

WESTLAND OBSERVER

online at hometownlife.com

New jobs inside
today's Career
Builder - C1



Win Tickets:
Jonas Brothers
and more
hometownlife.com

AROUND TOWN

Free show

Westland's only live theater, Inspire Theatre, brings to the stage the film classic, *Father of the Bride*, the final show of the company's fourth season. But this show is different. One night will be free to the area's unemployed.

"We have a preview night before opening night to get the cast used to an audience. Contractually we can't charge for this and we wanted to offer the show to folks who would not normally be able to see the show," said Len Fisher, the company's founder and artistic director. "In searching for a group to offer the opportunity, it was actually my daughter Elizabeth, who plays Kay Banks in the play, who came up with the idea. I guess since she's unemployed, it made sense to her."

The play, well known for its two movie versions, is the story of a man trying to cope with all of the disasters that happen along the way from the time that his daughter announces that she's engaged until the wedding actually occurs.

Inspire Theatre got its start in 2005, when Fisher closed a church where he was employed and decided to launch his dream of live theater. The theater is located inside the Warren Road Light and Life Church at 33445 Warren Road at Farmington Road.

The preview will be at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 4. The theater only holds 95 and so seating will be on a first come-first serve basis. Doors open at 7 p.m. The other show dates are 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, June 5-6 and June 12-13. Tickets are \$12. Group rates are available.

For more information, call (734) 751-7057 or visit the theater's Web site at www.inspiretheatre.com.

Fill the boot

Members of Westland Firefighters Local 1279 will be taking to the streets Thursday-Saturday, June 11-13, to help raise money for "Jerry's Kids."

Westland firefighters will be at intersections throughout the city, seeking donations from motorists for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Firefighters have done a Fill the Boot campaign for several years for "Jerry's Kids." Last year, they raised more than \$6,153 to benefit local families, and they are looking to double that total this year.

Fill-the-Boot funds support MDA's services locally and nationally, including medical clinics staffed with specialists in muscle disease and accessible summer camp for kids. Local clinics and camps benefiting from Fill-the-Boot funds include Children's Hospital in Detroit, the Michigan Institute for Neuromuscular Disorders in Farmington Hills and three weeklong sessions of summer camp at Camp Cavell in Lexington. Local research is being performed at Michigan State University, Wayne State University and the University of Michigan. There are more than 1,800 families affected within the metro Detroit area.

For more information about the MDA, contact Sarah Grutza, program coordinator, at (248) 474-0235 or visit the Web site at www.mda.org.

City lands energy efficiency grant

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The city of Westland will be able to do some "big ticket" energy efficiency improvement, thanks to a federal Department of Energy grant.

The city is in line to receive \$731,100 as part of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program. Administered by the DOE's Office

of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, the money goes to local governments, Native American tribes, and states to reduce energy use and fossil fuel emissions and for improvements in energy efficiency.

"I think it's exciting," said Mayor William Wild. "We've basically been working with no capital outlay in the past several budgets. This will allow us to focus on big ticket items that we haven't had the funding in

the past to furnish."

Announcement of Westland's receipt of the grant was made by state Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, who voted for the plan which will invest federal stimulus dollars in local communities and schools.

"Local communities have energy efficiency projects ready to go," said Anderson. "This funding will help get them off the ground resulting in

job creation in our cities and lowering energy use, reducing operational costs in our communities for years to come."

According to Wild, among the big ticket items being considered are the repair or replacement of the compressor at the Mike Modano Ice Arena and older HVAC systems at the Westland Police Station and

Please see **GRANT, A2**



Fifth-graders Jessica Boyce (left) and Brianna Kolenc paint a meteor they made to display in a universe that hangs in a hallway at Hamilton Elementary School.

Project turns students into space travelers

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

You can see Saturn's rings or reach out and almost touch the moon and you don't need the Hubble telescope or the space shuttle.

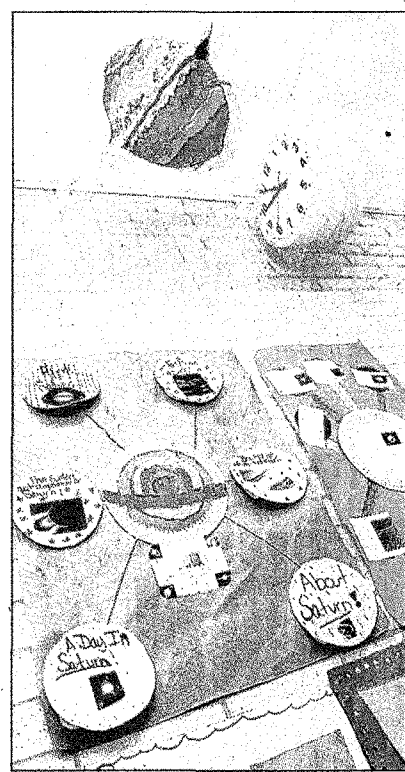
All it takes is a stroll through a hallway at Hamilton Elementary School, where Dana Chapman's fifth-grade students have re-created the solar system, complete with planets, comets, meteorites, the seasons and phases of the moon, a few famous astronomers and astronauts.

"I've done the solar systems before, but changed it up and made it more in-depth," said

Chapman. "The solar system isn't something kids read about and remember, they need to do something hands-on. They get tired of reading and imagining a scene."

Chapman, who team teaches, handling the mathematics and science for the fifth-graders, told the students what they needed to do and then left her classroom, leaving them to come up with their own ideas. They brainstormed and gathered information, then used it to create the solar system as well as posters explaining its different aspects. They even created astronauts, using pictures of themselves.

Please see **SPACE, A4**



The rings of Saturn are clearly visible to the naked eye in Hamilton Elementary's solar system.

Volunteers to 'rescue' Tonquish Creek

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Volunteers, lots of volunteers. That's what Robert Patterson needs on Saturday, June 6, when the City of Westland partners with the Holliday Nature Preserve Association to clean up Tonquish Creek.

The cleanup is one of 36 scheduled to take place as part of the 2009 Rouge Rescue. More than 3,000 volunteers turned out last year to clean up the Rouge River and its tributaries. Patterson is hoping for 100 volunteers to work from 8:30 a.m. to noon Saturday to help clean up and restore the creek, which is a tributary of the Middle Rouge River.

"We'll plant some trees and there's a lot of logjams, so we do need people with boots to get in the water," said Patterson, who works for the city's Community Development Department. "The work will be as easy as pulling weeds and picking up Styrofoam cups to chainsawing and getting nasty in the water."

The work will be along the creek at the rear property line of the Wilderness Park Apartments on Warren Road, between Central City Parkway and Newburgh. Volunteers should gather in the apartment complex's parking lot, where there will be a registration table.

Participants should wear long pants and long-sleeved shirts as well as shoes to prevent punctures. "Flip-flops would not be a good idea," he added.

Patterson is sharing site coordinator duties with Bill Craig of the Holliday Nature Association and Community

Please see **RESCUE, A2**

Index

APARTMENTS	C3
AUTOMOTIVE	C7
CAREER BUILDER	C1
CROSSWORD PUZZLE	C3
EDUCATION	A4
HEALTH & FITNESS	B7
MILESTONES	B5
NEIGHBORS	B5-6
OBITUARIES	B4
REAL ESTATE	C3
SPORTS	B1

For Home Delivery call: (866) 887-2737



Library's strategic plan: 'Visionary, realistic'

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Emily Hampton of Westland is a fan of her local library. She tries to visit it "at least once a week," more so for her children - son Cody, 10 months, and daughters Lily, 4, and Glory, 2 - than herself.

"I don't really have time to read for myself, so it's pretty much for them," she said. "I love the library."

Keeping patrons happy is the gist of the Westland library's strategic plan for 2009-13. It defines the library's mission as promoting education and lifelong learning; encouraging personal enrichment and supporting a vibrant quality of life within the community.

The strategic plan reveals some basic demographics of

Westland. Its 87,000-plus residents include 36 percent who live alone and 27 percent with kids under age 18. Average annual household income is \$45,000; 87 percent are high school graduates, with 17 percent have at least a bachelor's degree.

The information was compiled by a Community Steering Committee made up of Library Board members, staffers, city staffers and elected officials and community members. The group found that there were 260,000 library visits in 2006, up significantly from the year before, almost 60 percent of city residents have a library card and nearly half a million items circulate each year.

PLACE TO GATHER

The plan details a number

of goals, including making the library on Central City Parkway between Warren and Ford a social and cultural community gathering place. Hopes are to engage the community through outreach and targeted marketing, as well as supporting educational and economic development priorities of Westland.

Goals include improving service and library access, sustaining infrastructure and generating resources.

Cheryl Napsha, library director, cited a recent concert by musician Anne Feeney, as well as ongoing open mic nights, as cultural programming.

"We're doing a lot more programming particularly for

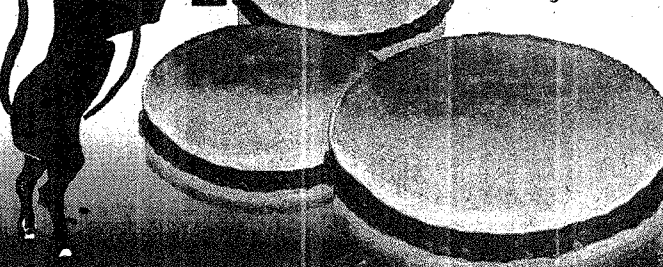
Please see **LIBRARY, A2**

5 Burgers for 5 BUCKS!

And... No Coupon is Necessary!

Drive-Thru Open at 7 am ...for Early Morning Burgers or Breakfast!

Fri. & Sat. Late Night Dining Until 4 am.



BRAY'S Hamburgers
35650 Ford Rd. • 2 Blocks W. of Wayne Rd.
734-722-2950

QE0865684

GRANT
FROM PAGE A1

Bailey Recreation Center. Lesser items on the list include energy-efficient lighting and water-efficient toilets.

"The compressor at the arena is 40 years old, this gives us the opportunity to make it more energy efficient," Wild said. "And we have to keep putting money into maintenance at the police station and Bailey Center every year."

The energy improvements were identified through state-conducted Rebuild Michigan Energy Services audit and were used in applying for the grant. The state surveyed the city's 10 largest buildings and provided information on what can be done to make city facilities more energy efficient.

Joanne Inglis, community development director, is the city's point person for the grant. She has attended meetings with the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments and Michigan Municipal League to get more information.

"We're still trying to get our arms around this," Wild said. "We haven't seen a check

yet, and with these programs you have to come back with a plan."

The city also has applied for other stimulus money, including money to help in the remediation of Central City Park which has been closed to the public since November 2007 because of lead contamination. The city has presented a plan to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to remediate 15 acres. A meeting is scheduled with the DEQ for Wednesday, June 3.

However, it appears that much of that money will now be used to prop up the state budget.

Wild credited Anderson with putting together a meeting with Michigan Economic Recovery Office Director Leslie Fritz.

"I think this is great news for the city of Westland and is evidence of the continual commitment on behalf of our community by Sen. Anderson and Rep. (Richard) LeBlanc in their work in Lansing," said Wild. "The meeting with Director Leslie Fritz was very helpful in our mutual efforts to ensure Westland is receiving the funds it deserves."

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

Cell phone business broken into 2nd time

Vandalism
Police responded to an alarm call early May 26 at Metro PCS, 4683 S. Middlebelt, and found the front window had

CRIME WATCH

The officer noted nothing had been stolen due to a large glass barrier separating the showroom from the merchandise. Damage to the window was set at \$450.

The owner told police there had been another break-in less

than a week earlier.

Retail fraud

An employee at Kroger, 31300 Michigan Ave., told police that a woman left the store carrying a purse that appeared to be very heavy and which was suspected to contain stolen meat. A security guard told police the woman got into a car driven by a man and fled.

Fraud

A resident on an apartment in the 35000 block of Sims told police May 26 that he had

found someone had opened a DTE gas account in his name at a second apartment. He said he hadn't authorized the account which now had an outstanding balance of \$1,089.

Larceny

The manager of Chatters Bar, 7640 N. Wayne Road, told police that the Kenos scanner was missing when she opened the business May 25. The scanner had been cut off the wall at some point but the night staff hadn't noticed it

was missing.

Break-in

The owner of Accurate Precision Machinery, 1021 Manufacturers Dr., told police that over the Memorial Day holiday weekend someone had cut the locks off two storage pods at the rear of the building. The owner said nothing was taken since raw materials which had been stored in the pods were recently moved into the building.

By LeAnne Rogers

LIBRARY

FROM PAGE A1

adults," she said. "We're trying to have the library serve as a community and social destination."

Napsha said cost is a consideration for programs, but not the only factor.

"There are a lot of academics and experts in this area," she said. "We're able to take advantage of a lot of expertise in this area."

Recent grants have helped, too, including one from the Michigan Humanities Council for February's exhibit on the Idlewild resort in Michigan, part of Black History Month. A grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities will fund "Picturing America," a year-long display of American art

at the Westland library.

Napsha noted all library directors would like to see circulation climb. She's pleased with library use and the number of residents with library cards.

"It's an indicator that Westland is a vibrant community, and the library is well-loved, so yes, I'm thrilled," she said.

Some libraries like Redford's have a small café, an interest cited in the Westland plan. That's not a short-term goal, Napsha said, but a possibility for down the road.

"I think it fits with the library as a destination. They come to stay," she said.

Staffers also would like to boost programming at the outdoor pavilion behind the library. There's a city-funded concert series now, which they'd like to piggyback on.

"It's such a great space," said

Napsha, adding that open mic nights could be moved outside in good weather.

She noted library use has increased dramatically, not just checking out of books. Internet computers are heavily used, and programs well attended. Many visitors bring laptops and books for study "and use us as sort of their living room. We're sort of the community's living room, or front porch."

The goal is to make the space inviting, she said, noting users often appreciate having more structure as it puts them in a studying frame of mind.

GETTING THE WORD OUT

The library uses the city newsletter to reach patrons with information. There's also a monthly library newsletter in print for adult subscribers. Library staffers would like to do more online in terms of

marketing and outreach.

The building has 34,000 square feet and opened in 1996. Expansion is possible down the road, and surrounding land is available.

"I think it is a real possibility particularly in partnership with the city," said Napsha, adding that the library needs more "people space," including meeting rooms for four-six people, "more quiet space but also more noisy space."

The action plan is designed to grow and meet community needs. It details the first phase of 18 months or so, and further plans will be developed beyond that for the second phase, Napsha said. The plan's available online at the library's Web site, www.westlandlibrary.org.

"I was really pleased with the plan," said Napsha. "We tried to make the plan both visionary and realistic."

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

OBSERVER NEWSPAPERS
WHERE HOMETOWN STORIES UNFOLD
GANNETT

HOW TO REACH US

Home Delivery/Customer Service.....1-866-88-PAPER (866-887-2737)
Newsroom.....(313) 222-2223 Fax.....(313) 223-4650
Classified Advertising.....1-800-579-SELL (7355)
Display Advertising.....(734) 582-8363

online at hometownlife.com
615 West Lafayette, Detroit, MI 48226

RESCUE

FROM PAGE A1

Development Director Joanne Inglis.

The Rouge Rescue effort began in the mid-1980s, focusing primarily on trash removal and logjams, but has expanded to include the removal of invasive species, woody debris management, native plantings,

nature walks, bird box building and trail revitalization and similar activities.

Patterson has been involved with the Rouge Rescue for 17 years. Initially, the focus was on the Lower Rouge in the Venoy-Michigan Avenue area, but shifted to Tonquish Creek when the city partnered with the Holliday Nature Preserve Association.

Volunteers have taken out old tires and shopping carts,

in some instances filling the bed of a pickup truck with trash, and have cleared logjams preventing the creek from eroding its banks during heavy rains. The variety of work to be done Saturday makes the Rouge Rescue a family- or child-friendly activity. In the past, Cub Scout packs, families, and even students from Livonia Churchill High School have helped out,

And the work is paying off. "Tonquish Creek is getting cleaner and cleaner to where we're shopping around for locations," Patterson said.

People interested in helping with the Rouge Rescue can contact Patterson by e-mail at rpatterson@cityofwestland.com. Volunteers will receive T-shirts and refreshments will be provided.

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

GREATER DETROIT ROOFING & CONSTRUCTION, INC.

Over 30 years Experience!

"When you need your job done right the first time!"

Roofing

- New or Repaired
- Tear-Off or Recover
- Copper Flashing
- Flat Roofing

Gutters

- New 5" or 6" Systems
- 25 Colors or Copper
- Leaf Protection

Blown-in Insulation

GAF
GAF MATERIALS CORPORATION

BBB
BUREAU OF BUSINESS

NATIONAL ROOFING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

New roof as low as \$1.95 sq. ft.

Up to \$250 off complete roof job with coupon

Tax credits are available at 30% of the cost up to \$1,500 in 2009 & 2010

ENERGY STAR

Need a Roof? Call today!!!
(248) 960-1555
www.greaterdetroitroofing.com
12379 Globe • Livonia, MI 48150

Residential Specialist • Owner Supervised • Senior Discounts • Licensed & Insured
License # 2102169182

City gets ready for curbside recycling

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The last week of June will be an exciting time for Westland Mayor William Wild, as the city begins to implement its curbside recycling program.

That's the time line for the first pickup of recyclables from single-family homes, the first phase of the project in the works for about a year with a consultant's help. Rolling containers with a lid, in a distinctive blue, will go out to residents in the next couple weeks.

"Westland's going to be the leader in curbside recycling," the mayor told Westland Rotary members and guests May 28. He praised the "single stream recycling" in which residents will be asked to rinse food containers but won't need to sort them or peel labels off containers.

Residents will obtain the larger-size blue container at first, although a smaller one

will be available for those with special needs. Wild said the larger wheeled container can be moved easily by older people.

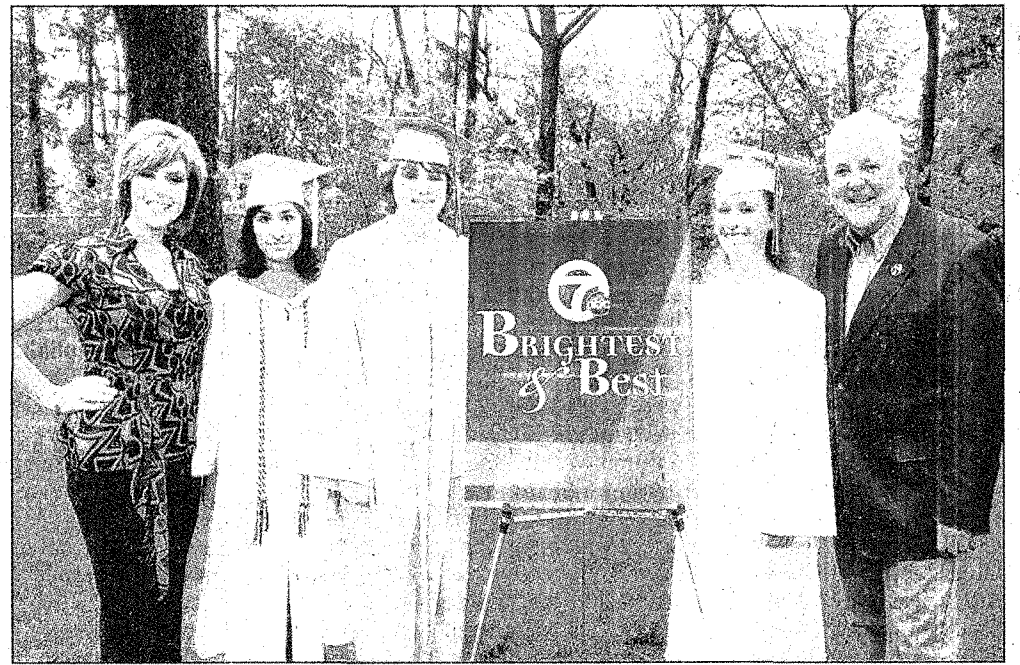
Great Lakes Recycling in New Boston will take the Westland recyclables, including ceramics, pots, dry cleaning bags and other items that are hard to recycle. Pickup from homes will be biweekly, although regular trash will still be collected weekly.

"We're going to reward folks for doing this," the mayor said of recycling. Residents will get a computer-coded card and Republic Waste Hauling will scan pickups for rewards from the RecycleBank business. Residents will earn rewards points for such businesses as Dick's Sporting Goods or Costco, which can be tracked online or via an 800 telephone number. The program with RecycleBank also allows donations to groups like the Salvation Army.

"Every business in the city of Westland has a chance to get involved," said Wild, noting that Westland Shopping Center was the first local business to sign up. The nationwide RecycleBank program does well on the West Coast, and Wild's heard compliments about it from other mayors he's talked with.

There will be no extra charge to residents, with costs covered by current sanitation funds. Phase two will include multiple-family dwellings, including apartments and condos, with the third phase - businesses - to follow, most likely next year.

"We're getting good feedback from the community," said Wild, adding the average RecycleBank rewards are \$240 a year per home to be pumped back into the local economy. The city will continue its Department of Public Services recycling yard for car batteries, motor oil, computer parts and old TVs.



Brightest & Best

Alicia Smith, anchor for Action News This Morning and reporter (from left), poses with WXYZ-TV Brightest & Best honorees Asra Najam of Westland, from John Glenn High School, Shawna Waiser of Garden City, from Garden City High School, and Kayla Stockdale of Westland, from Huron Valley Lutheran High School. Joining them is Erik Smith, anchor for Action News This Morning. The students were among 250 high school seniors honored by WXYZ-TV/Channel 7 for excellence in academic, extracurricular and community pursuits.

Recount complete, but challenge continues

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Wayne County Board of Canvassers has completed a recount of election results for the Livonia Public Schools board election.

Challenger Roger Spence, who lost by 10 votes to incumbent Dan Lessard May 5 and petitioned for the recount, said the recount shows he actually lost by just six votes or possibly five, if the board approves his challenge on another vote for Lessard.

Only if the board recounts

a box of absentee ballots from Westland — which had a seal on the box but was not closed entirely, according to Spence — and those recount results changed the vote totals further would Spence have a shot at winning the election. The board decided not to recount those results.

The board will meet again to discuss the recount and hear any challenges from the candidates at 10 a.m. Tuesday in the fifth floor of Livonia City Hall.

Spence said there were two fewer Lessard votes in Precinct 4A and one less in Precinct 9A.

He also gained one vote.

Spence expects to challenge on Tuesday one absentee ballot that he thinks may have an erased vote that was counted, along with the board's decision not to recount the AV box.

Spence was told by someone assisting him in the challenge that that voter may have intended to erase a vote for Lessard, but Spence did not directly witness this at the recount.

On the ballot box in question, Spence said: "There was a seal on it that wasn't tightened and it could be opened in front. I immediately challenged that."

AROUND WESTLAND

Pool opens

The 2009 season has kicked off at the Bailey Recreation Center's outdoor pool. Pool hours now through June 12 will be 3-6 p.m. weekdays and noon to 3 p.m. and 4-7 p.m. weekends. The regular season starts June 13 and will feature an array of "theme" nights for the entire family, including "Two for Tuesday," "Wacky Wednesday," "Family Night Thursday" and "Flotation Friday." The Bailey Center is at 36651 Ford Road, behind Westland City Hall. For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

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.

An open house and reception will follow.

Inspire Theatre

There's sure to be laughter as the wish for a simple wedding turns into a big affair when the Inspire Theatre presents *Father of the Bride* Friday-Saturday, June 5-6 and 12-13, inside The Warren Road Light and Life Church, 33445 Warren Road, west of Venoy, in Westland. Show time is 7:30 p.m., and tickets are \$12 each. For more information, call (734) 751-7057 or go online to www.inspiretheatre.com.

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 this summer. For more information, call the Bailey Center at (734) 722-7620.

Association meets

The Westland Condominium Association will host its next meeting 7-9 p.m. Monday, June 1, inside the clubhouse of Westland's Woodview Condominiums, located on the northwest block of Central City Parkway and Warren. The agenda includes Westland's recently-launched curbside recycling program, the association's annual vendor's fair and general updates. Coffee, juice, and cookies will be served.

Used book sale

The League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County will hold their used book sale Friday-Saturday, June 26-28, at the Westland Shopping Center Wayne and Warren roads, Westland. There will be a preview 6-8:30 p.m. Thursday, June 25, and cost \$3. Hours will be 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. June 26-27 and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. June 28. Most books and magazines will be priced at \$1 or less; videos, CDs and DVDs will be individually priced. To donate, call (734) 421-4420.

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 (except July, August and December) at the Collins House in the Westland Historic Village Park, on Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill. For information, call Jo Johnson (734) 522-3918.

Prison families

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

Leadership skills are found and forged in environments where expectations and encouragement are always high.

Faith-based schools build poise and self-assurance in ways that are unique and innovative. In our classrooms and our chapels, on our stages, courts and fields of play, we provide the challenges that help your children develop the independence and confidence to stand alone, and the ability to contribute equally well within the dynamics of a team. It's all part of providing an education for life, and faith for living.

SRS Secure Retirement Solutions, Inc.

Don't let your 401(k) become a bailout for the government!

If you've recently left a job, or plan on leaving soon, you need to know about John Hinnegan's S.M.A.R.T. action plan, focused on protecting your retirement savings from needless and/or excessive taxation.

Discover how this dynamic tax savings program can help you learn how to...

- S**ave you up to 20% in taxes on company stock portions of your 401(k).
- M**aximize income to your beneficiaries!
- A**void penalties and unnecessary government withholdings.
- R**ecognize the mistakes that can drastically impact your retirement accounts.
- T**ake advantage of depressed account values.

Copyright © 2009 by Ed Slott and Company, LLC

John Hinnegan specializes in retirement planning and has been helping individuals work toward achieving their long term goals for over 12 years. As a member of the **Ed Slott Elite IRA Advisor Group™**, John Hinnegan has learned the advanced strategies that can help you toward maximizing your retirement savings by minimizing taxes.

Don't just sit there... get S.M.A.R.T.

Call (734) 542-3919 today to request complimentary tickets to an upcoming educational workshop in your area!

Visit us at www.secureretirementsolutionsinc.com.

John Hinnegan, Investment Advisor Representative of, and Securities offered through USA FINANCIAL SECURITIES - Member FINRA / SIPC - Registered Investment Advisor 6020 East Fulton Street - Ada, Michigan 49301. 0985681

Opening in August 2009

Concordia Lutheran School

A tuition-based, congregation supported association school.
A Christian Day School with Elementary School Grades 1-8 and Full Day Kindergarten

NORTH CAMPUS:
Located at 28705 Middlebelt Road corner of Eight Mile and Middlebelt Roads Farmington Hills, Michigan 48336 248-474-2483

SOUTH CAMPUS
Located at 9600 Leverne south of Plymouth and east of Inkster Roads Redford, Michigan 48239 313-937-2233

New Student Open House Dates
Wednesday, June 24 7 PM—South Campus
Thursday, July 16 7 PM—North Campus
Tuesday, August 11 7 PM—South Campus
or call for a tour

www.ConcordiaLutheranSchool.org
is a ministry of

Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Church
Redford, Michigan
Rev. Paul J. Undlin, Pastor
www.hosannatabor.org

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Farmington Hills, Michigan
Rev. John W. Meyer, Pastor
www.stpaulsfarmington.org

EDUCATION

ACHIEVERS

Andrew Galuszka recently received a bachelor of arts degree in criminal justice and political science from the University of Michigan-



Galuszka

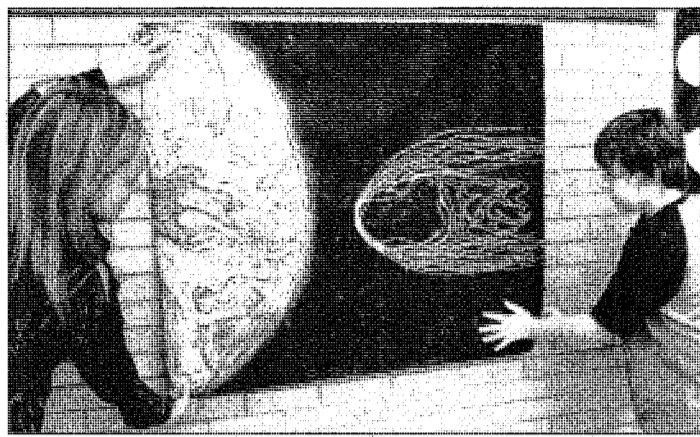
Dearborn, graduating with high distinction.

A graduate of John Glenn High School, he has been an intern at the Wayne County Prosecutor's

Office for almost a year and also served as a Westland Police Explorer for seven years, volunteering in the community and preparing for a career in local law enforcement.

Galuszka plans on attending a regional police academy this summer.

Lauren Perry received a bachelor's degree in English in creative writing and theatre with a minor in journalism Albion College on May 9, receiving a degree in English. She is the daughter of Leslie and Judith Perry of Westland and a graduate of John Glenn High School.



Fifth-grade teacher Dana Chapman and student Trent Best look over the drawing he did of a meteor heading towards the earth.

SPACE FROM PAGE A1

Trent Best worked with Luke Bellamy in creating a meteorite poster in just two days. The first day they gathered the information and the second day did their drawing.

"Luke did the meteorite, I did the flames," said Trent. "I did the land parts on the earth and we both did the water and the iceberg. I think I need to darken the flames."

Trent also offered an explanation of a meteorite. The 11-year-old pointed out that a meteor breaks off an asteroid in the solar system. Once it gets close to earth, it becomes a meteorite and "burns up because of the gases," he said.

In fact, being able to answer questions about the solar system, like what is a meteor, was part one of the requirements for the project.

"I wanted to make sure they could answer questions," said Chapman. "Those who couldn't had to look up the answer. This was their main grade for science. They were graded for presentation and

participation." Chapman selected a hallway in the rear of the school that has no classroom to erect the solar system. Youngsters in the lower elementary who pass through it got their first glimpse of the universe.

"The little kids tell us they like our planets," she said. While Trent was working on the meteors, Kendra Pennington and Kendall Wegehaupt were turning a balloon covered in papier maché into the earth. Luckily, the balloon didn't blow up like some of the planets. She also worked on posters filled with earth facts. Her astronaut talks about how much water is on earth — two-thirds of the planet is covered with water — and who discovered it was round.

"The posters have everything, the earth has a moon, the earth's core, what's in it," she said. "It took about two days to research, writing it down took another day."

Kendra liked the project because she got to know more about the solar system than from just reading about it. "I also got to hold the earth



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Making clay meteorites are fifth-graders Brandon Qualkenbush (from left), Brande' Towalski, Hope Grondy and Sarah Puckett.



Students "astronauts" offer facts about the solar system to anyone who walks through the display.

in my hands," she said. This was the first time Chapman used a hallway to create the solar system and her students loved the idea. "With a project like this, they get engaged, they get involved," she said. "They own it."

Visit us online at hometownlife.com

With Flagstar checking, you'll land \$100 and a whole lot more.

It starts with a great offer and goes way beyond, to provide you the banking experience that's kept Flagstar customers so satisfied with great rates and terms, the best rewards program anywhere, free nationwide ATMs and unmatched personal service. So call us and learn how to ...

Get **\$100** when you open a Flagstar checking account!

OR

Get **2%** interest when you open a Flagstar checking account!

Flagstar
The new wave in banking

Member FDIC | (800) 442-0039 | www.flagstar.com

KNOW THE SCORE: Check out the numbers in today's Sports section

CENTRAL CITY DANCE
"A Leap Above The Rest"

Leap into Central City Dance Center

Voted 3rd Best Dance Studio in Michigan 2008 by cityvoter
Community Supporter Award 2006 recipient
Business of the Year 2004 nominee

\$5 OFF Summer Dance Jam
\$10 OFF Fall Registration
New Customers Only

734-459-0400

8004 Sheldon Center Road • Canton
www.CentralCityDance.com

Central City Dance Center's SUMMER DANCE JAM

5-Weeks of Summer Dance Fun
July 7th - Aug 6th

Classes for the Entire Family to Enjoy:
PRESCHOOL PROGRAM, HIP HOP, BALLET, TAP, JAZZ, CONTEMPORARY, YOGA, FITNESS, ALL BOY & ALL ADULT CLASSES AVAILABLE

FREE WEIGHT LOSS PROGRAM

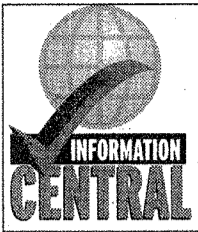
Keith J. Pierce, MD
Internal Medicine
38525 Eight Mile Road
Livonia, MI 48152
248.321.6612
Call for Directions!

NEW PATIENTS

*\$100 deposit or 2% interest rate available for new personal checking account customers only (no existing Flagstar checking account). To qualify, open a new personal checking account with a minimum deposit of \$50 and set up an automatic, recurring direct deposit of income of at least \$250 per month, excluding interest deposits. Direct deposit must be established within the first 60 days of account opening. \$100 bonus will be deposited into your account within 30 days after the first recurring direct deposit takes place. All accounts must remain open and active for a minimum of six months. If checking account is closed within the first six months, Flagstar reserves the right to reclaim the \$100 deposit and interest bonus. 2% interest rate is accurate as of 5/14/2009 and is guaranteed for 12 months after account opening. Maximum deposit is \$100,000. Funds may not currently be on deposit with Flagstar Bank. Offer good only when opening a Flagstar interest-bearing checking account. Account fees could reduce earnings. Direct deposit must be established within the first 60 days of account opening or the rate is reduced to current rate. See your Flagstar representative for more details. Flagstar will issue a 1099 for the \$100. Offer not good in conjunction with any other coupons or checking account offers. Some restrictions apply. Limit one \$100 deposit or 2% interest rate offer per customer per account. Offer subject to change or cancellation at any time without notice.

Tiananmen Square: 20th anniversary

On June 4, 1989, hundreds of Chinese civilians were shot dead during demonstrations in Beijing's Tiananmen Square. Spurred by the death of pro-democracy leader Hu Yaobang on April 15, a few thousand demonstrators, mainly students, peacefully started gathering outside of Beijing. Eventually, millions of people throughout China joined in the call for economic change and democratic reform in their government. By April 21, more than 100,000 protesters gathered in Tiananmen Square and occupied it for several weeks. After several failed attempts at getting the people to leave, the Chinese government decided on a military offensive to control the masses. Martial law was officially declared on May 20, but the military could not enter Beijing because of the number of people blocking them. Disunity within the army added more difficulties.



Eventually, soldiers from the 27th and 28th divisions of the People's Liberation Army were sent to take control of Beijing. The PLA used tanks, bullets and tear gas to clear the streets. The actual assault on the square began the night of June 3. Throughout the day of June 4, tanks rolled over vehicles and people in the square while soldiers shot wildly into the crowds.

Some of the most famous footage from the event was taken on June 5 when a lone man stood defiantly in front of a line of tanks. After refusing to move from the tanks' path, the unidentified man was pulled away by police.

It is believed that he was executed as the Chinese government never could produce him after worldwide outrage was voiced.

After the crackdown on June 4 in Beijing, protests continued throughout mainland China until the government finally gained control, followed by troops beating and killing those suspected as coordinating the protests. Reports on number of deaths vary. The Chinese Red Cross estimates 5,000 killed and 30,000 injured. NATO

counts 7,000 deaths while Amnesty International counts 1,000. The Chinese government gives the official figure of 241 deaths and 7,000 injured.

To find out more about the Tiananmen Square massacre, the Public Library of Westland is a great place to start. "The Tank Man" is a DVD on the unarmed man who stood before the tanks on July 5, 1989, and attempts to discover his identity. "The Legacy of Tiananmen: China in Disarray" by James A.R. Miles and "China Since Tiananmen:

Political, Economic and Social Conflicts" will provide more information on the effects of this tragedy.

Stop by at the reference desk, call us at (734) 326-6123, or remotely search our catalog 24 hours a day at www.westlandlibrary.org.

Highlighted Activities
flickr: Storing and Sharing Your Pictures Online: 2 p.m. June 2.

Learn how to set up a flickr account at www.flickr.com and organize and

share all of your digital photos online. Bring digital photos you want to use on a flash drive or CD-ROM. Prerequisite is basic computer knowledge and Internet 101 or previous experience using the Internet. Seating limited, sign-up required.

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

Specializing in Residential & Commercial Restoration & Custom Brick Work

Dan's Custom Brickwork

882 York St. • Plymouth, MI 48170

Chimneys & Porches Repaired and Rebuilt

Tuck Pointing & All Other Brick Work

Natural & Cultured Stone Installation

1.734.416.5425

Free Estimates
 Licensed and Insured

KITCHEN REFACING

\$500 Countertop*
 Includes Installation
50% SAVINGS OR MORE!

FREE ESTIMATES

cabinet clinic
 The Leader in Cabinet Refacing
West 734-421-8151
North-East 586-751-1848

www.cabinetclinic.com
 * Limited time offer-50 sq. ft. max. with refacing installation.

Mike's Marketplace

Hours: MON.-SAT. 9-9
 SUN. 9-7

38000 Ann Arbor Rd. Livonia
 (734) 464-0330

Your Meat & Deli Supermarket

SUMMERTIME FUN

SALE VALID JUNE 1-JUNE 7

Fresh Ground Beef GROUND \$2.19 lb. CHUCK Family Pack

Boneless • Great on the Grill BUTTERFLY \$3.49 lb. PORK CHOPS

Boneless • Skinless CHICKEN \$2.49 lb. BREAST Family Pack

Boneless SIRLOIN \$4.99 lb. STEAK

Fresh Ground Beef GROUND \$2.69 lb. SIRLOIN Family Pack

Great on the Grill BBQ FRYER \$1.49 lb. HALVES

Boneless SIRLOIN \$3.49 lb. TIP ROAST

Boneless NY STRIP \$5.99 lb. STEAKS 6 Steak Value Pack

All Meat • 16 oz. pkg. BALL PARK 2/\$5 FRANKS

Fresh Sliced from the Deli Lipari Oven Roasted TURKEY \$3.99 lb. BREAST

Check our website for additional specials! Mikes-marketplace.com

GOODS • FLORAL SUPPLIES • SILK FLOWERS • WEARABLE ART • CRAFTS • FRAMES • CUSTOM FRAMING • CHRISTMAS SHOPPE • NEEDLE ART • FABRICS • ART SUPPLIES • CARDS & PARTY SHOP • CANDLES & SCENTS • GIFTS • HOBBIES • HOME ACCENTS • BASKETS • SEWING NOTIONS • SEASONAL

Scrapbooking 50% Off

Categories Shown

- All Scrapbook Papers
- Entire Stock of 3L & Paper Studio Scrapbooking Adhesives
- Entire Stock of Chipboard & Gemstone Embellishments
- Entire Stock of Scrapbook Totes & Organizers
- Entire Stock of Scrapbook Page Kits
- Entire Stock of Paper Punches & Punch Sets
- The Paper Studio & Stampabilities® Stamping Sale!
- Decorative Pillows, Tassels & Rugs
- Home Accent Categories Shown
- All Garden Décor
- Portrait Frames & Document Frames with Glass
- Metal Sectional Frame Kits
- Collage Frames
- Unfinished Wood
- All "Carnival Craft" Products & All Items Tagged "Summer Crafts"
- VBS & Summer Crafts
- Floral Categories Shown
- Floral Arrangements
- Floral Stems
- All Stepping Stone Kits, Mosaics & Accessories
- Paint & Pencil By Number Kits & Fuzzy Posters
- Crafting Categories Shown
- Colored Sand
- Gessoed Panels, Artist Claybord™, Aqua Board & Pastel Board
- All Construction Paper & Poster Board
- Art Storage - Bags, Boxes, Portfolios & Cases
- Jewelry Charms
- Base Metal Jewelry Beads
- Jewelry Shoppe Base Metal Jewelry Findings
- Art Supplies Categories Shown
- All Tempera Paint, Window Writers & Poster Markers
- Self-Sealing Storage Bags
- Jewelry Making Categories Shown
- 54" Home Dec Fabric Prints, Solids & Sheers
- Royal & Langnickel Single Brushes & Brush Sets
- All Sharpie Markers
- Omega Cotton Sinfonia Mercerized Sports Weight
- Coordinates
- Needleart Categories Shown
- Taffeta
- Eyelet
- Entire Stock of Calico Prints & Solids
- Yarn Bee Riot Eyelash
- Fashion Fabric Categories Shown
- Broadcloth & Batiste
- Sparkle Organza
- All Children's Needle Art Kits
- All Plastic Canvas Shapes

HOBBY LOBBY

STORE HOURS: 9-8 MONDAY-SATURDAY • CLOSED SUNDAY

Canton
 Ford Road at Lilley, west of Ikea
 734-983-9142

www.hobbylobby.com

Buying a home: Check details on credit, deduction

Q: Dear Rick: I'm in the process of buying my first house and my Realtor mentioned one of the advantages of buying a house now is a substantial write-off on taxes this year. My sister bought a house last year and told me the problem with the extra deduction is you have to pay it back. Can you help me sort this out?



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

A: Both your sister and your Realtor are correct. The important thing to keep in mind is that we are talking about two different tax years.

Last year, if you were a first-time homebuyer and you purchased a home between April 9, 2008, and Dec. 31, 2008, you were eligible to take a credit up to \$7,500 on your 2008 tax return.

A credit is worth more than a deduction. A credit is a dollar-for-dollar reduction off your taxes while a deduction reduces your taxable income. For example, let's assume that before taking advantage of the credit your tax liability was \$10,000. If you had a \$7,500 tax credit, your new liability would only be \$2,500. On the other hand, the tax savings would be substantially lower with a deduction. If your tax bracket was 33 percent, the direct reduction in taxes would be \$2,500 and you would still have a \$7,500 liability (\$10,000 x 33 percent = \$2,500; \$10,000 - \$2,500 = \$7,500 in tax liability).

In 2008, the tax law was different for first-time homebuyers. The credit received in 2008 eventually must be paid back. Beginning in 2010, the tax credit must be paid back in 15 equal yearly installments. Therefore, your sister is correct. In her situation, because she is required to pay back the credit, it is not worth as much.

However, your situation is different because 2009 is a different tax year and tax laws constantly change. In 2009, first-time homeowners are eligible for a 10 percent of the home purchase price with a maximum of \$8,000. Therefore, if you purchase an \$80,000 home (\$80,000 x 10 percent = \$8,000) you can, dollar-for-dollar, reduce your taxes by \$8,000.

Unlike the 2008 first-time homeowner credit, the 2009

credit does not have to be repaid as long as you live in the home for at least three years. It is important to understand that not all taxpayers are eligible for the 2009 credit. There are income limitations. The 10 percent credit phases out as income rises.

In 2009, if you are single, the first-time homeowner tax credit begins to phase out at \$75,000 while for a married couple, the

phase out does not begin until \$150,000.

What is interesting about the new first-time homeowner tax credit is that you can actually claim the credit on your 2008 tax return. As long as you purchased the home between Jan. 1, 2009, and Nov. 30, 2009, you have the option to claim the credit on either your 2008 or 2009 tax return. If you have already filed your 2008 tax

return, you can actually file an amendment to that return.

The advantage of claiming the credit on your 2008 vs. your 2009 tax return is you get your money sooner than waiting to file your 2009 tax return.

The 2009 first-time homebuyer tax credit is a real savings and something that homeowners should factor into the equation. However, don't make the mistake of overextending. Even

though the tax credit is a real savings, don't factor that savings into the equation when deciding how much you can afford for a new home. Look at the tax credit as a one-time bonus to be used for unexpected costs as opposed to purchasing a more expensive home.

This is an excellent opportunity for all first-time homebuyers to achieve part of the American dream — homeown-

ership. Don't make the mistake many Americans frequently make and that is to end up not owning their house but rather, allowing their house to own them.

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.

verizonwireless

Connect more. Spend less.

Now a Family SharePlan® comes with Friends & Family®

With any Nationwide Family SharePlan 1400 Anytime Minutes or more. (Activation fees, taxes & other charges apply.)*

At no extra cost, you get:

- Unlimited calling to your top 10 numbers, on any network, even landlines, anywhere in the U.S.
- Unlimited calling with our 80 million customers on America's Largest Mobile to Mobile Calling Family.
- Plus, unlimited Night & Weekend Calling.

It's the best value in wireless!

THINKING ABOUT...
CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING?
LENNOX

Receive up to a \$1,200 Rebate*

FREE ESTIMATES
(734) 525-1930
Our 35th Year!

UNITED TEMPERATURE
8919 MIDDLEBELT • LIVONIA
www.unitedtemperatureservices.com

Fisher Funeral Home
Family Owned and Operated

Traditional Service with Burial
\$2895 (includes metal casket, casket, burial container, viewing & services)

Basic Cremation
\$695 (includes all fees & services)
*\$200 additional for Memorial Services

Traditional Service with Cremation
\$2195 (includes casket, viewing & service)
Affordable funerals tailored for any budget.

24501 Five Mile Road • Redford
313-535-3030
www.fisherfuneralhome.com

Great gifts for grads!
Buy any Samsung, get 4 of these phones FREE!

Free phones must be of equal or lesser value. All phones require new 2-yr. activation. While supplies last.



Samsung Alias™2 Dual flip phone

\$79.99

\$129.99 2-yr. price - \$50 mail-in rebate debit card. Requires a Nationwide Calling Plan.



Samsung Trance™ Stylish music slider

\$49.99

\$99.99 2-yr. price - \$50 mail-in rebate debit card.



Samsung Sway™ Sleek slider with pics and video

\$29.99

\$79.99 2-yr. price - \$50 mail-in rebate debit card.



Samsung Smooth™ VZ Navigator™ capable

\$29.99

\$79.99 2-yr. price - \$50 mail-in rebate debit card.

Switch to America's Largest and Most Reliable Wireless Network.

Call 1.877.2BUY.VZW

Click verizonwireless.com

Visit any store

VERIZON WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS STORES

ALLEN PARK 3128 Fairlane Dr. 313-271-9255 ★
AUBURN HILLS Great Lakes Crossing Mall 248-253-1799
BRIGHTON 8159 Chalis, Ste. C 810-225-4789
CANTON 42447 Ford Rd. 734-844-0481
CLINTON TOWNSHIP
17370 Hall Rd. 586-228-4977
DEARBORN 24417 Ford Rd. 313-278-4491 ★
Fairlane Mall 313-441-0168
DETROIT 14126 Woodward 313-969-7392
300 Renaissance Center 313-567-4055
FARMINGTON HILLS 31011 Orchard Lake Rd.
248-538-9900
FENTON 17245 Silver Pkwy. 810-629-2733
FT. GRATIOT 4129 24th Ave. 810-385-1231
LAKE ORION 2531 S. Lapeer Rd. 248-393-6800
LIVONIA 29523 Plymouth Rd. 734-513-9077
MONROE 2161 Mall Rd. 734-241-4099
NORTHVILLE 20580 Haggerty Rd. 734-779-0148
NOVI 43025 12 Mile Rd. 248-305-6600
Twelve Oaks Mall 248-735-3973

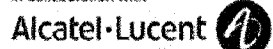
PONTIAC/WATERFORD 454 Telegraph Rd.
248-335-9900
ROCHESTER HILLS 3035 S. Rochester Rd.
248-853-0550
ROYAL OAK 31941 Woodward Ave.
248-549-4177
ST. CLAIR SHORES 26401 Harper Ave.
586-777-4010
SOUTHFIELD 28117 Telegraph Rd. 248-358-3700
STERLING HEIGHTS Lakeside Mall
586-997-6500
TAYLOR 73495 Eureka Rd. 734-287-1770
TROY 1913 E. Big Beaver Rd. 248-526-0040
Oakland Mall 248-588-9507
WARREN 5745 Twelve Mile Rd., Heritage Village
586-578-0955
WESTLAND 35105 Warren Rd. 734-722-7330

AUTHORIZED RETAILERS Equipment prices, models & return policy vary by location. Authorized Retailers may impose additional equipment related charges, including cancellation fees.

BLOOMFIELD HILLS Wireless Network
248-593-3400
CANTON Cellular and More
41816 Ford Rd. 734-404-0191
44011 Ford Rd. 734-981-7440
CLAWSON Communications USA 248-280-6390
COMMERCE Cellular Source 248-360-9400
DAVISON Wireless USA 810-412-5222
FARMINGTON HILLS Wireless USA 248-615-2212
FARMINGTON HILLS Cellular City 248-848-8800
FOWLERVILLE Hometown Wireless 517-223-3458
FT. GRATIOT Wireless Solutions 810-385-3400
GROSSE POINTE Wireless Zone 313-417-1000
MACOMB Wireless Zone 586-566-8555
MARYSVILLE Communications 810-326-1931
MILFORD Mobile2Mobile Wireless 248-529-6647
MONROE 2B Mobile 734-240-0388
Cellular Central 734-384-9691
Herkimer Radio 734-242-0806
Herkimer Too 734-384-7001

MT CLEMENS Wireless Zone 586-486-7300
ORTONVILLE Wireless Zone 248-884-1966
OXFORD Wireless Network 248-628-8400
PLYMOUTH Wireless USA 734-414-9510
ROCHESTER Wireless Network 248-608-0010
ROYAL OAK Fusion Communications 248-549-7700
SHELBY TOWNSHIP Wireless Zone 586-781-2200
SOUTH LYON Cell City 248-587-1100
SOUTHFIELD Wireless USA 248-395-2222
ST. CLAIR Fusion Communications 810-388-9950
STERLING HEIGHTS Wireless Network
586-997-1777
Wireless Zone 586-795-8610
TROY The Wireless Shop 248-458-1111
UTICA Mobile2Mobile Wireless 586-739-9977
WARREN Wireless Network 586-573-7599
WEST BLOOMFIELD Global Wireless 248-681-7200

In Collaboration with



BUSINESS CUSTOMERS
1-800-899-4249



HABLAMOS ESPAÑOL



Official Wireless Provider of the Detroit Tigers

Official Wireless Communications Provider for Spartan Athletics

*Our Surcharges (incl. Fed. Univ. Svc. of 11.3% of interstate & int'l telecom charges (varies quarterly), 7¢ Regulatory & 85¢ Administrative/line/mo. & others by area) are not taxes (details: 1-888-684-1868); gov't taxes & our surcharges could add 9%-33% to your bill. Activation fee/line: \$35 (\$25 for secondary Family SharePlan lines w/ 2-yr. Agmt).

IMPORTANT CONSUMER INFORMATION: Subject to Cust. Agmt, Calling Plan, rebate form & credit approval. Up to \$175 early termination fee/line, up to 45¢/min. after allowance & add'l charges apply for data sent or received. Friends & Family™: Only domestic landline or wireless numbers (other than directory assistance, 900 numbers or customer's own wireless or voice mail access numbers) included; all eligible lines on an account share the same Friends & Family numbers, up to account's eligibility limits; set up & manage online. Offers & coverage, varying by svc., not available everywhere. Network details & coverage maps at vzw.com. Limited-time offers. While supplies last. Nights: 9:01 pm - 5:59 am M-F. Rebate debit card takes up to 6 wks. & exp. in 12 mos. ©2009 Verizon Wireless. SAMA

Family Fresh MARKET

Under New Ownership
Formerly Know as Bob's of Canton-Westland

We invite you to experience the well lit, clean, friendly environment with personal customer service.
Stop in and see for yourself.

- Lottery
- Money Orders
- Western Union
- Food Stamps (EBT)

734.466.3000

BUSINESS HOURS
MON-SAT 8-8 SUN 9-7

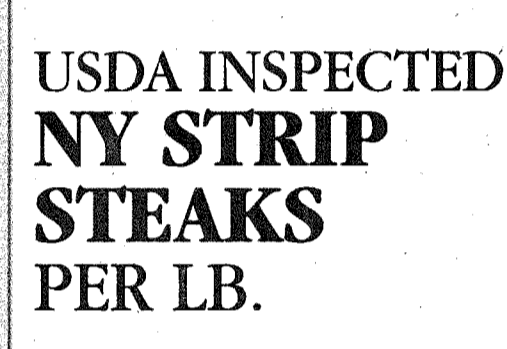
"From Our Family To Your Family"
31210 W. Warren at the Corner of Merriman
Westland www.familyfreshmarket.net

Prices good Monday, June 1st through Sunday, June 14th, 2009

Fresh Meats and Seafood



WHOLE SLAB
(sliced free)
\$3.99
PER LB.



USDA INSPECTED
NY STRIP STEAKS
PER LB. **\$4.99**

Deli Specials



KRAKUS POLISH HAM
PER LB. **\$3.99**



SAHLENS OVEN ROASTED TURKEY
PER LB. **\$3.89**



YELLOW or WHITE AMERICAN CHEESE
PER LB. **\$2.49**



REG. or MUSTARD POTATO SALAD
PER LB. **\$1.49**

Grocery Specials



FRESH GROUND CHUCK
PER LB. **\$1.69**



PORK STEAK
PER LB. **99¢**



FRESH PORK SPARE RIBS
2 PACK CRYOVAC
PER LB. **\$1.69**



BONELESS SKINLESS CHICKEN BREAST
PER LB. **\$1.99**



ITALIAN or GARLIC MARINATED CHICKEN BREAST
PER LB. **\$3.99**



TILAPIA FISH FILLETS
PER LB. **\$4.99**



16.9 OZ. BOTTLES ABSOPURE
24 PK. **\$2.99**



16 OZ. DAISY SOUR CREAM
2/\$4



10-11.25 OZ. VARIETIES NEW YORK GARLIC BREAD TOAST & STICKS
2/\$4



1 LB. PACKAGES OSCAR MAYER BEEF FRANKS & JUMBO BEEF FRANKS
2/\$5



ASSORTED VARIETIES BANQUET DINNERS
5/\$5



SELECT VARIETIES PILLSBURY GOLDEN RECIPE CAKE MIXES 18.25 OZ.
5/\$5



FROZEN SHUR FINE GREEN PEAS or CUT GREEN BEANS 16 OZ. BAGS
5/\$5



COCA COLA PRODUCTS 2 LITER BOTTLES ALL VARIETIES (+DEPOSIT)
10/\$10



1.75 LITER SIMPLY ORANGE & APPLE JUICE
2/\$7



SHUR FRESH 8 OZ. CREAM CHEESE
5/\$5



LAYS POTATO CHIPS **\$2.88** GOOD JUNE 1-7 ONLY



DORITOS **\$2.77** GOOD JUNE 8-14 ONLY




96 OZ. CHLOROX BLEACH
3/\$5

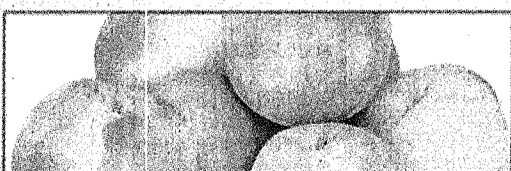


50 OZ. PUREX DETERGENT
2/\$5

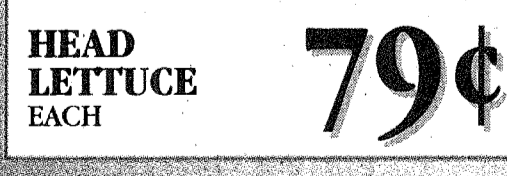
Fresh Produce



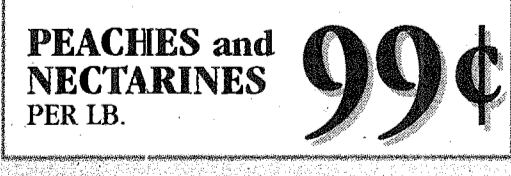
HEAD LETTUCE
EACH **79¢**




PEACHES and NECTARINES
PER LB. **99¢**



CHERRIES
PER LB. **\$2.99**



CANTALOUPE
PER LB. **2/\$4**



MICHIGAN ASPARAGUS
PER LB. **\$1.99**

HOMETOWN LIFE

Brad Emons, editor (313) 222-6851
bemans@hometownlife.com

Going to the well

Spartans dig deep, clip Rocks on PKs

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

That "ding, ding, ding" sound that could be heard echoing across the Northville High School soccer field early Thursday evening wasn't cell phones going off.

It was the Salem girls soccer team blasting shots off the goal posts during its Division 1 District semifinal match against KLAA Central Division rival Livonia Stevenson.

The series of near-misses eventually came back to haunt the Rocks, who fell 1-0 to the Spartans in a thrilling double-overtime shootout that was short on goals, but long on tension.

"We played a lot of top-10 teams this year — in fact, I'd put our schedule up against

any other team's — and that's what helps you get prepared for games like tonight's," said Stevenson coach Chris Pinta, whose squad took a 9-10 mark into Saturday's district final against Canton. "After they hit the post a couple of times, I told my girls that it's just not their night tonight and we have to take advantage of it."

The Spartans ultimately capitalized on the Rocks' misfortune and a stellar defensive effort when they outscored the Rocks 4-3 in the five-player shootout. Joelle Williamson, Krista Kane, Alexandria Harbowy and Taleen Mergian converted shootout kicks for the winners while Lauren Booth, Katelyn Krause and Mackenzie Rogers found the back of the net for Salem.

"The other day at practice, I

asked the team who *didn't* want to take PK's if it came down to a shootout," Pinta said. "Only two girls raised their hands. Tonight when I asked them, only eight wanted to take the shots. That's a pressure-packed situation and it's not for everybody. The girls who took the shots tonight did a great job."

Salem's Emily Lundh nearly scored twice in regulation. The first time — eight minutes into the second half — she controlled a pass from Lindsey Newton before firing a shot from point-blank range that Stevenson goalkeeper Tara Johnston squeezed on the door-step of the goal.

With 13 minutes to play, Lundh's hard shot from 15 yards away rolled just wide left.

Please see **DISTRICT, B3**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stevenson's Ashley Welch (7) met Salem's Jill Behrman on the soccer field once again in Thursday's Division 1 district semifinal.

SIDELINES

Graciak signs

Wayne State University head volleyball coach Phil Nickel announced that Livonia Churchill's Lindsey Graciak, a two-time All-ObsERVER first-team selection, has signed an NCAA letter-of-intent and will play this fall for the Warriors.

The Westland native was a two-year volleyball letter winner at Churchill where she helped lead the Chargers to a 49-4 record in 2008, a Kensington Lakes Activities Association champion and berth in the state Class A semifinals.

Graciak totaled 749 digs, an average of 5.7 per set which broke the school record. As a junior, she collected 579 digs (4.5 digs/set) as the Chargers captured the Western Lakes Activities Association championship.

Graciak also earned All-State and All-Conference honors both seasons in volleyball.

Graciak also lettered for Churchill in basketball and track and field.

"Lindsey is a winner," Nickel said. "She played for one of the top high school volleyball programs in the state and we expect her to bring that experience, tenacity, and winning attitude with her to Wayne State. I look for her to compete for playing time this fall."

Graciak joins winter signees Cydney Biessel, Karlene Poisy, Madie Kent, and Kate Sak as the Warriors open the 2009 season in late August.

JUCO golf wrap

Oakland Community College finished 13th in the team standings as Livonia Churchill grad Tommy Lucko tied for 58th individual at the National Junior College Athletic Association's Division II men's golf championships held May 19-22 at Goose Pond Colony in Scottboro, Ala.

Lucko shot a four-round total of 19-over 307 after back-to-back 80s followed by 74-73.

Schoolcraft College's Andrew Rousos (South Lyon) shot a 22-over 310, tied for 72 overall, on rounds of 79-78-81-72. Teammate Josh Proben (Churchill), another individual qualifier, shot a 25-over 33 on rounds of 75-76-78-84.

Rockets into orbit as Williams bags 4

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

GIRLS SOCCER

Thanks to a four-goal output by Jenna Williams, this Westland John Glenn girls soccer team has gone where no other has gone before.

On the heels of their first-ever Division 1 district victory on Tuesday, a 7-0 triumph over Detroit Western International, the Rockets did it again Wednesday with a 4-2 semifinal win over Dearborn Fordson at Livonia Churchill.

Glenn, which improved to 5-12 overall, will face the state-ranked Chargers in the district championship final beginning at 1 p.m. Saturday at Churchill.

"We've never been past the first round," Glenn first-year coach Jimmy Mortada said. "The girls feel good about themselves and I can't tell you how proud and happy I am."

Mortada made a strategic move as the Rockets raced out to a 3-1 halftime lead.

Williams, a sophomore, was bumped from the middle of the field to generate more offense up-top.

"Fordson started strong, they have three good players in the midfield and we took away their game," Mortada said.

Ashley Bailey assisted on two of Williams' goals, while Megan Nikula and Ali Zarate added one each.

"They fed her and she shoots it," Mortada said. "I am proud of the way that we've been able to score in the tournament."

Meanwhile, Eva Mogica and Robyn Amr tallied goals for the Tractors.

Andee Samborski was in goal for Glenn, which will be a huge underdog Saturday against Churchill. The Chargers (15-2-3) have already beaten Glenn twice.

Please see **SOCCER, B3**



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Pivot play

Garden City's Tyler Twigg goes in hard on the force to break up an attempted double play by Livonia Churchill's Jimmy Szymanski during Wednesday's non-conference baseball game. Churchill won the regular season finale, 8-5, in a tune-up for Saturday's Division 1 district tournament. See baseball roundup on page B2.

Area teams find going rough at Division 1 regional

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Friday's Division 1 boys golf regional at Lakes of Taylor proved to be as challenging and nerve-wracking as The National Spelling Bee.

Twelve teams started the morning on a course that was nearly 7,000 yards in length and by the early afternoon only three teams survived the cut and will be moving on to the state finals scheduled for next Friday and Saturday at Michigan State University's Forest Akers (West Course).

Temperance Bedford, sporting a four-player total of 312, captured the team title on a fifth-man tiebreaker

to beat runner-up Ann Arbor Pioneer (led by individual medalist Davis Ransdell's 71).

Northville, the state's No. 1-ranked team, garnered the final spot with a 314. Canton and Saline were not far behind tied for fourth with 319 each.

"It was a tough day, tough conditions," Northville coach Matt Stetson said. "And at this level there's the added pressure to get to the next step. It was set up 400 yards longer than normal, and with the wind, it was extremely tough for everybody. But it was mission accomplished to get to 'states' and now we're all equal when we get there."

Please see **GOLF, B3**

BOYS GOLF RESULTS

MHSAA DIVISION 1-REGION 5 BOYS GOLF TOURNAMENT RESULTS May 29 at Lakes of Taylor

TEAM STANDINGS (top 3 advance to state finals):
1. Temperance Bedford, 312 strokes (won tiebreaker); 2. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 312; 3. Northville, 314; 4. (tie) Canton and Saline, 319 each; 6. Plymouth, 325; 7. Ann Arbor Huron, 330; 8. Dearborn, 332; 9. Livonia Stevenson, 337; 10. Livonia Churchill, 355; 11. Wyandotte Roosevelt, 357; 12. Southgate Anderson, 363.

Individual medalist: Davis Ransdell (Pioneer), 71.

TEAM-BY-TEAM SCORING

Bedford (312): David Genaw, 74; Nate Gorrning, 77; Luke Berger, 80; Justin Gross, 81; Jordan Joersz, 85.
Northville (314): Wes Gates and Trevor Grigg, 74 each; Steve Brown, 82; Erik Goebel, 84; Alex Bernstein, 86.
Canton (319): Zach Conrad and Brendan Muir, 78 each; Andrew Rickertman, 81; Jeremy Lindbauer, 82; Dominic Bonelli, 93.
Saline (319): Phil Gieseker, 74 (sq); Nick Arredy, 76 (sq); Keith Long, 83; Peter Splitter, 86; Eric Brooks, 93.

Plymouth (325): Justin Bauer, 76 (sq); Ryan Bauer, 82; Andrew Overmeyer, 83; James Bryans, 84; Trevor Birdwell, 91.
A.A. Huron (330): Max Ammerman, Gunner Bruce and Rob Aldrich, 82 each; Alex Wunderlich, 84; Scott Wilson, 90.
Dearborn (332): Kosta Ramirez, 80; Evan Bowser, 82; Daniel Dent, 83; Patrick O'Brien, 87; Phil Hespren, 106.

Stevenson (337): Drew Mossolan, 80; Christian DeBay, 84; Adam Giordano, 85; Dan Dufour, 88; Tom Cullum, 89.
Churchill (355): Dan Bostick, 87; Adam Yarbber, 88; Matt Charmsley and Kevin Robinson, 90 each; Erik Newman, 94.

Wyandotte (357): Scott Smiddy, 86; Andrew Vandierend, 87; Erik Laurence, 90; Jordan Rutkowski and Brian Arnoldy, 94 each.
Southgate (363): Thomas Maley, 82; Jacob Lemay, 84; Jeremy Roth, 98; Chris Bulajek, 99; Rob Campau, 104.

INDIVIDUAL QUALIFIERS

John Glenn: Andy Myers, 78; **Taylor Kennedy:** Dalton Rickard, 80; **Wayne Memorial:** Kevin Sample, 83; **Salem:** Josh Porrin, 85; **Garden City:** Nick Walker, 86; **Ron Pummill:** 87; **Woodhaven:** Alec Grant, 91; **Alex Ochman:** 86; **Jim Breslin:** 99; **Livonia Franklin:** Chris Grund, 95; **Mohroe:** Nate Miller, 97; Cole Johnson, 99.

(sq): additional state qualifier.

New teenage driver
in the family?
Have you updated
your coverage?

I can help you get the protection you need. Only Allstate offers Accident Forgiveness starting the day you sign up for Your Choice Auto®. Get it today, and your rates won't go up just because of an accident. Call us now.



Cheryl Bowker Agency
(734) 525-9610
31221 Five Mile Road
Livonia
cherylbowker@allstate.com



You're in good hands.
Auto Home Life Retirement

NEIGHBORS

Festival to celebrate arts abilities

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
OSE STAFF WRITER

The excitement grows as Jody Conradi-Stark and Connie Lott walk toward the DiPonio room where 120 performers are scheduled to take the stage in the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College Friday-Saturday, June 5-6, for a celebration of arts-ability. The southeast region committee of VSA arts of Michigan has been planning the festival for months so the women have seen the space before but this time the dream is closer to becoming reality.

For nearly 20 years the nonprofit organization has made it possible for children and adults with disabilities to perform on stage like people without challenges.

The students especially look forward to the annual festival where they not only have the opportunity to sing for an audience but spend the day with friends. Once they leave the stage there are hands-on art activities and lunch.

The performers are there simply to have fun. While that's part of the reason for the festival, the committee knows the real reason they volunteer time to make the event a success. VSA arts enables children and adults with disabilities to experience and grow through the arts. The nonprofit was started more than 25 years ago by Jean Kennedy Smith to provide activities similar to Special Olympics but in the arts.

In the past, local malls have provided the backdrop for the southeast region celebration until this year when the committee formed a partnership with the college. The concept for the event is to bring the performers and the public together to show children and adults with disabilities are just like everyone else. The orga-



Jody Conradi-Stark (left), Jim Ryan, Linda Ann Chomin, and Connie Lott met recently to discuss the VSA arts of Michigan festival June 5-6, in the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. Ryan, the college's executive director of development and governmental relations, has been working with the members of the Southeast Region Committee which presents the annual celebration featuring the talents of children and adults with disabilities.

nization was originally known as Very Special Arts but was changed to show that everyone has the ability to enjoy their creative side.

"We want to hold the festival in a community venue to show the importance of the arts for everyone," said Stark, committee president and owner of Creative Arts Therapies.

Throughout the year the children and adults participate in music and dance therapy classes. For years the committee awarded mini grants to make the opportunities possible.

"You can see the pride, the self-esteem the arts create in them," said Stark.

"The arts translates into job skills, confidence," added Lott who is the mother of an adult daughter with disabilities.

Jim Ryan couldn't agree more. As executive director

of development and governmental relations at Schoolcraft College, he's been working with the committee to bring the festival to the VisTaTech Center on campus. Ryan is the former superintendent of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools and knows first hand about the special needs of students with disabilities.

"We have this gorgeous facility," said Ryan. "VisTaTech stands for Vision, Talent and Technology. VSA is going to fulfill a couple of those at least. We are a public community college and like the public using this facility and partnering with organizations.

"We hope to have performers broadcast on a large overhead screen for kids deserve a chance to celebrate skills. The festival breaks down the barriers. The things they do I would never dream of try-

ing. It's important to celebrate diversity."

Everyone is working together to make the festival special for the children and adults from Pontiac, Northville, Lincoln Park, Birmingham, and Warren.

The college's music department is loaning the use of a piano so performers like Raymond Wells of Plymouth can show off their talent. The cafeteria is providing a special rate on a meal for performers. Now all that's needed is an audience.

For the first time this year the festival not only spotlights performers but encourages them, as well as the public, to take part in workshops on drumming, art and dance. The VSA arts of MI 2009 Emerging Artists Touring Exhibit will also be featured along with an art table for

everyone to make gifts for Father's Day.

Lora Frankel, VSA arts of Michigan executive director, is grateful for a \$6,000 grant from the CVS/Pharmacy Caremark All Kids Can Charitable Trust for making the workshops possible. The grant is part of a 5-year commitment through the national VSA organization to sponsor an art exhibit, residency programs in schools, and special events like the festival. Locally district managers are in charge of the CVS volunteers who will set up chairs and the touring art exhibit, help with hands-on art activities and workshops, and pass out T-shirts to the performers.

"CVS is getting employees involved and we're using part of the money to bring in Kevin Collins, Molly Landis, Daniel Cascardo and Cindy Babcock for the workshops," said Frankel. "Kevin Collins, a professional musician from Flint, is going to get everybody drumming. He brings African drums and percussion instruments, a whole van load of instruments. At least 15 people can participate at once. Molly Landis, a visual artist and art therapist from Pontiac, is wonderful with kids and going to get them involved in an art project, and Daniel Cascardo from Royal Oak is going to engage people in doing a group mural. Cindy is a dance therapist and is going to get everyone moving. It's open to the public. I think it's going to be great."

Hours for the VSA arts of Michigan-Southeast 2009 Festival are 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Friday, June 5, and 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 6, in the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, Livonia.

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

MILESTONES



Pulliam-Anders

Mr. and Mrs. Stan Pulliam of Athens, Ga., announce the engagement of their daughter, Gayla Joy, to Jared Lee Anders, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Anders of Westland.

The bride-to-be graduated from Thomas Edison State College with a bachelor's degree in piano performance. She is self-employed as a nutrition and environmental consultant with the Shaklee Corp.

The prospective groom also graduated from Thomas Edison State College with a bachelor's degree in piano performance. He works for CollegePlus! as an academic coach.

The couple is engaged to be married in Spring 2010.

IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

CALL FOR ARTISTS

Nancy Paton, curator for The Green Show, is looking for artists for two shows later this year and early 2010.

Act one of The Green Show will take place Sept. 19-21, at Maxwell's Art & Treasures in Garden City.

Paton is seeking artists interested in creating unique works of art from all types of trash and disposable items. In addition, she is looking for functional objects made from materials that typically end up in the trash to display.

The Green Show act one will be the first of two shows. The second show will be more comprehensive and will take place at Madonna University in Livonia January of 2010. For those interested in educating the public about the harm that's being done to the planet and the solutions, contact Paton. She is also looking for speakers for both events. There are no entry fees for the Act One portion of The Green Show. For information or an entry form, send e-mail to nancypaton@yahoo.com or call (734) 233-7878.

BUBBLES AND BARS OF SOAP

The people of Risen Christ Lutheran Church in Plymouth Township are collecting containers of shampoo, conditioner, and soap - either bars or liquid. Small personal sized items such as those found on sample shelves are also welcome. These items will be freely distributed through the Open Door Ministry of Canton and the Salvation Army to anyone who needs them.

If you would like to donate any of these products please drop them off at the church office or add them to the container in the Welcome Area. Risen Christ is located at 46250 Ann Arbor Road on the corner of McClumpha. Call (734) 453-5252 for more information.

Call For Our New Earlier Times STARTING AT 6 a.m.!

CORE Rhythms

NOW AT **Arthur Murray!**

FIRM UP FAST
Losing inches has never been so fast... and so much fun! The passion and technique of **World Champion Rhythm & Latin dancers**, packed into the perfect fitness system. You'll love it and *anyone can do it*.

TRIM DOWN NOW
Core Rhythms is the revolutionary exercise concept that uses *sexy Latin dance moves* to raise your heart rate, while toning and tightening your entire core. You'll be swept away while getting a 360° total core workout.

CALL TODAY
Certified Core Rhythm instructors are ready, exclusively at **Arthur Murray Dance Studios**. Call today and schedule your first session.

Core Rhythms Creators
Julia Powers
12 time U.S. Champion
&
Joanna Kitnitz
10 time International Champion

DanceSport

Arthur Murray
Franchised Dance Studios

NO Contracts! NO Monthly Payments! NO Membership Fees!
Pay only for the sessions you use! Call now to schedule your FREE introductory workout!

Learn to Dance Certified Instructors & Private Lessons
Ballroom • Latin • Social

Arthur Murray
Franchised Dance Studios

42000 Six Mile Rd., Suite 250
Northville
(between Northville Rd. & Haggerty)
248.349.1133

1926 South Telegraph Rd.
Bloomfield
(next to Carl's Golfand)
248.338.6390

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: Gary Bailey, Single to Household Finance Corporation III, Mortgagee, dated August 22, 2007 and recorded August 24, 2007 in Liber 46598 Page 946 Wayne County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Seventy-One Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty-Eight Dollars and Ninety-Six Cents (\$171,938.96) including interest 11.588% 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 June 18, 2009 Said premises are situated in City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 117, Curtis Wood Subdivision, according to the plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 88, of Plats, Page 31, Wayne County Records. Subject to: Easements and restrictions of record, if any. Commonly known as 36460 Hivley St, Westland MI 48186 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: MAY 17, 2009 Household Finance Corporation III Mortgagee Attorneys: Potestivo & Associates, P.C. 811 South Blvd. Suite 100 Rochester Hills, MI 48307 (248) 844-5123 Our File No: 09-09461 ASAP# 3105943 05/17/2009, 05/24/2009, 05/31/2009, 06/07/2009

Publish: May 17, 24, 31, and June 7, 2009

ANNOUNCING AN INFORMATIVE and LIFE CHANGING WORKSHOP
You'll Want to Be Sure to Be There...And Invite a Friend.

STOP DESTRUCTIVE BEHAVIORS NOW!
Learn The Top 4 Steps To Getting Unstuck

Northville Public Library
212 W. Cady Street • Northville, MI 48167
248-349-3020
Tuesday, May 26, 2009 • 6 pm - 9 pm

All attendees will be offered a very special and exceptional program promotion at this workshop.....you'll be sure to want to take advantage of this "ONE TIME ONLY" Special Offer!

AND, we'll draw names for 2 great GIVE-AWAYS!

Compulsive No More!

Scott Harris, B.S., CPCC
Certified Compulsive Life Coach For Individuals and Groups
www.compulsivevenomorestop.com
248-767-2482

Tickets:
Only \$25.00 In Advance
(\$30.00 at the Door)

\$5.00 OFF ADMISSION
When You Mention
Promotion Code "HELP 09"
when calling to reserve your space.

Endorsed by Board Certified Psychologists
Scott@compulsivevenomorestop.com
Fax: 866-381-3614

Morning glory signals possible drug abuse

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER

Kathy Schutt thought nothing of it when her son brought home a morning glory plant from a drug rehab program. The Westland mother knew her 14-year old had been experimenting with marijuana and huffing, but never dreamed a flower could be a sign he was still having problems with substance abuse. Then Tyler tried hanging himself from a belt in his bedroom.

Schutt isn't sure if he ever ingested the seeds, but wants parents to be aware of the hallucinogen could be resurfacing. Hippies in the 1960s and '70s used the substance along with LSD, a drug similar to LSA (lysergic Acid Amide), to get high.

Schutt learned about the seeds when her 17-year-old daughter found a hand written note with growing instructions after Tyler's attempted suicide. They went on the Internet and were stunned by the availability of morning glory seeds and paraphernalia. She now knows that Heavenly Blues, Pearly Gates and Flying Saucers are more than pretty flowers.

"Parents need to be aware of it," said Schutt. "This scares me. I wouldn't feel right if I didn't do something."

Westland Police Sergeant Thad Nelson hadn't heard of morning glory seeds until his work in the detective bureau brought him into contact with Schutt. Since then he's noticed the ease with which anyone is able to buy the substance. He recently walked into a store where a large display of flower seeds were priced for under a dollar. Even so he's more concerned about the availability of household items.

"Spray paint cans, anything with aerosol is big," said Nelson. "Try to be aware as much as possible. It's hard being a parent. I'm a parent of two younger kids. They have to be involved in their kid's life, get to know their friends. Communication is huge. Ask where they're going. It's not being nosy but being involved."

Schutt hadn't noticed the buy one, get one free hair spray she bought was missing until searching Tyler's room afterwards. Like

Nelson, Westland Youth Officer Daniel Serrano doesn't think morning glory is a problem yet.

"We don't come across a whole lot of it," said Serrano, youth officer at John Glenn High School. "At this age marijuana is going to be the No. 1 drug of choice followed by prescription medication - Xanax called footballs, anything with codeine, Tylenol 3, Prozac, prescribed to parents and parents aren't controlling access and they're bringing them to school or using themselves. Parents need to be responsible with controlled substances even if your kid isn't using friends can come over."

Dr. Jedd Roe agrees with Serrano about parents vigilance over their children. While Roe hasn't seen any cases related to morning glory seeds in the Emergency Medicine Department at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, he has encountered the substance in other areas of the country where he worked before coming to Beaumont.

"At Beaumont we haven't seen any, but it's well known in the emergency community. It's unusual but we're more likely to see cocaine and heroine," said Roe, chairman of the emergency medicine department at Beaumont, Royal Oak. "It's a hallucinogen and they use it for the same reason as LSD or mushrooms. Parents should be following through on general drug surveillance of the children, behaviors not the norm. Typically kids aren't going to use morning glory in isolation. There's a pattern of other experimentation. We had jimson weed about a year ago in Royal Oak, two or three cases. It's a risk taking type of behavior similar to morning glory seed."

Like Westland Police Officer Serrano, Dr. Lydia Baltarowich is concerned about adolescents and teens abusing prescription medications from their parents' medicine cabinet. As a consulting medical toxicologist at DMC, Henry Ford Hospital and the regional Poison Control Center at Children's Hospital of Michigan, Baltarowich receives calls for everything from drug abuse to suicide attempts on the 24-hour hotline for the public and physicians at (800) 222-1222. While

she's familiar with morning glory seeds she hasn't seen any cases in the ER at Henry Ford Hospital where she's been a physician for the last 27 years.

"Prescription medications have been the big thing, alcohol," said Baltarowich. "Ecstasy came about the mid '90s and plateaued. In the early '80s and '90s we didn't see as much of abuse by adolescents. Ecstasy was not as available so teens wouldn't get into them. It's alcohol, marijuana and prescription medication which includes pain killers, opioids, sedatives. They're starting to use Ambien, Ritalin drugs for ADHD. Amphetamine look alike are widely available. They take their sibling's medication."

Baltarowich encourages parents not to wait to talk to their children about drug abuse.

"The known abuse of morning glory seeds is well known although it's rare people come to ER with it. The Poison Control Center has only had one or two calls," said Baltarowich. "But there are a lot of low cost substances in teen and adolescents cause they don't have money to buy heroin and cocaine. Seeds is one of them. Jimson weed seeds are much more common. They get a delirium from that. They inhale inhalants, glue, paint, gasoline, hydrocarbon solvents, sniff and just die all of a sudden. They go for low cost things they

find around the house."

Parents should be on the alert for any symptoms from ingesting the seeds. Packaged seed may be coated with chemicals to control insect damage and spoilage so there are other health risks as well.

"Parents should look for a mild hallucinogenic attack, panic attacks or they get scared," said Baltarowich. "If they look like they're seeing things or talking to themselves that can happen with LSD or LSA, distorted colors but also distortion of sense. Synesthesia refers to the term of confusion or reversal of senses. They may hear what they're supposed to see, may see the music and might have residual effects for up to 24 hours. They sometimes do at parties but sometimes do it alone. If a teen is using some type of drugs, the school work drops, they're inattentive or loners sitting alone in rooms or always out with friends."

Schutt knew something was wrong when Tyler had a fight with his hockey coach. He had been playing the game for 6 years. One Sunday morning she woke him for practice and noticed the blown attic insulation all over the closet. She climbed up later and found marijuana, a lighter and flashlight. Until that time, the pediatrician had suspected depression and prescribed Prozac and evaluation by a psychologist. Friday,

March 6, she was told Tyler could return to school. Schutt's father found him smoking marijuana. She searched Tyler's bedroom and found the substance along with pills. She got rid of the morning glory plant but didn't find any seeds. Today, Tyler is still in Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor. He is out of a sedated coma but has been diagnosed with mild to moderate brain damage, and

spasticity which requires medication from a pump to control.

"He has an infection in the tube that feeds him. He's lost 35 pounds since he's been there. He has a tracheotomy so he can't talk. Doctors say he'll probably be coming home mid to late June," said Schutt.

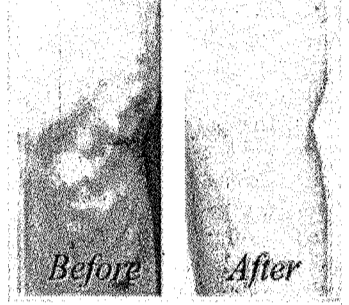
For updates on Tyler Schutt's condition or to make a donation to cover his medical expenses, visit carepages.com.

Healthy Legs, Healthy You!

"I thought it was normal for my legs to ache at the end of the day."

You may have a medical condition covered by insurance known as Venous Insufficiency if you experience any of these leg symptoms:

- Pain/aching/throbbing
- Heaviness or fatigue
- Swelling of feet/ankles
- Restless legs
- Night cramps
- Itchy veins
- Varicose veins
- Non-healing ulcers



Studies have demonstrated that there is a significant deterioration in the quality of life for persons with chronic venous insufficiency and this can be severe. Don't wait to get treated.

You're never too old or young to jumpstart your health and fitness program with healthy legs! Have your legs treated in under an hour with no-downtime, no scarring and NO STRIPPING using the latest technology.

New, safe & effective treatment for Rosacea & Facial veins with Veinwave™. Advanced Vein Therapies is the only location in Michigan with this technology.

Please visit our website and see how we have helped others at www.AVtherapies.com or call now for consultation.



ADVANCED VEIN THERAPIES

Jeffrey H. Miller, MD is Metro Detroit's foremost board-certified authority on varicose and spider vein care, specializing in treating venous diseases for nearly fifteen years.

248.344.9110 www.AVtherapies.com
46325 W. 12 Mile Road, Suite 335, Novi, West of Novi Road Near I-96

Arthritis Today

JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY
18829 Farmington Road
Livonia, Michigan 48152
Phone: (248) 478-7860

KNEE AND HIP SURGERY - A BENEFIT AT ANY AGE

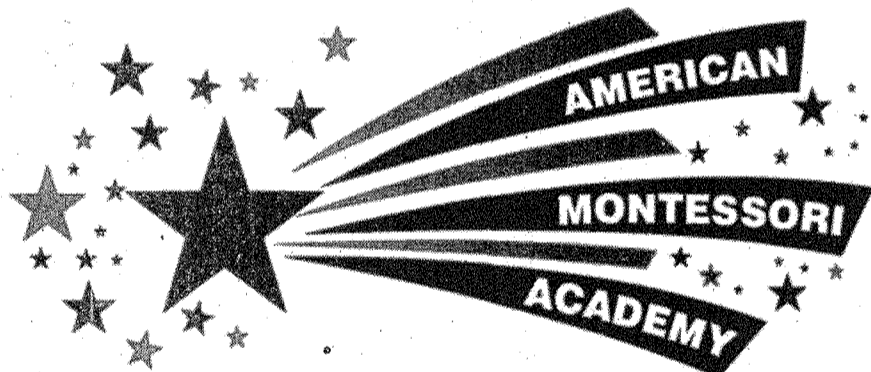
Many persons age 75 or older, when told that they need a hip or knee replacement, respond with the words: "I'm too old for that." Their view is wrong. In the last five years the technology and understanding of the recovery process from knee and hip surgery has advanced rapidly. Orthopedic surgeons have better tools and computer aided designs that allow more accurate placement of new hips and knees fitted to a degree not previously possible. Hospital staffs realize the importance of early, even immediate, ambulating of the patient following operation, and of the good impact on early recovery that comes with persistent efforts to keep the postoperative joint replacement patient moving.

In short, the surgical experience is better than in the past, and still improving. The change in way of life for the person with the replacement knee or hip is impressive. Patients often do not realize how much activity they have forgone because of walking less and limiting their schedules to accommodate their impaired knee or hip.

Furthermore, as one ages, the need to continue vigorous activity nearly becomes an imperative; a cane or walker cannot substitute for a functioning hip or knee. Finally leading a sedentary life only raises the risk of pneumonia, loss of strength and stamina, and increases the risk of developing depression.

Even if the doctor cautiously recommends replacement surgery for an arthritis hip or knee, the patient should leap to the occasion.

www.drjweiss.yourmd.com



14800 Middlebelt Road, Livonia 48154

www.montessoriacademy.us

Phone: (734) 525-7100

Enrolling for the 2009-2010 School Year

1st & 2nd Grade

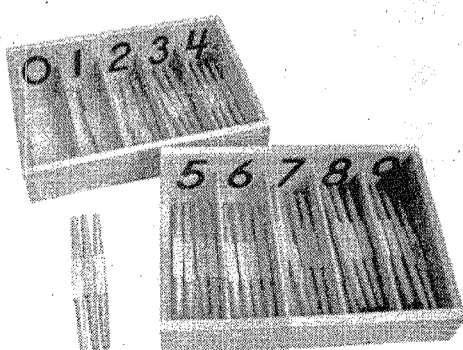
Limited openings!!

American Montessori Academy is a K-6 Public School Academy offering a first class Montessori education for your children.

Call today for more information

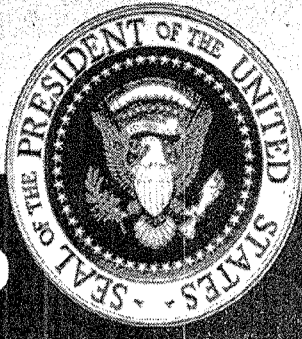
734-525-7100

- ✓ Michigan Certified Teachers
- ✓ Respect for self, others & environment
- ✓ Experiential, hands-on learning
- ✓ Multi-age classrooms
- ✓ Family partnerships
- ✓ Latchkey available

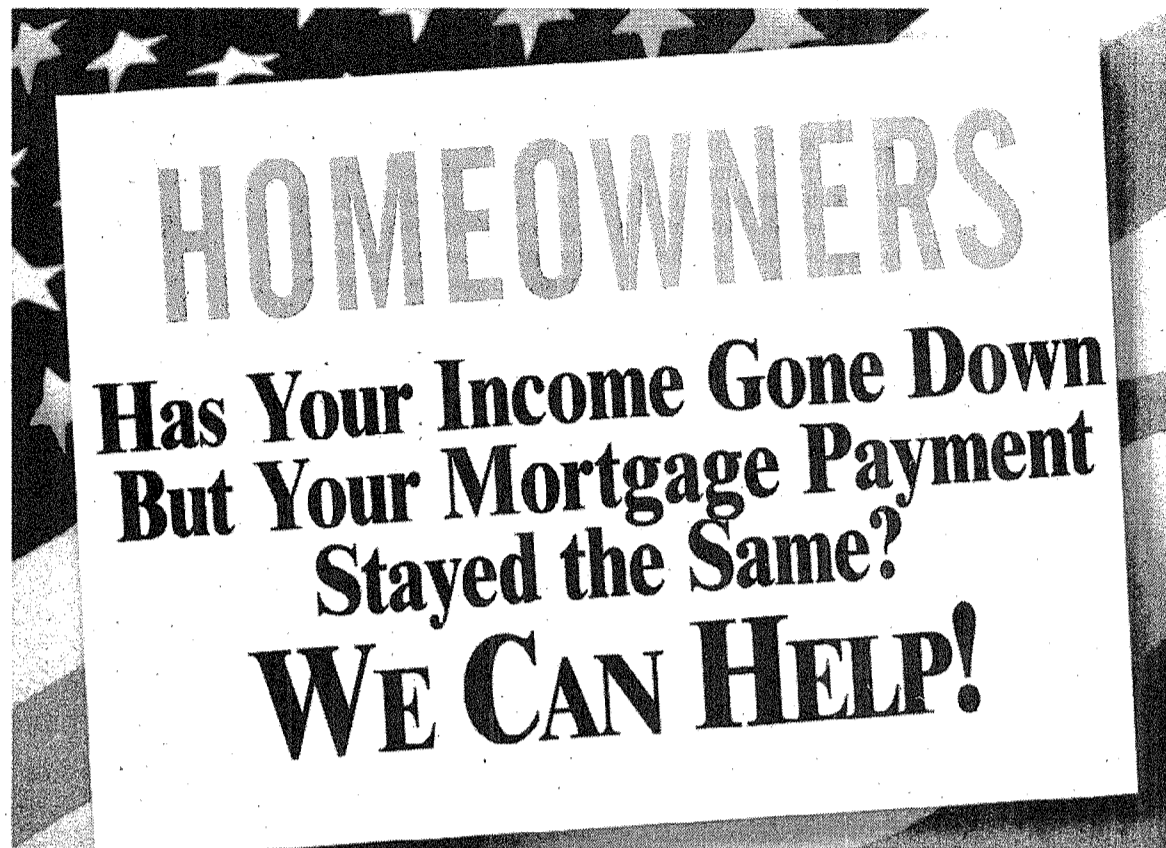


Lead The Way AMA!





- U.S. GOVERNMENT MANDATED MORTGAGE RELIEF PROGRAM -



LOWER YOUR MONTHLY MORTGAGE PAYMENTS NOW - WITHOUT REFINANCING

- Interest Rates as low as 2%
- No Closing Costs
- No Appraisals
- Adjustable Rate Loans Converted to Fixed Rates
- No Credit Checks
- No Refinancing
- Late Payment Forgiveness
- No Income Requirements
- Up to a \$5000 Government Bonus

Avoid foreclosure and bankruptcy. This is not refinancing or a second mortgage.

Under this Federally Funded Program, you stay in your existing home under your existing mortgage, you just lower your monthly payments.

"Even if you are on time with your payments, you still qualify"

U.S Government Mandated Mortgage Relief Program At The Troy Community Center

3179 Livernois • Troy, MI 48083

Our modification specialists will be on hand offering
Free Evaluations "making the stimulus package work for you."

Thursday, June 4th | 7pm-9pm

Limited Seating for this Free Educational Event

Please RSVP to 1-800-993-1286 or email to ksmall@paymentdoctors.com

SPEAKER'S
TOPICS

Lower Your Mortgage Without Refinancing
Short Sale Realtor - Katherine Small
Real Estate Attorney - Gilbert Borman

**Due to Overwhelming Response
We Will Be Adding Future Seminar Dates.
Please check the website**

\$100 Off
U.S Government
Mandated Mortgage
Relief Program

Payment Doctor Services For Attendees



Payment Doctors

Making your home affordable.

A Loan Modification Company.

248-566-0115

725 South Adams - Suite 195 - Birmingham, Michigan 48009

www.paymentdoctors.com

