

AROUND WESTLAND

Plant exchange

The Westland Garden Club will sponsor a plant exchange and garden item sale 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 16, at the Westland Historic Village Park, on Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill. The public is invited.

For more information, call Maureen Davidson at (734) 728-1232 or Jo Johnson at (734) 522-3918.

Showing support

Skateland West is hosting a special roller skating session to support union families in southeastern Michigan from 6-9 p.m. Saturday April 18. Show your union card and everyone in your party skates for \$1 each. Admission without union card is \$6. Skate rental is \$1.50, inline rental \$5.

In an effort to reach out and help the struggling union

families of Michigan, Skateland West is offering an evening of entertainment and family fun at a premium discount. Any and all union cards will be accepted. All ages are welcomed and many games and activities are planned for the special session.

For more information, call (734) 326-2801 or visit www.skatelandwest.com. Skateland West is at 37550 Cherry Hill, just west of Newburgh in Westland.

Wild skate

Join the "Wild's Walkers" in lacing up those skates and heading out on the ice with Westland Mayor William R. Wild at Mike Modano Arena from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Saturday, April 18, in support of the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. Admission and skate rental are free, and refreshments will be available for a nominal cost which will go towards Relay for

ON THE WEB

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

Life. Mike Modano Arena is at 6210 N. Wildwood, just north of Ford.

Spring Awards

The Westland Chamber of Commerce will hold its Spring Awards Celebration at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 23, at American Legion Post 32, 9318 Newburgh, west of Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. The celebration will honor the 2009 First Citizen and Business Person of the Year as well as its long-time members.

The cost is \$35 per person which includes a dinner buffet and open bar. Sponsors for

the event include *The Westland Observer*, Parkside Credit Union and TDS Metrocom. For more information or to reserve tickets, call the chamber at (734) 326-7222 or visit www.westland-chamber.com.

Preschool signups

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

Scrapbooking

The Wayne Memorial Baseball Booster Club is hosting a Scrapbooking fund-raiser 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 break-

fast, 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.

Open House

McKinley Co-op Preschool will hold an open house 10 a.m. to noon Saturday May 16, in Good Shepherd Church, 6500 Wayne Road at Hunter, Westland. The preschool is now enrolling 2-5-year-olds for fall 2009-2010 school year. McKinley Co-op offers morning and afternoon sessions in a fun and comfortable learning environment, affordable tuition and a teacher with more than 25 years experience. For more information, go online to www.mckinleypreschool.org or call (734) 729-7222.

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 featuring 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.

JUENEMANN FROM PAGE A1

are inadequate. Everybody assumes when the basement floods, they have insurance coverage."

Juenemann Insurance Agency has bought several smaller Livonia, Westland and Ypsilanti agencies, blending them into the current office. The agency represents several national and regional insurance carriers including Auto-Owners Insurance Company, Progressive Insurance and Indiana Insurance for prop-

erty and casualty line of coverage. They also represent Jackson National and Blue Cross Blue Shield for life and health policies, among several other carriers.

Juenemann agreed there's more variety in insurance, beyond the big companies with big ad budgets: "Positively. Huge variety. Big, small, personal, commercial."

He explained that insurance policies are meant to cover losses that would cause financial hardship to the policy holder. Coverage is not a warranty or maintenance contract for small, expected or

routine expenses. Customers are advised to use the savings from higher deductibles to pay toward smaller claims.

"You can't just say, 'Hey, I want to be an agent' and go," he said of training for his career. "It's almost like the old apprentice thing." There's licensing along with continuing education requirements to consider.

Juenemann's dad was an insurance agent and he knew it wasn't for him. "Of course, years later I graduated with an insurance degree from MSU and began my career with the family business. Later I split

out and bought the agency in Westland. However you get into it, insurance is a good business for detail-oriented, service-minded individuals."

He's found several factors make his business somewhat recession-proof. The state requires car insurance to drive; mortgage companies insist on homeowners coverage to protect their collateral, your home. There's Department of Labor-required worker's compensation when workers are hired.

He encourages customers to come in so they understand insurance policies, which are

long, hard to read contracts developed over many years. Juenemann has a funny story or two from his nearly 30 years in the business.

"I received a call from a customer this past spring. She was opening her large above-ground pool. Finding it empty, she filed a claim for theft of 15,000 gallons of water. The company responded to the report, but was skeptical that a 'theft' had occurred. It was later determined that the pool had a leak causing the loss of water. Unfortunately there was no coverage."

SPRING AWARDS

What: Westland Chamber of Commerce's Spring Awards

When: 6 p.m. Thursday, April 23

Where: American Legion Post 32, 9318 Newburgh, south of Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia.

Why: Honor the 2009 First Citizen and Business Person of the Year as well as longtime members.

Cost: \$35 per person which includes a dinner buffet and open bar.

Information: To reserve tickets, call (734) 326-7222 or visit www.westlandchamber.com.

ACADEMY FROM PAGE A1

However, they will not be certified as firefighters or authorized to assist at real emergency scenes.

The Westland Police Department has sponsored similar academies in the past, and Chief James Ridener said the police and residents found the classes useful.

"It demystifies what we do,

and it also tends to allow people to see what goes on and why certain things happen," Ridener said. "It gives them an education of the legal system and how the police work. They don't jump to conclusions because they have a better understanding of the inner workings of the police department."

Fire Chief Michael Reddy said the Citizens Fire Academy can have a similar impact. He said some younger participants may even decide they want to pursue a career in firefighting.

Moreover, he hopes that all attendees, regardless of age, will leave with a new appreciation for the job that firefighters do.

"The main thing is they will have a better understanding of what their fire department does on a daily basis," Reddy said. "They'll get to use some of the equipment and see what goes on and what their fire department is doing for them. It will give them a more intimate knowledge of who we are and what we do."

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BOTSFORD
CANCER CENTER



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Saturday, April 25, 2009 • 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Botsford Cancer Center physicians will be offering presentations throughout the day to the public. The times and subjects of each presentation are:

- 10:30 AM** – Craig Gordon, D.O., F.A.C.O.I., Clinical Oncology Associates, will present **New Ideas in Breast Care.**
- 11:30 AM** – Ted Tenenbaum, Cancer Center Administrator and the Radiation Oncology physicians, will present an overview of the **Radiation Oncology Services.**
- 12:30 PM** – Richard Zekman, D.O., The Oakland Medical Group will present **Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma.**
- 1:30 PM** – Michael Berkovic, D.O., F.A.C.O.I., The Oakland Medical Group, will be providing an update on **Lung Cancer.**

Each presentation will allow time for questions from the audience.


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For the location nearest you, call 1-888-889-EYES

PUBLIC SAFETY

Police seeking Dunkin' Donuts robber

1A woman working at the Dunkin' Donuts store on the east side of Wayne Road, north of Palmer, told police the place was robbed shortly before 3 a.m. Monday.

The worker said a man came in, placed an order and then demanded money from the cash register. The woman told police she refused and that the suspect jumped onto the counter on his stomach, reached over and grabbed miscellaneous bills from the drawer.

The worker told police the man then lifted the cash drawer in an attempt to look under it. She said she ran to the phone to call police and that he fled the business and ran south.

A Romulus police dog was brought to the scene but was unable to locate a suspect.

The suspect was described as a light-skinned black male, 5-foot-10, with a thin build, 35-40 years old. He wore a short sleeve navy blue T-shirt with a "camel color" long sleeve shirt underneath it, according to police reports. He wore khaki pants and had a mustache.

Anyone who has information is asked to call the Westland Police Department at (734) 722-9600.

Attempted break-in

2Police reported that an intruder tried to break into the front door of Rent-a-

Center, on Wayne Road north of Glenwood, about 1:20 a.m. Monday.

A man who was working as security nearby told police that he heard a loud bang and then saw a man running from the scene.

Police arrived and found a rock near the front door, but the intruder who tried to break in had been unsuccessful.

Cigarettes swiped

3A customer at the 7-Eleven store at Merriman and Palmer roads apparently tried to beat the rising cost of cigarettes by taking them for free.

A 24-year-old man working at the register said a man came in and wanted to buy a carton of cigarettes at 1:10 a.m. Saturday. When the worker told the customer that the store didn't see cartons after dark, the man asked for six single packs, according to police.

After the employee scanned the six packs of Newports, the man grabbed the cigarettes off the counter and fled the store without paying. The worker didn't recognize the man as having been to the store before.

The suspect was described as a 30-year-old white male.

Attempted car theft

4A condominium resident on Shoemaker, east of Wayne

and north of Marquette, told police that he heard a noise, looked outside and saw three men trying to steal his neighbor's Dodge Durango around 3:15 a.m. April 2.

The witness told police he yelled at the perpetrators and that they ran to a nearby Chrysler minivan and fled. Police reported that the intruders had punched out the ignition of the Durango and cracked the steering wheel in an attempt to steal it. The driver's door handle and lock had been pried open.

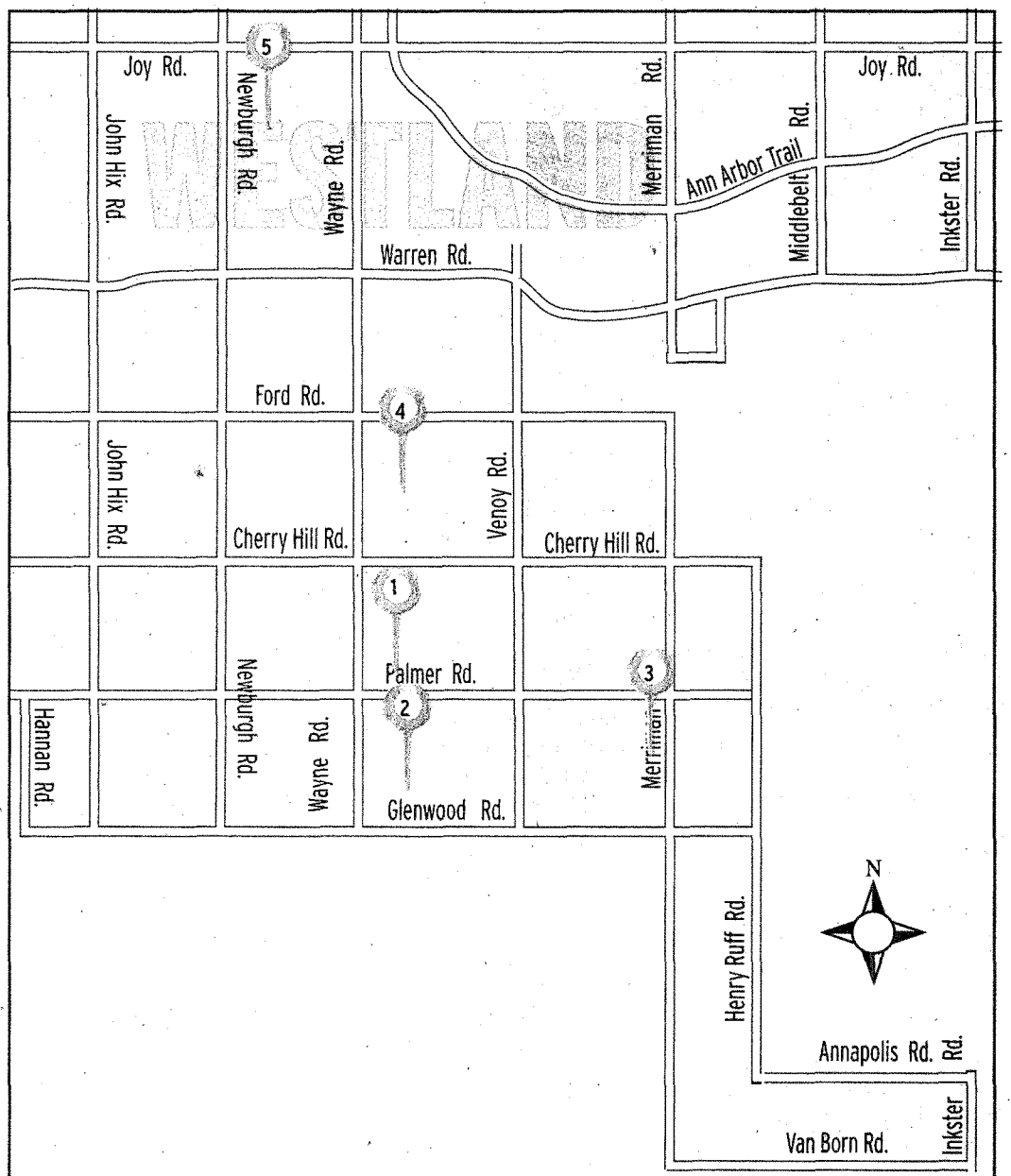
Fight averted

5Police responded to reports of three men trying to pick a fight with someone inside a second-floor apartment in the 36800 area of McKinney Drive, southeast of Joy and Newburgh, shortly before 10 p.m. Sunday.

The victim told police he was visiting a friend when three men, including one with whom he has had an ongoing dispute, arrived. He said they were demanding that he come outside and fight. He said he jumped off a second-story balcony while the men were yelling for him.

The victim told police that after the men left, he noticed that two tires of his car had been slashed and that the windshield was damaged.

- By Darrell Clem



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Dr. Sheldon Smith, member of the IALVS, fits special glasses to help those with macular degeneration and other eye conditions

Most of us take things like reading, watching TV or playing cards for granted. But poor vision from conditions like macular degeneration, glaucoma, diabetes or cataracts makes these tasks difficult or even impossible. When people have insufficient vision to do the things they want to do they have low vision.

Dr. Smith, a Low Vision Specialist, helps people with these types of eye diseases see better. A fellow of the International Academy of Low Vision Specialists, Dr. Smith is one of a select group of doctors serving the visually impaired.

Mr. Liptak, wearing special reading glasses



"It's wonderful to be able to see again. I have a new lease on life!" - Dr. Smith's patient. Special prismatic reading glasses and microscopes help make reading a little easier. Special reading glasses start at \$600 and custom telescopes can cost from \$1800 to \$2500.

In addition to the spectacle vision aids, Dr. Smith offers training to help people accomplish their daily activities. Visual aids help patients use their remaining vision to its fullest capacity while rehabilitative training improves the patient's ability to carry out necessary independent activities.

Of course, safeguarding present vision levels is crucial. Sun filters and nutritional supplements can improve vision and prevent further loss.

"People don't know that there are experienced doctors who can help them with specialized low vision care,"

says Dr. Smith. Patients often end up using weak, clumsy hand-held magnifiers trying to help themselves see better. Conversely, Dr. Smith prescribes hands-free devices that are easier to use.

If you or someone you know is struggling with their vision, call Dr. Smith to find out how low vision care can help. There is help available. You just need to know where to find it.

You can reach Dr. Sheldon Smith and Suburban Low Vision of Michigan by calling:

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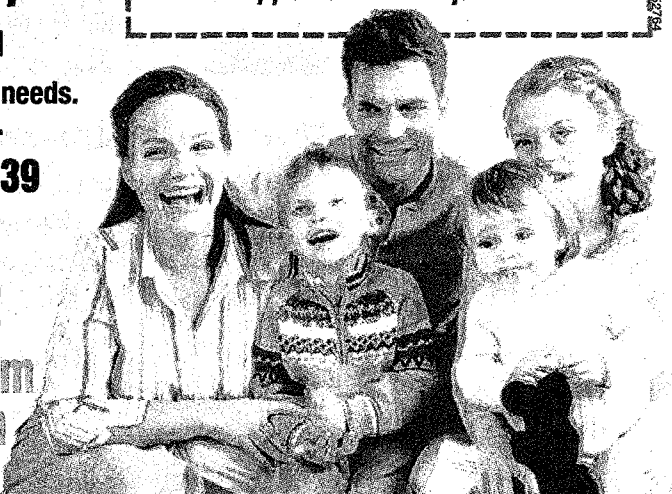
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Notice of delinquent taxes available for a fee

Each week, Wayne County Treasurer Raymond J. Wojtowicz will be using this column as a regular forum to inform you about the tax process and to answer the questions most frequently asked about property taxes.

Always remember that your property is your most precious asset. Do not risk losing it for nonpayment of property taxes. If in doubt, ask questions.

Important Tax Information about Real Property:

Know when tax bills are due and to whom they are pay-



Ask the Treasurer

Raymond Wojtowicz

able. Do not assume that the seller will pay the taxes in the year of sale. If you do not receive a summer and/or winter tax bill, call the city, township or village treasurer where the property is located and request a tax bill. At the same time, check to make sure the trea-

surer has your correct mailing name and address. Do not send a check in the mail and assume that the check reached the treasurer.

Q: How do I apply to receive notice of delinquent taxes if I am not the owner of the property?

A: Any person who wishes to receive notice of delinquent taxes may pay a \$5 annual fee for each property by Feb. 1 to the county treasurer. Contact this office and request a Subscription Address Notice Form. You must specify on this

form the parcel identification number, the address of the property, and the address to which the notice will be sent. Return the completed form to this office along with a \$5 fee for each property you are requesting notice of delinquent taxes. For further information, contact our Tax Information at (313) 224-5990.

Q: How can I get a copy of a tax record?

A: The Michigan Freedom of Information Act as amended by 1996 PA 553 regulates and sets requirements for the disclosure of public records by all public bodies in the State. An individual may request public documents under the

Freedom of Information Act by submitting their request for public records of the Wayne County Treasurer to: Terrance A. Keith, Chief Deputy Treasurer, Wayne County Treasurer's Office, 400 Monroe, Suite 550, Detroit, MI 48226, Fax: (313) 224-2921

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Listings for the Community Calendar can be submitted by e-mail at smaison@hometownlife.com. They also can be mailed to Sue Mason at 615 W. Lafayette - Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226, or faxed to her attention at fax at (313) 223-3318. For more information, call (313) 222-6751.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Relay for Life benefits

Doo Wop for a Cause is coming to the Maplewood Community Center in Garden City on Saturday, May 16. Local entertainers will be putting on a Doo Wop and Oldies Show filled with music of the 1950s and 1960s. Come in your best 1950-1960 era duds. Prizes for costumes that stand out. The show will be 6-10 p.m., and tickets are \$8 per person. They can be bought at Maplewood Center office. The event is being sponsored by Team "What About a Cure for Cancer" and the Garden City Relay for Life. The team also is sponsoring a Cutest Baby Contest during the Garden City Relay for Life at Garden City Junior High track May 30. Winners will be announced at 2 p.m. There's a \$5 registry fee with photo. Be sure to put the contact info - name, age, address and phone - on the back of the photo. Checks must be written to American Cancer Society and sent to the Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood, Garden City, MI 48135.

attention Cheryl & Kelly. The deadline for registering is May 27.

Soldier benefit

The Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund will host their fourth annual dinner May 2, at the Laurel Manor in Livonia. All proceeds go to veterans or families of fallen soldiers that are in need. The keynote speaker at the event will be Marcus Luttrell, a Navy SEAL and author of New York Times best-selling book "Lone Survivor," the harrowing story of four Navy SEALs who journeyed into the mountainous border of Afghanistan and Pakistan on Operation Redwing. A motivational story of survival, the book is also a moving tribute to the friends and teammates who did not make it off the mountain. A powerful testament to the courage, integrity, patriotism, and community that forged these American heroes, "Lone Survivor" is an incredible account of teamwork, fortitude, and modern warfare. For more information or to purchase tickets contact Ann Cornelius at (248) 346-5976 or visit www.fwsf.org

Annual Reunion

The Wayne High Alumni Association's 24th annual All Class Reunion Banquet will be 5-10 p.m. Friday, May 15, at Wayne Tree Manor, 35100 Van Born, Wayne. For more information, contact Wanda Boice at (734) 326-7767 or by e-mail at waynehighalumni@aol.com.

For union members

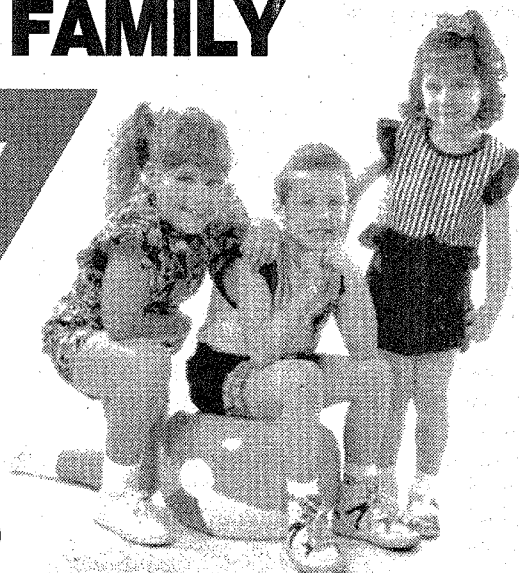
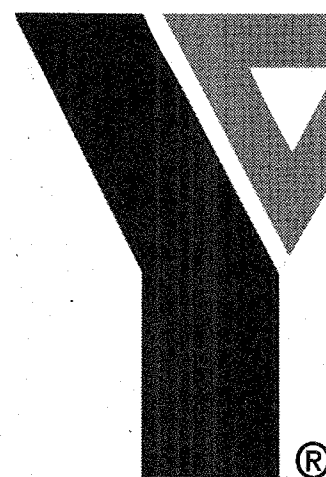
Skateland West is hosting a special roller skating session to support union families in southeastern Michigan 6-9 p.m. Saturday April 18. Show your union card and everyone in your party skates for \$1 each. Admission without union card is \$6. Skate rental is \$1.50, inline rental \$5. In an effort to reach out and help the struggling union families of Michigan, Skateland West is offering an evening of entertainment and family fun at a premium discount. Any and all union cards will be accepted. All ages are welcomed and many games and activities are planned for the special session. Grab your family and friends and roll your recession worries away with Skateland West. For more information, call (734) 326-2801 or go online to www.skatelandwest.com. Skateland West is at 37550 Cherry Hill, just west of Newburgh in Westland.

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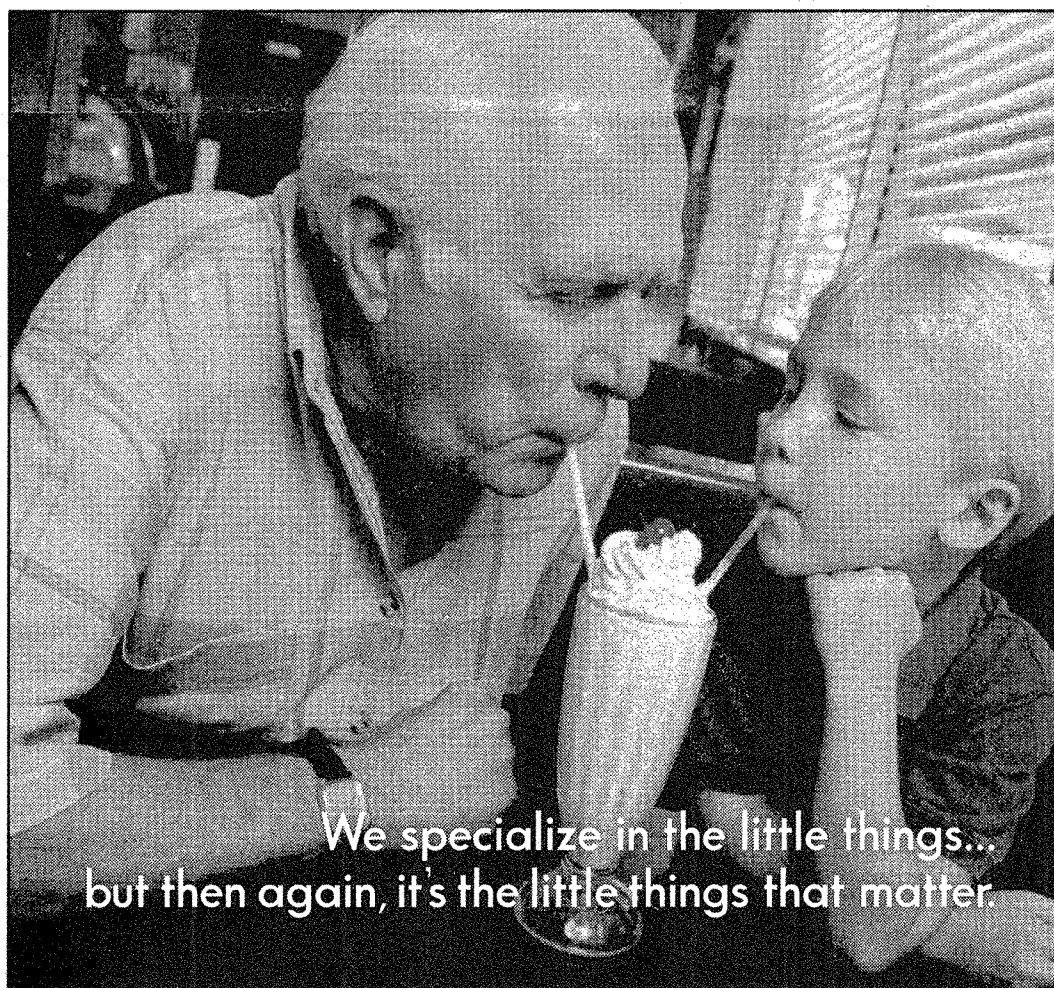
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- Free swim/gymnastic/fitness classes
- Karate & Aikido demonstration
- Grand opening of the Bright House room
- Digital Finger printing
- Tours; Bounce House, (weather permitting)
- \$0 joining fee for new members, 1 day only
- 50% off spring program for new members

Learn about Spring Programs beginning April 27th

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

Page A6 (W)
Sue Mason, editor
(313) 222-6751
smason@hometownlife.com

online at hometownlife.com

OUR VIEWS

Get connected at your library

Libraries of all kinds continue to be engines of learning, literacy and economic development in communities nationwide. According to the 2008 State of America's Libraries report, released by the American Library Association, Americans check out more than two billion items each year from their public libraries. The average user takes out more than seven books a year, but patrons also go to their libraries to borrow DVDs, learn new computer skills, conduct job searches and participate in the activities of local community organizations.

The average bill to the taxpayer for this remarkable range of public services: \$31 a year, about the cost of one hardcover book.

Studies provide solid evidence that the nation's public libraries are engines of economic growth, contributing to local development through programming in early literacy, employment services and small-business development. They show that libraries provide an excellent return on investment, have a measurable positive impact on the local economy and contribute to the stability, safety and quality of life of their neighborhoods.

We want you to know these things because this week is National Library Week, a time to celebrate the contributions of libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support. With a theme "Worlds connect @ your library," this week is a perfect time to stop in at the William P. Faust Public Library and see what's going on. If you haven't been in awhile, you'll be surprised.

The library is more than a depository for books, DVDs and CDs. It has become a community gathering place, offering people, young and old alike, the opportunity to learn, be entertained and to try new things. You can learn how to use a computer and surf the Web. You can spend a quiet evening knitting or crocheting, hear music or watch movies.

And access to the library is no longer governed by the hours on a clock. Thanks to the Internet, the library is available 24 hours a day seven days a week. With the click of a mouse, any book from any library in the country can be sent to you in a matter of days. It's all part of the inter-library loan.

We encourage residents to stop by the library and see what's there. If you don't have a library card, take the time to get one and get connected.

ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS

Happy to get recycling

I was very happy to read this ONLINE, as I am trying to use the least amount of paper possible. When I saw the broadcast on Channel 7, I was impressed. I do believe more communities will follow suit, as things are changing because change is growth. I'm glad Westland is keeping up with that.

Is the Mayor in the Recycling business? I thought it was auto parts. hmmm

!blablablablab!

Training is interactive

As one of the facilitators of the grant, I will add some comments about the article ... This has been a two-year project that involves over 30 fire departments in southeast Michigan. This technology is not "television," but interactive video conferencing. In essence, it is resource sharing that involves over 100 individual fire stations on any given day. We are able to connect with parts of Michigan that would otherwise be out of reach.

AC-Neal

Join the discussion

Is it fair for the state of Michigan to grant tax rebates for the motion picture industry?

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

COMMUNITY VOICE

The Stanley Cups Playoffs have started. Do you think the Detroit Red Wings will be the champions again this year? We asked this question at the Maplewood Community Center in Garden City.



"I hope they do, but I've heard they've been doing badly lately."

Laura Gramlich
Southgate



"Oh, yeah, definitely. They're just great. I love the Red Wins. I love hockey."

Sharon Williams
Westland



"Yes, we have a great team, we have a strong team. They're playing great and they're going to go all the way."

Cathy Duford
Westland



"They've got the material to go all the way, but when you go all the way, you've got to have a goalie that's hot. We all love Ozzie, but that's the question mark. I hope they make it."

Dick Tripp
Garden City

LETTERS

Thank you, volunteers

The Westland Historical Commission wishes to thank the businesses and residents in Westland that have helped in the restoration of the Historic Village. Glass Unlimited has replaced windows that were broken. Chris Parzuchowski from Leoson Construction is working on some carpenter tasks. Rich Duffiney, a drywall finisher, completed a bedroom that needed work and patched a ceiling and a wall. Jim Popiel of Meticulous Window Cleaning LLC washed all the 54 windows in the Octagon House.

Everyone of them did a marvelous job and we would recommend their work. You can call the museum at (734) 326-1110 or me at (734) 522-3918 to get their phone numbers. Thank goodness for Westland volunteers.

Jo Johnson
Westland

Full of tales

A couple of rambling letters have been published recently concerning the economic and banking crisis in America and throughout the world. The letters are notable not for the clarity or accuracy of their content, but instead for their laughable conservative ideological spin. Each letter combines the usual anti-government and anti-Congress rhetoric with some wholesale historical revisionism and with a good dose of those always goofy right-wing conspiracy theories to boot. The tales spun in these letters would have us believe that economic meltdown occurred not because of 30 years of fraudulent conservative economic and tax policies, the wholesale deregulation of Wall Street, and Republican-sponsored corporate greed and irresponsibility. Rather,

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

it was allegedly the fault of government and of Congress, and especially the fault of two evil Democratic legislators who somehow rigged the system, even while Republicans controlled all three branches of government. In fact, as proof of the veracity of these claims, the writer even cites that paragon of ultimate truth, virtue, and integrity, Karl Rove.

Such fairy tales are always popular with conspiracy theorists and low information voters such as FOX "News" viewers (we distort, you decide), as well as those whose warped and paranoid view of reality is shaped by screaming right-wing AM radio hosts. For the rest of us who prefer not to wear tinfoil hats and who don't buy into those bizarre delusions of black helicopters and a new world order, the first few months of the Obama administration have been a time of profound hope and satisfaction.

Despite wholesale Republican obstruction and childish behavior, President Obama and the Democratic Congress have already accomplished much to right the course of our nation, a course that had been thoroughly misdirected by a breathtaking level of conservative stupidity in nearly every aspect of economic, social and foreign policy. The task ahead is still monumental in scope, but what a great start!

So let the naysayers play with their tea bags while listening to FOX propaganda and their dear leader Limbaugh to shape their delu-

sional, hate-filled, and alternate version of reality. The rest of us will think for ourselves, as was evidenced by wisdom of America's people during the 2006 and 2008 elections. Our nation's future is once again bright, and her future glory will not be dimmed by irrational and ideologically driven nonsense.

Joe Golonka
Westland

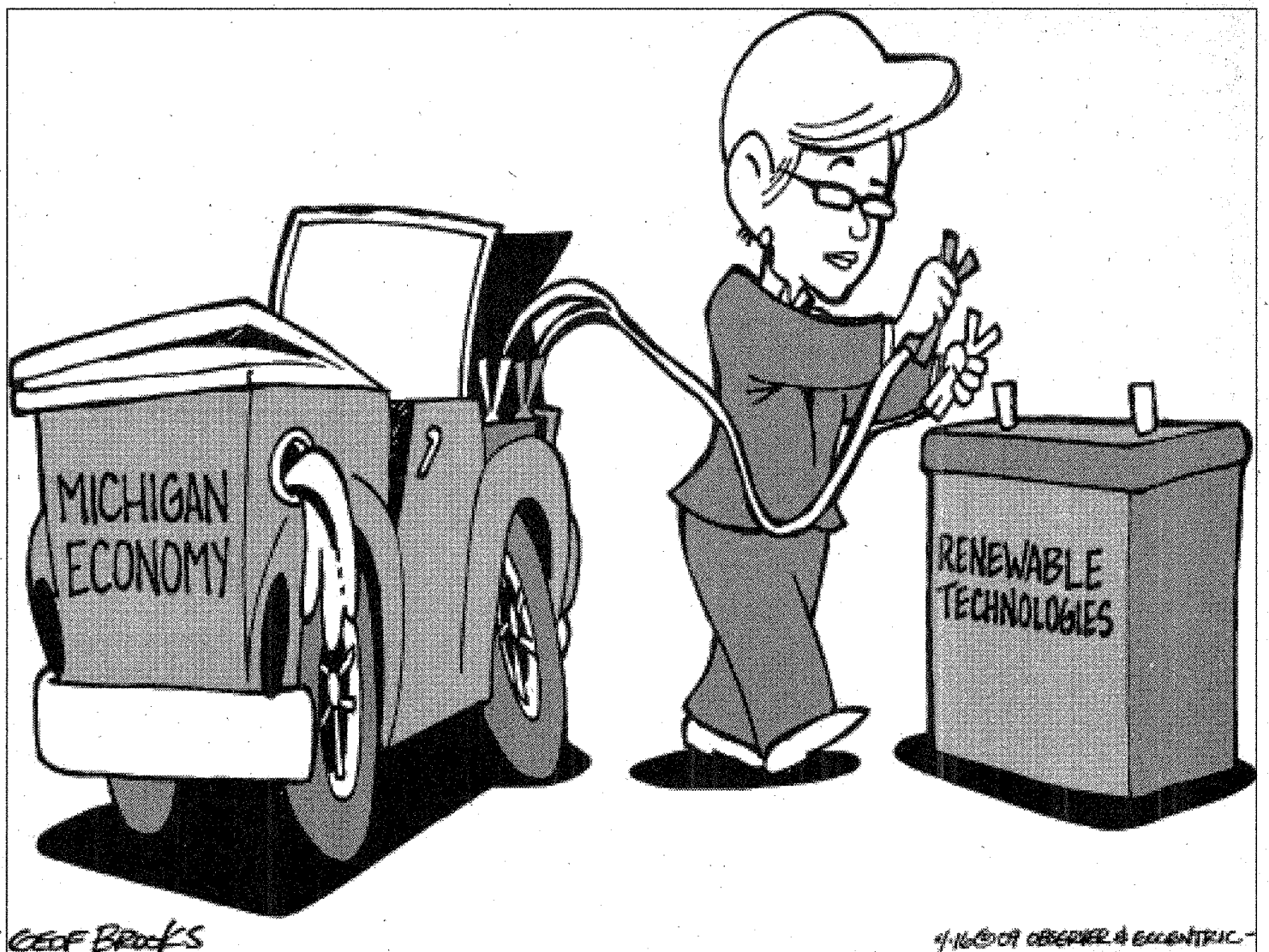
Marvelous experience

I had the most incredible experience with my son this weekend — WE WENT TO THE MOVIES!!!! My son is 10 1/2 years old and is diagnosed with PDD-NOS and is also moderately cognitively impaired. We went and saw *Monsters vs. Aliens* all the way down at the Taylor AMC Star 10 theater, but it was worth every mile we drove! I cried for the first 10 minutes because I couldn't believe I was actually sitting in a movie theater with my son like a "typical kid." He hummed, he hooted, he constantly stood up, walked around and flapped ... and no one asked us to leave!

I would like to bring the movie experience to other caregivers of autistic children closer to home at the AMC Livonia 20 theater. What do I need to do, or who do I need to talk to about this? I met Cecelia Hammond in Taylor, and she mentioned it may be possible to start this up in Livonia.

Please, let's get this going in Livonia. We have Burger School for Autism as well as quite a few other schools who serve students with autism. I am personally volunteering to contact every school around me to help spread the word that AMC provides sensory-friendly films.

Michele Wysocki
Livonia



CECF BROOKS

4-16-09 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC



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

MALLS & MAIN STREETS

Antique hats on display at charity event

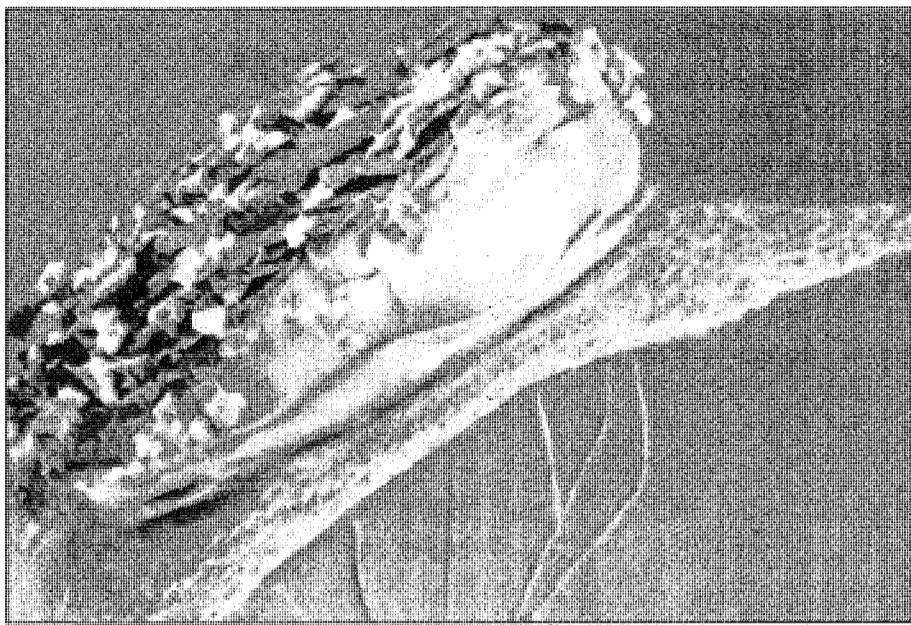
BIRMINGHAM — The Detroit Historical Society has graciously loaned out an incredible array of antique hats never before displayed for the public. The Women's Association of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Southeastern Michigan will present them at its Annual Spring Luncheon on April 30, at Meadow Brook Hall, Rochester Hills. The hats have been donated primarily by Michigan residents and cover the late 1800's to early 1900's. They have all been carefully preserved and cover a range of styles from everyday wear to social occasions — even funerals.

This is the first B&GC luncheon to be held at this venue and is particularly appropriate as it was the home of Matilda R. Wilson, the namesake of the group's annual community award. This year's award will be presented at the luncheon to Connie McEwan, an active community supporter and volunteer in a number of local organizations. Event chairs are Anita Dauch and Debra Cox.

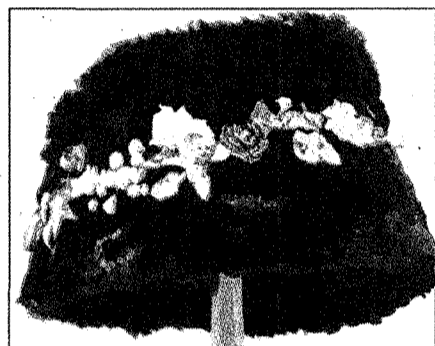
The luncheon will also feature a docent-guided tour of Meadow Brook Hall spotlighting the beautiful and fully furnished family living quarters throughout the first and second floors of the mansion. Meadow Brook Hall is the fourth largest historic house museum in the country (88,000 square feet) and is renowned for its superb craftsmanship, architectural detailing and grand scale. In a timely convergence, it was being built (1920's) when many of the hats on display were actually being worn!

Tours begin at 11 a.m. with lunch at noon. Tickets are \$75 (additional \$10 for tour) and are available to the public by calling Meghan at (248) 522-4412.

Tax-deductible receipts will be provided by the Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeastern Michigan.



This silk hat, with white horsehair braid, silk, and satin ribbon from the early 1900s, was donated by Mrs. Leroy Swift and Wm. J. Kinmont.



This lady's sealskin and brown velveteen hat, dating to the early 1900s, was donated by Mrs. Nathan G. Leakey.



This ruby red velvet hat accented with taffeta and straw dates back to 1893, donated by Edward Hartwick.

SNOW GEAR SALE

BIRMINGHAM — Don Thomas Sporthaus, the Midwest's premier ski shop, is currently holding their annual end-of-season sale event. The sale concludes on Sunday, May 3. All items will be reduced a minimum of 40 percent from suggested retail prices.

Following the sale, Don Thomas Sporthaus employees will take summer vacation and return to re-open the shop in mid-August.

Snowboard prices have been marked down 40 percent; skis are reduced by 40 to 50 percent; and other gear and apparel are reduced 40 to 70 percent. Don Thomas Sporthaus offers a variety of equipment, fashion-forward apparel and accessories for the winter season, including from sought after manufacturers such as K2, North Face, Obermeyer and Tecnica.

Don Thomas Sporthaus is open 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday; and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. Call (248) 220-1999 or visit www.donthomassporthaus.com.

MACY'S EARTH DAY

In celebration of Earth Day, Macy's is helping to raise awareness and generate funds for parks and environment-friendly causes across the country with its Macy's Turn Over a New Leaf campaign. Throughout April, at all Macy's locations, customers can purchase tickets for One Good Turn, Macy's April 25 national charity day shopping event. For \$5, customers will receive a ticket for \$5 off a \$15 storewide purchase, as well as an all-day shopping pass for 20 percent off most merchandise. Macy's will donate 100 percent of ticket sale proceeds to the National Park Foundation and local participating nonprofit

organizations that protect and conserve the environment. Macy's also is offering new reusable totes for \$1.95 with a \$1 donation to the National Park Foundation.

SHOE SWAP

BLOOMFIELD HILLS — Through April, donate a pair of gently used women's dress shoes and receive \$10 off a new pair of regularly priced shoes at Shoe Envy in Bloomfield Hills. All swapped shoes will be donated to several charities including, Grace Centers of Hope in Pontiac. GCH rehabilitates women, helping them get a second chance at life. gracecentersofhope.org Shoe Envy is located at 6606 Telegraph (at Maple), Bloomfield Hills. Call (248) 539-9260 or visit www.shopshoenvy.com.

EARTH DAY EXPO

ROCHESTER — Upland Hills Ecological Awareness Center will present the fourth annual Earth Day Expo, Michigan's largest Earth Day event, in Downtown Rochester Saturday, April 18-19. The Expo, moving to Third and Water streets and expanding to two full days, is free and open to the public. It will offer more than 150 green and wellness exhibits, presentations and films, alternative vehicle and energy displays, organic food service, farmers' market and petting farm, kids corner, hands-on demonstrations, music and entertainment, prize drawings, free massage and wellness activities, sustainable project and green business tours, as well as a community-building Connections Cafe. A Welcome Reception will be held 7-9 p.m. April 15 at Mind, Body & Spirits restaurant. Visit www.earthdayexpo.org or e-mail earthdayexpo@uheac.org.

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Be prepared: Tax planning is a 12-month job

April 15th has come and gone and for most people it means they can forget about taxes for another year. That would be nice if we only had to worry about taxes when we file our tax return.

Unfortunately, that is not the case. Tax planning is a 12-month job. Those who don't think about taxes until next April most likely will find that when next year's tax season comes around, they will be in panic mode and will end up paying too much.

There are several things people can do throughout the year to make filing taxes as easy as possible. The first is setting up a tax record system. It is important to establish a record-keeping system because it appears major tax law changes are on the way.

It is hard to know what the tax law will be at the end of the



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

that is not deductible today may be deductible by the end of the year and the documentation is essential.

Many taxpayers are under the mistaken belief that taxes are due once a year. That's not the case. Taxpayers have found that in many situations when they file a return, not only do they owe but sometimes must pay interest and penalty on the additional money owed. Taxes

are due on a quarterly basis and for those with income outside of regular employment, must be monitored to determine whether an estimated tax payment is required. In addition to federal tax, one also must be concerned with State of Michigan taxes.

It is everyone's responsibility to stay current with changes in tax laws. I recognize this is difficult, however, it is important. That doesn't mean you have to stay up-to-date with every minute change in the law. I will do my best in this column to keep readers informed of any tax law changes that affect individuals.

Taxes are a fact of life and the goal of the taxpayer is not necessarily to lower their taxes but rather to be smart about them.

I realize this may be confusing. However, if a taxpayer's

goal is to merely lower their taxes, they're missing out on the most important goal - to increase net worth. If you lower your taxes you don't necessarily increase your net worth. In fact, in many situations when you lower your taxes you are lowering your net worth. For example, too many people purchase bad investment products - such as variable annuities - merely to lower their taxes. What they don't realize is they may

be lowering their taxes in the short run but increasing them for the future.

We saw the same thing back in the 1980s when numerous investors rushed in to buy limited partnerships in order to lower their taxes. Their goal of lowering their taxes was accomplished. Unfortunately it was because they lost money.

It is important for all taxpayers to understand how our tax laws work. Reading one or two articles or even a book will not

make you an expert in tax law. However, you do not have to be an expert in tax law to understand how to be smart with taxes. Being smart with taxes will help you increase your net worth, which is exactly what you want to do.

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.

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- Saturday, April 25, 2009 - 9:30am to 1:00pm**
Wayne County Community College
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Contraindications: The device is contraindicated in patients with: an allergy to titanium or titanium alloy; spinal anatomy or disease that would prevent implantation of the device or cause the device to be unstable in situ, such as: significant instability of the lumbar spine, e.g. isthmic spondylolisthesis or degenerative spondylolisthesis, greater than grade 1.0 (on a scale of 1 to 4), an ankylosed segment at the affected level(s), acute fracture of the spinous process or pars interarticularis and significant scoliosis (Cobb angle greater than 25 degrees); cauda equina syndrome defined as neural compression causing neurogenic bowel or bladder dysfunction; diagnosis of severe osteoporosis, defined as bone mineral density from DEXA scan or some comparable study) in the spine or hip that is more than 2.5 SD below the mean of adult normals in the presence of one or more fragility fractures; and active systemic infection or infection localized to the site of implantation.

Warnings: The X-STOP implant must be placed in the concavity between the spinous processes. Posterior positioning of the implant may result in dislodgement. If correct placement of the implant cannot be achieved due to variant anatomy, the surgeon should consider aborting the procedure because incorrect placement may result in device dislodgement, particularly if the patient experiences a traumatic event.

Precautions: Radiological evidence of stenosis must be correlated with the patient's symptoms before the diagnosis can be confirmed. If the spinous processes at the affected level are not distracted in flexion, the X-STOP system may not be indicated; the safety and effectiveness of the X-STOP device has not been studied in patients with the following conditions: axial back pain without leg, buttock or groin pain, symptomatic lumbar spinal stenosis at more than 2 levels, prior lumbar spine surgery, significant peripheral neuropathy, acute denervation secondary to radiculopathy, Paget's disease, vertebral metastases, morbid obesity, pregnancy, a fixed motor deficit, angina, active rheumatoid arthritis, peripheral vascular disease and advanced diabetes or any other systemic disease that may affect the patient's ability to walk; surgeons should not implant the X-STOP implant until receiving adequate training regarding surgical technique because inadequate training may result in poor patient outcomes and/or increased rates of adverse events; and a stress fracture of the spinous process may occur if strenuous physical activity is resumed too soon postoperatively.

Potential Adverse Events: The following potential adverse events may occur as a result of interspinous process decompression with the X-STOP system; some of these adverse events were reported in the Pivotal Clinical Trial. X-STOP system related: implant dislodgement/migration; implant not positioned correctly; fracture of the spinous process; additional surgery, which could include removal of the X-STOP implant; foreign body reaction; mechanical failure of the device; failure of the device/procedure to improve symptoms and/or function. Surgery Related: reactions to anesthesia; myocardial infarction; infection; blood vessel damage/bleeding; deep vein thrombosis; hematoma; pneumonia; neurological system compromise; stroke; nerve injury or spinal cord damage; paralysis; thrombus formation; wound dehiscence or delayed healing; pain/discomfort at the operative site; and death.

Note: Medication or additional surgery may be necessary to correct some of these potential adverse events.

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Brad Emmons, editor (313) 222-6851
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Check out the deals
in City Bites, inside

Hail Caesar: McLean gets national title

BY BRAD EMMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Kevin McLean's hockey career is just beginning to blossom. The Livonia native, a defenseman with the Little Caesars AAA Hockey Club, showcased his emerging skills earlier this month in the 18-and-under USA Hockey National Tournament in Pittsburgh where the Tier 1 Midget Major squad from Detroit captured the title on April 5 with a 4-3 overtime win over the Dallas Stars.



McLean

Caesars, who call Joe Louis Arena their home rink, ended the year 55-16-7 overall as McLean finished with seven goals and 32 assists for 39 points.

At 19, he was one of Caesars' elder statesmen on a team where players were born anywhere from 1990 through 1993.

"It was a mixed group of older, and yet younger talented guys who got along well and became a family at the end of the year," said McLean, a 2008 grad from Novi-Detroit Catholic Central High. "We had good team chemistry, just a great group of guys who worked hard."

At 6 foot 3, 175 pounds, McLean is just tapping into potential, according to his coach Bill Ciraulo.

"Kevin is a stay-at-home defenseman who improved immensely this season and has become a Division I college player," Ciraulo said. "We picked him up late last year and he's come a long way. He's tall and thin, but does a good job. I convinced him to play one more year with us because he'd be that much better as a junior player."

"He wasn't a captain, but he took on a role as a captain and did a phenomenal job because his teammates respect him."

McLean's long-range goal is to play collegiate hockey, but first he must make a stop next year in either the U.S. Hockey League, which stages its draft May 14-15, or North American Hockey League, where he has offers already tendered from teams in Wichita, Kan., and northern Minnesota, Ciraulo said.

"I'm more of a defensive defenseman — prevent the other teams from scoring with a good plus-minus rating and do whatever I can to help

Please see **MCLEAN, B3**



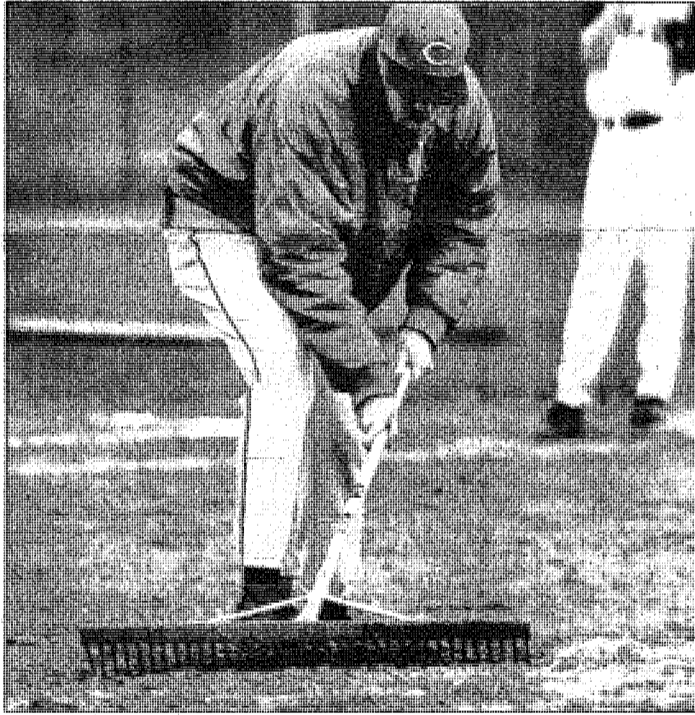
PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bloomfield Hills Lahser catcher Greg Padilla applies the tag on Clarenceville's Matt Kurdziel as he tries to score a run during Tuesday's rain-soaked non-conference baseball game. The teams were deadlocked 9-9 in the fourth when rain forced umpires to stop the contest.

Rain-soaker

Clarenceville can't sustain lead in 9-9 deadlock

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER



Clarenceville varsity baseball coach Dan Miller tries to keep the infield playable during the second inning Tuesday.

For more than two hours Tuesday, host Livonia Clarenceville and Bloomfield Hills Lahser battled each other and the raindrops trying to complete a non-conference varsity baseball game.

But ultimately, the elements were too much to deal with as the contest was stopped in the top of the fourth inning of a 9-9 deadlock.

"It's just a long game that never happened," Clarenceville coach Dan Miller said.

Lahser coach Mike Babcock said it was frustrating for the game to be called with his team poised to take the lead after scoring seven runs in the fourth.

"They finally came out that last inning and showed that passion and it ended up getting called after we tied the game," he said. "Which was a little unfortunate."

Lahser (1-1) still had the bases loaded when umpires decided the field was no longer playable.

Miller lamented letting a 9-2 lead evaporate, plus watching an infield pop-up fall in to keep Lahser's fourth inning alive. Had the Knights' been retired, Miller said it might have been ruled a complete game.

"We had a pop-up on the infield that the play should have been made," Miller said. "We make that play it

Please see **C'VILLE, B3**

Langham named NJCAA All-America

BY BRAD EMMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

What a difference a year makes — just ask Schoolcraft College's Tayler Langham.

As a freshman, the Salem High grad was a role player who came off the bench for the Lady Ocelots' 28-4 basketball team.

Fast forward to her sophomore year when the 5-foot-9 Langham became only the third player in Schoolcraft College history to be named NJCAA Division II first-team All-America joining former Ocelot first-team selections Rachel Eley (2001) and Charlee Greer (2006).

Langham, who recently made a verbal commitment to the University of Detroit Mercy, led the 32-3 Ocelots in scoring (15.9 points per game) while shooting 50.6 percent from the field.

It was a storybook season for the Lady Ocelots, who advanced to the NJCAA Division II National championship game before falling to Kirkwood (Iowa), 62-38.

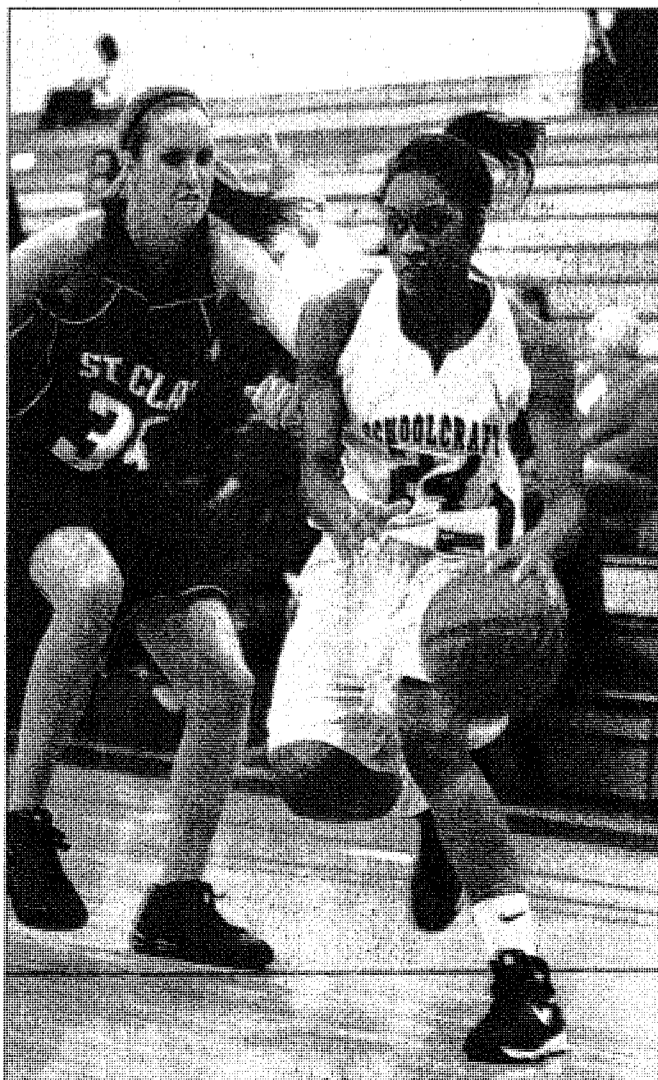
"It (Schoolcraft) was a really good experience, they taught me a lot," Langham said. "I think I became a better player mentally. I developed an outside shot and defensively I've gotten better — not perfected — but I learned to be quicker on my feet. Coach (Karen) Lafata said she wouldn't let me go to Detroit (Mercy) without playing good defense."

Langham, who prides herself on conditioning, said her job this season was "get the rebound and run." It resulted in many double-digit blowouts during the regular season for the high-octane Lady Ocelots' fastbreak attack.

"People thought we were boring to watch, but it was fun and we had to play hard regardless," Langham said. "It was a really good team where everybody got along and had fun."

Langham will graduate from Schoolcraft with an associate degree in liberal arts after taking a complet-

Please see **LANGHAM, B3**



RENA LAVERTY

Schoolcraft College's Tayler Langham (right) recently earned first-team NJCAA Division II All-America honors.

Perfection: Irwin's gem spurs Madonna

Jess Irwin, coming off NAIA National Pitcher of the Week honors, threw only the second perfect game in Madonna University women's softball history to highlight Saturday's double-header sweep at Cornerstone University.

The Crusaders took the first game, 8-0, in five innings as Irwin (18-5) struck out 12 of the 15 batters she faced en route to her fourth straight Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Pitcher of the Week honors. Irwin had 42 strikeouts in 19 1/3 innings.

Offensively, Ashley Shay and Tedi Johnston each went 2-for-3 with two RBI. Brittney Scero (Canton) also knocked in two runs.

In the nightcap, MU improved to 35-7 overall and 13-1 in the WHAC with a 10-1 win over the Golden Knights.

Freshman Hallie Minch (Garden City) improved to 17-2 with a three-hitter. She struck out 10 and walked only three.

Cat Sidor (Livonia Churchill) and Mary Kate Setta each went 3-for-4 with three RBI, while Shay added three hits and two RBI.

Cornerstone falls to 6-23 and 3-7. **MADONNA 7-0, AQUINAS 4-8:** On Friday, host Aquinas College (21-7, 9-1) handed the Crusaders (33-7, 11-1) their first WHAC setback as pitcher Whitney Hudson threw a three-hitter to salvage a split in the nightcap.

Hudson (11-4) struck out three and did not allow a walk in the six-inning mercy. Ashley Aspinall went 4-for-4 with a 2-run homer and five RBI.

Losing pitcher Hallie Minch (16-2) was roughed up for seven earned runs on 11 hits.



Irwin

SIDELINES

MU adds spiker

Madonna University women's volleyball coach Jerry Abraham announced the signed Monday of Katie Czarnecki, a transfer from Macomb Community College.

Czarnecki helped Macomb CC to the NJCAA Division II National Tournament in 2007. The 2006 L'Anse Creuse North grad also earned All-Macomb Area Conference, All-County and All-Region honors. She was the Crusaders' two-time team MVP (2005-2006) and MAC MVP her senior her.

Czarnecki joins Milford High's Evia Prieditis as Abraham's second recruit.

"We could not be more excited to add Katie into our team for next season," said Abraham, who has guided MU to seven straight NAIA National Tournament appearances. "She is an athlete that can attack from antenna to antenna and can terminate the play. With the graduation of a pair of All-Americans in Whitney Fuelling and Lubovj Tihomirova, we needed to bring in a player who can play on the outside for us. She is a big, left-handed attacker who can step right in for us next season."

Graves gets cager

Madonna University women's basketball coach Carl Graves announced Tuesday that Kristie Porada (Gibraltar Carlson) has signed an NAIA letter-of-intent for this fall.

Porada, cousin of current MU volleyball red-shirt freshman Amanda Koszela, is the second signee for Graves, joining Kayleigh Burden (New Boston Huron) who signed with the Crusaders last week.

The Rockwood native earned three letters in basketball to go along with a pair each in cross country and track at Country. As a senior she averaged 10.1 points and 5.2 assists per game on her way to a second straight selection to the All-Mega Conference team as well as a selection to the All-Downriver team.

"Kristie is such a versatile player," Graves said. "She does so many things well and we are looking to utilize her in several ways. Kristie has a stellar grade-point average which will fit nicely with the MU philosophy. She has the ability to handle the ball exceptionally well, has a decent shot, good speed and shows the desire and will to win and want to improve."

A two-year captain on the hardwood, Porada was also an All-Mega honoree last fall in cross country and earned the Coaches Award in track as a sophomore.

"Kristie loves basketball and we are certain that she is a boost to the program," Graves added.

MSU honors Montgomery

The Michigan State University Black Alumni and Western Metro Detroit MSU alumni clubs will honor Spartans men's basketball associate coach Mark Montgomery on Wednesday, April 22, at Dearborn Hills Golf Course, located at 1300 S. Telegraph Road, Dearborn.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with speakers, including MSU athletic director Mark Hollis, slated at 6:30 p.m. The event concludes at 8 p.m.

The \$5 cover charge at the door includes appetizers, cash bar and door prizes. (Bring your camera and get your photo taken with Sparty.)

RSVPs are appreciated by e-mailing Rich Whipple at REKJwhipple@yahoo.com.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE B4

Trinity food pantry

Deadline is April 23, for the Trinity Church Food Pantry on Saturday, April 25.

Open house

And Science Fair 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. Thursday, April 23, at All Saints Catholic School.

Apologetics for beginners

The Mass: Christ's Once for All Sacrifice is the topic as nationally-acclaimed apologist and author, Gary Michuta, continues his series "Sharing Made Simple: Apologetics for Beginners"

Catholics believe Christ is truly and wholly present in the Eucharist and how that sacrifice figures into the point and purpose of the Catholic Mass.

Rummage sale

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, April 24, and 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, April 25, at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.

Mom to mom sale

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 25, at Newburg United Methodist Church.

Shared Hope presentation

Shared Hope International is a leaders in a worldwide effort to prevent and eradicate sex trafficking and slavery through education and public awareness.

tration appreciated but not required. Visit www.christoursavior.org and click on the events page to register.

Landscape project

Trinity Church of Livonia is holding a Native Landscape informational meeting 12:30-1:30 p.m. Sunday, April 26, in the church library at 34500 Six Mile.

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.

FORECLOSURE NOTICE This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for this purpose.

Publish: April 16, 23 & 30, 2009

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EVANGELICAL COVENANT

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH 14 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills (248) 661-9191

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Timothy Lutheran Church A Reconciling in Christ Congregation 8820 Wayne Rd.

UNITED METHODIST

More than Sunday Services! Worship Services 9:00 a.m. & 11:30 AM Sunday School & Nursery 9:00, 10:30 & 11:30 AM

Redford Aldersgate United Methodist Church 10000 Beech Daly

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH "Open Hearts, Minds & Doors" 36500 Ann Arbor Trail

First United Methodist Church of Plymouth 45201 North Territorial Road (West of Sheldon Road)

PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI

St. James Presbyterian Church, USA 25350 West Six Mile Rd. Redford (313) 534-7730

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96 734-522-6830

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY 313-532-2266 REDFORD TWP.

Risen Christ Lutheran David W. Martin, Pastor 46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth, west of 96000

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church 40000 Six Mile Road "just west of I-275" Northville, MI 248-374-7400

LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church & School 17810 FARMINGTON ROAD, LIVONIA (734) 261-1360

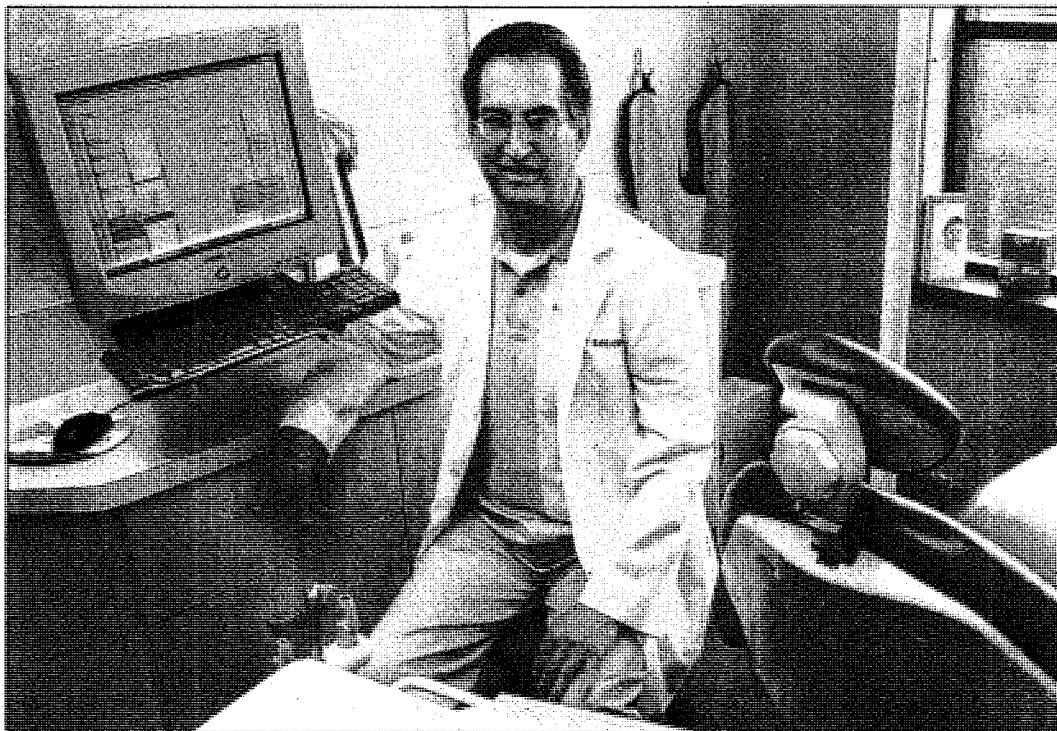
GREEK ORTHODOX

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Westland-Garden City

Strictly Business

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dentist Mark Barsamian found he and Dr. Francis Schmitt had the same philosophy. He worked with Schmitt and bought his Garden City practice when he decided to retire.

Barsamian keeps teeth looking good

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

We have a complete family practice and we emphasize restoring people to full dental health and then maintaining a healthy mouth for a lifetime. We can provide Invisalign invisible braces, periodontal treatments for gum disease, complete restorative services, from cosmetic and conventional fillings, to porcelain veneers and bridgework. We can also provide dental implant and root canal services.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

I think what makes our office unique is that we are hometown people and we treat our patients like friends and family, which many of them are.

Observer: How did you decide to open your first business? I worked for the VA when I first graduated, and then practiced dentistry in several other offices,

BARSAMIAN FAMILY DENTISTRY

Business name: Barsamian Family Dentistry, P.C.

Address: 29627 Ford Road, Garden City

Name and Title: Dr. Mark T. Barsamian, owner and dentist
Business Opened: I came back to Garden City in 1984 when I joined Dr. Francis Schmitt. In 1998, I moved my practice into our new building.

Number of Employees: 7

Hours: We are open by appointment throughout the week and some Saturdays.

Business phone and e-mail: Office phone (734) 422-2890, on the Web, www.barsamianfamilydentistry.com

here in Garden City, I realized we had the same philosophy of how to treat people. We hit it off immediately and I bought his practice when he retired.

How did you decide to locate in the Garden City community?

Garden City is my hometown. I grew up here and my parents still live here.

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

One of the funny things about Garden City is that it still is kind of a small town. Families tend to stay here or come back if they leave. It often happens that friends or family members, maybe who haven't seen each other in a while, will bump into each other at our office. And then one will say, "I didn't know Dr. Barsamian was your dentist!" And then they'll make plans for dinner or something to get caught up with each other.

but I didn't like the way they ran their businesses. When I met my predecessor, Dr. Schmitt,

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Local phone service

TDS Telecommunications Corp. is committed to helping low-income families get telephones in their homes at an affordable rate using funds from the Universal Service Fund program.

While 90 percent of American households have telephone service, there are millions who simply cannot afford a telephone in their home and situational poverty caused by the recent economic downturn is pushing many new families and individuals into qualified programs, many of whom may not be aware that Lifeline and Link-Up reduced-cost phone service programs are available and can help to keep a landline in their home.

Consumers may be eligible for these reduced rate telephone services, if they receive qualified benefits from their state.

"Lifeline and Link-Up are designed to ensure that everyone in the country has access to basic telephone service," said Kevin Hess, senior vice president of Government and Regulatory Affairs for TDS Telecommunications Corp. "Phone service is not only a convenience, but a necessity. It's a

link to emergency services, the way we look for jobs, and the way we stay in touch with family and friends."

According to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the Lifeline program provides discounts on monthly service for qualified telephone subscribers. Depending on the state, customers could see a discount of \$10 or more per month. The Link-Up program offers reduced charges for telephone installation and additional discounts off the monthly service.

Consumers can find out more information about these programs by writing to the FCC at 445 12th St. SW, Washington, D.C. 20554. People can also call (888) CALL-FCC or log on to www.fcc.gov/cgb. There are different requirements in nearly every state to qualify for the Lifeline and Link-Up programs. To find out what the qualifications are, call TDS at (888) CALL-TDS.

Time to plant

Art Van Furniture is celebrating its 50th Anniversary and Arbor Day, April 24, by donating trees to area schools, community organizations and associates for planting. The company is

purchasing 4,000 Norway and White Spruce trees from the Macomb Conservation District in Bruce Township as part of its Caring For Our Home Tree Donation Program.

Art Van's Caring For Our Home Program began in 2007. Since that time, the company has donated almost 8,000 trees to community groups and schools. The 2009 program will increase the total donation to almost 12,000.

Art Van is partnering with community schools and organizations to keep the tradition of outdoor beautification on Arbor Day alive. Trees will be planted as part of various projects - from school landscaping to community parks, from support for class projects to gifts to students for home planting.

The donation will support every community in which Art Van operates stores. Among the 2009 organizations receiving the trees is the Westland Parks and Recreation Department.

In addition to the tree donations, residents visiting any Art Van location April 16-25, will receive a packet of vegetable seeds for their own garden projects while supplies last.

CHAMBER CHAT

The Westland Chamber of Commerce is honoring two individuals for their work in our community.

The first is the 2009 Business Person of the Year Jeff Juennemann. Jeff is the owner of Juennemann Insurance. Jeff has been a Chamber member for 31 years, before he even owned his own business. Jeff also was a past president on the Chamber Board, past Westland Rotary president, and past president of the Michigan Association of Insurance Agents. He is still involved in all of these

organizations along with several others. He gives back to his community as often as he can.

Thanks, Jeff, for being such a great role model.

Second we would like to honor the 2009 First Citizen of the Year Meriem Kadi. Meriem has been a staple to almost every community organization or function. She is always willing to help out and volunteers most of her time. She is involved with the Westland Chamber, the Westland Rotary, the Westland Community Foundation, the Western Wayne Oakland

County Association of Realtors and the Friends of the Library just to name a few.

Meriem is a perfect example of what a First Citizen is. Thanks for all you hard work in our community!

Both of these individuals will be honored on April 23, at the Westland Chamber's Spring Awards. If you would like to attend, call the Chamber at (734) 326-7222 to reserve your spot.

Brookellen Swope
president, CEO

BUSINESS MILESTONES

SPECIAL EVENTS

Celebrate Earth Day

Through its Caring For Our Home program, Art Van Furniture will once again celebrate Arbor Day, by donating 3,000 spruce trees to area schools and organizations for planting. The groups will plant the trees as part of regional beautification projects and educational programs. Others can do their part by beautifying their surroundings with flowers! Stop by any Art Van store at 8300 Wayne Road, Westland, to receive a free packet of flower seeds now through April 25. Don't delay. Packets are available while supplies last. And, by the way, Earth Day is April 22, Arbor Day is April 24.

Free CPR class

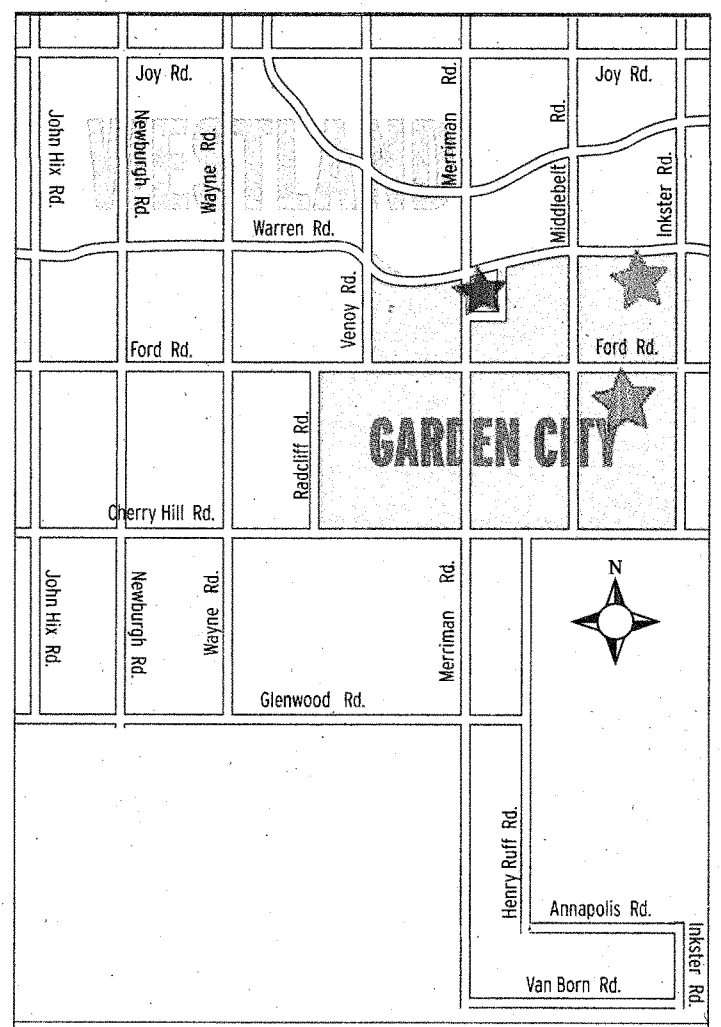
Performing effective CPR immediately after someone suffers sudden cardiac arrest can double their chance of survival. Garden City Hospital, in partnership with the American Heart Association, will present a community CPR class free of charge 1-4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 30, in the hospital's Health and Education Center, 6701 Harrison, Garden City. To register, contact Garden City Hospital's Community Education department at (734) 458-4330.

Open House

Barson's Greenhouse is holding an open house Saturday-Sunday, April 25-26. Located at 6414 Merriman, between Ford and Warren Road, Barson's features annuals, perennials, vegetables, plants, hanging baskets, top soil and peat. It's also the go-to place for ponds. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. You'll find more information on the Web site at www.barsons.com or call (734) 421-5959.

Tough turf

Consumers have an alternative to using traditional fertilizers. Nature's Touch® is an organic-based fertilizer derived from natural plant and animal sources, a fertilizer option that has the same greening effect as tradi-



tional fertilizer and is also child and pet-friendly. Natural, organic-based fertilizers will not harm the beneficial microbes, insects or earthworms that play vital roles in keeping soil healthy and productive. Nature's Touch contains key nutrients as well as natural grass and soil enzymes that encourage root development, plant growth and water absorption. For more tips and advice on fertilizing your lawn and garden, visit www.naturestouch.com. You can also buy Nature's Touch at your local ACE Hardware at 28715 Ford, east of Middlebelt in Garden City, or go online www.acehardware.com or www.buyitonline.com to find a location nearest you.

Honoring Mom

Now through May 1, people can submit at one-page maximum hand written

essay about what makes their mom so special in a contest sponsored by the Texas Roadhouse in Westland. The contest is for kids ages 5-12 and when a child brings in their letter they will receive a free kid's meal voucher for their next visit just for their efforts. The winner will get to take his or her family out to dinner to celebrate Mother's Day at Texas Roadhouse (up to \$60 value, tax and gratuity excluded). They also will receive a gift basket with a \$20 gift certificate to Biggy Coffee and a one-hour massage at Pure Massage. The letters will be posted throughout the restaurant. Five finalists will be selected, with Mayor William Wild picking the winning essay. Texas Roadhouse is at 36750 Ford, west of Wayne Road. For more information, call (734) 729-4570.

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FILTER

Students, Art Deco Society team for exhibit

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Rebecca Binno Savage hoped to attract a younger audience for the annual Detroit Area Art Deco Society's Michigan Modernism Exposition when she invited Oakland Community College students to submit work for a photo display.



Savage

"I'm hoping those students will bring in friends to see it and to see the (Modernism) show itself. To me it's something unique to see 20th century design all in one space and one time," said Binno Savage, a Society member. "We have a total 34 photos. They will be up during the whole show, not just for the preview party."

The preview party, 7-10 p.m., Friday, April 24, will kick off the weekend Modernism show, which will run 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday, April 25 and noon-5 p.m., Sunday, April 26, at the Southfield Municipal Complex at 26000 Evergreen, Southfield. General admission is \$8 for the Modernism Exposition, which will include 20th century antiques and fine arts from more than 80 dealers from across the U.S., Canada and Europe. The exposition will offer a broad selection of the mid-century design in furniture, jewelry, clothing, radios, photographs, art, glass, china, silver, clocks, paintings and textiles.

Tickets for the preview party are \$50 in advance, available at www.daads.org, and at select retailers listed on the Web site or by calling (248) 582-3326. Preview party tickets at the door are \$65. The party offers first dibs on the exposition's antiques and fine arts, live music by Sarah Grogan and the SG Ensemble, and a first look at the student photography display.

COLLABORATIVE EFFORT

Binno Savage worked with 10 student photographers from the college's Royal Oak campus, offering a list of art deco buildings for subject material, using her book, *Art Deco in Detroit*, as inspiration.

"The Deco Society approached them based on a friendship our board has with one of the professors. We came up with a way that we could work together," Binno Savage noted. "I helped the students choose which buildings to shoot for the exhibition. The images are so terrific. It really has turned out to be so much better than I thought it would be. There is a lot of color and black and white. Some are sort of straight-on photos of the buildings and some are creative angles. Say the building has neon, like the Elwood Bar and Grill, the colors are played up in the neon. It depends on the building."

Binno Savage said she stayed "minimally involved," letting students rely on their own creativity in deciding how to photograph each building.

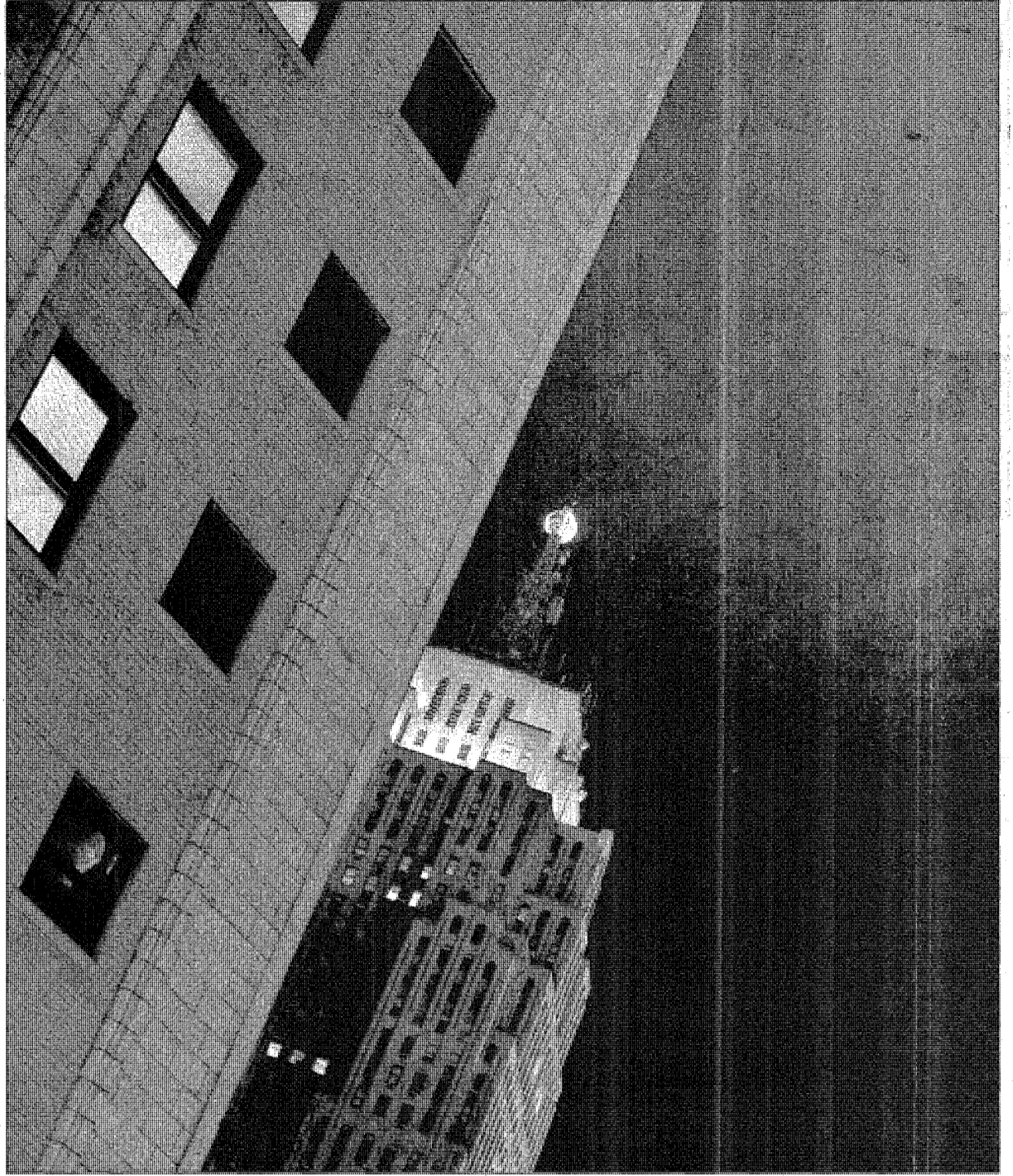
"It surpassed our expectations," she said.

Area deco structures include the Guardian and Penobscot buildings in downtown Detroit, Ellwood Bar, Ford-Wyoming drive-in, a Mosque in Hamtramck and the Majestic Theatre in Detroit.

Along with the student exhibit, a vintage 1934 Chrysler Airflow, restored by owner Sam Haberman of Birmingham, will be on display during both the preview party and exposition.

Preview party proceeds will go towards a scholarship given annually to a student at Eastern Michigan University in the historic preservation program, as well as projects supported by the Society.

"This will be our ninth year. We've donated to such projects as the Penn Theatre in Plymouth and the Redford Theatre," Binno Savage said. "We've donated to exhibits at The Henry Ford related to our era. We support 20th century design."



A photo by Ryan DeBloski of Bloomfield Hills, from the student exhibit.

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<p>WESTLAND MOVING SALE - April 16-18, combining two households; furniture, tools, clothes, odds and ends. 32228 Melton. Painting/Decorating Paperhangers 1420 ACCURATE PAINTING Int'l. ex. plaster, impeccable ref. Est 1988. Ken. 248-312-9000 kenwater0@hotmail.com</p>	<p>4000-4990 Real Estate BLOOMFIELD HILLS 1 bdrm, guest quarter on 4 acres \$950/mo. incl. util. No Pets or smoking. 517-927-9627 PLYMOUTH - 1 bdrm, \$595/mo. Canton - 1 bdrm, \$625/mo. 2 bdrms \$725-\$850/mo. All util. incl. 734-455-0391</p>	<p>DETROIT, WARREN, WESTLAND, & DEARBORN HTS. Rental Properties Available. See. \$ welcome. Call: 313-739-3688. DETROIT/NORTHWEST 2 Bdrms. Immediate Occupancy. Nice fenced in lot. \$550 per month, \$750 Sec. 734-732-3930 FARMINGTON HILLS - 21607 Roosevelt Ave. 3 bdrm, newly remodeled, new carpet, 2 car gar, \$975/mo. (248) 684-1713 HIGHLAND 3 bedroom, \$750/mo. 248-568-8900 HOLLY 2 bdrm ranch. \$550/mo. 248-568-8900.</p>	<p>ROCHESTER Share our office space. Conference rooms, wireless Router, and equipment. Martha or Debbie - 248-651-6622 FIND IT ONLINE HOMETOWNLIFE.COM</p>	<p>7015 - Party-Events 7815 Arts & Crafts 7040 VENDORS NEEDED FOR PRE-SUMMER SHOW We have room for 70 exhibitors at the Summit On The Park in Canton on May 16th. For further info: pam.washington@ecoblog.net Or (248) 217-9058</p>	<p>Rummage Sale/ Flea Market 7080 Plymouth Methodist Church 45201 N. Territorial Tues. 4-7pm, Wed. 12-7pm, Thu. 9-12pm, Fri. 9-12pm, Sat. 9am-12pm. Bag Sale 3-5pm! Garage Sales 7110 FARMINGTON HILLS Multi-Family 4/16-4/18, (8:30-5) 28453 Quail Hollow, (12 Mile-Farming-ton Rd.) Hand & Yard Tools-Construction Equip, Furniture Collectibles -Bikes -Sporting Goods LOTS OF STUFF! PLYMOUTH Multi-Family-14843 Greenbriar Ct. Fri., 9am-4pm, Sat. 9am-12. Household Goods, etc. Plymouth's Old Village Annual Sales Sat. April 18, 9am-3pm. Over 20 shops and homes. Furniture, tools, toys, MORE! Don't miss! Stark-weather, N. of Plymouth, maps at each location. Rain date is April 19.</p>
<p>1000-1990 Real Estate WESTLAND - New carpeting throughout, freshly painted, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, C/A, fridge, washer/dryer, dishwasher, disposal, gas furnace/stove, storage shed, large deck-partially covered, 2 car parking. At Westland Meadows. Avail now. \$10,000. (734) 604-8354 Commercial/Retail For Sale 3755 EAST LANSING - VACANT 9.5 acres on Grand River, 1 Mile from MSU campus, zoned mobile home. (586) 443-4009 Real Estate Wanted 3870 CASH FOR YOUR UNWANTED PROPERTY Looking for single and multi-family homes in Southeast Oakland County. Call: Val 586-943-3719 Licensed Realtor</p>	<p>ROYAL OAK - ON CATALPA 2 bdrms \$630/mo. + gas & electric. Hardwood Floors/Carpet. Move-in spec.. 248-828-7007 ROYAL OAK Near Downtown Nice 1 & 2 bdrm apts, nice rental home also available. Contact Barb 248-435-4904 WESTLAND CAPRI APRIL FOOLISH PRICES 1 bdm starting at \$495 2 bdrms starting at \$600 Limited Time Offer 734-261-5410 Duplexes 4030 WESTLAND/NORWAYNE 3 bdrm, \$599 & also 1 bdrm apt \$399. Sec. 8 OK. 248-939-1491, 734-578-0669</p>	<p>LIVONIA 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, full bsmt, fenced yard, appliances, recently updated. \$900/mo. (734) 564-3851 PLYMOUTH - 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, bsmt, 2 car garage, appliances, air. \$1100/mo. Lease + sec. 734-455-0391 WESTLAND 546 Vansull. Nice 3 bdrm, 2 car gar., bsmt, new kit. appl., patio, hardwood fl., A/C, non-smoker. \$1200/mo. + sec. dep. 734-658-7072</p>	<p>3400-3990 Real Estate WESTLAND 546 Vansull. Nice 3 bdrm, 2 car gar., bsmt, new kit. appl., patio, hardwood fl., A/C, non-smoker. \$1200/mo. + sec. dep. 734-658-7072</p>	<p>7015 - Party-Events 7815 Arts & Crafts 7040 VENDORS NEEDED FOR PRE-SUMMER SHOW We have room for 70 exhibitors at the Summit On The Park in Canton on May 16th. For further info: pam.washington@ecoblog.net Or (248) 217-9058</p>	<p>Rummage Sale/ Flea Market 7080 Plymouth Methodist Church 45201 N. Territorial Tues. 4-7pm, Wed. 12-7pm, Thu. 9-12pm, Fri. 9-12pm, Sat. 9am-12pm. Bag Sale 3-5pm! Garage Sales 7110 FARMINGTON HILLS Multi-Family 4/16-4/18, (8:30-5) 28453 Quail Hollow, (12 Mile-Farming-ton Rd.) Hand & Yard Tools-Construction Equip, Furniture Collectibles -Bikes -Sporting Goods LOTS OF STUFF! PLYMOUTH Multi-Family-14843 Greenbriar Ct. Fri., 9am-4pm, Sat. 9am-12. Household Goods, etc. Plymouth's Old Village Annual Sales Sat. April 18, 9am-3pm. Over 20 shops and homes. Furniture, tools, toys, MORE! Don't miss! Stark-weather, N. of Plymouth, maps at each location. Rain date is April 19.</p>
<p>BUYING? SELLING? Whatever the case may be... Your area realtors and your Observer & Eccentric HomeTown Classifieds are ready to help! Look for the realtor who is a member of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS. Ready to change your address? MAKING LIFE ALOT EASIER! hometownlife.com Find it here! CLASSIFIED 1-800-579-SELL www.hometownlife.com</p>					<p>800-579-7355 www.hometownlife.com</p>

FOOD & WINE

These wines are 'hot'

Currently, dry Riesling is the "hot" white wine. Laden with apple, lime, white peach, mineral notes of slate and wet stones; sometimes floral such as jasmine and orange blossom and always a vibrant finish, it's a most versatile white wine with foods. It's perfectly styled for sushi or fish with a lemon-butter-sauce. Grilled brats are a delicious meat accompaniment.



Focus on Wine
Ray & Eleanor Heald

No matter the success of riesling in Michigan, New York State, cooler regions of northwest U.S. and Australia, Germany is where it all began. Its many wine areas from the northern reaches of the Mosel south to the Swiss border, offer unique regional tastes due to the wide variety of soil types, aspects and climatic influence of the regions' rivers.

So, don't group all these wines under one moniker, "German riesling."

Holding U.S. consumers back are German wine names such as Paul Anheuser's 2008 Schlossbockelheimer Konigsfels Riesling Kabinett, a truly excellent, fresh and fruity wine for \$17.

Only two elements of the label are important as you try to navigate through many selections. In the case of this wine, it's the term Riesling Kabinett, announcing a dry style with lots of fruit sweetness and the region Nahe, which means that riesling grown there will display more earthy and mineral notes.

MASTERING REGIONAL STYLES

If you'd like a slightly drier style than the Anheuser Kabinett, look for 2006 Dr. H. Thanisch

RIESLING AROUND THE WORLD

The many delicious facets of RIESLING styles are exemplified by: Poet's Leap 2007 Columbia Valley, in the Long Shadows collection, \$20
Cono Sur 2008 Vision (Chile), \$15
Penfolds 2008 Thomas Hyland, \$14
Kendall-Jackson 2007 California, \$12 - slightly sweet at 2.2 percent residual sugar

Classic (dry) Riesling from Bernkastel in the Mosel, \$20. The Mosel's steep, slate soil slopes are the source of intense riesling fruit, mineral characters and ageworthy wines.

As a point of wine style comparison, from the same Mosel region, try 2006 Bollig-Lehnert Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Kabinett, \$18.

Looking for a bargain, you'll find none better than 2005 Dr. Heyden Oppenheimer Riesling Kabinett, \$14, from the Rheinhessen. Oppenheim, a village on the banks of the Rhine River has a more Mediterranean climate with lots of sun and fertile soil that gives the wines full-bodied flavors.

Although it's a step up in sweetness, 2006 George Albrecht Schneider Niersteiner Hipping Riesling Spatlese, \$18, comes across as dry as many kabinett wines, due to its good acidity.

2004 Fitz-Ritter Bad Durkheim Riesling Kabinett from the Pfalz region, \$17, is again another style. Mother Nature looks after the region with a unique combination of abundant sunshine and low rainfall. Riesling gets physiologically ripe with loads of complex fruit.

Eleanor & Ray Heald are Contributing Editors for the internationally-respected Quarterly Review of Wines and Troy residents who write about wine for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Contact them by e-mail at focusonwine@aol.com.

MURDER MYSTERY MEAL

PLYMOUTH - Barefoot Productions announces its first murder mystery fund raiser, "The Case of the Missing Jewels," 6 p.m. April 23, at Station 885 restaurant in Plymouth. Tickets are \$30.

The evening features a three-course meal as well as interactive dinner entertainment in which guests have the opportunity to don their sleuthing hats to solve the case. The fund raiser, which stars Barefoot Productions' talent, is meant to build excitement for its spring murder mystery production, "Prescription: Murder," April 30-May 10 at the Walker-Buzenberg Building, 240 N. Main St., Plymouth.

Call (734) 560-1493, or visit www.justgobarefoot.com.

BEST BURGER BLOWOUT

CANTON - Think you've got the best burger in town? Enter the Spice Up Your Summer Cook-off Series starting with the Best Burger Blowout on Sunday, April 26 at Canton Farmer's Market 500 N. Ridge Road in Canton. The grills will fire up at 11 a.m.

Participants must register for the event at the front desk of the Summit on the Park, and must provide all ingredients and cooking utensils. Prizes will be awarded for the most delightful burgers and the top three burger kings or queens will move on to a featured competition at Liberty Fest 2009. There is a \$10 entry fee for Canton residents and a \$15 entry fee for non-residents.

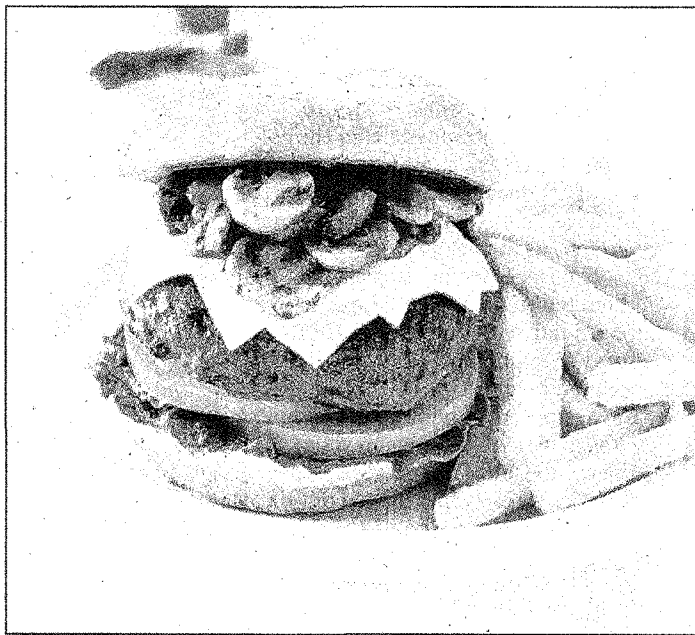
Call (734) 394-5460 or visit www.leisure.canton-mi.

BBQ RIB COOK OFF

NOVI - The first-ever West Oakland Rib Cook Off and Family Fest, is set for Sunday Aug. 9 at Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave in Novi. The all day event will feature as many as fifty BBQ Rib Teams, live music, local restaurant tastings, family activities including a furry creature petting zoo, and more.

"Experience West Oakland," a committee of the Novi Chamber of Commerce, was recently granted a sanction from the Memphis Barbeque Network for their inaugural event, which will offer BBQ competitors the chance to com-

CITY BITES



Morton's The Steakhouse in Southfield and Troy is offering its famous Morton's Prime Sirloin Burger and French Fries for \$15.

pete for Prize Packages totaling \$10,000. A panel of 40 professional and amateur judges will determine the contest results. The Grand Prize Winner will be invited to compete in the "Memphis in May" Barbeque Network Finals, May 2010.

More information on the sanctioning body can be found at www.MBNBBQ.com

Registration information for interested contestants can be found at www.experiencewo.com

Restaurants located in Western Oakland County are invited to participate in the fun by offering samples of their most popular dishes.

Exhibitors featuring cooking and barbeque related products

are also welcome. For additional information about the West Oakland Rib Cook Off and Family Fest, contact Linda Daly at the Novi Chamber of Commerce, (248) 349-3743, or e-mail info@novichamber.com

CANTON FARMERS MARKET OPENS

CANTON - Canton Farmers Market will kick off its third season 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday, April 26 at the Bartlett-Travis House, located at 500 N. Ridge. It will be open every Sunday through Oct. 25 rain or shine at this historic site.

New and returning vendors will offer a wide-variety of

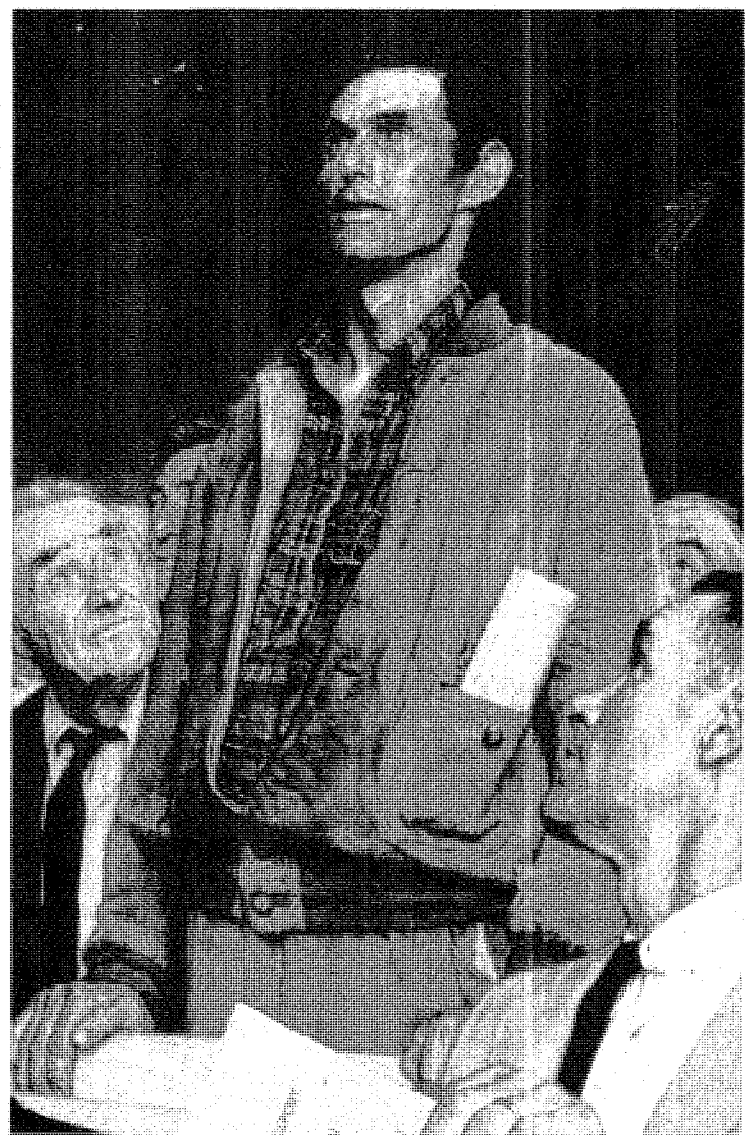
merchandise, as it becomes available, including fresh fruits and vegetables, bread, baked goods, flowers, herbs, jellies, jams, cider, honey and much more. New vendors this season with Michigan-made products, include Aunt Violets Cottage offering mosaic tile work; Sansonetti Gourmet Foods offering pasta sauces, appetizers, mustards, barbecue sauces, salsa, and dipping oil; and Sun River Natural offering homemade bath salts and lotions.

Special activities are planned for the opening including: the Spice Up Your Summer Cook Off Series challenge, featuring the Best Burger Blowout, where all you closet chefs can show off your culinary skills. While at the market, be sure to purchase a Farmers Market tote made from recycled materials, while supplies last.

Admission is free. Canton Farmers Market is always looking for new and unique vendors to add to our outdoor market, especially meat, cheese, seafood, and dairy vendors. Applications are still being accepted for the 2009 season. Vendor market applications and registration forms are available at leisure.canton-mi.org or by contacting the Market Manager at spavlo@canton-mi.org.

To find more information about Canton's growing Farmers Market, visit leisure.canton-mi.org or contact the Market Manager at 734/398-5570 x 5.

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Norman Rockwell, American, Freedom of Speech (detail), 1945. War bond poster from the permanent collection of Norman Rockwell Museum, © 1945 SEPC licensed by Curtis Publishing, Indianapolis, IN.
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