

THURSDAY

May 7
2009

The Observer & Eccentric
Newspapers

Volume 44
Number 99

75 CENTS

WESTLAND OBSERVER

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Star-studded
lineups slated
for summer
concerts

Filter, B8



AROUND TOWN

Your choice

Starting Monday, May 11, the Wayne-Westland Community Schools will accept applications for its intra-county Schools of Choice for students in kindergarten-fifth grade for the fall of 2009.

To be eligible, students must reside in Wayne County, and parents will have to provide transportation.

Applications are available from the Department of Instruction in the district administrative offices on Marquette, east of Newburgh in Westland, or on the district's Web site at <http://wwcsd.net>. They can be turned in at the instruction office in person or by mail to the Department of Instruction, 36745 Marquette, Westland, MI 48185.

The deadline for applying is Aug. 24. For more information, call (734) 419-2083.

Garage sale

Looking for a bargain? You're sure to find it from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at the Westland Community Garage Sale.

The parking lot west of city hall will be filled with vendors offering an eclectic mix of items, including clothing, books, knickknacks, housewares and more, and the price will be right for bargain hunters.

The event is sponsored by the Westland Parks and Recreation Department and the Westland Youth Assistance Program. For more information, call the recreation department at (734) 722-7620.

Take a walk

The Westland Summer Festival is asking residents to take a walk as part of this year's festival lineup.

The committee is sponsoring "A Walk to Remember" with the Alzheimer's Association - Greater Michigan Chapter on Friday, July 3. Registration begins at 9 a.m. on the festival grounds at the corner of Carlson and Teresa. The walk will begin at 10 a.m. and head north on Carlson and Central City Parkway to Warren and then turn and head back to the festival grounds.

The route is 2.6 miles long, and all age groups and people of athletic abilities are invited to participate. The funds raised will be used for local programs, services and research efforts to fight the debilitating disease. Currently, Alzheimer's disease affects more than 170,000 people in Michigan and close to 70,000 reside in the metropolitan Detroit area. Alzheimer's is a progressive disease that destroys brain cells. It's the sixth leading cause of death in the United States.

Registration can be done online at www.awalktoremember.kintera.org or at the Westland senior Friendship Center, 1119 Newburgh, south of Ford. For more information, call Pam Martin at (734) 595-0697, the Friendship Center at (734) 722-7632 or the Alzheimer's Association at (248) 351-0280.

Clerk: Candidates must file by May 12

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Candidates hoping to campaign this year for Westland city offices will have to beat a deadline of next Tuesday — five weeks earlier than expected — for filing their nominating petitions.

The race really is on, it seems, after City Clerk Eileen DeHart learned that Westland inadvertently has failed to comply with a Michigan

statute that sets the filing deadline 12 Tuesdays prior to the August primary.

Westland, which became a city in 1966, has always followed a city charter rule that established a filing deadline just seven Tuesdays before the primary — a rule that DeHart said is superseded by a state law from 1990.

Councilman Dewey Reeves said he and others hoping to get their names on the ballot will now have to

scramble to collect the 266 to 1,063 signatures they need from registered voters prior to 4 p.m. Tuesday, May 12, rather than June 16.

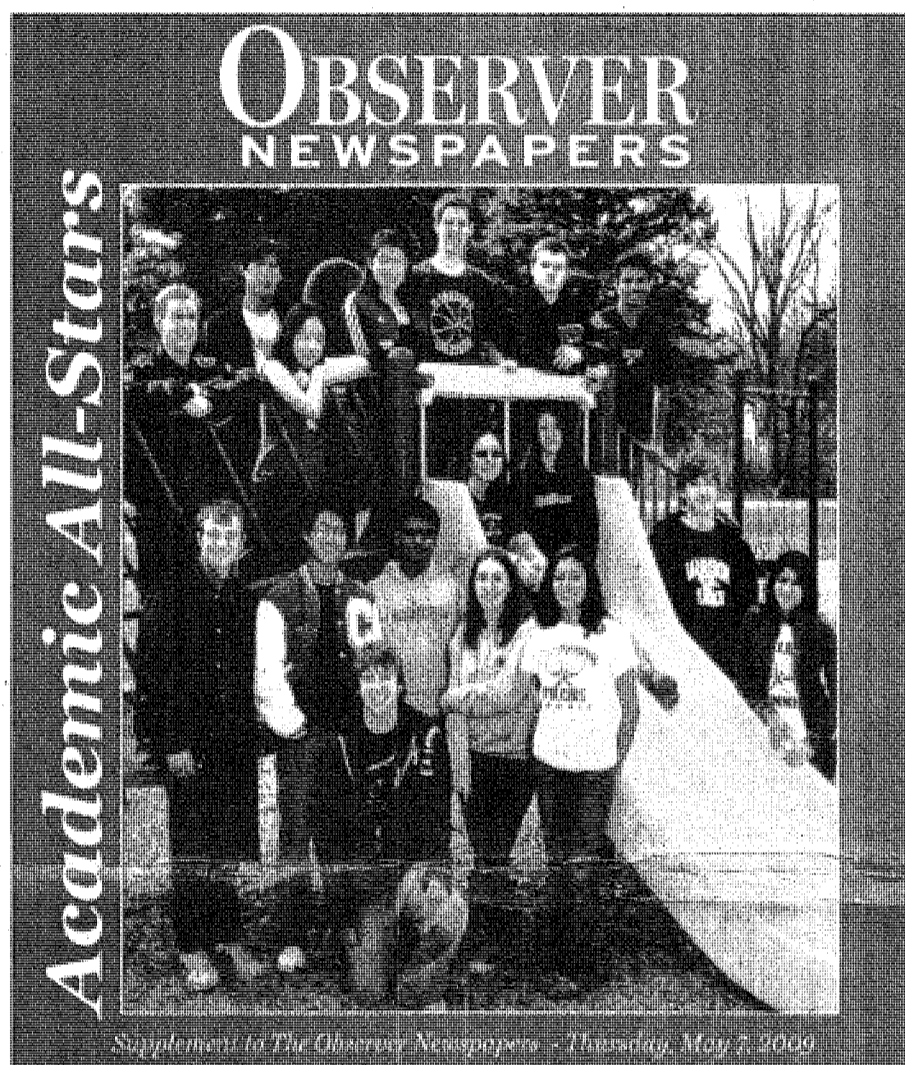
"This caught a lot of people off guard," he said.

DeHart confirmed that snafu Monday and said she is sending certified letters to all potential candidates who have picked up nominating petitions from her office. She also has made telephone calls to them.

DeHart learned of the prob-

lem when she sent language to the Michigan Attorney General's Office for ballot proposals that city officials had intended to place on the November election ballot. The language would have asked voters to move the filing deadline from the seventh to the 12th Tuesday prior to the primary, bringing it in line with many other communities and easing a work crunch on the clerk's office.

Please see **DEADLINE, A3**



Awesome All-Stars!

Students shine in school, community work

Inside today's *Westland Observer* is the 2009 Academic All-Stars special section. The special supplement salutes the brightest and best students from public, private and parochial schools in Farmington, Farmington Hills, Plymouth, Canton, Redford, Livonia, Westland and Garden City.

This marks the 24th year that the *Observer* has honored academic excellence with a special team. This year, 18 students were named to the team. Another 24 students are runners-up and they, too, are outstanding in academics, test scores and community work.

The principals committee making the selection was inspired, encouraged and proud that so many students are outstanding in their school work (4.0 GPAs) and on standardized test such as the ACT and SAT. Academic subjects and test scores are the only criteria used for team selec-



BILL BRESLER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Students and parents celebrate the Observer & Eccentric 2009 Academic All-Stars at a breakfast at Birmingham's Townsend Hotel. Meet this year's team in our special section and read about them on today's Opinion Page.

tion. However, these students — team members and those who earned honor-

Please see **ALL-STARS, A3**

Voters bring change to W-W school board

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland businessman John Goci is ready to find out what issues the Wayne-Westland Community Schools face, in preparation to serve on its Board of Education.

Goci was one of three candidates elected to the school board in Tuesday's election. He will serve the remaining year of a four-year term after defeating incumbent board member Steve Becher and newcomer Angela Hoops-Cossey.

"I want to sit down with the board and the administration and see what the issues are," said Goci, who waited for election results at his U.S. 12 Bar in Wayne. "I want to see if we can do a rapid deployment and develop a film program at the career tech center so our students can take advantage of the jobs opening up in the film industry in the state."

Voters also tapped appointed incumbent Shawna Walker of Westland and newcomer Carol Middel of Canton for the two four-year terms that were up for grabs.

Walker was appointed to the board last September to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Frederick Weaver after he moved out of the district. Middel is a

ELECTION AT A GLANCE

TWO 4-YEAR TERMS

(Bold face indicates winner)

Gregory Maxwell - 336
Carol Middel - 1,442
Lori Mireles-Smith - 368
Brian Mulligan - 562
Mark Neal - 1,218
Ed Turner - 935
Shawna Walker - 1,491

1 ONE-YEAR TERM

(Bold face indicates winner)

Steve Becher - 857
John Goci - 2,033
Angela Hoops-Cossey - 427



Walker



Middel



Goci

retired Wayne-Westland school teacher. The two along with Goci received the endorsement of the Michigan Education Association which flooded the district with signs in support of the candidates.

Walker, in her second bid for elective office — she ran for school board in the May 2008 election — was the top vote-getter, gathering 1,491 votes and one of the two four-year terms. She was followed closely by Middel, who received 1,442 votes.

"I consider it a privilege and an honor that the voters thought that much of me," said Walker. "I really didn't know what direction it would go, but to get the top vote, I never would have thought that. I'm going to try to do my best for the families and students of this district. I'm really excited. I look forward to the next four years and to doing exciting things for the district."

Middel, who was out Wednesday morning collecting campaign signs, said she was shocked by the results.

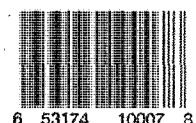
"I'm still in shock. I didn't think I could pull it off," she said. "It was a lot of hard work, but it paid off. I walked

Please see **VOTE, A3**

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Governor's order is bad news for city

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland city officials are bracing for a potential \$344,000 cut in state-shared revenue after Gov. Jennifer Granholm rolled out measures Tuesday aimed at plugging a \$1.3 billion state budget hole.

The loss could affect revenues for the city budget year that ends June 30, forcing officials to absorb cuts even as they plan for the next fiscal year, which could prove even more painful.

"I think we'll be able to weather it" this year, Mayor William Wild said, but he added that future state-shared revenue cuts could be more devastating.

Wild's administration has kept a \$1.2 million general fund surplus as officials pre-

pare for the next fiscal year that starts July 1 — an amount that dropped nearly \$1 million during a one-year period.

"We're trying to save everywhere we can and not spend except for necessary items," Finance Director Steve Smith said.

Wild said he believes that, even with potential cuts in state-shared revenue, Westland can maintain a general fund balance "just a little north of the \$1 million mark," partly due to another employee retirement and an unexpected uptick in certain revenues, such as in the building department.

However, Wild remains worried about additional state cuts in the city's next fiscal year.

"In the future it will hurt more," he said.

Westland had earlier projected this year's state-shared

revenue to be around \$8.5 million. With the latest proposed cuts, that could drop to nearly \$8.1 million, Smith said.

Westland already has taken painful steps to balance the budget. Smith said that, during the last two years alone, city administration officials proposed cost-cutting measures that including not filling 23 vacant jobs and laying off five employees.

City officials had expected the state's financial problems to trickle down to local governments.

"We don't even know what they will do to next year's budget," Smith said.

Westland City Council members are expected to adopt a new budget in early June for the fiscal year that starts July 1.

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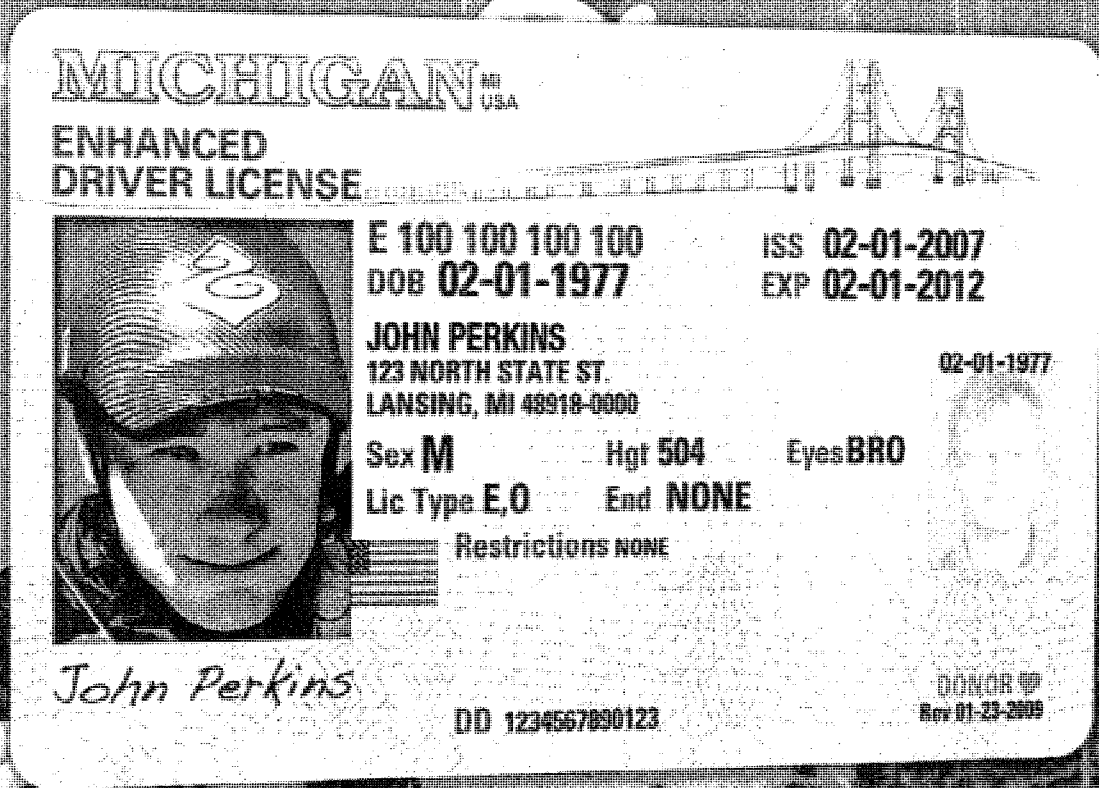
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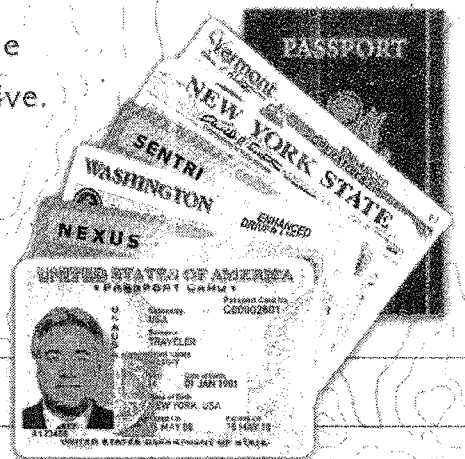
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LPS challenger awaits vote certification

BY KAREN SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Roger Spence, who lost a Livonia school board seat by 10 votes Tuesday, is awaiting certification of the results, saying it's premature to ask for a recount. "They have to be certified, and those numbers usually change," he said of unofficial tallies.

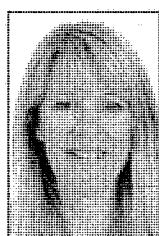
Spence lost to Dan Lessard, a 12-year incumbent, who received 2,878 votes and newcomer Colleen Burton, the runaway top vote-getter with 4,413 votes. Spence received 2,868 votes.

Spence won in Livonia but lost in Westland.

Westland City Clerk Eileen DeHart said the results were turned over Wednesday to the Wayne County Board of Canvassers, which has 30 days



Lessard



Burton

UNOFFICIAL VOTE TALLIES

Burton: 4,413 (Livonia - 3,678, Westland - 735)
Lessard: 2,878 (Livonia - 2,407, Westland - 471)
Spence: 2,868 (Livonia - 2,443, Westland - 425)

to certify them, but she doubts the outcome will be different. "It's highly unlikely because it's all electronic," she said.

Livonia City Clerk Linda Grimsby said provisional ballots, issued when a voter insists he registered but isn't listed, can sometimes change the totals when they're added in. But she said she doesn't recall receiving any provisional ballots Tuesday; DeHart said she received none.

Provisional ballots are more common in November when

more people vote, Grimsby said. In Livonia, voter turnout was 6.79 percent Tuesday; in Westland, it was 5 percent.

There was no doubt about Burton's win. Burton credits her election success to 15 years of school volunteer work.

Lessard joked he won by a landslide, too. He won his very first school board race in East Detroit by six votes. "So this (10) is a big number. We're in the double digits," he said.

VOTE

FROM PAGE A1

and meet a lot of people."

Middel now plans to do a lot of "intense research," delving into the district's finances, finding out what's happening at the state and looking at curriculum changes that are coming. "I've got a lot of homework to do and I won't be able to say my dog ate it," she said.

This was the third time Goci had campaigned for elective office; he lost in two previous bids to serve on the Westland City Council. Goci won handily over incumbent Steve Becher and newcomer Angela Hoops-Cossey. In unofficial results, Goci received 2,033 votes. Becher, who had opted for the partial term rather than a second four-year term, placed a distant second with 857 votes.

Hoops-Cossey received 427 votes.

Goci, who had campaigned with retired Westland fire chief Mark Neal, aimed to get his name out in the community in time for absentee voting. It worked, with those votes giving him his margin of victory. However, Neal who was campaigning for a four-year term, placed third with 1,128 votes.

"I'm happy and I'm sad because I was pulling for Mark, I really like the guy," said Goci, adding that "I would have been content win or lose because I know I did my best. Now I have to get ready with all of my ideas."

Incumbent Ed Turner who has served on the school board for 12 years, lost his bid for a fourth term, collecting 935 votes.

"Am I unhappy? Yes, but I'm not upset because I know I can go and put in my two cents as a private citizen," said Turner. "I'm still going to stick up for the kids."

Brian Mulligan, in his third bid for a seat on the school board, received 562 votes, with Lori Mireles-Smith finishing two votes ahead of Greg Maxwell. Mireles-Smith received 368 votes, Maxwell got 366.

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

ALL-STARS

FROM PAGE A1

able mention — are more than book smart. They are generous with their time and talents in helping others. They volunteer in their schools, communities, churches and synagogues.

Take time to read about Samantha Barber, a senior at Huron Valley Lutheran and a Wayne resident, who wants to be a teacher so she can "positively influence students and help as many people" as she can. Robert Costello of John Glenn High School wants to study engineering to "make the world more efficient" and fellow Glenn senior Amy Selewski

wants to be a doctor so she can join Doctors Without Borders and "help others who only dream of receiving the kind of care available in the United States."

Wayne Memorial student Solomon Shurge hopes to work at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, design rockets and shuttles while classmate Christopher Burtraw plans to study engineering and then pursue a master's degree.

These students shine in many ways and their futures are bright as they move on to study at colleges and universities close to home and far away.

A special thank you to Madonna University, our long-time partner and sponsor of the

special section for more than 15 years. Take time to read about Madonna's new state-of-the-art science and media building that will open this fall. The environmentally friendly building is Madonna's first stand-alone building in 40 years and Livonia's first "green" building to be certified in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. The 60,000-square-foot structure is in the heart of Madonna's campus at Schoolcraft and Levan roads.

Madonna's commitment to honoring academic excellence is one way the *Observer* is able to celebrate the All-Stars in this very public way.

The All-Stars and their parents were honored May 1 at a special breakfast and

awards ceremony hosted by the *Observer Newspapers* and the Townsend Hotel. The Townsend has been a partner the last several years in making sure the students are honored in an outstanding way. In addition, Huntington Bank, another longtime friend of the All-Star program, provided each All-Star Team member with a U.S. Savings Bond.

The *Observer* takes great pride in honoring academic excellence in our communities for the last 24 years.

Enjoy today's special supplement.

As always, I welcome your comments.

Susan M. Rosiek
executive editor
srosiek@hometownlife.com

DEADLINE

FROM PAGE A1

DeHart was notified by Assistant Attorney General George Elworth that Michigan statute already sets the 12th-Tuesday rule and that Westland would have to immediately comply, pushing this year's filing deadline up by five weeks. Other cities may face similar issues.

Elworth couldn't be reached

for comment, but DeHart said she was assured by him that the error doesn't retroactively invalidate the previous city elections.

DeHart said she researched the issue after hearing from Elworth, and she learned that the 12th-Tuesday state law had been on the books since 1990. Apparently, local officials weren't aware of it, and DeHart said former city clerks had no way of knowing the implications.

Four council seats and the mayor's position are on the

ballot this year. As of Tuesday morning, incumbent Mayor William Wild had filed for re-election, and Westland Planning Commissioner Adam Hammons had filed petitions for city council.

However, other candidates had taken petitions and are expected to file for election. In addition to Wild's post, council seats on the ballot will include those occupied by Reeves, Cheryl Graunstadt, Charles Pickering and Robert Stottlemeyer.

Graunstadt and Stottlemeyer already have confirmed that they will not seek re-election.

Potential candidates who want to get their names on the ballot will have to collect the required signatures. The city has no provision for paying a filing fee in lieu of circulating petitions.

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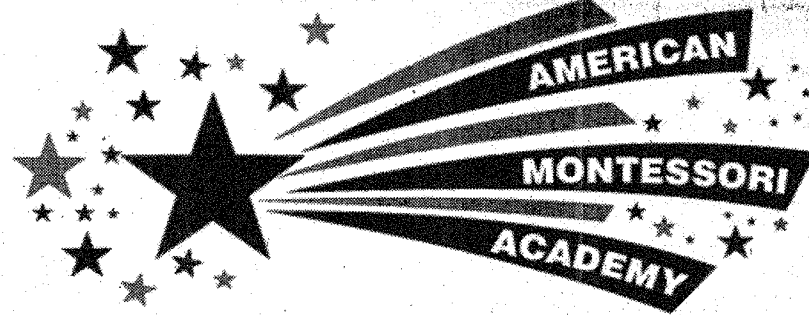
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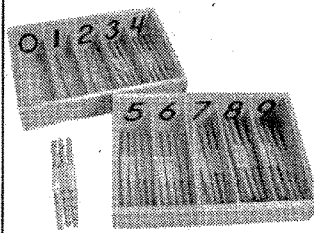
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Canton woman announces run for Congress

BY KURT KUBAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When Canton's Natalie Mosher attended Barack Obama's inauguration in January with millions of other Americans from across the country, she had a hard time finding words to describe the experience. Less than four months later, she says the emotional event was the catalyst for her to get more involved in helping the country make a change. On Wednesday, the 65-year-old lifelong Democrat



Mosher

announced she is running for Congress and will challenge Republican Thaddeus McCotter of Livonia, who is currently in his fourth term representing Michigan's 11th District. "Yes, the inauguration inspired me," said Mosher. "When you watch where we've been the last eight years, you realize how much work we have to do to get back on track." Mosher, who has never held elected office before, calls herself a different kind of candidate who will "solve problems and get things done." She says her approach would include working with member of all parties. "I believe that voters are sick of the finger pointing that is only compounding the hard

work it takes to develop and implement solutions to the urgent issues of our time," Mosher said. "Whether it's job losses, the credit crunch, falling home prices, affordable health care or the myriad of other challenges facing us, Democrats, Republicans and Independents are looking for one thing — solutions. I'm running to offer solutions that get Michigan back to the prosperity that we enjoyed just a few years ago." Mosher, who was born and grew up in Detroit, has worked as a public school teacher and in the field of non-profits. She worked for the American Cancer Society when she lived in Ohio, and more recently was the chief development officer

for the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy. She has lived in Canton since 2004. If elected, Mosher said she would make health care, developing alternative energies, and creating jobs her top priorities. A big proponent of the domestic automotive industry (she says relatives, including her husband, have a total of 154 years experience with the auto companies), Mosher said she would work to stop bad trade deals like NAFTA and CAFTA (Central America Free Trade Agreement), which she believes have hurt American auto workers. The 11th Congressional District represents parts of western Oakland and western Wayne Counties.

Not all creditors are created equal

While Chrysler and General Motors are working out a variety of arrangements to stay in business, it is important to understand what is happening to unsecured bond holders. Many of the bonds issued by GM and Chrysler are held by individuals and they are going to take a substantial hit. It is important to understand that not all creditors are created equal. Creditors can be divided into two distinct areas: secured creditors and unsecured creditors. A secured creditor will typically have a security interest in an underlying asset that protects its debt. For example, when you and I purchase a home using a mortgage, the mortgage company (the lender) becomes a secured creditor. A secured creditor has the lien on the home. If the mortgage isn't paid, the company can sell your house and the proceeds are used to pay off your obligation to the mortgage company. Similarly, in business, secured creditors could sell a secured asset to discharge the debt. If the sale discharges the total amount owed, great; if not, the creditor becomes an unsecured creditor for the remaining balance owed. Unsecured creditors are not as fortunate or protected as a secured creditor. Unsecured creditors have no security interest — no specific asset securing their obligation. In times of financial crisis such as a bankruptcy, once secured creditors are taken care of, unsecured creditors are paid only if there is money remaining. In most bankruptcies, unsecured creditors usually get pennies on the dollar. Fixed-income security investments such as corporate bonds and government bonds are an important part of an overall portfolio. In the portfolios I manage, I always have a portion of the portfolio invested in fixed-income obligations in order to have a balanced and diversified portfolio. With regard to investing in fixed-income securities, investors should know, but unfortunately many do not, that not all fixed-income securities are the same. Too many investors will only look at the yield on the investment and use that to decide whether they should



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

make an investment in that security or not. I believe when you buy fixed-income securities, you need to focus on two issues — maturity of the obligation and quality of the bond. Bonds can have durations from 90 days to 30 years. Generally, the longer the term of the bond, the greater the risk. In today's economic environment with low interest rates and a potential for higher inflation, I generally recommend short- to intermediate-term bonds. The higher the quality of bond, the better the chance of being repaid. If you buy a fixed-income security, you must be sure to receive the interest due you as well as your principle upon maturity. The highest quality bond that one can buy is any bond that is backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government. On the other hand, bonds issued by corporations that are rated as not investment grade have the greatest risk of default. Non-investment grade bonds are also known as high-yield bonds and sometimes referred to as junk bonds. When purchasing a fixed-income obligation, the primary focus must be the quality of the obligation. In today's turbulent times, with interest rates so low, many investors are purchasing more and more junk bonds in order to increase their yield. From a risk standpoint, not all junk bonds are the same. From a risk/reward standpoint, some junk bonds make sense, however, investors need to be cautious. When you purchase a junk bond, you must recognize that there is substantial risk of default and that is the reason it pays higher rates of return. Having a small portion of your fixed-income investments in high yield or junk bonds can make sense. However, investing a large portion of your portfolio in these types of securities is not prudent. It wasn't that long ago that investors thought of GM bonds as rock solid. I remember the saying, what's good for GM is good for America and visa versa. Unfortunately, those days are gone. In today's changing economy, it is necessary to invest without emotion and recognize that looking forward is much more important than looking in the rear-view mirror. Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at monematters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit Rick's Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com.

Exhibit features veteran photographer's best work

Work by award-winning Livonia photographer Allen Brooks is on display through May 24 in the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton. The exhibition includes highlights from Brooks' 50-year career. A professional portrait photographer who has owned studios in Chicago and Westland, Brooks is the recipient of more than 100 awards for wedding and portrait photography. He has also been selected as one of Michigan's Top 10 Professional Photographers twice by the Professional Photographers of Michigan, and his work has been displayed in the Photography Hall of Fame. Brooks began taking photos as a young Boy Scout when he received his first camera. Presently working solely in digital photography, he continues to experiment with composition. Brooks recently started tinkering with digital color infrared photography. He belongs to the Detroit Professional Photographers Association as well as the Livonia Camera Club.



"Revelations" is the name of this Allen Brooks photograph on display at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton through May 24.

The exhibit is free and open to the public. Hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday and during public performances at the theater. The gallery is closed on holidays. For more information, call (734) 394-5300 or visit www.canton-mi.org/village-theater.

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CITY OF WESTLAND
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Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained at www.cityofwestland.com or from the Purchasing Office at (734) 467-3204. Qualifications 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 submissions.

Publish: March 7, 2009
Jade M. Smith
Controller

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Man finds secret shopper ad a scam

1 A 58-year-old man was defrauded of money after he responded to a bogus ad offering to hire what was described as "a secret shopper," Westland police said.

The man, who lives south of Cherry Hill between Merriman and Venoy, told police he was supposedly hired by a Canadian company to work as a secret shopper and evaluate retailers. He said he was sent a \$4,945 check, a list of businesses where he was supposed to spend the money, and how much he should spend at each place.

The victim said he deposited the check into his bank account in late April and later withdrew money to spend at certain retailers. He also was told to wire a large portion of money back to the company to make sure the arrangement worked.

The man went to his bank on May 1 and found that he had no money in his account. He learned that the check he had deposited from the supposed secret-shopping company was no good.

Police learned that the money he wired had been sent to a location in Niagara Falls, N.Y., just across the border from Canada.

Police are urging others not to become victims of such scams.

Couple caught shoplifting

2 Westland police arrested a 63-year-old Detroit woman and a 30-year-old Westland man following a retail fraud incident shortly before 7 p.m. Sunday at the Meijer store southeast of Warren and Newburgh.

Police went to the store after store prevention loss officers notified them of an apparent theft in progress. The suspects had gone to their car when officers arrived.

Officers approached the vehicle, ordered the suspects out and ultimately arrested them.

The pair had selected a baby seat inside the store and taken it to a customer service desk where they turned it in for a gift card with store credit. They then purchased some cigarettes using the card, then continued to walk around the store selecting and concealing other merchandise.

Police recovered all the merchandise inside the vehicle and returned it to the store.

Man escapes without beer

3 A would-be beer bandit didn't quite get away with the prize during an incident that happened about 4:20 p.m. Sunday at the Kroger store on Ford between Newburgh and Wayne.

Police officers were sent

to the store amid reports of Kroger employees chasing a possible shoplifter, described as a white male in his 40s with dark hair and wearing a black T-shirt and black pants. The suspect had just fled the scene.

A store manager told police that the suspect walked out with a shopping cart full of beer without paying for it. The manager approached the man outside the store, tapped him on the shoulder and tried to escort him inside, but the suspect turned, ran across the parking lot and left behind the beer he had tried to steal.

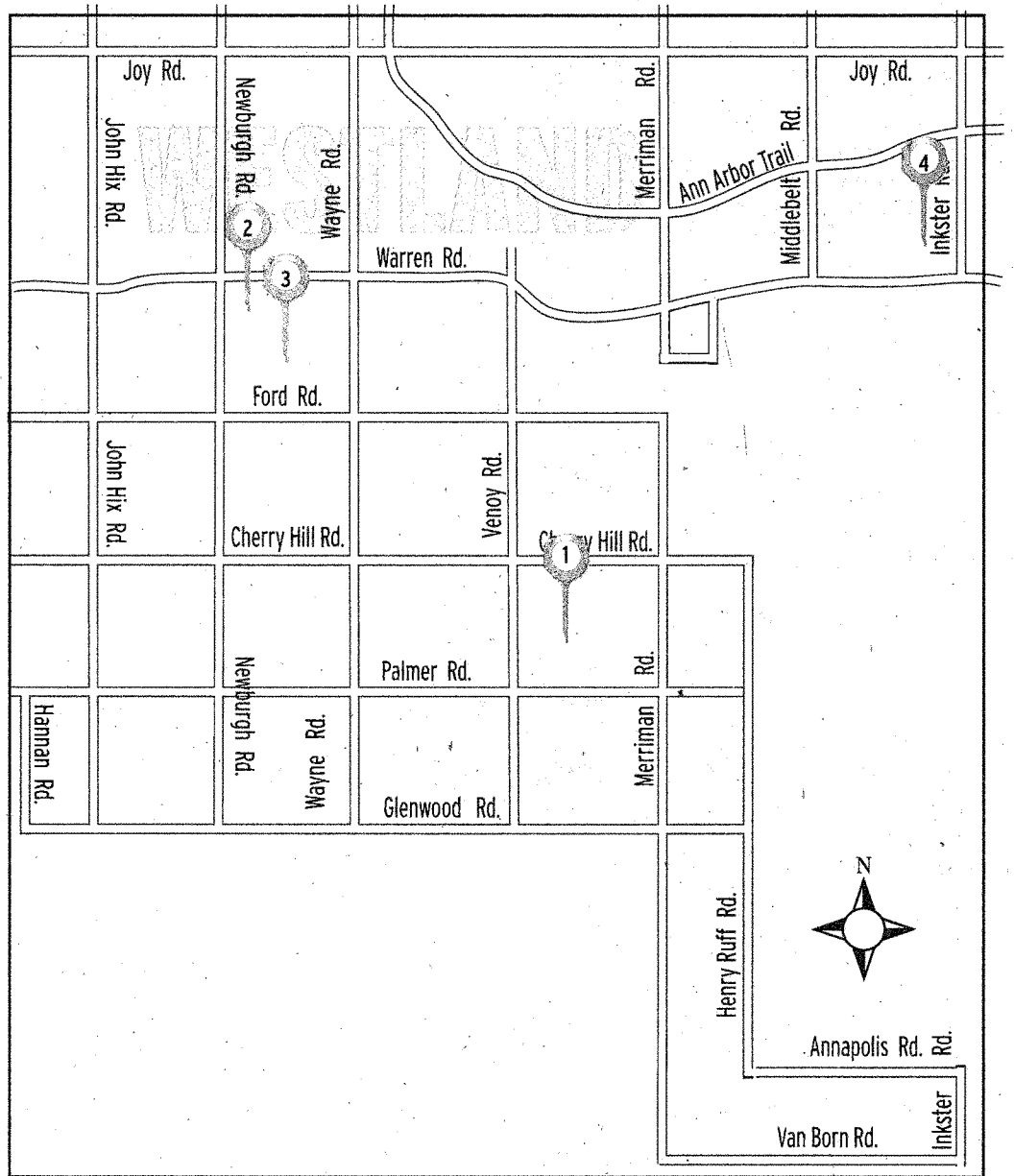
Woman assaulted at bar

4 A 28-year-old woman told police she was assaulted around 2 a.m. Saturday at Sidelines, a bar near the northwest corner of Warren and Inkster roads.

The victim reported she was approached by another woman who claimed the victim had made a remark to her two years ago that she didn't like. The victim turned away from her, but the woman began punching her in the back and on the side of the head, according to police reports.

The assault was finally pulled off the victim by another customer.

- By Darrell Clem



Man sentenced to prison in taxi holdup

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

An Inkster man who took a taxicab to a Westland apartment complex and then robbed the driver at gunpoint has been sent to prison after he pleaded guilty in Wayne County Circuit Court.

Marcus Laron Terrell, 18, was sentenced to three years/six months to 15 years in prison after he admitted robbing a taxi driver last Dec. 21 at The Landings, a sprawling apartment complex southeast of Warren and Central City Parkway. Terrell will spend an additional two years behind bars for a felony firearm charge.

That means the earliest he

could be released would be during the summer of 2014, according to the Michigan Department of Corrections.

Terrell's sentencing, part of a plea agreement, averted a trial and a potentially longer prison stay. It also resulted in two other robbery-related felony charges being dropped.

Terrell was sentenced in April, just four months after he was accused of robbing the taxi driver. He had been ordered to stand trial earlier this year after he waived a preliminary hearing in front of Westland 18th District Judge Mark McConnell.

Charges against Terrell stemmed from an incident last Dec. 21 in which a lone

bandit caught a taxicab to The Landings and tried to rob the driver of money, police Sgt. Brian Miller has said. However, the suspect escaped with only a cell phone after the two men struggled.

No shots were fired during the incident.

The taxicab driver told police the incident happened after he picked up a passenger near Inkster and Annapolis roads.

Terrell was arrested at his Inkster home following an investigation by the multi-agency Metro Street Enforcement Team, Miller has said.

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

AROUND WESTLAND

Coffee Hour

State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, will hold his next local coffee hour 9-10:30 a.m. Monday, May 11, at the William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway. Citizens are welcome to visit with LeBlanc and discuss issues and/or concerns. The local coffee hour takes place on the second Monday of each month. LeBlanc also invites residents to join him for refreshments and an informal fireside chat 6-8 p.m. Monday, May 11, at the William P. Faust Public Library.

Residents who have any comments or concerns, can also contact LeBlanc toll-free at (888) 737-5325 or at (517)-373-2576 or send an e-mail to richardleblanc@house.mi.gov.

ON THE WEB

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

Food pickup

Westland residents living north of Michigan Avenue can pick up their surplus food commodities on 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, May 21, at the Dorsey Community Center, 32715 Dorsey Road, south of Palmer.

The pickup time and location for Westland residents living south of Michigan Avenue is 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, May 11, or the second Monday of each month, at St. James United Methodist Church, 30055 Annapolis, between Henry Ruff and Middlebelt. Call

the church at (734) 729-1737.

Senior citizens living in Taylor Towers can collect their food at Taylor Towers and must contact their building manager for their day of distribution. Greenwood Villa residents also must pick up their food items at Greenwood Villa.

The May distribution will include a frozen 4-ounce can of orange juice, UHT shelf milk (if available), rice cereal, green beans, sliced potatoes, vegetable soup, and possible additional items.

The program is administered by the Wayne County Office of Senior Services which determines food allocations, distribution sites and dates of distribution. For more information, the Dorsey Center's surplus food hotline at (734) 595-0366.

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Win lunch with Fox 2's Deena and Jay at Buddy's

The winner of this month's Dining with the Stars will lunch with Fox 2 News Weekend co-anchors Deena Centofanti and Jay Towers. Tell us in 100 words or less why you want to have lunch with the Fox 2 personalities at Buddy's Pizza in Farmington Hills. E-mail your entry to BuddysDiningStars@gmail.com by 5 p.m. Thursday, May 14.



Centofanti



Towers

The contest winner will be treated to a limo ride from Class Plus Limo, a make-over 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.

In addition to her weekend role, Centofanti is also the Fox 2 Health Works editor. She joined WJBK FOX 2 in April 1997.

Centofanti balances a busy life as a journalist and moth-

er. She and husband, Keith, are parents to three children: son Casey, born in 1999, daughter Ellie, born in 2002, and Sophie, born in 2005.

Towers joined the Fox 2 weekend family as a features reporter. He was named co-anchor earlier this year.

"I love my time with my TV family Deena and Justin (Ryan, meteorologist)," said Towers, who spends his free time at the movies and with

his daughter, 6.

When not working weekends at Fox 2, Towers hosts mornings at 97.1 The Ticket on the Jay & Bill show.

Buddy's Pizza will make a donation to the Ronald McDonald House and Special Olympics in recognition of this month's "dining stars."

Dining with the Stars is sponsored by Buddy's Pizza and the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*.

Senate panels take up Hire Michigan bill

Senate Democrats expected a Senate committee this week to take up the Hire Michigan First legislation. The flagship plan for Senate Democrats which gives incentives to companies to hire Michigan workers, guarantees that state contracts do not go to companies hiring illegal immigrants, and ensures a prevailing wage to support Michigan families.

"It's about time the business community and Republicans finally join with us to put Michigan's working families first," said Senate Democratic Leader Mike Prusi, D-Ishpeming. "Senate Democrats have been fighting everyday for this legislation and we're glad the efforts are paying off."

Key components of the Hire Michigan First Package include:

- Awarding state tax incentives and other economic development incentives to companies that hire 100 percent Michigan residents. This rule would apply to projects handled by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and other state-funded programs, including the Michigan Economic Growth Authority and Renaissance Zone Act.

- Encouraging transparency and accountability by requiring companies that take economic development incentives to report on who they hire to ensure that Michigan residents are given priority.

- Discouraging the hiring of undocumented workers by canceling state contracts and tax incentives for companies that employ illegal labor, requiring them to pay back incentives they received and barring them from future contracts.
- Protecting the pocket-books of Michigan families by guaranteeing a prevailing wage for workers.

Sen. Glenn S. Anderson, D-Westland, a lead sponsor of the Senate package said, "Every job, and every dime of someone's paycheck matters, so moving this legislation as it was approved by both Republicans and Democrats in the House is crucial."

Three Senate Committees were scheduled - two Tuesday and one Wednesday - to advance the Hire Michigan First legislation.

"Michigan workers are the hardest-working and have all the talents and skills to get jobs done, we just need to make sure they have a chance to compete," said Sen. Hansen Clarke, D-Detroit, Democratic Vice-Chair of the Commerce Committee. "I look forward to our committee taking the first steps to finally passing this important legislation."

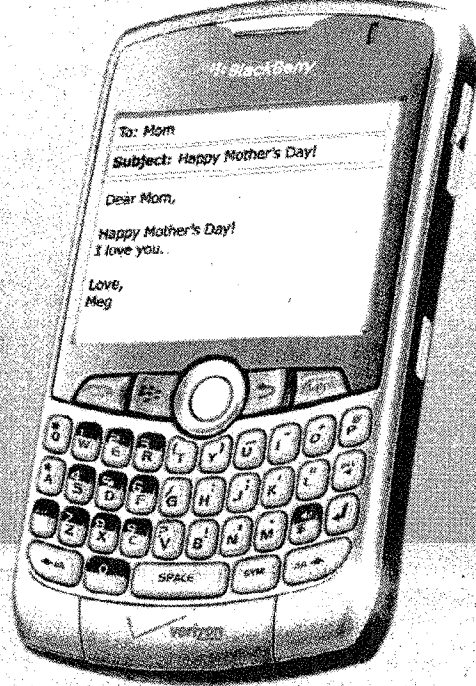
"With these measures in place, I hope to never again have to stand on another work site where Michigan workers watch as workers from other states or countries are trucked in to do their jobs," said Sen. John Gleason, D-Flushing.

Super phones for super moms.

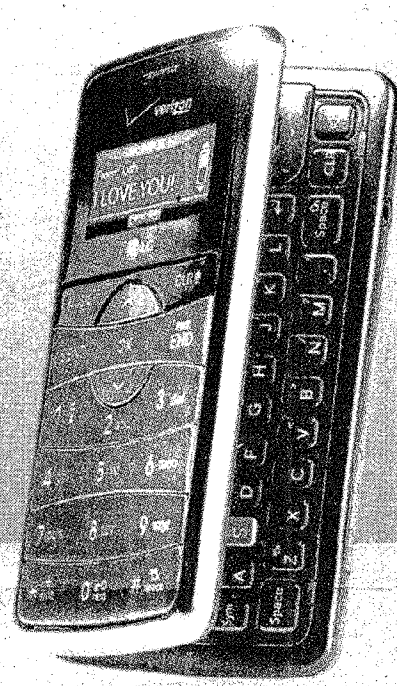
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check out the numbers in today's Sports section

OUR VIEWS

Observer honors academic stars

The *Observer Newspapers* presents the 2009 Academic All-Star Team, some of the most accomplished high school students in the Detroit metro area.

A special section inside today's *Observer* profiles the team — 13 students from throughout our coverage area in western Wayne County and Farmington and Farmington Hills — and another 24 students who are runners-up and deserve applause, too.

This year's team is one of the strongest in the program's history. The Principals Committee comprised of Terry Piper of Birmingham Seaholm, Charlie Hollerith of Bloomfield Hills Lahser, Lara Dixon of Troy Athens, Carolyn Witte of Farmington Hills Mercy and Dan Willenborg of Livonia Franklin was awed by the academic success of the nominees. This year's high grade point averages in academic subjects and outstanding performance on the SAT and ACT make this one of the largest teams, too.

This newspaper started the Academic All-Stars program 24 years ago at the urging of Robert Schramke, who was principal at Redford Union High School in Redford Township. Schramke believed academic success should be honored and celebrated in a public way. We agreed and a tradition was born.

In recent years, the Townsend Hotel and Huntington Bank have also played a major role in honoring the best and brightest students.

Peter Wilde, managing director of the Townsend, and Rebecca Smith, regional president of Huntington, are committed to making sure the All-Stars are honored and rewarded for their outstanding academic success. We say thank you to them and salute their commitment to the program.

Take time to read the section inside today's newspaper or online at hometownlife.com and gaze into the future. We guarantee you'll like what you see. You will find future physicians, teachers, musicians, government officials, scientists, engineers and most likely world leaders. You will find people who continue to have great expectations for their generation. You will find young men and women who have contributed significantly to their communities and many who want to change the world. You will find students who are thankful to supportive parents and teachers who encouraged imagination and instilled a love of lifelong learning and helped them navigate their educational paths.

We congratulate and salute the 2009 Observer All-Star Team: **Edward Tremel** of Churchill High School, **Willia Chen** of Canton High School, **Tejas Karnati** of North Farmington High School, **Nikita Counsil** of Salem High School, **Linda Ling** of Salem High School, **Mara Minasian** of North Farmington High School, **Joshua Corriveau** of Belleville High School, **Matthew Charnley** of Churchill High School, **Kevin Joseph** of Farmington High School, **Robert Klosek** of Harrison High School, **Ke Ding** of Canton High School, **Nandini Abburi** of Farmington High School, **Sarah Jaslow** of Stevenson High School, **Corey Lightner** of Harrison High School, **Kurt Tseng** of Plymouth High School, **Timothy Baker** of Thurston High School, **Matt Laing** of Plymouth High School and **Michelle A. Frazer** of Stevenson High School.

We also salute our runners-up: **Craig Sanders** of Lutheran High Westland, **Shawna Walsler** of Garden City High School, **Solomon Shurge** of Wayne Memorial High School, **Christopher Burtraw** of Wayne Memorial High School, **Samantha Barber** of Huron Valley Lutheran High School, **Lauren Gieschen** of Lutheran High Westland, **Robert Costello** of John Glenn High School, **Amy Selewski** of John Glenn High School, **Emily Skarbinski** of Franklin High School and **Joseph Garrett** of Garden City High School.

COMMUNITY VOICE

What are you doing to be part of the "green revolution"?
We asked this question at the Garden City post office and the William P. Faust Library in Westland.



"Not really anything. I think about it, but I really haven't done anything."

LaDawn Craig
Garden City



"I recycle plastic bottles, that's about it."

Adrian Boyd
Westland



"Every year I try to do recycling to help the environment."

John Trujillo
Garden City



"I'm trying to recycle whenever I can. I'm trying not to litter."

Daniel Zella
Westland

LETTERS

A greener tomorrow

Two recent decisions bode very well for the citizens of Westland and ultimately for surrounding areas. The first is the approval by Westland City Council of contracts for the Recycle Bank curbside recycling program soon to be implemented throughout the city. The second is the historic decision April 17 by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), issuing a proposed ruling that global warming pollution endangers the health and well being of American citizens.

The innovative Recycle Bank program approved by the council puts Westland at the forefront of an ever-increasing and ever-necessary call for common sense and it establishes a common cause for Westland's citizens to be stewards both of our city and of the Earth.

The EPA ruling, issued after years of politically and ideologically motivated obstruction by the Bush administration as well as other misguided and selfish corporate and conservative interests, will set the stage for the federal government to use authority under the Clean Air Act to establish national emission standards for large global warming emitters.

Climate change deniers will most certainly continue whining and throwing around phony and discredited statistics that are gleaned directly from the fossil fuel industry and from bought and paid for "scientists." However, the facts of anthropogenic (human-caused) climate change are settled and are undeniable. The empirical truths of real science have won, and right-wing political agendas have lost.

Under the Obama administration, the EPA and other federal agencies are once again free from political obstruction and censorship and can now return to their mission of serving the interests of our nation and its citizens. Decisions and policies will be based on real science and real facts instead of ideological considerations. Green technology, already a rapidly growing industry, will create thousands of jobs while ensuring that our nation's future is both secure and sustainable.

Elections do have consequences, and we can all be very thankful that they do.

Joe Golonka
Westland

Government is problem

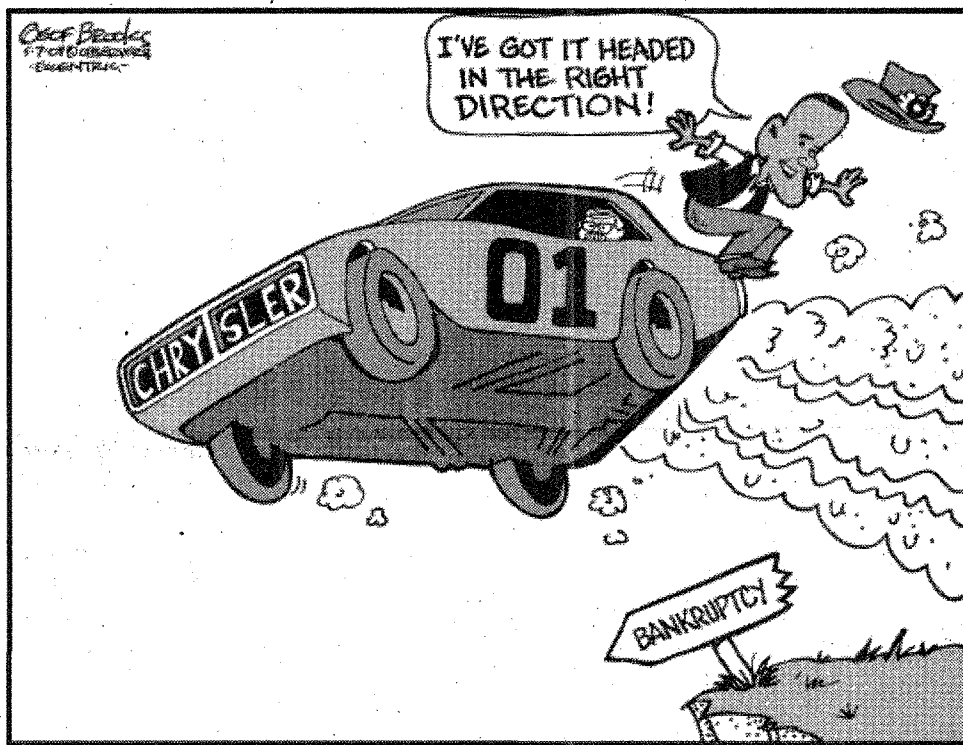
Looking through this paper, it was nice to see another one of my opinions published and I am grateful to the people that have called me and written in support of my articles and also for this newspaper for not only publishing my thoughts, but for being there for our community.

I agree with Bob Doroshewitz and his article about newspapers being important to a free society by reporting corruption and scandals and keeping our government in check. The mainstream media has lost their audience because of poor journalistic integrity, plain and simple. Most TV news stations have become "infotainment" stations and Americans are done with them.

The mainstream TV media has been relentless in their coronation of President Obama as is seen by the people that were polled in the "Community Voice" section of this paper. These people no doubt get their news from these channels or from word-of-mouth.

The paper asked: "How well do you think President Obama is doing?"

One answer was "not well in Michigan, he's not doing enough for the unions and workers." Obama is not concerned about the "workers," he is only concerned for the union leaders, they are the ones that convince the union workers to vote for the Democratic Party as is seen by our government taking half of General Motors and giving 39 percent of the remaining GM



The Duke of Hazard

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.

stock to the union. This will benefit the union bosses, but the members will not see any of it as their jobs go out the window with the "restructuring" imposed by the car czar panel.

Another respondent thinks he's doing a good job by bringing the troops home, he is not. He's moving them to Afghanistan and doing it while there is an ongoing war and he's reducing our military spending and talking of reducing nuclear weapons at a time that countries that despise us are building up their arsenal of nuclear war-heads and delivery systems.

Another respondent states "he likes what he's doing to get the economy going. What would that be? He's done nothing so far. All the jobs his stimulus plan creates are government-sponsored jobs which means, we the taxpayers have to support them and these jobs will not exist for another year or two!"

The final respondent states "he's trying to make the world a better place and give people money to get us out of the recession."

Obama's trip to Europe did nothing but make Americans look weak. He apologized for us being "arrogant" and our allies turned him down when he asked for military support in Afghanistan.

The only money I saw was an \$8 a week increase in my take-home pay and this will be taken back next year at the same time the Bush tax cuts expire. I realize it is a pain to keep a check on our government and we shouldn't have to, but some of these people are outright crooks and their greed shows no shame.

These people in the Community Voice need to pay attention and do a little investigating as to what our "servants" are doing in Washington, read some papers, turn to a different channel to see what the other side is saying and make the judgment for yourself

For 30-plus years, I've been hearing politicians say that they will fix education, social security, welfare and so on, but none of these ever get fixed. Republicans are for lower taxes, Democrats are for lower taxes, so why do our taxes keep going up? To actually repair one of these would cut into their re-election campaign fund, which is all they are concerned

with. The first priority is to keep the job. I cannot stress this enough and people need to realize that our government is the problem. They have created this mess over the last 40 years in small steps so that we would not notice. They've taxed and legislated almost all of our manufacturing jobs out of this country, the last bastion is our automakers and they are about to do them in now.

They have created an incredibly unfair trade agreement that keeps American manufacturers and suppliers from competing and/or making a profit abroad. They are right now trying to pass another incredibly unfair "Cap and Trade" bill that will raise all of our energy bills to the tune of \$3,100 a year for an average family all in the name of "capping" carbon emissions while India and China state they are not willing to adopt this piece of legislation, stating that they "are always going to be a developing nation."

China has now surpassed the U.S. in carbon emissions in the last few months. When China and India are ready to step up, then and only then should we consider this type of bill and maybe by then, we will have gotten an answer to the global warming question and whether it is caused by us or not.

Phil Solarz
Westland

Insensitive move

We share in the reported disgust of President Obama with the low flying Boeing 747 accompanied by an F-16 fighter jet over the Manhattan skyline. Apparently an FAA official "genius" authorized this photo op for later FAA propaganda. Once determined, the official responsible for this terror stunt should be fired immediately. If convicted, they should be required to view 9/11 tapes over and over. Then meet with the 9/11 survivors individually.

This is a supreme act of stupidity and insensitivity. There is simply no rationale for terrorizing Manhattan citizens who have already been traumatized for life.

We voted for Obama and are supporters of his administration. However, this outrage must be dealt with swiftly and certainly. Expressing disgust without consequences is simply ventilating useless hot air.

For those interested in cutting useless federal programs, this one is at the top of our list.

Gerald and Dolores Maxey
Farmington Hills

Join the discussion

Do you think there has been an overreaction to the threat of swine flu in this area?

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



Last-minute ideas for Mother's Day

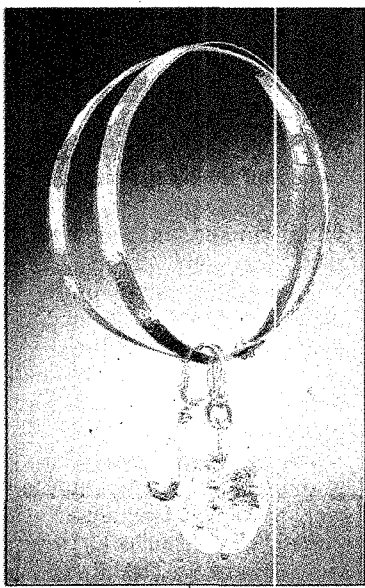
Mother's Day is an essential time to honor that special mom, whether yours or someone else's. Here's a quick roundup of ways to make her feel loved.

FESTIVAL FUN

Get mom outdoors for some fun in the sun as the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center hosts National City's Art Birmingham in Shain Park May 9-10. Buy or browse works by nearly 180 artists from across the U.S., and enjoy hands-on activities including a Mother's Day craft. The event also includes artist demonstrations and live entertainment. Hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday.

SLICK WICKS

If you're looking for a last-minute gift, try Catching Fireflies, which offers fun and whimsical ideas at all price points, including long-burning soy candles. Choose from mocha, vanilla, tangerine or blackberry sage and know you're supporting a local company. The eco-friendly candles are hand poured in Michigan and sell for \$11 each at Catching Fireflies locations in Rochester and Berkley. Visit www.catchingfireflies.com.



Mom would love this unique statement necklace by Nina Mann, one of 180 artists expected at Art Birmingham in Shain Park on Mother's Day weekend.

TRENDY JEWELS

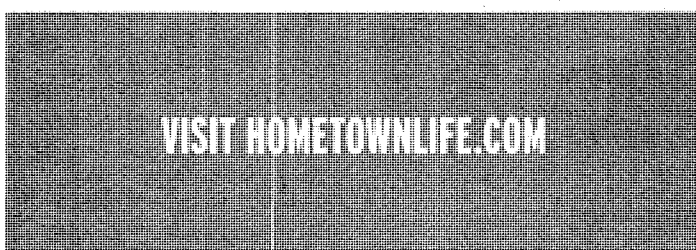
You can't go wrong with jewelry, and Diamond Castle Jewelers, 39955 Grand River Ave. in Novi, is offering special discounts on gift-worthy items like 24 carat gold roses (\$59.95), seven stone journey pendants (\$399-\$899) and diamond circle of life pendants (\$399-\$599). Also look for 30 percent off retired Swarovski Crystal pieces. Call (248) 442-2440 or visit www.diamondcastlejewelers.com.

SPA PERFECT

Pamper her with a trip to the spa. Spa Julianna, 444 S. Main St., Plymouth; and Clearly You, 44633 Joy Road, Suite 100, Canton, are among many local spas offering special packages for mom. Book appointments for two and spend the day catching up over pedicures or facials. At Amae Plastic Surgery Center, 43940 Woodward Ave., Suite 100, Bloomfield Hills, anyone who schedules a skin care appointment through May will receive a complimentary service of the same value for mom. Call (248) 335-7200. Or, dare to try Artistic Permanent Makeup, 1257 S. Main St. in Plymouth.

WINE TIME

Vintner's Canton Winery, 8515 N. Lilley Road, offers many ways to celebrate mom. Choose from custom fruit and wine gift baskets, hand painted wine glasses and six-pack wine samplers. You can also order wine with a customized label featuring a favorite photo (\$20), or make a batch of wine with your mom for 20 percent off. Call (734) 354-9463 or visit www.vintnerscanton.com.



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As seen in the Yellow Pages

MALLS & MAIN STREETS

MOM CONTEST
WESTLAND — Westland Shopping Center is hosting a Mother's Day Enter to Win. Stop by the mall, located on the corner of Warren and Wayne

Roads, before 5 p.m. Thursday, May 7 to enter your mom into a drawing for prizes including: \$500 limousine certificate from Entertainment Express, Westland Center Gift Card, Mrs. Fields Cookie Cake, Macy's Gift Card, Longhorn Steakhouse Gift Card, Olga's Kitchen Gift Card, Premier Salon & Spa Gift Certificate, Far East Trading Gift Card and AVON

Gift Basket. Enter to win at AVON, Far East Trading or Premier Salon & Spa in Macy's.

Fashionistas fund-raiser
ANN ARBOR — Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan's spring fund-raiser, Fashionistas 2009, will provide guests with an evening of exciting spring fashions and an chic way to support Girl Scouting

5:30 p.m. Thursday, May 14, at Kensington Court, 610 Hilton Blvd., Ann Arbor. Alicia Smith, morning news anchor for WXYZ TV is celebrity emcee for the fashion show and dinner. Organizers hope to raise \$25,000 for Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan. Tickets are \$40 per person, or \$360 for a table of ten. Call (734) 971-8800 or visit www.gshom.org.

Spring Savings

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Breakfast Lunch Dinner

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Friday May 8th - Open Mic Night

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| Breakfast Special Mon.-Sun. 7am - 11am 2 eggs, your choice of ham, bacon or sausage, hash browns, toast and jelly. \$2.99 with beverage purchase Limit 1 coupon per tablet. Not valid with other offers. Not valid on Mother's Day. Exp. 5-30-09. | Sunday Special \$5.00 OFF with purchase of \$25 or more Valid Sunday only. Limit 1 coupon per tablet. Not valid with other offers. Not valid on Mother's Day. Exp. 5-30-09. | Fish-n-Chips 3-pc. Special \$2.00 OFF (reg. 10.99) With this coupon, Limit 1 coupon per tablet. Not valid with other offers. Not valid on Mother's Day. Exp. 5-30-09. |
|--|--|--|

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Get your pet vaccinated with Vaccination Packages Starting at \$29.00

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| 1/2 OFF Office Visit (\$25.00 Value) New Clients Only | Heartworm Test \$24 with 6 mo. or \$19 with 12 mo. purchase of heartworm preventative |
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Sunday, May 10th
Seatings at 11am, 1pm, 3pm & 5pm

Enjoy a Variety of Delicious Brunch Favorites Featuring:
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Parmesan Crusted Whitefish - Portabella Ravioli - Smoked Salmon - Fresh Steamed Vegetables - Basmati Rice - Lyonnaise Potatoes - Succulent Selections of Hot & Cold items including: New Zealand Green Tip Mussels - Shrimp Cocktail - Assorted salads including: Pasta - German Potato - Cole Slaw & Garden - Made-to-order Omelet Station with Bacon, Sausage, Hash browns, Scrambled Eggs, Waffles & French Toast Casserole - Elegant Pastries & Dessert Table - Kids items include: Pizza, Tater Tots, Mac & Cheese, Chicken Tenders & much more!

| | |
|----------|----------|
| Adults | \$ 17.99 |
| Seniors | \$ 12.99 |
| Children | \$ 7.99 |

Tax (.06%) and Gratuity (.18%) will be added at the end of the meal.

Space is limited!

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www.oneunderbar.com

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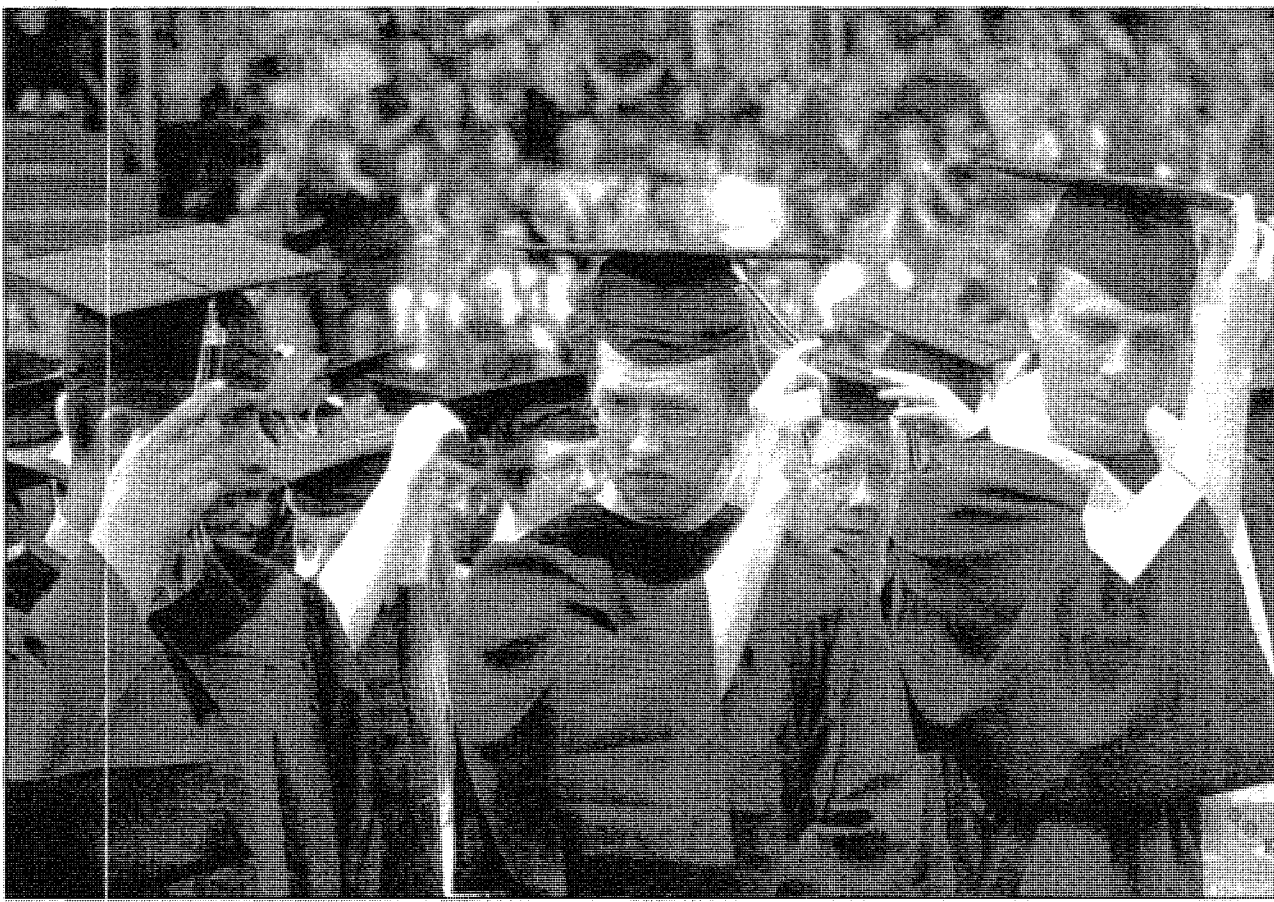
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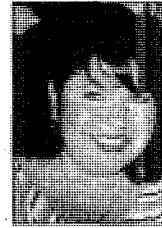
Graduates move the tassels to the right side to show they have graduated.

Storyteller crafts tales of 'strength,' value

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Storyteller Debra Christian is a firm believer in her craft.

"I will tell a story until I can't breathe anymore," the Plymouth Township resident said. "It's that connection and humanity that people need."



Christian is a speech and language pathologist at Douglas Elementary School in Garden City. The mother of sons ages 23 and 24 has been storytelling for 23 years, and is glad she could share stories with her children at school and Boy Scouts.

Christian, the speaker for the Plymouth-Canton branch, American Association of University Women, began telling stories at work. She found children responded.

"I realized there was more than just an educational value," said Christian, just back from Kalamazoo, where she spoke at the state PTA Conference. "I told stories about strength."

At her AAUW program at Karl's Cabin, she began with a story of a trip years ago to Morocco in Africa with a girlfriend.

"I was really excited," she said. "We took a ship across the Straits of Gibraltar."

They went to Fez, traveling through the Sahara which wasn't flat as she imagined. She became ill, and needed a Coca-Cola to settle her stomach. She ended up with the local mint tea - and more than she bargained for in the appearance of a handsome man.

"I thought that it was Omar Sharif," she recalled. "My stomachache went away."

Abdul turned out to be a government agent assigned to travel with them. He was solicitous and got them settled in at their hotel, then asked her out. Each day in Morocco got better with the two spending time together. She rode a camel, and was in Tangiers

her final day where Abdul arranged a private tour of the Malcolm Forbes estate. He'd lavishly filled their hotel room with flowers and gifts.

Abdul told her he had both bad and good news, the bad that he was leaving: "The good news is I still have 30 minutes," she told her laughing audience. "That's a whole other story."

More recently, Christian took the 21-hour flight to Cambodia in Asia. "I was again going into a culture I didn't really have time to research," she said. From Phnom Penh she and her friend traveled into the jungle, where they needed to traverse a challenging course.

"I'm looking at this mile, thinking I don't know," she remembered. "I'm not 23 anymore."

They managed the trek, and a group of Japanese tourists took their photo to record the accomplishment.

Christian also visited Vietnam and its silk markets and wanted a blouse made.

There was a big sports event on, and the local women didn't want to sew that night. At 11:30 p.m. her hotel phone rang, and the blouse was delivered to the lobby. "Very good for big woman," the merchant said. "Very good."

Great stories come from home, too. Last fall, she had a kindergarten student who reached her heart. "I've been all over the world but sometimes it really hits when you're home."

The boy said he missed his grandma. "She's in heaven. Do you know how to get there?" He said travel is in an airplane flown by angels. The boy told Christian she couldn't get to heaven just yet: "No, not now, because once you go you can't come back. It's out of the mouths of babes."

She urged her attentive audience to share stories with loved ones. "Through stories, we share our life experience. We all have a story to tell. There's so many places, so many stories."

Christian noted the importance of storytelling in high-tech times, when the oral tradition can be forgotten. She also spoke of her belief in global diversity, keeping the stories of children she meets alive.

She shared photos from her travels. "Storytelling is an ancient art and there aren't that many people that do it," said Christian, who praised those who helped her learn the craft.

AAUW members and guests were glad to be at the Saturday program, which originated from President Jan Blumberg, principal of Henry Ruff Elementary in the Garden City district and Plymouth-Canton AAUW president.

"Jan knows Debra from Garden City schools," said Dawn Parker of Canton, program chair and a second-grade teacher at Hoben Elementary in the Plymouth-Canton district. "It's very nice she agreed to be here."

"She is a busy woman," Parker said in her introduction. "It was so nice of her to come."

jcbrown@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6755

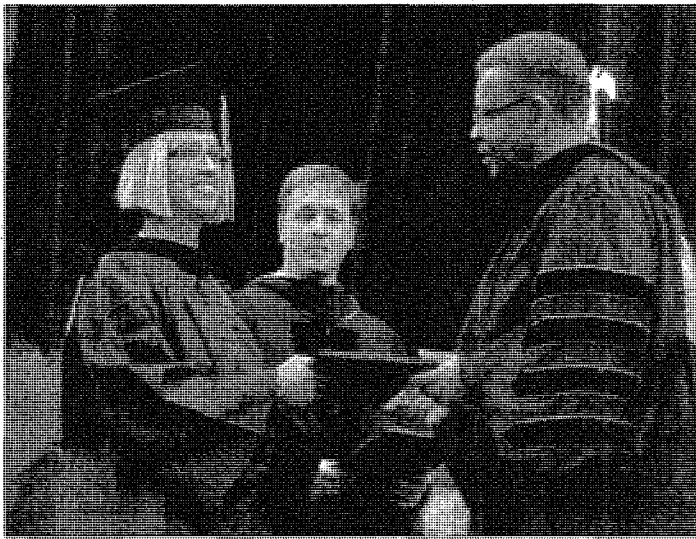
Schoolcraft holds 44th commencement

On Saturday, Schoolcraft College celebrated its 44th commencement. The ceremony was held at Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth.

Nearly 1,400 students were eligible to receive diplomas in the ceremony, with about 500 students participating in the actual ceremony.

Dr. Susan W. Martini, president of Eastern Michigan University, provided the Commencement Address. Amelia Nelson, a member of the Class of 2009 and president of the college's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the honor society for community colleges, provided the student reflection.

In addition Gregory J. Stempin, chair of the Board of Trustees presented the Distinguished Alumni Recognition to members of the Bill (deceased) and Shirley Reid family of Livonia. All six of their children attended and graduated from Schoolcraft College and have gone on to have successful careers in edu-



Kara Ann Colangelo receives her associate of arts degree from Schoolcraft College President Dr. Conway Jeffress.

cation, health care, engineering and energy. The children include Britt C. Reid, Ann Arbor; Mardi Reid Cragel, Livonia; Kalli K. Reid, Canton; Crisi Reid Seedott, Northville; Raini Reid Gilmore,

Livonia; and Brion A. Reid, Indianapolis.

Graduates will be honored for their pursuit and completion of a wide range of associate degrees in arts, applied science, engineering, general studies and science; post-associate certificates and skill



James Sholtz is from Livonia.

certificates in a number of areas. Nearly 60 percent of this year's graduating class from Schoolcraft College plan to transfer to a four-year university.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Abandoned Auto Auction
Tuesday, May 12th, 10:00 a.m.
at Sparks Towing, 115 Merriman Rd., Garden City

| | | |
|------|----------|--------------------|
| 1992 | Olds | 1G3WH54T0ND334243 |
| 1993 | Ford | 1FAPP62T9PH224793 |
| 1999 | Plymouth | 1P46P4461XB520727 |
| 1995 | Dodge | 1P3ES62V85D367052 |
| 1995 | V.W. | 3VWRC81IH3SM071241 |
| 1994 | Nissan | 1N4BV31D4RC199748 |

Publish: May 7, 2009

Wayne-Westland Community Schools
Westland, Michigan 48185

SECTION 00010
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids for Wayne-Westland Community Schools' **Beacon Center Building Demolition Project**, will be received until **1:30 P.M. local time on Thursday, May 28, 2009** at which time they will be opened and read publicly at Wayne-Westland Community School Board of Education Office, located at 36745 Marquette, Westland, Michigan 48185. Bids received after this time and date will be returned unopened.

Faxed proposals will not be accepted.

This Bid Package will consist of a separate sealed bid for the following Bid Divisions:

| | |
|-----|----------------------------|
| 101 | Earthwork / Site Utilities |
| 103 | Building Demolition |
| 149 | Fencing |

Bidding documents prepared by **TMP Associates, Inc.** will be available for public inspection at the office of the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith, Inc.**, 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI 48335; the FW Dodge Plan Room, Southfield; the Construction Association of Michigan Plan Room, Bloomfield Hills; and the Daily Construction Reports Plan Room, Detroit.

Bidders may obtain one (1) set of bidding documents, beginning at 10:00 A.M. on Monday, May 11, 2009, by contacting the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith, Inc.**, at (248) 427-8400. Additional plans may be ordered and purchased directly from Dunn Blue Reprographics Technology, (248) 353-2950. Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope supplied by the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith, Inc.** The bid division(s) being bid is/are to be identified on the outside of the envelope.

There will be a **MANDATORY pre-bid meeting** held at **10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 20, 2009** at the **Beacon Center, located at 28690 Grandview Street, Inkster, MI 48141**. The purpose of the meeting will be to review the project, schedule and to answer any questions that bidders may have.

A sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship existing between the bidder and any member of the school board, school superintendents, or chief executive must accompany each bid. A board shall not accept a bid that does not include this statement. This statement is on the proposal execution form.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a Bid Bond in the amount of five (5) percent of the amount of the bid, payable to Wayne-Westland Community Schools, as a guarantee that if the proposal is accepted, the bidder will execute the contract and file the required bonds within ten (10) days after notice of award of contract.

If awarded a contract, the successful bidder will be required to furnish a Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond. Wayne-Westland Community Schools reserves the right to reject any or all bids received and to waive any informalities and irregularities in the bidding.

This project is to be bid at the prevailing wage rate.

Publish: May 7, 2009

Get on the ball. Read today's **SPORTS** coverage!

TOP DRIVER

Teens can make the road safer.
We can show them how for less.
Top Driver is now more affordable than ever.

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With Top Driver, you receive:

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- Tools for parents including an online training program to help you better coach your teen in the car

And now, your teen can have the Top Driver advantage for less. To help you in these challenging times, we've rolled back prices, so register today for an upcoming class.

To learn more, please visit us at **topdriver.com** or call us at **800.DRIVER ED.**

OE0856273

CITY OF WESTLAND
Request for Proposals

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185, on or before May 28, 2009 @ 11:00 AM local time at which time bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Zero-Depth Water Playground

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office at (734) 467-3204 or at www.cityofwestland.com. 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: May 7, 2009

CITY OF WESTLAND
Request for Proposals

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185, on or before May 27, 2009 @ 11:00 AM local time at which time bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Golf Course Maintenance

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office at (734) 467-3204 or at www.cityofwestland.com. 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

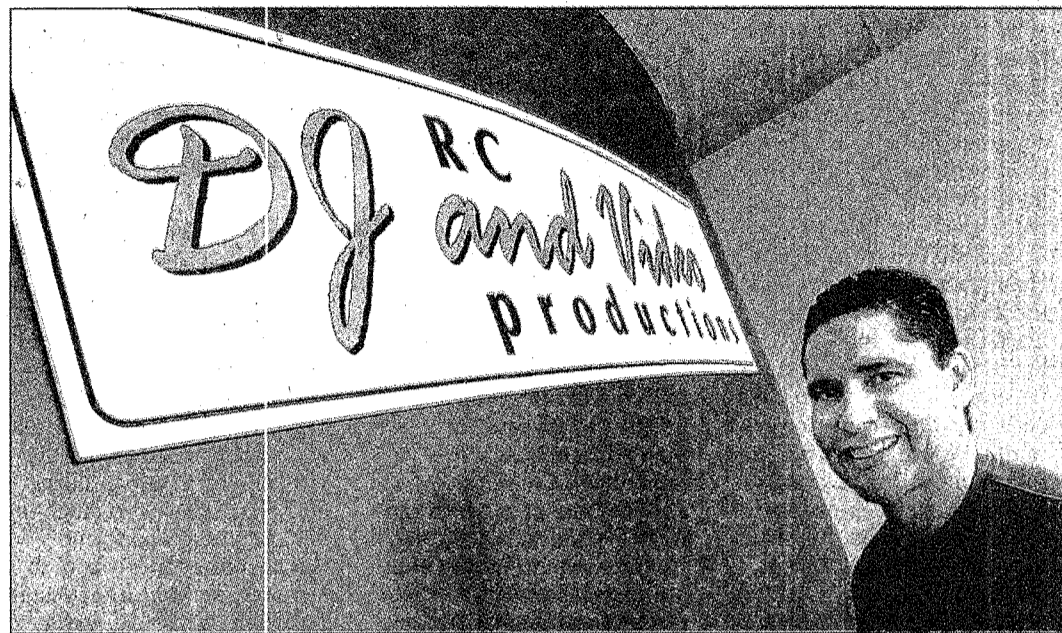
Publish: May 7, 2009

Visit us online at **hometownlife.com**

Westland-Garden City

Strictly Business

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ralph Cabildo's RC DJ and Video Productions Inc. in Westland specializes in all event video and DJ services as well as providing video duplication and transfer services, including film, tape and slide transfers.

Special times come alive with RC

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

We specialize in all event video and DJ services for both personal and corporate clients. Our video services include, but are not limited to, photo montages, commercials, and training videos as well as video coverage and of any special event including weddings, sporting events, confirmations, christening and confirmations, and dance recitals. We also provide video duplication and transfer services, including film, tape and slide transfers.

We provide DJ services for such events as weddings, school dances, holiday parties, birthdays, anniversaries, fundraisers, retirement parties ... any event needing music or an emcee.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

Our business is two-thirds owner operated. Both our DJ and video services are very flexible allowing our clients to customize to their needs. Ralph Cabildo, the owner, is currently the President of MIVA (Michigan Independent Video Assoc.) and serves on the board of advisors for the William D. Ford Technical Center's Vocational Video class. Our business is also a proud member of the Westland Chamber of Commerce.

Observer: How did you decide to

RC DJ AND VIDEO PRODUCTIONS

Business name: RC DJ and Video Productions, Inc.

Address: 238 N. Wayne Road, Westland

Name and Title: Ralph Cabildo, owner

Business Opened: Started DJ part-time in 1982 and video in 1986. We became full-time in 1995 and moved out of our home and to our current storefront location in 2001.

Number of Employees: We currently have three full-time employees: myself, my wife Kim Cabildo and a full-time editor/part-time camera person Adam Schindler who is an unbelievable asset to our business.

Your business specialty: DJ & Video Services, plus video

Hours: Generally, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, and we're glad to schedule appointments during the evening hours and weekends.

Business phone and e-mail: (734) 721-5222 and www.djand-video.com

open your first business?

Our business began in 1982 with the DJ service, just as an interest or hobby for extra

income. A friend had introduced me to DJ-ing after returning from serving in the Air Force. Then in 1986, the same friend turned me onto shooting wedding videos. Today our video experience has expanded to many services under the video umbrella and our mostly referral-based DJ service is flourishing.

How did you decide to locate in the Westland community?

We are proud to be located in the city of Westland. Westland is my hometown, but when we moved from our home to the storefront, we were excited to stay in Westland. We have made numerous friends and contacts over the years in our personal life as well as with our business ventures. We are proud to serve in the community we live.

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

It's not a funny tidbit, but more the reason we do what we do. A lot of the older residents of the area have been bring in old film and slides to be transferred to DVD. With the changing of technology, most people don't have the equipment to view these old formats, so these memories have been stored and unseen for numerous years. Knowing what joy it brings to people when they see the old footage again is the most gratifying.

NEWSMAKERS

Fun and fitness

Just in time for summer, Guardian Martial Arts & Fitness will host new programs for fun and fitness.

For the first time at Guardian, a Fitness Challenge has been thrown down. "Fierce to be Fit" will begin May 18 and run through June 26. Meeting 6:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday, Fitness Warriors will be weighed, measured and challenged to reach great shape in time for summer weather. The top three Warriors will receive cash prizes at the end of the challenge. Weigh-ins, recipes and weekly incentive prizes will help Fitness Warriors to succeed on their path to great shape.

Knowing how important nutrition is to everyone, especially youngsters, Martial Art and Fitness expert Kelly M. Perkins will teach "Kids Get Growing." Kids ages 9 to 12 years will have fun learning to plant, grow & harvest a vegetable garden. This is a summer-long program that will meet once per week at 2 p.m. Wednesdays. Beginning late May and running through September, "Kids Get Growing" will help kids to learn to grow their own healthy foods.

This program is designed to give children skills to grow their own food, nourishing them life long. In addition, growing their own food will help them make better eating

choices and exercising in the garden will encourage kids to spend more time outdoors.

Also providing youngsters and adults the opportunity to develop leadership skills, self-confidence, physical fitness and outstanding self-defense, Guardian will offer a three-month summer special of American Kenpo.

Space is limited for "Fierce to be Fit" and "Kids Get Growing." Call Guardian Martial Arts & Fitness at (734) 266-0565 to register and for more details.

Free financial seminars

To help people address the critical issues of retirement, DFCU Financial, Michigan's largest credit union, will present a free seminar, Post-Retirement Wealth Retention. The seminar will show how sound wealth retention is a combination of both good defensive and offensive money management strategies. The topics discussed in the seminar include how to maintain your chosen lifestyle throughout retirement, common financial mistakes made after retirement, future challenges facing today's retirees, financial tools to preserve wealth and closing financial gaps in retirement.

Post-Retirement Wealth Retention will be held 6:30-8 p.m. Monday, May 11, at the Double Tree Hotel at Ford and the Southfield Freeway, and 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, May 12, at DFCU Livonia at Newburgh

and Seven Mile Road. For reservations, call (313) 322-8480.

The seminars are being conducted by Charles Hoff, an accredited financial counselor through the Association for Financial Counseling and Planning Education.

DFCU Financial, headquartered in Dearborn, is Michigan's largest credit union with \$2.4 billion in assets. For three consecutive years, DFCU Financial has issued the largest dividend in the history of credit unions of more than \$50 million. DFCU Financial currently operates 12 full-service branches, including its branch at Merriman and Warren Road in Garden City. For more information about DFCU, call (313) 336-2700 or visit its Web site at www.dfcufinancial.com.

Send it in

Get in on the Strictly Business Page of the Westland and Garden City Observer by sending us your business news, promotions, events or milestones.

Planning a special event, offering a discount, whatever it is, let us know. It's simple to do. Just e-mail all of the details to Sue Mason, editor, at smason@hometownlife.com and she'll take care of the rest.

Our new local business page runs each Thursday in your Westland and Garden City Observer. We welcome comments and suggestions, too. We look forward to hearing from you.

BUSINESS MILESTONES

Grand opening

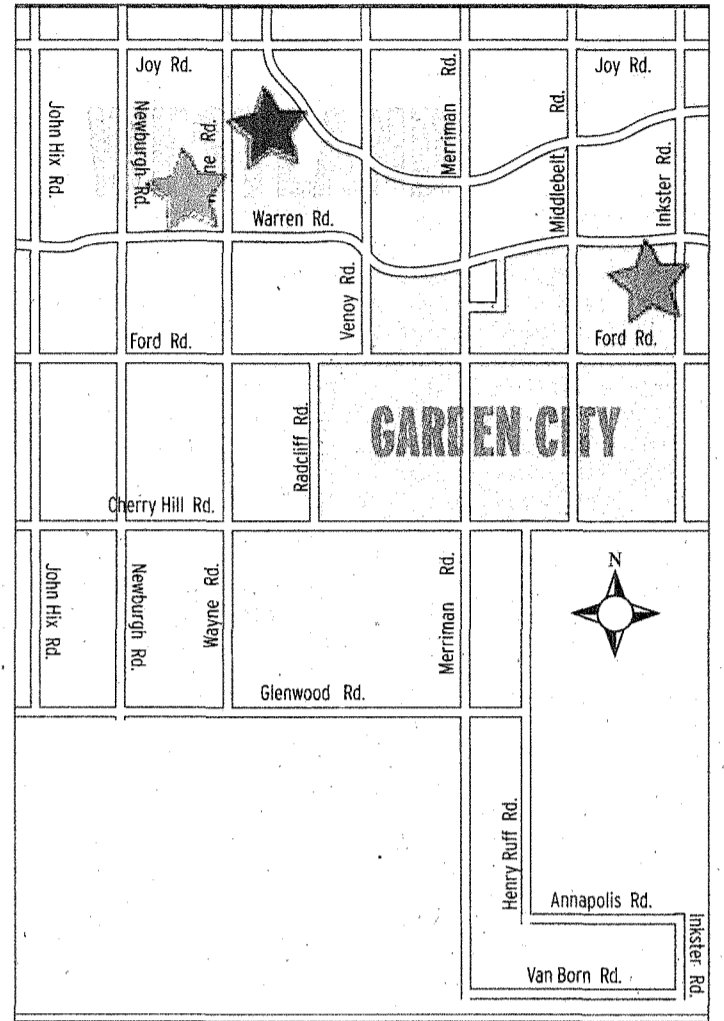
Folks who are used to shopping at the Work 'N' Gear near Toys 'R Us on the east side of Wayne Road at Warren Road will find need to turn into Westland Shopping Center. The store, which specializes in the work apparel and footwear, opened the doors Monday at its new location near the center court of the mall. A grand opening ceremony is planned for 4 p.m. Monday, May 11. For more information call (734) 525-0101.

Food Drive/Auction

In honor of its 50th Anniversary, Art Van Furniture is teaming up with the College for Creative Studies and Flagstar Bank to sponsor "Bring a Chair to the Table" Food Drive and Auction to benefit The Salvation Army Food Pantries. From Saturday, May 9, through Monday, May 18, guests may drop off non-perishable food items at the Westland Art Van Furniture store at 8300 Wayne Road north of Warren Road. All donations will remain in the community. In addition, College for Creative Studies art students have decorated 30 chairs with unique designs, which will be displayed in Art Van Furniture stores during that week. Images of all of the chairs and bidding information will be available at www.artvan.com, and all proceeds from the sale of the chairs will go to The Salvation Army food bank programs. Flagstar Bank representatives will be on hand at all Art Van locations, to help guests help the Salvation Army. For more information, call the Westland Art Van store at (734) 425-9600.

Golf Outing

Enjoy a day of golf, camaraderie and fund-raising at the 18th annual Garden City Hospital Foundation Golf Outing Monday, June 22, at the Walnut Creek Country Club in South Lyon. Registration and lunch is at 11 a.m., with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. For more information or to purchase tickets, call the Garden City Hospital Foundation at (734) 458-4331. Last year's golf outing raised \$102,000 in support of various growth initiatives, such as construction of the new Surgery Center facility and



Surgery Center programs.

Sale of the year

It's the largest sale of the year, the one you've been waiting for, according to Kay Jewelers, located in Westland Shopping Center. The jeweler will be hosting a one-day VIP sales event Saturday, May 9. All of its merchandise, including all Leo Diamonds, Russell Simmons Stainless Steel Collection and Levian Colored Gemstone Collection, will be on sale. For more information, call Kay Jewelers at (734) 422-7620. Westland Shopping Center is at Wayne and Warren roads.

Toning up

You can shape up with a new video, Pole-n-Tone, produce by Patricia Pelto of the Westland-based Pole Dance Factory. The DVD is based on her three- and six-week beginners' pole dancing

course. Pole-n-Tone is designed to give a 40-minute workout while teaching 23 basic pole moves. No pole is necessary except for the spins. The DVD cost \$24.95 and is available online at www.pole-n-tone.com. A downloadable version is available at www.filmbaby.com. For more information about pole dancing courses, call Pelto at (734) 306-0909.

Sitting pretty

If you're a fan of Moon Valley furniture, you'll find a large selection of picnic tables, chairs, tables and swings at Panetta's Landscape Supplies, 8500 Middlebelt, just south of Joy, Westland. Moon Valley Furniture is hand-crafted of quality cedar and ponderosa pine boards, and cedar is one of the longest lasting woods available. For more information, call (734) 421-5299.

Are you or your spouse a VETERAN?

Oakmont Livonia Invites All Residents of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb Counties to a

Special Community Service Presentation

Monday, May 11th, 2009 6 pm

(Oakmont Livonia-Dining Room)



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(Especially reserved for Veterans & Widows of Veterans)

*According to a VA estimate, only one in seven of the widows of Vets who probably could qualify for the pension actually get the monthly checks.
*A VA study says that the veterans generally "Are completely unaware that the program exists."
*The VA knows that many veterans and widows are missing out on the benefit.
*Only 27 percent of veterans and 14 percent of widows receive the money.
-National newspaper quotes 2006

Government Benefits Analysts, Inc. has alerted many Seniors, Veterans & their Widows to apply for benefits that can INCREASE YOUR INCOME, Tax Free. Additionally, there is never a charge for this service. Bill Duggan will discuss these topics and more at your workshop. Bill is a much sought after speaker and has helped many people learn about benefits they can receive through the Department of Veterans Affairs, Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid.

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NEW PATIENTS

Students give youth minister a new 'do'

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER

The Rev. Jason Nelson was smiling all the while his hair was turning purple. The new "do" was just one of the ways the youth minister reaches out to middle and high school students at Farmington Hills Church of God. Nelson had his hair dyed and part of his head shaved after kids in the church's youth group met his challenge to increase attendance. Three years ago about 18 youth came for the Wednesday evening meetings with Nelson and nine adult volunteers who work with him in the program.

"We have seen such growth," said Nelson, the church's associate pastor. "We had 32 kids at the beginning of 2009. Currently 32 is our low. We're averaging 40 now. The youth are excited. We have a different event every Wednesday night from 7 to 8:30 p.m. We're going to Tigers or Pistons games, pool parties, barbecues. We address issues they deal with on a daily basis. Currently we're on sex.

"Kids are always welcome to come. We have a 'pray for' list. After three weeks they get a T-shirt and the counselors and student leadership team pray for them. I hear stories of people seeing those shirts in the community. One kid was in gym class and a friend



The Rev. Jason Nelson has his hair dyed purple by Sharon Gates, a local hair stylist and member of Farmington Hills Church of God. The new look was the result of a challenge the minister gave students in the church's youth group.

said 'can I be prayed for?' He prayed right there for the other kid."

Nelson knows firsthand the difficulties of growing up. He is the third generation of pastors in his family but at one point wasn't sure about following the path of his father Ed and grandfather H.L.

On April 5, Nelson celebrated his pastoral ordination, officially becoming a reverend in front of friends and family including wife Anne. His father and mother Sheri traveled from Colorado

for the ordination at which Ed preached and H.L. gave the dedication prayer. After the service the church threw a party attended by 230 people.

"At an early age I felt the call then saw how Christians act the way they are not supposed to act. It turned me away from church. In college I reaccepted the call to the ministry," said Nelson, who earned a bachelor's degree at Asbury College in Kentucky and master's at Anderson University School of Theology, Indiana. "I worked as a camp counselor one summer for the Salvation Army. The junior high camp drew me in the most. Because of my experiences as a teen I feel I'm able to relate to kids, to teach them to live and love as the Bible tells them. I went through some rebellion, the party scene, tried some things. I'm able to relate to kids as they struggle with things today."

Nelson's goal as a pastor is to be an example of God's love.

"Nobody's perfect so we're going to mess up," said Nelson, "but God loves us and forgives us."

Nelson's positive influence on Linda Cook's daughter is the reason the single mother applauds the program. Cook has been attending Farmington Hills Church of God since her daughter was two years old. Victoria

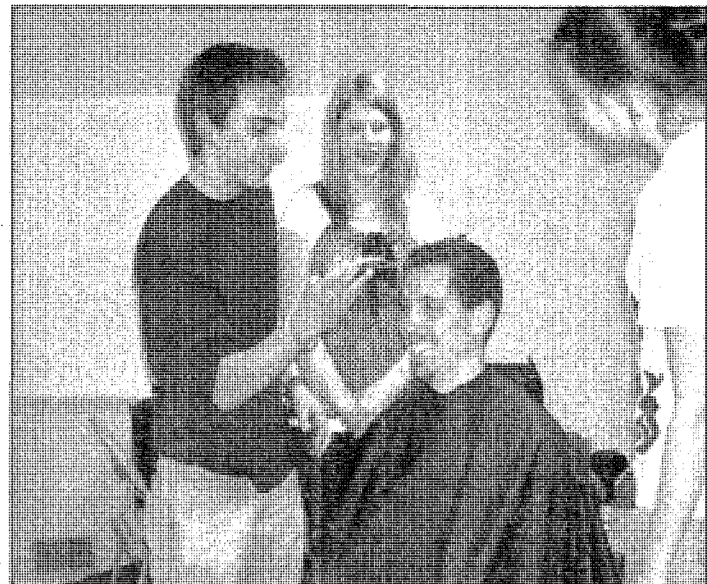
Stafford is now 12 and a seventh grade student at East Middle School.

Youth in the group primarily attend sixth through 12th grade at Power and East Middle schools and Harrison and Farmington high schools. Nelson helps coach girls soccer at Harrison.

"She never misses a meeting," said Cook of Farmington. "We have 150 some people. We're not a huge congregation. He's really grown the youth group. He's invited children of different faiths or who don't know God at all. I've really seen the change and the growth for the kids. For my daughter, her father is nonexistent in her life and lives out of state. It's critical for a man to have an impact in her life, to surround my daughter with good role models. He's more of a cool guy cause he's younger. I think he's more on their level. Jason is very direct, tells it like it is."

At age 30, Nelson still knows how to have fun. He came up with the challenge to increase attendance by telling the kids that if they were ever to assemble 60 or more youth for the Wednesday meeting "they could do whatever they wanted" to him. Nelson kept his promise even though his ordination was a little more than two weeks away.

"The kids were calling their



PHOTOS BY ANNE NELSON

Davey Hicks (left) shaves the top of the Rev. Jason Nelson's head as Autumn Kearney and Carrie Steinker look on. The three youth are part of a group Nelson leads at Farmington Hills Church of God.

friends and ended up having 61," said Nelson. "They voted and decided to dye my hair purple and give me an old man haircut by shaving the top and left the sides. We had a good time. The following week we had 50 something youth show up that day and I promised the kids I'd keep it through worship on Sunday. The challenge is for 100 kids next time. We've had other adults step up and offer to have their head shaved."

Victoria Stafford is looking forward to growing the youth group to 100. She joined a couple of years ago for the activities and camaraderie.

"It's so much fun going, so much to do. My friends are all there," said Stafford. "It's

real informal. Jason is a real nice person, unique. It was very fun. We're trying to get bigger. We go to a lot of different places, to camp over the weekend for group building activities. There's so much to do. Everybody's so friendly there from middle school to seniors. Everyone knows each other real well."

Farmington Hills Church of God is at 25717 Power Road at 11 Mile. Call (248) 477-9144 or visit www.fhchurchofgod.org. The church is affiliated with Church of God, a non-denominational Christian movement with offices in Anderson, Ind.

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

Celebration features conductors with local ties

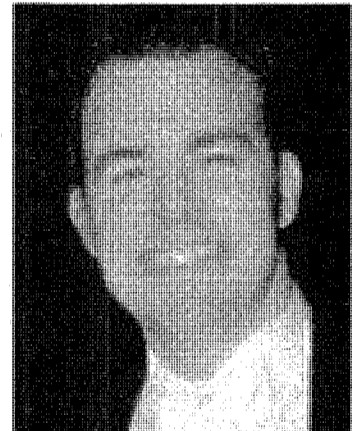
A 200th birthday celebration for Abraham Lincoln takes place at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church 7 p.m. Saturday, May 9, when St. Paul's Reunion Choir and the Livonia Youth Choir present a concert of songs, readings, and pictures commemorating the 16th president of the United States, at the church, 27475 Five Mile in Livonia. The concert includes a collection of patriotic favorites, familiar thoughts, and American folk music from Lincoln's lifetime. Seating is reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$2 students under 18. Call (734) 422-1470 to reserve tickets.

St. Paul's has recruited a 60 member choir of current and alumni members which will be conducted by a California conductor with strong roots in Livonia. Andrew Aron grew up with his parents Rich and Elaine Aron and his brother, Matthew, and all were actively involved in the community. As a student at Stevenson High School, Andy divided his time between serving as drum major in the band, vocal student in the choir, and a leading man in the musical theatre program. He also was part of St. Paul's youth choir program for 13 years. Aron went on from there to Western Michigan University where he earned a music education degree in choral and instrumental music and then to San Jose State University where he was awarded a master's degree.

Aron currently resides with his wife, Mary, and sons, Adam and Sam, in San Jose, California where he serves as director of music at Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church and as choral director at Cupertino High School in Cupertino, Calif.

Ariel Toews-Ricotta, conductor of the Livonia Youth Choir, traveled from the University of Colorado to the Ann Arbor area as a University of Michigan grad school student. She currently serves as assistant conductor of the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra and Orchestra Canton, conductor of the Detroit Civic Youth Ensemble, director of choirs at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Ypsilanti, and conductor of the Ypsilanti Community Choir.

Former St. Paul's choir members who still wish to sing, but have not registered, may do so by calling (734) 422-1470.



Andrew Aron conducts a choral program in celebration of Abraham Lincoln's 200th birthday Saturday, May 9, at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Livonia.



Ariel Toews-Ricotta, conductor of the Livonia Youth Choir, takes part in a concert to celebrate Abraham Lincoln's 200th birthday Saturday, May 9.

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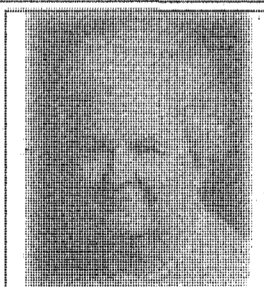
MARY CHRISTINE (McCLURE) DRAKE

Age 84. Of Traverse City, formerly of Birmingham. Died Monday, May 4, 2009 at Munson Hospice House after the challenge of pulmonary fibrosis. She was born on Dec., 25, 1924, to John Brooks McClure and Nellie Sophia (Dunsby) McClure. After supporting the war effort with her employment, she married her high school sweetheart, Walter Drake, in 1944. They retired to Traverse City. Mary once said, "I have too many interests." First, she devoted herself to making a home for her family. Other interests included antiques, foods, crafts and writing poetry. She was proud of her family's role in the American Revolution when a distant grandmother, Sarah Pardon Brooks, translated from French to English for Gen. Washington. She valued citizenship and her association with the D.A.R., as well as community service through Beta Sigma Phi sorority. Mary and Walter occupied their retirement following their grandchildren's activities and enjoying Traverse City. Mary was preceded in death by her parents, an infant daughter Jennifer, her brother John and sister Julia. She is survived by daughter Penelope (Charles) Drake Curry of Apple Valley, MN; sons Erick (Anne) Drake, Brian Drake, Tim (Jill) Drake Sr., all of Traverse City and grandchildren Craig Drake, Matthew Curry, Leah Curry, Allan Drake, Laura Drake, Tim Drake Jr., Ryan Drake and Mary Drake; cousins, several nieces and nephews and special neighbors. Visitation took place Wed., May 6, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funer Home in Traverse City. Funeral services will be at Central United Methodist Church on Thursday, May 7th at 11:00 a.m. with visitation one hour prior to the service. The Rev. Dale Ostema will officiate. Memorial contributions may be directed to the Women's Resource Center, Central United Methodist Church's Radio Ministry and the Boy Scout Scenic Trails Summer Camp Fund. The family is being served by Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home of Traverse City. Visit the family's online guest book at www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com

Age 88. Life-time area resident. Private services 4-28-09. Memorial gifts to Kidney Foundation or St. James Episcopal Church.

WILLIAM M. KELLY

Age 91. May 4, 2009. Beloved wife of the late John I. Lampi. Loving mother of David (Deanna) Lampi, Arlene (Jeffrey) Bidigare and Richard (Debra) Lampi. Cherished grandmother of Heidi, Kevin, Wendy, Kathryn and Joe; great-grandmother of Jake, Alex and Amelia. Dear sister of Raymond Lindeman. Funeral service Thursday 11 a.m. at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, 33603 Grand River Ave. (1 blk W. of Farmington Rd.), Downtown Farmington. Visitation Wednesday 3-8 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to the Finnish Center Association. www.thayer-rock.com



HELEN KAINO LAMPI

Age 67, passed away peacefully in her Birmingham home of almost 40 years on Monday, May 4, 2009. Cynthia Ann, known simply as Ann to most of her friends, leaves behind her son, Doug Savell, her daughter-in-law Stephanie Savell, and her beloved granddaughter Hunter Savell. Cynthia Ann was a Spanish teacher in Clarkston at both the Junior High and High School but was known to most as an artist and local business owner whose spirit for adventure and culture was second only to her outgoing and friendly personality. Cynthia Ann was a graduate of Dominican High School and received her Bachelor's Degree and her Master's Degrees in Education from the University of Detroit. In addition to her love of culture and travel, Cynthia Ann was a naturally gifted pilot who loved flying and sailing. She will not only be remembered for her unique organizational skills, but as the special teacher who made a difference and the nice lady on Westchester who loved dogs. A memorial service will be held Friday, May 9, 10 am, at Holy Name Catholic Church, 630 Harmon Street, Birmingham. Friends may visit at church beginning at 9:30 am and will be invited to her home after the service for a luncheon. In lieu of flowers, memorials appreciated to the American Cancer Society, 20450 Civic Center Drive, Southfield, Michigan 48076.



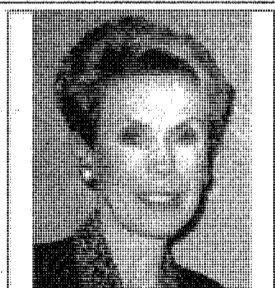
ANN E. OPPERTHAUSER

Of Farmington Hills. Passed away at the age of 79. Beloved wife of the late Earl C. Oppert Hauser and devoted mother of four children, Denise (Michael), Kathy, Steven, and Scott (Sheryl), and loving grandmother of nine grandchildren, Jason, Joe, Chrissy, C.J., Chloe, Megan, Brandon, Alex and Heather. Visitation at Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home in Farmington May 7, 4-8 p.m. Memorial Service at First Presbyterian Church in Farmington Hills May 8, 11 a.m. You will be deeply missed.



GLADYS V. SCOTT

Age 92, of Northville, passed away peacefully on February 22, 2009 in Novi. She was born May 6, 1916 in Detroit, MI, the daughter of Chester V. Mallison and Florence Alice Meyers. She was the oldest child of three. Her brothers Robert and Chester preceded her in death. She held a Masters Degree from the University of Michigan and a Bachelors degree from Wayne State University. She was a member of the Teachers Society - Alpha Delta Kappa, and the Northville Genealogical Society. She was also a member of many patriotic societies, including the Daughters of the American Revolution, Founders and Patriots, US Daughters of 1812, Daughters of the Union, The Guild of St. Margaret of Scotland, the Plantagenet Society, the Colonial Order of the Crown, National Huguenot Society, The Huguenot Society of Michigan, National Society of Women Descendants of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company, National Society of New England Women, National Society of Daughters of Colonial Wars, Inc, Daughters of the American Colonists, National Society Descendants of Early Quakers, Dames of the Court of Honor, Daughters of the Union, Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims, and the Colonial Dames of the Seventeenth Century. She served as Regent on many of these societies and was always well liked by all of the members. She was a dear friend to all. She was married to Herman G. Scott on October 24, 1955 in Detroit. Herman preceded her in death. Gladys taught school at Randolph Elementary School in Livonia for many years. She loved working on her genealogy and has accumulated records on her family that dates back to the early settlers of our country. Her contributions of forty eight books to the Northville Public Library's genealogical room are a fitting memorial to Gladys. She will be dearly missed. A time of gathering will be held Saturday, May 9, 2009 from 11 am until 1 pm, with the service beginning at 1 pm at Casterline Funeral Home, Inc. 122 W. Dunlap, Northville.



CYNTHIA ANN SAVELL

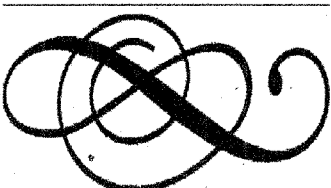
Age 67, passed away peacefully in her Birmingham home of almost 40 years on Monday, May 4, 2009. Cynthia Ann, known simply as Ann to most of her friends, leaves behind her son, Doug Savell, her daughter-in-law Stephanie Savell, and her beloved granddaughter Hunter Savell. Cynthia Ann was a Spanish teacher in Clarkston at both the Junior High and High School but was known to most as an artist and local business owner whose spirit for adventure and culture was second only to her outgoing and friendly personality. Cynthia Ann was a graduate of Dominican High School and received her Bachelor's Degree and her Master's Degrees in Education from the University of Detroit. In addition to her love of culture and travel, Cynthia Ann was a naturally gifted pilot who loved flying and sailing. She will not only be remembered for her unique organizational skills, but as the special teacher who made a difference and the nice lady on Westchester who loved dogs. A memorial service will be held Friday, May 9, 10 am, at Holy Name Catholic Church, 630 Harmon Street, Birmingham. Friends may visit at church beginning at 9:30 am and will be invited to her home after the service for a luncheon. In lieu of flowers, memorials appreciated to the American Cancer Society, 20450 Civic Center Drive, Southfield, Michigan 48076.

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RELIGION CALENDAR

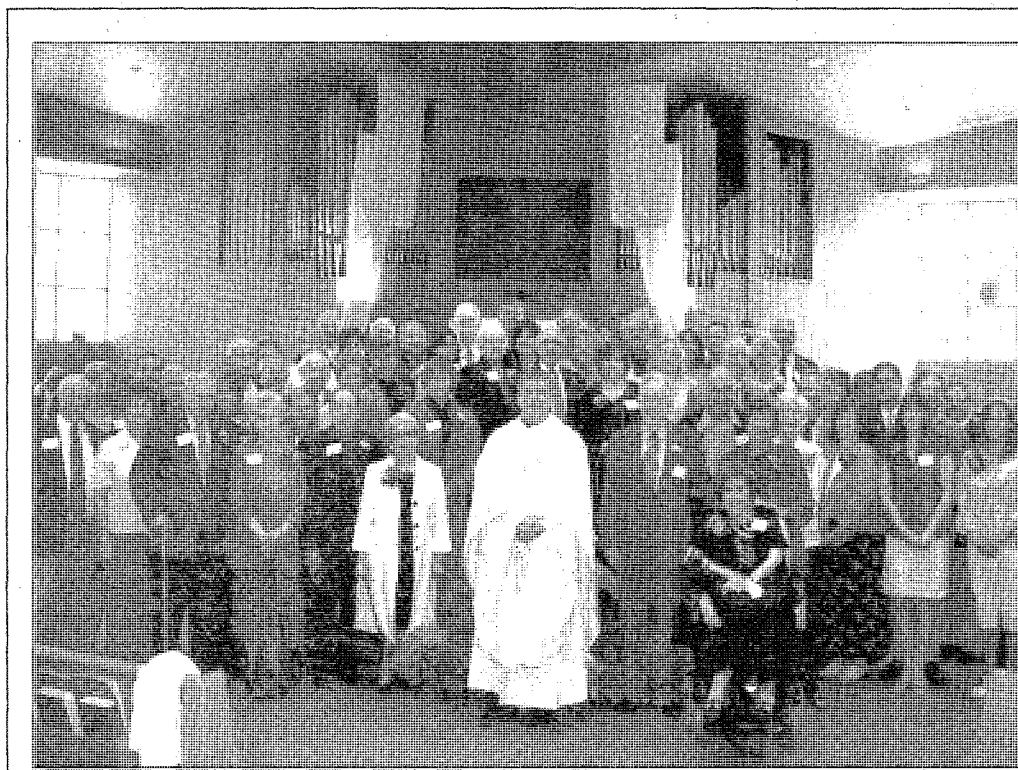
To submit an item for the religion calendar, e-mail lchomin@hometownlife.com or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette-2nd Level, Detroit, MI 48226, Attn: Linda Chomin. Deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday. For a complete listing of events online please go to hometownlife.com.

442-8822 or e-mail etc-ed@around-detroit.biz no later than Friday, May 8.

Tattered and worn St. John Neumann Catholic Church presents An Eccentric Look at the Good Book, a Ted & Company TheaterWorks Production Friday, Wednesday, May 8-13, at the church, 44800 Warren, Canton. Guests of all ages and faiths are invited to meet Bible characters and enjoy Scripture like never before. Ted Swartz and Jeff Raught combine music, theater, and comedy in the retelling of favorite Bible stories. Sunday performance begins with refreshments at 2 p.m. and the performance starting at 2:30 p.m. Performances on Friday-Saturday, and Monday-Wednesday begin with refreshments at 6 p.m. followed by performances at 6:30 p.m. Tickets \$8 adults, \$6 children. Call ahead for ticket information at (734) 455-5986 or (734) 455-5910.

Lincoln tribute A 200th birthday celebration for Abraham Lincoln takes place at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church 7 p.m. Saturday, May 9, when St. Paul's Reunion Choir and the Livonia Youth Choir present a concert of songs, readings, and pictures commemorating the 16th president of the United States, at the church, 27475 Five Mile. The concert includes a collection of patriotic favorites, familiar thoughts, and American folk music from Lincoln's lifetime. Seating is reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$2 students under 18. Call (734) 422-1470 to reserve tickets. Former St. Paul's choir members who still wish to sing, but have not registered, may do so by calling (734) 422.1470.

Bloom conference Family Victory Fellowship presents the Bloom Conference 09 for girls ages 11-17 and their mothers 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, May 9, Family Victory Fellowship, 19421 W. Ten Mile, Southfield. The theme of the conference is "Make a Date to Communicate." Created in 2007, the Bloom conference was created to help girls blossom into womanhood. This year's conference plans to instill leadership, confidence and a positive self image to its participants. In addition, the conference will focus on improving the mother-daughter bond, a critical support necessary for girls as they transition into womanhood. Workshops include How to Communicate with Your Mother/ How to Communicate with a Teen, What Do Your Clothes Say About You, The Cross vs. the Crowd, Dating and Relationships with Boys, Social Networking: How important is Technology, and Building a Mother-Daughter Covenant. The cost is \$15 per person. For information, contact Pastor Sylvia Jordan at (248) 799-0066 or Tonya Allen (313) 399-5272 at Family Victory Fellowship Church.



So happy together

On Sunday, April 26, 34 couples celebrated a total of 1,290 years of marriage at the first annual Jubilarian Mass at St. Aidan Catholic Church in Livonia. Pastor Kevin Thomas led the group in the renewal of their wedding vows. The couples were Lee and Ed Barann, 55 years; Pat and Jim Bardel, 50; Diane and Bill Bencik, 45; Carolyn and Ronald Briggs, 45; Mary Anne and Dan Churan, 40; Flo and Jack Clement, 55; Mary Pat and Ron Edwards, 30; Julie and Rich Esker, 15; Maureen and Dr. Steve Harris, 25; Cecelia and Dale Hartssock, 35; Julie and Brady Kalem, 25; Connie and Conrad Kanclerz, 35; Pat and Bob Kemp, 55; Cheryl and Harold Klee, 40; Vicky and Mike Kowalski, 25; Isolina and Mario Leopardi, 50; Mary Jo and Mike Lipon, 35; Janine and Daniel Louzon, 20; Sue and Tom Lyman, 40; Marta and Joe Maceri, 40; Diane and Tim Mann, 30; Marcia and John Miller, 20; Patricia and Joseph Mitchell, 25; Margaret and Arthur Nelson, 60; Helen and Tom Oppat, 55; Andrea and Larry Patrias, 30; Jane and Theodore Potok, 55; Mary Sharon and Jerry Schlaff, 50; Joan and Michael Serge, 35; Gail and Ed Shymanski, 40; Amalia and Francisco Villarruel, 55; Michelle and Ken Way, 15; Joan and Ed Zamenski, 40; and Cari and Tom Zupko, 20.

Sisterhood Shabbat Shabbat morning, Saturday, May 9, has been designated Sisterhood Shabbat at Congregation Beth Ahm in West Bloomfield. The shul takes this opportunity to celebrate the vibrant role the Sisterhood has historically played in the synagogue and its continuing leadership in Beth Ahm's future. Members of Beth Ahm Sisterhood will lead Hebrew prayers, read from the Torah portion of the week, chant the haftarah (the assigned scriptural reading for Shabbat Emor taken from the writings of the biblical prophet Ezekiel, lead English readings, deliver the D'var Torah, open the ark, and share other Torah honors. Rabbi Steven Rubenstein leads an informal Torah

study group at 9 a.m. in the Beth Ahm lobby. Services begin at 9:30 a.m. Following services, there will be a special Kiddush luncheon. All are welcome. For information, contact Sisterhood President Jody Superstine Grossman at (248) 851-7643 or e-mail jsg12345@aol.com. **Mother's Day brunch** 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, May 10, at Sacred Heart Banquet Center, 29125 W. Six Mile, Livonia. Cost is \$25 adults, \$12 children ages 4-12, free children ages 1-3. Reservations required. Call Dianne at (734) 522-3166. **Ladies night out** Deadline is May 10 for reservations for St. Michael the Archangel Parish's

2nd Annual Ladies Night Out 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 13, at the Italian American Banquet Center of Livonia, 39200 Five Mile. The evening will feature Jackie Gordon of Livonia sharing her conversion story as part of the on-going series, Women of Faith Sharing their Journey. Gordon, a wife and mother of 4, was raised in the Methodist faith, became a long-time member of NorthRidge Church and then converted to Catholicism a few years ago along with her parents, husband and children. Tickets are \$25 per person, includes family-style dinner and dessert. For reservations, visit www.livoniastmichael.org. Call (734) 261-1455, Ext. 207 or e-mail swilliams@livoniastmichael.org. Tickets will be mailed to you or held at the door according to your instructions, time permitting. If you would like to reserve an entire table, you may do so by indicating the name of your parish and the names of other women who will be joining your table.

Sharing made simple Is Mary really contrary to the teachings of scripture? Is the topic of the Apologetics for Beginners lecture by nationally-acclaimed apologist and author, Gary Michuta 7 p.m. Thursday, May 14, at St. Michael the Archangel Parish, 11441 Hubbard, south Plymouth Rd, between Farmington and Merriman roads, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 261-1455, Ext 200, or visit www.livoniastmichael.org. All are welcome. Michuta's presentation will focus on the scriptural rationale for Marian doctrine and the reasons behind the reverence in which Catholics hold Christ's earthly Mother.

Landscape project Trinity Church of Livonia is holding a planting day May 16, on the grounds of the church, 34500 Six Mile, next to Stevenson High School, west of Farmington Road, Livonia. They have been working with the City of Livonia and the Friends of the Rouge at ways to be good stewards of God's creation. Goals include reducing air and water pollution, embracing a sustainable aesthetic, and building community. All are welcome. The church is also hosting a site at a Livonia Park for the Rouge Rescue set for June 6. Call (734) 425-2800 for additional information.

MAY

Livonia Community Prayer Day 7:15 a.m. Thursday, May 7, at Laurel Manor Banquet Center, 39000 Schoolcraft, Livonia. Special guest speaker is Dr. David Rawson, former U.S. Ambassador to Republics of Mali and Rwanda. Music will be provided by Classical Bells. Tickets are \$15, adults, \$10 K-12 students. Call (248) 476-9427.

National day of prayer The sanctuary is open for prayer 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday, May 7, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile at Haggerty, Northvile. Two services focus on prayer for our nation at noon and 7 p.m. in Hess Chapel. For more information, call (248) 374-7400.

National prayer day Kenwood Church of Christ will be holding a National Day of Prayer event May 7, focusing upon the economic, family, and marriage issues of our community. The prayer service begins at 7 p.m. with opportunities for personal and confidential prayer with a prayer partner between 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. and 8 p.m. and 9 p.m. Kenwood Church of Christ is at 20200 Merriman, south of 8 Mile on east side of Merriman, Livonia. Call (248) 476-8222.

Spring Fling Emmanuel Lutheran Church and their Special Needs Ministry Team invite everyone with special needs to a Spring Fling Dance 6:30-8 p.m. Saturday, May 16, at the church, 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia. The event is designed for adults with cognitive and developmental disabilities, other special needs, and caretakers. Come and enjoy an evening of music, fun, and friendship. Snacks and beverages served. Space limited, reservations required. Call Judy Cook at (248)

Your Invitation to Worship

| | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <p>CATHOLIC</p> <p>ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH Immemorial Latin Mass Approved by Pope St. Pius V in 1570 St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8 23310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan 5 Blocks E. of Telegraph • (313) 534-2121 Mass Schedule: Fri. 7:00 a.m. Sat. 11:00 a.m. Sun. Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m. Confessions Prior to Each Mass Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M. <small>CE088554</small></p> | <p>EVANGELICAL COVENANT</p> <p>FAITH COVENANT CHURCH 14 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills (248) 661-9191 Sunday Worship and Children's Church 9:15 A.M. Contemporary 11:00 A.M. Traditional Child Care Provided At All Services Youth Groups - Adult Small Groups <small>CE088552</small></p> | <p>UNITED METHODIST</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 <small>CE088528</small></p> | <p>LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD</p> <p>Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96 734-522-6830 Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional Staffed Nursery Available Sunday/Bible Class 9:45 am Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413 Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ Pastors: Robert F. Bayer and Anthony M. Creeden <small>CE088527</small></p> |
| <p>CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</p> <p>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 455-1525 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:30 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196 <small>CE088553</small></p> | <p>EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA</p> <p>Timothy Lutheran Church A Reconciling in Christ Congregation 8820 Wayne Rd. (Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road) Livonia • 427-2290 Jill Heather, Pastor 10:00 a.m. Family Worship (Nursery Available) <small>CE088555</small></p> | <p>PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)</p> <p>St. James Presbyterian Church, USA 25350 West Six Mile Rd. Redford (913) 534-7730 Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 A.M., Sunday School - 10:15 A.M., Thursday Dinner - 6:00 P.M., Thrift Store every Sat. 10am-2pm Nursery Care Provided • Handicapped Accessible Rev. Paul S. Bousquette <small>CE088548</small></p> | <p>LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD</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 <small>CE088577</small></p> |
| <p>PRESBYTERIAN</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 <small>CE088561</small></p> | <p>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p>ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) 9801 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.) (734) 422-0494 www.rosedalegardens.org Friends in Faith Service 9:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am WE WELCOME YOU TO A FULL SERVICE CHURCH <small>CE088573</small></p> | <p>LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD</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. THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M. website: www.stpaulslivonia.org <small>CE088560</small></p> | <p>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</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 & 11:00 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 W.M.U.Z Word Station For additional information visit www.wardchurch.org <small>CE088572</small></p> |
| <p>BAPTIST</p> <p>Parkview Baptist Church Presents: God & Country Sunday To honor all those who have served Sunday May 17, 2009 at 10:30AM (Luncheon to follow) Speaker: Sergeant Virl Stalnaker U.S.Army 9355 Stark Rd. Livonia, MI (734) 261-6180 - www.pbc-livonia.com <small>CE088562</small></p> | <p>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</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. THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M. website: www.stpaulslivonia.org <small>CE088560</small></p> | <p>GREEK ORTHODOX</p> <p>ST. CONSTANTINE & HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH 36375 Joy Rd., Westland Sunday Services: Matsins 9:00am, Divine Liturgy 10:00am Rev. Fr. Theodor Petritu Parish Office: 734-525-6789 www.stcons.org Hellenic Cultural Center Banquet Hall 734-525-3530 <small>CE088561</small></p> | |

FILTER

Star-studded lineups slated for summer concerts

Concert-goers will have even more reasons to "Love It Live" in 2009 when DTE Energy Music Theatre and Meadow Brook Music Festival, along with sister venue The Palace, combine to host more than 100 shows featuring the top acts on tour this summer and an overall schedule full of more value-oriented ticket pricing than ever before.

More than 70 percent of the summer events include \$10 or \$15 lawn tickets or will offer specially discounted four-packs of lawn tickets. Additional shows will be announced as tour plans develop.

DTE Energy Music Theatre, the nation's most-attended amphitheatre for 18 consecutive years, will host such high-profile performers as Nine Inch Nails/Jane's Addiction, Coldplay, Brad Paisley w/Dierks Bentley, Toby Keith w/Trace Adkins, Dave Matthews Band, Jimmy Buffett and The Coral Reefer Band and Mötley Crüe's "Crüe Fest 2."

Meadow Brook Music Festival's 2009 schedule might be its most star-studded ever, highlighted by such notable artists as John Fogerty, Crosby, Stills & Nash, Lyle Lovett & His Large Band, and Chris Isaak.

"Coming off a tough Michigan winter, we are pleased to provide the biggest and most diverse schedule of shows in the country again this summer, including the top concerts and festivals on tour along with traditional favorites," said Tom Wilson, PS&E President and CEO. "To continue to host this quantity of events during these trying times with our current economy, we had to emphasize offering affordable tickets even more this summer so our guests can continue to

enjoy shows at our venues."

Cost-conscious concert-goers can find more than 50 shows with \$10 or \$15 lawn tickets for such well-known acts at DTE Energy Music Theatre as traditional opener Eddie Money, Anita Baker, Travis Tritt, and B.B. King w/Robert Cray Band.

Meadow Brook events offering the special \$10 or \$15 lawn price include John Fogerty, "Regeneration Tour" with ABC, Wang Chung, Heaven 17 and Cutting Crew, comedian David Alan Grier, and the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

In addition, PS&E has more shows than ever providing special discounts on four-packs of lawn tickets.

Belle Tire is returning in 2009 for its fourth summer to sponsor the concert series of DTE Energy Music Theatre and Meadow Brook Music Festival. Michigan's largest independent tire retailer will continue to support the schedules with in-store promotions and giveaways.

PS&E ownership includes The Palace and DTE Energy Music Theatre, as well as the management of Meadow Brook Music Festival on the campus of Oakland University. Combined, PS&E's Michigan venues average 300 events and 3.5 million guests annually.

The Palace has been voted Arena of the Year eight times by Performance magazine, twice by Pollstar magazine and is listed annually among North America's top-grossing arenas. Voted "Best Outdoor Concert Venue" in Pollstar's 2000 Readers' Poll, DTE Energy Music Theatre has been listed as the nation's most attended amphitheatre by Amusement Business/Billboard each of the 18 years of PS&E ownership.

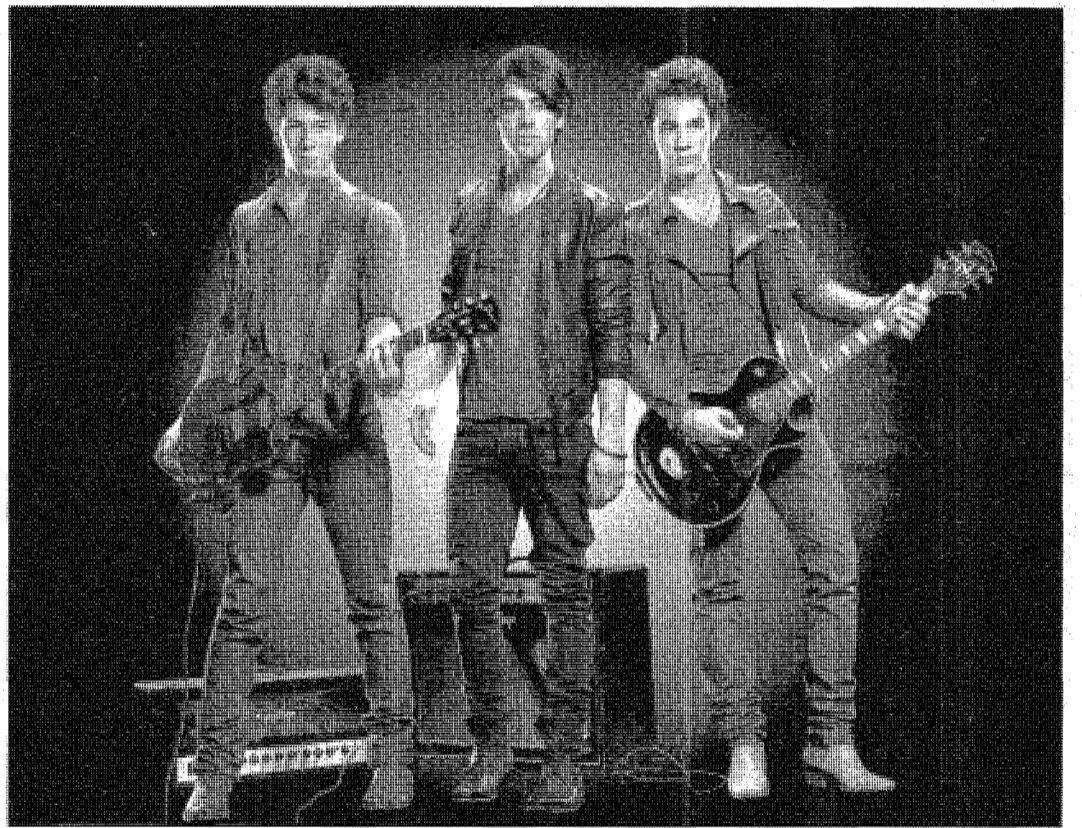


STEPHAN CRANEANSKI

Coldplay will rock DTE Energy Music Festival on June 2.



As is tradition, Eddie Money will kick off summer concert season at DTE Energy on May 22.



The Jonas Brothers, with special guests Jordin Sparks and Honor Society, play at the Palace of Auburn Hills on July 26.



AC/DC will play the Palace of Auburn Hills on Aug. 16.



No Doubt will take the stage at the Palace of Auburn Hills with special guests Paramore and Bedouin Soundclash on July 3.



Detroit's Anita Baker will play DTE Energy Music Festival July 31.



Beyoncé will visit the Palace of Auburn Hills on July 18.

REDUCE ♻️ REUSE ♻️ RECYCLE

SIMPLY SELF STORAGE

Notice is hereby given that on May 14, 2009 on or after 9:30 a.m. that Simply Self Storage will be offering for sale under the judicial lien Process by Public Auction the following units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. Terms of the sale are cash only. Simply Self Storage reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: 34333 E. Michigan Ave. Wayne MI 48184 (734)728-8204.

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| A108 Rhonda Jackson | Love Seat, Curio Cabinet, 2 Boxes |
| A206 Ruth Walker | 30 Boxes, 30 Bags, Curio Cabinet |
| A340 Felicia Skeen | Big Screen TV, 2 Speakers, Keyboard |
| A353 John Johnson | Computer, Stereo, 10 Bags |
| C122 Michael Grace | 30 Boxes, Tools, 10 Totes |
| C156 Stefanie Mcvay | Chair, Table, Mattress |
| D112 Deanna Boisclair | Couch, Computer, 2 Bikes |
| D113 Ronald Alexander | BBQ Grill, Chair, 20 Boxes |
| E140B Karen Markham | Air Conditioner, Stereo, 25 Boxes |

Publish: April 30 and May 7, 2009

Newsweek

"STAR TREK" IS WAY COOL.

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★★★★★

"EVEN IF YOU'VE NEVER SEEN STAR TREK BEFORE THIS MOVIE IS FOR YOU!"

STAR TREK

PG-13

IN THEATRES EVERYWHERE FRIDAY, MAY 8 AND EXPERIENCE IT IN IMAX FOR A LIMITED TIME

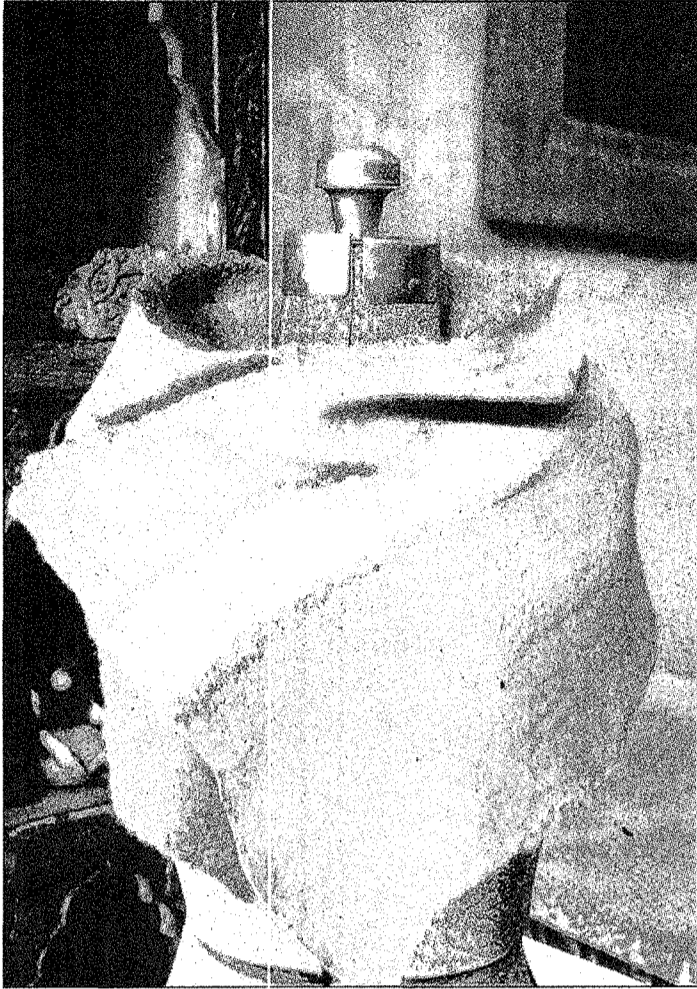
SPECIAL SCREENINGS BEGIN THURSDAY, MAY 7 AT 7 PM

CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR THEATRES AND SHOWTIMES

SUMMER CONCERT SCHEDULE

| | | |
|--|--|------------------------------------|
| Palace of Auburn Hills | July 1 Blue Oyster Cult/Over the Rainbow, July 8 Brad Paisley w/Dierks Bentley, July 10 Toby Keith w/Trace Adkins, July 19 YES/Asia, July 20 Smokey Robinson, July 23 Def Leppard and Poison w/Cheap Trick, July 24 Big & Rich w/Cowboy Troy, July 25 Dave Matthews Band, July 28 Anita Baker, July 31 Travis Tritt, Aug. 1 Mayhem Festival, Aug. 2 Moody Blues, Aug. 9 Nickelback, Aug. 12 Jimmy Buffett and The Coral Reefer Band, Aug. 13 Mötley Crüe's "Crüe Fest 2," Aug. 15 Demi Lovato w/David Archuleta, Aug. 18 B.B. King w/Robert Cray Band, Aug. 19 Jeff Foxworthy, Aug. 21 | Meadow Brook Music Festival |
| Billy Joel / Elton John "Face 2 Face Tour," May 21 Yanni, June 5 Keith Urban w/Taylor Swift, June 6 Dane Cook, June 12 No Doubt w/Paramore and Bedouin Soundclash, July 3 Beyoncé, July 18 Jonas Brothers w/Jordin Sparks and Honor Society, July 26 The Wiggles, Aug. 14; AC/DC, Aug. 16 Aerosmith w/ZZ Top, Sept. 16 | The Rat Pack Is Back, May 15 John Fogerty, May 29 Crosby, Stills & Nash, June 6 "Regeneration Tour" with ABC, Wang Chung, Heaven 17 and Cutting Crew, June 27 Counting Crows w/ Augustana, July 8 1964 The Tribute, July 9 Comedian David Alan Grier, July 11 ABBA The Tour, July 16 Lyle Lovett & His Large Band, July 17 Chris Isaak, July 19 Gordon Lightfoot, July 23 Detroit Symphony Orchestra, July 25, 26 & 31 and Aug. 1-2 Jackson Browne, July 27 Comedian Jim Gaffigan, Aug. 7 George Thorogood & The Destroyers/Jonny Lang, Aug. 16 Peter Dinklage, Aug. 22 O.A.R. w/Brett Dennen, Sept. 4 | |

Art Birmingham features live music and 180 vendors



Shop for quality art at all price points, like this scarf by Yvonne Stefani, during Art Birmingham May 9-10, presented by the BBAC.

National City Art Birmingham transforms Shain Park into an art gallery Mother's Day weekend with 180 artists from all over the U.S. in a variety of media. In addition to art for purchase, the event features hands-on family art activities and artist demonstrations. This year two performers who are newcomers to the Detroit music scene, Parisian Michelet Innocent and Mystic Warriors, will perform for free at Art Birmingham both Saturday, May 9 and Sunday, May 10.

The free festival runs Saturday, May 9, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday, May 10, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center produces the festival with support from community partner, the Birmingham Bloomfield Chamber. It attracts nearly 80,000 during the weekend.

Parisian musician Michelet Innocent is always fast-paced, humorous, and never predictable. He may be right in the middle of one of the funniest songs or stories you've ever heard, and launch right into a show-stopping production number. What

makes his performance so smooth is that Michelet artfully weaves his show from splash, to nostalgia, to humor, to wondrous excitement, building up to a rousing grand finale that always leaves his audience wanting more. www.micheletinno-cent.com.

The Mystic Warriors believe their music is a fusion that crosses over many genres without leaving the boundaries of Andean music. More important than categorizing their style is their ability to deliver a message of universal peace and harmony transmitted by the combination of Andean ancient flutes and panpipes with contemporary instruments. Joining the ancestral sounds of the Incas with today's newest sounds, Mystic Warriors will transport you to places and times long forgotten, but yet

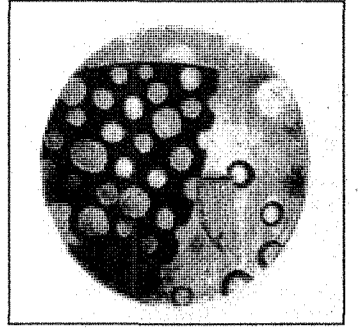
to come. www.mysticwarriors.com.

The 2009 Art Birmingham title sponsor is National City, now part of PNC. Additional support for the event comes from Health Alliance Plan, Renewal by Andersen, Infinity Windows, The New York Times, Bruce White Galleries, Dynamic Life Chiropractic, and 1-800-Mini-Storage as well as Costco and The Henry Ford. Promotional support is provided by Hour Detroit, MetroAlive.com, WWJ-AM, and WDET-FM.

ABOUT THE BBAC

The Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center is a regional non-profit art center committed to promoting the visual arts with classes for all ages and abilities.

Each year they offer 500 classes for 4,000 students



Janelle Songer, creator of this ceramic platter, is among 180 artists expected at Art Birmingham, May 9-10 in Shain Park.

including year round classes and art camps, as well as a dynamic, growing outreach program. The BBAC campus features nine classroom studios, four galleries with free exhibits open to the public, art camps, special events, and a retail gallery shop. For more about the BBAC: BBArtCenter.org.

Please Join us for the 4th Annual...

Mutt Strut '09

Saturday, May 16th!
Benefitting the Friends For the Dearborn Animal Shelter

Festivities and registration begin at 9am, walk starts at noon.

Ford Field in Dearborn
(1/4 mile north of Michigan Avenue on Monroe street.)

1.8-mile walk and community-wide animal celebration day. Pledge driven (or \$25 registration per dog, humans walk for free). Easy, on-line pledging available.

Doggie Health Zone | **Mutt Midway: pet friendly (and human) food and goodies from local vendors** | **Mill Wilcox's Ultimate Air Dogs**

Friends For The Dearborn Animal Shelter Register online www.DearbornAnimals.org or call 313.943.2697

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DINNER SPECIALS EVERYDAY!
Starting at \$6.95
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Starting at \$4.95
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ANY MEAL SPECIAL
10% off
Your Entire Bill
With this coupon. Expires 5-14-09
Not valid with any other offer.

BELLE TIRE CONCERT SERIES | **DTE Energy** music theatre

the **B-52s**

LAWN SEATS ONLY \$10!

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Join now for FREE admission, big discounts, and FREE exhibition tickets!
313.833.7971 or dia.org

WHERE IMAGINATIONS RUN WILD.

Friday Night Live!
Violinist Gabriel Bolkoisky and pianist Michelle Cooker perform this Friday!

Saturday:
Watch artist Senghor Reid create his version of Norman Rockwell's poster: *Freedom from Fear*.

Target Family Sundays:
Tonya Dallas shares stories about "American Family."

Now on view:
American Chronicles: The Art of Norman Rockwell

DIA DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS | *let yourself go*
1200 Woodward Ave. | 313-833-7900

FOOD & WINE

Loire Valley of France sets standards for white wines

Producers in the Loire Valley of France set the standards for three white wines: sauvignon blanc, chenin blanc and muscadet. Here's why. The Loire, France's longest river, 600 miles long, and the last "wild river" in Europe, rises in the region known as the Massif Central and flows north through the heart of France.

Appellations such as Sancerre, Pouilly-Fume, Menetou-Salon, Quincy and Touraine are lauded for sauvignon blanc. Influence of climate, soil and regional winemaking traditions allow each region's interpretation of the grape to be different.

These are decidedly wines of a place and epitomize the French concept of terroir. They do have a commonality in high-toned aromatics, crisp acidity and a minerality not found in sauvignon blanc from anywhere else on the planet.

WORLD'S BEST

For U.S. wine producers, chenin blanc has not been a primary focus. Perhaps it's because the wines can't compete with the excellence of chenin blanc from the Loire. In the hundred miles of the Loire River between the towns of Tours and Angers, chenin blanc achieves an unmatched level that ranges from crisp and dry to luscious dessert style.

Slate and schist soil closer to Angers, is the origin of Anjou Blanc and Savennieres, leaner and more mineral wines that make any fish dish sing.

On the Loire River around the port city of Nantes, the Atlantic Ocean is the most influential geographical factor responsible for the characteristics of muscadet.

The grape is melon de Bourgogne or simply melon.

Don't question the ancient Burgundy origin - just focus on the name muscadet.

If you like seriously dry white wine with citrus aromas, this is your wine. Many versions even have a sea spray salty-like tang that make it a perfect pairing with oysters on the half shell, fried clams, lobster rolls and fish tacos.

OUR LOIRE FAVORITES

The following Loire wines are available at the Holiday Market, Royal Oak, 1203 S. Main St. (248) 541-1414. Holiday Market is one of the area's best Loire wine sources.

- Reverdy 2007 Sancerre, Domaine Hippolyte, \$24
- Joseph Mellot 2007 Le Chatellenie Sancerre, \$27
- Michel Picard 2006 Vouvray, \$13 (off-dry)
- Vouvray Champalou 2007, \$20
- Domaine Pierre de la Grange 2006 Muscadet Vieilles Vignes, \$14
- Chateau de la Cariziere 2007 Muscadet, \$12 (certified organic)
- Domaine Francois Cazin 2007 Le Petit Chambord, \$18 (sauvignon blanc-chardonnay blend)

FOCUS ON WINE GOES INDEPENDENT

Beginning June 4, 2009, Focus on Wine will go independent. If you'd like to continue receiving our top wine recommendations, send your name and e-mail address to fucusonwine@aol.com and you'll be added to the blind copy blast e-mail list of recipients. We hope to hear from you.

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 fucusonwine@aol.com.

Mother's Day on the menu at many local restaurants

No matter what your budget, you can treat mom to a special meal on her special day. Here's a roundup of some Mother's Day Brunches offered at local hot-spots on Sunday, May 10:



JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Matt Prentice has moved his No.VI Chophouse westward across Novi Road to the Crowne Plaza Hotel and is offering a special Mother's Day menu on May 10.

MATT PRENTICE GROUP

METRO DETROIT — Matt Prentice Restaurant Group is offering brunches Sunday at Coach Insignia, Northern Lakes Seafood, Shiraz and No.VI Chophouse. Each brunch includes: Carved Prime Rib & Honey Baked Ham, Made to Order Omelet Bar, Breakfast Station, Signature Entrée Station, Peel & Eat Shrimp & Lox Station, and Chef Tiffany's Fabulous Sweet Table.

Seatings are available from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Adults, \$29.95; children 12 and under, \$15.95; children under 5, free. Call Coach Insignia, GM Renaissance Center, 71st & 72nd Floor,

Detroit, (313) 567-2622; Northern Lakes Seafood, 39495 N. Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills, (248) 646-7900; No.VI Chophouse, Crown Plaza Novi, 27000 Sheraton Drive, Novi, (248) 305-5210 (new location); or Shiraz, 30100 Telegraph Road, Bingham Farms, (248) 645-5289.

ERNESTO'S

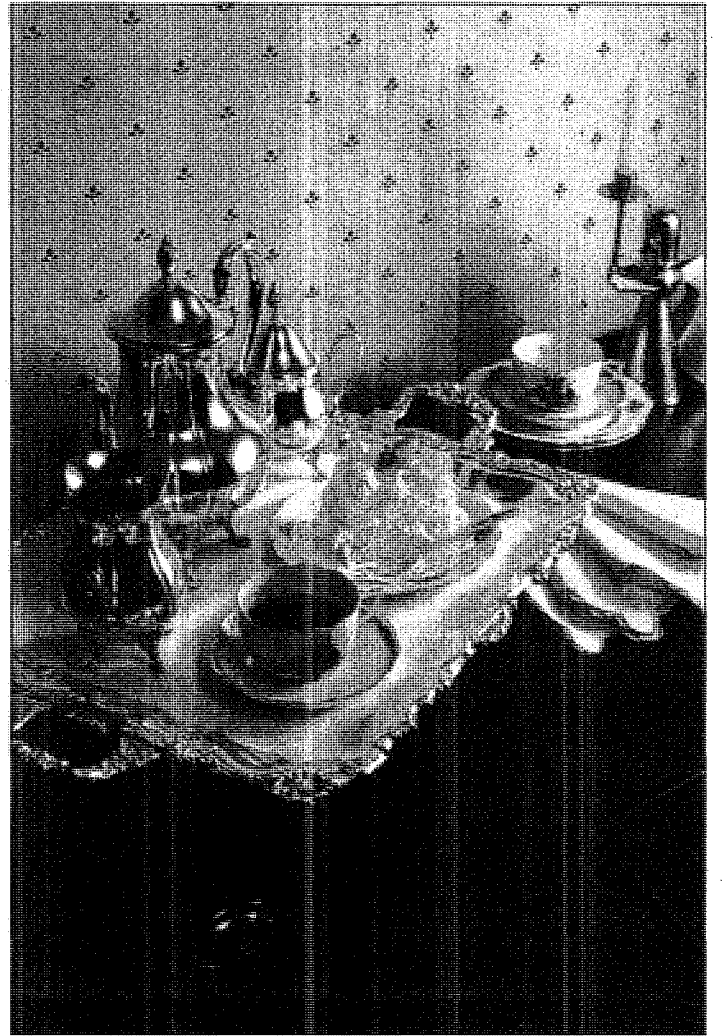
PLYMOUTH — Ernesto's Italian Garden is serving Mother's Day Brunch 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. Ernesto's is located at 41661 Plymouth Road. Call (734) 453-2002 or visit www.ernestos1.com for complete menu and details.

1 UNDER

LIVONIA — Mother's Day Brunch at 1 Under Banquet Facility and Catering will seat at 11 a.m. and 1, 3 and 5 p.m. Sunday. The menu includes a carving station with turkey, prime rib and pork tenderloin, and a made-to-order omelet bar. Other offerings include Parmesan Crusted Whitefish, Portabella Ravioli, Smoked Salmon, Fresh Steamed Vegetables, Basmati Rice, Lyonnaise Potatoes, New Zealand Green Tip Mussels, Shrimp Cocktail, assorted salads, and a pastry and dessert table. Kid's choices include pizza, tater tots, mac and cheese, chicken tenders and more. Prices are \$17.99, adults; \$12.99, seniors; and \$7.99, children. 1 Under is located at 35780 Five Mile Road. Call (734) 464-5555.

SACRED HEART

LIVONIA — Sacred Heart Banquet Center will offer Mother's Day Brunch 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday. The menu includes Assorted Breakfast Quiche, Hashbrown Casserole, Apple Raisin French Toast, Apple Smoked Bacon, Sausage Links, Baked Ham, Beef Tips over Noodles, Garlic Sage Oven Roasted Chicken, Roasted Seasoned Redskin Potatoes, Mixed Green Salad with Dressings, Assorted Muffins, Euro style Baked rolls, assorted scones, danish and pastries, and a fresh cut fruit tray. Prices are \$25, adults; \$12, children 4-12; free, children 1-3. Sacred Heart is located at 29125 W. Six Mile Road. Call (734) 522-3166.



BUDDY'S PIZZA

METRO DETROIT — Treat Mom to pizza on Mother's Day. All moms who dine at Buddy's on May 10th will receive a complimentary dessert, special gifts and a chance to win a day at the spa. Buddy's Restaurant Pizzeria has locations throughout Metro Detroit, including Farmington Hills, (248) 855-4600; Livonia, (734) 261-3550; Bloomfield, (248) 645-0300; and Royal Oak, (248) 549-8000.

GEORGE MURPHY'S

LIVONIA — George Murphy's at the Creek, boasting the best view in Livonia, will host a Mother's Day Celebration Buffet Sunday with seatings at 11 a.m., and 1 and 3 p.m. The outdoor patio is now open. The restaurant is located at 36000 Seven Mile Road, in the clubhouse at Fox Creek Golf Course between Newburgh and Farmington roads. Call (248) 473-1300 or visit www.georgemurphys.com.

FOUR FRIENDS

CANTON — Four Friends Bar and Grill will offer Mother's Day Dinner Specials on Sunday. Choose from Crab Cakes, \$13.95; Grilled Chicken Kebobs, \$10.95; Broiled Whitefish, \$11.95; Roast Turkey Dinner, \$11.95; Steak and Shrimp, \$15.95; Shrimp Scampi Alla Romano, \$11.95; Jumbo Lobster Ravioli, \$11.95; Aunt Ruby's Salad, \$7.95; or Italian Sausage and Mozzarella Cheese Baci (Mama Kisses), \$9.95. Four Friends Bar and Grill is located at 44282 Warren, east of Sheldon Road. Call (734) 416-0880.

FIAMMA GRILL

PLYMOUTH — Fiamma Grille unveils its new summer menu, and opens its outdoor patio, just in time for Mother's Day. Choose from Lobster Mac, Piedmontese Filet Mignon, Lake Superior Walleye, or Tofu, Vegetable and Cashew Stir Fry among many other favorite and new dishes. Fiamma is located at 380 S. Main St. in downtown Plymouth. Call (734) 416-9340.

Please Join Us for Our Opening May 13th in Historic Downtown Plymouth, MI

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FOOD & WINE

Loire Valley of France sets standards for white wines

Producers in the Loire Valley of France set the standards for three white wines: sauvignon blanc, chenin blanc and muscadet. Here's why. The Loire, France's longest river, 600 miles long, and the last "wild river" in Europe, rises in the region known as the Massif Central and flows north through the heart of France.

Appellations such as Sancerre, Pouilly-Fume, Menetou-Salon, Quincy and Touraine are lauded for sauvignon blanc. Influence of climate, soil and regional winemaking traditions allow each region's interpretation of the grape to be different.

These are decidedly wines of a place and epitomize the French concept of terroir. They do have a commonality in high-toned aromatics, crisp acidity and a minerality not found in sauvignon blanc from anywhere else on the planet.

WORLD'S BEST

For U.S. wine producers, chenin blanc has not been a primary focus. Perhaps it's because the wines can't compete with the excellence of chenin blanc from the Loire. In the hundred miles of the Loire River between the towns of Tours and Angers, chenin blanc achieves an unmatched level that ranges from crisp and dry to luscious dessert style.

Slate and schist soil closer to Angers, is the origin of Anjou Blanc and Savennieres, leaner and more mineral wines that make any fish dish sing.

On the Loire River around the port city of Nantes, the Atlantic Ocean is the most influential geographical factor responsible for the characteristics of muscadet.

The grape is melon de Bourgogne or simply melon.

Don't question the ancient Burgundy origin - just focus on the name muscadet.

If you like seriously dry white wine with citrus aromas, this is your wine. Many versions even have a sea spray salty-like tang that make it a perfect pairing with oysters on the half shell, fried clams, lobster rolls and fish tacos.

OUR LOIRE FAVORITES

The following Loire wines are available at the Holiday Market, Royal Oak, 1203 S. Main St. (248) 541-1414. Holiday Market is one of the area's best Loire wine sources.

- Reverdy 2007 Sancerre, Domaine Hippolyte, \$24
- Joseph Mellot 2007 Le Chatellenie Sancerre, \$27
- Michel Picard 2006 Vouvray, \$13 (off-dry)
- Vouvray Champalou 2007, \$20
- Domaine Pierre de la Grange 2006 Muscadet Vieilles Vignes, \$14
- Chateau de la Cariziere 2007 Muscadet, \$12 (certified organic)
- Domaine Francois Cazin 2007 Le Petit Chambord, \$18 (sauvignon blanc-chardonnay blend)

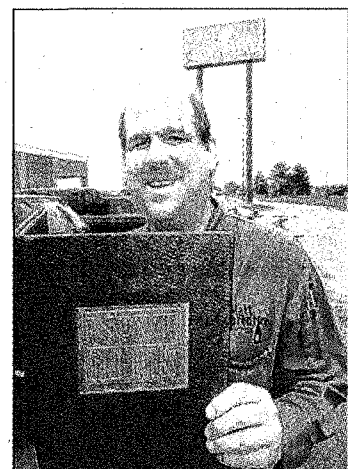
FOCUS ON WINE GOES INDEPENDENT

Beginning June 4, 2009, Focus on Wine will go independent. If you'd like to continue receiving our top wine recommendations, send your name and e-mail address to focusonwine@aol.com and you'll be added to the blind copy blast e-mail list of recipients. We hope to hear from you.

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.

Mother's Day on the menu at many local restaurants

No matter what your budget, you can treat mom to a special meal on her special day. Here's a roundup of some Mother's Day Brunches offered at local hot-spots on Sunday, May 10:



JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Matt Prentice has moved his No.VI Chophouse westward across Novi Road to the Crowne Plaza Hotel and is offering a special Mother's Day menu on May 10.

MATT PRENTICE GROUP

METRO DETROIT — Matt Prentice Restaurant Group is offering brunches Sunday at Coach Insignia, Northern Lakes Seafood, Shiraz and No.VI Chophouse. Each brunch includes: Carved Prime Rib & Honey Baked Ham, Made to Order Omelet Bar, Breakfast Station, Signature Entrée Station, Peel & Eat Shrimp & Lox Station, and Chef Tiffany's Fabulous Sweet Table.

Seatings are available from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Adults, \$29.95; children 12 and under, \$15.95; children under 5, free. Call Coach Insignia, GM Renaissance Center, 71st & 72nd Floor,

Detroit, (313) 567-2622; Northern Lakes Seafood, 39495 N. Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills, (248) 646-7900; No.VI Chophouse, Crown Plaza Novi, 27000 Sheraton Drive, Novi, (248) 305-5210 (new location); or Shiraz, 30100 Telegraph Road, Bingham Farms, (248) 645-5289.

ERNESTO'S

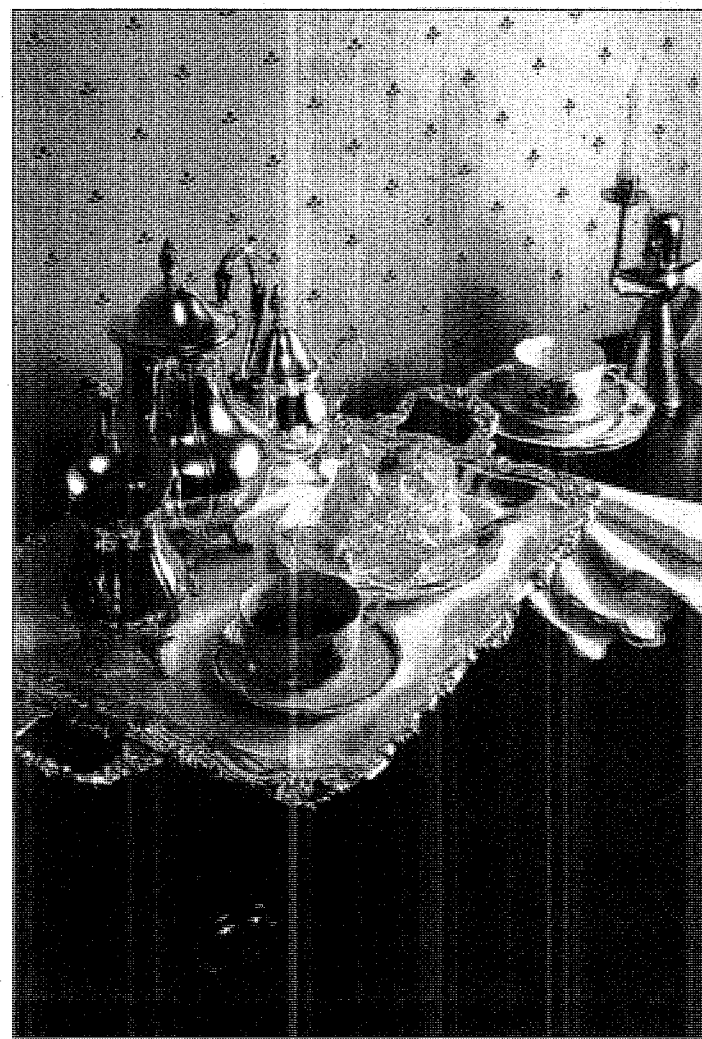
PLYMOUTH — Ernesto's Italian Garden is serving Mother's Day Brunch 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. Ernesto's is located at 41661 Plymouth Road. Call (734) 453-2002 or visit www.ernestosl.com for complete menu and details.

1 UNDER

LIVONIA — Mother's Day Brunch at 1 Under Banquet Facility and Catering will seat at 11 a.m. and 1, 3 and 5 p.m. Sunday. The menu includes a carving station with turkey, prime rib and pork tenderloin, and a made-to-order omelet bar. Other offerings include Parmesan Crusted Whitefish, Portabella Ravioli, Smoked Salmon, Fresh Steamed Vegetables, Basmati Rice, Lyonnaise Potatoes, New Zealand Green Tip Mussels, Shrimp Cocktail, assorted salads, and a pastry and dessert table. Kid's choices include pizza, tater tots, mac and cheese, chicken tenders and more. Prices are \$17.99, adults; \$12.99, seniors; and \$7.99, children. 1 Under is located at 35780 Five Mile Road. Call (734) 464-5555.

SACRED HEART

LIVONIA — Sacred Heart Banquet Center will offer Mother's Day Brunch 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday. The menu includes Assorted Breakfast Quiche, Hashbrown Casserole, Apple Raisin French Toast, Apple Smoked Bacon, Sausage Links, Baked Ham, Beef Tips over Noodles, Garlic Sage Oven Roasted Chicken, Roasted Seasoned Redskin Potatoes, Mixed Green Salad with Dressings, Assorted Muffins, Euro style Baked rolls, assorted scones, danish and pastries, and a fresh cut fruit tray. Prices are \$25, adults; \$12, children 4-12; free, children 1-3. Sacred Heart is located at 29125 W. Six Mile Road. Call (734) 522-3166.



BUDDY'S PIZZA

METRO DETROIT — Treat Mom to pizza on Mother's Day. All moms who dine at Buddy's on May 10th will receive a complimentary dessert, special gifts and a chance to win a day at the spa. Buddy's Restaurant Pizzeria has locations throughout Metro Detroit, including Farmington Hills, (248) 855-4600; Livonia, (734) 261-3550; Bloomfield, (248) 645-0300; and Royal Oak, (248) 549-8000.

GEORGE MURPHY'S

LIVONIA — George Murphy's at the Creek, boasting the best view in Livonia, will host a Mother's Day Celebration Buffet Sunday with seatings at 11 a.m., and 1 and 3 p.m. The outdoor patio is now open. The restaurant is located at 36000 Seven Mile Road, in the clubhouse at Fox Creek Golf Course between Newburgh and Farmington roads. Call (248) 473-1300 or visit www.georgemurphys.com.

FOUR FRIENDS

CANTON — Four Friends Bar and Grill will offer Mother's Day Dinner Specials on Sunday. Choose from Crab Cakes, \$13.95; Grilled Chicken Kebobs, \$10.95; Broiled Whitefish, \$11.95; Roast Turkey Dinner, \$11.95; Steak and Shrimp, \$15.95; Shrimp Scampi Alla Romano, \$11.95; Jumbo Lobster Ravioli, \$11.95; Aunt Ruby's Salad, \$7.95; or Italian Sausage and Mozzarella Cheese Baci (Mama Kisses), \$9.95. Four Friends Bar and Grill is located at 44282 Warren, east of Sheldon Road. Call (734) 416-0880.

FIAMMA GRILL

PLYMOUTH — Fiamma Grille unveils its new summer menu, and opens its outdoor patio, just in time for Mother's Day. Choose from Lobster Mac, Piedmontese Filet Mignon, Lake Superior Walleye, or Tofu, Vegetable and Cashew Stir Fry among many other favorite and new dishes. Fiamma is located at 380 S. Main St. in downtown Plymouth. Call (734) 416-9340.

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