

THURSDAY

June 4
2009

The Observer & Eccentric
Newspapers

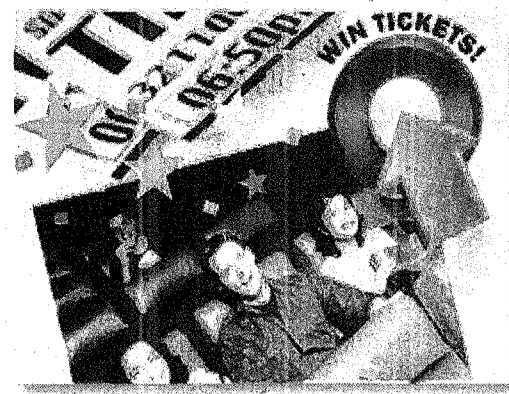
Volume 45
Number 3

75 CENTS

Wayne hurdler is tops in the state - Sports, B1

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AROUND TOWN

Bus crash

Romulus Police are investigating an early morning accident, involving a Wayne-Westland school bus and a semi tractor-trailer on Van Born near Cogswell in Romulus.

No one was seriously injured in the crash that happened around 7 a.m., according to Superintendent Greg Baracy. The bus was stopped with its lights flashing when it was struck from behind by the semi. The truck smashed into the left side of the rear end of the bus, crushing two rows of seats.

There were students on the bus and students preparing to board it when the accident occurred, Baracy said.

"It's a miracle that some students weren't seriously injured," Baracy said. "The driver was following procedures and was stopped with the lights on."

The bus was en route to Wayne Memorial High School in Wayne. According to Baracy, there was a small number of students than normal on the bus.

"The seniors were out or the bus would have had more students on it," he said.

Some students were released to parents at the scene, others were taken to Wayne High where Romulus Police and EMS meet with them. They also were released to their parents.

Yard Sale

It's not your mother's yard sale - maybe your grandmother's yard sale.

If you're looking a potbelly stove, vintage wooden doors, an antique treadle sewing and other older items, stop by the Trash to Treasures yard sale at Westland Historic Village Park 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 13. The sale is being hosted by the Westland Historical Commission.

Christmas time

The Salvation Army will once again be having Christmas in July. The Westland council has approved street collections by the Salvation Army 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays, July 11 and 18, at Wayne and Warren roads. This will be second year for summer collection effort.

Capt. Derek Rose, pastor at the Wayne/Westland Corps, reported the Salvation Army fell \$9,000 short of its Christmas mail goal, lost two kettle sites due to store closings and funding shortages from a variety of shortages.

City's new budget comes with warnings

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A nearly \$60 million general fund budget for the fiscal year starting July 1 has been adopted by the Westland council along with warnings that current city spending can't continue.

"This budget is the end of the line. Next year this time, we have to make changes. We've cut every department to the bone — anything that could be

Request for court audit goes nowhere, A2.

considered wasteful spending," said Councilman Michael Kehrer. "We're down to employee costs which is over 60 percent of our budget. I know the employees don't want cuts, I wouldn't either."

The \$59.3 million budget is 2.5 percent less than the \$60.8 million general fund expenditures approved by the council for 2008-09. The budget preserves a \$1.2 million fund bal-

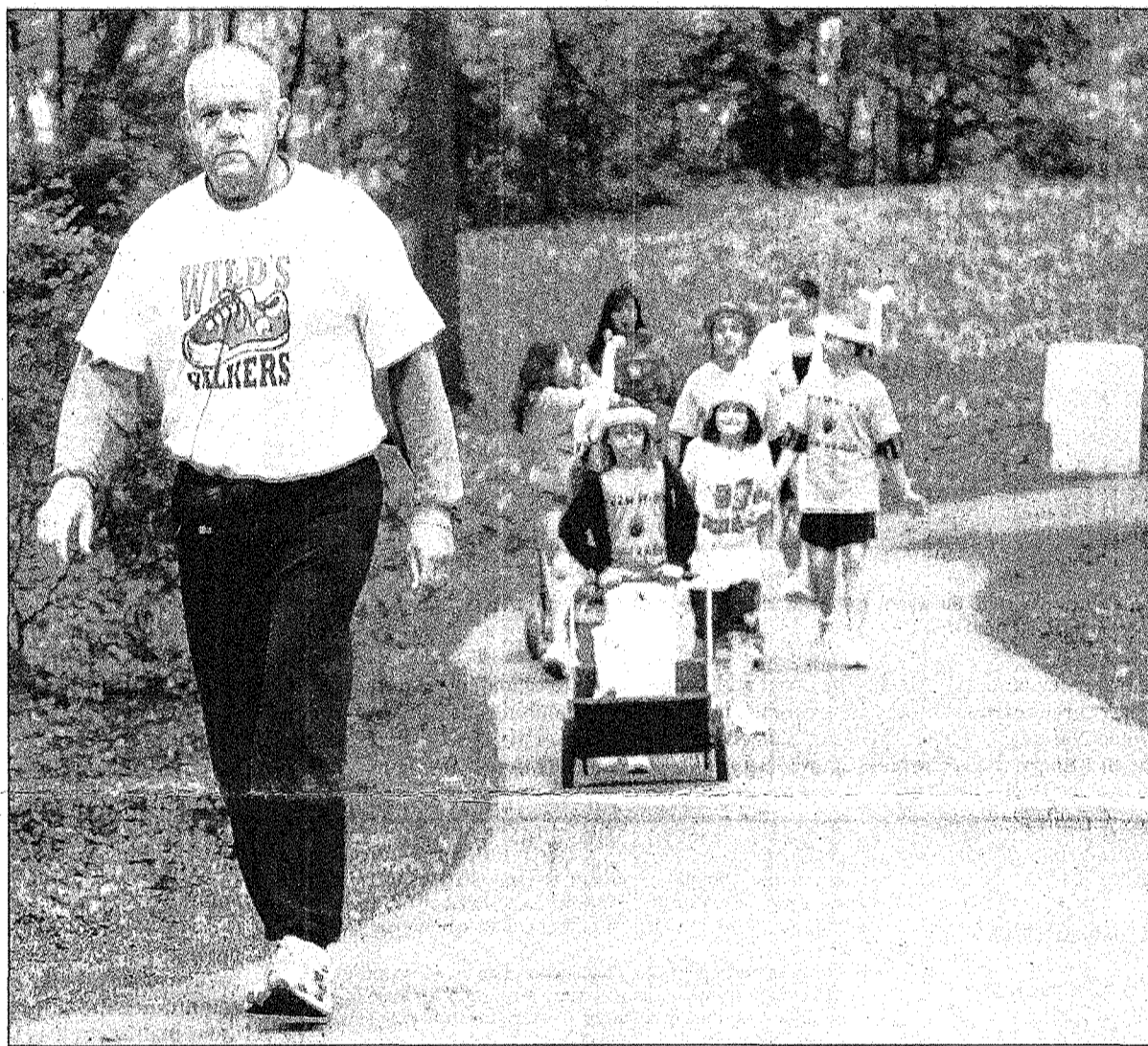
ance after \$1 million was transferred to help balance the general fund. That's a 45 percent decrease in what is effectively the city savings account.

The 2009-10 budget trims 14 city jobs throughout various departments due to recent retirements as well as proposing three layoffs — one in the mayoral staff, one in the Assessing Department and one in the Building Department. Without changes in spending, largely employee-related costs, the city auditors are project-

ing the city would have a \$32 million deficit within four years.

"It's no surprise our revenues are reduced. It is no secret how hard we worked to balance the budget," said Kehrer. "We used one-time money. We need to work on employee health care. It's unfair to citizens to lay off workers and reduce services because we're not willing to look at reducing the fringe benefits for staff."

Please see **BUDGET, A2**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mel Tockstein walks on the path through Jaycee Park during Westland's ninth annual Westland Relay for Life.

Lap it up: Walkers make Relay a success

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland Relay for Life participants had a choice between sweet and sour at the booth operated by the Women of Westland — sweet muffins from Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe or large sour dill pickles on a stick.

"The sticks are \$1 and the pickles are free. Some kids tried to bring their own sticks but you have to use our sticks," said Canton resident Joan Carr, in her fourth year helping WOW at the American Cancer Society fund-raiser. "We're selling salsa and chips, a LED name card and a magnetic flasher. We've gone pretty good — it's all good. I got

involved. I can't walk but I can hawk things."

WOW is one of the groups who have participated in the Westland Relay for Life since it started in 2001, only one year after the group formed. About 37 teams participated this year with most of the fund-raising taking place prior to the 24-hour event which had walkers on the path at Jaycee Park throughout the 24 hours, signifying that cancer doesn't sleep. There also was a lap for survivors and a silent lap with luminaria lining the track in remembrance of those lost to cancer.

"We collected shirts from all of the relays and made them into a quilt. It's all hand-stitched. We're

having a silent auction," said WOW team captain Joy Ebel.

Teams participating in the 24-hour event raised more than \$97,000 for the American Cancer Society and expected that total to reach at least \$100,000 through online donations that were still coming in.

A nearby team was called Not My Family which seemed to need some explanation. Pat Guziak's son Brendan, 11, is captain of the team and he came up with the name.

"He doesn't want anyone in the family to go through cancer again," said Guziak, ticking off a list of family members who had been

Please see **RELAY, A2**

Wild names new deputy mayor and controller

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It didn't take long for Mayor William Wild to appoint a new deputy mayor and fill a staff opening that resulted.

Jade Smith, who had been Westland's controller, was appointed to become the new deputy mayor replacing Courtney Conover, who resigned to spend more time with her family. Wayne-Westland Board of Education member William Gabriel was appointed to fill the opening as controller.

Introducing Smith in his new role, Wild joked that Smith had small shoes to fill replacing Conover, who was widely praised for her efforts in three years as deputy mayor.

"Courtney had very small feet," Wild said.

During his two years as controller, Wild said Smith had done a good job handling the city's purchasing.

"He is a great communicator and has strong administrative skills. He has worked in banking, most recently for LaSalle Bank," Wild said.

A longtime Westland resident, Gabriel has more than 20 years experience in upper management in the airline industry, Wild said.

Past president of the Westland Library board and a member of the Westland Planning Commission, Gabriel is in his first term on the Wayne-Westland school board.

"He has learned quite a bit about contract negotiations serving on the school board," Wild said.

Both Smith and Gabriel assumed their new duties May 28, a day after Conover finished her time as deputy mayor.



Smith



Gabriel

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Index

APARTMENTS ... C3
AUTOMOTIVE ... C6
CAREER BUILDER ... C5
CROSSWORD PUZZLE ... C2
FILTER ... B6
FOOD & WINE ... B9-10
OBITUARIES ... B5
PUBLIC SAFETY ... A4
REAL ESTATE ... C2
SPORTS ... B1
STRICTLY BUSINESS ... A5

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Three veteran staffers join Westland Observer



Rogers



Dargay



Cantrell

Two veteran *Observer & Eccentric* writers and a photographer have been reassigned to the staff of the *Westland Observer*.

Staff writer LeAnne Rogers, Features Editor Sharon Dargay and photographer Steve Cantrell are joining Sports Editor Brad Emons in providing coverage of the Westland community.

Rogers is a graduate of Oakland University with a degree in history and journalism. She joined the *Observer & Eccentric* in 1988, filling in as a reporter in several communities before joining the staff of the *Garden City Observer* in 1989.

A resident of Rochester Hills, she lives in a home built by her grandfather.

"I've enjoyed covering Garden City for many years. I will miss the many people I've developed relationships with through the years," said Rogers. "At the same time, I'm looking forward to meeting people on my new beat. I know there are a lot of interesting people and activities in Westland."

HOW TO REACH US

LeAnne Rogers: (313) 222-5428 or by e-mail at lrogers@hometownlife.com

Sharon Dargay: (313) 222-8883 or by e-mail at sdargay@hometownlife.com

Steve Cantrell: By e-mail at scantrell@hometownlife.com

Dargay earned a bachelor of arts degree in broadcasting with a minor in Spanish from Marygrove College/University of Detroit. She also has trained in voice-over skills, acted in theater and live radio productions, and graduated from Second City Detroit's writing and improv conservatory programs.

She is a longtime *Observer & Eccentric* staff member and has covered both news and feature beats and most recently produced religion and community life pages for the *Eccentric*, newspapers as well as

Please see **STAFF, A3**

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Recount decisions upheld in Livonia school race

BY KAREN SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Wayne County Board of Canvassers upheld Tuesday a recount team's decision not to recount Westland absentee ballots in the May 5 Livonia school board election, saying it's possible they could have been tampered with.

Joan Reilly, board vice chair, said state law prevents the ballots from being recounted. "It's possible someone could have changed or added ballots," she said. The 735 absentee ballots were in a box that was improperly sealed, leaving a half inch or larger gap.

Roger Spence, the candidate who requested the recount and challenged the team's decision, expected the decision to be upheld after

researching the law. "The law is very specific," he said.

Spence, an attorney, had lost by 10 votes to 12-year incumbent Daniel Lessard. The recount, certified by the board of canvassers Tuesday, narrowed that margin to six votes.

Spence said he will not challenge the results further. The majority of the votes — 5,107 — were recounted, and he gained just four votes, he said. It's unlikely he could pick up another five out of the remaining 735 to change the outcome of the election, he said.

"It's frustrating" to have lost by so few votes, he said. "I feel bad for the people who supported me."

He said the board of canvassers did a great job. Lessard, a retired

Michigan bell employee, said he was pleased with the decision. "All I was asking this body to do was follow the law," he said. "I think it validates that the 200-year-old voting practices in our country work."

The board of canvassers also upheld the recount team's decision to count for Lessard a vote that appeared like it had been erased. The vote was on an Livonia absentee ballot. Each member of the board of canvassers looked at the ballot before making the unanimous decision.

Spence declined to answer directly whether he will run for school board again. "I never say never," he said.

Newcomer Colleen Burton was the top vote-getter in the three-way race for two seats on the board.

Reilly said she's seen improperly sealed absentee ballot boxes before. "It's fairly common," she said. Election workers put in long days, starting at 7 a.m. and ending several hours after the polls close. "They get tired and they make mistakes," she said.

Westland City Clerk Eileen DeHart said the Livonia absentee ballot box was the only one in her office in which the seal hadn't been pulled tight enough. "It was a fluke," she said, adding that the two absentee ballot boxes in the Wayne Westland district were fine. She said she will be training members of her absentee ballot counting board on how to properly seal ballot boxes.

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Request for court audit goes nowhere

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

At least one council member would like to see closer oversight of the 18th District Court budget during the upcoming fiscal year.

As part of a motion to approve a \$59.3 million fund balance for the 2009-10 fiscal year, Councilman Bill Johnson added language to conduct an audit of the court and receive quarterly reports on the court finances from the city finance department.

"I'm interested in a deep dive at the start of the fiscal year so we know where we are beginning at," said Johnson. "I have no agenda. The court had a \$700,000 shortfall in projected revenues. I envision using this as a stop gap."

The audit of the court as proposed by Johnson would be in addition to the annual financial audit conducted by Plante Moran. Finance Director Steven Smith estimated the cost for the additional audit would be at least \$20,000.

It was Councilman Charles Pickering who questioned Johnson's "agenda" in seeking the audit of the court finances.

"This has never been done before for any department. There was no indication of concern from council," said Pickering. "Plante Moran said the city and court were in good standing."

Pickering questioned whether the council had the legal authority to conduct the

audit of the court. The city does have managerial audits of individual departments looking at operations rather than finances.

The problem with the motion, said City Attorney Angelo Plakas, was adding the audit to what should have been a motion that simply would adopt the proposed budget, if approved.

"I don't see any contingency for adopting a budget with contingencies," said Plakas, adding a separate motion on monitoring the court budget could be offered but not as part of the budget adoption.

Johnson later withdrew his original motion and offered a second motion to approve the budget which was unanimously approved by council.

Both 18th District Court judges, Sandra Cicirelli and Mark McConnell, attended the meeting. Speaking as chief judge, Cicirelli said the court had always worked with the city but the revenue projections were unrealistic.

"We're all in the same boat. Any revenue we generate goes into the city general fund," said Cicirelli. "We were asked to see if we could commit to \$4.4 million in revenues. We committed to do our best. That was after a 5 percent budget cut."

The economy is also having an impact as people can afford to pay fines and court costs, Cicirelli said, noting debt collections for the court are also up.

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RELAY

FROM PAGE A1

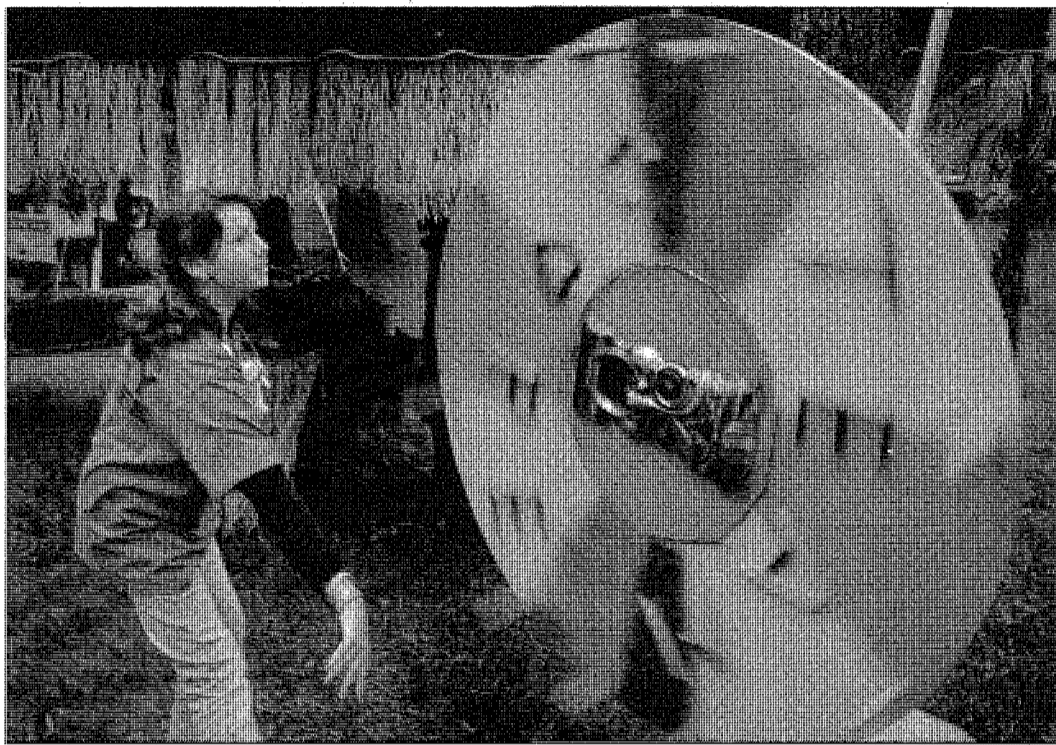
stricken with cancer over the years. "There are a lot of people — several survivors. The team is pretty much family and friends."

Past president of the Garden City Youth Athletic Association, Guziak first got involved in Relay for Life heading a GCYAA team that participated in the Westland event.

"I didn't want to leave Westland when Garden City got a Relay for Life. I wish they weren't the same weekend — I'd go to the Garden City one," said Guziak, whose team was selling assorted small plants started from seeds.

"If you tell people they cost \$1 they won't buy them, but they do if you say it's a donation," she added.

Selling flowers in recycled cans and T-shirts were members of the Livonia Churchill High School National Honor Society. Senior Loric



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ten-year-old Madeline Brayer spins the wheel of hope to win a prize. Team Hope sponsored the wheel as a way of raising money during the Relay for Life.

Avanessian has participated in Relay for Life for three years. "When I joined National Honor Society in 10th grade,

we did the event and I came, too. I took over as the organizer this year," said Avanessian, who estimated 80 students

participated. "I think it's really touching a lot of family members who have cancer or had it. It's fun and for a good cause."



CITY OF GARDEN CITY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

MONDAY, JUNE 15, 2009 AT 6:55 P.M.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Garden City Council will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, June 15, 2009 at 6:55 p.m. in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan. At the hearing, all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to solicit public comments on the proposed 2009/2010 Water and Sewer Rates which are on file and can be viewed in the City Clerk's Office.

ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 53.03 AND 53.04 OF CHAPTER 53 OF TITLE V OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY.

THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY HEREBY ORDAINS:

1. That Section 53.03 AND 53.04 OF Chapter 53 of Title V of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Garden City be amended to read as follows:

53.03 WATER SUPPLY RATES.

- (A) Consumption charges. Base rate \$28.78 per 1,000 cubic feet
- (B) Quarterly meter charges (in addition to those in division (A) above).

Meter Size	Quarterly Charge
5/8 - inch	\$4.05
5/8 x 3/4 - inch	\$4.05
3/4 - inch	\$4.73
1 - inch	\$7.65
1 1/2 - inch	\$13.49
2 - inch	\$20.11
3 - inch	\$27.00
4 - inch	\$32.91
6 - inch	\$38.01

(C) Service outside city. Water Supply rates charged for water service to premises outside the city shall be 150% of the rates set forth in divisions (A) and (B), or as may hereafter be established for city water supply service by City Council resolution.

53.04 SEWAGE DISPOSAL RATES.

- (A) Consumption charges. Base rate, including excess sewage \$52.41 per 1,000 cubic feet
- (B) Sewage disposal rates. Charges for sewage disposal service to premises outside the city shall be 150% of the rates set forth in division (A), or as may hereafter be established for city sewage disposal service by City Council resolution.
- (C) Industrial waste control charge. All non-residential users shall pay an IWC charge based on meter size. This is a flat rate without regard to consumption. The following rates shall apply.

Meter Size	Monthly Charge	Quarterly Charge
5/8 - inch	6.56	19.69
3/4 - inch	9.85	29.55
1 - inch	16.41	49.23
1 1/2 - inch	36.10	108.30
2 - inch	52.50	157.50
3 - inch	95.16	285.48
4 - inch	131.25	393.75
6 - inch	196.88	590.63

(D) Industrial waste surcharge. Commercial and industrial users who discharge wastes into the public wastewater system in

excess of the strength of normal sewage shall be charged a surcharge which reflects their equitable share of the costs of wastewater treatment. The surcharge shall be determined as follows.

- (1) Purpose and objective. This section has as its purpose the protection of public health and safety, and because of the widely varying quality characteristics of the sewage discharged by different users of the public sewer and the publicly-owned treatment works, it is the objective of this section to impose sewage charges which reflect the cost of treating sewage strength factors as well as sewage volume. These charges to commercial and industrial users will be in the form of a payment called a surcharge and will reflect industries equitable costs of wastewater treatment in excess of the strength of the domestic sewage. Sewage charge will be based on a volume rate and surcharged based on volume of discharge and the strength of BOD, suspended solid, phosphorous, fats, oil and grease or other pollutants present in the wastewater. In the event other pollutants are required to be surcharged under this subchapter, authorized variances, or by special arrangements with the owner of the publicly-owned treatment works, the rules and regulations adopted herein will apply, the rules and regulations being on file with the City Clerk.
- (2) Authority. This section is adopted pursuant to and in accordance with the requirements of Federal Law Clean Water Act, 33 USC 1231 et seq. and applicable Federal Regulations, the requirements of the Settlement Agreement in U.S. v City of Detroit, et al, Civil Action #7-71111.
- (3) Industrial waste pollutant strength surcharges. It is ordained that the Schedule of Industrial Waste Pollutant Strength Surcharges is hereby adopted and made effective for users of the wastewater system of the city. The surcharges are to be computed as follows.

Computation of Industrial Waste Pollutant Strength Surcharge

The industrial waste pollutant strength surcharge shall be computed in accordance with the following formula.

$$SC = 0.0624 V a (BOD-275) + b(TSS-350) + c(P-12) + d(FOG-100)$$

In which the following apply.

- SC = Pollutant strength surcharge fee in dollars for the billing period in Mcf (1000 cubic feet).
- V = Volume of waste discharged in the billing period in Mcf (1000 cubic feet).
- BOD = Five-day biochemical oxygen demand of the waste expressed in milligrams per liter (ppm).
- TSS = Total suspended solids in the waste expressed in milligrams per liter (ppm).
- P = Phosphorus in the waste expressed in milligrams per liter (ppm).
- FOG = Fats, oils, and grease expressed in milligrams per liter (ppm).
- a, b, c, d = Surcharge rates, \$/pound for treating BOD, TSS, P, and FOG respectively.
- 0.0624 = Factor which converts Mcf to MM lbs.
- a = \$.254,285/pound.
- b = \$.324,341/pound.
- c = \$.3,7293,862/pound.
- d = \$.221,2,55/pound.

- (4) Compliance required. In accordance with the basic service agreement between the city, the county, and the Wayne County Board of Public Works or other properly designated agent of the county named pursuant to M.C.L.A. §§ 46.171 through 46.185, and M.C.L.A. §§ 123.71 et seq., this section provides that any person, firm, or corporation discharging wastewater into the publicly-owned sewer system shall comply with the standards, rules and regulations controlling the quality or quantity of discharge or wastewater into the system. The standards, rules, and regulations shall be established from time to time by the county or its designated agent.

ALLYSON BETTIS
City Clerk-Treasurer

Publish: June 4, 2009

BUDGET

FROM PAGE A1

Council members expressed appreciation for the efforts Mayor William Wild and city staff had made on putting the budget together including all-day strategic planning sessions.

"I believe that the passing of this budget reiterates that the city as a whole remains focused on fiscal responsibility," said Wild. "The entire process is a testament of the collective hard work and commitment on the part of the council as well as the city administration."

One cut that has been in the budget was longevity pay for employees.

"I'm extremely elated, I

swore that we would never see cuts to the longevity pay," said Councilwoman Cheryl Graunstadt. "It's symbolic, a sign of the times. It's a perk that is no longer warranted. Next, I want to go after mutual gains — that's not done in the private sector. I consider it double-dipping."

After the cuts made for the upcoming budget year, Westland needs to discuss more reductions to keep the city financially viable, said Councilman Charles Pickering.

"There are a lot of cities that are not financially viable and making drastic cuts," he said. "We want to make cuts that minimize the impact and keep the city financially viable. Like it or not, we're responsible for the budget."

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Book sale offers food for thought

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Book-lovers have somewhere special to go these next few days, as the Friends of the William P. Faust Public Library host their used book sale.

The preview for Friends members (you can join there) is 2-4 p.m. today, Thursday, June 4. The regular sale will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday, June 5-6, with bag sale day noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, June 7. The library is on Central City Parkway between Warren Road and Ford.

"They're extremely important," reference librarian Andy Schuck said of the Friends sales, held four times a year. "They help fund programs."

That's a real boon for us. It's goodwill, too. People always enjoy discovering books."

The Friends also operate a regular book shop with used hardcovers and paperbacks during library hours. For information, call the library at (734) 326-6123.

Books at the sales are categorized, such as romance, mystery and science fiction, Schuck said. There will also be such items as DVDs and CDs available.

He said the John Grisham legal thrillers are popular with Westland readers, along with mysteries.

"Romance novels are pretty popular, too," he said.

"It's always fun to browse even if you're not buying," Schuck added in encouraging people to visit the book sale.

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Colleagues recall Teresa Robbins as having a focus on students

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A former Wayne-Westland school board member is being remembered for her focus on students and her organizational skills.

Teresa Robbins, who served on the board for five years, including one year as an appointed trustee, died May 21, after a battle with breast cancer. She was 61.

"Teresa was big on us being educated, she was big on us attending all the training that was available to us and organized us to get us there," said school board Secretary Cindy Schofield. "She was always searching for ways to better educate the board."

"She took her school board work seriously," added Superintendent Greg Baracy.

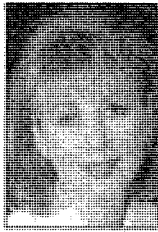
Mrs. Robbins gained recognition through her fight to protect a district-owned nature area, Sassafra's Trails, from residential development. That led to an interest in the school board and a successful election campaign in 1998. She served for four years and opted not to seek re-election in 2002. However, she returned to the board a year later, when she was appointed to fill the vacancy following the death of longtime board member Mathew McCusker.

According to Schofield, Mrs. Robbins liked to analyze data to make sure that it showed that what was being done supported students.

"I know she got on the board because of Sassafra's Trails, but she was able to set that aside and focus on the kids," she said. "She expanded her horizons to look at education. She wanted to learn about the whole thing."

"She brought a lot caring to the board," added board President Skip Monit. "She was always willing to do whatever it took to get things done."

Monit praised Mrs. Robbins for her ability to think outside the box and "look at things as to



Robbins

how we could do them better."

"I had a lot of respect for her, I'm going to miss her," he said. "Her time on the board was well-spent. I think she was an exemplary board member."

A retiree of Valic, where she worked in the public relations

service department and was manager of accounts receivable, Mrs. Robbins chaired of the Volunteer Council and a member of the board of the Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center Auxiliary. She also was a member and a volunteer at the Westland senior Friendship Center and a member of the Westland Recycling Center and Westland Democratic Club.

Mrs. Robbins is survived by

her husband, James Robbins, son Jimmy and wife Alina, brother David Burt and sisters Marie Wiens (Gary), Dianne Horton (Chuck), Denise Erickson (Mike) and Laura Lodin. She was preceded in death by her father, Edward Weinhandl.

Memorials can be made to the Michigan Humane Society or John Bolde Food Depot at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Wayne.

STAFF

FROM PAGE A1

feature pages for the *Mirror*, a Hometown weekly.

In her spare time she writes and performs with two comedy/improv troupes in the metro area.

"I love talking to people in the community and learning about their interests, accomplishments and adventures — and then introducing them via the printed word to others,"

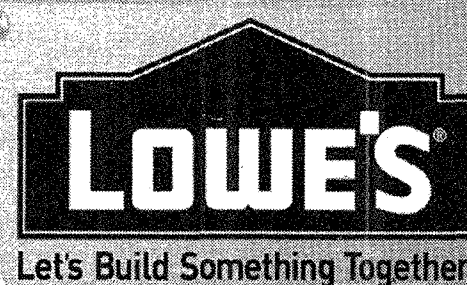
Dargay said.

Cantrell has worked for the *Observer & Eccentric* since 1977, documenting news events through images. He has worked for most of the *Eccentric's* papers in Oakland County, including Birmingham, Clarkston, Troy and Southfield.

A resident of Royal Oak, Cantrell is a graduate of Royal Oak Kimball High and attended the Center for Creative Studies, now called the College for Creative Studies, in Detroit.

HURRY IN FOR SPECIAL VALUES

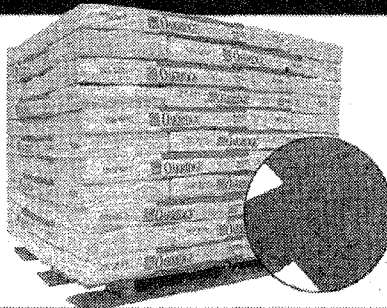
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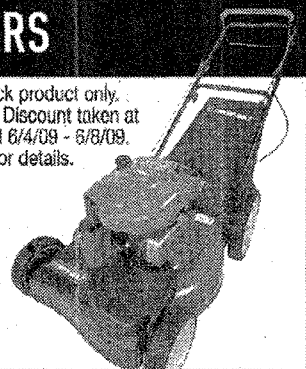


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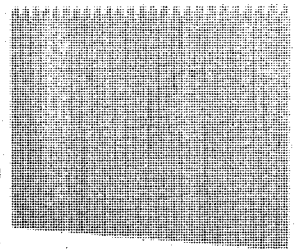
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15% off ALL BOSCH ROTARY HAMMERS

Applies to items #106979, 295013, 31527 and 46161. Discount taken at register. Offer valid 6/4/09 - 6/8/09. See store for details.

SPECIAL VALUE! now \$19.97

was \$23.97 each
6' x 8' Stockade Fence Panel #20206



Trial adjourned in Laci Green case

More than a year after Laci Green died, the trial of a former boyfriend accused of murdering her has been delayed a second time.

Robert James-the-First Howard, 25, of Dearborn Heights was scheduled to have a jury trial Monday before Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Michael Hathaway. A January trial date also was adjourned for Howard at the defense's request — in this case, because Howard may possibly be getting new legal representation.

Charged with first-degree murder, Howard has been incarcerated since his arrest after Green, a Westland nursing student, was found strangled to death in a grassy field near her parents' home on the southwest side of the city May 7, 2008.

Green's parents had testified in an earlier hearing that they had encountered Howard outside their home on Dunn Court just a few hours before their daughter was found dead.

Based on their investigation, Westland police officers testified that they believed Howard took a taxicab to meet and talk with Laci Green outside her home late at night. Her body was discovered around 6 a.m. Police testified that their investigation indicated Howard was angry with Green for ending a relationship with him and dating another man.

The trial date was adjourned until Monday, Aug. 24.

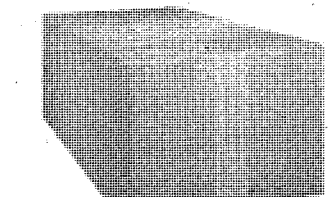
10% OFF YOUR FIRST PURCHASE*
ASK FOR

When you open and use a new Lowe's Business Credit Account. Some exclusions apply. Offer valid 6/3/09 - 6/8/09. See store associate for application and required coupon. See bottom of page for details.



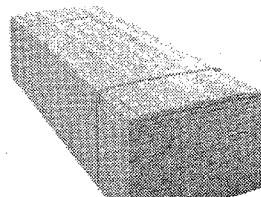
CONTRACTOR PACK BUY IN BULK
Save at least **5%**

ON JOIST HANGER CASE PACK PRODUCTS WHEN YOU BUY 50, 100 OR MORE AT A TIME.



SPECIAL VALUE!
now \$5.62 was \$6.28 each
7/16" x 4' x 8' OSB Sheathing #12212

Pricing for commodity items may vary due to market conditions - we reserve the right to limit quantities.



\$1.77 each
2" x 4" x 96" Kiln-Dried Whitewood Select Stud #6005

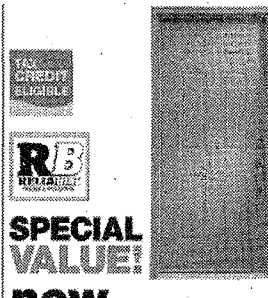
Pricing for commodity items may vary due to market conditions - we reserve the right to limit quantities.

CONTRACTOR PACK BUY IN BULK
Save at least **5%**

ON MANY CAULK CASE PACK PRODUCTS WHEN YOU BUY 12 OR MORE AT A TIME.

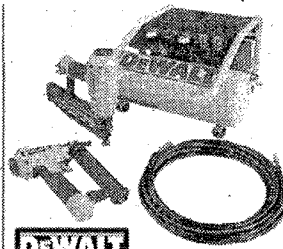


\$44
6-Panel Molded Prehung Interior Door
•24"W x 80"H •Hollow core, molded textured surface
•Primed and ready to paint



SPECIAL VALUE!
now \$109 was \$139

•Locksets sold separately •Fits rough opening: 38-1/2"W x 82-1/4"H •May be Special Order in some stores



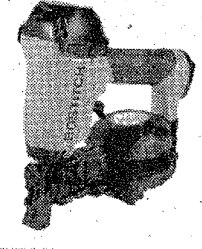
DEWALT
SPECIAL VALUE!
now \$249 was \$289

•Includes a 16-gauge finish nailer and 1-1/4" brad nailer #545



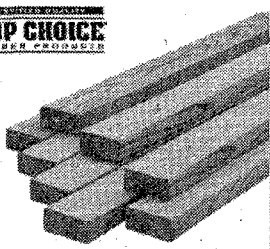
SPECIAL VALUE!
now \$19.78 was \$21.98
4.75 gallons

•Renews blacktop surfaces
•Covers 350 sq.ft. per 4.75-gallon pail #223519

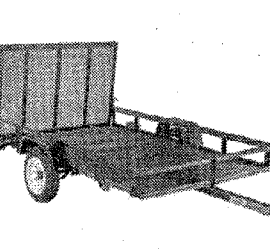


BOSTITCH
NEW LOWER PRICE!
now \$259 was \$279

•Magnesium housing •Uses 7/8" to 1-3/4" nails •4.8 lbs. #76391

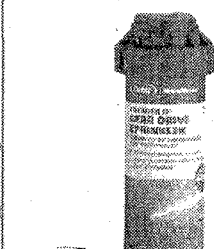


\$2.64 each
2" x 4" x 8' Treated Lumber
•Prime quality #46905
Pricing for commodity items may vary due to market conditions - we reserve the right to limit quantities.



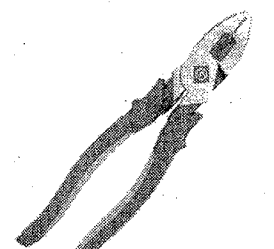
NEW LOWER PRICE!
now \$598 was \$698

•1,650 lb. maximum load capacity •Ramp gate for easy loading #100369
May be Special Order in some stores.



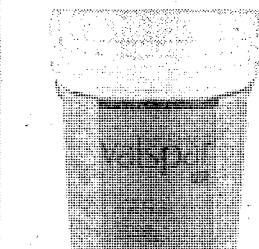
SPECIAL VALUE!
now \$10.48 was \$11.97

Also available on Lowes.com.



SPECIAL VALUE!
now \$23.97 was \$29.98

•Lifetime limited warranty
•Comfort grip handle #291934



SPECIAL VALUE!
now \$74 was \$87.50
5-gallon size

•Lifetime warranty •Latex #73613

THINKING ABOUT... CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING? LENNOX

Receive up to a **\$1,200 Rebate***

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LOWE'S COMMERCIAL SERVICES **COMMERCIAL APPRECIATION DAYS** **LOWE'S COMMERCIAL SERVICES**

3 DAYS ONLY 6/3/09 - 6/5/09. EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL OFFERS. FREE LUNCH ON FRIDAY.

Details on our policies and services: Prices may vary after 6/8/09 if there are market variations. *Was prices in this advertisement were in effect on 5/28/09 and may vary based on Lowe's Everyday Low Price policy. See store for details regarding product warranties. We reserve the right to limit quantities. *Ask for 10% Off your first single-receipt in-store purchase charged to your new Lowe's Accounts Receivable or Lowe's Business Account when you open your new account in any Lowe's store and make your first purchase between 6/3/09 - 6/8/09. Coupon must be presented at time of purchase and cannot be used in conjunction with any other coupon or discount. This coupon is good for a single receipt purchase of any in-stock or Special Order merchandise only up to \$5000 (Maximum discount \$500). Coupon is not redeemable for cash, is non-transferable and cannot be replaced if lost or stolen. Valid if altered, copied, transferred, or sold through any on-line auction. Limit one coupon per household or business. Not valid on Lowes.com, previous sales, purchase of services or gift cards. Offer must be requested at the time of purchase. Offer is subject to credit approval. Coupon valid for one time use only. Offer is not valid for accounts opened prior to 6/3/09. Excludes Lowe's® Consumer Credit Accounts, Lowe's® Project Card® Accounts, and all Lowe's® VISA® Accounts. While Lowe's strives to be accurate, unintentional errors may occur. We reserve the right to correct any error. Prices and promotions apply to US locations only. ©2009 by Lowe's®. All rights reserved. Lowe's and the gable design are registered trademarks of LF, LLC. (090691)

Summer concert series kicks off Sunday

The Westland Cultural Society will present its 2009 Concerts in the Park Series, beginning Sunday. Concerts are in the Westland Library performance pavilion, behind the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland, on Central City Parkway between Warren and Ford.

Ernie Johnson of Westland, who with wife Jo is an officer of the Cultural Society, schedules the concerts. "We started 23 years ago," he said, adding that back then concerts went from park to park. "We had some pretty slim crowds. The last few years at the library we get real good crowds."

Westland resident Dean Stacy and his Waco Band will

perform this Sunday. The group always draws crowds. "The line dancers really like it, he really draws a big crowd," said Johnson, noting that there's difficulty in drawing a younger crowd. "People tell us what they want," he said.

This summer concert series lineup includes:

- Sunday, June 7 - Waco Band with Dean Stacy, country and light rock.
- Sunday, June 14 - the Tommy Jane Orchestra, Big Band.
- Sunday, June 28 - Pam & Scott, easy listening.
- Sunday, July 12 - Stolen Moments, classics and standards.

- Sunday, July 19 - Novi Concert Band, variety.
- Sunday, July 26 - Bandura Bridge with Mitch and Jesse Mann, bluegrass.
- Sunday, Aug. 2 - The Tyrone Hamilton All-Stars, R&B, light rock.
- Sunday, Aug. 9 - Birmingham Straw Hat Band, polkas and marches, Dixieland.
- Sunday, Aug. 23 - Diane Trombley & Co., vocal standards.

All concerts start at 6 p.m. and are free of charge. In the event of rain, concerts will be rescheduled whenever possible. Call (734) 722-7620 or (734) 522-3918 for more information.

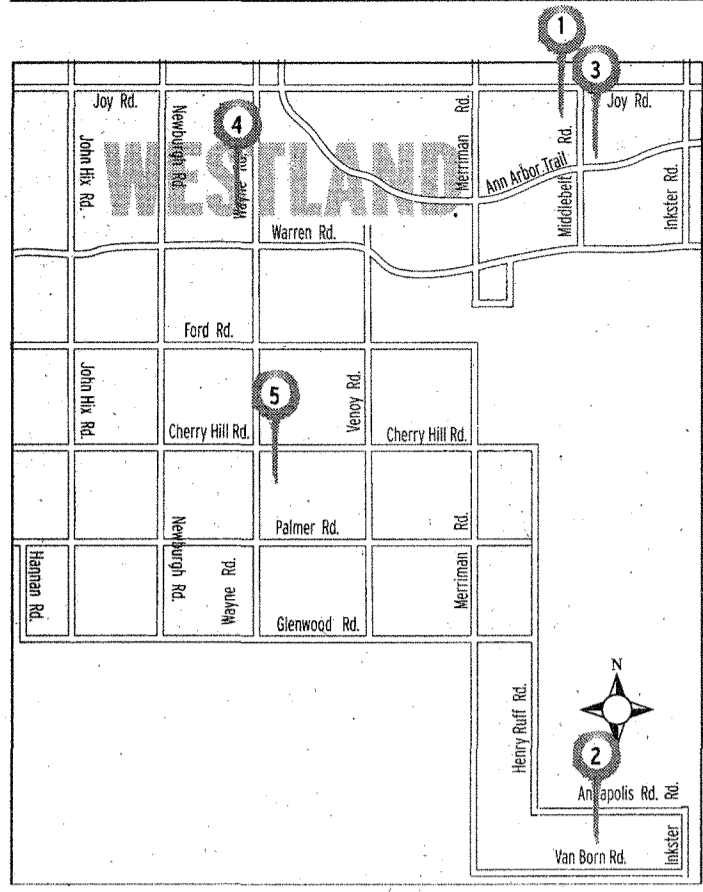
"The weather's a problem," Johnson said. "We try to reschedule when we can."

All concerts are sponsored by the Westland City Council with cooperation of the Westland Parks and Recreation Department. Those attending should bring lawn chairs or blankets to sit on.

Schedules are available at the senior Friendship Center, Wayne-Westland's Dyer Senior Center, Westland City Hall and on the city's Web site at www.ci.westland.mi.us.

"Everybody's welcome, we're planning on a good year," Johnson said.

-By Julie Brown



POLICE CALLS

Break-in

1 Officers responded to an alarm call at Exxon, 8755 N. Middlebelt, early June 1 and found the front door ajar with the glass broken. A brick was found inside the business about four feet from the shattered window.

The store was in disarray, but they were unable to determine if anything was missing, the officers said. Damage to the door was set at \$350.

It was noted that Livonia police had responded to two similar burglaries within an hour of the Westland incident at 2:45 a.m. within a two-mile radius of Middlebelt and Joy where this gas station is located.

Auto thefts

2 On May 28, a resident in the 5500 block of South Middlebelt told police that someone had stolen her 2005 Ford Escape, valued at \$15,000, from the driveway. She said the vehicle was parked at 10:30 p.m. the previous night and was found gone at 6 a.m. The woman told police her husband has keys to the vehicle but he was reached by telephone and told the officer he didn't have the vehicle.

3 A Farmington Hills woman told police that her vehicle was stolen from the parking lot of the DAV Thrift Store, 8050 N. Middlebelt, May 31. The woman said she was inside the store about an hour and left at 2:40 p.m. As she walked to her vehicle, the woman told police she saw a male in his late teens sitting in the driver's seat tampering with the igni-

tion. As she dialed 9-1-1, the woman said the male started the vehicle and drove north on Middlebelt.

The 2003 Dodge Stratus was valued at \$10,000.

Bike stolen

4 A Westland man told police May 28 that he had ridden his bicycle to Ashley's, 8181 N. Wayne Road, for dinner and left it locked to a handicapped parking sign near the front entrance. When he left three hours later, he said the bicycle was gone.

Retail fraud

5 On June 1, a Westland man was arrested for shoplifting an audio RF transmitter valued at \$15 from Kmart, 165 S. Wayne Road. Store security told the officer they had detained the man after they saw him open the package, remove the item and place it in his pants pocket before leaving the store.

Larceny from a vehicle

An Ypsilanti woman told police May 28 that someone had stolen a bag from her vehicle while she was parked near J.C. Penney at Westland Shopping Center. The contents of the bag weren't specified. The woman said she had locked the vehicle but didn't notice that a window was partially down.

Vandalism

On May 28, a resident of an apartment in the 6100 block of N. Wildwood told police that someone threw a rock through her bathroom window.

-By LeAnne Rogers

Coffee Hours

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

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

• State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, also will hold local coffee hours in Westland and Redford on Monday, June 8. He will be at the William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, 9-10 a.m., then move to Redford for a 10:30-11:30 a.m. coffee hour at the Redford Community Center, 12121 Hemingway.

Constituents who would like to address an issue with Anderson but are unable to attend may contact him by mail at P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI, 48933; by phone toll-free at (866) 262-7306; or by e-mail at SenatorAnderson@senate.michigan.gov.

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.

Hazardous waste

The Wayne County Department of Environment has announced a Household Hazardous Waste Collection day in the City of Westland.

The Westland event is scheduled for 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 22, in the Lot behind J.C. Penney at the Westland Shopping Center, Warren Road and Nankin Boulevard. Household generated waste will be collected from any Wayne County resident.

For further information contact the Wayne County Department of Environment at (734) 326-3936.

Another event has been scheduled for 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 27, at the Northville Public Works, 650 Doheny, just north of 7 Mile Road and east of South Main. It, too, is for Wayne County residents.

Pool opens

The Bailey Recreation Center's outdoor pool is open 3-6 p.m. weekdays and noon to 3 p.m. and 4-7 p.m. weekends now through Friday, June 12. The regular season starts Saturday, 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 sdunstan-schoolsecretary@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.

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.

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.

Caregiver support

Are you a caregiver of an aging parent, spouse or relative? Do you ever wish you had an understanding person to talk to? Wayne Metro's Caregiver Support Groups offer support and assistance to those struggling to find or give quality care to their loved ones. Caregiver Support meetings offer valuable information and assistance to individuals caring for a loved one. They're held from 10 a.m. to noon the third Tuesday of the month at the Kay Beard Building on Michigan Avenue in Westland. Meetings are also held at the Village of Redford on Six Mile Road in Redford. Morning and evening options are available. The morning group meets from 10 a.m. to noon the second Thursday of the month, while the evening group meets from 6-8 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month. For more information on dates and times, or if attending for the first time, call Nancy Coman at (313) 843-2550, Ext. 233.

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

CITY OF GARDEN CITY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Monday, June 15, 2009 at 6:58 p.m.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Garden City Council will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, June 15, 2009 at 6:58 p.m. in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan. At the hearing, all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to solicit public comments on the proposed 2009 Tax Levy and Rate which is on file and can be viewed in the City Clerk's Office.

CITY OF GARDEN CITY 2009 Tax Levy and Rate

WHEREAS, it is the intention of the Garden City Council to authorize the 2009 Tax Millage for all assessed property in the City of Garden City for the purpose of collecting sufficient funds to meet the needs of the services performed by the City; and

WHEREAS, the levy of said millage rate must be accomplished by ordinance, and

WHEREAS, this specific enactment is not permanent in nature and need not be compiled in the City Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Garden City hereby adopt the following form for the 2009 Tax Millage Rate:

THE CITY COUNCIL HEREBY LEVIES:

General Fund Operating	13.8403 Mills
Central Wayne County Incinerator	0.0000 Mills
Judgment Debt Service	1.8383 Mills
Refuse Collection	2.5000 Mills
	18.4367 Mills

Written comments may be submitted prior to the public hearing and should be addressed to: The Office of the City Clerk, City of Garden City, 6000 Middlebelt Rd., Garden City, MI 48135.

ALLYSON BETTIS
City Clerk-Treasurer

Publish: June 4, 2009

ABANDONED CAR AUCTION Sparks Towing
31797 Block, Garden City
Wednesday, June 10th • 10 a.m.

- 94 Toyota - JT2EL46S4R031970
- 97 Dodge - 2B4FP2538WRG43163
- 90 Chevy - 1GCD14Z01E234282
- 93 Mitsubishi - JA3ED59G1RZ006114
- 96 Ford - 3FALP6530TM126686
- 99 Ford - 1FAPP53UOXG291897

Publish: June 4, 2009

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY COUNTY OF WAYNE, MICHIGAN

ON ADOPTION OF THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009 - 2010

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS IN THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Garden City, County of Wayne, Michigan, will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, the 10th day of June, 2009, at 6:00 p.m., at the Garden City Public Schools' Administration Building, 1333 Radcliff, Garden City, Michigan, to consider the approval and adoption of the operating budget of the School District of the City of Garden City for the fiscal year of 2009 - 2010.

Copies of the proposed budget are on file with the Business Office at the Garden City Public Schools' Administrative Service Center, 1333 Radcliff, Garden City, Michigan, for inspection during regular business hours. At the public hearing, all citizens, taxpayers, and property owners of the City of Garden City, shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard in regard to the approval of the proposed budget. **The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.**

This notice is given by order of the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Garden City, County of Wayne, Michigan.

Roy Watts, Secretary
GARDEN CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Publish: June 4, 2008

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
Pursuant to state law a sale will be held at: Secured Self Storage, 6855 Yale, Westland, MI on June 13, 2009 at 1:05 p.m.

#104	JACQUELINE ROBERTS
#112	ELGIN SAULS
#307	JOHN MCROY
#432	LOIS LUELLEN
#455	ILIAN TOUKOV
#506	LOIS LUELLEN
#530	AHMED OMAR
#710	TERENCE RYCKMAN
#935	MICHAEL SARTEN
#1319	CARL ASHLOCK

Units contain: Showcases, miscellaneous household items, furniture.

Publish: May 28 & June 4, 2009

CITY OF WESTLAND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF CANCELLATION

REGULAR ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING SCHEDULED FOR May 20, 2009

The Zoning Board of Appeals meeting scheduled for May 20, 2009, has been cancelled due to the lack-of agenda items.

The next regularly scheduled Zoning Board of Appeals meeting will be held on June 17, 2009 in the Council Chambers of Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI at 7:00 p.m.

Publish: June 4, 2009

Local Strictly Business

BUSINESS MILESTONES

ON THE MOVE

New Location

★ Heads up, skateboarders who frequent Detroit City Skateboard in Westland. Detroit City Skateboard is moving to the Tall Oaks Plaza on Wayne Road between Ford and Hunter, according to an announcement by retail real estate experts LaKritz-Weber & Company. A store dedicated to bringing all the skateboards, and extreme sports products that people need to perform is moving into a 2,000-square foot building in the plaza which already is home to Mr. Mike's Grill. For more information, call the store at (734) 721-3233.

ONGOING

Gamers' delight

★ If you're into games like Magic the Gathering, Yu-Gi-Oh!, World of Warcraft, Flames of War, Dungeons & Dragons and more, check out Pandemonium at 1858 Middlebelt just south of Ford in Garden City. It offers a good selection of dice, figurines, card games, miniature games, and general crafting items as well as several large rooms in the building for tourna-

ments and weekly games playing. It's open seven days a week - noon to 8 p.m. Sunday, noon to midnight Monday-Friday and 10 a.m. to midnight Saturday. For more information, call (734) 427-2451.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Beer Tasting

★ Rex Halfpenny, a national beer judge and the publisher of the Michigan Beer Guide, will conduct a class and beer tasting, "The Epicenters of Brewing," at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 9, at Ashley's Pub & Restaurant, 7525 Wayne Road, just north of Warren Road, Westland. The is the second class in Ashley's beer education series. Halfpenny will lead the group through a history and exploration of the great brewing epicenters of the world - Bohemia, Bavaria, Britain and the United States - accompanied by a sampling of different styles from each. Light appetizers, paired with the beer samples, will be included. Space is limited and reservations are required. Tickets are \$25 per person or \$40 for two in advance. For more information, call (734) 525-1667.

Free lunch

You can enjoy lunch and learn more

about the amenities available at the three American House senior residences in Westland. The residences include dining, activities, and health and support services are available. There's also a "good neighbor" discount - third month rent free, up to a \$500 for moving expenses and 18-month rent lock. The American House facilities are Westland-Venoy, 1660 Venoy, between Palmer and Cherry Hill; Westland-Joy, 39201 Joy, west of John Hix, and Westland-Hunter, 35700 Hunter, west of Wayne Road. Call the residences - Westland-Venoy at (734) 326-7777, Westland-Joy at (734) 454-9838 and Westland-Hunter at (734) 728-8670 - to schedule a free lunch and tour. They also have a Web site, www.americanhouse.com.

New ownership

It's been a fixture on Wildwood, north of Ford, and now Montana's Steak and Seafood House is under new ownership. Stop by and check out such menu items as Smothered Chicken, Chicken Monterey, fish and chips and meatloaf. It also offers its steak dinner for two - 9-ounce New York Strip or 9-ounce prime rib - including soup bar, salad or

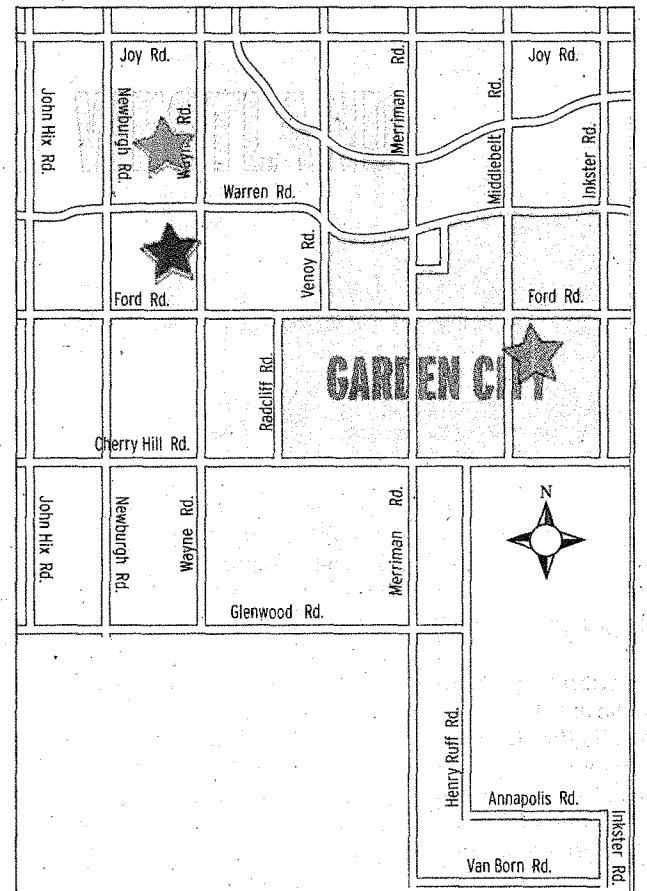
coleslaw, choice of potato, vegetable or rice for \$26. For more information, call (734) 728-7490.

Coffee Connection

The Westland Chamber of Commerce will hold its Coffee Connection 8-9 a.m. Thursday, June 18. Starbucks Coffee Company will be hosting at its store at 36545 Warren Road at the corner of Central City Parkway, Westland. Just come on in and buy a cup of coffee, get some networking done, and meet fellow Chamber members. No need for a RSVP, just come by when you can. For information, call the chamber at (734) 326-7222.

SEND IT

Get in on the Strictly Business Page of the Westland and Garden City Observer by sending us your business news, promotions, events or milestones. It's simple. Just e-mail all of the details to Sue Mason, editor, at smason@hometownlife.com and she'll take care of the rest. Our local business page runs each Thursday in your Westland and Garden City Observer. We welcome comments and suggestions, too. We look forward to hearing from you.



IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



Joe Barson and his wife, Deb, are celebrating 29 years of providing aquatics, flowers and vegetable plants at Barson's Greenhouses on Merriman at Maplewood in Westland.

Barson's: Quality, service, fair prices

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

Our slogan has always been "Quality, service at FAIR prices." We're always here to help customers - answer their questions and help them find what they need. We are constantly growing and changing, bringing in new things. Joe is big on educating people about ponds and holds seminars for them.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

There's not many small independent greenhouses left. We're a greenhouse in the middle of the city, plus we grow most all of our products here. We also grow the hanging baskets for Garden City Downtown Development Authority that hanging along Ford Road and are providing the flowers for the Westland senior Friendship Center. **Observer:** How did you decide to open your first business?

BARSON'S GREENHOUSES

Business name: Barson's Greenhouses
Address: 6414 Merriman Road, Warren Road and Ford, Westland
Name and Title: Deb and Joe Barson, owners
Business Opened: Established in 1980
Number of Employees: 15
Your Business Specialty: Aquatics (ponds), hanging baskets, containers, perennials and vegetable plants
Hours: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday
Business phone and e-mail: (734) 421-5959, info@barsons.com

I'm a granddaughter of Clyde Smith and I was born in the greenhouse business. That's how I met Joe. He had a summer job working in the greenhouses. We decided to open our own business. We now have our own

niche with the aquatics and draw people from around all over - South Lyon, the east side of Detroit. We're on Merriman Road and get the airport traffic. We have people plan a stop on their route.

How did you decide to locate in the Westland community?

It was for sale in paper. We're the third owners. The former owner was going to retire and move up north. We bought it. It was one acre with four greenhouses. It's evolved into four acres with 13 greenhouses. We have a sign at the road now that says we're bigger than we look.

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

We really enjoy the business. It's a lot of work and long hours, but we enjoy the customers who come in. We enjoy hearing how beautiful their plants are in the summer and hearing all nice comments over the years.

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

New vice president

Steven Solomon has been appointed the new vice-president of human resources at Garden City Hospital.

Solomon will oversee employment, compensation, benefits and management development. He also will be responsible for promoting employee relations. A major area of focus during his first year will be to help Garden City Hospital create and sustain a positive work environment and continue to be an employer of choice in south-east Michigan.

A health care leader with 30 years of human resources and consulting experience from health care organizations



Solomon

throughout the United States, Solomon joined Garden City Hospital in May. He has a bachelor of arts degree in social science from Michigan State University and master of science degree in industrial relations/human resource management from Loyola University of Chicago.

Most recently, Solomon was vice-president of human resources for the Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan, a home health care and hospice agency. In that role, he was instrumental in initiating a

new leadership development program, implementing new human resources policies, such as code of conduct, performance management and workplace violence, conducting employee opinion surveys, and successfully negotiating new labor agreements for employees represented by American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME).

Married, Solomon and his wife, Debbie have two children - son, Dan, 26, who works as a legislative assistant for a state senator in Minnesota, and daughter Tracey, 20, a student at Michigan State University, majoring in nursing. The Solomons live in Commerce Township.

CHAMBER CHAT

GARDEN CITY CHAMBER

The Garden City Farmers Market is open for business and meeting the needs of the neighborhood shoppers. The market is conveniently located at the northeast corner of Ford road and Middlebelt in the Kroger shopping plaza parking lot, directly behind Garden City Cafe.

Here is a listing of some of what you can find at the market:

- Now through October - Apple cider, German specialty

bread, apple breads, cinnamon breads, cookies, a variety of pies, nuts, honey and maple syrup.

- May to late June - Planting beds, flowers, herbs, asparagus, strawberries and peas.

- Late June to mid-July - Sweet cherries, red raspberries, tart cherries and green beans.

- Late July to August - Green beans, black raspberries, blueberries, apricots, potatoes, plums and tomatoes.

- Late August, September

and October - Tomatoes, peaches, pears and nectarines.

The Garden City Farmers Market is open every Wednesday now through Oct. 28. In its second year, the market's hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission is Free, stop on in and visit at the gathering tent. For questions, comments or more information, contact the Chamber of Commerce at (734) 422-4448.

See you at the market!

Amelia Oliverio
 executive director

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LOCAL OPINION

online at hometownlife.com



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

OUR VIEWS

Your Observer is still here, but we need you

As many may have heard, the *Observer* & *Eccentric* closed its West Bloomfield, Troy, Rochester, Southfield and *Mirror* newspapers, with their final publication on May 31.

The *Birmingham Eccentric* was also on that list, but was revived to a once-a-week paper, after a groundswell of community support and pledges to boost subscriptions and advertising for that edition. It remains a "wait-and-see" proposition, but the company is willing to give it a try.

A *South Oakland Eccentric* paper will cover Southfield, Royal Oak, Ferndale and other south central Oakland County communities. The paper will be published on Sunday.

Here's what you can do to help the Westland Observer. Urge merchants to advertise. Patronize local merchants who do advertise. Don't forget to tell merchants that you saw their ad in the Westland Observer.

Many people are shocked and dismayed by the loss of the local papers. Many readers of the *Westland Observer* have expressed relief that the paper remains open.

But, it can only survive with the support of the community.

We view the *Observer's* long-standing relationship with the Westland community as a partnership. We depend on local advertising and home delivery subscriptions to survive. The community depends on the *Observer* to inform people about all aspects of Westland, from stories that affect neighborhoods and taxes, to spreading the word about fund-raisers, special events and incredible people who do incredible things.

The Westland area has had an *Observer* newspaper for more than 44 years. Just as we've promoted the "buy local" concept, in an effort to push local consumers to locally owned stores, we're urging folks to invest, to engage, in the *Westland Observer*. Advertising budgets are tight, we know, and household budgets are also tight, but if we support each other, we'll make it through.

Here's what you can do to help the *Westland Observer*. Urge merchants to advertise. Patronize local merchants who do advertise. Don't forget to tell merchants that you saw their ad in the *Westland Observer*.

Purchase an annual subscription to the paper. The newspaper industry is in transition with print and online editions. But that transition is incomplete as newspapers search for a successful business model that will help sustain local information on the Web. So if you read us free online that's fine but it's important to pay for the print subscription — that's the only way we can afford to sustain that hyper-local Web site.

Each and every issue of the *Westland Observer* contains items that support local causes, local events, local people. We're here to shine the light on the good, to evoke conversations, to support local businesses and to provide a forum for healthy debate on local issues that affect you. We want to be around for many years to come. You can help.

For subscription information, call (866) 887-2737 or for local advertising, call Cathy White at (734) 582-8359.

COMMUNITY VOICE

What brings you to the library today?

We asked this question at the William P. Faust Library in Westland and the Garden City Library at the Maplewood Community Center.



"I came to the library to study. I'm trying to prepare for my Ph.D. dissertation in mechanical engineering."
Ramadan Ghmati
Westland



"Three words - I love it. It has what I need and it's close to my house."
Charles Becker
Canton



"To use the computers look up reservations for the Bahama Breeze Restaurant."
Dinah Fuilton
Garden City



"My book is due. I also use it for research, reading for enjoyment and to get some DVDs."
Rachel Hernandez
Garden City

LETTERS

The truth isn't pretty

Excellent letter by Phil Solarz. He says it like it is, and it's not pretty. People who have their heads buried should take note before it's too late.

Looking forward to the next tea party.

Jeannette Pawlowski
Westland

Time for a change

Westland voters will have a rare opportunity to change the face of Westland politics. We have three incumbents who have decided not to run for re-election. These three were almost always the only three on the current City Council who were willing to eliminate city perks that most of Westland residents know nothing about.

There are at least count nine people for eight seats in the Aug. 4 primary. What do we really know about these people? If elected will it be more of the same, but just a larger group on the City Council? No one to vote a "NO" anymore. We as voters in Westland must be very careful. They are spending our tax dollars.

At the present time we have a very small surplus but the time has come where the City has to give up many of these perks like everyone else in this country. We must have a balanced budget to maintain that small surplus. With the city tax revenue falling and spending going up, we must make sure the people that we elect are willing to at times, go against the same old same old that our city residents have put up with for many years. I must share the blame for this as well as many other residents because I was too busy and did not want to create a fuss to become involved in city politics.

We, the voters, in Westland must get out there and vote, even in this is a primary! With such low turnouts, I swear the only people that are voting are city employees and their families. Why not - they don't want anything to change when it comes to their benefits so they get out the vote.

We are a very small group of residents, who have formed to see what these council hopefuls are all about. If there are any other small groups out there who would be interested in joining us for discussion, please contact us by e-mail at khudson1@ameritech.net or rosemarierembisz2000@yahoo.com or phone (734) 525-8788.

I would also thank and on behalf of the Westland residents like myself who never have taken the time to become involved in the city politics to say what a great job Bob Stottlemeyer, Cheryl Graunstadt and Chuck Pickering (most of the time) have done for Westland over the years. I feel that they were truly thinking of me and how I would be affected by their vote. They will be missed.

I would also like to say a thank you to

What do you think?

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

Darrell Clem and Sue Mason for the years they have covered the Westland beat. I may not have always agreed with you but you have always been fair in your reporting. A great job well done.

Remember to contact us and, if not, please find out what these council hopefuls are all about and vote in this primary. Time for a change.

Karol Hudson
Westland

Story questioned

As a former *Livonia* and *Westland Observer* community editor, I am questioning why a story about a former school superintendent being arrested for being drunk and disorderly in a Florida community is newsworthy for local readers. The May 21 story told of a Florida city police department's arrest of Kenneth Watson, who retired as superintendent of the Livonia Public Schools some six years ago.

While the incident may be of interest to the residents who may have opposed any of Watson's policies or decisions while superintendent, I wonder what is the statute of limitations is for former public officials. If he were charged with a crime committed involving actions during his tenure as superintendent, I would understand.

According to the bloggers who reacted to the story, it appears that some residents are more upset with his role in the school board's controversial selection of his successor than with the drinking problem. It is clear that some residents can neither forget or forgive.

In principle, I agree that police reports should be available to the press and the community for public safety reasons, but community was certainly not endangered by Watson's private actions more than 1,000 miles away.

Perhaps the Watson story can be used an educational opportunity to have an *Observer* editor write an Op-Ed page column explaining what its policy or practice is for writing about former public officials involved in a police matter years after entering private life. Readers should be told what is the relevancy or newsworthiness of similar police stories.

Leonard Poger
Westland

Sotomayor is well qualified

President Obama's selection of Sonia Sotomayor as nominee for the United

States Supreme Court has generated some predictable and scripted Republican attacks. It seems that conservatives still can't quit their worn-out and discredited ideological talking points. Unfortunately for the GOP, Judge Sotomayor is a brilliant and accomplished jurist and legal scholar and she is eminently qualified for our nation's highest court.

Moreover, conservative concerns about alleged judicial activism by the president's nominees are merely a smoke screen that exposes a blatant level of hypocrisy. It is not judicial activism that worries the GOP but rather fear of a judicial system which no longer conforms to entrenched Republican anti-consumer and anti-worker ideological desires. Conservatives also loathe the thought that the courts might block the endless attempts by misguided Christian zealots to impose a state religion into the public square.

During the past 30 years, Republican-appointed judges at all levels have engaged in an unprecedented crusade of judicial activism, systematically eroding civil liberties and gutting consumer and worker protections at every opportunity. Here in Michigan, activist Republican state Supreme Court justices have turned our state into a haven for the widespread abuse and disregard of consumer rights by insurance and pharmaceutical companies.

Because Michigan elects its Supreme Court justices in what is supposedly a nonpartisan manner, Michigan residents will again have the opportunity next year to rid our state Supreme Court of another right-wing ideologue, just as we successfully accomplished last November. A return to a legal system which works for all of Michigan's citizens rather than against their interests is long overdue.

Joe Colonka
Westland

Honoring our servicemen

As a flight attendant, few experiences move me as did one recently.

As I was greeting an airman in uniform, I asked him if he was coming home or going to work. Immediately after saying he was returning from Afghanistan, a customer in first class, overhearing the conversation, leaped to his feet and gave his seat to this fine American. The gentleman headed back to the airman's middle seat in coach for the over-four-hour flight.

It is comforting to know that most of us admire, respect and honor those that keep our nation safe and strong. Be bold, show your appreciation the next time you see a member of our armed forces.

Tracy Freeman
Farmington

Join the discussion

Given the bankruptcy of General Motors, how likely is it you would choose a new GM product for a new vehicle choice?

Go to hometownlife.com to give us your feedback.

WESTLAND OBSERVER



Sue Mason
Community
Editor

Susan Rosiek
Executive Editor

Grace Perry
Director of
Advertising

ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS

• Money is for useless projects

'Grant money' definition - a monetary amount given to our inept elected officials by taxpayers for useless feel good showboat projects.

Hemi426

• New store fills need

Kudos you two. Fulfilling a need in the

community is what it is all about. I wish you nothing but the best and will be a customer. Good luck.

redbudfarm

• Missing from Crime Watch

Nobody posted anything about the purse that was stolen from a car two Saturdays ago on Lone Pine Dr. in Westland, then found two doors down

next to the HUD house. Missing approximately \$200 and cell phone. And be on the lookout for a late '90s model Chrysler New Yorker dark blue or red or black cruising this area.

tjh92foxgt

Be wary of combining insurance, investing

I recently had a conversation with a client regarding life insurance. Before the individual was a client, he purchased a variable universal life insurance policy that is now causing him problems. In order to keep the insurance at its current amount, the premium is increasing. He was told when he purchased the policy that the premium would remain level, however, now he is learning that is not the case. Unfortunately, there are many people in his situation. They purchased a policy with an investment component which impacts the premium. Since the investments within the insurance policy have taken a major hit, these policy holders are now finding that to keep the insurance as is, the premiums are going up — substantially.

Whenever I discuss life insurance I always make it clear that I do not believe life insurance or any type of



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

you have a boat. I believe when you combine investing and insurance in one product, it is generally to the detriment of you and me.

In this situation, the first issue is whether life insurance is needed. My client needs the life insurance and so his options are limited. However, he has options that should be explored before automatically paying the higher premiums. I don't like to combine insurance and investing together because the product is too complex for most to under-

stand and it is generally stuffed with high fees and costs. In addition, there are no guarantees that the premiums won't go up again in the future.

Another option, and the one I recommended to my client, was to buy a new, term life insurance policy for the amount of the insurance needed. By buying a term policy he is covering his life insurance needs and separating his investments from his insurance needs. Before canceling his original policy I made sure he was approved for the new, term policy. If you need life insurance never cancel an old policy until the new policy has been approved.

Shopping around and purchasing the term insurance policy enabled my client to obtain insurance for the specific amount and time he needed at a much lower cost than he was paying on his original policy. The savings

freed up money to make a Roth IRA contribution.

If you're in the same situation as my client, don't automatically assume your only option is to pay the higher premiums. The key is to get independent advice.

When used correctly, life insurance is a very valuable tool in the area of personal financial planning. Life insurance is not an investment, but rather a way of providing for dependents upon death. Don't get hooked by gimmicks when it comes to life insurance because ultimately it is not beneficial for you. When it comes to life insurance, keeping it simple is the strategy I recommend. I believe you may just find it benefits you too. Good luck!

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

Win lunch with George Blaha

Dining With the Stars will close out the 2009 spring season with George Blaha, a familiar voice in the broadcast and sports world in metro Detroit.

Tell us in 100 words or less why you want to have lunch with Blaha at Buddy's Pizza in Farmington Hills. E-mail your entry to BuddysDiningStars@gmail.com by 5 p.m. Thursday, June 4.

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

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

A local broadcasting icon and one of the most recognizable personalities in Detroit and the NBA, Blaha recently completed his 33rd consecutive season as the television and radio play-by-play voice of the Detroit Pistons. The "Voice of the Pistons" is the longest tenured play-by-play announcer in the state of Michigan following the retirement of legendary Detroit Tigers broadcaster Ernie Harwell.

Blaha brings a high-energy style to go with his extensive basketball knowledge and demonstrates a true passion for Pistons basketball. His trademark colloquialisms such



Blaha

as, "two and 22 to play" and "a high glass gun that goes" have thrilled Pistons fans of all ages for three decades.

Blaha handles play-by-play duties on either television or radio for all 82 regular-season games plus pre- and post-season games on FSN Detroit and WDFN — the Pistons' flagship stations. He also hosts the *Pistons Weekly* television program, which airs Sunday nights on WDIV TV4 at midnight, and has handled play-by-play duties for Michigan State football since 1971. In 2002, he was made an honorary alumnus of Michigan State University.

Born in Detroit, Blaha graduated with a bachelor's degree in economics from Notre Dame University and earned an M.B.A. from the University of Michigan. He lives in Troy and Gaylor.

Blaha enjoyed a banner year in 2008 when he was named Michigan's Sportscaster of the Year for the second time by *The Detroit News* (2003, 2008) and enshrined in the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame.

He was also honored by Michigan State as an honorary letterman and member of the "S" Club. Blaha was honored with the Ty Tyson Award for broadcasting excellence by the Detroit Sports Broadcasters Association in 2003.

MALLS & MAIN STREETS

If you have an item for Malls & Main Streets, please e-mail Susan Steinnmueller at ssteinnmueller@hometownlife.com.

GAL PAL WEEKEND

LIVONIA — Grab the girls and book a Gal Pal Weekend at The Embassy Suites Hotel in Livonia June 5-6. The package includes wining and dining at Andiamo of Novi; discounts and shuttles for shopping at Laurel Park Place mall; margaritas at On the Border; and a two night stay at Embassy Suites with complimentary happy hour cocktails, cooked-to-order breakfast and a Saturday morning champagne toast. Packages are \$189 per person and include a \$10 donation to Susan G. Komen Fund for the Cure. Embassy Suites is located at 19525 Victor Parkway, R.S.V.P. with Rachel Boyd, (734) 462-6000.

FAMILY FUN

GARDEN CITY — Garden City Chamber of Commerce sponsors Afternoon Delight Summer Series beginning June 10. The free family entertainment is designed for kids of all ages. Shows start at 11:30 a.m., every Wednesday through July 8, at Garden City Park, located at Cherry Hill and Merriman. Visit www.gardencity.org for more information.

MONTHLY ART WALK

NORTHVILLE — Stroll the streets of downtown Northville's growing art district and visit exhibits, watch art demonstrations and sample complimentary hors d'oeuvres and beverages at many of the participating establishments, during First Friday Art Walk, 6-9 p.m., Friday,

June 5, in downtown Northville. Galleries include Art House, 215 Cady, Northville Gallery, 123 E. Main, Starring The Gallery, 118 W. Main and The Tom James Gallery of Fine Art, 117 E. Main. For more information, visit <http://downtownnorthville.com>

FRIDAY NIGHT MUSIC

Downtown Northville's popular Friday Night Summer Concert Series — sponsored by the Northville Downtown Development Authority and Wine Sync — returns for the 2009 season, 7-9 p.m., every Friday through Aug. 28, at Town Square, located on Main Street across from the Marquis Theatre. Lady Sunshine & The X Band will play June 12. For more information, including a full schedule of performers, call the Northville Chamber of Commerce at (248)

349-7640 or Northville Parks and Recreation Department at (248) 349-0203 or visit www.northville.org or <http://www.northvilleparksandrec.org>.

CLOTHING COLLECTION

FARMINGTON HILLS — The Shirt Box continues to collect gently used men's professional clothing through "The Shirts Off Our Back: From Our Closet to Yours," in partnership with Detroit's Neighborhood Service Organization. Drop off dress shirts, slacks, ties and sports coats at The Shirt Box, 32500 Northwestern Highway, Farmington Hills. The clothing will help NSO's clients dress for success when applying for new jobs and making the transition back into the workforce. Call (248) 851-6770.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Closing celebration
St. Dunstan Catholic School is inviting all former school staff, students and families to attend the closing Liturgy at 2 p.m. Sunday, June 14. The school is closing after 45 years. People planning to attend should call (734) 425-4380 or send an e-mail to stdunstanschoolsecretary@comcast.net by June 5. People who would like to contribute as a minister in the liturgy, singer or instrumentalist, should call the Parish Office at (734) 425-6720.

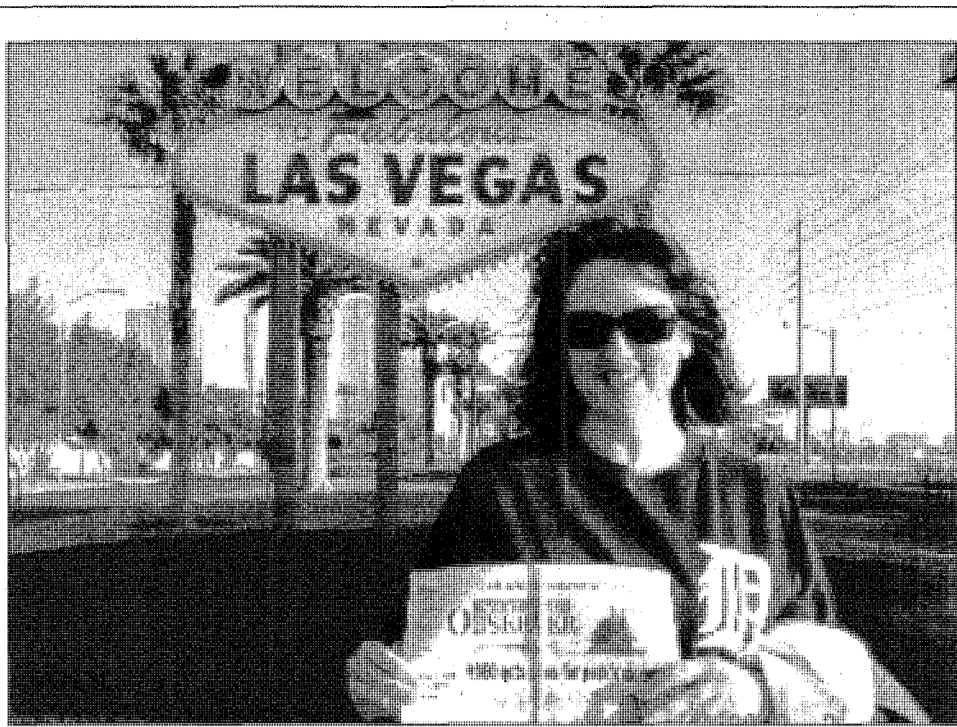
Academic Pathways
Academic Pathways Cooperative Preschool, at 30330 Schoolcraft, Livonia, will host open houses 10 a.m. to noon Tuesday, July 14, 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 20, and Thursday, Sept. 3. The preschool has a three-year-old program that runs 9:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday and a four-year-old program that runs 9:30-11:30 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Potty training is not required. Low cost tuition available. For more information, visit the Web site at www.academicpathwayspreschool.com or call (734) 261-9540.

Garden walk
The Wayne Garden Club Garden Walk will be held on Saturday, June 27, from 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m., rain or shine. Start at Goudy Park Gardens (behind Wayne City Hall) 3355 S. Wayne Road. For information contact Lynn at (734) 721-8232 or Mary Anne at (734) 728-2884.

Be a Star
The Westland Stars Cheerleading and Dance Team will begin their summer program. Children ages 10-14 or in the fifth-eighth-grade from Westland and the surrounding area can join the team for its first summer practice 6-8:30 p.m. Thursday, June 18, in the multipurpose room of the Westland Bailey Center in the Westland civic center complex on Ford west of Wayne Road. Dress to work out and bring a water bottle. This summer the team will work on its dances and cheers and will attend camp. For more information call the Bailey Center at (734) 722-7620.

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

Class reunion
Garden City High School Class of 1989 will hold its 20th reunion 6 p.m. to midnight Aug. 29 at Joy Manor in Westland. Tickets are \$75 now through June 1. Tickets includes, dinner, premium open bar, DJ, door prizes, picture CD and other gifts. Tickets are available for purchase at www.gardencity89.com or by contacting Paula at gchs1989reunion@hotmail.com.



Wish You Were Here

Kimberly Johnson of Westland chose the Welcome to Las Vegas sign to pose with the Observer for Wish You Were Here. According to Johnson, the weather wasn't quite as warm as she would have like - it was in the 60s - for the trip in early March, but "we did have a great time." If you go on vacation, be sure to take a picture with your Observer and send it to Sue Mason, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226. Be sure to include your name and information about your photo.

Fish Dial-A-Ride
Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is seeking volunteer drivers. A nonprofit community service group, it provides door-to-door rides to non-emergency medical and other necessary appointments for senior and disabled residents of Garden City, Livonia and Westland who are unable to drive and have no alternative transportation. Volunteers can specify days, times, and areas they're willing to drive. For additional information, call (888) 660-2007 and leave a message.

Higher Rock Cafe
The Wayne-Westland Salvation Army presents the Higher Rock Cafe the second and fourth Fridays of the month at its facility at 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer, Westland. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Live bands perform beginning at 8 p.m. Admission is free, however, a free will offering will be taken to support the bands. Check out Higher Rock on the Web at www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com or call (734) 722-3660.

EDUCATION

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

St. Damian
St. Damian Catholic School at 29891 Joy, Westland, offers preschool for 3-4-year-olds and full day kindergarten through grade 8. For more information or to schedule a tour, call (734) 427-1680 or check out the school's Web site at www.stdamian.com.

YWCA preschool
The YWCA of Western Wayne County's Education Department offers quality preschool programs to children aged 2-5 years old at no cost to most families. There are many locations available throughout the community. Home-based programs are also available. For more information on these programs, or to enroll your child, call

the YWCA's Education Department at (313) 561-4110, Ext. 10.

VOLUNTEERS

Karmanos Institute
The Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute needs volunteers to transport cancer patients to mammogram and doctor appointments in metropolitan Detroit. Drivers are needed for Macomb and Oakland counties, Dearborn and Detroit. Volunteers must be at least 18. Mileage reimbursement is provided. Call (800) KARMANOS to volunteer.

First Step
First Step, which has been active in the effort to end domestic violence and sexual assault in western Wayne County and Downriver communities for more than 20 years, is looking for volunteers. Interested people must be at least 18, willing and able to travel to the Downriver area and complete a 55-hour training program. Call (734) 416-1111, Ext. 223.

Drivers
Volunteer drivers are needed to transport area residents to meetings of the Western Wayne Parkinson's Disease Support Group. The meetings take place 7-9 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month in the Livonia Senior Center, Farmington Road south of Five Mile. Drivers may be offered a stipend. Parkinson's patients, caregivers and others may attend the meetings. Call (734) 459-0216 or (734) 421-4208.

VNA Hospice
Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan's (VNA) hospice program needs volunteers to comfort and support patients at the end of life. Volunteers can provide companionship, write a memoir, provide respite for family or work as office support. A free 18-hour training program is provided at the VNA headquarters, 25900 Greenfield Road, Suite 600. Registration is required. (248) 967-8361 or visit www.vna.org.

Seasons Hospice
Seasons Hospice and Palliative Care is looking for volunteers to provide companionship to patients dealing

with life limiting illness. No special skills, other than objectivity and compassion, are needed. Training provided. Volunteers are matched with patients in their own community. For more information please call Ruth at (800) 370-8592.

Literacy Council
The Community Literacy Council (CLC) is looking for volunteer tutors in Western Wayne County to help adults improve their reading, writing and communication skills. The CLC will provide training to interested volunteers. Previous experience or a bachelor's degree is not required. The council will provide free training and materials, and then match you with an adult student in your area. Call (734) 416-4906 for more information.

Heartland Hospice
Heartland Hospice is looking for caring and dedicated people with an interest in serving terminally ill patients and their families in Washtenaw, western Wayne, Monroe and Livingston counties. Volunteers provide a variety of services including companionship, light housekeeping, errand running, grief support and clerical services. For more information, contact volunteer coordina-

tor Candice Jones, (888) 973-1145.

ORGANIZATIONS

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.

Writing Group
Story Circle Women's Life Writing Group meets at 7 p.m. the second Wednesday of every month at the Wayne Public Library, 3737 S. Wayne Road, Wayne. The Story Circle Network is made up of women who want to explore their lives and souls through life-writing, writing that focuses on personal experience through memoirs and autobiographies, in diaries, journals and personal essays. Participants should bring a notebook or laptop computer to each meeting to spend some time writing, and for those who are comfortable doing so, sharing their writing. Membership in Story Circle's National Network is optional. Participation in the group is free. For more information about story circle, go online to www.storycircle.org or send an e-mail to shephy@yahoo.com.

TOPS
TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) M128 of Westland meets at 7 p.m. Mondays at Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne Road, at Hunter, Westland. For more information, call Pat Strong at (734) 326-3539 or Mary Lowe at (734) 729-6879.

Democratic Club
The Garden City Democratic Club meets at 7 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month (September through June) in Room 5 of the Maplewood Center, Maplewood west of Merriman. For more information, call Billy Pate at (734) 427-2344.

Citizens for Peace
Citizens for Peace meets at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at Unity of Livonia Church on Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster. The group is dedicated to working for the creation of a U.S. Department of Peace. All are welcome. Colleen Mills, (734) 425-0079.

In Harmony
The Wayne Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society meets at 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland. Gentlemen interested in the chapter's Renaissance Chorus or who enjoy quartetting can call membership

chairman Bob Wolf at (734) 421-1652, or attend a rehearsal.

Veteran's Haven
Veteran's Haven operates a car, boat, camper and real estate-donation program. Donations are tax-deductible. For information, call (734) 728-0527. Food is distributed to veterans once a month throughout the month and there is a supplemental food program 9 a.m. to noon Wednesdays. The Veteran Haven's Outreach Center 4924 S. Wayne Road two blocks south of Annapolis in Wayne. Any honorably discharged Veteran that is in need or homeless and wants a better quality of life can call (734) 728-0527.

Silver Strings Dulcimer
Musicians and listeners are welcome to stop by and visit a traditional music jam 7-9 p.m. the first and third Thursday of the month at Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City. Acoustic instruments include hammered and mountain dulcimer, guitar, banjo, fiddle, harmonica, concertina, autoharp, recorder, pennywhistle, ukulele and upright bass. Call (734) 482-2902 or check out the Web site at <http://geocities.com/ssd-society>.

Garden City Kiwanis
The Garden City Kiwanis Club meets for lunch at 12:15 p.m. Thursday at Amantea Restaurant, 32777 Warren Road, Garden City. Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to bettering the world one child and one community at a time. Guests and potential new members are always welcome.

Garden City Rotary
The Garden City Rotary Club meets at 12 noon Thursday at Amantea Restaurant, 32777 Warren. Community service planning, lunch and socializing are enjoyed. Please join us there.

Habitat help
The Western Wayne affiliate of Habitat for Humanity is seeking volunteers to help with building homes, office duties and fund-raising. No experience necessary. Training will be provided. For information, call (734) 459-7744.

Hospital retirees
The Oakwood-Annapolis Retirees meet at 1 p.m. the first Monday of the month at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center, Venoy at Howe in Wayne. All Oakwood Retirees are welcome to attend.

Radio Club
The Garden City Amateur Radio Club meets at 7 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month at the Maplewood Community Center, Maplewood west of Merriman. The club is open to people who are interested in ham radio. Call Ben (W8AAA) at (734) 425-2629.

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*Source: NHTSA research study 10/08

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THURSDAY
June 4
2009

Girls track: Athletes leave their mark, B3

SPORTS, FILTER, FOOD & WINE

SECTION B
(WL)

HOMETOWN LIFE

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Local author celebrates Detroit characters in two new books
Filter, B6

Patriots oust defending state champion GC, 4-1

BY BRAD EMMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Even the day after the senior prom, Livonia Franklin girls softball coach Linda Jimenez could sense there would be no distractions and her team was ready for Saturday's district tournament.

"They came to practice Friday all fired up and they were focused," said Jimenez, whose host Patriots knocked off

defending Division 1 state champion Garden City, 4-1. "Our captains had a talk before and after the Wayne game (an 11-1 district semifinal victory). I really didn't have to say anything."

Franklin, winning its first district crown since 1994, advances to the regional semifinals Saturday at Southgate Anderson. The Patriots, now 32-5 overall, will take on Monroe at noon in one semifinal, while the host Titans square off against

GIRLS SOFTBALL

Allen Park at 10 a.m.

Last year, Franklin fell to Garden City in the pre-district, 2-1, and that sent the Cougars on their way to a state title.

"We had to get over that Garden City aura," Jimenez said. "Our seniors decided they can't let their teammates fail, and they've done a fantastic job. It's been a great season."

Franklin got out of the gate with a bang as winning pitcher Natalie Sanborn (29-2) greeted GC starter Katelyn Shattleroe with fence-clearing solo homer with two outs in the opening inning.

"Natalie's hit 'em in practice, but never in an actual game," Jimenez said. "She said she always wanted to hit one. That was exciting."

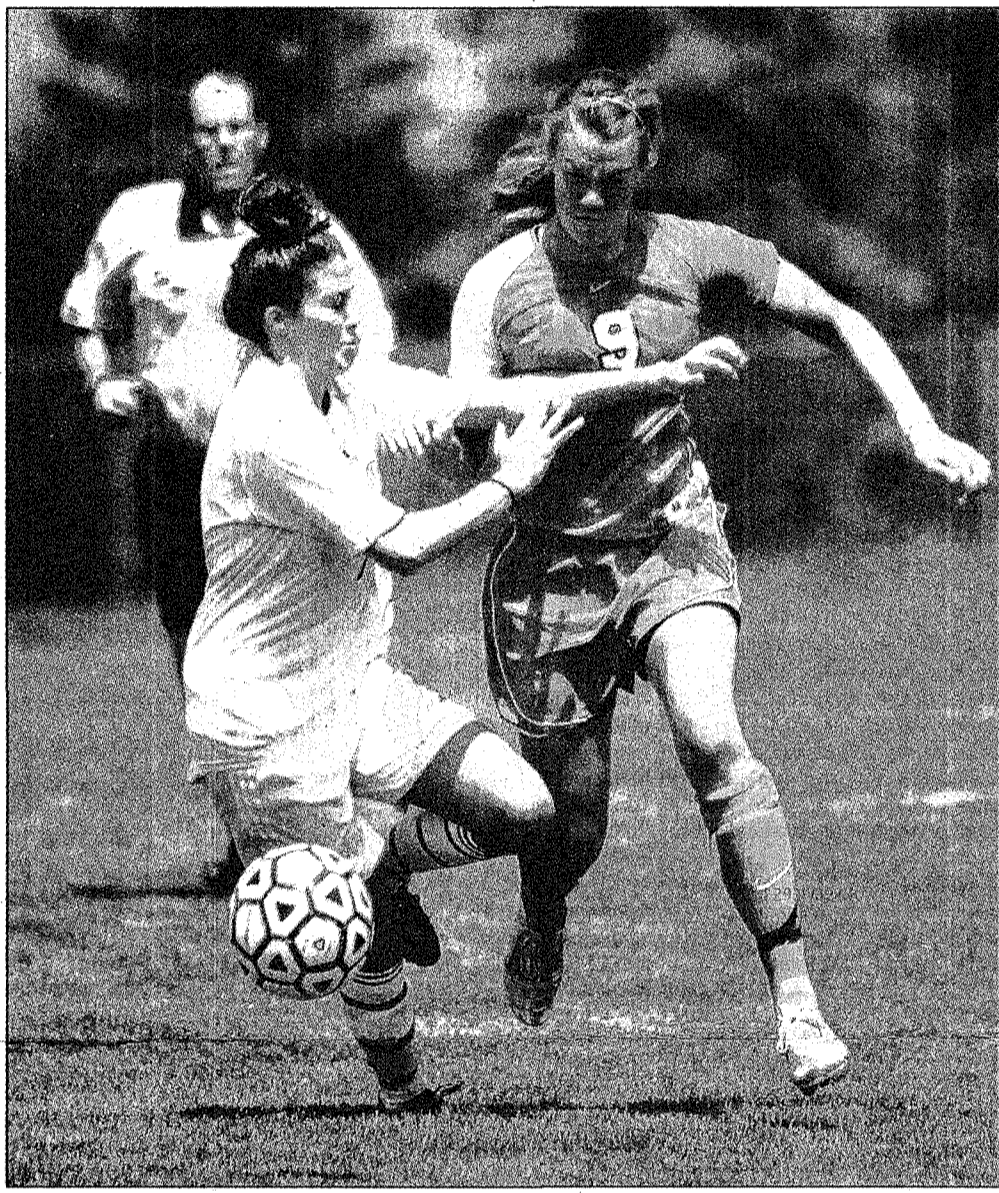
In the second inning, Jessica Emery tripled and scored on

sister Nicole Emery's safety squeeze bunt for a 2-0 Franklin lead.

The Emery sisters then teamed up again in the fourth inning as Jessica singled and scored on Nicole's triple followed by an RBI single by Myriah Barcus to make it a 4-0 Franklin advantage.

The Cougars (14-15), however, refused to fold and put together

Please see **SOFTBALL, B4**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Contact sport

Stevenson's Ashley Welch (left) and Canton's Tracy Rymph get all tangled up in Saturday's Division 1 district girls soccer final held at Northville. Canton won the championship with a 3-0 win over the Spartans. See story on page B2

Confident Chargers reach regional final

BY BRAD EMMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A state tournament run is officially on for the Livonia Churchill girls soccer team.

Making their first regional appearance since 1998, the Chargers dominated from start-to-finish in Tuesday's semifinal at Saline with a convincing 3-0 win over Brownstown Woodhaven.

Churchill, 17-2-3 overall, moves into the Division 1 regional final beginning at 7 p.m. Friday at Saline to face Ann Arbor Huron (16-2-2), which defeated Canton in the other semifinal, 2-1.

"We had two good practices sessions coming in," Churchill coach Dave Hebestreit said. "We were shot out of a cannon and came ready to go. There was no post-district party. There was no nervousness at all."

Churchill led 1-0 at halftime on Darcy DeRoo's header off a perfectly placed corner kick from Kayla Johnston just 5:29 into the match.

The Chargers had plenty of other first-half chances, but couldn't get any of their shots past Woodhaven keeper Shelby Jackson, who had giving up only 12 goals all season to go

GIRLS SOCCER

along with 13 shutouts.

"They (Woodhaven) did not get into our end the first 25 minutes," Hebestreit said. "One we got in there, we didn't realize we had time to settle the ball and put it inside a corner."

The second half proved to be much of the same as the Chargers played mostly in Woodhaven's third of the field.

Senior Alyssa Mira made it 2-0 when she drilled a shot just inside the left post from 19 yards out with 35:37 remaining in the match.

Julie Greco's goal with 29:38 off a cross from Mira completed the Churchill scoring.

"With the big field (at Saline) it suits us with Kayla (Johnston) and Mira," Hebestreit said. "To be able to use the width of this field benefits us. We've got some talented players who are able to use the wide space."

"I thought from the moment we got here today that Kayla was our best player from start-to-finish. She was our best player early on and I thought both Mira and Bailey

Please see **SOCCER, B2**

Blazers escape DC upset bid

BY BRAD EMMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Livonia Ladywood found itself in quite a pickle during Saturday's Division 1 district girls softball semifinal against Dearborn Divine Child at Madonna University Park.

The Blazers were clinging to a one-run lead after the Falcons scored twice in the fifth inning and had the bases loaded and no outs.

But freshman Briana Combs got out of the jam with a force-out at the plate, a strikeout and a pop-out to the mound as the Blazers held on for a 3-2 win and earned the district title with a 6-0 triumph later in the day against South Lyon East.

"They (Divine Child) placed a couple of perfect bunts and we couldn't get to them," said Ladywood coach Scott Combs, whose team is 32-6 overall.

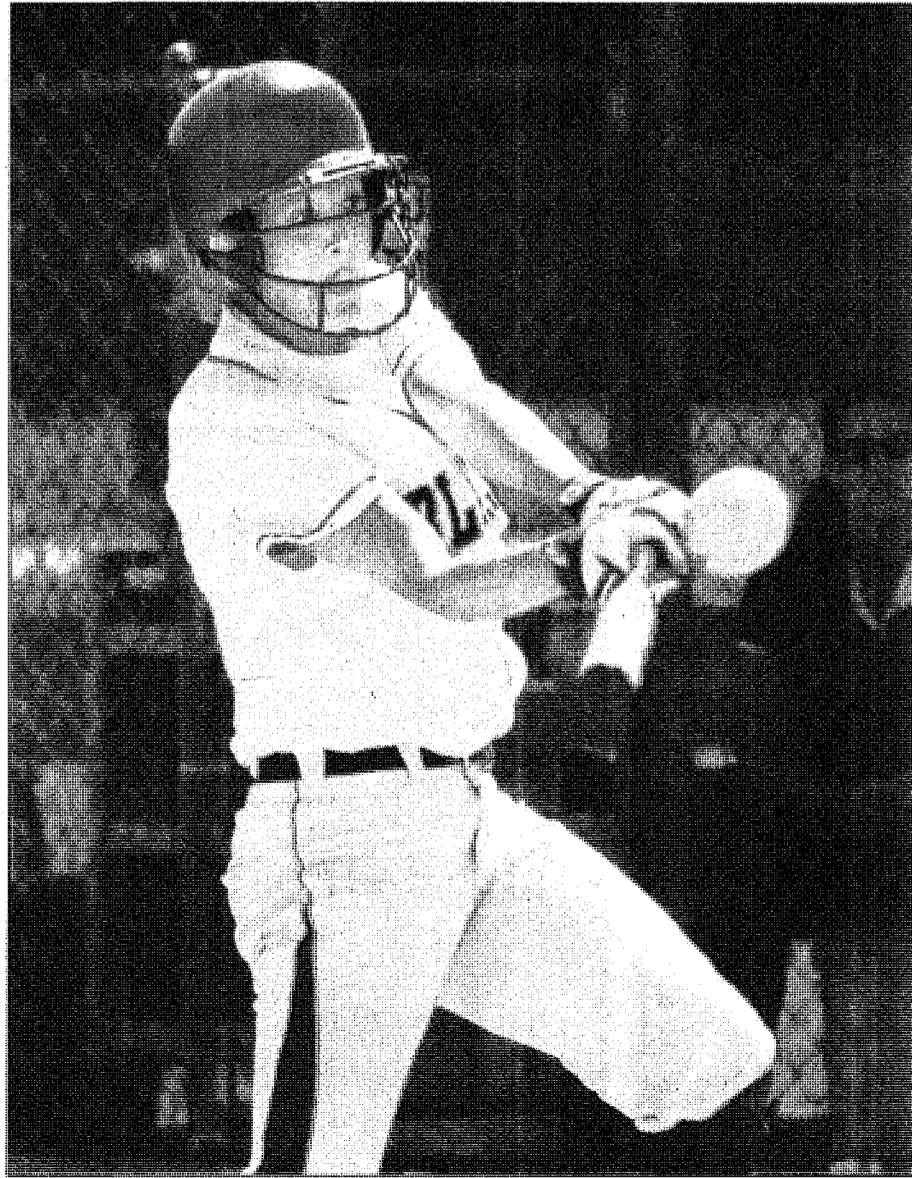
Cara Miller's two-run triple in the fifth proved to be the difference. Miller and Alysa Gietl each finished with two hits.

Combs went all seven innings, allowing three hits while striking out three.

In the championship final, Combs struck out 12 and allowed just two hits to beat the Cougars, who finished 7-21 overall.

Gina Sykes, Carli SanMillan and Courtney LaValley each collected two hits for the Blazers, who advance to the regional semifinals beginning at 10 a.m. this Saturday at MU Park. Ladywood faces Detroit Renaissance, while the other semifinal, starting at noon, pits Beverly Hills-Detroit Country Day (13-5) against Melvindale.

Earlier this season in the first round of the Michigan Stars Classic, Ladywood



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ladywood's Jennifer Kelley makes contact for a single in Saturday's Division 2 district championship victory over South Lyon East.

defeated Renaissance, 8-2.

"I think we've been peaking again the last two weeks," Combs said. "We got ready for this district by playing three pretty good teams."

On May 27, the Blazers downed host Blissfield in a double-header, 3-0 (in 15

innings) and 6-3. Last Thursday, they defeated Flat Rock, 3-0. Flat Rock just ousted Catholic League A-B Division champion Allen Park Cabrini in the district, 3-0.

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Powell 1st in hurdles for Wayne

BY BRAD EMMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It's only fitting that an accomplished hurdler goes by the first name of Renaldo.

Back in the day there was "Skeets," better known as Renaldo Nehemiah.

And now there's Renaldo Powell of Wayne Memorial.

The senior claimed the title as the state's top 110-meter hurdler when he clocked a time of 14.13 seconds at

BOYS TRACK

the MHSAA Division 1 Track and Field finals held at East Kentwood High School.

Powell also added a third in the 300 hurdles with a clocking of 38.73, an event won by East Kentwood's Deonte Hurst in 38.01 followed by Northville's Aliasghar Arastu in 38.26.

Another top-notch performance was turned in by Livonia Churchill senior Derik Peterman, who finished runner-up in the pole vault when he cleared 15 feet, 1 inch. Flushing's Ryan Staley went 15-4, a personal best by nine inches on his third attempt, to claim the title.

Peterman missed on his final attempt at 15-4.

Please see **TRACK, B3**

SIDELINES

MU cagers tour

Madonna University women's basketball players Christie Carrico and Tabatha Wydryck have been chosen to represent the U.S. as part of a foreign tour this week of Austria and Italy.

They will be members of an eight-player team from USA Athletes International.

Carrico recently completed her MU career as the school's second all-time leading rebounder, while Wydryck is a two-time All-Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference pick who averaged 10.3 points per game last season.

Chargers commit

Three more players from Livonia Churchill's KLAA championship and state Class A semifinal volleyball team have committed to play collegiately including Kat Krupsky (Oakland Community College), Katie Matz (Concordia University) and Kristy DeClercq (Adrian College).

They join first-team All-Observer selection and teammate Lindsay Graciak (Wayne State).

Rocket recruit

Westland John Glenn senior Stacy Truskowski will continue her athletic career in both volleyball and softball at Defiance College (Ohio).

Rower saluted

Grand Valley State University sophomore Laura Marshall (Livonia Franklin) was recently selected to the 2009 American Collegiate Rowing Association's All-America squad.

Keeper signs

Livonia Clarenceville goalkeeper Garrett Gregg recently signed a letter-of-intent to play soccer at Marygrove College.

Bucks blank Lynx

Goals by Tony Walls (63rd minute) and Jake Stacy (89th) carried the Michigan Bucks to a 2-0 Premier Development League men's soccer victory Sunday night over the Toronto Lynx at Pontiac's Ultimate Soccer Arenas.

Goalkeeper Steve Clark made four saves in each half to record his third straight shutout as the Bucks improved to 3-1-1.

The Bucks return to action 7:30 p.m. Thursday against the Indiana Invaders at Ultimate Soccer Arenas. Tickets are \$10 (adults) and \$6 (youth under-16). Children 5-and-under are free.

The Bucks will also be collecting used soccer equipment to donate to third world countries at the ticket window and receive a \$5 ticket at the gate.

For more information, visit www.bucksoccer.com.

THE WEEK AHEAD

GIRLS SOCCER REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP
Friday, June 5
Churchill vs. Ann Arbor Huron at Saline High School, 7 p.m.
PREP BASEBALL REGIONAL DRAWS
(all Saturday, June 6)
DIVISION 4
G.P.W. UNIVERSITY-LIGGETT
Semifinals: Allen Park Inter-City Baptist vs. Sterling Heights Parkway Christian, 10 a.m.; Lutheran High Westland vs. Southfield Christian, noon.
Championship final: 2 p.m. (winner advances to the state quarterfinals Tuesday.)

June 9 at Flint Kearsley vs. Genesee regional champion.)
GIRLS SOFTBALL REGIONAL DRAWS
(all Saturday, June 6)
DIVISION 1
at SOUTHGATE ANDERSON
Semifinals: Allen Park vs. Southgate, 10 a.m.; Livonia Franklin vs. Monroe, noon.
Championship final: 2 p.m. (Winner advances to the state quarterfinals Tuesday, June 9 at Carleton Airport vs. Detroit Cass Tech regional champion.)
DIVISION 2
at MADONNA UNIVERSITY PARK
Semifinals: Livonia Ladywood vs. Detroit

Renaissance, 10 a.m.; Beverly Hills-Detroit Country Day vs. Melvindale.
Championship final: 2 p.m. (Winner advances to the state quarterfinals Tuesday, June 9 at Novi vs. St. Clair Shores Lakeview regional champion.)
DIVISION 4
at G.P.W. UNIVERSITY-LIGGETT
Semifinals: Lutheran Westland vs. Southfield Christian, 10 a.m.; Sterling Heights Parkway Christian vs. Allen Park Inter-City Baptist, noon.
Championship final: 2 p.m. (Winner advances to the state quarterfinals Tuesday, June 9 at Flint Kearsley vs. Genesee regional champion.)

Spartans eliminated in district finals, 3-0

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

PREP SOCCER

There was no denying the Canton girls soccer team during Saturday's Division 1 district championship final at Northville. The Chiefs, getting a pair of first-half goals from forward Jessikah McClendon, improved to 14-2-1 with a workmanlike 3-0 victory over Livonia Stevenson.

It was first district crown since 2004 for the Chiefs, who had reached five of the last six finals under coach George Tomasso. "It's been awhile," said Tomasso, who grabbed his second district championship trophy. "We've been trying to piece this team together for three years. We knew four years ago that our freshman class had special talent. Three made it on

varsity that year and two the next year as sophomores. "This team has a great mentality. It's team based. They do a good job together. Right now we're just trying to win games and try to focus as they come." Stevenson couldn't mount any serious attacks against Canton goalkeeper Samantha McPartlin, who saw little action. "We did not test their goalkeeper until the last two minutes," Stevenson coach Chris Pinta said. "You've got to score goals to win. "Canton is a good team, they match up physically with anybody and they play well as a team. They play and attack as a team. They were calm and much more poised when they had the ball."

With 27:10 left in the second half, Canton's Tracy Rymph, who assisted on one of McClendon's two first-half goals, dribbled down the left side nearly to the end line and sent a shot from an impossible angle and into the net and past Stevenson goalkeeper Tara Johnston. "She (Rymph) does a good job," Tomasso said. "She finds a way to score." Stevenson, which finished 9-11 overall, was coming off a double-overtime shootout win Thursday over Salem. It marked the final game for senior defender Taleen Mergian. "We'll miss her and I feel worst for her because she puts her heart-and-soul every game - and it shows," Pinta said. "She can play anywhere you put her. She's had a great four-year run."

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SOCCER

FROM PAGE B1
(Brandon) were good, too." Meanwhile, Churchill senior goalkeeper Stefanie Turner, who notched her 12th shutout of the year and 41st for her career, did not face a shot on goal. She has had to make only

42 saves on the year and the Chargers have yielded only 10 goals as a team. Woodhaven, champs of the Mega Conference's Red Division, bowed out with a 19-3-1 overall record. **Chargers whip Glenn**
On Saturday, Brandon's hat trick catapulted the host Chargers to a 7-0 win over

Westland John Glenn for their first district title since 1998. Johnston, Mira (penalty kick) and Melissa Roe also tallied goals for Churchill. DeRoo contributed two assists, while Hannah Otto, Brandon and Johnston added one each. Glenn, making its first-ever district final appearance, bowed out at 5-13 overall.

Advertorial

TEE TIME

Your local golf guide

The U.S. Open 2009 is June 15-21
Online Poll: Who will win this year? We want your vote!
Go online to www.hometownlife.com/section/sports25 to take part in our online poll. We'll compare your predictions with the final results on June 25!

The rules of replacing and repairing damaged clubs

By Jeannie Myers

Everyone seems to know that a player may not start a round with more than 14 clubs. However, there is some confusion about when a club may be replaced during the round.

Rule 4-3 says that, "If, during a stipulated round, a player's club is damaged in the normal course of play, he may use it in its damaged state for the remainder of the round, without delaying play, repair it or have it repaired, or if the club has become unfit for play, he may replace it."

The replacement may not unduly delay play and the player may not borrow any club from any other person playing on the course.

This leads us to two definitions. What constitutes "normal course of play?" Obviously it includes making a

stroke or practice swing, but also includes removing or replacing a club in the bag, using a club to search for a ball, leaning on it while waiting to play and accidentally dropping it. Normal course of play does not include throwing the club in anger, slamming it into the bag or intentionally striking something with the club.

Normal course of play does include using a club as a cane while climbing a hill, because that is considered a reasonable act. However, a club that breaks because the player has a habit of hitting the head of the club on the ground while walking to the next tee has not been broken in the normal course of play and may not be replaced.

Notice that the only time you can replace a club is when it has become unfit for play in the normal course of play. It has become "unfit" if it is substantially damaged, e.g., the shaft is dented, bent or broken, or the club head

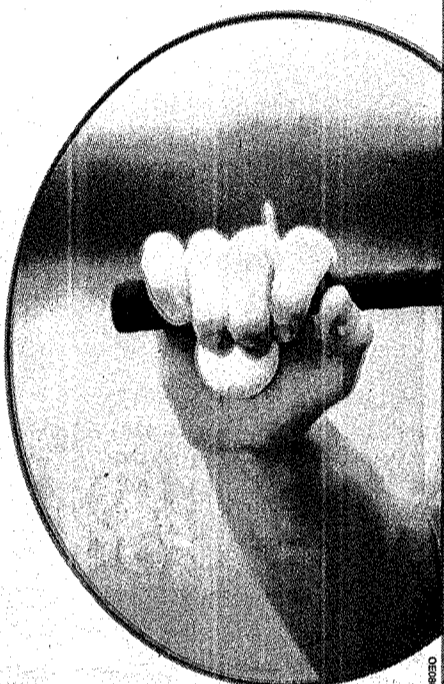
has become loose, detached or deformed, or the grip has become loose. You may not replace clubs just because the grips have become wet. If the shaft of a player's club has become bent in the normal course of play, he has the right to try to repair it. If in the course of bending it back into its original shape, the player snaps the shaft in pieces, he may replace the club. A player may replace a club which has become unfit for play while practicing on the range during a suspension of play. And, in equity, a player may replace clubs that have become unfit because, while lying on the ground, they were damaged by a maintenance vehicle or a golf cart. For those of you who may become involved in a stroke play play-off, please notice that the play-off constitutes a new round, and you may replace any club, even if it had been broken in anger.

A lost club may not be replaced

because it has not become "unfit for play" during the normal course of play. And a player may not replace a club by borrowing one from another player playing on the course.

If a player does damage a club other than in the normal course of play, so that it is non-conforming or its playing characteristics have changed, it may not be subsequently used or replaced during the round. The penalty for using or replacing it is disqualification. Such is the unhappy fate of a player who misses a short putt, bangs the putter head on his shoe bending the neck of the putter, and then taps in the one inch putt with the damaged club.

Jeannie Myers is currently an Assistant Tournament Director for the Golf Association of Michigan and also served as the Chairman of the USGA Women's Committee and is a past President of the GAM.



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Impressive finish

Area performers leave lasting mark at 'state'

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Livonia Stevenson senior Courtney Calka saved her best for last in Saturday's MHSAA Division 1

GIRLS TRACK

Girls Track and Field Championships held at East Kentwood.

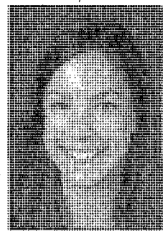
And for Livonia Churchill junior Sara Kröll, the best may be still yet to come.

Both runners recorded impressive runner-up finishes in their respective events.

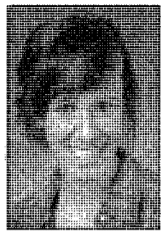
Calka, bound this fall for Eastern Michigan University, blistered her own school record by five seconds in the 1,600-meter run with a clocking of 4:51.97. The Spartan stand-out was edged out for first by Rochester's Megan Goethals (4:51.2).

"It was the most exciting race that I have personally seen her run," Stevenson coach Kelly Graham said. "What a way to finish out her senior year in running her personal best. She took charge right from the beginning of the race. She ran a very smart race and never gave up. I am very happy for her."

Kröll also took seventh in the 1,600 and bested her own school record with a time of 4:57.0 despite nearly falling and losing her balance at the



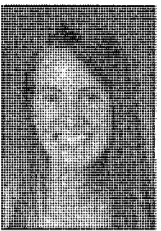
Courtney Calka Stevenson



Sara Kröll Churchill



Chanel Payne John Glenn



Megan Yanik Ladywood

950-meter mark after colliding with Gabrielle Anzalone of Grand Blanc.

In the 800, Kröll snapped her own personal best with a time of 2:14.39. Grand Haven's Becca Addison successfully defended her title in 2:12.5.

"Sara was much more aggressive (than the 1,600) and took the lead at the 200 mark and held it for 300 meters," Churchill coach Pat Daugherty said. "Danielle Tepper (of Grandville) passed her as well, but Sara made a strong late move to pass her and with 10 meters left finished second behind Addison."

"It was a great effort race by Sara, very similar to her victories over Calka in the 1,600 at the regional and in the 1,600 relay at the Public Schools of Livonia meet."

In the long jump, Westland John Glenn's Chanel Payne leaped 18 feet, 2.75 inches to finish third only behind Christianna Linton (18-8.25) of team champion Romulus and

Ariel Roberts of Ann Arbor Pioneer (18-3.5).

"The state meet capped off an incredible senior year and career for Chanel," Glenn coach Alan McGowan said. "I am very proud of her accomplishments this past season. She was focused and determined to excel at the state meet - which she did."

Stevenson junior Becky Adamcheck matched her personal best in the 300 hurdles with a time of 45.72 and tying her own school record.

"We worked really hard the week before the meet and I think that helped her sort out some parts of her race that were off," Graham said. "She challenged each hurdle, ran off the hurdle the way she was suppose to and ended up winning her heat by a huge margin thus moving her up two spots to be All-State."

Meanwhile, Livonia Franklin junior pole vaulter Emily Quint placed sixth with a personal best 11-2. Rockford's Sarah

Birkmeier established new MHSAA Finals and Lower Peninsula Division 1 Finals mark by clearing 13 feet.

"The day started out a little shaky, as she had some uncharacteristic misses at the lower heights, making 10-8" on her third attempt," Franklin coach Dave Bjorklund said. "Emily is always very cool under pressure. We knew that 11-2 was going to be the make it or break it height for going in the top eight. She made it, and we're all so proud."

In Division 2 state meet at Zeeland, Livonia Ladywood junior Megan Yanik figured in all 14 of her team's points with a time of 15.81 in the 300 hurdles, good enough for fifth, followed by a personal best 45.55 en route to a third in the 300 hurdles.

Tori Desira of DeWitt won both hurdles events in 15.22 and 45.18, respectively.

Yanik also teamed up with sophomore Teresa Wojnarowski, senior Katie Morasso and sophomore Megan Vitale for a fifth in the 4 x 400 relay (4:08.0).

Another area scorer was Lutheran High Westland junior Nicole Zehel, who placed eighth in the 1,600 (5:24.88) in the Division 4 state finals at Grand Rapids Forest Hills Eastern.

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Beating the odds

Despite injuries, Warriors reach regional tourney

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Lutheran High Westland's softball team is certainly a lesson in perseverance.

On Saturday, the host Warriors captured their first

PREP SOFTBALL

Division 4 district crown since 2005 by downing next-door neighbor Westland Huron Valley Lutheran, 17-4, and Detroit Weston Preparatory, 10-0.

The Warriors are now 12-12 overall after a 4-8 start following the loss of two key players to injury - senior Emily Whitaker, an All-Region third baseman who was the team's top pitcher and clean-up hitter, along with junior Mary Krutzkamp, the No. 5 hitter.

"It's been an odd season, only 12 girls in the program," said Warriors coach Paul Guse', who was forced to start five freshman. "Since that time we've gone 8-4. Our best finish in the past five years has been 7-15. So we were really happy to get to .500. We also finished the Metro Conference season in fifth place after five straight seventh-place finishes."

Junior Allison Guse' has emerged as the Warriors' No. 1 pitcher.

"She had abdominal surgery (gall bladder removed) before the season and was only able to start throwing the week before the season started," said the Warriors' coach, who also happens to be Allison's father.

Allison Guse' pitched in

both district game games and came away the winner.

In five innings against Weston Prep, Guse' improved to 11-8 with a three-hitter. She struck out nine and walked only one in notching her sixth shutout. Against HVL, she scattered seven hits and three walks while fanning seven in six innings.

The Warriors exploded for 20 hits in the win over Huron Valley as Guse', freshman left fielder Lindsey Smith, junior right fielder Crystal Deel, and junior catcher Emily Wilson each collected three, while four others had two apiece.

In the win over Weston, recording two hits apiece were center fielder Erica Killian, second baseman Hannah Conley and third baseman Marisa Hahn - all freshman - along with shortstop Cathy Haller and first baseman Carla Kryszke, both seniors.

Lutheran Westland advances to Saturday's regional semifinal at Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett where they will face Southfield Christian. (Game time is 10 a.m.)

"We will have our work cut out for us against a very good Southfield Christian team," Lutheran Westland fifth-year coach Paul Guse' said. "I'm always telling the girls that if play good defense and put the ball in play, we can play with anybody. I think they are starting to believe it. Either way it will be a great experience for our young team to go to the regionals."

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TRACK

FROM PAGE B1

"Derik, of course, was a little disappointed in himself and I would have to say I was a little disappointed, too," Churchill assistant coach Vern Williams said. "But I explained to Derik that this is sport and these things will happen. So, by the end of the day Derik was already talking about jumping for Michigan State University and competing in the Big 10 championships next year. He was satisfied with his per-

formance for the season and hopes to improve it one last time at the Midwest Meet of Champions (June 13)."

Meanwhile, Livonia Stevenson's 4 x 200 relay team of seniors Nate Sergison, David Simor, Nick Anagnostou and junior Jacob Gudeman placed third in 1:29.63.

Simor also leaped a personal best 21-11.75 to place eighth in the long jump.

Churchill, meanwhile, added fifth in the 4 x 100 relay as juniors Anthony Frezzell and Scott Coppola, along with seniors Devon Easterling and Travis Tomey, were clocked in

42.82.

"They were happy with their performance in the 400 relay, but felt disappointed that they didn't score more highly," Churchill head coach Rick Austin said. "I'm proud of that group because they worked hard all season long and deserved their All-State status."

Livonia Franklin's foursome of juniors Richard Duncan and Mike Baumgardner, along with seniors Isaac Cadet and Paul Voegel, also earned All-State recognition with an eighth in the 400 relay (43.21).

In the Division 3 state meet

at Comstock Park, Livonia Clarenceville senior Jamie Stewart cleared 6-3 to finish tied for fifth in the high jump.

Clarenceville's 400 relay team of Levonte Brooks, Moses Hobson, Todd McCullar and Kassius Kelly also earned All-State honors with a fourth place in a school-record time of 44.22.

Meanwhile, in the Division 4 meet at Grand Rapids Forest Hills Eastern, Lutheran High Westland senior Spencer Lyle placed fifth in the 800 (2:00.69).

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Cougars' McHugh too much for Franklin in district final

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

PREP BASEBALL

Nate McHugh - with a little help from his friends in the field - was the man of the hour for Garden City's baseball team during Saturday's Division 1 district championship game at Livonia Franklin.

The crafty junior left-hander held the usually hard-hitting Patriots to just three hits over seven innings as the Cougars, who improved to 14-12 overall, earned the title with a 4-1 victory after blanking Romulus, 9-0, in the second semifinal.

"Nate has been outstanding the second half of the year," said 11th-year GC coach Steve Herman, who hoisted his fourth district championship trophy and the Cougars' first since 2007. "He (McHugh) beat Monroe, 2-1, and pitched well even though we lost against Allen Park. He was on fire today."

The Cougars jumped out to a 4-0 lead through two innings thanks an RBI single in the first from Dave Ciciora followed by an RBI sacrifice fly to go along with McHugh's 2-run single in the second.

But after chasing Franklin starter Mark McRobb, who came into the game with an 8-2 record, the Cougars couldn't solve Patriot reliever Mike Basner, who went six strong innings allowing just one hit. At one stage Basner retired 12 straight batters.

"Getting on the board early was huge," said Herman, who team advanced to the district final earlier in afternoon with a 9-0 win over Romulus. "We had to make an adjustment to a faster pitcher (McRobb)

from the first game, but Basner came in and did a good job. He kept us off balance."

After Garrett Gumm's RBI groundout cut the deficit to 4-1 in the sixth, the Patriots made one last-ditch rally putting runners on first and third with two outs after Josh Weigand reached base successfully on a bunt.

Nate Robinson then sent a screaming line drive to the right side of the infield that was snagged on a great diving catch by Twigg.

"It's real scary if Twigg doesn't make that catch - or it's a new game," Herman said. "Gee Williams also made a couple of nice catches (in right field) for us today."

McHugh was grateful and thankful for the clutch defensive play by Twigg.

"I said to myself, 'Oh, God,' I thought it was a hit," the GC left-hander said. "It was a beautiful catch. I was relieved. I'll have to do something for him."

"It feels good. With my fast-ball, I was hitting the spots and the corners. And my curveball was there somewhat."

Franklin, which bowed out with a 19-12 record and a KLAAs South Division title, simply couldn't get the bats going against McHugh, who struck out five and walked three.

"Give him credit," Patriot coach Matt Fournier said. "We did not do anything the first couple of innings and you could sense on the bench that we may have been pressing. Our approach when we were down

three runs was to make him throw first-pitch strikes. We've struggled against lefties all year, but I don't take anything away from him. He threw a good game."

"And their kid (Twigg) made a great play. You have to tip your cap. It was huge in that spot and it killed a rally."

FRANKLIN 4, JOHN GLENN 1: Garrett Gumm's three-hitter carried the Patriots (19-11) to the district semifinal triumph over Westland John Glenn (12-21).

Gumm struck out six and walked only three to outduel Glenn starter Jake Sperry, who also went all seven innings allowing nine hits and three walks while fanning four.

Mark McRobb, Steven Wells and Nate Robinson each had RBI singles for the Patriots. Josh Weigand also contributed an RBI sacrifice fly.

Wayne Hawkins added a pair of singles and scored a run.

Glenn tallied its lone run in the first when Andrew McGrath, who had walked, scored from third on a delayed double steal with Steve Hickson.

CANTON 8, CHURCHILL 1: Dan Stoney and Cody Blakita both homered Saturday as the Chiefs (23-11) advanced against Livonia Churchill (16-16-1) in the Division 1 district tournament at Plymouth.

Winning pitcher Alex Dixon went the first six innings, allowing just one run on three hits. He walked only one and struck out seven before giving way to reliever Dane Staples.

Stoney, who went 2-for-4, clubbed a two-run homer in the second inning off Churchill starter Jimmy Tyler, who went the first four innings, allowed seven runs on eight hits and two walks. Tyler fanned seven.

Blakita also went 2-for-4, including a solo homer in the sixth off Churchill reliever Tad Evans. Dixon also had two hits.

Andy Szymanski's single scoring Drew Servalish accounted for the Chargers' lone run.

Lutheran Westland romps to title

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

PREP BASEBALL

Lutheran Westland's Saturday on the baseball diamond proved to be short and sweet.

The host Warriors, last year's Division 4 state runner-up, needed only seven innings on the day to seize the district crown as they routed Detroit Urban Lutheran, 22-0, in a three-inning mercy, preceded by an 18-3 triumph in four frames over neighboring Westland Huron Valley Lutheran.

Lutheran Westland, 19-3 overall, advances to the regional semifinals beginning at 10 a.m. this Saturday at Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett. The Warriors will face Southfield Christian, while the other

semifinal features Sterling Heights Parkway Christian and Allen Park Inter-City Baptist (at noon).

The Warriors collected 15 hits in the district final led by Kent Krzyzyske, who went 3-for-4 with a double and two RBI, along with Jake Andrezejewski, who went 3-for-3 with a triple and three RBI.

Other hitting stars including winning pitcher Austin Baglow (2-for-2, two RBI, two runs); Micah Hausch (2-for-3, triple, two RBI); and Tony Cipolla (double, two RBI).

Baglow went the first two innings, while Ryan Rakovalis finished up. The two combined on a one-hitter and six strikeouts.

In the semifinals, senior Sam Ahlersmeyer went 4-for-4, including two doubles, two triples and three RBI against HVL, which bows out at 9-6 overall.

Hausch, the winning pitcher, scattered six hits and struck out four over four innings. He also went 2-for-4 at the plate with two RBI and two runs.

Other offensive standouts included Gage Flanery (2-for-3, double, two runs); Cipolla (two doubles, three RBI, three runs); Rakovalis (two doubles, RBI); Andrezejewski (2-for-2, triple, three RBI); and Baglow (2-for-2, two-run homer, three RBI).

Shawn Schaffer went 2-for-2 with a run scored for the Hawks.

Huron Valley starter Aaron Howell suffered the loss.

SOFTBALL

FROM PAGE B1

a serious threat in the top of the sixth.

Singles by Shattleroe and Hillarie Lynn, followed by a Franklin infield error, sliced the deficit to 4-1 with no outs.

Jimenez then went to the mound for a team huddle to calm her team down.

"We were playing like we were down 4-1 and we were up 4-1," she said. "We all were taking deep breaths. We dropped our infield back and I said, 'Let's get the sure out.'"

Sanborn, who allowed six hits, got out of the inning with a line-out back to the mound, a pop-out to first and a ground-out.

"That (inning) kind of opened the door for us," said GC coach

Barry Patterson, whose team ousted Romulus 12-1 in the other semifinal. "We had two seniors hitting down in the order and we chased a 1-0 pitch and popped it up. With no outs, and runners at first and third, we had a chance to cut their lead in half right away if we put the ball somewhere on the ground."

"I thought Katelyn threw a good game, but they (Franklin) hit better. Their pitcher (Sanborn) hit one out and that got them going. This game was kind of indicative of our season. When we hit well, we've won. When we do not, we've struggled."

FRANKLIN 11, WAYNE 1: Senior catcher Brittany Taylor went 4-for-4, including a two-run homer and four stolen bases as the Patriots (31-5) ousted Wayne Memorial (7-23) in the second district semifinal.

Jessica Emery also doubled twice

and had two RBI to pace Franklin's 11-hit attack.

Wining Natalie Sanborn held the Zebras hitless through five innings. She struck out nine and walked only one before giving way to Tiffany Lamble, who gave up a seventh-inning solo homer to Ashley Ringel.

Nicole Odom was the losing pitcher.

CANTON 7, CHURCHILL 0: Winning pitcher Amy Dunleavy and Kaitlyn Mattson collected two hits apiece Saturday as the Chiefs (31-6) downed Livonia Churchill (15-16) in the Division 1 district semifinal at Plymouth.

Dunleavy worked the first five innings to pick up the victory as Churchill was limited to four hits.

Canton scored three runs on two hits and two walks, along with an error off Churchill starter Abby Jewell, who was eventually replaced by Natalie Hiser.

The Chiefs built a seven-run lead as Sam Partain scored twice.

Taylor Kerr and Mackenzie Everson each had two hits for the Chargers.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

WYAA baseball picnic

Rain or shine, the Westland Youth Athletic Association baseball and softball picnic will be from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m., Saturday, June 6, at the JC City Park Pavilion.

The event includes free burgers, hot dogs and drinks. There will also be a 50-50 raffle. Gift

certificates for local businesses will be raffled. Bouncers, slides, jousting and obstacle courses are also available.

The annual coaches softball game will be at 5 p.m.

Volunteers and please bring a passing dish (salads, desserts, sides, snacks, chips, ice).

For more information, call (734) 728-4662.

Run Drugs Out 5K

The 3rd annual 5- and 10-kilometer Run Drugs Out Of Town event, sponsored by the Livonia Police Department, will be Saturday, June 13 in Hines Park at Nankin Mills.

The event supports the Save Our Youth Task Force. Included in the entry is a run T-

shirt (before June 1 and while supplies last), food and entertainment for all ages.

You can register as a team to show your support or honor a loved one.

The event will feature the return support of Ken Wagner Agency and Circus Amoungus. TV weatherman Chris Edmonds will serve as master of ceremonies.

Also offered will be Chronotrack Timing on the USA Track and Field certified course. Awards will also go to top placers in each age group.

For more information, or to register, visit www.justsayrun.com.

Baseball Showcase

The Michigan All-Star Showcase for all high school play-

ers (grades 2009 through 2012) interested in playing college baseball will be Tuesday-Wednesday, June 30-July 1 at Fifth Third Ballpark in Grand Rapids, home of the West Michigan Whitecaps.

Fourteen 14 college coaches are scheduled to be in attendance.

For more information, call (616) 635-0010; visit www.gvsulakers.com (go to baseball camps).

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Security deposit. 734-355-6453, 248-305-9944</p>	<p>6000-6980 Announcements LOOK HERE</p> <p>Transportation/Travel 6400</p> <p>Airport Transportation and Designated Driver - I get you where you want to be safe, sound and cost-effective. 248-752-6768.</p>	<p>7000-7700 Real Estate 7015 - Party-Events 7015</p> <p>LEARN eBay Discover the techniques from a PowerSeller. Monday nights, 6/22-6/29, 6:30-9pm. Southfield P&R. Residents \$40, Non-Res \$50. 248-796-4620</p> <p>7000 Estate Sales 7100</p> <p>Another Clean Sweep Estate Sale by Top Hat Antiques 5411 Lane Lake Rd., Bloomfield Twp., Thur - Sat 10 to 4. Go to Estatesales.net for info & photos. Many wed- ding gifts from 1938. Don't miss this one! 248-761-6166</p>	<p>Garage Sales 7100</p> <p>FERNDALE 469 Channing St., corner of Hilton & Channing. June 6-7, 9am-3pm. Boys clothing & toys, household items & misc.</p> <p>FERNDALE-MULTI FAMILY June 5 & 6, 8am-5pm. Furniture, Elec. Lawn Mower, Bike, Framed Art, Clothes, LP's - 33's & 45's, Misc. 636 W. Cambourne, N. of 9 and W. of Woodward.</p> <p>FRANKLIN 4-Family Garage Sale! June 5-6, 9-4pm. 32920 Wing Lake. SE corner of Wing Lake & 14 Mile.</p> <p>FRANKLIN Palmer Estates Sub-Wide Yard Sale, Thursday -Saturday, June 4-6, 9am- 5pm. Located off Sheldon and Plymouth/Chicago. Some sales start Thurs., 6/4. http://www.clementscircle.org.</p> <p>LIVONIA - Proceeds go to the 3-Day! Baby gear and lots more! 29109 Clarita. 6/5 and 6/6 8am-5pm.</p> <p>LIVONIA 14040 Sunset, off Merriman & Schoolcraft. June 4-6, 9am- 5pm.</p> <p>LIVONIA Clements Circle Neighborhood Garage Sale - Sat, June 6. Over 25 homes will be hosting sales! Clements Circle Neighborhood is located between Middlebelt/Inkster and Plymouth/Chicago. Some sales start Thurs., 6/4. http://www.clementscircle.org.</p> <p>LIVONIA Garage Sale - 19611 Osmus, Livonia 48152. Kids stuff, TOOLS, household items. Good prices. Thurs, June 4th-Sat, June 6, 9-5pm.</p> <p>LIVONIA Old Rosedale Gardens - Whole Sub Garage Sale. OVER 60 HOMES! Sat., June 6th, 9am-4pm. South of Plymouth Rd., btwn Merriman & Farmington Rds.</p> <p>NORTHVILLE 17803 Wildflower, East of Sheldon, North of 6 Mile. Fri - Sat, June 5 & 6, 9 am - 5 pm. Household goods & decor, books, furniture, chandeliers. Lots of items!</p> <p>Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL(7355)</p>	<p>Garage Sales 7110</p> <p>NORTHVILLE Furniture, Toys of Baby Stuff, Clothes, Household, 44172 Cottisford Rd., Brookland Farms Sub., Novi/9 Mile. Thurs-Sat., 9-5pm.</p> <p>NOVI SUB SALE Briarwood Village 10 Mile and Beck Road. June 4, 5, & 6th. 9 AM - 4 PM.</p> <p>PLYMOUTH TWP June 4-6, 9-5pm. Roll Top Desk, Henry Link Home Office, household, 11609 Lehigh Court, off Powell, N. of Ann Arbor Trail, 2 bks W. of Beck.</p> <p>REDFORD TWP June 6 ONLY! 9am-4pm, 20464 Lexington, W. Of Beach, S. of 8. Multi-Family Priced to sell!</p> <p>WAYNE Multi-Family Garage Sale - Fri., June 5th and Sat., June 6th; 9am-5pm. 36956 Thinbark, Wayne (between Newburgh & Wayne Rds and Palmer & Michigan Ave. Toys, tools, fur- niture, household items, car supplies, much more.</p> <p>WESTLAND Garage Sale - Sat., June 6, 8am-5pm. 35959 Avondale. Desktop w/monitor, camping, antique school desk, and more. After 3pm what fits in provided grocery bag \$1.00!</p> <p>Household Goods 7160</p> <p>FURNITURE Sofa set \$600; sofa sectional \$300; refrigerator \$400; table + chairs \$100; coffee tables \$50; King bed- room set \$400; patio set (3 tables/16 chairs) \$999. Every- thing must go! 734-730-2959</p> <p>FURNITURE Sofa set \$600; sofa sectional \$300; refrigera- tor \$400; table + chairs \$100; coffee tables \$50; King bed- room set \$400; patio set (3 tables/16 chairs) \$999. Every- thing must go! 734-730-2959</p>	<p>Dogs 7840</p> <p>COCKAPOO PUPPIES Adorable Second Generation Cockapoo Puppies. Adult weight 12-15 lbs. Two Males (Buff/Blonde), One Female (Black). Born April 13th. Vet Checked, Shots And Wormed. Raised In Our Home With Lots Of Love, Hugs and Play Time. Available June 1st! \$500 248-967-4872</p> <p>OLD ENGLISH SHEEPDOG PUPPIES AKC, 7 weeks, shots, male/female, \$300 & up. 734-753-3362, 734-223-4589</p> <p>BUICK LE SABRE 2002 4 door, air, alarm, auto, pl, cruise, CD, anti-lock brakes, pw, 1 owner, ps, AM-FM stereo, leather, 75K miles. \$6,500. 248-685-3643</p>	<p>8000-8700 Automotive Buick 8360</p>
<p>Oh Yeah! Make your life easier... find it in your classifieds!</p>		<p>IT'S ALL AT YOUR FINGERTIPS!</p> <p>Jobs! Auto! Real Estate! Apartments! Garage Sales!</p> <p>A Top Notch Service Directory!</p> <p>Look no further for the best local classifieds!</p> <p>TO PLACE YOUR AD: 1-800-579-7355</p>		<p>Did you hear...?</p> <p>My mom just got a new car and it's bigger than my dad's! She found it in the classifieds!</p> <p>Buying or selling, Classifieds is the place to look.</p> <p>Call Today: 1-800-579-7355</p>		<p>AKC BRUSSEL GRIFFON PUPS \$500. 734-674-3870</p> <p>FIND IT ONLINE HOMETOWNLIFE.COM</p>		<p>7840</p>

M-Generation highlights event celebrating late rabbi

BY LAUREN TODARO
CORRESPONDENT

The inspirational words of an Israeli ambassador and the culturally sweet and often humorous songs of the world-renown M-Generation boy's choir will highlight a celebration of the life of the late Rebbe Menachem Mendel Schneerson.

Chabad Lubavitch of Michigan will present An Evening of Song, Speech & Vision, 6 p.m. June 16 at Rock Financial Showcase in Novi.

Chabad-Lubavitch is a Hasidic movement in Orthodox Judaism. Chabad-Lubavitch has had seven leaders or rebbes, most recently the late Rebbe Menachem Mendel Schneerson, who served until his death in 1994.

His inspirational life encouraged thousands of people around the world to advocate for education and philanthropy.

Keynote speaker Ambassador Yehuda Avner is known for his animated oration on his life as a veteran Israeli diplomat. As an aid and advisor to four Israeli prime ministers he witnessed first-hand the unique role the Rebbe played in their lives.

The featured entertainment, the M-Generation, consists of 12 young boys bonded through music in a world-touring choir. M-Generation is a project of Friends of Refugees of Eastern Europe, a non-profit dedicated to the aid and educational prosperity of Eastern European refugees affected by the former Soviet Union. The choir sings in English, Russian, Hebrew and Yiddish. The youngest is six years old.



M-Generation is a project of Friends of Refugees of Eastern Europe, a non-profit dedicated to the aid and educational prosperity of Eastern European refugees affected by the former Soviet Union.

Michael Furman, 11, of Brooklyn, N.Y., said he joined after finding out about the group at age 6.

"They took me in and I was happy. We get to hang out with friends and it's really cool. I am very excited to come see Detroit because I have never been there. It will be cool to see a new audience!"

Tickets for An Evening of Song, Speech & Vision are \$36 per person and sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information visit www.chabadmi.com or call (248) 877-7978.

Levi Stein contributed to this report.



Michael Furman, of M-Generation, said he's excited to come to the Detroit area for a performance.

6/4/09

Passages

Obituaries, Memorials & Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968
email: oeobits@hometownlife.com
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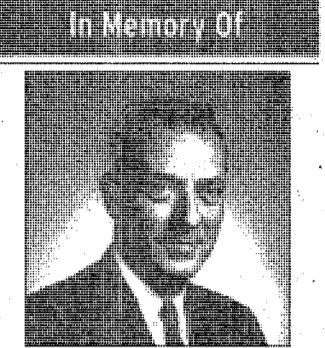
FREDERICK CARL JANZ

Age 89, died Friday, May 29, 2009. He was born on April 30, 1920 in Lansing, MI. A Certified Public Accountant, Frederick was a founding partner of Janz & Knight. He received a bachelor degree from Michigan State University. He is predeceased by Richard Janz. Frederick is survived by: his wife, Lorraine Copeland Janz of Bloomfield Hills, MI, children Michael Janz of Plymouth, MI; William Janz of Oceanside, CA; Carol Janz of Longmont, CO; Linda Janz Faison of Oldsmar, FL, ten grandchildren and one great-grandchild. A memorial service will be held at Kirk in the Hills, Bloomfield Hills at 11:00 a.m. on June 13, 2009. Arrangements made by the Wm. R. Hamilton Co. - Mount Clemens.

KERN ELIZABETH WINFIELD

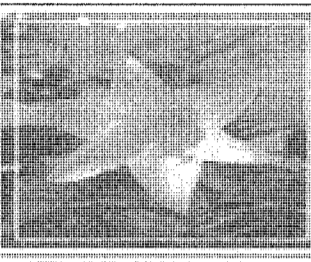
June 30, 1930 - May 30, 2009

Kern E. Winfield, 78, of Punta Gorda, FL passed away after a long illness on May 30, 2009. Born to Dorcas and Donald McKay in Birmingham, Michigan. Married Arthur H. Winfield, she is survived by her three sons and daughter-in-laws Bruce and Jody Winfield of Lake Barrington, Illinois, Robert and Teri Winfield of Albuquerque, New Mexico, Don and Anne Winfield of Deep Creek, Florida and her brother Jim and Maureen McKay of Carefree, Arizona and sister Sally and Don Kutil of Waterford, Michigan. The family would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to the health care staff of Fawcett Hospital 4 West for their loving care of our mother. Additionally, we want to offer our sincere appreciation to the staff at TideWell Hospice House in Port Charlotte. It is a godsend that a facility like this exists and how comforting it was to our mother and family. A celebration of her life will be held at 11:00 am, Thursday, June 4, 2009 at Burnt Store Presbyterian Church. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Philanthropy Department TideWell Hospice and Palliative Care, 5955 Rand Boulevard, Sarasota, FL 34238. Arrangements are by Larry Taylor Funeral and Cremation Services.



THOMAS J. MCAULEY
Feb. 6, 1918 - June 5, 1989
20th Anniversary

Dad, We miss your smile, your gentleness and kindness, your generosity and selflessness, your courage and the dignity in which you lived your life. How enriched your grandsons' lives would be if they would have had the privilege of knowing you! You are always in our hearts. Love from your Daughter and Family, Patty, Leo, Max, Liam and Conor.



KELLY JONES

Age 45, of Bayonet Point, FL, died May 29, 2009 at home. She was born in Ann Arbor, MI, and moved to Bayonet Point from Plymouth, MI in 2005. She was employed by Eastern Research. Kelly was preceded in death by her father Bob Jones and her brother Timothy Jones. She is survived by her mother Kay Jones-Case and her step father Jim Case of Bayonet Point, sister Kimberly Taylor of Westland, MI, grandmother Marie Johnson of Port Richey, FL, and by aunts, uncles and cousins. Visitation and services on Friday, June 5, 2009 at the Schrader Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth (734) 453-3333.

Paying
Tribute
to the
Life of
Your
Loved One

Let others know...

When you've lost a loved one, place your notice on our website and in "Passages"...a directory located in every edition of your hometown newspaper.

Observer & Eccentric
Call 1-800-579-7355

Your Invitation to Worship

CATHOLIC

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Immemorial Latin Mass
Approved by Pope St. Pius V in 1570
St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8
23310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan
5 Blocks E. of Telegraph • (313) 534-2121

Mass Schedule:
Fri. 7:00 p.m.
Sat. 11:00 a.m.
Sun. Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m.
Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

St. Genevieve Roman Catholic Church
St. Genevieve School - PreK-8
29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220
(East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries)
MASS: Tues. 7 p, Wed., Thurs. 9 a,
Sat. 4 p, Sun 11a

St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church
32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616
(between Merriman & Farmington Roads)
MASS: Mon. 8:30 a, Fri. 8:30 a,
Sat. 6 p, Sun 9a

UNITED METHODIST

Redford Aldersgate
United Methodist
10000 Beech Daly
313-937-3170
9:30 - Trad. Worship & Sun. Sch.
11:00 - Contemp. Family Worship
www.redfordaldersgate.org

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"Open Hearts, Minds & Doors"
36500 Ann Arbor Trail
between Wayne & Newburgh Rds.
734-422-0149
Worship Service
and
Sunday School
9:15 am
Rev. Marsha M. Woolley
Visit our website: www.newburgumc.org

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St. James Presbyterian Church, USA
25350 West Six Mile Rd.
Redford (313) 534-7730
Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 A.M., Sunday School - 10:15 A.M., Thursday Dinners - 6:00 P.M., Thrift Store every Sat. 10am-2pm
Nursery Care Provided • Handicapped Accessible
Rev. Paul S. Bousquette

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www.rosedalegardens.org
Friends in Faith Service
9:00 am
Traditional Service
10:30 am
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Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96
734-522-6830

Sunday Worship
8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional
Staffed Nursery Available

Sunday/Bible Class
9:45 am
Early Childhood Center
Phone 734-513-8413

Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ
Pastors: Robert F. Bayer and Anthony M. Creeden

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD
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313-532-2286 REDFORD TWP.

Worship Service
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Sunday School
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Nursery Provided
The Rev. Timothy P. Halboth, Senior Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor

Risen Christ Lutheran
David W. Martin, Pastor
46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth (E. side of Middlebelt)
(734) 453-5252
Worship: 8:30 A.M. & 10:45 am
Sunday School 9:30 • Adult Bible Study 9:30
Nursery Care Available. All are welcome. Come as you are.
www.risenchrist.info

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1255
Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.
Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.
NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER
(734) 455-3196

PRESBYTERIAN

Fellowship Presbyterian Church
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire
Services held at: Madonna University's Kresge Hall
36600 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia • Parking lot is on N.W. corner of Levan & Schoolcraft
Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

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

Traditional Worship
8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 A.M.
Contemporary Worship
9:30 & 11:00 A.M.
Nursery & Sunday School During the 9:30 & 11:00 Hours
Evening Service • 7:00 p.m.
Service Broadcast
11:00 A.M. Sunday WRDT-AM 560
The WUWZ Word Station
for additional information visit www.wardchurch.org

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
17810 FARMINGTON ROAD,
LIVONIA (734) 261-1360

WORSHIP SERVICES
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.
THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M.
website: www.stpaulsilivonia.org

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STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
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Sunday Services:
Matins 9:00am, Divine Liturgy 10:00am
Rev. Fr. Teodor Petrutiu
Parish Office: 734-525-6789
www.sticons.org
Hellenic Cultural Center Banquet Hall
734-525-3550

NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
39851 West Five Mile, Plymouth Twp., MI
Sunday Services
Matins 8:30 am, Divine Liturgy 10:00 am
Rev. Fr. George Vapouris
Parish Office 734-420-0131
Office Hours M-F 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
www.nativitygocurch.org

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 734-582-8342 or e-mail: dhart@dnps.com

FILTER

Local author celebrates Detroit characters in two new books

BY WENSLEY VON BUSKIRK
O&E STAFF WRITER

After almost a decade-long dry spell, Michael Zadoorian is in the unique position of promoting two new books at the same time.

The Ferndale author has a calendar full of book signings for *Leisure Seeker* (Morrow, 2009), and *The Lost Tiki Palaces of Detroit* (Wayne State University Press, 2009).

After the success of his debut novel *Second Hand*, released in 2000 to critical acclaim, Zadoorian stopped writing in part to care for his aging parents. He didn't know if he'd ever publish again.

But four years ago, Zadoorian quietly began sitting down at his desk again, writing each morning before he left for work as a copy editor at Campbell-Ewald.

His experience with his parents laid the foundation for *Leisure Seeker*, the story of an ailing elderly couple who leave their doctors behind and embark on a cross country road trip along old Route 66.

Leisure Seeker was rejected by several publishers, prob-

ably due to the fact that the protagonists were in their 80s and suffering from cancer and dementia, Zadoorian said. Yet while the subject matter sounds depressing, the book is actually a fun ride, full of humor, insight and nostalgia.

In 2007, Zadoorian got word that *Leisure Seeker* was accepted by Morrow, an imprint of Harper Collins.

The very next day, Wayne State University Press called with news they would publish Zadoorian's short story collection, *The Lost Tiki Palaces of Detroit*.

"It was

pretty amazing, especially when I was in a place where I was not entirely sure I was going to have another book

come out," Zadoorian said during a recent interview with Filter at The Fly Trap in Ferndale. "It's been a tad overwhelming."

Zadoorian earned two degrees from WSU, a bachelor's in communication and English, and a master's in creative writing.

The short stories in *Tiki Palaces* follow characters coming to terms with the past and present in a broken city. Detroit features promi-

MICHAEL ZADOORIAN BOOK SIGNINGS

7-9 p.m. Thursday, June 18
Where: Book Beat, 26010 Greenfield, Oak Park
Tiki-themed reading/signing for *The Lost Tiki Palaces of Detroit*.

Special Guests: Renowned Detroit artist Glenn Barr, who illustrated the book cover; DJs Rat Fink & Nature Boy

When: 1-7 p.m. Thursday, June 19

Where: Shaman Drum Bookshop, 311-315 S. State, Ann Arbor

Special Guest: WSU Press Author Bonnie Jo Campbell

When: 7 p.m. Thursday, July 16
Where: Baldwin Public Library, 300 W. Merrill, Birmingham



JOHN ROE, ROE PHOTO

Michael Zadoorian of Ferndale is promoting his new book "The Lost Tiki Palaces of Detroit."

nently in all of Zadoorian's work.

"The stories have a sort of dark quality to them," he said. "A lot of them are about people who go through tough times and are pushed to the brink, but find a strength

and resilience inside to keep going. Detroit is like that."

Renowned artist Glenn Barr, of Ferndale, lent his work to the book's cover, and will join Zadoorian at a tiki-themed book signing 7-9 p.m.

June 18 at Book Beat in Oak Park. *Leisure Seeker* is available in hardcover for \$24.95. *The Lost Tiki Palaces of Detroit*, (paperback, \$18.95) is part of the Made in Michigan Writers Series. Visit www.michaelzadorean.com.

GET OUT

ART

Focus: HOPE Gallery: "Focus on the Mission" teen photograph exhibit, through July 30. Focus: HOPE Gallery, 1400 Oakman Boulevard, Detroit.

Lemberg Gallery: James Stephens Short Stories, through June 6, 23241 Woodward Ave., Ferndale, (248) 591-6623, www.lembertgallery.com.

Northville Art House: Behind-the-scenes of live theatre, through artists' brush, June 5-20. Classes for adults and children, 215 W. Cady, (248) 344-0497, www.northvillearts.org.

Orchard Lake Fine Art Show: July 24-26, includes artist awards, demonstrations, entertainment, kids activities and a youth art competition, Orchard Lake St. Mary's Schools, Orchard Lake, (248) 684-2613, www.hotworks.com.

Paint Creek Center for the Arts: Student and

Faculty Art Show, through June 13: "Amy Sacksteder: Still," through June 13, 407 Pine, Rochester, (248) 651-4110, www.pccart.org.

Plymouth Art in the Park: July 10-12, Kellogg Park.

Plymouth Community Arts Council: Behind the Lens "Peace Project," through June 12, 774 N. Sheldon Road, Plymouth, (734) 416-4278, www.plymoutharts.com.

BENEFITS

AIDS Partnership Michigan: Solstice, live jazz, wine, strolling dinner, dancing, silent auction, casual chic attire, 7 p.m. June 20, \$95, 34500 Woodward Ave., Birmingham, www.aidspartnership.org.
Detroit Opera House: BravoBravo!, 7:30 p.m. June 15, \$95, jazz sophisticate attire, www.bravobravo.org, (313) 961-3500.
The Parade Co: The Parade Company's Official VIP Rooftop Party, 6-11 p.m. June

24. Entertainment, food, games, activities for all ages, viewing of fireworks. Benefits the Michigan Thanksgiving Parade Foundation. Miller Parking Garage, 400 Renaissance Center Drive, Detroit. \$175, children six and under \$75. Tickets: (313) 432-7831, www.theparade.org.

CLASSICAL/CHAMBER MUSIC

Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings: Final Concert, 8 p.m. June 20, Seligman Center, (248) 559-2095, www.detroit-chamberwinds.org.
Oakland Brass Band: Gone Fishin', 8 p.m. June 12, Berkley High School, 2325 Catalpa, (248) 931-5169, www.oakland-brassband.com.
Max M. Fisher Music Center: Season Finale, June 4-6: A Midsummer Night's Dream, June 13; 3711 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 576-5111 and online at www.detroit-symphony.com.

CLUBS

Soundboard: Boz Scaggs, June 17; Sinbad, July 25; Melissa Etheridge, June 26; Gary Allan, Aug. 21; An Evening With Natalie Cole, Oct. 3. MotorCity Casino Hotel, Detroit, www.ticketmaster.com, www.motorcitycasino.com.

COMEDY

JD's House of Comedy: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday; 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield, (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster.com.
Jazz Cafe at Music Hall: Show Up, and Go Up, 9 p.m. third Thursday of every month, open call, free, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit, (313) 887-8532, www.jazzcafe-detroit.com.

Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia: Joey's Summer Variety Extravaganza, 8 p.m. Tuesday, June 30, 7:30 p.m. seating and live music. Live orchestra, stand up comedy, improv, mime, break dancing, tap dancing, belly dancing, \$5, 36071 Plymouth Road, (734) 261-0555, www.kickerscomplex.com.

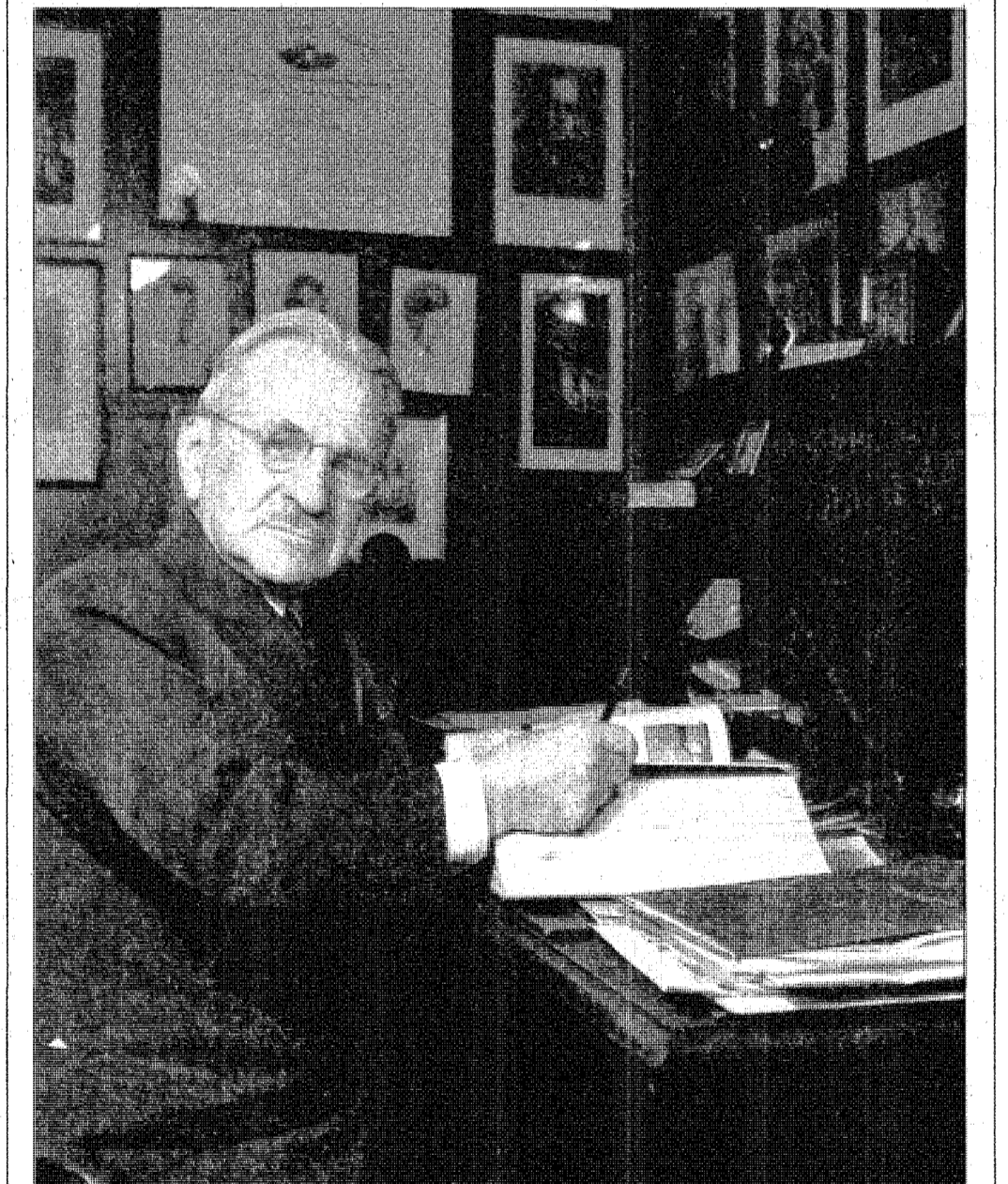
Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle: Open Mic 8 p.m. most Wednesdays; 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak, (248) 542-9900, www.comedy-castle.com.

CONCERTS

Callahan's: Summertime blues concerts, 8 p.m. Ana Popovic/Broken Arrow Blues Band, June 10; Papa Chubby/JoAnne Shaw Taylor, June 13; Duke Robillard Band, June 17; Ronnie Baker Brooks, June 18; Cedric Burnside & Lightnin' Maic & Olm, June 19; Roomful of Blues, July 12; Tinsley Ellis, July 24, 2105 South Boulevard, south of the Palace, Auburn Hills, www.atcallahans.com, 248-858-9508.

Clutch Cargo: Framing Hanley and Red, July 2, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac, (248) 645-6666.

Comerica Park: Kid Rock, July 17-18; Vans



Historical Society Film

The Detroit Historical Society continues its monthly film series with "Architects We Knew: Albert Kahn's Legacy" showing at 1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, June 13 & 14 at the Detroit Historical Museum. Screenings are free with regular admission to the museum, 5401 Woodward Ave., Detroit. (313) 833-7937

Warped Tour, July 31; 1-800-745-3000, Ticketmaster.com, www.warpedtour.com.

Detroit Institute of Arts: Friday Night Live concerts, 7 & 8:30 p.m., 5200 Woodward Ave. (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org.
DTE Energy Music Theatre: Credence Clearwater Revisited, June 12; Clay Walker, June 13; The Music of Led Zeppelin: A Rock Symphony, June 20; The Legends of Motown, June 21; Earth, Wind & Fire and Chicago, June 24; New Kids on the Block, June 25; The Fray with Jack's Mannequin, June 27; Rock The Bells 2009 Festival, June 28; Heart, June 30; Bad Company/Doobie Brothers, July 1; Blue Oyster Cult/Over the Rainbow, July 8; REO Speedwagon/Styx with .38 Special, July 9; Brad Paisley w/Dierks Bentley, July 10; Judas Priest w/Whitesnake, July 15; Toby Keith w/Trace Adkins, July 19; YES/Asia, July 20; Smokey Robinson, July 23; Def Leppard and Poison w/Cheap Trick, July 24; Big & Rich w/Cowboy Troy, July 25; Incubus, July 26; Dave Matthews Band, July 28; Anita Baker, July 31; Travis Trill, Aug. 1; Mayhem Festival, Aug. 2; The Temptations/The Four Tops, Aug. 6; Moody Blues, Aug. 9; Nickelback, Aug. 12; Jimmy Buffett and The Coral Reefer Band, Aug. 13; Mötley Crüe's "Crüe Fest 2," Aug. 15; Demi Lovato w/David Archuleta, Aug. 18; B.B. King w/Robert Cray Band, Aug. 19; Jeff Foxworthy, Aug. 21; Kenny G, Aug. 23; Creed, Aug. 25. 7774 Sashabaw Road, Clarkston(248) 377-0100

Filmora: Rise Against, June 24, 2115 Woodward, Detroit. (248) 645-6666.

Fox Theatre: Aretha Franklin, July 11, 2211

Woodward, Detroit, Ticketmaster.com (248) 433-1515.

Magic Bag: Neil Innes, June 7; Backyard Tire Fire, June 11; The Tennessee Three, June 19; The Lemonheads, June 21; Taylor Hicks, June 22; The Cliks, June 23; The Church, June 25; Leon Russell, June 26; Dr. John, June 27; Live The Who, July 10; The Original Wailers, Aug. 7; The Why Store, Aug. 14; 40oz. To Freedom, Aug. 16; A.J.A., Aug. 21; 22920 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 544-3030, www.themagicbag.com.

Meadow Brook Music Festival: Crosby, Stills & Nash, June 6; "Regeneration Tour" with ABC, Wang Chung, Heaven 17 and Cutting Crew, June 27; Counting Crows w/Augustana, July 8; 1964 The Tribute, July 9; Comedian David Alan Grier, July 11; ABBA The Tour, July 16; Lyle Lovett & His Large Band, July 17; Chris Isaak, July 19; Gordon Lightfoot, July 23; Detroit Symphony Orchestra, July 25, 26 & 31 and Aug. 1-2; Jackson Browne, July 27; Comedian Jim Gaffigan, Aug. 7; George Thorogood & The Destroyers/Jonny Lang, Aug. 16; Peter Frampton, Aug. 22; O.A.R. with special guest Brett Dennen, Sept. 4.

Magic Stick: Dillinger Four, June 5; Detroit Wig Out, June 6; Mr. Lif, June 10; Dusty Rhodes, June 11; Volcanos, June 12; Waylon Birthday Tribute, June 13; The Homosexuals, June 18; Propagandhi, June 19; The Detroit Cobras, June 20; The Germs, June 25; Thunderheist!, June 26; Jay Reatard, June 27; Greg Cartwright, June 28; The Present, June 29; Black Mosh Super Rainbow, June 30, 4120-4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit, www.majesticdetroit.com.

Majestic Theatre: Amanda Lepore, June 7; Blackenedfest featuring Mayhem, June 13; X, June 17; The Gories/The Oblivians, June 27; Leftover Crack/Casualties, July 1, 4120-4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit,

www.majesticdetroit.com.

Northville Friday Night Concerts: Lady Sunshine & the X Band, June 12; Shawn Riley Band, June 19; Gia Warner, June 26; Randy Brock Band, July 3; Mass Transit Band, July 10; The Kris K Band, July 17; Soul Academy, July 24; Fifty Amp Fuse, July 31, 7-9 p.m., Town Square, (248) 349-7640, www.northville.org.

Oakland Community College: Free summer concert series, A Little Night Music, 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Highland Lakes Campus' front lawn and pavilion; student center area in case of rain. July 14, The Motor City Brass Band; July 21, Jim Dignan & Swing Shift; July 28, Partly Brothers; Aug. 4, Pamela Wise and the Latin Jazz All Stars; Aug. 11, Cats and the Fiddle; Aug. 18, Blackthorn, 7350 Cooley Lake Road in Waterford.

Palace of Auburn Hills: Yanni, June 5; Keith Urban w/Taylor Swift, June 6; Dane Cook, June 12; No Doubt w/Paramore and Bedouin Soundclash, July 3; Beyonce, July 18; Jonas Brothers w/Jordin Sparks and Honor Society, July 26; The Wiggles, Aug. 14; AC/DC, Aug. 16; Aerosmith w/ZZ Top, Sept. 16; Frank Caliendo/Bill Engvall, Oct. 24, 1 Championship Drive, Auburn Hills, (248) 645-6666 or PalacetL.com.

Royal Oak Music Theatre: The Derek Trucks Band, June 9; Boxing VI Night of Knockouts, June 13; Robin Trower, June 20; Sonic Youth, June 29; Reel Big Fish & The English Beat, July 3; Asher Roth and Kid Cudi live, July 18; Wilco, July 21; Fleet Foxes, Aug. 5; The Decemberists, Aug. 11, 318 W. Fourth, Royal Oak, (800) 919-6272, www.royalokmusictheatre.com.

St. Andrew's Hall: Metric, June 15; Robin Trower, June 20, 431 E. Congress, Detroit, (248) 645-6666.

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Trader Joe's cookbook emphasizes freshness & flavor

If you're into one-stop shopping, you'll love "Cooking With All Things Trader Joe's" by Deana Gunn and Wona Miniati.

The cookbook (Brown Bag Publishers, 2008) features recipes with ingredients that all can be found on the shelves of the fun food retailer.

Trader Joe's, one of the fastest growing grocery chains in the nation, has Michigan locations in Ann Arbor, Farmington Hills, Grosse Pointe, Northville, Royal Oak and Rochester Hills.

Stop in to buy the book, along with everything it takes to make wholesome meals, sides, desserts, drinks, breakfasts and bachelor quickies.

In the meantime, here are a few recipes from the colorful book.

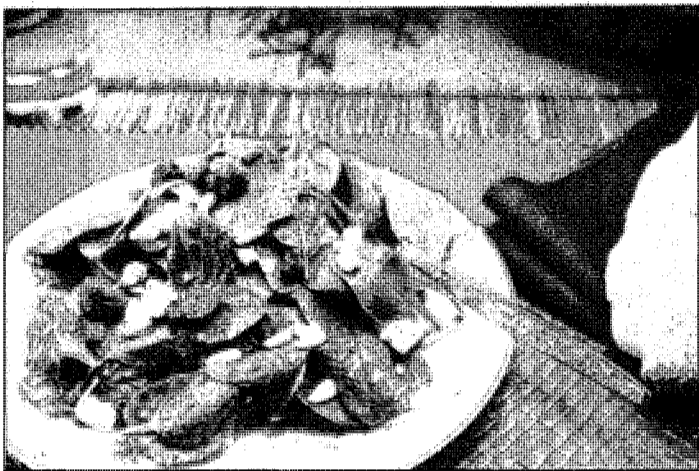
Hands-off cooking time: 12-14 minutes
Serves 4-6

LIFE IS A BOWL OF CHERRIES, PINE NUTS, AND SPINACH SALAD

Michigan is one of the top growers of sour cherries in the country, which are high in antioxidants. This salad calls for the Montmorency variety.

- 1/2 (6-ounce) bag Organics baby spinach
- 1/2 cup crumbled Feta cheese
- 1/4 cup dried tart Montmorency cherries
- 1/4 cup pine nuts
- 2-4 tablespoons balsamic vinaigrette

Combine ingredients, toss, and serve immediately. The salad can be assembled ahead of time, but don't add the vinaigrette until you're ready to serve or the spinach will wilt down.



Pine nuts and cherries enhance spinach salad.

Prep time: 5 minutes
Serves 4-6

BLACK BEAN SOUP

This soup is a hearty, spicy soup with the warm earthy flavor of cumin and the zing of fresh lime. Not only are black beans high in fiber and folate, but they rival grapes and cranberries for their antioxidant properties.

- 1 medium yellow onion, peeled and chopped, or 1 1/2 cups bagged freshly diced onion
- 1 clove garlic, crushed or 1 cube frozen crushed garlic
- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 2 (15-ounce) cans black beans (do not drain)
- 1 cup (half a jar) chunky salsa
- 2 tablespoons lime juice (juice of one lime)
- Plain yogurt or sour cream

In a medium pot, sauté onions in olive oil until they are soft and translucent. Sprinkle in cumin and garlic and sauté for a minute; pour in black beans (including juices), salsa, and lime. Stir to combine and bring to a simmer. Simmer covered for 20 minutes.

Ladle soup into individual bowls and top with a dollop of yogurt. White corn tortilla chips go nicely on the side.

Prep time: 10 minutes
Hands-off Cooking time: 20 minutes
Serves 4-6

HONEY, I ATE THE CHOCOLATE BREAD PUDDING

Cold vanilla ice cream melting on warm bread pudding is one of those feel-good dessert combinations. And this recipe makes a happy cook as well. There's no melting butter, no measuring ingredients... just toss it all in and bake.

- 1/2 loaf (8 slices) Whole Wheat Honey Bread
- 1/2 cups Brownie Truffle Baking Mix (just the dry mix, don't add anything else)
- 2 1/2 cups whole milk

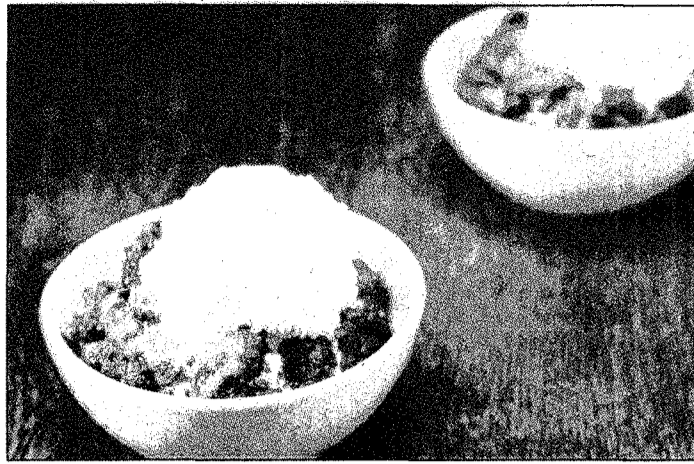
Cut crusts off bread slices. Cube bread into 1/2-inch by 1/2-inch pieces. Toss diced bread in an 8-inch square lightly greased or buttered baking pan and arrange so pan is filled evenly.

Combine milk and brownie mix. Stir well for a minute until dissolved. Pour brownie mixture over diced bread. Lightly press down on bread pieces so that they are thoroughly soaked through with brownie liquid.

Set pan aside while you preheat oven to 350 degrees, perhaps 10 minutes or so. This extra time will give the bread time to soak further. Cover pan tightly with foil and bake for 30 minutes.

When done, remove pan from oven and let it cool for 15 minutes, allowing bread pudding to set. Serve warm, with optional vanilla or chocolate ice cream on the side.

Prep time: 5-10 minutes



Make this chocolate bread pudding with only three ingredients.

APRICOT BAKED BRIE

Even if you think you don't like Brie, try this baked version; you may not recognize it. This warm and creamy cheese dish is a great accompaniment to some grapes and a bottle of red wine.

- 1 (0.6 pound) wedge Brie, such as Double Crème Brie
- 2 heaping tablespoons Organic Reduced Sugar Apricot Preserves
- 1 handful Raw Sliced Almonds
- 1 tablespoon Triple Sec (optional)
- 1 box water crackers

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Place the wedge of Brie in a small baking dish that is slightly bigger than the Brie. Top with apricot preserves, sprinkle on almonds, and drizzle Triple Sec over the top. Cover tightly with foil and bake for 12-14 minutes or until cheese is melting. Remove from oven and serve with water crackers. Before your guests attack the Brie unrelentingly, remind them that the dish is hot.

Prep time: 5 minutes

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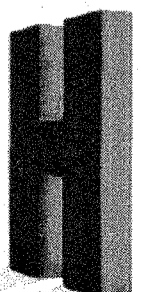
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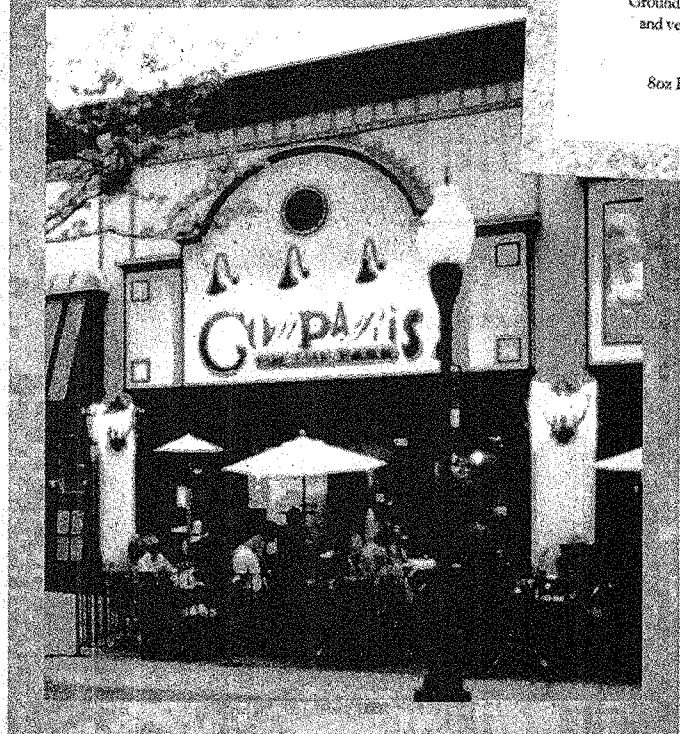
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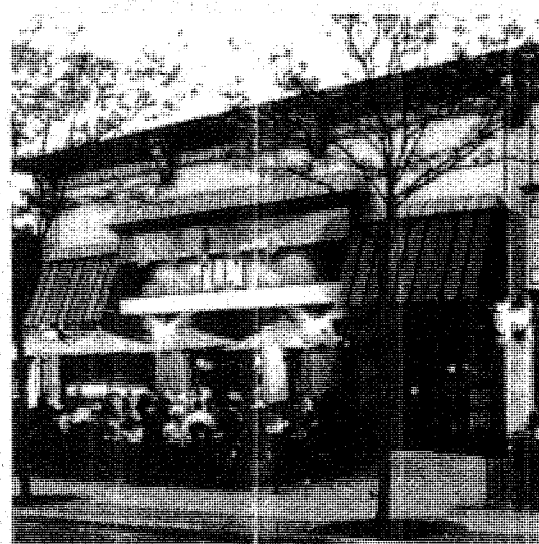
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Cavatapi pasta with lobster, fresh basil, brie and fontina cheese
Topped with roasted garlic panko crumbs. \$12

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Featuring award winning Leelanau cheese from the creamery at Black Star Farms in Northern Michigan, mini baked brie and chef's choice cheese of the day.
Accompanied with fresh fruit garnish, nuts and gourmet crackers. \$14

AHI TUNA (Sashimi Grade)*

Rubbed with Asian spice, served rare,
Accompanied with spicy mango chutney, avocado mousse and wonton crisps. \$12

SMOKED PLATE (Served Cold)

Prepared in house, pepper encrusted hot smoked salmon, cold smoked salmon,
White fish and salmon pate. Served with traditional accompaniments. \$14

EAST COAST JUMBO LUMP CRAB CAKE

Served with corn relish and whole grain mustard sauce. \$12

GRILLED CAJUN PRAWNS

Accompanied with spicy avocado dip and mango chutney. \$10

RAW OYSTERS* (Ask server for type)

One-half or a full dozen. Served with cocktail sauce and horseradish. Priced Daily

CALAMARI

Flash-fried with choice of one of two ways:
San Marzano sauce with cherry peppers, grape tomatoes and Kalamata olives or
Tomato and red onion with a lemongrass citrus butter sauce. \$10

HOUSE MADE WILD MUSHROOM RAVIOLI

Topped with a Morel and Porcini mushroom sauce. \$9

RISOTTO OF THE DAY

Ask server for chef's creation. Priced Daily

CELEBRATION OF APPETIZERS

Ask server for chef's creation. Priced Daily

ACCOMPANIMENTS

Sautéed Mushrooms \$4 Sautéed Spinach \$5 Chef's Fresh Vegetable \$4 Gnocchi \$6
Long Grain, Wild Rice and Tossed Orzo \$3 Garlic Mashed Potatoes \$3 Sautéed Hungarian Peppers \$3
Asparagus \$6 Creamy Risotto \$4 Risotto Cake \$3 Au Gratin Potatoes \$4 Mac & Cheese \$3

SOUP & SALADS

SOUP OF THE DAY Cup \$4 Bowl \$6

CREAM OF ASPARAGUS Cup \$4 Bowl \$6

CLASSIC CAESAR*

(Bonita Ancho)
Hand tossed, made to order with egg, fresh garlic,
Parmigiano reggiano cheese, anchovies, olive oil and garlic croutons. \$9

DINNER SALAD

Romaine and leaf lettuce, olives, cucumbers, red onion and
Compan dressing (other dressing available upon request, tomato on request). \$6

CRIMSON ROASTED ORGANIC BEET SALAD

Mixed field greens, roasted beets, chive cakes, toasted almonds,
grapefruit segments and red onion, tossed in a lemon honey vinaigrette. \$10

SPINACH & MICHIGAN WALLEYE CROQUETTE SALAD

Baby spinach, red onion, grape tomatoes, aged cheddar, Granny Smith apples and walnuts.
Tossed with a whole grain vinaigrette. \$12

FIAMMA CAPRESE SALAD

Vine ripened tomato, fried eggplant, fresh buffalo mozzarella and balsamic. \$10

WEDGE OF ICEBERG LETTUCE

With garnish of olive tapenade, roasted red pepper, crumbled bacon, olives,
tomato and bleu cheese dressing. \$7

SANDWICHES

Accompanied with Fruit or Sweet potato fries

GRILLED SALMON CLUB

Twice smoked apple cured bacon, vine ripened tomato, herb cheese spread,
roasted shallot glaze and baby spinach. Served on whole grain bread. \$12

TUNA BURGER

Ground sashimi grade tuna with Asian aromatics and spices, mango wasabi aioli
and vegetable slaw with miso vinaigrette. Served on a whole wheat bun. \$12

PIEDMONTESE BEEF BURGER

8oz Burger with grilled shiitakes, slow roasted tomatoes, white cheddar.
Topped with crispy shallots. \$12

MEAT

Beef and lamb are available 21 days. Steaks ordered well done are an add.
Add a bowl of soup or dinner salad \$3. Sub risotto on any dish for an additional \$2

PIEDMONTESE FILET MIGNON*

All meats. Cut from the heart of the tenderloin.
Topped with Fiamma zip sauce. Accompanied with Potatoes Au Gratin and roasted root vegetables.
6 oz. Filet... \$23 8 oz. Filet... \$29 10 oz. Filet... \$35

RESERVED BLACK ANGUS NEW YORK STRIP STEAK*

Chosen from the top 5% of choice beef, center of the loin, topped with roasted tomato compound butter.
Accompanied with brie and fontina Mac & Cheese and grilled asparagus. \$27

BRAISED SHORT RIBS

Accompanied with garlic mashed potatoes and roasted root vegetables.
Topped with crispy shallots. \$22

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Chef's daily creation. Please ask your server. Priced Accordingly

COLORADO PRIME LAMB CHOPS*

Marinated and char grilled. Topped with port wine demi.
Accompanied with spinach and fennel scented fingerling potatoes. \$26

FREE RANGE CHICKEN AND WILD MUSHROOM MILANESE

Natural chicken breast filled with wild mushrooms. With veloute cream sauce.
Accompanied with garlic mashed potatoes and chef's fresh vegetable. \$17

PORK PICCATA

Breaded White Marble Farms pork tenderloin topped with a lemon caper cream sauce.
Accompanied with garlic mashed potatoes and sautéed spinach. \$17

WOODLAND TENDERLOIN

Beef Tenderloin Tips, sautéed with shallots and wild forest mushrooms, roasted red peppers,
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FISH & SEAFOOD

Add a bowl of soup or dinner salad \$3. Sub risotto on any dish for an additional \$2

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Served with long grain, wild rice and toasted orzo, and chef's fresh vegetable. \$19

NORWEGIAN SALMON

Lightly encrusted with dried exotic mushrooms, pan roasted and drizzled with truffle oil.
Accompanied with garlic mashed potatoes and chef's fresh vegetable. \$19

AHI TUNA* (Sashimi Grade)

Seared rare with an Asian spice rub. Served with ponzo reduction and cucumber wasabi sauce.
Accompanied with fried risotto cake and stir fry vegetable. \$22

FRESH SAUTEED JUMBO SEA SCALLOPS

With lemon Bœuf Blanc. Accompanied with creamy corn risotto and sweet English peas. \$19

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COLD WATER LOBSTER TAILS

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PASTA

Add a bowl of soup or dinner salad \$3

CHICKEN CAVATAPI

Walnut encrusted chicken breast served over cavatapi pasta with apple-cured bacon,
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PASTA FIAMMA

Linguini pasta tossed with pan seared scallops, shrimp, shiitake mushrooms, roasted peppers,
Hungarian peppers, in a white sherry wine sauce (spicy). \$21

PIEDMONTESE MEDALLIONS AND POTATO GNOCCHI

Tossed with exotic mushrooms, shallots and asparagus tips with a sherry wine sauce.
Topped with brie cheese. \$23

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Add a bowl of soup or dinner salad \$3

HOUSE MADE LASAGNA

Four layers of roasted vegetables, with roasted garlic béchamel and pomodoro sauce. \$15

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