

WESTLAND OBSERVER

online at hometownlife.com

Mothers
provide
strong role
models for their
children

Neighbors, B6

AROUND TOWN

Senior Expo: May 19

Celebrate senior life at the sixth annual Senior Expo 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, May 19 in the VisITaTech Center at Schoolcraft College. More than 60 exhibitors, demonstrations, music and educational programs will be offered throughout the day. Free admission and free parking are available. The event is presented by The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Schoolcraft College, Caribou Coffee, V98.7 Smooth Jazz Radio and AM 580 Motor City Favorites. Look for the Senior Expo special supplement inside Thursday's Observer.

Dear customers

Our technical support staff is working diligently to resolve phone problems experienced by many callers at various times over the last few weeks. If you call during one of these times, you may leave a voicemail message or go to hometownlife.com and click on Customer Service. If you would like a return call, please note that in the email or voicemail and we will call you back or handle your request. We apologize for the inconvenience and appreciate your patience during this time.

Last chance

Candidates who want to get their names on this year's ballot for Westland city elections are facing a 4 p.m. Tuesday deadline.

Voters this year will fill the position of mayor and four City Council members.

Mayor William Wild already has filed his nominating petitions to seek election to a four-year term. The seats of four council members — Cheryl Graunstadt, Charles Pickering, Dewey Reeves and Robert Stottlemeyer — also will be on the ballot.

Graunstadt and Stottlemeyer have confirmed that they do not plan to seek re-election, meaning that voters will elect at least two new council members.

YouTube-ing it

A Westland church has gone where no church has gone before — entering a video in a YouTube video contest sponsored by creators of an iPhone application that plays different sounds of flatulence.

With a top prize of \$5,000, Ekklesia, a new church in Westland, is using humor in its video — "Did Jesus Fart?" — to show that Jesus was God, but he was human as well, according to pastor Chris Lambert. The church is "using the same strategy the Apostle Paul used when he arrived in Athens" with its video entry.

A 99-cent novelty iPhone application that plays a wide variety of the sounds the name implies, it's one of the most popular iPhone apps in the world. Its creators are holding a YouTube video contest to see who will generate the best 30-60-second "iFartmercial" for the company.

Videos were judged on creativity, humor and mass appeal. Qualified entries were posted on a new video contest blog, where they are being judged, rated and commented on.

Founded in 2008, Ekklesia is an interdenominational church with a vision of "enjoying God, loving people, making disciples, and serving the world." The church is located at 34645 Cowan, east of Wayne Road. For more information, visit its Web site at www.ekkleasiadetroit.com.

Library adds hours to meet patrons' needs

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Faced with job losses, foreclosures and other economic woes, Westland public library patrons are increasingly turning to the city's information hub for help, officials said.

"It's really overwhelming to see how much people need the library right now," Director Cheryl Napsha said.

Many mornings, patrons are waiting outside for the doors to open so they can use the 42 public computers to look for jobs, fill out unemployment claims, work on resumes and attend to personal business like handling foreclosure issues, she said.

Competition can be fierce to use the computers. That, too, can be frustrating for people filling out personal documents they need to file with potential employers or

government offices, Napsha said.

Patrons have a 60-minute time limit but can use the computers three times in any given day.

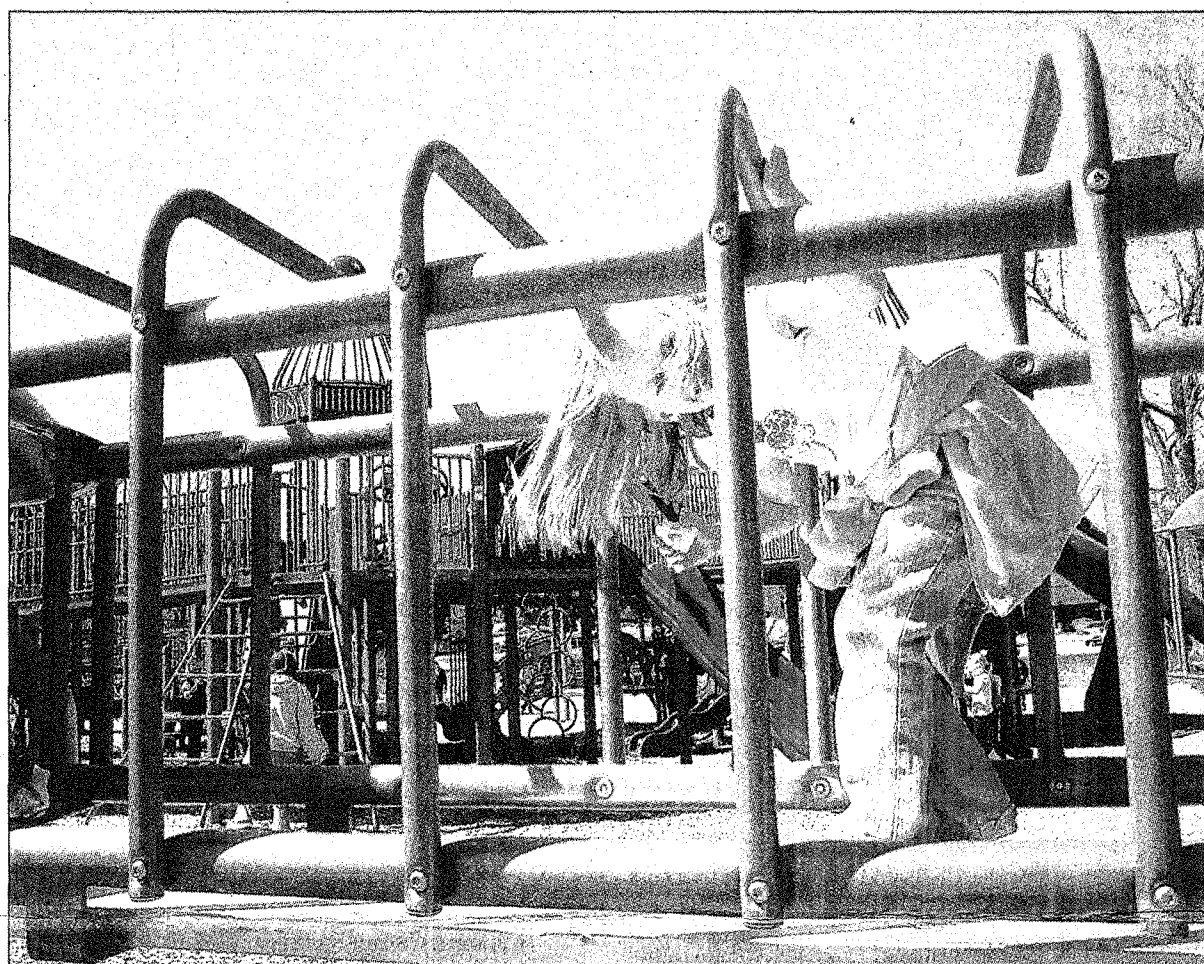
"At certain times of day there is a wait to get on a computer," she said.

In hopes of easing the crunch, Napsha has announced that, even as the library battles its own budget constraints, the facility will add 10 more hours to its Monday through Saturday lineup starting June 1.

The library will open at 9 a.m. rather than 10 a.m. on those days and stay open an additional four hours on Thursday evenings. That means the new hours will be 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Sunday hours still will be noon to 5 p.m. until after Memorial Day, when the library will begin closing

Please see **LIBRARY, A2**



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Madison Johnson, 5, of Westland peaks out from the bars at the Play Planet play structure at Tattan Park.

Planet has space to play

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton mother Rania Lowe only had to travel the distance to Westland to show her three children a new, amazing planet.

Judging by their smiles and laughter, they loved it.

Lowe brought daughter Zoey, 8, and sons Zack, 6, and Dominic, 3, to Tattan Park for the first time Monday to let them explore Play Planet, a sprawling, space-age themed structure billed as one of the largest of its kind in the nation.

While Dominic enjoyed the swings, Zoey and Zack stood on a tilted, steel apparatus that let them grasp onto poles and use their body weight to spin themselves around.

They took time to share their thoughts about Play Planet, a nearly 25,000-square-foot structure built southwest of Carlson and Ford last fall by city workers, community volunteers and hired contractors.

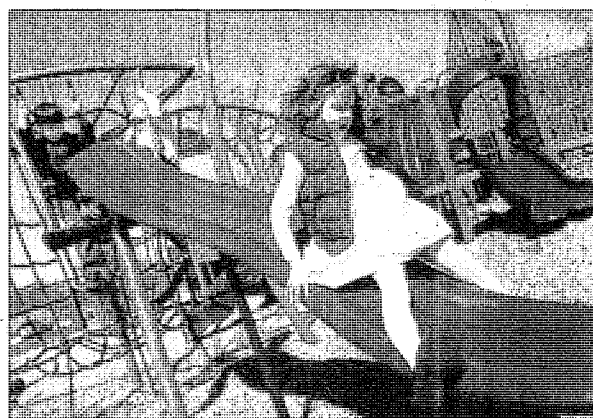
"I like to go down the slides," Zack said.

"There's lots of fun stuff to do," Zoey said.

Lowe complimented the setting for Play Planet, saying it had convenient parking and was located in an area that had nearby greenery.

"It's a great play structure," she said, "and we've been to many play structures."

Not far away, Ron and Amanda Wollschlager enjoyed



Gwen Michalec, 5, plays on a slide at Westland's Play Planet. Waiting their turn are twin sister Abbey and brother Max, both 7.

the warm, spring day with son Kaden, who will be 2 in June.

"I think it's great," the mother said. "It's really big, so Kaden has to have help on some of the slides."

The Wollschlagers had settled on a smaller slide more to Kaden's liking.

Ron Wollschlager said the family already had visited Play Planet four times this season. On Monday afternoon, they had plenty of room to enjoy themselves, but that's not true some days, particularly weekends when children swarm the city's newest play structure.

"Saturdays are just crazy," Ron Wollschlager said.

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Sign, sign, everywhere a sign

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Local businesses struggling to lure customers amid the economic recession are battling yet another problem — competitors who advertise by placing hundreds of illegal signs along city roadways.

Gary Dillon, owner of Dillon's Jewelers on Wayne Road near Avondale, became so upset that last weekend he took down some 100 illegal signs, including some by out-of-town gold-party hosts that he said are muscling in on law-abiding businesses like his.

"I look at this guy almost as a robber," Dillon told the Observer.

Dillon brought the illegal signs he gathered to a Westland City Council meeting on Monday, tossing them in a heap on the floor and imploring city officials to address the problem.

While asking for help, Dillon reminded city officials that he paid \$21,000 in property taxes last year and donated additional money to local organizations like youth athletic groups.

"I can't put these (illegal) signs up," Dillon said, adding that law-breakers shouldn't be tolerated, either.

City officials acknowledged that illegal signs have created blight conditions and led to an unfair advertising edge against legitimate, taxpaying businesses. Mayor William Wild said the culprits often wait to erect their signs after the city's ordinance officers have finished their work week.

"Right now the biggest problem we have is Saturdays and Sundays," Wild said, in response to Dillon's concerns.

Dillon asked city officials to try to track down the offenders and issue tickets, which can lead to misdemeanor penalties ranging up to 90 days in jail

Please see **SIGNS, A2**

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Wayne Masonic Lodge: 'Share the Secret'

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Richard Ruhland and members of the Wayne Masonic Lodge 112 have decided to borrow a page from Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code*. They're want to "Share the Secret," although Ruhland is quick to point out that freemasonry really isn't "a secret society."

"We're a private society or moreover a fraternity of men. We go about our business without a lot of hoopla," said the Garden City resident. "We do a lot of community work. We just do it and it gets done."

The Wayne lodge has 788 members who come from Wayne, Westland, Garden City, Canton and many other communities including as far away as Monroe. They have toiled quietly, providing food baskets two to three

SESQUICENTENNIAL

What: 150th anniversary of Wayne Masonic Lodge No. 112

When: Saturday, June 27

Where: At the lodge at 37137 Palmer, east of Newburgh, Westland

What: There will be an open house from 10 a.m. to noon, light lunch served from noon to 1:30, a rededication by the Grand Master and

times a year to needy families. They have given 23,282 hours, the third highest in the state to the Michigan, to the Masons' Beacon Project, helping elementary teachers facilitate reading. Roosevelt School in Wayne is just one area school that has benefited from their work.

The lodge also has given countless hours to the Masons' Michigan Child Identification

Grand Lodge officers of the lodge at 2 p.m. and the burial of a time capsule. The lodge also is planning to bury a time capsule, containing items donated by members. The public is invited to attend.

Information: Call the lodge at (734) 721-7950 or visit www.waynelodge112.org.

Program since 2005, providing parents with packets containing everything they would need, if their child turned up missing. Some 1,400 children in the area alone have passed through the program, which has covered all of the elementary schools in Garden City and is now starting to service Wayne-Westland

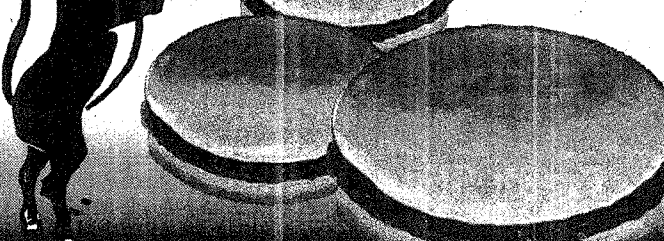
Please see **LODGE, A7**

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, PS Orangeo, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc. will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 3650 Enterprise Dr. Allen Park, MI 48101 (313) 441-3117 5/27/2009 at 12:00pm. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due. Personal property described below in the matter of:

Table with columns for name, ID, and item description. Includes items like bags, totes, snow blower, washer, cooler, dresser, table, tv, monitor, etc.

Publish: May 10, 2009

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Be a star

The Westland Stars Cheerleading and Dance Team is offering a summer program. Children ages 10-14 years or in the fifth-eighth-grades from Westland and the surrounding area can join the team for the first summer practice 6-8:30 p.m. Thursday, June 18, in the multipurpose room of the Westland Bailey Center, 36651 Ford in the civic center complex. Dress to work out and bring a water bottle. This summer we will be working on dances, cheers and be attending camp. Join in the fun summer. For more information, call the Bailey Center at (734) 722-7620.

Plant exchange

The Westland Garden Club will sponsor a plant exchange and garden item sale 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 16, at the Westland Historic Village Park, on Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill. The public is invited. For more information, call Maureen Davidson at (734) 728-1232 or Jo Johnson at (734) 522-3918.

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 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

ON THE WEB

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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.

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.

VFW events

Members of the Sgt. Stanley Romanowski VFW Post 6896 at 28945 Joy, east of Middlebelt, has several events planned for May. Up first is a Corn Hole Tournament at 8 p.m. Friday, May 15 (sign-up will be 7:30-7:55 p.m.), and a trivia tournament at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 30 (doors open at 6:30 p.m.).

And it will hold its last Military Breakfast until fall 9 a.m. to noon Sunday, May 17. The cost \$5 for adults. The breakfast is open to the public. For more information, call the post at (734) 525-9454 or visit its Web site at www.vfw6896.com.

Open House

McKinley Co-op Preschool will hold an open house 10 a.m. to noon Saturday May 16, in Good Shepherd Church, 6500 Wayne Road at Hunter, Westland. The preschool is now enrolling 2-5-year-olds

for fall 2009-2010 school year. McKinley Co-op offers morning and afternoon sessions in a fun and comfortable learning environment, affordable tuition and a teacher with more than 25 years experience. For more information, go online to www.Mckinleypreschool.org or call (734) 729-7222.

Preschool signups

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

Glow Skate

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

Friends of Eloise

The Friends of Eloise meets at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month at the Collins House, and the Westland Historic Society meets at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month, also at the Collins House in the Westland Historic Village Park, on Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill.

SIGNS

FROM PAGE A1

and a \$500 fine.

Council President Pro Tem Cheryl Graunstadt said she would support separate fines for every sign confiscated, but officials concede that part of the problem is catching the offenders in action.

Councilman Bill Johnson

said the city should call the telephone numbers or visit the addresses listed on the signs in order to track down offenders — and then ticket them.

Graunstadt also suggested that police officers on patrol could take down illegal signs that they see along roadways.

Wild and council President James Godbout said the city has been trying to figure out a way to beef up its enforcement against illegal signs on week-

ends, possibly by realigning some work shifts.

"Give us some time," Wild told Dillon, "and we will do a better job."

The issue arose on the same night that council members also debated the merits of allowing Kroger to have a temporary garden center in the parking lot at Ford and Central City Parkway — a move that critics say could hurt garden-related businesses.

Councilman Michael Kehrer said he is growing tired of businesses having sales in their parking lots.

Wild reminded officials that Kroger also has made investments in Westland, much like other businesses.

Ultimately, the council voted 6-1 to allow Kroger's garden center, with Kehrer voting against it.

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LIBRARY

FROM PAGE A1

on Sundays for the summer months.

Particularly on weekdays, Napsha and other library employees started noticing a need to expand hours to accommodate patrons who don't have home computers and who need to use public libraries to conduct business.

"We're so busy right now," Napsha said. "People need us as they look for jobs."

Increasingly, she said,

employers expect job-hunters to submit resumes, letters and other materials online.

"We're really trying to be responsive to the need," Napsha said. "These are unique times, and we want to be here for Westland."

On days when the library stays open until 9 p.m., it typically draws 1,100 patrons, while the number drops to 700 users on days when the facility closes at 5 p.m.

Westland Economic Development Director Lori Fodale, whose job entails creating new jobs, said she believes the longer library

hours will be beneficial.

"I think it's great," Fodale said. "The city should serve as a resource for the residents. Anything the city can do to assist people in finding jobs is a good thing."

The library also has foreclosure information packets available to help guide homeowners through a difficult process.

In another move, Napsha said the library also has a makeshift computer lab with eight laptops in a general program room, and starting next week reference librarians will start spending some of their

time, when possible, helping patrons in the lab.

"There will not be time limits on the lab," she said. "It will be open a minimum of three days a week, but the schedule is flexible, dependent on when we have a block of time available in the program room."

Napsha dubbed it a Recovery Assistance Lab and said it will be aimed specifically at patrons who need help finding jobs and handling issues like foreclosures.

"My staff is really stepping up for this," she said.

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

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property. Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, PS Orangeo, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc. will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 9300 Pelham Rd., Taylor, MI 48180 (313) 292-9730 5/27/2009 at 11:00 am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due. Personal property described below in the matter of:

Table with columns for name, ID, and item description. Includes items like tv, boxes, totes, dresser, grill, mattress, sofa, chair, table, motorcycle speakers, snow blower, stove, bikes, vacuum, etc.

Publish: May 10 & 17, 2009

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY. Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, PS Orangeo, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc. will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 24920 Trowbridge St., Dearborn, MI 48124 (313) 277-7940 5/27/2009 at 1:00 pm. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due. Personal property described below in the matter of:

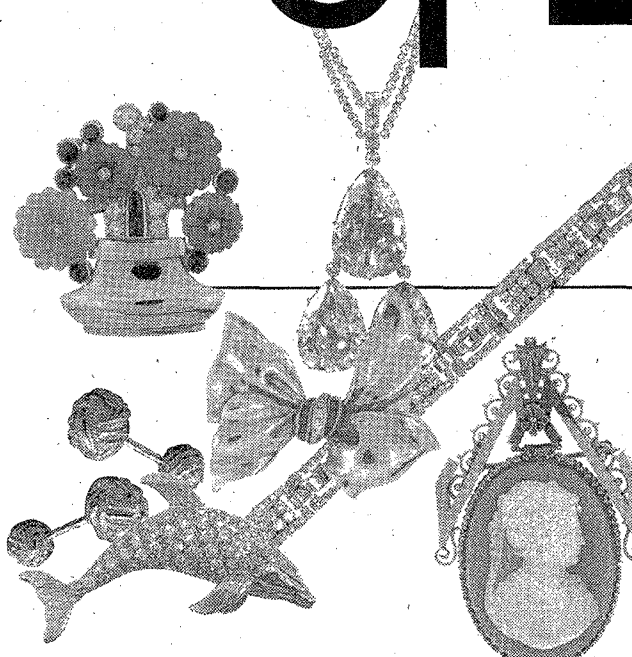
Table with columns for name, ID, and item description. Includes items like boxes, bags, totes, mattress, dresser, piano, stereo, etc.

Publish: May 10, 2009

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Mike's Marketplace advertisement with various meat and deli items on sale. Includes items like Ground Sirloin (\$2.69/lb), Chicken Breast (\$1.99/lb), Pork Chops (\$3.49/lb), Ground Chuck (\$2.19/lb), NY Strip Steaks (\$5.99/lb), Ball Park Franks (2/\$5), Sirloin Tip Roast (\$3.49/lb), Fryer Half (\$1.39/lb), Cube Steaks (\$3.49/lb), and Kowalski Hard Salami (\$3.99/lb).

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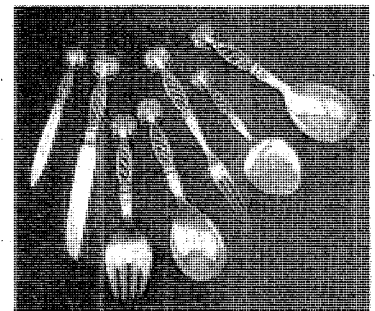
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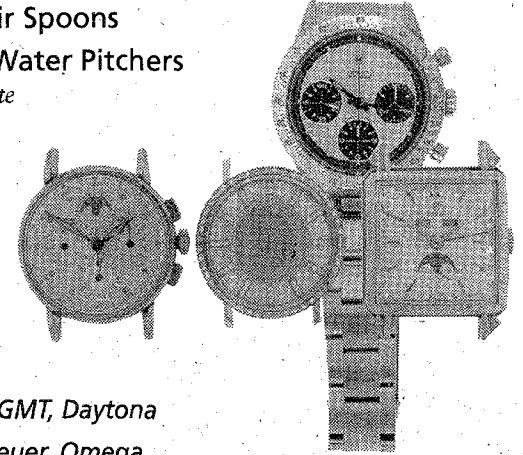
Pocket

- All Railroad-Approved Watches especially, Ball, Hamilton, Howard, Illinois
- All Gold-Cased Pocketwatches
- Chiming watches
- Military watches
- Fancy-Cased Watches (enamel, multi-color gold, diamonds)

Wrist

- All Patek Philippe, Cartier, Audemars, LeCoultre, Vacheron
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- All Chronographs - Breitling, Heuer, Omega
- Ladies Watches With Platinum & Diamonds, Covered Faces
- Gents Vintage Gold Case - Hamilton, Omega, Longines, Etc.
- Gents Diamond Dials

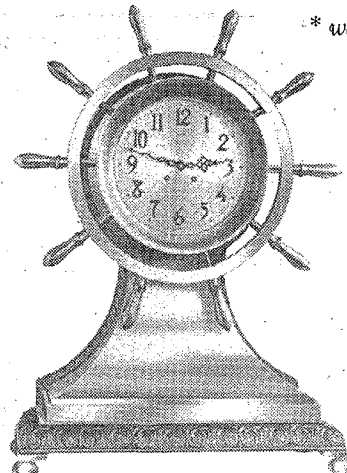
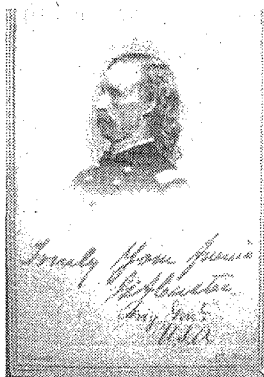
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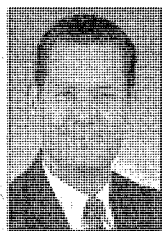
www.showroomofelegance.com

EDUCATION

1980 grad named John Glenn's Distinguished Alumni recipient

A 1980 graduate of John Glenn High School has been named recipient of its 2009 Distinguished Alumni Award.

Bob Gerber, who grew up in Westland and was the class valedictorian, will be honored during commencement ceremonies in June.



Gerber

Gerber earned a bachelor's degree in 1984 and a master's degree in public policy in 1985, both from the University of Michigan. He also attended Harvard Law School and graduated with a law degree in 1988.

After Harvard, Gerber moved to San Diego, Calif., where he was a law clerk for United States District Court Judge Rudi M. Brewster from 1988-1989. After finishing his clerkship, he began working as a trial lawyer at the law firm of Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton, first as an associate and then as a partner. Sheppard Mullin is one of the 100 largest law firms in America, and has offices throughout California and in New York, Washington, D.C., and Shanghai, China.

Gerber has practiced law

at Sheppard Mullin in San Diego for 20 years. His practice focuses on intellectual property and entertainment litigation, as well as professional liability litigation. He handles a variety of intellectual property matters in the entertainment and many other industries, including patent, trademark, copyright and trade secret lawsuits. He also advises companies and individuals on protection and prosecution of their intellectual property rights.

His practice also focuses on the defense of lawyers, accountants, directors, officers, brokers, insurers and others in professional liability claims and related insurance issues. He has significant experience in general commercial litigation, including securities law, real estate, products liability, contracts, banking law, partnership disputes, arbitrations and administrative proceedings.

Gerber is well-respected in the San Diego legal community and throughout the State of California by both lawyers and judges. He has been appointed or elected to leadership positions in judge/lawyer activities at the local, state and national levels, including Ninth Circuit Trustee, American Inns of Court Foundation,

president, vice-president, treasurer and master of the J. Clifford Wallace American Inn of Court, master of the Louis M. Welsh Inn of Court, appointed lawyer representative for the Southern District of California, chair of the Litigation Section of the State Bar of California, advisor and chair of the Legal Ethics Committee for the San Diego County Bar Association, member of the California State Bar Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation and co-chair of the Trade Secret Subcommittee of the Intellectual Property Litigation Committee of the American Bar Association's Section of Litigation.

Gerber also is the chair of Sheppard Mullin's Pro Bono Committee, where he coordinates the entire firm's donations of money and free legal services to the poor. He personally has donated thousands of hours of free legal services to the poor in his two decades of practice, including the representation of a Mexican teenager in a precedent-setting immigration case, Hernandez-Montiel v. Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Married, he and his wife Shelley have four children - Alex 16, Taylor, 14, Paige, 12, and Alyssa, 9.



A model participant

Citing 100 percent enrollment in the Wayne County Head Start program, Wayne County Commissioner Joan Gebhardt (right), D-Livonia, present Wayne-Westland Community Schools with a resolution at the county commission's full board meeting held at Westland City Hall on April 14. Head Start is a national program that promotes school readiness for preschool students. "Wayne-Westland Community Schools is a model Head Start participant," Gebhardt said. "They are funded for 323 preschool students, and they have been fully enrolled since they started the program. We salute the district's leadership for their tremendous oversight and administration of the program." Accepting a resolution was Bill Swartz, director of media services for the school district. Joining Gebhardt in the presentation was Cecilia Mobley, director of the Wayne County Head Start program.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Student's Name: Brittney DeJack, 17
Grade/School: 12th, Wayne Memorial High School and the William D. Ford Career-Technical Center
Parents: John and Robyn DeJack
Nominated by: Mark Valchine, Construction Technology II teacher
Why is she being nominated: Brittney is a non-traditional student in the Construction Technology II course at William D. Ford Career-Technical Center. Brittney is excelling in the class as we are building the house on Avondale. She is a



DeJack

member of the National Technical Honor Society, has more than a 3.0 GPA and placed second at the Regional Skills USA competition. She will compete

ing at the state level in Lansing April 24-26. Brittney has been awarded the Zebra Leadership Award, and is captain of the girls varsity soccer team at Wayne Memorial High School.

What do you want to be when you grow up: A construction manager
What do you like about school: Building our house in Construction Technology
What is your favorite subject: Construction Technology
Why: The class is hands-on. We are applying our skills to build a house which becomes someone's home!
Who are your role models and why?: Mr. Valchine. He takes the time to explain things, teaches us tips and tricks of the trade which make working easier.

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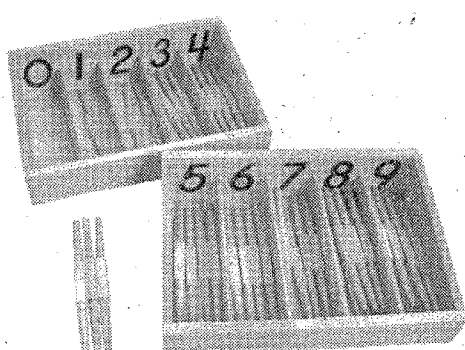
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Lead The Way AMA!





Marybeth Levine of the Detroit Area Diaper Bank and her two sons, David and Nathan, deliver 3,000 diapers to Kristen Chateau of Starfish Family Services.

Starfish gets diapers from bank

When it comes to diapers, Starfish Family Services has plenty.

A human service agency serving vulnerable families in southeastern Michigan, Starfish is the first recipient of diapers from the newly-formed The Detroit Area Diaper Bank, based in Canton. Starfish received more than 3,000 diapers to help families in the community provide a necessity for their babies and young children.

The average infant uses up to 12 diapers per day, a toddler eight per day. But in low-income households, a baby may be in a

single diaper all day or longer, increasing the risk of health problems from skin diseases to hepatitis. Diapers are the most requested donation item of Starfish families. The Diaper Bank was created to help fill this type of need.

"Our goal with launching The Detroit Area Diaper Bank was to partner with nonprofit organizations that work with families in need of diapers and build a network to help meet those needs," said Marybeth Levine, founder of the Diaper Bank. "Starfish is just the type of organization we were seeking to help alleviate some of

the stresses that their families face on a day-to-day basis."

The Detroit Area Diaper Bank's mission is to raise awareness about the unmet need for diapers among the community's most vulnerable populations - low-income babies, the elderly, people with disabilities - and build a network to help meet it. It recognized that people and families who need diapers most likely need other social services as well.

Starfish Family Services offers programs to help educate and empower vulnerable families and children in western Wayne County, including Westland and

Garden City. It provides free pre-school programs, a crisis shelter for teens, after-school and summer programming, an organic children's garden and a comprehensive array of behavioral health services.

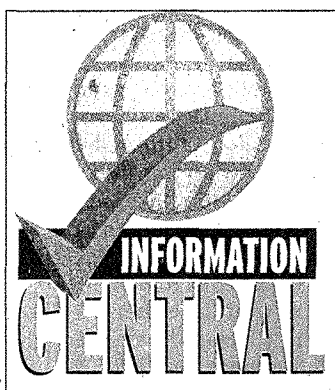
The agency serves nearly 8,000 children and their families at its numerous service sites each year. More information Starfish Family Services can be found online at www.starfish-online.org. For more information on donating diapers, visit the Detroit Area Diaper Bank Web Site at www.detroitareadiaperbank.org.

Find your superhero

Do you still get excited by the sight of primary colors, flowing capes, yellow star bursts of "POW"? Superheroes have emerged from the printed comic book page into the 21st century at full force while managing to remain entirely relevant to modern storytelling and pop culture. The classic characters continue to fight crime alongside more recent creations in movies, video games and newly published comic books and graphic novels.

Superheroes have infiltrated all areas of the library. They are thriving in the graphic novel area, with classics such as Spider-Man and Wonder Women battling for space with the slightly more recent X-Men. Defenders of the innocent are lurking in the fiction book collection in novels like "Captain Freedom" by G. Xavier Robillard or Austin Grossman's "Soon I Will Be Invincible." Reading books like these are a good alternative to comics for those who wish to operate under the guise of enjoying "grown-up" reading materials.

Create artwork using classic methods similar to that of D.C. and Marvel Comics by learning from Hansen's "How to Draw Superheroes." For a more contemporary perspective, check out the CD-ROM "Comic Book Creator" and explore the different ways to create comic books using cartooning software instead of a pencil and paper. Fiction and drawing books are not the only locations in the library where you can find comic and super-



hero related information. Look up the value of your old Batman comics in "Comics Values Annual" or "The Overstreet Comic Book Price Guide" to find out if your childhood pastime yields any monetary worth today. Popular with the young and old, there is no shame in indulging in a good comic book or graphic novel now and again. If you're feeling inspired to read stories of the caped crusaders who protect crime-ridden cities by night, but aren't exactly sure of where to look, stop by the library and we'll be glad to point you in one of the many directions where justice is being served in multiple formats.

Highlighted Activities

District Coffee Hour: 9 a.m. May 11, Faust Area.

Join State Sen. Glenn Anderson with State Rep. Richard LeBlanc for monthly district coffee hour. The library opens an hour early on these days for you to ask questions and share your concerns with your local

government officials.

Fireside Chat: 6 p.m. May 11, Faust Area

Join State Rep. Richard LeBlanc and Wayne County Commissioner Joan Gebhardt for an informal "Fireside Chat." They invite all Westland residents to join them in the Faust Area, where you can express your concerns about issues that matter most to you. They will update you with news from the state and the county.

ReferenceUSA Job Searching: 7 p.m. May 11.

ReferenceUSA representative Dan Greco will explain the basics of utilizing this resource as a job searching tool. After the presentation, he will be available to answer questions about making your job search as painless as possible.

Documentary Movie Night: "The Bridge," 7 p.m. May 12

Join us for the documentary film, "The Bridge." This is a documentary exploration of the mythic beauty of the Golden Gate Bridge, the most popular suicide destination in the world, and those drawn by its call. No sign-up is required.

20s/30s Book Club: 78 p.m. May 13, Biggy Coffee, 37644 Ford, west of Newburgh.

Up for discussion this month is Z.Z. Packer's "Drinking Coffee Elsewhere." Packer's stories deal with black men and women, mostly young and urban. Her carefully engineered narratives treat readers to the richness of highly developed characters and lead them to some

intriguing scenarios.

Special Presentation: "It's Howdy Doody Time!" 7 p.m. May 18

Join us in welcoming Edward Kean, co-creator of "The Howdy Doody Show." Kean is also the composer of the show's theme song "It's Howdy Doody Time" and is also the author of hundreds of "Golden Books." He will perform some original compositions and relate fond memories of his days in show business! Reserve your seat for this wonderful night of memories by calling the library at (734) 326-6123 or stopping by the Reference Desk.

Drop-in Knitting Nights @ the library: Every Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. Everyone welcome.

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

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Wayne Masonic Lodge: 150 years of history

In 1858, a small group of Masons - businessmen and farmers - living in and near Wayne asked the Phoenix Lodge in Ypsilanti for a recommendation to form the new lodge. That lodge agreed and with dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Michigan, the Wayne Masonic Lodge No. 112 was established on July 14, 1858.

Meetings were held in a room of an old building by the railroad tracks near Monroe Street in Wayne, until member William Steers offered the lodge space in a building he had built between Sophia and Monroe street in the 1860s.

In 1913, members decided the lodge needed its own building and purchase land for \$250 on what was called the Cheney block that had been destroyed by fire. A temple association was formed and non-dividend stock was sold for \$10 a share to finance the construction. The building was completed in 1914 for a cost of \$25,000.

While the temple was being built, the lodge met in the Reiser Building on Michigan Avenue. It had a membership of 263 men. During the years of prosperity, the lodge was able to furnish a room for aged and equip a hospital room at the Masonic Home and Hospital in Alma.

But during the 1930s and early 1940s, the lodge became dormant. However, there was a resurgence when members faced the prospect of losing the building. A new temple association was formed and with help from Frank Hoops, it returned to prosperity. The



Among members of Wayne Masonic Lodge No. 112 are Senior Deacon Garry Palucki of Garden City (front row, from left), Denis Scott of Westland, Robert Boyles of Wayne, Worshipful Master Bernard Brewer of Westland, Tiler Roger Moore of Wayne, Senior Steward Alex Hammond of Lincoln Park, Junior Warden Gilbert Albanice of Westland, Secretary Richard Ruhland of Garden City and Marshal Sam Fite of Canton.

lodge resolved to redeem the shares of stock by paying \$15 per share and by its centennial year had redeemed almost all of them.

Functions continued at the temple through 1964 when the city of Wayne started an urban renewal program that included numerous parcels of land including the Masonic Temple. The lodge received \$105,000 for the building and was allowed to stay in it as a renter

until it could find property and build a new temple.

With property in Wayne not large enough and too expensive, the building committee purchased land on Palmer Road in what was then Nankin Township. The new building was almost complete when the lodge moved in November 1965.

In 1966, Nankin Township residents voted to create the city of Westland. According

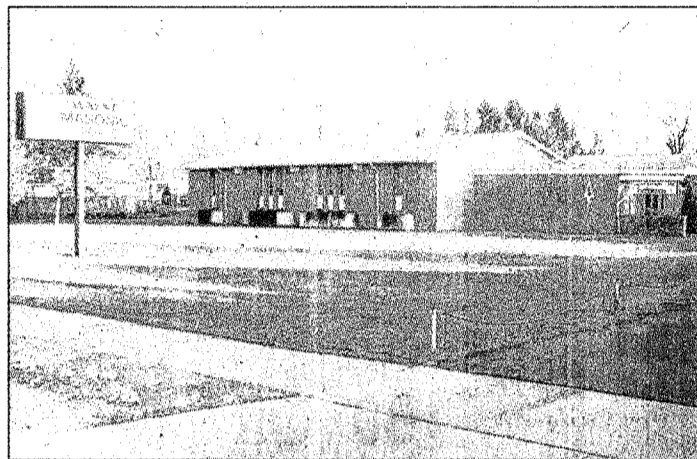
to a history of the lodge, it helped celebrate the city's first birthday with an open house on June 13-14 "so that the public may see what a progressive Masonic temple looks like."

Today, the lodge has 788 members, the largest in the state. Its membership over the years is filled with names prominent in western Wayne County history. Samuel Walker was the first Worshipful



COURTESY OF THE WAYNE HISTORICAL MUSEUM

The emblem of freemasonry - the compass and square forming the triangle of God - can be seen on the corner of the second story of the Wayne Masonic Temple in Wayne.



Urban renewal in the city of Wayne in 1964 prompted the Wayne Masonic Lodge to buy land on Palmer east of Newburgh in Westland and construct a new temple.

Master of the Wayne Lodge. He is the Walker in Walker-Winter Elementary School in Canton. Matthew Tinkham, who was a member at the time of the

centennial, is the namesake of the Tinkham Alternative High School in Westland. Wayne Mayor Al Hadius also is a member.

LODGE

FROM PAGE A1

schools, with programs at Taft-Galloway Elementary on May 27 and Hamilton Elementary on May 29.

It also has provided student assistance training designed to give teachers the tools to recognize children at risk of drug, alcohol and similar abuses. Close to 50 Garden City teachers and administrators have participated in the program, which also is now being introduced in Wayne-Westland.

The lodge annually presents scholarships to graduating students at Wayne Memorial and John Glenn High Schools. The money comes from dues — \$52 a year — fund-raising like garage sales, spaghetti dinners and donations.

"When we were in Wayne, we did Wayne High, when we moved here (Westland), we adopted John Glenn," Ruhland said. "We started out with two scholarships and have gone as high as eight. They've been up to \$2,000 each. And that's been over and above the member scholarships we give."

A BETTER PLACE

But beyond its commitment to making the community a better place, the lodge offers a sense of family to its members. It has an active Order of the Eastern Star for women, an International Order of Rainbow for Girls and Job's Daughters and is looking

to reactivate the Order of DeMolay for boys ages 14-18. In October, a group of lodge members formed Chapter 9 of the Michigan Masonic Motorcycle Association to promote fellowship.

"Masonry is a brotherhood, it offers integrity, friendship, growth and balance, that's what it gives me," said Ruhland who joined the lodge in 1991. "When I saw that Masons help kids for free on their own, I said that's what I want to be a part of."

Bernard Brewer is in his third year as the lodge's Worshipful Master, something that hasn't been repeated in 113 years of lodge history. He became a freemason after receiving a Scottish Rite ring from an uncle in Tennessee. He read some of his uncle's books and found the society "to be intriguing." He knew a few men at his work were masons, but didn't give it a lot of attention until he was "at a point in my life when I decided I liked what it stands for," he said. He joined the lodge in September 1998.

"I've always been one to help out" he said. "I'm someone whose not afraid to jump in with both feet," he said. "This is a place where if something happens to me, all the brothers will take care of my wife."

Brewer wasn't recruited or invited to join the lodge. In freemasonry, if a man wants to join, all he needs to do is ask.

That's what Denis Scott did in 1944. The Westland resident was the first in his family to join freemasonry. He joined

the school lodge at Sir Joseph Williamson Mathematical School in Rochester in the County of Kent in England, where he had studied in the 1920s.

"I thought it would be nice and it is," he said. "When I came here, I decided wherever I lived or bought a house, I would join."

True to his word, when he bought a home in 1958, he transferred his membership to the Wayne Masonic Lodge. He's celebrating his 65th year as a freemason and is one of the lodges oldest members in age along with Bob Boyles of Wayne whose been a freemason for 56 years.

FAMILY TRADITION

For Boyles, freemasonry is a tradition. His father, grandfather, father-in-law and brother-in-law are Masons and all of the women in the family belong to the Order of the Eastern Star.

"I get many things out of it, especially with the youth work," he said. "Seeing the young people blossom, the camaraderie — I get a certain amount of spirituality being a Mason. Sometimes I reminisce and get the feeling that I was put here for some purpose and I'm happy because I have fulfilled that purpose."

During his time in freemasonry, Ruhland has been active in the blue lodge — so called because brothers would walk to lodge meetings on the nights of the full moon — as well as serving for six years in the Grand Masonic Lodge of

Michigan, including time as the Grand Master.

"It gives you the opportunity to lead or be led, it's whatever you want to do," he added. "It gives you the opportunity to be social without the corruption

of the day."

"Freemasonry offers a true bond," Brewer said. "There's a togetherness that's almost like brother to brother. It doesn't matter if you're young or older, the bond is unique."

Men interested in more information can call the lodge at (734) 721-7950 or stop by the lodge during its celebration on June 27.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Closing celebration
St. Dunstan Catholic School is inviting all former school staff, students and families to attend the closing Liturgy at 2 p.m. Sunday, June 14. The school is closing after 45 years.

People planning to attend should call (734) 425-4380 or send an e-mail to stdunstanschoolsecretary@comcast.net by June 5. People who would like to contribute as a minister in the liturgy, singer or instrumentalist, should call the Parish Office at (734) 425-6720.

Be a Star
The Westland Stars Cheerleading and Dance Team will begin their summer program. Children ages 10-14 or in the fifth-eighth-grade from Westland and the surrounding area can join the team for its first summer practice 6-8:30 p.m. Thursday, June 18, in the multi-

purpose room of the Westland Bailey Center in the Westland civic center complex on Ford west of Wayne Road. Dress to work out and bring a water bottle. This summer the team will work on its dances and cheers and will attend camp. For more information call the Bailey Center at (734) 722-7620.

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". Please call Guardian Martial Arts & Fitness at (734)266-0565 to register now and for more details.

3-Day fund-raiser

A Breast Cancer 3-Day spaghetti dinner benefiting Susan G. Komen for the Cure will be held 5-8 p.m. Friday, June 19, at the CrossPointe Community Church, formerly First Baptist of Wayne, 36125 Glenwood, east of Newburgh, Wayne. Minimum donation is \$7 for adults and \$4 children age 10 and under. The dinner includes spaghetti, salad, beverages and dessert. Breast Cancer jewelry, mugs and Wendy's discount books also will be for sale. For more information, call (734) 564-6437.

Getting fit

Guardian Martial Arts & Fitness's is offering several programs for adults and children this summer. For adults, "Fierce to be Fit" will begin May 18, and run through June 26. Meeting at 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. Weight-ins, recipes and weekly incentive prizes will help Fitness Warriors to succeed on their path to great shape. • Martial arts and fitness expert Kelly M. Perkins will teach "Kids Get Growing." Kids ages 9 to 12 years will have fun learning to plant, grow and harvest a vegetable garden. This is a summer long program that will meet once per week on Wednesday afternoons at 2:00 P.M. 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

Bicycle Rally

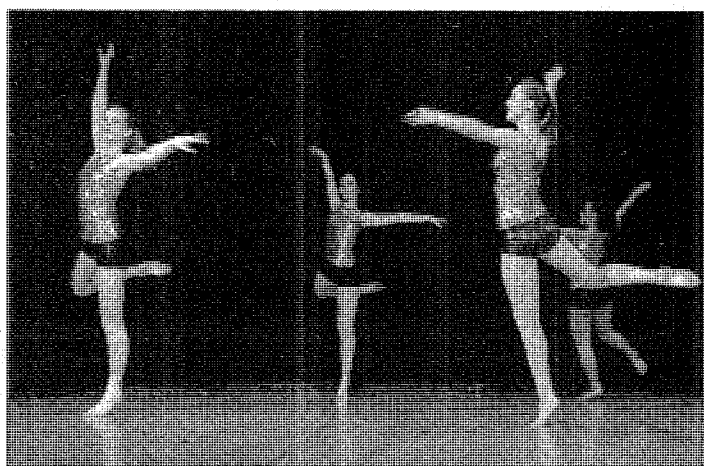
The Wolver-Bents Recumbent Cyclists will sponsor its annual Michigan Recumbent Bicycle Rally 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 9, at the pool shelter of Willow Metropark, located off Exit 11 of I-275 in southwest Wayne County. For those not familiar with the bicycles, recumbents have the rider sit on a chair-like seat instead of a narrow saddle, providing a very high comfort level. The event will consist of recumbent and bicycle displays, test-rides, recumbent dealers, a noon group ride, as well as a "buying your first recumbent" talk at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. The event is free and open to all bicyclists. For more information, go online to www.wolverbents.org or call (734) 487-9058.

Relay for Life benefits

Doo Wop for a Cause is coming to the Maplewood Community Center in Garden City on Saturday, May 16. Local entertainers will be putting on a Doo Wop and Oldies Show filled with music of the 1950s and 1960s. Come in your best 195-1960 era duds. Prizes for costumes that stand out. The show will be 6-10 p.m., and tickets are \$8 per person. They can be bought at Maplewood Center office. The event is being sponsored by Team "What About a Cure for Cancer" and the Garden City Relay for Life. The team also is sponsoring a Cutest Baby Contest during the Garden City Relay for Life at Garden City Junior High track May 30. Winners will be announced at 2 p.m. There's a \$5 registry fee with photo. Be sure to put the contact info - name, age, address and phone - on the back of the photo. Checks must be written to American Cancer Society and sent to the Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood, Garden City, MI 48135, attention Cheryl & Kelly. The deadline for registering is May 27.

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Petra Radman, Anna Quillen, Maria Idunat and Alicia Lustic, members of the John Glenn High School Dance Program, rehearse in advance of a performance at the Mr. JG contest last Thursday evening.

Glenn dancers present recital

Members of the John Glenn High School Dance Program are putting the finishing touches on 25 routine they will present as part of their spring recital Thursday-Friday, May 14-15. This year's recitals have themes and the music is based around them, according to Coach Carey Christian. Last semester, they did a "Tribute to the '80s" and this semester have chosen a them of "A Night at the Movies." The recital will feature several songs from the movie *Twilight*, as well as classics like *Harry Potter* and *Forrest Gump*. "The team has had a great time choosing music this time,

but I have to admit I insisted that the finale be from *A Night at the Roxbury*," Christian said. "We definitely enjoy having some fun with a few dances." The 11-member team is split in to three different groups - Company (advanced dancers), Prima (intermediate dancers) and Encore (beginner dancers). The program is designed for everyone - girls and boys - no matter what their dance background is, if any. "Members need to have the drive and commitment to the team," said Christian. "It's a lot of hard work, dancers only have one week, usually three classes, to learn a dance and polish it."

All dancers learn a jazz, ballet, hip hop, modern and lyrical routine. Prima and Company also perform a character heels dance and Company performs a tap dance. There are a total of 19 group dances, including the finale, along with nine solos and duets. The recital will be at 7 p.m. both days. Tickets are \$5 for high school students and under and \$7 for adults. Presale tickets are on sale at John Glenn during all lunches. Tickets also will be sold at the door. Members of the team include captains Petra Radman and Anna Quillen, Maris Idunat, Alicia Lustig, Versala Harris, Courtney Dobos, Allyson Shaker, Janae Pierce, Catilin Orsette, Rajah Ismail, and Kiera Means. "The girls have done a fantastic job this year and we have put together a show that has something for everyone," said Christian.

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General Motors proposes a reverse stock split

Q: Dear Rick: I heard that General Motors, in their latest restructuring plan, was doing a reverse stock split. Can you explain a reverse stock split? I currently own 1,000 shares of General Motors stock.

A: General Motors has filed a new plan of reorganization with the Securities and Exchange Commission that



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

includes a reverse stock split. The typical stock split is a 2-for-1 which means that for every one share of stock you own, you receive two shares. In your situation, if you had 1,000 shares of General Motors and they had a 2-for-1 stock split, you would have 2,000 shares.

The opposite happens in a reverse stock split. Following the split, you own less shares. According to the plan proposed by GM, the split is 1-for-100. That means for every 100 shares of General Motors stock you own in the new reorganized company, you will receive one share of stock. So instead of owning 1,000 shares you would own 10 shares.

One final note, whether GM enters bankruptcy or restructures outside of bankruptcy, the future for current shareholders is bleak at best.

Q: Dear Rick: I know your view on taxes and I respect it. However, whether it makes sense or not, I don't want to pay any more taxes than I have to. I just received \$50,000 from a settlement. I want to invest the money without having to pay any taxes. What are my alternatives?

A: Thanks for being a reader of my column and a listener of my radio show.

The one totally tax-free investment I recommend you consider would be tax-free bonds. They are tax-free from federal taxes, and if you buy Michigan tax-frees, they will be tax-free too.

There are other types of investments that do not have current tax consequences, but will be taxed in the future. For example, there are certain annuities that I like, in particular, fixed and equity-indexed annuities. These products grow tax-deferred but eventually, when you withdraw the money, the money is taxed at your ordinary income tax bracket. In tax-free bonds there are no income taxes. There is, however, one caveat and that is the Alternative Minimum Tax.

Although the AMT is not considered income tax, it is a tax. It is a very complicated tax to explain, but basically depending upon your income and your deductions, the income generated from tax-free bonds is subject to this tax. The consequence is that it removes the benefits of the tax-free investment. The only way to determine whether you are subject to the AMT is to run through the calculation using your last year's tax return as a guide.

In purchasing tax-free bonds, you have a couple of options. First, you can purchase the bonds individually from a brokerage house. Another option is using a no-load mutual fund. A mutual fund like Fidelity Michigan Tax-Free Bond Fund is tax-free from both state and federal taxes. The one caveat about purchasing a fund as opposed to an individual bond is that it is possible to have some capital gain exposure. In a mutual fund, the portfolio manager does sell bonds before maturity, thus, there is the potential of recognizing some capital gain tax.

One last note regarding buying tax-free mutual funds, if you buy a national tax-free bond fund, in other words, a municipal bond fund that contains tax-free bonds from numerous states, the portfolio would be better diversified but the income would be subject to Michigan income taxes. In addition, there are national tax-free bond funds that are alternative minimum tax free. Therefore, even if you

are subject to the alternative minimum tax, there are ways to avoid federal taxes.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at moneymatters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit Rick's Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com.

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.

The contest winner will be treated to a limo ride from Class Plus Limo, a makeover courtesy of Christine from the Beauty Salon in Birmingham, a \$100 gift certificate from Reaver Diamond Co. in

Southfield and a dance exhibition by the Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Bloomfield Hills.

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 mother. 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.

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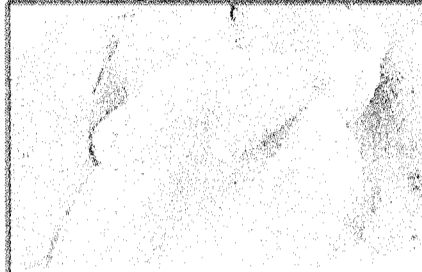
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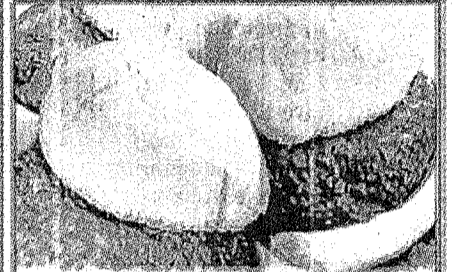
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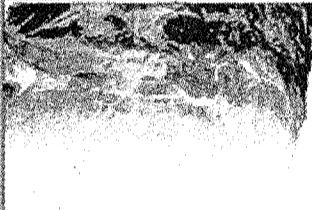
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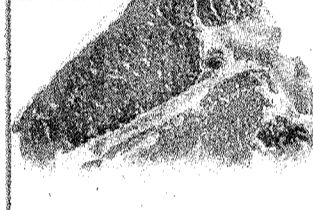
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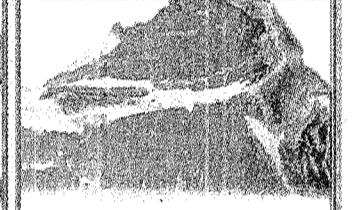
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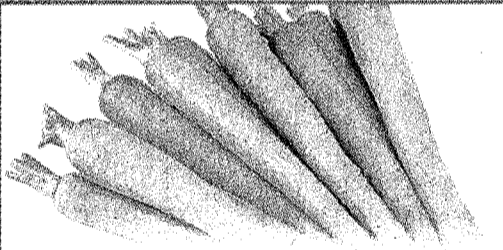


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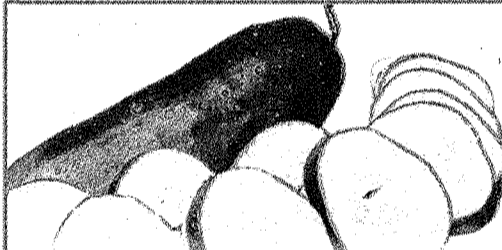


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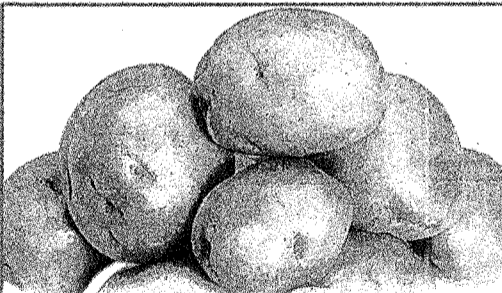
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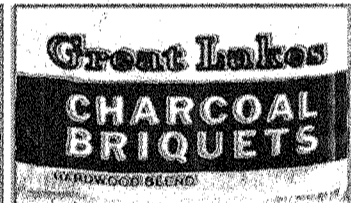


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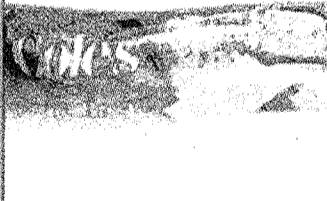
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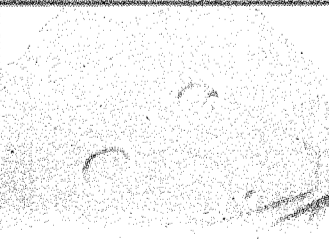


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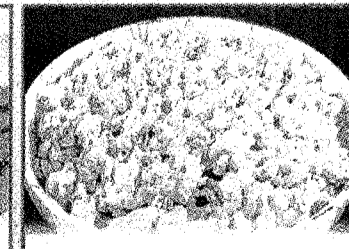
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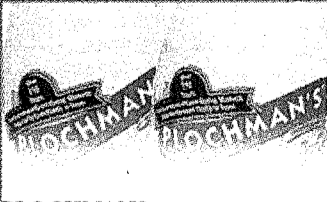
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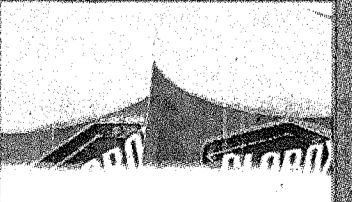
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HOMETOWN LIFE

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Stevenson's Emily Hollandsworth slides underneath the tag of Franklin catcher Brittany Taylor to tie at the score a 1-1.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Brittany's shot

Franklin catcher delivers game-winning double

BY BRAD EMMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Brittany Taylor seized a rare opportunity at the plate Friday and she didn't let it slip away.

With the score tied at 1-1 in the top of the fourth and runners on second and third, the Livonia Franklin senior catcher ripped a shot up the left-center field gap for a one-out, 2-run double and the Patriots went on to earn a 4-1 win in the first game of a double-header against host Livonia Stevenson.

The Kensington Conference crossover win kept the Patriots atop the KLA South Division standings at 10-0 and stay one game up on Canton.

Taylor, always dangerous when she steps in the batters box, had been hit by a pitch and walked in her previous two trips against Spartans' starter Laura Deacon.

Facing a 1-2 count with first base open, Taylor delivered and came home on a RBI groundout by Chelsea Williams to give the Patriots a three-run cushion.

"They let me hit, I was happy," Brittany Taylor said. "I really did get any swings, just the one time. The pitch was so good that I decided to swing. It was perfect, straight, right down the middle."

After Mariah Barcus doubled home

Please see **SOFTBALL, B3**



Franklin pitcher Natalie Sanborn makes the delivery against Stevenson. She held the Spartans to four hits in seven innings in a 4-1 victory.

Cieslak sets GLIAC mark in 10K race

BY BRAD EMMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Livonia's Kylan Cieslak is certainly a lesson in patience and perseverance.

Last November, the Northwood University junior missed out on going to the NCAA Division II Cross Country Nationals by one place after finishing seventh at the regional in the 6-kilometer run with a time of 22 minutes, 18.9 seconds.

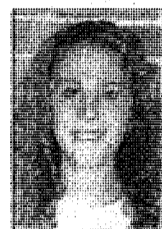
"It was very disappointing because I ran faster all season and thought I had a good chance," Cieslak said. "It did not work out. I've had better days. It wasn't a bad race. I knew going in it would be tough going to nationals."

"To go to nationals I had to get through a strong regional in the Midwest where there were a lot of fast runners. I knew it would be extremely difficult because there were a lot of strong athletes who all deserved to go."

Undaunted, the Churchill High grad earned a spot in the NCAA Division II Indoor Track and Field Championships, March 13-14, in Houston, Texas, where she finished 10th in the 5K with a time of 17:19.29.

But entering last week's Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Outdoor Championships, Cieslak stepped onto Hillsdale College oval and into uncharted waters.

And she made quite a splash when she obliterated the GLIAC record by 28 seconds in the 10K with a clocking of 35:36.08. She also shattered the Northwood school record by several minutes.



Cieslak

Please see **CIESLAK, B4**

GAME WRAPS

Prep girls soccer

JOHN GLENN 3, CLARENCEVILLE 0: Megan Nikula scored twice and Jenna Williams added another goal Friday as host Westland John Glenn (3-7) downed Livonia Clarenceville (3-8-1) in a non-league encounter.

"It took us 20 minutes to get into the game, then we took control," Glenn first-year coach Jimmy Mortada said. "We had good movement, good passing and looked really good. We got off 14 shots."

"It was Jenna Williams' day. She was amazing."

Andee Samborski recorded the shutout in goal for the Rockets, who led 1-0 at intermission.

STEVENSON 8, S.L. EAST 0: In a KLA South Division matchup Thursday, Livonia Stevenson (6-6, 5-2) scored all eight goals in the first half to mercy host South Lyon East (0-8, 0-11).

Dayna Stevens scored the game-winning just three minutes into the match from Shannon Merritt, who finished with a goal and two assists.

Brittany Hoots and Kelly Vellucci each tallied two goals, while Renee Boudreau and Krista Kane added one apiece.

Other assists went to Vellucci, Boudreau, Joelle Williamson, Samantha Gutkowski and Kassity Truxell.

Stevenson goalkeeper Michelle Krawczyk did not face a shot.

WAYNE 3, FRANKLIN 3: In a KLA South Division game Thursday, host Wayne Memorial (1-11-2, 1-6-1) and Livonia Franklin (1-10-2, 1-7-1) battled to a draw.

Megan Maynor, Alyssa Escobar and Samantha Dye scored for the host Zebras, who led 1-0 at halftime.

"We came out very flat and Wayne took advantage of that," Franklin coach Jen Barker said. "It took us nearly 25 minutes to get into the game and really start putting up a battle. We talked at halftime about how we were going to be successful going to goal and the team took it to heart. They worked hard in the second half and refused to back down."

Emily McCullen, Kenzie Meyers and Courtney Smith countered with goals for Franklin in the second half.

"Brooke Killeen did a great job in goal for us as a backup," Barker said. "All in all, I'm pleased with the result and the way the kids turned the game around after the first part of the first half."

PLYMOUTH 8, FRANKLIN 0: On Wednesday, host Livonia Franklin (1-10-1, 1-7) fell to the visiting Wildcats, who invoked the eight-goal mercy rule 10 minutes into the second half after leading 6-0 at intermission.

"We were battling some health issues tonight," Franklin coach Jen Barker said. "We were playing with one of our field players in the goal as ours was sick, and that threw our game a bit. We defended well, but seemed a bit unnerved with the change in goalkeeping."

Crusaders eye destinations

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics announced its schedule for pool play at the 2009 NAIA Softball National Championship slated for May 14-19 in Decatur, Ala.

In the 32-team field, No. 13-ranked Madonna University (51-9) is paired with No. 4-ranked Point Loma Nazarene (Calif.) along with Holy Names (Calif.) and McKendree University (Ill.), both of which received votes in the final Coaches' Poll of the season.

MU and Point Loma have already met once this season with the Crusaders taking home a 1-0 win in its season opener Feb. 28 in Tucson, Ariz.

The Crusaders, who will play once per day in pool play, open action at 2:30 p.m. Thursday, May 14 against McKendree (30-14) followed by a 6 p.m. Friday, May 15 matchup with Holy Names (24-16). MU wraps up action in Pool D at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, May 16 against Point Loma (44-11).

All games will be played at the Wilson Morgan Softball Complex.

Baseball No. 3 at-large

The Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference regular season champion Crusaders, 38-10 overall and ranked No. 16 in the final coaches poll, will be headed to the opening-round site of the NAIA Championships, which begins Tuesday in Sioux City, Iowa.

MU earned the third at-large baseball bid among 14 in the 46-team NAIA pool.

Rounding out Sioux City field is top-seed Bellevue (Neb.), No. 2-seed Fresno Pacific (Calif.), No. 4-seed Jamestown (N.D.) and the No. 5-seed Nebraska Wesleyan.

The third-seed Crusaders open play at 1 p.m. (local time) against Fresno Pacific, which was the second at-large taken in field. This marks the first time that the two teams have faced off in the history of the two programs.

Each of the opening-round site winners advance to the NAIA World Series, May 22-29, in Lewiston, Id.

Tie doesn't help Chargers' hopes

BY BRAD EMMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Livonia Churchill needs a win Wednesday night to have a legitimate shot at the KLA South Division girls' soccer title.

But Chargers could only muster a 1-1 deadlock against the visiting Chiefs, who appear to be in the driver's seat for the title. Each team has three division games left.

Canton, ranked No. 9 in the latest Division 1 statewide coaches poll, improved to 6-1-1 overall and 6-0-1 in the division. The Chief handed Churchill its only loss the year, 1-0.

Churchill, meanwhile, fell to 8-1-1 overall and 5-1-1 in the South. Each team has three division games remaining, with Canton's biggest stumbling block being a 7 p.m. encounter tonight against Plymouth.

Churchill got on the board first on Alyssa Mira's goal in

the 30th minute off a beautiful cross from Hannah Otto.

"That was one of the best high school goals I've ever seen," Churchill coach Dave Hebestreit said.

Canton tied it six minutes later when Lindsey Winters scored on a penalty shot following a corner kick.

"We were not composed in front of the net and it hurt us," Hebestreit said.

Goalkeeper Samantha McPartlin then held off the Chargers the rest of the way.

"Their keeper made two saves that were goals," Hebestreit said. "We had them about 10-3 in chances, but we got caught up playing their game."

"Canton plays a more direct style, while we try to knock it around, build and possess. I thought our four (defensive) backs played well. They (Canton) really didn't get in behind us more than once or twice."

GIRLS SOCCER

CHURCHILL 0, W.L. WESTERN 0:

Playing its third game in three days on Friday, host Livonia Churchill (9-1-2) settled for a scoreless draw with Walled Lake Western (6-2-5).

"I think we were a little fatigued," Churchill coach Dave Hebestreit said. "Western was organized, won headers and corner kicks, and did a good job controlling us."

"But overall it was a positive game by the back third and middle third of our team. I thought Alyssa Mira played well and Sara Bauman came in and gave us good minutes at center-midfield. She was a real catalyst when she came in."

Churchill hit two posts, while goalkeeper Stefanie Turner had to only make one save.

"We had a bunch of opportunities, but didn't finish and that's been our Achilles heel this year," Hebestreit said.

CHURCHILL 6, JOHN GLENN 0: Alyssa Mira scored twice Thursday as Livonia Churchill (9-1-1, 6-1-1) downed host Westland John Glenn (2-7, 2-5).

Bailey Brandon, Shari Zakalowski and Hannah Otto also scored for the Chargers. The other was an "own goal."

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CIESLAK FROM PAGE B1

"I never ran a 10K on a track before and did not know to expect," Cieslak said. "The (NCAA) time I was going for was faster than the GLIAC record. I heard the P.A. announcer saying that I was on pace to break the record. That was exciting. It got me going a little more. I was on the (NCAA) provisional time pace and it felt good. I went with it and kept rolling."

antee a spot at nationals, she was searching for an automatic time of 17:05 at a last chance meet. Cieslak, meanwhile, never wavered in pursuit of her goals. And she's made plenty of sacrifices to get there. "During the season it's definitely a lifestyle," she said. "You have to be very disciplined. The eating, lifting weights, the mileage - it all comes with the sport - and sleep, too, of course." Northwood's track and field program is in some ways still in its infant stages compared to GLIAC powerhouse Grand Valley State, where Cieslak's former Churchill teammate Megan Macerati has also qualified for nationals in the 5K after placing second in the GLIAC Championships with a automatic qualifying time of

17:03.94. "It's higher mileage, experience and hard work," Cieslak said. "We also have a good coach (assistant Rick Williamson) who knows what he's talking about. This is his second year. He came from Akron (University). He's transformed the girls' and the guys' programs and he's helped me this year." With one more year of eligibility, Cieslak doesn't plan to slow down anytime soon. She has already lined up a busy summer schedule where she'll try and maintain 90-mile weeks while working 40 hours per week as an intern for Blue Cross/Blue Shield in corporate marketing and products. She'll also travel in early June to Romania to take two classes toward her degree. Cieslak plans to graduate from Northwood this November with a degree in advertising, marketing and management. But first, she'd like to earn a spot in NCAA Division II cross country nationals and perhaps become a three-sport All-America.

hemons@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6851

THE WEEK AHEAD

- Friday, May 15 Stevenson at Churchill (2), 4 p.m. S.L. East at Franklin (2), 4 p.m. Northville at John Glenn (2), 4 p.m. Novi at Wayne (2), 4 p.m. Luth. Westland at Riv. Richard, 4 p.m. Clarenceville at M.H. Lamphere, 4:30 p.m. Saturday, May 16 Wayne at Wyandotte (2), 10 a.m. Madonna University Classic at Canton Softball Center, 1BA. (Public Schools of Livonia Invitational at Ford Field) Churchill vs. Stevenson, 10 a.m. Franklin vs. Clarenceville, noon. Championship final, 2 p.m. Consolation final at Franklin, 2 p.m. GIRLS SOCCER Monday, May 11 Plymouth at John Glenn, 4 p.m. Clarenceville at Harper Woods, 4:30 p.m. Stevenson at Salem (CEP), 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 12 Canton at Wayne, 4 p.m. John Glenn at Franklin, 7 p.m. Churchill at Plymouth, 7 p.m. Novi at Stevenson, 7 p.m. Thursday, May 14 Plymouth at Wayne, 4 p.m. Churchill at Franklin, 7 p.m. John Glenn at Canton, 7 p.m. Friday, May 15 Churchill at Rochester Adams, 7 p.m. Stevenson at Northville, 7 p.m. John Glenn at Lakeland, 7 p.m. Saturday, May 16 Catholic Finals at Ladywood, noon. BOYS & GIRLS TRACK & FIELD Monday, May 11 Plymouth at Franklin, 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 12 Churchill at Canton, 3:45 p.m. Harper Woods at Clarenceville, 4:30 p.m. Friday, May 15 Division 2 Regional at Ladywood, 9 a.m. Division 1 Regional at Canton, 9 a.m. Saturday, May 16 Division 3 regional at New Haven, 10 a.m. Division 4 regional at Luth. Westland, 10 a.m. GIRLS TENNIS Monday, May 11 Clarenceville at Wayne, 4:30 p.m. A.A. Gab. Richard at Ladywood, 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 12 John Glenn at Canton, 4 p.m. Churchill at Ladywood, 4 p.m. Stevenson at Salem, 4 p.m. Wednesday, May 13 Canton at Churchill, 4 p.m. Clarenceville vs. John Glenn at Livonia's Rotary Park, 4:30 p.m. Thursday, May 14 S.L. East at Wayne, 4 p.m. Friday, May 15 (Regional Tournaments) Division 1 at Novi M.S., 8 a.m. Division 1 at A.A. Huron, 8 a.m. Division 3 regional at Grosse Ile, 8 a.m. Division 4 regional at A. Greenhills, 8 a.m. BOYS GOLF Monday, May 11 W. Wayne Inv. at Walnut Creek, 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 12 Franklin vs. Wayne at The Woodlands, 3 p.m. Stevenson vs. Novi at Fox Creek G.C., 3 p.m. Wednesday, May 13 Churchill vs. Plymouth at Whispering Willows, 3 p.m. Wayne vs. Canton at Hilltop G.C., 3 p.m. Thursday, May 14 Stevenson vs. Northville at Tanglewood G.C., 3 p.m. John Glenn vs. Canton at Hilltop G.C., 3 p.m. Friday, May 15 Churchill vs. Franklin at Idyl Wyld, 3 p.m. John Glenn vs. Canton, Wayne vs. Plymouth at The Woodlands, 3 p.m. GIRLS LACROSSE Monday, May 11 Ladywood at Marian, 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 12 Ladywood at Univ. Liggett, 5 p.m. Friday, May 15 Ladywood at South Lyon, 7 p.m.

FORECLOSURE NOTICE This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for this purpose. If you are in the Military, please contact our office at the number listed below. MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by: Roderick L Dallas and Lashawn Dallas, Husband and Wife to Beneficial Michigan Inc., Mortgagee, dated June 4, 2003 and recorded June 13, 2003 in Liber 38498 Page 443 Wayne County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Fifty-One Thousand Two Hundred Ninety-Nine Dollars and Two Cents (\$151,299.02) including interest 8.720% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue, Circuit Court of Wayne County at 1:00PM on May 28, 2009 Said premises are situated in City of Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 621, of Canterbury Gardens Subdivision No. 1, as recorded in Liber 37, Page 66 of Plats, Wayne County Records. Subject to the existing easements for public utilities, driveways, building and use restrictions, and zoning ordinances of record. Commonly known as 18411 Prairie St., Detroit MI 48221 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 or MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c), whichever is later. Dated: APRIL 21, 2009 Beneficial Michigan Inc. Mortgage Attorneys: Potestivo & Associates, P.C. 811 South Blvd. Suite 100 Rochester Hills, MI 48307 (248) 844-5123 Our File No: 09-08703 ASAP# 3072874 04/26/2009, 05/03/2009, 05/10/2009, 05/17/2009

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NEIGHBORS

Mothers provide strong role models for their children

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER

Mothers teach children valuable life lessons. The *Observer & Eccentric* communities are filled with women who work hard to support their families while silently demonstrating a compassion for all human beings.

Juliann Tuthill of Canton let us know about Gladys Gotts, who turned 104 on May 4. A few may remember the family's farm on Ridge, between Ford and Cherry Hill, where the Gottses grew sweet corn and melons and raised milk cows. Her daughter Dorothy Richards especially admires the strength her mother showed when Richards' father Percy died at age 53 and Gladys had to sell the 80 acres of land in the 1960s. The couple raised three daughters in the Plymouth/Canton area.

"I was 20-something when dad died, but had a younger sister still at home," said Richards, 76, of Canton. "My mother went to work at Julian on the corner of Canton Center and Ford as a clerk. It was a gas station and sold groceries like a party store. She waited on customers and dished up ice cream. She wasn't a person to complain and always had a smile on her face."

A friend eventually got Gladys a job at the Ford plant in Ypsilanti.

"She worked in the office until she retired as a secretary," Richards said. "She persevered. She's a durable strong woman, but gentle. She's very healthy except for breaking her hip at 100. She asks for no help at all at the assisted living home. She doesn't complain."

Theresa Zakrzewski still marches in the Thanksgiving Parade in Detroit at age



80. The rest of the year, the Livonia woman volunteers at The Parade Co. and Angela Hospice in Livonia. She's had two knees and a hip replaced in the last four years, but keeps going like the Energizer Bunny. To stay healthy, Theresa does water aerobics and lifts weights in addition to walking two to four miles a day. In the summer, she golfs at the family cottage in Caseville.

"She's an active and free spirit," said Susan Zakrzewski, one of five children that Theresa and her husband Thomas raised during their 58-year marriage. "She keeps up on current events and family. She taught

us how important family is, to be objective and be independent, to always follow our dream and you're never too old to learn something new. I always tell people my parents were very political and charitable. She would shop at Stan's Market on Schoolcraft and would demand to see the box to make sure it's union lettuce. She really practiced her beliefs. You have to commit at all levels when something is important to you. She's very special and we love her dearly. We'll be planting flowers for her on Mother's Day."

TRANSCENDING DIFFERENCES
The Rev. Paul Perez learned

about cultural differences from not only his mother Jody, but father Ray. The 26-year-old man is director of program development at Newburg United Methodist Church in Livonia. Jody and Ray live in Livonia and raised three children.

"My mom is German, Irish and Dutch. Dad is Mexican heritage. Their marriage showed me love can transcend difference and that it takes more than tolerance, but trust, commitment," said Perez, of Rochester Hills.

Paul was named after his mom's favorite uncle, who died in a house fire when she was young. "She was the youngest of

the grandkids and her Uncle Paul was kind and paid attention to her," Perez said. "She taught me it's about remembering people. Reaching out in kindness was important to her and our family. His death made an impact on her, how fragile life is. My mom has tried to make the most of each moment."

"She's an X-ray tech for an orthopedist who treats deformities. She got to know the children. It's always very painful for them to get in positions for X-rays. Even though their bodies were in bad shape, she felt they were alive and deserved respect."

Becoming a father made Brian Spuck appreciate his mother Alice even more. Alice and Earl Spuck married in 1971 and raised two sons in Canton.

"You don't reflect upon the sacrifices they made to help you achieve your goals or dreams," said Brian Spuck, of Rochester Hills. "It's positive reinforcement that you can do it. They have confidence in us. That goes for my dad, too."

TRAVELING TOGETHER

Brian Spuck's memories of family trips remain today, including ones to compete with his Livonia soccer team.

"We took family trips to northern Ontario to my mom's family cottage, where we learned to appreciate the outdoors and nature," Spuck said. "We would take soccer trips. My soccer team would travel to Colorado, Florida, out east to Virginia and New York. It was a financial and time commitment from the time I was 5 through high school. I remember them being coaches when I was younger and just being there, my mom teaching my younger brother Doug's soccer team. "They gave us the confi-

dence to know the difference between what's right and wrong, taught us to treat people the correct way, and to do the right thing. When you become a parent, you appreciate how much your parents have done for you and continue to do for you and the sacrifices they make. My dad would drive me from Canton to Utica for soccer practice in rush hour three days a week. They put our development first. What we learned from them we apply to the next generation."

Brian's wife Angie couldn't agree more. Her parents, Laurie and Jack Downs of Garden City, raised three children. Brian and Angie have three children as well — Katrina, 5, Matthew, 3, and Sophia, 20 months.

"My mom is the strongest person I know," Angie Spuck said. "She's the oldest girl of six siblings and helped raised her siblings after her youngest sister had a closed head injury at 10. My mom was 17. She stepped up and took care of the others. The family fell apart when her sister died at age 31. She's the rock in our family. She taught me how to be a mom, to think for yourself, don't follow the crowd. She taught me how to be compassionate, how to put other people before yourself. When my kids get crazy, she helps ground me. We'll all be together this weekend for Mother's Day. We're going to have a fiesta because my mom's family is Mexican."

It's obvious Angie loves being a mom. "Seeing their little faces, watching them grow, seeing things you teach them, it's the coolest thing ever," Angie said. "You can't describe the feeling."

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SPRING FLING

Livonia Neighbors & Friends hold its Spring Fling Tea meeting 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 12, at Emmanuel Lutheran Church on Seven Mile, west of Gill, Livonia. New members are always welcome. For more information, visit www.geocities.com/livonianighborsand-friends/ or call Dorrie at (248) 777-3848.

The club was originally started as part of the Livonia Welcome Wagon and in 1975 separated from it and became Newcomers Club of Livonia. The club later changed its name to Livonia Newcomer's and most recently to Livonia Neighbors and Friends. The nonprofit women's club strives to establish and maintain friendships, mutual help, social relationships, and to take an active interest in the civic, social and moral welfare of the community.

HOMELESSNESS

The plight of the homeless in Detroit will be featured at the Citizens for Peace monthly meeting 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 12, at Unity of Livonia on the north side of Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads. The meeting is open to the public.

Fox 2 television's investigative reporter, Amy Lange, discusses homelessness here and elsewhere, shows videos and answers questions from attendees. Lange has been nominated for numerous Emmy awards and won an Edward R. Murrow award for a story on homeless veterans.

No admission fee, although the group will accept a \$5 dollar love offering. For more information, contact Colleen Mills, Citizens for Peace president, at cmills0079@yahoo.com or (734) 425-0079.

USED BOOK SALE

The Friends of the Livonia Library hold a book sale 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 15-16, and 1-5 p.m. Sunday, May 17, at the Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington Road, Livonia. Hardcover are \$1, paperbacks 50 cents, romances 25 cents, CD's and videos as priced. Sunday, May 17 a bag of books is \$5. For more information, call (734) 466-2495.

FRIDAY EVENING RECITAL SERIES

Cellist Robert deMaine and pianist Pauline Martin perform Bach, Beethoven and Brahms for the Friday Evening Recital Series 8 p.m. May 15, in the VisTaTec Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, Livonia.

Tickets are \$20 adults, \$10 students and available by calling (734) 462-4403 or online at www.schoolcraft.edu/music.

DeMaine has been praised by the New York Times as "an artist who makes one hang on every note." He has performed to critical acclaim as a soloist, recitalist, recording artist, and chamber musician throughout the world.

Martin continues to earn world-class recognition for her solo and chamber music performances and recordings. She has appeared as soloist with numerous orchestras including the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and appears regularly with the Detroit Chamber Winds and Strings.

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL FUND-RAISER

Plymouth Christian Academy presents its annual schoolwide Eagle Fund Fund-raiser, a Celebration of Excellence, Friday, May 15, in the Calvary Baptist Church Auditorium, 43065 Joy, Canton. The event features vocalist Cheri Keaggy at 7:15 p.m. as well as a strolling hors d'oeuvres buffet at 5:30 p.m., with a silent auction, and dessert and coffee After Glow reception.

Tickets are \$20. For more information, contact Julie

Dart at (734)-459-3505, Ext. 169, or JDart@plymouth-christian.org.

RELAY FOR LIFE BENEFIT

Garden City Relay for Life team Hunting for A Cure is having a bowling fundraiser May 15, at Westland Bowl, 5940 N. Wayne Road. Bowling is \$22 for 3 games, shoe rental and pizza. Sign in is 7:30 p.m. Call Bonnie at (810) 499-2092 or (734) 522-4458, or Kristina at (517) 376-3128 to reserve a spot.

YOUTH CONCERT

The Livonia Youth Philharmonic holds its spring concert at noon Saturday, May 16th at Stevenson High School on Six Mile, west of Farmington Road in Livonia.

Advance tickets are \$7 adults, \$5 children/seniors, and \$8 adults, \$6 children/seniors at the door. Contact David Lindenmuth, the organization's president, at (734) 634-5250 or dlindenm@me.com for tickets or information.

TRACING HERITAGE

The Western Wayne County Genealogical Society meets Monday May 18, at the Livonia Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia. The main speaker, following the 7:30 p.m. business meeting, will be Karen Krugman on "Stumble-My Favorite Way to Find Ancestors." Krugman will explain how stumbling has helped her find ancestors and how it can be applied to research. She is the current president of the Ford Genealogy Club. The 6:30 p.m. program topic will be announced. Meetings are open to the public. Guests

always welcome. For information, visit www.rootsweb.com/~miwwcgs/.

MEMORY SCREENING LECTURE

Dr. Theodore Ruza, psychiatrist and medical director of Botsford Hospital's inpatient geropsych unit and Diane Zide, executive director of Botsford Commons Senior Community's Senior Living Services, discuss the importance of memory screenings at the *Observer & Eccentric* Senior Expo 11 a.m. Tuesday, May 19, at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven

Mile, Livonia.

The Expo is free to the community.

The panel, conducted by Botsford Commons, is only one of many things to experience at the expo, which includes a number of exhibitors addressing a variety of senior issues.

Memory loss is certainly a concern of many senior citizens and their families. Alzheimer's currently affects more than 5 million Americans and is the leading cause of dementia in people over the age of 65, although Ruza stresses that proper

diagnosis is critical.

"Correctly identifying the cause of memory loss, or dementia, is so important, and can have a huge effect on a patient's quality of life," Ruza said, noting that dementia has many causes, some of which are reversible, such as vitamin deficiency and depression. "The quicker a true diagnosis is made, the sooner the best course of treatment can begin."

Botsford Commons Senior Community is a non-profit corporation providing housing and service options for seniors in Farmington Hills.

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Boot camp is the solution to dog's behavioral problems

After Clancy's stellar performance in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Royal Oak, my sister, Gwen, and I thought our worries were over. Finally our big blond Irish Wolfhound walked perfectly and never once tugged on the leash or ran off even though there were many distractions in this ultimate test of our obedience training.

Clancy once again was the poster child for bad boys. We'd just returned from shopping at Joe Randazzo's market in Westland when he pulled an entire bunch of broccoli from the bag on the counter. He ate all three stalks and left the rubber band which held the vegetables together. It was apparent that over the winter he'd forgotten all of his lessons. It was time to call Bonny Wainz, our trainer. She suggested we send him to boot camp to learn a few manners before he stole something poisonous or ran into the street and got hit by a car because he pulled the leash from our hands. Clancy left for Bonny's Boot Camp without looking back. He'd been working with Wainz for some time so he wasn't apprehensive about leaving with her. For Gwen and I it was a different story. Clancy had never been away from us since he was 8 weeks old. We

didn't want him to feel abandoned but we'd never forgive ourselves if he were hurt or killed. Wainz tailors her program to the individual dog and only works with one dog at a time in the boot camp. Clancy was about to learn he was no longer in charge.

SETTLING IN

Day one she let him explore her house and meet her dogs, Windy, Fireball and Eclipse, before beginning training. Normally she places the dog in a crate before and after each session but Clancy was too big so he stayed in the kitchen. This seemed like an ideal alternative since "counter surfing" is one of his problems. Wainz spent a lot of time making and then leaving bologna sandwiches on the counter for him to snatch. The lesson reinforced the thinking that she was leader of the pack. "While I was making the sandwich I declared two feet of space around me like an alpha dog declares a boundary while they're eating so no other dog can approach. If he came too close it was a body block and an 'Aaaat' (verbal warning)," said Wainz, owner of Alternative Canine Training. "Then I tried to set him up and left the room with a bologna sandwich on the kitchen table." Wainz hid around the corner with her mystical acoustic bag which she threw at his feet to startle him when he went for the sandwich. The bag contains a chain inside but doesn't hurt the dog. "It interrupts him so you can praise him for good behavior by saying 'good boy.'"



By the end of a week Bonny Wainz was able to walk Clancy (right) off leash with her dogs Fireball (left) and Windy. Wainz is a trainer as well as a behaviorist.

Every day Wainz set him up with different foods like liver-wurst. Clancy was so clever he started stealing only when no one was watching so she had to set up a surveillance camera. For those who don't have equipment Wainz suggests placing food on a plastic bag or something that makes noise so you can hear the dog trying to steal. In between the kitchen lessons, Wainz worked with Clancy on sit, stay, down and come. He already knew these

but didn't always respond. Next she taught Clancy to walk on a loose leash and finally off leash.

COLLAR TUG

"Before you can teach them anything you have to teach them to respect and listen to you. You have to get their attention. To walk on a loose leash they have to watch you. If they're ahead they're taking the leadership position," said Wainz. "They have to respect the narrow spaces like door-

ways to go outside. They need to know that leaders go first through narrow spaces. I used the old-fashioned European way of teaching him by continually working to get him to come off leash by attaching a clothesline to the collar and then tugging on it when the dog fails to come when called." For the real test, Wainz took Clancy to a dog park in Royal Oak and then walked him around the city. He passed with flying colors. Eight days after beginning the boot camp he was a well-trained dog, but what would happen when he returned home? Wainz showed us how to claim back our house from this stealing pooch. We blew up balloons and placed them on the kitchen counter and table to scare Clancy away from the broccoli we'd left there. Each program or

boot camp is tailored to the dog's problems. It worked. The moving objects left him leery of the broccoli. Next we walked through our neighborhood off leash. When he strayed I'd correct him with a Aaaat. Wainz guarantees the training and I'm sure we'll need refresher sessions but I think we're on our way to having an obedient dog. Clancy has a strong personality so it just took longer than our first three wolfhounds. I just didn't think he would be 3 years old. To contact Wainz, call (734) 462-2810 or visit www.alternativecaninetraining.com. Linda Ann Chomin is the health and community life reporter for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. She can be reached at lchomin@hometownlife.com or (313) 222-2241.

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The causes of joint and muscle aching include rheumatoid arthritis, lupus arthritis, gouty arthritis, osteoarthritis and psoriatic arthritis. This list is just the beginning of reasons why one can experience aching and swollen joints. A number of infections such as Parvo B 19 virus can present as arthritis; numerous medications can cause side effects that appear exactly like rheumatoid arthritis or gout.

Yet despite the list of known reasons for joint aching, instances occur when the doctor cannot find the cause of a patient's joint pain. At times, a thorough evaluation of the patient's history, physical findings, x-rays, other imaging and laboratory studies do not provide the information necessary for a diagnosis.

And without a diagnosis, a doctor is hard put to give a patient appropriate medications to treat the arthritis.

In such a case, how can a patient deal with the pain? First, the individual can be relieved that no underlying cancer, tumor or potentially life threatening problem exists. A thorough and sustained workup would uncover such conditions. Second, the individual should know that the vast majority of unsolved joint conditions eventually resolve. The body remains very good at healing itself.

Finally, the person with aching of unknown cause should make an effort to keep active, including daily exercise. Once the doctor has eliminated serious disease as the cause of arthritis, one can be assured that activity will not cause impairment. Rather, activity becomes the medicine of choice.

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HEALTH & FITNESS

Patients to benefit from hospital's residency program

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER

Patient care has changed since Dr. Kenneth Grimm was a resident at the University of Michigan Health System in the mid-1990s. While good teachers have always emphasized the importance of communication and the patient-doctor relationship the two qualities became essential to training after the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, which evaluates

and accredits medical residency programs in the United States, established six core competencies. Beginning in July 2010, St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia will follow the guidelines when implementing a graduate medical education residency program through an affiliation with the University of Toledo College of Medicine. About a year ago, Grimm began working with third year medical students. The move to train residents elevates St. Mary's status as

a provider of medical education.

A family physician, Grimm co-directs the St. Mary GME program with Dr. Jeffrey Yanez, an internist. Both are on staff at the hospital. Grimm earned his undergraduate degree at Johns Hopkins University in Maryland, medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia and was chief resident at U-M. He is an instructor at U-M and the University of Toledo and taught in the residency program for the Oakwood Health System for 10 years. He practices family medicine at Infinity Primary Care at the St. Joseph Mercy Health System's Medical Center in Canton.

St. Mary will initially offer residencies in family and internal medicine with the intent to expand specialties. Length of residencies vary depending on the specialty.

"Graduate medical education is a huge step for the hospital," said Grimm of Canton. "The University of Toledo already has students rotating right now. They don't have degrees yet. The residency program to start in 2010 is to train those graduated from medical school. They have a restricted educational license. They have to do a residency program and eventually sit for exam and become board certified. Two years of residency are required before you get a license from Michigan in family medicine. You wouldn't want a doctor to take care of you from just reading from a book. They can write prescriptions and orders but in a supervised setting. They will have an encounter videotaped with a patient. In family medicine we take the patient-doc-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

tor relationship very seriously. bedside manner and communicating so the patient can understand you, not looking at disease but the patients." Initially 12,000 patients a year will benefit from the residency program which is part of an agreement with Saint Joseph Mercy Health System and the university. St. Mary is a member of the Saint Joseph system.

"Over the last 20 years residency changed to center more on the patient, providing high quality patient centered care," said Yanez who started his residency in 1989 and is currently on staff at St. Joseph Mercy Oakland. "A graduate medical program benefits patients, gives a whole different look and feel to the

hospital. There's an additional person asking about their history, when did your pain start. It's continuing medical education with daily conferences, case reviews. This should enhance patient care. For physicians there's nothing like an inquisitive student asking you why. My job is to have a resident for three years, to evaluate the residents to make sure the community is getting the finest care possible. Did the resident explain everything to you well? Did they wash their hands before they examined you?"

In addition to increasing the quality of care, the residency program is expected to bring about 300 jobs to the area and add up to \$30

million a year to the local economy.

"We've been planning the program in earnest for about two years," said David Spivey, president and CEO, St. Mary Mercy Hospital. "It evolved as a natural next step in the evolution of our hospital. We've grown every year, made investments in technology. It's going to allow us to more completely fulfill our vision to be a comprehensive community hospital. We expect only to grow over time. The residency program will bring faculty on, create educational opportunity for medical students. We've long been involved in training nursing students through relationships with Schoolcraft College and Madonna University, radiology techs, lab techs, physical therapy. For the longer term we hope from a strategic point many of the residents will stay in southeast Michigan and St. Mary and St. Joseph Mercy Health System.

Grimm fears that in the future demand for primary care physicians could exceed supply.

"We're going to face work force issues," said Grimm. "The medical system is training about 90 percent in specialty, only 10 percent primary care. The program is going to increase the number of primary care physicians. Primary care residents usually stay in the area they train. I expect 50 percent will stay. For people in the area, that means improved quality of care. It's very good now but takes it to the next level with more ready access to primary care."

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