

THURSDAY
March 19
2009

The Observer & Eccentric
Newspapers

Volume 44
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WESTLAND OBSERVER



Hospital food goes gourmet - Food & Wine, B10

online at hometownlife.com

Around Town

On the Tube

Congressman Thaddeus McCotter has been shown in the media quite often since taking a stand against the Bush administration's bailout of Wall Street last year. McCotter also has gotten attention for speaking out in support of the auto industry and for opposing President Barack Obama's economic stimulus package.

Now he's speaking out about AIG and its "gross misfeasance in doling out \$165 million in executive bonuses." If you don't watch C-Span, you can listen on the Internet's popular YouTube Web site. Just do a search for McCotter and tune in.

McCotter, a Livonia Republican, represents Michigan's 11th District in the U.S. House of Representatives. It includes the city of Westland.

Quilt show

Quilt making will be on center stage when the Plymouth/Westland Grange holds its fifth annual Quilt and Needle Arts Show Saturday, March 28, at the Westland senior Friendship Center.

There will be craft booths, quilt and needle art entries and appraisals available by appointment during the show which will be open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Food and beverages will be sold and prizes and gifts will be given out throughout the day.

Three classes — two for adults and one for children — also will be offered. Jeannine Kay will work with adults on the Star of Wonder quilt 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., while Velda Kirby will be the instructor for a flower and vine applique wall hanging quilt 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All levels of quilters can participate in the classes, however, seating is limited and registration is necessary. The Star of Wonder class costs \$80, while the wall hanging quilt class costs \$50.

The children's class will feature quilting and other crafts. It will be offered noon and 2 p.m.

There is a \$2 donation at the door. The Friendship Center is at 1119 Newburgh south of Ford. For more information, call (734) 722-4857.

They're No. 1

The honors keep piling up for the Wayne Memorial High School JROTC Zebra Battalion which placed first in Michigan in leadership and third competition.

The leadership and academic competition is conducted by the U.S. Army every year and more than 1,600 JROTC units were required to participate. The winning schools for each brigade now advance to the final competition in Washington, D.C.

"Our leadership and academic teams studied hard for the competition," said Steven LaHaine, retired U.S. Army first sergeant and senior Army instructor of Zebra Battalion. "Although we did not win, we placed third in our Brigade, and first in the state of Michigan in the leadership competition."

According to LaHaine, the academic team scored 81 percent "on a tough test consisting of ACT type questions." The leadership team scored 96 percent on their exam, which covered leadership principals.

Serving on the academic team were Stephen McNamara and Hannah Plumley, William Cain, Chelsea Draper and Brianna Winn. The leadership team included Tad Lloyd, Jaqueline Odien, Roger Tanner, Kristie Thomas and Sheila Tanner.

Sonic finds spot in Westland

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Sonic, a 1950s-style drive-in restaurant chain complete with carhops on roller skates, has chosen Westland for what will be its fourth restaurant in Michigan.

Sonic hopes to demolish the shuttered Denny's restaurant at Wayne Road and Central City Parkway within several weeks amid plans to serve up burgers, coneys, malts and

other old-school favorites sometime this summer, all with a retro flair.

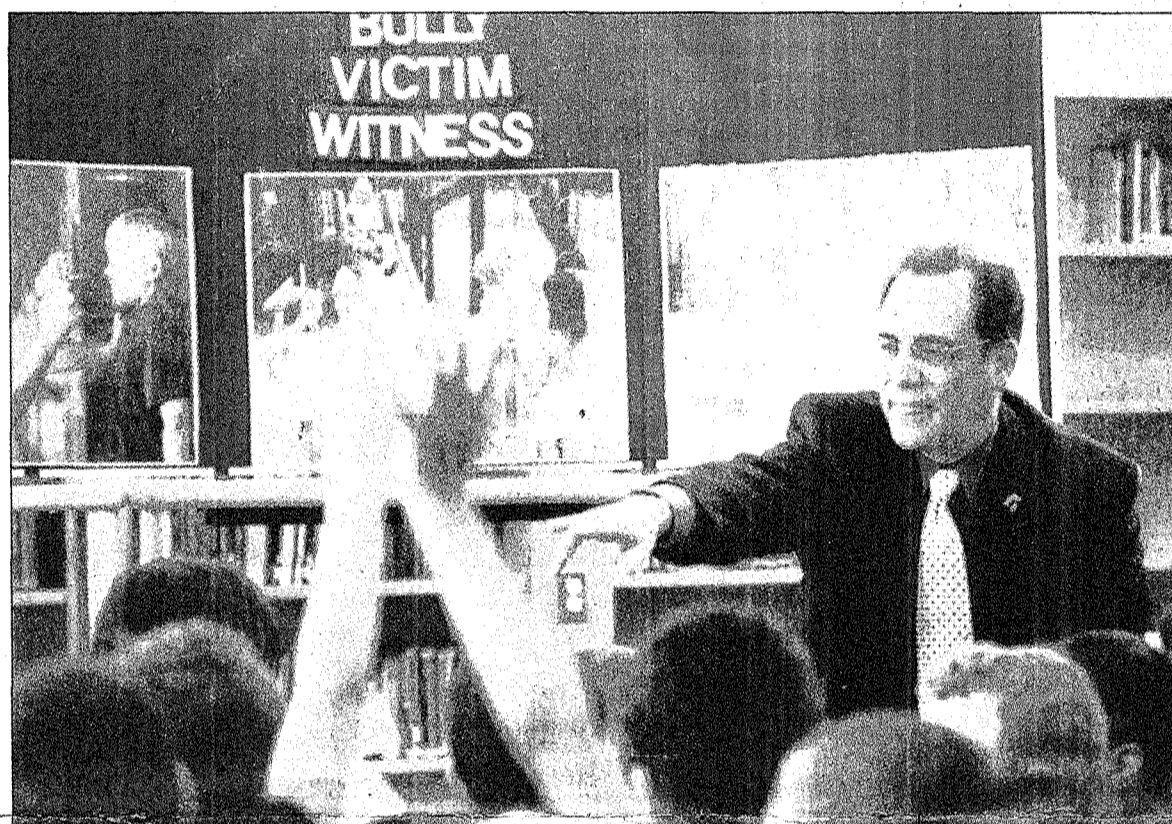
John Matar, the company's franchise development official for Wayne County, said Tuesday he is "99 percent sure" the project will happen, though he hesitated to pinpoint an opening date.

Sonic, an Oklahoma City-based chain whose prototype restaurant opened in 1953, will offer

Please see **SONIC, A2**



The new Sonic drive-in, planned for the old Denny's restaurant site, is expected to look similar to this rendering.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano asks third-graders at Patchin Elementary School in Westland what they know about stopping bullies.

County reaches out to kids with anti-bullying message

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

His name is Thomas Essak, a fifth-grader who has a message for other elementary school students: If you're being bullied, go tell an adult.

"Walk away, say no way, don't pick on me," Thomas told third-graders at Patchin Elementary School in Westland Monday afternoon. "It might work and it might not work, but the best thing is to tell a grown-up."

Thomas was the guest speaker at a "Friends Caring for Friends" anti-bullying program being launched by Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano. An interactive program teaches students the appropriate responses, if they are being bullied, witness bullying or are acting like a

bully themselves.

On hand for the presentation were Ficano, local lawmakers Sen. Glenn Anderson and Rep. Richard LeBlanc and schools Superintendent Greg Baracy who all urged the youngsters to take a stand against bullying.

"We want an environment where you can learn and not to worry about being bullied," Ficano told the students. "We want you to stand as a group and say you won't be bullied and you won't tolerate others being bullied."

Anderson spoke about his efforts to get legislation passed requiring every school district in the state to have an anti-bullying policy in place. Programs like "Friends Caring for Friends" raises aware-

Please see **BULLYING, A2**



Emily Byrom and Jordan Suriano listen to Anderson.

Senior loses money in lottery scam

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A 60-year-old woman told Westland police she lost money after she received a telephone call from a scam artist telling her she had won an international lottery worth \$5.5 million and that she would need to send a \$40 money order to claim it.

The victim told authorities she spent \$51.99 for a money order that she wired through Western Union to Kingston, Jamaica, but she then became suspicious because the caller also had advised her that she would need to send an additional \$275 in the near future.

The woman, a Garden City resident, bought the money order last week at a Westland grocery store, according to police. She tried to cancel it but was too late — it already had been cashed in Jamaica.

The incident has led to a warning from Westland police Lt. Dan Karrick, who said anyone who receives similar calls should be wary because of money scams routinely carried out by phone and e-mail.

Some scams involve callers advising people they have to pay money to secure their winnings — or pay the supposed taxes on it — before they can collect it.

Similar incidents have been reported in the past in Westland and, indeed, across the country. Authorities have said that senior citizens often are more trusting and, therefore, more susceptible to the scams.

"Things that appear too good to be true probably are," Karrick said. "Before sending any money, look into the situation thoroughly."

"If you won money," he said, "it doesn't make sense that you would have to send money or pay taxes first."

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

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2 W-W unions get 4-year agreements

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Two Wayne-Westland employee groups will be getting pay increases that mirror the raises received by the district's teachers in a contract ratified last month.

The school board voted 6-0 with board Treasurer Steve Becher absent to approve new contracts with the Wayne-Westland Building Administrators Association and Wayne-Westland Central Office Administrators Association.

The agreements, however, drew criticism from some residents who believe now is not the time to be handing out pay raises when many residents of the district are experiencing job losses or a reduction in their income.

"As a citizen of this district, I don't know of anyone who is receiving pay increases, they're

facing pay freezes or cuts," said Brandi Smith. "How do you justify giving out raises? I want to know what the kids are going to lose out on because that is going to happen."

According to Bernard La Porte, senior executive director of human resources, the four-year agreement runs through June 30, 2012, and includes increases of 1.75 percent for 2008-2009 and 1.5 percent for each of the remaining three years. The contract also includes a cut in the vacation fund, a change in health care to include a \$10 co-pay for office visits and \$25 charge for non-emergency room visits and a \$10 increase in sick day payouts when the staffer resigns, if they have worked for the district for more than 10 years.

"The salary parallels the teachers contract," he said. "That has

been the policy, when we settle a contract we look at what the teachers got."

The WWBAA salary includes five grade levels and eight steps. The wages range from a low of \$68,779 for a member at grade 11, step 1, up to a high of \$116,316 for an administrator at grade 15, step 8 in 2008-2009 and increase to a range of \$72,176 to \$121,887 in 2011-2012.

The WWCOAA salary schedule has 17 grades and 8 steps. At the low end - grade 1, step 1 - wages for 2008-2009 are 32,904 while employees at grade 17, step 8, will receive \$120,948. In the fourth year of the contract those wages will increase to \$35,260 and \$128,937 respectively.

Smith questioned why the district would agree to four-year contracts when there's a

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CONTRACTS

FROM PAGE A1

possibility of massive cuts in state school aid.

"People are taking pay cuts and pay freezes; that needs to happen here," she said. "With the current losses, you need to make sure we don't lose services to the students."

Her sentiments were echoed by Mark Blackwell who told the board that his "union brothers have taken concession after concession to stabilize the auto industry."

"The same should be happening here," he said.

Superintendent Greg Baracy stressed that the district has been involved in cost containment for quite some time. The district has cut back on non-essential purchases and has restricted overtime. It also purchases diesel fuel at half

the price at the pump through a cooperative agreement and buys natural gas from the well head.

"Children are our first concern," Baracy said. "There are concessions in these packages. We are tightening our belt and retooling like business. We have a plan, we have a funding structure to preserve programs for the students."

He added that there have been a number of concessions made by the bargaining units that are cost containment.

Board President Martha Pitsenbarger told the audience that the district has done what she has done with her personal finances.

"They're doing everything they can for cost containment," Pitsenbarger said. "We know who we're here for - children. Don't think we don't have children first."

smason@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6751

BULLYING

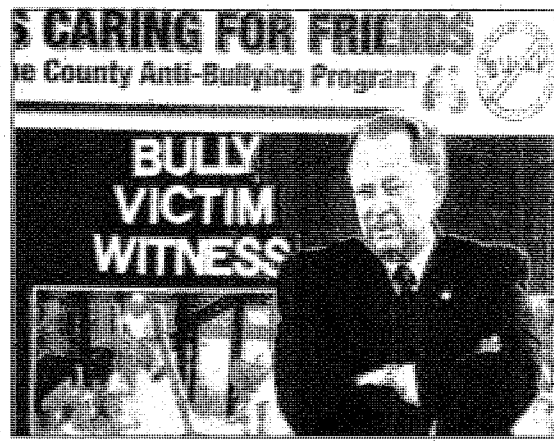
FROM PAGE A1

ness of the problem to a new level.

"We have to be proactive to stop this from happening, I want to make Michigan bully free," he said. "You have so much coming at you in school that you don't need a bully to impact your learning."

Mike Boynton, coordinator of community outreach for Wayne County, presented the program with help of students who played the victims and witnesses to his "bullying." He used the role playing to get the message across to students that called students up for role playing to show what bullying is - hitting, teasing, name calling and gossiping - and what witnesses can do to help the victim.

Boynton was involved in a lot of community outreach as a Wayne County sheriff's deputy. He brought that expertise to



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, explains the bill he has introduced that would make Michigan 'bully free.'

the county executive's office and now does "Friends Caring for Friends" and Fit Wise programs around the county.

The anti-bullying program has been presented in Trenton, Livonia and Detroit as a pilot program and is now being rolled out for other schools.

"What you do may make a bully think about what he does," said Boynton.

Thomas, a Grosse Pointe Woods resident, is the son of co-worker, who has been the

victim of bullying in part to his stature. The fifth-grader stands 4-foot-2.

He shared with students his feelings when he was ridiculed for letting in a goal during a soccer and being picked on because of his height.

"He made feel that I was bringing the team down," said Thomas. "It made me feel sad, mad and furious."

He also told students that he was able to turn a bully into a friend by pointing out his

behavior to a mutual friend.

"He thought he was just having fun," said Thomas. "Now we've become friends and we're the Three Musketeers."

The Patchin students were given an anti-bully pledge to sign, an activity book and bookmarks. There also were blue bracelets to show they've taken a stand on bullying.

"Some students don't realize that name calling and making fun of others is bullying," Baracy told students. "It's not cool to be a bully. Don't bully. Bullies are not cool."

The "Friends Caring for Friends" anti-bullying program is free of charge. Schools can request the presentation by calling Boynton at (313) 967-6021.

"We don't want to accept the mentality the treats bullying as just a rite of passage," Ficano said. "Bullying causes a youngster's grades to suffer along with their self-esteem and hurts their social development."

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SONIC

FROM PAGE A1

customers a choice of parking and placing their orders on a speaker menu, enjoying outdoor seating or driving through and taking it home.

Billed as America's biggest drive-in restaurant, Sonic has

some 3,400 U.S. locations, and local officials said the company will be a good fit for Westland, a city that has begun marketing itself as an all-American city.

Moreover, Sonic will provide a much-needed boost for a core shopping and dining district that hasn't had many new businesses to celebrate due to an economic downturn.

"This is a tremendous addition to our shopping and dining district, and we are encouraged by the fact that they've chosen Westland," said Westland Mayor William R. Wild. "Their presence will revitalize that area by putting a new spin on family dining."

Sonic will need site plan and special land use approval from the Westland City Council, which is expected to vote on the measures as early as April.

Wild held out hope that other companies will view the new Sonic restaurant as a sign that they, too, should consider locating in an area where city

officials have been striving to fill vacancies.

Westland Economic Director Lori Fodale, among the administration officials who courted Sonic during its expansion in Michigan, said the drive-in could draw customers who also might spend money in the city's core retail district, including Westland Shopping Center.

"It's not just going to draw people from Westland, but also from other communities who will hopefully stay and shop in that area," she said.

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AROUND WESTLAND

Kindergarten Roundup

Wayne-Westland Community Schools will hold its Kindergarten Roundup from 9-10 a.m. Tuesday, March 31, at its elementary schools. All children who live in the school district and will be 5 years old by Dec. 1, 2009, are eligible to enroll. Parents and family are invited to attend.

For more information or to locate a school near you, call (734) 419-2096.

Parent workshop

Celebrate Calm will present a workshop for parents and teachers, 10 Secrets to a Stress-Free Home and School, 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 21, at Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland.

Create a calm home, eliminate yelling and arguing, improve focus, attention and behavior in school and turn defiance and disrespect into internal motivation and create a stress-free discipline and homework time. The workshop is free and there is no need to register. Lunch will be served after the program. Educators will receive CEUs for attending. For more information, call the church office at (734) 728-1088.

Health Expo

Westland residents can register now for the Savas Health Expo that will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 26, at the Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy, east of Newburgh, in Westland.

The cost is \$35 to receive a full battery of tests, including blood sugar, blood pressure, body mass index, lipid profile, triglycerides, hearing and ABI for PAD (blood flow to the legs). In addition to a variety of lectures, a light breakfast and lunch will be provided and there also will be free gifts, door prizes.

Testing ends at noon and participants should not have food after midnight for testing purposes. People must register in advance by calling (248)

ON THE WEB

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356-5033. No registrations will be accepted at the door.

Pancake breakfast

International Order of Rainbow for Girls of Wayne Assembly No. 72 will have their monthly Pancake Breakfast from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, March 29, at the Wayne Masonic Lodge No. 112, 37137 Palmer, east of Newburgh, Westland. The cost is \$5 per breakfast and feature the "best pancakes in the state," served to you by the Rainbow Girls. No reservations necessary. For more information, call (734) 721-7950.

Scrapbooking

The Wayne Memorial Baseball Booster Club is hosting a Scrapbooking fundraiser from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, April 25, at the Rudgate West Clubhouse, 7040 Shawnee Drive, Romulus. The registration fee of \$25 includes a light breakfast, lunch and door prizes. The deadline for registration is April 17. Checks and money orders can be made out to Wayne Memorial Baseball. Registrations can be mailed to Wayne Baseball c/o Deborah Gush, 3001 Fourth St., Wayne, Mi. 48184. For more information, call (734) 260-9517.

Rotary auction

The annual fund-raiser, "Off to the Races" for Wayne Rotary and Wayne Recreation will be held Friday, April 24, at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe, Wayne.

Money raised will be divided between Wayne Rotary College and/or Technical School Scholarships for Wayne Memorial High School youth whose parents are currently unemployed; and Wayne Recreation's upgrade of the Walz Quadraplex playground. Live and silent auctions fea-

turing items donated by Leo's Jewelry and Gifts, as well as mock horse races will be part of the festivities. Food will be served, and there will be a cash bar.

Tickets cost \$15 and are available from Wayne Rotarians or by calling Jeff Rutter at Wayne Recreation at (734) 721-7400, Ext 1304.

Ready to skate

Westland's Concrete Jungle Skate Park is now open for business. All skateboarders and inline skaters are welcome to enjoy the peaks and valleys of the 20,000-square-foot park, which is open weekdays from 4:30 p.m. until dusk; and from noon to 4 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. until dusk on weekends.

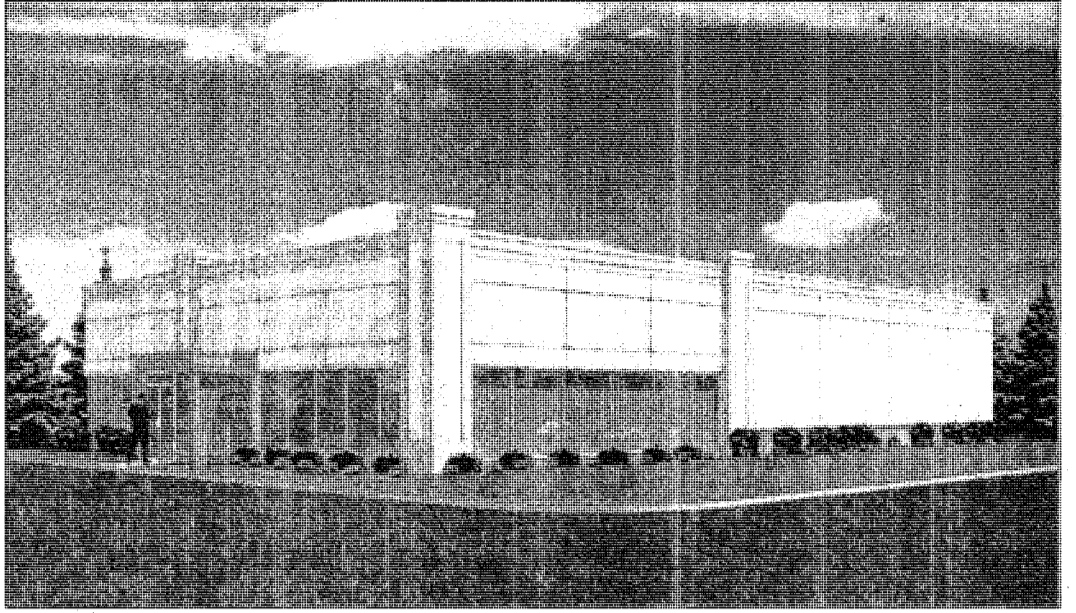
The Concrete Jungle Skate Park is beside the Melvin G. Bailey Recreation Center at 36651 Ford Road, behind Westland City Hall. For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

Glow Skate

Grab your skates and head for the Mike Modano Arena on Friday nights for Glow Skate. Cruise around the rink with blacklight illumination from 7:30-9 p.m. Admission is \$3.50 for adults and \$2.50 for children. Skate rentals are \$2.50. The arena is at 6210 Wildwood at Hunter, east of Wayne Road. For more information, call (734) 729-4560.

Prison families

Do you have a family member currently in prison? Do you feel alone? Do you wish you had a support group that you could turn to? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then this support group is for you. Contact Bonnie at (734) 646-2237 or by e-mail at hope4healing@rocketmail.com. This support group is to provide adult family members with support and a place to talk with others that have experienced similar pain. Meetings are free and held from 6:30-8:30 p.m. the second Monday of the month at the Kirk of Our Savior, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, in Westland.



Sunrise Medical Equipment plans to renovate the old Wonder Bread outlet as shown here.

Vacant building gets makeover, new tenant

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A former Wonder Bread outlet, described by Westland city leaders as a symbol of blight on the Wayne Road commercial corridor north of Cherry Hill, is expected to get a major facelift by a medical equipment company.

The building has stood vacant since Wonder Bread earlier moved to its new location in a shopping center on the northwest corner of Wayne and Hunter, but plans by Sunrise Medical Equipment to renovate the site will amount to "a remarkable change," Westland

Planning Director Bruce Thompson said.

Sunrise received approval for a revised site plan Monday from the Westland City Council, becoming the latest business to buck an economic downturn by investing in its own future and in one of the city's major commercial districts.

Mayor William Wild called it "great news" that Sunrise plans to renovate the building's exterior and move from a much smaller location in a strip mall on Wayne between Palmer and Glenwood.

Wild welcomed Sunrise's decision to renovate what he

called "a very blighted building" in the city's Downtown Development Authority district, which, in part, includes the stretch of Wayne Road south of Ford. Local officials have been striving to spruce up the area.

The DDA district also includes the entire east-west stretch of Ford Road through Westland.

Thompson said Sunrise will virtually triple its space with the move.

"It should be a good investment in that site and in that area," he said.

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Livonia Public Schools
Open Renowned Academically Talented Program to Out-of-District Students

Twenty seats are open to students across grades 1 through 5 in fall 2009.
Limited Registration window: April 6-20

Livonia Public Schools is opening its Alternative Classrooms for the Academically Talented (ACAT) program to Limited Schools of Choice for the 2009-10 school year. This program is geared toward academically talented students looking for a specialized learning experience.

Registration will be open from April 6-20 at the Department of Elementary and Special Program, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia 48154 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. All candidates MUST meet the ACAT selection testing criteria.

For complete information on the application process, visit www.livonia.k12.mi.us or contact Charlotte Worthen, Director of Elementary & Special Programs at 734-744-2589.

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Police: Vandals smash windows of two homes

1 Residents of a north-end neighborhood may want to remain alert after police said vandals smashed two windows of homes on Moonwood Place, north of Cowan between Wildwood and Farmington.

The first incident happened between 4:30 and 5:30 p.m. Sunday, and a 55-year-old homeowner told police that someone used a brick to break out a back window of his home. The victim heard a loud noise and spotted a suspect fleeing the scene on foot without gaining entry to the residence.

The second incident happened about 11 p.m. Sunday. A 48-year-old woman reported that she heard a loud crash and found that the front living room window of her home had been broken out with a baseball-size rock. The victim looked outside but didn't see anyone.

Westland police were continuing to investigate the incidents.

Stolen cars

2 A 28-year-old man told police that someone stole his 1999 Chrysler Concorde between 8 p.m. last Thursday and 12:30 a.m. Friday while it was parked in front of his residence on August, northwest of Ann Arbor Trail and Middlebelt.

3 A 49-year-old man reported that his 1998 Ford Econoline van was

stolen between 9 p.m. and 11:45 p.m. Thursday, March 12, after he parked in a back parking lot at Rene's Bar, on Ann Arbor Trail just east of Merriman.

4 A 46-year-old woman's stolen car, a Pontiac G6, was returned to her after it was stolen while she was pumping gas shortly after 5 p.m. March 10 at the Marathon gas station on the northeast corner of Warren and Newburgh roads.

The victim told police she was pumping gas when an unknown bandit got into her car and drove off while she still was putting fuel into it. However, a witness followed the stolen car until it turned into nearby Woodbridge Pond Apartments and then called police.

Officers scoured the area but didn't locate a suspect, but they brought the woman to the apartment complex to identify her car. She told police her keys, wallet and Blackberry were missing.

Apartment ransacked

5 A 43-year-old man told police that the door of his apartment had been kicked in and his residence ransacked between 5:15 a.m. and 5:10 p.m. March 10. The incident happened at Fountain Park Apartments, on the west side of Newburgh north of Warren.

Burglary reported

6 A 22-year-old man told police that someone went into his residence on Oxbow, southeast of Joy and Middlebelt, and took his Xbox gaming system and his grandfather's watch. He said the incident happened between 8 p.m. March 9 and 9 a.m. March 10.

Larceny from a car

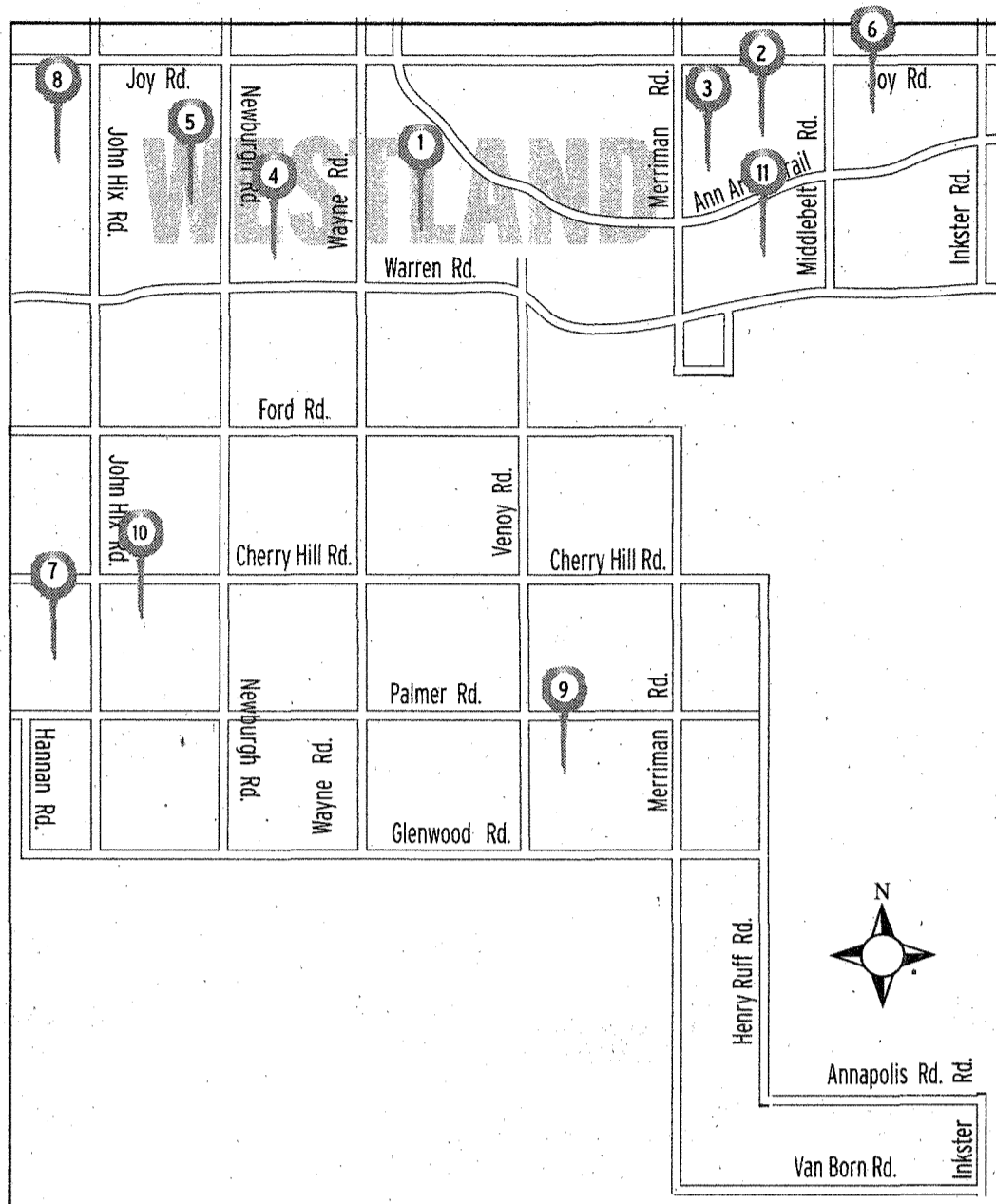
7 A 29-year-old man's laptop computer and GPS were stolen from his vehicle while it was parked in the driveway of his home on Barchester, west of John Hix between Palmer and Cherry Hill, between 6 p.m. March 9 and 10 a.m. March 10. The victim told police that he locked the vehicle but that he found the rear passenger door open on the morning of March 10.

Vehicle window smashed

8 A 43-year-old woman told police that the window of her vehicle was smashed out and several items taken while it was parked in her driveway on Meghan Lane, southwest of Joy and Hix roads, between 8:30 p.m. last Thursday and 8 a.m. Friday.

Money order taken

9 An 87-year-old man reported that a \$1,000 money order was stolen from his unlocked vehicle while it was parked on Kalamazoo Court, southeast of Palmer and Venoy,



between 1-3 p.m. Friday.

Items taken from cars

10 A 31-year-old man reported that several items were taken from his vehicle while it was parked outside his residence, southeast of Cherry Hill and John Hix roads, sometime after

2 p.m. March 11. The man told police he left the car unlocked.

11 A 42-year-old man contacted police after someone stole a credit card and an ATM card from his vehicle while it was parked on Shackett, southwest of Ann Arbor Trail and Middlebelt, in late February. He

only recently reported the incident after being contacted that someone had used the cards.

The man, who told police he left the car unlocked, also said \$300 in cash was taken from the vehicle.

- By Darrell Clem

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in front of Macy's, East Court

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Madonna students devote their spring break to Katrina cleanup

Sixteen Madonna University students spent their spring break clearing brush, bramble, dead trees and debris left from Hurricane Katrina at the University of Southern Mississippi. The students, who traveled to Mississippi as part of Madonna's Alternative Spring Break program, created a half-mile nature trail for USM's Golf Coast Research Lab.

"I never imagined that creating nature trails would have such an impact," said Cari DeLamielleure, a Madonna journalism/PR and sociology major from Brighton. "Not only are they a nice addition to the Lab, they also provide a way to engage the community in environmental education and recreation." The research facility, which borders marshland, develops culture and stocking programs for recreational

finfish species including bass.

Madonna University's Office of Service-Learning offers an Alternative Spring Break trip annually to provide assistance to an outside community in need.

"We've gone to the Gulf Coast for the last three years to help hurricane victims," said Kevin West, director of service learning at Madonna. "Each year students report having been 'transformed' by the experience. They come back motivated to help people and communities in distress."

In previous years volunteering in the Gulf Coast, Madonna students have rebuilt homes, worked with grade school children whose schools had been consolidated after Katrina, and sorted case files for the Office of Long Term Recovery in Biloxi, Miss.

"When I think about our

Alternative Spring Break trip, I remember the impact we made, the individuals we befriended, and how we changed a community for a lifetime," said DeLamielleure.

Madonna University's Office of Service-Learning promotes, supports and sustains effective service-learning partnerships between Madonna students, faculty, staff and the community. Service-learning fulfills the University's mission by instilling in students a respect for diversity and a commitment to serving others.

In cooperation with community organizations throughout metro-Detroit, the Office serves as a resource to students enrolled in service-learning classes, and it provides a number of opportunities for students to volunteer.



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Garden City resident Opal Spear, Lyle Smith of Westland and Sally Day of Livonia join in the fun to the chicken dance at the St. Patrick's Day party.

Seniors turn green for St. Pat's party

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

They take the "Wearing of the Green" literally at the Maplewood Community Center.

In fact, it was a sea of green — clothes, hats and necklaces — when the Maplewood Seniors gathered for a St. Patrick's Day Party the day before the holiday.

"It's very festive — (Maplewood Center Supervisor) Cheryl (Stepanian) does a great job," said Ed Weiland, who might have been the only guest not wearing green. "I had no green to wear. I'm the only one wearing a tie, I feel overdressed."

Along with green clothing, Livonia resident Dave Hermann came prepared for the festivities with a selection of hats. For part of the party, Hermann was sporting a tartan tain that included long red hair. He also had a bright green wig and oversized leprechaun hat.

"I come here for lunch and to all the parties. This is good and the food is very good," said Hermann, who was among the seniors taking to the dance floor.

About 80 people turned out for the party that included a full dinner with all the trimmings and beverages, including beer. There was some traditional Irish music but it was Dennis Malec and the International Band that got the crowd up and moving with a selection of standards.



Fran Podwoiski, 87, of Garden City says everyone is Irish on St. Patrick's Day.



Emily Jablonski of Garden City sings out about that proverbial four leaf clover as Dennis Malec and the International Band entertains the crowd attending the Maplewood Seniors St. Patrick's Day celebration.

"They really interact with the crowd. We'll do a conga line," said Stepanian.

Malec drew groans and hoots from the crowd with a story about a man who had been thrown out of the house by his wife. The wife wanted a reconciliation after the man invited Bailey's Irish Cream, Malec said, prompting the wife to say "Bill Bailey, Won't You Please Come Home."



Participants in Madonna spring break, left to right, Julie Pulgini of Farmington, Jenna Whaley of Livonia, Kevin West of Redford, Lauren Hochstein of Westland, Nicole Benoit of Inkster, Dr. Rex Gandy, Gina Robinson (wheelchair) of Oak Park, Neal Card of Midland, Ryan Vannatter of Farmington Hills, John Lovelady of South Lyon, Caroline Foster (kneeling) of Plymouth, Dean Herron of Livonia, Elizabeth Kuzawinski of Howell, Thomas Coyne of Dearborn, Cari DeLamielleure (kneeling) of Brighton, Amber Lee of St. Clair Shores, Kendall Hubbard of Novi, Louise Taylor of Walled Lake, and Stephanie Mercieca of New Hudson.

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

Case #1082F -Special Land Use Approval for Proposed Verizon Wireless 120' Monopole & Telecommunications Facility, 27675 Joy Road, Parcels #001-99-0038-000 and -0039-000, South Side of Joy Road, West of Inkster Road, Leland Calloway (Robert J. Nicolas)

Case #159B - Site Plan Approval for a Proposed Addition for a Surgical Center, 33535 Cherry Hill Road, South Side of Cherry Hill, West of Venoy Road, Parcels #061-01-0029-000, -0033-002, and -0036-002, Todd P. Borst (Mahmood A. Hai)

Case #965B - Site Plan Approval for Proposed Sonic Restaurant with Drive-Thru and Outdoor Dining, 7725 N. Wayne Road, Parcel #015-99-0008-004, Northwest Corner of Wayne Road and Central City Parkway, John Matar

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public meeting of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held in the City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday April 7, 2009.

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

Adam Hammons, Chairman
WESTLAND PLANNING COMMISSION

Publish: March 19, 2009

KNOW THE SCORE

check out the numbers in today's **SPORTS** section

CITY OF WESTLAND INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan 48185, on or before **April 2, 2009 at 10:30 a.m.** (no exceptions will be made) for the following:

Professional Appraisal Services

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office or at www.cityofwestland.com. Questions pertaining to this bid should be directed to Joanne Inglis, Director of Community Development at (734) 595-0288 ext. 222. Proposals must be submitted by the time stated above or they will be returned. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Jade M. Smith
Controller

Publish: March 19, 2009

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

CAVALIER PROPERTIES NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to state law a sale will be held at: Secured Self Storage, 2460 Gully Rd., Dearborn Heights, MI. April 11, 2009 at 1:05 PM.

#231 Patricia M. Sczech	Units contain: Misc Household Items
#232 Patricia M. Sczech	Units contain: Misc Household Items
#330 Patricia M. Sczech	Units contain: Misc Household Items
#450 Kevin E. Tyler	Units contain: Misc Household Items
#505 Melvin Turner	Units contain: Misc Household Items
#506 Afro Sol/Melvin Turner	Units contain: Misc Household Items
#1126 Mellisa L. Sheehan	Units contain: Misc Household Items

Publish: March 19 and 26, 2009

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

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

Case #965A - Public Hearing for Special Land Use Approval for Proposed Sonic Restaurant with Drive-Thru and Outdoor Dining, 7725 N. Wayne Road, Parcel #015-99-0008-004, Northwest Corner of Wayne Road and Central City Parkway, John Matar

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 7, 2009.

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

Adam Hammons, Chairman
WESTLAND PLANNING COMMISSION

Publish: March 19, 2009

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

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

Case #0077A - Public Hearing for Special Land Use Approval for Proposed Verizon Wireless Telecommunication Facility, 37550 Cherry Hill Road, Parcel #052-99-0023-701, North Side of Cherry Hill Road, West of Newburgh Road, Barbara Shipley (Colleen C. Scherheim)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 7, 2009.

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

Adam Hammons, Chairman
WESTLAND PLANNING COMMISSION

Publish: March 19, 2009

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

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

Case #1250C - Public Hearing for Special Land Use Approval for Proposed Joe's Coney Island Restaurant, 1912 S. Venoy, Southwest corner of Venoy and Palmer Roads, Parcel #074-03-0009-301, Jaoudat Haidar (Ed Sandiha)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 7, 2009.

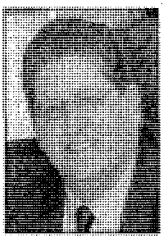
Written comments must be submitted to the Planning Commission before 5:00 p.m. one (1) day prior to the scheduled meeting.

Adam Hammons, Chairman
WESTLAND PLANNING COMMISSION

Publish: March 19, 2009

One good week doesn't tell us much

After months of free fall, the stock market finally put together a good week. All three of the major indexes ended the week in positive territory — the best week on Wall Street in four months. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 9 percent for the week, while the S&P 500 and the NASDAQ market were both up nearly 11 percent last week.



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

Obviously, last week's stock market rally was a breath of fresh air for investors who've been beaten up over the last year. However, the real issue is what does the stock market rally mean?

I don't have an answer. I would love to say it marks the bottom of the stock market and we are on our way up. I can't. In today's volatile times, where we have seen incredibly wide swings in the market over short periods of time, one good week in the market does not mean that the worst is behind us. Basically, one good week in the market means simply that we had one good week.

Not unexpectedly, I have received numerous e-mails from investors who have bailed out of the stock market and are questioning whether now is the time to jump back in. My response to these individuals is that I am not a market timer and I do not believe that is a strategy that most people should implement. After all, when you time the market you have to be correct twice, once when you buy and once when you sell and over the years, no

one has been able to do that consistently. What I have told those investors is that it's not the market that determines whether you should be investing or not, but rather what your individual goals and objectives are. I've always believed that markets are irrational and unpredictable over short-term periods, but are much more understandable when you look long-term. Investors should not be investing in the stock market thinking they will get rich quick. Typically, when you invest thinking that you can get rich over the short run, the only thing that happens is inevitably you lose money.

I know this seems like old-fashioned advice, but the stock market is for the long run and what happens over any week should not cause an investor to change their strategy one way or the other. Therefore, if you are a nervous investor and pulled out of the market because you were concerned with the volatility, one week of an up market should not cause you to jump back in.

The stock market rarely goes straight forward in one direction. When the general trend of the market is up, there are many down days and vice versa. When the market is trending down, there are many up periods. Because of the wide fluctuations in the market, it is difficult to see overall trends over short-term periods of time. The only way we will know what the bottom of the market was is when we look back over time and say yes, that was the bottom of the market. It may take another year for us to determine when the actual bottom was hit. After all, in this volatile, crazy market, anything can happen. Next week

may be another great week in the market or we may give up all the gains that we saw last week. We just don't know.

There are all sorts of soothsayers who claim that their stock system can predict when the bottom has been reached and when it's the right time to get back in. I wish that their claims were accurate as it would make life a lot easier; unfortunately, they are clueless. That is why the one sure way to invest, the way that gives you the highest chance of success, is to invest based upon your individual situation. What that means is that short-term needs for money are kept out of the market and only long-term money is in the market. Of course, you do have the aberration like last year where everything went down; however, remember last year was the aberration, not the norm.

I've always told investors not to let emotions dictate their investment decisions. Emotions are a two-way street. I don't believe we should get overly giddy when the market is rising; nor should we get overly depressed when the market is falling. Emotions need to be kept out of investing as much as possible. You need a clear mind when it comes to investing so you can make the right decision not the decision that provides you with the most short-term comfort, but the one that best suits your situation both short-term and long-term. Good luck!

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

Dine with yoga stars of metro Detroit

Dining with the Stars sponsored by Buddy's Pizza and the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers takes a special twist this month. The winner will dine with the yoga stars of metro Detroit.

The group includes Katherine Lucas, founder of Karma Yoga, Inc.; Sara Davidson, ERYT-500; Matthew Darling of Ashtangamichigan.com; and Linda Kay of Yoga Shelter.

Tell us in 100 words or less why you want to have

lunch with yoga stars at Buddy's Pizza in Farmington Hills. E-mail your entry to BuddysDiningStars@gmail.com by 5 p.m. Tuesday, March 31.

The contest winner will be treated to a limo ride from Class Plus Limo, a makeover courtesy of Christine from the Beauty Salon in Birmingham, a \$100 gift certificate from Reaver Diamond Co. in Southfield and a dance exhibition by the Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Bloomfield Hills.

Robert Jacobs, owner of Buddy's Pizza and an 18-year student of yoga, says the yoga community played a major role in his recovery from Guillain-Barre syndrome, a rare autoimmune disease which attacks the body's nerves. He used yoga to heal and was supported by the yoga community. His quest for health has expanded into his own business. He created a healthy nine multigrain pizza which will be served at the yoga stars lunch.

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- Travel Impressions
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Saturday March 28, 2009 - 11-4pm
and
Sunday March 29, 2009 - Noon-4pm

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Look for more details and incentives to book your travel right at the show. For additional questions or directions to the event, please contact Brookside Travel at 248-344-4747, travel@jebrookside.com or our website at www.jebrookside.com

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CORRECTION

The HP Notebook Computer model #HPG70250US/34099 in our Tab for the week of March 15th should read; \$50 MAIL-IN REBATE. We apologize for any inconvenience to our ABC Warehouse customers.

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Presented by
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OUR VIEWS

Wilk epitomizes ATHENA ideals

Humbled. It's the word heard most often in connection with the ATHENA Award. And that was the case when Sue Wilk, a school social worker, was selected as Westland's recipient for 2009.

The ATHENA award recognizes a man or woman for excellence in business or a profession, service to the community and assisting women in reaching their full potential. There's no doubt Wilk has done that during her time with the Wayne-Westland Community Schools. You need only listen to those who know her.

Ginny Kowalski, principal of the William D. Ford Career Technical Center, who nominated Wilk for the award, describes her as the center's backbone. She is a facilitator of communication and is a good listener for the students, the staff and even Kowalski.

She is an integral part of the center's success in the Convergence Education Foundation's Innovative Vehicle Design competition, a involvement that has positioned her to involve students in activity that lets them experience success. Wilk has been lauded for her dedication to young people and staff at the center in helping them to succeed. A case in point is student Angela Czarniowski whom she got involved in the IVD program. The involvement led to a dual enrollment for Czarniowski who also was the car's driver.

Wilk says that as a social worker she has "the chance every day to do something to help someone" and it shows. You need only listen to her co-worker Zachary MacLean to understand what she means to the Career Technical Center and the IVD program.

Wilk may be adjusting to her newfound fame, but we believe it is most deserving. The Career Technical Center is a lifeline for students in need of direction and the person on the other end of the rope is Sue Wilk. It's hard to calculate how many young lives she has touched and how many youths have gone on to educational success because of her work.

Sue Wilk says her role is making sure people have time to talk together, and the people she works with are talking. What they say is a tribute to her. We congratulate Sue Wilk on being named the 2009 Westland ATHENA Award winner and look forward to hearing more good things about her, the staff and students at the Career Technical Center.

ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS

■ Gravy train is over

Should have taken this into account before you handed out the biggest pay raises that the city workers had ever received. Everyone else in this state has taken concessions except the employees of this town. Wake up the gravy train is over. This city is going bankrupt from these fat bloated pensions. Make the police and fire chief position a contracted one. This business of escorting in and out a new chief every year is ridiculous.

hockeytown316

■ Is there enough work?

Do all employee's have enough work to fill 8 hours per day / 5 days a week? Are they managing their time and working efficiently? I also agree that Westland residents can't afford more taxes when our property values are dropping like crazy. The city needs to serious look at what they can cut back on or completely out before they ask us for anymore money!

tck1980

Join the discussion

Will Michigan State make it to the Final Four at Ford Field?

Go to hometownlife.com to give us your feedback.

WESTLAND OBSERVER



Sue Mason
Community Editor

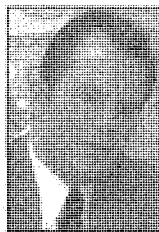
Hugh Gallagher
Managing Editor

Grace Perry
Director of Advertising

Susan Rosiek
Executive Editor

Here is a prescription for health care

Michigan lawmakers have a full agenda and one of the key issues is health care reform. These efforts could not come at a better time. As the economy falters, more and more families are losing coverage and, unfortunately, are left on their own to search for solutions.



Mike Cox

Last year, I opposed rate hikes from Blue Cross and legislative bills that stripped the Governor and Attorney General's Office of their traditional oversight roles, and would continue to do so in the future. Already this year, the Blues proposed a rate hike for more than 400,000 consumers who purchase individual health care coverage. For many, the increases would be more than 50 percent. As legislators begin the task of reforming the way people buy insurance, they need to find ways to preserve protections for consumers. This can be accomplished while ensuring that Blue Cross remains stable and continues to stay true to its mission as the state's insurer of last resort.

Make no mistake, Michigan's health care system is in need of reform now. Now is also the time that legislators should explore new and creative ways in which to lower costs and expand access to care.

The Attorney General's Office has long been involved in representing ratepayers and the public regarding health care costs. As lawmakers grapple with these issues, here is a list of principles to consider:

- Maintain the traditional oversight role

of the Governor and Attorney General. In 2007, the Blues sought a rate hike of more than 50 percent on one line of insurance. My office intervened, saving 220,000 seniors \$97 million initially, and another \$69 million each year thereafter. Consumers need a watchdog to keep rates in check.

■ Shorten the time in which pre-existing conditions are excluded from coverage to six months for all insurers. Currently, if you are a diabetic, or a cancer patient, it takes one year for what is called your pre-existing condition to be covered by a commercial insurer, if you can obtain coverage. That exclusion of health insurance coverage needs to be cut in half, to six months, which is the rule that applies to Blue Cross. This change alone will benefit thousands of Michigan citizens, enabling them to get coverage more quickly.

■ Create a catastrophic health fund to provide coverage to those most in need. Here's how: Blue Cross has indicated it wants to purchase businesses that have nothing to do with insurance. Therefore, any legislation giving Blue Cross the ability to purchase more businesses should first include an initial licensing fee from the Blues of \$100 million. This fee would create a catastrophic health care fund to care for those who need it most. Each additional purchase of another company by Blue Cross should require that 20 percent of the price be deposited in such a fund. If this had been done four years ago, there would already be a \$200 million catastrophic health care fund.

- Take a page from Consumer Reports'

playbook. The legislature should mandate that the Office of Financial and Insurance Regulation present an annual report that compares Michigan's health insurance costs with those of the rest of the nation. Let's find out how we stack up. By doing so, this report would shine a spotlight on what Michigan needs to do to make health care more affordable in the years to come.

Like nearly 70 percent of Michigan residents, I am a Blue Cross subscriber and depend on its viability for access to care. I believe a healthy Blue Cross is an important part of Michigan's economy.

However, my job, and that of the legislature, is to ensure that Blue Cross stays true to its mission. The Blues were founded during the Great Depression as a benevolent and charitable non-profit to increase assure accessibility to health care. No matter what changes are contemplated, that mission must not be diminished.

With unemployment at 10.6 percent, and more than one in four Michigan residents either uninsured or on Medicaid, the urgency for the legislature to act and increase the accessibility of affordable health care insurance for consumers has never been greater.

For a link to the letter from the Attorney General to state legislators, containing all ten points:

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/ag/Letter_to_Legislators_from_Attorney_General_Mike_Cox_January_29_2009_265005_7.pdf

Mike Cox is the Michigan Attorney General. He lives in Livonia.

LETTERS

What do you think?

Mail comments to the Westland Observer, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226 or e-mail to smason@hometownlife.com.

Fantasy thinking

Wind and solar power should be pursued as a free market demands it, not forced on us by our government. All potential energy sources should be explored as free market choices, not as directed by government.

Climate science should inform public policy, not Al Gore's hysterical, self-serving public cries for "greening" which are ridiculous as seen by his personal choices in his private life.

Before anyone hides behind Al Gore's global warming rant as an excuse for not using domestic oil resources, get a clue. Study some of these free videos at <http://sovereignty.net/library/library-4.htm> and catch up on the facts. The International Conference on Climate Change met to present the latest scientific findings from some of the world's leading climatologists, many of whom have been participants in the U.N.'s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Economists, legal experts, and other climate specialists are calling attention to new research that contradicts claims that Earth's moderate warming during the last century was man-made and has reached crisis proportions.

In one of the studies, released on Jan. 28, by Kyle L. Swanson and Anastasias A. Tsonis, who are professors in the Department of Mathematical Sciences at

the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, found that the earth has been cooling since 2001 and projected that due to "global variation" the climate would continue to cool for the next 20 to 30 years.

Care for the environment can be accomplished without doing further damage to the economy or Americans' standard of living.

Unfortunately, Democrats and the greens have decided that the "science is in" and they don't believe these scientific studies. They can't take the word of prominent scientists and mathematicians when we all know what an "expert" Al Gore is on the subject! They would rather base their concerns on old data, data that has a small, few-year life span, just like the barking of the coming of a new ice age in the 1970.

The Democrats have the majority so it's on with the spending spree they have waited so long for and let the American taxpayer be damned. They could care less about us.

They could have accomplished all of these goals — 1) stimulate the economy 2) create new jobs 3) reduce our depen-

dence on foreign oil — by simply removing the ban on off-shore drilling and if that didn't grab you in the pooh-pooh, a detailed study by American Energy Alliance has shown that achieving these goals would have also added \$2 trillion in new tax revenues!

By prohibiting the use of domestic oil, Democrats will not reduce the use of oil. Their unreasonable ban on domestic resource use will just force Americans to continue to use foreign oil and send hundreds of billions of dollars to our enemies each year.

In addition to that, China, India and other Third World countries will continue to burn fossil fuels, moving their people and economy ahead while our government destroys ours.

Democrats say that by prohibiting the use of domestic oil, and subsidizing alternative energy research, Americans will be forced to abandon traditional energy sources and move to much more expensive wind and solar energy sources, and toy cars that get rewound by an overnight plug-in. This technology is still in its infancy stage. If we move ahead and pour billions into one or two sources like we did with the ethanol scam, it will have the same effect — raising prices on everything.

This kind of thinking is a fantasy at best.

Phil Solarz
Westland

COMMUNITY VOICE

Have you changed your spending habits because of the economy? We asked this question at the Maplewood Community Center in Garden City and at the William P. Faust Public Library in Westland.



"Yes, I have. I'm not spending as much and only buying what I have to have."

Ashley Basballe
Garden City



"Like the old saying goes, I'm buying what I need not what I like. That's what I have to do, no more luxuries."

Bernadine Garcia
Garden City



"Yes, actually, I've started putting 10 percent of my wages in savings, just in case, and I've dramatically stopped shopping."

Noel Carter
Inkster



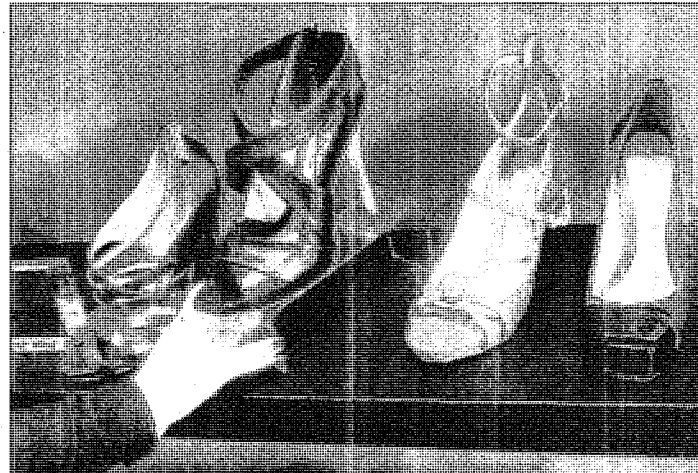
"Oh, sure. I've cut back, not eating out as much. I'm trying to be careful."

Louise McKinney
Westland

pink

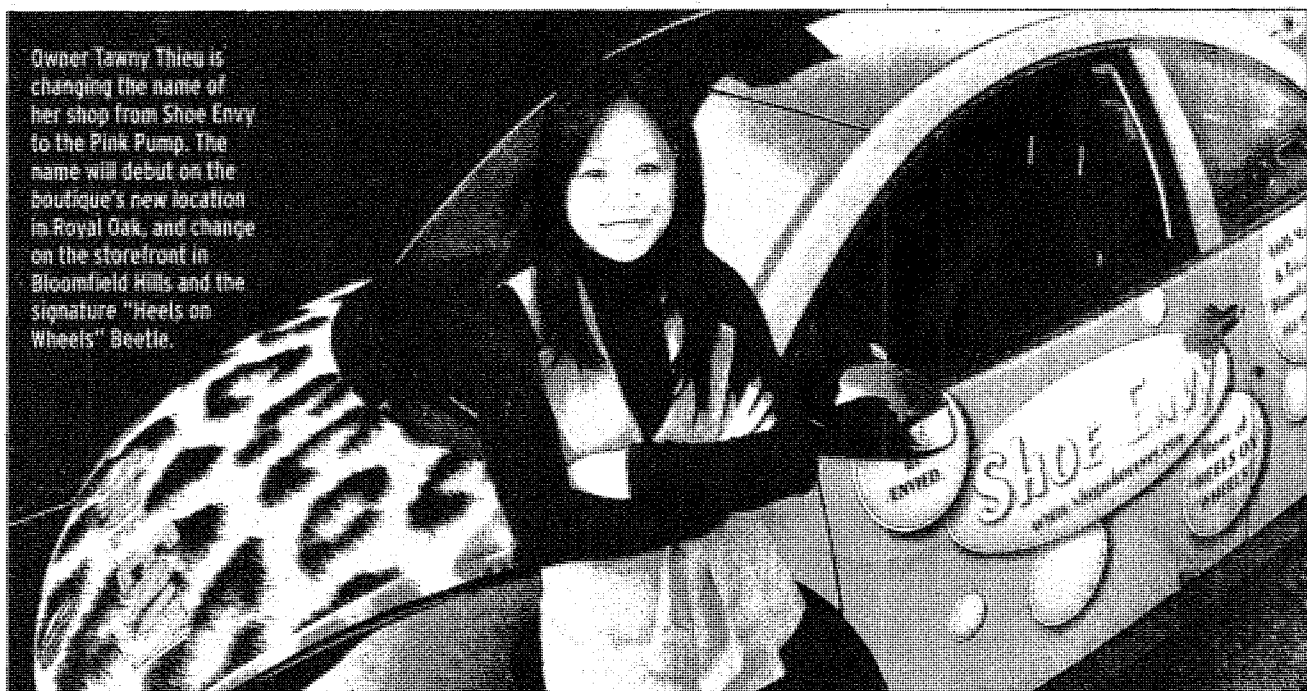


At left, simulated snakeskin accessories are hot for spring, and Pink Pump owner Tawny Thieu says you can pick up the trend at a reasonable price. At right, a display at the store.



Wensdy Von Buskirk, Editor, (313) 222-8883, wvonb@hometownlife.com

Owner Tawny Thieu is changing the name of her shop from Shoe Envy to the Pink Pump. The name will debut on the boutique's new location in Royal Oak, and change on the storefront in Bloomfield Hills and the signature "Heels on Wheels" Beetle.



PHOTOS BY JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

have daughters. Not every mom can come in and spend \$200 on a pair of shoes for every daughter," she said. "But I feel like you can still be part of the trends at any price."

Originally from Pontiac, Thieu graduated from Oakland University with a degree in business marketing. Using skills she picked up working at Heidi's Salon, Thieu opened Liquid Salon in Bloomfield Hills in April, 2005. A year later, with the opening of Shoe Envy, she fulfilled another dream.

"Growing up we didn't have a lot of money. I wore hand-me-downs from my sisters," Thieu said. "I always wanted a store. It's not even work, I love it so much, and that's why I want to give back because I know how it feels to go into a store with my mom and not be able to afford it."

Thieu said so many people have asked her advice on opening a shoe store she decided to offer franchise opportunities.

She plans to start locally and expand from there.

"We're one of the first women's shoe boutiques to offer that. It's a good time because a lot of people are taking company buyouts and entrepreneurial spirit is strong. We've had requests outside of Michigan as well," she said.

In order to avoid future conflicts, Thieu is dropping the name Shoe Envy, which is in use in other states. The change is expected to be finalized in April. Thieu is preparing to close her outlet store in Keego Harbor this spring, and everything is marked down.

In addition to shoes, Pink Pump carries fashion-forward T-shirts, accessories, handbags and belts. Free gift wrapping and delivery are available.

Shoe Envy/Pink Pump is located at 6606 Telegraph Road, Bloomfield Hills. Call (248) 539-9260. Hours are 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Saturday. Call (248) 683-1031 or visit www.shopshoenvy.com for updates on the new Royal Oak location.

The Pink Pump

Local shoe store set to expand this spring

BY WENSDY VON BUSKIRK
O&E STAFF WRITER

Times might be tough, but a girl's still gotta have her shoes.

Even as the economy continues to contract, one local shoe store is poised to expand, opening a new location and setting the stage for more.

Shoe Envy, located in Bloomfield Hills with an outlet in Keego Harbor, expects to open a new location in Royal Oak next month, and will change its name to the Pink Pump in preparation for franchising.

Owner Tawny Thieu says women are still buying shoes, albeit maybe fewer, less expensive pairs.

"We sell affordable luxury,"

PINK PUMP SHOE DRIVE

The Pink Pump will host a shoe drive for charity throughout the month of April. Drop off gently used shoes in wearable condition, and get \$10 off your purchase. All donated shoes will be delivered to Grace Centers of Hope in Pontiac in the Pink Pump's fuschia and leopard "Heels on Wheels" Volkswagen Beetle.

said Thieu, 29, "People are still spending, they're just spending more wisely."

Customers realize the importance of shopping local, and they're looking for a value-added experience, she said.

That's why Thieu unveiled the "Heels on Wheels" concept last year. She and her staff now deliver stilettos and sandals to their customers in a Volkswagen Beetle. Thieu said they bring shoes to offices for private lunchtime shopping sprees, and visit homes for personal shoe styling.

Heads always turn when the fuschia and leopard-print Bug pulls up to deliver gifts to unsuspecting recipients.

"If you're spending money you want to spend smart," she said. "The impact of having a pair of shoes delivered is great. Usually the person who gets a gift delivered turns around and buys a gift for someone else."

There are tons of fun sandals

for the coming season, Thieu said.

Look for animal skins, embellishments and the modified gladiator style, which has evolved since it hit the scene last year.

"For spring, there's a lot of fringe, natural stones and beads, and colors that look great with a tan," she said. "You're going to see the gladiator look, but softer, lacing mid-ankle or calf."

Thieu always recommends shoes with hidden wedges and platforms.

"They are great if you're on your feet," she said. "A little bit of cushion at the toe makes a big difference."

Shoes start at \$40 and go up to \$400, although Thieu admits high-end heels have become a hard sell.

"I think those days are over for a lot of people, especially if you

make your legs beautiful again.

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SPORTS, FILTER, FOOD & WINE

SECTION B
(LW)

HOMETOWN LIFE

Brad Emmons, editor, (313) 222-6851
bemmons@hometownlife.com



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Beliefs & Values, B7

Final Four-bound Patriot girls tame Mules

Will face Renaissance at Eastern Michigan

BY BRAD EMMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

There's apparently still a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow for the Livonia Franklin girls basketball team.

The Patriots continued their Class A state tournament ride Tuesday on St. Patrick's Day with a 45-39 quarterfinal victory over previously unbeaten Temperance Bedford at the University of Detroit Mercy's Calihan Hall.

Franklin, 23-3 overall, now moves into the state semifinals against Detroit Public School League champion Renaissance (22-3), which eliminated defending state champion Grosse

Pointe North, 60-50, in the second game of the doubleheader at Calihan.

Franklin and Renaissance meet at 2:50 p.m. Friday at Eastern Michigan University's Convocation Center. The first semifinal, at 1 p.m., pits Lake Orion (24-2) against Benton Harbor (24-2). The finals will be noon Saturday at EMU.

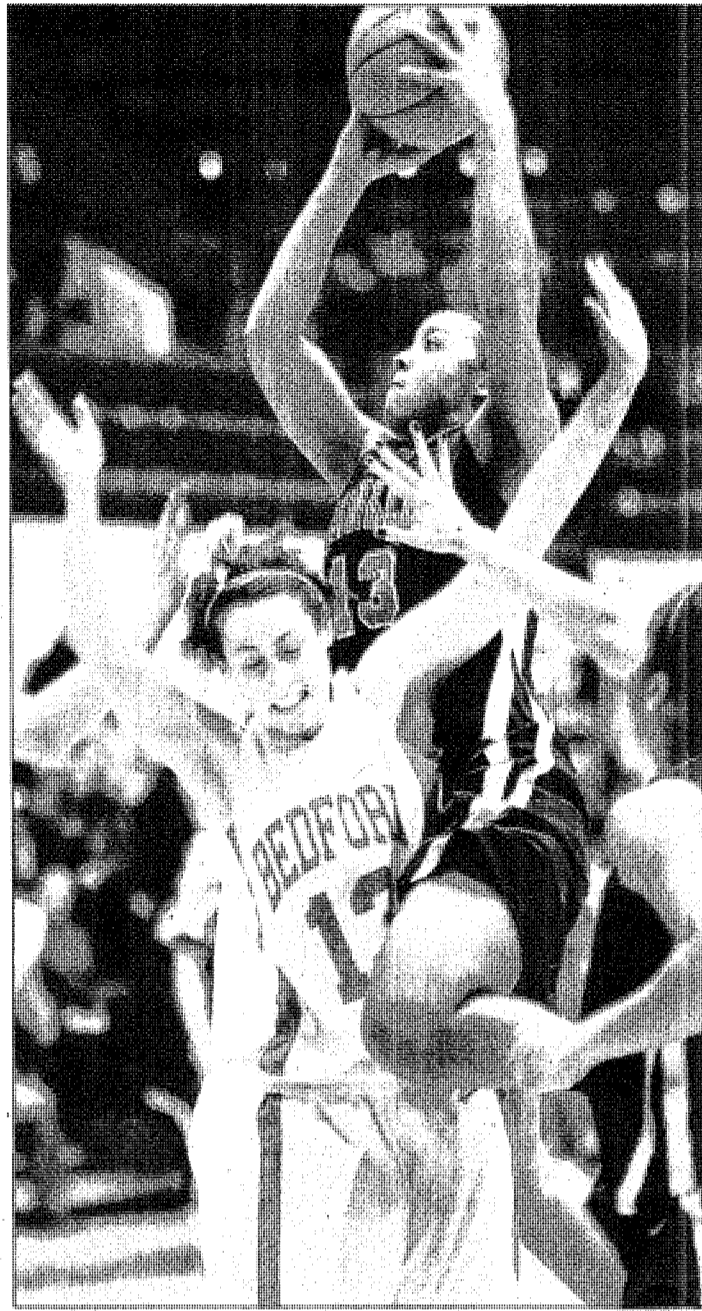
"We're in the Final Four? Are you kidding me?" said an elated Franklin coach Dave McCall, who was mobbed by fans afterward.

Bedford (25-1) concentrated on stopping Franklin's dynamic 5-foot-9 senior twins

Please see PATRIOTS, B2



Franklin's Nicole Emery celebrates running towards Brittany Taylor (13) after winning Tuesday's Class A quarterfinal game against Temperance Bedford at the University of Detroit Mercy's Calihan Hall.



Franklin's Brittany Taylor drives to the hoop over the top of Bedford's Jackie Harrison in Tuesday's Class A quarterfinal at the University of Detroit Mercy's Calihan Hall.

GAME WRAPS

College baseball

MADONNA 21-8, ST. FRANCIS (IND.) 16-7: On Tuesday, Madonna University (17-2) opened its home schedule at Iltch Ballpark by sweeping St. Francis (6-10) in a twinbill.

Scott Boyer went 4-for-5 in the opener with a pair of homers and six RBI in a 21-16 win.

Kevin Zerbo went 4-for-4, including his fifth homer of the year. Canton's Matt Kay and Shawn Little each homered while adding two hits and two RBI apiece. Aaron Hacias also had his first homer of the year.

Jeff Mann pitched the final 1 $\frac{2}{3}$ innings in relief to pick up the win.

In the nightcap, Ted Tounce went 3-for-4 with a homer and two RBI in an 8-7 win. Boyer also went 2-for-4 with a homer, his fourth of the year. Kay also was 2-for-4 with three RBI.

Jeff Sonnenberg (4-1), the last of five MU pitchers, got the win in relief.

MADONNA 12, BEREA (KY.) 2: Designated hitter Scott Boyer went 2-for-5, including his first homer of the season, with two RBI Sunday as Madonna University (15-2) belted Berea College (5-6) in a non-conference game at Derby City Field in Louisville, Ky.

The Crusaders unloaded for 17 hits and pitcher Tom Hansen ran his record to 4-0 allowing just four hits, a walk and two earned runs in six innings. Hansen struck out seven.

Robert Fraser (Westland John Glenn) pitched two scoreless innings, while Trent Pohl kept Berea off the board in the ninth.

Aaron Hacias chipped in with three hits, while Kevin Zerbo (Farmington Hills Harrison) and Matt Kay (Canton) added two each.

Mike Gansser and Shawn Little (Canton) each knocked in two runs.

MADONNA 13, SPALDING (KY.) 2: Matt Kay (Canton) went 2-for-4 with a homer and three RBI Saturday as the Crusaders downed host Spalding (2-16) at Derby City Field.

Shawn Little added two hits and three RBI, while Kevin Zerbo and Aaron Hacias each contributed two hits and two RBI.

Winning pitcher Jeff Sonnenberg (3-1) went all seven innings, scattering seven hits. He struck out four and did not allow a walk.

College softball

BETHEL (IND.) 6-9, MADONNA 4-3: Costly walks and hit batters in Game 1, and a five-run second inning in Game 2, were too much for the Madonna University softball team (12-4) to overcome in a sweep at the hands of No. 12-ranked Bethel College (12-2) Saturday at Christensen Memorial Field on the campus of Siena Heights University.

Katie Boocher and Brittney Fisher each collected two hits and knocked in two runs as Bethel won the opener, 6-4, scoring twice in the top of the seventh to hand MU starter Jess Irwin (6-3) the loss.

Irwin allowed six earned runs on eight hits. She walked three, hit three batters and struck out 10.

Rachel Zirlie (4-1) went the final 4 $\frac{2}{3}$ innings in relief of Boocher to pick up the win for the Pilots.

Tara LaMilza had two hits and two RBI in the loss, while Ashley Shay and Brittney Scero (Canton) contributed two hits apiece.

In the nightcap, center fielder Tara Blair went 3-for-4 with a homer and four RBI as the Pilots collected 18 hits off MU freshman hurler Hallie Minch (Garden City) for the 9-3 victory.

Holly Weaver, Sarah Rassi, Mandy Cripe and Emily Lamkin also had two hits apiece for Bethel. Cripe also homered.

Brittney Hire (5-1) went the first four innings to pick up the win. Ashley Wagner came on to work the final three innings. Minch gave up nine earned runs and fanned two.

Shay, Rachael Kethe and Katie Cooley each had an RBI for the Crusaders.

Catholic Central holds off Spartans' upset bid

BY JEFF THEISEN
SPORTS WRITER

The teacher managed to hold off his former student Monday during the Class A regional boys basketball opener at White Lake Lakeland as Novi Detroit Catholic Central beat Livonia Stevenson, 43-39.

CC's Bill Dyer coached Stevenson skipper Mike Allie back when both were at Stevenson.

The first half belonged to Allie's bunch, holding a 15-12 lead in a massive attempt to slow the game down and negate a size advantage for the Shamrocks.

"I played for coach Dyer at Stevenson. I love the guy like a brother," Allie said. "He got me in round one of the battle. I assure you we'll see him again in regionals, and I'll find a way to get him."

The second half belonged to CC, outscoring the Spartans 31-24 in the final two quarters to stay alive in the state tourney.

"I'm proud of my kids for hanging in there," Dyer said. "I knew it was going to be tough and rough. We survived. They made it super difficult for us."

The Shamrocks hit just 4-of-25 shots in the first half.

Luckily for them, the Spartans were 6-for-17 shooting, staying within three at the half.

Stevenson opened up a six-point lead in the third quarter before the momentum swung wildly to the Shamrocks.

CC's Steve Harding scored the final

five points of the third quarter, helping the Shamrocks to a 24-23 lead heading into the fourth.

An 8-2 run to start the fourth put the Shamrocks up 32-25 with 4:24 left on the clock.

Spartan leading scorer Richard Chrsasz (11 points) made all three attempts from the line after being fouled on a shot behind the arc and later hit the game's lone 3-pointer to pull the Spartans within three with 2:10 left.

The Spartans eventually whittled the lead down to two, but the Shamrocks hit 5-of-6 free throws down the stretch, including both by freshman Matt Doneth with 15.6 remaining for the final points.

Harding scored all 12 of his points in the second half to help ignite the struggling Shamrock offense.

Tim Dezelski led all players with 14 points as CC improved to 19-5 overall and earned a spot in Wednesday's regional final against Hartland.

"We knew the best way to get away from their stall and zone was to get rebounds and push it up the floor," Harding said. "We were able to get some easy baskets in transition."

Bobby Naubert and Austin White chipped in nine points each for the Spartans, who had two players foul out.

"We knew CC was big and would try and pound the ball inside," said Allie, whose team bowed out with a 14-10 record. "We tried to give them as few touches as possible by holding the ball."



Stevenson's Brian Rowe, looks for an open lane against Catholic Central during Monday's Class A regional semifinal at Lakeland.

State runner-up Stephens leads Glenn mat contingent

BY BRAD EMMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland John Glenn's Jared Stephens just missed a spot on the top rung of the podium Saturday at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

The senior distinguished himself as the area's top finisher in the Division 1 MHSAA Individual Wrestling finals when he placed runner-up in the 135-pound weight class.

Stephens, who placed fifth at year ago in the 130-pound weight class, lost a heart-breaking match to Dearborn



Stephens

Stephens decided East Kentwood's Paul Vilker in the semifinals on Friday, 8-6, after posting decisions over Milford's Nick Burt, 14-4; and Clarkston's Matt Deitz, 5-2.

"Jared had an outstanding tournament until the finals,"

Rundown of area finishers, B2.

Glenn coach Bill Polk said. "He defeated several very talented wrestlers to get to the championship match, but was off his game in the finals. When you get to that level, anyone that is mentally and physically prepared, can win. Jared wrestled well to make it that far, but came up one takedown away from a championship."

Stephens was among eight Glenn state qualifiers, including five who placed to earn All-State recognition.

The Rockets also had a trio of fifth-place finishes from Dustin Gajowski (285), Steven Wakeford (103); and Jimmy Mann (140), along with an eighth from Anthony Pavlich (125).

"We had a record breaking year, but as a coach I am always looking for more," said Polk, who guided the Rockets to their first state team finals berth in school history. "I am very proud of our guys. We will look to continue and build from our experiences this year."

Also earning an eighth-

place in Division 1 was Livonia Franklin's Cody Hay (215), who bounced back from a 3-2 first-round overtime setback to Saginaw Heritage's Zach Lentz to win two-of-five matches. Hay finished the year 50-14.

In Division 4, Lutheran High Westland's Stephen Kemp duplicated a fifth-place finish from a year ago in the 152-pound class with a fifth this year at 160.

Kemp won his first two rounds before losing twice to Cody Livermore of Munising, 3-1 and 7-2.

PATRIOTS FROM PAGE B1

Brittany and Briana Taylor, but got burned in the process. The Patriots pulled out their own lucky leprechaun, 5-foot-1 junior guard Nicole Emery, who scored all nine of her points in the first half as the Patriots led 13-6 after one quarter and 25-21 at intermission.

"I felt so energetic. I just had to throw it up there and see what I'd get," said Emery, who nearly matched her season-high with 11 points. "I had time to spin the ball in my hand. It's a habit."

Chelsea Williams, a 5-8 sophomore guard, made some pivotal plays late in the fourth quarter, none bigger than her basket at the four-minute mark to give Franklin back the lead for keeps, 38-37.

"If you focus on the twins, then we say go ahead because we have some other players who can step up and make shots," McCall said. "Chelsea was huge at the end for a 15-year-old sophomore. And Nicole stepped up. That was huge. She's the smallest girl on the floor and she played big."

Bedford led only twice in the game — both times during the final period. Jackie Harrison's triple put the Kicking Mules up 37-34 with 4:38 remaining, but Franklin went on an 11-2 run to end the game.

The Patriots, despite going 8-of-17 on the night from the foul line, made 5-of-8 in the final 2:24. Williams connected on 3-of-4 free throws in the last 1:52, while Briana Taylor, despite going out with leg cramps, split a pair to give Franklin a four-point cushion with 32.8 left, 43-39.

"The fourth quarter, they left the free throw line open," said Williams, who scored seven of her nine in the final eight minutes. "Coach (McCall) said, 'If it's there, take it. I really didn't think about it.'"

Brittany Taylor led Franklin with 13 points and eight rebounds, while Briana added nine points and eight boards.

Bedford's senior center Kaylee Foster tallied 12 of her

game-high 16 points in the opening half. Her basket off an out-of-bounds play just before the buzzer pulled the Mules to within four, 25-21.

"We were under-rotating to her (Foster's) side the first half," McCall said. "We stepped up our rotations and made it a point to see where she was at and stepped up on the weak side."

Bedford also got 14 points, including four triples, from Amelia Davis.

"We knew they were very patient, ran the flex offense and they don't make many mistakes — they make you make mistakes," McCall said of the Mules. "We had a chance to put them down early, but give that team credit. They got the momentum going and that team did not quit."

Bedford shot a respectable 17-of-39 from the floor (43.5 percent) and had 13 turnovers.

"I felt like we had to knock down perimeter shots to force them out," Bedford coach Bill Ryan said. "We hit some threes, but they were infrequent. They (Franklin) had a nice scheme. That extended 2-3 (zone defense) screwed up our spacing. Franklin did a great job and they rotated well and got some deflections. That and the fact that we did not get out to a great start were the two things that hurt us."

Franklin was 18-of-41 from the floor (43.9 percent) and committed a total of 13 turnovers, but had only one to Bedford's five miscues in the final period.

"We also wanted to go more 'man' defense, but foul trouble dictated that," Ryan said. "They (Franklin) had some nice wrinkles. When we overloaded ball side, we had to make a choice — close out on the shooter or stay home. We chose to stay home. They use all their weapons well."

Franklin will once again be the underdog against the athletic, tall and quick Renaissance squad.

"We've been undersized in the middle all year. That's why we have to play our butts off on defense," McCall said.

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All-State performers

Livonia Blue gymnasts excel in individual events

BY BRAD EMONS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

On the heels of their runner-up state team finish on Friday, Livonia Blue gymnasts returned to the Rockford venue Saturday with some All-State (top ten) performances.

In Division 1, Livonia Blue's Emily Quint earned a fifth-place showing in the all-around with a score of 37.75 highlighted by her runner-up finish on floor exercise (9.525).

Quint also tied for third on the balance beam (9.45) and tied for sixth on the uneven parallel bars (9.5).

"Emily Quint did a great job on Saturday," Livonia Blue coach Lisa Fierk said. "She came out strong and relaxed. She had a great time competing for individual states and

it showed. I am very proud of her and her achievements this season."

Teammate Brittany Janis tied for ninth on vault (9.4), while another Blue gymnast, Meghan Powers, tied for ninth on floor (9.35).

Grand Ledge's was the all-around winner with a 38.3, edging teammate Meaghan McWhorter's 38.2.

McWhorter swept the vault (9.775) and uneven bars (9.8975), while Kaitlin Abbs of Sturgis captured the beam (9.525) and Salem's Katie Koetting edged Quint for first on floor (9.6).

In Division 2, Livonia Blue senior Laura Nomura captured fourth in the all-around (36.775). She placed third on bars (9.075) and floor (9.5), while adding a fourth on vault (9.5).

"Laura had a great state meet for her senior year," Fierk said. "I could not be more happy for her. She has shown great improvement this whole season. Placing in the all-around at 'states' for her senior year is a great way to finish out a great season."

Livonia Blue's Alex Kitz also earned a runner-up finish to Troy Athens' Brooke Madzia on uneven bars (9.1).

"Alex placing second as a freshman is great," Fierk said. "She was working on a new routine in the gym the week before 'states' and I am so proud of her that she did her routine and pull off a great score. She is going to be great for our team the next three years."

Madzia won the all-around (37.45) after taking firsts on

bars, beam (9.575) and floor (9.575), while Neena Swier of Grand Rapids Kenowa Hills captured the vault (9.75).

On Friday, Livonia Blue improved one spot from its 2008 third-place finish at the team state finals with a runner-up finish. Grand Ledge had 150.825 points, while Blue had 147.375 to edge Farmington Unified's 147.275.

"Friday night was very exciting for us," Fierk said. "The girls did a great job at keeping cool and doing their routines. This was the perfect way to end our season. We all had tears of joy. Emily Quint and Brittany Janis had a great meet. I am very proud of all the girls and the outcome of the meet."

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Spartan relay squads sparkle at state meet

BY BRAD EMONS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Livonia Stevenson improved six spots from a year ago en route to a fifth-place team finish in the MHSAA Division I Boys Swimming and Diving finals held Friday and Saturday at Eastern Michigan University's Jones Natatorium.

Ann Arbor Pioneer unseated rival Ann Arbor Huron as state champion with 364 points. Rounding out the top five were Huron (226), Grandville (200), Grand Rapids Forest Hills (181.5) and Stevenson (177), that latter whom placed 11th in 2008.

The Spartans' excelled in all three relay events led by a third-place showing in the 400-yard freestyle relay as senior Chris Behler, senior Ryan Scott, junior Aaren Marecki and sophomore Kellen Schoff were clocked in 3:12.85 after going 3:12.43 in Friday's prelims.

The foursome of sophomore Kellen Schoff and seniors Joey Wingett, Jereme Pesta and Scott added a fourth in the 200 medley relay (1:36.01).

Stevenson also took a fourth in the 200 freestyle relay as Behler, Pesta, senior Michael Cruce and Marecki posted a 1:27.62 after going 1:27.13 in

the prelims.

Individually, Marecki led the way with a fifth in the 50 freestyle (21.76) and a sixth in the 100 freestyle (47.73).

Wingett was the Spartans' other 'A' heat finalist with a seventh place in the 100 breaststroke (1:00.22).

Also scoring points for the Spartans in the 'B' heat was Schoff, who claimed ninth in both the 200 individual medley (1:58.19) and 100 backstroke (54.32); Behler, 11th, 50 freestyle (22.01); Pesta, 13th, 50 freestyle (22.17); and senior Jeff Kinsvater, 13th, 1-meter diving (334.90 points).

Among those Stevenson

swimmers missing the cut for Saturday's heats after Friday's prelims included: junior Daniel Schoff, 19th, 500 freestyle (4:53.73); Scott, 21st, 50 freestyle (22.51); 23rd, 100 freestyle (49.5); Cruce, 21st, 100 butterfly (54.24); 28th, 200 freestyle (1:48.59); senior Charles Turlo, 22nd, 100 breaststroke (1:02.740); 24th, 200 IM (2:03.46); junior Bryan Bielicki, 21st, 100 backstroke (56.84); 27th, 200 IM (2:05.06); Behler, 100 freestyle (disqualified); and senior Eric Schuman, 33rd, 100 breaststroke (1:03.82).

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Former Stevenson QB White gets jail for MSU brawl

BY BARBARA WIELAND GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

Former Livonia Stevenson High quarterback Mitchell White, a freshman walk-on wide receiver on the Michigan State University football team, was sentenced Monday in East Lansing for his part in a fight that left an MSU hockey player seriously injured last year.

White, currently a member of MSU's track and field team, pleaded guilty last month to misdemeanor assault and battery charges in connection with a brawl that left an MSU hockey player seriously injured.

He was sentenced by Ingham County District Court Judge David Jordan of the 54B District Court to spend 30

days in jail, perform 80 hours of community service, pay \$1,315 in fines and court costs, and was put on a two-year probation.

MSU running back Glenn Winston pleaded guilty last week to one count of aggravated assault and one count of assault and battery for his role in the Oct. 19 assault. Winston's sentencing is set for

April 29 before District Court Judge David Jordan.

Sophomore Spartan hockey player A.J. Sturges suffered a severe head injury. MSU hockey coach Rick Comley said last week Sturges is back to being a full-time student after having part-time status in the fall. Comley said Sturges is having headaches, but is skating on his own without contact.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Churchill Hall of Fame

Baseball player Mark Rutherford, former athletic director Don Albertson, along with the 2004 varsity football team will be honored Thursday, March 19 at the One Under Restaurant for the seventh annual Livonia Churchill Athletics Hall of Fame induction dinner.

Rutherford, a 1993 grad, is a former All-Mid-American Conference player at Eastern Michigan University who pitched in the minor leagues for the Philadelphia Phillies organization.

Albertson, now retired, is the former Churchill A.D. and boys basketball coach.

The 2004 football squad earned its first postseason playoff berth since 1979 and finished 8-4 while reaching the Division 1 regional final. Tickets are \$40.

Hors d'oeuvres and cash bar open at 6 p.m. followed by the dinner at 6:45 p.m. The program will run from 7:30-9 p.m. For more information, call Dan Andaloro at (734) 421-4523; or e-mail dandaloro@

aol.com.

Pats run at Early Bird

Livonia Franklin's Kevin Beadle earned a second-place finish by clearing 12 feet, 6 inches in the pole vault Saturday at the Eastern Michigan University Eagle Early Bird indoor track and field meet at Bowen Fieldhouse.

Other medalists (top six finishers) for the Patriots included Isaac Cadet, fourth in the 60-meter dash (7.35) and 200 (24.79); and Cameron Wludyka, sixth in the 60 hurdles (9.11).

The quartet of Dylan Taylor, Andrew Crechiolo, Jake Pinard and Wludyka also took a sixth in the sprint medley (2:46.0).

The Franklin girls added a fifth in the sprint medley as Mallory Church, Jen Mueller, Catherine Chinavare and Victoria Church clocked a 3:16.0.

Megan McPherson placed sixth in the 800- and 1,600 runs with times of 2:42.0 and 5:33.0, respectively. Liz Holloway contributed a sixth in the high jump (5-0).

STATE WRESTLING RESULTS

MHSAA INDIVIDUAL WRESTLING FINALS

March 12-14 at Palace of Auburn Hills DIVISION 1 AREA RESULTS

Dustin Gajowiak, 285 pounds, Westland John Glenn (5th place): decisioned Tommy Bassett (Jenison), 8-4; dec. Rocky Mikulec (Milford), 6-4; pinned by Jerry Somsel (Rockford), 2:16; dec. Quinton Moore (Saginaw), 4-3; p. by Mason Cole (Temperance Bedford), 3:59. Final record: 47-11.

Steven Wakeford, 103, John Glenn (6th place): p. Connor Kerndt (Traverse City Central), 1:47; p. Trenton Samuels (Jenison), 3:27; dec. by Alex Calandrino (Howell), 10-8; dec. by Zak Roberson (Clarkston), 1-0; dec. by Chadwick Turner (Southgate), 9-6. Final record: 45-15.

Joshua Austin, 119, John Glenn: dec. Matt Jaisie (North Farmington), 5-1; major dec. by Jared Zimmerman (Hudsonville), 12-2; dec. by Nathan Villella (Chippewa Valley), 4-3. Final record: 46-13.

Anthony Pavlich, 125, John Glenn (8th place): major dec. over Garret Willard (Port Huron Northern), 8-0; dec. Kyle Hanton (Holt), 6-1; major dec. over Tyler Bunting (Rochester Adams), 10-1; dec. by Nick Boone (Southgate), 9-7; major dec. by Willard, 16-3. Final record: 30-11.

Jared Stephens, 135, John Glenn (state runner-up): major dec. over Nick Burt (Milford), 14-4; dec. Matt Deitz (Clarkston), 5-2; dec. Paul Vilker (East Kentwood), 7-5; dec. by Paul Hancock (Dearborn Fordson), 8-6 (overtime). Final record: 27-4.

Jimmy Mann, 140, John Glenn (5th

place): won by major dec. over Talon Hodgeson (Davison), 10-2; dec. Ramsey Beard (Sterling Heights Stevenson), 16-11; dec. by Billy Osborne (Bedford), 4-2; major dec. by Steve Sattler (Anchor Bay), 9-1; dec. Rick Bohn (East Kentwood), 8-3. Final record: 43-7.

Zaid Amari, 152, John Glenn: dec. Don Kril (Walled Lake Central), 12-6; dec. by Joey Yost (Anchor Bay), 7-4; dec. by Brian Kozik (Utica Eisenhower), 5-1. Final record: 46-15.

Don Stratz, 160, Livonia Franklin: dec. Khiry Williams (Pontiac Northern), 7-5; dec. by Jason Bonhan (Grandville), 8-2; dec. by Matt Washewski (Woodhaven), 9-7. Final record: 52-6.

Zach Redden, 160, John Glenn: p. by Jake Hyde (Holly), 12-4; dec. by Max Hill (White Lake Lakeland), 10-5. Final record: 23-25.

Curtis Castleberry, 171, Livonia Churchill: lost by technical fall to Jake Dorulla (Rockford), 18-3; lost by tech. fall to Michael Pawlitz (Chippewa Valley), 15-0. Final record: 28-13.

Cody Hay, 215, Franklin (8th place): dec. by Zach Lentz (Saginaw Heritage), 3-2 (OT); dec. Zach Leinonen (Walled Lake Northern), 4-3; dec. Willie Stewart (Lake Orion), 3-2; lost by major dec. to Chris Nash (Roseville), 13-1; dec. by Queen Smith (Highland Park), 9-2. Final record: 50-14.

DIVISION 4 AREA RESULTS Stephen Kemp, 160, Lutheran Westland (5th place): dec. Michael Wechter (Saginaw Nouvel), 3-2; dec. Cody Livermore (Munising), 3-1; dec. by Daniel Yates (Hesperia), 9-3; dec. by Chase Weber (Pittsford), 8-5; dec. Livermore, 7-2. Final record: 45-6.

COMPETITIVE CHEER

MHSAA COMPETITIVE CHEER DISTRICT COMPETITION RESULTS

DIVISION 1 Feb. 28 at Wayne Memorial

TEAM STANDINGS (top 4 qualify for regional): 1. Southgate Anderson, 749.6290; 2. Livonia Churchill, 723.6680; 3. Livonia Franklin, 698.3040; 4. Westland John Glenn, 687.0738; 5. Livonia Stevenson, 687.0738; 7. Plymouth, 643.9730; 9. Canton, 634.7100; 13. Wayne, 540.1650 (13 schools).

DIVISION 2 Feb. 28 at Carleton Airport

TEAM STANDINGS (top four qualify for regional): 1. Gibraltar Carlson, 783.2920; 2. Allen Park, 759.6440; 3. Dearborn Divine Child, 752.1078; 4. Wyandotte, 688.5352; 7. Livonia Ladywood, 639.4840 (14 schools).

DIVISION 3 Feb. 28 at Brooklyn-Columbia Central

TEAM STANDINGS (top four qualify for regional): 1. Grosse Ile, 759.2140; 2. Columbia Central, 716.0580; 3. Flat Rock, 692.5880; 4. Monroe-Jefferson, 685.1068; 11. Livonia Clarenceville, 594.5550 (14 schools).

DIVISION 4 Feb. 28 at Madison Heights Bishop Foley

TEAM STANDINGS (top four qualify

for regional): 1. Bishop Foley, 662.7400; 2. Lutheran High Westland, 618.7300; 3. New Haven, 590.2500; 4. Brown City, 588.9400; 5. Plymouth Christian, 587.5000 (eight schools).

ALL-KLAA KENSINGTON CONFERENCE 2008-09 COMPETITIVE CHEER TEAM

Livonia Churchill: Brittany Haskins; Lauren Parson; Marlee Nalecz; Clare McBride; Christine Luneack; Chelsea Socha; Emily Mills; Kristy DeClercq.

Northville: Melissa Scott, Katie Steinberg, Morgan Breault, Alexandra Romano, Jackie Yaggi, Ciara Fullington.

Novi: Jillian Harold, Larua Tolls, Amanda Downs, Nina Lehman, Carley Eibel.

Livonia Franklin: Erica Manni, Emma Robertson, Alecia Geraghty, Sam Oudeh, Mady Byrd.

South Lyon: Amber Washko, Kelsey Kiernan, Amanda Delgado, Megan Brown.

Livonia Stevenson: Emily Kopela, Chrissy Tappan, Mary O'Donahue, Emily Galona.

Westland John Glenn: Jennifer Brudus, Brittany Coleman, Brittany Hylton.

Plymouth: Danielle Lawlor, Danielle Esper, Alexis Rogers.

Canon: Rachel Couturier, Rachel Nowak.

South Lyon East: Paige Burnia, Lauren Timm.

Wayne Memorial: Allie Williams.

After waiting all winter long, it's time again to welcome golfers back to the green!

To help get you started, we've created Tee Time, your local guide to golf, a weekly page devoted entirely to golf! Readers will get tips from the Golf Association of Michigan each week on how to perfect their swing, the latest equipment and how to make golf enjoyable all season long.

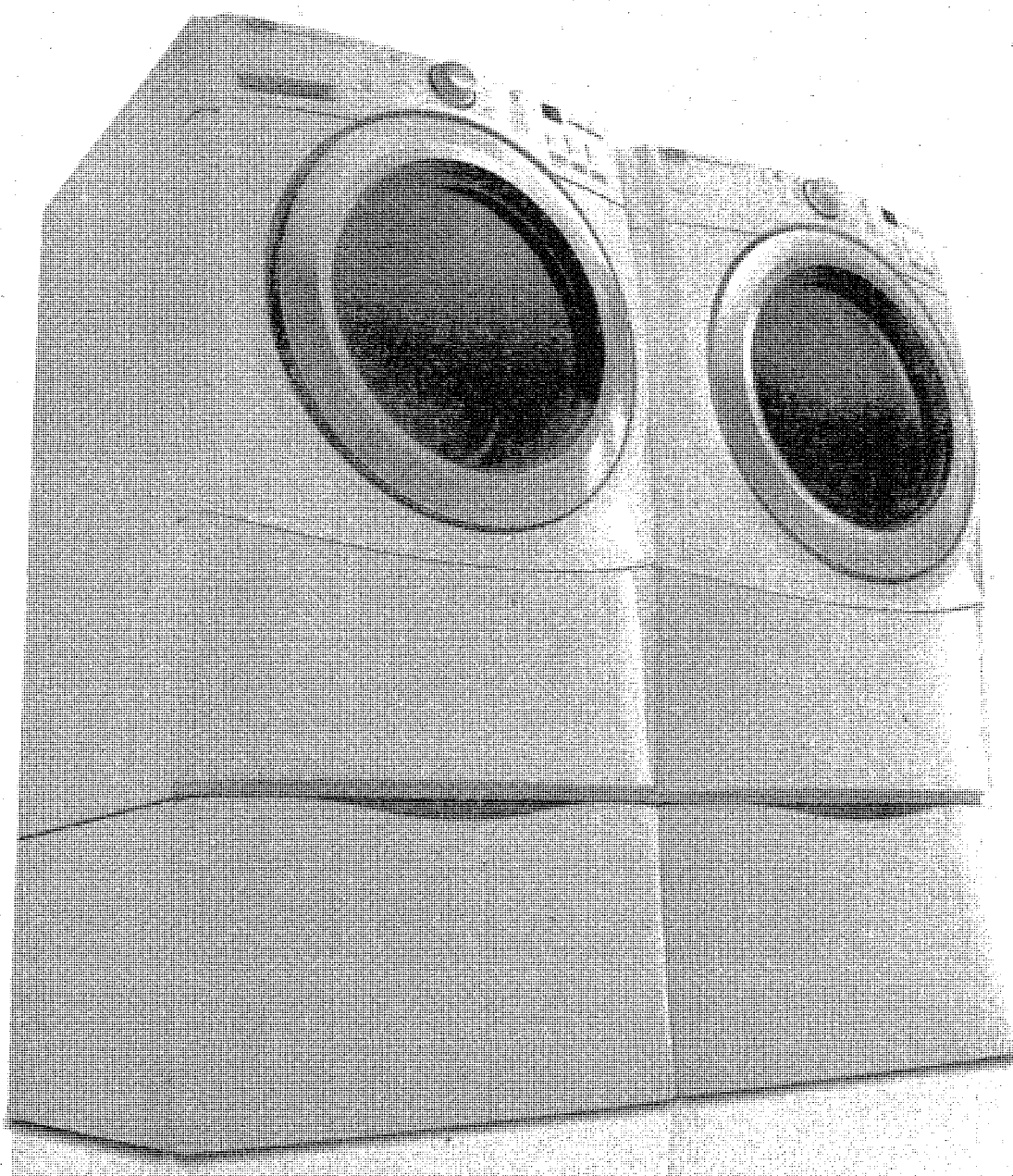
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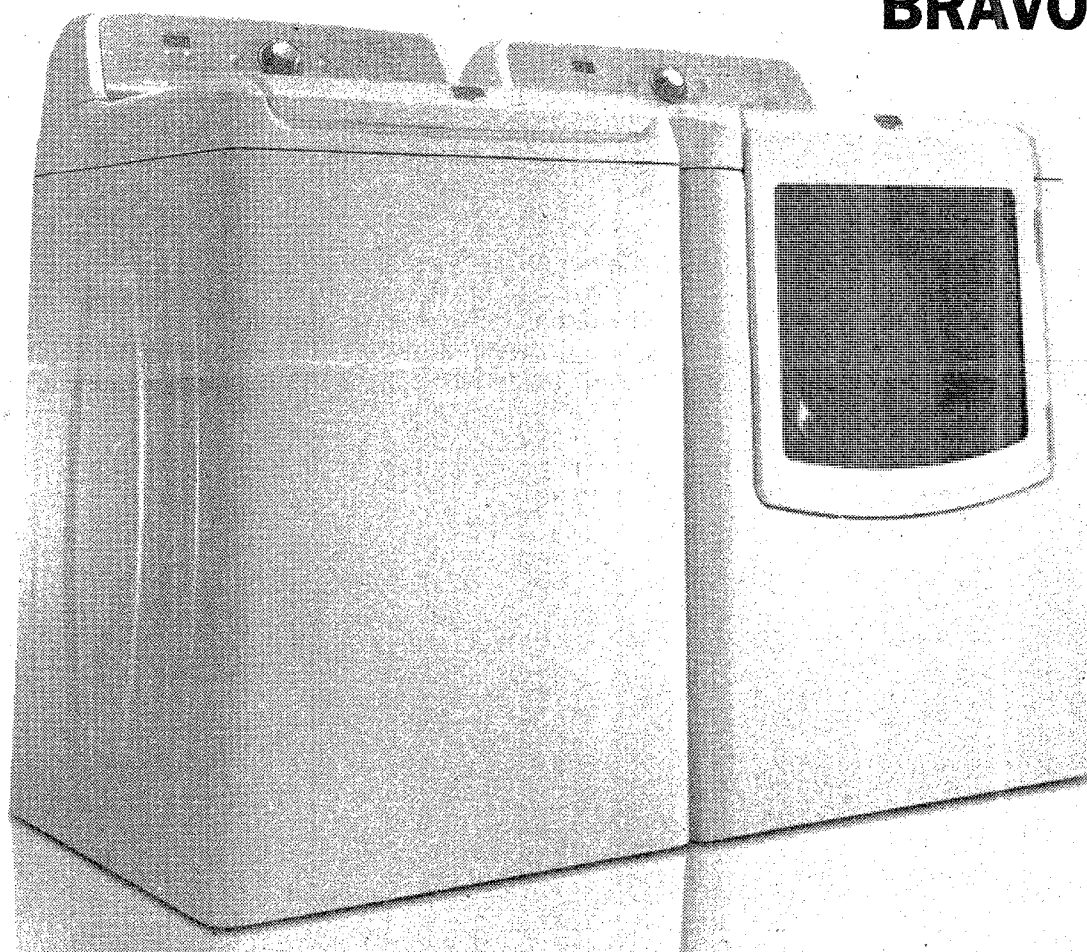
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Kings deflate Belle Tire for Midget BB state title

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Their 44th win garnered a state championship.

The numbers were properly aligned for the Livonia Kings in the March 8 Midget BB state championship hockey game against Belle Tire.

Livonia improved to 44-3-1 with its 4-2 win in the Michigan Amateur Hockey Association (MAHA) finals before a standing-room-only crowd at Redford Arena.

Nick Gilliland's slap shot from the slot at 7:01 of the third broke a 2-2 tie and the Kings added an empty netter by Michael Padgen in the final minute to finish off the victory.

But Kings' goaltender and game MVP Colin Beck saved the day with a sprawling stop against wide-open Kevin Lafave with about four minutes left to keep Livonia in



JOSEPH DELANO

The Livonia Kings celebrate after winning the MAHA Midget BB state championship recently following a 4-2 win over Belle Tire at Redford Arena. The team, coached by Tim Jason (back row, left) include the following players listed alphabetically: Mike Alonzi, goalie Colin Beck, T.J. Cavanaugh, Joe Cummings, Tony Foresta, Nick Gilliland, Matt Hope, Ryan Jason, Stephen Koch, Ryan Lubanski, Kevin Muller, Michael Padgen, Mike Piotrowski, Brendan Ryan, Kyle Schwarz, Tyler Sternik, Shaun Vendittelli and Dan Yaquinto. Assistant coaches are Jerry Cummings, Bill Lubanski, Don Schwarz and Mark Yaquinto and the team manager is Dawn Lubanski.

front and en route to its first state crown since 2007.

"Colin has just been a rock for us back in the net," Livonia

coach Tim Jason said. "Colin is absolutely incredible, he made some terrific saves in the earlier game today (against Redford) to get us here and in this game late in the third period. That's what you need to win these (tournaments)."

Jason said the way his team came back to score shortly after each of Belle Tire's markers epitomized its character and resiliency.

"These guys have a great work ethic, they never panic, they never let down they just always seem to want to play harder and come back," he said. "Our motto is, if we have the lead let's play twice as hard to keep it because they're playing twice as hard to get it back."

"And they've done that all season long. I'm just proud of them."

After a scoreless first period, the Kings struck first when Padgen tallied a power-play

goal at 52 seconds of the second stanza. Assisting were Kyle Schwarz and Matt Hope. Belle Tire (33-11-3) tied up the contest at 6:53 when Zak Thompson scored with the extra man from Spencer Brainard.

But just 23 seconds later, the Kings regained the lead.

Mike Piotrowski jammed a rebound past Belle Tire goalie Yatsu Miura, with Tony Foresta collecting a helper.

Belle Tire again got even, thanks to a power-play goal about four minutes into the third.

Once again, the Kings responded, with the eventual game-winning tally. Gilliland buried a blast from the slot past Miura's blocker. Setting up the goal were Piotrowski and Shaun Vendittelli.

Some nervous moments followed for Livonia until Padgen's empty-net goal at 14:27. He sent a shot from his

own blue line, off the right post and into the goal.

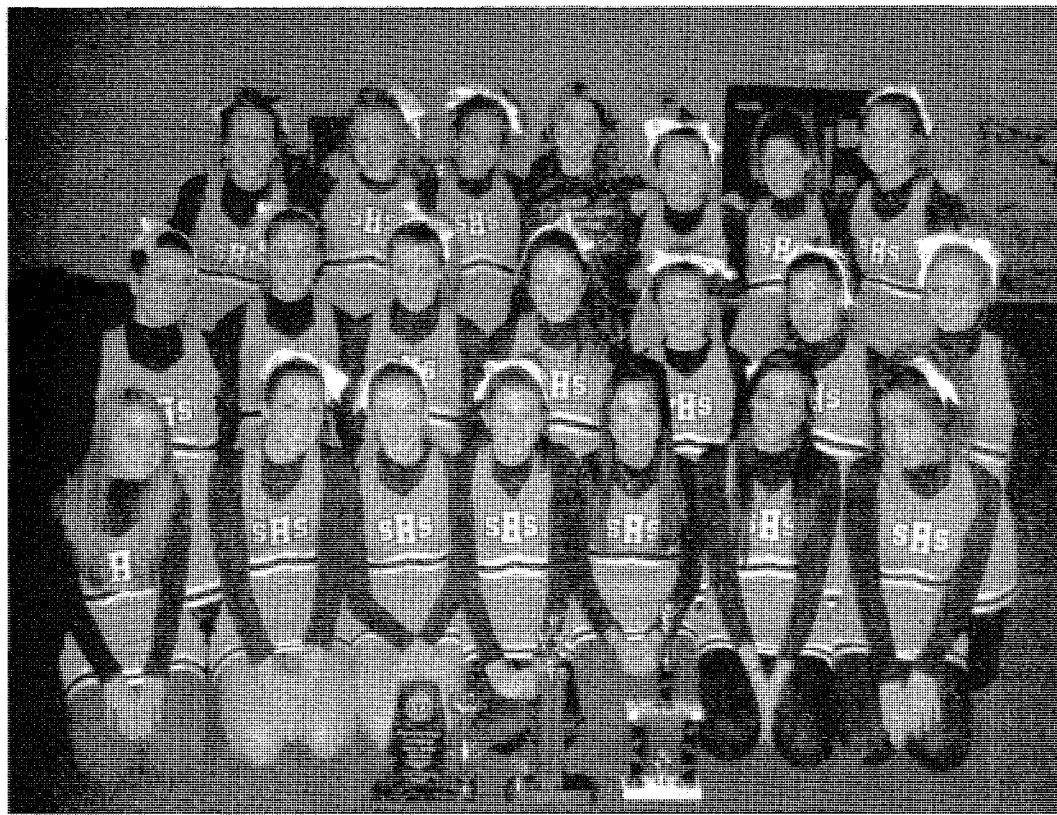
After the final horn, the Kings threw their gloves and sticks high into the air while their purple-wearing fans celebrated just as much on the other side of the glass.

KINGS NIP WOLFPACK: The Midget BB state hockey semifinal game between Observerland rivals Redford and Livonia went down to the wire before the Kings scored a pair of third-period power-play goals and hung on for a 2-1 victory over the tournament host Wolfpack.

Mike Alonzi and Michael Padgen scored for the Kings, while Jeff Powell countered for Redford.

Wolfpack goaltender Ryan Wagner was spectacular, making 29 saves.

On March 7, Livonia defeated Port Huron, 7-4, on two goals and three assists by Kyle Schwarz. The Kings followed up with a 3-1 win over Mackinaw City to qualify for the semifinals led Matt Hope's two-goal performance. Also scoring was Tyler Sternik.



Spartan JV cheer first

The Livonia Stevenson JV competitive cheer squad finished first at both the Grosse Ile (Jan. 24) and Stevenson (Jan. 10) invitationals, along with firsts at three dual meets. Members of the Spartans, coached by Erin Hermann and Laura Robinson, include: Alyssa Adams, Samantha Belcher, Bridget Bernadotte, Marissa Boren, Allie Cordon, Andrea English, Alana Duqum, Angelina Glenn, Carly Hernandez, Laikyn Jakowinicz, Lauren Millard, Brianna Montgomery, Heidi Mykolaitis, Jenna Nicklowitz, Elaina Phillips, Sarah Shaltis, Mara Toarmina, Kristin Wagel, Taylor Weeks and Coley Williamson.

Barker, McCausland lead MU Hall of Fame inductees

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Jerry Abraham will have company in the Madonna University Athletics Hall of Fame.

The MU women's volleyball coach, who was enshrined as the first-ever charter member in 2004, will be joined by four new inductees for the 2009 Hall of Fame class, which will be honored June 13 in a ceremony on campus.

Women's soccer All-America Jen Barker (Livonia Stevenson), volleyball All-America Kelly McCausland (Redford Union), baseball All-America Aaron Shrewsbury and former MU president Sister Francilene Van de Vyver will comprise the inaugural class.

"The founding of our Hall of Fame is another step forward in the development of

our program," MU athletic director Bryan Rizzo said. "It is particularly exciting to have such a prestigious class of inductees. This is truly a hall-mark moment for Madonna University athletics."

Barker, who played from 1998-2001, was a member of the first women's soccer team in school history and was named first-team NAIA All-America in 2000 and earned Defensive Most Valuable Player of the 2000 NAIA Women's Soccer National Tournament.

The two-time NAIA All-America Scholar Athlete is currently the varsity girls soccer coach at Livonia Franklin High School.

McCausland (1993-96) was a two-time NAIA first-team All-America and three-time All-Region selection. She ranks third all-time at MU for kills and appears on the top

ten list in 15 different volleyball records.

She is currently the varsity girls volleyball coach at Plymouth High.

Shrewsbury (1996-99) was named first-team All-Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference twice and owns six MU all-time records including homers (48), batting average (.397), runs scored (195), hits (240), doubles (58) and RBI (195). He also was a two-time NAIA All-America Scholar Athlete.

Shrewsbury is now a Taylor police officer.

Sister Francilene, meanwhile, served as the school's president from 1975-2001 while bringing in the conference and nationally affiliated athletics to the university community starting with volleyball in 1987.

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Close to schools, nice area. \$875. 248-425-0200</p> <p>WESTLAND/LIVONIA Johnson School 5-6 grade walk distance. 3 bdrm, 1900 sq ft ranch. 1 acre, wooded fenced yard, 2 car attached. \$1050/mo + sec. 313-304-6997</p> <p>Rooms For Rent 4140 NORTHVILLE or PLYMOUTH Downtown. 1st week with full deposit. Furnished sleeping rooms. Newly decorated. \$85 weekly. Security deposit. 734-355-6453. 248-305-9944</p> <p>Office/Retail Space For Rent/Lease 4220 LIVONIA I-96 ACCESS 1200 sq ft. Deluxe office. Private entry. Avail. now. \$650/mo. 734-425-4500</p>	<p>6000-6380 Automotive/Leases</p> <p>Transportation/Travel 6400 DISNEY AREA STAY 7 Day, 6 Night. 2 Adult Disney tickets. Paid \$750, Sell for \$249. Good for one year. 734-226-0119</p> <p>7000-7780 Merchandise</p> <p>7100 Estate Sales 7100 ANOTHER Great Sale by ABOVE THE REST WALLED LAKE Fri-Sat Mar 20-21 10am-4pm. 21374 Hidden Meadows Dr., Off Decker btwn Pontiac Trail & S. Commerce Whitney upright piano with bench, beautiful dining table & 6 chairs, Thomasville bdrm set, costume jewelry, collectible glassware, American Flyer train set, sectional sofa, sleeper sofa, televisions, pictures, paintings, upright freezer, computer, gas bbq, clothes, purses & lots more. Cash & Carry.</p> <p>BLOOMFIELD HILLS Fri. & Sat., 9am-5pm. 4479 Stony River Dr. 2 blocks N. of 14 Mile, 1 blk E. of Franklin.</p> <p>WATERFORD ESTATE SALE March 19-21, Thurs., 9-4pm, Fri./Sat., 10-4pm. 1231 Woodlawn, off Pontiac Lake Rd. btwn Telegraph and MSB. photos/info: www.livantiques.com 586-344-2048</p>	<p>Garage Sales 7110 Birmingham Estate Sale March 19-21, 10am-5pm. 950 Shirley Rd. 48009. Antiques, art, furniture, rugs, 4 sofas, lots of free stuff! 248-321-7572</p> <p>Household Goods 7160 DINING ROOM SET 8 piece Maple dining room set; 9 piece Cherry library room set. Exc. cond. \$1,800. 734-819-3667</p> <p>Dogs 7840 ENGLISH BULLDOG AKC PUPS 7 wks., shots, health certified. \$1800. Can send pics to phone or email. 989-310-0766</p> <p>WESTIE PUPPIES 1 female, 2 males, 9wks., AKC, Champion Sired, non-shedding. \$1100. 248-623-1059</p> <p>Lost Pets 7930 LOST CAT Small, gray, tiger, lost March 8th near Merriman & Joy. Any info please. 734-812-0290 or 734-444-4903</p> <p>8000-8780 Automotive/Leases</p> <p>SABLE 1995 4 Dr. auto, pl, pw, ps, sun-roof. \$1400. 248-669-9716</p>
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IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

For 49 years, Margaret Harlow's Harlow Tire & Service has been meeting the needs of motorists at its location on Wayne Road, south of Ford.

Harlow: 'The name to trust'

Observer: Tell us about your business, including the types of service and/or products you feature.

Providing reliable products and support to our customers was our main focus when we opened in 1965, and we continue to offer the same dependable service today. Since then, we have grown from tires and installations to complete auto service, including oil changes, trailer hitches and custom wheels. Our technicians are state-certified in various areas of automotive repair, and include a pre-1973 master mechanic. A unique aspect of our company is that we custom fit vehicles with the right size tires and wheel offset to achieve "the look" that is so desired. Our slogan, "the Name to Trust," is the promise we give our customers, and we

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make every effort to prove that we stand behind that promise. It is a standard we demand of our employees and ourselves.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

We are family-owned and operated. We provide honest service and a good value for your money.

Observer: How did you decide to open your first business?

Jim Harlow was working in the tire business and liked it, so he decided to open his own store. He was 21 years old.

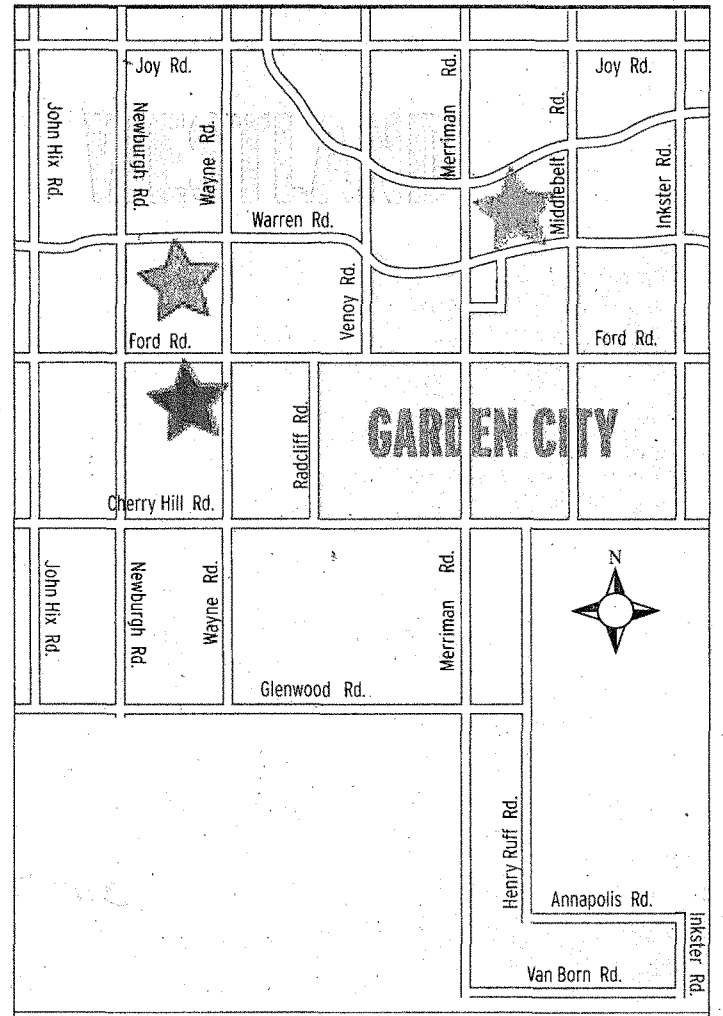
How did you decide to locate in the Westland community?

We lived in Westland.

Do you have a funny tidbit or story to share with our readers about your experience so far as a small business?

In 1995, I told then Economic Development Director Scott Veldhuis that the good news is I won't be around here for the next recession. Well, needless to say, here I am.

BUSINESS MILESTONES



ANNIVERSARY

1st anniversary
 The Parkside Dental Team is inviting people to stop by for cake and coffee on Monday, March 23. That's when the Team will observe the first anniversary of its move to 36444 W. Warren Road in Westland. For more information, call (734) 261-6060.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Community Awards
 Get your tickets now for the Garden City Chamber of Commerce's annual Award Presentations & Wine Tasting Event Friday, March 27, at the New Hawthorne Valley Country Club, 7300 Merriman, Westland. Doors

open at 6 p.m., with recognition of the First Citizen, Business Person of the Year and recipient of the Business Beautification Award at 6:45 p.m. The wine tasting a strolling dinner will follow at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$45 per person or \$84 per couple. They're available by calling the chamber at (734) 422-4448.

Open House

The law firm of Clos, Russell & Wirth, will hold an open house 5-8 p.m. Tuesday, March 31, at its offices at 35551 Ford Road, Suite 100, Westland. The open house will be staffed by

lawyers of the firm who will be available to answer questions and/or provide legal advice and consultation free of charge. The law firm typically provides this public service as a Law Day event in May, but because of the weak economy and high unemployment, the staff sees an immediate need to provide its services to those who perhaps can't afford to hire an attorney. Attorneys will meet with a client for up to 30 minutes free of charge and without obligation. Those interested can call in advance to schedule an appointment at (734) 326-2101. Walk-ins are also welcome.

Fingerprinting

S.I.P. Kids, a national child safety program that tours the country providing FBI quality digital fingerprints to families, will be at Jack Demmer Ford in Wayne Friday-Saturday, March 27-

28. Parents will be able to get the free digital fingerprints and photos for their children 2-6 p.m. March 27 and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 28 at the dealership at Newburgh and westbound Michigan Avenue. Local organizations also have been invited to educate children and their families on how to avoid unsafe situations.

Grand opening

Stop by the Q2, 35277 Warren Road, between Yale Street and Wayne Road, at 4 p.m. Wednesday, March 25. That's when the nail salon will celebrate its grand opening with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

Family and Friends

Garden City Hospital, in partnership with the American Heart Association, will present a Family and Friends

CPR class free of charge 1-4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 30, at Garden City Hospital's Health & Education Center, 6701 Harrison, Garden City. Family and Friends is a community CPR course and does not meet employment certification requirements or offer required professional credentials. To register, call Garden City Hospital's Community Education department at 734-458-4330.

Bunny Business

Grab the kids and head to Art Van store in Westland where the Easter Bunny will visit from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 21. Children are invited to visit with the Easter Bunny, and parents are encouraged to bring their cameras. The store is at 8300 Wayne Road, north of Cowan. For more information, call (734) 425-9600.

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

National initiative

Garden City Hospital has been selected as one of 16 hospitals across the U.S. to participate in the Aligning Forces for Quality: Transforming Care at the Bedside Collaborative (TCAB Collaborative).

The TCAB Collaborative is an initiative of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation that engages nurses and frontline staff to improve the quality and safety of patient care on medical and surgical units in hospitals. Nursing departments will be leading the efforts under the guidance of Debra Williams, vice-president and chief nursing officer.

The TCAB Collaborative is not a traditional quality improvement program. Nurses and other care team members who spend the most time with patients and their families will identify where change is needed, suggest and test potential solutions, and decide whether those innovations should be implemented. "We are excited to be chosen as one of the select hospitals participating in the TCAB Collaborative and look forward to working with AF4Q to share and spread our success to improve quality," said Williams. "This is a unique initiative that offers

us a new way to approach quality improvement."

"We are so excited and honored to participate in the TCAB program," said Terri Stupyra, clinical nurse manager 2 South. "We anticipate the enhanced development of evidence-based nursing practices for the delivery of premium healthcare. This collaborative of nursing practice, nationwide, will drive the quality of healthcare to new and optimal levels for the communities we serve."

In addition to RWJF, the work is being led by the Center for Health Care Quality at the George Washington University Medical Center School of Public Health and Health Services, which provides oversight for the TCAB Collaborative.

Be a S.T.A.R.

Michael Burkey's Canine Behavioral Services is offering a new American Kennel Club training program geared towards puppies and their owners.

The AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy Program, which will be held at 7610 N. Wayne Road, is the puppy level of the AKC's well-known Canine Good Citizen program. "S.T.A.R." stands for Socialization, Training, Activity and a Responsible

owner, all of the things a puppy needs to have a good life.

"It is our hope to diminish the number of dogs relinquished to shelters through the education offered by the AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy Program" said Michael Burkey, certified dog behavior consultant and owner of Michael Burkey's Canine Behavioral Services. "Early training and socialization are key to having a well behaved dog. We hope to teach owners how to start their pups off on the right paw from the very beginning."

Owners can enroll in the "Pup and Family Dog" and the "Puppy Socialization" classes that include training tips for puppy owners and lessons on practical skills for puppies. The program is open to all dogs. Puppies can begin training as soon as they have the necessary vaccines and they can enroll in AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy at any point up until their first birthday.

To sign up for classes go online to www.MichiganDogTrainer.com. Information on AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy is available at www.akc.org/starpuppy. For more information, contact Michael Burkey's Canine Behavioral Services at (734) 634-4152, or by e-mail at Info@MichiganDogTrainer.com.

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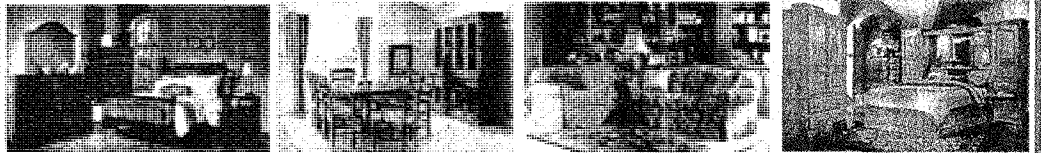
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Cheer for the hometown, read today's SPORTS section



To submit an item for the religion calendar, e-mail lchomin@hometownlife.com or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette-second level, Detroit, MI 48226. Attn: Linda Chomin. Deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

MARCH

All-you-can-eat fish
The St. Michael the Archangel Parish's "All You Can Eat" Lenten Fish Dinners continues 4:30-7 p.m. March 20, 27, and April 3 in the cafeteria of St. Michael School, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia. Dinners feature hand-dipped fresh Alaskan cod, fried or baked, along with an assortment of side dishes and beverages. Cost, \$8 adults, \$7 seniors, \$4 children ages 3-11, free ages 3 and under. Carryout orders, \$7. Call (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200.

Acoustic coffee house
Presents David Roth 7 p.m. Friday, March 20, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt. \$12 donation. Call (734) 421-1760 for details.

Women's expo
Presented by St. George Cathedral Cultural Center 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 21, at 18405 W. Nine Mile, Southfield. For information, visit www.imeverywomanexpo.com or call (248) 809-2117.

Bethany Suburban West activities
Saturday, March 21, Monthly Breakfast Meeting 9:30 a.m., Leon's, 30149 Ford Road, Garden City. All separated, divorced and singles welcome.

Call (734) 513-9479. Bethany is a Catholic organization under the auspices of the Archdiocese of the Detroit Office for Family Ministry. Bethany provides spiritual, social and educational assistance through peer-to-peer ministry to the divorced and separated of all Christian faiths.

Sisters in Christ

Registration is due by March 21 for Women's Conference, "Inspiring your Spirit", 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 28, at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, east of Beech Daly, Redford, is Cost is \$30 or \$40 at the door. Call (313) 534 7730. Speaker Gail Gaymer Martin, author of several Christian fiction novels, presents three different sessions. This is an interdenominational event bringing women together to strengthen and celebrate our lives and talents. St. James is handicap accessible. The chapel will also be open throughout the day for quiet meditation. Proceeds go to Redford Interfaith Relief.

Free movie

Kenwood Church shows "Fireproof" March 21, at 1 p.m., 4 p.m., and 7 p.m. at 20200 Merriman, south of 8 Mile, Livonia. For more information, call (248) 476-8222. Seating is first come first served. At work, inside burning buildings, Capt. Caleb Holt lives by the old firefighter's adage: Never Leave Your Partner Behind. At home, in the cooling embers of his marriage, he lives by his own rules. His job is to rescue others. Now Caleb must face his toughest job ever: rescuing his wife's heart. Enjoy this

spectacular marriage enrichment opportunity for free. Fireproof your marriage.

An evening with Simon Peter

A live dramatic presentation of the story of the ministry, passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth from the point of view of one of his closest friends, the Apostle Simon Peter, 7 p.m. Sunday, March 22, at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Rd., north of Six Mile, Livonia. Call 425-5950, and 7 p.m. Sunday-Monday, March 29-30, at St. Priscilla Catholic Church, 19120 Purlingbrook, north of Seven Mile, west of Middlebelt, Livonia. Call (248) 476-4700. A 6 p.m. Lenten Meal precedes the presentation at St. Priscilla Catholic Church. Free will offering. Performed by John Dzwonkowski.

Detroit Lutheran Singers

Present four concerts in their Spring 2009 series. 3:30 p.m. Sunday, March 22, at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 375 Lothrop, Grosse Pointe Farms, and at 7:30 p.m. at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 1800 W. Maple, Birmingham. Also 3:30 p.m. Sunday, March 29, at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 21915 Beech Street, Dearborn, and 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 202 E. 5th Street, Royal Oak. The children's choir from St. Paul Lutheran School will sing several selections in this final concert.

Lenten vespers services

The Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit continues 2009 series of Lenten Vespers

services 6 p.m. March 22, Sunday of the Veneration of the Cross, at St. George Romanian Orthodox Cathedral, Southfield; March 29, Sunday of St. John Climacus, at St. Clement Ohridski Macedonian-Bulgarian Orthodox Church, Dearborn; and April 5, Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt, at St. Thomas Orthodox Church, Farmington Hills. The general public as well as Orthodox Christians is invited to attend. All proceeds will be used for COCC charities and projects. Call (734) 422-0278 or e-mail paschabooks@sbcglobal.net.

Lenten schedule

St. Michael the Archangel Parish of Livonia invites all members of the community to any and all of its upcoming Lenten activities including Stations of the Cross every Friday in Lent at 7 p.m. followed by Benediction; a Communal Reconciliation service 7 p.m. Monday, March 23; and a special private reconciliation opportunity 2:30-3:30 p.m. and 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, April 1. Holy Thursday features the Mass of the Last Supper at 7 p.m. followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 11:30 p.m. Good Friday devotions will begin with Stations of the Cross at 12:15 p.m. followed by the Liturgy of the Passion at 1:30 p.m. An Easter Egg Hunt begins 9 a.m. Holy Saturday followed by Blessing of Food at noon and the Easter Vigil Mass at 8 p.m. Easter Sunday Masses at 8 a.m., 10 a.m., and noon. For more information, call (734) 261-1455 or visit www.livoniastmichael.org.

Dining in the Kingdom of God

For five Wednesdays in Lent, St. Aidan will host the series. Luke's Gospel revealed 10 meals that describe different dimensions of the Eucharist. This presentation will be given by St. Aidan's Faith Formation Director, David Conrad, M.A. Theology, 7-9 p.m. March 25, April 1, and April 8. Free. Call (734) 425-5950. Simon

Midweek spiritual enrichment

Two opportunities for spiritual enrichment are available at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 26701 Joy, each week on Wednesday and Thursday at 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays is a study/discussion group focused on understanding our relationship with God and that of other religions and the many philosophical and scientific issues that might impact our faith. Thursdays group examines early writings not included in the Bible as well as other versions, extensions and controversies concerning Christianity. Led by interim pastor Larry Hoxey. Call (313) 274-3820 for additional information on opportunities.

Hungry for God

Continues 7-9 p.m. Tuesdays to April 7, in the church building of St. Colette, 17600 Newburgh Road, Livonia. The six-week Hungry for God series helps adults and teens enjoy an even deeper, closer love-relationship with the God who is loving them first, best, and always. Facilitated by Deacon Bob Ovies, former director of the Detroit Archdiocesan Office for Family Life. Themes include: Hungry for God's Love, Hungry for Salvation, Hungry to Know God's Plan for Your Life, Hungry for Jesus, Hungry for the Power to Forgive, Hungry for Faith and God's Spirit. Register at religiouss@stcolette.net or call (734) 464-4435.

Taizé prayer

All are welcome to a Taizé ecumenical prayer service 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 23, at St. Thomas a Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley, south of Cherry Hill, Canton. Taizé worship combines prayer, silent meditation, candle-light and special music, and dates back to 1940 when a community of Catholic and Protestant brothers was formed in Taizé, France. Today, Taizé services are held across the globe and are especially popular among young adults. Taizé will be part of the church's Lenten 40-Hour Devotion beginning with 6 a.m. Mass on Monday, March 23, continuing with around-the-clock Eucharistic Adoration, and ending after 7 p.m. Mass on Tuesday, March 24. For more information, call (734) 981-1333.

The Gospel According to John

7 p.m. Wednesday, March 25, at Sacred Heart Byzantine Church Banquet Center, 29125 Six Mile, Livonia. The 2-hour production features Leonardo DeFilippis who is probably best known as the director of the film Therese, based on the life of the Catholic saint known as the Little Flower. Tickets are \$8 per person, \$25 for a family, \$6 for a group of 10 or more, and available by calling (734) 522-3166.

Midweek Lenten services

Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford, will have midweek Lenten services at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings. For information, call (313) 532-8655 or (734) 968-3523.

Lenten services

7 p.m. every Wednesday through April 1, at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford, Call (313) 534-7730. Passover Seder Dinner at 6 p.m. for \$8 followed by the Maundy Thursday service at 7 p.m. April 9. Easter Sunday Worship Service 10 a.m. April 12.

Wednesday Lenten Service

Hosanna-Tabor offers a mid-week Lenten Service at 7 p.m. in the church at 9600 Leverne, Redford.

The Lenten Series will be "Places of the Passion" with the focus not on the physical locations of our Lord's passion but on the spiritual wonders of his work. A free will offering dinner will be served beginning at 5:30 p.m. prior to the service each week through April 1. For information, call (313) 937-2233.

Lenten services

Evening Prayer 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414.

Fish fry

Continues 4-7 p.m. every Friday through April 3, at First United Methodist Church of Wayne-Westland, 3 Town Square. Choose from fried or baked fish with baked potato or french fries, cole slaw, roll, and coffee, tea, or punch, \$8. Kids meals like chicken nuggets, corn dogs and fries, \$4. Call (734) 721-4802 or (734) 891-2523.

Families in action workshops

The National Association for Mental Illnesses 10-week educational program continues at St. Regis Parish School Campus in Bloomfield Hills. The program is for people with a loved one diagnosed with a serious mental illness. The workshop meets at 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays or Thursdays through April 30. \$20 per person; \$30 per couple. Families In Action is funded in large part by the Oakwood Healthcare Foundation and the Oakwood Heritage Hospital Auxiliary. Call (248) 348-7197 to register.

Health expo

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 28, at St. Constantine and Helen Hellenic Church, 36375 Joy Rd., Westland. Cost \$35, includes lectures on diabetes, heart disease and nutrition; heart healthy continental breakfast and lunch; tests for hearing, blood sugar, blood pressure, cholesterol, body mass index, and gifts such as cookbooks, pedometers and glucometers. No food after midnight for testing which ends at noon. Call (248) 356-5033 to register by March 15.

Open house

Holy Incarnation Orthodox Church, an English-speaking Orthodox Christian parish at 1385 Goddard near Fort Street, hosts an open house 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 29, showcasing the church's newly redecorated sanctuary. The open house will be preceded by the regular Sunday morning worship services, including the Divine Liturgy, which begins at 9 a.m. The open house concludes with Vespers, a brief evening prayer service. For more information, visit http://holyncarnation.org, cakk (313) 282-6153 or e-mail frfrenton@holyncarnation.org.

Clothing bank

Free clothing (men, women and children) for those in need 10 a.m. - noon on the fourth Saturday of each month, at Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank, 8775 Ronda Drive. Call (734) 404-2480, visit www.CantonCF.org or send e-mail to info@cantoncf.org.

Music at St. John's

Collegium Musicum performs cantatas and instrumental works, 6 p.m. Sunday, March 29, and The Saline Fiddlers, 6 p.m., Sunday, May 17, at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth. All concerts free except The Saline Fiddlers (\$7). Call (734) 453-0190.

UPCOMING

Kids Easter fun day

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Livonia hosts a Kids Easter Fun Day 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 4, at the church located on Five Mile, one block west of Inkster Road. Morning includes games, crafts, an Easter egg hunt, prizes and more for children ages 4-12 years old. All are welcome to attend this free event. For more information or to sign-up for the fun day, call (734) 422-1470.

Bethany west singles

Saturday, April 4, Monthly Dance at St. Robert Bellarmine, 27101 W. Chicago and Inkster roads, Redford. Dance lesson this month: Two Step, cost is \$10, refreshments included. Time is 8 p.m. to midnight. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Call Diane K. for information, (734) 261-5716. Saturday, April 18, Monthly Breakfast Meeting 9:30 a.m. at Leon's, 30149 Ford Road, Garden City. All separated, divorced and singles welcome. Call (734) 513-9479. Bethany is a Catholic organization under the auspices of the Archdiocese of the Detroit Office for Family Ministry. Bethany provides spiritual, social and educational assistance through peer-to-peer ministry to the divorced and separated of all Christian faiths.

Historic Polish church tour

The West Side Detroit Polish American Historical Society, a nonprofit organization with headquarters in historic St. Hedwig Catholic Church in Detroit, will hold its second annual west side Detroit historic Polish church pilgrimage and wi conka (traditional Polish Easter meal) Saturday, April 18. The pilgrimage starts at 10 a.m. at St. Hedwig, 3245 Junction, and includes St. Francis d'Assisi (4500 Wesson), and St. Stephen (4311 Central) in Detroit, and Our Lady

of Mt. Carmel (976 Pope John II Ave.) and St. Stanislaus Kostka (266 Antoine St.) in Wyandotte. The wi conka will be held at Biddle Hall, 3239 Biddle, Wyandotte. The menu includes kielbasa, ham, potato salad, tossed green salad, beet horseradish (cwikla), bread, butter lambs, dessert (variety of cakes, or babkas), and beverages. Coaches do not have wheelchair lifts. Return to St. Hedwig between 5-5:30 p.m. Optional Our Lady Queen of Angels Mass at 5 p.m., and confession at St. Stephen, 5:30 p.m. Advance reservation only by April 8. Pilgrimage and Meal: \$35 adults, \$25 children 12 and under. Pilgrimage Only: \$25 adults and children. Meal Only: \$15 adults, \$9 children. Call (248) 477-8518, e-mail lpalazzolo@detroitpolonia.org, or visit www.detroitpolonia.org.

All-you-can-eat pancakes

The Ushers' Club of St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Livonia continues its 30-year tradition of all-you-can-eat pancake breakfasts 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on the third Sunday of each month in the school cafeteria at 11441 Hubbard. Expanded menu features pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon, hash browns, and assorted beverages served buffet-style, \$5, adults; \$3, children 4-11; free, under age 3; \$15, family (two adults and all children). Everyone welcome.

New worship schedule

Sunday worship at 8 a.m., Faith Forum at 9 a.m., worship and Sunday school 10 a.m. Wednesday worship at 7:30 p.m. in the Chapel, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414.

Time change

Worship is 9:30 a.m. Sunday, at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, west of Middlebelt, Livonia. Learning hour is at 8:15 a.m. for all ages. Visit www.livonfaith.org.

Church moves

Westwood Community Church has moved to 1119 N. Newburgh, Westland. Service time is 10-11:15 a.m. Come as you are. Coffee and doughnuts every Sunday. Children's church.

ENDOW

St. Michael the Archangel Parish of Livonia hosts two different courses of the Archdiocese of Detroit's ENDOW program, a continuing women's study group focused on the dignity of women of all ages and faiths. Course VI, "Salvifici Doloris," addresses the Christian meaning of suffering. Based on the writing of Pope John Paul II, this is a new addition to the ENDOW curriculum and available 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesdays, in the convent meeting room, the class began Jan. 13. Based on Pope John Paul II's "Mulieris Dignitatem" (On the Dignity and Vocation of Women), the Course II group, meets 7-8:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursdays (began Jan. 22), in the convent meeting room behind the rectory, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia. Women of all ages and faiths are welcome. \$60 charge for materials, but no woman will be turned away because of inability to pay. Call (734) 261-1455, Ext. 207, or visit www.endowonline.com. St. Aidan Catholic Church also offers ENDOW. The eight-session course focuses on the ideas about human beings and God that St. Thomas Aquinas explores in his work Summa Theologiae, 7-9 p.m., Thursdays, through March 5, in the parish office conference room at the church, 17500 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile, Livonia. Cost is \$60 for materials. Registration required. Visit www.endowonline.com or call (734) 425-5950. Facilitator is Michele Schmidt at (734) 367-0353 or mtschmidt@sbcglobal.net.

ONGOING

Special needs Bible class
Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Livonia invites adults with developmental disabilities and special needs to attend a new Open Arms Bible class the second Monday of the month at the church, 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia. The class will include songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun. Contact Judy Cook at Emmanuel, (248) 442-8822 or e-mail to elc-ed@arrounddetroit.biz.

Church schedule
9:30 a.m. Sunday School followed by 10:30 a.m. Worship Service with Communion each Sunday, Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays, at Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City. For information, call (734) 427-3660.

Caregiver's support group
St. John's Support Group for the Caregiver's of Alzheimer's patients or patients with other forms of dementia meets at 10 a.m., the first and third Friday of each month 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. This group is authorized by the Alzheimer's Association.



3/19/09

Passages

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RICHARD FORREST CHAMBERS

Age 86. March 13, 2009. Beloved husband of Virginia (Adams). Loving father of David (Carol), Alan (Karla) and Laurel (Steve) Wilson. Proud grandfather of Bryon, Ron (Jennifer), Kim (Rick), Shane (Heather), Merissa, Ross and Rebecca. Great-grandfather of Courtney, Kayla, Connor and Sophia. Services were held on Monday, March 16, 2009 at Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, Royal Oak, 248-541-7000. Memorials to William Beaumont Hospice appreciated. Share your memories at www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com



OLIVENE JANE GOTTSCHALK LUELFING

Passed away March 13, 2009 at the age of 92. She was a lifelong resident of Plymouth who had worked as a clerk for the Post Office in Plymouth. She also had a special love for her family history and genealogy. Beloved wife of the late Earl B. Luelfing. Dearest mother of Nancy E. (Michael) Herr and the late Linda Wilson. Dear grandmother of Carl Wilson, Chris (Carole) Wilson, Vickie (Chris) Jackson, Aimee (Joshua) Schier, Alison (Brian) Oliver, Elizabeth (Chris) Chier, Edward (Tara) Herr and Nicole Herr. Also leaves 10 great-grandchildren. Dear aunt of Marlene, Randy and Richard Sharland. Funeral Services were held at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth. Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association or the Plymouth Historical Museum. Share your special thoughts and memories at www.schrader-howell.com



HARRY E.B. TUCKER JR.

Age 80, of Northville. Died March 6, 2009. Beloved husband of the late Alida Louise. Loving father of Jacqueline (Jeffery) Parko, Diane L. Wessels, Carlton B. Tucker. Dear grandfather of six. Dear brother of Robert E. Tucker. Also survived by many other loving and caring friends. He was a Disabled American Veteran and a faithful employee of Ford Motor Company for more than 40 years. Services will take place at Woodlawn Memorial Gardens in Norfolk VA, at a later date. Serving the family Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, Walled Lake. Condolences at www.lynychfuneraldirectors.com



ELBERT VAN KEMPEN

Age 88. Of Beverly Hills, Michigan. Passed away February 10, 2009. Arrangements by THAYER-ROCK Funeral Home, Farmington.



LILLIAN CATHERINE FULTON

Age 78, of Brohman, MI and St. James City, FL died on March 15, 2009 at Hope Hospice, Cape Coral, FL. She was born on July 26, 1930 in Plymouth, MI, a child of Thomas A. and Amelia (Prochnow) Welzer. Lillian spent the last 30 years between both areas and worked part time for the past 10 years at the KOA Campground in St. James City where she did various duties. Previously she was an operator for Michigan Bell for 20 years and helped her late husband with their business, Northwest Central Building and Supply in Brohman. She was the wife of the late Joseph Elmer Fulton who died on July 16, 2008, she is survived by her children, Susan Louise (Ralph) Cunningham of White Cloud, MI, Joseph David (Velma) Fulton of Willis, MI and Daniel Russell (Shirley) Fulton of Big Rapids, MI, seven grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren, one great-great-granddaughter, her brother, Harold Wetzler of Camden, OH and her sisters, Delores Thompson and Evelyn Suddendorf, both of Livonia, MI. A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, May 2, 2009 at 11:00 AM in the Amazing Grace Acres Church, 762 Woodland Drive, Brohman, MI. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be sent to Hope Hospice, 9470 HealthPark Circle, Ft. Myers, FL 33908.



DON C. PAINTER

March 15, 2009. Beloved husband of Carol. Dear father of Joseph and Don (Jennifer). Grandfather of Sarah and Nicholas. Uncle of David (Emila) Palmer, Maria, David Mathew Palmer, Aleksandra, Tandy (Thomas) McClain, Vivian Denise, Brian. Memorial Service and American Legion Service Friday, 8 p.m. from the chapel of the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, 7707 Middlebelt Road (at Ann Arbor Trail). The family will receive visitors Friday, 3-8 p.m. Memorial contributions to Wayne/Westland Special Olympics or Angela Hospice or Mi-Cops would be appreciated. Share a "Memorial Tribute" with the family at griffinfuneralhome.com



CATHARINE L. SHERRICK

Age 92. Died March 5, 2009 in Providence Park Hospital. Mrs. Sherrick was a retired Occupational Therapist. She enjoyed gardening, sewing, dried flower arranging and was the first female bus driver in Plymouth. She is survived by her children: Peter (Ruth) Sherrick and Linda Dowsett; four grandchildren, Anne Kuhns, Barbara Knighton, Danna Segrest and Kristine Hayes; and nine great-grandchildren and a sister Doris Close. Services were conducted 11 a.m. Saturday, March 7, 2009 at Orchard Hills Baptist Church in Nov. Pastor Jon P. Hix officiated. Interment was in Rural Hill Cemetery. Memorial contributions to the church or the American Cancer Society would be appreciated. Arrangements by the Northrop-Sassaman Funeral Home.



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Paying Tribute to the Life of Your Loved One



Presentations bring biblical stories of Jesus to life

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER

John Dzwonkowski is matter of fact as tells the Biblical story of Jesus in an upcoming production at two local Catholic churches. Audiences won't have to wonder what it would be like to be Jesus' best friend as the Livonia man's by-the-way manner brings the Savior's ministry, death and resurrection to life in the one-man show, "An Evening with Simon Peter."

Dzwonkowski plays the Apostle Peter in the 90-minute drama 7 p.m. Sunday, March 22, at St. Aidan Catholic Church, and 7 p.m. Sunday-Monday, March 29-30, at St. Priscilla Catholic Church, both in Livonia. A free will offering is asked to defray the cost of production.

Dzwonkowski has been performing the role since 1992. Over the years he has made changes to the script which now requires 58-pages of memorization, but it's definitely a labor of love. Dzwonkowski has a strong faith and energy that is sure to come through in the portrayal.

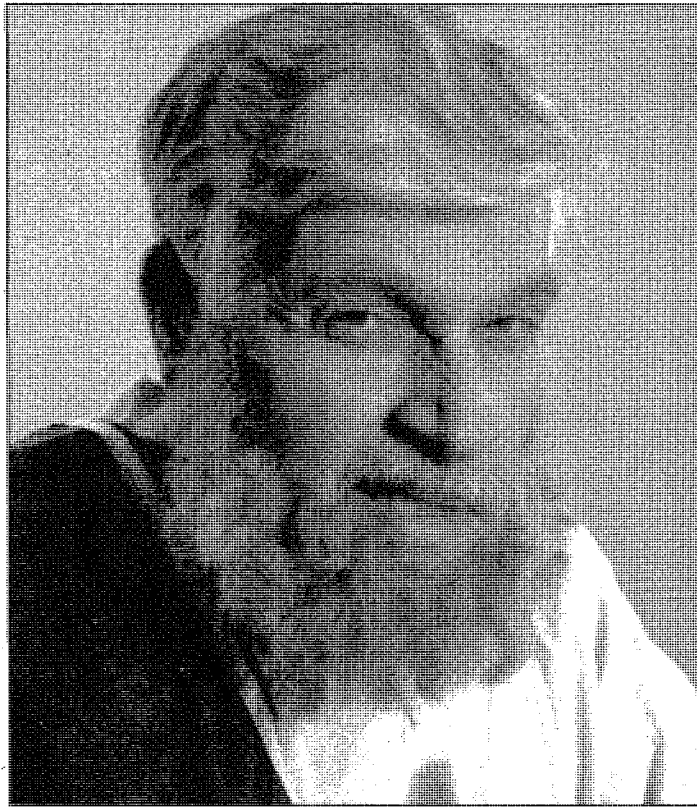
"I find people invested in their religion see this as a source of inspiration. Most leave with a tear or two but there is humor too especially in the beginning. The primary objective is to reach out to people who might not know what's so great about this Jesus fellow. In the first act as Simon Peter I tell them about what it was like to meet him for the first time, listen to him speak, watch him work with children and the sick."

Dzwonkowski moves on to illustrate the betrayal of Jesus by Judas Iscariot and the arrest and conviction of the carpenter from Nazareth. A 14-foot cross serves as an imposing reminder of the crucifixion.

"It's historical fiction," said Dzwonkowski, who has a master's degree in theology. "I continue to research it a lot."

Dzwonkowski's understanding comes from the years he spent studying for the priesthood with the Maryknoll Mission in New York. His love of theology and the stage led him to try his hand at acting as John the Baptist and Judas in an off-off-Broadway production of "Godspell."

His commitment to the seminary forced him to give up theater, but not for long. Dzwonkowski eventually left the seminary to start a business and marry. By day he writes for the Web and owns American Corporate Communication so it was only natu-



John Dzwonkowski, as the Apostle Simon Peter, talks heart-to-heart about his best friend, Jesus, in dramatic presentations at St. Aidan and St. Priscilla Catholic churches in Livonia.

ral for him to put Jesus' message into words.

Over the years the presentation grew into a family affair with wife Cindi doing makeup and directing, sons Andrew, 17, and Lucas, 14, overseeing sound and lighting. Daughter Julie Bradner, 20, used to take part before enrolling in Western Michigan University.

"It's fun," said Dzwonkowski, 58.

But it's not easy being a best friend as Peter found out. His flaw is one of the reasons David Conrad wanted to bring the presentation to the community. Conrad is director of faith formation at St. Aidan.

"We wanted to give the community an opportunity to break open the scriptures and realize scriptures are alive and relevant even in today's time," said Conrad. "The disciples of Christ's time can teach us something about being Christ's disciples today with all the warts and positive aspects. They were humans just like you and I. They failed and got up and continued to follow. We need to follow that example of stick with-it-ness. Originally Peter denied his Lord but was reconciled and made leader of the church. In realizing his weaknesses he never failed to mention all he was able to accomplish was because of the presence of Christ. Lent is an intensive time to renew our relationship with the Lord. In a way it can actually be a prayer. It's certainly not simply entertainment."

Dianne Pierson believes the audience will be equally inspired by the St. Luke production of "The Gospel According to John" 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 25, at Sacred Heart Byzantine Church Banquet Center in Livonia. The two-hour production features Leonardo Defilippis who is probably best known as the director of the film *Therese*, based on the life of the Catholic saint known as the Little Flower.

"It's a very spiritual program, has liturgical music, expansive staging and props," said Pierson, the church's administrative assistant. "It's a one-man show and he performs the entire gospel according to John in costumes based on sacred images. It's not Catholic, Baptist. It's the Bible. We think it will really make an impact on people, to infuse them with a knowledge there is something greater than us out there."

Tickets are \$8 per person, \$25 for a family, \$6 for a group of 10 or more, and available by calling (734) 522-3166. Sacred Heart church is at 29125 Six Mile.

St. Aidan Catholic Church is at 17500 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile, Livonia. Call 425-5950 for tickets to "An Evening with Simon Peter." A 6 p.m. Lenten Meal precedes the presentation at St. Priscilla Catholic Church, 19120 Purlingbrook, north of Seven Mile, west of Middlebelt, Livonia. Call (248) 476-4700.

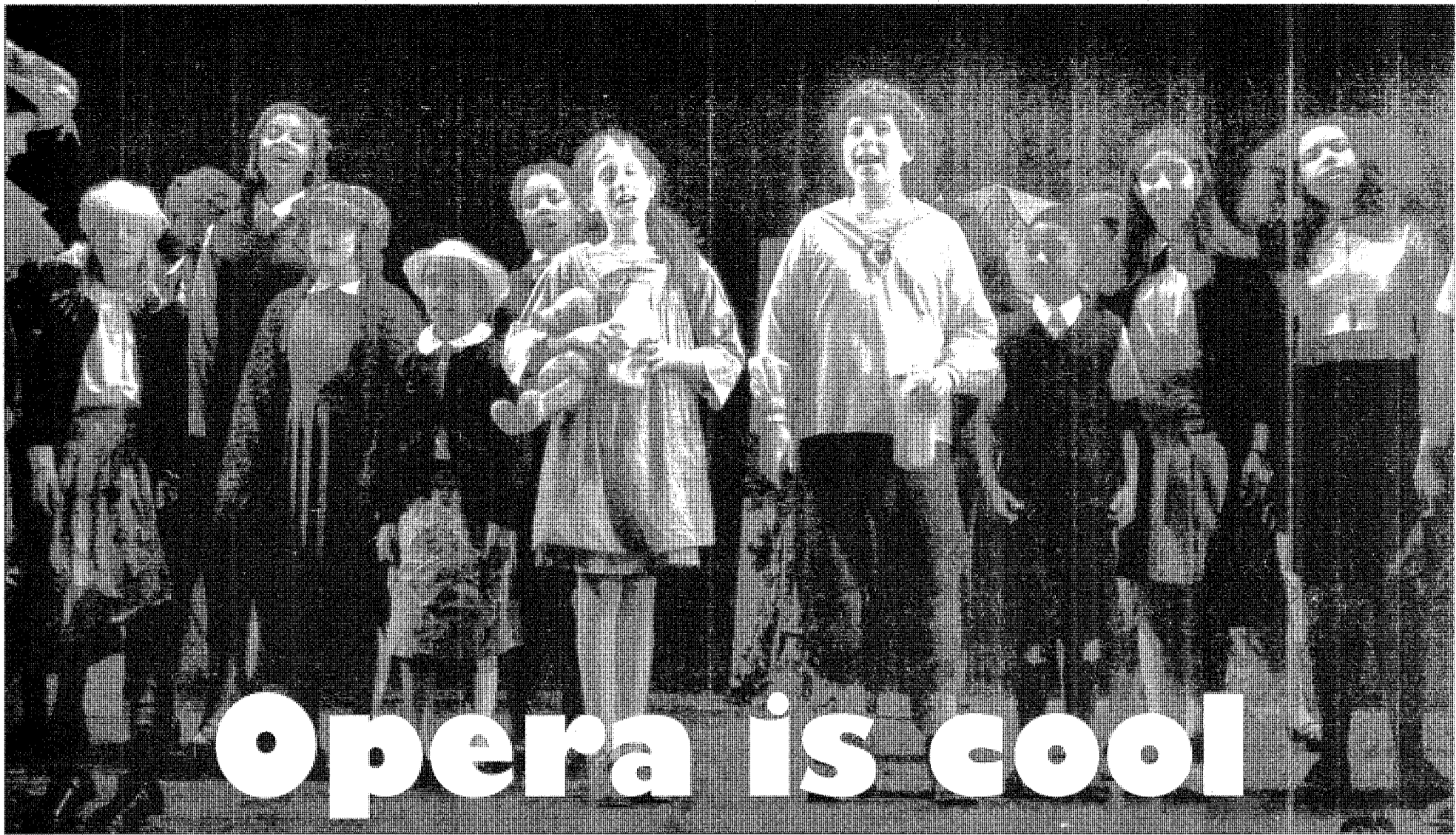
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<p>St Genevieve Roman Catholic Church St. Genevieve School - Pre-K-8 29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220 (East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries) MASS: Tues. 7 p, Wed., Thurs. 9 a, Sat. 4 p, Sun 11a St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church 32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616 (between Meriman & Farmington Roads) MASS: Mon. 8:30 a, Fri. 8:30 a, Sat. 6 p, Sun 9a CE0802546</p>	<p>SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST</p>	<p>NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH "Open Hearts, Minds & Doors" 36500 Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne & Newburgh Rds. 734-422-0149 Worship Service and Sunday School 9:15 am & 11:00 am Rev. Marsha M. Woolley Visit our website: www.newburgumc.org CE0802526</p>	<p>GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD 25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY 313-532-2266 REDFORD TWP. Worship Service 9:15 & 11:00 A.M. Sunday School 9:15 & 11:00 A.M. Nursery Provided The Rev. Timothy P. Halboth, Senior Pastor The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor CE0802517</p>
<p>CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</p>	<p>Cherry Hill Seventh-Day Adventist Church 33144 Cherry Hill, Garden City, MI 48135 (1 block west of Venoy) Phone: 734-524-0860 Pastor: Eddie Petreaca Meetings on Saturdays for: Early Morning Bible & Health Class - 8am Worship Service-English-9:30 am Bible Studies English & Spanish (All ages) 11:00 am Wednesdays Prayer Meeting-7 pm CE0802502</p>	<p>CHRISTIAN SCIENCE</p>	<p>HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL 9600 Laverne • So. Redford • 313-937-2424 Pastor - Reverend Paul Undlin Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Education Hour 10:45 a.m. Christian School Pre-Kindergarten-8th Grade For more information call 313-937-2233 CE0802707</p>
<p>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 46501 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1625 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196 CE0802538</p>	<p>EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA</p>	<p>ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Meriman & Farmington Rds.) (734) 422-0494 Friends in Faith Service 9:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am WE WELCOME YOU TO A FULL SERVICE CHURCH CE0802533</p>	<p>WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church 40000 Six Mile Road "just west of I-275" Northville, MI 248-374-7400 Traditional Worship 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 A.M. Contemporary Worship 9:30 A.M. Nursery & Sunday School During the 9:30 & 11:00 Hours Evening Service • 7:00 p.m. Service Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday WRDT-AM 560 The WJMUZ Word Station For additional information visit www.wardchurch.org CE0802535</p>
<p>PRESBYTERIAN</p>	<p>Timothy Lutheran Church A Reconciling in Christ Congregation 8820 Wayne Rd. (Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road) Livonia • 427-2290 Hill Heather, Pastor 10:00 a.m. Family Worship (Nursery Available) CE0802525</p>	<p>St. James Presbyterian Church, USA 25350 West Six Mile Rd. Redford (313) 534-7730 Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 A.M., Sunday School - 10:15 A.M., Thursday Openers - 6:00 P.M., Thrift Store every Sat. 10am-2pm Nursery Care Provided • Handicapped Accessible Rev. Paul S. Bousquette CE0802524</p>	<p>LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD</p>
<p>Fellowship Presbyterian Church Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire Services held at: Madonna University's Kresge Hall 36600 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia • Parking lot is on N.W. corner of Levan & Schoolcraft Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org CE0802511</p>	<p>ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL 17810 FARMINGTON ROAD, LIVONIA (734) 261-1360 WORSHIP SERVICES SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. WEDNESDAY: 6:30 P.M. website: www.stpaulslivonia.org CE0802530</p>	<p>GREEK ORTHODOX</p>	<p>ST. CONSTANTINE & HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH 36375 Joy Rd., Westland Sunday Services: Matins 9:00am, Divine Liturgy 10:00am Rev. Fr. Teodor Petruțiu Parish Office: 734-525-6789 www.stcons.org Hellenic Cultural Center Banquet Hall 734-525-3850 CE0802531</p>

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Senny Lee at 586-977-7651 or e-mail: sslee@dnps.com

FILTER



A New York production of "Brundibar." The MOT cast will don costumes for the first time during dress rehearsals this week.

Opera is cool

Local youngsters belt out 'Brundibar' on MOT stage

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Ryan Hurley of Huntington Woods knows exactly when he fell in love with theater. "What really got me started big was in first grade I went to theater camp in New York. We did the *Wizard of Oz*. We were all Munchkins." Since then, Ryan, now 10 and a fifth-grader at Burton Elementary, has traded *Follow the Yellow Brick Road* and *Ding-Dong the Witch is Dead* for the music of Georges Bizet's *Carmen* and Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker Suite*. This

week he'll sing the opera *Brundibar* along with other members of the Michigan Opera Theatre Children's Chorus. Curtain is at noon and 5 p.m., Saturday, March 21, at the Michigan Opera Theatre, (MOT) 1526 Broadway, in downtown Detroit. Tickets are \$11-\$36, available at the theater's box office, by phone at (313) 237-7464 and online at www.MichiganOpera.org. Written by Jewish Czech composer Hans Krása before World War II, the opera tells the story of two children who sing in the street to

earn milk money for their sick mother. After the cruel organ grinder Brundibar overpowers them, they enlist the help of a sparrow, cat, dog and neighborhood children to out-sing the brute and conquer evil. The children of the Terezin concentration camp in German-occupied Czechoslovakia originally performed the piece in 1943. Ela Stein Weissberger, who played the cat in 55 performances at the camp, will speak at both MOT performances. Author of the book, *The Cat with the Yellow Star*, she is among the few Terezin performers who survived the war.

"You can expect to learn something," Ryan said, describing what *Brundibar* audiences will take home from the experience. "It was first done in a concentration camp. I learned a lot more than I ever knew about the show." The cast will sing the 90-minute opera in English, although several members will tackle French lyrics when they sing with international opera stars in *Carmen*, May 9-17.

His second audition, last August, was successful. "My mom told me before the audition 'You know, you might not make it in and you can't feel bad.' There is a lot of rejection and you can't feel bad about it. It was a good experience and you learn from your mistakes." Kim Hurley started looking for theater experiences for her son after he attended several drama camps. When she discovered that Ryan could perform as an extra in MOT's 2007 production of *Cyrano*, by David DiChiera, they both signed on. Since then, she and her husband, Rob, have left the performing up to Ryan, although Hurley said her daughter, Erica, 7, a Burton second-grader, is showing some interest in theater, too.

PERMANENT CHORUS
"This is a unique program. They have the opportunity to sing on stage, on the main stage," said Rebekah Johnson, MOT communications coordinator. "It's part of our Children's Discovery series. It's a unique experience." Suzanne Mallare Acton directs the MOT Children's Chorus, which is in its second season.

LOCAL PERFORMERS
Ryan plays a policeman in *Brundibar*. Two other local students, Elena Bakaluka of Huntington Woods and Caroline Hofman of Clawson, both sing in the chorus. "It's pretty cool. It's exciting to me," Ryan said, adding that he sings a solo in the show. "It is different working with opera. It's more challenging. Most of the opera songs I've never heard before. A lot of it is in a different language. "But if you really want to do it, then it doesn't seem that hard. If you want to work for it, it seems easier." When he's not on stage, Ryan takes piano lessons, plays soccer, baseball and likes to swim. What do other students say when they find out he sings opera? "Some are impressed and others are like, 'Wow, opera is a little different.' Sometimes they don't know what to expect." Ryan marvels at the hard work the cast and crew have dedicated to *Brundibar* and promises that ticket-holders won't be disappointed. "Everyone in the show has done a great job. It's really fun and the outcome is amazing." To learn more about the MOT Children's Chorus, visit www.MichiganOpera.org.

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Films focus on peace

Films designed to stir the conscience of the viewer will be shown weekly at Madonna University, Livonia. Sponsored by Citizens for Peace, the films will be facilitated by a knowledgeable local spokesperson who will answer questions following each presentation. A donation of \$5 is requested for each viewing. Films start at 7 p.m.

Soldiers of Conscience, showing March 20, is a dramatic window on the dilemma of eight U.S. Soldiers in the Iraq war including four who decide not to kill and instead become conscientious objectors. Made with permission from the U.S. Army, the film explores the tension between spiritual values and military orders. Mark Gaffney, Michigan AFL-CIO president, leads a discussion on the impact of the Iraq War on the economy. The Detroit Area Peace with Justice Network commemorates the sixth anniversary of the start of the war with this film and discussion. The theme is: "Beyond War: A Better Economic World Is Possible."

Traces of the Trade: A Story of the Deep South is scheduled March 27. It is the story of one Rhode Island family's painful but persistent confrontation with its continuing legacy of the slave trade. This 86-minute film asks what Americans can and should do to deal with what has been inherited from the country's past.

Made in L.A., April 3, traces the moving transformation of three Latina women who decide they must resist an American garment retailer and the labor conditions under which they work by initiating a ground-breaking lawsuit and consumer boycott. This 70-minute film puts a human face on labor organizing, immigrant struggles and women's rights. For information, call Colleen Mills at (734) 425 0079.

CITY BITES

HILLER'S HOSTS LOCAL FOOD FAIR

— Continuing its mission to showcase local foods, Hiller's Markets will host its first Michigan Foods Fair, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. March 21-22, at its Commerce Township location.

More than 30 vendors will demo their products, provide tastings, and exhibit signs with information about where the company is located and how many people they employ. Hiller's has long been committed to showcasing locally-made, grown and produced food labels like Garden Fresh Salsa, Pioneer Sugar, Guernsey Farms Dairy, Olga's Kitchen, Bareman's, Better Made, Hamilton Eggs, Old Orchard juices, Michigan navy beans, Polly's Pastries and more.

For months, the grocer has been featuring Michigan companies in its biweekly circular, and identifying Michigan products with shelf tags.

"Buying and selling Michigan products boosts the local economy," says Jim Hiller, CEO of the 68-year-old company. "That helps our state economy and the families who live here. I have always been dedicated to working together with good people and good companies close to home."

Hiller's groceries are located in Ann Arbor, Berkley, West Bloomfield, Northville, Plymouth, Commerce Township and the new 52,000-square-foot store at 3010 Union Lake Road in Commerce Twp. Call (248) 363-8718.

Sink your teeth into 'Twilight' celebrations

Fans of the "Twilight" vampire romance saga will want to fly into select Borders stores March 20 for special DVD release parties starting at 10 p.m.

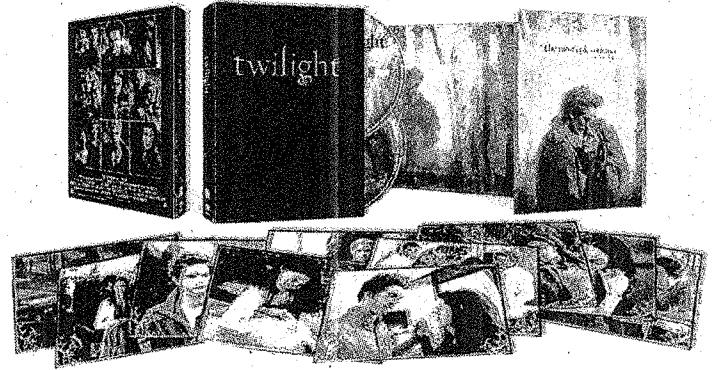
Events leading up to the midnight release include "Twilight"-themed trivia contests, scavenger hunts, prize raffles, and Borders Twilight Movie Awards, where fans will name winners in 10 categories such as "Best Vampire," and "Best OME (Oh My Edward) Moment."

"These activities were designed with the true fan in mind — the customer who lives and breathes all things 'Twilight,'" said Anne Kubek, executive vice president of merchandising and marketing for Ann Arbor-based Borders Group. "We intend to throw great in-store parties that fans will remember for years to come."

For the occasion, Borders will create sweeping displays of Twilight-themed products, including an exclusive calendar, posters, T-shirts, jewelry, an Edward action figure, and the Twilight Saga books that started it all — "Twilight," "New Moon," "Eclipse" and "Breaking Dawn."

Customers who wish to buy Borders' limited edition two-disc DVD (\$29.99 while supplies last) are urged to stop by the morning of March 20 and pick up a ticket to ensure their place in line.

Participating Borders include Beverly Hills, Canton, Novi, Rochester Hills, Troy and more; not participating are Farmington Hills, Birmingham, Brighton and Detroit. For more information or to download a Borders Twilight Movie Awards ballot, visit www.borders-media.com/twilight.



Borders' exclusive "Twilight" DVD, complete with bonus features and glossy movie stills, will go on sale at midnight, March 20 for the reduced price of \$29.99.

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Comic Opera Guild presents the 1922 musical comedy

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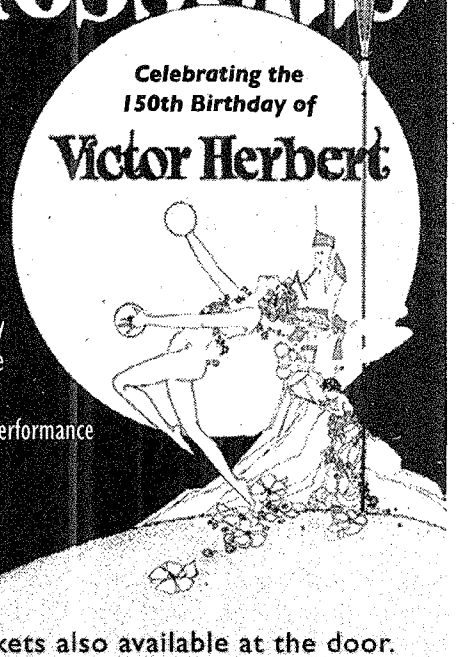
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Anssi Karttunen cello
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Adams Guide to Strange Places (2007)
B. Zimmermann Canto di Spensanzu (1967)
Sibelius Symphony No. 5 in E-flat Major, Op. 82 (1915)
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FOOD & WINE

Hospital food goes gourmet at Henry Ford West Bloomfield

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER

Just the thought of eating hospital food is enough to make many people sick, but that's changing at the new Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital. The smell of fresh strawberries filled the air on a recent tour of the kitchen. These were no ordinary recipes the staff was preparing for patients. The vibrant red color of the berries illustrates the philosophy Matt Prentice developed as culinary director and consultant to make stays more enjoyable and healthier food wise. Except for tomatoes, all fruits and vegetables have never seen the inside of a can or freezer.

"First I had to start figuring out what our mission was by talking to hospital staff — dietitians, nurses and doctors. Their views were fairly diverse even among registered dietitians. A nurse on a heart ward said to get rid of the salt," said Prentice, who with his staff created more than 1,300 recipes for the hospital menu. "I took copious notes then started to read books written on what food does for you, what's good and bad. I'm not a doctor; I'm a cook. I was asked to assist the healing process. If we're serving rice, let's serve brown rice instead of peeling away nutrients, breads with whole grain flours. Let's give the body energy so it can heal faster."

Prentice spent last summer writing a manual on healthy eating for the staff. It wasn't easy to make time since the Matt Prentice Restaurant Group owns a number of area restaurants including Coach Insignia at the Renaissance Center in Detroit.

To help with the project he



PHOTOS BY JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Chef Matt Prentice (center) with two of his chefs, David Denys (left) holding prepared butternut squash with gnocchi, and Jacob Dier with sushi.

Chefs from the Matt Prentice Restaurant Group created these recipes for the new Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital.

BLUE SUNSHINE SUPER FOOD SMOOTHIE

Serves 6

- 2 cups fresh pineapple, diced
- 1 cup frozen banana chunks
- 1 cup frozen diced mangoes
- 1-1/2 cups almond milk
- 4 ounces agave or raw honey
- 1 ounce vanilla extract
- 1 cup fresh blueberries
- 1/2 cup raspberries

Combine all ingredients except berries in a blender and puree until smooth. Pour half of the mixture into serving vessels. Add blueberries to remaining mixture and puree until smooth. Pour blueberry mix over the back of a spoon on top of the pineapple-mango mix to keep

the two layers separate for visual effect.

PECAN TOPPED PUMPKIN PUDDING

Serves 8

- 2 eggs
- 15 ounces pumpkin puree
- 12 ounces evaporated milk
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1/2 teaspoon cloves
- 1/2 teaspoon ginger
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup vanilla
- 1 teaspoon pecans for each serving

Mix all ingredients together except nuts in a mixing bowl with a whisk. Divide mixture into eight 4-ounce ramekins. Bake in a water bath 45 minutes in a 300 degree oven. Serve at room temperature or warm.



Vickie Kehias and Bev Brun look over the wide selection of foods at Henry's, the cafeteria in the new Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital.

brought in his corporate chef and six executive chefs to train the management team he hired for the hospital. Prentice's executive chefs oversee the menus at Northern Lakes Seafood Company in Bloomfield Hills; No.VI Chop House, Novi; Shiraz, Bingham Farms; Deli Unique, West Bloomfield and Bloomfield Hills; Plaza Deli, Southfield, and Tavern on 13, Beverly Hills.

Each worked on different stations that include entrees from the Middle East, Africa, Spain, Greece, and "other areas of the world that eat very healthy." Prentice uses Michigan products whenever possible. He opened a refrigerated locker to show off organic fruits, vegetables and salad items like red leaf lettuce. Most of the items are organic, especially if served uncooked.

"Jason Hayden out at No.VI Chop house loves big fat steaks. He's come up with phenomenal food on a nominal budget. He was in charge of the American entree station, which is often the feature of the day for patients, and came up with grilled marinated tofu served

with bulgur roulade," said Prentice. "It's really simple food. We're trying to stick with fresh ingredients loaded with vitamins and minerals. We make everything from scratch. It's all about the healing power of food."

Prentice realized early on that food had to taste good too since the same recipes were being served in Henry's, the cafeteria where the seven stations offer deli items like turkey sandwiches on 100-percent whole wheat bread with Russian low-fat dressing, and cole slaw and potato salad with low-fat mayonnaise made fresh in the kitchen.

The beef sandwich cuts red meat to three ounces and tops it with spicy plum ketchup on a house baked onion roll.

"We tried to stay away from unhealthy meats like corned beef. My favorite is a vegetarian sandwich with avocado, sprouts and Swiss cheese and I'm not a vegetarian kind of guy," said Prentice of West Bloomfield. "You eat the sandwich and it perks your energy."

The Asian station features rolled sushi, rice boxes and

noodle bowls developed under the direction of Chef Jaime Kalmus. Prentice's staff is scheduled to leave around mid-April when total quality control will be in the hands of Executive Chef Frank Turner who previously was corporate chef for the Prentice group.

"My restaurant chefs are definitely embracing the recipes. We have a healthy healing area with Asian on the Northern Lakes menu. Chef Jaimie Kalmus is teaching them to roll sushi, how you use a wok, how to use herbs to make noodle bowls flavorful. We have six different soups every day — none with sodium."

Salt was banned from the kitchen except for baked goods. Recipes rely on ingredients to add flavor. A seared salmon with tomato jam is served over Israeli couscous with currants. To spice up the menu for kids, Prentice adds special touches. Cookies are being baked in the image of Henry, the hospital's therapy dog.

"We need to be able to put a smile on a sick boy or girl's face," said Prentice. "We're going to have Henry cookies and they get to decorate it themselves."

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