

THURSDAY

July 2,
2009

The Observer & Eccentric
Newspapers

Volume 45
Number 11

75 CENTS

Happy Independence Day

WESTLAND OBSERVER

online at hometownlife.com

Have a blast

Fireworks you can
watch in your area
Filter, B7

AROUND TOWN

Summer fest

Enjoy the music and carnival and have an elephant ear or corn dog at the Westland Summer Festival taking place now through Sunday, July 5, in the civic center on Ford west of Wayne Road.

The festival opens at 4 p.m. today and noon Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The entertainment lineup includes country music by Tony Phillips today, hits of Motown with Impact Seven Friday, Marty Viers featuring Roger Walker and Miss Bunny Dance Studios of Canton Saturday and Second Wind on Sunday.

The annual fireworks display will be at 10:15 p.m. Sunday.

Holiday closing

The Fourth of July holiday will affect office hours at many of the city's municipal buildings.

City offices and the 18th District Court will be closed Friday, July 3. The William P. Faust Public Library will close at 5 p.m. July 3 and will be closed Saturday, July 4. The Bailey Recreation Center will be closed July 3-4, however, the outdoor pool will remain open.

Also closed will be the Westland Historical Museum on Wayne Road and the recycling center on Marquette. Trash pick-up for Friday won't be affected.

River ride

If you have an interest in learning more about local rivers, join the Friends of the Rouge aboard the Diamond Jack for an evening tour of the Detroit and Rouge rivers Tuesday, Aug. 4. The tour will be narrated by University of Michigan-Dearborn professor Dr. Orin Gelderloos and the Detroit River Keeper, Robert Burns.

The tour route will take the boat past Zug Island and as far into the Rouge River as the turning basin at the Ford Rouge Plant. The tour will open your eyes to the industrial history of southeast Michigan, as well as to the ecological significance of the waterways.

Boarding will be at Stroh's River Place near the intersection of Atwater and Joseph Campau streets, Detroit. Boarding will begin promptly at 5:45 p.m. and the tour will conclude by 9 p.m. The cost is \$20 for Friends of the Rouge members and \$25 for non-members. Parking at the dock is \$4. The tour is not a dinner cruise, but a cash bar with snacks will be open throughout the evening.

Space is limited, and pre-registration is required. The registration and payment deadline is July 17. Contact Emily Hughes at (313) 792-9626 or e-mail repmanager@therouge.org to save yourself a seat.

Fed money funds fire station upgrades

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Federal money will be funding more than \$82,000 in improvements to Westland Fire Station 5, located on Palmer east of Venoy.

The council has awarded bids for the work which includes \$47,676 to replace the station's self-contained breathing apparatus refill system, \$21,126 for a new roof and \$13,588 to replace the bay doors.

"The station desperately needing

upgrading. It was built in the mid-1950s," said Assistant Fire Chief Scott Neal. "It has a leaky roof and the doors are rusting off the hinges."

Community Development Block Grant money will be used for the fire station improvements. Under federal CDBG regulations, fire departments are eligible for funding if other criteria are met.

Based on the location of Station 5 in Norwayne, it serves an area of the city that meets low to moderate income funding eligibility

requirements, said Community Development Director Joanne Inglis. A second fire station on Annapolis between Middlebelt and Inkster Road also qualifies for CDBG funding.

"This will allow these projects to be done. We didn't have the money available. HUD (the Department of Housing and Urban Development) has to approve it," said Neal. "The contractors are lined up and ready to go."

None of the projects are lengthy

— they range from two to six days — said Neal, adding he hopes the work will be completed by the end of July or early August.

"We had four or five areas of major water collection (from the leaky roof). We had it tested and no drywall replacement was needed. The main thing was to get it dry," said Neal. "If there is money left over, we may put in some carpeting."

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Mother says thanks to her 'angels'

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER



Westland mail carriers Lori Boljesic (left) and Sharon Rulo stand with Rita Suida in front of her burned out residence. Boljesic and Rulo awakened Suida's son who was asleep while the house was on fire.

Talking about what might have happened if Westland mail carriers Sharon Rulo and Lori Boljesic hadn't awakened her son when their home caught fire, Rita Suida gets choked up.

"I can't thank Sharon enough. My son would be dead. Sharon saved my son's life — no doubt about it. She's an angel. Lori is an angel, too," said Suida, who had rented the house on Clayton Court for 16 years. "Lori didn't know my son was in the house, she knew my dog was in the house."

Rulo was delivering mail in neighborhood near Wildwood and Glenwood on the morning of June 9 when she spotted smoke coming from the ranch home. Suida had put a load of clothes into the dryer and had left about 30 minutes earlier, leaving 20-year-old son Brandon Champion asleep in his bedroom. The fire started in the dryer.

"He works at Wal-Mart. He lived in Ohio for 1 1/2 years. He worked at Visteon until he was laid off and came back here. This has been really hard for both of us," said Suida, who is

Please see FIRE, A2

Couple reunited with their carjacked dog

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Buster, the Shitzu, carjacked at the Westland Meijer store, is back home with his owners.

A Detroit woman turned Buster over to a Detroit pawn shop where he was reunited with his owners, Wayne residents Sostenes and Lisa Marie Hermosillo, 69 and 67, three days after their car was stolen with the dog inside. The incident began just before 11 p.m. June 24 when the couple was

at Meijer, 37201 Warren. Sostenes Hermosillo told police he was parked in a handicapped parking spot near the east doors waiting while his wife shopped.

When his wife was done shopping, Hermosillo said he noticed she having trouble leaving the store with all of the groceries. He said he left the vehicle, engine running, to assist his wife. When they came outside, Hermosillo said the vehicle, a 2009 Ford Fusion, was gone.

Along with Buster, the couple

reported other items in the vehicle included the wife's wheelchair, a walker and purse with credit cards, a checkbook and \$1,000 cash missing. Both sets of keys to the vehicle were also inside.

On June 27, a Detroit pawn shop owner called Westland police to report the dog had been turned over to him. The pawn shop owner said he was told by a Detroit woman that she received the dog from a second woman, who was reported to have the couple's vehicle, the woman's purse

and credit cards.

Officers talked to the Detroit woman, who confirmed what the pawn shop owner had reported. The Detroit woman said the second woman had offered to take her shopping with the couple's credit cards but she had declined, suspecting the cards were stolen.

The couple closed their credit card and checking account, but their vehicle hadn't been recovered.

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Lab fine-tunes job seekers' skills

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When he stopped by Westland's William P. Faust Library Tuesday, Jeffrey Stevens was planning to use one of the public computers in his ongoing job search.

"Then I happened to see the sign. I thought maybe they could help me format my resume," said Stevens, who was getting some assistance fine-tuning his resume at the library's new Job Seekers Lab. Started about a month ago, the program is an effort to help the many unemployed in an era when even applying for job openings can be a challenge for many.

"We find a lot of people who really need to use a computer but don't know how. You need

to use a computer to file for unemployment — you can do it by phone but it's really hard," said Library Director Cheryl Napsha. "We've seen an increase in the number of people using the library computers and the number of questions. In 20 years as a librarian, I've never seen this kind of need. It's overwhelming."

Open three times weekly — 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays, 5-8 p.m. Wednesdays and 1-4 p.m. Fridays, the Job Seekers Lab provides patrons a chance to work with a dedicated library staff member. There is room for up to eight people at a time but so far the program averages four people per session.

"Sometimes there are two people, sometimes four people. They usually work 45 minutes formatting a resume, setting

up an e-mail account or attaching their resume," said Marilyn Kwik, head of library adult services. "If you are looking for a job there are other resources out there. We let people know what is current."

For job seekers without computer skills, Kwik said it may be suggested that they take introductory computer classes offered by the library.

Most firms expect job applicants to apply online, something that poses a problem for people lacking computer skills.

"There are people who have never used a computer and they are applying for jobs that demand online applications," said Napsha. "There are no baby steps. It's like being pushed into the deep end of the

Please see LAB, A2

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Author shares story of 'Annie's Ghosts' during library visit

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

For Janet Sowards, the fact that author Steve Luxenberg will be in Westland Monday evening is a "great thing."

Luxenberg, an associate editor at *The Washington Post*, will be stopping by the William P. Faust Public Library Monday, July 6, to talk about his book, *Annie's Ghosts*. Part memoir, part detective story, part history, the book is the story of an aunt he never knew, who spent most of her life at Eloise.

"We're happy to have him speak," said Sowards, a reference librarian. "We bring in authors from Michigan, but he is an author who is from Michigan."

Luxenberg will spend about 15-20 minutes talking about his book, then field questions from the audience. There also will be a book signing and copies of his book will be available for purchase after the program.

The story is of two sisters, born two years apart to immigrant parents.

One was Luxenberg's mother, Beth; the other her sister, Annie, whom he didn't know existed until 1995. *Annie's Ghost* "is their story, as best as I could unearth it," according to Luxenberg's Web site, www.steveluxenbrg.com.

According to Luxenberg, his mother maintained she had always said she was an only child. The only mention of sister came out in 1995, when she told a woman about a sister who was sent to an institution at age 2. As Luxenberg unraveled the story, he discovered that his aunt had been 21 years old when his grandmother petitioned for her to be committed. In court papers, she claimed she couldn't deal with Annie's "paranoia and nightly screaming."

What connects Luxenberg to Westland is Eloise Hospital, where Annie was sent in April 1940 for temporary detention after being deemed insane. Her confinement spanned 31 years and included a 14-month stay at a temporary facility in Sault Ste. Marie. She was returned to the Detroit area and spent her remaining

years at Northville State Hospital, where she died in 1972.

Westland historian Jo Johnson helped Luxenberg in his search for information about his aunt's stay at Eloise. The head of the Friends of Eloise and a member of the Westland Historical Society, Johnson showed Luxenberg the Westland Historical Museum and the Eloise Museum.

"We have some record books, but they're from later years after Annie had been there," Johnson said. "The only thing we found was a letter about her transfer to Sault Ste. Marie."

According to Johnson, a carpenter at the Kay Beard Building on the Eloise property found a box of letters. In it was one by then-Eloise Supt. Dr. T.K. Gruber about her move.

"At that time, Eloise was so crowded that they moved some patients to the Sault," Johnson said. "Annie had a wooden leg, and Dr. Gruber said she was able to get around and take care of herself."

"It's a very interesting story," she added.

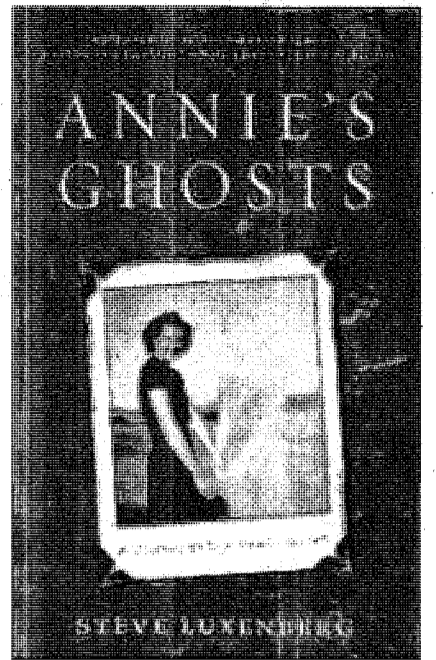
Luxenberg sent Johnson a copy of

his book and told her he would be in Birmingham for a book signing. She asked if he might stop by the Westland library and he agreed.

While a visit by *Michigan Chillers* author Jonathan Rand has been the "biggest visit" to the library, Sowards expects a large turnout for Luxenberg. About 1 1/2 years ago, Johnson and Betty Zimmerman, who lived at Eloise as the daughter of an employee, did a program about the hospital that attracted a full house. With seating for about 100, Sowards is encouraging people interested in attending to call the library at (734) 326-6123.

"Eloise is an important landmark in our community," Sowards said. "There are still many people around who used to work at Eloise, or who had family or friends housed there. People call the Westland Historical Museum on a regular basis in search of death records or any other information available. It is obvious that there are still many unanswered questions associated with Eloise."

"We anticipate we'll have a big crowd when the word gets out," she added.



Steve Luxenberg's book recounts the story of his aunt, Annie Cohen, who spent 31 years in institutions and who he never knew existed until a few years before his mother's death.

Jake Lemond and Justin Walker of the band Street Light Sonata were among the performers at Weststock, a mini music festival held at the Westland Performing Arts Pavilion.



Organizers hope to reschedule Weststock

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The bands were playing and the audience growing until a severe thunderstorm put a damper on the Weststock festival.

"It was ironic — the band was playing *Here Comes the Sun* when it got crazy and everything got wet," said event organizer Lou Toarmina, owner of Toarmina's Pizza. "We thought for a while it (the storm) would pass by, then it opened up. The rain was coming sideways into the tent. We couldn't save it with all the electrical equipment."

By the time the bad weather hit at about 4 p.m., seven bands had performed. That's less than half the bands scheduled for Weststock, which was slated to continue until 9 p.m. Toarmina estimated the crowd at 80-90 people who were at the Westland Performing Arts Pavilion when the rains hit.

"It wasn't even 4 p.m. By 7 or 8 p.m. we would have done better. The more popular bands would have been on later," said Toarmina. "It was a good test. The bands liked to perform and people liked to listen."

Toarmina is hoping to have Weststock rescheduled late in July.

"If it goes well, we'll do it again next year," he said.

Cheryl Napsha, director of the adjoining Westland William P. Faust Library, came up with the idea for the event.

"I had the idea for Weststock — it's the 40th anniversary of Woodstock. Lou took the ball and ran with it," said Napsha.

The performing arts pavilion also hosts a concert series sponsored by the Westland Cultural Society. Napsha added she also has seen several couples getting married at the pavilion.

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LAB

swimming pool without learning to swim.
Laid off after 13 years

as a machine operator in September 2006, Stevens said he has exhausted his unemployment benefits. He has a four-year degree from Eastern Michigan University and since losing his job, has completed

a 52-week training course as a biomedical equipment technician at Schoolcraft College.

"I'm applying but I'm not getting much response. I did a couple of interviews and I'm still waiting to hear," said Stevens, who completed two biomedical equipment technician internships at area hospitals. "I think tweaking the resume, made it more bold

and added bullets."

Stevens has four resumes — he's had other experience working in retail and in construction. He's worked for a temporary agency but said his family of four is having to dip into savings to survive.

"I'm looking at Wal-Mart — anything. Just give me a call. I'm right here. I'm 53 — I hope that isn't it. I've made it

through interviews and testing, then nothing," he said. "It makes you wonder. Every day my kids ask me if I got a job today."

Attending a biweekly support group at St. Thomas a Becket Church in Canton, Stevens hears a lot of similar stories.

"There were eight people a couple of years ago, now there

are 30. They are all my age plus or minus," said Stevens. "There are a lot of engineers, accountants and attorneys, salespeople — all walks of life. All of them are smart and capable, wanting to work."

No advance registration is needed for the Job Seekers Lab.

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FREEDOM IS NOT FREE

A Community Patriotic Review

Produced by Merriman Road Baptist Church

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FIRE
FROM PAGE A1

on disability.

When Rulo spotted smoke coming from Suida's house, she said she dialed 9-1-1, then called Boljesic to find out if she knew whether anyone was

likely to be home during the day. Boljesic, who was delivering mail on a nearby route, was the regular mail carrier and knew only that there were dogs inside the home and came to the house.

Rulo and Boljesic began trying to open windows, banging on them.

"We were hollering for the dogs. Then a guy gets up. He got the dog. I lifted the dog out of the window," said Rulo. "He was stunned and acted weird. I'm not sure if it was from the smoke. Nothing like this ever happened to me before."

Firefighters reported that Champion had soot and ash in his nasal passages — an indication he could have been overcome by smoke if the mail carriers hadn't awakened him.

A second dog hid when the women called him, Rulo said,

although they could hear him. That dog died of smoke inhalation.

"The mail carriers did a very good job," said Westland Deputy Fire Chief Bruce Tenniswood, adding the department planned to honor the pair at a later date.

Gary Boljesic is proud of his sister and Rulo.

"Lori and Sharon are very happy they were able to help but being very modest, they dismiss the fact that they are heroes," said Gary Boljesic in an e-mail to the *Westland Observer*. "They insist that anybody would have done the same thing. I like their optimism but know that is not always true."

The mail carriers have been holding 50/50 raffles and collecting donations to assist Suida and Champion, who had no renters insurance and lost most of their possessions in the destroyed home.

"They aren't able to stay at the house. What wasn't burned had smoke and water damage,"

said Rulo. "They are having trouble getting a place to stay. Rita and her son aren't staying at the same place."

Suida is in the Section 8 federally assisted housing program which will find her a house to rent. The program doesn't cover the initial rental deposit.

"We lost everything. I slept a couple of nights in my car," Suida said. "We have no money. Everyone has been wonderful. My son is stressed and having flashbacks about the fire. It's devastating. I would do anything to find a house to live in. I appreciate anything that anyone can do for us. We didn't have a lot to begin with."

Although she is upset at the loss of her dog and belongings, Suida said she is hoping the fire is a blessing in disguise.

"I want to get out of Norway. I need a whole new start," she said.

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CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On Thursday, July 9, 2009, various items of the City of Westland, Special Investigations Unit will be sold at public auction. The auction will be held at Insurance Auto Auction 8251 Rawsonville Road, County of Wayne, at 10:30 a.m. The following items will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

Stock	Year	Make	Model	VIN
5455663	1999	Chevrolet	Blazer	1GNDT13W7X2177083

Vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. The referenced vehicles, as well as many others, may be previewed by prospective buyers on Wednesday, July 8, 2009, from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Terms and Conditions will be applicable to any item sold. Registration fees apply.

Publish: July 2, 2009

GARDEN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT
6000 MIDDLEBELT
GARDEN CITY, MI 48135

THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES HAVE BEEN DEEMED ABANDONED AND WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION ON Tuesday July 7, 2009 AT 9:00 A.M. THE AUCTION IS TO BE HELD AT WESTLAND CAR CARE TOWING, 6375 HIX RD., WESTLAND, MI 48185.

PLEASE NOTE: THE BIDDING WILL START AT THE TOWING AND STORAGE CHARGES.

YEAR & MAKE	STYLE	VIN #
1993 BUICK	4D	1G4HP53L1PH482342
1997 CADILLAC	4D	1G6KD54Y5VU287784
1995 CHEVROLET	4D	1G1LD5540SY143358
1987 FORD	PU	2FTHF25H2HCA98755
2000 FORD	SW	2FMZA5140YBB48299
1979 OLDSMOBILE	2D	3R47A9G441892

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CITY OF GARDEN CITY, MICHIGAN NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION PROGRAM ("NSP2") Public Notice

Program Description
The City of Garden City, Michigan will apply for funds under the American Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-298, "HERA") for the purpose of assisting in the redevelopment of abandoned and foreclosed homes under NSP2.

NSP2 is a competitive funding opportunity. All areas of the City are eligible for program funding under the NSP2 eligibility criteria (Census Tracts 5691 - 5699). Proposed activities include acquisition and rehabilitation of abandoned and foreclosed homes, acquisition and demolition of abandoned and foreclosed homes, and program administration.

Public Comments
Please submit written comments to the City of Garden City Community Development Department at 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan, 48135 until July 17, 2009.

Allyson Bettis, City Clerk

Publish: July 2, 2009

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Masked gunman takes woman's purse, cell phone

Armed robbery

1 A resident at the Landings Apartments, 7021 Lakeview, told police she returned home from work shortly after 1 a.m. June 29 and was robbed at gunpoint. The woman said she was sitting in her vehicle with the engine off, listening to the radio and talking on her cell phone.

A man approached the vehicle and pointed a handgun at her through the window, the woman said. Fearful, she said she complied with the gunman's instructions to open the driver's door, hand over her purse and place her vehicle keys on the ground. The man told her to look away, the woman said, then noticed she had a cell phone in her hand. The suspect took her cell phone, she said, and then fled on foot.

The gunman was described as having a white shirt or cloth covering his face. The woman told police she had initially panicked and drove away from the parking lot after the robber fled looking for the police station. She said she had only lived in Westland three months and was uncertain where the police station was located.

A police dog tracked the suspect to another building in the complex where a container of

deodorant, an item the woman said had been in her purse, and a white T-shirt with torn/missing sleeves were found. The purse and cell phone were valued at just over \$400.

Stolen trailer

2 A 14-foot covered trailer and assorted equipment were reported stolen from McCrea Corporation, 39005 Webb Drive, June 30. An employee told police that someone had cut the lock on the fence that secured the area and a second lock on the trailer. The 1999 trailer was valued at \$2,500 while the assorted equipment inside was valued at \$3,000.

Larceny from a vehicle

3 On June 29, a Garden City man told police that he walked to his vehicle parked at Greenwood Villa, 7600 Nankin Court, and saw a man in the rear seat. When confronted, the suspect fled with the vehicle's CD player through the nearby woods and got into a vehicle driven by a second man, the Garden City man said.

A window on the vehicle was found smashed. Based on some blood found on the glass, police said the suspect appeared to have received a minor cut. The

stereo was valued at \$200.

Larceny

4 A resident of an apartment in the 37000 block of Dale told police June 30 that she was walking to her vehicle when she saw two males loading two tires into a vehicle. All four tires had been removed from a vehicle in the parking lot. The suspects fled and the woman said she tried to follow them in her vehicle while calling 9-1-1. She soon lost sight of the suspects.

The four tires and rims were valued at \$500.

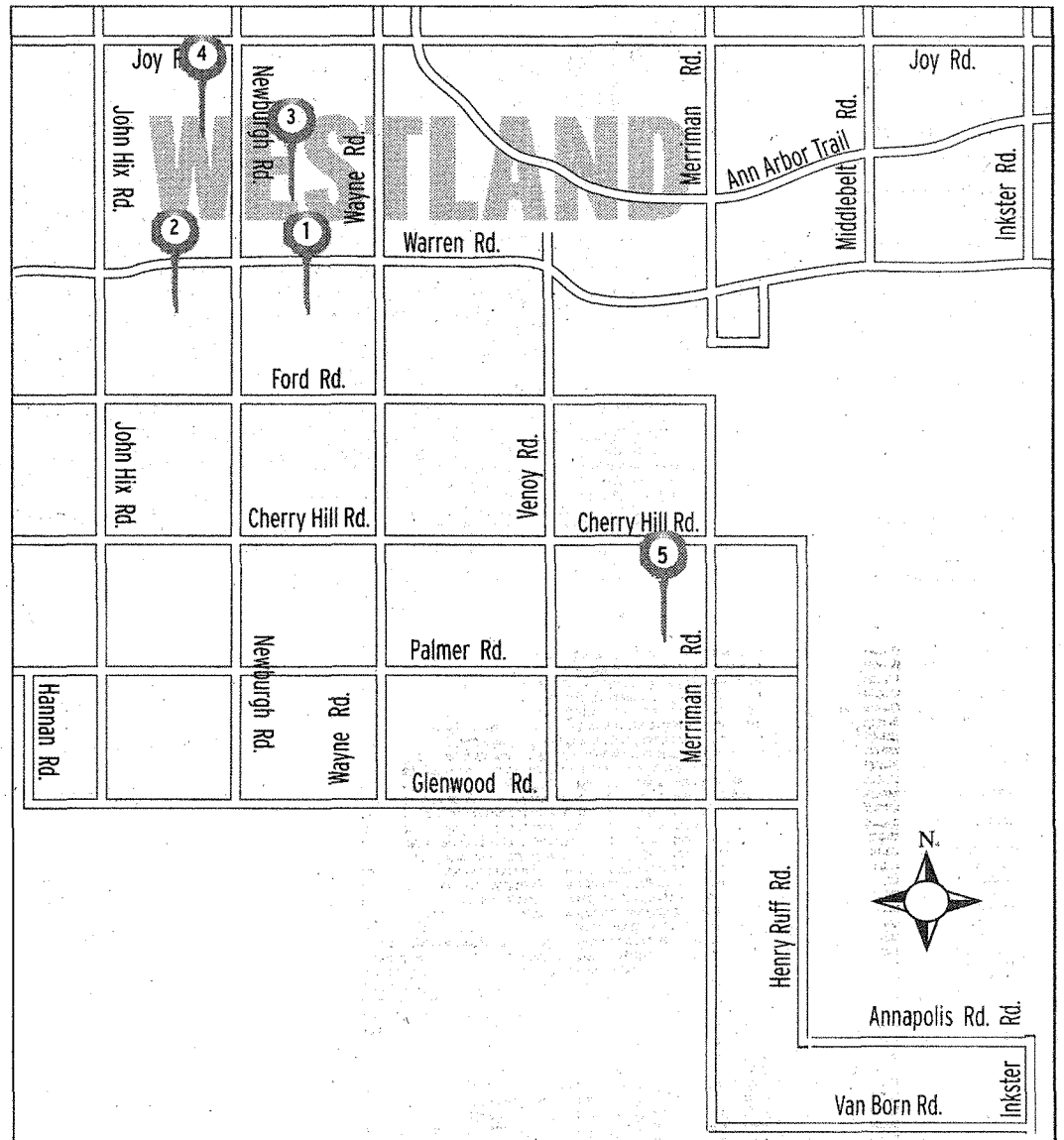
Break-in

5 On June 29, a resident in the 32000 block of Genesee Court told police that someone had stolen medication and personal papers. Police said access was apparently gained through an unlocked window. The woman said she is in the process of moving and had been staying in Detroit. She suspected an acquaintance was responsible for the theft.

Vandalism

A window was reported broken at Johnson School, 8400 N. Hix, June 23. The damage was set at \$50.

- By LeAnne Rogers



Information night showcases WCCCD-Madonna degree plan

Students can learn more about earning a bachelor's degree in child development through Madonna University at a Wayne County Community College District (WCCCD) University Square information night planned for Tuesday, July 7.

Students can learn about the bachelor's degree completion program in child development, which will be offered at the University Square this fall. Students will have an opportunity to meet Madonna faculty, receive academic advising, find out about credit for prior learning, apply for

admission (fee waived), learn about financial aid and register for fall classes.

The University Square provides southeastern Michigan residents and employers educational opportunities close to home and work. Madonna University accepts up to 90 credits from WCCCD and

other colleges or universities.

The child development degree completion program at WCCCD offers a seamless transition to Madonna University courses, and satisfies all degree requirements. Graduates of the program will be prepared to meet the forthcoming

new standards requiring a bachelor's degree for teachers in Head Start and preschool programs. Courses focus on language development, parental involvement, authentic assessment and issues challenging the growth and development of children.

The information night program will be 5-7 p.m. at WCCCD's University Square, 19305 Vernier, across from Eastland Center, in Harper Woods. For more information, contact Donna Drolet at (734) 432-5644 or Bess Kypros at bkypros@madonna.edu.

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Class act: Blaha hosts Dining With Stars finalists

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

"George Blaha — what a gentleman. He represents whatever a star should be," said Marcy Brontman of Buddy's and organizer of Dining With the Stars sponsored by Buddy's Pizza and the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*.

"He couldn't pick just one winner — he invited all six finalists to lunch," said Brontman.

Two finalists — Jonathan Marlin of Livonia and Carol Owczarzak of Westland — attended the June 26 lunch celebration. Four other finalists were out of town and Blaha has offered to host another luncheon in September.

The two finalists who attended divided up contest spoils — Owczarzak got the limo ride to lunch from All Class Transportation and a mini makeover from Christine from The Beauty Salon in Birmingham while Marlin received the \$100 gift certificate from Reaver Diamond Co. in Southfield.



Broadcaster George Blaha greets winners Carol Owczarzak of Westland and Jonathan Marlin (right) of Livonia. Also pictured are dancers Vadim Boldirev (left) and Karla Pinet of the Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Bloomfield Hills.

"George Blaha shared the other finalists' stories with Jonathan and Carol," said Brontman. "They all walked our mini red carpet, ate pizza, soup and salad and just talked

with the star. Afterwards, dancers Carla and Vadim from the Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Bloomfield Hills wowed the crowd at Buddy's." "It is the best part for the

fans to have that moment when they can ask as many questions as they want," added Brontman. Buddy's donated a check for \$500 to the Detroit branch



Carol Owczarzak of Westland arrived for lunch in a limo courtesy of All Class Transportation.

of the Michigan Anti-Cruelty Society.

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.

He 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.

Think long term when it comes to personal finance

I was out of town recently on business and while I was killing time at the airport bookstore perusing the magazines — personal finance, of course.



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

Every magazine had to deal with how to prosper in the new economy or what funds to buy now to take advantage of the new economy. My question is what exactly are they referring to? No doubt we are going through a major change when it comes to personal finance.

Particularly for those who worked in the auto industry and at one time thought that they were guaranteed jobs for life, a great pension and benefits upon retirement.

It doesn't take a genius to know that things are changing. However, we are still in the midst of a shift and no one truly knows what the so-called new economy will be.

I have read articles by so-called experts as to what the new economy will look like when we are on the other side of this recession. If you read 50 articles there are 50 different opinions about who the winners and losers will be.

Predicting the so-called new economy has become the new

national pastime. It sort of reminds me of what goes on during March Madness when everyone predicts who's going to be playing in the Final Four and who will be the national champions. March Madness, particularly this year with Michigan State's incredible run, is fun. However, it's only a game. Personal finance is not a game and the consequences of making a bad decision are a lot greater than picking the wrong team in the NCCA College Basketball Tournament.

Personal finances are not something to speculate about or treat in a carefree manner. Too many magazines are doing a huge disservice by treating the so-called new economy as a game.

I recognize that the covers are meant to do one thing — sell magazines. That's fine when we talk about sports.

Buying a magazine for a couple of bucks isn't going to affect anyone's personal financial affairs. The problem is acting upon their speculation, and that is exactly what it is, speculation. We are in the longest and deepest recession in most of our lifetimes. Although it appears that the worst is behind us, there is no guarantee. According to many experts, a recession ends when unemployment begins to decline. There are many people who believe we will see higher unemployment in the near future. I would not be surprised if the national unemployment

rates rose to 10 percent.

Predicting short-term movement in the economy is not only dangerous but unpredictable.

I always remind myself that there is not just one economy, but in reality there are many different economies all interacting together. For example, when national publications talk about the new economy, they make the assumption that things are pretty standard throughout the country. We know that's not the case.

The economy in southeast Michigan is not the same as in southern California or the Southern United States. Parts of the country will recover at a faster pace than other parts of the country. To prosper and

take advantage of the so-called new economy is going to be different in different parts of the country.

It would be great if we could predict what the new economy will look like. I can't and neither can anyone else.

However, I do know that no matter what the new economy is, the key to financial success will always be to live within your means, save for the future and look long term.

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.

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<p>Maria's & Vintage Homemade Deli Salads</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;"> <p>Homemade Potato Salad \$2.99 lb.</p> </td> <td style="width: 25%;"> <p>In-House Made Cole Slaw \$1.99 lb.</p> </td> <td style="width: 25%;"> <p>Our Own Tuna Noodle Pasta Salad \$3.99 lb.</p> </td> <td style="width: 25%;"> <p>Veggie Garden Salad \$2.49 lb.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Homemade Potato Salad \$2.99 lb.</p>	<p>In-House Made Cole Slaw \$1.99 lb.</p>	<p>Our Own Tuna Noodle Pasta Salad \$3.99 lb.</p>	<p>Veggie Garden Salad \$2.49 lb.</p>	<p>Maria's & Vintage Produce</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;"> <p>Lettuce 99¢ ea.</p> </td> <td style="width: 25%;"> <p>Hydro-Ponic Tomatoes \$1.49 lb.</p> </td> <td style="width: 25%;"> <p>In Season Strawberries & Peaches 2/\$3</p> </td> <td style="width: 25%;"> <p>Southern Nectarines 99¢ lb.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Lettuce 99¢ ea.</p>	<p>Hydro-Ponic Tomatoes \$1.49 lb.</p>	<p>In Season Strawberries & Peaches 2/\$3</p>	<p>Southern Nectarines 99¢ lb.</p>
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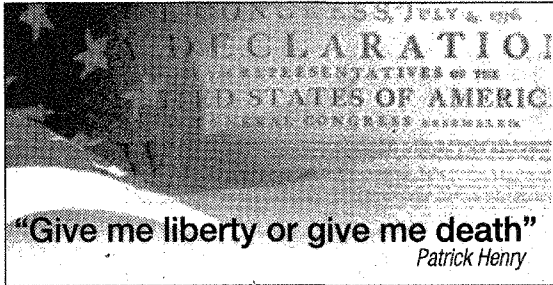
LOCAL OPINION

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

OUR VIEWS



Be rightly proud of our democracy

It took a lot of derring-do to author the Declaration of Independence, but its signers knew exactly what they were doing.

In the final graphs of the document, signed July 4, 1776, by members of the Second Continental Congress, they proclaim the British as "Enemies in War, in Peace Friends."

Clearly they had worked to resolve their differences with the British. The list of disputes in the document is extensive.

But given the alternative, the document declares, the signers have the gumption to go to war. That's pretty tough talk, but it is also thoughtful and well-reasoned.

All people have rights, unalienable rights, Thomas Jefferson reasons in the document he authored. That means those rights come from a higher order and can't be abolished by any person, like a king of England - or president of Zimbabwe. Nor can any group of men - whether the British Parliament or Al Qaeda - disband those rights.

"Look, we tried," says the document in so many words. "But you folks are taking away our rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Our safety is threatened, so it seems better to just go our own way."

That we did and the rest is history, but it is a living history that is being renewed daily, whether by citizen groups such as the League of Women Voters or by men and women serving in Afghanistan and Iraq.

It's been 233 years since 56 men from 13 states put pen to paper. But we still carry that independent streak declared July 2, 1776, as the British fleet entered the New York harbor. It was declared again on paper two days later.

Independence is inbred in us, part of our genetic makeup.

That's why we bolt upright at attempts to abridge our civil liberties, and growl over things like foreclosures and the price of gas that threaten our happiness.

But our independence must be nurtured aggressively, if it is to continue. That doesn't mean agreeing with everything that comes out of Washington; it does mean passing along the memories and the message of the Declaration of Independence.

What better way to do so than by taking time on the Fourth of July to celebrate what we have achieved and to renew our will to protect it.

From parades to flying the U.S. flag, there are ample ways to renew our patriotic spirit. Parents will want to go to www.usa.gov for everything from recipes from First Ladies to activities for children and teachers.

We have another right - the right to be proud of who we are as a country. It's the best democracy around, and our history proves it.



COMMUNITY VOICE

How do you plan to celebrate the Fourth of July?

We asked this question at the William P. Faust Public Library in Westland.



"I haven't made any plans, I'll probably go over to my mother's."

Marie Pinter
Westland



"We're going to Lake Columbine in Brooklyn on the Fourth of July."

Madilyn and Gerri Ray
Garden City



"I'm spending it with family and friends at a barbecue. There will be 20 kids and 20-30 adults."

Stacie Berna
Garden City

LETTERS

Rewarding time on council

Thank you so very much for the kind recognition bestowed upon me in the recent *Westland Observer* editorial about Wayne-Westland trustees and Westland City Council members not seeking re-election this year. I am honored to have been mentioned favorably along with these other devoted public servants.

The article caught me quite by surprise and the words moved me to tears. It is strange to read someone else's description of events in one's life. My time on the Westland City Council is but a small part of my life, but will be remembered as a very rewarding and enriching time.

I was "just a mom" who got pretty vocal, along with others, to protect our kids. I learned about my rights as a citizen and about public input and about standing up for what you believe in. I remember being told in 1991, by a community activist from Rose Township, Michigan, that lived with a contaminated site in her neighborhood, that my kids "would be in college" before the Cooper School site ever got cleaned up. I seriously thought there was no way that would occur. My girls were 4, 7 and 11 at the time. I could not even begin to think of how far away college was nor could I imagine a cleanup would take that long. But, hey, she was right, they are now 23, 26 and 29 and though the elementary school is thankfully demolished, the site is yet to be "cleaned up." At best, we will get a cover and redevelopment of some sort.

I applied some of the confidence gained during the Cooper School ordeal and headed to college in my 30s. Along with a lesser group of protesters, I moved on to challenge the incinerator that Westland utilized, which happened to be located next door to another elementary school in neighboring Dearborn Heights. A school in such close proximity would never be allowed today, but backers of the Waste-to-Energy conversion found a loop-hole allowing the facility location to be grandfathered.

For many years, the banging of the incinerator drum resulted in minimal action, but I banged it just the same, to the point of being labeled "The Incinerator Lady" by more than a few Westland residents. To the point of hearing groans when I would approach the podium at the council meetings. To the point of elected officials backing away from me when I attempted to counter their claims of limited funding with arguments of the money we could save, if the incinerator was shut down. To the point of finally, 10 years later, celebrating the demise of the contract and the demolition of the stack on a cold winter morning. Now, that was one big, beautiful, bang!

Today, we share in the excitement of a new recycling program in the City of Westland made possible in part, by money saved from the former incinerator tab. Thank you to everyone that helped bring about that reality.

Cheryl Graunstadt
Westland City Council
president pro tem

Violent criminals

All week long our local news stations have been reporting that MDOC plans to release thousands of "violent" offenders due to budget issues. My fellow citizens ... This is a bunch of crap! The folks in Lansing are trying to scare us into a tax hike for a system that no longer works. If Granholm and her Parole Board would put us at such a risk, they should resign immediately. I don't know where all the false informa-



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tion is coming from. The offenders being paroled are not "violent." They are petty drug dealers, drunk drivers and white collar criminals who have served their time and were not disruptive during incarceration.

These people deserve a second chance. They will be supervised, not just left off on some street corner like we are being told. How do I know this? Well, I was paroled a few years ago (OK, let's all laugh at my old photo. I look nothing like that anymore, ha, ha). Today, I am a well-respected and productive member of my neighborhood.

Bottom line is this, some special interest group wants to scare us into submitting to higher taxes to keep people locked up. I hate to say this, but a lot of guys I was locked up with are of a threat to themselves than society.

We needed alternatives rather than warehousing people at the taxpayer's expense. I suggest work crews or military service of some kind. Our current system is collapsing.

Mike Baranowski
Westland

Protection from tyranny

There is no doubt times are changing. Many honest, hardworking citizens wonder "what has become of the individual freedom to choose our own path through life, in search of the happiness guaranteed under our Constitution?" To this question, one must answer, when was the last time you actually read the Constitution?

The U.S. Constitution was written and adopted under the principle of "positive grant." What this means is quite simple, the federal government is authorized to exercise only those powers which are "positively granted" to it by the Constitution. If a power is specifically listed in the Constitution, the federal government can do it. If not specifically listed, the federal government has no power. This principle was so important to the founding fathers that they codified it in law as the 10th Amendment.

The language of the 10th is clear and concise: "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited to it by the States, are reserved to

the States respectively, or to the people." Thus, the federal government's powers are limited to a specific set of activities - the rest is to be handled by the state government, or locally, by the people themselves.

Each of the sovereign states has, through its own legislature, adopted a State Constitution and set of regulations, based upon issues important to its own citizens. It has always been the right of the people to decide under which set of rules they wish to be governed, simply by choosing which state in which to live. Those searching for certain employment may migrate to states with "right to work" laws. Entrepreneurs look for states with the lowest business tax burden. Parents seek states providing the best educational opportunities for their children. Gun owners choose states with strong Second Amendment protections. The sovereignty of each state to govern itself has, in turn, provided this diversity of choice.

The federal government's attempt to impose legislative mandates meant to override State Constitutions and statutes is clearly unconstitutional, and has been ruled such by the U.S. Supreme Court in *New York vs. United States*, 112 S. Ct. 2408 (1992). "... Congress may not simply commandeer the legislative and regulatory processes of the states."

When the federal government oversteps the powers "positively granted" to it by the sovereign States and We the People, the possibility for tyranny grows. It becomes incumbent upon the states, and the people, to rein in their servant government.

The State of Michigan, through its legislators in Lansing, is attempting to do just that. Rep. Paul Opsommer has introduced legislation in the Michigan House (HCR 004) which will serve to remind our federal government of the meaning of the 10th Amendment. Similar legislation (SCR 004) has been introduced in the Michigan Senate by Sen. Bruce Patterson. Both Concurrent Resolutions have been referred to Committee, where they will be agreed to and sent to the floor for debate and adoption by the whole body, or simply die of inaction.

Now is the time for the people of the sovereign state of Michigan to raise their voices and be heard all the way to Washington. Please call, write or visit your state representative and senator, urging them to co-sponsor and support these Concurrent Resolutions. The last protection from tyranny rests with the People. The time to act is NOW.

C.J. Schuman
Belleville

WESTLAND OBSERVER



Sue Mason
Community Editor

Susan Rosiek
Executive Editor

Grace Perry
Director of Advertising

Local artists get expressive over footwear

Pink Pump will celebrate the dual grand openings of its new Birmingham and Royal Oak locations with an art opening entitled, "Sweet Feet" featuring a bevy of both well-known, and up and coming female artists depicting their own takes on fashionable footwear.

All mediums will be represented from 6-9 p.m., Thursday, July 23, at the new Birmingham location, 150 W. Maple, with an opening for the artists all work will be for sale.

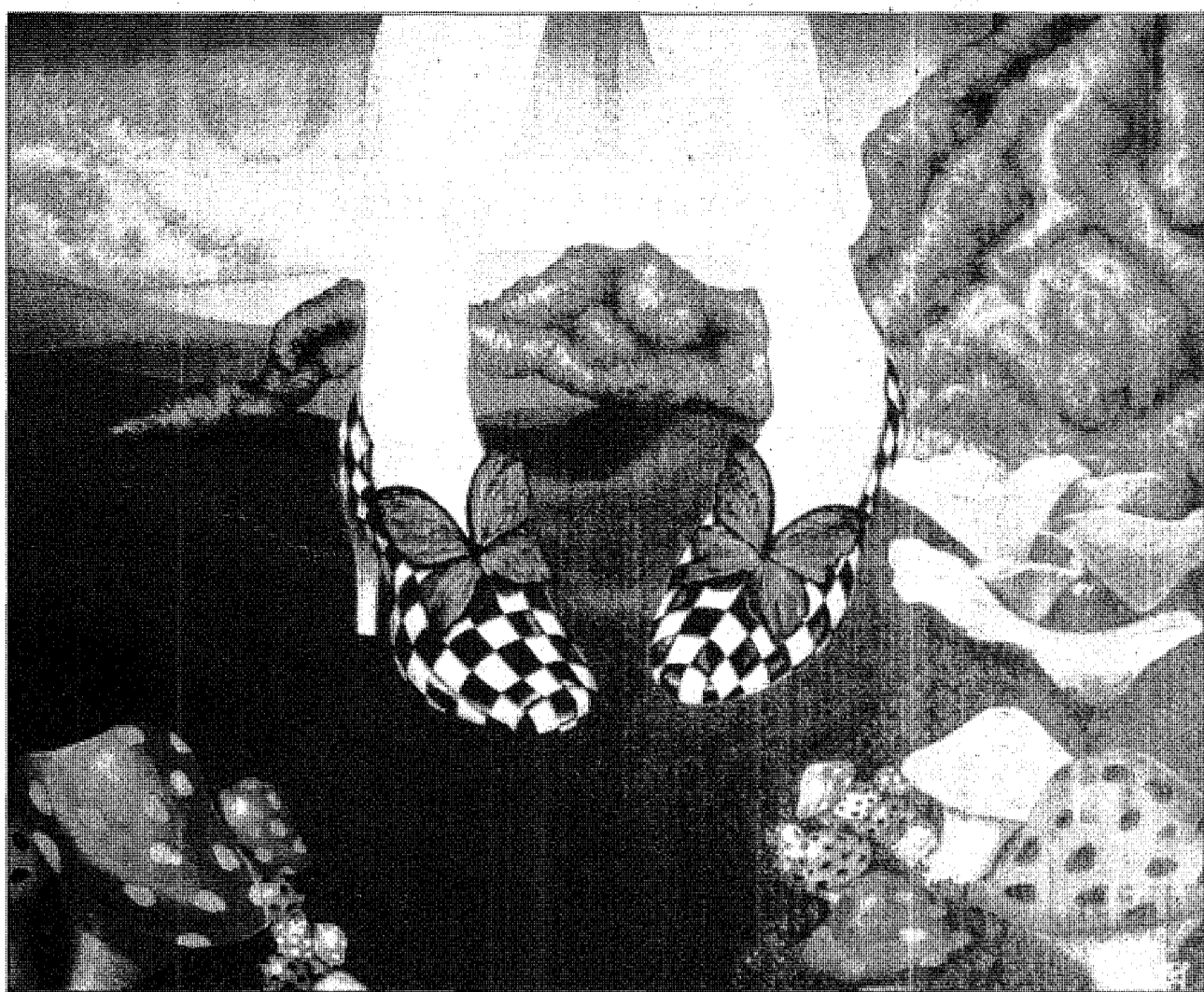
Complimentary pink champagne and light foods will be available for attendees.

Pink Pump (formerly Shoe Envy) has expanded its shoe and accessory boutique in Bloomfield Hills to two new locations in Birmingham — open now — and Royal Oak — open August 2009 — and is now franchising the Pink Pump brand. Pink Pump is owned Tawny Thieu, 28.

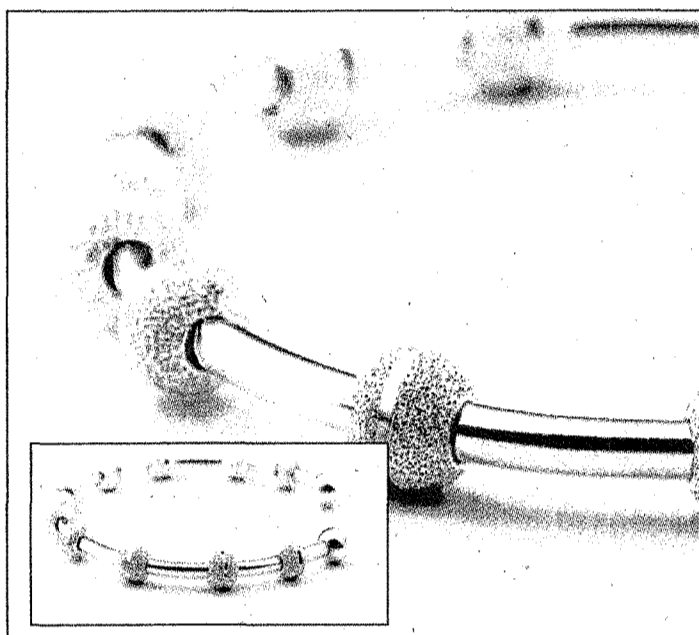
Cristin Richard, Laura Barnhard, Tracee Mae Miller, Gwen Joy, Jacx, Molly Jacques, Audrey Pongracz, Allison Vince, Lisa Goedert, Sunny Maniaci, Michell Danel, Joell Krista, and Nicole Jarecz will show their works. DJ Jenny LaFemme will be on hand and then will host the official after party at The Corner Bar in The Townsend Hotel at 10 p.m..

The exhibit will remain up for two weeks.

In addition to its Birmingham location, the Pink Pump is at 6606 Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills. Its Royal Oak store will be at 309 Main. www.shoppinkpump.com; (248) 539-9260



Art by Laura Barnhard will be on display in the "Sweet Feet" exhibit at Pink Pump.



Keep track of your health goals in style

A former Michigan native, now living in Memphis, Tenn., has created a jewelry line that helps women keep track of anything from health goals to diet points to spending.

Oakland University graduate Chelsea Gossett's County Me Healthy bracelet is like a journal for the wrist. She created the piece to help women manage their health in style.

By assigning a value to each bead, based on a goal of the wearer's choice, women can manage their daily progress by sliding beads from one side of the bracelet to the other. The patented Jump Ring at the top of the bracelet prevents the beads from traveling back over to the other side unless pushed or pulled by the wearer.

At the end of the day the bracelet comes off and the wearer jots down her progress. Health Count Cards are available to keep track of goals. The bracelet becomes a constant reminder of one's well-being.

The Count Me Healthy bracelet has been seen on *The Today Show* and in *Shape* magazine.

It's available at Todd's Room in Birmingham and the Live Well gift Shoppe at Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital. It costs \$88 online at www.countmehealthyjewelry.com.

MALLS & MAINSTREETS

Donation deadline

Summit Sports in Farmington Hills is collecting gently used inline skates through July 31 for a youth summer camp program.

Underprivileged children who attend YMCA Camp Boomerang in Flint, will wear the refurbished skates.

Donated skates must be in useable condition. Both adult and child-size skates are being accepted.

Customers interested in buying new inline skates at Summit Sports, will receive \$10 off their purchase if they donated their used pair.

YMCA Camp Boomerang sits on 30 acres and places special emphasis on experiencing new things, imaginative play, learning, outdoor skills, and making friends. The camp includes a paved nature trail where campers can either walk or inline skate through the woods. It also plans to develop an inline hockey program.

"During these tough economic times, we are grateful for partners, like Summit Sports who step-up and allow us to provide the children new experiences we couldn't afford without them," stated Richard J. Engelmann, Director of Partnerships, Community Day Camps, Events & Conferences, YMCA. "We are looking at new and exciting programs for the children attending Camp Boomerang and this donation of inline skate will allow us to add two new activities to our schedule." Summit Sports has four locations, including a store at

28942 Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills.

Buy Michigan Festival

Learn about local products and Michigan-based companies in the upcoming Buy Michigan Now Festival slated for July 27-Aug. 2 in downtown Northville.

The week-long festivities will include various Michigan entertainment, educational seminars and products.

Launched in 2007 by Lisa Diggs, Buy Michigan Now is a statewide initiative to inform, educate and encourage Michiganders, organizations and consumers alike, to support the local economy by purchasing products and services made in Michigan and from Michigan companies. "The Buy Michigan Now campaign is about heightening awareness and revitalizing our state's economy one product, one purchase, and one business at a time," Diggs said.

"Partnering with the Buy Michigan Now campaign is the perfect fit as we continue our own efforts to support local merchants and the local economy," added Lori Ward, director of the Northville Downtown Development Authority.

For information on vendor opportunities, call Vicki Howard at Ta-Dah Productions at (248) 548-2324 or e-mail to ContactUs@Ta-Dah.com. Michigan vendors interested in participating in the Buy Michigan Now Week can also download an application form at www.Ta-Dah.com.

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Presidents

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GEORGE WASHINGTON
Commander-in-Chief in the American Revolution; Signer of the Constitution;
First President of the United States

"We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

JOHN ADAMS
Signer of the Declaration of Independence; One of Two Signers of the Bill of Rights;
Second President of the United States

"Before any man can be considered as a member of civil society, he must be considered as a subject of the Governor of the Universe."

JAMES MADISON
Signer of the Constitution; Fourth President of the United States

"And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are of the gift of God? That they are not to be violated but with His wrath? Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just; that His justice cannot sleep forever."

THOMAS JEFFERSON
Signer and the principal author of the Declaration of Independence;
Third President of the United States

"Is it not that in the chain of human events, the birthday of the nation is indissolubly linked with the birthday of the Savior? - that it forms a leading event in the progress of the Gospel dispensation? Is it not that the Declaration of Independence first organized the social compact on the foundation of the Redeemer's mission upon earth? - That it laid the cornerstone of human government upon the first precepts of Christianity?"

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS
Statesman; Diplomat; Sixth President of the United States

Founding Fathers

"An appeal to arms and to the God of hosts is all that is left us... Sir, we are not weak if we make a proper use of those means which the God of nature hath placed in our power... Besides, sir, we shall not fight our battles alone. There is a just God who presides over the destinies of nations and who will raise up friends to fight our battles for us... Is life so dear, or peace so sweet as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!!!"

PATRICK HENRY
Patriot and Statesman

"To the kindly influence of Christianity we owe that degree of civil freedom, and political and social happiness, which mankind now enjoys... Whenever the pillars of Christianity shall be overthrown, our present republican forms of government - and all blessings which flow from them - must fall with them."

JEDEDIAH MORSE
Patriot and Educator, called "The Father of American Geography"

"I've lived, sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth: That God governs in the affairs of men. If a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid? We've been assured in the sacred writings that unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it. I firmly believe this, and I also believe that without His concurring aid, we shall succeed in this political building no better than the builders of Babel."

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN
Signer of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution

Supreme Court Justices

The Bible is the best of all books, for it is the word of God and teaches us the way to be happy in this world and in the next. Continue therefore to read it and to regulate your life by its precepts.

Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers, and it is the duty, as well as the privilege and interest of our Christian nation, to select and prefer Christians for their rulers.

JOHN JAY
Co-author of the Federalist Papers; First Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court

Human law must rest its authority ultimately upon the authority of that law which is Divine... Far from being rivals or enemies, religion and law are twin sisters, friends, and mutual assistants. Indeed, these two sciences run into each other.

JAMES WILSON
Signer of both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution;
Original Justice on the U.S. Supreme Court

One of the beautiful boasts of our municipal jurisprudence is that Christianity is a part of the Common Law... There never has been a period in which the Common Law did not recognize Christianity as lying at its foundations... I verily believe Christianity necessary to the support of civil society.

JOSEPH STORY
U.S. Supreme Court Justice, "Father of American Jurisprudence," Placed on the Court by President James Madison

Congress

"We are a Christian people... not because the law demands it, not to gain exclusive benefits or to avoid legal disabilities, but from choice and education; and in a land thus universally Christian, what is to be expected, what desired, but that we shall pay due regard to Christianity?"

[Senate Judiciary Committee Report, January 19, 1853]

"At the time of the adoption of the Constitution and the amendments, the universal sentiment was that Christianity should be encouraged... In this age there can be no substitute for Christianity... That was the religion of the founders of the republic and they expected it to remain the religion of their descendants."

[House Judiciary Committee Report, March 27, 1854]

Education

"Let every student be plainly instructed and earnestly pressed to consider well the main end of his life and studies is to know God and Jesus Christ which is eternal life (John 17:3) and therefore to lay Christ in the bottom as the only foundation of all sound knowledge and learning. And seeing the Lord only giveth wisdom, let every one seriously set himself by prayer in secret to seek it of Him (Proverbs 2, 3). Every one shall so exercise himself in reading the Scriptures twice a day that he shall be ready to give such an account of his proficiency therein."

HARVARD
1636 Student Guidelines

"All the scholars are required to live a religious and blameless life according to the rules of God's Word, diligently reading the Holy Scriptures, that fountain of Divine light and truth, and constantly attending all the duties of religion."

YALE
1787 Student Guidelines

Supreme Court Rulings

There is no dissonance in these [legal] declarations... These are not individual sayings, declarations of private persons: they are organic [legal, governmental] utterances; they speak the voice of the entire people... These, and many other matters which might be noticed, add a volume of unofficial declarations to the mass of organic utterances that this is a Christian nation.

Church of the Holy Trinity v. U.S., 1892
Unanimous Decision Declaring America a Christian Nation
Significantly, the U.S. Supreme Court cited dozens of court rulings and legal documents as precedents to arrive at this ruling; but in 1962, when the Supreme Court struck down voluntary prayer in schools, it did so without using any such precedent

Why may not the Bible, and especially the New Testament, without note or comment, be read and taught as a divine revelation in [schools] - its general precepts expounded, its evidences explained and its glorious principles of morality inculcated?... Where can the purest principles of morality be learned so clearly or so perfectly as from the New Testament?

Vidal v. Girard's Executors, 1844
Unanimous Decision Commending and Encouraging the Use of the Bible in Government-Run Schools

Foreigners

The Americans combine the notions of Christianity and of liberty so intimately in their minds that it is impossible to make them conceive the one without the other.

Upon my arrival in the United States, the religious aspect of the country was the first thing that struck my attention; and the longer I stayed there, the more did I perceive the great political consequences resulting from this state of things, to which I was unaccustomed. In France I had almost always seen the spirit of religion and the spirit of freedom pursuing courses diametrically opposed to each other; but in America I found that they were intimately united, and that they reigned in common over the same country.

ALEXIS DE TOCQUEVILLE
French observer of America in 1831, author of Democracy in America

There is no country in which the people are so religious as in the United States... The great number of religious societies existing in the United States is truly surprising; there are some of them for everything; for instance, societies to distribute the Bible; to distribute tracts; to encourage religious journals; to convert, civilize, educate;... to take care of their widows and orphans; to preach, extend, purify, preserve, reform the faith; to build chapels, endow congregations, support seminaries;... to establish Sunday schools;... to prevent drunkenness, etc.

ACHILLE MURAT
French observer of America in 1832

BLESSED IS THE NATION WHOSE GOD IS THE LORD

PSALM 33:12A

IF MY PEOPLE WHO ARE CALLED BY MY NAME WILL HUMBLE THEMSELVES, AND PRAY AND SEEK MY FACE, AND TURN FROM THEIR WICKED WAYS, THEN I WILL HEAR FROM HEAVEN, AND WILL FORGIVE THEIR SIN AND HEAL THEIR LAND.

2 CHRONICLES 7:14

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THURSDAY
July 2,
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SECTION B
(*)

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HOMETOWN LIFE



Heptathlete Wade earns spot on world stage

BY BRAD EMMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Bettie Wade admits she can be her own worst critic at times.

But after the former Farmington High standout earned a third-place finish with a personal best 5,908 points in the women's heptathlon at last weekend's USA Track and Field Outdoor Championships — along with the spot in the IAAF World Championships next month in



Wade

Berlin — even she found some solace in what can be described as a trying year.

"I'm very excited," said the recent University of Michigan grad. "But it's been a rough season in my eyes because I've had high hopes and lofty goals. But I also feel thankful and blessed to qualify."

The women's heptathlon, consisting of seven events over two days, was made famous by American Jackie Joyner-Kersey. But after Friday's opening day of events at the University of Oregon's historic Hayward Field in Eugene, Wade questioned whether it was time to move on to a different life.

"I had a couple of bad events — the javelin, the high jump and the hurdles," Wade said. "I talked, and I was about 95 percent sure this meet would be my last, and that I was going to go into college coaching."

"But overnight I prayed to God about it and I went out there the next day with the attitude that I was glad I was blessed and had the opportunity to compete. I've got extremely high standards and I get down, but God showed me there was a plan, and that I would

be a part of the weekend."

Wade finished a disappointing 13th overall in three events — the 200-meter dash (24.76 seconds), 100-meter hurdles (14.05) and javelin (110 feet, 4 inches). She also added a fifth in the high jump (5-7.5), but it was well below the 5-10 mark she set last month en route to a second-place finish in the NCAA Mideast Regional.

Her remaining marks came with a first place in the shot put, 45-10.5 (793 points); a second in the long jump, 21-0.5 (973); and an eighth in the 800, 2:19.37 (832).

"I would not say I had a good meet (at the USAs), but I had a P.R.," Wade said. "And whenever I can get it, then I'll take it."

Hyleas Fountain, an Olympic silver medalist at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, dropped out of the competition when she reagravated a neck injury with two events to go after leading the competition with 5,193 points. That opened the door for Diana Pickler and Sharon Day, both representing Asics, to place one-two with IAAF World A qualifying standard point totals of 6,290 and 6,177, respectively.

Wade, who met the B standard by a mere eight points, set a personal record of 5,908 to beat her U-M school record and career best total of 5,876 set just two weeks earlier at the NCAA Outdoor Championships in Fayetteville, Ark. (where she placed third).

"This year I wanted to become a Big Ten champion (she was second) and a national (NCAA) champion," Wade said. "But after the last meet (where she finished third), I lost all my motivation and questioned whether I'd even go to the USAs. I questioned myself about a lot of things. I doubted

Please see **WADE, B3**



GOPHERTRACKSHOTS.COM | BECKY MILLER

Farmington High and U-M grad Bettie Wade, shown in the long jump, placed third in the USA Track and Field Outdoor Nationals last weekend in Eugene, Ore. and will represent the U.S. at the IAAF World Championships next month in Berlin, Germany.

SIDELINES

Lion DB at camp

Detroit Lions defensive back and Farmington Hills Harrison grad Chris Roberson will take part Tuesday in the Detroit Lions Youth Football Camp at Central Middle School in Plymouth.

The former Eastern Michigan University standout, originally selected in the seventh round of the 2005 NFL draft by the Jacksonville Jaguars, also spent time with the Miami Dolphins before being picked up as a free agent by the Lions in October of 2008.

He will attend the camp to work with the participants in the defensive back station, discuss life in the NFL, and also sign autographs.

The non-contact and fundamental camp is open to boys and girls ages 6-14.

The camp cost is \$159 and is limited to the next 20 to register.

Interested participants may register by phone, fax, or mail. For more information, call (313) 262-2248; or visit www.DetroitLions.com/youthfootball.

You can also e-mail youthfootballcamps@detroitlions.com.

Cieslak All-Academic

Northwood University junior track and field distance runner Kylene Cieslak (Livonia Churchill) has been named an Academic All-American by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).

Cieslak, who maintains a 3.93 grade-point average, was placed on the Women's Track and Field Collegiate Division's third team.

Earning Academic All-America honors is the latest in a long line of accomplishments for Cieslak, who became the first women's track All-American at Northwood since 1987 by placing sixth in the 3,000 meter run at the 2008 NCAA Division II Outdoor Championships.

This year, Cieslak became a two-time All-American at the 2009 Outdoor championships in the 10,000 meters. She also was the first NU runner to earn first-team All-Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference honors in cross country, finishing second at the conference meet.

She currently owns a total of nine NU school records (two in cross country, three in indoor track, and four outdoor track).

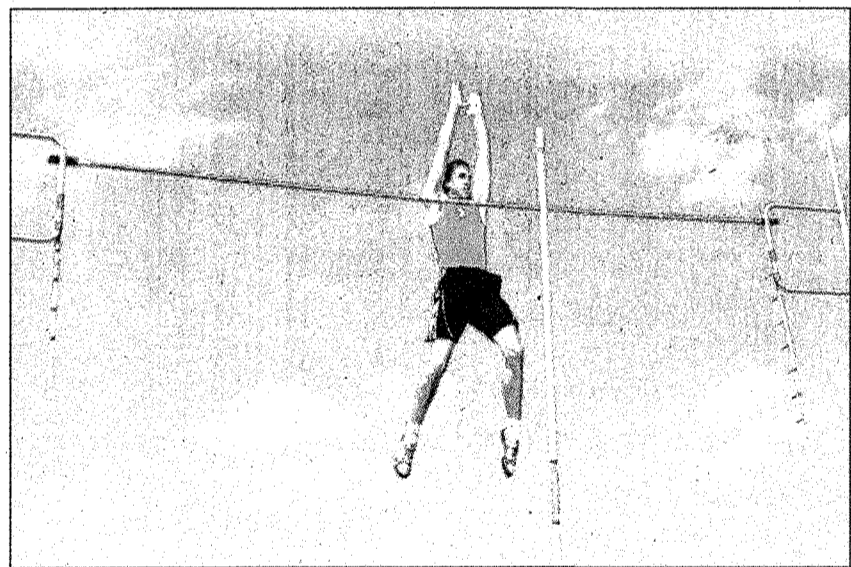
Benson earns invite

Oakland University's Keith Benson (Farmington Hills) was one of 14 collegiate big men to be invited to the Amar'e Stoudemire Skills Academy June 28-30.

The former Detroit Country Day High standout was one of five mid-major players selected for the camp.

The rising junior averaged 14.3 points and 7.8 rebounds per game last season for the Golden Grizzlies. He broke the single-season OU school record with 87 blocks and also holds the all-time record with 127.

Benson also finished fourth in the nation with a .622 field goal percentage and was named second-team All-Summit League.



PHOTOS BY VERN WILLIAMS

Max Babits cleared 16 feet during Saturday's Livonia Spree Vault competition at Ford Field.

Age no barrier as Spree vaulters raise the bar

BY BRAD EMMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The first-ever Livonia Spree '59 pole vault competition Saturday provided plenty of fireworks of its own that crossed several generations.

Vaulters from across the state converged on Ford Field in the inaugural USATF-sanctioned event that was the brainchild of Livonia Churchill High multi-events coach Vern Williams.

"It went great," said Williams, who brought his portable custom-built 130-foot wooden runway to the Spree softball diamond. "We started at 5 a.m. and didn't finish until 5 p.m."

The oldest vaulter in the competition was 72-year-old Jim Roth of Pinckney, who cleared 7 feet, 6 inches.

And it was a grand day for 56-year-old Patrick Theut, who set a new personal best with a 9-6. Canton High multi-events coach Matti Kilpelainen, 63, also cleared 12 feet.

One of the highlights of the meet was a friendly family vaulting duel between 48-year-old Paul Babits, a former Redford Union High standout, and his nephew, Max Babits, who will be a senior next year at Fowlerville H.S.

"Max and Paul both cleared 15



Canton multi-events coach Matti Kilpelainen, 63, attacks the portable runway during Saturday's Livonia Spree Vault competition.

feet and they both decided to pass to 16 feet," Williams said. "They were flawless up until this height (16-0), missing it three times. Now, the rules state that if both competitors are tied for first place, they both get one extra attempt at the same bar."

Please see **SPREE, B3**

Weinger, Costello win Farmington awards

BY DAN O'MEARA
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Jordan Weinger and Shannon Costello were voted the top male and female athletes in the Farmington High School Class of 2009.

Costello received the John K. Cotton Award, which is given each year to the girls honoree, and the Aschenbrenner Award went to Weinger as the boys winner.

The Cotton Award is named for longtime Farmington Public Schools athletic director Jack Cotton, who was instrumental in starting the girls sports program.

The boys award was established in 1948 in honor of Dr. Zae Aschenbrenner, who donated his time and medical skills to the athletic teams.

Senior athletes are nominated by their coaches, and the winners are determined by a vote of the varsity coaches and school administrators.

"Shannon is an exceptional person as is Jordan," Mary Sheltroun, the athletic coordinator at Farmington High, said. "Both winners are fabulous young people. They're very mature; they make good decisions. They're dedicated to their activities and to their academics."

"They've done volunteer work in various areas. Both have spent a lot of time in community service."

Costello played No. 1 doubles in ten-



Weinger



Costello

nis and was an all-division defender in soccer. She served as a team captain in both sports.

Costello, who had a 3.97 GPA and graduated Phi Beta Kappa, will attend Howard Payne University in Brownwood, Texas, and plans to study athletic training. She received a partial academic scholarship and will play soccer.

"Since the MHSAA switched seasons, Shannon has played soccer and tennis in the same (spring) season the last two years and has been able to maintain high academics, as well as being looked upon as one of the leaders on each team," Sheltroun said.

Weinger was a four-year standout on the golf team, earning all-state honors twice. He made the Dream Team this year as chosen by the coaches association.

Weinger was the medalist in the Oakland County Division I and second OAA Division II tournaments. He averaged 37.67 strokes per nine-hole match and 74.17 in tournaments.

Please see **AWARDS, B3**

Cardinals soar past diamond foes

BY JIM TOTH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Not bad for a first go-around.

The Garden City Cardinals, members of the Garden City Youth Athletic Association, proved unbeatable during the recently completed regular season as they dominated their opponents from start to finish to register an unblemished 14-0 Pee Wee Division mark. In the process, the Cardinals outscored their foes by a combined 214-49.

"They loved to hit," Cardinals head coach Bill Main said. "We took a lot of batting practice and it was a great accomplishment by these girls. We had a great group of girls who always came to practice and worked hard on fundamentals."

The Cardinals, ages 11-14, put an exclamation point on their season in ensuing league tournament play by drubbing their two opponents by scores of 11-1 and 13-9.

Please see **CARDINALS, B3**

TEE TIME Your local golf guide

Are you dreaming of a perfect golf course?

Online Poll: Which public course on the U.S. Open rotation would you most like to play?

Go online to www.hometownlife.com/section/sports25 to take part in our online poll. We'll compare your choices with other readers on July 30!

Examining Rule 20: Lie of ball altered or spot not determinable

By Jeanne Myers

There are two small sections in Rule 20 that are vitally important but cause most golfers grief. They deal with replacing a golfer's ball when it has been moved and his ball has been altered or when his ball has been moved and he doesn't know exactly where it had been.

Lie of ball altered

If a golfer's lie has been altered in some way and he knows what the original lie of his ball was, he can proceed in this manner: Except in a hazard (water or bunker), he places the ball in the nearest lie most similar to the original within one club-length of the original lie, not nearer the hole and not in a

hazard. For example, if another player plays your ball, taking out a large divot, he has altered your lie. You do not have to place your ball in that divot. You place it in the nearest most similar lie within one club-length of the original lie. If this has occurred in a water hazard, the procedure is the same, but you must place the ball in the water hazard. In a bunker, if your lie has been altered, you have to recreate your original lie and place the ball in that lie.

For example, your ball and another player's ball lie close together in the bunker. You have a perfect lie. He asks you to mark because your ball interferes with his shot. You mark and lift your ball (not cleaning it) and he plays. He has now blasted a hole where

your ball had been. You get to recreate your lie by raking or smoothing the sand, and then place your ball in that lie.

Since 2008, a player receives a penalty for hitting a wrong ball out of a bunker or water hazard. Therefore, it is now necessary to lift a ball in a bunker or water hazard to identify it before playing. If the lie of the ball is altered in the process of lifting to identify the ball, this Rule applies to the replacement.

Spot Not Determinable

If your ball gets moved, and you don't know what the original lie was, the procedure is different. Suppose your ball is driven over by a golf cart and pops up in the air.

You have no idea exactly where it had been. Through the green, you will drop the ball as near as possible to the spot where it lay, but you cannot drop it in a hazard or on a putting green. Since you don't know the exact spot, you do your best to estimate.

The same process is followed if this happens when your ball lies in a hazard, except the ball must be dropped in the hazard. On the putting green, if you do not know the exact spot to replace your ball, you will place it as near as possible to where it lay, and again you do your best to estimate that position. An example of this is when your ball lies on the putting green and another player plays to the green. His ball hits and moves your ball, which now has to be replaced.

Suppose you mark your ball on the green and step aside while another group plays through. By mistake one of them removes your ball-marker. You will now have to proceed under the "spot not determinable" Rule and place your ball as near as possible to where it lay on the green, without penalty.

Many of the Rules of Golf, such as these, are there to help the golfer. It will lower your scores if you know them!

Jeanne Myers is currently an Assistant Tournament Director of the Golf Association of Michigan and also served as the Chairmen of the USGA Women's Committee and is a Past President of the GAM.

PUBLIC COURSES

WEEKEND SPECIAL! 18 holes & cart... \$35 after 2 pm... \$30 After 5pm (twilight)... \$15 DOWNING FARMS GOLF COURSE 8145 W. Swan Mile, Salem Twp., 48150 248-486-0990	HUNTER'S RIDGE GOLF COURSE WEEKEND SPECIAL 4 Golfers 18 w/cart \$120 Must have coupon. Exp. 9/15/09. 8701 Byron Road, Howell (517) 545-GOLF	STONEBRIDGE GOLF CLUB A PREMIER PUBLIC COURSE BY ARCHITECT PHILIPPE Mon-Fri SENIORS \$22 w/cart before 11am \$4 after 11am \$35 w/cart \$40 before 11am / \$30 11am-2pm 18-holes w/cart \$29 2pm-4pm / \$25 after 4pm www.StonebridgeGolfClub.net 734.429.8363 Ann Arbor, MI
HICKORY CREEK 4th of July Weekend Special Fri, Sat, Sun 18 w/cart \$35 Call for Tee Times 734-454-1850 Just West of Canton	Hilltop 734-453-9800 Fellows Creek 734-728-1300 July 4th & 5th 18 holes w/cart... \$35 9 holes w/cart... \$20	The Links at Whitmore Lake 734-449-GOLF 4th of July Special Open - 8am (early bird) \$30 8am - 1pm \$35 1pm - 4pm \$25 4pm - close \$18 Visit www.linksatwhitmorelake.com
HAWK MEADOWS 517-546-4635 • Howell 4th of July Weekend Special 18 w/cart \$2500 Willowbrook 810-266-4660 • Byron	COYOTE GOLF CLUB Senior Special Mon-Fri Before 12 Noon 18 Holes W/ Cart \$25 each July Weekend Special 18 Holes Before 12 Noon = \$45 each W/ Cart After 12 Noon = \$35 each Must Present Coupon. Exp: 7-31-09.	Pineview Golf Course WEEKDAYS \$29 w/cart WEEKENDS \$35 w/cart SENIORS \$23 w/cart Valid thru 7-20-09 • 1 coupon per 4-5pm • Must have coupon 734-481-0500 1,800.214.5963 5820 Stony Creek Rd. • Ypsilanti, MI 48197 www.pineviewgc.com
Faulkwood Shores Golf Club Howell, MI • 517-546-4180 Golf Digest Rated 3 1/2 Stars Seniors & Ladies \$16.00 18 Holes w/cart wkdays... Weekday Special \$20.00 18 Holes w/cart... Twilight Monday-Friday \$14.00 18 Holes w/cart... Weekend Cart Special \$25.00 18 Holes w/cart... Must have coupon. Expires 7-31-09.	Eagle Crest Golf Club July Special 2 Players \$69.00 18 w/cart Valid Monday-Friday 7am-11am (Excludes Holidays) SENIORS 2 Players for \$49.00 18 Holes w/cart Valid Monday-Friday 7am-11am (Excludes Holidays) 734-487-2441 Golf Digest**** I-94, Exit 183 Ypsilanti	COYOTE PRESERVE An Arnold Palmer Signature Golf Course JULY SPECIAL SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS Before 8am = \$45, After 1pm = \$39 Mon., Tues., Wed. Before 2pm Any Age \$27 each Must present coupon www.coyotepreserve.com Phone: (810) 714-3206 Not valid with League, Outing, Package or other Pre-Booked Events. Exp. 7/19/09.

Challenge, Beauty, Perfection

Northville Hills Golf Club

Experience this Arnold Palmer designed Masterpiece. Ask us about our annual membership packages.

Must Present Coupon Expires July 31, 2009 July Specials

\$45	Mon-Thurs. After 8:30am till 12pm	65 & over \$25	Seniors Mon-Fri Anytime	4th of July Weekend Special
	Fri, Sat, Sun Before noon		July 3rd after 2PM	\$39
\$45	After 12 Noon	60-64 \$30	July 4th After 4PM	\$45
	After 3pm		July 5th after 12PM	\$39
\$39	Twilight 7:30 & 7:45	55-59 \$35	July 5th after 12PM	\$49

www.northvillehillsgolfclub.com or Call 734-667-4653

SAVE \$\$...BOOK ONLINE!

CATTAILS GOLF CLUB

248-486-8777

JULY 4TH WEEKEND (7-3, 7-4, 7-5)

18 Holes w/cart \$38.00 cash only

Must bring coupon and valid for 4 players; other payment forms will be charged regular rates

SAVE \$\$...BOOK ONLINE!

Links of Novi

July 4th Weekend Special
 18 Holes w/cart \$35.00

Twilight After 3:00pm with cart \$20.00

Specials valid 7-4 & 7-5
 Call for TEE TIMES
 248-380-9595

Highland Hills

248-887-4481

Seniors: 18 w/cart Mon-Fri. \$19
 Non Seniors: 18 w/cart \$25

Weekend: 18 w/cart \$35 after 1pm \$25

Reddeman Farms

734-475-3020

Seniors: 18 w/cart Mon-Fri. \$20
 Non Seniors: 18 w/cart \$25

Weekend: 18 w/cart \$39 after 1pm \$32

Rush Lake

734-878-9790

Seniors: 18 w/cart Mon-Fri. \$17
 Non Seniors: 18 w/cart \$19

Weekend: 18 w/cart \$30 after 1pm \$25

Must present coupon
 Not valid w/any other specials & Holidays

WOODLANDS of Van Buren

New Low Rates!
 Great golf at an excellent price.

\$39 GREEN FEE
 ANYTIME SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
 CART FEE INCLUDED

Book your tee times online at www.savesomegreen.com and never pay a booking fee

WWW.THEWOODLANDSGC.COM

734.729.4477 39670 Ecorse Road, Wayne

Offer includes cart and is valid per player. Not valid on course declared holidays, for tournaments or league play. May not be combined with any other offer.

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For more about golf in Michigan www.TeeUpMichigan.com

To advertise in this directory, call Jim Sabatella at 313-223-3246

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE B4

Marion Professional Building at St. Mary's Hospital, 14555 Levan at Five Mile, Livonia. (313) 387-9797. www.oa.org

■ St. John's Support Group for the Caregiver's of Alzheimer's patients or patients with other forms of dementia meets at 10 a.m., the first and third Friday of each month at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth. Respite care is provided. Call Connie McNutt at (734) 895-1426. This group is authorized by the Alzheimer's Association.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly, meets at 7 p.m. every Thursday at St. Thomas a' Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley, Canton. Weight-in is from 6:15-6:55 p.m. for this weight support group that encourages members to lose weight and keep it off. Call Margaret at (734) 838-0322.

■ Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group meets 7-9 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August, at Farmington Hills Baptist Church, 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile. Enter at rear of church. For more information, call (248) 433-1011.

■ Addiction No More offers support for addictive behavior problems, drugs, alcohol, overeating, gambling, 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday in Room 202 at Detroit World Outreach, 23800 W. Chicago, Redford. For more information, call (313) 255-2222, Ext. 244.

■ Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Northville offers Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered recovery program helping men and women find freedom from hurts, habits and hang-ups (addictive and compulsive behaviors), meets every Friday for 6 p.m. dinner (optional), 7 p.m. praise and worship, 8 p.m. small group discussion, 9 p.m. Solid Rock Cafe (optional coffee and desserts). Child care during Celebrate Recovery is free and available by calling (248) 374-7400. For information, visit www.celebraterecovery.com and www.ward-church.org/celebrate.

Thrift store
Open Wednesdays 9:30-11:30 a.m. and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730.

Worship
■ Adat Shalom Synagogue, 29901 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills: 6 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. and 9 p.m., Saturday, 7:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m., Sunday and 6 p.m., week days. (248) 851-5100.

■ Anglican Church of Livonia: 7:45 a.m. at Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, west of Farmington Road, Livonia. 10 a.m. service at Livonia YMCA, 14255 Stark, between Lyndon and the I-96 service drive. www.hischurch.us.

■ Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, just north of I-96, Livonia: 9:45 a.m., Sunday, contemporary multimedia service is informal, using modern and praise music, led by vocalists and various instruments, and occasionally dramas; 8:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. traditional services; 9:45 a.m. and 11 a.m., Sunday school and youth and adult Bible classes. (734) 522-6830.

■ Community Free Will Baptist Church, 33031 Cherry Hill, west of Venoy, Westland: 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., Sunday worship, 9:45 a.m., Sunday school, 7 p.m., Wednesday prayer and Bible study. Youth fellowship 7 p.m., every other Friday.

■ Due Season Christian Church holds services at Stevenson High School on Six Mile, west of Farmington Road, in Livonia: Nondenominational, multicultural, full gospel church services at 10 a.m. Sunday, with 7:15 p.m., Tuesday Bible study. (248) 960-8063 or visit www.DueSeason.org.

■ Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, west of Middlebelt, Livonia: 9:30 a.m., Sunday, 8:15 a.m., learning hour is at 8:15 a.m. for all ages. Visit www.livonfaith.org.

■ Garden City Presbyterian Church, Middlebelt one block south of Ford Road: 10 a.m. Sunday worship service with traditional hymns, scripture readings and choral music; 10 a.m., youth Sunday school and nursery care; 8:30 a.m. adult Sunday school; 6 p.m., informal gathering with scriptures and discussion every Sunday. Call (734) 421-7620.

■ Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City: 9:30 a.m. Sunday school followed by 10:30 a.m. worship service with communion each Sunday; Bible study 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays. (734) 427-3660.

■ Grace Lutheran Church, 46001 Warren, between Canton Center and Beck, Canton: 8 a.m. traditional Sunday service, and 10:30 a.m., contemporary; Sunday school and adult Bible study at 9:15 a.m. (734) 637-8160.

■ Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile, Livonia: 8 a.m. and 10 a.m., Sunday, 9 a.m., Faith Forum, 10 a.m. Sunday School, 7:30 p.m., Wednesday worship in the chapel. Call (734) 427-1414.

■ New Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware at Puritan, Redford: 10:30 a.m., Sundays. (313) 255-6330.

■ New Life Community Church, 42200 Tyler, Belleville: 11 a.m., Sunday. (734) 846-4615 or www.newlifecommunitychurch4u.com

■ Plymouth Baptist Church, 42021 Ann Arbor Trail, west of Haggerty: 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m., Sunday worship. Both services feature contemporary and traditional worship music and in-depth Bible teaching. Full nursery and preschool programs available at both services. (734) 453-5534.

■ Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, Westland: 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays with an education hour from 9:30-10:40 a.m. Social hour follows each service. (734) 722-1735.

■ Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia: Non-traditional service designed to touch all the senses, 6:30 p.m., every second and fourth Sunday of the month at the church. Step into the light with relevant messages and modern music in a casual atmosphere. (734) 464-0990.

■ Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard, Livonia: 9 a.m., last Sunday of the month features a contemporary service with church members presenting a short drama on a theme relevant to the season, a church event, or current newsworthy situation. For more information, call (734) 422-0494.

■ St. John Lutheran Church, 23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills: 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Sunday; traditional worship at 9 a.m., Sunday, and contemporary service at 11:15 a.m. Sunday. Call (248) 474-0584 for additional information.

■ St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, Livonia: contemporary service, 11:30 a.m., fourth Sunday of the month. (734) 422-6038.

■ St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, one block west of Inkster, Livonia: 10 a.m., Sunday. (734) 422-1470.

■ Trinity Episcopal Church, 11575 Belleville Road, four miles south of Michigan Avenue: 8 a.m. and 10 a.m., Sunday, 6:15 p.m., Wednesday, 6 p.m., Sunday Bible studies and worship center for all ages includes dinner, child care. Call (734) 699-3361.

■ Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads: 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m., Sundays. (734) 421-1760.

■ Westwood Community Church, 1119 N. Newburgh, Westland: 10-11:15 a.m., Sunday. Come as you are. Coffee and doughnuts, children's church every Sunday.

Find music, food, fun at Garden Family Hootenanny

Rockin' moms, the Mydols, will perform at Garden Family Hootenanny, Sunday, July 12, at The Whitney, 4421 Woodward, in Detroit.

The event will run 3-5 p.m., and will include Cello-Bella!, a Music Together demonstration, and plenty of fun for children of all ages. As parents dig into food and drink at the outdoor cafe, kids will discover bubbles, games and crafts blooming along the garden path.

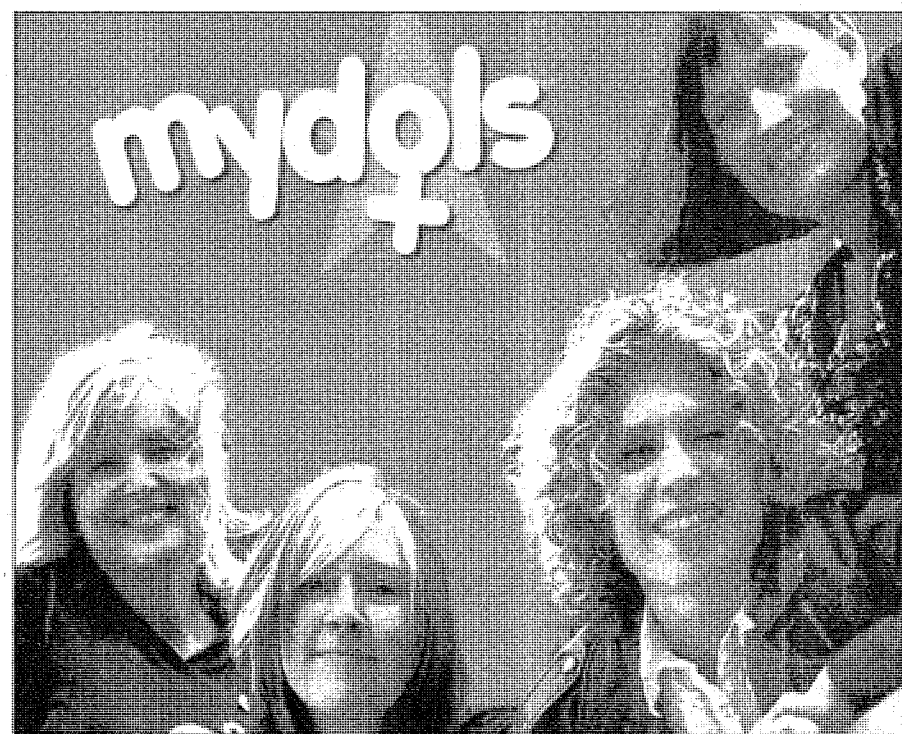
A "hootenanny" is defined as a social gathering or informal concert featuring folk singing and dancing. The Garden Family Hootenanny is the latest in a series of Hootenanny concerts and CDs organized by April Boyle, lead singer of the Mydols, to celebrate music both children and parents can enjoy.

Since 2001, Detroit Family Hootennannies have brought together talented musicians to jam with full audience participation. Acts have included Dan Miller, Pas/Cal, The Sirens, Loretta Lucas, Jawbone and Liz Mitchell. The concerts gave rise to two critically-acclaimed compilation CDs, *Detroit Family Hootenanny: Detroit Folks Playing Old and New Music for Kids* in 2006, and *Holiday Hootenanny* in 2007.

The Mydols is an all-mom band that entices kids to join in on songs like *Run Crazy Baby* and *Three is a Magic Number*. Cello-Bella! will play family favorites like *On the Good Ship Lollipop* and *You've Got a Friend in Me* on cello and acoustic guitar.

Parents and children can join Melissa Regan and Merrily Gechter exploring rhythm instruments, songs, chants and dance during a joyful, energetic demonstration of the Music Together classes they conduct in Birmingham, Plymouth and Canton.

The Whitney will provide garden fare, cocktails and mocktails for purchase. Doors will open at 2:30 p.m. Admission is \$10 for parents, free for children 12 and under. Call Emily Driscoll at (313) 832-5700 to reserve tickets. www.thefamilyhoot.com.



The Mydols, an all-mom band, will perform July 12.

Your Invitation to Worship

<p>CATHOLIC</p>	<p>UNITED METHODIST</p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)</p>	<p>LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD</p>
<p>ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH Tridentine Latin Mass St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8 38100 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-3200 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.</p>	<p>Redford Aldersgate United Methodist 10000 Beech Daily 2 blocks South of Plymouth 313-937-3170 9:30 - Trad. Worship & Sun. Sch. 11:00 - Contemp. Family Worship www.redfordaldersgate.org</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96 734-522-6830 Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional Sunday/Bible Class 9:45 am Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413 Staffed Nursery Available Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ Pastors: Robert F. Bayer and Anthony M. Creeden</p>
<p>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 Meritman & Farmington Roads) MASS: Mon. 8:30 a., Fri. 8:30 a., Sat. 6 p., Sun 9a</p>	<p>NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH "Open Hearts, Minds & Doors" 36500 Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne & Newburgh Rds. 734-422-0149 Worship Service and Sunday School 9:15 am Rev. Marsha M. Woolley Visit our website: www.newburgumc.org</p>	<p>ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Meritman & Farmington Roads.) (734) 422-0494 Friends in Faith Service 9:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am Visit www.rosedalegardens.org For information about our many programs</p>	<p>GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD 25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY 313-532-2286 REDFORD TWP. Worship Service 9:15 & 11:00 A.M. Sunday School 9:15 & 11:00 A.M. Nursery Provided The Rev. Timothy P. Halboth, Senior Pastor The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor</p>
<p>CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN</p>	<p>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</p>	<p>LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD</p>
<p>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 45901 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 8:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196</p>	<p>Fellowship Presbyterian Church Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire Services held at: Madonna University's Kresge Hall 36600 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia • Parking lot is on N.W. corner of Levan & Schoolcraft Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org</p>	<p>WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church 40000 Six Mile Road "just west of I-275" Northville, MI 248-374-7400 Traditional Worship 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 A.M. Contemporary Worship 9:30 & 11:00 A.M. Nursery & Sunday School During the 9:30 & 11:00 Hours Evening Service • 7:00 p.m. Service Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday WRDT-AM 560 The WNUZ Word Station For additional information visit www.wardchurch.org</p>	<p>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.stpaulslivonia.org</p>
<p>EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA</p>	<p>GREEK ORTHODOX</p>	<p>NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH 39851 West Five Mile, Plymouth Twp., MI Sunday Services Matsins 8:30 am, Divine Liturgy 10:00 am Rev. Fr. George Vagaris Parish Office 734-420-0131 Office Hours M-F 10:00 am - 2:00 pm www.nativitygochurch.org</p>	
<p>Timothy Lutheran Church A Reconciling in Christ Congregation 8820 Wayne Rd. (Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road) Livonia • 427-2290 Jill Heather, Pastor 10:00 a.m. Family Worship (Nursery Available)</p>			

Westland-Garden City Strictly Business

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



Angie Mifsud, Allan Debozy, Noleen Lamb, Tony Angelosango and John Dobozy are at work at Noleen's Barber Shop on Wayne Road in Westland.

Barber shop continues 100-year tradition

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

We're a real barber shop with real barbers, and we love cutting children's hair.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

Between the three barbers—Noleen Lamb, Allan Debozy and John Dobozy—we have more than 130 years experience cutting hair.

Observer: How did you decide to open your first business?

Retirement didn't suit me, I enjoyed the friendly clientele.

Observer: How did you decide to locate in the Westland community?

I worked at Dobozy's

NOLEEN'S BARBER SHOP

Business name: Noleen's Barber Shop
Address: 244 N. Wayne Road, Westland
Name and Title: Noleen Lamb, owner
Hometown: Ann Arbor
Business Opened: Re-opened

Barber Shop in Westland for five years, and when the shop became available, I was glad to come back to Westland to begin my own business. There has been a barber shop in this block of Wayne Road for more than 100 years.

Do you have a funny tidbit or

April 6, 2009
Number of Employees: 3
Your Business Specialty: Flat tops and high and tight
Hours: 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday
Business phone: (734) 722-3405

story to share with our readers about your experience so far as a small business owner?

After cutting a four-year-old boy's hair, I turned him to the mirror and asked, "Who's that handsome man?" He looked all around the room for a handsome man.

BUSINESS MILESTONES

SPECIAL EVENTS

Blood drives

Role up your sleeve and give a unit of blood at American Red Cross blood drives scheduled for July 6-7 at two Garden City businesses. Metropolitan Lincoln Mercury, 32000 Ford, will hold a blood drive 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday, July 6, while Garden City Hospital will hold on 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday July 7, in the lower level classrooms of the medical office building on the hospital campus at 6245 Inkster Road. You can sign up online at www.givelife.org for blood donation appointment or just stop by. Walk-ins are always welcome. And added plus? By donating at any blood drive between now and Sept. 13, you have a chance of winning 2010 Mercury Milan from Metropolitan Lincoln Mercury.

Happy campers

Do You Know a Happy Little Camper? Nothing makes a vacation more rewarding than spending it with children. That's why Westland Camping Center has created its "Happy Little Camper" contest. Share your children's drawings or artwork showing your family camping with the center, and they'll put the best ones up on its website - www.westlandcamping.com - plus they'll give you a free gift just for bringing it in. There are a few rules:

- Drawings must be on 8 1/2 x 11 inch white typing or notebook paper that can be scanned.
- The artwork with us so that it can be scanned. If you want it back, let them know and they'll call you when they're done.
- Winners will be selected by a blue-ribbon panel consisting of mothers and/or grandmothers who promise not to let their children and/or grandchildren win the contest.
- Drawings with families in travel trailers or campers get extra credit.
- You'll find Westland Camping Center at 1475 Newburgh, south of Cherry Hill, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-7700.

Budget breakfast

This summer, Dunkin' Donuts wants Americans to take a bite out of breakfast without taking a bite out of their budget. Dunkin' Donuts is offering the Wake-up Wrap now through mid-July at participating Dunkin' Donuts



shops. Available for only 99 cents, the Wake-up Wrap features a five-inch round tortilla served oven-toasted with a scrambled egg and a slice of American cheese. Customers can also add a slice of cherryywood smoked bacon for only 30 cents more. You'll find it at Dunkin' Donuts at 1625 S. Wayne Road, 34417 Ford and 29365 Ann Arbor Trail, all in Westland.

ONGOING

Check it out

It's a blast from the past at Slice of the 80's, a pizza place at 34747 Warren Road just east of Wayne Road in Westland. The walls are covered in music and theater posters and there's a great collection of vintage 1980s memorabilia. You can check it out on youtube.com. It also has a myspace page - www.myspace.com/sliceofthe80s. Its motto is "Totally awesome pizza at a totally awesome price. Hours are noon to 11 p.m. Sunday-Thursday and 11 p.m. to midnight Friday and Saturday. You can stop by or call for home delivery (\$8 minimum order) at (734) 728-1980.

Food drives

Co-op Services Credit Union is hosting its second annual food drive to benefit the Gleaners Community Food Bank

of Metro Detroit. Now through June 27, collection boxes are available at its credit union offices, including its Westland branch at 35050 Ford, east of Wayne Road, to accept non-perishable donations of canned goods, diapers, baby formula, toiletries and other items. The credit union's goal is to collect more than 1,000 pounds of food to help feed the hungry. For more information about Co-op Services, visit the credit union web site at www.cscu.org or call (800) 321-8570

The Wayne-Westland Federal Credit Union is collecting nonperishable food for the Lighthouse Home Missions in Westland and the John Bolde Food Bank at the St. Mary's Outreach Center in Wayne. Food can be left in a collection bin in the lobby of the credit union during business hours - 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. The credit union is at 500 S. Wayne Road, south of Cherry Hill, Westland. It also is accepting monetary donations for the Lighthouse Home Mission, based at the Full Gospel Temple, on Palmer Road. The Mission has a soup kitchen open year round and also has a warming center for the homeless January through March.

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Clinic receives grant

Fighting childhood obesity will be part of the lesson for thousands of Michigan children this coming school year, thanks to grants of \$27,000 to \$45,000 being awarded to 17 Michigan schools and their community partners, including Oakwood Lincoln/Jefferson-Barns Healthcare Center in Westland, by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan.

The grants are part of BCBSM's mission-focused effort to reduce the risk and prevalence of childhood obesity. In Michigan, 12 percent of middle school children, and 15 percent of high school students are considered obese.

This is the fifth straight year that the Blues have awarded Building Healthy Communities grants. For 2009-2010, schools must include four components in their program: an assessment tool to measure the overall health of the school environment; physical activity and nutrition education, using specific programs designated by Blue Cross; a walking club for students and faculty; and a celebratory 5K run or walk event.

"Reaching kids at an early age is essential because they develop habits that will last into adulthood," said Lynda Rossi, BCBSM senior vice president of Social Mission and Public Affairs. "Healthy eating and physical activity are important life skills that help children grow and prevent health

problems, such as hypertension and diabetes, later in life."

"Although there is no clear-cut solution to solving the obesity epidemic, a sustainable, comprehensive population-based approach for intervention may help address the root causes and curb the increasing trend of childhood obesity," she added. "Schools are integral to addressing the issue, but the best solutions involve the collective efforts of all stakeholders in the community."

Since 2004, the Blues have awarded more than \$1 million in Building Healthy Communities grants to address childhood obesity among more than 100,000 school children throughout Michigan. Schools chosen for the grants are typically in areas of the state that have the potential for high rates of obesity and financial need.

Sweet partnership

Dairy Queen has taken that flavor profile of peanut butter and chocolate to new heights with the introduction of the first-ever Girl Scouts Tagalongs® Peanut Butter Patties Blizzard® Flavor Treat slated as the Blizzard of the Month for July.

One of the most popular Girl Scout cookies, Tagalongs, also known as Peanut Butter Patties, are crispy cookies layered with peanut butter and covered with a chocolate coating. Dairy Queen is blending Girl Scout Tagalongs pieces with rich peanut butter topping and its sig-

nature creamy vanilla soft serve to create this one-of-a-kind Blizzard.

This marks the second year that Dairy Queen is partnering with Girl Scouts of the USA, which last year culminated with the debut of the Girl Scouts Thin Mint Cookie Blizzard Treat.

"Our partnership with Dairy Queen enables us to reach the public in new and unexpected places," said Laurel Richie, chief marketing officer, Girl Scouts of the USA. "We hope the Girl Scouts Thin Mint Blizzard and the Girl Scouts Tagalongs Peanut Butter Patties Blizzard whet people's appetites so they remember to support the Girl Scout Cookie Program and all the business and financial literacy skills girls learn from participating in this annual leadership activity."

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.

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Fun on the Fourth

From water play to fireworks gazing, there's plenty to do this weekend

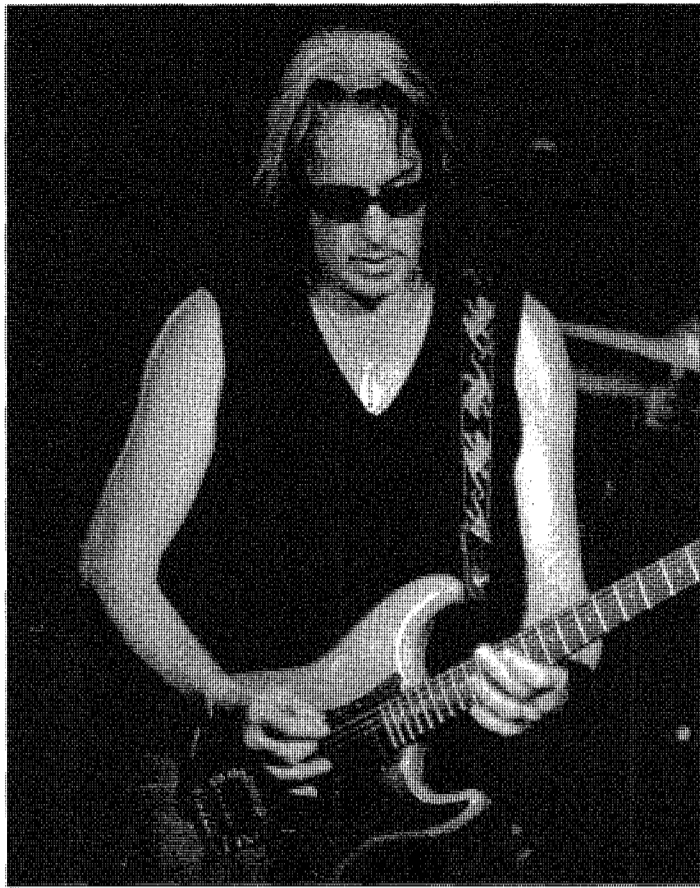
The laundry and mowing can wait. Declare your independence from the mundane and create some fun this holiday weekend. There's something for everyone happening in the metro area. You just need to get out and enjoy it:

IN THE SKY

- **Ooh and aah at Plymouth Township's fireworks**, at 10 p.m. at Township Park, Ann Arbor Trail at McClumpha roads.
- **Westland ends its annual summer festival with fireworks** at 10 p.m., Sunday, July 5.
- **The Clinton-Huron Metroparks offer fireworks** at 10 p.m. on July 3 at Hudson Mills Metropark near Dexter and July 4 at Willow Metropark near Belleville. (800) 477-2757
- **See fireworks on July 4 at Camp Dearborn in Milford.**
- **Catch fireworks on Friday, July 3 at Lincoln Hills Golf Course in Birmingham** and on Saturday, July 4, at Clawson City Park in Clawson and Rackham Golf Course in Huntington Woods.

ON THE WATER

- You don't have to own a yacht - or even a rowboat - to enjoy gentle waves and beautiful scenery on the this weekend.
- **Sea Grant Michigan's Discovery Cruises**
Take an educational tour of the lower Detroit River, leaving from Lake Erie Metropark, 38421 W. Jefferson, in Brownstown. The cruises are open to the public, ages 6 and up. This weekend, look at fish ecology, commercial fishing history and hear fish tales on the "Fish Story Cruise," 10 a.m., Friday, July 3; journey to the north end of Grosse Isle and into Canadian waters during the four-hour "Big River Meander," 2 p.m., Friday, July 3, hear stories about the river's geologic past during "River of Time," 10 a.m. Saturday, July 4, and 2 p.m., Sunday, July 5; learn rope work, pirate skills and sailor jargon at "All Board Kids," 2 p.m., Saturday, July 4; focus on the natural history of the river during the Eagle's Eye Nature cruise, 6 p.m., July 4 and 2 p.m., July 5; and revisit the days when rum-runners ruled the river during "Whiskey River," 6 p.m., July 5. The two-hour cruises cost \$15 for adults, \$10 for children,



Rundgren

age 6-17; add \$5 for the Big River Meander. Make reservations at www.discoverycruises.org or call Lake Erie Metropark at (734) 379-5020.

- **The Island Queen II**
Sails every hour from noon-6 p.m., daily at Kensington Metropark, in Milford. Cost is \$4 for adults and \$3 for children, 3-12 and senior citizens. Kensington Metropark is located off exit 155 on I-96. (248) 685-1561. Entry fee for the park is \$4 daily.

IN THE WATER

- Can you really ever get enough of water slides, squirting playscapes and fountains?
- **Splash Park in Canton**
Slip into your water shoes and head for splash fun, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Friday-Sunday, July 3-5, at Heritage Park, located west of Canton Center, south of Cherry Hill, in Canton. Children 12 and under must be supervised by adults and no pets are allowed in the water. Afterward, grill a picnic lunch, play sand volleyball or fish off the pier. (734) 394-5360 for Canton Leisure Services.

- **Splash 'n' Blast at Kensington Metropark**
Take the plunge down two, 250-foot twisted water slides or frolic in the water spray park amid cannons, palm trees and serpents that squirt. Water slide riders must be at least 48 inches high. Admission to the water park is \$4 for adults and \$3 for children, 15 and under, and senior citizens. The twilight -5-7 p.m. - rate is \$3 for adults and \$2 for children and seniors. Open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. Entry for Kensington Metropark is \$4.
- **Splashpad at Capitol Park**
The squirt park at 26650 Capitol, Redford Township, is open daily from 11 a.m.-7 p.m., through Labor Day. Water shoes and adult supervision for children, 12 and under is recommended. Call (313) 387-2650, Parks and Recreation, for more information.
- **Plymouth Township Sprayscape**
All ages can cool off at Township Park, 46640 Ann Arbor Trail, just east of Beck. The sprayscape, open from 10 a.m. to one hour before park closing, offers 24 sprays, including 12 ground sprays.

- **Swim in Livonia**
Take a dip in one of Livonia's three outdoor pools, 1-7:45 p.m. Friday and noon-6:45 p.m., Saturday-Sunday this weekend. They're open at 19444 Lathers, (248) 476-9700; at 9999 Harrison, (734) 421-9800; and at 3123 Van Clourt, (734) 524-0649. Resident fees are \$4 for adults, \$3 for age 3-17 and senior citizens. Non-residents pay \$7.50 for adults and \$5.25 for seniors, children and teens. Or head indoors at the Livonia Community Center, 15100 Hubbard, for fun in the leisure pool with its lazy river ride, water slide and sprayscape. Check online at www.ci.livonia.mi.us for day to day class and open swim times. Or call (734) 466-2900. A daily adult pass to the recreation center is \$7 for residents and \$14 for nonresidents. Youth fees vary, depending on age, from \$4 to \$7 for residents and \$8 to \$14 for nonresidents.

ON PARADE

- **In Plymouth**
The Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth sponsors the Good Morning USA 4th of July Parade that begins at 7:30 a.m., on Main street from Theodore to Hartsough.
- **In Northville**
Check out the Independence Day Parade at 10 a.m., in downtown Northville.

FESTIVALS

- **Plymouth Township**
The Independence Day Good Old Fashioned July 4th Picnic, runs 11 a.m.-4 p.m., in Township Park.
- **Westland Summer Festival**
The festival runs noon-dusk, July 3-5, at Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, in Westland. Midway rides and games, food, children's area, racing pigs, musical entertainment and more. (734) 335-7943; www.westlandfestival.org
- **Camerica CityFest**
The mid-town Detroit bash celebrates its 21st birthday, through Sunday, July 5. Includes four music stages, food, merchant area, kids' activities. Hours are 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m., Thursday, Friday and Saturday and 11:30 a.m.-8 p.m., in Detroit's Historic New Center. Admission is free. "Taste" tickets in the outdoor dining area are \$10 for 16 tickets. Musical headliners include Todd Rundgren, The Veronicas and Buddy Guy. www.newcenter.com/cityfest/2009
- **Camp Dearborn**
Annual Beach Bash, a family event, starts at 7 p.m., July 4 in Milford. Free open-air concert by Fifty Amp Fuse followed by spectacular fireworks. Food and beverages available for purchase.

CONCERTS

- **In Northville**
Randy Brock Group plays from 7-9 p.m., July 3, in Town Square, located on Main between Center and Hutton streets. Admission is free. (248) 349-0203

- **In Dearborn**
Hear the Detroit Symphony Orchestra play patriotic favorites at 6 p.m., July 3-4 at The Henry Ford's Greenfield Village. Fireworks follow "17th Annual Salute to America." Concert admission is \$12-\$50. (313) 576-5111; www.detroitssymphony.com
- **At Metroparks**
Square Pegs and The Mainstreet Drive perform 5:30-11 p.m. perform July 4 at Willow Metropark, Belleville; (800) 477-3182. Catch Billy Mack and Juke Joint Johnnies from 7-11 p.m., Friday, July 3, at Hudson Mills Metropark near Dexter/Ann Arbor; (734) 426-8211. Teen Angels take the stage at 6 p.m., July 3 at Lake Erie Metropark in Brownstown; (734) 379-5020.

ARTISTIC FUN

- **In Northville**
Art galleries and arts and crafts stores will be open 6-9 p.m., July 3 for First Friday Art Walk. Sponsored by the Northville Central Business Association.

NATURE LOVERS

- **Metroparks**
Learn about snakes and turtles during "Beasts on the Beach," Friday-Sunday, July 3-5, at Kensington Metropark in Milford. Take a bird hike at 7:30 a.m., July 4 at Hudson Mills Metropark near Ann Arbor. Bring binoculars and a field guide for observation. Fee is \$2 per person. Pre-registration required for bird hike at (734) 426-8211.

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Declare your independence from mundane cookout fare

The Best of Relish Cookbook, released last month by The Countryman Press, aims to make your Fourth of July celebration "so much more" than hot dogs, chips and potato salad this year.

Compiled by the editors of Relish Magazine, the book offers 150 recipes for newfound and favorite home-cooked dishes, covering everything from light soups to sides, hearty pastas, classic main dishes, hearty breakfasts, delectable desserts, and vegetarian entrees. The recipes run the gamut from down-home to upscale, with innovative replacements for the "same old" side dishes. Here's a sampling from the book, a \$24.95 hardcover:

MANDARIN PUNCH

- 1 large ripe banana
- 1/4 cups pineapple juice
- 1 quart fresh satsuma, tangerine or orange juice
- 1 cup gold rum
- 1/2 cup orange-flavored liqueur, such as Cointreau
- 1/4 cup dark rum, such as Myers
- 1/4 cup lime juice
- 2 tablespoons grenadine
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

Put a little more "punch" in this punch by adding a splash of ginger ale right before serving. Combine banana and pineapple juice in a blender or food processor; process until smooth. Pour into large pitcher. Stir in remaining ingredients. Pour over ice. Serves 8. Calories 250; fat 0g; chol. 0mg; prot. 0g; carbs. 35g; fiber 0g; sodium 110 mg per serving.

THAI TURKEY BURGERS

There are times when we all need a new way to season ground turkey. Thai ingredients were the inspiration for this juicy burger that serves four.

- 1 pound ground turkey (not breast meat)
- 4 green onions, minced
- 2 tablespoons minced fresh cilantro
- 2 teaspoons low-sodium soy sauce
- 1 teaspoon minced peeled fresh ginger
- Coarsely ground black pepper
- 4 hamburger buns

1. Combine all ingredients except buns in a large bowl; mix gently. Divide meat mixture into 4 equal portions, shaping each into a patty.



Thai Turkey Burger spices up the holiday grill.

2. Grill, broil or pan-fry until thoroughly cooked. Serve on hamburger buns. Calories 330; fat 14g; chol. 90mg; prot. 25g; carbs. 23g; fiber 1g; sodium 570mg per serving.

ORANGE MERINGUE PIE

A seasonal spin on this classic pie, perfect with a strong cup of tea. Serves eight.

- 2 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 1/4 cup melted butter
- Cooking spray
- 3 eggs, separated, room temperature
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract, divided
- 1/2 teaspoon salt, divided
- 2 1/2 cups fresh Satsuma, tangerine or orange juice, divided
- 1/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1/4 cup cornstarch
- 1/4 cup finely grated tangerine or orange rind
- 1/4 teaspoon cream of tartar
- 6 tablespoons powdered sugar

1. Preheat oven to 350F.
 2. Combine cracker crumbs and butter; toss with a fork until moist. Press into bottom of a 9-inch pie pan coated with cooking spray. Bake 10 minutes; cool.
 3. Increase oven temperature to 375F.
 4. Whisk egg yolks, 1/2 teaspoon vanilla, 1/4 teaspoon salt and 1/2 cup juice in a medium bowl until smooth.
 5. Combine 2 cups juice, granulated sugar, cornstarch and rind in a medium saucepan; whisk in egg yolk mixture. Cook over medium heat, whisking constantly, until thick and bubbling, about 5 minutes. Pour

into crust.
 6. Beat egg whites, cream of tartar, and 1/4 teaspoon salt in a large bowl with a mixer at high speed until foamy, about 1 minute. Beat in powdered sugar 1 tablespoon at a time; continue beating until soft peaks form. Beat in 1/2 teaspoon vanilla.
 7. Spread meringue over warm pie, sealing to crust's edges.
 8. Bake about 15 minutes, until lightly browned and set. Cool to room temperature on a wire rack before serving. Calories 290; fat 10; chol. 95mg; prot. 4g; carbs. 47g; fiber 1g; sodium 340mg per serving.



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Livonia woman shares recipe for holiday salad

Diane Meakin of Livonia loves spaghetti salad because "it's bursting with flavor" and tastes "even better" the next day. She offers the recipe to readers for Fourth of July weekend, but says she plans to make the salad at an annual backyard bash in August, celebrating her birthday and her husband's birthday. She calls it "Rick's Spaghetti Salad" after the friend who gave her the recipe.

RICK'S SPAGHETTI SALAD

- 1 pound spaghetti
- 1 seedless cucumber
- 2 medium tomatoes
- 1/2 purple onion
- 1 regular size Kraft zesty Italian dressing
- 1 bottle Durkee salad seasoning.

Cook spaghetti. Let cool. Dice tomatoes, cucumber and onions. Mix all ingredients and refrigerate for one hour. Enjoy!

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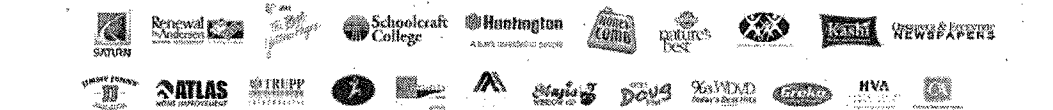
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