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January 18, 2009

WESTLAND Observer

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Circuit City closing: Another loss for Westland

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland's core shopping district was dealt another economic blow Friday as beleaguered electronics retailer Circuit City Inc. announced it has asked for court approval to close its remaining 567 U.S. stores, which employ about 34,000 workers.

"It's very unfortunate, and it's totally out of our control," Westland Economic Development Director Lori

Fodale said. "Obviously, we're saddened by a corporation failing, but we're going to work very hard to find a new tenant for that location."

Westland's store, on Warren east of Central City Parkway, had weathered earlier Circuit City problems and had become an area corporate headquarters. Amid an economic meltdown facing many retailers, however, acting company CEO James Marcum said in a statement Friday that "we were unable to

reach an agreement with our creditors" to avoid closing down, though "we are extremely disappointed by this outcome."

An employee of the Westland store said Friday that an expected closing date wasn't yet known. Barring a sudden shift, the nation's second-largest consumer electronics chain is expected to start selling off its merchandise after failing to find a buyer or secure a refinancing plan.

"It's not insignificant (for

the Westland retail district)," City Council President James Godbout said. "We, like many other communities, are going to be facing these severe economic realities. With the economy in the state it's in, we're just going to have to work through it."

"It's unfortunate that Circuit City is a casualty of these economic times. But we can't go around like the sky is falling," Godbout added. "It's an unfortunate part in the economic swing. It has happened before, although

it hasn't been this severe in a long time. We've always come out of it in the past, and we'll come out of it again."

Circuit City's closing would only add to a growing list of vacancies in the heart of Westland's retail district, including its one-time next-door neighbor Cost Plus World Market, as well as Value City Department Store, Sam's Club, the old Best Buy building, Service Merchandise and, more recently, Fan Zone in Westland

Shopping Center.

Westland also has lost both of its movie theaters, although officials remain optimistic that a state-of-the-art fitness facility will be built on the site of the shuttered Quo Vadis near Wayne and Warren.

Moreover, consumers still will have a major electronics store in Westland with the newer Best Buy, located at Wayne and Central City Parkway.

dcclem@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2238



Jefferson Barns Elementary kindergartner Raechell Grondy holds her new sleeping bag tightly after receiving it from the Sweet Dreamzzz Detroit.

Snooze alert

Youngsters get R.E.A.D.Y. for a good night's sleep with Sweet Dreamzzz

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It may have been 9:20 in the morning, but a group of Jefferson-Barns kindergartners were ready for bed. They wore their pajamas and carried sleeping bags and kits filled with toothpaste, a toothbrush and a stuffed animal.

It was a pajama party meant to make a lasting impression.

"This is a fabulous age," said Josephine Long, program director for Sweet Dreamzzz Detroit. "We plant the seed early about getting enough sleep and having their pajamas on cements it in their brains."

The Farmington-based nonprofit was at the Westland school last week to educate its 180 students on the importance of getting enough sleep and good sleep habits as well as provide them with a sleeping bag and the bedtime essentials needed to get a good night's rest.

Each class attended a half-hour R.E.M. (Rest, Educate, Motivate)

SWEET DREAMZZZ DETROIT

Who: Sweet Dreamzzz Detroit

What: It is a nonprofit organization committed to providing bedtime essentials and sleep education to at-risk children in preparation for classroom learning.

How: With the help of money raised through fund-raisers like the "Sleepwalk Run" and "A Night to R.E.M.ember," donations and grants, the group provides sleeping bags, night-shirts, toothbrush, toothpaste and stuffed animals as well as books to youngsters as part of its R.E.M. (Rest, Educate, Motivate) Sleep Program. More than 19,500 have been reached through the R.E.M. Sleep Program.

Information: To make a donation or volunteer to help Sweet Dreamzzz, contact Sweet Dreamzzz Detroit, P.O. Box 608, Farmington, MI 48332-0608 or go online to www.sweet-dreamzzzdetroit.org.

Program in which they were introduced to the importance of sleep and good sleep hygiene habits through R.E.A.D.Y., an acronym for the five things they need to do every night.

Each letter has a meaning. R stands for Relax before bedtime by doing such things as reading a book. E stands for eating a healthy snack, while A means

always get ready for bed by 8 p.m., D means did you wash and brush and Y, yes, it's bedtime.

"How do you know you're relaxed?" Sweet Dreamzzz presenter Robbie Wenzel asked the students before having them feel their heart rate at rest and

Please see **SLEEP, A3**

Lone bandit robs Fifth Third Bank

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland police on Friday afternoon were asking for the public's help identifying and finding a suspect accused of robbing a local bank in broad daylight.

The incident happened at 2:58 p.m. Friday inside the branch of the Fifth Third Bank on Ford Road between Newburgh and Central City Parkway, in a brazen robbery that happened not far from the Westland police station and Westland City Hall.

The suspect was captured by surveillance camera. He is described as a black male, approximately 25 years old, about 5 feet, 7 inches tall, with a thin build and a thin mustache.

According to police, the suspect was wearing a black jacket with tan lettering on the side, possibly spelling out the word "Philadelphia," and it had white bands at the end of the sleeves. He also was wearing what police described in a prepared statement as black jeans,



Westland police are asking for help finding this person, in connection with a Friday afternoon incident at Fifth Third Bank on Ford Road.

dark shoes and a black cap that was turned backward with the bill in the back.

Anyone who has information is urged to call the Westland Police Department at (734) 722-9600. Anyone who wants to remain anonymous may make a tip for a possible cash reward by calling Crime Stoppers at (800) SPEAK-UP.

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3 seats to be filled in WW school election

The clock is ticking for people who are interested in serving on the Wayne-Westland school board. They have until 4 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 10, to file nominating petitions to run for three seats that will be filled in the May 5 school election.

Two four-year terms, held by incumbents Ed Turner of Westland and Steve Becher of Wayne, will be filled in the annual election. Voters also will select a trustee to serve the remaining one year of the term of former board member Frederick Weaver, who resigned last August after it became known he had moved from the school district. Shawna Walker, a Westland resident, has been filing the position since being appointed to the board in mid-September.

As of last Tuesday, she was the only person to pull nominating petitions in advance of the Feb. 10 deadline.

A retiree, Turner is completing his fourth four-year term on

the school board. He has served as board secretary and president. Becher was elected to the board in 2004 to fill the remaining one year of a term that had been held by the late Mathew McCusker and elected to his first four-year term in 2005. The current board treasurer, he is a retired Wayne-Westland teacher.

Candidates must be at least 18 years old, a qualified voter in the school district and a resident of the state for at least 30 days. They must file an Affidavit of Identity and a nominating petition. Petitions must contain a minimum of 40 up to a maximum of 100 signatures of registered voters in the school district. A \$100 nonrefundable fee can be filed in lieu of a petition.

Petitions are available from the Westland City Clerk's Office in Westland City Hall, 36001 Ford, west of Wayne Road, and the Wayne City Clerk's Office in Wayne City Hall at 3355 S. Wayne Road, south of Glenwood.

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Coming Thursday
in **filler**



Chill out at the 2009
Plymouth Ice Sculpture
Spectacular

Recall supporters press case with state over WW district policy

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Two recall supporters who claim local officials improperly blocked their effort to circulate petitions on Election Day have ratcheted up their pleas for state intervention.

The latest developments come after a signature-gathering attempt has stalled and as recall supporters indicate they may try to renew their efforts, even if they have to start the process over.

While some earlier recall organizers have pulled away from the public spotlight, Donna DeWitt and Judy McKinney have continued their fight against what they perceive as an injustice waged by local officials.

DeWitt, McKinney and others had hoped to recall Mayor William Wild and Westland City Council members James Godbout, Bill Johnson, Michael Kehrer and Dewey Reeves for supporting a controversial senior citizen village, including a three-story apartment building, that a developer hopes to build in a neighborhood of single family homes on Joy east of Newburgh.

However, recall supporters said their effort was thwarted by a Wayne-Westland school district policy that prohibited them from going

onto school property on Election Day to collect signatures on their petitions.

Charlotte Sherman, district deputy superintendent, said Wayne-Westland has long had a policy to block political activity on school property, except for people who want to campaign on Election Day for issues actually on the ballot. By state law, any literature has to be distributed beyond 100 feet of any polling place.

Sherman said a district lawyer contacted the state Attorney General's Office in 2000, amid an earlier city recall effort, and was told that Lansing officials "did not have a problem with the policy at that time."

On Thursday, she said, "As of now, we have received nothing in writing contrary to the direction we received in 2000."

Still, Sherman confirmed that the district has sent documents to the state to get the issue clarified once again, but no word had come late in the week.

DeWitt and McKinney have criticized city officials, such as Clerk Eileen DeHart, for advising them prior to last Election Day not to circulate petitions on school property because of the Wayne-Westland policy. DeHart has said she simply was reiterating the policy

and that she didn't set it.

DeWitt wrote a post-election letter to the Secretary of State Office inquiring about the district policy. In response, Bradley Wittman, director of the election liaison division, wrote in part that on Election Day, "there is nothing to prevent an individual from collecting signatures on a recall petition outside of the polls as long as the individual remains at least 100 feet from the doorway being used by voters to enter the building in which the polling place is located."

However, Sherman said it has been the district's understanding that local officials can establish more restrictive policies requiring that petitions be circulated only on public sidewalks near school property. She said the state has been given district documents so the issue can be reviewed.

Meanwhile, McKinney has suggested that if the district's policy is ruled improper, the city should move its polling places away from the schools unless the policy is changed.

City officials have indicated that moving the polling places would be a monumental task that would confuse many voters and potentially disrupt the election process.

A familiar face

Wayne mayor Haidous has spot in new 2nd-grade textbook

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A familiar face will grace the pages of a new social studies book that will be used by second-graders in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools.

Wayne Mayor Abdul "Al" Haidous is highlighted in the Macmillan/McGraw Hill book, *All Together Series*, because he is the first Arab American to be elected mayor in the United States.



Haidous

"I'm honored, I'm humbled and honored to be a part of the educational process," said Haidous, who with his wife, Mary, sat and watched Monday night as the Wayne-Westland school board approved the purchase of the textbooks. "I thank you for creating an environment for our children."

The textbook purchase were one of several approved by the board as the district continues to align curriculum to meet

the standards set by the state. In addition to *All Together*, the district is purchasing a second social studies book, *Meet Michigan* by Hillsdale Educational publishers, for use by third-graders which will complete the realignment of the third-fourth-grade social studies curriculum, according to Aggie Kubrak, senior executive director of the curriculum department.

The board also approved buying *World History: Patterns of Interaction* by McDougal Littell Publishers for the 10th-grade social studies curriculum.

Committees made up of teachers and administrators spent more than a year looking at textbooks and making sure the ones selected aligned with the state requirements. The fact that a local celebrity is in one of them was an fringe benefit and drew praise from two board members who live in Wayne.

"I just love it that you're in this textbook, that's wonderful," said board President Martha Pitsenbarger. "He absolutely loves being mayor. He does a great job."

"I've known him for many

years and I think of him as nothing else than a great American and a great friend," added board Vice President Skip Monit.

A Lebanese native, Haidous immigrated to the U.S. in 1969 and with Mary ran Al's Friendly Market in Wayne. In 1993, he was elected to the Wayne City Council where he served two terms. In 2001, he made history by being the first elected mayor in the city of Wayne as well as the first Arab American elected mayor of a city in America.

Haidous, who had five children go through Wayne-Westland schools, told the board "our schools have never looked better."

"You've worked hard and it shows," he said. "I know what the schools looked like before. I like what you've done. You're doing a fantastic job."

Board Treasure Steve Becher, who also lives in Wayne, told Haidous that with the purchase of the book he will have to consider his political future.

"You're going to have to run for mayor a few more times because we can't afford to buy another book," he said.

AROUND WESTLAND

Scrapbooking

The Wayne Memorial High School Zebra Parent Advisory Council - Z-PAC- will hold a Scrapbooking Event 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7, at the Dorsey Community Center, 32715 Dorsey, just east of Venoy, Westland.

The cost is \$25 per person. A light lunch, snacks and beverages will be available for purchase. Seating is limited, and the registration deadline is Jan. 31. Send a check, payable to Wayne Memorial High School, to Z-PAC Scrapbooking Event, 3001 Fourth St., Wayne, MI 48184. Be sure to include your name, address, telephone

ON THE WEB

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number and e-mail address.

Proceeds will benefit the Z-PAC Scholarship Fund and 2009 Senior Farewell Dinner.

■ A scrapbooking workshop will be held 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, at Ss. Simon and Jude Church, 32500 Palmer, east of Venoy, Westland. The cost is \$35 per person for a full day and \$20 per person for a half day. For more information, call Karen

Kopcak at (734) 634-3934 or Sandy Kopcak at (734) 721-4867.

Vegas Nights

St. Theodore Parish will hold its Vegas Nights 6 p.m. to midnight Friday-Saturday, Feb. 6-7, at the church, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland. There will be 50/50 drawings every hour, Black Jack, Let It Ride, roulette, money wheel and hourly Texas Hold'em. Food, beer, wine and soft drinks also will be available. The Maximum win per person will be \$500. For more information, call Mary at (734) 425-4421 (voicemail number 10).

**CITY OF
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To all residents and interested parties, the Council minutes will be available for review on the internet at:
www.gardencitymi.org

You can access this information at City Hall or the Garden City Library during regular business hours or in the Police Station Lobby 24 hours a day.

ALLYSON M. BETTIS,
City Clerk/Treasurer

Publish: January 18, 2009 OE0863180_242.5

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 24920 Trowbridge St., Dearborn, Mi 48124 (313) 277-7940 1/29/2009 at 9:30 am Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:

Candy Chartier	1108	Boxes,Bags,Totes
Wael Mokhles	1102	TV,Boxes,Bags
Amanda Richardson	1108	Mirror,Dresser,Toy
Mary Keegan	1204	Bags,Box,Totes
William Davis III	1206	TV,Box,Bags
Anthony Kempinski	1282	Box,Bags,Sofa
Lisa Bynum	1326	Boxes,Bags,Totes
Angela Spikes	1344	Boxes,Bags,Totes
Travis Johnson	1374	TV,Chair,Freezer
Linda Riley	1468	Sofa,Vacuum,Boxes
Antonio Butler	1540	Boxes,Sofa,Totes
Tyrone Johnson	1548	Boxes,Bags,Totes
Robert Jones	2018	Boxes,Bags,Totes
Robert Jones	2152	Box,Bags,Totes
Rob Jones	2170	Boxes,Boxes,Boxes
Katrece Isby	2174	Boxes,Bags,Totes
Robert Jones II	2202	Bags,Boxes,Totes
Charlotte Scott	2240	Totes,Dresser,Stove
Sirkye Bamba	2336	Boxes,Bags,Totes
Robert Jones	3004	Boxes,Bags,Totes
Germaine Milliner	D2287	Bags,Boxes,Totes
Nina Costello	2304	Bags,Boxes,Totes
Oakwood Healthcare System	3024	Box,Bag,Tote
Tyrone Johnson	5012	Box,Bag,Tote

Publish: January 11 and 18, 2009 OE0863308_245

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Detroit man faces trial in Rite Aid holdup

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A Detroit man will face trial on charges he brandished a pistol and robbed a Westland pharmacy of more than 7,000 doses of prescription drugs. Michael Henry Guerin, 53, could face penalties ranging up to life in prison if he's convicted in Wayne County Circuit Court on charges of robbing the Rite Aid pharmacy at Ford and Wayne roads shortly after 10:30 p.m. Oct. 16. Guerin was ordered to stand trial on charges of armed robbery, felony firearms, three felony drug counts, and being a habitual offender after he was

identified by a Rite Aid employee in court Thursday during a preliminary hearing in front of Westland 18th District Judge Mark McConnell. Authorities have said more than 7,000 doses of drugs like OxyContin, Ritalin and morphine were taken. Westland police Sgt. Steve Borisch said some of the prescription medications were sold and some were recovered. Guerin was arrested and charged in January after police released a suspect photo to the media and received a tip. Authorities from the special Metro Street Enforcement Team executed a search warrant at his home and found

drugs like those taken during the robbery, Borisch said. McConnell continued a \$5 million cash bond that had been set earlier by now-retired Westland 18th District Judge C. Charles Bokos, who considered the defendant a threat to the community because of the drugs he is accused of taking. A suspect had been captured by a surveillance camera as he was leaving Rite Aid. No shots were fired and no one was injured during the incident. A not-guilty plea has been entered for Guerin as his case now heads to Wayne County Circuit Court.

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Library program looks at civil rights

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

On the heels of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday and President-elect Barack Obama's inauguration, Westland's public library will roll out a program about the civil rights movement of the 1960s.

"It should be really interesting," library Director Cheryl Napsha said. "We set this up before the (presidential) election. We were hoping it would especially relevant."

The program, scheduled for 7 p.m. Wednesday, will feature Matt Ides, a doctoral candidate in history from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. He will address such topics as the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and how it impacted the country, Napsha said.

Ides' talk will be followed by a discussion, and Napsha said the entire program should last no more than 90 minutes. The program is free, and people who want to attend don't need to register in advance.

"They can just show up and bring a friend," Napsha said. The library is located on Central City Parkway between Ford and Warren. The program will come two days after an earlier-

announced event, the city's observance of Dr. King's birthday. That ceremony, also free and open to the public, is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. Monday at Annapolis Park Church of Christ, on the southeast corner of Annapolis

and Henry Ruff in the historic Annapolis Park neighborhood. Westland City Councilman Dewey Reeves will be the keynote speaker.

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SLEEP

FROM PAGE A1

then check it again after jumping up and down 20 times.

Wenzel used a poster board to show youngsters what are healthy snacks, asking them to give thumbs up or down to determine their nutritional value.

Thumbs pointed up for the banana and down when she pulled a picture of a can of Coke from her envelope. The youngsters volunteered that the beverage contained caffeine and sugar. One youngster even noted that the drink would "make you bounce off the wall."

"I challenge you that if you have a bedtime snack to think of a healthy choice," Wenzel said.

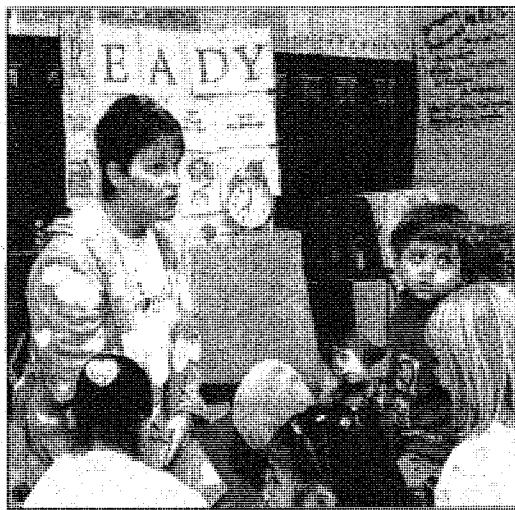
With her help, they also figured if they needed 10-12 hours of sleep and got up for school at 8 a.m., they had to be in bed by 8-8:30 and that washing and brushing their teeth was also a part of getting ready for bed.

"You need to wash to get rid of the germs and to get the dirt off," said Wenzel. "You want to be clean when you get in bed."

Sweet Dreamzzz does the presentation once a month at a school in the Detroit metropolitan area. Principal Laura Beckman found out about the organization through the school's connection with Oakwood Hospital. Oakwood has a health clinic at the school. Planning started in November. "Sweet Dreamzzz has been wonderful to work with, they're very organized," Beckman said. "They came in and put on a wonderful program."

With 11 years experience, her comments don't come as a surprise to Sweet Dreamzzz Executive Director Nancy Maxwell. Working with the help of sponsorships and donations and the help of groups like the Girl Scouts, Sweet Dreamzzz has delivered its R.E.M. message to more than 19,000 children.

"It's not the size of the school, it's the need of the school," Maxwell said. "The school has to have 75 percent or more students at the poverty level based



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sweet Dreamzzz presenter Robbie Wenzel goes over "R-E-A-D-Y," the five steps needed to get a good night's sleep.

on the school lunch program."

In addition to the educational program, students receive a sleeping bag, a tote bag filled with a Sweet Dreamzzz T-shirt, toothbrush, toothpaste and a sleep activity book and stuffed animal. Youngsters also get to select a book as part of the program.

Jefferson-Barns is one of the smaller schools Sweet Dreamzzz has visited. In February, the group will help a school with 380 students and for National Sleep Week in March, they will be at a Detroit school with more than 700 students.

"There's two components - education and warmth and comfort," Maxwell said. "You need warmth and comfort, the education can happen anywhere."

The smiles on the children's faces were as big as the sleeping bags they carried back to their classrooms.

"It's a special day for them, they're so excited," Beckman said.

SPOTLIGHT ON: YOUR DENTAL HEALTH



Presented by
Andrea S.
Vivian, D.D.S.

THE GREAT COVERUP!

To some extent, the porcelain veneers that dentists often use to cover chipped, broken, misshapen, stained, or discolored front teeth are similar to the artificial nails that manicurists use to cover problem fingernails. The primary difference is, of course, that the veneers used on teeth consist of thin shells of porcelain that are carefully placed over damaged or misshapen teeth. The procedure involves removal of a thin layer of the affected tooth's outer surface, after which impressions are taken that are used to create veneers that will fit precisely. During the next appointment, the veneers are fitted, permanently bonded in place, and shaped. The result is a newly surfaced tooth with an extremely durable material that closely mimics enamel.

If you're not happy with your smile, we hope you won't be shy about examining the many options available today in cosmetic dentistry like porcelain veneers, bonding, whitening, and reshaping. Our interest in you extends beyond just fixing your teeth - we want you to feel totally unselfconscious about your mouth so that you will have every reason to break into a smile. Call us for an appointment to discuss your particular dental needs at 734-453-9413. New Patients are always welcome at 496 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Ste. 201, Plymouth.

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CARING FOR YOUR KNEES IN WINTER

Your knees in winter are like your furnace heater. If a breakdown is likely to occur, it will come when the weather is at its worst, when the knee, like the furnace, is under the most strain.

At this time of year, the best way to protect knees is to wear the best possible gear for your feet. The greatest threat to your knees is a slip and/or a fall. A sudden change in footing can cause a torque that strains knee ligaments and menisci, or results in a fall that can cause a knee bone bruise or fracture. While it is not always possible to stay indoors in bad weather, it is possible, even necessary, that if you venture outside, you wear proper shoes or boots. Your footwear should give you maximum traction up and down slippery steps or unexpected patches of ice, and keep our toes warm if you may be outside for an extended time.

You should use utmost caution in your initial steps outside. No matter how great the need to hurry, take the first steps slowly. Give both your feet and your face the chance to become acclimated to wind and freezing temperature. If you have knee arthritis and know those joints are less than best for an unexpected turn or slip, start out with a cane. To ensure solid support, be sure the cane has a large rubber tip, or even better, is a four prong cane.

In sum, the best way to care for your knees in winter is to look after your feet.

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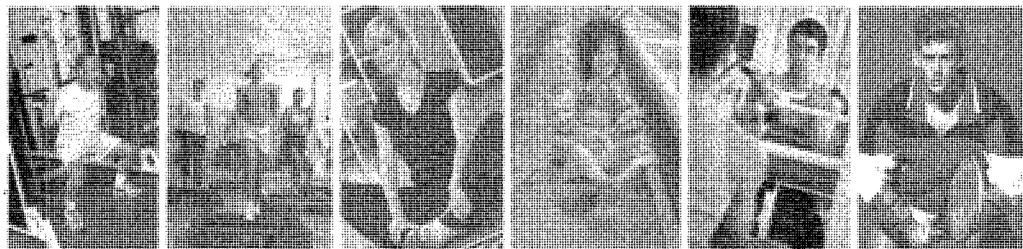
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Watch inauguration on big screen

BY KURT KUBAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Tickets to President-elect Barack Obama's swearing-in ceremony Tuesday in the nation's capital are hard or next to impossible to come by. If you are among the disappointed people who would like to go but are unable to, Imagine Theater in Canton may be offering the next best thing.

As part of a promotion by MSNBC and Screenvision, Imagine Canton will be showing MSNBC coverage of the inauguration live.

Ruth Daniels, vice president of sales and marketing, said the

ON THE BIG SCREEN

Where: Imagine Canton.
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For tickets and info: Log onto <http://msnbcvents.com> or call theater at (734) 721-3456.

coverage will be shown in its largest theater, which seats 450 people.

"It will be a lot of fun. We're really excited," she said.

Coverage of the event begins at 11 a.m. and runs through 3 p.m.

To obtain a ticket, you must

log onto <http://msnbcvents.com> and enter your e-mail information, as well as the theater location. If you are awarded a ticket, you will receive an e-mail. Admission is free but is first come, first serve and tickets are no guarantee of admission.

Daniels has no idea how many people will attend the event, though she does expect some people to show up without tickets. She said the theater will try to accommodate everyone.

Daniels said doors will open about 9:30 a.m.

For more information, visit the MSNBC Web site or call the theater at (734) 721-3456.

Try your talent at open mic night at library

Need an outlet for your pent-up talent? Then swing by the William P. Faust Public Library on Thursday, Jan. 22, to ham it at open mic night.

The event is for teens and adults and is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Poets, writers, musicians, and performers encouraged to show what they've got. Singer-songwriter Dave Boutette is the emcee. And you don't have to want a shot at the mic to come. All audience members welcome.

This is the first of three open mic nights. The program also is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 19, and Thursday, March 19.

According to Library Director Cheryl Napsha, open mic night is the result of a strategic planning process the library recently completed.

"One of the requests that we heard clearly was for the library to serve as a cultural/social hub for the community," Napsha said. "In response to that we're begin-

ning a series of 'after-hours' programs for adults and teens."

She added that the library had its first after-hours program last March when Motown star Martha Reeves visited.

In addition to being free of charge, refreshments will be served.

And since it's an "after hours" event, the library will be closed, so patrons won't be able to access the collection on computers. Open mic night will be in the meeting rooms at the front of the building.

The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

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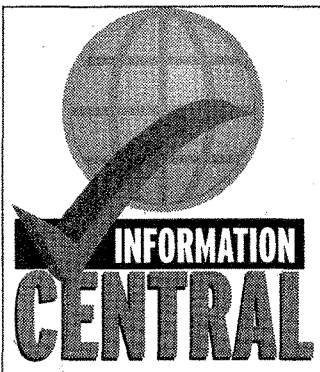
Standish

Understanding gay marriage

President-elect Barack Obama's invitation of evangelical pastor Rick Warren for the opening prayer at the inauguration has caused somewhat of an uproar. While some people see Obama's decision as a way of reaching out to those with opposing views, many others feel it is a sign of disrespect given Warren's support for the passage of Proposition 8 in California. Not long after the passage of the ban on gay marriage, this issue has once again become a hot topic of debate in this country.

The meaning of marriage means different things to different people. Some think of it as an institution while others view it as a practice. Some use the Bible as an argument against gay marriage while others use a line of reasoning based on civil rights to make a case for it. There is a lot of gray area when it comes to this discussion and it is important to have an understanding of both sides of the issue. The Public Library of Westland has many resources that shed light on the pros and cons of gay marriage.

For an overview of the history of marriage and all the various forms it has taken, check out E.J. Graff's "What Is Marriage For?: The Strange Social History of Our Most Intimate Institution." This book shows how marriage has changed throughout time to suit the social structure of each period. "Same-Sex Marriage: Moral Wrong or Civil Right?" by Tricia Andryszewski is a good, brief source



for a balanced analysis on this issue. For a more in depth examination, "Same-Sex Marriage: Pro and Con" offers an even collection of opinions from Plato to Ann Landers.

To find out more about gay marriage, the Public Library of Westland is a great place to start. Stop by at the reference desk, call us at (734) 326-6123, or remotely search our catalog 24 hours a day at www.westland.lib.mi.us.

Highlighted Activities

Adult Book Discussion Group: 7 p.m. Jan. 20.

Join us as we discuss "In Cold Blood" by Truman Capote. "In Cold Blood" is the true story of the shocking 1959 murder of the four members of the Herbert W. Clutter family in Holcomb, Kansas. Capote explores the motivations and backgrounds of the murderers and their victims, attempting to explain how the murders occurred in "cold blood." Please

read the book before the meeting. All are welcome.

Independent Movie Night: 7 p.m. Jan. 21.

"My Flesh and Blood" follows one remarkable family's most tumultuous year as it confronts a litany of daily routines, celebrates life's small pleasures, and copes with major crises. All are welcome (children 10 and under must be accompanied by an adult). No registration is required.

1960s Book Club: 7 p.m. Jan. 21.

Join us for a discussion of Maya Angelou's "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings." In this first of five volumes of autobiography, poet Maya Angelou recounts a youth filled with disappointment, frustration, tragedy and finally hard-won independence. Please read the book before the meeting. All are welcome.

The Civil Rights Movement and the '60s: 7 p.m. Jan. 21.

This week we celebrate the birth of Dr. Martin Luther King and the inauguration of the first black President. We could not celebrate Barack Obama's presidency without acknowledging the struggle of many Americans, both black and white, who prepared the way. Matt Ides, doctoral candidate in history from the University of Michigan, will speak on the Civil Rights Movement in the 1960s, from the community activists to Freedom Summer, from Rosa Parks to the SNCC. Join us for a discussion on this fascinating and timely topic.

20s/30s Book Club: 7 p.m. Jan. 21

at Biggby Coffee, 37644 Ford, west of Newburgh.

Come join us as we discuss "A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius," a memoir by magazine editor Dave Eggers. After his parents died while he was in college, he and his older brother and sister raised their eight-year-old brother in a conscientious, if unconventional, fashion. He then went on to found the satire magazine "Might" and become the editor of the literary magazine "McSweeney's." Copies are available at the Reference Desk.

Open Mic: 6:30-8 p.m. Jan. 22.

Teens and adults. Join other local artists at this after hours event as they read, rap, sing, act, dance, and soliloquy for the betterment of your senses. Poets, writers, musicians, and performers encouraged to show us what you've got! Singer-songwriter Dave Boutette emcees. All audience members welcome.

Drop-in Knitting Nights @ the Library: 7 p.m. every Wednesday.

Whether you want to learn to knit or are an experienced knitter, all are welcome. Seating is limited. Call the library for more information at (734) 326-6123.

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

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Whether to buy or lease a car depends on your situation

Q: Dear Rick: With the auto show in town and the car companies needing all the help they can get, I decided to buy a new car. What factors should I consider in deciding whether to buy or to lease a car?

A: I think what you are doing is great, and I hope more people around the country decide to buy cars

from the "Big Three."

The decision whether to buy or lease a car is based upon two major factors how long you plan to own your car and how many miles you drive on an annual basis.

My general rule is if you plan to buy a new car every three years or less, leasing is the way to go. If you plan keep the car for more than four

years, buying it makes more sense.

If you drive more than 15,000-18,000 miles a year, leasing generally becomes too expensive for most people.

If you decide to buy a car, the next issue is whether to pay cash or to finance the purchase. Considering interest rates and tax consequences (unless you can get inexpensive

financing, generally under 3 percent) I recommend paying cash for the car. However, if you don't have cash available then you would have to obtain financing.

Whether you buy or lease it, it is important to shop around and get the best deal possible not only on price but financing options. One of the mistakes people make when they lease

is they assume they can't receive competitive bids. This is not the case. Not only can you shop the car at different dealerships, but there also are other institutions such as credit unions that do leasing.

In shopping for leased cars, it is important to consider monthly payments as well as other terms of the agreement such as security deposits, early

termination fees and excess mile charges.

Many people do not understand that leasing a car is simply renting that automobile for a period of time. The lease payment is the depreciation on the vehicle. Because you are leasing the car for a set period of time, you are able to drive a more expensive car for a lower price. In fact, that is one of the main advantages of leasing. However, leasing does offer other advantages such as driving newer automobiles and not having to worry about reselling a used car.

Purchasing a car also has its advantages such as the car belongs to you and, thus, when you decide to sell the car, you will get some of your money back. In addition, you can lower your cost of driving by extending the length of time you own your car.

I am often asked which is better, buying or leasing. There is no correct answer. The key is what is best for an individual situation. My advice is that prior to obtaining a car you should know how it will be purchased before you visit the dealerships. Knowing how you will finance the purchase prior to even looking at the automobile itself will help you focus on making the right decision.

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



Money Matters

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Mentoring can have impact on at-risk youth

January is National Mentoring Month. While programs such as Big Brothers Big Sisters engage youth in positive and fun activities, in urban centers all over the country, mentoring also has a tremendous impact on education and graduation rates. The evidence shows that students who participate in such programs experience improved grades, higher attendance, and a more positive attitude toward their studies. Further, they experience measurable decreases in alcohol and drug use, violence, skipping school, and dropping out of school.



Dara Munson

The D.C.-based America's Promise Alliance found that Detroit has a deplorable 24.9 percent graduation rate. This was the lowest graduation rate in the entire nation. Factors such as the rise in drugs, violence, teenage pregnancy, and incarceration drive the graduation rate lower every year. If at-risk youth have a friend and mentor - someone to help them through difficult times, and especially in their formative younger years, then finishing high school becomes a possibility they believe they can achieve.

A poor graduation rate isn't just a negative outcome for young adults. It's bad for the community as well - not just for the well-known social ills, but very detrimental to society's pocketbook. A 2005 Princeton University study found that the average high school dropout costs \$260,000. One of the reasons is because dropouts face increased incarceration rates, and every inmate costs the State of Michigan \$29,000 per year. Further, dropouts pay significantly less taxes than graduates, less than 50 percent of what those with some college contribute, and about 25 percent of what a taxpayer with a college degree contributes. This is due to weakened earning capacity and, consequently, low average incomes.

A low graduation rate costs society more than money. Dropouts are statistically more likely to become teen parents and single parents, commit crimes, have physical and emotional health problems, become disabled, be unmarried, and rely on government social services such as food stamps, Medicaid, and unemployment. They are also more likely to have chronic employment issues for their entire lives. This means that not only are dropouts twice as likely to experience poverty, but they reduce the economic growth capacity of the community.

Beyond the tangible burdens on the community, each individual dropout goes through his or her own myriad of emotional consequences as a result of failing to graduate. They may feel shame and guilt for being unable to secure employment, sometimes for extended periods of time. They may feel like they want to go back and finish, perhaps get their G.E.D., but living in a culture where dropping out of school is so pervasive is not particularly encouraging. Finally, dropouts often experience feelings of depression and helplessness that are less common among those who do earn a high school diploma. The high dropout rate is causing unhappiness and suffering for both dropouts and their fellow community members, in both measurable and immeasurable ways.

Nationally, at 100 years old, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America is the oldest of such mentoring programs, and sets the standard in youth mentoring. The Big Brothers Big Sisters model is effective because we have developed our programs using evidence-based prevention strategies, and are continually monitoring social trends and statistics to update these as necessary.

Mentoring is not a cure-all for society's challenges, but it is an absolutely essential com-

ponent of a comprehensive effort to improve the educational success rates of local youth. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metropolitan Detroit, the local affiliate serving southeastern Michigan, has already started to directly confront the social problems that are borne of the educational maelstrom in Detroit and southeast Michigan. Mentoring can help create a stronger, healthier and more economically viable community.

Many people believe that Big Brothers Big Sisters is purely a provider of mentoring services that does a great job with kids. But we are much more than that. Any investments in our schools and in improving the safety of our neighborhoods that don't also include evidence-based prevention strategies focused on our children miss a tremendous opportunity to effect real long-term transformation in our communities. The profit or return on investment in a mentoring program such as Big Brothers Big Sisters garners better schools, safer streets, and healthier productive young people ready to be contributors to society.

Dara T. Munson is president and CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metropolitan Detroit. Call (313) 309-0500 if you would like to volunteer or donate in support of National Mentoring Month.

OUR VIEWS

Head to the 'D' to support auto industry

Area residents have plenty of reasons to head to the Cobo Center next week to check out the annual North American International Auto Show.

First and foremost, metro Detroiters need to show Congress, the country and the world that the domestic auto industry should not be discarded like analog televisions whose time has come and gone.

Skeptics and naysayers will be watching attendance figures closely to find new ammunition in trying to kill off an industry that has done so much for so many for so long. If this region does not show up in droves to support the Big Three, the argument will go, then why should the federal government care if one or more of the companies goes out of business?

Our nation's political leaders already have

taken much of the fun out of the annual two-week party. It's almost as if anyone even remotely attached to the industry has been ordered not to smile to enforce the somber state of the industry.

Even the annual charity fund-raiser that benefits thousands of local kids is having a difficult time getting auto folks to purchase tickets. Nobody wants our nation's political hacks to get the wrong impression that industry leaders are partying like it's 1999 while asking for a federal bailout.

How sad that such a proud part of America's history is being treated so shabbily. It's time to push back, attend the auto show, have some fun and celebrate a great American institution.

Don't let the government Grinch steal our fun.

GOVERNMENT CONTACTS

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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.

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State Rep. Bob Constan
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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
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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.

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter
His Washington, D.C., mailing address is 1632 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515. Call him at (202) 225-8171 or send a fax by dialing (202) 225-2667. His district office is at 17197 N. Laurel Park Drive, Suite 161, Livonia, MI 48152. Call him at (734) 632-0314 or send a fax at (734) 632-0373. He also has a Web site, mccotter.house.gov.



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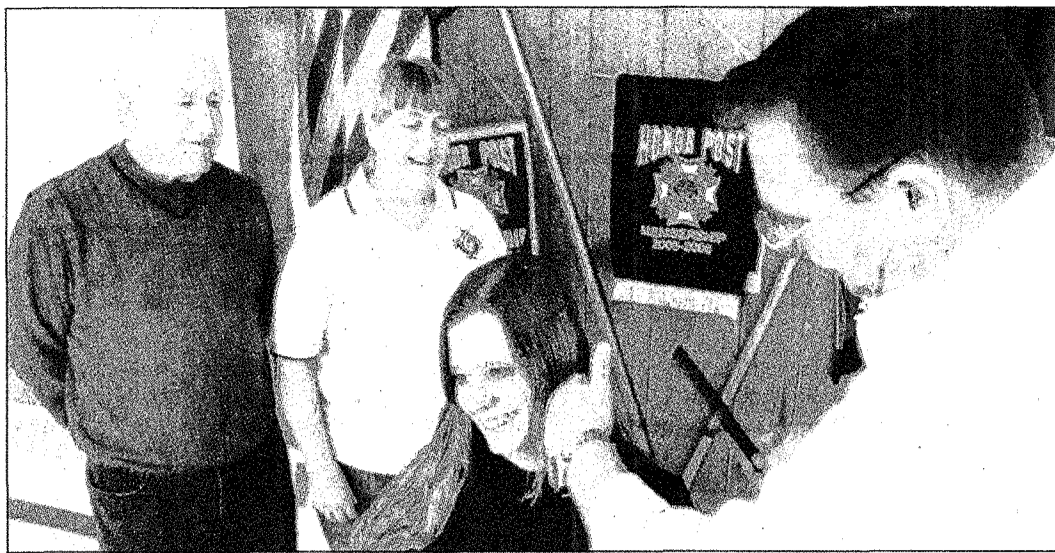
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David Rouse, right, cuts Connie Maschke's hair for a donation to Locks of Love. Fellow barber Wally Hill, left, watches and Northville VFW Ladies' Auxiliary Betty Burkacki is at center. All will assist the VFW in their fourth annual 'Hair Cut Day for Cancer and AIDS Research' on Sunday.

JOHN HEIDER | NORTHVILLE RECORD

VFW Haircut Day slated this Sunday

BY PAM FLEMING
STAFF WRITER

If it's time for a trim, come to the "VFW Haircut Day for Cancer and AIDS Research" in downtown Northville today. The fund-raiser will take

place from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4012, 438 S. Main St., just north of Seven Mile Road. This is the fourth year for the event.

The barbers that are involved are from Jack's Barber Shop, 111 E. Dunlap St., in downtown Northville and Northville Barbers, 545 Seven Mile Road. The barbers will donate their time for this worthy cause.

Haircuts will be \$12 for men, women and children.

"Everyone has been touched by cancer in one way or the other," said Betty Burkacki of the VFW Post 4012 Ladies Auxiliary, event chairperson.

Raffle tickets will also be sold during the event for gift certificates from local merchants, including a sports basket, dinner basket and ladies basket.

Two local restaurants are also participating in the fund-raiser. Chili's Restaurant at Haggerty and Eight Mile roads will donate 10 percent of diners' total bills back to the event on Monday, Jan. 19. Applebee's Restaurant at Six Mile and Haggerty roads will donate 20 percent of diners' bills on Monday, Jan. 26.

The restaurants will require coupons from the VFW for the money to go to the fund-raiser. For more information about the event or the coupons, call Burkacki a (734) 891-3921 or pick some up at the Northville VFW Post after noon on Sunday.

In the first three years, the event has raised a total of \$7,268 for cancer and AIDS research.

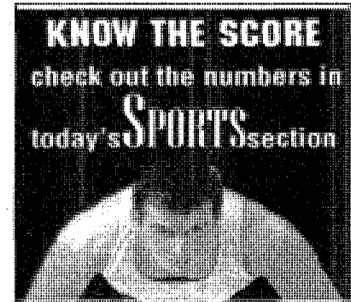
"With the support of the community, we are hoping to meet our goal," Burkacki said.

The event began when the VFW post asked local barber Dave Rouse if he would donate his hair-cutting services for the cause, and he said it would be a pleasure. The first year, Rouse shaved one VFW member's head, two beards, some mustaches men had had for several years, and cut 55 heads of hair. This year, the two local barbers have agreed to have their heads shaved for the cause.

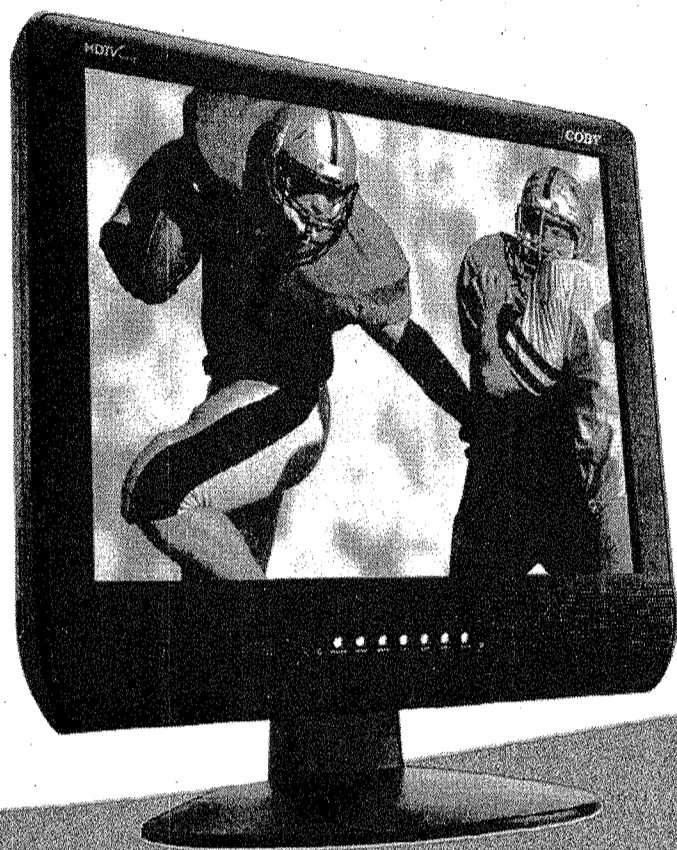
"We have placed jars for donations in both of the local barber shops," Burkacki said. Wally Hill, a VFW member and barber, as well as another veteran have agreed to lose their hair, beard and mustache if \$1,000 is collected by Sunday.

"We are we well on our way," Burkacki said. Barbers ask that those coming in for a haircut arrive at the fund-raiser with clean hair.

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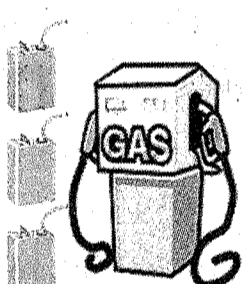
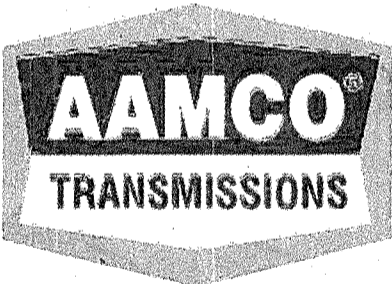
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No. 2-ranked Northville slides by Spartans, 4-3

BY BRAD EMMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Livonia Stevenson put together spirited back-to-back Friday night efforts against the state's top two ranked boys hockey teams in Division 1 - but have nothing to show for it.

After falling a week earlier (Jan. 5) to No. 1 Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, 3-2, the Spartans suffered a similar one-goal fate seven days later against No. 2-rated Northville, 4-3, at the Novi Ice Rink.

Northville is now 11-1 overall and leads the KLAAs Central

Division at 7-0

The Mustangs, outshooting Stevenson 12-2, led 2-1 after one period on goals by Derek Raymond and Jake Atkinson.

Stevenson's John Vella countered with his 11th of the season on a tap-in off a cross-ice pass from Trevor Baruzzini with Evan Malick also drawing an assist.

"Northville played well, they came out strong and had us on their heels - give them credit," Stevenson coach David Mitchell said. "It was a matter of us relaxing, relying on what we had practiced, stay within our

PREP HOCKEY

systems, play within ourselves and not try to get too much at once. Once we got relaxed, we played pretty good hockey."

Northville carried a 4-2 lead into the final period on a pair of goals by Wes Gates, while Stevenson senior defenseman Tyler Vines notched his first of the season on a slap shot from just inside the blue line with Jake Wilson and Matt Fox assisting.

Things then got interesting with 10:56 to go in the game

as Cole Rochowiak scored on a power-play goal with assists going again to Wilson and Fox.

"I thought we played well to start, the puck was deep in their end and we were able to create turnovers and get some good scoring chances," Northville coach Clint Robert said. "But with a two-goal lead we got too defensive and I thought we got away from what we did earlier. Give credit to Stevenson."

Despite being outshot 9-3 in the final stanza, Northville was able to stave off the 10th-ranked Spartans, who slipped to 6-5-1 overall and 3-3-1 in

the Central.

"They have a long history of having a good hockey programs," Robert said of Stevenson. "I think they're one of the top five teams (in Division 1) and I knew they wouldn't lay down. The next goal was anybody's game and they came out on all cylinders in the third period. We were lucky to hang on."

Northville goaltender Ted Keranen had 17 saves, while Stevenson's Danny Sager made 20 stops.

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TOU HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Churchill's Drew Carlson attempts to get around Novi's Sean Murphy during Friday night's clash at Edgar Arena.

Churchill plugged into Novi, 1-1

BY BRAD EMMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The benefits of a tie certainly outweighed any loss Friday night for both the Livonia Churchill and Novi boys hockey teams.

Senior Ken Masiarczyk picked up a puck just inside the blue line and ripped a slap shot into the upper right-hand corner with 8:38 remaining in the final period to give Churchill a 1-1 draw with the Wildcats.

After a scoreless opening period where Novi had a 11-6 shot advantage, the Wildcats continued to apply even more pressure in the second period and cashed in.

Evan Dixon scored unassisted when he won the draw off right face-off circle, controlled the puck, and slid wrist shot while falling to ice past a stunned Churchill netminder Adrian Motta at the 7:02 mark.

Novi certainly carried the play through the first two periods, outshooting the Chargers, 23-12.

"We out-chanced them most of the

game and we were in their zone more - we had our chances, but just didn't capitalize," Novi coach Todd Krygier said. "We had one-on-zeros and two-on-ones four or five times and their goalie came up big."

With the deadlock, Novi is now 9-3-2 overall and 4-2-1 in the KLAAs Central Division.

"I won't lie, we're not satisfied," Krygier said. "We had plenty of opportunities. Their goalie won it for them. The kid (Motta) did a great job, but our goalie (Michael Pesendorfer) made some key saves for us as well."

"It was a good high school hockey game. Both teams deserve credit for how hard they worked and played."

Churchill, however, owned the third period outshooting the Wildcats by a 10-1 margin. And the Chargers nearly won it with nine seconds remaining when Pesendorfer stopped a short back-hand attempt by Steve Klisz.

"The third period we talked about keeping things simple," Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni said. "We had a lot of unforced errors the first two periods. The third

period we did a good job of going north and south with the puck."

"What kids want to do now is the pretty stuff, made the extra pass. But sometimes good-old fashioned work is the best remedy."

Once again Motta came up big for Chargers.

"A.D. (Adrian Motta) played phenomenal," Mazzoni said. "The puck was in our end more than theirs, but the bottom line is that scoreboard said 1-1."

Krygier's team reacted afterwards as if they had lost, but the Novi coach put the tie in perspective.

"The objective was to win the game, but we also wanted to compete," he said. "Last year we lost to them 7-1. Pete's (Mazzoni) always got a great program. We're playing a lot better, and because of our personnel, we're competing more."

Mazzoni, meanwhile, also sees an elevation in Novi's play this season. "They're much improved," he said. "They play the way Todd played as a player - gritty, stick-on-stick in the gaps and they're aggressive."

Stevenson rules dual, sinks Rocks

BY BRAD EMMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It's still relatively early in the boys swim season, but Livonia Stevenson coach Jeff Shoemaker and Salem coach Chuck Olson are starting to get better read on their teams.

As expected, state-ranked Stevenson rolled to a 117-69 dual-meet victory Thursday night over the host Rocks as senior Chris Behler figured in four first-place finishes.

Stevenson is now 3-2 overall after starting out the season with dual meet wins last month over Monroe and Beverly Hills Detroit Country Day before **BOYS SWIMMING** losing last week to the state's top-two ranked teams in Division I, Ann Arbor Pioneer and Saline.

"I think we're on track - but we have good days and bad days," Shoemaker said. "We're ranked sixth in the state right now (in Division I). I feel we can be top four, but we've got to prove it. Northville is our biggest adversary. We have a meet with them in three weeks (Thursday, Feb. 5 at home)."

Behler took firsts in the 50-yard freestyle (23.44) and 100 butterfly (57.52).

He also anchored the first-place 200 medley relay team (1:43.1), which also included Kellen Schoff, Joey Wingett and Michael Cruce.

The quartet of Behler, Aaren Marecki, Ryan Scott and Cruce also captured the 200 freestyle relay in 1:32.3.

Other Stevenson individual firsts came from Jeff Kinsvater, 1-meter diving (221.40 points); Kellen Schoff, 100 freestyle (50.18); and Wingett, 100 breaststroke (1:03.95).

Stevenson's 400 freestyle relay team is Cruce, Marecki, Charles Turlo and Kellen Schoff also emerged victorious.

"We need a couple more state cuts," Shoemaker said. "We've got all our relay cuts. We have a big senior group. To be in the top five at state the key is that all three relays have to score."

Salem, despite slipping to 0-2 on the year, had some noteworthy performers led by returning state placer Adam Seroka, who captured the 200 individual medley (2:00.84) and 100 backstroke (56.57).

Max Mills took the 200 freestyle

Please see **SWIMMING, B2**

Sidelines

Ladywood falls

Jessi Franz, a 6-foot-1 sophomore forward, scored 22 points Friday night as two-time defending state Class C girls basketball champion Saginaw Nouvel downed visiting Livonia Ladywood, 49-30.

The Blazers held All-Stater Jenny Ryan to 11 points, but Franz dominated inside as the Panthers, who bolted out to a 14-4 first-quarter lead improved to 8-2 overall. "She lit us up, we couldn't not defend her in the post," Ladywood coach Pat Cannon said of Franz. "They ran a 2-2-1 press to perfection. They play on a smaller court and it's tough to move around. Our bad shooting (25 percent from the field) and their press were not a good mix."

Mary Fitzgerald paced Ladywood (4-6) with nine points.

Collins gets award

Schoolcraft College sophomore point-guard Brittany Collins was named NJCAA Division II Women's Player of the Week after breaking the school record for assists last week.

In a 110-64 win over Flint Mott Community College (Jan. 4), the 5-foot Collins recorded 13 assists to tie her own school record, followed by 14 assists in a 96-33 win over Kirtland (Jan. 6) to break the record.

Collins averaged 10.7 points, 6.3 rebounds and 10.7 assists per game for the week and has helped the Lady Ocelots to a No. 5-ranking in Division II.

Murphy saluted

Livonia Clarenceville's Kevin Murphy was recently named Regional Athletic Director of the Year by the Michigan Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association.

Murphy, who has worked in the Clarenceville Schools for 10 years, will be among 14 administrators honored March 23 during the MIAAA's annual Mid-Winter Conference in Traverse City.

Murphy, native of Bradford, Ohio and graduate of Wright State University, served as a physical education and health teacher at Clarenceville for five years (2000-2005). He also was an assistant football coach on the Trojans' Division 5 state runner-up team in 2001 and coached varsity basketball for six years winning a Class B district crown and Metro Conference title.

He also received in Masters in Athletic Administration from Wayne State in 2004 and also currently serves as an assistant principal at the middle school.

"Kevin has been an outstanding member of the high school staff and is dedicated to serving the students of this community," Clarenceville Superintendent of Schools Pamela Sweet said. "He sets high expectations for all students and works cooperatively with staff members."

Area hoop games left out in the cold

BY BRAD EMMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It was only appropriate that hockey was the main course Friday night on the area high school sports plate.

School cancellations on Friday due to dangerously cold temperatures in the Plymouth-Canton, Wayne-Westland and Livonia public school districts caused postponements for several boys and girls basketball games, but the indoor ponds remained frozen and prep hockey played on (see related stories).

Boys basketball games called off Jan. 16 and to be made up at a later date includes: South Lyon East at Livonia Churchill (rescheduled for Thursday,

Feb. 12); Livonia Franklin at South Lyon (to be determined); Westland John Glenn at Livonia Stevenson (TBD); and Wayne at Northville (TBD).

The only are boys team to play Friday was Lutheran High Westland.

Among the girls basketball games called off included: Lutheran Westland at Livonia Clarenceville (rescheduled for Thursday, Jan. 29); Churchill at South Lyon East (rescheduled for Thursday, Feb. 12); South Lyon at Franklin (TBD); Stevenson at John Glenn (TBD); and Northville at Wayne (TBD).

Livonia Ladywood did play its scheduled game Friday at Saginaw Nouvel.

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Monster game

Olech's 20 points, 21 boards lift MU

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Tabatha Wydryck chipped in with 17 points, while Katie Mount added 10 for the Crusaders, who led 41-34 at intermission. Christie Carrico dished out six assists.

MU shot 94 percent from the foul line (17-of-18), but only 35.5 percent from the floor (22-of-62).

Tanci Levit led Siena Heights (7-12, 1-2) with 11 points.

SCHOOLCRAFT 87, DELTA CC 67: Sheray Brown yanked down 19 rebounds, while teammate Antania Shepherd had 18 points,

seven rebounds and six assists Wednesday to lift host Schoolcraft College (14-2, 7-0) to an MCCA-Eastern Conference win over Delta Community College (8-5, 5-2).

Also scoring in double figures for the Crusaders were Amber Avery (13), Jasmine Brown (12) and Brittany Collins (11).

Brown and April Goins added nine apiece, while Taylor Langham added eight for the Ocelots, who have won 30 consecutive home games and 29 straight home conference contests.

Rhonda Gusa scored 15 for Delta, which trailed 44-28 at halftime. Kylie Carrick added 14, while Alex Ramirez and Kayla Knieper contributed 13 and 12, respectively.

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL
Tuesday, Jan. 20
 Wayne at Churchill, 7 p.m.
 Canton at Franklin, 7 p.m.
 South Lyon at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
 Plymouth at John Glenn, 7 p.m.
 Luth. N'west at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.
 Huron Valley at Ypsi Calvary, 7 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 22
 Edsel Ford at Churchill, 7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 23
 Churchill at Canton, 7 p.m.
 Franklin at Plymouth, 7 p.m.
 Stevenson at Salem, 7 p.m.
 John Glenn at Wayne, 7 p.m.
 Clarenceville at Hamtramck, 7 p.m.
 Univ.-Liggett at Luth. Westland, 7 p.m.
 Huron Valley at Franklin Road, 8:30 p.m.
GIRLS BASKETBALL
Tuesday, Jan. 20
 Huron Valley at Ypsi Calvary, 5:30 p.m.
 Clarenceville at Luth. N'west, 7 p.m.
 Churchill at Wayne, 7 p.m.
 Franklin at Canton, 7 p.m.
 Stevenson at South Lyon, 7 p.m.
 John Glenn at Plymouth, 7 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 21
 H.W. Regina at Ladywood, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 23
 Canton at Churchill, 7 p.m.
 Plymouth at Franklin, 7 p.m.
 Salem at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
 Wayne at John Glenn, 7 p.m.
 Hamtramck at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.
 Luth. Westland at G.P. Liggett, 7 p.m.
 Huron Valley at Franklin Road, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 24
 Ladywood at Mercy, 4 p.m.
PREP HOCKEY
Wednesday, Jan. 21
 Churchill vs. Canton

at Edgar Arena, 6 & 8 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 23
 Stevenson vs. Novi, Churchill vs. Franklin at Edgar Arena, 6 & 8 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 24
 Stevenson vs. W.L. Western at Lakeland Ice Arena, 7 p.m.
 Ladywood vs. G.P. South at Arctic Pond, 6:30 p.m.
PREP WRESTLING
Tuesday, Jan. 20
 C'ville, Clawson, Inter-City Baptist at Lutheran Westland Quad, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 21
 Stevenson at Salem Quad, 5:30 p.m.
 Churchill, Wayne, Plymouth at Franklin Quad, 5:30 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 22
 John Glenn at Canton, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 24
 Sterling Hts. Titan Invitational, 8 a.m.
 Hartland Invitational, 9 a.m.
BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING
Tuesday, Jan. 20
 Redford Union at Churchill, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 22
 John Glenn at Churchill, 6:30 p.m.
 Wayne at Franklin, 6:30 p.m.
 S. Lyon Unified at Stevenson, 6:30 p.m.
GIRLS GYMNASTICS
Tuesday, Jan. 20
 Livonia Red vs. Plymouth at Churchill H.S., 7 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 21
 Livonia Blue at Troy Athens, 7 p.m.
PREP BOWLING
Tuesday, Jan. 20
 (at Novi Bowl)
 John Glenn vs. Northville, 3:30 p.m.
 Wayne vs. South Lyon, 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 21
 Clarenceville vs. Country Day at Heartfield Lanes, 3:30 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 22
 (at South Lyon's 700 Bowl)
 John Glenn vs. South Lyon, 3:30 p.m.
 Wayne vs. S. Lyon East, 3:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 24
 Wayne County Tournament at Cherry Hill Lanes, 9:30 a.m.
 Oakland County Tournament, TBA.
GIRLS FIGURE SKATING
Monday, Jan. 19
 Ladywood at Team Competition at Farm. Hills Ice Arena, 4 p.m.
MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Wednesday, Jan. 21
 Concordia at Madonna, 7:30 p.m.
 Schoolcraft at Henry Ford CC, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 24
 Madonna at Davenport, 3 p.m.
 Alpena CC at Schoolcraft, 3 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Wednesday, Jan. 21
 Schoolcraft at Henry Ford CC, 5:30 p.m.
 Madonna at Concordia, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 24
 Davenport at Madonna, 1 p.m.
 Alpena CC at Schoolcraft, 1 p.m.
TBA - time to be announced.
ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
Monday, Jan. 19
 London at Plymouth (Compuware), 2 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 23
 Brampton at Plymouth (Compuware), 7 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 24
 Sudbury at Plymouth (Compuware), 7 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 25
 Plymouth at Windsor, 2 p.m.

Scoring machine

Stevenson tames Lions on Rochowiak's 4 goals

Cole Rochowiak pumped in four goals, including a natural hat trick, to go along with an assist to lead Livonia Stevenson to a 6-0 KLAACentral Division boys hockey win Wednesday night over visiting South Lyon at Edgar Arena.

Stevenson improved to 6-4-1 overall and 3-2-1 in the KLAACentral, the Lions fall to 6-3-1 and 2-2-1.

Rochowiak's linemates R.J. Kierdorf, who had four assists, and Justin Shureb, who added a goal and two assists, also enjoyed productive nights for the Spartans, who outshot the Lions 25-17.

Kyle Gabrielson also notched his first high school goal for Stevenson, which led 2-0 after one period and 3-0 after two periods.

Richie Dunphy went all the way in goal to notch his second shutout of the season for the Spartans.

SALEM 8, FRANKLIN 0: On Friday, Mario Macari's goal with 11:40 left

PREP HOCKEY

In the final period gave the host Rocks (6-6-3, 2-5-2) the KLAASouth Division mercy rule triumph over Livonia Franklin (0-10, 0-8) at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

Salem led 1-0 after one period and put it away with six second-period goals.

Ryan Quigley tallied a pair of goals in the win, while David Russell and Kurt Driscoll each contributed a goal and assist.

Patrick Patin and Nick Gennety also scored goals, while Josh Jarvela had two assists. Other assists went to Kyle Zinks, Sam Ott, Kyle Powell and Steve Haburne.

Junior goalie Andy Sensoli posted the shutout in goal for the Rocks.

Matt Slinder and Brandon Hawkins tended goal for the Patriots.

CANTON 6, FRANKLIN 3: A.J. Rosales and Ryan Lash each tallied a pair of goals Wednesday in a KLAAMatch-up as the Chiefs (10-1-1, 5-1-1) earned the South Division victory over host Livonia Franklin (0-9, 0-7) at Edgar Arena.

Trent Taylor and Nick Tomilenko also tallied goals for Canton, which

led 3-0 after one period before Franklin cut the deficit to 5-3 after two.

Jordan Chisholm had a pair of goals and assist for the Patriots. Tyler Barnes tallied the other goal, while Robbie Ringe and Connor Jelonek also drew assists.

LADYWOOD 2, NORTHVILLE 2: In a Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League matchup Wednesday, Livonia Ladywood (6-3-1, 4-3-1) and the Mustangs (5-2-1, 4-1-1) battled to a draw at the Novi Ice Arena.

It was 1-1 after one period as Ladywood's Shelby Kucharski notched her 26th of the season on assists from Emann Freij and Kaitlin Gaule, while Hannah Deacon countered for Northville from Emily Hayes and Becca Champagne.

After a scoreless second period, Champine, who tallied the game-winner in last Saturday's 1-0 win over Ladywood, gave the Mustangs a 2-1 advantage on assists from Katelyn Mack and Molly Eley.

But Ladywood's Lane Kolpacke made it 2-2 and that's how it finished.

Ladywood goaltender Jessica Pavela had 32 saves, while Northville's Genna Guibord had 22 stops.

Schoolcraft men top Delta to end 9-game skid

Ryan Matthews led the way with 20 points and 11 rebounds as the Schoolcraft College men's basketball team snapped a nine-game losing streak Wednesday with an 88-82 homecourt triumph over Delta Community College.

The Ocelots, who hadn't won since Nov. 22, improved to 5-13 overall and 2-5 in the Eastern Conference of the Michigan Community College Athletic Association. The loss drops Delta to 5-10 and 1-5.

Also getting into the act for Schoolcraft, which led 37-33 at halftime, was Livonia Churchill High grad Larry Wilson, who finished with 19 points including 4-of-5 from three-point range.

Bruce Watson added 16 points and 10 rebounds, while Greg Leavell (Farmington Hills

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Harrison) added 14 points and seven boards.

Martez Abney led the Ocelots in assists with six.

Schoolcraft was 18-of-26 from the foul line.

Saints stave off MU men

The Madonna University men's basketball team clawed its way all the way back 15-point second-half deficit, only to fall short Wednesday on the road at Siena Heights University, 68-65.

Siena Heights is 11-8 overall and 2-1 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference, while MU falls to 7-12 and 1-2.

Brian Champine paced the victorious Saints, who 37-24 at intermission, with 13 points and

12 rebounds.

The Crusaders went on a 16-0 second-half run to lead 50-47 on a three-pointer by Geoff Gaylor with 11:02 left.

Westland's Bryant Slaughter, who finished with a team-high 20 points, gave MU its last lead, 65-64, on a basket with 2:36 remaining.

Siena Heights got baskets by Courtney Smith and Curtis Stephens to regain the lead and Slaughter's three-point try for the equalizer in the final seconds missed the mark.

Wayne Memorial's Cedric Sims chipped in with 11 points and seven rebounds for the Crusaders, who take on WHAC leader Aquinas College (11-7, 3-0) beginning at 3 p.m. Saturday at the MU Activities Building.

Huron Valley overcomes Agape

Westland Huron Valley Lutheran captured its Michigan Independent Athletic Conference boys basketball opener Thursday night with a hard-fought 59-54 victory over host Canton Agape Christian in a game played at Garden City United Christian School.

Junior guard Bryan Gruenewald led the victorious Hawks, now 4-2 overall and 1-0 in the MIAC's Red Division,

BOYS BASKETBALL

with 19 points.

Senior forward Kyle Tacia chipped in with 17, while senior guard Aaron Howell added 10 as the Hawks overcame a 22-17 halftime deficit with a 24-15 third-quarter run.

Agape (2-5, 0-2) got a game-high 23 points from Donald Mullett, who was 9-of-17 from the foul line. Ethan Walker

added 12 points.

The Wolverines made a total of 18-of-32 total free throws, while Huron Valley hit 6-of-14.

CRANBROOK 56, LUTH. WESTLAND 45: On Friday, host Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook (3-6, 1-0) opened Metro Conference play with a win over Lutheran High Westland (5-2, 0-1).

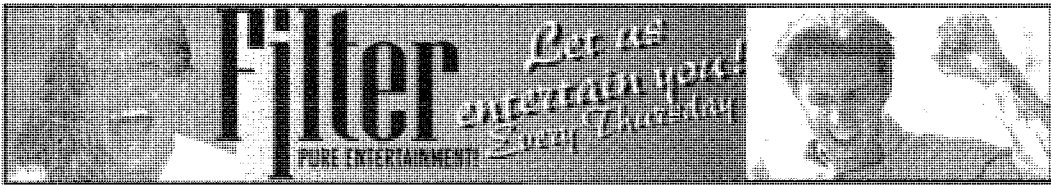
Eric Fishman led the Cranes with 25 points, six rebounds and six steals. J.T. Trewin chipped in with 13 points, six rebounds and four steals.

Eric Shoats scored 18 for the Warriors.

BOYS SWIM RESULTS

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 117 SALEM 69
Jan. 15 at Salem
200-yard medley relay: 1. Stevenson (Kellen Schoff, Joey Wingett, Michael Cruce, Chris Behler), 1:43.1; 2. Stevenson, 1:47.13; 3. Salem, 1:48.58.
200 freestyle: 1. Max Mills (Salem), 1:57.54; 2. Daniel Schoff (LS), 1:58.02; 3. Brandon Bielicki (LS), 2:00.82.
200 individual medley: 1. Adam Seroka (Salem), 2:00.84; 2. Charles Turlo (LS), 2:08.96; 3. Bielicki (LS), 2:15.28.
50 freestyle: 1. Behler (LS), 23.44; 2. Cruce (LS), 23.6; 3. Matthew Collingwood (Salem), 23.62.
1-meter diving: 1. Jeff Kinsvater (LS), 221.40 points; 2. Joseph Rudelic (Salem), 168.15; 3. Jack Beaudoin (LS), 150.60.
100 butterfly: 1. Behler (LS), 57.52; 2. Noah Santer (Salem), 57.56; 3. Jeremy Wellman (Salem), 1:00.78.
100 freestyle: 1. K. Schoff (LS), 50.18; 2. Collingwood (Salem), 50.75; 3. Aaron Mareck (LS), 51.68.
500 freestyle: 1. Santer (Salem), 5:03.57; 2. D. Schoff (LS), 5:03.73; 3. Mills (Salem), 5:09.09.

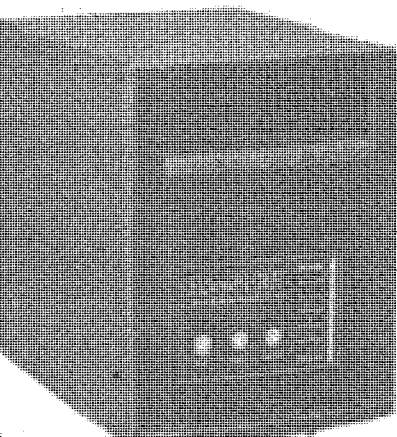
200 freestyle relay: 1. Stevenson (Behler, Marecki, Ryan Scott, Cruce), 1:32.3; 2. Stevenson, 1:38.44; 3. Stevenson, 1:42.18.
100 backstroke: 1. Seroka (Salem), 56.57; 2. K. Schoff (LS), 56.82; 3. Bielicki (LS), 1:00.91.
100 breaststroke: 1. Wingett (LS), 1:03.95; 2. Turlo (LS), 1:06.09; 3. Joe deTessanji (Salem), 1:11.27.
400 freestyle relay: 1. Stevenson (Cruce, Marecki, Turlo, K. Schoff), 3:25.14; 2. Salem, 3:28.85; 3. Stevenson, 3:35.78.
Dual meet records: Stevenson, 3-2 overall, 1-0 KLAACentral Division; Salem, 0-2 overall, 0-1 KLAACentral.



AS HEARD ON... Paul Harvey News

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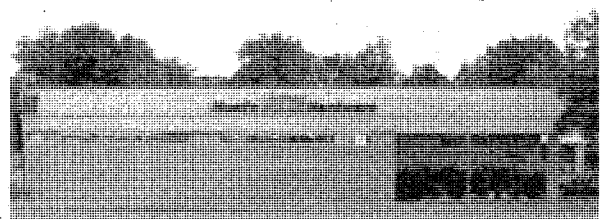
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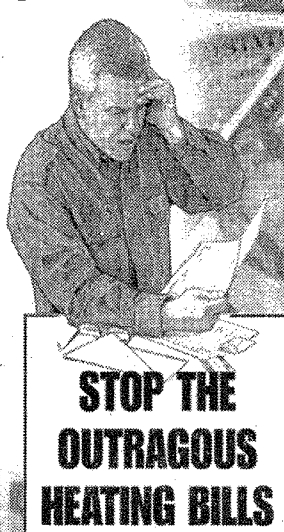
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INVITATION TO BID HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM EMERGENCY LIGHTING CHURCHILL HIGH SCHOOL, STEVENSON HIGH SCHOOL, FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Board of Education of Livonia Public Schools is accepting General Contractor firm bids for all labor, materials, equipment and all other services to complete the new Auditorium Emergency Lighting work at the above referenced schools located in the Livonia Public Schools.

Specifications and proposal forms can be obtained at Livonia Public Schools Maintenance Office, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, MI 48154 for a \$50.00 non-refundable bidder's fee (per set) in the form of a check made payable to Livonia Public Schools.

Your proposal marked "SEALED BID: LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS - HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM EMERGENCY LIGHTING" will be accepted NO LATER THAN 12:00 NOON, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2009 TO: LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES OFFICE, Attn: Rodney Hosman, 15125 FARMINGTON ROAD, LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48154. IF MAILING YOUR PROPOSAL VIA THE POST OFFICE, SEND TO: LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS, 15125 FARMINGTON ROAD, LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48154. Oral, telephone, fax or electronic mail bids are invalid and will not receive consideration.

All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 2:00 p.m., Thursday, February 5, 2009 in a designated room at Livonia Public Schools, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan 48154.

A Pre-Bid walk through is scheduled for Thursday, January 29, 2009, 9:00 A.M. starting at Stevenson High School. The Pre-Bid walk through is not mandatory.

All contracts to be entered into by the Livonia Public Schools must and will comply with the equal opportunity laws and prevailing wage rates of the State of Michigan.

All bids must be submitted on the forms provided in the bid packet.

All bidders must provide familial disclosure in compliance with MCL 380.1267 and attach this information to the bid proposal. The bid proposal will be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner or any employee of the bidder and any member of the Livonia Public School Board or the Livonia Public Schools Superintendent. The District will not accept a bid proposal that does not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement.

Proposals must include a Treasury listed bid bond or certified check made payable to Livonia Public Schools for not less than five percent (5%) of the contract for each proposal over \$20,102.00 and must be submitted on the bid proposal form furnished with the specifications. All proposals shall remain firm for a period of ninety (90) days.

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, either in whole or in part; to award contract to other than the low bidder; to waive any irregularities and/or informalities; and in general to make awards in any manner deemed to be in the best interests of the owner.

Ray Raymond
 Administrator of Operations
 Livonia Public Schools

SWIMMING

FROM PAGE B1

(1:57.54) and Noah Santer placed first in the 500 freestyle (5:03.57), each edging Stevenson's Daniel Schoff.

"They (Stevenson) were pretty nice to us tonight," Salem coach Chuck Olson said. "We're just looking forward and we'll keep getting better. We just have to figure out who can do what and where."

Salem was coming off its annual Rock-Kilgore Invitational on Saturday where the top-ranked teams in Division 1 (Pioneer) and Division 2 (Zeeland) finished one-two followed by Stevenson, Northville, Salem and Canton.

"We've got a lot of ninth- and 10th-graders - only three seniors," Olson said. "(Adam) Seroka, who is a sophomore, is doing well. And (Noah) Santer, who won the 500 freestyle, is only a ninth grader."

"(Matthew) Collingwood has qualified (for state) in the 500 free. We made him swim the 50 and 100 freestyles tonight - He hasn't qualified yet for the 200 freestyle and sprints aren't really his events, but we're working on his starts and coming off the walls."

Stevenson, meanwhile, is the favorite to win the KLAACentral Conference title this year, but the Spartans will face some stiff competition in their own (Central) division (the Central).

Before joining the KLAACentral for the 2008-09 season, Stevenson won last year's final Western Lakes Activities Association meet.

"Stevenson is still the clear-cut favorite," Olson said. "Then Northville is the next best. And South Lyon (Unified) just defeated Novi, and had a good meet."

C'ville athletic teams feed off each other on court, gridiron

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Very few things in life feel as good as being recognized for accomplishments.

For Livonia Clarenceville two-sport athletes Jeremy Gainer, Darryl Whitaker and Levonte Brooks, that kind of attention followed their football success in 2008. Now, they want nothing more to get another taste with the Trojans' varsity boys basketball team.

"The football players playing basketball, we just want to continue our legacy," said Gainer, a powerful presence with both teams. "Basically just leaving our name and our mark on the school."

"We want to show that we didn't only do it in football, we're going to continue doing it in basketball. And just continue where we left off last year and hopefully go further than that."

According to Whitaker, the quarterback for the Metro Conference runners-up, and then capturing the playoff opener brings adulation in the Clarenceville community.

"I'm very proud, everywhere I go people ask about the football team," Whitaker said. "... We get noticed from football."

Brooks said the buzz also is being felt at the high school itself, as students anticipate something special come basketball playoff time.

"Everyone expects a lot from our team, they expect us to be good," explained Brooks. "Especially coming off football and having a great season for basketball last year, they expect us to repeat what we did."

The beginning of the current cage campaign, unfortunately, isn't following the script. Clarenceville is saddled with a disappointing 1-5 record, albeit against some of the area's powerhouses.

That kind of schedule, emphasized head coach Corey McKendry, is to toughen up the team ahead of the state tournament. In 2007-08, the Trojans romped to the Metro title and finished 18-3 only to be bounced in the first postseason contest.

BUILD THE MOMENTUM

Having early struggles will soon be forgotten if the Trojans start building toward March Madness.

"Last year, we lost to (Detroit) Renaissance in the first-round of the districts," Gainer said. "We're going to look at it like that's where we left off, that's our starting point for this year."

"These games right now, they count, but it doesn't really count 'til we get as far as we were before."

Whitaker said the Trojans "may not go 18-3, but we're going to be ready as a team" because of the tough schedule.

"Last year, we played all the Metro teams first and we were just walking through it," he noted. "And, next thing we know we're in the playoffs and it's a different (tougher) game."

For the trio, along with a fourth football-basketball player in Benjamin Watts, going through the pressure-packed grinder of state football playoffs as Clarenceville did in November will help them deal with the bright lights they hope will follow them in a couple months.

"Playing in the games and playing at the faster level in the playoffs, led me to know sports wise and athletic wise how to play in big games," Whitaker continued. "So now in basketball, when it comes down to a big game, I'm going to be ready for it."

"I'm more mentally prepared, and I'm pretty much just doing the same thing I was doing in football — just stay at an even keel."

MIND GAMES

Brooks added that mental toughness "will help you in everything — sports, school. If you can do it in your mind you have the right mindset, then you can accomplish anything."

The transformation of Clarenceville athletics to an elite status, under the steady guidance of athletic director Kevin Murphy, remains a work in progress.

But McKendry and head varsity football coach Ryan Irish have prided themselves on instilling a winning philosophy with players of both high-profile sports in recent seasons.

"We're in a real fortunate situation to have hard-working kids willing to do whatever it takes to win," McKendry said.

Put Gainer at the top of that list.

Gainer's been a workhorse on the gridiron (linebacker, running back) and basketball court since ninth grade and is going to be rewarded with a chance to play college football.

In mid-December, he made a verbal commitment to become a Michigan State Spartan.

Gainer said the stability in the coaching ranks since he started at the high school cannot be discounted.

"Those two coaches (Irish and McKendry), they've been with me since I was a freshman and that's helped out a lot," Gainer said. "It's helped to know those are the same ones talking in your ear and coaching you up every day."

"... You build that relationship and you start to actually listen to them and trust what they're saying. If key players in both sports do that, other players start to look at that and say they're going to do it too."

SPINOFF

McKendry agrees with the players that success in one sport definitely can carry over to the other.

"In football, in the fourth quarter you've got to really get after it and be physically tough," he stressed. "And it carries over to the basketball court, with things like rebounding and boxing out."

"Things that are more about having the toughness and drive that I think football gives our kids."

No matter how the basketball season plays out, evidence is mounting that the excitement about Clarenceville athletics is moving toward what it was like during the Tim Shaw days.

"It's a fun time to be at Clarenceville," McKendry pointed out. "This group of seniors is just a great group, the kind of class that maybe doesn't around all the time."

"We're just excited to have them."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

PREP WRESTLING RESULTS

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 38 LIVONIA STEVENSON 32 Jan. 14 at Stevenson

103 pounds: Jacob Meadows (LC) pinned Ashl Alhaj, 1:57; 112: Omar Mostafa (LS) won by void; 119: Matt Hecksel (LC) p. Tarek Shebak, 1:14; 125: David Bernier (LS) won by technical fall over Josh Bridge, 16:1; 130: Josh Bannoura (LC) decisioned Cory Zanger, 5:4; 135: Mitch Gonzalez (LS) won by major dec. over Brett Appel, 22:10; 140: Brian Fortney (LC) won by major dec. over Charlie Kokenakes, 16:6; 145: Raz Markosian (LS) won by technical fall over Jared Buhagiar, 20:3; 152: Josh Gustitus (LC) p.

Jonny Myshock, 2:55; 160: Grant Morgan (LC) won by major dec. over Dan McCarthy, 9:1; 171: Curtis Castleberry (LC) won by major dec. over Jake Burns, 10:1; 189: Andrew Schramm (LS) p. Emmitt Sheppard, 1:06; 215: John Shekell (LC) p. Derek Wenderlich, 0:28; 285: Nathan Keeidle (LS) won by void.

Dual match records: Stevenson, 9-11 overall.
LIVONIA STEVENSON 33
WATERFORD KETTERING 30
Jan. 14 at Stevenson
103 pounds: Ash Alhaj (LS) pinned Scott Staubough, 6:39; 112: Omar Mostafa (LS) decisioned Jerrit Lee, 18:12; 119: Tarek Shebak

(LS) p. Kyle Jantz, 1:13; 125: Shawn Olsaberk (WK) p. David Bernier, 0:40; 130: Montel Watkins (WK) p. Cory Zanger, 1:38; 135: Mitch Gonzalez (LS) dec. Chad Poltrovski, 8:7; 140: David Soltisz (WK) dec. Charlie Kokenakes, 8:3; 145: Raz Markosian (LS) p. Dylan Arthur, 3:25; 152: Jonny Myshock (LS) dec. David Awichlo, 9:3; 160: Dominic Alessi (WK) dec. Dan McCarthy, 2:0; 171: Luke Reno (WK) dec. Jake Burns, 12:10; 189: Tyler Wale (WK) dec. Andrew Schramm, 10:5; 215: Joe Traeye (WK) won by void; 285: Nathan Keeidle (LS) p. Brandon Welch, 1:00.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Pistons youth clinic

For the 10th consecutive year, coach Steve Moreland and the Detroit Pistons' Youth Basketball Clinic returns to Ward Presbyterian Church in Northville on Saturday, Jan. 31.

The first session is for boys and girls grades 1-3 from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. followed by the second session for boys and girls in grades 4-6 from noon to 2:30 p.m.

The cost is \$20 per child. Each participant will receive an authentic Piston Basketball T-Shirt. Parents will be able to purchase Piston tickets to a game at a special discount and have their entire family attend the pre-game shoot around right at courtside.

For pre-registration and Church location, call Margy Burkhart at (248) 374-5932.

Franklin baseball camp

Livonia Franklin varsity baseball coach Matt Fournier and his staff will stage its third annual Future Stars Spring Baseball Camp for boys and girls in grades 3-6 on Saturday, March 7, at the high school fieldhouse.

Session I will be from 9-11:30 a.m. for hitting and base hitting skills; lunch followed from 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. (bring a sack lunch); and Session II featuring pitching and defense from 12:15-2:45 p.m.

Camper are urged to bring a glove, bat and athletic shoes.

The cost is \$25 per session or \$45 for both (includes T-Shirt). Checks should be made payable to Franklin High School. Send to: Matt Fournier, Franklin Baseball Camp, 31000 Joy Road, Livonia, Mi. 48150.

For more info, call Fournier at (734) 968-0499; or e-mail mfournie@livonia.k12.mi.us.

Youth baseball signup

Open mail-in registration - residents only - for the City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation 2009 co-ed instructional T-ball (ages 5-6) and coach-pitch (ages 7-8) baseball will be Monday, Jan. 19 through Friday, Jan. 23.

Walk-in and fax-in registration also starts Jan. 19 (through Feb. 6 or until enrollment limit is reached). Registration forms will be sent

to schools or can be picked up at the Livonia Community Recreation Center, located at 15100 Hubbard (at Five Mile Road).

Late registration will be from 9-10:30 a.m. (residents) and 10:30 a.m.-noon (non-residents) on Saturday, April 4 at the LCRS. Openings will be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis until April 21 or until teams are filled.

The season will be during the months of June and July with T-ball scrimmages played Monday evenings and coach-pitch on Thursday evenings.

The cost is \$40 per child for residents during open registration; \$50 per child for residents during late registration; and \$60 per child for non-resident late registration.

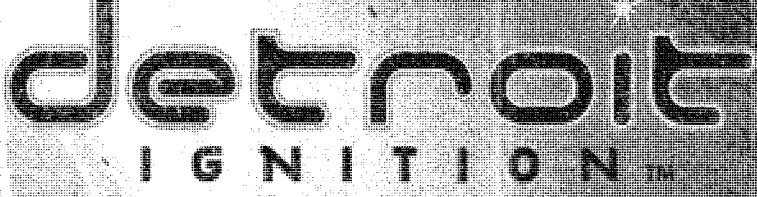
For more information, call (734) 466-2410 (use option No. 2).

BOYS BOWLING RESULTS

WAYNE MEMORIAL 19, NOVI 11
Jan. 14 at Novi Bowl
Wayne individual scorers: Elliott Arnold, 228-257-485; Mark Shiemke, 216-246-462; Josh Vojtkofsky, 236-183-419; Jesse English, 190-192-382; Ryan Gabriel-Kellen Collison, 157-215-372. Team totals: Wayne 1,027-10,932-2,120 (19 points); Novi, 970-899-1,869 (1 point).
Baker games: Novi, 211-209-420 (10 points);

Wayne, 193-178-371 (0 points).
Wayne's dual match record: 7-1-1 overall, 2-0 KLA Central Division.
WAYNE MEMORIAL 15
LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE 15
Jan. 13 at Country Lanes
Wayne individual scorers: Elliott Arnold, 226-259-485; Mark Shiemke, 216-221-437; Kellen Collison, 245-141-386; T.J. Lave, 192-157-349; Ryan Gabriel, 190-163-353. Team

totals: 1,069-941-2,010 (9 points).
Clarenceville individual scorers: Jason Bertera, 213-256-469; Chivas Dooley, 214-233-447; Chris Diaz, 188-243-431; Garett Hintzman, 213-214-427; Cody Kissandi-Phillip Heidler, 168-193-361. Team totals: 996-1,139-2,135 (11 points).
Baker games: Wayne, 234-190-424 (6 points); Clarenceville, 224-193-417 (4 points).



Detroit Ignition

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Help Wanted-General 5000
**Associate Director
of Programs and
Services at the
Autism
Collaborative
Center**

The Autism Collaborative Center at Eastern Michigan University is a new, interdisciplinary, community collaboration whose mission is to serve families with autism throughout Lower Michigan. The Center is a training site for students in eight EMU professional disciplines, the majority of which are students at the Masters or Doctoral level. The Center serves families with autism through unique programs and services that are accessible to all. The Center is a major research site into research into evidence based intervention practices in the treatment and care of individuals with autism and their families.

This part time position* is responsible for the organization, coordination, and supervision of all programs, services, and personnel on a daily basis, including joint agency programs/services. This person will also organize and supervise the volunteer program. Other responsibilities include assisting the executive director with program and personnel evaluation as well as supervision of the administrative assistant in the absence of the executive director. *This position is expected to grow to full time as the programs/services expand.

Qualifications: Master's degree or significant equivalent experience in the development and supervision of programs for children with disabilities required; specific experience working with families with autism is required.

Please submit cover letter and resume to:
Posting #APAA0910
Eastern Michigan University, 202 Boone Hall, Ypsilanti, MI 48197.

Review of applications will begin on 2-6-09 and continue until the position is filled. Inquiries about the Autism Collaborative Center can be directed to Dr. Pamela Lemerand, Project Director of the Autism Collaborative Center at pamela.lemerand@emich.edu

Eastern Michigan University
EOE

AUTO SERVICE ADVISOR
Mercedes Benz of Novi has an excellent opportunity waiting for you. Must have dealership experience and Reynolds a plus. Individual must have good people skills.
Fax resume to Tony Slipcak (248) 426-8686
Email: tony@novibenz.com

Automotive
Gordon Chevrolet has an immediate opening for:
Service Advisor
Email: rtornsberry@gordonchevrolet.com or apply in person at: 31850 Ford Road, Garden City, MI

Automotive
ENGINE TECHNICIAN
Great pay & benefits. Must be ASE certified. GM exp. a plus. Apply at: **Tennysen Chevrolet**
32570 Plymouth Rd.
Livonia (734) 425-8500
Email resume: bjarnett@tennysenchvrolet.com

Help Wanted-General 5000
BOWLING CENTER now hiring afternoon Shift Manager. Full or Part-Time. Please apply in person: Ford Lanes, 23100 Van Born, Dearborn Heights.

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Farmington Hills
248-855-1177

Help Wanted-General 5000
Customer Service Rep
Insurance exp. for personal lines position at insurance agency in Plymouth.
Call Deb at 734-451-2286

Help Wanted-General 5000
**DIETARY AIDE
PART-TIME**
Exp. preferred, American House: 248-471-9141

Help Wanted-General 5000
DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT
Assist persons we serve in residential settings. Feel good about your work. \$7.65 total plus good benefits.
Livonia: 734-469-4523
734-469-4519, 248-474-0283

Help Wanted-General 5000
DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT
Join the team. Assist persons we serve in a residential setting. \$8.50 plus good benefits.
S. Lyon area: 248-573-5023
Ann Arbor: 734-239-9015

Help Wanted-General 5000
DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT
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248-946-4425

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Help Wanted-General 5000
**Director of the
Autism
Collaborative
Center at Eastern
Michigan
University**

The Autism Collaborative Center is a new, interdisciplinary, community collaboration whose mission is to serve families with autism throughout Lower Michigan. The Center is a training site for students in eight EMU professional disciplines, the majority of which are students at the Masters or Doctoral level. The Center serves families with autism through unique programs and services that are accessible to all. The Center is a major research site into research into evidence based intervention practices in the treatment and care of individuals with autism and their families.

This full time position will be responsible for all administrative functions and supervision, program and policy development, evaluation, community relations, negotiations with collaborative agencies, advisory board development, fundraising and donor relationships. This person will work closely with the EMU Project Director on coordination of the Center within the larger EMU context.

Qualifications: Master's degree required and experience in one or more of the following: non-profit leadership, health administration, educational leadership, entrepreneurship, clinic administration.

Please submit cover letter and resume to:
Posting #APAA0911
Eastern Michigan University, 202 Boone Hall, Ypsilanti, MI 48197.

Review of applications will begin on 2-6-09 and continue until the position is filled. Inquiries about the Autism Collaborative Center can be directed to Dr. Pamela Lemerand, Project Director of the Autism Collaborative Center at pamela.lemerand@emich.edu

Eastern Michigan University
EOE

Help Wanted-General 5000
DRIVER - TOW TRUCK
Heavy Duty, CDL
Full-Time, Weekdays.
(734) 713-0527

Help Wanted-General 5000
DRIVER
Accepting Applications
Entry level student
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Classes forming now!
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DRIVER- Local Delivery
For commercial door distributor. Applicant must have a valid drivers license. Chauffers license a plus but not required.
Fax resume to
734-422-9488

Help Wanted-General 5000
DRIVERS- TOW TRUCK
Full-Time, Experience,
afternoon shift. Contact Walter
or Karen: 734-455-1130

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Help Wanted-General 5000
Engineer

Design Engineer
Auburn Hills, MI. Engineer & develop, using CATIA, vehicle light wt steel front seat adjuster (manual & power) & rear seat structural systems to meet automobile rearward/frontal impact performance & energy management requirements. Eval & select grades of steel/new materials such as carbon reinforced plastics for seating system components. Ensure product design intent. FMVSS 207/210 crash-test & Euro-NCAP compliance. Bach. Mech. Engrg. 6 mos exp in job or in Alternate Occupation of Engr. 6 mos Alt Occ exp must incl selection of light weight steel, carbon-reinforced plastics & other materials for components, of front seat adjuster systems & rear seat structures to meet automobile rearward/frontal impact performance & energy mgmt rqrmts, which may be concurrent w/related occupation exp. Email resume: personnel.detroit@brose.com Ref# 2659

Help Wanted-General 5000
HAIR STYLIST
Rent a chair for \$175/wk. Canton. (313) 550-4927

Help Wanted-General 5000
Housekeeping/Janitorial
Dining Services Management Company has immediate openings for PART-TIME janitorial cleaners at a Detroit College. Floor care experience a plus. Friendly, energetic, customer service oriented individuals need only to apply. Must be able to work evenings & weekends.
Please call
Sherry or Dana at:
(313) 927-1871 Ext. 1871

Help Wanted-General 5000
Human Resource & Payroll
Position available in our long term care facility in Farmington. Must have experience with Kronos for Payroll. Responsible for inputting Benefits and Workman's comp. Keep a tickler on Evaluations and Leave of Absence and maintain Osha report and employee files. Must be able to multi task as well as work with management and corporate personnel.
Fax resume to:
(248) 477-2883
or Email to:
Lmichalak@Ssqc.com
EOE

Help Wanted-General 5000
JANITOR
Part time for retirement community in Westland.
Fax resume to 734-729-9840
Equal Opportunity Employer

Landscape Co. needs:
Qualified Employees. Cribboli Nursery, Inc., 50145 Ford Rd, Canton. Fax: 734-495-1131

Help Wanted-General 5000
LEASING CONSULTANT
For Suburban apt. complex. Candidate should be outgoing & results driven. Previous leasing & marketing exp. a must. Weekend hrs. required.
Fax resumes to:
248-471-0003 - EOE

Looking for good people. Front order desk/accounts receivable & small engine mechanic that can do shipping and receiving Must be able to pass background check and have valid drivers license. Email resume to Pam@gisinterlink.com

Help Wanted-General 5000
Maintenance
Full time position available for Northville and Canton commercial sites. Duties include general maintenance skills. Competitive wage including benefits. Fax resume to (248) 855-0915

Help Wanted-General 5000
MANAGER for large Suburban apt. complex. Candidate should be creative & ambitious w/marketing. Must be results-driven. Prior exp. managing daily operations of conventional property a must.
Please fax resume:
248-471-0003 - E.O.E.

Help Wanted-General 5000
MARKETING ASSISTANT

We're an established senior living company since 1945 looking to expand our sales team in our Westland and Redford locations. We need two individuals, part time, who are enthusiastic with high energy. The qualified applicants will enjoy sales, excel in building relationships and will be comfortable giving presentations to small groups. Experience in sales with excellent customer service skills is required. Benefits available.

For consideration please send your resume to: jeaseel@vnm.org; or 32001 Cherry Hill Road Westland, MI 48186
No phone calls please

Help Wanted-General 5000
OPTICIAN
Full-Time, Exp'd. Optician position in our new Wayne office. Excellent benefits & compensation package.
Fax resume to SVS Vision
586-464-1452

Help Wanted-General 5000
**Personal Trainer/
Fitness Consultant**
Detroit Athletic Club seeking qualified personal trainer to work with members in state-of-the-art facility. Must have: nationally accredited certifications; CPR, degree in health-related field. Full-time, afternoons/early evenings. Benefits, secure on-site parking, meals. Submit resume via fax: (313) 963-5995 or email: humanresources@theadac.com

Help Wanted-General 5000
PLUMBING INSPECTOR
City of Troy EOE
Req. HS grad. Must be current MI-registered Plumbing Inspector or have 2yrs journey-level plumbing exp.
\$47,489 to \$59,362
Applications accepted until 1/30/09
Applications available at:
Human Resources
500 W. Big Beaver Rd. Troy or
www.troy.mi.gov

Help Wanted-General 5000
Printing
Growing Livonia bindery has a full time entry level position for a helper to get on the job training on multiple machines. 1st and 2nd shift available. Benefits offered. Motivated individuals call for interview. Mon-Fri 9-4
734-425-7500

Help Wanted-General 5000
PRODUCTION TECHNICIANS
Premiere bottled water manufacturer has openings for Production Techs at our facility located in Plymouth.

Help Wanted-General 5000
Qualified candidates will have a related associate degree and/or at least 2 yrs. of hands on exp. operating, maintaining and adjusting manufacturing equipment to maximize production output while maintaining quality and safety. This is a 24/7 operation with various shifts/schedules. We offer a competitive benefits package including Medical Insurance with Health Savings Accounts, Dental, Life Insurance, 401k with company match and more!

Help Wanted-General 5000
Requirements for position:
• Associates/Technical Degree, equivalent educational/military exp. or 2 yrs. in high speed filling & packaging environment
• Basic Mechanical & Electrical skills required
• Basic Computer Literacy
• Maximize production output
• Assure high quality standards & follow GMP's
• Ability to lift 50 pounds repetitively

Interested candidates please email resume to: hr25@coconfidential.com
E.O.E.

Help Wanted-General 5000
WAREHOUSE CLERK

Fast paced medical supply company in Plymouth needs a highly organized, detail oriented person with good people skills and computer experience for our distribution team. In this position you will need to coordinate requests and prepare inventory for surgical procedures. This is full time with benefits. Send resume and compensation requirements to applicant@osteokinetics.com

Help Wanted-General 5000
WAREHOUSE PERSON
Commercial door distributor looking for a qualified warehouse person. Applicant must have a valid drivers license and the ability to lift 50+ lbs.
Fax resume to
734-422-9488

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Part-Time Position. Ideal candidate will have a minimum of 5 yrs. exp. Candidate must be able to perform in a fast paced, flexible environment. Proficiency in Word, Excel and database programs are job necessities. If you are organized with excellent oral and written communication skills, can work with minimal supervision and comfortable with all levels of management, either fax: 248-879-2430 or email resume: submissions@haymanco.com

Help Wanted-General 5000
**ADMINISTRATOR/
SUPERVISOR**
PT, Evenings. Call for appt. 248-559-0200

Help Wanted-General 5000
**ASSISTANT TO
OFFICE MANAGER**
Part to Full-Time for reconstruction co. Must have computer/people skills. Potential for advancement.
Fax resume: 248-477-1777

Help Wanted-General 5000
BOOKKEEPER, PT for general contractor near Long Lk/Woodward for AP/ & other duties. Flexible schedule. 24-28 hrs/wk (at least 4 days) during normal working hrs of 8-5. Preference to individual with Construction background & Timberline exp. Must have exp with Microsoft Excel & Word. Email resume: johnston@synerggygroup.biz

Help Wanted-General 5000
BOOKKEEPER/OFFICE MANAGER, Full-Time
Must be familiar with Quick-Books & payroll. Plymouth.
Fax resume: (734) 453-9978

Help Wanted-General 5000
LEGAL SECRETARY
Westland law firm. Must have divorce exp. Email resume: divorceattorney1@gmail.com

Help Wanted-General 5000
RECEPTIONIST
Part-Time
\$8/hr. Email resume to: patd@jmsassoc.com or fax: 248-489-4127

Help Wanted-General 5000
RECEPTIONIST, Part-Time fast paced, outstanding customer service, professional phone presence. 734-713-0529

Help Wanted-General 5000
RECEPTIONIST- PT
Livonia
Real Estate Company
Evenings & Weekends
\$3.00/hr
The responsibilities include answering calls, setting appointments on multi-line phone, welcoming guests, providing clerical support. Computer proficiency and strong organizational/communication skills required.
Email resume to: livonia@realestateone.com Or fax 734-953-7343

Help Wanted-General 5000
Sales Greeter
Career minded individual needed for part-time 12 hrs/wk to assist in the office of an attractive Condominium Development in Southfield.
Fax resume: 248-358-3779

Help Wanted-Dental 5040
DENTAL ASSISTANT
Part-Time, Skilled, Dependable, Personable.
Canton: 734-961-2880

Help Wanted-Dental 5040
DENTAL ASSISTANT
Exp'd. Westland office. Part-Time or Full-Time.
Fax resume: 734-425-7675

Help Wanted-Dental 5040
DENTAL ASSISTANT
Experienced, motivated individual to handle all phases of general dentistry.
Call Ann: (248) 543-7070

Help Wanted-Dental 5040
DENTAL ASSISTANT
For Westland office. Full-Time, dental exp. req. Please Fax. Attn: Loretta (734) 722-5192

Help Wanted-Dental 5040
DENTAL HYGIENIST
Beverly Hills Office. Strong Perio skills for Thurs.
Fax: 248-642-4678

Help Wanted-Dental 5040
DENTAL PRACTICE ADMINISTRATOR
Full-Time. Needed for premier office in Ann Arbor. Minimum 5 yrs. exp., salary based on exp. & education. Excellent benefit package. Please send resume to: mhaldes@aol.com or Employment Application: 24 Frank Lloyd Wright Dr. PO Box 326 Ann Arbor MI 48106.

Help Wanted-Dental 5040
ORTHODONTIC CHAIRSIDE ASSISTANT
For our high-quality, fun, orthodontic practice. 3 or 4 days/wk. Experience preferred.
Call: 734-981-2444

Help Wanted-Medical 5060
Attn: HHA's

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Health Partners
is seeking experienced caregivers for nice private duty home care cases. Great pay/benefits.
Call Maria at: 800-969-7723

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ATTN: NURSES

Help Wanted-Medical 5060
Premier Health Care Management is seeking a FT Nurse (preferably RN) to add to our Beaumont Hospital liaison program assisting with the admission process from hospital to nursing home. Individuals must have excellent assessment, communication and computer skills. Nursing home experience is preferred.

Help Wanted-Medical 5060
Interested candidates please fax your resume to Lisa Gantz at (248) 645-1902 or Email to Premier.Jobs@yahoo.com

Help Wanted-Medical 5060
CHIROPRACTIC ASSISTANT
PT position. Mon., Wed., Fri. 2:45-7:30pm; Sat. 8:45-1:30 pm. Must be highly motivated, well organized and possess ability to multi task. Willing to train the right person.
27527 Joy Rd., 1/2 blk. W. of Inkster Rd. 734-522-5501

Help Wanted-Medical 5060
MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Needed for patient friendly office. Experienced, dependable, motivated, flexible hours.
Fax resume to: 248-203-0441

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Part-time for internal medicine office. Exp. preferred. Paid vacation. Resume: 990 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Suite 104, Plymouth, MI 48170.

Medical Biller
2+ yrs. exp. Must be proficient in physician billing, CPT & ICD-9 coding, dependable. Full-Time/Benefits.
Email: gpressley@pbss.net

Help Wanted-Medical 5060
MEDICAL BILLER

Experienced needed for a growing billing company. Fax resume to: (248) 331-1701

Help Wanted-Medical 5060
MEDICAL BILLERS
Full-time positions. Minimum 1 yr. exp. Troy location.
(248) 641-1440 x112

Help Wanted-Medical 5060
NURSE/MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Part-Time for OB/GYN practice in Livonia/Westland area. OB/GYN experience only.
Email resume to: adm01308@aol.com

Help Wanted-Medical 5060
PHARMACY TECHNICIAN
FT-PT. Must have retail pharmacy exp. Certified preferred. High volume, great support staff. Great pay, plus many benefits. Immediate openings.
Warren Prescriptions
32910 Middlebelt Rd.
Farmington Hills
248-855-1177

Help Wanted-Medical 5060
PHLEBOTOMY EDUCATION
Saturday accelerated classes beginning in February, 10-4pm. Garden City; \$925, Incl. book. (313) 382-3857

Help Wanted-Medical 5060
SITE MANAGERS FULL-TIME
Experienced Site Managers for a busy, personal care company in Livonia. Good communications skills, management experience a must, as well as, strong background of working with senior citizens. Please fax resume to: 586-751-2917

Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080

Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080
HOTESS & CARRY-OUT ORDER TAKER
Positions available for mature, dependable person. Apply in person, no calls: Comparis, 350 S. Main St., Plymouth.

Help Wanted-Sales 5120
WAITSTAFF
FT & PT, DAY & NIGHT
Apply at: Starting Gate
135 N. Center St., Northville

Help Wanted-Sales 5120
SALES - Lawn Care
Training provided. Some sales exp. needed. Hourly plus commission. FT & PT.
Contact Ryan at 248-541-5296 or email: employment@turf-tenders.com

Help Wanted-Sales 5120
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Hugh Gallagher, editor (313) 222-8730 hgallagher@hometownlife.com

Gaming for good

Program makes therapy play for children with autism

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O & E STAFF WRITER

Matthew Cripps lifts his arm nearly in sync with the box on the screen. Only a few months ago the 12-year-old Livonia boy had trouble raising his hands to the top of his head, then occupational therapist Teresa Garland introduced Core:Tx into their twice-weekly sessions. The tool made work play for Matthew, who has a high-functioning form of autism.

Core:Tx, a software and hardware system, trains the brain by visually tracking movement through a sensor on the wrist. After two months of using the game-like program the sixth grade student was able to wash his hair independently, a task his mother never thought possible.

"I've seen improvements in dressing himself," said Shawne Cripps. "He has problems with buttons and zippers. He's doing better synchronizing arms and legs in swimming. He's more socially aware, wanting to get involved with kids. He's starting to initiate conversations. He usually hangs around in the background."

Shawne Cripps first knew something was wrong with Matthew's development at 18 months when he didn't speak.

Diagnosed with autism at age 2 1/2, Matthew is no stranger to occupational and speech therapy. He started working with Garland last May to resolve a number of issues including running into objects and people. As with many autistic children he was unaware of his personal space until visiting Garland at Brain



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Teresa Garland works with Matthew Cripps to improve motor planning and sequencing processes through the Interactive Metronome program at Building Bridges in Plymouth. Motor planning and sequencing are critical to functions ranging from walking to organizing sentences.

Tune-ups, her Ann Arbor business, and Building Bridges in Plymouth. Since that time he has gained two years of age functionality in his arms.

"Children with autism don't always know where the arms and legs are in space. Core tracks his arms for him," said Garland of Plymouth. "Matthew also has a wide gait. We're now trying to retrain his hip muscles so they do their job correctly."

Garland originally challenged Matthew with exercises provided by Interactive Metronome, another computer-based game. On Tuesday she demonstrated the program at Building Bridges, a therapy

center for children with developmental disabilities. The green circles on the screen indicate Matthew's ability to match the beat to the sound he hears through headphones. Metronome uses a hand trigger to improve motor planning and sequencing processes. Motor planning and sequencing are critical to functions ranging from walking to organizing sentences.

"Metronome helps regulate time in the primitive part of the brain that feeds everything from movement to thinking to senses," said Garland. "Timing in the brain is a very critical component in our ability to do everything. Metronome gets the

brain in tune and the body working. With 11- and 12-year-old kids with autism Metronome wakes them up enough to get them involved in their studies and other treatments. It's the age when kids start to become social. It helps them developmentally. They're learning to become aware of themselves. Boys in fifth grade are noticing girls, starting to worry about clothes. Kids with autism don't pay attention to that. With Metronome they suddenly care about a lot of stuff."

Matthew finds it difficult to stand or sit still once he steps away from the game-like program. Just like any pre-teen, he likes to be involved whether



Occupational therapist Teresa Garland guides client Matthew Cripps through the therapeutic exercises of Core:Tx. The tool made it possible for the young boy to wash his hair independently.

playing sports or video games, eating fast food or watching an action movie. Before long he's asking to go to the gym where jumping on a trampoline decreases anxiety and builds balance.

"He's doing a lot more things," said Cripps. "He's been in a swim program and has been able to participate and succeed."

lchomin@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2241

Checkups help keep kids well

Keeping a child well is as important as receiving treatment when he or she is sick. Preventive care is quite different than "sick child care". Preventive care allows the health care provider to review the child's growth and development, give shots, provide tests and exams, and answer a parent's questions.

Oakland County Health Division's Child Health Clinics offer free well-care services for children birth through school entry. Children must be enrolled in the program by two years of age. Skilled public health nurses provide a variety of services ranging from immunizations to physical examinations, growth and developmental testing, information on health and safety issues, lab testing, and guidance and referrals on behavioral, learning and health problems.

Oakland County Health Division Clinics are offered at sites in Lake Orion, Pontiac, Southfield, and Walled Lake. Families without well-care coverage through their health insurance provider are eligible for this service.

For information on enrollment, call (248) 858-1311 (North Oakland County), (248) 424-7066 (Southern Oakland County), (248) 926-3341 (Western Oakland County), or (888) 350-0900, ext. 84003. (Holly residents).

JANUARY

Stress clinic

With Dr. Arthur Weaver 7:30-9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 22, Tuesday, Jan. 27, and Thursday, Jan. 29, at the Livonia Civic Center Auditorium, 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington Rd. No charge but donations accepted. Questions, call the Livonia Department of Community Resources at (734) 466-2540.

Breast feeding classes

Began Jan. 15 and continue 10:30 a.m. to noon Thursdays to Feb. 5, at the Oakland County Health Division, 27725 Greenfield, Southfield. Public health nurses cover topics ranging from pumping to starting solids and weaning. Mothers are encouraged to bring their babies to sessions. Information is targeted to mothers involved in the first year of breastfeeding. For details or to register, call (248) 858-4003 or toll free (888) 350-0900, ext. 84003. For information on other classes and services, visit www.oakgov.com/health.

Healthy eating workshop

Start the New Year Healthy: What Are You Eating? is the topic for a workshop 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28, with guest speaker Dr. William H. Karl, D.C. The workshop is for everyone who needs help making healthy choices when buying food at the grocery store, deciding what to eat at a restaurant or cooking family meals. Karl will talk about organic vs. non-organic, GMO foods and the role of supplements in diet. To register, call (734) 425-8588.

Overeaters Anonymous

Meet 7 p.m. Thursdays in the Courtyard Room at Unity of Livonia Church, 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads, Livonia; and 7 p.m. Sundays at the Marion Professional Building at St. Mary's Hospital, 14555 Levan at Five Mile, Livonia, in Classroom 1. Call Wendy first at (313) 387-9797. Anyone who wants to stop eating compulsively is welcome. For more Greater Detroit Overeaters Anonymous Information visit www.oa.org or call (248) 559-7722.

UPCOMING

Winter fitness classes

Exercise classes for men and women begin Monday, Feb. 2, and continue through April for 22 sessions at the Metropolitan Adventist Jr. Academy Gym, 15585 Haggerty, north of Five Mile. Jeanie Weaver is a certified personal fitness trainer with 30 years of teaching/training experience. The session infuses Pilates, functional strength training, balance work, flexibility, and motivational techniques in a 90-day fitness plan. Call (248) 446-9176 or (313) 300-0957 to register. For information, e-mail to jeanieweaver@charter.net.

CHADD meeting

Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit

Disorder meet on Monday, Feb. 2, at Way Elementary, 765 W. Long Lake Road, east of Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills. Sign in begins at 7 p.m. and the meeting at 7:30 p.m. The Parent group will have Neuropsychologists Isabelle Beaulieu Ph.D. and Roger Lauer Ph.D. speaking on AD/HD, Sleep Problems, and Executive Functioning: What are the Links? The adult group will hear psychiatrist Dr. Phil Parker speaking on Medication Treatment for AD/HD: Bringing us back to the Future. Meetings are free to members and their families. Non-member families can donate up to \$5 to attend and receive literature. Call (248) 988-6716. The website is www.chadd.net/527.

Medical certificate programs

Registration deadline is 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6, for Madonna University's Office of Continuing Education and Professional Studies' 13-week or less medical certificate programs. The winter schedule runs 6-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, Feb. 17-April 16, for EKG Technician; Mondays and Wednesdays, Feb. 16-April 13 for Pharmacy Technician; and Feb. 16-May 20 for Medical Billing and Coding. All courses prepare students to take national board exams and apply for entry-level positions. As part of the classes, students are able to attend free workshops at Madonna University for resumé writing and job interviewing tips. Classes offered at the main campus at the intersection of Schoolcraft and Levan Roads, off I-96 in Livonia. Visit www.madonna.edu or call (734) 432-5804.

Understanding diabetes

St. Mary Mercy Hospital hosts a Diabetes Support Group presentation 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 11, in the hospital's Auditorium, 36475 Five Mile at Levan, Livonia. Use the Main Entrance on Five Mile. Registered dietician Judy Swancutt presents Diabetes and Vitamins, Minerals and Herbs: What's Right for You. All are welcome. A new topic is presented on the second Wednesday of each month for adults with diabetes and family members. There is no charge, pre-registration not required. For information, call (734) 655-8961.

'Go Red' luncheon

The American Heart Association event features a fashion show, keynote speaker Dr. Annabelle Volgman, and a silent auction including celebrity purses donated by the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25, at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center, 100 Renaissance Center, Detroit. Tickets \$250, available by calling Tasheena Young at (248) 936-5806. Proceeds benefit education and research for women and heart disease.

Thyroid cancer support

The group is free and open to all thyroid cancer patients and survivors as well as their family

members and friends. The next meeting is 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 27, at 1641 Charlevoix Drive, Troy. For more information, call Gwynne at (248) 740-9759.

Reconnect with food

Registration is now being taken for a Candlelight Yoga and Discussion Program 7:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, at the Center for Yoga, Birmingham. The program is for individuals interested in exploring their relationship with food, body image and emotions. Cost is \$29, one week prior to program. Pre-registration required. For information, log onto www.reconnectwithfood.com or call (248) 390-4150.

Butterfly Ball

The American Lung Association of Michigan has rescheduled its black tie fund-raiser to 6-11 p.m. Saturday, May 9, at the Ritz-Carlton in Dearborn. Proceeds go to lung health research, education and advocacy. Tickets \$250 per person. The Butterfly Ball will include a cocktail reception, dinner, dancing, and a live auction featuring trips, dinners and a variety of experiences. Sponsorships available. Call Jessica Jimenez, Development specialist, (248) 784-2018 or jjimenez@alam.org.

ONGOING

Breast cancer support group

Meets 6:30-8 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month in the Atrium of Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile (use south entrance off Levan Road), Livonia. Call (734) 655-1100 for more information, or visit www.stmarymercy.org.

Caregiver's support group

St. John's Support Group for the Caregiver's of Alzheimer's patients or patients with other forms of dementia meet the first and third Friday of each month at 10 a.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 South Sheldon, Plymouth. Respite care for your loved one will be provided. Call Connie McNutt at (734) 895-1426 for more information. This group is authorized by the Alzheimer's Association.

Wayne metro caregiver support

Are you a caregiver of an aging parent, spouse or relative? Wayne Metro's Caregiver Support Groups offer assistance to those struggling to find or give quality care to their loved ones. Meetings are held 10 a.m.-noon the third Tuesday of the month at the Kay Beard Building on Michigan Avenue in Westland. Meetings are also held 10 a.m.-noon on the second Thursday of the month; and 6-8 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month at the Village of Redford on Six Mile in Redford. Adult care may also be available. For information or if attending for the first time, call Nancy Coman at (313) 843-2550, Ext. 233.

Physical performance classes

One hour sessions incorporate jump-rope

training, core work and functional strength training using dumbbells and body weight for resistance 5:30 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays. Exercise Therapy classes that stress functional fitness, core, balance, strength and flexibility 8:45 a.m. Mondays and Thursdays. All classes at Metropolitan Adventist Jr. Academy Gym, 15585 Haggerty, north of Five Mile. Drop-in sessions \$6 each; 10 sessions \$48. Classes are led by Jeanie Weaver, a certified personal fitness trainer with 30 years experience, to spare joints and improve back mobility and strength. Call (248) 446-9176 or (313) 300-0957 or e-mail jeanieweaver@charter.net.

Parkinson Support

Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group meets 7-9 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August, at Farmington Hills Baptist Church, 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile. Enter at rear of church. For more information, call (248) 433-1011.

Flu shots

Wayne County Department of Public Health offers flu shots for residents at its clinic in Wayne 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Monday and Thursday (walk-ins), Tuesday-Wednesday and Friday (by appointment only), at 33030 Van Born at Venoy. The cost is \$15-\$35 each for flu and pneumonia vaccines. Medicare (Part B) and Medicaid are accepted. Vaccines are offered for adults and children. Call (734) 727-7000 or visit www.waynecounty.com/hhsvcs/public/pamphlet.htm.

Flu shots

Flu shots for adults and children 6 months and older are available at Oakland County Health Division, 1200 N. Telegraph in Oakland County Complex Bldg. 36 East in Pontiac; 27725 Greenfield, north of 11 Mile at Catalpa Road in Southfield; and 1010 E. West Maple at Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake. Hours are noon-8 p.m. Monday; and 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. Cost is \$11 (cash only). Medicare and Medicaid accepted. Bring photo ID and insurance cards. Call (800) 434-3358 or visit www.oakgov.com/health.

CPR classes

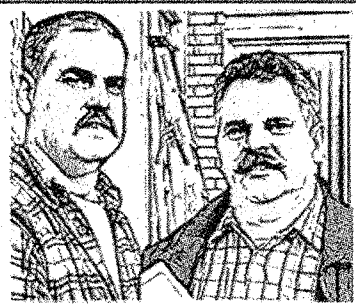
Classes range from basic CPR for people who wish to know how to help save a life, to certification for those who need CPR for work and state licensure, at DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Dr., Commerce. First aid classes also available. Classes offered weekday evenings and Saturday mornings. Price varies. Pre-registration required at www.hvsh.org/hvsh/calendar or call (248) 937-3314.

Arthritis support group

2-3:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at the Krieger Center, DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Dr., Commerce. Enter the building via the South Garden entrance. Registration not required.

STAYING PUT?

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From
Mike & Mark**



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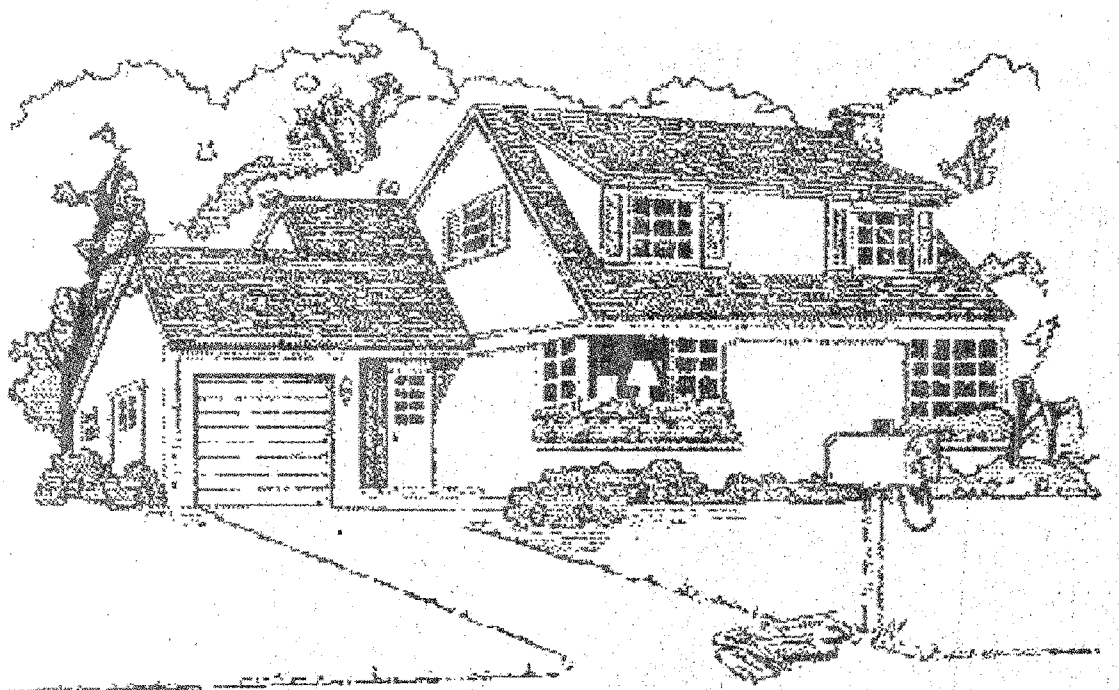
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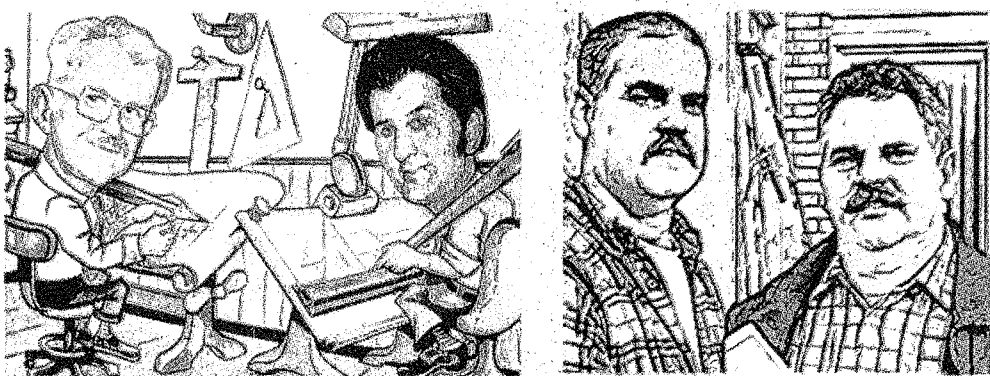
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Making every moment count



Nearly 1,300 people turned out to hear West Bloomfield writer Jeffrey Zaslow speak at Northwood University. Zaslow co-authored the book, 'The Last Lecture,' with the late Randy Pausch. Published by Hyperion in April 2008, the book became a New York Times No. 1 best-seller.

Inauguration a time to reflect on race relations

While Ronalee Bowman believes the inauguration of Barack Obama as the first mixed race president on Tuesday is a monumental occasion, we still have a long way to go. Granted, progress has been made since Bowman founded PLAID (People of Livonia Addressing Issues of Diversity) in 1992. Back then she couldn't find a local organization devoted to ensuring the equality of



Linda Chomin

people of different cultures, races and religions after marrying her husband, Hugh, a black man from the Caribbean.

In all fairness, Livonia was much like the rest of the suburbs, yet most denounced in the press because it was the whitest in the country in terms of population. Thanks to the prodding of PLAID members, Livonia is changing. It still isn't a melting pot like Canton, but now has a program to honor legendary civil rights movement leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. this year on Monday, Jan. 19. PLAID continues to do its part in eliminating prejudices. Last February, the proactive group hosted a four-week series of well-attended racism workshops at Stevenson High School. St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church has held diversity programs as well.

In an e-mail to the *Observer*, Bowman writes "The election of a mixed-race president is a positive step in race relations, but we cannot assume that it is an end to racism as there is still much more to be done on a local level as well as nationally. I think we need to get to know each other as individuals instead of lumping people together by race, culture or religion. When we get to know people who are different than we are, we realize that we have much more in common and can focus on our similarities rather than our differences."

Colleen Mills shares Bowman's beliefs that's why she and husband George joined PLAID 10 years ago. The Livonia woman is president of Citizens for Peace.

"I see us as all united," said Mills. "You can not have peace when you're focusing on differences. This year, Citizens is doing an essay contest on peace to engage young people. PLAID donated \$300 for Citizens for Peace activities including the essay contest. It's a wonderful partnership. We've raised a lot of awareness."

Scott Heinzman sadly remembers the 1967 Detroit race riots and that's why he helped Bowman start PLAID. The tense relations between blacks and whites resulted in the clash that burned the city. When I think back to those scary times I can still hear the gunfire downtown from my street in Livonia. It's going to take all of us to continue building bridges between the races.

"Having grown up in Livonia I felt there were definitely strong bigoted attitudes in our city," said Heinzman, who graduated from Franklin High School in 1979. "I still feel there's a lot of work to be done, I'm hopeful. People (age) 20-something are far less racist. I think younger people have a greater sense of justice. When I was born in the '60s there were states where you couldn't marry someone of a different race. Today the anger is more right now for Middle Eastern immigrants. We need leaders that can address these issues."

Heinzman's hope is that one day PLAID becomes unnecessary. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. had a dream too but didn't live to see his children living "in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."

"I hope we get to a point where we're not going to have scorn for anybody except for their behaviors," said Heinzman, co-chairman of PLAID.

For those interested in joining or learning more about PLAID, call (734) 427-4199.

Linda Ann Chomin is the health and Community Life reporter for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. She can be reached at lchomin@hometownlife.com or (313) 222-2241.

Dads learn valuable lessons at conference

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER

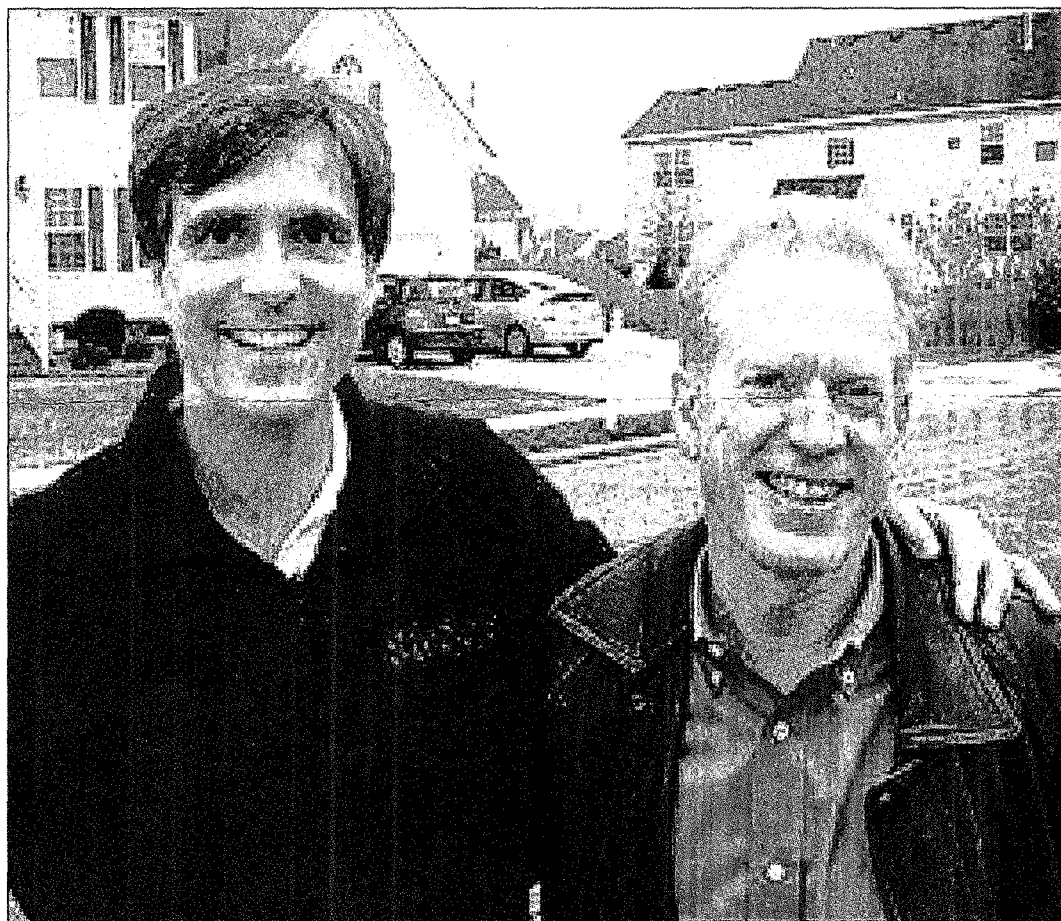
Chris Edwards is excited about Jeffrey Zaslow giving the keynote speech at the Midwest Fathers Conference Saturday, Jan. 24, at North Farmington High School. This year's theme, *Making Every Moment Count*, focuses on helping dads improve parenting skills in workshops ranging from discipline strategies to setting priorities as a father and husband, grandfathering, love and logic, divorced dads' issues, and the joys of African-American fatherhood.

Zaslow, a West Bloomfield writer, co-authored *The Last Lecture* with Randy Pausch who wanted to leave a message for his children to live life to the fullest. Pausch was a terminally ill professor at Carnegie Mellon University when his speech was heard by millions around the world after YouTube made it available on the Internet. The first 300 registrants receive an autographed copy of the book released by Hyperion not long before Pausch died of pancreatic cancer in July 2008 at age 47. He left his wife, Jai, and three young children.

"We don't know how many moments we have," said Edwards of Farmington Hills. "Too often as a dad we say I'll do it next year. Kids are going to grow up way too fast."

Edwards, who co-founded the conference, resigned as chief meteorologist for Fox 2 about 18 months ago to spend more time with his son, Chase, 12, and daughter Summer, 9. When he isn't working on the conference he co-founded or with Partnership for Dads which sponsors the event, Edwards fills in occasionally at the television station.

"It's a very energizing day," said Edwards.



Jeffrey Zaslow (right) co-authored 'The Last Lecture' with the late Randy Pausch.

"Every year I make it a point to sit in the workshops focused on giving men practical information they can use from the moment they go home. There's a session each year devoted to dads and daughters, Last year I came away with how I need to be very careful with my words about body image, talking about the beauty of every kind within her. All come away with something different."

LAST LECTURE

Zaslow will share lessons learned while writing the book with Pausch. Even though he gave about 50 lectures last year, Zaslow always finds time for his three teenage daughters with wife Sherry Margolis, a co-

Please see **DADS, C2**

MIDWEST FATHERS

What: ninth annual conference features workshops and keynote speaker Jeffrey Zaslow

When: 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 24

Where: North Farmington High School, 32900 W. 13 Mile

Tickets: The cost in advance, including breakfast and lunch, is \$29, \$60 for three people, \$40 at the door. For information or to register, visit www.partnershipfordads.org or call (248) 646-1445.



Bob Phillips is one of the presenters at the Midwest Fathers Conference at North Farmington High School Jan. 24.

Brains and beauty

Book traces change in auto show models through stories, photos

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF MEMBER

Go to the North American International Auto Show to see the vehicles and talk to the models and then put it all into historical perspective with Margery Krevsky's book, *Sirens of Chrome: The Enduring Allure of Auto Show Models*.

Krevsky, a Bloomfield Hills resident who owns Productions Plus, a Bingham Farm-based agency that supplies auto show talent, will sign her coffee table-style book during the show, which runs daily through Sunday, Jan. 25, at Cobo Center in downtown Detroit. Packed with rare photos, pro-

grams and posters from private collections and corporate files, the book traces the history of the auto show model from the early 1900s — when images of mythological goddesses and sirens first appeared in vehicle marketing materials and as hood ornaments — to present day, when product information specialists of both sexes entice customers with both their knowledge of the vehicle, as well as their appearance.

Stories highlight the auto show displays, event hoopla, vehicle advertising campaigns, celebrity spokespersons and model changes — both human and automotive — over the past century.

RESEARCHING

"When you go into business, you collect a lot of stories,"

Please see **BOOK, C4**

Auto show models in hot pants show off themselves — and a concept car from Czech automaker Skoda — at the 2005 Frankfurt Auto Show in Germany.



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DADS

FROM PAGE C1

anchor at Fox 2 News. "I hope I'm more patient and appreciative," said Zaslow. "Time is all we have and one day it's less than what they think. I admire the fathers who get up on a Saturday morning to attend the conference to learn more about being a better father. I'm thrilled there are fathers out there like that."

Zaslow is glad he took time to drive to Pittsburgh to hear Pausch give his last lecture and write a column for the *Wall Street Journal*. Zaslow could have done the interview over the phone. The actual experience was so inspiring he decided to write the book which went on to become a No. 1 *New York Times* best-seller.

"I wanted to tell the story and about Randy as a father. He didn't want to write the book. He was conflicted about it cause he wanted to spend time with his kids. He ended up doing interviews with me while riding his bike so he didn't have to take any time

from his children. I hope I can be brave as Randy was at the end and take the lessons and use them as a father. I would always send e-mails from readers and links to Web sites to Randy about the book. He said stop Googling my name and go hug your kids. Randy was never interested in accolades. The book was full of advice he wanted to give his kids."

VARIETY OF SPEAKERS

Edwards looks forward to hearing the dads and daughters talk by Drew Yanke, Tom Haller on the best discipline strategies, and Bob Phillips on transitioning to middle and high school. Yanke is a regular speaker for the father's program at Beaumont Hospital; Haller is a child, adolescent and couples therapist as well as a nationally known author and speaker on parenting issues; and Phillips is dean of students at Flint Powers Catholic High School.

Phillips' words of wisdom for parents are based on studies of children in the transition period between elementary and middle school, and

middle and high school. He became interested in the subject while dean of students at Orchard Lake St. Mary.

He has a son Mitchell, 14, and daughter Mara, 12, with wife Shari. He's concerned about the trend of teens experimenting with prescription drugs from the medicine cabinet.

"Research shows students are at greatest risk for making risky choices, alcohol and substance abuse experimentation, getting in with the wrong peers during the transitional period," said Phillips, a Waterford resident who grew up in Berkley. "These dads know how to parent and what is right, I empower and reaffirm them. Kids need parents. They don't need friends. If my kids are going to a party at someone's house I make it a point to call and introduce myself. It might be embarrassing for children but I find they're well-received by the other parent. The more parents connect with each other the more we can ensure our kids' safety."

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Livonia youth to present concert

The Livonia Youth Philharmonic of Michigan (LYPM) presents its first concert of the season at noon Saturday, Jan. 31, at Churchill High School, 8900 Newburgh, north of Joy Road, Livonia. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. The program is scheduled to run between 90 minutes and two hours, and features the music of J.S. Bach, Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker, and Franz Schubert.

Tickets are \$8 adults, \$6 children and seniors, \$1 off prior to concert day, and can be pre-purchased during rehearsals 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Saturdays by the Orchestra Room in the high school or by e-mailing David Lindenmuth at president@lypm.org with the number and type of tickets needed. Ticket buyers will receive a confirmation for the purchase by e-mail. Tickets are also available at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington Rd.

LYPM is 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization and always appreciates donations because it receives no public funding.

Livonia library to host used book sale

The Friends of the Livonia Library's three-day used book sale is a good time to stock up on winter reading for a fraction of the price. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 6-7, and 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 8, at the Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington Road.

Hard cover books are priced at \$1, paperbacks 50 cents, Romances are even cheaper at 25 cents, CD's and videos as priced.

On Sunday, Feb. 8, a bag of books is less expensive still and can be purchased for \$5.

For more information, call the library at (734) 466-2495.

GARDEN CALENDAR

If you have an item for the garden calendar, please submit it at least two weeks prior to the event to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

Winter planting

Advanced Master Gardener, LeRoy Wolff will talk about planing seeds in late winter for an early crop of lettuce and other plants by late April or early May, at 7 p.m., Jan. 21, in the EIC building at U of M - Dearborn, room 119. The program is free and designed for novices. For more information call (734) 786-6860 or visit www.mgawc.org/prog_intro.htm.

Orchids

Michigan Orchid Society's speaker for Jan. 18, 2009 will be Russ Vernon will talk

about Lycaste culture at the next meeting of the Michigan Orchid Society, 2:30 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 18, at First Baptist Church of Birmingham, 300 Willits, Birmingham. Vernon has grown orchids for more than 40 years and is the owner of New Vision Orchids which is located in Indianapolis, Ind. He specializes in growing Paphlaenopsis, Odontoglossums, Miltoniopsis and Lycastes. For more information call (586) 416-1496.

North American gardens

Oakland University's Meadow Brook Hall Garden Club will meet at 10 a.m., Friday, Jan. 23, in the Meadow Brook Hall Ball Room. Guest speaker Julia Hofley, will present a travelogue of favorite public and private gardens from trips across America

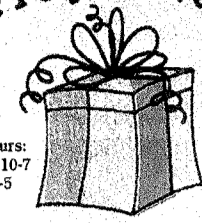
and British Columbia. Guests are welcome. Coffee and refreshments will be served at 9:30 a.m. There is a \$5 non-member donation. Reservations are not required. For more information call (248) 887-1983, or (248) 276-0136, or visit www.meadowbrookhall.org.

Rain Gardens

This day-long how-to-do-it seminar is designed for ecological gardeners who are working with clay soil. Register beginning at 6:30 p.m., Monday, Feb. 9, at the Southfield Public Library, 26300 Evergreen, south of I-696. The program will run from 7-8:30 p.m. There is no admission charge, but advance registration is required. Call Karen Bever at (248) 288-5150 or e-mail LFDearn@aol.com.

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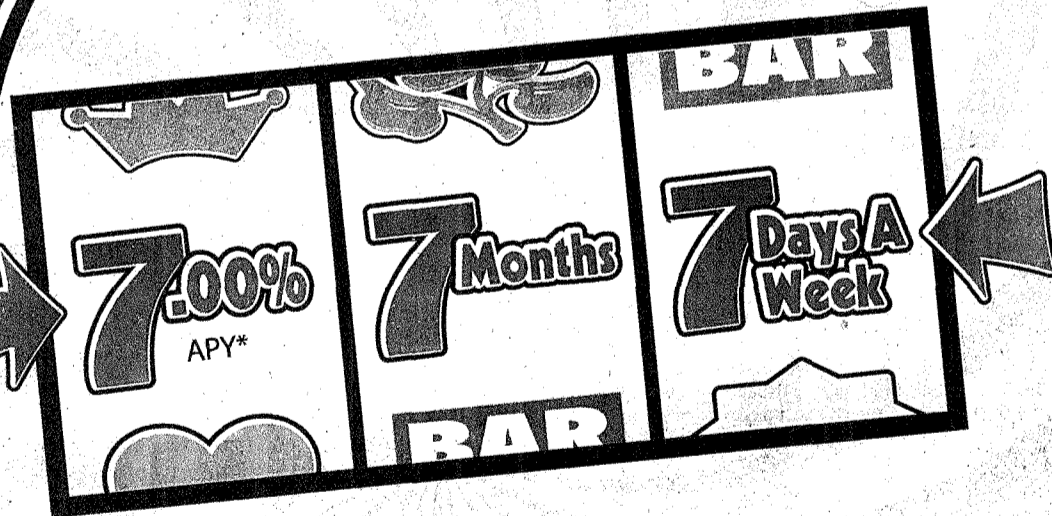
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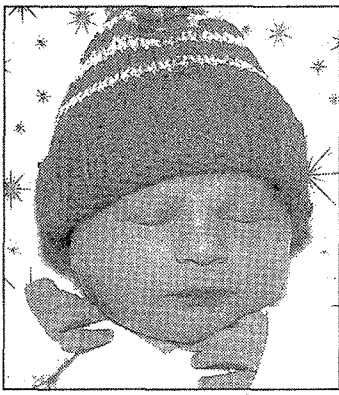
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BIRTHS

**Brian Joseph St. Clair**

Donald and Dawn St. Clair of Milford announce the birth of their son, Brian Joseph St. Clair, on Dec. 16, 2008, in Huron Valley Sinai Hospital, Commerce.

Brian's older brother is Raymond Dennis St. Clair, 18 months.

Proud grandparents are Dennis and Lois St. Clair of Grand Blanc and Daniel and Carol Szelong of Redford. Great-grandparents are Louise Denyer of East Pointe and the Rev. Edwin Wallace of Brooksville, Fla.

**Dominic Daniel Caccamo**

Kay and Todd Caccamo of Canton announce the birth of their son, Dominic Daniel, born Dec. 26, 2008 at Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak.

Caccamo joins big brother Carter, 22 months, at home.

Grandparents are Daniel and Ethie Neuzil of Fort Atkinson, Iowa and Frank and Rosemary Caccamo of Auburn Hills.

ENGAGEMENT

**Richeson-Yoder**

Emily Ruth Richeson and Dustin John Charles Yoder announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of David Richeson of Livonia and the late Nina Richeson, graduated from Grand Valley State University in 2007 and works for United States Probation in Grand Rapids. Her fiancé, son of Sue and Mike Harvey of Prudenville and Kwan and Colette Yoder of Waterford, graduated from Grand Valley State University in 2006 and is a marketing director and talent buyer in Grand Rapids.

The couple plans to wed in October 2009 in Leonard.

Modeling on auto show circuit demands smarts and stamina

BY SHARON DARGAY
OGE STAFF WRITER



Petrik Kowalski

Bobbie Petrik Kowalski is living her dream.

Cloud 9 comes complete with an occasional sore back, tired feet and overtaxed vocal cords, but the Canton woman says they're a mere inconvenience compared to all of the benefits she receives working in the glamorous and glitzy world of auto show modeling.

"The good outweighs the aches and pains," said Kowalski, a 10-year veteran of the auto show circuit who spends six to eight hours a day on her feet — in heels — pitching Honda nationwide.

"I would miss this job if it were no longer here. I love who I work for. Whoever is your agent can make or break how you feel about the job. Productions Plus treats us so well," she said, adding that Honda also regards its models "like family."

ON THE ROAD

Kowalski, who is married and has two teenagers and two stepchildren, has worked auto shows in San Francisco, Calif., Miami, Fla., and Indianapolis, Ind., this season. After the North American International Auto Show in Detroit, she'll head to Philadelphia, Pa., Chicago, Ill., and New York City, N.Y., among other towns. She'll work events at dealerships and take other work through her agent when the season ends.

During the shows, she'll

serve as both a narrator, describing cars from atop a revolving platform, and as a product information specialist, who will answer questions one-on-one in the Honda display area.

"When you work for Honda you have to know the whole line. There are well over a dozen and you have to know each (vehicle model) level."

Kowalski, a Michigan State University graduate, enjoys talking about alternative fuels. The tailors her twice-hourly narrations to the audience around the car turntable.

"I'm not scripted at all, only because I know the car inside and out. I can get up there and start with what's under the hood. I improv it."

Growing up in Redford, Kowalski "always wanted to be that girl" on the platform, standing next to a car and wearing glamorous clothing. As a Honda representative, she wears a business suit or a business casual outfit. "Back in the day, girls used to stand up there and smile in their gowns. Today you have to be intelligent, as well," she noted.

SWITCHING CAREERS

Kowalski worked as an accountant for eight years, all while taking acting classes, modeling and working various promotional gigs — from checking VIP wristbands

backstage at Aerosmith concerts to performing a dance routine at the Parade Company's annual fireworks VIP Rooftop Party.

Her supportive family helped the then single mother while she prepared for a job change and later, landed the Honda account, launching a new career in 1999.

The 40-year-old now also credits her husband, Bob, for "pulling the weight" at home while she's on the road with her "extended family," the other Honda product specialists and narrators. While he's at home cooking dinner or tending to their children, she might be lounging on a Miami beach waiting for her work day to start.

When her 17-year-old daughter talks about following in mom's footsteps, Kowalski cringes a little, envisioning her firstborn on the road. But she is helping her with resume and head shot photos, all while insisting that she attend college, as well.

"The whole job is about having personality. You do have to love people and love travel, too."

Stop by the Honda exhibit and see Kowalski in action at the North American International Auto Show, at Cobo Center in Detroit. The show runs 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., through Saturday, Jan. 24. It is open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 25. Tickets are \$12 for adults; \$6 for senior citizens, age 65 and older and children, age 7-12. Children under age 6, accompanied by a parent, are admitted free.

Certificate programs prepare students for health care jobs

Madonna University's Office of Continuing Education and Professional Studies is offering 13-week or less medical certificate programs that will qualify students for immediate employment. Students can earn an EKG technician, pharmacy technician or medical billing and coding certificate. Pharmacy technician jobs, as well as positions in the field of medical billing and coding, are listed among the most in-demand occupations on the state of Michigan's web site www.michigan.gov/healthcareers.

The winter schedule for Madonna's medical certificate programs runs 6-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays from Feb. 17 to April 16, for EKG technician; Mondays and Wednesdays Feb. 16 to April 13

for pharmacy technician, and Feb. 16 to May 20 for medical billing and coding.

Registration deadline is 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6.

All courses prepare students to take national board exams and apply for entry-level positions. According to Joan Stephens, director of Madonna's Office of Continuing Education and Professional Studies, approximately 90 percent of students immediately pass their board exams after completing the programs.

As part of these classes, students are able to attend free workshops at Madonna University for resume writing and job interviewing tips. Upon graduation, Stephens and the course instructors continue to work with students,

assisting with their employment search. "After providing our students with a graduation pack filled with job search tools, we follow-up with them and provide job postings," said Stephens. "We do everything we can to ensure that they put their training to good use and are employed as soon as possible."

All classes are offered at Madonna's main campus in Livonia, located at the intersection of Schoolcraft and Levan Roads, off I-96. A detailed course schedule and online registration are available at www.madonna.edu by clicking on Future Students, then Continuing Education & Professional Studies. For more information about Continuing Education courses, call (734) 432-5804.

Visit us online at hometownlife.com



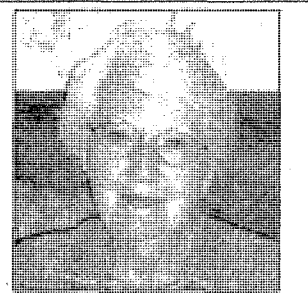
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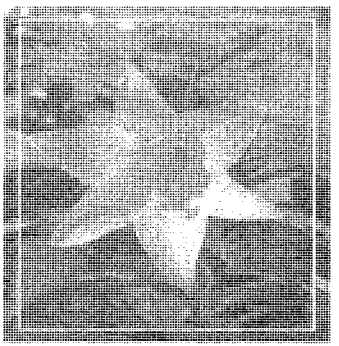
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**DREAMA GRACE ROYAL (NEE ESTEP)**

Age 77, died Sunday Jan. 11, 2009 following an extended bout with heart disease. She lived at Fox Run Retirement Community, Novi, Michigan, since 2007. A long-time resident of the Birmingham area, she was born in St. Albans, W.V. She is survived by her beloved husband Richard Royal and daughters Martha (John) Cooper and Nancy (Dave) Crouch, and grandchildren Liam and Kieran Cooper and Alexander, Catherine, and Jack Crouch. Dreama was active in the music community in greater Detroit, as an adjunct professor of voice at Macomb Community College, as a private voice teacher, as a soloist at All Saints Episcopal Church in Pontiac and as choir director at University Presbyterian Church in Rochester Hills. In their retirement, Dreama and her husband, Dick, created textile art, especially for liturgical settings. A memorial service was held Thursday, Jan. 14 at 3:30 p.m. at Fox Run Retirement Community, Belmont. Contributions may be made to the American Heart Association.

MARJORIE GRISWOLD

January 14, 2009, age 85 of Farmington Hills. Survived by her children; Dr. Mary Lynn Griswold and Dr. John D. (Carol) Griswold. Also survived by three grandchildren; Emilia age 24, Kevin age 23, and Daniel age 20. Marjorie was preceded in death by a son, Dr. Jim Griswold. Marjorie was a 1944 graduate of Michigan State University. She worked for many years in the Farmington Hills School District. She was very active in the congregation of Hope Lutheran Church and will be missed by her loving family and community. A memorial service will take place 2pm Sunday at Hope Lutheran Church, 39200 W. 12 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills. Memorial contributions in Marjorie's name may be made to Hope Lutheran Church or Best Friends Animal Society, 5001 Angel Canyon Rd., Kanab, UT 84741-5000. www.mccabefuneralhome.com

**RITA C. BURGESS**

Passed away January 14, 2009. Age 66. Preceded in death by parents George and Clare Burgess. Survived by cousin Mary Ellen Rafferty and her family. Also dear friends John Camilleri and Richard and Lynn Bone Beck. Visitation Fred Wood Funeral (Rice Chapel), 36100 Five Mile Rd. (one mile west of Farmington Rd.) Sunday 3:00-9:00 p.m. with a rosary at 7:00 p.m. In state St. Kenneth Catholic Church, 14961 Haggerty Rd. (south of five mile) Monday 10:00 a.m. until time of Mass 10:30 a.m. In lieu of flowers, donations to Angela Hospice or Fellowship Presbyterian Church.

VICKIE KAPA

January 15, 2009. Loving wife of the late Henry. Dear mother of Dan. Sister of Norma Towns. Memorial Service Monday at 2 p.m. from L. J. Griffin Funeral Home, 7707 Middlebelt Rd. (at Ann Arbor Trail). Visitation, Monday 12 Noon - 2 p.m. Donations to Angela Hospice would be appreciated. Share a memorial tribute with the family at griffinfuneralhome.com

STELLA MAY (LINDEMANN) SMITH

Age 94, a fifty-year resident of Plymouth. Died January 13th in Haverhill, MA. She is survived by her son Hal Smith and his wife Mary of Overland Park, KS; daughter Leslie Felts and her husband Dick of Gainesville, GA; daughter Suanne Dillman and her husband Dick of Andover, MA; seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. A memorial service will be held at the First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth on Saturday, April 25th at 10:00am. Interment will be private.

OBITUARY POLICY

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

Deadlines:

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

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

e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to: Attn: Obits c/o Jennifer Musztuk 586-826-7318 For more information call: Jennifer Musztuk 586-826-7115 or Charolette Wilson 586-826-7082 or toll free 800-579-7355 ask for Jennifer or Charolette

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BOOK

FROM PAGE C1

said Krevsky, who founded Productions Plus with former auto show model Harriet Fuller, in 1991. "There are so many stories connected with the auto shows. I started thinking, what if I connect them to a picture? I started to think of stories to go with pictures. I thought it might be interesting to do a history."

She jotted down ideas and began searching for photos, first through the National Automotive History Collection at the Detroit Public Library, and then from corporate and private collections.

"It took a year to conceptualize. There were so many pictures. That was the hard thing to do, to put them in order, to get permission to use them."

In some cases, Krevsky knew exactly what she wanted.

"I knew I wanted a picture from the 60s ... there was an incident at a press conference where a model was mauled by a lion at BMW. I had heard the story. It was difficult to find the picture."

The black and white shot on page 112 of the book, shows the 21-year-old woman in short lederhosen, sitting with her arm around a live lion on the floor of the New York Auto Show in 1966. The accompanying copy says the animal locked its teeth on her thigh seconds later. The model survived, her leg intact, but a decade later took her own life.

Krevsky had heard another story, about a concept car called the Cadillac Debutant. It had debuted at a show in the 1950s, showing off an interior of 187 "Somali leopard pelts" and hardware plated in 24-karat gold.

The photo, found on page 68 of *Sirens*, shows a model seated in the \$35,000 vehicle, wearing a suit with matching leopard cuffs and collar.

UPDATED WARDROBE

One of Krevsky's favorite photos shows suffragists Alice Snitzer Burke and Nell Richardson, stopped on a dirt road beside the 1916 Saxon



A model demonstrates a Toyota 'i-unit' at the 2005 New York Auto Show.

— which was marketed as a woman's car — on their 10,000-mile trip across the country, advocating for the vote. Along the way the pair changed tires, replaced spark plugs and repaired its engine during an era when women still wore ankle-length dresses and tight corsets.

"They left wearing their vintage Victorian clothing and by the time they had finished the trip, their corsets and bustles had bit the dust."

Krevsky was instrumental in the evolution of auto show models, changing the glamor and cheesecake image to a more sophisticated look that complemented the client's product line. She also gave voice to the models, training them as product information specialists able to entice customers with facts.

"I went up to one of them (a model) and said 'Can you tell me about the car?' She said she wasn't allowed to talk about the car," Krevsky said, recalling a visit to an early

1980s auto show. "I thought to myself, there is some opportunity here. What if everyone could be both attractive and a gearhead?"

She turned her attention from the local fashion show scene to the auto show industry. Her revolutionary ideas — training models to become thoroughly versed in the vehicle and matching wardrobe to the brand — met with "a great deal of resistance" at first.

"Pontiac gave us the first opportunity, Nissan the next. They gave me one year to let me make my point. Historically, the time was right."

An exhibition featuring the "Sirens of Chrome" continues through April 30, at the Detroit Public Library's Rose and Robert Skillman Branch in Detroit. "Sirens of Chrome," a hardcover published by Momentum Books LLC, is available through select Barnes & Noble, and Borders bookstores, as well as online at Amazon.com and MomentumBooks.com. It costs \$24.95.



GETTING READY TO CHANGE



WORKWISE

by Mildred L. Culp

The fact that something's wrong with your work has been gnawing at you for several months -- or longer. You've pinpointed the problem in your situation. You've decided to change. How do you get from the

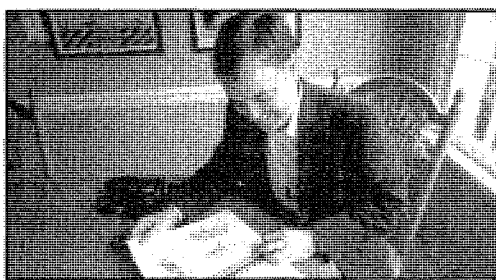
photography." However, he found work lacking in meaning. "I stumbled into recognizing that people can find purpose much more easily outside of work than inside of it," he explains. "While working, they can go out and experiment with activities to get the essence of their unique calling." He turned to photography, surfing, even a house exchange with a family in Paris, among other things. For him, the list represents an element of fun he re-infused into his life.

Bacon mentions a speech writer for a banking executive. He decided to attend classes at night at a seminary and found that he enjoyed them on their own terms. Meanwhile, opportunities began to present themselves. He became a minister, an occupation he'd considered in his mid-20s but hadn't pursued. When he originally took the classes, he couldn't have predicted an outcome.

METHOD

Bacon offers a new twist on the idea that doing something completely different often sparks ideas. He endorses process by indicating that this must be done over time. You become yourself. "If you start doing something you like," he says, "you naturally do more of it. Experimenting with small things will move you toward your sense of purpose without your having to make the process difficult or big."

There are two typical mid-career conundrums through which he guides clients. The first involves deciding whether boredom is the problem or whether the work is acceptable. Then, identify five activities "you always wanted to try," he recommends. "The more trivial the better. Find the quickest,



Allan Bacon encourages experimenting with areas outside of work. Here he reviews his "play book" with sketches drawn during one of his own "experiments." Based in Charlotte, N.C., he consults through his company, Avocationist.com L.L.C.

cheapest way to experience them. If you like one, do it more so that time slips away. You're looking for flow and joy. Find ways to work in the activity. If you're called to it, you'll learn it faster and enjoy people you meet. They're the ones who'll help you make a bigger change."

If, on the other hand, you're having physical symptoms from your work, Bacon advises that taking some simple steps will help you move on:

- Continue to work in a new/old way so that you have income.
- Return to a previous job. For example, if you were a



Katherine Riley, at-home mom, is trying to decide how to move back into work. Allan Bacon of Charlotte, N.C., is interviewing her here for Avocationist.com L.L.C.

— Return to a previous job. For example, if you were a manager, consider becoming an individual contributor to diminish stress.

— Experiment "to give you the room mentally to take this on." He comments that "it might seem a little silly, but it happens pretty quickly. Opportunities will present themselves and you'll see them this time." You'll also be prepared to act on them. (Dr. Mildred L. Culp welcomes your questions at culp@workwise.net. Copyright 2008 Passage Media.)

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Associate Director of Programs and Services at the Autism Collaborative Center

The Autism Collaborative Center at Eastern Michigan University is a new, interdisciplinary, community collaboration whose mission is to serve families with autism throughout Lower Michigan. The Center is a training site for students in eight EMU professional disciplines, the majority of which are students at the Masters or Doctoral level. The Center serves families with autism through unique programs and services that are accessible to all. The Center is a major research site into research into evidence-based intervention practices in the treatment and care of individuals with autism and their families.

This part time position is responsible for the organization, coordination, and supervision of all programs, services, and personnel on a daily basis, including joint agency programs/services. This person will also organize and supervise the volunteer program. Other responsibilities include assisting the executive director with program and personnel evaluation as well as supervision of the administrative assistant in the absence of the executive director. *This position is expected to grow to full time as the programs/services expand.

Qualifications: Master's degree or significant equivalent experience in the development and supervision of programs for children with disabilities required; specific experience working with families, with autism is required.

Please submit cover letter and resume to:
Posting #APAA0910
Eastern Michigan University, 202 Boone Hall, Ypsilanti, MI 48197.

Review of applications will begin on 2-6-09 and continue until the position is filled. Inquiries about the Autism Collaborative Center can be directed to Dr. Pamela Lemerand, Project Director of the Autism Collaborative Center at pamela.lemerand@emich.edu

Eastern Michigan University
EOE

Help Wanted-General 5000

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Help Wanted-General 5000

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Help Wanted-General 5000

Director of the Autism Collaborative Center at Eastern Michigan University

The Autism Collaborative Center is a new, interdisciplinary, community collaboration whose mission is to serve families with autism throughout Lower Michigan. The Center is a training site for students in eight EMU professional disciplines, the majority of which are students at the Masters or Doctoral level. The Center serves families with autism through unique programs and services that are accessible to all. The Center is a major research site into research into evidence-based intervention practices in the treatment and care of individuals with autism and their families.

This full time position will be responsible for all administrative functions and supervision, program and policy development, program and personnel evaluation, community relations, negotiations with collaborative agencies, advisory board development, fundraising and donor relationships. This person will work closely with the EMU Project Director on coordination of the Center within the larger EMU context.

Qualifications: Master's degree required and experience in one or more of the following: non-profit leadership, health administration, educational leadership, entrepreneurship, clinic administration.

Please submit cover letter and resume to:
Posting #APAA0911
Eastern Michigan University, 202 Boone Hall, Ypsilanti, MI 48197.

Review of applications will begin on 2-6-09 and continue until the position is filled. Inquiries about the Autism Collaborative Center can be directed to Dr. Pamela Lemerand, Project Director of the Autism Collaborative Center at pamela.lemerand@emich.edu

Eastern Michigan University
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Help Wanted-General 5000

Human Resource & Payroll

Position available in our long term care facility in Farmington. Must have experience with Kronos for Payroll. Responsible for inputting Benefits and Workman's comp. Keep a tickler on Evaluations and Leave of Absence and maintain Osha report and employee files. Must be able to multi task as well as work with management and corporate personnel.
Fax resume to: (248) 477-2888 or Email to: Lmichalak@sqc.com EOE

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Part time for retirement community in Westland. Fax resume to 734-729-9840 Equal Opportunity Employer

Help Wanted-General 5000

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fax: 248-879-2430 or email resume: submissions@haymanco.com

Help Wanted-Office 5020

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Help Wanted-Office 5020

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Must be familiar with Quick-Book & payroll. Plymouth. Fax resume: (734) 453-9978

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Help Wanted-Office 5020

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Help Wanted-Dental 5040

DENTAL ASSISTANT
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Help Wanted-General 5000

DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT
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Livonia: 734-469-4523
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DIRECT CARE STAFF
\$8.20 wages & benefits. Must be trained/valid license. 313-255-6295

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Eastern Michigan University
EOE

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For consideration please send your resume to: jfessel@pmv.org; or 32001 Cherry Hill Road Westland, MI 48186 No phone calls please

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Qualified Personal Trainer seeking Detroit Club seeking qualified personal trainer to work with members in state-of-the-art facility. Must have: nationally accredited certifications; CPR, degree in health-related field. Full-time, afternoons/early evenings. Benefits, secure on-site parking, meals. Submit resume via fax: (313) 963-5985 or email: humanresources@thedac.com

Help Wanted-General 5000

HOUSEKEEPING/JANITORIAL
Dining Services Management Company has immediate openings for PART-TIME janitorial cleaners at a Detroit College. Floor care experience a plus. Friendly, energetic, customer service oriented individuals need only to apply. Must be able to work evenings & weekends. Please call Sherry or Dana at: (313) 927-1871 Ext. 1871

Help Wanted-General 5000

CHILD CARE ASSISTANTS, PT
Exp. helpful. Call Farmington Hills Nursery School after 10am. 248-476-3110

Help Wanted-General 5000

CUSTOMER SERVICE REP
Insurance exp. for personal lines position at insurance agency in Plymouth. Call Deb at 734-451-2286

Help Wanted-General 5000

DIETARY AIDE PART-TIME
Exp. preferred. American House: 248-471-9141

Help Wanted-Dental 5040

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Exp'd. Westland office. Part-Time or Full-Time. Fax resume: 734-425-7675

Help Wanted-Dental 5040

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Experienced, motivated individual to handle all phases of general dentistry. Call Ann: (248) 543-7070

Help Wanted-Dental 5040

DENTAL ASSISTANT
For Westland office. Full-time, dental exp. req. Please Fax, Attn: Lorella (734) 722-5192

Help Wanted-Dental 5040

DENTAL INSURANCE BILLER
Must have exp. 20-25 hours per week, some Saturdays Fax resume: 313-565-3057

Dental Laboratory front desk person needed. Mon-Fri Livonia area. 35+ hours. Must have computer skills and dental knowledge. Job requires ability to multi task. Fax resume 1-734-427-8831

Help Wanted-Dental 5040

DENTAL PRACTICE ADMINISTRATOR
Full-Time. Needed for premier office in Ann Arbor. Minimum 5 yrs. exp. salary based on exp. & education. \$35,000-\$50,000. Excellent benefit package. Please send resume to: mhaldes@ao.com or Employment Application 24 Frank Lloyd Wright Dr. PO Box 326 Ann Arbor MI 48106

Help Wanted-Dental 5040

ORTHODONTIC CHAIRSIDE ASSISTANT

For our high-quality, full, orthodontic practice, 3 or 4 days/wk. Experience preferred. Call: 734-981-2444

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

Attn: HHA's

Health Partners
is seeking experienced caregivers for nice private duty home care cases. Great pay/benefits! Call Maria at: 800-969-7723

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

ATTN: NURSES

Premier Health Care Management is seeking a FT Nurse (preferably RN) to add to our Beaumont Hospital liaison program assisting with the admission process from hospital to nursing home. Individuals must have excellent assessment, communication and computer skills. Nursing home experience is preferred.
27527 Joy Rd., 1/2 blk. W. of Inkster Rd. 734-522-5501

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

DIRECT CARE STAFF
Needed. Part time for afternoons \$7.61/hr. to start. CLS trained only. Call Debbie: 734-524-1361

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Needed for patient friendly office. Experienced, dependable, motivated, flexible hours. Fax resume to: 248-203-0441

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Part-time for internal medicine office. Exp. preferred. Paid vacation. Resume: 990 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Suite 104, Plymouth, MI 48170.

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

Medical Biller
2+ yrs. exp. Must be proficient in physician billing, CPT & ICD-9 coding, dependable. Full-Time/Benefits. Email: gpressley@pbsb.net

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

MEDICAL BILLERS
Full-time positions. Minimum 1 yr. exp. Troy location. (248) 641-1440 x112

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

NURSE/MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Part-Time for OB/GYN practice in Livonia/Westland area. OB/GYN experience only. Email resume to: adm1308@aol.com

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

PHLEBOTOMY EDUCATION

Saturday accelerated classes beginning in February, 10-4pm. Garden City: 9225, incl. book. (313) 382-3857

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

SITE MANAGERS FULL-TIME

Experienced Site Managers for a busy, personal care company in Livonia. Good communications skills, management experience a must, as well as, strong background of working with senior citizens. Please fax resume to: 586-751-2917

Help Wanted-Domestic 5240

HOUSEKEEPER

Great opportunity for self-motivated, hard worker with good judgment to work for family as a part or full-time housekeeper. Duties encompass general housekeeping skills (laundry, vacuuming, mopping, dusting, windows, bathrooms, etc.). Must like children and animals. Must be a non-smoker, from a smoke-free household. Must speak English. Must have own transportation. Household experience required. Hourly wage flexible. Please forward list of qualifications and resumes. Fax: 248-593-5849 Email: housekeeper2007@gmail.com

Help Wanted-Domestic 5240

LIVE-IN MATURE light housekeeper for gentleman. English speaking Valid drivers license required. Farmington Hills. (248) 921-7244

Help Wanted-Domestic 5240

HOTELS & CARRY-OUT ORDER TAKER

Positions available for mature, dependable person. Apply in person, no calls: Comparis, 350 S. Main St., Plymouth.

Help Wanted-Domestic 5240

WAITSTAFF FT & PT, DAY & NIGHT
Apply at: Starting Gate 135 N. Center St., Northville

Help Wanted-Domestic 5240

DRIVER/SALES
\$575-\$975 per wk. Training Provided. Valid Driver's License required. Call between 10am-2pm. (248) 471-5200

Help Wanted-Domestic 5240

INDEPENDENT SALES CONTRACTORS NEEDED

For busy manufactured home dealer. \$30K + potential. Fax Resume to: 248-449-7288

Help Wanted-Domestic 5240

SALES - Lawn Care

Training provided. Some sales exp. needed. Hourly pay commensurate. FT & PT. Contact Ryan at 248-541-5296 or email: employment@turf-tenders.com

Help Wanted-Domestic 5240

ADORABLE infant needs NANNY Monday & Tuesday 7am-6pm. 15 Mile & Ryan Call Amy: 248-546-4596

Help Wanted-Domestic 5240

CHILD CARE PROVIDER
Exp'd, loving & patient person for in-home care of infant 4 days/wk. Must also love dogs. Non-Smokers only! Canton: (734) 397-4779

Help Wanted-Domestic 5240

NANNY to care for 9 yr. old boy in my Canton home. 3-5pm. Tues., Wed., Thurs. Adult, own car, references. Non-smoking home. 734-844-3767

Help Wanted-Domestic 5240

FAMILY NEEDS experienced help in caring for their mother with Alzheimer's disease. Westland area. Approx. 2 hrs. a day. (734) 326-0199

Help Wanted-Domestic 5240

Childcare Needed 5380

Help Wanted-Domestic 5240

REVOCAABLE LIVING TRUSTS \$500
Divorce - Probate - Criminal ROSE M. DASARO 17 yrs. exp. Call (734)-525-2353

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Business Opportunities 5740

Help Wanted-Domestic 5240

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Help Wanted-Domestic 5240

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Unlimited income potential, self motivated. 248-960-1800

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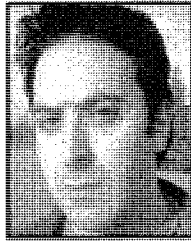
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Saturn Aura Miserly On Gas Mileage

Advertising Feature

CAReport



By Kevin Koloian
For Avanti NewsFeatures and
AllOpinionsAlltheTime.com

Foreseeing a seismic shift to fuel efficient vehicles, the people at Saturn shook up the Aura's model lineup for 2009, making fuel misers happy at the oil companies' expense.

Now, getting 33 miles per gallon on the highway, Aura 4-cylinder models lead competitors in fuel economy. And with the 4-cylinder XR joining the pack, the Aura is sporty and economical.

With the XR, fuel efficiency-minded customers can save at the pump and get standard amenities such as a six-speed automatic transmission, leather seating, alloy wheels and Bluetooth hands-free phone connectivity.

For a true hands-on driving experience, the all-new 4-cylinder XR is equipped with a six-speed automatic transmission with TAPShift, which features steering wheel-mounted paddles that allows drivers to manually change gears.

Saturn is offering a sport sedan that gets the best non-hybrid highway fuel economy numbers in its class, while keeping the ample room, style and comfort that have made the Aura a hot seller.

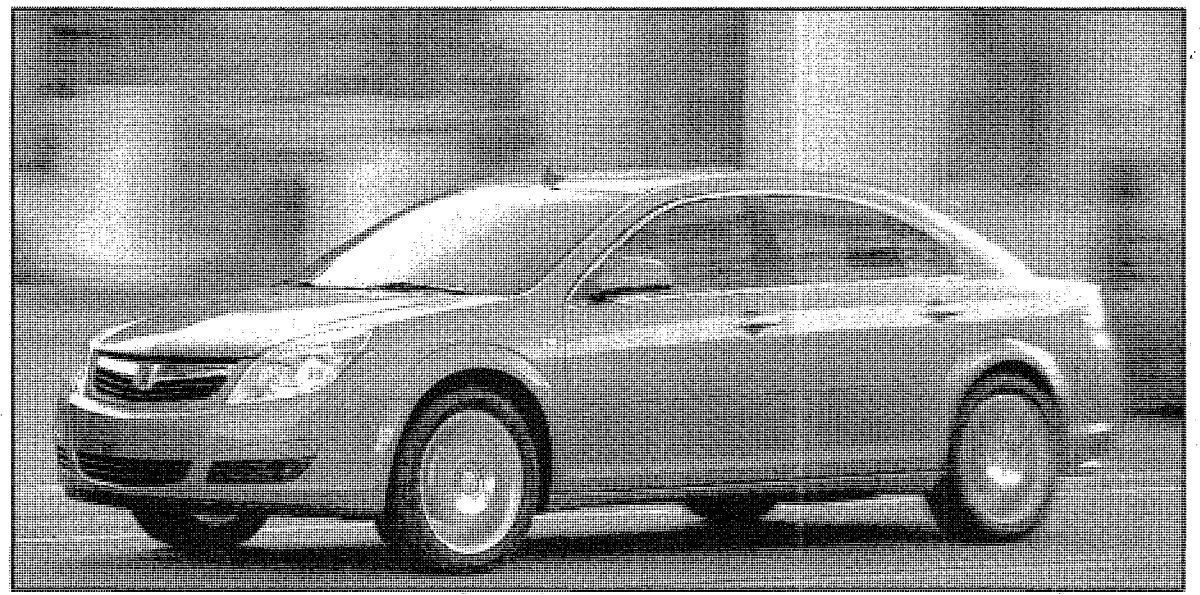
Both the base Aura XE and top-level XR 4-cylinder models achieve 33 mpg highway and 26 mpg city/highway combined.

Four Aura models will be available, including the 2.4-liter I-4 XE and XR; the 3.6-liter V6 XR and the best fuel saver of them all, the 2.4-liter I-4 Aura, which features the GM Hybrid system.

The hybrid version features a small electric motor that starts the gas engine and adds small amounts of power under high load conditions. The gas engine produces 164 horsepower by itself and a net 169 horsepower when the electric kicks in.

Unlike other hybrid setups, the Green Line offers full electric propulsion only up to about 3 miles per hour -- the Altima and Camry hybrids can get up to almost 30 mph. Therefore, city gas mileage isn't as good as its competitors.

This system is not as advanced as the company's



The new Saturn Aura gets 33 mpg on the highway for 2009.

two-mode hybrid system, which is offered in General Motors' full-size SUVs.

Aura XE and XR 4-cylinder models are rated at 169 horsepower and the Aura XR V6 model pushes out 252 horsepower V6. It is the only V6 powerplant available on the Aura, as the 3.5-liter V6 is no longer an option on the XE model.

All 4-cylinder models except for the Hybrid are equipped with the Hydra-Matic 6T40 six-speed automatic transmission. The V6 Aura model gets the Hydra-Matic 6T70 automatic transmission.

Four-cylinder Auras get 22 miles per gallon in the city and 33 mpg on the highway, while V6 Auras produce 17 city and 26 highway. Fuel economy ratings for the hybrid are 26 city and 34 highway.

Standard on the \$21,345-priced, 4-cylinder XE are 17-inch steel wheels and tires, while the new 4-cylinder XR gets alloy wheels. V6-equipped XR models come with 18-inch alloy wheels and performance tires. New for 2009, the Aura Hybrid rides on larger 17-inch alloy wheels with low rolling-resistance tires.

There are four new exterior colors for 2009; Quicksilver, Polar White, Urban Moss and Gold Mist Metallic.

Some major upgrades have also been made for 2009. Both 4-cylinder and V6 XR models get standard leather-appointed heated seats. The Ebony/Morocco Brown interior leather is available on both the 4 cylinder and V6 XR.

Bluetooth hands-free phone technology is standard on Aura XR models and available on XE and hybrid when the Preferred Package is ordered.

Lighting of the Aura's interior is upscale thanks to the gauge cluster that uses LED-lit analog instruments, as well as LEDs projecting an amber glow from the overhead lamp and front door pockets.

For a premium feel and added convenience at night, self-dimming theater lighting illuminates the cabin.

One drawback to the Aura is a slightly smaller interior than its competitors. Passenger volume measures 97.7 cubic feet, still a generous amount of space.

All models come with dual-stage frontal air bags with GM passenger sensing system, head curtain side-impact air bags, front seat-mounted thorax protection air bags, front safety belt pretensioners, LATCH child safety seat anchors, four-wheel disc brakes with ABS, StabiliTrak electronic stability control system and traction control.

The Aura has always been practical, but now thanks to the 4-cylinder offering, the Aura XR is an attractive alternative to its popular Japanese competitors.

Kevin Koloian writes about new cars for Avanti NewsFeatures and AllOpinionsAlltheTime.com. Distributed by the Fracassa News Group. @2009, Fracassa Communications. Write to us at hawkfracassa@aol.com.

2009 Saturn Aura
Vehicle class: Sedan

Power: 4-cylinder and V6 engines

Mileage: 22 mpg city / 32 mpg highway

Where built: Kansas City, Kansas.

Base price: \$21,345

OE0063977

CLASSIFIED INDEX

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0290...Sports Utility
0300...Sports & Imported

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White, heated and cooling seats, loaded \$17,995
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REGAL LS 2002 Leather, burg, only 21K, \$9,995
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RENDEZVOUS 2005-2006 12 to choose, CXI, leather, moonroof, from \$11,950
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Cadillac 8380

CTS 2005
Luxury for less, white diamond, \$17,500 or \$75 per week. WAC + TTL
NORTH BROS. FORD 1-800-586-3518

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\$3500
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Chrysler-Plymouth 8420

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PT CRUISER LIMITED 2003
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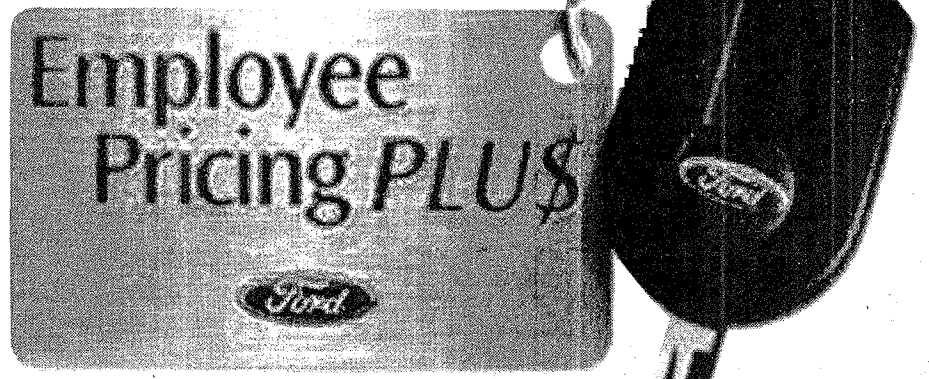
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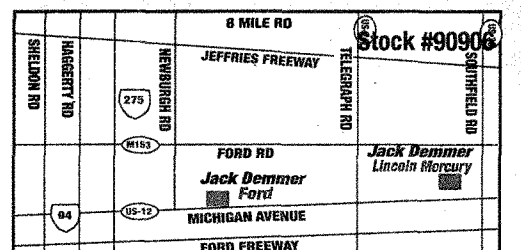
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Monday - Friday
7 am - 6 pm



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 prices the same. **All payments and prices exclude acquisition fee, tax, plates, doc fees and destination charge. 10,500 miles per year. Security deposit waived. Buy for price add tax, title, doc, and destination fees. 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 1/31/09 and see dealer for details. **Must finance thru FMCC and qualify for Rd/Rco renewal. **96 model or newer with less than 100,000 miles. All prior sales excluded. One coupon per customer.