica Grzych has come to know quite well since being diagnosed with cancer in April.

The 18-year-old is being treated for treatments that Acute Myelogenous Leukemia, a fast-growing cancer of the blood and bone marrow. She is undergoing treatment at Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor which requires her to be in the hospital four-five weeks with a one-two-week break between each round. She has had a third round of chemotherapy and is scheduled to have a bone marrow transplant this month.

To help pay expenses related to her treatment, a spaghetti dinner benefit is being held 2-8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 23, at the Garden City Knights of Columbus Hall, 30759 Ford in Garden City. The cost is \$8 per person and includes a spaghetti dinner, rolls, salad, dessert. coffee and beverages. There also will be a 50/50 drawings. raffles, door prizes and music.

The benefit will help pay for expenses related to Grzych's

cancer treatments. " I will not forget that day

- Saturday morning, April 19, 2008," said Walt Grzych. "My son called me and asked if I was sitting down and that he had some bad news concerning Jessie. He had to figure a way to pick her up from work at McDonald's right then and there and take her to Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor. The doctor said they had to get Jessie from work and take her immediately to the University of Michigan. The type of leukemia has, if left untreated, can cause death within a couple weeks."

Walt Grzych said it's be hectic since then for the family. Her father is on family medical leave, has no income, and spends every minute with his daughter. The family and friends have helped with expenses, such as every ay needs, food, shelter, gasoline to and from the hospital and any medical expenses not covered by insurance, and health insurance premiums, which are at COBRA rates, that have to be paid.

"This is the reason for the benefit, to raise money to keep his everyday necessities," Walt

Grzych said. "Jessie lives with her dad and relies on him for maintenance." Jessica Grzych is scheduled

to have a bone marrow transplant this month and a rare twist of fate, her father is her match. He will be her bone marrow donor.

Jessica Grzych is a manager at McDonald's. A June graduate of Northville High School, she had, planned to study to be an art teacher after she graduated from high school but has changed her career plans and will study nursing. She will start classes in January after she recovers from the bone marrow transplant.

Organizers have been gathering donations of gift baskets, gift certificates and other items to raffle off during the benefit. In letter seeking donations, they wrote that Grzych's "courage is absolutely amazing."

Businesses and individuals interested in donating, can call the K of C at (734) 425-8380. Cash donations - make checks payable to the Jessica Grzych Foundation – can be sent to the Immaculate Conception Council, Knight of Columbus, 30759 Ford, Garden City, MI 48135.

Wellness programs focus on health

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

Monday, Aug. 18

Exercise Express 12:30 p.m. Thirty minutes of exercise including cardio, strength training and stretching. Exercise at your own comfort level. Get in, get out and get on with your day. Fee is \$30 per month or a \$5 drop-in fee. Call (734) 458-3242 for more information.

Tuesday, Aug. 19

Get Up and Move at 9 a.m., 3 and 4 p.m. This is an invigorating exercise program is designed to help you get up and get moving, and is the perfect compliment to your diet program. These classes will help you to make an easy transition back to an exercise program or help you to get started for the first time. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

Diabetes Self-Management Education (second of four classes) at 9:30 a.m. This comprehensive series is planned to help people Live Well With Diabetes. Participants learn self-care skills of nutrition, exercise, medication management, monitoring of blood sugar levels, foot and skin care, prevention of problems and psychosocial issues. Physician Health & Education Center at 6701 referral is required. There is a fee, but reimbursement is available by Medicare, Medicaid and most commercial insurance plans. Call (734) 458-3481 for more information or to register.

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

Cerebral Aneurysm and Stroke Club at 7:30 p.m. Support is offered to those who have had an aneurysm or stroke as well as to their family and friends. The club meets every third Tuesday of the month to listen to various presentations and to promote interaction between people who have something in common. This free group is held in Garden City Hospital's

Exercise Express 12:30 p.m. Thirty minutes of exercise including cardio, strength training and stretching. Exercise at your own comfort level. Get in, get out and get on with your day. Fee is \$30 per month or a \$5 drop-in fee. Call (734) 458-3242 for more information.

Free blood pressure testing for senior citizens at 10:30 a.m. The staff of Garden City Hospital's Community Services offers blood pressure testing free of charge every other Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. at the Maplewood Community Center on Maplewood just west of Merriman. Call (734) 458-4330 for more information.

CPAP and BIPAP Mask Fitting Clinic at 5 p.m. Attention CPAP and BiPAP users: Did you know that most insurances cover new supplies every year? Have you been wanting to try a new style of mask, but don't know how to get one? Visit the Sleep Disorders Center of Michigan, 35600 Central City Parkway, Suite 103, Westland, 5-6 p.m. any Wednesday for a free mask fitting clinic. No appointment is needed. Call (734) 458-3330 with any questions or for more information.

CPR - Adult (ARC) at 6 p.m. Approved by the American Red Cross, this class provides hands-on CPR training to adults. Participants are prepared to respond to breathing and cardiac emergencies in victims, age 8 and above. This class is offered at Garden City Hospital's Harrison, just north of Maplewood. There is a fee. Participants will receive certification upon successful completion. Call Community Education at (734) 458-4330 for more information.

Eating Disorders Support

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

Thursday, Aug. 21

Get Up and Move at 9 a.m., 3 and 4 p.m. This is an invigorating exercise program is designed to help you get up and get moving, and is the perfect compliment to your diet program. These classes will help you to make an easy transition back to an exercise program or help you to get started for the first time. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242

Strength and Stretch at 2 p.m. This is a non-aerobic exercise class designed to help you strengthen

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

Diabetes Self-Management Education (second of four classes) at 6:30 p.m. This comprehensive series is planned to help people Live Well With Diabetes. Participants learn self-care skills of nutrition, exercise, medication management, monitoring of blood sugar levels, foot and skin care, prevention of problems and psychosocial issues. Physician referral is required. There is a fee, but reimbursement is available by Medicare, Medicaid and most commercial insurance plans. Call (734) 458-3481 for more information or to register. Friday, Aug. 22

Exercise Express 12:30 p.m. Thirty minutes of exercise including cardio, strength training and stretching. Exercise at your own comfort level. Get in, get out and get on with your day. Fee is \$30 per month or a \$5 drop-in fee. Call (734) 458-3242 for more information

Daily Programs

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

Volunteer at Garden City Hospital

Volunteer opportunities are available at Garden City Hospital for those age 14 and older. Individuals interested in providing clerical support, staffing information desks, transporting patients and assisting on nursing units are needed.

Volunteers receive a free lunch on their volunteer day, a uniform and the chance to be involved "behind the scenes" at an award- 💈 winning hospital.

To apply to become a volunteer, complete an application form, available at the hospital's main lobby information desk or call (734) 458-4280. The hospital is at 6245 Inkster Road in Garden City.

Volunteers also Aug. donate time to the hospital by becoming a member of the Garden City Hospital Guild. The group raises funds to support patient care. Members staff the hospital coffee shop, gift shop and information desks, and deliver mail to patients. For more information, call (734) 458-4421.

OE08618116 - 2x6

KNOW THE SCORE: Check out the numbers in today's sports section

Rehabilitation Unit dining room. For and define your muscles, as well more information, please call (734) 458-4392. Wednesday, Aug. 20

Controller

as increase your flexibility. Each class will combine a variety of equipment, including free weights,

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 8/28/2008 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:

1006 KATHLEEN RODRIGUES - FRIDGE, MATTRESS, BOXES
1082 PSONITA FOWLER - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
1138 YANCY DAVIS - BOXES, BAGS TOTES
1160 ANISE BANKHEAD - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
1160 ANISE BANKHEAD - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
1214 YAMEKA RAINER - MATTRESS, COUCH, BAGS
1220 TIFFANY FORD - MATTRESS, TOYS, BOXES
1252 KHADJAH ROBINSON - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
1374 TRAVIS JOHNSON - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
1468 LINDA RILEY - MATTRESS, BAGS, BOXES
1576 COREY NANTAMBU - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
1468 SHATUNNA PRIESTER - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
2188 SHATUNNA PRIESTER - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
2280 JEFFREY MCANALLY - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
2281 VERONICA PETERSON - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
2286 DWIGHT DAVIS - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
2384 LATANYA EVANS - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
5006- TODD HARBIN- BOX, BAGS, TOTES
1333- OLIVE GARDEN- BOX, BAGS, TOTES 1333- OLIVE GARDEN- BOX, BAGS, TOTES 1572- HARCOURT SCHOOL PUBLISHERS- BOX, TOTES, BAGS GE08616119

Publish: August 10 & 17, 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 located at 20080 Allen Rd. Trenton, Mi 48183 (734)479-5442 8/29/2008 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:

1022 FAYE GUERRA - CAR PARTS, BAGS, BOXES
1027 DIONNE D JENKINS - BAGS TV, DRESSER
1028 SABASTION A PEREZ - FRIDGE, RUGS
1033 SANDRA GAIL NESTOR - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
1034 RICKY LEE NEDROW -BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
1039 DIONNE JENKINS - STROLLER, TOYS, BOXES
105 STEVEN DALE TRIMBLE - TOOLS, BAGS, TOTES
1114 TINA KELLER - TV, BAGS, TOTES
214 JASON WOZNIAK - BOXES BAGS TOTES
221 SHIRLEY BOWMAN - WASHER, BED, BIKE
327 NATALIE ROSE CHRAPKO - TV, BAGS, BOXES
345 DON SMITH - TIRES, TOOLS, BAGS
509 NURHAYDA SISON - TV, DRESSER
532 MICHAEL A SANTWIRE - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
533 ROSEANNA LEWIS - DRESSER, BIKE, BAGS
538 KIMBERLY D MILLER - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
539 SCOTT MURRAY - WASHER, BOXES, TOTES
639 ANNIE BRAND - COUCH, FUTON, BAGS
658 DAVID ZIMMERMAN - TOOLS, FAN, BOXES
826 KERI ELLIOT - STROLLER, BOXES, TOTES
832 NATHEN CAMPBELL - CARSEAT, TOOLS, BAGS
904 SHAROLYN CHEATHAM - DRESSER, TV, LOVESEAT
947 SUSAN DALIMONTE - SOFA DRESSER TV

Publish: August 10 & 17, 2008

CITY OF WESTLAND

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan 48185, on or before August 28, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. (no exceptions) for the following:

Leaf Machine & Leaf Boxes

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office or at www.CityofWestland.com. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Proposals must be submitted by the time stated above or they will be returned. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids. JADE M. SMITH

Publish: August 17, 2008

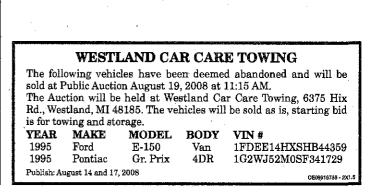
Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property. Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc.** and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc. will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 9300 Pelhem Road, Taylor, 48180 (313) 292-9730 8/29/08 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 KIAUNA LEWIS - TABLE, BOXES, TOTES 3089 ANGELA MARTINEZ - BÓXES, BÁGS, 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 FAULKNOR - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES 6191 ROBERT HOWELL - BOXES, TV, LADDER 7017 VIKKI HOOD - BAGS, BOXES, TÓTES 7019 TIFFANY SCOTT - BÓXES, BÁGS, TOTES 7055 CRYSTAL ROWLAND - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES 7108 DEONTE BARBER - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES 7109 BRANDY WILLIAMS - SOFÁ, DRESSER, TOTES 7121 DANA COUNTS - BAG, WASHER, STOVE 7128 MEGAN HOWARD - BOX, BAG, TOYS

Publish: August 10 & 17, 2008

OE08816116 - 2×4 5



PURCHAICETA AUERTI

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 8/29/2008 at 11:30am. 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:

B002 BELINDA RIAZ-KNOWLTON - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES B048 KEYANNA WAFFORD - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES B070 ELLIOT KING - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES **B079 DENISE ROGERS - FURNITURE, BOXES, MATTRESS B084 TOMMIE GRIFFIN - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES B086 DOROTHY MORTON - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES B102 PATTI ROMERO - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES B126 JEFFREY JOHNSON - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES B128 DWAIN PURYEAR - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES** B129 LINDA CARTER - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES B204 ANKIT P GANDHI - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES B225 EDWARD OHARAH - SOFA, CHAIR, BOXES B226 ADT SECURITY SERVICES, CURITY SERVICES -BOXES, BAGS, TOTES B257 PETRICE JOHNSON - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES B353 DAVE SMITH - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES B383 RONALD HUGGINS - TV, DRESSER, BAGS C043 TONIA JOHNSON - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES D030 AARON DANIELS - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES D044 CORTNY SMITH - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES F010 BETTINA RAGAN - MATTRESS, BAGS, TOTES F049 JOANIE JACKSON - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES 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 - BOXÉS, BAGS, TOTES D040 SHERRY LEWIS - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES B249 SANDRA GASTON- BOX, BAGS, TOTES E020 ALTHEA GAMBLE- BOX, BAGS, TOTES

Publish: August 10 & 17, 2008

OE08616126 - 2x6

TV debate program focuses on state House races in November

To help voters in southeastern Michigan cut through the campaign clutter, focus on the state's future, and make informed decisions in November, Detroit Public TV (DPTV), in association with the Center for Michigan, is offering to host debates between the top candidates in state House of Representatives races throughout metro Detroit. Debate offers will be extended to candidates in 47 contested races.

DPTV and the Center are taking steps to guarantee the debates receive the largest possible audience; Video of every debate will be provided free and unrestricted to all media outlets and cable access TV stations in southeastern Michigan. The expectation is debate videos will be posted on media Web sites, aired on cable access, and used in TV news reports. Additionally, DPTV will broadcast debates on Channel 56 and post videos online. With so much attention

on the presidential race, these debates are critical to helping voters focus on state House races - and helping candidates focus on the issues that matter most to voters," said John Bebow, executive

director of the Center for Michigan, a non-partisan, non-profit "think-and-do" tank.

In the past year, the Center has hosted 180 community meetings across the state to develop a "common ground" agenda. It includes three priorities for the state's future: 1) a globally competitive workforce; 2) a diversified economy and great quality of life; and 3) effective, efficient and accountable government.

"When you talk about Michigan's future, these really are the big three," Bebow added. "Everyone should be interested to see how the

candidates address these and other issues critical to turning the state around."

"The Great Debates is an extraordinary use of traditional and new media to engage and educate voters," said Rich Homberg, DPTV president and general manager. "It's also another example of how Detroit Public Television is working to better serve the people of southeastern Michigan."

The 30-minute, fixed-format debates will be taped at DPTV's Detroit studios in August and September and - due to production constraints - be limited to

two candidates. Candidates will field questions from respected journalists Nolan Finley, editorial page editor of The Detroit News, and Ron Dzwonkowski, editorial page editor of the Detroit Free Press. Other Detroitarea journalists may serve as hosts/moderators depending on debate schedules.

As debate invitations were mailed (and e-mailed) to candidates Aug. 6-8, DPTV Director of Program **Development Dave Manney** stressed the importance of candidate cooperation.

"We obviously can't force candidates into the studio,"

Manney said. "We need every candidate to embrace this project and reach an agreement with their opponent. Tell us you're ready for a serious debate of the issues and we'll make it happen."

The Center for Michigan is a "think-and-do tank" founded by Phil Power and a group of statewide business and political leaders in early 2006. A 501(c)3 non-profit organization, the Center's objective is to assist our state through its current period of wrenching economic trouble and to lay the foundation of informed hope for a better future Michigan.

Educators can hone their skills at Detroit Zoo open house Aug. 26

The Detroit Zoological Society will host an open house for teachers and administrators on Tuesday, Aug. 26, 5-8 p.m., at the Detroit Zoo's Ford Education Center. "Zoolastic Achievement

~ Explosion 2008" will give educators the opportunity to learn about the educational offerings at the Detroit Zoo and Belle Isle Nature Zoo. The free event will feature live entertainment, food and educational resources for the classroom and beyond.

Sponsored by DTE Energy Foundation, "Zoolastic Achievement - Explosion 2008" will provide educators insight into the zoo's dynamic, age level-appropriate programs that teach important concepts about animals, habitats and ecosystems in alignment with the Michigan Curriculum Framework and Grade Level Content Expectations. The event will also offer tips on planning and optimizing school group visits with guided tours, self-led tours, scavenger hunts, interactive education presentations and backpack programs.

Teachers and administrators will learn about other educational options at the Zoo as well, including the Ford Education Center's Interpretive Studios, Wild Adventure Ride, Madeleine Berman Academy for Humane Education and Humane

Science Lab. A tram or walking tour of the zoo will highlight new animal habitats, including Meerkat Digs, and exhibits that feature interactive learning options. Guests will also meet David Gakure, Kenyan conservationist and Detroit Zoo education specialist, who engages students at the zoo and in the classroom with stories of people and wildlife in the African Grasslands.

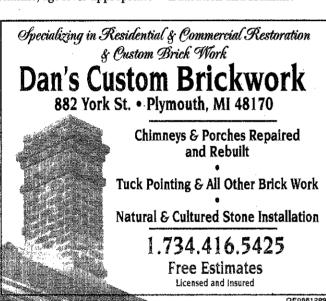
Online registration for "Zoolastic Achievement - Explosion 2008" is available until Aug. 21 at http://www.

detroitzoo.org/zoolastic/. The Detroit Zoological Society is a nonprofit organization that operates the Detroit Zoo and Belle Isle Nature Zoo. The Detroit Zoo is at the intersection of 10 Mile Road and Woodward Avenue, just off I-696, in Royal Oak. The Detroit Zoo is open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. April through October (open at 9:30 a.m. Memorial Day through Labor Day) - with extended hours until 8 p.m. Wednesdays during July and August – and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. November through March. Admission is

\$11 for adults 13 to 61, \$9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$7 for children ages 2 to 12; children under 2 are free. For more information, call (248) 541-5717 or visit www. detroitzoo.org. The Belle Isle

Nature Zoo is open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. year-round and provides educational programming with interpretive staff support from the Huron-Clinton Metroparks. For information, call (313) 852-4056.







ORINE MARK'S 91/3 P

LUNCHEON

2008



JACKIE KALLEN After 26 years in the boxing world as publicist and then manager, Jackie Kallen has been dubbed 7be First Lady of Boxing. Having managed four champions, she was twice nominated as

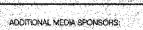
Manager of the Year. Her life story inspired the Paramount film Against the Ropes, starring Meg Ryan. A former journalist, TV host and radio personality in her native Detroit, Kallen is also a successful motivational speaker.



KYM L. WORTHY It was an historic moment in 2004 when Kym L. Worthy was sworft in as the first African-American, and the first woman, to become the Wayne County Prosecutor. Worthy began her career

in the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office in 1984. In 1994 she was elected judge of the Recorder's Court for the City of Detroit, then became a judge in Wayne County Circuit Court in 1997. Worthy is a strong believer in community service and has received numerous awards and honors for her role as community leader. She is the mother of ten-vear-old Anastasia





pai2923 MAR

SHIT WOY SUMMER DAZETTE



Thursday, September 18, 2008

Seating & Exhibitor Area begins at 11:15 am

Lunch & Program: Noon - 2 pm

RITZ-CARLTON

300 Town Center Drive, Fairlane Plaza Dearborn, MI 48126 Free Parking (optional valet)

TICKETS

PRESENTED BY:

CORPORATE SPONSORS

Dior Coglist

\$60 Individual \$600 Table of 10

CELEBRITY GUEST PANEL:



Frankie Darcell (Mix 92.3 FM), Lila Lazarus (WJBK-Fox 2), Dian Lewis (WXYZ-TV 7), Glenda Lewis (WXYZ-TV 7), Ruth Spencer (WDIV-TV 4), and Vickie Winans (6 time Grammy-nominated recording artist, President/Founder of Destiny Joy Records and Viviane, Inc.)

Register Online: florineonline.com Register by Phone: 1-888-3-FLORINE, ext. 1377

This is a non-profit event. Net proceeds will equally benefit: Beaumont Ministrelli's Women's Heart Center Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Center University of Michigan Cardiovascular Center

> CweightWatchers smart0aes

SET DESIGNER: GARDNER-WHITE

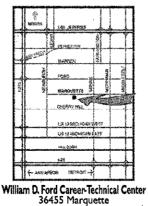


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- Desktop Publishing
- Electronics/Robotics Technology
- Graphic Design
- Health Occupations
- Heating/Air Conditioning/Refrigeration
- Digital Media Production
- Media Production
- Integrated Web Design
- Medical Assisting



- Graphic/Printing Communications
- Welding Technology



Call Today! 734-419-2100

- Free To youth 17-20, under Intra-County Schools of Choice Plan
- Free To non-grad adults and those w/G.E.D.
- Free To junior and senior high school students in cooperating schools
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- Free To others who qualify **

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ayne-Westland Community Schools Board of Education to forbid any acts of discrimination in all matters de The Wayne-Westland Schools reaffirms its policy of equal educational and employment opportunities for all persons without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, mari aux, height, weight, or handicap, inquirise scorerning the application of Tille V), Tille IX, and Section 504 legislation at the Wayne-Westland School District may be referred to Ron Barrat rector, 36745 Marquette, Westland, MI 48185, (734) 419-2645. Furthermore, the School District guarantees the right to a free appropriate education for all school-aged handicapped rssons and all limited English proficiency students. Revised by the Board of Education 2000. Any unresolved concerns may be appealed through the school district appeal process

wwcsd.net/fctc



COUNTY NEWS

Explore the tradition, community, creativity at State Fair

BY ANNE GREENSTEIN CORRESPONDENT

"Our State Fair is the best State Fair. Don't miss it! Don't even be late.'

This quote from Rodgers and Hammerstein's 1945 musical can apply to the Michigan State Fair, which starts on Friday, Aug. 22, and runs through Sept. 1.

The nation's oldest state fair, the Michigan State Fair was first held in 1849, only 12 years after Michigan attained statehood. The fair traveled around the state until it settled in its current fairgrounds at Eight Mile and Woodward Avenue in 1905. In addition to agricultural displays, the Miracle of Life Exhibit, contests, a midway and live entertainment is

the Community Arts Exhibit. The Community Arts Building was built in 1967 and houses many arts and crafts exhibits. Before this "home" was built, the exhibition was displayed underneath the grandstand or in the clubhouse. Normally, 5,000 pieces of art are exhibited, created by 2,000-3,000 people throughout the state. In addition to arts and crafts are baking, canning and greenery displays. Prizes are given to winners in these categories.

BUSY MAN

Peter Latouf, involved with the fair since 2000, for the first time is in charge of the Community Arts Building.

"The Community Arts Building is the main venue for showcasing the artistic tal-

ent of residents of the state. Professionals and nonprofessionals can enter different contests to win prizes or ribbons," said Latouf.

Contests for youth as well as adults are held daily. There are contests in homemaking crafts and hobbies involving fiber arts, doll making, photography or ceramics. Other contests are in baking, canning, woodworking, greenery and table decorating. Youth contests are similar to the adults but there is also a category for "Legos and K-nex.

"Best of show" or the "gold ribbon winners" from the county fairs compete at the Michigan State Fair. In addition to youth and adults are contests for the physically and mentally challenged to include everyone with an opportunity

to participate. The Oakland County Fair does not include "Community Arts" competitions, so Farmington community residents who wish to compete must enter directly to the Michigan State Fair. Volunteers are present from the time people enter their artwork until the fair closes who watch the items submitted for judging and exhibition.

Ribbons are offered as prizes and small cash prizes are also awarded worth \$8 to \$25 depending on the contest. Some companies give cash prizes for their contests. Pillsbury gives a \$200 prize for the best pie crust in the show. Demonstrations are held on

a daily basis, in quilting, wood carving, and lace, painting porcelain, floral designs, making

baskets from pine needles, Tshirt painting, using a spinning needle, and using a knitting machine. People can participate in these demonstrations and make a project. Baking and cooking demonstrations are also held each day.

Judges of the various contests come from county fairs and are professionals in their own field. Previous blue-ribbon winners also serve as judges. While many of the judges have been judging at the State Fair for years, a few for up to 40 years, they continuously get new judges.

DEDICATED TO MOM

Eugene Kondash, every year, gives 35 ribbons for awards for canning, baking or handiwork for youth and adults in mem-

ory of his mother, Catherine Kondash.

Catherine Kondash, who lived behind the fairgrounds, "believed in the Fair with all her heart," said Eugene. She was a fair volunteer and exhibitor throughout her adult life. She baked fruit pies for the governor's luncheon. She gave baskets of homemade products including pies made from fruit in her garden to the governor every year dating back to G. Mennen (Soapy) Williams until Gov. John Engler.

Besides awarding ribbons, Eugene Kondash gives a gift to winners such as a book or craft project to the person related to the winner's category. Two "Viewers Choice" awards are given in memory of Kondash's mother. Eugene and his brother give two \$50 savings bonds, one for the adults and one for youth of displays that the public picks.

Eugene remembers when he was a boy during the late 1940s and early 1950s seeing the train bring people from all over the state to come to the State Fairgrounds. Last year, Steven Jenkins, manager of the fair, gave Kondash a Michigan State Fair award for his ongoing contributions.

Paul Karr, president of the Friends of the Michigan State Fair, leads this volunteer organization which supports the fair. The Friends support the fair with beautification projects.

They refurbish security guard booths, plant gardens, and assist with buying the carved rock signs found at the entrance off of Woodward Avenue and in front of the coliseum.

Most importantly, the Friends of the Fair annually awards scholarships to several Michigan high school seniors each year in agriculture and community arts.

"Over the past 15 years, the Friends have awarded \$40,000 worth of scholarships. This year we will award one \$1,000 scholarship in agriculture and two scholarships in community arts. (First prize is \$500 and 2nd prize is \$350)," said John Write, scholarship chairman.

For more information visit www.michigan.gov/mistatefair.



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A10 (*)

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

OUR VIEWS

Study the candidates, issues before voting in November

contests, both at the local and national level. positions.

(WReGc)

Page All

Sunday, August 17, 2008

With our state's economy in the dumps and an entire nation tiring of a seemingly endless war, those successful candidates truly educated electorate. Voting along party from the president on down will be faced with significant and serious issues and challenges.

will feature ballots filled with important most qualified men and women for those cially true in the state Legislature, where date Web sites and voter guides produced

Because the political stakes are so high, voters need to put in extra time becoming a lines or simply going with the incumbent no longer are options.

Incumbents need to be challenged on their And the best way to make sure our politi- past performance and clearly explain why with their own beliefs and values. Local

every seat in the House of Representatives is up for election.

There is a wealth of information available about each contested race in every hometown. Voters should study the candidates, and make sure their positions on critical local, regional or national issues is in line

This year's general election in November cal leaders are up to the task is to elect the they deserve to keep their job. This is espe- newspapers - including this one - candiby the League of Women Voters and other organizations are all good places to mine information about the races.

Thanks to the hotly contested presidential races, area clerks are bracing for record turnouts at the polling places. Let's hope voters make the effort to ensure they cast an educated vote.

LETTERS

Not in my neighborhood

Mr. Mayor and council members,

What is going on? Why are we experiencing shoot-outs iu Westland in the middle of the day between Romulus Police and would-be drug dealers? Why would we allow outside law enforcement to run a risky undercover operation in our shopping centers, endangering innocent citizens? What was the Westland official who made this decision thinking?

I don't think Westland citizens want our city to become the next shooting gallery do you? I know our police force is doing the best they can and I don't fault them for doing their job, but I am concerned with our city leaders. Let's use better judgment next time. We can't allow dangerous sting operations in our neighborhoods, allowing these dangerous sting operations is like allowing high-speed chases in our neighborhoods, innocent people can get hurt.

I'm all for getting the bad guy but don't invite the bad guy to my back yard, invite him to some isolated woods. I'm glad no officers were hurt. I know undercover police work is tough and dangerous, trust me I do know. That's why I know we shouldn't be doing these risky sting operations in crowded shopping centers.

> Carlos Manzo Westland

Sign of election season

A sure sign that the November elections are approaching recently occurred in the United States Senate. As if on cue, Senate Republicans have reintroduced their infamous "Defense of Marriage" amendment to the United States Constitution.

The amendment attempts to enshrine discrimination into our Constitution but it is really

intended as an election year tool to pander to homophobes and other bigots who are a key part of the Republican voting base. The amendment itself does nothing whatsoever to defend marriage

Moreover, one needs to look no further than the list of Senate cosponsors of this grossly misnamed Constitutional amendment to see the blatant hypocrisy involved. One is David Vitter, R-Louisiana, convicted of serial prostitution. Another is Larry Craig, R-Idaho, convicted of trolling for gay sex in an airport restroom.

Defending marriage? I think not. The Republican Party: come and get those family values right here!

Joe Golonka Westland

Life in the fast lane

I read your (editorial) on whether government should mandate a speed limit cut.

You don't think this is the answer, and feel it should be up to individual motorists whether or not to slow down. Individuals who wish to slow down really have no choice in the matter, unless you are willing to risk being run off the road.

While I know I am in a very small minority with this opinion, I have always felt that a speed limit of 70 is too high. Even following the posted speed it is fairly routine to have people on my bumper, weaving in and out of traffic around me, and flashing their lights because I am not going fast enough. It gets really nasty when I dare drive 65 — and I'm not referring to being in the left lane!

If you leave a decision to voluntarily reduce speeds to a public who loves to speed, drive while on their phones, while putting on makeup, while reading newspapers, and who feel a need to pass you on subdivision side streets because

you are only driving 25, it will not happen. **Marianne Jokisch Rochester Hills**

How much is enough?

The Observer & Eccentric roared about "unfunded mandates" in its editorial titled, "Good ideas merit adequate funding."

Based on the language, I've got to wonder which education official was the ghostwriter.

The editorial suggests that any requirements the state places on schools should be considered an unfunded mandate. What it fails to point out is that state provides over one-third of the state budget - some \$13 billion dollars - to schools. Are these requirements really unfunded?

The editorial takes an unsubstantiated swipe at the migration to all-day kindergarten as another example of an unfunded mandate. What it fails to point out is that schools already receive the full state grant per pupil for kindergarten students, while only providing a half-day of service. Unfunded mandate?

The editorial claims these mandates come "at a time when state aid already has fallen behind increased costs." What it fails to point out that schools are responsible for managing their own budgets, and allow employee costs to balloon out of control.

If the Observer & Eccentric does not believe schools get enough money, then exactly how much does the Observer & Eccentric think schools should get? How much should it increase each year? Articles like this only further the notion that no amount of money is ever enough.

Not a good civic lesson

The incarceration of Detroit's mayor for violating the terms of his bond which is essentially at the end of the day a white collar crime is troubling on some many fronts. The public castration and humiliation that many believe is exactly what the mayor deserves in truth has never worked nor been a deterrent to those who have committed all manner of crimes.

There is no public good or civic lesson to be gained from the rumination and incarceration of an elected official for a white collar crime in. a country where public officials have committed crimes of a scope which dwarf the allegations of crimes the mayor is charged with. The notion that the mayor, an elected official, is the same as an average citizen is a myth and an insult to the reality of the truth. There has and there will always be preference for some in our criminal justice system in our country.

What happened today was the dangerous and freighting outcome of a media-driven tabloid spectacle which not only has colored the objectivity of many in this region but it was impacted and tainted the administration of those in our criminal justice system who are sworn to carry out their duties without prejudice and political influence.

The mayor's alleged failures and personal shortcomings did not warrant his incarceration. Lesser measures were available to the judge to exercise his displeasure with the major's behavior for the judge to imprison an elected official only affirms to many how the agenda of those who do not have the interest of the citizens of the city have contaminated even the judiciary in this region.

> **Greg Thrasher** Birmingham

trustee, Rochester Community Schools

Mike Reno

You may HAVE A CLAI

Dr. Yasser Awaad is a pediatric neurologist who was employed by Oakwood Healthcare, Inc. until 2007. Since Dr. Awaad left Oakwood, the law offices of Benner & Foran have been retained by a large number of parents who believe their children were misdiagnosed with epilepsy and/or seizures by Dr. Awaad. If you think your child or children may have been misdiagnosed with epilepsy/seizures by Dr. Yasser Awaad, please contact the law offices of Benner & Foran for a free, no obligation consultation.

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THE SOMERSET COLLECTION, 2901 WEST BIG BEAVER ROAD, TROY (24R) 543-9006

COUNTY NEWS

And the living is easy: August is truly summer at its finest

here is nothing subtle about nature's way this

August - if you get out of your air-conditioned car, ditch the iPod, turn off the cell phone and get your feet off pavement.

August is the month of sparkling "fire" in the meadow and streaking "fire" in the sky. A month of phenomenal wild berry production, tall meadow flowers, gray treefrogs singing to the approach of supercell storms. In Birmingham and Royal Oak and Rochester human habituated house sparrows hop around sweaty ankles under outdoor café tables in search of dropped dinner morsels. It's a month of the unpredictable and the predicable.

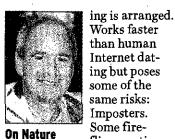
Among the predictable, the seasonal collision between Earth and a great curtain

of cosmic dust, the Perseids meteor shower - spawned by Comet Swift Tuttle - is already under way. Get out of the city! Get away from bright lights! The darker the sky, the more meteors you will see. Head for rural slices of darker northern Oakland County where the entire world does not glow all night in artificial light, or better yet go on a one tank of gas camping trip and find a

look out point by a Great Lake (away from lights) and you are in for a heavenly sky show. Barring heavy cloud cover the folks at Spaceweather.com are predicting you will see up to 100 meteors per hours before dawn on Tuesday, Aug. 12. August brings a continuation of "sparkling fire" in moist meadows that have not been bathed in pesticides or

cropped to golf course like

nothingness. Call them fireflies, call them lightning bugs; two names for the same creature, a tiny miracle beetle with the gift of bioluminescence, a butt end that glows and flashes and delights children and adults. The basic biology is simple: the male flies about and flashes the ladies. If the female likes what she sees, she flashes back. After a short dialog of "flash-dating" the meet-



Jonathan

Schechter

than human Internet dating but poses some of the same risks: Imposters. Some fireflies practice trickery and deceit and flash signals of other species. Once the no-

www.hometownlife.com

time-to-waste romantic suitor wings in, a cannibalistic death awaits.

August brings apple trees gone wild feeding deer gone tame. August brings bold fawns, young fox and coyotes exploring their world, often with mom out of the picture. Near tame house wren wrap up nesting. Big bluestem reaches for the sky along the Paint Creek Trail. Massasauga rattlers sun in seclusion at Indian Springs Metro Park and Independence Oaks. Pitcher plants devour bugs at Bald Mountain Recreation Area. August is the month suburban groundhogs love: gardens everywhere! Skunks scent humid nights. One of the skunks favorite treats down suburbia way are the subterranean nests of yellow jackets.

Evening bird song is on the wane, as insect chorus increases in preparation for the final night bug concert of September. Jewelweed, your nature-wise child knows it as "Touch Me Not," adds beautiful tiny orange trumpets to wet landscapes. Touch the seed pod and it "explodes" shooting seeds over a yard away. Every naturalist knows that trick.

Canada Geese temporarily displaced from Oakland Hills County Club by swarming hordes of golf crazed humans seek out short grass for their summer bulk up time. And here and there, sometimes along roadside ditches, more often at the edge of marshes and ponds, the increasingly common heron size, pure white American Egret stakes fish and frogs.

Before the month is over a hint of red appears in red maples, and black walnuts and hickories will be draped in the huge dirty-gray nests of the already here fall web worms. And of course, squirrels will be on nut gathering rampages, as we humans harvest elderberry and blackberries that line so many trailways and old railways.



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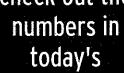
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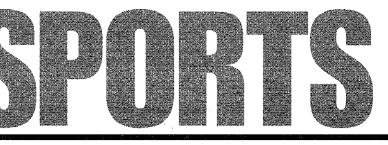
Jonathan Schechter writes on nature's way. He can be reached at oaknature@aol.com.



and the history of the

House wrens wrap-up nesting in August.

MU women's soccer preview, see Page B3



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

Stevenson facing new challenges

BY BRAD EMONS OBSERVER SPORTS WRITER

In 2007 Livonia Stevenson breezed through its boys soccer season, only to have it end on a sour note with a loss in the Western Lakes Activities Association championship final to Canton and in the Division 1 district final to Northville.

With a slew of veterans returning from last year's 18-2 squad, the Spartans will face an even more demanding schedule this fall within the confines

SOCCER PREVIEW

school Kensington Lakes Activities Association.

The Spartans now pick up two matches each in Central Division



of the newly

formed 23-

against perennial state powers Northville, Novi and fellow WLAA-Lakes Division member Salem, as well as newcomers South Lyon and South Lyon East. Coach Lars

Klemczak

D'Agostino



Richters also has booked non-KLAA dates with traditionally strong foes Saline, Warren DeLaSalle, Beverly Hills-Detroit Country Day and Troy Athens, as well as Livonia Churchill and Livonia

Franklin, both members of the KLAA's South Division.

And if that's not tough enough, the Central and South Division champions of the KLAA will meet on Oct. 6 for the Kensington Conference crossover followed by a KLAA crossover on Oct. 8, just a weck prior to the districts.

That's certainly a challenge in itself.

Richters must replace first-team



Livonia Franklin is looking for a full season from senior running back David Fortin, who missed most of 2007 with a broken arm.

Running game priority for Pats

BY BRAD EMONS OBSERVERS SPORTS WRITER

Because injuries and out of necessity, footballs filled the air frequently last season during Livonia Franklin's run to the state football playoffs.

Quarterback Jesse Carpenter, who has since graduated, threw for a school-record 2,220 yards, including 18 TD passes.

But when David Fortin, who broke his arm during the 2007 opener (and was lost for the entire regular season), returned for the playoffs, things changed dramatically as he ripped up Monroe for 238 yards and added 188 in another playoff win against Fordson.

With 5-foot-10, 205-pound senior's return alone, the Patriots should be able to move the ball on the ground with greater efficiency in 2008.

Fortin will be complemented by two promising juniors – Mike Baumgardner (6-1, 178), a member of Franklin's schoolrecord 4 x 100-meter relay team, and Mike Gadsby (5-11, 185). "We should be a little more run-oriented than in the past," said Franklin coach Chris Kelbert, who is coming off a 7-5 season. "If teams try and focus on David, we have those two guys who can do damage in the edges. And we're good enough outside to open things up inside for David."

FAST FACTS

School: Livonia Franklin,

Head coach: Chris Kelbert, eighth season.

League affiliation: Kensington Lakes Activities Association (South Division). 2007 record: 7-5.

Key losses: Pat Cecile (first-team All-Area); Jeff McCullough (first-team All-Area); Jesse Carpenter (first-team All-Area); Israel Woolfork (first-team All-Area); Jordan Short (second-team All-Area); Brian Humenay (second-team All-Area); Austin Mesler, Dan Robinson.

Returning starters: David Fortin, Sr. RB-LB (5-10, 205); Nate Coleman, Jr. OL (6-3, 293); Brandon Lane, Sr. DL (6-4, 230); Mark McRobb, Sr. QB-DB (5-11, 185); Conner Leidal, Sr. DB (6-3, 188). **Promising newcomers:** Mike Baumgardner, Jr. R8-P (6-1, 178); Mike Gadsby, Jr. RB (5-11, 185); Josh Weigand, Sr. WR (6-2, 165); Dan Mufler, Soph. DB (6-0, 170); Brian Nixon, Jr. OL (6-2, 215); Sean

McAuliffe, Jr. OL-DL (6-2, 225); Nate Robinson, Jr. OL (6-0, 250). Coach's quote: "It's a hard-working group, but not a rah-rah group. They get their business

done, they get in and get out. They have a good work ethic, but we need to try and increase the intensity level and enthusiasm on the field."

Schedule (all 7 p.m. starts): Aug. 28 (at Livonia Stevenson); Sept. 5 (Walled Lake Western); Sept. 12 (at Wayne Memorial); Sept. 19 (Livonia Churchill); Sept. 26 (at Westland John Glenn); Oct. 3 (Canton); Oct. 10 (Plymouth); Oct. 17 (at KLAA Central Division); Oct. 24 (Hartland).



Spartans net 2nd

Sunday, August 17, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

Livonia Stevenson came away with firstplace medals in singles and one in doubles during Thursday's Adrian Early Bird Invitational boys tennis tournament.

Jackson took the team title with 20 points followed by runner-up Stevenson (16), Chelsea (14), Stevensville-Lakeshore (13), Monroe Catholic Central (6) and the host Maples (1).

Stevenson's top two singles players, senior Chris Martin (No. 1) and junior Clayton Northey (No. 2) each finished 3-0 on the day to earn first-place medals. Teammates Kevin Francisco (No. 3) and Paul Franchina (No. 4), a pair of sophomores, each captured secondplace medals with 2-1 marks.

The Spartans' No. 4 doubles team of junior Kyle Fan and senior Giang Nguyen also won their flight with a 3-0 mark.

Stevenson's other three doubles squads each went 1-2 on the day including senior Garrett Adams and sophomore Vince Sabatini (No. 1); junior Lukas Rudis and Simjae Holman-Rayos (No. 2); and juniors Jeff Sondergaard and Paul

All-Area picks Dylan Green and Brady Thom, but eight other starters return led by first-team All-Observer choices Brian Klemczak, a senior midfielder and captain, and Joey D'Agostino, a senior midfielder.

"In order to achieve our goals this year, we will need to replace two reliable players in the back line, find consistent goal scoring, and improve

Please see SOCCER, B2

Senior Mark McRobb (5-11, 185) takes

over at QB and has been a pleasant surprise in camp so far.

"He was our second-leading rusher last year, he has good mobility and he's athletic," Kelbert said. "He brings another dimension to the run. He's been dependable throw the ball and we're happy with that."

The offensive line is anchored by the lone returning starter, junior Nate Coleman (6-3, 293). Meanwhile, an inexperienced defense is led by two seniors – end Brandon Lane (6-4, 230); and safety Conner Leidal (6-3,

Patriots in interceptions. "Teams ran away from Pat (Cecile) and went right at Brandon, and he more than held his own," Kelbert said. "He was a very good player for us last year. He'll set the tone. He's aggressive and he's our bighit guy."

188), who started all 12 games and led the

VanGilder (No. 3).

Senior golf champs

James Harkrader was the championship flight winner as the Livonia Senior Men's Golf League completed its season last week. A total of 142 golfers, ages 62 and up, participated during the season recording 2,471 ninehole rounds at Livonia's three city courses.

Eighty members qualified for the fiveday match-play tournament held Aug. 4-5 and 11-13 at Whispering Willows.

Other flight champions included Jack Robertson (first); Ron Kurkowski (second); Ken Johnson (third); and John Gjernes (fourth).

Runner-up flight finishers included John Coyne (championship); Ron Barch (first); Bob Bristow (second); Tom Allan (third); and Leo Catallo (fourth).

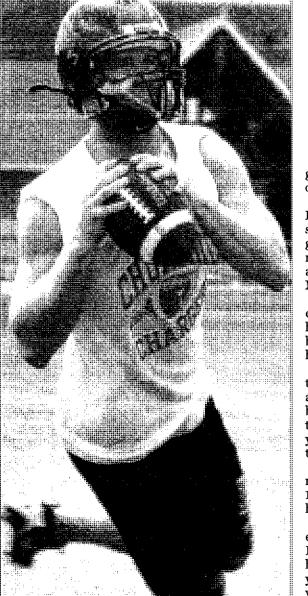
Sam LaMonica won the closest-to-the-pin contest on the No. 7 hole June 9 at Whispering Willows. His shot was 5 feet, 1.5 inches from the pin.

CHS soccer alums Livonia Churchill will stage an alumni soccer match beginning at 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 23 at the high school field.

For more information, e-mail Churchill varsity coach Reid Friedrichs at rfriedri@livonia.k12. mi.us.

Hole-in-one club

On July 31, Livonia's Dennis Drabicki used a 9-iron to ace the 116-yard, No. 9 hole 31 at Shenandoah Country Club in West Bloomfield.



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior quarterback Grant Morgan, rolling out in a recent practice, will direct Livonia Churchill's new spread offensive attack.

Schematic change Chargers planning to implement spread attack

BY BRAD EMONS OBSERVER SPORTS WRITER

Start spreading the word. Livonia Churchill football is undergoing an extreme makeover – on the offensive side of the ball.

Chargers 11th-year coach John Filiatraut, coming off a 7-3 playoff season, is ditching the Wing-T and going to the spread attack after making the decision in January and spending time with the Central Michigan University staff.

"Yes, it will look radically different," Filiatraut said. "The kids are having more fun running this offense because it gets a lot of people involved handling the football.

"And the staff has done a great job teaching it. Just how will it translate against other teams? I don't know but at some point you have to turn the kids loose. We almost did it last year, but we did not want to disrupt things."

Churchill has two quality senior running backs – Matt Kowalis (5-8, 190) and Jeff Ricketts (5-7, 173) to help make the transition go smoothly.

"Those two guys are special players and will be tough to defend," Filiatraut said. "I don't think I've ever had a better running back in my 12 years than Matt. He had close to 800 yards last year and is an excellent running back."

Senior quarterback Grant Morgan (5-10, 170), who finished the season as Churchill's starter, also returns.

FAST FACTS

School: Livonia Churchill. Head coach: John Filiatraut (12th season).

League affiliation: Kensington Lakes Activities Association (South Division). 2007 record: 7-3.

Key losses: Ryan Whittum (first-team All-Area); Ryan Dolan (first-team All-Area); Kevin Tabone (first-team All-Area); Duane Najarian (first-team All-Area), Mark Parris, Mike Bargerstock, Darius Miller-Wells, Max DiCicco, Daran Carey, T.J. Tilley.

Returning starters: Devin Moynihan, Sr. LB-TE (5-11, 215); Matt Kowalis, Sr. RB (5-8, 190); Jeff Ricketts, Sr. RB (5-7, 173); Grant Morgan, Sr. QB-FS (5-10, 170); Nate Zak, Sr. DL (5-7, 190); Jordan Systma, Sr. DB-WR (5-10, 144).

Promising newcomers: Dylan Ochala, Sr. OLB (6-0, 212); Jordan Grohoski, Soph. QB-DB (5-11, 150); Curtis Castleberry, Jr. OLB (5-8, 186); Alex Bay, SR. WR-TE (6-2, 190); Walter McCarthy, Sr. OT (6-6, 248); David Mendivil, Sr. C (5-9, 190); Matt Schiffert, Sr. OG (5-9, 185); Eric Perlowski, Sr. DL (5-11, 180); Ara Markarian, Sr. SS (5-11, 185).

Coach's quote: "We have to develop depth because we're fully platooned. The third- and fourth-stringers are now the second stringers. We have a lot of question marks on our offensive and defensive lines. But we they play well, we'll be tough to beat." **Schedule (all 7 p.m. starts):** Aug. 28 (at Hartland); Sept. 5 (Waterford Kettering); Sept. 12 (Westland John Glenn); Sept. 19 (at Livonia Franklin); Sept. 26 (Plymouth); Oct. 3 (at Wayne Memorial); Oct. 10 (at Canton); Oct. 17 (KLAA crossover); Oct. 24 (Livonia Stevenson).

"We're catching and throwing it well, but whether we go 50-50 (runpass), I don't know," Filiatraut said. "We'll probably be 60-40, but we might be best right now throwing it around."

Defensively, the Chargers will run their standard scheme led by senior linebacker Devin Moynihan (5-11, 215), a first-team All-Observer pick who had 141 total tackles last year, including four games with 20 or more.

"We're really committed to it,"

Filiatraut said of the stunt 4-3. "We still have to line up properly, not make mistakes, force turnovers and keep the ball in front of us."

How quickly the defensive and offensive lines come together will also be a key.

"We have a lot of question marks up front, but if they play well, we'll be tough to beat," the Churchill coach said. "We have to develop depth. We're fully platooned, but our thirdand fourth-stringers are now are second stringers."

BOYS SOCCER CAPSULE OUTLOOKS

LIVONIA CHURCHILL

B2

(LW)

Head coach: Reid Friedrichs, ninth year. League affiliation: KLAA-Kensington Conference (South Division). Last year's overall record: 9-7-3 Notable losses to graduation: Vinny Carozza (second-team All-Area)

Leading returnees: Adam Bedell, Jr. Def. (second-team All-Area): Etienne Lussiez, Sr. MF Ben Zukowski, Sr. Def.; Ian Guerin, Jr. MF: Matt Regan, Jr. MF: Max Washko, Jr. F. Drew Sieber Sr. F; Chris Denapoli, Sr. MF; Josh Andrzejewski, Sr. Def.

Promising newcomers: Erik Bird, Jr. Def. Friedrichs' 2008 outlook: "We return most of our players and have a veteran team. It's a group of boys that I have really gotten to know well. How we play will be up to the boys. They know how I want them to play and if we execute play team defense, and find some people to step up and score some goals, it could be a fun year."

LIVONIA FRANKLIN

Head coach: Vic Rodopoulos, seventh year. League affiliation: KLAA-Kensington Conference (South Division) Last year's overall record: 5-15-1

Notable losses to graduation: Ryan Matthey (second-team All-area): Joel Boettcher. Leading returnees: Zain Qureshi, Sr. MF-F Steve Trapp, Sr. MF; Travis Matthey, Jr. Def.; Brad Mangune, Sr. GK; Chad Dorton, Sr. MF; Mike Geraci, Sr. Def.: Jordan McKindles, Jr. Def.: Dave Gabany, Sr. Def.: Joe Michniewicz, Jr. MF Promising newcomers: Sean Clark, Jr. Def. Dylan Debeliso, Soph. Def.; Jonathan Haddad, Sr. MF; Joe Morski, Jr. MF; Zach Miller, Soph. F; Sr. Mr. Joe Molski, Jr. Mr. Zach Miller, Suph. F. Brendan Rossiter, Jr. F. Brad Tatro, Soph., Def. MF: Adam Tweedy, Jr. MF; Issa El-Kildani, Jr. MF; Hudson Cadet, Jr. MF. Rodopoulos' 2008 outlook: "We lost some key

players, but the players we have back are in key areas of the field. The newcomers seem to fit really well. The camaraderie is really good The guys are excited to get the season rolling We lack height, only a couple of tall guys, but we make it up in skill and desire. I think we'll be competitive. The guys are ready to play. LIVONIA STEVENSON

Head coach: Lars Richters, 11th year. League affiliation: KLAA-Kensington Conference (Central Division).

Last year's overall record: 18-2. Titles won last year: WLAA-Lakes Division.

Notable losses to graduation: Dvian Green (first-team All-Area); Brady Thom (first-team All-Area).

Leading returnees: Brian Klemczak, Sr. MF (captain; first-team All-Area): Joev D'Adostino Sr. MF (first-team All-Area); David Simor, Sr. F (10 goals); Adrian Fylonenko, Sr. MF (second-team All-Area); Nate Sergison, Sr. MF; Kendal Snow, Sr. Def.; Conner Burton, Jr. GK; Justin Collins, Sr GK

Promising newcomers: Zac Cooney, Soph. MF: Adam Dabkowski, Jr. CB; Reilly Mullett, Jr. OB. Richters' 2008 outlook: "We return quite a few players from last year's team, so I'm encouraged by our level of experience and excited about our depth. For the most par, this team is fairly athletic and fit, and there is widespread competition for roles on the field, so I'm hoping that we can perform well on a consistent basis. I trust that our incredibly competitive regular season schedule will point out the shortcomings of this group on a regula basis. As a result, I hope that we can learn the necessary lessons along the way so that we can be stronger and more prepared to succeed in October.

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN

Head coach: Jimmy Mortada, first year League affiliation: KLAA-Kensington Conference (South Division) Last year's overall record: 4-15-1. Notable losses to graduation: David Kavelage (second-team All-Area), Jeff Thompson, Leading returnees: Jacob Gates, Sr. MF Sergio Pavan, Sr. F; Logan Chaston, Sr. MF; Mark Thompson, Jr. Def.; Nelson Kenne, Jr. MF. Promising newcomers: Santiago Garcia, Sr. Striker; Robert Hurst, Soph. Mf; Kyle Beguhn, Soph. MF; Justin Bean, Fr. F; Austin Valentine, Fr. Caleb Samborski, Fr. MF Mortada's 2008 outlook: "We have some very smart players in Jacob Gates, Sergio Pavan, Nelson Kenne and Robert Hurst, We'll rely on Gates a lot because he has the most experience. Kenne can play the whole game at full speed and I see a very good player in the future. This year I think we'll surprise a lot of people. We're looking and we're in very good shape. We're understanding each other in the field and we're ready to prove our soccer respect from the powerhouse teams. WAYNE MEMORIAL

Co-coaches: Ashley Cooley and David Dainneau first year League affiliation: Kensington Lakes Activities Association (South Division) ast year's overall record: 2-14-1. Notable losses to graduation: Stepher

Maynor (second-team All-Area); Tim Hubbard, Albert Bajli, Stefan Harrison, Eric Schmitt. Leading returnees: Corey Taylor, Sr. GK; Zack Girouard, Sr. C-MF; Matt Thompson, Sr. MF-Def.; Alex Balli, Jr. Def.-C-MF Kevin Glass, Jr. Def.; Kyli Michael, Jr. F-MF: Brandin Everley, Jr. Def. Promising newcomers: Doug Malcolm, Jr. F-MF Lucas Moore, Fr. F; Kevin Diehl, Fr. Def.

Daigneau's 2008 outlook: "We are in a new division (KLAA) and are looking forward to a great season. There are two new coaches to the program and the potential for a great season is there. Our attitudes and outlook on the game is great. I see great futures for many of these players as athletes and people. LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE

Head coach: Trevor Johnson, second year League affiliation: Metro Conference. Last year's overall record: 5-13-1. Notable losses to graduation: Matt Parent (second-team All-Area); Daniel Pepaj, Ryan

lass. Leading returnees: Phil Strachan, Jr. MF; Garet Hintzman, Jr. MF; Garrett Gregg, Sr. GK; Matt Garant, Sr. Sweeper-F; Jake Biblk, Sr. Def.; Jimmy Moody, Soph. MF.

Promising newcomers: Tim Kuszak, Sr. Def.-MF, Demien.Opdenhoff, Fr. F; Joe Hollinger, Fr. Def. Johnson's 2008 outlook: "We have 15 players on the team, which is low, but everyone is

ready to work hard and we're determined to improve upon last year's disappointing record and finish in the districts. Our expectations for this season are to be highly competitive in every single game. We're young and raw at some position, but we battle for 80 minutes every game. My players' play a physical breed of soccer, but at the same time, we play intelligent soccer. Our goal is to compete for a Metro Conference championship, but as a coach, I'll be satisfied if we take strides and improve every game leading up to districts. With consistent play from my returning starters and some role players stepping up, this season can be a successful one for the Troians

LUTHERAN HIGH WESTLAND Head coach: Rich Block, 18th year. League affiliation: Metro Conference. Last year's overall record: 10-6-3. Notable losses to graduation: Ryan Baglov (second-team All-Area): Adam Zehel (secondteam All-Area), Aaron Derminer. Leading returnees: Josh Kruger, Sr. F; Micah Hausch, Sr. GK; Brad LaRose, Sr. MF; Chris Barnaby, Sr. Def.; Ben Crandell, Sr. MF; Austin Baglow, Jr. F; Gag Flanery, Jr. MF; Anthony Cipolla, Jr. Def : Laith Francis, Jr. F. Promising newcomers: Ben Derminer, Jr. Def.; Mason Sultana, Jr. MF; Ken Krzyske, Soph, MF; revor Sultana Soph. MF; Mitchell Boehm, Fr. MI Block's 2008 outlook: "This year's team has come into camp in the best shape physically than any other team I've had - that I can remember. One of the keys to our success will be how well we can replace the three skills positions we lost to graduation - two center-midfielders and a central defender. What we'll have to do is run a little different system or formation - if you will - to be better complement the skills and abilities of the

players we have returning HURON VALLEY LUTHERAN Head coach: Jim Ott, ninth year. League affiliation: Michigan Independent Athletic Conference (Red Division). Last year's overall record: 0-17-1. Notable losses to graduation: None. Leading returnees: David Adlof, Soph. Def.; Matt Kemppainen, Soph. MF; Matt St. John, Soph. MF; Andy Barber, Soph. Def.; Aaron Howell, Sr. F; Bryan Gruenewald, Jr. Def.; Braden Woldt-Babb, Sr. Def.; Eric Schaffer, Sr. F; Tyler Wagaman, Jr. MF; Kyle Warren, Jr. MF; Austin Tranchida, Sr. F. Promising newcomers: Kyle Tacia, Sr. GK: Richie Mamo, Jr. MF; Claire Wood, Jr. MF. Ott's 2008 outlook: "We scored only about 20 goals last year. Our goal is to score more goals. We're hoping Austin (Tranchida), Aaron (Howell) and Mark St. John, and even Eric Schaffer, who normally plays defense, can do that. We want to get more shots on goal. Last year nobody wanted to take the shot if they were open. We've got to get more opportunities. Last year we rotated goalkeepers because things did not

go well last year. Kyle (Tacia) didn't play last year. He's 6-5 and he's solidified that spot. That will help. We're hoping to compete this year. Our junior and senior classes haven't won any conference (MIAC) titles in any sport."

FROM PAGE BI

our on-field leadership," the Spartans' coach said. "Also, as is always the case for any successful high school soccer team, we will have to come together as a group and work selflessly for the good of the team."

The KLAA's South Division features defending WLAA champion Canton, Plymouth, Churchill, Franklin, Westland John Glenn and Wayne Memorial.

Churchill (9-7-3) returns a slew of veterans led by senior midfielder Etienne Lussiez, senior defender Ben Zukowski, and junior defender Adam Bedell, along with junior midfielders Ian Guerin and Matt Regan.

Franklin (5-15-1) reached a Division 1 district final last season, but must replace

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL Thursday, Aug. 21 John Glenn at Milford, Saturday, Aug. 23 South Lyon Invitational, 8 a.m. Battle Creek Tournament, B a.m. W. Bloomfield Tournament, 8:30 a.m Carleton Airport Tournament, 9 a.m. PREP BOYS SOCCER Monday, Aug. 18 South Lyon East at Wayne, 4 p.m Tuesday, Aug. 19 Waterford Mott at John Glenn, 4 p.m. Crestwood at Franklin, 7 p.m. Stevenson at Saline, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 20 New Haven at Clarenceville, 5 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 21 Franklin at Stevenson, 7 p.m. John Glenn at W.L. Western, 7 p.m. Wayne at Waterford Mott, 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 22 Ypsilanti at Clarenceville, 5 p.m. (Huron Valley Lutheran Tourney) Taylor Baptist at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m. St. Joe Mich. Luth. at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 23 Huron Valley Tournament, 11 a.m.

second-team All-Area pick Rvan Matthey, who was lost to graduation.

Meanwhile, both John Glenn (4-15-1) and Wayne (2-14-2) will have new coaches on the sidelines.

Assistant Jimmy Mortada takes over for Reavis Olive for the Rockets, while former Novi player Ashley Cooley will team up with David Daigneau as cocoaches for the Zebras.

One area team to watch in Division 4 is Lutheran High Westland, directed by the dean of area coaches, Rich Block. now in his 18th year. Block guided the Warriors to a runner-up finish in the 2003 state tournament.

"Our goal this year is to improve on our 10-6-3 record from last year and make it farther into the state tournament," Block said. "Last vear's team lost a considerable amount of talent from

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS & GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY Saturday, Aug. 23 South Lyon Inv. at Island Lake, 9:30 a.m. GIRLS SWIMMING Saturday, Aug. 23 John Glenn at Howell Invitational, B:30 a.m BOYS TENNIS Montay, Aug. 18 Wayne at South Lyon East, 4 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 19 W.L. Central at Stevenson, 4 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 20 Wayne at Ypsilanti Lincol Thursday, Aug. 21 Stevenson at Ch nill, 4 p.m Friday, Aug. 22 Friday, Aug. 22 John Glenn at South Lyon East, 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 23 Stevenson at Monroe Quad Meet, 9 a.m. GIRLS GOLF Monday, Aug. 18 Franklin Inv. at Fox Creek, 7:30 a.m. Maverick Inv. at Prestwick Village, 9 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 19 Corvus Invitational at Hudson Mills, 8 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 20 South Lyon, South Lyon East, Wayne at The Woodlands (Van Buren), 4 p.m.

the previous year, and played more to compete and stay in games, rather than playing to win. I except this team to play with more confidence, desire and passion to win and control games. If we can do that, it should be a pretty nice year for us."

The Warriors return to the Metro Conference along with another area school in Livonia Clarenceville, which is coming off a 5-13-1 season under rookie coach Trevor Johnson.

The Metro Conference stands at an even eight members after Clawson left to join the Macomb Area Conference.

Another area school looking for an improved season is Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (0-17-1), a member of the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference's Red Division.

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

Thursday, Aug. 21 Seahoim Tourney at Hudson Mills, 8 a.m. N. Farmington Inv. at Glen Oaks, 8 a.m. Chelsea Invitational 8:30 a.m. WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL Friday, Aug. 22 (at Delta Community College) Schoolcraft vs. Alpena CC, 6 p.m. Schoolcraft vs. Delta CC, 8 (UM-Dearborn Early Bird Classic) Madonna vs. Marian (ind.), 1:30 p.m. Madonna vs. Robert Morris (III.), 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 23 (UM-Dearborn Early Bird Classic) Madonna vs. Point Park (Pa.), 9 a.m. MU vs. Mt. Vernon Nazarene (Ohio), 1 p.m. (at Delta Community College) Schoolcraft vs. Alpena CC, noon Schoolcraft vs. Albena CC, 2 p.m. MEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER Saturday, Aug. 23 Schoolcraft at Cincinnati State, 3 p.m. WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER Friday, Aug. 22 Madonna at Trinity International (III.), 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 23 Madonna at Illinois Tech, 1 p.m.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Stevenson Team Night

Livonia Stevenson will stage its fall sports Meet the Team Night for athletes, parents and coaches from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 20, at the high school auditorium. Academic eligibility, participation fees, season schedules, rules and policies, varsity letter requirements, team photos and medical information will be among the topics discussed.

Churchill Meet The Team

Livonia Churchill High athletics wills stage

Ulterity

Wednesday, Aug. 20 at the Carli 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.

Churchill Pompon clinic

The Livonia Churchill varsity pom-pon 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.



For more information, call (734) 744-2894.

its Meet the Team Night, beginning at 7 p.m.

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No doubting Thomas – MU women's soccer coach seeking '08 rebound

BY TIM SMITH Observer staff writer

There were too many occasions last fall where Madonna University's women's soccer team couldn't hit the back of the net.

Inconsistent offense and injuries plagued the Crusaders, who tailed off badly in the second half of the season to finish 8-7-2.

But a rise to the top of the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference in 2008 might not be a pipe dream thanks to the addition of some promising recruits, including former Schoolcraft forward Jessica Austin — along with a preseason camp where coach Paul Thomas isn't handing out guarantees of playing time.

"All of our players are working hard, there are 25 players competing for 11 spots," said Thomas, entering his third season as Madonna's coach. "Players are going at it (in practice), they want to succeed, they want to win and they want to be in the starting 11."

Last season, some players didn't have to fight as hard for regular playing time. This time around, which begins 4 p.m. Friday against host Trinity International (Illinois), that won't be the case.

"I won't be afraid to start a team that is new to this college," said Thomas, adding that message is being heeded by his returnees. "The majority are knuckling down and working hard."

The Crusaders should keep goals from their opponents down, with strong midfielders and defenders in front of aggressive sophomore goalkeeper Brittany Warner (Canton/ Oakland University).

Leading the midfield corps are the team's co-MVPs from a season ago, senior Ashley Stoychoff (Canton/ Salem) and junior Lauren Hess (Livonia/Ladywood). Both also have offensive skills, sharing the '07 team's goal-scoring lead (five) with forward Kaila Moore (Howell), who is back for her junior year.

Stoychoff and Hess are helped out by sophomore Diana Brda (Westland/U-M-Dearborn) and impressive newcomers Andrea Mareel and Shannon McIntyre, the latter a senior coming over from Eastern Michigan University.

Providing depth will be junior Rachel Thompson (Livonia Stevenson) and freshman Nicole Rodriguez.

According to Thomas, if the midfielders play as well as they've looked during preseason, the offense will emerge.

"The midfielders are effective because of their level of fitness and technical ability, to work in tandem with the defenders and forwards," the coach explained. "It's hard to score goals if you don't have the service."

Up front, the team will be looking for Austin (one of Schoolcraft's top goal scorers last year) to reach double figures in goals, something the Crusaders haven't had since Kelly Japowicz tallied 15 in 2006.

"I expect a lot out of Jessica," Thomas said. "Expectations are high with the (high-scoring) reputation she has. But she's going to have to continue to work hard" and adjust to the speed of the WHAC game.

Austin won't have to do it alone, because Moore is looking solid in the early practices and is determined to pick up where she left off last season.

The Crusaders also have junior newcomer Jaclyn Ventimiglia (Macomb/Concordia) and returning senior Dina Allie who will be prowling for goals. Thomas likes how both players are performing thus far, particularly Allie.

"Dina Allie's probably looked the best I've seen her in the past four years this preseason," Thomas said. "She's looked very sharp, very fit. ... She has the desire to go out with a bang and win something. She's very, very motivated right now."

If sophomore forward Chelsea Skinner (Milford) bounces back from a leg injury, she could also contribute to Madonna's scoring.

Madonna's defense will feature steady senior Andrea Johnson (Canton) and juniors Gina Leone and Lia Melasi. Both Leone and Melasi were named to the all-WHAC first team last year.

"Those three players have been the standouts in the back line," Thomas said. "They've all been consistent players the past three years."

Milford alums Chelsea Shrewsberry and Allison Zemaitis, both freshmen, will bolster the defense as will sophomore Katie Kozlowski (Crestwood).

The defenders will assist Warner, who was redshirted at Oakland University last fall due to a hand injury.

"She's a very aggressive goalkeeper with a good pedigree," Thomas said. "She's played a high level of club soccer and high school (at Canton) and will be a solid player for us back there."

One thing for fans of the Crusaders to get used to as they take aim at the top of the conference standings is watching a goalie who likes to gamble.

"She's brave, but you need to be brave as a goalkeeper," he noted. "You need to be able to put your head where other people's feet are. You have to come out for crosses. Those types of attributes Brittany has."

The backup goalkeeper will be freshman Macie Carevic while sophomore and Livonia Clarenceville alum Chelsea Gregg is injured and will miss the season.

Thomas said the team could be further boosted by the dedication of Stoychoff and Allie, who tasted the success of going to the national tournament in 2005. "Those players know what it's like to win and they want to win before they leave."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Zanesville hurler finishes off Rams in Johnstown tourney

Nate Van Meter was probably the sole reason the Michigan Rams were heading home Thursday from the All-American Amateur Baseball Association Tournament in Johnstown, Pa.

The 20-year-old left-hander from Muskingum College (Ohio) tossed a completegame four-hitter and belted a three-run homer to propel the Zanesville (Ohio) Junior Pioneers to a 7-1 triumph over the Rams at Point Stadium.

The 20-and-under Rams, representing the Livonia-based Michigan Collegiate Baseball League, finished four days at the AAABA Tournament with a 2-2 record and end their season at 30-12 overall.

Van Meter fell behind 1-0 in the second inning on an RBI double by Aaron Wick (scoring Dan Augustine), but allowed only two hits the rest of the

SANDLOT BASEBALL

Chaz Mohler contributed an RBI single in the fifth and Van Meter put the game away with a three-run homer over the left field screen in the top of the ninth.

The Rams used a total of four pitchers including Adrian College's Matt Tuttle (Livonia Stevenson), MU's Bret Spencer and Colin O'Connell. Spencer was the most effective, allowing one just one run in 3.2 innings of relief.

"Going 2-2 for the National Tournament – everyone was disappointed that they couldn't advance, but were pleased and proud of the fine season," Rams manager Rick Berryman said.

Rams rally in 9th for win

The Michigan Rams

Derek Mosher followed with a walk to load the bases.

Brad Herman then delivered a clutch two-run double to right-center field to knot the score at 3-all and Brett Mazmanian broke the deadlock with the game-winning two-run single scoring both Mosher and Herman.

Josh Kirsten padded the lead with an RBI double scoring Mazmanian and reliever Jon Tibaudo set Brooklyn down in order in the bottom of the ninth to pick up the victory.

Tibaudo worked the final 2.1 innings in relief of starter Brett Shankin, who allowed just one earned run on three hits, four walks and four hit batters in 6.2 innings. Tibaudo gave up one run on one hit and did not allow a walk. Shankin fanned five.

Losing pitcher Josh Reyes

Schmitt earns bronze medal in 800 relay

BY ED WRIGHT Observer staff writer

All those years of sweat equity paid off big time for Allison Schmitt Wednesday morning in Beijing, China. The 18-year-old Canton

resident earned a bronze medal at the 2008 Summer Olympics around 11:40 p.m. local time Wednesday when she swam the first leg for the United States in the 4 x 200meter relay.

Australia won gold with a world-record time of 7:44.31 while the host Chinese captured second in 7:45.93.

The U.S. touched in 7:46.33, more than three seconds faster than fourth-

place Italy.

Schmitt was in first place for nearly half of her 200meter leg, however, she was fourth when teammate Natalie Coughlin took over for the second 200 meters.

Caroline Burckle, Schmitt's roommate in Beijing, swam the third leg for the U.S. ahead of anchor Katie Hoff.

Schmitt has been weakened this week by an intestinal illness, NBC Sports reported during Wednesday's race.

Schmitt narrowly missed qualifying for the 200 freestyle finals earlier in the week when she turned in the ninth-best time in the semis. Only the top eight swimmers advanced to the finals.

Schmitt, who graduated from Canton High School in January, is headed to the University of Georgia in a couple of weeks with an athletic scholarship. She is a member of Club Wolverine, which is based in Ann Arbor.

Schmitt is expected to return to Canton on Monday for a brief stay before heading to Georgia.

Her parents, Ralph and Gail, returned home Friday from their week-long journey to the Far East to watch their daughter compete in swimming's biggest event.

ewright@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2108

way and wiggled his way out of a bases-loaded jam in the bottom of the eighth inning when he got Madonna University's Shawn Little (Canton) on a strikeout and Wick on a groundout.

Zanesville, meanwhile, tied it in the third on an RBI double by Jordan Foster and took the lead for keeps on Zack Pollock's two-run double in the fourth off starting and losing Rams pitcher Tom Whiting. pulled out a dramatic ninthinning victory Wednesday to stay alive in the AAABA Tournament in Johnstown, Pa.

The Rams erased a 3-1 deficit with five runs in the top of the ninth to eliminate Youth Service of Brooklyn, N.Y., 6-3, at Point Stadium.

All five runs came with twoout.

The Rams' Tim Cross and Dan Augustine were each hit with a pitch and pinch hitter worked the first 8.2 innings, allowing four runs on just four hits. He walked six and hit two batters before reliever Eric Diaz took over in that fateful ninth.

The Rams scored once in the second to take a 1-0 lead on Aaron Wick's RBI single.

Brooklyn got two back in the fourth on Mike Georgio's tworun double and went up 3-1 on an RBI sacrifice fly by Armando Gutierrez in the eighth.

Concealed Dodgers 2-2 in Puerto Rico tourney

The Concealed Security Dodgers reached the final four before bowing out last week in the American Amateur Baseball Congress Pee Wee Reese Division (12-and-under) World Series in Toa Baja, Puerto Rico.

Concealed finished 2-2 in tournament play and 67-17 overall.

On Aug. 9, the Gresham Park (Ga.) Yardogs eliminated the Dodgers, 4-I, as Drew Hoarde (Oak Park) homered in the loss.

Losing pitcher Dalton Greyerbiehl (Commerce) scattered seven hits over six innings. Only one run was earned as he fanned four and walked only one.

Greyerbiehl picked off three runners at third base, only to have all three runners score following errant throws as a result of a rundown situation.

Concealed stayed alive in the double-elimination tournament with a 4-2 win over the New Haven (Conn.) Naturals as Alec Padilla of Romeo, a pick-up player from league rival the Detroit Metro Stars, was the hero.

Using a 'cutter,' the 6-foot-3, 170-pound Padilla scattered eight walks and four hits over seven innings to pick up the win. He got out of a bases loaded jam with two-out in the bottom of the seventh by recording his 14th strikeout on a 3-2 count.

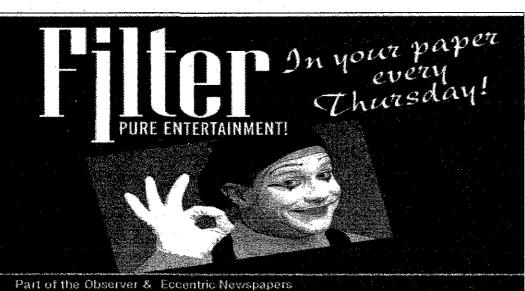
Padilla also led the Dodgers' seven-hit attack going 3for-3 with a pair of doubles. Greyerbiehl also added two hits and two RBI.

In the tourney opener Aug. 7, host Levittown, P.R., the defending AABC champion, blanked the Dodgers, 8-0, as Horde collected the lone hit in the third inning. Greyerbiehl, Mike Vomastek

(Livonia) and Dee Jawad (Dearborn Heights) shared the mound duties for Concealed, giving up a total of seven earned runs on eight hits and four walks.

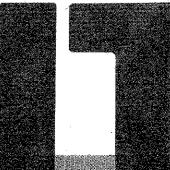
On Aug. 8, Concealed stayed alive with their first victory, an 11-3 triumph over Cincinnati (Ohio) Midland as Greyerbiehl went 2-for-3 with a double and four RBI. Horde also walked in the fourth and swiped second, third and home on three pitches.

Jake Semak (Livonia) pitched three scoreless innings in relief of starter John Slater (Southfield) to earn the save. Semak struck out five and did not allow a walk or hit.



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B4 (*)

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, August 17, 2008

www.hometownlife.com





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

Good vision critical for success in school

The Michigan Optometric Association reminds parents that good vision is critical for many classroom tasks such as reading books, seeing a blackboard and viewing a computer screen. Without an eye exam many children will suffer from undetected vision problems and some may even be misdiagnosed as having a learning disorder.

The American Optometric Association's 2008 American Eye-Q survey, which assesses public knowledge and understanding of a wide range of issues related to eye and vision health. showed 87 percent of respondents were unaware that one in four children have a vision problem that might affect learning.

"Over 400.000 school children in Michigan have vision conditions that can negatively affect learning," said Peter Agnone, MOA optometrist. "Many parents rely on vision screenings in school to check for eye problems, but that isn't enough. Comprehensive eye exams are necessary to detect problems that a simple screening can miss such as eye coordination and moderate amounts of farsightedness and astigmatism."

Optometrists can tell if vision skills are lacking or if the eyes are not functioning properly. These eye and vision issues can lead to headaches, fatigue and other eyestrain problems. Parents should be aware of symptoms that may indicate a child has a vision or visual processing problem. Be sure to tell an optometrist if a child frequently loses his or her place while reading, avoids close work, holds reading material closer than normal, tends to rub his or her eyes, has headaches, turns or tilts head to use one eve only, makes frequent reversals when reading or writing, uses finger to maintain place when reading, omits or confuses small words when reading, or consistently performs below potential.

Studies indicate that 60 percent of children identified as problem learners actually suffer from undetected vision problems. In fact, according to the Eye-Q survey, only 39 percent of adults understand that behavioral problems can be an indication of vision problems.

Early detection and treatment provide the very best opportunity to treat and correct vision problems to help children see clearly. The MOA recommends that a child's first eye exam take place at six months of age. Unless problems are detected, the next exam should be at age three, and then every two years once a child begins school. Unfortunately, the Eye-Q survey showed that 57 percent of children did not receive their first eye exam until age five or older.

"Good vision doesn't just happen," said Agnone. "A child's brain learns how to use eyes to see just like he or she learns how to use legs to walk or a mouth to form words. The longer a vision problem goes undiagnosed and untreated, the more a child's brain has to overcompensate to live with the vision problem, instead of developing and learning normath

For more unformation or to locate a Michigan Optometric Association doctor, visit http://michigan.aoa.org.

Birth control pill risks, and neck pain solutions





Holistic moms gather to share information

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN OGE STAFF WRITER

Andrea Stevens seemed surprised that nearly 35 parents turned out for the firs





Andrea Stevens is the Metro Detroit chapter leader of Holistic Moms Network. Behind Stevens is Stephanie Rose of Farmington.



The Holistic Moms Network met for the first time at the Plymouth Library.

The room was crowded for the first meeting of the Holistic Moms Network on Thursday, Aug. 7.



Pam from Fenton emails that she is taking birth control pills and heard that she could be at an increased risk of cancer. Is this true?

A new study finds that women who take birth control pills have a higher risk of cervical cancer. Researchers studied more than 50,000 women. They found those who took the pills for at least five years had nearly double the risk of cervical cancer than those who had never taken the pill. But there is some good news. The study also found that risk disappeared a decade after women stopped taking the pill.

Peter Nielsen

Principles

Previous studies have shown the hormones found in birth control pills can protect against ovarian and womb cancer, which are harder to detect.

Mike from Clarkston emails saying he wakes up each morning with the worst pain in his neck and shoulders. What can he do?

Mike you are not alone. Doctors estimate that seven out of 10 people will suffer with the same pain at some point in their lives. The biggest cause is use and abuse. Here are three simple things you can try to help relieve the pain.

When you are at the computer or a desk, keep your head balanced directly over your spine. Keep both feet on the ground and sit all the way back in your chair.

How do you use the phone? Do you crick your neck to one side? That could be a big culprit. Try a head set or speakerphone to keep your head in a neutral position.

Do you carry a briefcase, bag or heavy purse? Carrying that weight on one shoulder all the time could cause pain. Try switching to a backpack or alternate which shoulder you use

Hopefully these simple things will help relieve your pain.

Peter Nielsen is a fitness expert and owner of Peter Nielsen's Personal Training Club in West Bloomfield, and Nielsen's Town Center Health Club in Southfield, Catch him on WDIV and WJR, or visit www.peternieisen.com. meeting of the Holistic Moms Network at the Plymouth District Library. Moms and dads from Ann Arbor, Farmington Hills, Northville, Sterling Heights, Plymouth, Livonia, Canton, Ferndale, Westland, and Dearborn came to the event in search of ways to make their families healthier.

The national organization had told Stevens to expect 10 to 12 parents, but she passed out flyers at numerous places such as farmers markets in an effort to reach as many moms as possible. The Redford mom of two is starting the local chapter of the nonprofit that offers support for parents interested in natural living. The turnout was indicative of the popularity of the holistic movement. The nonprofit has grown to 120 chapters nationwide since it was founded five vears ago.

Stevens began thinking about following a healthier lifestyle while taking a holistic birth class at the Center for the Child Bearing Year in Ann Arbor before her daughter was born 2 1/2 years ago. Even before then she had quit drinking diet soda after reading a book on aspartame which she blames for giving her headaches. Since the holistic birth class Stevens has further researched everything from nutrition to vaccines and decided to return to living the way she grew up. Her mother Joyce Murch never fed her family processed or fast foods. Today Stevens teaches the Bradley Method of Natural Childbirth in Dearborn and prefers cooking from scratch to eating out.

"I'm just a regular mom not a holistic expert by any means," said Stevens. "I try to do a little step at a time, try to buy as

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

much organic and locally grown food as possible. I boost the children's immune systems through proper nutrition and supplements. They get lots of fruits and vegetables and we avoid high fructose corn syrup. I opted not to vaccinate our children because of so much information about adverse reactions and long term health effects. That's not to say I don't let my mother-in-law take the kids to McDonald's once in a while. I don't want it to be taboo and then they want it more.

Like Stevens, co-leader Daedra Surowiec of Dearborn started reading labels when she was pregnant four years ago

"I wanted to know what I was putting in my body. I stopped drinking pop," said Surowiec. "When you have something growing in your body you start thinking about what you're putting in your body.

Tali and Julian Wendrow of West Bloomfield started making changes in their lifestyle because of their two children ages 15 and 13.

"Our daughter has autism and we found making changes in the kids' diets made a difference," said Tali Wendrow. "Our son has ADD. We started with a veast-free, gluten-free diet for our daughter. We eat more organic, avoid artificial flavors and colors and found it was helping diminish symptoms of autism and ADD and they're hardly ever sick with the flu."

"Even organic produce gets rained on. We can't screen out everything but we found a healthy eating approach helps with prevention," added Julian. "We avoid antibiotics and keep their immune

systems optimal by other means." Gwen Adomaitis of Farmington Hills. like the Wendrows, came to the meeting to network with parents who believe as she does. The \$45 membership fee includes a newsletter and the opportunity to participate in an e-mail group to exchange information.

"I wanted to find a community of people on the same path to keep things natural, to be able to go to a play group and not worry about food dyes, to try to eat food as natural as possible, to cook at home from food we might recognize, things my great grandmother did," said Adomaitis who gave birth to two of her children at home. Adomaitis takes her children to a pediatrician with a holistic practice in West Bloomfield. She was toting her 6-month-old daughter Rowan in a baby sling.

'I got started when I had my first child in the hospital with a midwife six years ago. It kind of snowballed. I now make a lot of my cleaning products."

The Metro Detroit chapter of the Holistic Moms Network meets 9:45-11:45 a.m. on the first Thursday of the month at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main. The topic for the Sept. 4 meeting is toxic ingredients in household and personal care products. Stevens hopes to add an evening session for working moms if she receives enough requests.

For more information, visit www. holisticmoms.org, call Andrea Stevens at (313) 220-4592 or send e-mail to amstevens14@juno.com.

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

AUGUST

Vinyasa yoga

From 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 17, Vinyasa yoga blends strength and flexibility training emphasizing power, precision, timing, grace and coordination, at Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton, To register, call Julie Burt at (734) 394-5460 or online at www.netafit.org.

Blood drive

From 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Aug. 18, in the DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital Conference Center, 1 William Carols Drive, Commerce, Pledge a blood donation by going to www. givelife.org with the sponsor code DMC and choose the HVSH drive. Walk-ins welcome but appointments encouraged to prevent lengthy waits.

Diabetes in the school An educational session for school personnel, with or without medical training, on how to care for a child with diabetes, presented by University of Michigan's C.S. Mott Children's Hospital 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 19, at the Washtenaw Intermediate School District, 1819 S. Wagner, Ann Arbor. Cost is \$20. Call Jennifer Schwab at (734) 615-4596 or send email to schwabja@med.umich.edu.

Inner engineering

Led by Isha Yoga Teacher Sadhguru

Jaggi Vasudev Wednesday-Tuesday, Aug. 20-26, free intro talk 7 p.m. Aug. 20, at The Finnish Cultural Center, 35200 W. Eight Mile, Farmington Hills. Contact (248) 722-0111 or detroit@ ishafoundation.org.

Sharing & Caring

Education and support program for breast cancer survivors features field trip Ai Chi: Range of Motion through Aquatic Exercise 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 21, at the Goldfish Swim School, 2388 Cole St., Birmingham. To register or for more information, call (248) 551-8585. Movie marathon

Begins 10:00 a.m. Friday, Aug. 22, and runs for 24 hours through Saturday

morning at Emagine Theatre in Novi to benefit Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan, an independent foundation that helps families cope with the many financial and emotional stresses of battling leukemia, lymphoma and related blood disorders

Raising a minimum of \$105.10 in pledges will get you admitted to the Theatre for 24 hours of watching your choice of current-run movies, also lunch, dinner and continental breakfast on Saturday morning, snacks throughout your stay and all the pop and popcorn you can eat. New for this year is the "Family Pack Special' for a family of four A

special admission allows parents with two children to arrive on Friday at 5 p.m., watch two movies, have dinner, and enjoy pop and popcorn all for the same pledge total as one individual. \$105.10. Register online at www.leukemiamichigan.org or call Children's Leukemia Foundation at (800) 825-2536. Individuals aged 13-17 may only participate until 10 p.m. unless accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Alzheimer's memory walk

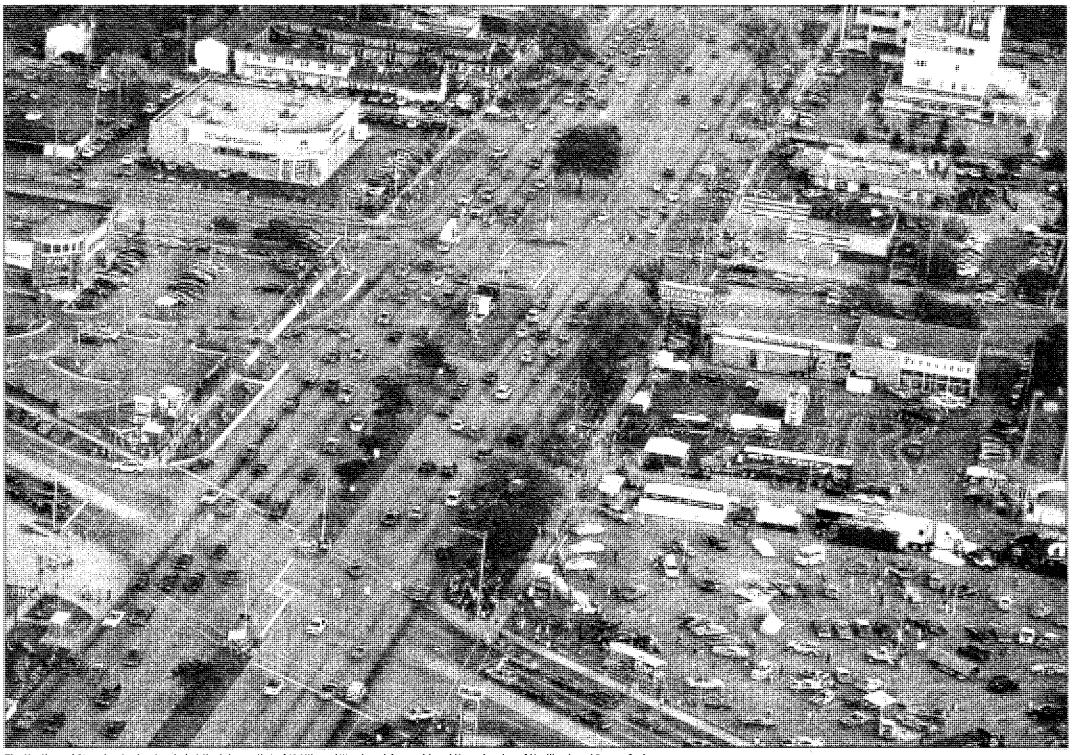
Saturday, Aug. 23, at the Detroit Zoo in Royal Oak, rain or shine. To start a team or make a donation, contact the Alzheimer's Association at alzgmc. org or (248) 351-0280. The Alzheimer's

Association is the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's research, care and support. For more information, visit www.alz.org. Hatha yoga classes

From 5:15-6:30 p.m. Tuesdays beginning Aug. 26 to Sept. 30, in Classrooms 1 and 2 at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile at Levan, Livonia. Hatha Yoga increases flexibility, energy level and strength at your own pace in a non-competitive setting. Class participants need to be able to move between a standing position to a hands and knees position with ease. There is a fee. Space limited. To register, call (734) 655-1162.

LOCAL NEWS

Floating on a Dream Cruise



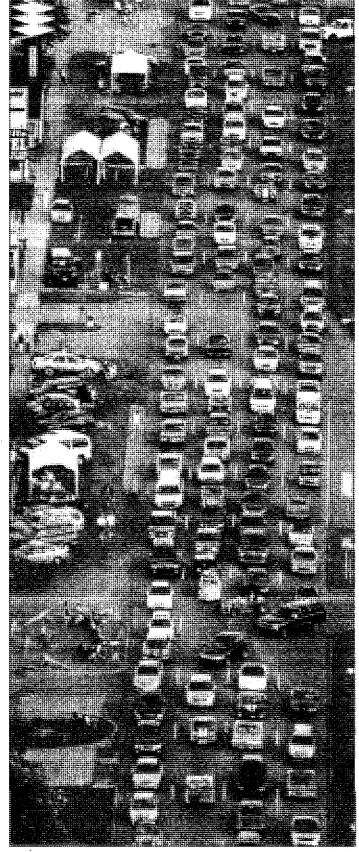
The Northwood Shopping Center, located at the intersection of 13 Mile and Woodward, is considered the epicenter of the Woodward Dream Cruise.

PHOTOS BY STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER JOHN STORMZAND



John Stormzand | Staff Photographer The intersection of Woodward Avenue and Twelve Mile saw some of the heaviest cruising activity.

B6 (*)



It wasn't easy to navigate Woodward Friday evening if you weren't a classic car cruiser.

hoa. That is one pink car. Oakland County Sheriff's deputies Dave Losinski and Bill Christensen spot it immediately. Even hundreds of feet above the ground it pops out — a Pepto Bismolcolored drop inching north on Woodward Avenue Friday night.

Losinski and Christensen are members of the Sheriff's Department Aviation Unit, a helicopter patrol division that's monitored county skies since 2001.

This weekend saw the unit's helicopters hovering up and down Woodward, as they patrolled the 14th annual Woodward Dream Cruise.

The unit helps the nearly two dozen other police agencies in monitoring the festivities that, from hundreds of feet above, take on an almost mythic quality.

The great American road that is Woodward stretches into the horizon, lined with tiny bits of candy-colored cars.

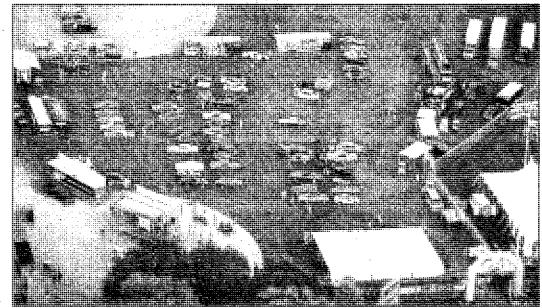
Christensen said in the years he's patrolled the Dream Cruise, there haven't been any serious incidents. A few disorderly conduct problems, a few cases of people trying to steal tires from cars.

"I haven't heard of very much beyond that," he said.

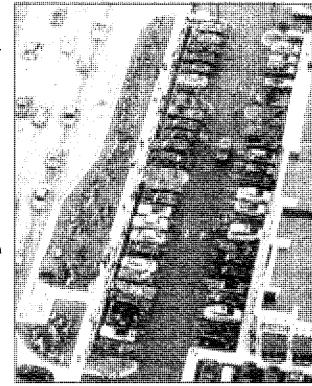
Christensen attributes the relative lack of incidents at the Dream Cruise to the heavy police presence on the ground, and the deterrent effect of the helicopter patrol.

"We're actually a presence more than anything," he said.

– By Megan Pennefather



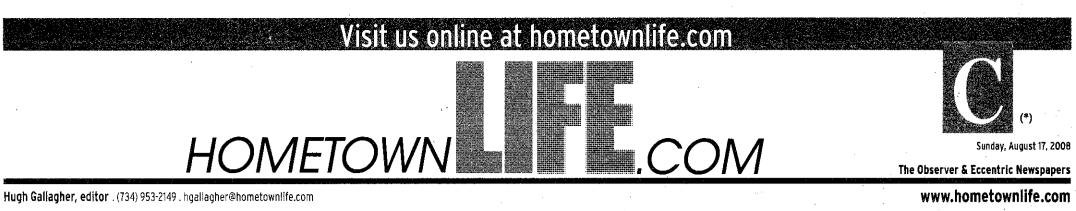
Classic cars were displayed in Memorial Park in Royal Oak Friday.



Spectators take in the cruising action in front of Potbelly's on the west side of Woodward north of Normandy in Royal Oak.



By 8 p.m. Friday, Woodward was home to a classic car traffic jam.



Store and share large files on the Web without spending a dime

Question: How can I share large files, like photos and videos, with friends and family members?

Answer: When I need to do this. I invariably turn to YouSendIt (yousendit. com). Granted, the Web offers countless similar services, but I like YouSendIt because it's quick, easy, and free --- and because I'm a creature of habit.



I may need a new habit, however, now that I've discovered Drop.io (www.drop.io). True to its name, this service is like an online dropbox for your files. Or, to put it another way, permanent temporary storage.

Tech Savvy

Rick Broida

Without so much as setting up an account or providing an e-mail address, you can choose a Web address for your "drop" (drop.io/whatever-name-you-want),

select the file(s) you want to upload, enter a password (optional), and specify how long the drop should exist: anywhere from 1 day to 1 year.

You can, of course, share your new URL with others if you want to provide access to your files - and you don't have to worry about the decor. The "drop space" looks quite attractive and offers several views for browsing files.

What's more, sharing a Drop.io URL with co-workers is like creating an instant online workspace for collaborating on files and documents.

In recent months the service has added even more interesting features, such as audio recording by cell phone: When you create a drop, you get a phone number and extension you can dial into to record meetings, podcasts, reminders, or whatever.

In a nutshell, you dial the number, wait for the prompt, and enter your extension. Whatever audio gets recorded by your



phone is converted to an MP3 file and stored on your rop. rou can

listen to the file, download it, share

it with others, and

Drop.io can also

send via fax any

Word document

or PDF you've

so on



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Faith and Grace Hargrave are 4 and 6 years old. Their mother, Bonnie Arndt, dressed both of them from head to toe, including backpacks, for under \$15.



Thrift store

offers bargains

to benefit

disabled

American

veterans

What: The DAV Thrift Store

north of Ann Arbor Trail on

the east side of the street.

Hours: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday.

Phone: (734) 513-6020.

520-5328.

Donations are accepted at

the store every day. Pickup

is available by calling (866)

Monday-Saturday, and 10

Where: 8050 Middlebelt,

DAV THRIFT STORE

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN **O & E STAFF WRITER**

Sarah Kennedy struts through the DAV Thrift Store in Westland showing off her outfit. The 17year-old Westland girl assembled the trendy skirt, tank top, sweater, shoes, purse, beads, and bracelet for under \$15. Bonnie Arndt dressed both of her daughters Faith, 4, and Grace, 6, from head to toe, including backpacks, for under \$15. Sharon Jones of Detroit dressed for success in a pants suit with briefcase for \$15. Lashawna Wright is constantly looking for bargains as night manager of the store that

opened March 28.

year-old son Chandler year round. His Tommy Hilfiger jeans cost \$3.98. The DAV Thrift Store is able to offer lov

She shops for back to school clothes for her 12-



The free Edison program for Windows helps you calculate annual savings based on simple changes to

settings.

uploaded: Just click Send, then Fax, and then enter the recipient's fax number. Presto: The document gets delivered just as though you'd sent it your computer's power from a fax machine. (You're limited to

documents of no more than 20 pages each.) Receiving a fax is a bit more

complicated: You have to e-mail a special cover sheet to the recipient, who must use it as the top sheet when sending your fax. The pages will arrive in your drop as a PDF. which you can then download, view, print, etc.

Amazingly, all these Drop.io services are free. Bookmark this site pronto.

Question: How can I reduce the amount of energy consumed by my computer(s)?

Answer: Windows users should check out Edison (verdiem.com/edison), a free utility that helps you manage your PC's power settings and shows your estimated annual savings for every tweak you make.

The program includes separate settings tabs for both work and non-work hours (which you can designate using the Schedule tab). Using a slider, you nudge your PC toward "save less" or "save more" -Edison makes corresponding adjustments to the display, hard drive, and suspend settings. As you drag the slider, you get instantly updated annual-savings figures, which you can make even more accurate by plugging in the actual kilowatt/hour costs for your home or office.

This is a brilliant, easy-to-use little application I hope everyone will try. Sure, you can tweak the same power settings without it, but there's something very satisfying about seeing how much money you'll save at the same time you're conserving energy.

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

Steven Ellis is the co-manager of the DAV Thrift Store in Westland.

Chandler Wright of Redford is 12 years old. His Tommy Hilfiger jeans cost \$3.98 at the DAV Thrift Store in Westland.

prices on used clothing every day because merchandise is donated to the organization which provides services for disabled American veterans. Sales reduce the costs for customers even more. Signs located throughout the store show weekly specials and on Monday seniors receive an extra 25 percent off of clothing.

"If you wait for them to be half off you get an even better deal," said Lashawna Wright of Redford. "I'd been looking for shoes but didn't want to pay \$40 to \$50 because he's so hard on them. These are Adidas. I got them for \$4.98."

Martine Vartanian and her sister Denise Bendall like shopping for work clothes at the thrift store.

"On Sundays certain items are a quarter each or five for \$1," said Bendall, a Redford resident who works at the 35th District Court in

Piease see THRIFT, C2

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN O&E STAFF WRITER

Celeste Gosselin squealed with delight when she walked into her newly redecorated rooms. The sixyear-old girl considers herself an artist so the playroom is one of her favorite places.

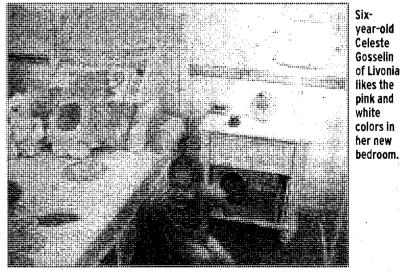
Thanks to the hard work of a group of volunteers from The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth, Celeste has a cheery environment to brighten the long days she spends there. Diagnosed with acute lymphocitic leukemia in 2004, Celeste spends almost the entire day in her bedroom and playroom.

"I like the pink and white colors and the butterflies," said Celeste. Suzanne Gosselin is just happy

that her little girl is happy.

The family had just moved into their Livonia home in October when a week later they found out Celeste was no longer in remission. For a while the Gosselins spent more time at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor than their new home.

Celeste is once again going through chemotherapy. When her white blood cell count is down she has no ability to fight infection and



must remain isolated in her home.

"She was bubbling over, but before she was very nervous a lot of her things would be moved and changed," said Suzanne. "I was relieved that she accepted everything so wonderfully. Certain things are very unpredictable for her now. The play room is more like an art room with book shelves. In the center of the room is a flower painted table that she does her painting and stuff. I'm happy but it's a bittersweet happiness. She only has me to play with. I play Barbies with her, jump on her trampoline. We had a garage sale just to buy a trampoline. It makes her laugh. It's great therapy."

Tawnya Johnson and the rest

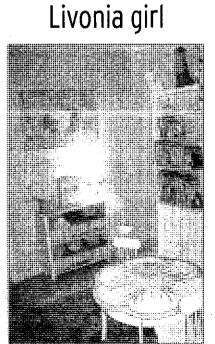
of the volunteers at The Inn at St. John's took six weeks just to plan the theme. The co-workers found out about Celeste while attending a luncheon for the Suite Dreams Project in May after she was nominated to receive a dream bedroom through the Rochester-based nonprofit. Working with the staff at The Inn, Tawnya and eight other volunteers raised over \$5,000 to redo the two rooms.

'We started with her favorite colors." said Johnson, who led the project's volunteers. "She's six and a little girl so pink is the big thing. We hired a muralist, Upon a Wall, to paint the flowers,

Please see PINK, C3

Volunteers

brighten life for seriously ill



This is the playroom where Celeste Gosselin

does her painting.

HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Polish dance classes to begin in September

The Polish National Alliance Centennial Dancers is registering children ages 4-18 for Polish dance classes this fall with Suzan Charuba Marzec. The group will hold an informational parent meeting 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 10, at Simply Polish, 28841 Plymouth Road, one block east of Middlebelt, Livonia. Classes start the following Wednesday and run through March 21. The classes conclude with a recital by

C2

(*)

the PNA Centennial Dancers and the adult Radomianie Polish Folk Dance Ensemble. The performance was held at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton last April. For more information, call

(734) 266-9995 or visit www. PNACentennialDancers.org.

Marzec has been teaching Polish folklore dancing for 20 years. The classes include instruction in the customs, traditions and language of Poland.

Livonia Civic Chorus looking for new members

The Livonia Civic Chorus begins its 2008-2009 season with a rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 9, at Frost Middle School, 14041 Stark, Livonia.

New members are always welcome. All vocal ranges are needed, especially tenors and bass/baritones.

The chorus meets every Tuesday from September through May and performs two major shows each December and May.

For more information, call (248) 543-2946, send e-mail to gerisings@sbcglobal.net, or visit www.livoniacivicchorus. org.

Redford Suburban League seeks crafters

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN O&E STAFF WRITER

Time is running out and Lillian Malley is a little worried. The Farmington Hills woman still doesn't have enough crafters for the boutique which is part of the Redford Suburban League's annual celebrity fashion show.

The Fall Festival of Fashion takes place Wednesday, Oct.

15, at Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft, Livonia. Proceeds from the event

go to the Burger School for Students with Autism in Garden City.

Once again this year Rich Fisher and Doris Biscoe host the fashion show spotlighting clothes from Lord & Taylor and the Men's Wearhouse. "We have quite a large

boutique with all kinds of

crafts including jewelry, door wreaths, decorations, flower arrangement, a lot of Christmas of course, doll clothes," said Malley, Redford Suburban League board member and publicity person for this year's fashion show.

"We're looking for any kind of crafters/vendors. Skirted tables are \$45 each. The boutique opens at 9 a.m. Crafters can come in at 7 a.m. to set

up. Lunch for them is \$15. The fashion show runs after lunch at noon."

For more information about the boutique, call Sara Gorman at (313) 937-8583 or Josetta Howes at (248) 960-0853.

Tickets for the fashion show are \$45 per person, includes luncheon. Call Miriam at (734) 981-6003.

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FROM PAGE C1

Plymouth. "That's a real bargain with gas the way it is."

"I shop here all the time," said Vartanian, a Westland resident who works for Comcast. "I just lost 43 pounds and am going to lose more so I buy clothes and then donate them back that way somebody else gets a chance to wear them. I got all of my summer stuff for maybe \$20. I've gotten brand names, Ralph Lauren, Gloria Vanderbilt, things with tags still on them."

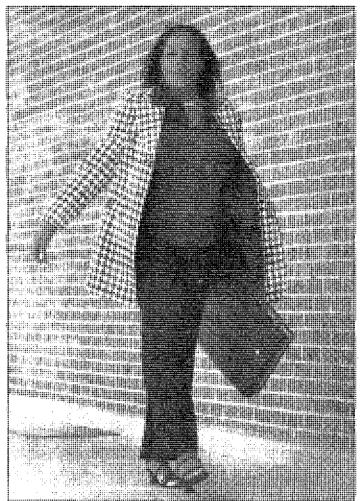
Timna Peterman of Redford comes once a week to buy merchandise to sell on eBay.

"A lot of people are doing that," said Peterman. "I see whatever is a good deal that I know will sell. I also find goodies for me. They price it to move it out. The store is very neat and well orga-

Manager Carla Monier shows off the back room where items go through a four step process before ending up on the sales floor. "There's nothing with

holes, no broken zippers or stretched out material because we only want to put out the best of the best," said Monier of Northville. "It comes through the door and goes through a sorting area. Electronics are all tested. If it doesn't work it's thrown out.'

The racks and racks of



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sharon Jones of Detroit is dressed for success. The total cost of her outfit was \$15 including the briefcase.

sweater, tops, pants, shoes,

maternity and evening wear

fill only part of the 25,000~

square-foot store. Furniture,

throw pillows, toys, wicker

baskets, books, TVs, cof-

fee pots, household items

like dishes, knick knacks,

boots, children's clothes,

golf clubs, and car seats are among the thousands of items for sale. It's the perfect place to not only dress for less but furnish a dorm room or cottage.

"People are already shopping for back to school, buying jeans, shirts. We have

uniform separates for 99 cents. For \$5 they can get a whole outfit from head to toe including shoes," said Monier. "We're able to give good deals because everything is donated. People in Michigan are so generous."

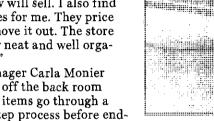
Duane Alexander has been managing thrift stores since 1985. His Retail Management Specialists in Oklahoma City, Okla. oversees the DAV Thrift Store owned by Disabled American Veterans. Although staff is paid, there's always a need for volunteers.

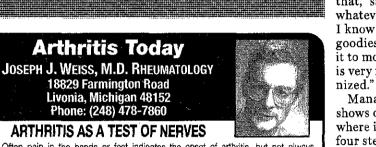
"We have everything in household except for food, guns, ammo with the exception of large appliances and mattresses," said Alexander. "We just need more people to know about us."

Rolly Lee is especially excited about the opening. of the DAV store, the first in Michigan. Proceeds go to programs that help disabled veterans with transportation and to make their stay at VA hospitals easier. Past contributions to VA hospitals have included everything from wheelchairs to TVs. The nonprofit organization was founded after World War I.

'We act on behalf of disabled veterans to make sure they get the benefits they earned," said Lee, state adjutant for the DAV. "The store is going to help us be self sufficient and help us to do more things for disabled vets and their families."

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OF0861735

Often pain in the hands or feet indicates the onset of arthritis, but not always. Particularly in the aged, a discomfort that is in part pain, but in part numbness, can begin with no warning in the feet. The discomfort starts in the toes, and over time moves upward into the ankle and lower leg. The discomfort is bilateral, i.e. in both feet and is present day and night. For most

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people, the discomfort is worse at night and disrupts sleep. In medical practice, this feature of night pain helps the doctor make a diagnosis. Arthritis improves when one is not walking or standing.

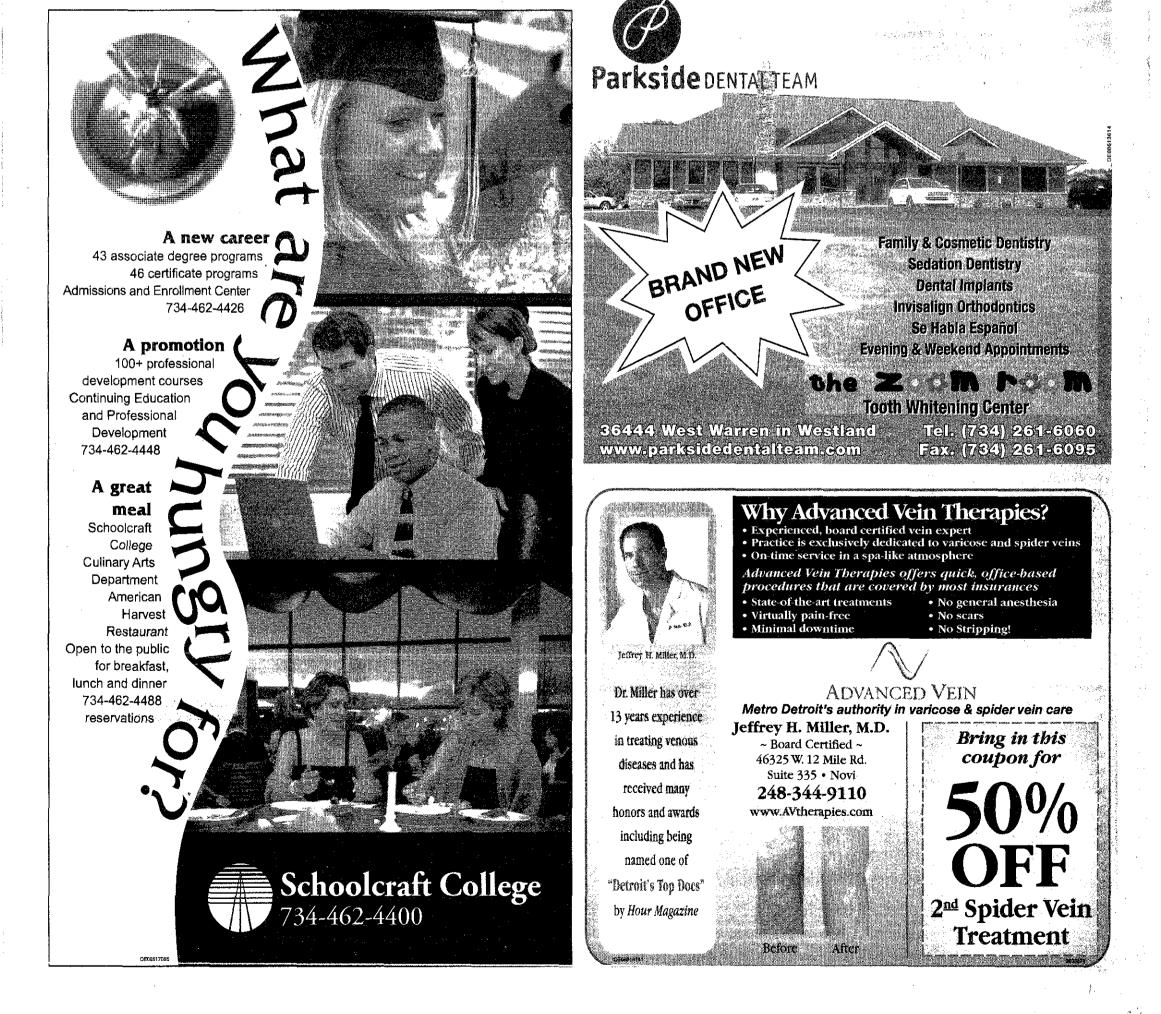
In contrast, problems involving the nervous system worsen while in bed. The reason is that at night outside stimulation is at a minimum, so internal discomfort magnifies.

Such day and night pain involving the feet is called "stocking" neuropathy. The word stocking is apt as the pain, numbress, tingling, and wooden feeling begins in the toes and works upward following the distribution of a stocking going from toes to the ankle. In some instances the hands also become numb and tingling, beginning in the

fingertips and working back to the wrist. That pattern received the name "glove" neuropathv

This type of peripheral neuropathy occurs in diabetics, the elderly, and at times, in others for unknown reasons. Treatment is not with arthritis drugs but with neurologic medications such as Lyrica and Neurontin.

www.drjjweiss.yourmd.com



HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PINK FROM PAGE C1

fairies and butterflies. We ended up doing two rooms. We didn't replace the carpeting so it gave us the opportunity to do her second room, a playroom.

"This was our first undertaking. We wanted to do something that made a difference in our local neighborhoods. Everyone brought their ideas. We did a lot of online late night shopping. People purchased plain lamps and added hanging butterflies, crystals. My husband painted the stripes. She was so excited when she came home, giggling and checking out her new stuff. Her family was so happy. It was great."

Dana Orlando was concerned because so many of the volunteers contributed to the design of the rooms.

"We had five different women with five different personalities and tastes come together for the design. That's probably why it took six weeks," said Orlando, associate director of sales at The Inn. "We all have children. Mine are ages 3 to 14, all boys. I was having a blast with that."

Jayne Taormina says the volunteers were a dream come true for her. As project director for Suite Dreams she coordinates the volunteers and assists them in creating bedrooms for sick children. The nonprofit was founded by Kay Ponicall and Kris Appleby.

"That's how we want every Suite Dreams projects to go," said Taormina. "We hope they consider this again."

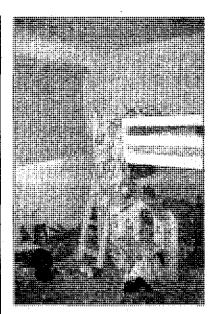
There was one hitch in the project though. Celeste was unable to start chemotherapy when complications arose due to a low platelet count. The volunteers had planned their work around the young girl's hospital stay.



Celeste Gosselin is pictured here with the angels from The Inn at St. John's.

"How wonderful they were with us," said Jeff Gosselin, Celeste's father. "The day we took Celeste in for treatment was supposed to be an admission. We knew they were working on the house. We drove back home and talked to Tawnya and they put us up in a room at The Inn at St. John's, the most beautiful hotel room we ever stayed in.

"At the house they went around and cleaned, rewashed all of her clothes, folded them and put them in the dressers, rearranged and sorted her toys, vacuumed the house. That made that homecoming so much nicer. Getting that kind of bad news is rough. Having all those things made it a lot easier. Celeste was able to swim in the pool there. She hadn't been able to swim for a year. She's limited to going outdoors because chemo makes her sensitive to sunlight. It was a couple day vacation almost. Everyone who came did such an amazing job. It's extremely impor-



This was Celeste Gosselin's bedroom before volunteers from The Inn at St. John's redecorated.

'At the house they went around and cleaned, rewashed all of her clothes, folded them and put them in the dressers, rearranged and sorted her toys, vacuumed the house. That made that homecoming so much nicer. Getting that kind of bad news is rough. Having all those things made it a lot easier...' JEFF GOSSELIM, Celeste's father.

tant to Celeste."

Wednesday was painting day for Celeste.

"I painted when I was 3 or 4. I'm a really good artist now," said Celeste. "I drew a peacock. It's hard. Nobody can draw a peacock."

For more information about Suite Dreams, visit suitedreamsproject.org or call (248) 601-0799.

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Ballet companies to hold auditions for new season

Young ballerinas have not one but two chances to audition and land a role in *The Nutcracker* as well as other productions for the 2008-2009 season.

The Plymouth-Canton Ballet Company holds auditions Sunday, Aug. 24, at Joanne's Dance Extension, 42020 Koppernick, Canton. The fee is \$10.

Dancers will be evaluated in a full length ballet class which consists of a warm up at the barre and center work. Selected dancers will be evaluated on their pointe work and partnering. Scholarships are available for boys.

Auditions begin at noon for ages 7-9, 1 p.m. for ages 10-12, and 2 p.m. for ages 13 to adult. All dancers should bring a dance photo and resume which includes the dancer's training and performing experience.

Girls must wear black leotard, pink tights and ballet shoes; boys, black tights or jazz paints, white T-shirt and ballet shoes. Teens and adults should bring pointe shoes which are optional for younger dancers.

Older boys may be asked to partner during the audition class.

Select dancers may be asked to stay for the next audition class. Dancers are selected to join the company based on their demonstration of ballet technique.

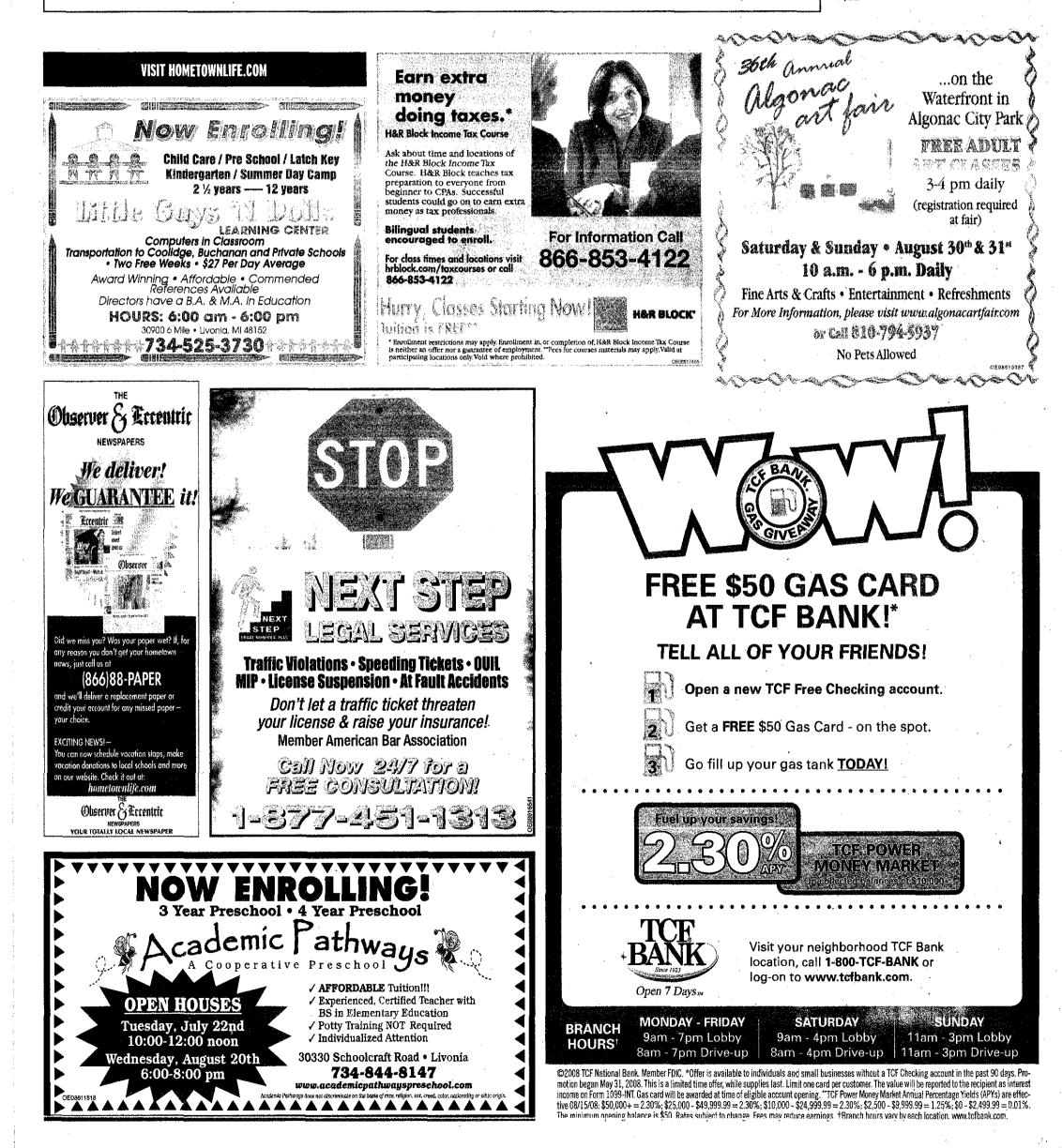
For more information, call (734) 676-7233 or visit www.metroshoresballet.org.

The Livonia Civic Ballet Company holds auditions Sundaý, Aug. 24, at Miss Jean's Dance Arts, 19215 Merriman, Livonia. The fee is \$10.

Auditions begin at 1 p.m. for ages 6-9 with 2-years minimum ballet experience; 2:15 p.m. for ages 10-12 with 4-years minimum ballet experience, and 3:30 p.m. for ages 13 and up with 6-years minimum ballet experience.

Proper ballet attire required. Bring pointe shoes if you have them.

For more information, call (248) 474-8722.



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C4

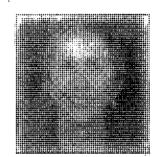
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EUNICE J. GRAHAM

Of Waterford; August 11, 2008; age 97; Beloved wife of the late Donald Graham; Loving mother of Ross (Marcia) Graham and Donald (Flora) Graham. Beloved grandmother of David Ross Graham and Paul Donald Graham. Great-grandmother of Maya Elizabeth Graham. Mrs. Graham was retired from American Motors and was a resident of Canterbury on the Lake for over 13 years. She attended services at St. Luke's Memorial Chapel and also enjoyed watching sports, playing cards and reading. Funeral Services will be held Friday, August 15, 2008, 1:30 p.m. at the St. Luke's Memorial Chapel at Canterbury on the Lake, 5601 Memorial Hatchery Road, Waterford. Officiating Father Robert Kerr. The family will receive friends Thursday 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the Riverside Chapel, Simpson-Modetz Funeral Home, 5630 Pontiac Lake Road, Waterford. Memorials may be made to World Medical Relief. Online guest book: www.modetzfuneralhomes.com

FRANCES B. KEZERTA

Of Saline, MI, Formerly of Farmington, Hills, MI. Beloved mother and grandmother. Age 94, passed away on Tuesday, August 12, 2008 at Arbor Hospice Residence in Ann Arbor, MI. She was born December 24, 1913 the daughter of William George and Texas Caladonia (Jackson) Miller. On September 14, 1946 at Trinity Methodist Church in Highland Park, MI she married Harry Kezerta, Jr. and he preceded her in death on December 11, 2004. Frances was a member of Orchard Methodist Church in Farmington, MI, the Order of the Eastern Star, White Shrine of Jerusalem and was a member of the Farmington Senior Center where she and her late husband taught bridge. She was also a former member of the Farmington Players. She is survived by her daughter, Terry (Daniel) O'Toole of Saline and her grandson, Brendan Michael Kezerta O'Toole of Orlando, FL. She was preceded in death by her parents and husband. Cremation has taken place. A memorial service will be held on Thursday, September 25, 2008 at 2:30 P.M. at Brecon Village 200 Brecon Drive, Saline. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are requested to Brecon Village and envelopes will be available at the service. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Robison-Bahnmiller Funeral Home, Saline.

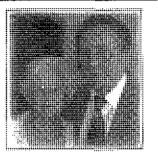


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View Obits On-Line@www.hometownlife.com

DELIA "GRACE" (ESTES) MIKTON

long time Detroit Metro area resident peacefully left us on Tuesday morning, July 22nd to be with her heavenly father after demonstrating amazing strength and capacity to love despite a diagnosis of pancreatic cancer. She was admired and loved by family and friends throughout her life and particularly known for her expertise in real estate, knowledge of alternative health methods, compassionate heart, and providing excellent service to her clients. Grace was preceded in death by her parents, Mae Estes Kelly and Alfred Estes, a son, Phillip and 8 of her 10 siblings. Those who will miss her include siblings Kyle Estes of Carleton, Michigan and Ruth (Estes) Mullins of Woodhaven, Indiana, dear friend and sister-in-law Wanda Estes, her daughters Brenda Wallace of Ocean Shores, WA., and Cindy Dake of Livermore, CA., 8 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren, many loved nieces and nephews, dear friends primarily in Michigan and California, and nearly 40 years of cherished real estate clients and well-respected peers in the industry. Services to honor Grace's life will be held by her family at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile Road, Livonia, Michigan on August 24th at 6:00pm. In keeping with her life's passion for serving, over the course of the past year, Grace expressed further desire to serve the underprivileged. Due to complication of illness, Grace was unable to fulfill her heart's desire. In an attempt to carry out her wishes to serve, her family has selected the following venue for donation: Grace Cottage, a non-profit agency / 2734 Kelly Street, Livermore, CA 94551.



LLOYD EDWIN RICHARDS, and

RUTH LEONA RICHARDS The sons of Lloyd and Ruth Richards are sad to report the deaths of their parents, but rejoice in knowing the promise of eternal life with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Ruth was born in Wooster, Ohio, to Harry and Leona Frantz Lester on August 9, 1926 and she passed away on January 7, 2007.

Lloyd, the son of Edwin and Helen Keech Richards, was born in Detroit on May 26, 1929 and died in his sleep in February 2008. loyd was a graduate of Cooley High School in Detroit and a veteran of the Korean Conflict. Ruth graduated from Royal Oak High School. They were married on March 19, 1955 and made their home in Garden City until they moved to Alpharetta, Georgia in 2001. While living in Michigan, Ruth and Lloyd were avid bowlers, enjoyed gardening and spending time with their family. In Michigan, attending their children's and grandchildren's musical concerts and sporting events was an important and enjoyable part of their lives. After moving to Georgia, they were able to spend more time and continue to attend the events of their ounger grandchildren. They are survived by son Michael Karen) McClain of Brownstown, son **Jeffrey** (Barbara) Richards of Alpharetta GA, grandchildren Robert McClain, Kathleen (EJ) Amy) Sieracki, Jessica Richards, James Richards and great-grandchild, Anders McClain. Ruth and Lloyd were members of Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Alpharetta, GA. Memorial services were held in Alpharetta with burial at Glen Eden Memorial Park, Livonia.



THEODORE R. STAGGERS Of Birmingham passed away peacefully on July 30, 2008. Ted was born February 10, 1921 to Harley and Mabel Stuart Staggers in Fairmont, West Virginia, the youngest child of eight. A state tennis champion by the age of 15, he married his high school sweetheart, Bette Lee Clark of Grafton, W. Va., on January 14, 1944. They were married 63 years, until her death last year. Shortly after his marriage, Ted completed his military training and was sent overseas. He attained the rank of 2nd Lieutenant, and later Captain, of the Army Air Corps in WWII. A daring P-51 fighter pilot, he flew many bombing escort missions over the English Channel with the 339th Fighter group based in Fowlmere, England. On September 11, 1944, Ted was shot down over Germany and served out the balance of the war in a POW camp. Upon the lib-eration of the camp in May 1945, U.S. Army personnel believed he had died from starvation, but Ted had other ideas in mind. Returning to his wife back home, Ted was transferred by the Army to Arizona, where he recuperat-ed and spent the time teaching young officers the art of golf, a lifelong passion at which, together with his tennis, he truly excelled. After his discharge in 1947, Ted earned his BA at Ohic State University and went to work for the General Electric Company, where he stayed his entire career until retire-ment in 1983. He and Bette relocated to Birmingham in 1951. They adopted two children, Kimberly Ann and Stephen Stuart. Together with an amazing group of friends who stayed together over 50 years, Ted and Bette enjoyed dancing, entertaining, golf and travel for many happy years. Ted was predeceased by his wife and son. He is survived by his daughter and several grandchildren. A memorial service to celebrate his outstanding life and service will be held at 10:00 a.m., on Saturday, August 23, 2008 at The First Baptist Church of Birmingham, 300 Willits, Birmingham, Michian. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions be made to: AmeriCares, 88 Hamilton Avenue, Stamford, CT 06902. Arrangements: A. J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home, 248-362-2500. Share memories at: obit.DesmondFuneralHome.com

it.DesmondFuneralHome.com

GRACE F. WOODARD

Age 91, August 11, 2008. Retired from chigan Bell Telephone after thirty years of service as an operator. Member of the 1st Baptist Church of Plymouth. Beloved wife of the late Arthur. Dear mother of Doran L. (Katherine) Woodard, Ivan (Patricia) Woodard, Pauline Bayliss of Florida and the late Sharon De Wulf. Also leaves numerous grandchildren, greatgrandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. Services were held Saturday at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home of Plymouth. Interment followed at Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth. Contributions suggested to the American Heart Association Share your special thoughts and memories at: schrader-howell.com

PET PICKS

On the prow! Doggie statement Ts, like this black cotton stretch shirt with pink sugar glitter lettering that reads "Lover Not a Biter," will earn Fido even more attention on his evening stroll. Available at www.moondoggieinc.com.



Get your paws on: The FURminator, the best de-shedding tool for cats or dogs around. Find them at The Posh Pup in Livonia or Marcy's Groom a Pet in Birmingham.

GARDEN CALENDAR

Keep it long

Don't give your lawn a buzz cut if you want it to grow healthy. Tall grass promotes deep roots which need less water and fertilizer, contributing to a thick, healthy lawn, according to Lillian Dean of the Healthy Lawns and Gardens Program of Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority (SOCWA). Thick grass also serves as a water quality filter, helping to keep sediment and other pollutants out of storm drains and rivers.

Cutting grass tall is an easy way for residents to protect waterways, yet in a study conducted in 10 southeast Oakland and southwest Macomb County neighborhoods last month, SOCWA found that more than 70 percent of all households cut their grass too short, leaving two inches or less on the blade after cutting. The study, funded by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, measured grass height three times during a single week.

To find out more about lawn cutting and care, attend a free "Healthy Lawn Care Workshop" from 7-8:30 p.m., Monday, Aug, 18, at the Ferndale Public Library, 222 East Nine Mile, just east of Woodward. Rick Lazzell, horticulture educator from Oakland Community College and Macomb Community College, will be the guest speaker. All participants will receive an information packet and opportunity for personal consultation on lawn care. Register by calling (248) 288-5150 or e-mail: LFDean@ aol.com, Walk-ins welcome.

Maintain the Magnificence

Meadow Brook Hall Garden Club is selling

August 11, 2008. Retired from Bell Telephone after thirty to benefit Meadow Brook Hall Garden Club,) Ta:

Tasty Treat: Carob-dipped Scottie Biscotti, a cinnamon cookie dipped in dog-friendly carob, available at Three Dog Barkery, 550 Forest Ave, Plymouth.

Caught on film: Grab a copy of the third season of "Dog Whisperer with Cesar Millan," now on DVD and on sale at www.cesarmillaninc.com.

Out of this world: Planet Dog's new Cosmos collection of Orbee-Tuff toys keeps big dogs (65 to 100-plus pounds) happy chewing minty-flavored, durable orbs. Order the colorful, bouncy balls at www.planetdog.com

Got a pet-centric pick to share or suggest? Send us a tip or jpg photo of your pet and its favorite accessory or toy at scasola@hometownlife.com.

Compiled By Stephanie A. Casola

ENGAGEMENTS



Lover Not a Biter T by Moon Doggie.

Dennis and Denise Williams of Metamora announce the engagement of their daughter, Vanessa Crystal Williams, to Kenneth David Kulisz of Beaverton, Ore. He is the son of David and the late Shirley Kulisz of Livonia. Vanessa is a graduate of Lapeer East High School and earned a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's degree in public administration from Oakland University in Rochester Hills. She works for Klarquist Sparkman, LLP in Portland, Ore. Kenneth is a graduate of Stevenson High School in Livonia and earned a bachelor's degree in communication design from The College for Creative Studies in Detroit.

Beste-Weintz

Bob and Pam Beste of Garden City announce the engagement of their daughter, Barbra Olivia Beste, to Elton William Weintz of Shelby Township. He is the son of Justine Weintz of Columbiana, Ohio and the late Donald Weintz. Barbra is a 1998 graduate of Garden City High School and received her undergraduate degree from Western



He works as a graphic technician for the Dick Hannah Auto Group in Vancouver, Wash. The couple are planning a January 2009 wedding at the Lafayette Grande in Pontiac.



PATRICIA E. McKENNA

Beloved mother, political activist and supporter of the arts, aged 70, former-ly of Huntington Woods, Birmingham and Troy, passed away in the arms of her children on July 29, 2008 in Tucson, AZ. The daughter of Irish immigrant Patrick McKenna and Michigan native Helen Keene, she attended the Kingswood Cranbrook School and graduated in 1959 from Denison University in Ohio with a BA in Theatre and English. Her marriage in 1961 to Detroit police officer Gordon "Buck" Grant produced three children: Patrick Grant (1963), Daniel (1969) (Stacey) Grant, and Gael (1971) (Michael) Giles. Patricia and Gordon divorced in 1974. Patricia's many talents and interests were reflected in her multi-faceted career. Amongst the positions and activities she held were: model for the International Car Shows held in Detroit, investigative journalist for the Detroit News, director/actress of amateur theater for the Ridgedale Players in Pleasant Ridge, private investigator for a retired FBI agent (she obtained a degree in Law Enforcement and Protection from Mercy College in 1978), talent booking agent (clients included comedian Tim Allen), and assisting the administration of McKenna Industries Inc., an automotive model making firm established by her late father. She was accepted as a member in the American Academy of Certified Geniuses in 1987. In the last two decades of her life she lived in the American southwest (NM and AZ) where she wrote poetry and plays, articles for the local newspapers, fought corruption in her local government, helped youths with substance abuse problems and sponsored local immigrant families. She will be lovingly remembered by her children and grandchildren Couriney, Meghan and Grant Thomas, her brother Michael McKenna of West Bloomfield, her nephews, Mick (Eulalia and family), Brian and niece, Stephanie. Her body will be cremated and a memorial service will be held within the year in the greater Detroit area.

Paying Tribute to the Life of Your Loved One

DUANE P. ROSENTHAL

Age 81, August 12, 2008. Beloved husband of Elizabeth. Dear father of Pamela (Gary) Lewis, Robin (Eugene) Petruska and Terri (Paul) Thor. Loving grandfather of Michael, Elizabeth and David Petruska. Visitation was at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, Livonia. Funeral Mass was at St. Genevieve Catholic Church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Genevieve to be used for the religious education program.

STANLEY J. SKAISTIS

ge 88, of Birmingham, died peacefully August 14, 2008, at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac. Mr. Skaistis was born July 7, 1920, in Benld, Illinois. He was an active member of the Birmingham Senior Men's Club, National Men's Garden Club and on the Board of Directors at Birmingham Area Seniors Coordinating Council (BASCC). Mr. Skaistis enjoyed volunteering at Birmingham area schools as well as gardening, photography and winemaking. He was an avid clock and stamp collector. Mr. Skaistis is survived by his children, Lynn (David) Contos, Mark (Jean) Skaistis and Paul Skaistis and grandchildren, Brian Contos, Leslie (Scott Hinze) Skaistis, Jeffrey Skaistis and Joel Skaistis. He is also survived by his nephews, Bruce, Mike and Bryan Skaistis. Mr. Skaistis is preceded in death by his wife, Jean. Memorial service at First United Methodist Church, 1589 W. Maple Road, Monday Birmingham, Monday 2pm. Memorials appreciated to First United Methodist Church, 1589 W. Maple Road, Birmingham, Michigan 48009 or Birmingham Area Seniors Coordinating Council (BASCC), 2121 Avenue, Midvale Birmingham, Michigan 48009. Condolences at

lynchfuneraldirectors.com

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Observer & Eccentric

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

Deadlines:

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

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

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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

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which maintains the hall's 14 gardens. Supporters may purchase tickets (\$10 each, or 11 for \$100) for a chance to win \$2,500, \$1,250, and \$625 cash prizes. The drawing will be held 1 p.m. Aug. 19 at Meadow Brook Hall and Gardens, but ticketholders need not be present to win. To purchase tickets, call Laurence Cathey at (248) 467-0617.

Kids and butterflies

The Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association (SEMBA) will present art projects, live butterfly exhibits and stories for children at its next meeting, at 7 p.m., Aug. 20, at Nankin Mills, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. Admission for "Getting Kids Involved with Butterflies," is \$3 for nonmembers. No charge for children. There is parking on both Hines Drive and Ann Arbor Trail. (734) 326-0578 or visit www.sembabutterfly.com.

Fall gardening tips

Nancy Szerlag, author of "Perennials for Michigan and Annuals for Michigan" will present the free gardening seminar "Fall Gardening Tips Make Spring Magic," at 6:3D p.m. Aug. 21 at Art Van, 29905 Seven Mile Road, Livonia. Refreshments will be served. Call (888) 619-2199.

From Garden to Plate

Learn the basics of canning, freezing and storing fresh produce for optimal quality and safety through the Michigan State University Extension Oakland County. Robin Danto, MSU Extension instructor will teach a class from 6:30-8:30 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 27, at Toligate Education Center, 28115 Meadowbrook, Novi. \$20 per person. (248) 858-0887 or e-mail to smkithlin@oakgov. com.

Medicinal plants

Herbalist Jim McDonald, with more than 14 years experience in gathering, preparing and usuing herbal remedies, will lead a walk through woods and field to explore the medicinal virtues, folklore and preparation of common weeds and herbs, 11 a.m. 6 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 14, at Upland Hills Ecological Awareness Center, 2375 Indian Lake Road, Oxford. Some of the plants to be covered include Burdock, Yellow Dock, Solomon's Seal and Wild Yam.

To register, send an e-mail with your name, phone and workshop title and date to clifford@uheac.org. Payment can be made at the door (\$50) or in advance (\$40) by sending a check made payable to: UHEAC, 2375 Indian Lake Rd., Oxford, MI 48370. Michigan University in 2002. She works as a human resources administrator for Burroughs Corp. in Kalamazoo. Elton is a 1988 graduate of Canfield High School in Canfield, Ohio. He earned his undergraduate degree from Ohio University in 1992 and graduate degrees from Villanova University in 1994 and Western Michigan University in 2003. He is

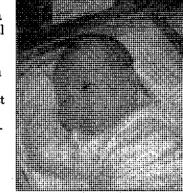
Chmura

Jason and Christina Chmura of Livonia announce the arrival of their son, Nathan Alphonse Chmura, born July 19, at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. He is grandson to Ron and Mary Valenti of Forest Hill, Md. and Stan and Sherry Chmura of Willis, Mich. Greatgrandparents are Stanley Ulle of Forest Hill, Maryland and Mary D. Valenti of Allentown, Penn.



completing his doctoral dissertation through Western Michigan University and is currently a professor of history at Macomb Community College. The couple is planning a September wedding.

BIRTH



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2. Oakland County residents should send announcements to Sharon Dargay, or e-mail questions to sdargay@hometownlife.com. Wayne County residents should send announcements to Stephanie Angelyn Casola, or send e-mail to scasola@hometownlife.com.

3. Announcements run in the Sunday Hometownlife sections of the paper and are placed in the order they are received and depending on space restrictions.

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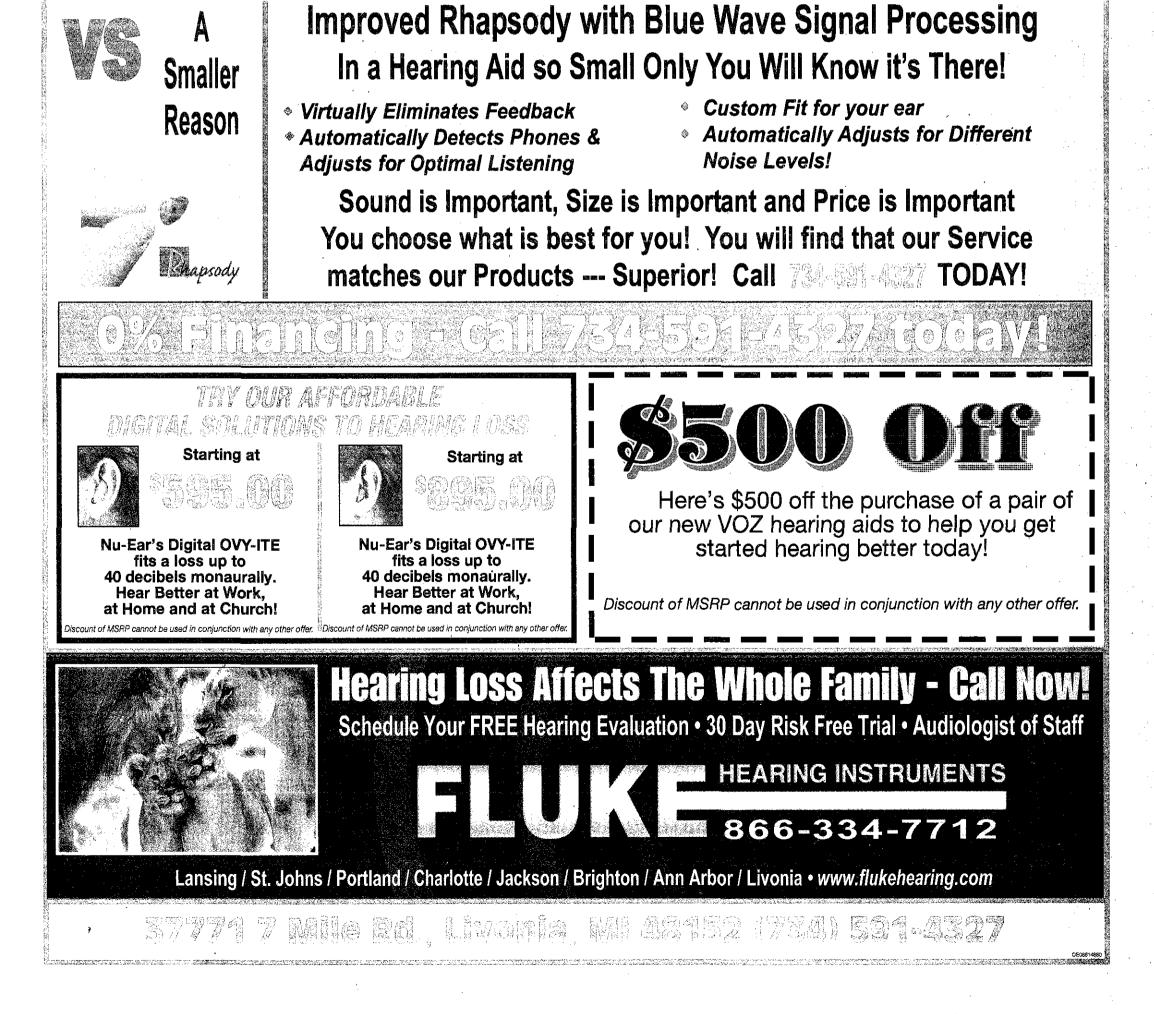
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HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Create a fund-raising team and walk in Mega March '08

BY SHARON DARGAY O&E STAFF WRITER

Jackie Petiprin, an account executive at SMZ Advertising in Troy, took on an added title and job responsibilities last week: Captain of Jackie's Barkers.

The Royal Oak woman will lead a team of walkers - families, friends, and colleagues --- in the Michigan Humane Society's (MHS) third annual Mega March for Animals on Sunday, Oct. 5.

It's a mission she takes seriously, but with a playful spirit.

"It's so much fun. I encourage anyone to do it. It's two miles and it goes by real quickly. It's so much fun to see all the different dogs out there. And I'll do anything for my doggies.'

Individuals and teams - consisting of family members, friends and business associates - will collect donations over the next seven weeks, assemble with their pets on Oct. 5 at Hart Plaza in Detroit and walk en masse for two miles. About 4,500 animal-lovers walked last year, raising nearly \$250,000.

"This year, in tough economic times, it is more important than ever that more people and their fourlegged friends join us and support the mission of the Michigan Humane Society and help us surpass that figure," said Jan Cantle, MHS public relations and media coordinator. "Imagine, if you ask 25 co-workers, friends, and family to donate \$5. That's \$125. It costs just about \$120 to provide food and medical care for one animal. If each walker came with \$120 or \$240 ... that is a lot of animal lives changed.

'ANIMAL LIVES CHANGED'

"While our goal is to raise \$300,000 this year we like to think of it more in terms of animal lives



That's Jackie Petiprin in the front row holding her Chihuahua, Hank. The Royal Oak resident convinced friends, family and colleagues from SMZ Advertising in Troy, where she is an account executive, to walk with her last year in the Mega March for Animals.

changed. Most importantly, we need help from the community to meet this goal."

The money raised will go toward the Michigan Humane Society's programs and services, which include its three shelters, animal adoption and care, cruelty investigation, legislative advocacy, education, veterinary

Furniture, being introduced

The furniture is designed

by kids for kids and features

changeable options including

wood-tone and painted drawer

this month at Art Van.

centers, wildlife care, spay and neuter programs and assistance with animal behavior problems.

Jackie's Barkers has raised nearly \$500 in the week since it was formed. Petiprin was among dozens of local business representatives who attended the Mega March corporate kick-off breakfast on Aug. 7, at the Townsend

Hotel in Birmingham. They watched a tear-jerking video about homeless animals, heard pet adoption success stories, listened to representatives from the walk's major corporate sponsors, as well as from MHS staffers, and left with bags full of posters, brochures and a step-by-step guides to help them form Mega March teams.

CORPORATE SPONSORS

"This is a wonderful cause," said Jason Vines, senior vice president of Compuware, a major Mega March sponsor. "A lot of my colleagues at Compuware have been doing it for a long time."

Cheryl Phillips, an MHS board member who also represents major sponsor Masco Corp., said she strolled one of her five cats in a buggy through the dog-heavy crowd the past two Mega Marches.

"It's amazing to see this peaceful convergence of cats, dogs," she said, urging listeners to "get out there and speak with our feet."

Petiprin will have Emmie, her Coon hound-beagle mix, and Hank, her Chihuahua, on hand. She and a friend walked as individual donors during the first Mega March. Last year, she. created a team and got employees at SMZ involved. This year's team is already up and running.

"SMZ Advertising did the Mega March logo this year," Petiprin added. "Nancy (Gunnigle) at the MHS contacted me earlier in the year and asked if we could design the logo pro bono. Since we are all animal lovers at SMZ, we said absolutely."

Webster, a Labradoodle owned by SMZ chairman Jim Michelson, serves as a company mascot of sorts. A photo of Webster, wearing a scarf and sunglasses on his head, pops up when visitors to the SMZ Web site click on a bone-shaped "fetch" icon. Each image dispenses a kibble of wisdom.

"He comes to work every day," Petiprin said. "He normally lay's outside of Jim's office. The Mega March is pretty intense. I think Webster would love it."

To form a Mega March team or sign up as an individual donor, visit www.michiganhuman. org or call (866) MHUMANE. See Webster by logging onto www.smz.com.

Win a bear, get

department in any Art Van location from Sept. 2-14 and register to win a Build-A-Bear stnffed toy.

The giveaway celebrates the new Build-A-Bear bed-

HOME CALENDAR

fronts, two styles of drawer knobs, a "beary" special place in each bureau chest for a child's furry friend and countless storage options.

There will be additional opportunities to win bears and other prizes at bear-stuffing parties next month at Art Van. The parties will feature

refreshments, kids' activities and personalizing stuffed toys.

They will run from 3-7 p.m., Sept. 19 at the Ann Arbor store, 425 E. Eisenhower Parkway; from noon-4 p.m., Sept. 20 at the Shelby Township store, 14055 Hall; and 3-7 p.m., Sept. 26 at the Novi store, 27775 Novi Road.

Visit artvan.com for more information.

OFF THE GRID

Wayne Appleyard, co-founder of Sunstructures Architects, will talk about renewable energy options at a workshop from 1-3 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 13, at Upland Hills Environmental

Awareness Center, 2375 Indian Lake Road, Oxford. He'll explain how to assess needs, explore conservation measures, and evaluate cost-effectiveness and feasibility of renewable energy options such as solar, wind, geothermal, radiant floor heat and other alternatives. The workshop is for

HELLO THERE GREAT SENSE OF HUMOR

GET TO KNOW ME

ENJOYS THE OUTDOORS

FORMER RUNWAY MODEL

, loves country music, dancing, Looking t, sincere SW/BM, 30-60, children ok,

140lbs, N/S, one kid, likes

23-45. for companionship. 22282578

42, likes camping cARING SWM, 42, likes camping, fishing and more. Looking for a supportive, honest to-earth woman, 25-40, for LTR. **27283534** fishing, travel honest, down-IF INTERESTED, CALL ME WM, 40, 6'5', enjoys movies, sports, concerts, di ing out, travel. Looking for an honest woman, 3 50, who likes to go out and have fun. 2286510 VOUR ATTENTION DI FASE LET'S GET TOGET HER SBF, 54, 5'8'', N/S, enjoys lite's simple pleasures. Seeking SBVM, 48-62, N/S, for friendship or more. 27282444 Handsome, mature gent SWM, 50, traditional values, romantic, and thoughtful, enjoys cultural events, antiquing, short trips, etc. Seeking SWF for friendship and companionship. 22176497 LETS GET GOING! SWM 40s, attractive group of the SWM 40s, attractive, good shape, great listener, enjoys good conversation, kriendship, spontana-ous fun, and laughter, seeks personable SWF for GET TO KNOW ME BF, 57°, full-figured, brown eyes, N/S, social drinker, looking for a gentlemen, 45-80, to share good, clean fun with. 37260765 dating and more. 2126302 COUNTRY GIRL Good-natured, classy, attractive, fun-loving SWPF, 54, platnumbue, 55", HW-proportionate, enjoys travel, horseback riding, exercise, dancing, Seeking SWM, 55-65, NS, NDrugs, for serious relationship. If you love motorcycles call me. **\$759645** KEEP IT REAL KEEP IT REAL SWM, 55, 5'10", 150lbs, father of two, homeowner, wants to meet slender, average female, 25-45, who likes music, art, just hanging out. 22287896 EASYGOING Bharp, sociable SVM, 45, with good character and pleasant personality, likes the outdoors, fish-ing, motor sports etc. WLTM SWF, for dating and fun times. 27187614

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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

A NEW BEGINNING SBF, 47, 5'4", likes action movies, swimmin dancing, plays, outdoors, just having fun. Seekin SBM, 45-55, for friendship or more. 3289151

PERSONABLE AND SPECIAL SWF, ratired, talen: 132lbs, 5'5", blonde, s man, 65+, to share i company. **27891247** retired, talented, fun-loving, attractive , 5'5", blonde, seeks well-groomed gentle 36+, to share life and enjoy each other's

Company. 27891247 EARTH BABY DWF; 52, 5'10', 300+bs, N/S, N/Drugs, many in-terests, family-oriented, honest, loyal, casygoing, commistic, seeks franching first, possible LTR GET TO KNOW ME

Loving, open-minded SBF, 60, 145ibs, attractive enjoys music, dining, concerts, travel, ISO hon-est, compassionate SM, 57-65, N/S. Possible ear, compassio LTR. 22963760 ZOOMER SEEKS ADDED ZIP SWF, 55, passionate about life, anjoys the out-doors, good political discussions, dancing, more, Would love to meet a man engaged in life, 53-70. SWF. 5

22284371

ARE YOU SEEKING? DWF, 63, 52°, Italian, brunatte, attractive, well-dressed, sincere, toving, optimistic, likes, theater, travel, dining, ifmassa. Wishing to meet N/S WM, 58-70, ifmancially secure, easygoing, good mor-als, loves family, for deting. **15**630808 SEARCHING FOR A MAN... 40-60, who's looking for commitment, love an laughter. I'm a 47-year-old who's bright, spunk and pretty. Only Jewish men please. 27962317 t, love and

TRADITIONAL VALUES HADITIONAL VALUES Well-educated DWF, 5'6", dark blonde/green, full-figured, interested in finding friendship lead-ing to more with a WM, 30-50, to share life with. 5283327

GOOD SENSE OF HUMOR? WF, 48, 5'3', brown/brown, has pets, N/S, great sense of humor, looking for WM, 45-55, who likes dining out, museums, movies, reading and more,

to do things with, 22280581 HOMEBODY SEEKS SAME BCMEBODY SEEKS SAME SBF, 44, 5'2", 165lbs, black hair, brown eyes, ight complexion, N/D, N/S, enjoys movies, bow-ing, dining, plays, concerts, reading. Seeking SBM, 39-51. 27284368

CUTE AND CUDDLY SF, 45, tall, long brown hair, big baby blue eyes, tall, looking for fun, down-to-earth guy, 38-55, who enjoys camping, travel, big trucks, Harleys. 22279724

VERY ATTRACTIVE SBPF, 37, mother, looking for attractive, sexy, tall, dark-complected, employed, intelligent BM, 33-50, for friendship possibly leading to LTR. 22282115

Sector y reading to Lin. 27452115 BEAUTIFUL SBF... 37, seeks SWM, 30-50, who is spontaneous and knows how to have fun. Casual relationship first, maybe leading to more. 27271683

LOADS OF FUN Active WF, young 50s, good sense of humor, enjoys different music, travel, dining out, dano-ing, more. Seeking decent, kind, honest man for indoor and outdoor activities. **2283342**

SEEKING LOVING KINONESS SPF, 55, 5'4", Interested in developing new friendshina, maybe more. Seeks energetic, NS SM, 45-65, that loves reading, midnight pichos, walking, and exciting conversations. Must have good SOH and self-worth. **\$2282618**

DE TOL COL

mer i me

SBF, 54", 120lbs, likes parks, walks on the beach, ouldoor activities. Looking for down-to-earth, family-oriented SM, 40-50, with same insts. 22285607 ARE YOU THE ONE? SWF, 36, long brown/green, N/S, athletic build, pret-ty, animals lover, in search of attractive, fit, funny, easygoing SWM, 27-43, with no children, for dating, possible LTR with right man. 2288634

SEEKING SINCERITY

Match Maker *plus*

HELLO OUT THERE SWF, 39 years young, seeks SWM, who enjoys lifes simple pleasures. I enjoys dining out, com-puters, movies, the parks walks, travel and life in ral, Friendship first, 77241298

Bright, spunky, pretty SF, 47, educator, outgoing, pretty eyes, wishing to meet a kind Jewish man, 45-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. **17230694** COULD YOU BE THE ONE?

HARD WORKER SEEKS SAME SBF, 44, N/S, mother costs and state ed BM. SBF, 44, N/S, mother, seeks old-fashioned BM, 29-49, N/S, homebody, to explore all life has to offer! I enjoy reading, bike rides, playing tennis. 274519

COULD IT BE YOU? SBF, 44, professional, hard-working, indepen-dent, enjoys church, shopping, more. Looking for a SPM, 44, employed, open-minded, warm-hearted and considereta, to share all life has to offer. 2235988

GREAT EXPECTATIONS Good looking SBF, hwp, intelligent, mature, spiritu-al, seeking a SM, 57° +, 40-50, physically fit, good looking inside and out, loving, who likes traveling, for friendship first leading to LTR. **27147056**

SBF, 18, 1900bs, brown eyes, loves walks on the beach, movies, basketball. Seeking SM, same age, for friendship or more. 37257908

SEEKING SAVED MAN SBF, 27, N/S, seeks one good man, 29-51, N/S, no gamea, who enjoys movies, bowling, church, for friendship first. **12265509**

ARE YOU THE ONE? SWF, 42, 5'1", loves italian food, music. Looking for SWM, 32-59, who is successful, financially secure, has a good head on his shoulders but also has a wild side, **37284915**

ONE GOOD WOMAN LEFT SWF, 37, 57", long brown hair, full-figured, two daughters, loves all kinds of movies, being out-doors, beaches, playing catch. Seeking SWM, 32-40, for possible relationship. **3285634**

NURSE Attractive SWF, 64, 5', 135lbs, dark hair, blue eyes, fair skin, looking tor NS, honest genle-man, 60-70, who has numerous interests includ-ing history, traveling, and home life. 27409879 SEEKING FRIENDSHIP

SEEKING FRIENDSHIP SBF, young 60s, w/good morals, caring, nice-looking, 5'3', 166/be, N/S, N/D, N/Drugs, clean, honest living, partly rotired, enjoys art, card play-ing, casinos, and movies. Seeking honest man 50-60, race open. **2134425**

READY FOR A FRESH START? DWF, 47, 5'5', 120bs, long blonde/blue, well-pro portioned, very feminine, attractive, self-employed Seeking SWM, 45-57, 6'1"+, 225lbs+, good sense of humor, energetic, trav eler, outdoorsman, adven turer, manly gentleman. 2692549

ONE GOOD WOMAN LEFT SBF, 47, 57", full-tigured, N/S, likes rollerskat-ing, canceing, exercise, theater, travel. Seeking a gentleman, 45-70, who is healthy, tun-loving, financially secure, looks decent. **2287305**

A WOMAN OF CLASS looks younger, in search of a SWM, 62 kes movies, dining, theater. Is it you? VF, 68, lo

59, Who is 57271085 LOVE IS THE GOAL DWCF, 71, tooks younger, 5'2", long dark brown hair, brown eyes, positive attitude, seeks faithful SWM for LTR. 22656264

WHY NOT CALL? SBF, full-ligured, seeks a SM, 37-80, for friend-ship, possible LTR. Call me, let's get together and get to know each other. 32217234

LADY IN THE WOODS ENJOYS THE OUTDOORS BF, 55", 150lbs, likes cooking, listening to music, camping and more. Would like to meet a man to enjoy lite with. 36-60. 22294318 SWF, 50, J SWF, 50, looks younger, blonde/hazel, 5'5", av-erage build, educated, dog lover, classy, sassy and fun, seeking compatible, outdoorsy, rugged, good-hearted male to share the good things in life. Livingston county. 2210247 SINCERE AND HONEST Happy SF, loves country music

DOWN-TO-EARTH

DOWN-TO-EARTH Asian wormar, 52", 1101bs, slim, attractive, in-dependent, loving, caring, enjoys movies, fine dining, travel, quiet times at home. Saeking very handsome WAM, 47-56, IVS, clean-shaven, HW proportionate, for friendship first. 12281229 DOWN-TO-EARTH

Easygoing DWR, early 50s, would like to meet a really nice WM, 50-65, with the same qualities, minimal baggage, to share the ups and downs of tife. Seeking possible LTR. **32279171**

GREAT-LOOKING BF... seeks serious, mature, financially secure for LTR. Call me; you won't be disappointed 35. seeks 2283172

BEAUTIFUL MAKEUP ARTIST BEAUTIFUL MARKUP ARTIST Sincere, kind SWF, 53, proportionate, 5'6', 124bs, professional, attractive, intelligent and educated, loves music, dancing, motorcycles, outdoors, movies and creative pursuits. Seeking attractive gentieman, 42-53, with like interests/ qualities, lor triendship/LTR. 3245846

A POLISHED DIAMOND Attractive, sexy BF, 34, seeks true gentleman. You won't be disappointed when we meet! 22267057

LET'S GET TOGETHERI Sexy SBF, 40, N/S, seeks fun and witty WM, 35-80, for friendship first, maybe more. 27270132

LONELY VIRGO SBF, 47, with a young heart, enjoys cartoons, music, dancing, good food, good tun. Looking for SF, 30-65, with same interests. 2269375

DOWN-TO-EARTH AND HONEST

SBF, 36, 5'10", N/S, short hair, no children, look-ing for SBM, 35-50, who enjoys festivities, travel, spending time together. 22280950 LET'S DANCE IN THE RAINI Petre SBF, 36, 150lbs browned Petite SBF, 36, 150lbs, brown eyes, mother of two, enjoys cooking, music, church. Looking for SM, 35-75. 12281372

MATURE MAN WANTED

MATUPE MAN WANTED SBF, 33, 54", 115bs, caramel complexion, brown eyas, short blonde hair, waars glasses. Seeking tall, muscular SBM, 25-40, who enjoys ores, movies, dining, water. 22237856 bookst KEEP COOL

BEF 19, 5'3", looking for cool, down-to-earth, attra tive SB/HM, 18-25, who keeps it real. 22267598 WARM SMILE

SBF, 21, N/S, looking for SM, 21-40, for friend-ship first, possibly more. Call me, let's talk and get to know each other! 22287187

ONLY SERIOUS NEED REPLY Voluptuous SBF, 42, would like to meet a nice, seencus SBM, 35-50, who would like to become acquainted with a woman and who is ready, will-ing, and able to commit. 27273603



Attractive SBP, 510, 14005, 170, 016 no, mo-clubs, outdoor activities, dancing, working out. Seeking single male, 25-38, 61"+, N/S, slim to medium build for friendship first, dating and ore. 22285613 MEN SEEKING WOMEN

27265340

Area. 22860305

enjoys dinin 2287745

for friendship first, 12284932

LONELY, GENUINE HEART SBM, 29, no children, light smoker, seeks saxy, attractive SF, 20-31, who wants to see the real side of me. 27287987

BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS WANTED SBM, early 40s, seeks attractive, younger lady, 28-45, for romance, companionship, must be indepen-dent and shapely. Serious replies only. 27584501 LAID-BACK GENTLEMAN

LAID-BACK VERT LEMAN BM, 6', 255ibs, N/S, occasional drinker, nice sense of humor, likes dining out, bowing, some travel and having fun. If you would like to join me, please call. 30-40. 27278843

LONELY & READY

INTELLIGENT & MATURE Down-to-earth, fun-loving, positive, youthful, up-beat, energetic, exciting SWPM, 51, 5'9", 185lbs, enjoys dining, movies. Seeking similar SF, 39-55.

LOOKING FOR MZ RIGHT WIWM, 45, 511*, 220lbs, is easygoing, tun-loving, enjoys a variety of activities, indoor/ outdoor. Looking for LTR, with the right person.

FIT & FUN-LOVING Easygoing DWPM, 48, 6', 185/bs, romantic, look-ing for a woman, 25-50, who can find humor in what life gives us. Open to anything as long as we're laughing. **12288335**

HANDSOME MALE SBM, 6', HWP, professionally employed, kind, considerate, confident, likes concerts, travel, clin-ing. Seeking WF, 30-58, attractive, passionate, loving, affectionate. **27984967**

LTR. 2269 HANDSOME WM DWM would like to meet SBF, 22-46, N/S, who likes to experience new things in life, has varied Interests, \$2287230 LONELY & HEADY SWM, 49, average build, Italian, heart of gold, Virgo, N/S, seeks WF, 45-55, with a nice build, ready for LTR. Serious replies only. Redford

HANDSOME & FUN-LOVING Sincere, fun-loving, down-to-earth SBM, 44. ISO romantic, honest, intelligent BF, 25-55, with great SOH, for companionship, possible LTR. 17988147 SEARCHING FOR YOU SEARCHING FOR YOU Affectionate DVM, 71, brown hair, NS, D/D-free, enjoys craft showe, fiea markets, movies, diving, camping, The Red Wings, 120 a spocial tack, 48-56, to share friendship, dates, possible LTR, 27920969

LOOKING FOR ME?

LOOKING FOR ME? SM, 53, outgoing, cool, fun, honest and easy-going loves Italian/Maxican food, racqueball, camping, travel, and much more- looking for fit, fun and active lady to share talks. good times, friendship/fun, 22:250719

LOOKING FOR YOU SWM, 50, 5'11", 1850s, seeks SWF, 35-52, who enjoys Backgammon/Chess, dancing, working out at Bally's plano bars, omredy clubs, coffee houses, art galleries, Must be social drinker, IVS, MM exemptioneds, EMUID 1997. H/W proportionate. 2218827

WAITING FOR YOUR CALL Affectionate SVM, 40, 5'9", 210bs, dark brown/ brown, easygoing, friendly, enjoys dining, mov-les, taiks, waks, and waterfrient taiks, quiet times home, Looking for compatible lady who knows how to enjoy utility 399261190. how to enjoy life. 23238130

ENJOY THE VIEW Romantic, thoughtful SWM, 39, is looking for love enjoys hugs, kisses and cudding, seeks kind, at tractive SWF, age and area open. 3113835

LEAVE ME A MESSAGE Spontaneous BM likes working out, iding motor-cycles, being outdoors and more. Would like to meet a woman with a similar personality. 35-50.

WANTED: ONE NICE GIRL WANTEO: ONE NICE GIRL SHF, 46, 5'10", everage build, likes going out and having fun, movies, parties, just chilling and relaxing. Seeking SH/AF, late 30s, for possible relationship. 27289039

LET'S CONNECT SBM, 33, looking for love and possibly manlage with SA/HF, 18-25. Let's talk and see what devel-

Free Ade: Free ads placed in this section are not guaranteed- to run every week. Be sure to renew your ad frequently to keep it fresh.Guidelines: Personals are for adults 18 or over seeking monogamous relationships. To ensure your safety, carefully screen all responses and have first meetings occur in a public place. This publication reserves the right to edit, revise, or reject any advertisement at any time at its sole discretion and assumas no responsibility for the contant of or replies to any ad. Not all ads have corresponding voice messages. To review our complete guidelines, call (617) 425-2636

22287900

l /lie build, smok-nen, 18-41, for

ops. 22288526

LET'S ENJOY LIFE WM, 6'5", N/S, interests include candlelight dim-ners, car shows, bike nding, the beach and more. Looking for SWF, 55.4-7, N/S, preferably tail, to hang out with. **12:283522**

LET'S CHAT SBM, 32, student, employed, light smoker, look-ing for a woman, 25-46. I enjoy basketball, time with my king (STPCA dots ing for a woman, 25-46. with my kids. 22284905

OUTGOING GUY SWM, 26, 6'5'', 180libs, black/brown, with sense of humor, likes movies, beach walks, bowling. Seeking SW/AF, 20-28. 2289652 HOPE 2 HEAR FROM U SOON

SWM, 43, in shape, 5'8", 170lbs, brown/brown, looking tor older woman 50-60, fit and attractive, easygoing and secure, who knows how to have a good time in life, **\$7251226**

COUGAR LOVER Some things do get better with age. Blue-eyed, handsome SM, mid 40s, physically fit, laid-back, good sense of humor, seeks woman, with like qualities, who likes travel, music, exercising, etc.

SERIOUS WOMAN WANTED

SERIOUS WOMAN WANTED SBM, 46, locking for that special persona for LTR, someone who enjoys walks, movies, sporting events, cuddling at home. Please be shapely, inde-pendent and know what you want in life. 1092418

A WALK AND A TALK Try this easygoing, lovable SWM, 50, good listen-er, who enjoys book stores, coffee shops, nature and concets. I seek a like-minded counterpart for where ever it goes. \$200890

tor Where ever it guess. **XEAUGON A SPECIAL GUY** DWM, 56, 5'10', hardsome and secure, saeks honest S/DWF; w/sense of humor, who enjoys travel, candleight dinners, higas, danoling, con-certs, boating, and movies. Friendship, possible



130th Season

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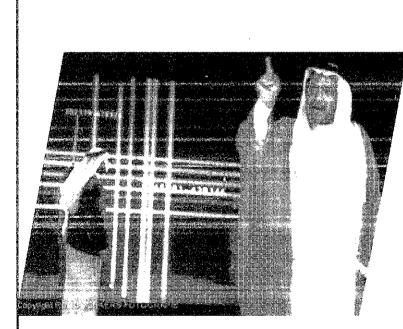
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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, August 17, 2008

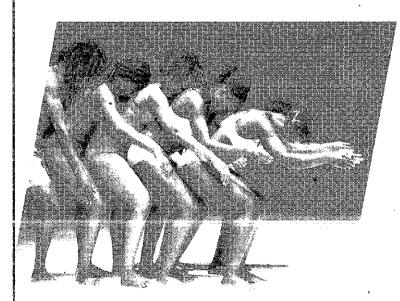
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No. Carlorite



Soweto Gospel Choir

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