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SUNDAY
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WESTLAND Observer

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Pressure mounts as union, W-W keep talking

Teachers picket to press for contract

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

More than 30 teachers kept up a brisk pace as they walked in front of Edison Elementary School in Westland Thursday afternoon, protesting the lack of progress in contract negotiations with the Wayne-Westland school board.

"This is an awareness thing. We're hoping to get a contract. We're hoping to get a settlement," said Pam Parys, the Wayne-Westland Education Association building representative at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center. "The teachers aren't looking to go out on strike. We're looking for a fair and equitable contract."

The informational picketing was staged at elementary schools around the district starting Wednesday as part of a stepped-up action by teachers to pressure for a new contract. In a show of unity, they wore black clothing and entered and left school together on Friday. They also have been wearing Unity pins.

They have been working under a 30-day contract extension after the union requested help from a state mediator. Their contract expired Aug. 25.

The teachers have made class sizes, wages and health care major issues in this round of negotiations and have gained the support of some parents, several who spoke on their behalf at Monday's school board meeting. Even those sitting outside the school's main entrance shared their concern about class sizes.

"I agree with them, it's ridiculous," said one parent who asked not to be identified. "I'm appalled to hear they have 39 kids in a



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wayne-Westland teachers and parents picket in front of Edison Elementary School in Westland Thursday to protest the lack of a new contract. The picketing was one of several activities the union took part in last week to bring their issues to the attention of parents.

classroom. I think a lot of parents aren't getting involved because they don't know what's going on."

Dean Ayers also is concerned about the class size. His daughter, a high school student, "for the first two months last year had no desk." He also is concerned about the effect the informational picketing will have on students.

"I think they have a right to strike, and I don't have a problem with what they're doing as long as it doesn't cause problems for the kids," said the father of three children who attend Wayne-Westland schools. "But they're setting a bad example for students."

DeAn Lowery, who cares for several Edison students, said the picketing has been confusing for the children.

"They think they don't have school and get excited about it," she said. "I've had to explain the basics of it to them."

The teachers have said they've gotten support from parents and students, and several joined them in walking in front of Edison

School. However, school officials have received e-mails from some parents upset with the teachers' actions.

One parent expressed disappointment and wrote, "When my eight-year-old saw teachers picketing, he thought they were on strike and that they had quit their jobs, he was very distressed and felt as though he had done something wrong."

"Our children deserve to understand, in an age-appropriate way, exactly what has motivated their teacher to shove them out the door to march and picket, and, I must add, encourage the children to picket with them," the parent stated.

Another parent in an e-mail stated that he found the teachers' tactics "very disturbing and absolutely unnecessary."

"There are many teachers using the kids to relay untrue information to the parents," he wrote. "I do not approve of any teacher telling these kids anything about their contract negotiations in hopes that they will go home and tell their parents."

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Wayne-Westland school board and the Wayne-Westland Education Association are continuing to meet in an effort to hammer out a new contract. The two sides meet several times last week, but have yet to resolve differences over the big issues of class sizes, wages and health insurance.

"It's not going well at all," said Evelyn Baran, MEA UniServe director of the WWEA. "Administration's position has hardened and they are not willing to compromise. They are not interested in what the teachers want."

"The Board of Education and the board negotiating team is continuing to negotiate in good faith and will go around the clock to resolve the issues," said Superintendent Greg Baracy.

The two sides have been negotiating with the help of a state mediator requested by the union under a 30-day contract extension. A bargaining session has been scheduled for Monday, and the discussion will continue until one side gives 24-hour written notice that it is pulling out.

According to an update posted on the school district's Web site, the Board of Education has yet to receive a response from the union to proposal presented more than 25 days ago. It also stated that the last written proposal submitted by the WWEA would cost the district an estimated \$20 million over three years.

Baran acknowledged that the union has received a health care proposal that would switch employees from MESSA insurance to one used by many of the district's employees, but said the union "isn't sure what to do with it."

"It's an insurance plan that would cost more than what we

have," she said.

The war of words escalated on Friday when three parents and the WWEA joined ranks in a lawsuit to force the school board to move its meetings to a larger venue.

The school board as well as the Wayne-Westland Community Schools are named as defendants in the lawsuit brought by parents Lisa Hamlett, Carla Miller and Melissa O'Neil who spoke in support of teachers at last Monday's school board meeting, the WWEA and the Michigan Education Association/National Education Association.

The suit, which was to have been filed late Friday afternoon, claims the school board violated the state's Open Meetings Act by not allowing public to attend the board's August and September meetings because of the size of the board's meeting room. The room has a seating capacity of 93 people.

The lawsuit contends that the school board failure to convene its meetings in a venue large enough to accommodate the public "was done intentionally and in bad faith because the board knew at the outset that its meeting room was inadequate to allow participation of the public."

The suit is asking the school board and district be found in violation of the Open Meetings Act and issue a preliminary injunction preventing the board and district from continuing to violate the act and hold meetings in a larger location.

The school district's attorney was in possession of an unsigned copy of the lawsuit Friday afternoon, and Baracy declined to comment pending its filing in the court.

He did say that "board meetings are to conduct school district business."

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Gebhardt: Foreclosures, jobs are her top priorities

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Democratic Wayne County Commission nominee Joan Gebhardt cited the need to create new jobs and ease the home foreclosure crisis as top priorities she hopes to address if she's elected to a two-year term.

"People want to work," she said. "They want to keep their homes."

Despite the difficulty of advancing those goals amid a grueling economy, Gebhardt said new jobs and foreclosure-reduction measures are critical to helping people and to maintaining tax revenues that



Gebhardt

a 59-year-old staffer for state House Speaker Andy Dillon, D-Redford, and a Schoolcraft College trustee, faces Republican Thomas Thompson in the November general election. The winner will replace appointee Ronaale Bowman, who has held the \$68,411-a-year job

the county needs to pay for services it provides.

"If you don't get the money in," she said, "you can't spend the money out."

Gebhardt, since former Commissioner Kay Beard resigned in March for health reasons. The 12th District includes Westland, Inkster and south Livonia.

Gebhardt cited the expansion of Cobo Hall in Detroit as one way jobs can be created. She said the project will give the area a better showcase for its auto events and also help to draw large conventions.

"We have to, as a region — not just Wayne County but as a region — work on refurbishing Cobo Hall and also enlarging it," Gebhardt said. "I see it as full steam ahead."

Gebhardt also voiced support for the aerotropolis. Please see **GEBHARDT, A2**

Thompson: Go-between for problems, solutions

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Republican Wayne County Commission nominee Thomas Thompson conceded that he faces an uphill battle to claim victory in a 12th District area long considered a Democratic stronghold.

"The truth of the matter is, it is a Democratic area, and many people are probably going to vote Democrat," he said.

Still, Thompson, a 71-year-old retired Detroit Public Schools teacher, hopes that 12th District voters in Westland, Inkster and south Livonia will consider his ideas as they decide between him and Democratic nominee Joan



Thompson

Commissioner Kay Beard stepped down in March for health reasons.

Thompson acknowledged that Wayne County will continue to face difficult budget problems amid a troubled economy and declining revenues. He said he would agree to a 20-percent

pay cut as a commissioner as he brings to the table a proposal for a four-day, 32-hour work week for county employees.

"I'm wondering if we could work out a four-day week," he said. "I don't know if the unions would go for it or not."

While his proposal would result in employees losing money, he said it could be the impetus needed to avoid widespread layoffs as county officials tackle ongoing financial problems.

"We could try to cushion it and keep as many people working as possible," Thompson said. "We're all in this together."

Thompson, a Livonia resident, Please see **THOMPSON, A2**

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Coming Thursday in filter



pure picks
Robin Williams comes to the Fox Theatre

Hearing delayed in fatal accident

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A Livonia man's court hearing on charges he drove while drinking and killed a pedestrian on Westland's north side was delayed Thursday because authorities hadn't received and reviewed a medical examiner's report.

The stumbling block prompted 19th District Judge Sandra Ference Cicirelli to adjourn 21-year-old Wesley Thomas Sanborn's preliminary hearing until Oct. 23.

Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Elizabeth Walker told Cicirelli that the medical examiner's report from Washtenaw County, where 27-year-old Gary Brown of Livonia ultimately died in a hospital, was expected as early as this week, but attorneys agreed to delay the hearing until late October.

Not one but two defense lawyers appeared in court with Sanborn, and Walker, a special prosecutor, has been assigned to the case — an indication of how seriously both sides are approaching allegations that Sanborn caused Brown's death.

Sanborn is accused of driving while drinking and hitting Walker with a Chevy TrailBlazer

while Walker was walking on Joy east of Newburgh shortly before 5 a.m. Aug. 3, near the Westland-Livonia line. Brown died the next day at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ypsilanti.

Westland Police Officer Jack McIntosh has said in court that Sanborn initially contended he was distracted by a cell phone and thought he had hit a mailbox. However, McIntosh also has said Sanborn was stopped more than eight hours later on Joy Road, not far from the accident scene, and that his blood-alcohol level was .03 percent — below the .08 percent that is considered over the legal limit in Michigan.

McIntosh has said in court that Sanborn "smelled of intoxicants and had glassy eyes" when he was stopped. Sanborn is charged with vehicular manslaughter, operating while intoxicated and causing a death, and failing to stop during a fatal accident. If convicted, he could face penalties ranging up to 15 years in prison and fines up to \$10,000.

With a not-guilty plea entered for him, Sanborn has been released on a \$10,000/10 percent bond, meaning he had to post \$1,000. He has been ordered not to drink alcohol and to report to court for alcohol testing.

Candidates discuss foreclosures, economy

BY ALEX LUNDBERG
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Wayne County Commission candidates Democrat Joan Gebhardt and Republican Thomas Thompson discussed the state of the flagging economy and their candidacies at a forum Thursday hosted by the League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County at the Livonia City Hall. One of the two will replace current 12th District Commissioner Ronalee Bowman, who was defeated in the Democratic primary voting.

According to Gebhardt, the big issue is still dollars and cents.

"It's the economy, both in Wayne County and the state," she said. "People are losing their jobs, their homes, people want to provide for their families and they can't."

To move the economy along, she said the county needs to work on the Cobo Hall expansion and get the aerotropolis development underway. Her opponent said more has to be done on county infrastructure.

"Why can't the roads stay in good condition?" Thompson asked. "European contractors have to sign agreements to guarantee their work for 15 years."

Mass transportation, or the lack of it in southeast Michigan, was discussed and both candidates agreed that more needs to be done. Gebhardt said the county needs to work with state and federal officials to bring transportation funds back to Michigan and get something going.

Thompson said it was an issue that resurfaces for as long as he could remember and would support it, even if the solution is more park and ride options for residents.

Both candidates said the county needs to do more to get its Web site advancing to a 21st century standard. Gebhardt said it was a question of allocating money to where it can best be used. Thompson said getting the Web site together was part of establishing responsibility — an acknowledgement that the Web site was updated with current information.

All of the candidates at the forum were asked about the effects of the mortgage crisis. Gebhardt said she had seen many houses with orange eviction stickers on their windows. Thompson said it was a loss for everyone.

"It's an emotional issue, people are losing their homes," he said. "But the lending institutions don't want to own your property."

The 12th District is comprised of Inkster, Westland and part of Livonia.

alundberg@hometownlife.com

THOMPSON

FROM PAGE A1

also acknowledged that the home foreclosure crisis will continue to take a grueling toll on Wayne County. He said he would like to work as a liaison to help people find the services they need, even if it means working with lending institutions to arrange a "short sale" in which some debt is forgiven.

"I would love to be a bridge between problems and possible solutions," Thompson said.

He also cited deteriorated road conditions as a priority he hopes to address, and he specifically cited the stretch of Warren Road that runs through Westland's

commercial corridor. Thompson said he believes that contractors who don't properly fix roads should be held accountable for returning to provide repairs without any further expense to taxpayers.

Thompson, former chairman of the old 15th District Republican Committee, said he is campaigning with little money to spend. He is passing out one piece of literature, and he said he has set up a special e-mail address, thomasthompson12@gmail.com, where people can contact him with questions and concerns.

"My campaign is pretty much word of mouth," he said.

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GEBHARDT

FROM PAGE A1

his effort, intended to spur development from Detroit Metropolitan Airport to nearby Willow Run Airport, as another well-crafted plan to bring new jobs to the region.

Until an economic turnaround begins, Gebhardt conceded that Wayne County will continue to face budget problems that will require cost-cutting measures. She said expenses will need to be trimmed but that she doesn't necessarily favor fixed, across-the-board efforts to slash departmental spending.

"My No. 1 priority is the health, safety and welfare of our citizens. That must come first," she said. "We need to live lean but not mean. We have to take care of the people who are entrusted to us — seniors, the people who can't make it on their own for whatever reason."

Gebhardt indicated that she will offer her resignation to Dillon if she's elected to the county commission.

"The Wayne County Commission will be my priority," she said. "I would offer my resignation to the speaker."

Gebhardt indicated she has received legal advice indicating she wouldn't have to resign her unpaid post as a Schoolcraft College trustee, and she said she would like to fulfill a six-year term she won in May of last year.

"There appears to be no conflict of interest between the two positions," Gebhardt said.

Although she is campaigning in a district that has been a Democratic stronghold, she said she isn't taking the election for granted. She said she will continue to try to get the word out about how she hopes to work for 12th District residents.

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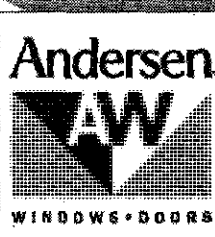

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AROUND WESTLAND

Canned food drive

Fans of Wayne Memorial High School Zebra football, if you're planning to attend Friday's Homecoming game be sure to bring along some food.

The high school is holding a canned food drive to support the John Bolde Memorial Food Depot in Wayne. Fans who donate food at the game will be entered in a drawing to win a family pass to all athletic events. Game time is 7 p.m. and the Wayne Memorial Zebras will be taking on the Livonia Churchill Chargers.

Hope 4 Healing

Kirk of Our Savior in Westland hosts a seven-week workshop, "Hope 4 Healing," designed to help anyone dealing with a loved one who has been incarcerated.

The group meets starting Oct. 13, with pre-registration starting Oct. 10. It's designed for adults with a loved one in prison who want to talk and share experiences and understand their own feelings.

Kirk of Our Savior is located at 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland. For more informa-

tion, call Bonnie, (734) 646-2237, or e-mail hope4healing@rocketmail.com

Topps soccer

All disabled children are invited to participate in Topps Soccer Sundays, now through Oct. 26, at the East Field on Hines Drive west of Haggerty. The cost is \$20 and children need shin guards and a water bottle. Children with Downs Syndrome need a doctor's note to participate. For more information, call Liz Kreza at (734) 354-6498 or by e-mail at topsoccer@hotmail.com.

Preschool enrollment

McKinley Co-operative Preschool has a limited number of opening left for the 2008-2009 school year. Morning and afternoon programs are available for children ages 2-5, including "Furr Fridays with your Toddlers," a mom & tots class for children

who will be two year old by Dec. 1. The preschool is located at 6500 N. Wayne Road at Hunter in Westland. For more information call (734) 729-7222 or visit the Web site at www.mckinleypreschool.org

Historical event

The Westland Historical Society will present The Petticoat Ladies during an event scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 2, at the Westland senior Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh. The Petticoat Ladies, a group that dresses in period costumes, will give a presentation called "Mothers of Invention" that will highlight the contributions of women.

The cost is \$6 for seniors and \$9 for others. Proceeds will benefit the Westland Historic Park Village on Wayne south of Marquette. There will be refreshments and door prizes.

For more information or tickets, call (734) 522-3918, (734) 729-1605 or the Friendship Center at (734) 722-7628. It is recommended to buy tickets in advance.

Trial ordered for Westland Kroger robbery suspect

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A Westland bank teller testified Thursday against a bank robbery defendant, accusing him of implying he had a weapon and ordering her to hand over money from a cash drawer.

Best Bank employee Rose Mattes identified 28-year-old Michael John Polgar as the lone man who took \$1,994 from her while she was working at a branch inside the Kroger store northeast of Michigan Avenue and Merriman Road.

Her testimony during Polgar's preliminary hearing convinced Westland 18th District Judge Sandra Ference Cicirelli to order the defendant to stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court. If convicted, Polgar could face penalties ranging up to life in prison.

Mattes identified Polgar as the bank bandit who approached her with a note around 3:20 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11.

"It stated that he was coming in for the money from my top drawer and that I had 20 seconds to give it to him," she said in court.

Mattes said Polgar told her verbally and also implied in his note that he had a weapon. She said he took the piece of paper with him when he fled the store.

No shots were fired and no one was injured.

Westland police Sgt. Steve Borisch has said the defendant was captured a few hours later following a similar incident inside a Kroger store near Michigan Avenue and Outer Drive in Dearborn.

Westland police Lt. Dan Karrick has said that authorities retrieved most of the money.

In court Thursday, Cicirelli kept Polgar's bond at \$500,000. A not-guilty plea has been entered for him.

Before his arrest, Polgar had been released on parole for breaking into a vehicle and damaging it in August of last year. According to the Michigan Department of Corrections, he also has a criminal history that includes resisting a police officer, retail fraud, felonious assault and receiving stolen property worth \$1,000 to \$20,000.

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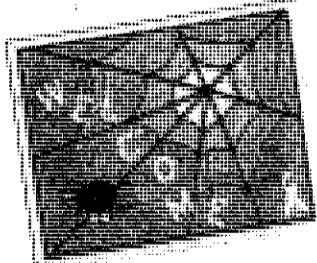
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EDUCATION

The Facts about the Wayne-Westland Teacher Contract Bargaining

The 850 members of the Wayne-Westland Education Association/MEA/NEA, want to thank all of you, parents and community members, who have expressed your support during our recent difficult bargaining. Here are the facts:

CLASS SIZE

To put it simply: it is the union's contention that money spent on artificial turf, field houses, flat screen televisions, replacing technology which is not out of date, and other "improvements" should go toward lower class sizes which are best for kids. We believe a good education is more important than an education that looks good in these economic times.

ECONOMIC ISSUES

WWEA members gave millions of dollars in concessions in the last round of bargaining to keep their health insurance. Top administrators did not.

The district has the second highest fund equity in the county, \$21 million, just behind Grosse Pointe in the amount of money it has. It can afford a contract with teachers.

Wayne Westland teachers are near the bottom of the county in pay. For instance, beginning Wayne Westland teachers make about \$6,000 less than new hires in Plymouth and Livonia.

Pay for top administrators in Wayne Westland is not near the bottom of the county.

HEALTH INSURANCE

The proposed district plan is partially self insured, giving the district access to private information on teachers' and their families' health insurance usage.

Management is concerned about the rising costs of the union health plan, but not the administration's health plan, which has risen 11% and 18% over the past two years, while the union plan has risen about 3% per year in the same time period.

GOOD FAITH BARGAINING

We are available after school every day. The last date management has agreed to is Monday, September 29, 2008. We will continue to bargain in good faith.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

We hear over and over from community members: what can we do?

Attend board meetings. Continue to give us a smile and a honk when you see us.

Call State Legislators:

Richard LeBlanc, (888) 737-5325 or (517) 373-2576

Marc Corriveau, (877) 208-4737 or (517) 373-3816

State Senator Glenn Anderson, (517) 373-1707

Ask them to do all they can to promote a fair and equitable settlement.

*Paid for by the Wayne-Westland Education Association/MEA/NEA
40500 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170*

Impeachment drive spurs Green Party candidate

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Erik Shelley thinks George W. Bush should be impeached and he's angry that the House of Representatives hasn't done it.

"Politically after the 2006 elections, we had a turnover in the House of Representatives and we thought that things would change," he said. "We thought the president would be held accountable and the war would be brought to an end, or more accurately the occupation of Iraq. As it turned out, that never happened."

Shelley's campaign for impeachment has fallen on deaf ears of Democratic and Republican House members, so he decided to run for the 11th District U.S. House seat as a member of the Green Party. On Nov. 4, Shelley of Redford will face incumbent Republican Thaddeus McCotter, Democrat Joseph Larkin and Libertarian candidate John Tatar, all of Livonia.

Shelley said a petition to impeach the president has gathered a lot of support, but not in Congress.

"I went down to John Conyers' office in Detroit and started to demonstrate there, talked to people in his office and eventually met with him," Shelley said.

He said the Detroit

These stories profile minority party candidates in the Nov. 4 11th Congressional District race, Erik Shelley of the Green Party and John Tatar of the Libertarian Party. Profiles of Republican Thaddeus McCotter and Democrat Joseph Larkin will be published at a later date.



Anger over Patriot Act moves Libertarian hopeful

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

Retired Livonia school teacher John Tatar is making his second run to become the U.S. representative of the 11th Congressional District.

On Nov. 4, he will face incumbent Republican Thaddeus McCotter, Democrat Joseph Larkin and Green Party candidate Erik Shelley.

He said it was McCotter's support of the Patriot Act and House Resolutions 6166 and 5122 that got him involved in running.

"Those three have destroyed the Constitution and the Bill of Rights," Tatar said. "The government has the right to search and seize citizens of America if they are suspected of being terrorists. Government has the right to station troops in America to put under control public disorder. Government has the right to read your e-mail, to check out what type of library books you are reading. Government has suspended habeas corpus, which means they can lock you up and throw away the key until the conflict is resolved."

Tatar said those were serious issues and McCotter has supported them.

"I believe we need a choice," he said. "I believe if you vote for the same person twice or the Republicans or Democrats, you get the same stuff you've always been getting."

ABOUT THE CANDIDATE

Age: 59
Residence: Livonia
Occupation: Retired Livonia Stevenson High School teacher, retired U.S. Army Reserve
Education: B.S. and M.S. from Wayne State University, Army Command and General Staff College
Marital status: Divorced, two adult children
Party affiliation: Libertarian
Web site: <http://johntatar.ipwm.org>



Tatar

at whim on whatever they please and whenever they please and inflate the economy and raise the debt ceiling."

He said if there was a long-range plan to change the system, then he might support a temporary bailout. But he said he prefers a "hard money" system such as readopting the gold standard for limiting the circulation of currency.

"We need to go back to being a republic, which our government was meant to be, and not a democracy," he said. "A republic is where we elect these politicians to go to Washington and do our bidding for us. I think we've gotten away from that."

Tatar, a retired officer in the Army Reserve, has strong reservations about the war in Iraq. "We should have pulled our troops out a long time ago. We should never have gone into Iraq," he said.

He said the Bush administration went into the war without a mission or an exit strategy.

"I'm not sure we have the right to move into another country and set up an armed camp. I don't believe that's a correct scenario," he said.

Tatar said he is running a low-key campaign and financing it himself.

"I basically got angry over the Patriot Act and Resolution 6166 and 5122. Our government is supposed to protect and defend the Constitution and we have put it aside," he said.

ABOUT THE CANDIDATE

Age: 42
Residence: Redford Township
Occupation: Audio engineer
Education: Graduate of Central Michigan University
Marital status: Single
Party affiliation: Green Party
Web site: www.shelleyforcongress.com



Shelley

Democrat told him that an impeachment in a presidential election year would be damaging to the campaign.

Shelley next turned to his own conservative Republican representative, Thaddeus McCotter, hoping that he would at least hear his position.

"I've been completely dismissed. He refuses to meet with me and refuses to answer my questions," Shelley said.

Shelley did speak with McCotter's aide Andrew Anuzis.

"I asked him why is the president allowed to torture people, why can he add signing statements to avoid laws, why can his cabinet members

ignore contempt citations," he said. "He promised me answers in writing and that was three months ago."

McCotter's office released two letters responding to Shelley. One dated July 18, 2008, concerns immunity for telecommunications companies who assisted the government on tracking terrorists and one dated Sept. 25, 2008 disagreeing with Shelley on the impeachment issue.

Shelley said he wants to make the president accountable.

"The system is so defective that representatives don't think they have to listen to constituents," he said.

Shelley said it was the case of former Alabama governor Don Siegelman that first got his attention. Siegelman was convicted of bribery in 2006. His case has been under investigation by Congress and former Bush aide Karl Rove was called to testify on whether Siegelman's prosecution was politically motivated. He claimed executive privilege. Siegelman is currently out of prison on appeal.

Shelley said he opposes the war in Iraq. Shelley is running as a Green candidate because his mother, Karen Shelley, is active in the party. She is also the Michigan coordinator of Ralph Nader's presidential campaign.

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Westland mall hosts 'Ladies Night Out'

Round up your girlfriends, dust off the boas and tiaras and strap on your stilettos! Westland Shopping Center will host a "Ladies Night Out" 5-9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 2, with games, prizes and discounts and deals from our retailers. The fun begins by visiting the registration table located in East Court where all participants will receive a shopping bag, coupons, a BINGO card, and Ladies Night Out Shopping Directory detailing special offers from mall retailers, including Bath & Body Works, Precision Watch & Ringsmith, Borders Express and Trade Secret Salon.

Ladies can enter to win prizes, including Westland Shopping Center gift cards, by entering the raffle, or completing the retail BINGO game. Bring your spare change to the registration desk to help the American Red Cross Change They Can Count on Relief Fund for those along the Gulf Coast who were affected by Hurricane Ike. Westland Shopping Center is at Wayne and Warren roads in Westland. For information, check out the events page on its Web site at www.westlandcenter.com or call the Customer Service booth at (734) 421-0291.

GC Hospital programs focus on wellness

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

Monday, Sept. 29

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.

Childbirth Education (fourth of six classes) at 6 p.m. This six-week course prepares the expectant mother and coach for labor and delivery. Class runtime is 2½ hours and there is a \$60 fee. Medicaid is accepted. A refresher course also is available. Call (734) 458-4330 for more information or to register.

Tuesday, Sept. 30

Get Up and Move at 9 a.m., 3 and 4 p.m. This is an invigorating exercise program 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 (third 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 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.

Yoga (fourth of four classes) at 4 p.m. Learn how to relax, stretch and breathe while creating balance, strength and flexibility for both the body and mind. This four-week session is \$32. Classes meet at Garden Wednesday, Oct. 1.

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.

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.

Diabetes Support Group at 2:30 and 6:30 p.m. Hear guest speakers and get involved with open discussion on new diabetes information by attending this support group. Day and evening classes are available. The group meets every first Wednesday of the month. Call Community Education at (734) 458-4330 for more information.

CPAP and BIPAP Mask Fitting Clinic at 5 p.m. 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 - Infant and Child at 6 p.m. Approved by the American Heart Association, this class is designed for those who care for children.

This class teaches participants how to recognize and care for breathing and cardiac emergencies in infants and in children victims age 8 and under. There is a \$40 fee. Participants will receive certification upon successful completion. Call (734) 458-4330 for more information or to register.

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.

Get Up and Move at 9 a.m., 3 and 4 p.m. This is an invigorating exercise program 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.

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per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

Diabetes Self-Management Education (third 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.

Yoga (first of four classes) at 6:30 p.m. Learn how to relax, stretch and breathe while creating balance, strength and flexibility for both the body and mind. This four-week session is \$32. Classes meet at Garden City Hospital's Cardiac Rehab. Call (734) 458-3242 for details and to register.

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.

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McCotter says House GOP won't 'rubber stamp' Bush bailout plan

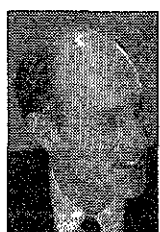
BY HUGH GALLAGHER
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, said Friday House Republicans never agreed on an amended version of the Bush administration's Wall Street bailout plan.

On Thursday, House Minority Leader John Boehner, R-Ohio, objected to the bipartisan plan and offered an alternative plan at a contentious White House meeting that included House and Senate leaders and Republican presidential candidate Sen. John McCain, R-Arizona, and Democratic candidate Sen. Barack Obama, D-Illinois.

McCotter said the White House was jamming Congress to act quickly on Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson's plan to spend \$700 billion to buy up troubled bank assets caused by defaults on mortgages to prevent an economic meltdown because of frozen credit throughout the system.

"The irony here is that people who have been complaining that we are nothing but a rubber stamp for the presi-



McCotter

dent are now complaining that we won't rubber stamp this proposal," McCotter said.

The original proposal was opposed by members of both parties in Congress because it gave too much power to the Treasury secretary. The revised version would provide funding in installments, set standards on executive compensation, give taxpayers equity as funds return to profitability, provide oversight on the Treasury secretary's authority, modify mortgages to help homeowners and provide judicial review.

In response, House Republicans are proposing a recapitalization program using private investment backed by government insurance. McCotter said this forces the people who created the problem to use their money to correct it.

"We don't want taxpayers to be the first option," McCotter said.

He said the House Republican plan provides backup with federally backed insurance and keeping the Federal Reserve "window" open for deals like the Bear Stearns bailout.

The Republican plan would reduce or suspend capital gains taxes for investors under specific conditions. McCotter said economic activity generated would offset tax losses.

McCotter said Sen. John McCain "likes" the House Republican plan.

Democrats have complained that McCain is politicizing the process to further his presidential campaign and that if they acted without bipartisan support, they would face a campaign tying them with the Bush administration.

In a *Detroit Free Press* report, Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., chair of the House Financial Services Committee, said that McCain declined to take a position at the White House meeting.

In another news report, Frank is quoted as saying, "I

think McCain was hurting politically. I think this was a campaign ploy."

Obama said in press reports that he thinks an agreement can be reached but that more work needs to be done to get a consensus.

McCotter said the Democrats have the votes to pass the amended Paulson plan at any time. He said the House Republicans are only doing their due diligence in providing an alternate proposal.

He said that in fairness to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., the Bush administration has known for a year that this crisis was coming and did not choose to work with Congress on a solution.

"Our position is that if she (Pelosi) and Obama think this has to be done, they can pass it. We're willing to talk about anything," he said.

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- Men In Black Band
- Dance Show
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- Kids Activities

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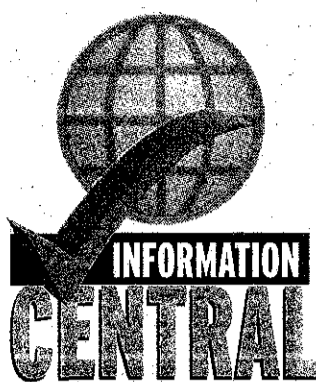
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For further information, contact: Annette Horn @ 734.776.9669
www.greatlakeschill.com

Happy birthday, NASA: Fifty years of space exploration

Everyone has probably looked up at the sky and wondered what it must be like to visit the moon or walk on another planet. For those men and women who work at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), those dreams are their reality.

After the Soviets launched Sputnik in October 1957, the U.S. Congress urged the creation of an agency that would conduct all non-military activity in space. NASA was established July 29, 1958, and officially started Oct. 1, 1958, by the National Aeronautics and Space Act and is responsible for the nation's public space program and long-term civilian and military aerospace research.

The first task NASA worked on was options for human space flight.



Project Mercury was its first high-profile program followed by Projects Gemini and Apollo. The space shuttle

and International Space Station projects followed the success of the Apollo programs which first put men on the moon.

NASA has also conducted many types of research on aerodynamics, wind shear, wind tunnels, flight testing and computer simulations. Many of their projects have changed the everyday life of people on earth.

If you are interested in learning more about NASA, space exploration and the universe, the William P. Faust Public Library can help. Roger D. Launius' "NASA: A History of the U.S. Civil Space Program," E. John DeWaard's "History of NASA, America in Space: NASA's First Fifty Years," as well as the "NASA: 25 Years" video recording series will help you understand the history of NASA.

Check out Ronald Greeley's "NASA Atlas of the Solar System," Terry Hope's "Spacecam: Photographing the Final Frontier - From Apollo to Hubble" and Jay Apt's "Orbit: NASA Astronauts Photograph the Earth" to look at some of the wonderful images that NASA has captured on its missions.

You can also search the official Web site - www.nasa.gov - for more interesting facts about what's going on at NASA. One of the most interesting and fun parts of the Web site is the image of the day section. NASA's 50th Anniversary in 2008 Web site celebrates NASA's first 50 years and contains images from the "America in Space" anniversary book. As always, the library also has internet stations that the public can use.

The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland is open 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Highlighted Activities
Banned Books Week Read-Out: 6 p.m. Sept. 29. Teen readers only. To celebrate Banned Books Week, Teens read a passage from their favorite banned books, ranging from the Harry Potter series to classics like Steinbeck's "Of Mice and Men." To get a list of books or to sign up, visit the Reference Desk. Sign-up is required. All are welcome.

Poetry Workshop with Keith Taylor: 6-7 p.m. Oct. 6. Adult and Teen Poetry Groups Poet Keith Taylor will lead a workshop for Adult and Teen Poetry Group members. He will also direct

a writing exercise for all attendees. Check out his work and biography online at www.keithtaylorannarbor.com

Poetry Reading with Keith Taylor: 7 p.m. Oct. 6. All adults and teens are welcome. **Drop-in Knitting Nights @ the Library:** Every Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. Whether you want to learn to knit or are an experienced knitter, all are welcome. Call the library for more information at (734) 326-6123.

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

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EAGLE EYE (PG-13)
 11:00, 1:35, 4:10, 6:45, 9:20
 FR/SAT LS 11:55

MY BEST FRIEND'S GIRL (R)
 12:05, 2:25, 4:45, 7:05, 9:25
 FR/SAT LS 11:45

LEGO (PG)
 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00
 FR/SAT LS 11:00

THE FAMILY THAT PREYS (PG-13)
 12:05, 2:35, 5:00, 7:25, 9:50

RIGHTYOUS KILL (R)
 12:20, 2:40, 4:55, 7:10, 9:30
 FR/SAT LS 11:45

BURN AFTER READING (R)
 12:10, 2:30, 4:40, 6:55, 9:10
 FR/SAT LS 11:25

THE WOMEN (PG-13)
 7:15, 9:45

FLY ME TO THE MOON 3D (G)
 1:15, 3:15, 5:15

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CITY OF WESTLAND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC NOTICE

The following appeals will be heard at a public hearing to be held in the Council Chambers of Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI on Wednesday, October 15, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at which time comments may be directed to the Board during audience participation. If you wish to reply by mail, send your comments to the above address. All property owners whose names appear in our tax rolls located within 300' of this property are being notified pursuant to this statute.

Petition #2649-T. Mallock-6901 Mohican (Postponed from 9/17/08)
 Request for 2 variances from Ordinance 248 in order to construct a 12' x 30'6" covered porch addition to the rear of the existing non-conforming home that would be located 18' from the rear lot line; whereas Section 5.2.3 states that a non-conforming home cannot be enlarged and Section 7.4.2 requires a minimum rear yard setback of 35'.

Petition #2651-Allied Signs/Pavless Shoesource-6629 N. Wayne
 Request for a 56.83 square foot wall-mounted sign area variance from Ordinance 248 in order to install a second wall-mounted sign to the east side of the tenant space, resulting in a total of 111.58 square feet of wall-mounted signage for the space; whereas Section 15.6.2(a) allows the space a maximum of 54.75 square feet of wall-mounted signage.

Petition #2654-L. Rank-34446 Barton
 Request for a 1'6" side yard fence height variance from the City of Westland Code of Ordinances in order to install a 6' high wood privacy fence along the east side yard of the home, whereas Section 22-303(c) allows a maximum height of 4'6".

Petition #2655-Liberty Hill Housing II Inc.-95266 Norene
 Request for a side yard fence location variance from the City of Westland Code of Ordinances in order to install a 4' high chain link fence in the east and west side yards of the existing home, whereas Section 22-304(a) states that only rear yards may be enclosed with a fence.

Publish September 28, 2008

CITY OF GARDEN CITY CLOSE OF REGISTRATION NOTICE GENERAL ELECTION, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2008

Notice is hereby given that the last day of registration for the General Election is **October 6, 2008**. Candidates of the Democratic and Republican parties and non-partisan candidates for the following offices are to be voted on:

President and Vice President of the United States of America
 United States Senator
 Representative in Congress
 State Representative
 State Board of Education, Vote 2
 University of Michigan Regent, Vote 2
 Michigan State University Trustee, Vote 2
 Wayne State University Governor, Vote 2
 Prosecuting Attorney
 Sheriff
 County Clerk
 County Treasurer
 Register of Deeds
 County Commissioner
 Supreme Court Justice, Vote 1
 Judge of Court of Appeals 1st District Incumbent Position, Vote 3
 Judge of Circuit Court 3rd Circuit Incumbent Position, Vote 18
 Judge of Circuit Court 3rd Circuit Non-Incumbent Position, Vote 3
 Judge of Circuit Court 3rd Circuit Incumbent Position Partial Term, Vote 2
 Judge of Probate Court Incumbent Position, Vote 3
 Judge of District Court 21st District Incumbent Position, Vote 1

The following proposals will also be voted on:

PROPOSAL 08-01
 A legislative initiative to permit the use and cultivation of marijuana for specified medical conditions.

PROPOSAL 08-02
 A proposal to amend the State Constitution to address human embryo and human embryonic stem cell research in Michigan.

The office of the City Clerk, located in the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan, will be open for the registration of all qualified electors, not already registered, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Allyson M. Bettis, City Clerk
 Garden City, Wayne County, Michigan

Publish: September 28, 2008

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Ron recently joined our sales team and brings years of sales experience with him after serving the metro Detroit area since 1976. He has been recognized for his achievements from Ford Motor Company for high scores in customer satisfaction. Ron will be a great addition to our sales team.

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Ron can be reached directly at **248-714-0412**
 or by email at rmarsh@hinespark.com

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The Henry Ford features movie costumes

The Henry Ford in Dearborn, Michigan will present *Out of This World: Extraordinary Costumes from Film and Television* Oct. 11, 2008, through Jan. 11, 2009, at Henry Ford Museum. This exhibit is free with membership or admission to Henry Ford Museum.

Organized by the Science Fiction Museum and Hall of Fame in Seattle, *Out of This World: Extraordinary Costumes from Film and Television* features more than 40 costumes and related memorabilia from such blockbuster films as *The Wizard of Oz*, *Star Wars*, *Blade Runner*, *Terminator* and *Batman* and popular television programs such as *Star Trek* and *Battlestar Galactica*. The exhibition explores wardrobe design and how, throughout the years, costumes have become just as iconic as the

stars who have worn them. "The costumes displayed in this exhibit are just as much a part of our pop culture as the movies in which they were featured," said Jeanine Head Miller, curator of Domestic Life and Leisure. "The designers of these wonderful pieces of clothing combined color and style with the right cultural cues and historical traditions and created these memorable fashions with which we will forever associate our favorite characters."

Exclusive to Henry Ford Museum, the famous Batmobile driven by Michael Keaton in *Batman* (1989) and *Batman Returns* (1992), and the 1959 Cadillac Ambulance, featured in the *Ghostbusters* movies, will be on exhibit through January 2009.

To appropriately celebrate the opening of this fascinating take on film fashion

design, Henry Ford Museum will host "An Intimate Evening with Debra Landis," 7-9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 7, from Debra Landis, wife of famed Hollywood director John Landis and costume designer for the Indiana Jones franchise, is the author of the new book, "Dressed: A Century of Hollywood Costume Design." She will share the inside secrets behind some of Hollywood's most beloved on-screen costumes. Tickets are \$45. For more information, visit our Web site at www.thehenryford.org.

Henry Ford Museum is open seven days a week, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$14 adults, \$13 seniors and \$10 youths; members and children four and under are free. For more information please call (313) 982-6001 or visit www.thehenryford.org.

Madonna students participate in autism event

Madonna University students have joined the list of teams participating in the second annual Autism Speaks, Walk Now event scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 12, at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

Graduate students in the University's Master's in Teaching Autism Spectrum Disorders program will participate in the walk for the second year in a row. The team raised \$1,500 during last year's walk at the Detroit Zoo. "Our goal is to raise \$2,000 this year," said Cassandra Wheeler, team leader.

Some walk to represent an autistic friend or family member. Madonna student Cheryl Evans walked last year with her daughter Jamie, who is autistic. "It is a wonder-

ful experience to be a part of something like that," commented Evans. "Plus, I can bring my daughter and there are no stares, just total acceptance."

"Anyone is welcome to join Madonna's team and walk along with us to support a great cause," said Wheeler. "Last year's walk was full of fun and laughter."

Walk registration, kid's activities and a Resource Fair begin at 10 a.m. The walk starts at noon. For more information, to join or form a team, or to make a donation, visit www.autismspeaks.org. Autism Speaks is a non-profit organization dedicated to funding global biomedical research into the causes, prevention, treatments and cure

for autism, while raising public awareness.

Madonna University's (www.madonna.edu) master's in teaching autism spectrum disorders (ASD) prepares certified teachers, through coursework and field experiences, to effectively facilitate learning for students with ASD. The interdisciplinary curriculum integrates developmental, behavioral, educational and medical research and theory. The program places emphasis on the child and the symptoms of the disorder. Students may choose to pursue the ASD endorsement alone, or incorporate it into a master's degree. Madonna University's main campus is conveniently located at I-96 and Levan Road in Livonia.



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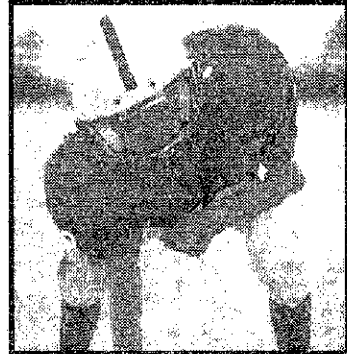
October 24-December 22

Registration Deadline: Monday, October 15th



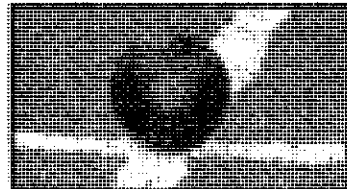
Indoor Soccer

Team Fee: \$950
Free Agent Fee: \$95
Team Fee (Under 5-Under 8): \$600
Free Agent Fee (Under 5-Under 8): \$65



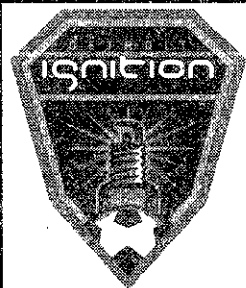
Flag Football

Team Fee: \$950
Free Agent Fee: \$95
Elementary, Middle, High School and Adult Leagues



Dodge Ball

Team Fee: \$450



Preseason Game!
Detroit Ignition vs. Cincinnati Excite
Saturday, October 20st at Noon
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Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Help getting checks

For those who have not yet reviewed their income for the 2007 tax year to see if they are eligible to receive a share of the Economic Stimulus checks being issued by the IRS, H&R Block will host two free seminars at the Westland Shopping Center, Warren at Wayne Road, Westland. The seminars are scheduled for 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 1. Checks range from \$300 to \$1200 and many people who are not ordinarily required to file have found by these reviews that they are indeed eligible. Taxpayers with Social Security benefits, certain veteran's benefits and Tier I Railroad Retirement Benefits totaling at least \$3,000 are eligible for a stimulus payment. Call the office at (734) 522-9580 to register. The deadline for filing for the checks is Oct. 15.

Bug hunt

Volunteers are needed for Friends of the Rouge's annual Fall Bug Hunt 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 18. No experience is necessary, but volunteers must pre-register before Oct. 10. On Bug Hunt Day, volunteers meet at a central location - Waterman Room of Schoolcraft College's VisiTech Center on Haggerty north



Welcome to Lansing

State Sen. Glenn Anderson and state Rep. Richard LeBlanc welcomed Miss Michigan Ashlee Baracy to the Capitol on Sept. 16. The Westland resident, who was crowned Miss Michigan 2008 earlier this year, was in Lansing to speak at a press conference for Smoke-Free Air. The lawmakers represent Westland at the state level.

of Six Mile, Livonia - where they are assigned to a team. Volunteers take on the job of "picking" anything moving from sample trays brought up from the river. The hunt is part of a long-term monitoring program designed to track the health of Rouge streams. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality uses the data to screen for problems and Rouge communities use it to track the health of their streams. The Fall Bug Hunt is funded by the Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project. Interested volunteers can register by calling (313) 792-9621 or e-mailing monitoring@therouge.org before Oct. 10.

Melanoma Walk

The third annual KDB Melanoma Walk will be held Sunday, Oct. 12, at the East Boat Launch in Kensington Metropark in Milford. Registration will be at 9 a.m., with the walk starting at 11 a.m. Registration fees are \$30 for adults, \$20 for youths ages 10-17 and seniors and free for children age 9 and under. Register online at www.melanomawalk.org. For more information, call Tricia Edwards at (313) 505-2445 or by e-mail at triciae363@comcast.net.

Halloween haunting

Come, if you dare, to "A Victorian Haunting Experience" at Wyandotte's Ford MacNichol Home/Wyandotte

Museum at 2610 Biddle Ave., Wyandotte, Saturday-Sunday, Oct. 25-26. Experience a Halloween Party with a Victorian feel at, hear local ghost stories and learn ghost hunting how to's. There also will be a paranormal investigation and a séance at the event 6-10 p.m. Oct. 25, and 4-8 p.m. Oct. 26. Afterwards, Psychic Medium Kristy Robinett and Paranormal Investigator Amy Williamson, the hosts, will take guest to a local cemetery for "Tombstone Tales." "A Victorian Haunting Experience" will be held. Tickets are \$40 per person through Oct. 1 and \$50 per person thereafter. Tickets for "Tombstone Tales" are \$10 extra and donations will be given to the Cemetery Association. Seating is limited. Tickets must be purchased in advance and are available online at www.kristy-robinett.com.

Discover astrology

Learn to apply some basic astrology in your every day life, for personal awareness and better decision making at an astrology discovery class 6:30-8 p.m. either Thursday, Oct. 16, or Monday, Oct. 20. The class will introduce some fundamentals and offer a variety of helpful tips and practical uses, appropriate for the novice student and anyone who might like some general knowledge before they decide to seek a professional consultation. The classes will meet at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford in the civic center complex. Tuition is \$12, plus a \$3 material fee (cash) payable in class. Call (734) 722-7620 to enroll. For questions, contact the instructor at cedena-heidi@sbccglobal.net.

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OUR VIEWS

Schoolcraft moves boldly into the high-tech future

Schoolcraft College took another bold step toward being a leader in 21st century education with the dedication of its new Biomedical Technology Center.

The \$13-million, 48,000-square-foot building brings together the science, math and medical classes with state-of-the-art laboratories, a high-tech lecture theater and classrooms designed for flexibility and collaboration.

The building itself features numerous green technology applications that are as cutting edge as the subjects that will be taught within the building's walls.

When architects were asked to design a building to meet the needs of future math and science students, they were given strong directions from Schoolcraft's administration, faculty and staff. Keywords kept recurring, words that resonant in real world environments. Architects were told to plan for collaboration, flexibility, teamwork, state-of-the-art equipment and designing a building that will train students for occupations and technologies that don't yet exist.

It was a big assignment, a building that would encompass all the STEM and GRIN curricula that will provide the most exciting, best paying and most in-demand jobs in the coming years. STEM is an acronym for science, technology, engineering and math. GRIN stands for genetics, robotics, information systems and nanotechnology. As it has for many years, Schoolcraft is moving its curriculum to meet the needs of its students and the business community.

Schoolcraft President Conway Jeffress beamed at the Sept. 5 dedication, equally proud of the new building and the college's frugal approach to campus development.

"This building was done on time and on budget and that's the way we like it," he told the audience standing before three high-def television screens in the building's lecture theater.

Jeffress said Schoolcraft is taking the long view, to provide for a future still to be imagined.

The new Biomedical Technology Center is the perfect setting to boldly move into that bright future.

Saving Wall Street: Paying for our excesses of '90s

I'm beginning to wonder if there is anyone in Washington who really is in touch with those of us who make up the working class. You know, the Joe Shmoes who have been salting away their hard-earned money into 401(k)s so they could have the good life when they retire.



Sue Mason

Based on the current status of my 401(k), the light at the end of my working tunnel has gone from being the size of the head of a pin to that black hole in outer space. Now, if I heed the words of my late Uncle Charlie, I must stay the course, be patient. I have to take the losses with the gains.

My Uncle Charlie — Charles Kirschner, to be exact — was a bachelor who lived the simple life. When my husband and I married, he wanted to return the \$300 gift Uncle Charlie gave us because it was too much for a man who had so little. My father told him not to, Uncle Charlie could afford it. Uncle Charlie always wore

a slouch hat and bedroom slippers. He lived in a small mobile home in Rose's Trailer Park in Ecorse. He had worked as an upholsterer at Hills Furniture not far from his trailer to well past retirement and because he had an income and savings, he sent back his monthly Social Security check. Thanks, but no thanks. Social Security sent it back, he had to take it.

Uncle Charlie was a young man during the Great Depression. As the family story goes, he and his brother, my late Uncle John, were among the lucky ones who had work during the Depression and used their wages to save the family home on Knox Street ... in Ecorse, of course.

The stock market crash must not have been a traumatic experience for Uncle Charlie. He didn't hide the money he didn't spend in a mattress, he invested in stocks, lots of stocks. Buying and selling stocks was his hobby. Uncle Charlie was so good at the stocks that when he died in 1989, he was worth \$2.8 million and his estate made an additional \$80,000 on a programmed sell executed 10 days

after his death.

Being a bachelor, his nieces and nephews and grand-nieces and nephews were the benefactors of his wealth. Unfortunately, it didn't come with tips on how to invest the money wisely or how to stay cool when the financial world around you is collapsing. I think, though, his philosophy was a poker term — let it ride. If you can't afford to take a loss then you shouldn't be in the stock market.

My father, the other stock-smart person in my life, had similar words of wisdom. Both men are long gone and here I sit watching my 401(k) evaporate before my eyes and asking myself a few questions:

Do I like the idea that my husband, my children and I will be on the hook for thousands to bail out Wall Street? Do I believe Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke that if this bailout doesn't happen, we'll have a recession? And do I believe my congressman, Thaddeus McCotter, who claims that this public bailout will not prevent but promote the next Great Depression, a private bailout is what's needed?

My answer to all three? Absolutely not. What I do believe is that we all share a portion of the blame for this mess. Our excesses of the '90s include when cash was easy to come by and banks had every gimmick in the book to lure us into borrowing against our home's equity or paying a pittance to have the McMansion of our dreams.

I do believe we will have to bail ourselves out of this mess. The cost will be a bitter pill to swallow, but it will be even worse if we do nothing. I think we teeter on the edge of the next Great Depression, and if we do nothing, we will end up dragging the rest of the world into that abyss.

Will I be able to recoup my losses before retirement? I doubt it, but I'm sticking with Uncle Charlie's advice. One of my favorite amusement rides is the roller coaster, and boy, this one is turning out to be one doozy of a ride.

Sue Mason is editor of the Westland and Garden City Observer Newspapers. If you have a comment or want to hear more about Uncle Charlie, call her at (734) 953-2112 or send an e-mail to smason@hometownlife.com.

GOVERNMENT CONNECTION

Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm
Send correspondence to P.O. Box 30013, Lansing, MI 48909, or call Constituent Services at (517) 335-7858. The fax number is (517) 335-6863.

State Sen. Glenn Anderson
Contact him by mail at P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48909-7536, or call toll free at (866) 262-7306. His e-mail address is SenatorAnderson@senate.michigan.gov.

State Rep. Andy Dillon
Send e-mails to andydillon@house.mi.gov and written correspondence to his attention at 166 Capitol

Building, P.O. Box 30014, Lansing, MI 48909-7514, by fax at (517) 373-5976, or call toll-free at (888) REP-DILLON (737-3455). His e-mail address is andydillon@house.mi.gov.

State Rep. Richard LeBlanc
Send e-mails to richardleblanc@house.mi.gov and written correspondence to his attention at N0697 House Office Building, P.O. Box 30014, Lansing, MI 48909-7514, by fax at (517) 373-5962 or call toll-free at (888) 737-5325. His e-mail address is richardleblanc@house.mi.gov.

State Rep. Bob Constan
Send e-mails to bobconstan@house.

mi.gov and written correspondence to his attention at N0695 House Office Building, P.O. Box 30014, Lansing, MI 48909-7514, by fax at (517) 373-5967, or call (517) 373-5967, or by e-mail at bobconstan@house.mi.gov.

U.S. Sen. Carl Levin
His Washington, D.C. mailing address is 269 Russell Office Building, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510-2202. Call him at (202) 224-6221. The fax number is (202) 224-1388. He also has offices in Patrick V. McNamara Federal Building, 477 Michigan Ave.,

Room 1860, in Detroit. The local phone number is (313) 226-6020, TTY (800) 851-0030 and fax at (313) 226-6948. He also has a Web site, levin.senate.gov.

U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow
In Washington, D.C., the address is 133 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. Call her there at (202) 224-4822, TTY (202) 224-2066, or e-mail her at stabenow.senate.gov. In Detroit, her office is at 243 W. Congress, Suite 550. Call (313) 961-4330. She also has a Web site, stabenow.senate.gov.

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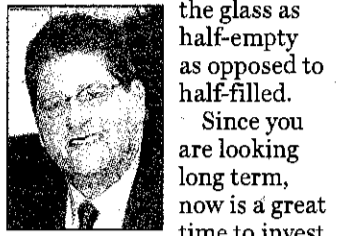
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For long-term investors, now is excellent time to invest

Dear Rick: I feel somewhat guilty in the fact that my business is doing fine and I have some extra money to invest. Do you think now is a good time to invest or should I wait?

You should not feel guilty for doing well in a challenging economy. Even with Michigan's 9 percent unemployment rate, 91 percent of people are still working. I think we tend to look at



Money Matters

Rick Bloom The market is on sale. That doesn't mean I am declaring we've reached

the bottom of this crisis, because I don't know. Can the market fall even lower? Of course it can, however, as investors we never can hope to buy a stock at its ultimate low or sell at the ultimate high. It just doesn't work that way. It is impossible to time the market, and investors shouldn't attempt to do so.

If you are a long-term investor, now is an excellent time to invest.

Dear Rick: I just got done filing my 2007 tax return. I was not able to itemize deductions. Since I can no longer itemize, do I get any tax break for owning a home?

There are a number of tax advantages when you own a home and itemize — mortgage interest and property taxes.

Since you do not itemize, you don't receive these tax advantages. However, there is another tax benefit to owning a home and that is upon sale. When you sell a home that is your primary residence for two of the last five years, the first \$250,000 of gain for a single person, \$500,000 on a joint return, is tax-free.

Therefore, one of the key tax advantages of owning a home is the fact that for the great majority of people, the gain that they realize when they sell their house should be income tax-free. Of course, many people may not have a gain if they sell in today's market. However, for many long-term homeowners, this is a nice tax break.

I've always said don't buy a house for the tax benefits or as an investment. Buy a house for the quality of life it offers.

Dear Rick: For the last few years, I've always donated stock to a charity near the

end of the year. The stock I wanted to donate this year lost money. Does it still make sense to donate the stock?

It is a smart strategy to use appreciated securities to make charitable contributions. By donating appreciated securities, you receive a double benefit. Not only can you deduct the value of the stock as a

charitable contribution, you avoid the capital gains.

When you have a loss in a stock, a better strategy is to sell the stock and then donate the cash to the charity. By doing it this way, you can deduct the loss on the sale of the stock. If you donated the stock directly, you would not be able to claim the loss.

I should mention that from

the charity standpoint it generally makes no difference to whether they receive stock or cash.

The holiday season will be here soon and many generous Americans will open their checkbooks to those less fortunate. If you plan to make contributions, it's a great time to start doing some research. There are great Web sites like

charitynavigator.org or give.org where you can receive some independent information on charities.

The purpose of a charitable contribution is not simply for the tax deduction. The primary reason is you care about the goals of the organization.

Since there are so many charities with similar names, make sure you do your home-

work to make sure your hard earned money goes to work where you would like it to be.

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



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SPORTS

B (LW)

Sunday, September 28, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com

Patriots squeak out 20-19 win vs. John Glenn

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

PREP FOOTBALL

The final statistics made Livonia Franklin's football team appear to be a failing Wall Street bank waiting to go under Friday night. Westland John Glenn held Franklin's offense, averaging 40 points per game, to a mere 33 yards rushing and countered with 242 yards on the ground themselves. The Rockets also ran whop-

ping 78 plays to the Patriots 34. But Franklin, trailing 13-7 at half-time, came up with a second-half bail-out plan thanks to a gimpy quarterback to spoil the Rockets' homecoming, 20-19. "We have a group of guys that are unbelievable," said Franklin coach Chris Kelbert, whose team is 4-1 overall and

all alone in first place in the KLASA-South Division at 3-0. "We had guys go down with injuries left and right. But we preach effort every day in practice and we definitely got it out of them tonight." After the Patriots called a timeout, the game ended with Glenn lining up for the game-winning 39-yard field goal attempt with only four seconds left. But holder Josh Reed couldn't get handle the snap from center. He took off with the ball and raced around left

end, only to be stopped six yards short of goal line by Franklin defender Michael Gadsby as time expired in the battle for first place. "I was debating whether they'd fake it, but they had their kick-off kicker (Jerome Scales) in there," Kelbert said. "I felt it was not by design (a fake). It looked like a bad snap and it hit the ground. We put him (Gadsby) in

Please see PATRIOTS, B2

Sidelines

LJAL hoop sign-up

Open registration for Livonia Junior Athletic League basketball for boys and girls in grades 3-12 will be from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 29, at Frost Middle School, located at 14041 Stark Road (just north of Schoolcraft Road).

Registration is open to City of Livonia residents or those residing in the Livonia Public Schools district. The fee is \$115 per player.

To print and obtain a registration form, visit ball.registration.ljal.com.

Mills recognized

Wayne Memorial senior Matt Mills was recently honored as WXYZ-TV and McDonald's High School Scholar Athlete of the Week.

Mills, who carries a 4.0-plus grade-point average, plays outside linebacker and wide receiver for the Wayne football team. He also is a middle-distance runner for the Zebras' track squad.

Mills was interviewed by Channel 7's Don Shane. The segment will air during the Sunday Sports Update following Action News at 11 p.m. on Oct. 11.

McDonald's will donate \$250 to Wayne Memorial. Mills will receive a commemorative certificate and a pair of tickets to a local sports or entertainment event. He will also attend a luncheon at the end of the school year for all High School Scholar Athlete recipients at the end of the school year at Channel 7 studios in Southfield.

Cieslak takes 5K

Northwood University's Kylan Cieslak (Livonia Churchill) was the Lansing Invitational cross country individual winner Friday with a 5-kilometer time of 18 minutes, 15 seconds.

Lutheran High Westland alum Angela Matthews, representing Frontline Racing, was runner-up in 18:34.

Madonna University was sixth in the team standing led seventh-place finisher Sarah Sherwood (19:30) followed by Kari Saarela (Livonia Franklin), 38th (20:54); Cassandra Yarnell, 48th (21:18); Emma Czaplicki, 54th (21:34); and Devan Walley (Franklin), 57th (21:40).

Schoolcraft College took eighth as Courtney Plummer (Garden City) paced the Lady Ocelots in 33rd (20:44); followed by teammates Jamie Wick, 35th (20:49); Lauren Ahearn, 50th (21:27); Stacey Richardson (Westland John Glenn), 64th (21:59); and Britni Strong, 83rd (23:24).

Indiana Tech captured the team title with 39 points followed by Northwood and Spring Arbor with 56 and 65, respectively.

Full throttle Churchill spikers stymie Canton

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Host Canton learned Thursday night that Livonia Churchill's volleyball team comes at you from all angles. Before a loud and boisterous crowd, the Chargers used a balanced offensive attack and had a wide advantage in blocks to post a 26-24, 25-17, 23-25, and 25-22 victory in an early season showdown between South Division teams in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association.

Churchill, ranked ninth in Division 1, improved to 14-2 overall and 2-0 in the KLASA-South, while Canton falls to 15-4 and 1-1.

"I haven't seen a crowd like this in awhile," Churchill coach Mark Grenier said. "With the change in the new divisional alignments, it looks like a healthy rivalry, very competitive with respect for each other."

Churchill recorded a total of 19 blocks to Canton's five and had four players with seven kills or more led by senior outside hitter Kristen Nalez, who finished with a team-high 19.

Junior Cierra Yetts, who had the match-winning kill, added 11 kills and two blocks.

Senior Katie Matz chipped in with eight kills, while junior Sarah Suppelsa contributed seven kills and two blocks.

Another standout for the Chargers was Jessica Stroud, who had a game-high seven blocks to go along with three kills. Senior Kat Krupsky also added four kills and three blocks.

That offset the strong performance of Canton's outstanding 5-10 junior outside

hitter Jordan Kielty, who recorded a game-high 23 kills to go along with 15 digs and two blocks.

"We talked a lot about Jordan (Kielty), and I thought Stroud, Krupsky - the whole slew of them - had opportunities to earn points with the block," Churchill coach Mark Grenier said. "We worked on it in practice during the week and I was proud of them. We made an adjustment in Game 2. The kids were put in good position and we got some blocks on her."

Churchill led most of the first game before Canton forged ahead, 23-22, only to give up four of the next five points after a critical service error.

Churchill took control of Game 2 from the outset, but Canton battled back to win the third game after trailing 16-12 as senior setter Kacy Moran, who finished with 33 assist-to-kills, came up with the game-winning kill off a diving dig, one of her team-high 18 on the night.

"We should have had that first game, that was rough," Canton coach Jen Barnes said. "We switched our hitters around the last two games. We had more touches on the blocks with the changes we made. I put Torry (Riley) in the last couple of games and we put Kielty in the middle of their block. At 5-10 she's our biggest player."

Stroud, 5-10 senior middle hitter, had four blocks in the fourth game, which featured six different Churchill players recording kills, led by Nalez's four.

"It's nice that in all six rota-

Please see CHURCHILL, B2

Spartans' defense corrals Mustangs

PREP FOOTBALL

Quarterback Jacob Gudeman threw a pair of first-half touchdown passes and Livonia Stevenson's defense came up big Friday night, limiting host Northville to 111 total yards en route to a 21-7 football victory.

"We put a lot of pressure on the defense and they played well," said Stevenson coach Tim Gabel, whose team improved to 4-1 overall and 3-0 in the Central Division of the Kensington Lakes Activities Association. "Our defense was able to get the ball back for us in decent field position."

Sparked by the play of defensive backs Steve Eideh and Zeb Bacigal, along with linebacker Wyatt Stahl, the Spartans were able to halt a time consuming, 19-play Northville drive at their own 10 with 3:24 left in the game. Defensive back Mark Grisa had a key breakup in the end zone on third down to help keep it a two-score lead.

Stevenson's defense also snuffed out a 10-play

Northville play drive on downs of its own 15 during the third quarter.

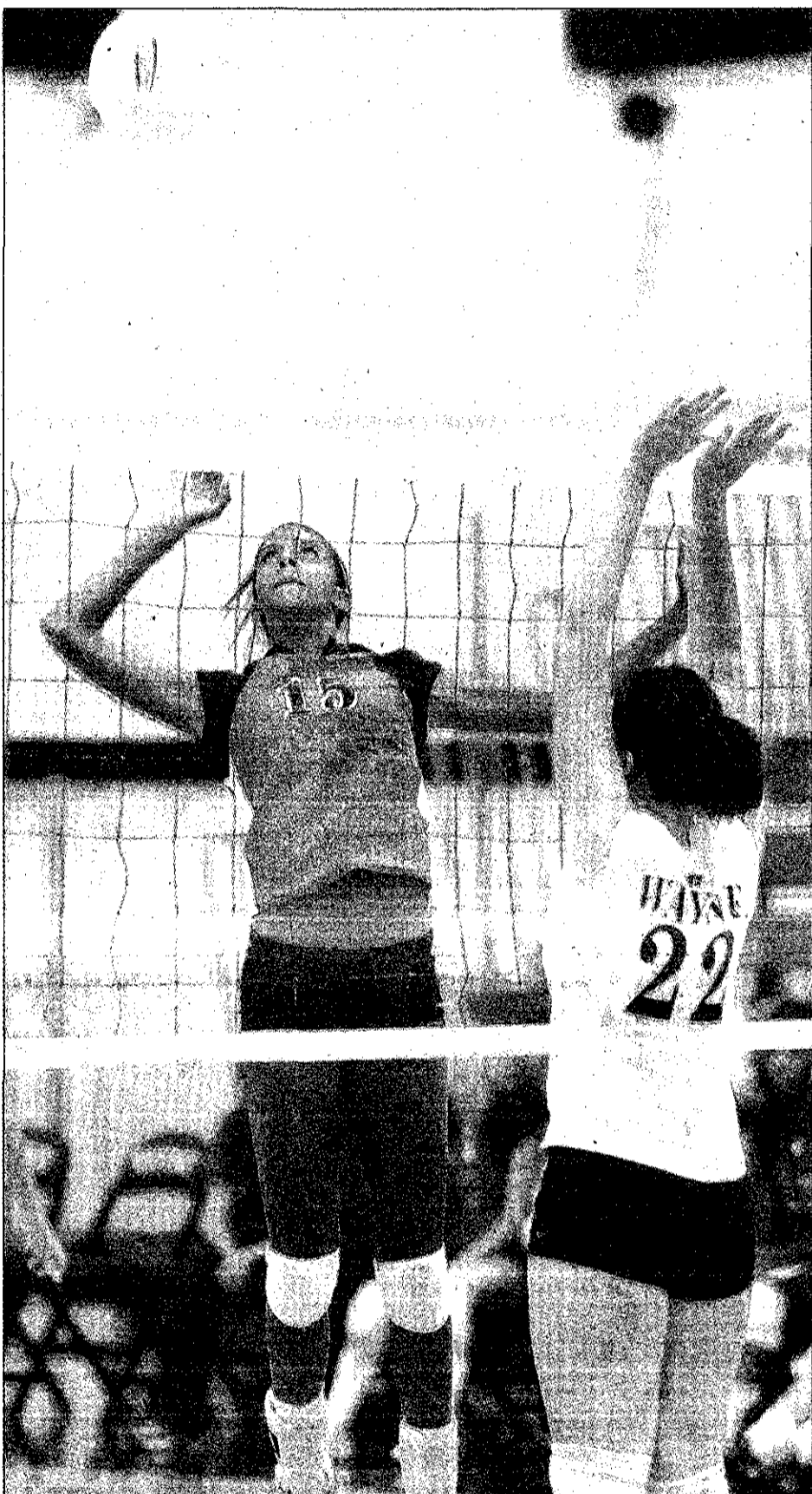
Stevenson's offense had a total of 280 yards, including 184 on the ground in 39 attempts led by junior Austin White, who finished with 124 yards on 23 carries.

After Jon Gudeman recovered a fumble at the Northville 34, Wade Stahl scored on a 4-yard TD run followed by Jonny Myslock's extra point with 9:31 left to give Stevenson a 7-0 first-quarter advantage.

Northville answered on ensuing series for its only score on a 2-yard TD run by Kyle Galdes to make it 7-all (set up by Kris Baumgardner's 44-yard punt return).

Stevenson answered with a pair of Gudeman TD passes - 29 yards to White with 2:13 remaining in the opening period and 23 yards to Stephen Pollard with 9:17 left in the half.

Gudeman, a senior, was 7-of-12 on the night for 96 yards.



TOM HAWLEY / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Armed for battle

John Glenn's Halie Baker winds up for the kill as Wayne's Kristen Miller attempts to make the block during Thursday's KLASA-South Division matchup. The Rockets swept the host Zebras in three straight games. See a roundup of area girls volleyball matches on page B3.

0-0 standoff Unranked Chargers tie No. 1 Rocks

The Livonia Churchill boys soccer team could get some serious consideration for a state ranking in Division 1 following a 0-0 deadlock Friday at home against top-ranked Salem.

The Chargers, who clinched at least a tie for the South Division title in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association, are 10-2-1 overall and have not lost since Aug. 28 against No. 3 Livonia Stevenson.

Even more impressive as the fact that the Chargers played a man down against the Rocks (14-0-4) for the final 20 minutes after Ben Zukowski was red-carded for a dangerous play on a scoring opportunity.

"It was a defensive game and I thought we played one of our best defensive games of the year," Churchill coach Reid Friedrichs said. "I felt late in the game we could have pushed forward, but the red-card prevented us for doing

it. We had our chances, one really good one with four minutes to go on a shot that actually sailed wide."

Center-back Josh Andrzejewski anchored the defense and goalkeeper Adrian Motta made two key saves to preserve the shutout.

Will Allen, making the start for the injured Sasa Miskovic, was in goal again for the Rocks and recorded his third straight shutout.

"Will is really focused and he's doing everything perfectly," Salem coach Ed McCarthy said. "He's playing within himself and making all the right decisions."

FRANKLIN 4, WAYNE 2: Zain Qureshi scored twice and Steve Trapp chipped in with two assists Thursday as Livonia Franklin (2-10-1, 2-5-1) earned the KLASA-South Division triumph at Wayne Memorial (0-13-1, 0-8). Noel Romo and Joe Morski also scored for the Patriots, while Chad Dorton contributed an assist.

Doug Malcolm scored both goals for Wayne with Kevin Glass and Kyle Michael assisting. **STEVENSON 6, S. LYON EAST 0:** It was over

at halftime because of the eight-game mercy rule Thursday as KLASA-Central Division leader Livonia Stevenson (9-1-3, 6-0-2) rolled at South Lyon East (0-13-1, 0-8). Reilly Mullett had a pair of goals, while Adrian Fyloenko added a goal and two assists for the victorious Spartans.

Other Stevenson goal scorers included David Simor, Nick Anagnostou, Joey D'Agostino, Nate and Chris Sergison. Brian Klemczak also contributed two assists, while Brendan Mulcahy, Nick Degilio and Nate Sergison added one each. Goalkeeper Conner Burton posted the shutout.

CHURCHILL 5, JOHN GLENN 2: Matt Regan scored twice and Max Washko had a goal and two assists Thursdays as Livonia Churchill (10-2, 8-0) clinched at least a tie for the KLASA-South Division crown with a win over host Westland John Glenn (5-9-1, 4-4).

Tyler Varney and Adam Bedell also tallied goals for the victorious Chargers, who led 4-0 at intermission.

Erik Bird also collected two assists in the victory. Khalid Suleiman and Nelson Kenine scored second-half goals for the Rockets.

Rockets dominate rival Wayne

Bragging rights were at stake Thursday and it was all Westland John Glenn.

The Rockets improved to 6-2-4 overall and 2-0 in the South Division of the Kensington Lakes Activities Association with a 25-18, 25-9, 25-11 girls volleyball victory at Wayne Memorial.

"We were able to control the ball in the second and third games," John Glenn coach Julian Wargo said. "If we're going to be competitive with the rest of our division, we're going to have to come out fired up every night right from the start."

Senior middle hitter Brittany Holbrook, bound for Oakland University, led the Rockets with 12 kills.

Junior setter Lauren Baker smartly paced the Glenn offensive attack and chipped in with six service aces.

Sophomore libero Brooke

Zywick and senior Stacey Truskowski anchored the Rockets' defense with steady passing and consistent serving.

"Everybody contributed to this victory," Wargo said.

Wayne (2-13, 0-2) got two kills from Samantha Dye, who was 5-for-5 in hitting attempts. Catie Badrak, Amanda Poirier and Brittany Grubbs added one apiece.

Emily Rudy, Brittany Grubbs and Kristen Miller contributed one block each.

Salem blocks Spartans

Livonia Stevenson senior Brooke Knochel had 16 kills, but it wasn't enough Thursday as Salem came away with a 25-19, 25-17, 17-25, 25-18 KLA A-Central Division win.

Salem is now 9-1-1 overall and 2-0 in the KLA A-Central, while Stevenson drops to 4-10 and 0-2.

Other leaders for the Spartans included Meg Iafate (10 kills, six blocks), Shelby Wilson (13 digs), Katie Vellucci (15 assists) and Claire LeBlanc (10 assists).

Wildcats claw Patriots

In a KLA A-South Division encounter Thursday, host Plymouth won in three straight against Livonia Franklin, 25-12, 25-20, 25-20.

Plymouth is now 9-6-3 overall and 1-1 in the KLA A-South, while Franklin falls to 5-10 and 0-2.

Setter Liz Hollaway had six kills in the setback, while teammate Chelsea Williams added six.

Ashly Butkowski led the defense with eight digs, while Nicole Williamson added six.

"Despite the loss, we did pass better tonight," Franklin coach Linda Jimenez said.



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wayne's Taylor Krohn makes the pass during Thursday's KLA A-South Division match Thursday at home against rival Westland John Glenn.

BOYS TENNIS RESULTS

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 9 WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 0
Sept. 24 at John Glenn

No. 1 singles: Akshay Moorthy (LC) defeated Zach Ernat, 6-0, 6-0; No. 2: Alex Olos (LC) def. Nik Hubbard, 6-0, 6-1; No. 3: Zhiwen Deng (LC) def. Tommy Ruck, 6-4, 6-1

No. 1 doubles: Dan Landstrom-Erik Newman (LC) def. Carlo Tejada-Mitch Dean, 6-0, 6-1; No. 2: Eric Slusarski-Vishal Joshi (LC) def. Zach Edwards-Asif Shiekh, 7-5, 6-1; No. 3: Ryan McPherson-Jared Leeds (LC) def. Jacob Taormina-Shane Wiechert, 6-1, 6-0; No. 4: Alex Zuccarini-Kyle Appel (LC) def. David Wilton-Wayne Woodard, 6-0, 6-0; No. 5: Tejas Soni-Zak Krug (LC) def. Karl Lawrence-Nick Stone, 6-3, 6-1

Dual match records: Churchill, 7-4 overall, 5-3 KLA A-South Division; John Glenn, 1-10 overall, 1-7 KLA A-South Division

LIVONIA FRANKLIN 7 WAYNE MEMORIAL 2
Sept. 24 at Wayne

No. 1 singles: Walter Woods (LF) defeated David McCown, 6-0, 6-2; No. 2: Stephen Payne (LF) def. Brandon Harnos, 6-0, 6-0; No. 3: Kevin Sample (WF) def. Aaron York, 6-0, 6-1; No. 4: Joe Trudell (LF) def. Hui Li, 6-2, 6-4

No. 1 doubles: Steve Trapp-Chad Dorton (LF) def. Michael Gabriel-Jesse English, 6-0, 6-1; No. 2: Nate Warrick-Bill Shafer (LF) def. Dan Wilson-Zach Lankton, 6-2, 6-1; No. 3: Mike Kaplan-Peter Lee (LF) def. Stephen Gush-Josh Estep, 6-3, 7-6 (7-4); No. 4: Walt Afonso-Alex Wood (LF) def. Michael Battaglia-Josh Higgs, 6-1, 6-2; No. 5: Derek Davis-Mark Robbins (LF) def. Mike Toms-John McTigue, 6-4, 6-3

Dual match records: Franklin, 3-7 overall, 3-5 KLA A-South Division; Wayne, 2-9 overall, 1-7 KLA A-South Division

LIVONIA STEVENSON 8 SOUTH LYON EAST 1
Sept. 24 at South Lyon East

No. 1 singles: Chris Martin (LS) defeated Kevin Renehan, 6-3, 6-4; No. 2: Erik Koch (LS) def. Chris Kyanko, 7-5, 6-4; No. 3: Tudor Bahmata (SLE) def. Clayton Northey, 5-7, 6-1, 6-1; No. 4: Kevin Francisco (LS) def. Evan Bischoff, 6-0, 6-0; No. 1 doubles: Giang Nguyen-Kyle Fan (LS) def. Ryan Dennison-Brooks Emke, 6-2, 6-3; No. 2: Josh Rochette-Simjoe Holman-Rayos (LS) def. Nick Charney-Matt Stanulet, 6-1, 6-0; No. 3: Paul Franchina-Vince Sabatini (LS) def. Jared Siawski-Nash Saravanan, 6-0, 6-0; No. 4: Garrett Adams-Dave Kruse (LS) def. David Dennison-Brandon Kohnman, 6-1, 6-1; No. 5: Josh York-Lukas Rudis (LS) def. Bobby Brothers-Laurin Mack, 6-1, 6-0

Dual match records: Stevenson, 3-6 overall, 2-6 KLA A-Central Division; South Lyon East, 0-8 KLA A-Central Division

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GIRLS GOLF RESULTS

DUAL MATCH RESULTS

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 200, CANTON 213
Sept. 26 at Whispering Willows

Churchill scorers: Jessica Burdette, 47 (co-medalist); Jordyn Shepler, 48; Lexi McFarlane, 51; Stephanie Panaretos, 54; Shelby Longworth, 62; Margo McClain, 73

Canton scorers: Chelsea Osburn, 47 (co-medalist); Kara Gregory, 49; Erin Like, 58; Megan Baumgart, 59; Mary Elizabeth Winther, 62; Alex Wee, 66

Churchill's dual match record: 8-0 overall, 8-0 KLA A-South Division

ACADEMY OF SACRED HEART 176 LIVONIA LADYWOOD 221
Sept. 24 at Fieldstone G.C.

Individual medalist: Bess Quick (Sacred Heart), 39

Ladywood scorers: Val DiMilia and Marissa Briden, 54 each; Katelyn Papler, 55; Amanda Molin, 58; Erin Reece and Marissa Ley, 59 each

Dual match records: Sacred Heart, 6-1-1; Ladywood, 0-4

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 198 WAYNE MEMORIAL 222
Sept. 24 at The Woodlands (Van Buren)

Churchill scorers: Lexi McFarlane, 46 (medalist); Jordyn Shepler, 47; Stephanie Panaretos, 51; Jessica Burdette, 54; Samantha Proben, 63

Wayne scorers: Berlynn Beaver, 48; Avalon Felan, 52; Taylor Tuttle, 53; Jane Taylor, 69

Dual match records: Churchill, 7-0 overall, 7-0 KLA A-South Division; Wayne, 1-4 overall, 1-4 KLA A-South Division

TRI-MATCH RESULTS

Sept. 25 at Dearborn Country Club

TEAM SCORES: Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard, 198; Livonia Ladywood, 217; Dearborn Divine Child, 231

Individual medalist: Donna Fiscelli (Divine Child), 44

Ladywood scorers: Katelyn Papler, 49; Val DiMilia, 53; Marissa Briden, 56; Taylor Romano, 58; Marissa Ley, 60; Christina Briden, 68

Ladywood's dual match record: 1-5 overall

THE WEEK AHEAD

Canton Agape at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 4
Churchill at Dearborn, 11:30 a.m.
BOYS & GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY
Tuesday, Sept. 30
Churchill at Plymouth, 3:50 p.m.
Franklin at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
Canton at Wayne, 4 p.m.
Stevenson at Novi, 4 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 2
Glenn Frosh-Soph. Invitational, 4:15 p.m.
Metro Conference Jamboree at Nankin Mills, 5 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 4
Wayne County Invitational at Willow Metropark, 10 a.m.

GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING
Tuesday, Sept. 30
Churchill at Northville, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 2
John Glenn at Churchill, 6:30 p.m.
S. Lyon Unified at Stevenson, 6:30 p.m.
Wayne at Franklin, 7 p.m.

BOYS TENNIS
Monday, Sept. 29
Churchill at Franklin, 4 p.m.
Stevenson at Northville, 4 p.m.
John Glenn at Canton, 4 p.m.
Plymouth at Wayne, 4 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 4
KLA A-Kensington Conference Championships at Plymouth, 9 a.m.

GIRLS GOLF
Monday, Sept. 29
Churchill vs. John Glenn, Franklin vs. Wayne
at The Woodlands (Van Buren), 3 p.m.
Stevenson vs. South Lyon East at Links of Novi, 3 p.m.
Ladywood vs. Marian at Stonecroft G.C., 3 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 1
Stevenson vs. Novi at Fox Creek, 3 p.m.
Wayne vs. Plymouth at Hilltop, 3 p.m.
Churchill vs. Plymouth at Whispering Willows G.C., 3 p.m.
Franklin vs. John Glenn at The Woodlands (Van Buren), 3 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 2
Blazer Inv. at St. John's, 8:30 a.m.

Friday, Oct. 3
Franklin vs. Churchill at Idyl Wild G.C., 3 p.m.
Stevenson vs. Northville at Tanglewood G.C., 3 p.m.
John Glenn vs. Canton, Plymouth vs. Wayne at The Woodlands (Van Buren), 3 p.m.

GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY
Tuesday, Sept. 30
Dearborn at Ladywood, 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 2
Kingswood at Ladywood, 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 4
Catholic League Championships at Livonia Ladywood, 9 a.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL
Tuesday, Sept. 30
Madonna at Siena Heights, 7 p.m.
Schoolcraft at Flint Mott, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 2
Cornerstone at Madonna, 7 p.m.
Oakland CC at Schoolcraft, 7 p.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER
Saturday, Oct. 4
Madonna at Cornerstone, 2:30 p.m.
Ancilla at Schoolcraft, 4 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER
Tuesday, Sept. 30
Madonna at Spring Arbor, 4 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 4
Madonna at Cornerstone, noon.

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MEDICAL DATEBOOK

OCTOBER

Physical performance classes

Incorporates jump-rope training, core work, and functional strength training using dumbbells and body weight for resistance 5:30 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays. An Exercise Therapy class for a mid to lower intensity workout that stress functional fitness, core, balance, strength and flexibility 8:45 a.m. Mondays and Thursdays. One hour sessions run through November at Metropolitan Adventist Jr. Academy Gym, 15585 Haggerty, north of Five Mile. Drop in sessions \$6 each, 10 sessions \$48. These classes are both lead by Jeanie Weaver with the concept of training to spare the joints and improve back mobility and strength. She is a certified personal fitness trainer with 30 years of teaching/training experience. Call (248) 446-9176 or (313) 300-0957 to register. For information send e-mail to jeanieweaver@charter.net.

Sign language workshops

In American Sign Language entitled, "If these hands could talk," Thursdays and Saturday beginning Oct. 2, thru Nov. 20, at Redford Community Center, 12121 Hemingway. Pre-registration Required. Call (313) 387-2650. Seating limited. Participants will learn finger spelling, expressions, and interactive skills. For more information, visit www.detroitrisingstars.org.

Holistic Moms Network

9:45-11:45 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 2, at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main St. Plymouth. Speaker: Angelle Batten of www.nourishyourkids.com on the topic Fake Food Ingredients: Healthy Snack Alternatives for your Family. For information, contact Andrea Stevens at amstevens4@juno.com, or (313) 220-4592, or visit www.holisticmoms.org.

ALS walk

Registration 9 a.m., walk starts at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 4, at Belle Isle Park Casino, Detroit. For more information call Erin Ehlers at (248) 680-6540 or send e-mail to eehlers@alsa-michigan.org. Walk to Defeat ALSTM is The ALS Association's national signature event and raises funds to support patient service programs and cutting-edge research.

Diabetes review session

Whether you've been recently diagnosed with diabetes or have been living with diabetes for years, you can take steps to lead a healthier life at a free one-hour class that provides basic education about proper diabetes self-care 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 4, the Troy Community Center, 3179 Livernois, Troy. To enroll or for more information, call 1-888-DIABETES (342-2383) or visit www.diabetes.org/diabetesreview. The class is conducted by a certified diabetes educator and covers meal planning and portion size, exercise, medication updates, stress management, blood glucose testing and more.

Ladies night out

Reiki: the Gentle Healing Art Thursday, Oct. 7, in the St. Mary Mercy Hospital Auditorium, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. Blood pressure and bone density screenings, and massage will be offered 5:30-7 p.m., lecture from 7-8:30 p.m. Speaker is the hospital's Reiki Master Jane Kaleski, a Certified Massage Therapist, Medical Massage Therapist and Certified Infant Massage Instructor. Registration required. No charge, but a \$5 donation is requested to benefit Marian Women's Center programs. Call (734) 655-1182 to register or for information.

Grief seminar

Join national grief expert and author Dr. Alan Wolfelt as he presents *The Wilderness of Grief: Finding Your Way* 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 7, at Michigan State University Management Education Center, 811 Square Lake Rd., Troy. No charge, but reservations recommended as seating is limited. To register, call (248) 362-2500. Visit www.diamondfuneralfuneralhome.com for details and directions.

Stop smoking program

7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 9, Sunday-Thursday, Oct. 12-16, and Monday, Oct. 20, at Metropolitan Adventist Church Fellowship room, 15585 Haggerty, north of Five Mile. No need to register. For information, call (248) 349-5683.

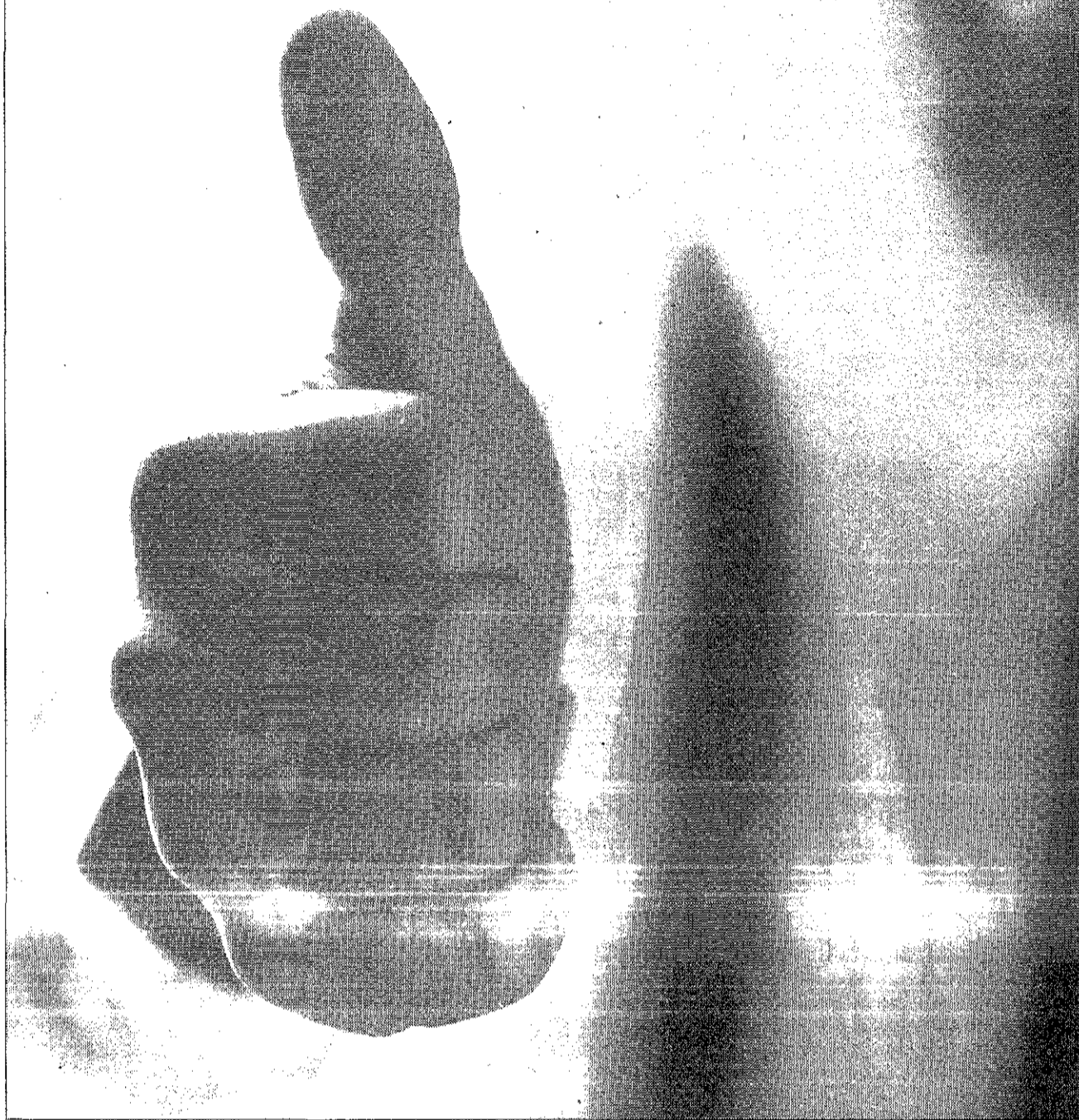
Walk to fight diabetes

Saturday, Oct. 11, at the Detroit Zoo, Royal Oak. Proceeds go to the American Diabetes Association to help prevent and cure diabetes through programs and services in Michigan. To register as an individual or lead a team, visit diabetes.org/stepout or contact Stephanie Camalo at 1-888-DIABETES, ext. 6692 or scamalo@diabetes.org.

Autism speaks walk

Autism Speaks, the nation's largest autism advocacy organization, holds its Walk Now For Autism Walk Sunday, Oct. 12, at the Palace of Auburn Hills. Registration starts at 10 a.m. with opening ceremonies and walk at noon. All proceeds benefit Autism Speaks. The day includes a 1 to 2 mile walk and Community Resource fair with educational sources, therapists, schools, recreational organizations, and creative child-friendly activities; a true one-stop-shop for families affected by autism. This year Toys "R" Us will have a tented space serving as home for Geoffrey the Giraffe. Attendees will also be able to sign their children up for Geoffrey's Birthday Club and pick up the "Ten Toys That Speak to Autism" handout, a list of toys that help build the skills of children with autism, created in collaboration with Autism Speaks. For information, visit www.walknowforautism.org.

Empowering the deaf



Fair offers equal access to health information

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O & E STAFF WRITER

MICHIGAN DEAF HEALTH FAIR

Imagine not being able to hear about the dramatic rise of diseases like diabetes. Fourteen percent of Michigan's population is unable to receive pertinent medical information due to deafness. E-mail, texting and technology have made access easier, but it's still not fair or equal, said Dave Coyne, Project Manager for the Michigan Association for Deaf and Hard of Hearing, a non-profit organization located in Lansing. That's why he and Christa Moran, an American Sign Language interpreter for the University of Michigan Health System, have teamed up to offer workshops at the first Michigan Deaf Health Fair at Madonna University on Saturday, Oct. 11. In addition to presentations by a family physician, psychologist, and nutritionist, participants can receive screenings for cholesterol, dental, glucose, and blood pressure as well attend a flu shot clinic.

Coyne chose the Livonia campus because of its 4-year ASL interpreter program.

"The deaf and hard of hearing communities miss out on so much information," said Coyne, a hearing ASL interpreter. "We get it from the radio, TV commercials which often aren't closed captioned. All of the workshops are presented in ASL and offer dialogue and discussions."

Cristine Saunders isn't deaf but understands repetitive motion injury and how signing can impede recovery. Saunders is a nationally certified massage therapist and a certified ASL interpreter. She'll provide tips on stretching and body/posture awareness for prevention.

Dr. Michael McKee, a family physician in Rochester, New York, plans to talk about deaf health myths that impede progress in reducing health disparities among the deaf community. He is currently assisting the National Center for Deaf Health Research, one of the Preventive Research Centers funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to track health trends and needs of individuals with hearing loss.

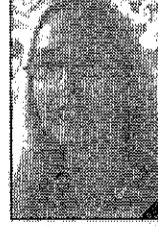
McKee, who is deaf, works at Folsom Family Medicine, a practice which sees 800 deaf patients and their families as well as hearing individuals. Folsom is the second largest deaf medical practice in



McKee



Whalen



Graham

What: Health education workshops for deaf and hard of hearing individuals presented in American Sign Language

When: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11

Where: Madonna University, 36600 Schoolcraft at Levon, Livonia

Cost: No charge, but registration required. Visit <http://sites.google.com/site/michigandeafhealthfair/>, send e-mail to michigandeafhealthfair@gmail.com, for voice or TTY (telephone typewriter), call (517) 487-0022. For sign language users the video phone number is (517) 487-0202

the country.

"Many of the health problems in the deaf community are similar to other cultural groups," wrote McKee in an e-mail. "The deaf community does have unique barriers. A lot of health information is shared by auditory means which is missed mainly by this group. American Sign Language is known only by very few medical staff. To make matters worse, many health centers and medical providers do not provide for interpreters even though they are obligated to do so under the guidance of Americans with Disabilities Act. As a result, I find a lot of knowledge gaps in health topics among the deaf including sexual health, nutrition, diabetes and cardiovascular health. Obesity and diabetes seem to be rising quickly among the deaf at my clinic where I see patients. This alarms me since this will increase risk factors for heart disease and stroke. I continue to see higher rates of sexually transmitted diseases compared with the

hearing patient population."

Mel Whalen's concerned about the misconceptions the deaf, like the hearing, have about depression. A deaf clinical psychology doctoral fellow in her fourth year of training at Eastern Michigan University, Whalen is going to speak about regulating emotions and the effect of emotions on health. Although she's unaware of research showing a higher incidence of depression in deaf individuals, Whalen said studies tend to document higher rates of depression and health issues in any oppressed minority groups with limited access to appropriate health care.

Whalen seems to be as excited as Coyne about the deaf health fair because the deaf "so rarely have the opportunity to receive health related information in ASL directly from the deaf/hard of hearing health professionals."

"People often don't really understand the direct connections between depression or feeling sad and the physical consequences to your body like loss of appetite, lower immunity and insomnia and so on," said Whalen who sees both deaf and hearing clients. To her knowledge the Ann Arbor woman is the only deaf clinical psychologist in the state.

"My goal is to help make those connections more clear for workshop participants so that they understand more directly the usefulness of learning to regulate one's own emotions in order to maintain a healthy mind and body."

Like the hearing, deaf individuals seem to know little about nutrition, according to Sandria Graham, a deaf dietitian. She'll talk about food and how to read labels.

Graham was born deaf and admits she has been a health geek for many years. She believes she's the only deaf dietitian in the country. Her goal is to help prevent diseases by using a holistic approach to health by balancing mind, body and spirit.

"Some doctors do not refer patients to dietitians. Sometimes doctors give information but don't explain it to the patients. Patients look at it and don't understand what it says. Their health becomes worse and becomes a problem," said Graham who earned a bachelor of science degree in dietetics from Madonna University.

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

Regulations grant benefits to veterans with Lou Gehrig's

The Department of Veterans Affairs published groundbreaking new regulations today that grant military veterans diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's Disease full access to health and disability benefits, regardless of where or when they served in the military. The new rules take effect immediately.

The decision to establish a presumption of service connection for ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis) is a tremendous victory for veterans living with the disease and is the culmination of years of work by The ALS Association to expand benefits for those diagnosed with the fatal neurodegenerative disease named after baseball legend Lou Gehrig.

The Association has been the leading organization advocating for this policy change at the VA for many years. In 2001, the Association strongly supported the VA's decision to grant benefits to veterans of the 1991 Persian Gulf War and has championed legislative efforts to build on that policy so that it applies to all veterans with ALS.

According to studies, military veterans within the last century are nearly twice as likely to develop ALS as those with no history of military service, regardless of where or when they served in the military. Most recently, The Association advocated for legislation (H.R. 5454) introduced by Congressman Henry Brown (R-SC) that would have established ALS as a service connected disease. Thanks to the combined efforts of the VA Secretary James Peake, members of Congress, the Association, and veterans across the county this legislation no longer is needed.

"ALS is a disease that progresses rapidly, once it is diagnosed. There simply isn't time to develop the evidence needed to support compensation claims before many veterans become seriously ill," VA Secretary James Peake said. "My decision will make those claims much easier to process and for them and their families to receive the compensation they have earned through their service to our nation."

ALS, a fatal, progressive, neurodegenerative disease, is striking at this nation's heroes the hardest, however the reasons are not known at this time.

The ALS Association is leading the fight to cure and treat ALS.

Veterans living with ALS across the country played a vital role in advancing this critical policy change by testifying to Congress and helped lead the effort to improve benefits for all veterans with ALS.

Give vegetarianism a try in October

Wednesday, Oct. 1 is World Vegetarian Day and kicks off Vegetarian Awareness Month.

Adopting a vegetarian diet has many benefits including reducing the risk of heart disease, stroke and cancer while also conserving fresh water, fertile topsoil and other limited resources that go into creating a meat-based diet.

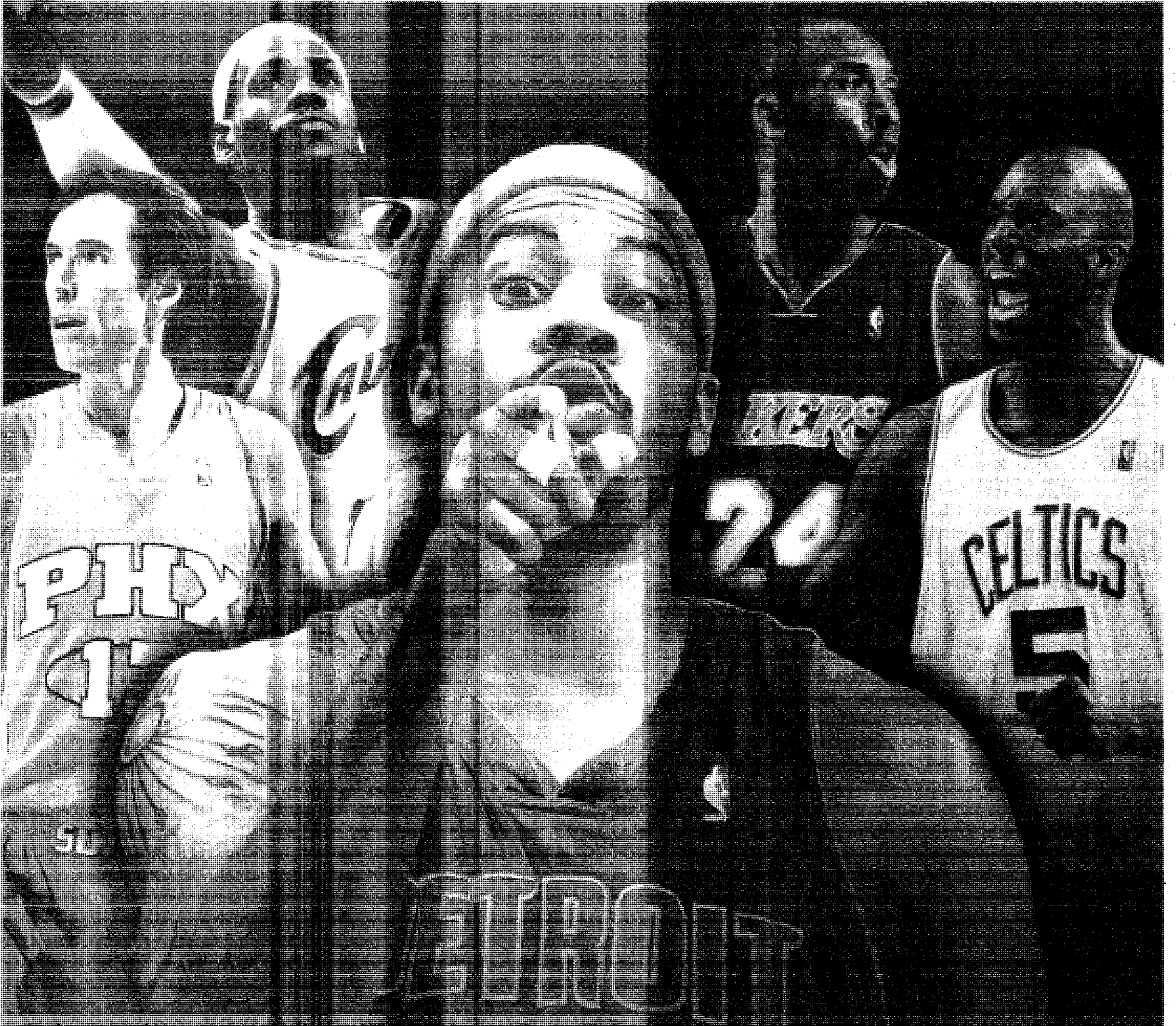
Here are five tips to help get you started from Beaumont Hospital dietitian and vegetarian Catherine Welemirov:

Look at Some of Your Favorite Meals. Most people have favorite dishes that are already vegetarian or can be made so easily. If you enjoy vegetable lasagna, stir-fried vegetables or pasta primavera you can begin to transition to a vegetarian diet by making these meals more often.

Try New Restaurants. Seek out Chinese, Indian, Middle Eastern and Thai restaurants to discover the many vegetarian food options they offer.

Explore Substitutes. There are many soy and vegetable-based meat substitutes that you can easily find in your grocery store. If you try one brand and don't care for it, keep trying. There is something out there for everyone.

No Need to Cook Separate Meals. If you are the only one in your family adopting a vegetarian diet, try cooking the meat for dishes like pasta or stir fries in a separate pan and add the meat to a separated portion before serving.



Who do *You* want to see?

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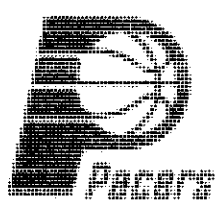
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OPENING WEEK:
 Wednesday, Oct. 29th vs. Indiana Pacers &
 Saturday, Nov. 1st vs. Washington Wizards



WE WORK AS ONE.

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

Birthday boy can do no wrong

I should have known it was our fault. Clancy, our Irish Wolfhound, can do no wrong, at least according to Bonny Wainz, our master dog trainer and behaviorist.

It's my sister Gwen and I who need to learn obedience techniques based on the theory that whoever is in charge is leader of the pack. We've let Clancy think he is, so that's probably why the three of us have been going to school for some time without much success.



Linda Chomin

Our first six-week class was spent with a trainer that used treats as rewards for executing commands. Treats were fine until you were empty handed. Our second trainer had Clancy sitting, staying and downing in the ring. He even earned his Canine Good Citizen Certificate, was able to greet strangers without jumping on them, and behaved courteously around wheelchairs and IV poles. We still want him to become a therapy dog so those are important skills.

The problem is when he's out in the real world, life is a game. Any time he sees a rabbit, squirrel or neighbor he's off and running to play.

That brings us to our neighbors Rita and Chris. They've taken an interest in helping us train Clancy and regularly act as decoys. I don't know what we would do without this patient husband and wife duo. They've made it all bearable. There are days when Clancy's antics leave us frustrated and wanting to take him back to his mother. Instead Chris and Rita watch dog training videos with us and encourage our efforts by standing in their driveway while we try to walk on by without him tearing the leash out of our hands.

A week ago Friday they hosted Clancy's third birthday party, complete with cake, in their backyard. I can tell they really do like Clancy. They bought and wrapped an edible, flavored bone for him. When it came time for Gwen and I to blow out the candle I know they were wishing with us that 3 is the magic number.

Maturity seems to come late to big Irish Wolfhounds. Clancy is no exception, but regardless Gwen and I will continue to work with Bonny and her Alternative Canine Training methods (www.vladae.com). Every Saturday morning she arrives at our home ready to point out our mistakes.

Bonny is right about there being no bad dogs, only those which have never been trained. She, as I, believe that owners need to take time to work with their animal. And I do mean work. Clancy tests us by pretending he doesn't hear the command to sit. He does hear and it doesn't do any good for us to repeat it seven times. You have to learn to follow through by leaning over him and pushing down his back end. I knew it was our fault.

Linda Ann Chomin is the health and community life reporter for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. She can be reached at (734) 953-2145 or lchomin@hometownlife.com.



BILL BRESLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Clancy Callahan Chomin celebrated his third birthday recently and his owners are hoping the year brings maturity.

Singing out

Committee puts out call for former choir members

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O & E STAFF WRITER

The room was electric as former Bentley High School Concert Choir members talked about their 50th reunion in 2009. It was a life changing experience for many students from 1959 to 1985.

Camaraderie, then as now, is key between "the kids" still looking for 300 singers. On Nov. 28, 2009 the alumni will assemble one last time.

The private affair is scheduled to take place at Burton Manor in Livonia where they'll sing for their own enjoyment as well as honor founder Jerry Smith, director for all those years.

In their heyday, the choir put on major Christmas and spring productions that transformed the gym stage into gardens and churches with falling snow.

The events had people standing in line two to three hours before the concert.

The Bentley Concert Choir was the elite ensemble not only at the Livonia high school, but out on the road. The award-winning choral group was known nationally, having toured 23 states and Europe and sung for Congress on the steps of the United States Capitol in Washington D.C. Back home, WJR played their albums on the radio on Sunday mornings.

"My first memory was at 10 years old when I went to a spring concert and said 'I want to be here,'" said Tommy Mozier West, a member of the 1970 and 1971 choirs. The Livonia woman is co-chairing the event with Lawrence Zane of Plymouth. "I think it was my first goal. I think we all feel the same. It was the two years that changed and formed our lives. Excellence was expected in every choir."

"You carried those values out the

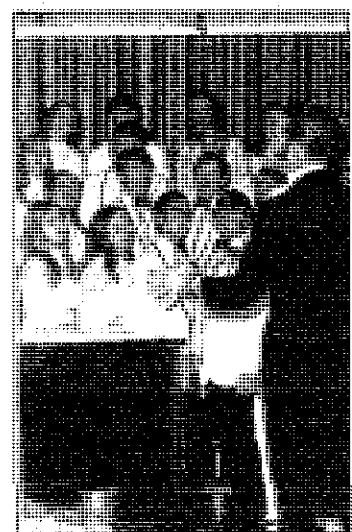
Please see **CHOIR, C2**



Jerry Smith leads a rehearsal of the 1981-82 Bentley Concert Choir.



The Bentley Concert Choir rehearses with director Jerry Smith in August 1971.



This photo captures the intensity of the 1970-71 Bentley Concert Choir as they perform. Members say there was a moment when something clicked and all 100 voices came together as one.

Committee works hard for success of recital series

FRIDAY NIGHT RECITAL SERIES

What: Classical music performances by nationally recognized artists

When: 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 14, pianist James Tocco; Feb. 13, pianist Anton Nel; March 20, Avalon String Quartet, and May 15, cellist Robert de Maine

Where: Presentation Room in the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia

Tickets: \$20 adults, \$10 students, \$70 season ticket. For information, call (734) 462-4403, or send e-mail to Patricia Minnick at pminnick@schoolcraft.edu.

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O & E STAFF WRITER

Don Morelock and the Friday Night Recital Series Committee are doing everything possible to make sure every one of the 275 seats in the Presentation Room at Schoolcraft College are filled for the 2008-09 season. One idea after another flowed through the room last Monday as staff, students and community members planned for the series.

Wayne Glass, the college's director of grants, is making sure the recitals are advertised at events like the arts and crafts show in November.

Elida Giles, an art history instructor, suggested blasting e-mails to announce the series.

Committee co-chairs Jean Long and Carol Bonamici are working on a letter to invite the Board of Trustees to a concert.

Barbara Marek and Ellen Nixon have spoken to fellow students about putting a story in the school newspaper. They've also looked into selling tote bags advertising the series. Student Lou Kovach volunteered to sponsor tickets for 10 students.



The Avalon String Quartet return to the Friday Evening Recital Series on March 20.

Morelock, who's chairman of the music department, has lined up a stellar array of nationally recognized musicians including pianist Anton Nel and Robert de Maine, principal cellist for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. Returning for a second year are the Avalon String Quartet and pianist James Tocco who kicks

off the series on Nov. 14.

This is the second year for the series that Morelock and the committee consider a fledgling effort. Members first met in April 2007 to discuss the feasibility of presenting a series in the recital hall. The Friday night performances complement the long-running noon concerts on



Robert de Maine, principal cellist of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, closes the season on May 15.

campus.

The recital series allows classical music lovers to make an evening of it by dining at any of the many restaurants in the area or American Harvest inside the VisTaTech Center where reservations are recommended.

Please see **RECITAL, C3**



The 1982-83 Bentley Concert Choir poses on stage for a photograph.

CHOIR
FROM PAGE C1

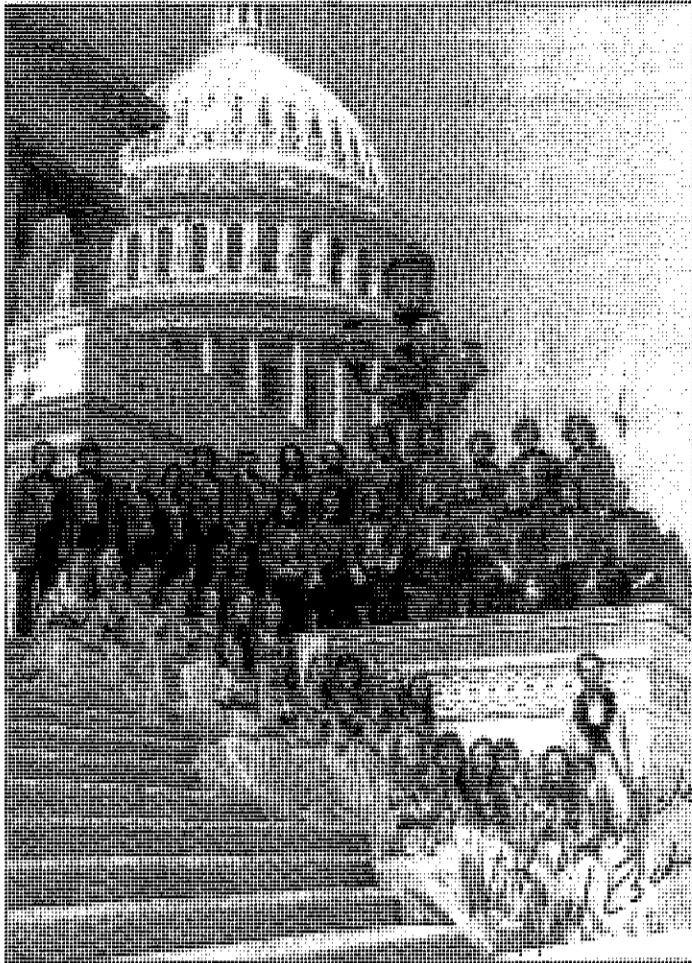
door with you," added Dian Copado-Segal of Livonia, choirs 1974-75. "It was a good foundation for me as a human resources director, being organized and structured."

Pat Koontz admits he was an outcast in high school until joining the choir in 1979. Smith instilled discipline in the students right down to the position in which they sat on chairs. Koontz continues to make singing a part of his life. He built a sound recording system in his home and hopes someday to put out a CD of the music he writes.

"I probably would have never even tried to finish school if not for Doc (Smith) and the concert choir," said Koontz of Superior Township. "Doc asked me to try out for concert choir and changed my life. I had hair halfway down my back, excelled in Parking Lot 101, dressed in a leather coat and smoked cigarettes. I didn't fit in. An hour before the first show I cut my hair. I gained self respect."

Choir made a difference in Lawrence Zane's life as well from 1981 to 1983. Today he works in the banking industry.

"We were just filling time and space wanting to leave the building," said Zane, who sings with Tyndale Artists Ensemble in summer and under the direction of Smith at First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth year round. "Doc Smith trained us how to sing as adults not children or teens.



The 1975 Bentley Concert Choir sang for Congress on the steps of the United States Capitol in Washington D.C.

We could progress from Male or Female Select or the boys or girls choir to Concert Choir of the 100 best singers in the school. It gave me a whole new meaning for school. There was a government body inside the choir that ran it, planned the tours, all done by students."

John King's heard similar stories from former choir members. The Livonia man sang with the group in 1979. "It was a team concept," said

King. "I haven't sung since but my brother Steve King was in choir and started out as a variety act, Steve King & the Ditties. We had variety shows every year at Bentley put on by the vocal department."

Smith fondly remembers the days he considers the best times of his life. He proudly unfolds a flag that flew over Livonia City Hall during Bentley Concert Choir Week for the 50th reunion in 1984. The

50th was the idea of son-in-law Ron Moon who put the reunion on classmates.com.

The response was overwhelming from "the kids." Smith and the committee have been working on the reunion since January and already selected the program of Christmas music and carols.

Music is Smith's life. He has been in music ministry for 37 years, 30 at Ward Presbyterian, seven at First Presbyterian of Plymouth, and annually directs the music for the Livonia Prayer Breakfast. He founded the Creative and Performing Arts Program (CAPA) at Churchill High School in Livonia as well.

"At our peak we had about 600 singers (every semester) by the mid 1960s to mid 1980s in the vocal music department," said Smith. "In 77 we went from college to college on tour. There were only 44 slots for 100 kids (in the concert choir). They earned their grades and the opportunity to tour, which was paid for by concert receipts."

Sharon Smith admires the relationships Jerry, her husband of 44 years, built with students over the years. Sharon accompanied the choirs starting in 1960 while attending Bentley High School in Livonia. Later she brought their three children with crayons and coloring books to rehearsal. Today she continues to work with Jerry as assistant organist at First Presbyterian of Plymouth. She'll accompany the choir at the 50th reunion concert.

"He wasn't just a task master, but a mentor and friend," Smith said.

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Google's Web browser enters; columnist exits

Google's quest to dominate the online world continued unabated last week with the introduction of Chrome (google.com/chrome), a new Web browser poised to challenge both Internet Explorer and Firefox.



Tech Savvy
Rick Broida

Does the world really need another Web browser? I didn't think so, but Chrome has a lot going for it — and the weight of Google behind it. For example, Chrome's address bar — the place where you type in Web addresses — remembers your browsing history and pops up a list of relevant sites as you type.

Firefox 3 offers the same convenience, but Chrome goes a step further by adding Google Search to the mix: Search results appear in that same pop-up list.

For example, suppose you want to look up *The Shawshank Redemption* on the movie site IMDB.com. Traditionally, you'd head to that site, then type the movie's title into its search box.

With Chrome, you just type "imdb shawshank" and presto: The corresponding page appears in the search list. Click it and you go directly there.

This may not sound like a big deal, but it's incredibly handy. I also like Chrome's new-page tab, which displays thumbnails of the sites you visit most (so you can quickly visit them again) and sites you've recently bookmarked.

Chrome doesn't yet support function-adding extensions the way Firefox does, which is why I'll be sticking with the latter for now. But Google has put together a pretty impressive browser, one that's sure

to shake things up in the Web world. Give it a try and see what you think.

END OF THE ROAD

The time has come for me to say goodbye. This column has been one of the true joys of my professional life, and I'm sad to leave it. But after five years and more than 200 entries, my tech savvy is a little tapped out.

My deep thanks to executive editor Sue Rosiek for giving me this opportunity, and to crackerjack editors Ken Abramczyk, the late Mary Klemic, and Wensdy Von Buskirk for never yelling at me when I missed a deadline. (Never said I was time-savvy.)

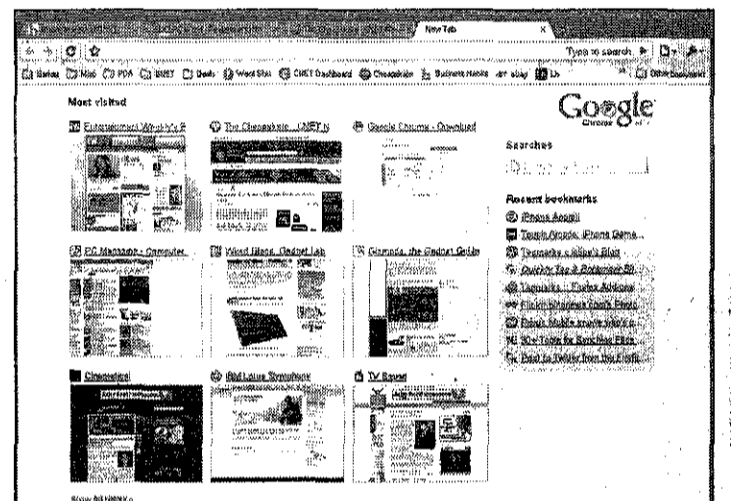
I'm also endlessly grateful to you, the readers, for all the questions and kind words you've sent me over the years. It's truly gratifying to know I've been able to help you make better buying decisions and solve tricky tech problems.

So, where do I go from here? As of next week, I'll be at the helm of PC World's new Hassle-Free PC World (pcworld.com), an abbreviated version of which will appear in the print magazine.

Meanwhile, fellow cheap-skates can check out my eponymous blog on CNET (news.com/cheap skate), while business users will find oodles of tips and tricks at Business Hacks (blogs.bnet.com/business tips). Hope you'll bookmark these sites and visit regularly!

Before I go, some final words of advice. Make regular backups. Don't pay for software when there's a perfectly good free alternative. Don't bother typing "www" at the beginning of Web addresses — your browser doesn't need it. And, finally, use Google to get answers to all life's questions.

There. Now you're tech-savvy too.



The new Google Chrome browser has some interesting features, including thumbnail views of favorite sites when you open a new tab. It's free, and you can use it alongside your existing browser(s).

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DEPRESSION & ARTHRITIS

Common sense says that a person with arthritis would feel depressed, at least at times. Pain, inability to move at the pace of others, deformities of the hands that attract stares from strangers, feeling fatigued when people with you are eager to go places, causes, in the patient with arthritis, feelings of inferiority and isolation.

Arthritis also forces individuals to redesign their lives. The change not only affects the person with joint disease, but members of the family including a spouse and children. Asking so much from others, is bound to cause the arthritic patient moments of regret and emotional pain.

The medications used to treat arthritis may cause depression. Cortisone, a powerful anti-inflammatory medicine gives euphoria initially on beginning a high dose. But that feeling leaves, replaced by a sense of sadness as the doctor, by necessity, decreases the medication.

In fibromyalgia, the effect of therapy used to counter depression, may in some patients, actually make depression worse. The anti-depressant may make a person feel as if he or she is walking in a fog. The medicine may increase appetite, and bring weight gain to someone who does not want it. The excess weight alone can lead to depression.

The best treatment for depression associated with arthritis is to resolve the condition to the point that the individual is no longer hampered or crippled. Often medical care cannot achieve that end.

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RECITAL
FROM PAGE C1

Following the program in the Presentation Room the audience can mingle.

"They can meet the artist and other music lovers," said Morelock. "The recitals are an opportunity to have this kind of quality performance in the community. The venue is so nice. It's a good way to start a weekend."



Gail Mondry of Franklin is especially excited because her son Nathan, a piano student of Morelock's, performs a four-handed piece with Tocco on opening night. Mondry and her husband Ira serve on the board of the Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival and developed a relationship over the years with Tocco, the artistic director. In 2007, they bid on a festival auction item for a Tocco performance which they then donated to the Schoolcraft College recital series.

"It gives us a reason to invite a lot of our friends and fill the hall," said Mondry.



James Tocco opens the 2008-09 Friday Evening Recital Series at Schoolcraft College on Nov. 14.

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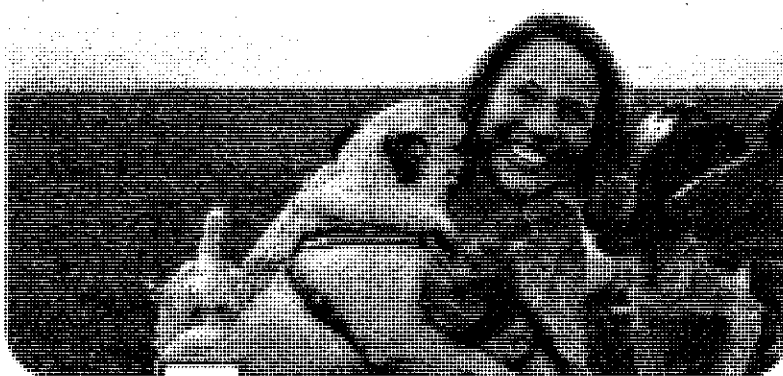
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Autism concert proceeds go to Burger School

A benefit concert is being held noon to 8 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 28, in Garden City Park, Cherry Hill and Merriman. Wolfman Mac is going to host the show. All proceeds go to Burger School for Children with Autism in Garden City.

In addition to the show there will be food, raffles of guitars and gift certificates for guitar lessons and local restaurants. Seven of Detroit's top bands will also be playing. Vizzy's Pizza will be selling by the slice, all to benefit Burger School.

For more information, call Dave Goldsworthy at (734) 525-9101.

Purse, bag drive to assist domestic violence survivors

Livonia Allstate Agent Cheryl Bowker is partnering with The Allstate Foundation to kick off National Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October by encouraging area residents to donate a nearly new purse or professional bag to benefit domestic violence survivors.

Now through Friday, Oct. 3, nearly new purses, briefcases and other professional bags will be collected from the public at select Allstate agencies across the country including the Bowker Agency at 31221 Five Mile at Merriman. The agency can be reached at (734) 525-9610.

The purse donation drive is part of The Allstate Foundation's "Tell a Gal P.A.L." program to draw attention to the fact that economic empowerment can provide a path to a safe and sound future for victims of domestic violence. P.A.L. stands for Pass it

on, Act and Learn to get yourself, or someone you care about, out of a bad situation.

"By encouraging people to donate a purse or professional bag, we are providing them with a simple way to get the conversation going about domestic violence with family and friends," said Bowker. "Our office is pleased to have been selected to participate in this campaign and we hope that area residents will rise to the occasion by supporting this worthy cause."

For other purse donation locations and more information on "Tell a Gal P.A.L.," visit www.ClickToEmpower.org. In addition, the public can enter to win a purse from the personal collection of actress Ana Ortiz of ABC's "Ugly Betty," who is serving as "Tell a Gal P.A.L." spokesperson. Contest entry information can be found on www.ClickToEmpower.org.

Chocolate Affair to benefit First Step

The aroma of chocolate fills the air, the Livonia Symphony string and horn ensembles play sweet melodies and friends gather to enjoy each other's company for an afternoon.

The occasion is the fourth annual "A Chocolate Affair" to benefit First Step, the program for counseling and shelter for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

The event, which is hosted by the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Irish charity group, takes place 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 5, at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Livonia.

Guests can celebrate the fourth annual event of women helping women by welcoming local res-

taurants, bakeries and caterers to serve tastes of their chocolate delights to guests. Businesses include Armitage Catering, Andiamo's of Livonia, Bennigan's, Carrabba's of Canton, Dearborn Inn, Embassy Suites, Jeff Zak Catering, Macaroni Grill, Maggie Moo's, Mary Denning's Cake Shop, Mrs. Field's, Plymouth Crossing, Ritz Carlton, Sanders, Quarter Bistro, TGI Friday's, and more.

Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, and available by calling Karen Stuard at (734) 844-0166 or Kittie Higgins at (248) 449-6570 and at the First Step offices in Plymouth. For more information, call First Step at (734) 416-1111.

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2008 BUICK ENCLAVE CXL FWD
Stk. #2200

Was \$36,305 **OR-LEASE FOR NOW**
\$27,995* | **\$368**** PER MO.
\$0 Down Payment

2008 GMC ENVOY
Stk. #95013

Was \$30,965 **OR-LEASE FOR NOW**
\$17,995* | **\$269**** PER MO.
\$0 Down Payment

2009 GMC ACADIA
Stk. #95005

Was \$32,675 **OR-LEASE FOR NOW**
\$27,703* | **\$371**** PER MO.
\$0 Down Payment

2008 GMC YUKON
Stk. #4234

Was \$42,645 **OR-LEASE FOR NOW**
\$27,995* | **\$429**** PER MO.
\$0 Down Payment

2008 SIERRA EXT.
Stk. #4370

Was \$32,765 **OR-LEASE FOR NOW**
\$19,995* | **\$257**** PER MO.
\$0 Down Payment

BOB JEANNOTTE
14949 SHELDON ROAD • PLYMOUTH
(between M-14 & 5 Mile Road)

Save a Lot with Bob Jeannotte
Mon. & Thurs. 9 to 9, Tues., Wed. & Fri. 9 to 6
734-453-2500
WWW.JEANNOTTE.COM

Must have any competitor lease ending before 1/31/09 or any GMAC lease ending before 6/30/09. **Lease payments based on financial institutions approval at most 60 months/12,000 miles per year Plus first payment, tax, title, doc., and plates dec. See dealer for details. Employee pricing for everyone. Must take delivery by 10-2-08.

BILL BROWN FORD

MICHIGAN'S #1 FORD DEALER!

YES, WE ARE STILL LEASING!!!

LAST CHANCE!

**ATTENTION
NON FORD/LM LESSEES!**

Total New Retail Vehicle Sales and Largest Inventory To Choose From!

We can help you out of your lease early and

PAY UP TO TWO PAYMENTS.

#1 FORD DEALER IN CUSTOMER SATISFACTION!

NEW 2009 FORD FLEX SE!



Up to 24 MPG

4 AT THIS PRICE - 145 AVAILABLE

Featuring...SYNC, Remote start, Power windows, Seat, Locks, speed control, tilt wheel, reverse sensing system.

BUY FOR
\$24,410⁺

\$1,000 DOWN
\$323^{*}
\$1,463 DUE AT DELIVERY*

SIGN & DRIVE
\$362^{*}
ALL FEES INCLUDED*

NEW 2009 FORD ESCAPE XLT!
Featuring...remote start, moon roof, SYNC, power windows, locks, speed control and tilt wheel.
5 AT THIS PRICE - 192 AVAILABLE

BUY FOR	\$1,000 DOWN	SIGN & DRIVE
\$20,091⁺	\$264³⁶ MO	\$303³⁶ MO
<small>\$1,399 DUE AT DELIVERY*</small>	<small>ALL FEES INCLUDED*</small>	

NEW 2008 FORD TAURUS X LIMITED!
Featuring...remote start, leather, lmt. conv. pkg., SYNC, power windows, locks, seat, speed control and tilt wheel.
5 AT THIS PRICE - 21 AVAILABLE

BUY FOR	\$1,000 DOWN	SIGN & DRIVE
\$24,080⁺	\$389³⁶ MO	\$436³⁶ MO
<small>\$1,637 DUE AT DELIVERY*</small>	<small>ALL FEES INCLUDED*</small>	

NEW 2008 FORD EDGE SE!
Featuring...SYNC, conv Group, 18" wheels, power windows, locks, remote start.
3 AT THIS PRICE - 92 AVAILABLE

BUY FOR	\$1,000 DOWN	SIGN & DRIVE
\$19,835⁺	\$277³⁶ MO	\$320³⁶ MO
<small>\$1,548 DUE AT DELIVERY*</small>	<small>ALL FEES INCLUDED*</small>	

NEW 2008 FORD TAURUS LIMITED!
SYNC, leather, tilt, power windows & locks, heated power seat, AM/FM/CDX6/MP3, audiophile wth subwoofer, remote start.
9 AT THIS PRICE - 77 AVAILABLE

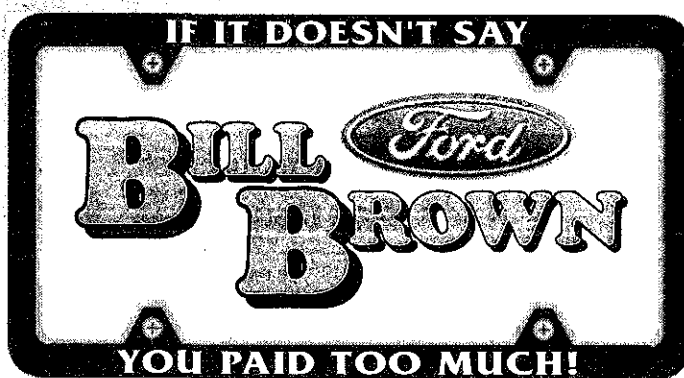
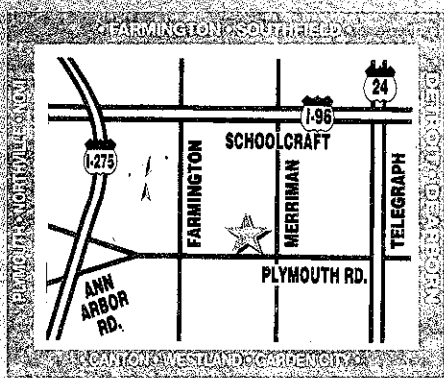
BUY FOR	\$1,000 DOWN	SIGN & DRIVE
\$19,948⁺	\$323³⁶ MO	\$368³⁶ MO
<small>\$1,596 DUE AT DELIVERY*</small>	<small>ALL FEES INCLUDED*</small>	

NEW 2008 FORD F150 4X4 XLT SUPERCAB!
Featuring...remote start, sliding rear window, power windows, locks, speed control, tilt wheel.
4 AT THIS PRICE - 68 AVAILABLE

BUY FOR	\$1,000 DOWN	SIGN & DRIVE
\$20,068⁺	\$366²⁴ MO	\$415²⁴ MO
<small>\$1,747 DUE AT DELIVERY*</small>	<small>ALL FEES INCLUDED*</small>	

NEW 2009 FORD FUSION SE!
Featuring...SYNC, Moonroof, remote start, SIRIUS radio, power windows, locks, speed control.
21 AT THIS PRICE - 257 AVAILABLE

BUY FOR	\$1,000 DOWN	SIGN & DRIVE
\$16,137⁺	\$245³⁶ MO	\$283³⁶ MO
<small>\$1,350 DUE AT DELIVERY*</small>	<small>ALL FEES INCLUDED*</small>	



LAST CHANCE!
EARLY TERMINATION PROGRAM
We Will Waive Your Last Two Payments!
Leases due through June 30, 2009 are eligible for up to 2 payments! Regardless of where you leased your vehicle, bring it to Bill Brown Ford. Trade your vehicle now. Avoid or reduce OUT-OF-POCKET mileage and wear and tear charges.

32222 PLYMOUTH RD. • LIVONIA • 1-800-611-2990

*+ All lease payments and buy prices are for qualifying A/Z planners. For qualifying non A/Z planners an additional \$900 to \$1500 would be required to keep the payments or price the same. All payments include acquisition fee, exclude tax and license fees. 10,000 miles per year. Security Deposit Waived. Buy for price add tax, title, doc and destination fee. Subject to availability. All factory rebates assigned to dealer including owner loyalty or previous lease where applicable and may require Ford Credit financing. Pictures may not represent actual vehicle. Payments and prices per program in effect at publication and are subject to change. All offers expire 9-30-08. † Per 2007 dealer ranking for Ford Division.

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