

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

> Volume 45 Number 27

**75 CENTS** 

### Check out the bargains at area garage sales inside today's Classified section



BSERVER



## AROUND TOWN

### Tax deadline

Haven't paid your summer property tax bill yet? Better hurry, the deadline is Monday, Aug. 31.

Property taxes can be paid by cash, check, cashier's check or money order at the treasurer's office in Westland City Hall. 36601 Ford, west of Wayne Road.

For more information, call the treasurer's department at (734) 467-3172.

### Garage sale

The popular Westland Community Garage Sale will be back in the parking lot between the Westland City Hall and Police Department from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 19.

The garage sale is sponsored by Westland Parks and Recreation Department and Westland Youth Assistance Program. Proceeds will benefit Westland Youth Assistance, Westland Therapeutic Recreation Program and the parks and recreation department.

Prime spaces are available for \$25 each, while non-prime spaces are \$20. For more information or to reserve a spot, call (734) 722-7620 or e-mail mmartin@cityofwestland.com.

### School goods

School bells will ring in Michigan after Labor Day, and the Sav-On Drug store at 190 S. Wayne Road at Cherry Hill will be collecting notebooks, pencils, crayons, and more to help those children in metro Detroit who may not be able to afford school supplies this year.

A box has been put at the front of the store to collect the donated supplies. Simply purchase a folder, pens, or any other school supply item of your choosing. Pay for your purchase at the register when you're finished shopping and then drop your donation in the school supply collection box.

Sav-On Drugs will then match the supply donations collected at all store locations and contribute the same amount. Deserving school districts will be contacted and supplies will be distributed to those Michigan children in need.

# **City adds Nixle to communications tool box**

### BY SUE MASON **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The City of Westland is now reaching out to residents through the latest technology to deliver the information they want the way they want it and when they want it.

The new community information service is provided free of charge to the city and the residents by Webbased Nixle. The service which was launched last week, provides "trustworthy and important neighborhood-level public safety and community events notifications" by the Internet, e-mail and cell phone.

"Better communication builds stronger, safer communities," said Mayor William Wild. "This is a unique opportunity to use new technology to communicate with

citizens in a way we never have before."

According to Daniel Bordeau, the city's information technology director. Nixle is "very comfortable tool to use even for non-technology people."

"It's easy to register for and the information comes to you in the time and format you want," he said. Nixle's municipal wire is the first standardized, secure and certified communication platform for local police departments, municipalities, and their agencies to communicate important, neighborhood-level information to residents. It delivers information to cell phones as text messages, to e-mails for computers and smart phone devices and

Please see NIXLE, A2

Andrew Kruczynski of Westland plays a soldier in "Up in the Air," starring George Clooney. The movie was filmed in March at Detroit Wayne County Metropolitan Airport.

# Churchill grad pursues acting career

### **Our Space** develops high school leadership

**BY JULIE BROWN** OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Lynn Malinoff's excited about an after-school program starting this fall at Wayne Memorial High School.

"It'll be youth-governed," said Malinoff, project director for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers at Eastern Michigan University.

The Wayne Memorial "Our Space" program will develop leadership among students other than those who serve on groups like Student Council. The school day will be extended, possibly with some morning time, and academic support for credit will be included.

We're hoping to get some mentoring going on," she said, adding information is online at

### Auditions

Inspiration Theatre has put out a casting call for its upcoming production of KORK-TV, an original comedy that will presented as a stage production in October and filmed as a pilot and shown on Access television.

Auditions will be held on Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 31 and Sept. 1, at the Warren Road Light and Life Church on Warren Road east of Wayne Road in Westland. The production is in need of at least five men and five women.

The play is about Reg and Simon, defrocked televangelists who are convicted of fraud and sent to a minimum security prison. But on the way, they are offered a chance at community service - turn a defunct TV station in the small town of Cork, Idaho, into a profitable enterprise.

Performance dates are Oct. 22-24, 30 and 31.

Auditions will be 7-9 p.m. For more information, call (734) 751-7057 or e-mail inspire@inspiretheatre.com.

### BY KEN ABRAMCZYK **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Michigan's sudden emergence as a filmmaking destination for Hollywood has Andrew Kruczynski hopeful that he can land a major role in a movie someday.

Kruczynski, a Westland resident and 2002 graduate of Churchill High School, had a speaking role in Lifetime's Prayers for Bobby, filmed in Royal Oak and Ferndale last year, and plays a U.S. soldier in the yetto-be-released Up in the Air with George Clooney.

"It's definitely helped," Kruczynski said of the filming activity in Michigan since tax credits were granted to draw filmmakers to the state last year. The Detroit area has been a magnet of activity for many of these filmmakers, including Livonia.

"Most of the auditions are in Troy or Southfield," Kruczynski said. "I've also been getting a lot of commercials."

He recently filmed one for Travel Michigan in Ann Arbor.

Kruczynski played a football player in Prayers for Bobby, a story about a tormented gay high school student played by Ryan Kelly and starring Sigourney Weaver. That student has a crush on the football player played by Kruczynski.

Kruczynski had his own trailer at the film locations in Royal Oak and Ferndale last summer. The movie came out in January.

He did not meet Weaver, but managed to meet Clooney during filming for Up in the Air at Detroit Wayne County Metropolitan Airport in March.

"It was pretty cool," Kruczynski said, adding that the role of a soldier was a non-speaking part.

He hopes to build on those small parts in the future.

"I would like to land some bigger roles and take some acting classes to get auditions for bigger roles," Kruczynski said. "But it's nice having all the small stuff like the commercials, too."

He's appeared in print ads for Homedics, a firm in Commerce Township; The Designate in Troy; and an Onstar ad, which is a print ad but is a commercial, too, he said.

"That's all happened within the last month," he said.

Kruczynski is hoping to land an audition for Red Dawn.

At 25, he knows he has work to do, but appreciates what he's landed so far.

"I think I need classes," he said. "It helps. My agent will continue to help me find parts I do well."

What's it like being part of movies like Up in the Air and Prayers for Bobby?

"It's exciting to be part of something that's big like that," Kruczynski said, "Just representing this area and representing Michigan. It's exciting."

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Institute for the Study of Children, Families and Communities, works mostly with Wayne-Westland. She's also working with Willow Run and Ypsilanti schools, focusing on the U.S. 12 corridor's needs.

She retired to EMU after a 30-year career with the Wayne-Westland Community Schools, where she was known for her skill in getting grants. Malinoff described federal grants that have helped students at Wayne Memorial, Ypsilanti and Willow Run high schools.

Federal grants also help families at Jefferson-Barns Elementary, Lincoln Elementary and Adams Middle schools in Wayne-Westland. The five-year grant totals \$750,000 a year. Franklin and Marshall Middle schools are

Please see **PROGRAM, A2** 

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### Westland gets first Kroger fuel center BY SUE MASON **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Kroger shoppers will be able to buy groceries and gas up following approval of a Kroger Fuel Station at its store at Merriman and Cherry Hill.

The Westland City Council has approved a site plan for the development which will offer shoppers per gallon discounts for shoppers with Kroger Plus cards.

"It's another example of a business investing more in the city," said Planning Director Bruce Thompson

The approval came a day after a new Kroger Fuel Center opened in Dearborn Heights, which **Councilman Charles Pickering** described as "an attractive addition to the area."

"I like the idea of more competition in the area," he said. "I think

this will create some competition." The first such fuel center in Westland, it will be located on the south end of the shopping center in an area currently occupied by a Charter One ATM machine. It will be a kiosk style gas station with five pumps, according to Thompson.

Its location will be south of the Merriman entrance to the shopping mall and will have no effect on the Burger King restaurant on the north side of the entrance.

"They're providing the service basically for Kroger shoppers," said Thompson.

The fuel center will offer discount gasoline based on how much Kroger shoppers spend in the store. The discounts are earned for spending at participating Kroger stores. Shoppers can save 10 cents per gallon applicable to up to four fill-ups a month based on spending between \$150 and \$750. The

discounts are earned on a monthly basis and must be used in the following month.

Kroger has made improvements at several of its stores in the area. In addition to the fuel center, it also remodeled its store on Ford north of Inkster as well as its store on Middlebelt north of Ford in Garden City.

Mayor William Wild recognized Kroger representatives for their investment in Westland, noting that it "follows on the heels of \$5.8 million expansion" of its store at Ford and Central City Parkway.

"That's a \$6.5 million investment in the community in just over 12 months," he said. "It will create jobs in Westland, and we're appreciative that they have stepped up and invested in Westland and in Michigan."

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



www.emubrightfutures.org. "Now they're in a safe, enrich-

### ing environment. Pretty cool stuff," she said of the "Our Space" endeavor.

Malinoff, with EMU's



### Who will it be?

A2

(W)

Eight women are vying for the opportunity to serve as Miss Wayne County in a pageant planned for Sept. 12, at Livonia Churchill High School. Posing with reigning Miss Wayne County Nicole Blaszczy (center) are Paula Langley (from left), Lauren Allen, Rachel Manna, Elyse Losen, Danielle Williams, Anjel Francisco, Jessica Wells and Teresha Hendricks. Langley of Novi, Manna of Farmington Hills and Williams of Newport all attend school in Wayne County. Allen lives in Inkster, Losen and Wells in Belleville; Francisco in Ypsilanti. Hendricks is a Westland resident. The pageant will be at 4:30 p.m. Churchill High School is on Newburgh Road just north of Joy.

# W-W schools offices open for registration

The countdown is on and for the parents of Wayne-Westland middle and high schoolers, this is the week to register students for the 2009-2010 school year.

For families who are new to the district, now is the time to visit their local school to get students registered. All of the district's school offices, including the elementaries are open as of this week to get students enrolled. The process isn't difficult,

but parents do need to provide several documents with them to register their children in time for the Sept. 8 start of school. Only a parent or legal guardian with proper paperwork can register a student.

Parents will need to bring their child's original birth certificate with a raised seal. The certificate must contain the name or names of the parent or parents. A hospital record of birth will not be

accepted.

Also required is a current immunization record as well as three proofs of residency. A parent must provide a current mortgage or lease agreement or tax statement or a Residency Affidavit, if they are living with someone and do not have a mortgage or lease agreement in their name. The individual with whom they are living with also must sign a "Support of Residency Consent Agreement" in the Department of Instruction and provide similar proofs of residency.

Any two of the following that show correct name and address will be accepted as further proof of residency - cellular phone statement, current bank statement, current charge card statement, current utility bills, current health insurance document, current auto insurance document, current IRS information, current

employment record, current DSS document, current court document or moving company statement.

Examples for those with a Residency Affidavit are a Michigan driver's license or state ID and any two pieces of business U.S. mail within 30 days of registration for the parent and a Michigan driver's license or state ID, mortgage coupon, warranty deed or original lease, two proofs of such things as utilities for the owner.

Families having trouble providing all of the required documentation can go to the pupil accounting office at the district's administrative offices at 36745 Marquette, west of Wayne Road, or call (734) 419-2092 for more information.

All documents must be current and within the last 30 days of the registration date.

### **Used Book Sale**

Friends of the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland, 6123 Central City Parkway, will have a Used Book Sale 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Sept. 18-19, with a special of buy 4 and get one free of same type item. The hours will be noon-4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 20, which also will be the Bag Day Sale. Bring in a medium size bag or buy a cool green reusable Friends

bag at the sale for \$2. Fill a bag item space \$1 per item. for \$4. Money raised pays for many of the programs at the library for all ages. For information, call (734) 326-6123.

### Mom-to-Mom sale

Table space is available for a Mom 2 Mom sale Saturday, Sept. 12, at Kirk of Our Savior Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, Westland. Rental fees are \$20 for an 8-foot long table and \$10 for 5-foot circular table. Rack space is \$5 and large

9 a.m. to noon. Admission will be \$2 for 9 a.m. early birds and \$1 after 10 a.m. Strollers will be allowed after 11 a.m. For more information, call Cheryl at (734) 425-3561 or (734) 765-8115.

### Constituent hours

The staff of U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, will hold office hours in several locations in September. The time is set aside so that the citizens served by the congressman have the opportunity to speak with a staff member one on one regarding any federal issue that they might have. Office hours for Tuesday,

Sept. 1, 9-10 a.m. at Livonia

**AROUND WESTLAND** 

Civic Park Senior Center, 10:30-11:30 a.m. at the Redford Community Center, 1-2 p.m. at the Maplewood Community Center in Garden City and 2:30-3:30 p.m. at the Westland senior Friendship Center. The Thursday, Sept. 3, office hours are 9-10 a.m. at the Canton Summit Senior Center, 11 a.m.noon at the Northville Senior Center, 12:30-1:30 p.m. at the Plymouth District Library and 2:30-3:30 p.m. at the Van Buren September Days Senior

Center. The congressman has two offices in Livonia and Milford the district to serve constituents. The Livonia office can be reached by calling (734) 6320314 and the Milford office is available at (248) 685-9495.

### Golf outing

The John Glenn High School Wrestling Program will hold its 12th Annual Golf Outing Fund-raiser Saturday, Sept. 19, at the Warren Valley Golf Course. The cost is \$85 for golf, cart, lunch at the turn and dinner. Dinner only guests are welcome, cost is \$25. Contact Coach Polk at rocketwrestling@gmail.com or Judy at (734) 634-4595 for more information or to make reservations. More information also is available online at glennwrestling.com. Hole sponsorship and donations are being accepted. All donations

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### Golf outing

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### PROGR

being added. The elementary and middle school components include a nutritious meal. homework help, enrichment

ing have been included. Resources from EMU and

the University of Michigan, where Malinoff also teaches, are used. U-M student-athletes from the baseball team used the sport to teach math at Wayne-Westland elementaries

centages. The young men talked about college, with business students focusing on rigors of that program at U-M.

"They also come from humble roots and they're good role models for the children," she said.

"We just treat them like they

can do it and they do," she

added, noting some children

and teens have attention defi-

cit disorder issues. The U-M players invited local students and their families to a baseball game, where they were a vocal cheering section.

Laura Beckman, principal at Jefferson-Barns Elementary, praised Malinoff's work in stu-

FROM PAGE A1

615 West Lafayette, Detroit, MI 48226



and clubs. "The kids tell us what they

want to learn," Malinoff said. Music, drama, karate and writ-



on the Nixle Web site at www. nixle.com.

"Nixle is the first-of its-kind tool for communities that need to provide critical information to their residents," said Nixle founder and CEO Craig Mitnick. "When it comes to public safety information, you have to trust the course. Residents can rest easy that the local messages they receive are authentic."

The service utilizes the same applications as Twitter and Facebook, but with an added identity certification to ensure that the information is "trusted and accurate." Signing up is

and Adams Middle School. They worked with secondfifth-graders in elementaries on graphing, ratios and per-

simple and can be completed by clicking on the Nixle box on the city's home page at www. cityofwestland.com.

Once signed up, subscribers can use the locations button to add as many addresses throughout the country as they want. They can also use the settings button to subscribe to only the information they want and whether they want it sent by text message, to a cell phone, by e-mail or through the Internet.

"It's a communication tool that people have to chose to receive the information," said Bordeau, who spent almost two months investigating the application which Wild was introduced to at the Conference of Mayors.

"Obviously, the administration sees a benefit for the community with as many residents as possible signing up."

Bordeau added that the city will have the ability to target information for specific areas or blocks in the city. He pointed to the recent barricade gunman of Harvey Street as an example.

City department heads spent three weeks get used to the system in advance of its rollout, posting items on a daily basis. Those messages included everything from an update of the H20 Spray Playground construction, energy tips from Mission: Green and invitation to the mayor's State of the City Address this evening to how

dent enrichment.

"We know how important it is for the kids to give back to the community," Beckman said.

to get \$1 off at the Bailey Recreation Center Pool by singing up for the service.

"It was very well received," he said. "Each department posted information about their operations every day for three weeks."

In its first four days following its announcement, 150 users had signed up for Nixle. Bordeau doesn't expect community participation to reach the "gold standard" of curbside recycling, he hopes people will opt in for the service.

"Our marketing campaign isn't fully launched, so to have 150 users, that's a good sign," he said. "It's a great communications tool."

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### **Public Notice**



**Office Of The Wayne County Treasurer Public Auction of Tax Foreclosed Property** September 14, 15\*, 16\* & 17\*, 2009 **International Center Building** 400 Monroe, 8th Floor Detroit, Michigan 48226

**BIDDER REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 8:00 A.M.** ACTION BEGINS AT 9:30 A.M. ON SEPT. 14. THEREAFTER AUCTION BEGINS AT 9:00 AM.

A \$1,000 cashiers check (U.S. funds) payable to the Wayne County Treasurer must be shown at registration and is required as a deposit for each parcel successfully bid.

Auction Rules and Regulations and list of properties:\*\* www.treasurer.waynecounty.com

The Wayne County Treasurer, as the foreclosing governmental unit, under Public Act 123 of 1999, reserves the right to remove any property from the sale and to reject any and all bids.

\*if necessary. \*\*Information available on the web page after August 20.

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### LOCAL NEWS

### Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, August 27, 2009

(WGc) A3

# County, IT firm open western Wayne tech center

#### BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It's appropriate that football season has started, because Wayne County and Plymouth Township officials apparently made a game-saving tackle that kept alive a partnership with technology expert Secure-24 both sides say should be mutually lucrative.

The county and Secure-24, which provides IT security. products and systems, along with Plymouth Township and various government officials, cut the ribbon Tuesday on the \$5 million, 18,000-square-foot Wayne County Technology **Resource Center on Helm** Court in Plymouth Township. Among the guests were Plymouth Township Treasurer Ron Edwards and Wayne **County Commissioners Laura** Cox, R-Livonia, whose district includes Plymouth, and Joan Gebhardt, D-Livonia, whose district includes Westland and part of Livonia.

The facility was designed to "offer and deliver critical IT services" to all 43 communities in Wayne County, as well as "creating capacity for private business IT services," according to Secure-24 vice president of sales Matt Wenzler. The center provides communities Information Technology infrastructure and disaster recovery services.

"Michigan doesn't have the kind of inclement weather issues that would cause us problems," said Wenzler, who pointed out Michigan is one of three states never to have a federally declared natural disaster. "They're using it as an economic incentive for out-ofstate business to come here." It was almost built to

attract business to north-



Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano talks on the phone while touring the new technology center, with which Wayne County partnered with IT expert Secure-24, after ribbon-cutting ceremonies in Plymouth Township Tuesday.

ern Ohio, which is where Secure-24 management had actually decided to build the center before Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano and Plymouth Township officials made them an offer they decided not to refuse, a deal that included tax incentives that drew the firm back into the state.

"We were going to leave until we were arm-wrestled to the ground by Wayne County and Plymouth Township," Wenzler said. "We were headed to Ohio, but Wayne County and Plymouth Township enticed us to stay here."

Both sides are calling the deal "a unique private/public partnership" that will reduce costs and create capacity for IT services for both government and private enterprise.

"It's the wave of the future," said Ficano, who said the deal would save the county some \$2 million per year. "In the past, government did its own IT work, and we couldn't keep up with the private sector. This shows we have the ability to think out of the box, and it shows government can function with a private entity."

Secure-24 invested an initial \$5 million to build the facility and expects its total investment to exceed \$10 million over the next several years. The facility, officials said, brings 40-50 jobs to the township now, but Secure-24 officials say the facility will generate more than 250 jobs in the county.

"It's not just the jobs we are creating, it's the jobs other companies create," said Secure-24 CEO Matthias Horch. "We're enabling them to grow their businesses."

Edwards said Secure-24's decision to build in the township, while helped along by the tax incentives, still shows "Plymouth Township keeps attracting businesses to the community."

"There's a quality of life here that's outstanding," Edwards said. "This community has a lot to offer."

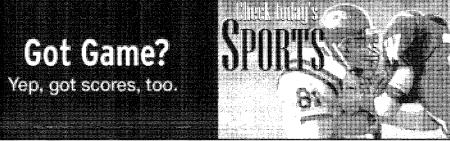
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PHOTOS BY JAMES WALLACE

Matt Wenzler of Secure-24, Tahir Kazmi of Wayne County, Plymouth Township Treasurer Ron Edwards, Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano and Wayne County Commissioners Laura Cox and Joan Gebhardt cut the ribbon on the new technology center in Plymouth Township.







(WGc) Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, August 27, 2009

# PUBLIC SAFETY

### Resident finds furniture missing from patio

### Larceny

**A4** 

A resident in the 29000 block of Hanover told police someone entered the garage and removed a John Deere generator sometime between noon July 3 and noon July 5. The man told

WESTLAND COP CALLS WESTLAND COP CALLS

and that the side door could be locked. Police found no signs of forced entry. • A resident of Colonial

Village on North Wayne Road came home to find her white wicker patio furniture missing from her patio. The theft occurred between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Aug. 20.

### Vandalism

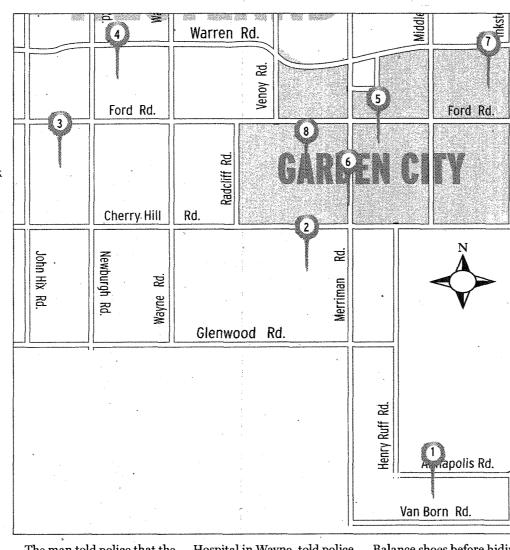
A resident of the 6000 block of Lakeview Boulevard told police that someone put a hole in the rear quarter panel of her 1999 Grand Am with an unknown object while it was parked at the Landings Apartment complex.

### Stolen license plate

A resident of the 32000 block of Hazelwood discovered someone had removed the license plate from her car between 1 a.m. and 6 a.m. Aug. 20. The woman said the car had been parked in the driveway behind the house and a closed gate and that the screws had been removed.

### Aggravated assault

A 34-year-old Westland man was arrested for aggravated assault and possession of marijuana following an altercation with another Westland man outside an apartment on Oakview Aug. 20.



The man told police that the victim, a 27-year-old Westland man, had approached him while he was getting his tools from his vehicle and hit him in the head several times. The men began fighting and the suspect told police that he grabbed a tuck knife from his tool box and that while wrestling with the suspect cut him on his back.

He told police the victim was much bigger then him and that he was trying to protect himself.

A witness told police she had heard arguing and looked in the hallway to see the two men. She also saw them wrestling and the victim step away and tell the suspect he had stabbed him. The victim, who was trans-

ported to Oakwood Annapolis

Hospital in Wayne, told police he had his back turned to the suspect when he cut him with a knife four times. He said he fainted and when he regained consciousness, he was on his way to the hospital.

The victim had four lacerations on his left shoulder, left elbow, left rib area and his mid back on the right side.

#### Shoplifting

A 37-year-old Southgate man is wanted in connection with a shoplifting incident at the Westland Meijer store Aug. 18.

Store security told police she watched the suspect take a Detroit Tigers shirt and walk to the shoe department where he put it on and removed the tags from a pair of New

Balance shoes before hiding them in the waistband of his pants.

The security officer said the man then left the store without stopping to pay for the items. She added that she recognized the man from an alert about a theft at the Allen Park Meijer store where he was warned about trespassing at all Meijer properties.

### Larceny from a vehicle

A resident told police someone broke into her car while it was parked in the 2000 block of Alberta between 10 p.m. Aug. 17 and 6 a.m. Aug. 18 and stole her care stereo system. According to police, there was damage to the vehicle and the woman didn't know how the culprit got into the car.

# Suspect treats self to ice cream in King Kone break-in

### Break-in

Someone broke into the King Kone ice cream stand at 31051 Ford Road before noon Aug. 19 by removing a window. No money was stolen, however, the culprit helped himself to ice cream while he was there, according to the police report.

#### Drunk driving

Inkster

Rd

6 A 26-year-old Westland man driving a 2004 Honda Accord was arrested at Cherry Hill and Merriman Aug. 19 for driving drunk. The police observed him swerving in and out of his lane.

The PBT registered .145 which is over the legal limit of 0.8..

### Property damage

Someone defaced a vehicle parked in the driveway in the 6000 block of Cardwell. The damage was discovered about 3 p.m. Aug. 10. The word "Die" was scratched on the rear quarter of the driver's side. Swear words also were found on the driver's door.

### Stolen bike

Someone stole a Schwinn bike Aug. 18 in the 29500 block of Winder. The bike was parked in the driveway about 45 minutes.

#### Property damage

Someone struck a car mirror and left it dangling by the wires sometime before 7:15

### **GARDEN CITY COP CALLS**

a.m. Aug. 19 in the 31700 block of Pardo.

### Stolen property

The owners of a 1998 Ford Explorer and a 2004 F150 parked in the 31700 block of Sheridan Aug. 19, discovered that items were stolen from the vehicle.

About 50 CDs, a cell phone charger, change and an iPod accessory were taken from the SUV. Two cell phone chargers, change, sunglasses, five CDs and a ball and hitch were taken from inside the truck.

These vehicles were parked in the street unlocked along with a 2009 Ford from which an iPod, USB cable and a cell phone charger were taken.

### Larceny

Several items were reported stolen about 9 a.m. Aug. 9 from the Merriman Road Baptist Church at 2055 Merriman. Taken were a video camera, a TV lens, a zoom, mounting, bracket, adapter and view finder.

### Larceny

A 30-year-old Dearborn Heights man said that during the time he was inside a building at 28050 Ford on Aug. 16 getting a hair cut, someone broke the driver's side window on his 2004 Land Rover and stole his wife's purse.

- By Sue Buck

# **Expert Care Close to Home**

### Same or Next Day Appointments Available

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communication. Dr. Zaid provides complete care for the entire family with special interest in childhood asthma, dermatology, diabetes and osteopathic manipulation.

### Rebecca Studinger, M.D., M.S.

Plastic, Cosmetic and Reconstructive Surgeon

26850 Providence Pkwy Ste 125 Novi 3270 W. Big Beaver Ste 415 Troy

Phone: 248-305-8400



Fellowship trained in microsurgical reconstruction and specialty trained in lymphatic reconstruction for lymphedema. Dr. Studinger offers the most advanced breast reconstructive procedures and a full range of cosmetic procedures such as tummy tucks, face lifts, brow lifts, breast augmentation, Botox and facial fillers.

### Kelly Burke, M.D. Obstetrics & Gynecology

26850 Providence Pkwy Ste 315 Novi Phone: 248-465-4340 www.yourobgyns.com

Committed to listening to patient concerns Dr. Burke provides the highest quality care for women of all generations. A background in

social work and medicine blends to provide compassionate obstetrical and gynecological care with a special focus on adolescent gynecology and minimally invasive surgery.



### A. Damadi, M.D. Colorectal Surgeon

26850 Providence Pkwy Ste 425 Novi 22250 Providence Dr. Ste 702 Southfield Phone: 248-557-9650

Specialized in colonoscopy, cancer screenings, minimally

invasive management of diverticulitis, colorectal cancer and treatment of hemorrhoids.



### Todd Frush, M.D. Orthopaedic Surgeon

26750 Providence Pkwy Ste 200 Novi 22250 Providence Drive Ste 401 Southfield Phone: 248-349-7015 www.porrettacenter.com



Fellowship trained in sports

medicine and orthopaedic surgery. Coordinates care with other physicians, physical therapists, and athletic trainers. Specializes in arthroscopic surgery, knee replacements, cartilage restoration, rotator cuff repair, knee ligament reconstruction, tennis elbow and other sports related injuries.

### Mubashir Sabir, M.D.

General and Bariatric Surgeon

26850 Providence Pkwy Ste 460 Novi Phone: 248-662-4272 27483 Dequindre Ste 204 Madison Heights Phone: 866-823-4458 www.stjohnweightloss.com



Fellowship trained in bariatric surgery at University Medical Center at Princeton and performing bariatric and general surgery since 2005, Dr. Sabir offers a full range of surgery services to his patients. His special interest is bariatric surgery which he offers as part of St. John Weight Loss, a Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence.

### Madhuri Gudipaty, M.D.

Obstetrics and Gynecology

26850 Providence Pkwy Ste 500 Novi Phone: 248-662-4388 www.womensdocs.com

Dedicated to providing comprehensive women's health care including pregnancy, child

birth, menstrual problems and menopause management with an emphasis on wellness through annual physicals, pap smears, breast exams, and preventive medicine.

ROVIDENC



### Susan Lyons, M.D., Ph.D.

Oncology and Hematology

47601 Grand River 2 South Novi Phone: 248-344-2000 22301 Foster Winter Drive Ste 200 Southfield Phone: 248-552-0620

www.newlandmedical.com



Dedicated to providing optimal, state of the art and progressive care for cancer and hematologic conditions. Combines vast research and clinical experience to provide maximal benefit for her patients while focusing on quality of

### **COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

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

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Ronald McDonald House Gala** The Ford Motor Company is presenting The Ronald McDonald House Gala on Sept. 26 at The Detroit Institute of Arts. The Southeastern Michigan McDonald's Operators Association and DTE Energy will host this black-tie gala with all proceeds benefiting the Ronald McDonald Houses of Detroit and Ann Arbor. Formerly known as Aviators' Ball, the Gala is in its fifth year. The event will include dinner, live and silent auctions, entertainment, an afterglow party and many surprises throughout the evening. The Ronald McDonald Houses of Detroit and Ann Arbor provide a "home away from home" each year to nearly 1,600 families whose children are hospitalized nearby with serious illnesses. For Ronald McDonald House Gala tickets and sponsorship information, call (734) 316-2511 or visit the website at www.rmhgala.com.

### Car show

American Legion Post 32 host a car show 5-8 p.m. every Thursday evening throughout the summer at the post, 9318 Newburgh, just south of Ann Arbor Trail. The post kitchen is open and serves a variety of dinners for \$7 each and also have grilled items like hot dogs, hamburgers and sloppy joes outside. There also is a DJ, 50/50 raffle and bake sale hosted by the American Legion Riders. Everyone is welcome.

#### Blood drive

The Westland Jaycees and the Westland Rotary Club have partnered Higher Rock Cafe up to host a blood drive 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 4, at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36551 Ford, Westland. Donors must be at least 17 years old to donate. Those who are age 21 and older will be entered to win a 20 month lease on a 2010 Mercury Milan and donors age 17 and older will be entered to win four Cedar Pointe tickets plus a \$50 gas card. Everyone will receive a free T-shirt from the American Red Cross. To sign up for an blood donation appointment, call Mary McGaw at (734) 748-8515.

### **School registration**

St. Damian School is accepting students for the 3-4-year-old preschool program as well as students in kindergarten through eighth-grade. The school is fully accredited by MNSAA, with certified, experienced teachers, hot lunch program and many other school programs and extracurricular activities. A licensed morning and afternoon latchkey is available. School tours are available their name and telephone number so that their call can be returned and the registration process can be completed.

#### **Academic Pathways**

Academic Pathways Cooperative Preschool, at 30330 Schoolcraft, Livonia, will host open house 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 3. The preschool has a three-year-old program that runs 9:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday and a four-year-old program that runs 9:30-11:30 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Potty training is not required. Low cost tuition available. For more information, visit the Web

site at www.academicpathwayspreschool.com or call (734) 261-9540. **Used Book Sale** 

Friends of the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland, 6123 Central City Parkway, will have a Used Book Sale 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Sept. 18-19, with a special of buy 4 and get 1 free of same type item. The hours will be noon-4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 20, which also will be the Bag Day Sale. Bring in a medium size bag or buy a cool green reusable Friends bag at the sale for \$2. Fill a bag for \$4. Money raised pays for many of the programs at the library for all ages. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

### Fish Dial-A-Ride

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

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

### FOR YOUR HEALTH Substance abuse support

A SAFE PLACE meets at 7 p.m. Thursdays in the Fellowship Hall at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City. A SAFE PLACE is based on the Alcoholics for Christ program. For more information, call Russ Weathers at (734) 422-1995.

### Menopause & More

A Menopause & More support group for women meets 7-9 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month in Classroom 2 of the west addition of the Marian

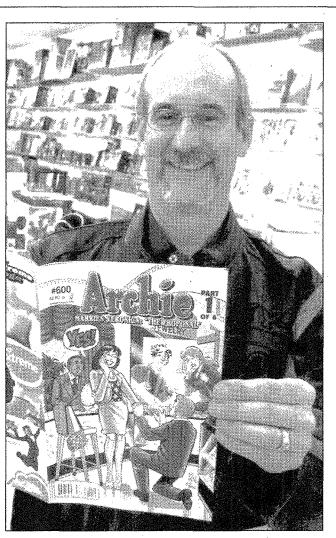


PHOTO BY DAVID L. MALHALAB/ M NEWS SERVICE

### Say it isn't so

able. For more information on these

programs, or to enroll your child, call

the YWCA's Education Department at

(313) 561-4110, Ext. 10.

David Mitchell of Livonia read it, so it's gotta be true: Archie proposes to Veronica. Shocked readers of Archie comics learned in the 600th issue, now at comic book stores near you, that Archie chose Veronica over Betty, after 68 years. Will Betty turn to Jughead for consolation and romance? Mitchell thinks so. A comic book collector for 16 years, he believes Archie will marry Veronica and that Jughead will be the shoulder that Betty cries on. For more about Archie, go online to www.archiecomics.com or visit Comic Archives in Redford, Back to the Past Comics in Livonia or A to Z Comics in Garden City.

### VOLUNTEERS

#### Home-based programs are also avail-First Step

First Step, which has been active in the effort to end domestic violence and sexual assault in western Wayne County and Downriver communities

for more than 20 years, is looking for volunteers. Interested people must be at least 18, willing and able to travel to the Downriver area and complete a 55-hour training program. Call (734) 416-1111, Ext. 223. Drivers

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

#### **VNA Hospice**

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

#### Seasons Hospice

Seasons Hospice and Palliative Care is looking for volunteers to provide companionship to patients dealing with life limiting illness. No special skills, other than objectivity and compassion, are needed. Training provided. Volunteers are matched with patients in their own community. For more information please call Ruth at (800) 370-8592.

### **Literacy Council**

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

Heartland Hospice is looking

for caring and dedicated people with an interest in serving terminally ill patients and their families in Washtenaw, western Wayne, Monroe and Livingston counties. Volunteers provide a variety of services including companionship, light housekeeping, errand running, grief support and clerical services. For more information, contact volunteer coordinator Candice Jones, (888) 973-1145.

### **ORGANIZATIONS**

The Friends of Eloise meets at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month (except July, August and December) at the Collins House in the Westland Historic Village Park, on Wayne Road between Marguette and Cherry Hill. For information, call Jo Johnson (734) 522-3918.

#### Writing Group

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

TOPS

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) MI28 of Westland meets at 7 p.m. Mondays at Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne Road, at Hunter, Westland. For more information, call Pat Strong at (734) 326-3539 or Mary Lowe at (734) 729-6879.

#### **Democratic Club**

The Garden City Democratic Club meets at 7 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month (September through June) in Room 5 of the Maplewood Center, Maplewood west of Merriman.

### **CITY OF WESTLAND COUNTY OF WAYNE, MICHIGAN**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON AMENDMENT TO DEVELOPMENT AND TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN OF THE WESTLAND DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS IN THE CITY OF WESTLAND:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of the City of

#### FORD ROAD LIGHTING / ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

It would be desirable to continue the decorative lighting project on Ford Road west from Central City Parkway to the Ford Road Overpass. These projects would include easement acquisition; removal of cobra style lighting and placement of decorative lighting; landscaping; irrigation system improvements; installation of identification signs, entry way signs and street signs; traffic signals; and related intersection improvements.

### WAYNE ROAD LIGHTING/ENHANCE PROJECT

It would be desirable to start a lighting and enhancement project on Wayne Road from Ford Rd. South to Marquette. These projects would include easement acquisition; removal of cobra style lighting and placement of decorative lighting; landscaping; irrigation system improvements; installation of identification signs, street signs; traffic signals and related intersection improvements.

### (WGc)

A5

# **Friends of Eloise**

upon request. St. Damian School is at 29891 Joy in Westland. Call (734) 427-1680 for more information or visit the school's website at www.stdamian. com.

#### Crafters needed

St. Theodore CCW has table rental available for \$25 for its Fall Craft Show 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 10, at the church, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Contact Mary at (734) 425-4421 (voicemail 10) or Mary Ellen at (734) 261-8821. No vendors. · Crafters are needed for the 21st annual Arts and Crafts Show Saturday, Nov. 21, at Sts. Peter & Paul Church Hall, 750 N. Beech Daly, Dearborn Heights. For more information, call Deb Moga at (248) 946-0173 or Virginia Moore at (734) 522-9653.

### **Community Baby Shower**

Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency's 12th Annual Community Baby Shower will be held 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 24, at Wayne County Community College's Downriver Campus in Taylor. The Community Baby Shower is a free event for low-income expectant parents and those with infants up to 3 months of age by Sept. 24. Parents will receive valuable information and resources regarding their new bundles of joy. Guest speakers will share information regarding family safety, parenting tips and healthy relationships. Participants will also enjoy lunch, prizes and raffles throughout the event. Call for information regarding on-site childcare. Space is limited. Call (734) 246-2280, Ext. 122, for more information or to register. Callers who reach a voice mailbox should leave

Women Center of St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. No registration is necessary, and the group is free of charge. Call (734) 655-1100.

#### Counterpoint

Counterpoint Shelter and Crisis Center offers free counseling and respite services for people ages 10-17 and their families. For more information, call (734) 563-5005.

#### Toughlove

A Toughlove support group meets 7:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Northwest Wayne Skill Center, Ann Arbor Trail between Merriman and Farmington roads, Newcomers welcome, Call (734) 261-7880 or (248) 380-7748.

### EDUCATION

#### Willow Creek

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

#### St. Damian

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

#### YWCA preschool

The YWCA of Western Wayne County's Education Department offers guality preschool programs to children aged 2-5 years old at no cost to most families. There are many locations available throughout the community.

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#### GARDEN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT 6000 MIDDLEBELT GARDEN CITY, MI 48135

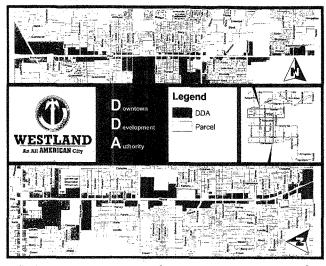
THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES HAVE BEEN DEEMED ABANDONED AND WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION ON Tuesday September 1, 2009 AT 9:00 A.M. THE AUCTION IS TO BE HELD AT WESTLAND CAR CARE TOWING, 6375 HIX RD., WESTLAND, MI 48185.

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

YEAR & MAKE	STYLE	VIN #
2001 FORD	4D	1FAFP5U31G2866049
1988 FORD	4D	2FAPP36X2JB199994
2000 FORD	4D	1FAFP56SXYA139379
1993 FORD	4D	1FALP52U2PG248098
1992 MERCURY	4D	2MELM75WXNX702115
1981 YAHAMA	MC	4R3000282
2006 HONDA	MC	JH2SC57006M206186
Publish: August 27, 2009		

Westland, Michigan, will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, the 8th day of September, 2009, at 7:00 o'clock, p.m., prevailing Eastern Time at the City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan, to consider the adoption of an ordinance approving an amendment to the Development and Tax Increment Financing Plan for the Westland Downtown Development Authority pursuant to Act 197 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1975, as amended.

> The boundaries of the development area to which the Plan Amendment applies are as follows:



Copies of the proposed amendment to the Development and Tax Increment Financing Plan, maps, plats, etc. are on file at the office of the City Clerk for inspection.

At the public hearing, all interested persons desiring to address the City Council shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard in regard to the approval of the Development and Tax Increment Financing Plan for the Westland Downtown Development Authority and all aspects of the Plan will be open for discussion at the public hearing.

FURTHER INFORMATION may be obtained from the City Clerk's office.

This notice is given by order of the City Council of the City of Westland, Michigan.

Eileen DeHart, CMC Clerk, City of Westland

#### 2009 Amended Projects Descriptions

#### FORD ROAD REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

The proposed redevelopment area within the Central Ford Road Corridor is a half-mile commercial district on Ford Road between Central City Parkway and Wayne Road Projects would include: the relocation of utilities; landscaping and beautification projects, including fountains; irrigation system improvements; facade improvements; construction of public gathering areas; parks; installation of directional signs; the construction, repair, and reconstruction of new and existing streets, including all related storm drainage, curb and gutter, water mains, sewer mains, and sidewalks; the acquisition, construction, and reconstruction of various parking facilities; easement acquisition; the installation of new street lighting; installation of bench seating tree planting and sign improvements

#### FORD ROAD OVERPASS BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT

The project shall consist of improvements to overpass structure, replacement of the cobra style lights and placement of new decorative lighting, entry way signage, landscaping and irrigation and the placement of banners.

#### MARKETING OF DISTRICT

A strategic marketing campaign will take place to attract people and economic activity to the downtown district, including but not limited to the placement of banners on street lights throughout the district, outdoor concerts, farmers markets and other public activities.

#### PARK AND PUBLIC AREA IMPROVEMENTS

The DDA intends to finance public portions of a proposed Municipal Complex including public parking areas related pedestrian walkways and open spaces and related public infrastructure. Improvements to park property would include sidewalk improvements; infrastructure improvements the addition of equipment, structures and outdoor furniture.

#### Statement of the Construction or Stages of Construction Planned and the Estimated Time of Completion and Estimate

The time schedule for construction of the public improvements for the Development Area is outlined in Appendix A.

#### Portions of the Development Area which the Authority Desires to Sell, Donate, Exchange or Lease to or from the Municipality and the Proposed Terms

Land may be acquired by the Authority by purchase or otherwise for the purpose of redevelopment. Land assembly for the redevelopment generally involves the acquisition of a number of parcels to provide an area of sufficient size to attract proposals for redevelopment. The Authority has not identified a specific site or sites for land assembly and redevelopment at the time of approval of the 2009 Amended Plan. Acquisition may be undertaken by the Authority, by the City or by private developer(s).

The Authority may also acquire properties on a piecemeal basis in order to accomplish the purposes of the Authority. This may include property acquisition of blighted or contaminated property or property that has been used for purposes inconsistent with the Original Plan.

#### Estimate of the Cost of the Development, Proposed Method of Financing and Ability of the Authority to Arrange the Financing

The estimated costs of the improvement program are outlined in Appendix A. Financing of the development projects as described in the 2009 Amended Plan will be carried out in accordance with requirements of P.A. 197 of 1975. The Authority may pay all or part of the costs of the development program described in the 2009 Amended Plan with tax increment revenues collected during the duration of the 2009 Amended Plan. In addition, the Authority may issue bonds or request the City to issue bonds on behalf of the Authority in order to pay part of the costs of the development program. If bonds are issued, tax increment revenues will be used to pay principal of and interest on the bonds as well as related costs.

#### Maximum Amount of Bonded Indebtedness to be Incurred

The maximum bonded indebtedness to be incurred under the original plan was set at \$3,000,000.00. That bonding limit is repealed by the 2009 Amended Plan. The maximum bonded indebtedness to be incurred under the 2009 Amended Plan to finance the projects set forth therein shall not exceed \$20,000,000.00. Capital projects may be financed from tax increment revenues received by the DDA, proceeds of various types of bond issues and other sources approved by the City and in accordance with P.A. 197 of 1995.

#### **Duration of the Development Program**

The maximum duration of the Plan at its inception was fifteen years (through June 30, 2010) The 2009 Amended Plan extends the original duration by fifteen additional years and will terminate upon the collection of the last taxes levied for the year 2025, unless this 2009 Amended Plan is amended to extend or shorten its duration.

Publish: August 13 and 27, 2009

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# Lawmakers press for passage of bills to help unemployed

As unemployment hovers at 15 percent with 731,000 residents out of work. State Reps. Bob Constan, D-Dearborn Heights, Dian Slavens, D-Canton, and Deb Kennedy, D-Brownstown are calling on the State Senate to act immediately to extend unemployment benefits to Michigan's struggling workers.

With a massive surge in the number of workers exhausting their benefits expected to begin today (Aug. 27), the lawmakers warned that by year's end nearly 100,000 Michigan workers will have their unemployment lifeline cut unless action is taken.

"More and more of our hard- program would be eligible

here in southeast Michigan are losing their unemployment lifeline, even as they continue. to search for a good-paying job," Slavens said. "Michigan's workers are second to none, and we must stand by them through these trying times. It's time for the Senate to put the pedal to the metal and vote to extend this much-needed funding to our working families before it's too late." Under the lawmakers' plan, House Bills 4785 and 4786, which passed the House in May, unemployed workers who seek new skills by enrolling in a vocational or retraining

working men and women right for an additional 26 weeks of unemployment benefits. These benefits will be automatically provided to workers who are in a declining industry and enter an approved training program that prepares them for entry into new fields.

These benefits also would be provided to workers who lost their job through no fault of their own and are now working part-time. For more than three months, the State Senate has failed to act on the plan, while more displaced workers fall behind, the three Democrats said.

Federal stimulus dollars would cover unemployment benefits for workers in retraining for at least the next twothree years. Without Senate passage of the plan, Michigan stands to lose out on more than \$138 million in unemployment assistance to struggling workers and their families as part of the American **Recovery and Reinvestment** Act.

In July, 731,000 residents reported being unemployed. according to the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor and Economic Growth. Through December, the number of workers statewide who will exhaust their unemployment benefits claims is expected to reach nearly 100,000, including 25,689 in

Wayne County.

While investment firms and banks get rewarded despite making poor business decisions, Michigan families who worked hard and played by the rules are being ignored," Kennedy said. "This is unacceptable. Our workers built the middle class, and they deserve the opportunity to enter training programs that will help them land a good-paying job in a highdemand field."

House lawmakers have launched an online petition to rally support for the plan to extend the unemployment lifeline to Michigan's struggling workers. Residents can sign

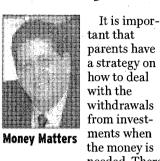
the petition by visiting www. housedems.com/petitions and clicking on the unemployment petition graphic.

"Too many of our workers have lost their jobs because of outsourcing or downsizing, leaving many families struggling to pay the bills and put food on the table," Constan said. "Unless the Senate takes action on our plan. thousands of these working families will see their last lifeline slip away. I urge the Senate to join us in supporting our workers through these tough economic times and ensuring they have the skills they need to get back on their feet."

# Handle college savings plans with careful thought

t's hard to believe that there's only another month or so of summer. One issue many families face every fall is how to pay for their child's college education. This puts pressure on families and this year more than even because of the recession and the high unemployment in Michigan.

Most of the time when I discuss a college education it generally deals with saving. My advice is always to start early and to recognize that the cost of college is increasing faster than anything in our society other than health care.



with the withdrawals from investments when the money is

needed. There **Rick Bloom** is no one right answer when it comes to withdrawals. It all depends upon one's individual situation. However, there are some factors to take into con-

sideration when it's time to

I prefer to use the taxable accounts first and once those are exhausted begin withdrawing from the 529 accounts. My reasoning is partly based on what has happened to the market over the last year. Many college saving accounts have taken a beating and the tax ramifications can be considerable.

withdraw money from a college savings account.

Typically, a college savings plan can be divided into two separate areas - money that is invested in taxable accounts and money that is invested in tax-free accounts, such as 529 plans. I prefer to use the taxable accounts first and once those are exhausted begin withdrawing from the 529 accounts. My reasoning is partly based on what has happened to the market over the last year. Many college saving accounts have taken a beating and the tax ramifications can be considerable.

In a taxable account, if you sell the investment and have a loss, you are going to be able to deduct that loss on your tax return. On the other hand, because of the nature of 529 accounts, losses are not deductible. Therefore, if you have losses, like many people do, you might as well take advantage of them. And because 529 plans grow tax free, you want to take advantage of that opportunity for as long as you can.

Another reason to use taxable money first is the new American Opportunity Tax Credit. We used to have some-

Cheer for the

thing called the Hope Credit to provide relief for college tuition. The Hope Credit expired last year and has been replaced by the American Opportunity Tax Credit.

The American Opportunity Tax Credit is available only for 2009 and 2010 and provides a \$2,500 credit for qualified education expenses. The old Hope Credit was an \$1,800 credit.

Another good thing about the American Opportunity Tax Credit is it can be used for any year of college. The Hope Credit was only available for the first two years of college.

In addition, the income limits to take advantage of the American Opportunity Tax Credit have increased from the Hope Credit. If you were single, the maximum amount of income to qualify for the Hope Credit was \$58,000. That has now been increased to \$90,000. For married couples who filed returns jointly, the income limit has risen from \$160,000 to \$180,000.

The American Opportunity Tax Credit allows you to obtain the tax credit on your federal return for 100 percent of eligible costs up to \$2,000, plus 25 percent of college cost of more

momslike

OE08618342

than \$2,000. In other words, to take advantage of the full \$2,500 credit you will need at least \$4,000 in college costs.

The one hiccup with the American Opportunity Tax Credit is that eligible college costs cannot be paid from a 529 or even a Ĉoverdell Education Savings account. Therefore, depending upon the cost of college you need to make sure you coordinate the 529 and American Opportunity Tax Credit.

The American Opportunity Tax Credit is only available for 2009 and 2010, therefore, you generally want to use this credit first before you touch your 529 plan.

For those who have children going to college in the fall, now is the time to coordinate the different accounts and know what accounts you should access and what accounts you should let grow. A good, wellthought-out strategy always works to your benefit. 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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Mail to: Observer Newspapers, 41304 Concept Dr., Plymouth, MI 48170

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(WGc)

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### For more information, please call 1-866-887-2737

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# Goin' Hollywood

Local teens win shot at filmmaking contest

#### BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

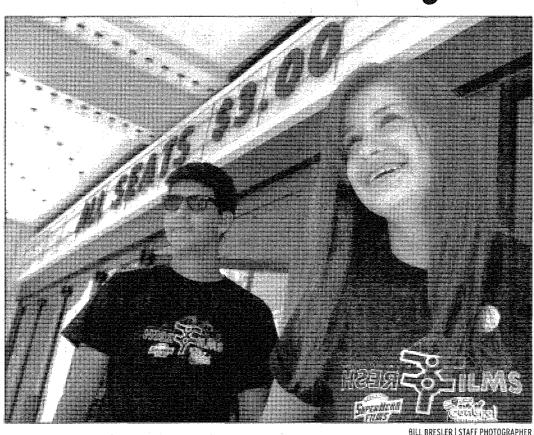
After shooting a short film about a quiet, bullied high school boy who becomes a superhero, a young moviemaking crew including five Canton, Plymouth and Plymouth Township teens will compete to win a nationwide competition.

But they'll need all the support they can get during a seven-day, online voting contest.

The teens shot their film, Zero to Hero, in July at the vacant Parker High School in Howell, after beating out thousands of youngsters who sought an opportunity to work with Chicago-based Fresh Films, the nation's top filmmaking competition for teens.

Fresh Films assembled teen film crews in six U.S. cities, including the Detroit area, and chose youngsters who stood out after going online to fresh-films.com and making a personal sales pitch including essays about their interest in movies.

Fresh Films, using short film scripts from a separate contest, rolled into town in July after assigning Zero to Hero to teen filmmakers Danielle Allen, Kristen Riggs and Eric Schendel of Canton; Ben Corona of Plymouth Township; Joe Wafer of Plymouth; Nicholas Rossano of Detroit; Jesse Gilbert of Shelby Township; Garrett Roodbergen of Vicksburg; and Peter Kangas, who came all the way from Iowa City, Iowa.



Danielle Allen of Canton and Ben Corona of Plymouth Township, here in front of the Penn Theater in downtown Plymouth, are part of a team of young filmmakers vying to win a national competition.

### **FRESH FILMS**

Who: Canton teens Danielle Allen, Kristen Riggs and Eric Schendel, Ben Corona of Plymouth Township and Joe Wafer of Plymouth, among other teen filmmakers
What: Online movie challenge
Where: Vote at fresh-films.com
When: Aug. 27 through Sept. 2
Why: Movie shot by local teens will compete against two other films for an eventual shot at screening at a major film festival.

Sitting in a grassy area of Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth, Allen, 14, and Corona, 17, discussed the film crew's project during an interview arranged by Alana Bardauskis, who handles publicity for Dreaming Tree Films, producers of Fresh Films.

Allen, who will be a freshman this year at Plymouth High School, recalls her reaction when she received a phone call in late June confirming she had been chosen to help make Zero to Hero.

"I screamed," said Allen, who has dreamed of working in the film industry after acting in school plays since early childhood and performing at Canton's Village Theater at Cherry Hill. "It was unbelievable."

Allen had studied media production at Pioneer Middle School, and Corona had taken an advanced video class at Plymouth High, where he will be a senior this year. They both aspire to work in the film industry, but they hadn't dreamed of getting a chance this early in life.

Fresh Films set up shop at Staybridge Suites in Novi for a seven-day production, but Zero to Hero was actually shot during one long, 12-hour day in July at the Howell school. The teen crew earlier had to grasp movie-making duties such as handling auditions of nearly 200 people, choosing five actors, working the film equipment and arranging for on-set food catering. They worked cameras, sound mixers and boom microphones.

"I could definitely see myself directing motion pictures as a career," Corona said.

The film crew rotated their movie-making responsibilities, and Allen said one of the most difficult jobs included shooting a fast-paced scene as an actor rushed up a stairwell. Small duties, like making sure no one tripped over electrical cords, became a challenge.

"But all of our hard work has finally paid off," Allen said.

The teens haven't yet seen the final film, which will be no longer than 10 minutes. It tells the story of a loner, Arthur, who ultimately uses his telekinetic powers to rescue a



Members of the Fresh Film-Detroit film crew include (front, from left) Joe Wafer of Plymouth, Ben Corona of Plymouth Township, Kristen Riggs and Danielle Allen of Canton, and (back) Nick Rossano of Detroit, Jesse Gilbert of Shelby Township, Eric Schendel of Canton, Peter Kangas of Iowa City, Iowa, and Garrett Roodbergen of Vicksburg.

classmate, Aubrey, from what Corona described as "this psycho guy."

Now comes the real challenge: Zero to Hero will compete against two other superhero, Slurpee-sponsored films Aug. 27 through Sept. 2 during a free, unlimited, online voting competition at fresh-films. com. It will be up against films made in Dallas, Texas, and Orlando, Fla., and all the movies will be shown on the Fresh Films site.

"Log on and rock the vote," Corona said, "so we can start putting Detroit on the map to have another film capital."

Voters will be able to see online how the films are faring in competition. For now, teen filmmakers are promoting their movie on social networking sites like Facebook and MySpace, and they are arranging a laptop computer voting party for 6-11 p.m. Friday, Aug. 28, at the Oasis Cafe, 33523 Eight Mile Road, in Livonia, Allen said.

The superhero film receiving the most votes will face yet another — and final — voting competition Sept. 10-16, also at fresh-films.com. It will square off against the top vote-getter among three teen-made comedy films from New York, Los Angeles and Chicago.

(WGc)

A7

"Last year, we had more than three million votes come through," Bardauskis said. The overall winner will

be shown at a yet-to-beannounced, major film festival, she said, and all the movies are eventually expected to debut nationwide on DIRECTV. Moreover, they will be reviewed around voting time on the Fresh Films site by writer-director Adam McKay (Anchorman and Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky *Bobby*) and writer-producer Chris Henchy (Land of the Lost) - two of the creative minds behind the Web site Funny or Die, www.funnyordie.com.

Teens who made the overall winning film will receive film editing software and small, handheld movie cameras, and it's possible they could get to attend their film festival debut. "We're still exploring that," Bardauskis said.

Regardless, the filmmakers have had an experience they will remember a lifetime.

"It has been amazing," Allen said.

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(\$1 - \$1 Rake is 10% of pot up to \$5 max, \$1 - \$2 Rake is 10% of pot up to \$6 max) (\$2 - \$5 Rake is 10% of pot up to \$7 max)

\$1 - \$1 Blinds \$1 - \$100 max bet per round (Buy-in \$10 - \$50).......Hold'em \$1 - \$2 Blinds \$2 - \$1000 max bet per round (Buy-in \$50 - \$200).....Hold'em \$2 - \$5 Blinds \$5 - \$2000 max bet per round (Buy-in \$100 - \$300).....Omaha \$2 - \$5 Blinds \$5 - \$2000 max bet per round (Mixed Games)...Round by Round

### **Tournament Schedule**

(80% payback on all tournament entry fees and 15% of the field place in the \$MONEY\$)

Day & Time	Entry Fee	Starting chips	Blinds	Re-Buys	Charity Add-on	Prize Pool (Based on 50 players)
Thurs. 7:30 pm	\$5	\$2,000	20 Minutes	Unlimited (till 1 <sup>st</sup> break) \$2000 TC's for \$5 \$5000 TC's for \$10 \$10000 TC's for \$20 Must be \$10000 or less to RB	\$10000 in chips for \$10	<u>\$1000*</u> 1 <sup>st</sup> Place \$440* Pays 8 places
Fri. 7;30 pm	\$10	\$5,000	20 Minutes	Only 1 Re-buy \$5000 TC's for \$10 Must be \$10000 or less to RB	\$10000 in chips for \$10	<u>\$1200*</u> 1 <sup>st</sup> Place \$520* Pays 8 places
Sat. 5:00 pm	\$125	\$10,000	30 Minutes First 4 levels	No Re-buys	\$10000 in chips for \$10	<u>\$5000*</u> 1 <sup>st</sup> Place \$2000* Pays 8 places
Sun. 5:00 pm	\$100	\$10,000	30 Minutes First 4 levels	Unlimited (till 1 <sup>st</sup> break) \$5000 TC's for \$40 Must be \$10000 or less to RB	\$10000 in chips for \$10	<u>\$7000*</u> 1 <sup>st</sup> Place \$3000* Pays 8 places

((RB = Re-buy, TC's = Tournament Chips) \* estimated)

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THURSDAY

August 27,

Sue Mason, editor (313) 222-6751 smason@hometownlife.com





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

## OUR VIEWS Soccer complex a positive reuse of contaminated school site

The Livonia school board did the right thing last week in approving a cooperative agreement with a sports management company to turn the old Cooper School site into a soccer complex.

The school, built in the 1960s on a former landfill in Westland, was closed in 1991 because of contamination. The district has since torn the building down and erected a fence to keep people out, but the site has remained an eyesore along Ann Arbor Trail all these years.

Under the terms of the agreement, the school district will spend about \$1 million from its sinking fund and use another \$800,000 from a Michigan Department of Environmental Quality grant to grade the property, cap the landfill, erect a soccer dome provided by the company, plant grass, build a retention pond, install an irrigation system and add a parking lot and lights.

Breeze Sports Management of West Bloomfield will lease about half of the 40-acre site for 35 years, paying the school district about \$2 million over that time period. Breeze would pay \$55,000 for each of the first three lease years, then increase that total \$5,000 periodically to \$75,000 annually in lease years 26 through 35.

The company will manage the complex, which would include four outdoor soccer fields, a couple of training fields and a dome for indoor soccer. If the company defaults, the school district gets to keep the dome.

While the agreement, approved in a 5-2 vote, doesn't take care of the entire site, it's a good start.

If the school board had not approved it, the district likely would have lost the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality grant, set to expire Sept. 30.

The school district is fortunate to have an interested lessee for its vacant property in this economy, especially given the property's history. As Trustee Daniel Lessard pointed out, "There's not a big market for contaminated property."

A soccer complex may increase business in the area as families traveling from other communities stop to eat at local restaurants or purchase items needed last

### COMMUNITY VOICE

What do you think about the president's health care plan? We asked this question at the Maplewood Community Center in Garden City.



"I"m 30 years old and I don't have insurance because my job doesn't offer it. I think something for everybody would be good. Anything that helps me get insurance would definitely be a plus." Adam Tasselmyer

Brighton



"I don't like the idea of the government telling me when I can go to the doctor and when I'm going to get treatment."

Lori Echols Garden City



"I'm all for it. I make a decent amount of money and pay \$300 for health care and it doesn't cover having babies. It would be great to get insurance." Laurel Lasser

Westland



"You have to be crazy not to understand that the U.S. Has to get health care under control. I wish I could hear what the content is so I could form an opinion." Joe Hartman Garden City

Electric mpg?

I realize that the *Observer* doesn't really get involved with news outside of the local community, but will there be any mention of the "news" from General Motors and the direction of journalism?

General Motors sent out a "message" that the Chevy Volt gets 230 mpg. I don't want to sound like a smart-aleck but isn't the Chevy Volt an "electric" car? I recollect a joke or pundit a long time ago asking, "If an electric train was going from North to South, what direction will the smoke be

### LETTERS

深意的外观这一个现代的现在分词的复数形式的影响

pany abuses and help you everyone, even those who currently have a strong health benefit plan. The facts and truth which follows are an antidote to the town hall screamers and the Republican disinformation machine. They simply can't win the health care debate on the merits, and they sure can't handle the truth. Thus, they resort to inciting mobs to spread their lies about alleged rationing, "death panels" and other deceitful nonsense.

Under the president's plan, health care reform will stop insurance company abuses. Insurance companies won't be able to refuse to pay a claim or give you coverage because of "pre-existing" conditions. Your out-of-pocket expenses will be capped. No more going broke because of a serious illness or injury. Insurance companies won't be allowed to charge women higher rates than men or drop you, if you get sick. Insurance companies will have to cover your children until age 26 instead of dumping them at 19. Health care reform will hold down rising costs. A public health insurance option will force private insurers to compete and will lower costs for everyone. By requiring

companies to pay their fair share, we'll stop them from dumping their health care costs on the rest of us.

Health reform means affordable health care will be there for you, no matter what. It will be there if you lose your job, or your child loses his. It will be there if you get sick and when you retire. That means you and your family can't fall through the cracks and won't go broke because of health care bills.

We are close to real reform, but getting over the finish line will be a battle. We are up against giant insurance companies, a

minute from local stores.

With obesity on the rise in Michigan, a soccer complex will provide residents with another place to get and stay in shape.

The agreement is contingent on many things, including state approval because of the contamination.

We hope it works out. There have been previous proposals, including a medical office complex and senior housing, that never took off, mostly because of the economy.

We applaud Westland city officials, Livonia Public Schools and Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey, who served as a project consultant before being elected mayor, for working hard on getting help to remediate the property and for trying their hardest to get the property developed.

It's been almost two decades since the *Observer* broke the story about the contamination and we're glad to finally see something positive happening there.

### ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS

### Shocked by carjacking

Wow, is it really getting that bad around here? What on earth are parents teaching their children these days?

### jd81107

### The downside of recycling

This is all well and good, but now how about the trash workers off of their route by noon? Won't this seriously effect their jobs? Are we looking at more layoffs/cuts?

Aesisoh

### Recycling: Every bit helps

I stay in an apartment and only wish they could participate too. I now store my recyclables in my unit's storage then take it away to the recycle center on Marquette. Every bit helps weather you get a bin or not, you can recycle if you wanted to.

MzSunny Jeep



going?"

I hope this type of "press" doesn't impact the intelligence of society at large.

> **Chad Cox** Westland

### Facts about health care reform

A lot of angry, over-the-top rhetoric and infantile behavior by right-wing opponents is muddying the discussion of health care reform. To help clear things up, here's a brief summary of President Obama's plan, including how it will stop insurance comdiscredited Republican Party that wants President Obama to fail and the corporate media like Fox as well as vile hate mongers like Glen Beck and Rush Limbaugh. The reality is that health care costs are spiraling out of control, and everyone in America deserves quality and affordable care. Health care reform simply can't wait. All Americans will all be better off with real reform.

Want more of the truth? Simply go to www.whitehouse.gov/realitycheck/.

Joe Golonka Westland

## Michigan budget cuts are eating our seed corn

The Lansing-based Early Childhood Investment Corporation report a third of the state's children arrive at kindergarten unprepared for learning. These finding are based on 675 state kindergarten teachers who completed an online survey about how well students are prepared for learning.

State leaders know how to fix this problem. The question is: will they?



**Tom Watkins** 

Investing in high quality preschool is one of the best investments we can make as a state and nation, so says a Nobel Prize-winning economist.

Dr. James Heckman, no bleeding heart educator or child advocate, but a 2000 Nobel Laureate in economics, predicts a grim picture

for the U.S., unless begin investing in our youngest children.

In his research paper, "The Productivity Argument for Investing in Young Children," he argues: "Over 20 percent of U.S. workers are functionally illiterate and enumerate, a much higher percentage than leading European countries." "On productivity grounds, it makes sound business sense to invest in young children, especially from disadvantaged environments."

Heckman's research demonstrates that children who participate in high quality preschool programs "experience increased achievement test scores and high school graduation and decreased grade retention, time in special education, or experience with crime and delinquency."

Further, medical brain research has been clear for a number of years that nearly 85 percent of the human brain's capacity is developed in the first five years of life. Seems to me, we should be listening to brain researchers and Nobel Prize winning economist that tell us to invest in our kids. As state superintendent of schools I proposed in November 2002 the following:

"Every 4-year-old in Michigan shall be offered a high quality pre-kindergarten learning opportunity by the 2006 school year. This voluntary early childhood development and educational program shall be established according to nationally recognized, high quality standards. It shall be provided at no additional charge to all Michigan 4-year-olds without reducing funding for existing education, health and child development programs."

However, due to other priorities, and the economic whirlpool the state has been facing, resources for early childhood have been anemic, and in many cases disappeared.

### THE FEDS ARE IN TOWN

The Obama administration proposed budget has set aside \$20 billion dollars as a down payment for states to invest in our youngest children. Michigan must be at the head of the line for these resources.

The feds were in town recently, no, not the FBI, but Dr. Arthur J. Rolnick, senior vice president and director of research of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis. Rolnick has also produced research that clearly shows the economic and societal return on investment in providing high quality early childhood education.

"Investing in high-quality education for 3- and 4-year-olds yields a higher return than any other public investment," Rolnick said.

Rolnick helped create an Early Childhood Scholarship Program in Minneapolis and is hoping to bring the successful initiative to Michigan. The Early Childhood Scholarship Program consists of three basic elements: parental mentoring, scholarships for low-income families to pay for high-quality early childhood education for 3- and 4-year olds, and a quality-rating system to provide parents with information on quality early childhood programs.

Rolnick and his colleagues have helped mobilize the Michigan business community, United Way, Wayne State University, key legislators, Visiting Nursing Association, Beaumont Hospital, the Governors Office and Michigan foundation leaders to form the nucleus of a leadership team to tap federal and other resources for our youngest citizens.

### MAKE MICHIGAN THE BRAIN BANK OF THE WORLD

If Michigan is going to compete in the hyper-competitive, disruptive, transformational, global economy, we must invest in our human talent from the cradle to the grave. A child and society, without a solid educational foundation on which to build is the equivalent of building a deck of cards on a pile of sand. A lack of public investment in our human capital is not a winning strategy for the 21st century talent driven knowledge economy.

Our goal must be to make Michigan the talent bank of the world. Investing in our youngest children will get us closer to this goal and will have a positive pay off for our collective future.

Don't take my word for it — ask a brain researcher or a Nobel Prize-winning economist!

If you want to help, contact Rolnick at: (612) 204-5441 or e-mail: art.rolnick@ mpls.frb.org.

Tom Watkins is a business and educational consultant. He served the State of Michigan as state superintendent of schools 2001-05 and state mental health director 1986-90. He can be reached at: tdwatkins@ aol.com.

### **MALLS & MAINSTREETS**

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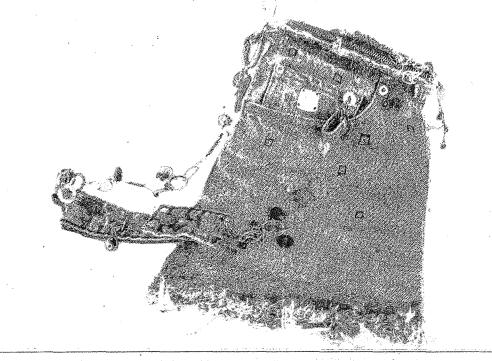
Gwen Joy of Redford is known for her whimsical works, such as this hand-painted purse at 'Handbags & Heels,' at River's Edge Gallery, 3024 Biddle, in Wyandotte.

### Legally Blonde

Ticketmaster in the center court location at Twelve Oaks mall will begin selling tickets to Legally Blonde The Musical from 8-10 a.m. Friday, Aug. 28. Metro Detroiters, theatre lovers and Legally Blonde fans alike will have the opportunity to purchase tickets to the Fisher Theatre's presentation of Legally Blonde The Musical before the general public, exclusively at Twelve Oaks Mall, in Ňovi.

The first 50 people in line will receive Legally Blonde T-shirts. Breakfast goodies will be available while supplies last. All attendees will receive a Twelve Oaks VIP Pass, with special discounts and giveaways from more than 50 stores and restaurants throughout the mall. A look-alike of Elle's four-legged friend Bruiser will be on site.

Tickets will go on sale to the neral public at 10 a.m. following the presale. Customers can also enter the "Live Like Elle" contest in Center Court or online at www.shoptwelveoaks.com through Aug. 28. The grand prize winner will win two tickets to the show, a one-night stay at the Hotel Baronette. a \$50 dinner at California Pizza Kitchen and a \$200 Twelve Oaks Mall Gift Card. One



Denim purse by Westland artist Kelly Darke at 'Handbags & Heels,' at River's Edge Gallery, 3024 Biddle, in Wyandotte.

runner up will receive two tickets to the show

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Farmington Hills artist Mary Brombach crafted this glass purse with glass 'surprises' inside at 'Handbags & Heels,' at River's Edge Gallery.

techniques. She made a life size glass purse sculpture with handmade glass surprises inside for the exhibit.

Darke, a multi-media and textile artist known for a funky style, reuses designer fabric swatches, wire and bright colorful threads.

Joy breathes new life into old objects. She creates fashionable necklaces out of old antique jewelry and broken musical instrument parts. Her purses are recycled as well and hand painted.

For more about Handbags & Heels, call (734) 246-9880.

### New product

Neiman Marcus is offering neuLash, in eleven stores nationwide, including it's store at Somerset Collection, in Troy.

neuLash is a conditioner, created by Skin Research Laboratories, that naturally improves the overall appearance of lashes and brows in a little as two weeks. neuLash protects against breakage by hydrating and nourishing lashes. It allows lashes to

THINKING ABOUT ...

stay on the lid longer, giving them the appearance of fuller, thicker and healthier-looking lashes. neuLash can be used on the eyebrows as well.

Ophthalmologist and dermatologist approved, neuLash has been found to be safe and gentle to eyes without any known adverse side effects. There have not been any cases of eye color change with neu-Lash.

neuLash should be applied once daily in the evening before bedtime to the base of the upper eyelash on a clean, dry area, starting from the inner corner of the eye to the outer corner. It is made for both men and women, and it can be used by those who have eyelash extensions and contact lenses.



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In celebration of Macy's partnership with Feeding America through a campaign called Come Together, more than 650 Macy's stores will host the World's Largest Dinner Party at 6 p.m., Sept. 15. Macy's stores across the country will serve a first course to the first 100 customers to officially kick-off

### Fashionable art

Local artists, Mary Brombach of Farmington Hills, Kelly Darke of Westland and Gwen Joy of Redford, are showing their works in an accessory-themed exhibition called "Handbags & Heels," at River's Edge Gallery, 3024 Biddle, in Wyandotte. Brombach is a glass artist





A140 Sharon Worthy

Percy Madison

Felicia Skeen

Taffani Sloan

Jake McDaniel

B142 Jerisha Hawkins

E155 Jon Green

A190

A340

C111

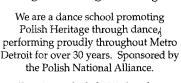
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### **PNA Centennial Dancers Open Registration**

Welcoming dancers age 4 through 17



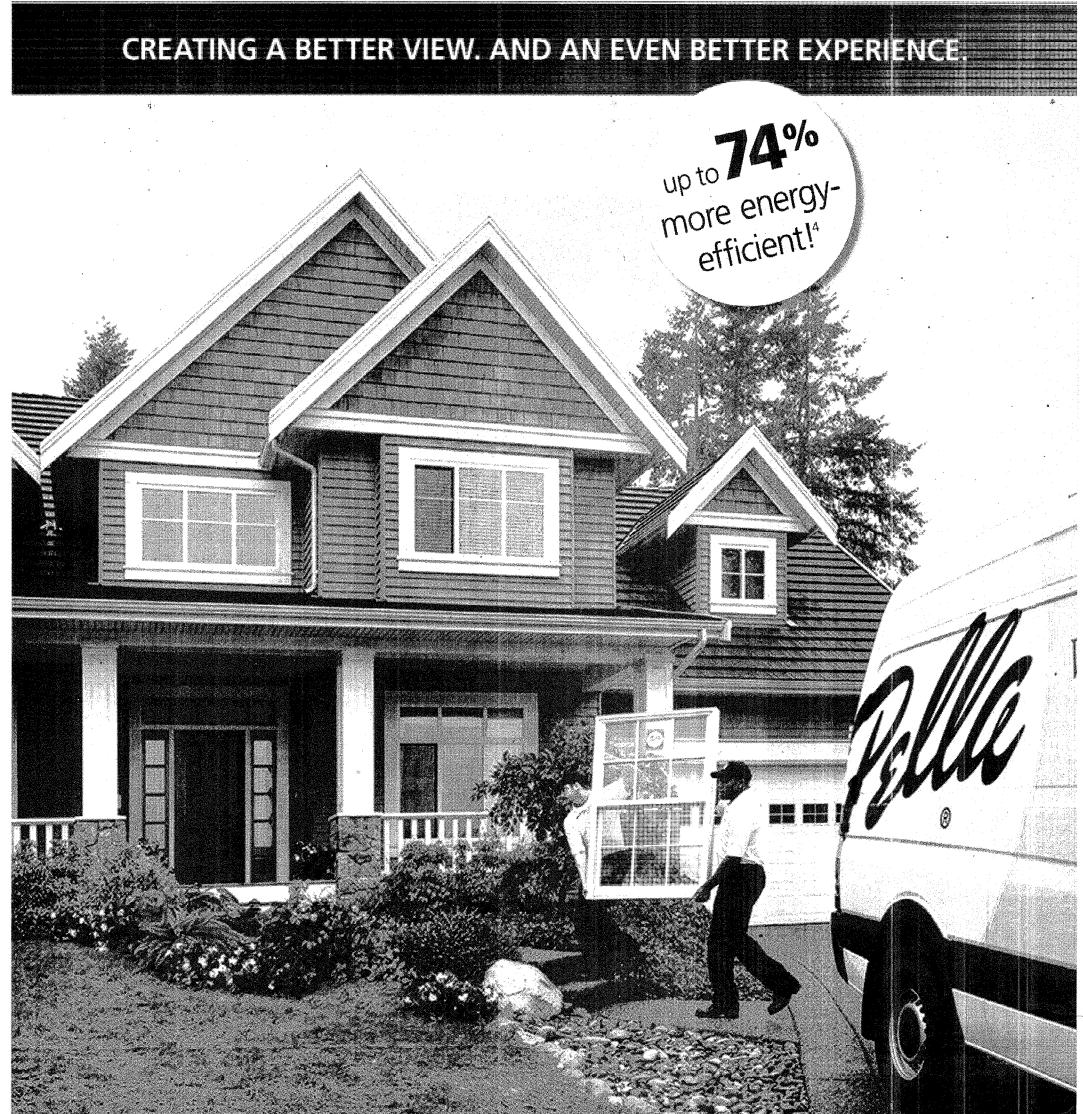
Mark your Calendar: **PNA Debutante Ball** January 16, 2010 St. Aidan in Livonia **PNA** Centennial Recital February 13, 2010 The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton



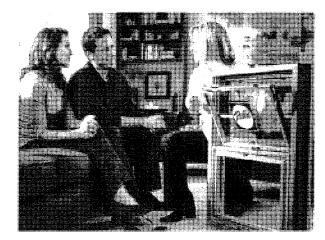
Practices to be held Wednesday evenings utilizing Livonia Schools.

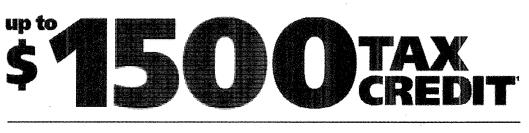
For More Information or to register call: 734-266-9995 or email: drkristalgw@aol.com or visit: www.pnacentennialdancers.org





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### Ryan spurs Westland to title, B3 THURSDAY August 27, 'S. FILTER. FOOD & WI 2009 SECTION HOMETOWN LIFE (WL) Brad Emons, editor . (313) 222-6851 bemons@hometownlife.com

# **New champion**

### Stocker's 74 rules 0&E Women's Golf Open

#### BY BRAD EMONS **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Darci Stocker surprised even herself during Saturday's Observer & Eccentric Women's Golf Open held at Livonia Whispering Willows.

The school teacher from Flint, a late entry in the  $O \otimes E$  after the tournament was washed out Aug. 8, carded an impressive 18-hole round of 74 to win the championship flight low gross honors over two of her playing partners - six strokes over Livonia's Janina Jacobs and eight shots better than two-time defending champion Susan Macinkowicz of Chesterfield Township.

A regular on the Michigan Women's Golf Association circuit, the varsity girls coach at Davison High School took home the firstplace trophy and a \$90 gift certificate.

"I won my club championship at the Fortress in Frankenmuth, but I was terrible in the Michigan Women's Open and didn't make the match play," said Stocker, who played collegiate golf at Oakland University. "I hit the ball the best I've hit it all summer. I had one birdie and lots of pars. I only threeputted once."

An overnight rain softened up the course. "This is my first time ever on this course (Whispering Willows)," Stocker said. "They have some challenging holes, but it's fair. It's a great course and a great course for women. The greens were tough, a little grainy and tough to read."

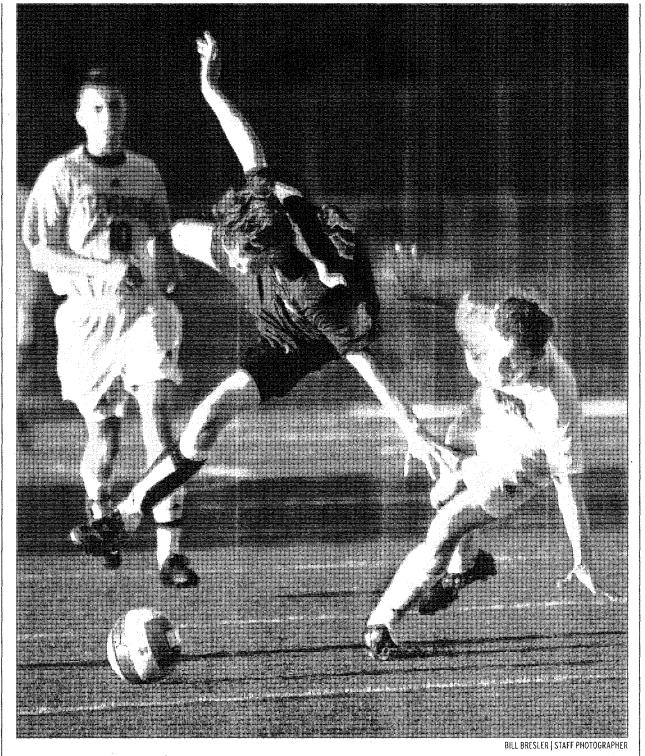
### **ANDREWS RULES FIRST FLIGHT**

As dominant as Stocker was in the championship flight, even more impressive was Livonia's Shellee Andrews in the first flight.

Andrews, playing in her first tournament ever, shot 87 to win by eight strokes over Peggy Stevens (Livonia) and nine over Barbara Coury (Plymouth).

"With two kids, I've never had a chance to play, but now they're a little older," said Andrews, who won a first-place trophy and an \$80 gift certificate. "I've never broken 90; the best I've shot is a 92. You can call it beginner's luck. I was finally hitting my drives and I putted better than I've ever putted before. Usually I'm around 40 putts, but today I had only one three-putt."

Andrews plays in co-ed softball and volleyball leagues, but recently joined an 18-hole Thursday morning league at Whispering Willows.



Churchill's Jeff Thomas goes airborne trying to control the ball against Stevenson's Charles Swingle during Monday's season opener. The Spartans' Brendan Mulcahy trails on the play.



### SIDELII

### Haeger hurls gem

Making his second straight start in front of a national television audience, former Madonna University golfer and Livonia native Charlie Haeger earned his first win of the season for the Los Angeles Dodgers by throwing seven innings Saturday (Aug. 22) in a 2-0 win over the Chicago Cubs on the Fox Saturday Game of the Week.

The Detroit Catholic Central High grad, who improved to 1-1 on the season and 2-2 all-time at the major league level with the win, allowed just three hits in seven-plus innings of work. The right-handed knuckleballer struck out seven while not allowing a run to help L.A. improve to 74-50 on the year and remain in first place in the National League West race.

In his two starts in the majors this season, Haeger has struck out nine hitters in 14 innings of work.

### MU men tie, 1-1

With just 14 bodies available in its season opener Friday, the No. 20-ranked Madonna University men's soccer team came away with a 1-1 deadlock at Bethel (Ind.) College.

Neither side could crack the scoring column in the first half, but MU's Emilio Giorgi (Windsor, Ontario) finished off a corner kick from Daniel Amaya (Cartagena, Colombia) in the 47th minute for a 1-0 Crusaders lead.

The Pilots (0-0-1) did not waste anytime in pulling even, netting the equalizer less than a minuter later. **Goalkeeper Steve Besk** (Northville) made five saves for the Crusaders (0-0-1), who return to action Saturday, Sept. 5, with a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference at Indiana Tech.

She had a home-course advantage despite her lack of tournament experience.

"I've never taken a lesson," said Andrews, a Southfield High alum. "I got a tip from my husband. I changed my hand placement and moved my position forward. I also changed where to place the ball below my feet."

First flight low net honors (69) were shared by Stevens and Coury, while Sroka had 72 to earn championship flight low net.

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Livonia's Shellee Andrews was all smiles after winning the First Flight title in Saturday's O&E Women's Golf Open at Whispering Willows.

# hex vs. rival Stevenson

state runner-up.

Bedell's PK

wins it, 1-0

BY BRAD EMONS

**OBSERVER STAFF WRITER** 

You had to dig into the archives

It was 1990 to be exact, the year

the Chargers went all the way to the

Class A state championship game,

sparked by a quartet of stalwarts:

opener before a sizeable crowd, the

Chargers ended 19 years of frustra-

tion with a 1-0 victory over host

Stevenson, last year's Division 1

Jeff Cassar, Mike Gentile, Scott

Lamphear and Dominic Vella.

In Monday night's season

to discover the last time Livonia

Churchill defeated rival Livonia

Stevenson in boys soccer.

Defender Adam Bedell, a 6-foot-6 senior, scored on a penalty kick with 27:50 remaining in the match to provide the final margin of victory after a Stevenson defender was called for a handball in the box.

Speedy senior midfielder Ian Guerin, a captain and one of only three returning starters for the Chargers from a year ago, said the team tried to downplay the significance of the winless streak, which included a pair of lopsided losses (4-1 and 6-1) to the Spartans in 2008.

"The thing is always on my mind, but we went in there like they (Stevenson) were just another team," Guerin said. "We played the team, not the history.

"Last year we got busted twice, but we tried to play like it was any other game and it paid off."

Churchill's victory was not a fluke because the Chargers had a decided advantage in the scoring chances. Bedell's pinpoint direct free kick

toward the upper right corner of the net with 14 minutes left in the first half was batted out of the air with a left hand by Stevenson goalkeeper Connor Burton.

The Chargers also missed on a golden opportunity with 34 minutes remaining in the match on a three-shot sequence with two shots ringing off the post and another rebound attempt saved by a sprawling Burton.

The ball was dancing on the line and we needed for somebody to go and crush it in," Guerin said. "Their goalkeeper was a madman."

Churchill's 10th-year coach Reid Friedrichs wondered throughout the game when his Chargers were going to cash in.

"At halftime, I felt we had five to six good chances and I could see it in their eyes that it was ours for the taking if we wanted it," Friedrichs said. "In a matter of 15 seconds, we

Please see CHURCHILL, B3

### FAST FACTS

School: Livonia Clarenceville.

Head coach: Ryan Irish, fifth season.

Assistant coaches: Chase Moore, Chad Teague, John Wallace, Brady Gustafson. League affiliation: Metro Conference. 2008 record: 9-2.

Notable losses to graduation: Jeremy Gainer (first-team All-Area); Darry( Whitaker (firstteam All-Area); Joe Baer, Joe Haapala.

Starters returning: Levonte Brooks, sr. SB-FS (5-10, 160; second-team All-Area); De'Ondre Hogan, jr. TB-LB (6-0, 225; second-team All-Area); Tim Siecinski, sr. OL-LB (6-0, 190); Lenny Smith, sr. QB-DB (6-2, 195), Benjamin Watts, sr. WR-DB (5-10, 155); Leonard Hogan, sr. WR-DB (5-8, 160).

Promising newcomers: Sean Cummings, soph. OL-DL (6-0, 190); Jeremy Smith, jr. C (5-10, 215).

Coach's quote: "I'm excited about the season because we have some very talented skill players back and a lot of young guys up and trying to get acclimated to varsity football. Our seniors have been doing a terrific job and we have spent a tremendous amount of time just concentrating on football."

2009 schedule (7 p.m. starts unless noted): Aug. 28 (at Detroit University Prep, 5 p.m.); Sept. 3 (at Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook, 4 p.m.); Sept. 11 (Harper Woods); Sept. 18 (Dearborn Divine Child); Sept. 25 (Macomb Lutheran North); Oct. 2 (Madison Heights at Bishop Foley); Oct. 9 (Birch Run); Oct. 16 (at Hamtramck); Oct. 23 (at Dearborn Heights Annapolis).

### Trench warfare: Key for '09 Trojans

### BY JIM TOTH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

After the performance of the past two seasons, it's anyone's guess of what to expect from the Trojans of Livonia Clarenceville.

Head coach Ryan Irish's squad turned in its best Jekyll & Hyde impersonation the last two years as the Trojans followed up a dismal 1-8 campaign of 2007 by turning in a sterling 9-2 season in '08.

Now in '09 - with a host of talented skill position players returning, but mainly newcomers set to engage in battle on the front lines – more questions than answers face the Trojans as





Clarenceville senior running back Levonte Brooks is expected to carry the load once again for the Trojans.

### MU women win

Second-half goals by Jessica Austin (Livonia Franklin) and Ellen O'Rear carried the No. 25-ranked Madonna University women's soccer team to a 3-1 exhibition win Friday over NCAA Division I foe University of Detroit Mercy at Titan Field.

Austin's goal came in the 65th minute to break a 1-1 tie, while O'Rear scored in the 74th minute.

**Goalkeepers Chelsea** Gregg (Livonia Clarenceville) and Brittany Warner (Plymouth) split time for the Crusaders, who open their season Wednesday night in San Diego, Calif., against host Point Loma Nazarene.

Janae Paveglio scored in the 60th minute for the Titans off an assist from Mary Leone.

UDM gave up an own goal in the first half.

### Diesels go 9-0

Jon Craven (Farmington) completed eight passes for 102 yards and two touchdowns Saturday as the Detroit Diesels defeated the Michigan Renegades, 34-6, to finish the regular season 9-0 in the Great Lakes Football League.

The Diesels will be the top seed for the upcoming playoffs, which start Saturday, Sept. 12.

### **Coaches wanted**

Livonia Ladywood High School is seeking a girls JV golf coach for the 2009 fall season and a girls varsity pom pon coach for the 2009-10 winter season. Those interested should fax a resume to Ladywood athletic director Sal Malek at (734) 591-2386.

### **GIRLS VOLLEYBALL CAPSULE OUTLOOK**

#### LIVONIA CHURCHILL

Head coach: Mark Grenier, sixth yea League affiliation: Kensington Lakes Activities Association Kensington Conference (South Division).

Last year's overall record: 49-4. Titles won last year: Class A semifinalist (regional and district champions); KLAA, Kensington Conference and South Division champions; Temperance Bedford, UM-Dearborn, Mount Pleasant and Public Schools of Livonia invitational champions

Notable losses to graduation: Kristen Nalecz (first-team All-Area); Lindsey Graciak (first-team All-Area); Katie Matz (first-team All-Area); Jessica Stroud, Rachel Elery, Kristy DeClercq, Kat Krupsky. Leading returnees: Cory Urbats, 5-6 Jr. Setter (second-team All-

Area); Cierra Yetts, 5-8 Sr. OH (third-team All-Area); Taylor Kerr, 5-6 Sr. Libero-DS; Kristi Walker, 5-6 Sr. DS; Chrissy Maleske, 5-9 Sr. MH; Darcy DeRoo, 5-10 Sr. OH; Sarah Suppelsa, 5-10 Sr. OH.

Promising newcomers: Kara Kempinski, 5-6 Jr. DS-Libero; Megan Miller, 5-6 Jr. OH-Setter; Nicole Kempinski, 5-6 Jr. DS-Setter; Emily Norscia, 6-0 Fr. MH; Kaylie Secord, 5-9 Jr. OH; Erin Menard, 6-0 Soph. MH

Grenier's 2009 outlook: "We lost a great senior class of kids, but we have a nice mix of kids returning who swing well. Our setting will be good and we have a handful of kids who play outstanding defense. Our goal is to be competitive within the KLAA South Division. We will have our work cut out for us against the likes of John Glenn, Canton and Plymouth." LIVONIA FRANKLIN

Head coach: Linda Jimenez, fourth year. League affiliation: KLAA Kensington (South Division) Last year's overall record: 9-26-3.

Notable losses to graduation: Ashly Butkowski, Sam Culp. Ellen Hurt Leading returnees: Liz Hollaway, 5-9 Sr. OH; Kate Zurenko, 5-3 Sr. DS; Savannah Haig, 5-9 Sr. MH; Amanda Nixon, 5-5 Sr. OH; Amanda Borieo, 5-7 Jr. OH; Chelsea Williams, 5-8 Jr. MH (All-KLAA); Nicole Williamson, 5-4 Soph. DS; Kathryn Chinavare, 5-8 Soph. OH; Raquel Garza, 5-4 Soph. Def. Specialist

Promising newcomers: Kelsey Boyd, 5-9 Jr. OH; Danielle Wieczorek, 5-4 Jr. OH; Rachael Kapchus, 5-2 Soph. Setter.

Jimenez's 2009 outlook: "Midway through the summer I moved lefty senior setter Liz Hollaway to right side hitter because our offense needed a boost. She was willing to do whatever would help the team so we turned over the setting duties to Rachael Kapchus, who has been a real asset. Middle hitters Chelsea Williams is stronger and quicker, while Savannah Haig is healthy again (back surgery missed last season). Outside hitter Amanda Borieo is not a power hitter, but she is a master at hitting the ball in the open areas. The backbone of our team is our defensive specialists who give it their all every day. Also, look for us to hit more out of the back row this season

#### LIVONIA STEVENSON

Head coach: Kelly Graham, 16th year. League affiliation: KLAA Kensington (Central Division). Last year's overall record: 21-23.

Notable losses to graduation: Meg lafrate (first-team All-Area), Brooke Knochel (second-team All-Area), Christine Armstrong, Katie Vellucci, Kaylee McGrath.

Leading returnees: Reina Tyl, 5-10 Jr. OH; Claire LeBlanc, 5-6 Sr. Setter; Shelbie Wilson, 5-5 Sr. DS; Kelly Vellucci, 5-10 Soph. OH-Setter. Promising newcomers: Kristen Balhorn, 6-0 Jr. MB; Lauren Corbeill.

5-10 Jr. OH; Catherine Licata, 5-11 Jr. OH; Monika Rudis, 5-10 Jr. OH; Jorden

York, 5-7 Jr. DS; Amanda Wigand, 5-10 Sr. MB; Coley Favaro, 5-8 Sr. MB. Graham's 2009 outlook: "Despite losing five talented starters last season we still have a very talented returning squad. Adding in the new athletes from the JV team last year we have a lot of natural talent and are very fall. We want to utilize the strengths we have going into the season and will be competitive with the other teams on our division and outright.'

### WESTLAND JOHN GLENN

Head coach: Julian Wargo, fourth year. League affiliation: KLAA Kensington Conference (South Division). Last year's overall record: 19-17-7.

Notable losses to graduation: Brittany Holbrook (first-team All-Area), Stacey Truskowski (second-team All-Area), Jennifer Michalek. Leading returnees: Halie Baker, 5-10 Jr. MB (third-team All-Area);

Lauren Baker, 5-6 Sr. Setter; Brooke Zywick, 5-3 Jr. Libero; Brittani Robinson, 5-10 Sr. OH; Sarah Headrick, 5-4 Soph. Setter; Katie Down, 5-3

Promising newcomers: To be determined. Wargo's 2009 outlook: "We know that we are not going to be the tallest team across the net, so we are going to have rely upon an aggressive defense to clamp down our opponents. Brooke Zywick and Katie Down will see a lot of time in the back row. We will try to employ an offense that emphasizes multiple attackers. I am looking to my setters (Lauren Baker and Sarah Headrick) to spread the ball around. Halie Baker will set the tone for our offense

WAYNE MEMORIAL Head coach: Deb Mills, first year League affiliation: KLAA Kensington (South Division) Last year's overall record: 7-32-2

Notable losses to graduation: Catie Badrak, Samantha Dye. Leading returnees: Emily Rudy, Sr. MH.

Promising newcomers: Keri Horton, Soph. MH; Shelby Hooper, Soph. PH; Alyssa Florn, Jr. Setter.

Mills' 2009 outlook: "We are going back to basics this year, really focusing on the fundamentals of the game. With only one returning player our team will be young but they are working very hard to improve

We look forward to building the volleyball program here at Wayne Memorial. LIVONIA LADYWOOD

Head coach: Erin Craggs, ninth year. League affiliation: Catholic League (Central Division).

Last year's overall record: 30-20-5. Notable losses to graduation: Rachael Fuller (second-team All-

Area); Julie Rhodes, Sr. Setter (third-team All-Area); Alex Mirabitur. Leading returnees: Claire Dezelski, 5-8 Sr. OH (first-team All-Area);

Ashley Hines, 5-8 Sr. OH; Clare Hudson, 6-2 Sr. RSH; Katy Rooney, 6-2 Jr. MH; Caitlin McClorey, 6-2 Jr. MH; Courtney Smith, 5-5 Jr. DS; Jenny Rhodes, 5-8 Soph. OH-Setter.

Promising newcomers: Niki Jacobs, 5-5 Jr. DS; Erin Barnes, 5-5 Jr. DS-Setter; Kenzie Kettner, 5-7 Soph. OH; Cheyenne Woodall, 5-10 Soph.

Craggs' 2009 outlook: "We are returning many starters from last years team and the young kids are already competing well. We will be tough at the net, with a deep corps of attackers and a lot of size. Our ball control and defense will enable us to extend points and run a quick offense. Claire (Dezelski) and Ashley (Hines) have the experience and ability to lead this team to a successful season.

### LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE

Head coach: Wendy Mershman, fourth year League affiliation: Metro Conference.

Last year's overall record: 10-16-3.

Notable losses to graduation: Marlene Azar (third-team All-Area), Laisha Patterson, Katie Blacker, Lisa Wilson, Samantha Giordano. Leading returnees: Kat Hall, 5-8 Sr. OH-DS; Ashley Welch, 5-6 Sr

Setter; Ashley Devon, 5-6 Sr. OH; Teresa Parent, 5-1 Sr. Libero; Morgan Tressler, 5-6 Sr. OH. Promising newcomers: Paine Davis 6-0 Sr. MH: Kellie Ankiel 5-4 Jr.

Setter; Joanna Burling, 5-5 Jr. MH; Stephanie Lozano, 5-4 Jr. OH; Isabella Sidon, 4-9 Jr. DS; Brittany Tallman, 5-7 Jr. MH-OH; Ashley Murphy, 6-0 Fr. MH. Merschman's 2009 outlook: "I am really excited about the getting

the season started. We have a lot of good athletes this year and a lot of players to contribute. It will just take the girls coming together and leaving it all out on the floor. We have potential we need to just put it all together and play some good volleyball.

### LUTHERAN HIGH WESTLAND

Head coach: Kevin Wade, fourth year. League affiliation: Michigan Independent Athletic Conference (Blue Divisio

Last year's overall record: 46-4-6

Titles won last year: Class D state runner-up; regional, district, Metro Conference champion; Ann Arbor Huron, Auburn Hills Oakland Christian and Westland Huron Valley Lutheran Tournament champions

Notable losses to graduation: Becca Refenes (first-team All-Area); Katey Ramthun (first-team All-Area); Lauren Gieschen (second-team All-Area); Abi Gieschen (third-team All-Area); Allyson Yankee, Cathy Haller.

Leading returnees: Rachel Storck, 5-9 Sr. OH; Emilie Freeman, 6-3 Sr. MH; Emily Wilson, 5-9 Sr. OH; Lauren Switzer, 5-6 Sr. Setter; Nicole Zehel, 5-6 Sr. LH.

Promising newcomers: Allison Guse', 5-8 Sr. OH; Jacqui Schwartz, 6-1 Jr. MH; Alyssa Shirkey, 5-6 Jr. DS; Mary MacKenzie, 5-4 Jr. Setter; Jamilyn Preece, 5-7 Jr. OH; Taylor Wiemer, 5-6 Soph. DS.

Wade's 2009 outlook: "I feel good about our team this year. We graduated six great players, but the seniors who return this year know what it takes to be successful and all will be great leaders and players for us this year. We have some newcomers that will contribute significantly as well this year giving us a good mix of players on the court. Moving to our new conference will only make us stronger for the postseason since our conference has had three straight Class D final four appearances - Lutheran Westland (2008); Birmingham Roeper (fall of 2007); and Oakland Christian (winter of 2007)." WESTLAND HURON VALLEY LUTHERAN

Co-head coaches: Kris Ruth and Mike Dest, sixth year

League affiliation: Michigan Independent Athletic Conference (Red Divisio Last year's overall record: 14-16-2.

Titles won last year: MIAC Red Division co-champions Notable losses to graduation: Kayla Stockdale (MIAC MVP); Samantha Barber, Staci Hatzung, Abby Hoff, Crystina Gutierrez. Leading returnees: Leah Miller, 5-7 Jr. MH; Devon Linderman, 5-7 Sr.

OH; Kelly Kubinski, 5-6 Sr. OH; Anna Schaffer, 5-4 Sr. DS. Promising newcomers: Paige Sharrow, 5-8 Jr. MH; Paige Schmidt, 5-7 Soph. Setter; Meghan Kubinski, 5-8 Soph. OH; Allie Dest, 5-2 Soph. Libero.

Ruth's 2009 outlook: "Things are going to be different with a realigned conference. I think it will be very interesting with the conference tournament in the end. Our main concern is our passing game. If we can pass well, we will be very successful. We have some very talented hitters in our lineup."

Hitting the courts

### Area spikers primed for more surprises in 2009

the newly-

realigned

MIAC is

Lutheran

Westland's

next-door

neighbor

Huron Valley

**BY BRAD EMONS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER** 

The 2009 girls volleyball season could be as compelling and unpredictable as it was in 2008,

Lutheran High Westland came out of nowhere and reached the Class D state finals before losing to perennial power Battle Creek St. Philip in the championship game.

Getting to Battle Creek again will be tough for the Warriors, who lost their top four players including 6-foot-2 middle hitter Becca Refenes, who signed with the University of Cincinnati.

But coach Kevin Wade isn't fretting after his team went 2-2-1 over the weekend in the Carrie Adams Memorial Tournament, also held in Battle Creek.

The Warriors, who return 5-9 outside hitter Rachel Storck and 6-3 middle hitter Emilie Freeman from a 46-4-6 squad, fell in last weekend's elimination quarterfinal to the same St. Philip squad.

"Our biggest challenge this year will focus around our ability to be the best team we can be this year and to not compare ourselves to what last year's team did," said Wade, whose team joins the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference's formidable Blue Division. "We have the potential to have a great year, but it won't come without extreme dedication and hard work."

Also making a bid in

# St. Philip ousts Warriors again

Lutheran High Westland, coming off a stellar 2008 campaign in which the Warriors went 46-4-6 and finished runner-up in the Class D state girls volleyball finals, tipped off the 2009 season Saturday at the Carrie Adams Memorial Tournament in Battle Creek.

And after posting a 2-1-1 ledger in pool play, the Warriors took on the defending Class D champions from Battle Creek St. Philip once again in quarterfinal action.



Livonia Stevenson (21-23), meanwhile, hopes to contend in the KLAA Central despite losing two of its standouts in first-team All-Area pick Meg Iafrate and second-team selection Brooke Knochel.

**VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW** 

second-team selection Stacey

The Rockets will try and

move up in the KLAA South

Memorial (7-32-2), which wel-

Livonia Franklin (9-26-3),

another KLAA South member,

has a short lineup, but returns

several key players including

All-Kensington Lakes player

Chelsea Williams, a 5-8 junior

comes new coach Deb Mills.

along with rival Wayne

Truskowski,

middle hitter.

A team that could re-emerge into the limelight in Class B is Livonia Ladywood (30-20-5).

The Blazers return firstteam All-Area selection Claire Dezelski, a 5-8 senior outside hitter from last year's district finalists.

"We have some sophomores pushing for spots, it should be an interesting and it should be a fun year," Ladywood ninthyear coach Erin Craggs said.

Another Class B squad, Livonia Clarenceville (10-16-3), will stay in the Metro Conference, which is down to five schools. The Trojans won their season opener Tuesday in three straight against Hazel Park and are led by seniors Kat Hall, Ashley Devon and Ashley Welch.

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3 senior, totaled 21 kills and three blocks, while Taylor Wiemer contributed 33 digs and four aces.

CLARENCEVILLE 3, HAZEL PARK 0: Tuesday's 25-17, 25-20, 25-13 hammering of Hazel Park was just the type of beginning Livonia Clarenceville coach Wendy Mershman was looking for.

Led by seniors Kat Hall, Ashley Devon and Ashley



Lutheran **Claire Dezelski** (14-16-2), the Ladywood

defending Red Division champion.

Meanwhile, Class A semifinalist Livonia Churchill (49-4), two years removed from a state title (winter of 2007), also lost three All-State players in Kristen Nalecz, Lindsey Graciak (Wayne State) and Katie Matz (Siena Heights

University). Sixth-year coach Mark Grenier, whose team opens its season Friday at the Ladywood Quad and Saturday at the Portage Northern Invitational, will bank three returnees including junior setter Cory Urbats, senior outside hitter Cierra Yetts and senior outside hitter Sarah Suppelsa.

"Our setting will be good and we have a handful of kids who can play outstanding defense," Grenier said.

The Chargers, defending **Kensington Lakes Activities** Association champions, should get stiff challenges from South Division rival Canton, Central Division member Novi and North Division foe White Lake Lakeland.

(Oakland University) and

Westland John Glenn (19-17-2) is rebuilding after losing two key players to graduation including first-team All-Area pick Brittany Holbrook

### PREP VOLLEYBALL

Central (25-21, 17-25); and a loss to Battle Creek Harper Creek (19-25, 13-25)

"Overall, I was happy with

Wade said. "We had a few laps-

es, but for the first major com-

petition of the year after only

six practices, I was pleased. "Our best set of the day

our performance on the day,"

# Fall Leagues are EXPANDING

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6:45 pm		6:45 pm		12:30 pm	
Thur. 6:45 pm	MIXE	D:		LT & YOUTH:	
MENS:	(every	vother week)	(every	y other week) 10:00 am	
Wed. 7:15 pm	· ·	4:00 pm			
Thur. 6:30 pm		7:00 pm	(4 on	a team)	
la de la seconda da ≜terra de Bilio de la seconda de la Comencia	Sat.	7:15 pm	SENI	<b>OR CITIZENS:</b>	
			Wed.	11:00 am	
			Fri.	1:00 pm	

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And, just like last year's title tilt, the Fighting Tigers prevailed, 25-13, 25-22.

Despite the setback, Warriors head coach Kevin Wade was pleased with his team's overall performance, which included wins over Hillsdale (27-25, 25-16) and Portland St. Patrick (27-25, 25-17); a split with Kalamazoo

was the second set against St. Philip. It was back-and forth. And even though we lost, it showed everyone what we are capable of if we continue to work hard."

Rachel Storck racked up 35 kills on the day, collected 25 digs and finished 33-of-36 serving with two aces. Lauren Switzer dished out 63 assists to go along with three ace serves. Emilie Freeman, a 6-footWelch, the Trojans made short work of Hazel Park.

Hall, an outside hitter, picked up 10 kills and five aces, Devon, also an outside hitterm hadfive kills and five aces. And Welch, a setter, contributed 20 assists.

"We had the usual first game jitters, but the best part about tonight was seeing them come together as a team," Mershman said.



### **SeaWolves champs**

The 2009 SeaWolves of the Livonia Baseball and Softball Association, made up of JV players from all four Livonia high schools, recently captured the Oakland/Wayne Intercity Colt-Palomino Baseball League Central Division championship with a 12-2 victory over Waterford No. 2, Aug. 1, at Ford Field as starting pitcher Josh Dehetre, with the help of batterymate Adam Michael, earned the victory with complete-game four-hitter. Angelo Cavagnini and Ben Anderson keyed the 16-hit attack. Other members of the SeaWolves include: Adam Buttigieg, Daniel Blacker, Cody McGraw, Steve Siemieniak, Kyle Curtis, Dallas Centers, Troy Bodtke and John James. The team is managed by Mark Bodtke. He is assisted by Ray Buttigieg and Ralph Call.

### **BOYS TENNIS RESULTS**

### LIVONIA STEVENSON 8, LIVONIA CHURCHILL 1

Aug. 25 at Stevenson No. 1 singles: Clayton Northey (LS) defeated Matt Cezat, 6-1, 6-0; No. 2: Josh Rochette (LS) def. Ziwen Deng, 6-4, 5-7, 6-3; No. 3: Kévin Francisco (LS) def. Mike Houghan, 6-0, 6-2; No. 4: Vince Sabatini (LS) def. Vishal Joshl, 7-6, 6-3.

No. 1 doubles: Rushi Patel-Joe Mulka (LC) def. Kyle Fan-Paul VanGilder, 7-5, 6-2; No. 2: Josh York-Paul Franchina (LS) def. Ryan McPherson-Alex Zuccarini, 6-1, 6-0; No. 3: Marcus McCathney-Kaeman Holman-Rayos (LS) def. Kyle Appel-Eric Stromberg, 6-1, 7-5; **No. 4:** Lukis Rudis-Jeff Sondergaard (LS) def. Tejas Suni-Mayuresh Lyer; 6-1, 6-3; **No.** 5: Sean Wallace-Jacob Ratliff (LS) def. Fred Beshere-Mike Inglis, 6-7, 6-2, 6-4

Dual match records: Stevenson, 2-0 overall; Churchill, 0-1 overall

#### **FARMINGTON HILLS HARRISON 7, WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 2** Aug. 24 at Harrison

No. 1 singles: John MacDonald (FHH) def. Zach Ernat, 6-1, 6-0; No. 2: Josh Famie (FHH) def. Nik Hubbard, 6-0, 6-0; No. 3: Tommy Ruark (WJG) def. Paraco Garg, 6-3, 6-2; No. 4: Nick Stone (WJG) def. Dong Birshir, 6-2,

No. 1 doubles: David Olsen-Ben Samoylov (FHH) def. Khari Stargell-Mitch Dean, 6-2, 0-6, 6-2; No. 2: Michael Erickson-Naverd Carim (FHH) def. Shane Wiechert-Jacob Toarmina, 6-1, 6-1; No. 3: Chris McFarland-Cole Trift (FHH) def. Andrew McGraft-Wayne Woodard, 6-3, 6-2; No. 4: Andrew Lalokn-Sohem Trived (FHH) def. Conner Monroe-Joey Wakeford, 6-2, 6-2; No. 5: Michael Hammond-Heath Hammond (FHH) def. Mav Longuski-Kyle Wagner, 6-0, 6-0

Dual match records: Harrison, 1-0 overall; John Glenn, 0-1 overall

### **BELIEFS & VALUES**

# New associate pastor trades career for the priesthood

### **BY LAUNA WAKENHUT** CORRÉSPONDENT

Parishioners of St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church in Livonia welcomed one of the Archdiocese of Detroit's five newly-ordained priests as their associate pastor last month. The Rev. Raymond E. Arwady, who grew up in Northville and Troy, is an identical twin and the last-born son of Lester and Judy Arwady, now of Sterling Heights. He was ordained to the priesthood on May 30 at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Detroit.

At 36, he represents a growing trend of men choosing the priesthood later in life, after having successful educational and employment careers in the secular world. Holding his B.S. in mechanical engineering and his master's in engineering management from Oakland University, Arwady worked at General Motors' Pontiac Truck Product Center for nearly six years before hearing the call to the priesthood.

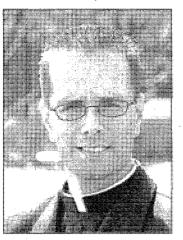
"I began to feel at around 27 or 28 years old that I had achieved almost everything in life that I thought would make me happy," Arwady explained, "and then I realized that I was not all that happy.

"I consider myself a product of my generation, drawn to what I call material gluttony."

He was making \$60,000 a year in a career that held promise. He was a homeowner, with a \$37,000 SUV, a growing investment portfolio, and a large circle of friends.

Although he rejected the call from God when he first heard it, he continued to pray. Eventually he found himself increasingly drawn to reading scripture, praying the Rosary, and frequently visiting Jesus present in the tabernacle.

"Once I became convinced through prayer that God loves me more than I love myself, wants my happiness



the Rev. Raymond Arwady

more than I want it, and knows better than I do what will make me truly happy, then I could take that initial leap of faith and say 'Yes' to God. Only then could I give it all up to follow Jesus."

### **ENTERING THE SEMINARY**

In 2002. Arwady began his studies at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit, where he received his bachelor of philosophy, followed by his master of divinity, as well as his bachelor of sacred theology from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome. He and his twin brother James, who will be ordained May 22, 2010, were among the first few Detroit seminarians who had the opportunity to complete a 10-week spiritual formation program offered by the Institute for Priestly Formation at Creighton University, Omaha, Neb. The program, highly regarded by many bishops and seminaries, is an option for all Detroit seminarians.

Arwady said he believes the two greatest challenges facing the Catholic Church in the United States today are catechesis and evangelization.

"If we were to add a third I'd say the attack on the human family. There is much disharmony in families today. It seems to me that we Catholics do not know much about our own faith,

OBITUARY

POLICY

The first five "billed" lines of an

obituary are published at no cost.

All additional lines will be

charged at \$4 per line. You may

place a picture of your loved one

for an additional cost of only \$6.

Symbolic emblems may be

included at no cost (example:

Deadlines:

Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday

Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday

Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

religious

American Flags,

symbols, etc.)

'I began to feel at around 27 or 28 years old that I had achieved almost everything in life that I thought would make me happy, and then I realized that I was not all that happy. I consider myself a product of my generation, drawn to what I call material gluttony." REV. RAYMOND ARWADY

nor do we seem to be zealous or have a readiness to share it with others. I see parishes clustering and merging, schools closing, and vocations dwindling. Evangelization and Catechesis are the cure. We need to reprioritize our lives and put God first. We need to return to the basics of family prayer, Eucharistic Adoration, and the daily use of our Bibles if we expect to grow as a Church."

### SETTLING IN

Arwady is happy to be at St. Michael's and said he is "adjusting to the rhythm of his new lifestyle." He is surprised to find out how difficult adjusting to a new life can be, especially one as busy as the life of a parish priest.

"I had forgotten how difficult it was to adjust to the new life of a seminarian seven years ago and now I have to do it all over again."

St. Michael's is the oldest Catholic parish in Livonia. Established in 1931, it serves about 1,500 families and runs a formally recognized "School of Distinction," with approximately 800 students from kindergarten through 8th grade. He has been meeting as many of those parishioners as he can, "getting to know the people so I can serve them better." His hope for his ministry is simple: "To bring as many souls as possible into deeper relationship with Christ and to heaven, and to never grow weary in serving God and His people."



Matthew and Andrea Machemer of Westland are excited about his new position as music minister at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church in Livonia. He grew up in Eastpointe and has a bachelor's degree in music education from Concordia University Chicago.

# New music director joins Livonia Lutheran church

Matthew Machemer was installed as music minister Sunday, Aug. 23, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church in Livonia. He is serving as church organist and oversees all choirs and musical ensembles in the congregation.

Machemer grew up in Eastpointe with parents, Melvin and Susan, and his brother, Joel. His musical interest grew through the influence of his family and by the piano lessons he began at age 5. Throughout his elementary and high school years he actively participated in nearly all school music ensembles.

Machemer attended Concordia University Chicago and graduated in December 2007 with a bachelor's degree in music education with an emphasis in choral music. During his time at

Concordia he was involved with a variety of choral and instrumental groups, took organ and voice lessons, and served as a substitute organist at various local congregations.

In January 2008, he was hired as parish musician at St. John Lutheran Church in Wheaton, Ill., where he directed children's choirs, adult instrumental groups, composed music, planned worship and played piano and organ for regular worship services.

Machemer has had pieces published by Concordia Publishing House and has been a contributing composer in their Acclamations project.

He and his wife, Andrea, live in Westland.

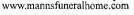
**RELIGION CALENDAR** 

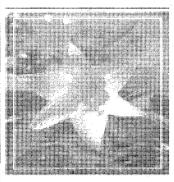




#### MARIE DAWES

August 21, 2009, age 85. Beloved wife of the late James L. Dear mother of James N. (Deborah), Donald L. (Rosemary), Thomas J. (Kimberly), and the late Jeanette Hanvy. Grandmother of 12, Great-grandmother of seven. Marie was a 53 year resident of Livonia and a Deacon at Ward Church. Share a memory at:



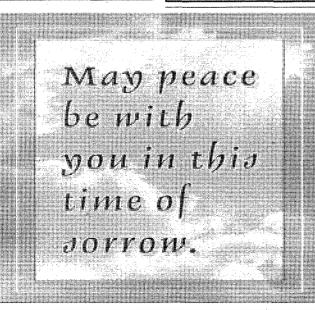


e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to: Attn: Obits c/o Char Wilson 313-496-4968 For more information call: **Char Wilson** 

586-826-7082 or Liz Keiser 586-977-7538 or toll free 800-579-7355

ask for Char or Liz

OE08658429



Religion calendar items appear on Thursdays on a space available basis. To submit an item, e-mail sdargay@hometownlife.com or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette-2nd Level, Detroit, MI 48226, Attn: Sharon Dargay. Item must include the venue address and phone number and any admission costs for events. Items must be submitted at least a week in advance of publication. For a complete listing of events online please go to hometownlife.com.

### AUG. 27-SEPT. 2

### **Prayer service**

The Metropolitan Detroit Chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Moses the Black will hold an akathist prayer service honoring the saint at 7 p.m. Aug. 27 at St. Innocent Orthodox Church, 23300 W. Chicago Road, Redford. St. Moses the Black is the Orthodox Christian patron saint of African-Americans. He was a 4th-century Ethiopian slave and gang leader who repented his sinful life and became a monastic in the Egyptian desert, known for his humility, wisdom and power over demons. An akathist is a hymn that recalls the life of a saint, a holy event, or one of the persons of the Holy Trinity. There will be an informal discussion of the life of St. Moses following the service. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call Sharon Gomulka, secretary of the Detroit chapter, at (248) 477-6411, or Robert Mitchell, chapter president, at (313) 204-5103.

#### Bethany fun

Bethany Together Dance, 8 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 29 at Don Hubert V.F.W. Hall, 27345 Schoolcraft, just east of Inkster Road, in Redford. Dance until midnight. Admission fee is \$12. For more information, call Loretta from Bethany East at (586) 264-0284.

Free concert with Air Margaritaville, for Bethany West and Bethany South Downriver, 4:30-7 p.m., at Lincoln Park Days 3525 Dix, in Lincoln Park. Bring your favorite refreshment and a chair. Call Kathy M. for information (734) 513-9479. Open house

6:30-8 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 2, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Early Childhood Center, 14175 Farmington Road, just north of I-96, Livonia. Toddler (starting at 18 months), preschool, pre-K and day care are available. The Center is open 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday-Friday. If you have questions, call Maureen at (734) 513-8413.

### SEPT. 3-9

**Bethany dance** 

8 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, Sept. 5, at St. Robert Bellarmine 27101 W. Chicago Road, at Inkster Road, in Redford. Admission \$10 includes refreshments. Tango lesson runs from 7:30-8:30 p.m. Call Diane K. for information at (734) 261-5716.

### SEPT. 10-16

Mom-to-mom 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 12, at Connection Church, 3855 S. Sheldon, west of I-275, north of Michigan Ave., in Canton. Presented by Mothers of Preschoolers. Admission \$1. For more information e-mail to CCMopsMom@gmail.com.

### SEPT. 24-30

Health fair 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Sept. 26, at Livonia Church of Christ, 15431 Merriman, Livonia. Includes free bone density screening, free body fat analysis, cholesterol screening on site for \$12 per person with onsite counseling regarding results, free blood pressure screening, massage therapy and other services. Call (734) 427-8743 for more information. Movie

See "Fireproof" at 7 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 26 at Livonia Church of Christ, 15431 Merriman, Livonia. The screening is free and it's followed by six weeks of free classes on Fireproofing Your Marriage, 7-8:30 p.m., Wednesdays, Sept. 30 - Nov. 4. Free Bible classes are available for children of all ages during the class. Call (734) 427-8743 for more information.

### ONGOING

AWANA Every Wednesday night Faith Bible Church offers an AWANA program for children from kindergarten through fifth grade at Faith Bible Church, 23414 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. Drop children off or stay for a Bible study offered to parents from 7-8:30 p.m. For more information, call (248) 426-0096. Classes/study

New Life Community Church, 42200 Tyler, Belleville, offers a jobs seminar, 8-9 am., Fridays, a reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m., Sundays. (734) 846-4615

Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills, is hosting a Tai Chi Class by Sam Purdy, Wu Style Tai Chi. This meditative form of Martial Arts is designed to reduce stress and is great for over-all health memory and balance. Everyone is welcome from beginning to experienced participants at any time. Classes continue every Monday. Cost per class depends on number of participants. For information or to reserve your space, call (248) 701-1587 or (248) 626-3620. Visit www.orchardumc. org for updates.

Adult and English as a Second Language literacy classes are available for those who want to improve reading, writing and English conversational skills. Open to age 18 and over. Trained tutors available for day or evening.

For information, call Merriman Road Baptist Church in Garden City at (734) 421-0472.

Leave your name and phone number and someone will contact you. Scripture studies, from 7-8:30

p.m. Mondays in the lower level of Our Lady of Loretto Church, Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford. Call (313) 534-9000

■ Learner's Bible study, 7 p.m., Mondays, in Room A101, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville. Call (248) 374-5920. Learn Qigong, the ancient form of Chinese energetic medicine – a safe and effective way to rid the body of toxic pathogens and years of painful emotions – at Livonia Unity, 28660 Five Mile. Classes include: Monday movement Oigong, 7-8:30 p.m.; Thursday Qigong meditation, 10-11:15 a.m., and Friday Therapeutic Oigong, 7-8:30 p.m. Call (810) 813-4073 for more information or send e-mail to gary@energeticarts.org. Bible study, 7 p.m., first and third Thursdays, at St. Michael the Archangel Church, located at the southwest corner of Plymouth and Hubbard Roads. The informal classes are open to all interested persons regardless of religious affiliation. To register, call (734) 261-

Friendship-Center, 1119 Newburgh, Westland. Call (734) 728-9157. Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Livonia invites adults with developmental disabilities and special needs to attend a new Open Arms Bible class the second Monday of the month at the church, 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia. The class will include songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun. Contact Judy Cook at Emmanuel, (248) 442-8822 or e-mail to elc-ed@arounddetroit.biz. Tuesday Ladies Bible Study from

9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesdays, at Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile. \$15 registration fee includes interdenominational study materials. Child care available for children through age 5. Call (248) 348-7600.

A study/discussion group focuses on relationship with God and that of other religious groups and philosophical and scientific issues that might impact faith, at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 26701 Joy. A group at 10:30 a.m., Thursday examines early writings not included in the Bible as well as other versions. extensions and controversies concerning Christianity. Led by interim pastor Larry Hoxey. (313) 274-3820. Concerts

Rush Hour concert series continues every Tuesday with gathering and refreshments at 5 p.m., concert 5:30-6 p.m., featuring performances by local and national jazz artists at Metropolitan United Methodist Church, 8000 Woodward, Detroit. Free. Visit www.metroumc.org.

#### Fellowship dinner

Dinners will resume Sept. 18 at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Cost is \$8. Call (313) 534-7730.

### Films

10 a.m. Wednesday Kids Matinees and 4 p.m., Saturday family movie, at Kenwood Church of Christ, 20200 Merriman, Livonia. Guitar Praise game precedes the film on Saturday. Children in second grade or younger can play prior to the film; those in third grade and up can play after the movie. Pizza will also be served following the movie. All events are free. (248) 476-8222 Hall rental

Volkmar Hall located in Good

Please see RELIGION, B7

# 1445, Ext. 200.

Bible talks, 4 p.m. Sundays at the

### Thursday, August 27, 2009

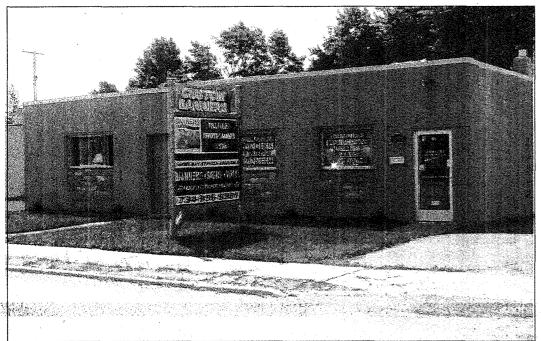
(WGc)

B5

### online at hometownlife.com

# Westland-Garden City Strictly Business

### **IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A**



Banners Nationwide in Garden City specialize in banners for all occasions, both pre-made and custom designed, as well as digital printing and graphics.

### Store provides banners for all occasions

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

**Banners Nationwide** specialize in banners for all occasions, both pre-made and custom designed banner orders, vehicle wraps, digital printing that meet the visual advertising needs of business owners in the growing economic dilemma of today's world.

The equipment being used to produce our vinyl banners and signs is state of the art, leaving you with digital printed signage that is leading the way in cutting edge technology, environmentally friendly and visually appealing Observer: What makes your

business unique? We at Banners Nationwide are committed to doing our part in reducing the carbon

footprint of the digital sign

### **BANNERS NATIONWIDE**

Business name: Banners Nationwide

Address: 30937 Ford, Garden City

Name and Title: Basima Farhat. William Qaoud and Alexander Farhat, co-owners

Store opened: 2009 Your Business Specialty: Banners Nationwide specialize in banners for all occasions, both pre-made and custom designed

orders, digital printing and graphics. Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-

Friday

**Business phone and Web site:** (734) 956-5381, toll free (866) 319-5381, fax (734) 956-5439 or online www.bannersnationwide. com

Observer: How did you decide to

of our facility in 2009 was on purpose and with intent. We are here to prove that Michigan is still the place to be and that we are not afraid to invest in our home towns. How did you decide to locate in the

### Garden City community?

We know with the support of the helpful and informative staff we have worked with at the Garden City Hall, the guidance of the Chamber of Commerce and people like our wonderful customers, we can do nothing but succeed.

We also want to give consideration to our workers in the city such as Lee, the mail man, who reminds me every day that he is on the look out for the flood of mail soon to come our way. Thanks, Lee! Do you have a funny tidbit or story to share with our readers about your experience so far as a small business owner?

To the citizens of Garden City and the surrounding area

### **BUSINESS MILESTONES**

Wings or Things If you're cruising down Warren Road, be sure to stop by Kay's Wings or Things at 32833 W. Warren Road, one of the city's newest restaurants. It specializes in chicken wings, other favorites on the menu include a variety of Asian and seafood

**NEW ARRIVALS** 

dishes and spaghetti. Get organized

Need help getting organized? Give Samara Spurlock a call. She has a new business in her hometown of Westland, called Simple Spirit Organizing. Spurlock can help organize homes, offices, garages, and that ever stressful paperwork pile. Find all the details at her Web site at www. simplespiritorganizing.com. She also publishes a themed monthly newsletter filled tips relevant to the theme. Call Spurlock at (734) 846-8343 or e-mail her at simplespiritorganizing@ yahoo.com or reliefinfo@simplespiritorganizing.com.

### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

Hot Summer Savings Don't miss the hot summer savings at Perfumania at Westland Shopping Center now through Monday, Aug.

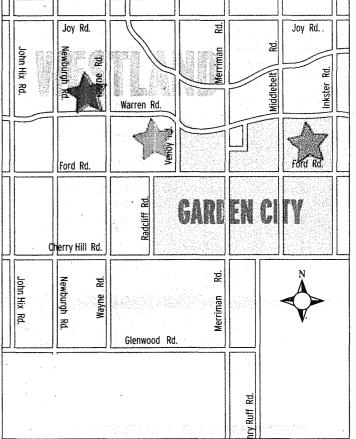
31. Take and extra 20 percent off of Carolina Herrera men's and women's fragrances, and extra 25 per-

cent off of Versace men's and women's fragrances and a extra 20 percent off on select items storewide. Westland Shopping Center is a Warren and Wayne roads in Westland. For more information, go online to www.westlandcenter.com. Color time

Kids, stop Garden City Farmers Market 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sept. 9, to show your creative at the Art aRound Town "Kids Farm Caulk Art Mural." The

artwork will be in the works 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The market features a wide variety of flowers, plants, seasonal fruits, vegetables and bakery

goods. You'll find the farmers market in the Garden City Town Center Plaza on the northeast corner of Ford and



Middlebelt. For more information, call the Garden City Chamber of Commerce at (734) 422-4448. Tee time

You don't have to be a golfer to participate in the Westland Chamber of Commerce's What the Putt Cup Wednesday, Sept. 16, at Sport-Way 38520 Ford, Westland. What the Putt Cup is a mini golf tournament. It'll have all the same bells and whistles as the chamber's annual golf outing, just on a putt-putt course. Be prepared for contest holes, drawings, door prizes and fun for four-person teams, whom will all be competing for first place. You can find more information by calling (734) 326-7222.

### ONGOING

Sushi time One customer says that the Wasabi Japanese Restaurant in Westland has "the best food, the best prices, and the best service in town. Highly

recommend for first time sushi eaters as well as long time sushi eaters." So where is it? Look for it 1553 S. Wayne Road, just north of Palmer. It's open 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and 4:30-9 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday and noon to 9 p.m. Sunday. For more information, call (734) 727-0737.

### **SEND YOUR INFORMATION**

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

It's simple: Just e-mail all of the details to editor Sue Mason at smason@hometownlife.com and she'll take care of the rest. Our local business page runs each Thursday in your Observer. We wel-

come comments and suggestions, too. We're looking forward to hearing from you.

industry. The equipment being used to produce our vinyl banners and signs is state of the art, leaving you with digital printed signage that is leading the way in cutting edge technology, environmentally friendly and visually appealing.

open your first business?

We are long time residents of Livonia and Garden City is just like home to us, so the decision to go Garden City was based on the opportunity to serve you. keeping our businesses near to home and heart. The opening

we ask you to allow Banners Nationwide to work with you in creating your "Face to the World!" We are grateful for Thank you for your warm welcome!

### **BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS**

### Expanded services

CareTech Solutions, an information technology and Web products and services provider for hospitals and health systems, has expanded the services it provides to Garden City Hospital by supporting AMICAS radiology workflow technology at the facility.

Under the terms of the agreement, CareTech will expand GCH's existing AMICAS PACS™ installation to include AMICAS Reach<sup>™</sup> and AMICAS RIS<sup>™</sup>. CareTech will facilitate the project's implementation, enabling Garden City Hospital to drive radiology workflow improvements to support improved productivity and more efficient patient care.

"Our hospital is committed to providing the best health care to the community we serve," said Jim Williamson, director of radiology at Garden City Hospital. "We are investing in AMICAS' cutting-edge technology in order to optimize our radiology operations and to enable us to main-

tain solid relationships with our referring physicians through the proactive delivery of results."

The technology suite will drive significant improvements in radiologist productivity while enabling improvements in the quality of care; allow radiology practices and departments to provide unparalleled service to referring physicians via the proactive communication of reports and key images as well as follow-up order entry; and drive administrative staff productivity and revenue opportunities.

"Our deployment of AMICAS PACS has been a resounding success at Garden City Hospital, said Bill Moncrief of CareTech Solutions, who serves as chief information officer at Garden City Hospital. "AMICAS PACS has been easy to deploy and maintain, and we have seen successful adoption by all of our clinicians. We are looking forward to extending our AMICAS solution to include even more of our radiology workflow."

CareTech Solutions, Garden City Hospital's IT partner,

will continue to support the hospital's AMICAS PACS and its extended radiology workflow solutions, and provide comprehensive training to the system's end users. CareTech has provided IT management services to Garden City Hospital since 2001.

"CareTech Solutions is delighted to expand the services it provides to Garden City Hospital and advance its patient care objectives by supporting and managing the AMICAS radiology workflow solutions," said Jim Giordano, president and CEO of CareTech Solutions. "The in-depth training CareTech provides to the system's end users will also help Garden City Hospital extract maximum value by improving productivity, and most importantly, enabling better patient care."

Garden City Hospital, is an independent, 323-bed community hospital with 365 physicians in 47 specialities. from emergency medicine and critical care to radiology, sports medicine, oncology and obstetrics/gynecology.





era is here. The chamber has a few new programs that will help us keep in touch with all of you. However, we need our members' help.

We currently only have half of the memberships' e-mail addresses. For those we don't have, please send an e-mail to westlandchamber@yahoo. com with your e-mail address and anyone else in your office that you would like to receive

### CHAMBER CHAT

As we all know the electronic chamber updates and event reminders.

> We won't sell your e-mail address to anyone. It will just be used for Westland Chamber correspondence.

> The Westland Chamber also "going green" over the next month. If members would like to start receiving the monthly newsletter in electronic form, instead of paper, please let us know. If you do wish to continue receiving your newsletter

in print, please note that there will be a \$10 charge added to your yearly membership renewal.

To start helping us be "green" and receive your newsletter by e-mail, call us at (734) 326-7222 or e-mail us at westlandchamber@yahoo.com with your correct e-mail address. If you have any questions,

call us at (734) 326-7222. **Brookellen Swope** 

president and CEO

### TROJANS

they prepare for another season in the five-school Metro Conference.

"We had a pretty good year last year, and now we're looking for some consistency to happen," said Irish, set to begin his fifth season in charge of the Trojans' program. "If that was the bar, then we have to raise our play this year."

Clarenceveille's hopes for a repeat of the success enjoyed by last year's team, which included a 5-1 second-place finish in conference action and advancement to the Division 5 district finals in state playoff action, lie on the shoulders of a pair of backfield stars.

Senior Levonte Brooks (5-10, 160) brings explosiveness to the slotback spot on offense, while junior De' Ondre Hogan (6-0, 225) provides speed, strength and a nose for the end zone at the tailback position. The two will line up alongside senior Lenny Smith (6-2, 195), who takes over quarterbacking duties after seeing action at wide receiver a year ago.

Smith will utilize his arm strength when going to the air in search of speedy senior wideouts Benjamin Watts (5-10, 155) and Leonard Hogan (5-8, 160).

How successful the Trojans are of finding the open field will depend on how quickly an inexperienced front five comes together to pave running lanes and provide protection.

Only Tim Siecinski (6-0, 190) returns with any varsity experience in the trenches. The senior is expected to be joined by the likes of junior Jeremy Smith (5-10, 215) and sophomore Sean Cummings (6-0, 190).

"We lost five seniors on the offensive line to graduation, so how we do up front is key," Irish said. "If we can come

PREP GRID PICKS				
Week 1	Brad Emons	Dan O'Meara	Tim Smith	Jim Toth
Thursday, Aug. 27				
Farmington (6-4) at Southfield (11-2), 5:30 p.m.	Southfield	Farmington	Southfield	Southfield
Waterford Kettering (4-5) at Wayne (1-8), 7 p.m.	Kettering	Kettering	Kettering	Kettering
Westland John Glenn (4-5) at Waterford Mott (4-5), 7 p.m.	Glenn	Glenn	Mott	Glenn
Friday, Aug. 28		•		
Ferndale (8-2) at Redford Thurston (6-4), 7 p.m.	Ferndale	Ferndale	Thurston.	Thurston
Garden City (2-7) at Dexter (1-8), 7 p.m.	Dexter	Dexter	Dexter	Dexter
Dearborn Edsel Ford (8-2) at Redford Union (4-5), 7 p.m.	Edsel Ford	Edsel Ford	Edsel Ford	Edsel Ford
Livonia Stevenson (10-3) at Livonia Franklin (5-5), 7 p.m.	Franklin	Franklin	Stevenson	Franklin
Hartland (9-3) at Livonia Churchill (3-6), 7 p.m.	Hartland	Hartland	Hartland	Hartland
Livonia Clarenceville (9-2) at Detroit University Prep (3-6), 7 p.m.	Clarenceville	Clarenceville	Clarenceville	Clarenceville
Plymouth (6-4) vs. Salem (1-8) at CEP, 7 p.m.	Plymouth	Plymouth	Plymouth	Plymouth
Canton (10-2) at Brighton (3-6), 7 p.m.	Canton	Canton	Canton	Canton
Pontiac (0-0) at North Farmington (2-7), 7 p.m.	Pontiac	Pontiac	North Farmington	Pontiac
Bloomfield Hills Lahser (11-2) at Farmington Harrison (4-5), 7 p.m.	Harrison	Harrison	Lahser	Harrison
Saturday, Aug. 29				
Dearborn Heights Annapolis (6-4) at Lutheran Westland (4-5), 1 p.m.	Annapolis	Annapolis	Lutheran Westland	Annapolis

together, we can be a good team."

Defensively, the Trojans will look toward linebackers De' Ondre Hogan, Siecinski and senior Dan Schiffman (5-10, 200) to keep opponents off the scoreboard. Brooks, Watts and Leonard Hogan will do a solid job of patrolling the secondary, but once again the question arises of who will step in and handle duties up front?

Junior Anthony Page (6-0, 285) is one of those candidates, along with Cummings.

Your local golf guide

"I'm excited about the season because we have some very talented skill players back and a lot of young guys up and trying to get acclimated to varsity football," said Irish, whose squad kicks off the season at 5 p.m. Friday at Detroit University Prep. "Our seniors have been doing a terrific job and we have spent a tremendous amount of time just concentrating on football."

jtoth@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6785

### Playing from outside the teeing ground

#### **By Jeanne Myers**

The teeing ground is defined as a rectangular area two club-lengths in depth, the front and sides of which are defined by the outside limits of two tee markers.

In match play, if you play from outside the teeing ground, you do not get a penalty, but your opponent may immediately require you to cancel that shot and play from inside the teeing ground. He is not required to do so, and I suspect if you hit that tee shot out of bounds, he will be very silent! On the other hand, if you have a career shot, I'm sure he will ask you to cancel and re-play correctly.

Suppose you are playing a match and hit your tee shot out of bounds from the wrong teeing ground. This

is easy to do on many of our courses with unmarked holes. Obviously, a wrong teeing ground is loutside the teeing ground.î Your opponent does not recall your shot and require you to play from the correct teeing ground. Your ball was put into play, but is now out of bounds. Under penalty of one stroke, you are required to play from where you last played, so you must play again from the wrong teeing ground. And, interestingly, you may not tee the ball because the original ball was not played from the teeing ground of the hole being played. Therefore the wrong teeing ground is really part of ithrough the greenî and the ball must be dropped. That's adding insult to injury, isn't it?

In stroke play, the situation is very different. The penalty for playing

from outside the teeing ground is two strokes, and you must correct the mistake by playing from within the teeing ground. If you do not correct the mistake before teeing off on the next hole, you are disqualified. In the case of the 18th hole, you must declare your intention to correct your mistake before leaving the putting green. The tee shot played from outside the teeing ground and all subsequent shots before the correction is made do not count.

Let's look at an example of the correct way to deal with this situation if it happens to you. You and your fellow competitors, after finishing the 10th hole, play from the teeing ground of the 15th hole instead of the 11th hole. You realize your error before finishing the 15th hole, and return to the 11th tee and complete the round. Each of you adds two strokes to his score for the 11th hole. All the strokes made on the 15th hole do not count. But remember, if you didn't realize your mistake before teeing off on the 16th hole, you are disqualified.

Many competitions are played on golf courses that do not have hole signs. A Committee in charge of a competition should put some identifying marker on the holes so that players do not play from wrong teeing grounds. However, it is the responsibility of every player to know the istipulated roundî which is one of the conditions of the competition. A istipulated round consists of playing the holes of the course in their correct sequence, unless otherwise authorized by the Committee.î Therefore, a lack of hole signs will not absolve a player from penalty.

A further word about tee-markers —Before and during the first stroke from a teeing ground the teemarkers are fixed, and may not be moved. After that, they are obstructions. Therefore, if by chance, your tee shot caroms off a tree and comes to rest next to a tee marker, you will get relief from the tee marker for your second shot under the movable obstruction rule.

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



# BOOST YOUR LOCAL ECONOMY... SHOP LOCAL

What kind of community do you want to live in? How we spend our money makes a difference in the wellness of our residents and the overall success of our businesses.

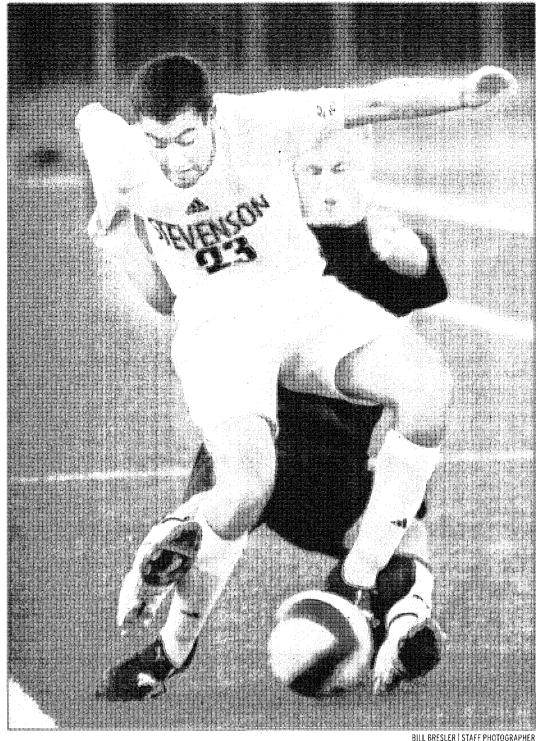
Each time you shop, your decisions will

impact your local economy. Choose locally owned businesses that are truly invested in your community's future!



Online at www.hometownlife.com

The Observer, Eccentric & Hometown Newspapers proudly supports this message.



Stevenson's Joseph Flanagan gains control of the ball hawked by Churchill defender Tyler Varney. Churchill won the season opener, 1-0.

# FROM PAGE B1

hit a post twice and I thought it might not happen, but we kept coming and coming. As it turned out it was a penalty kick, but we'll take it any way."

Stevenson's best opportunity came in the first half with 8:06 remaining, when Chris Sergison's hard drive was stopped by Churchill keeper Christian Adams.

Stevenson's Patrick Smith also had two decent chances in the second half, but couldn't get the shot on goal as Churchill's back four defenders, led by Bedell, Erik Bird,

Jacob Kobylarz and Nick Wood, proved stingy. "We certainly have to spend some time finding ways to create more offensively," Stevenson coach Lars Richters said. "Our chances were quality enough to score one or two goals. But we didn't spend enough time in their territory. We spent a lot of the game in our half of the field." Richters, a big factor in

Stevenson's winning tradition both as an All-State player and coach, was not around when Churchill beat the Spartans 4-1 for the Class A regional title in 1990.

"I had just graduated

Rockers," Richters said. "Nobody is going to feel sorry for us. We've been blessed with a nice tradition.

"Any time you lose or have a setback in life, you see what you're made of, and I eagerly await their response. We have a lot of things to cover yet. And if there's a silver lining - it's still early in the season.'

Meanwhile, Friedrichs was able to soak up the moment.

"Even though we lost a lot of quality kids, we have a talented group coming back and I let them know how proud I was of them," he said. "It's a great way to start."

# **Ryan spurs Westland** to City Challenge title

Some of Western Wayne County's top golfers marked the 50th anniversary of the 2009 City Golf Championships & Challenge held earlier this month at Canton's Fellows Creek G.C.

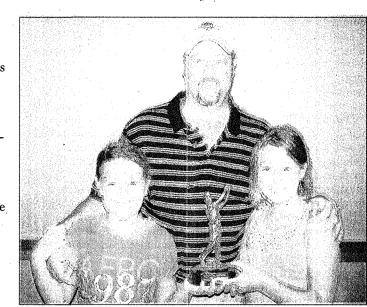
Heavy rains wiped out the first day of play (Aug. 8) reducing the event to an 18-hole shootout (Aug. 9) with individual medalist Kevin Ryan carding a 2-under par 70 to lead Westland to the Challenge title.

Ryan teamed up with former U.S. Senior Amateur Open qualifier Claud Johnston (74), Jim McComb (74), Brian Gabbeart (77) and Rick Fontaine (81) for a total of 376 and the team title.

Canton, getting a pair of 73s from two-time defending individual medalist Zach McCurley and Matt Wiley, took runner-up team honors with a 396.

Wayne, led by Ted Salvatori's 78 and tournament director Bill Hawley's 84, was distant third with 395.

Livonia, getting an 86 from



WILLIAM HAWLEY

(WL)

**B**3

The City Golf Championship & Challenge individual medalist was Canton's Kevin Ryan (with his two daughters), who shot a 2-under 70 earlier this month at Fellows Creek.

Madonna University coach Steve Mato, did not figure in the team scoring after the fifth man dropped out.

Johnston was the top senior player with a 74, while Sandy Felan, the new Wayne Memorial girls varsity golf

coach, shot an 80 to capture the Women's Championship Flight.

Linda Granfieldt took home the Women's Senior Flight crown, while Greg Gliha shot a 79 to take the Open Division title.

### O&E men's tourney set Sept. 19-20

#### **BY BRAD EMONS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Mark your calendar.

The Observer & Eccentric Men's Open golf tournament is scheduled for Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 19-20, at Livonia's Fox Creek and Whispering Willows golf courses. Entry fee for the 36-hole medal play event is \$95 (cart not included). Maximum handicap

is 20 and you must have a current U.S. Golf

### **AREA GOLF RESULTS**

### OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC WOMEN'S GOLF OPEN ug. 22 at Whispering Willow

CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT RESULTS Low gross: 1. Darci Stocker (Flint), 37-37-74; 2. Janina Jacobs (Livonia), 44-40-84; 3. Susan Macinkowicz (Chesterfield Township), 42-40-82; 4. Sonia Physh-Dennison, 41-47-88; 5. Michelle Sroka, 48-42-90; 6. Pat Witek, 50-45-95 FIRST FLIGHT RESULTS

Low gross: 1. Shellee Andrews (Livonia), 44-43-87; 2. Peggy Stevens, 49-46-95; 3. Barbara Coury, 52-44-96; 4. Kathy Brennan, 56-42-98; 5. Pat Cheal, 52-47-99; 6. Denise Buechel, 55-48-103; 7. (tie) Monica Oliver, 51-53-104; Lu Stockton, 55-49-104; and Joan Cleland, 55-49-104; 10. Elaine Crawford, 58-51-109; 11. Meghan Davis, 55-56-111; 12. Pat Shelton, 55-59-114; 13. Linda Cox, 65-49-124.

OVERALL LOW NET: 1. (tie) Stevens and Coury, 69 each (\$67.50 gift cards) 3. Sroka, 72 (\$50).

Association index to participate.

Entries, open to the first 120 who sign up, close at noon Thursday, Sept. 17. (Entry forms should be sent with a check or money order payable to T.J.W., Inc.)

Northville Township's Dan Longeway is the defending champion in the Championship Flight, while Livonian Dan Higham is the defending champ in the First Flight.

Pairings and starting times will be available after noon Friday, Sept. 18 by calling (248) 476-4493.

### **SPORTS ROUNDUP**

### Yoùth baseball tryouts

The Westland Youth Athletic Association, a member of Pony Baseball, will conduct Bronco tournament team tryouts for ages 11-2 (as of May 1, 2010) at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 12 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 13 at Jaycee Park in Westland.

Tryouts are open to Westland and non-Westland residents.

For more more information, call Greg

from Yale (University) and I was playing for the Detroit

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

### Kenne redeems self in Glenn win

Westland John Glenn is off to a 1-1 start in boys soccer following a 2-1 win Monday at home over Farmington Hills Harrison and on the heels of a 4-2 setback on Saturday at Waterford Mott.

Nelson Kenne, who earlier missed a penalty kick, scored the game-winning goal with only five minutes remaining off an assist from Mark Thompson to snap a 1-all deadlock and give Glenn its first victory of the season against the Hawks. who had posted a 4-0-1 record in five previous meetings between the two teams.

Freshman Alex Isavevski's goal from Troy McGuigan gave Glenn a 1-0 lead in the second half before the Hawks evened the count.

"We played good, but couldn't get it going with our attack in the first half," Glenn coach Jimmy Mortada said. "We struggled a little bit, but the second half we got the pressure going.

"It's time we finally broke the jinx against Harrison."

**BOYS SOCCER** 

On Saturday, first-half goals by Kyle Beguin and Isavevski were not enough in the loss to Mott. MOTT 4, WAYNE 0: James

Kennedy tallied a pair of goals Tuesday as Waterford Mott (2-0) spoiled the season opener for host Wavne Memorial (0-1). Dean Dziewit made five

saves in goal to post the shutout for the Corsairs.

Caleb Mathers and John Abraham also scored for Mott.

Two sophomores stood out for the Zebras, who trailed 1-0 at halftime - midfielder Rabee Hamden and defender Kevin Diehl.

CLARENCEVILLE 1, S.L. EAST 1: Garet Hintzman's tally with 10 minutes remaining Tuesday enabled visiting Livonia Clarenceville to salvage this tie with South Lvon East. Competing in their season opener, the Trojans fell behind in the first half as senior goalkeeper Mike Schiffman, making

his varsity debut, was beaten midway through the stanza. The game remained 1-0

until the senior Hintzman took a feed from classmate Phil Strachan and found the back of the Cougars net to draw his teammates even at 1-1.

"We played short-handed, but I was proud of the way the guys played and performed," Trojans coach Trevor Johnson said. "Mike stepped in and really played well in goal making nine saves. We had some lulls as a team out there, but for the most part we played pretty well."

**CRESTWOOD 4, FRANKLIN 1:** Livonia Franklin (0-1) couldn't overcome a 3-1 halftime deficit Tuesday in a non-conference setback to host Dearborn Heights Crestwood (2-0) as Ali Kahzaal scored twice.

Jordan McGuire's unassisted goal proved to be the Patriots' lone tally.

the ball on time," Franklin coach Vic Rodopoulos said. "Little mistakes cost us the game."

#### CITY GOLF **CHAMPIONSHIPS & CHALLENGE** Aug. 8-9 at Fellows Creek G.C.

#### Individual medalist: Kevin Ryan (Westland), 70 **CITY CHALLENGE SCORERS**

Westland (376): Kevin Ryan, 70: Claud Johnston and Jim McComb, 74 each; Briann Gabbeart, 77: Rick Fontaine, 81.

Canton (395): Zach McCurley and Matt Wiley, 73 each; Bob Selberg, 79; Ross Gerulis, 84: Ken Eck, 86. Wayne (427): Ted Salvatori, 78; Bill Hawley, 84; Mike Lorenz, 85; Rick

Stoner, 88; Buddy Stoner, 92.

Livonia (no score): Steve Mato, 86: John Jordan, 89: Tyler Bledsoe, 91: Mike Mato, 109

### WESTLAND RESULTS

Men's championship flight: 1. Ryan, 70; 2. McComb, 74; 3. Gabbeart, 77; 4 Fontaine, 81.

Men's senior flight: 1. Johnston, 74; 2. Bob Decker, 86; 3. Brian Pilarski, 112. CANTON RESULTS Men's championship flight: 1. Z. McCurley and Wiley, 73 each; 3. Selberg, 79.

Men's first flight: 1. Gerulis, 84; 2. Eck, 86; 3. Tim McCurley, 89. WAYNE RESULTS

Men's championship flight: 1. Salvatori, 78; 2. Hawley, 84; Lorenz, 85. Men's senior flight: 1. R. Stoner, 88; 2. B. Stoner, 92; 3. Doug Tompkins, 98. LIVONIA RESULTS

Championship flight: 1, S. Mato, 86; 2, Jordan, 89; 3, Bledsoe, 91; 4, M. Mato, 109

#### WOMEN'S RESULTS

Championship flight: 1. Sandy Felan, 80. Senior flight: 1. Linda Granfieldt; 2. Darlene Hawley; 3. Bey Woodard. **OPEN DIVISION RESULTS** Championship flight: 1. Greg Gliha, 79; 2. John Sobczak, 92; 3. Jerry

Maynor, 104

### **GIRLS GOLF RESULTS**

#### MILFORD LADY MAVERICK GIRLS GOLF INVITATIONAL Aug. 24 at Prestwick Village

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Bloomfield Hills Sacred Heart, 365 strokes; 2. Hartland, 371; 3. Grand Blanc, 382; 4. Milford (A), 383; 5. Novi, 390; 6. Plymouth 393; 7. South Lyon (A), 395; 8. Pontiac Notre Dame Prep, 413; 9. (tie) Milford (B) and Linden, 425 each; 11. Livonia Churchill, 433; 12. Dearborn, 435; 13. Walled Lake Northern, 440; 14. South Lyon (B), 443; 15. Mason, 445; 16. White Lake Lakeland, 466

Churchill scorers: Jordyn Shepler, 99; Stephanie Panaretos, 105; Jackie Burdette, 106; Shelby Longworth, 123; Maggie McGowan, 129; Margo McClain, 154.

#### Hovermale (734) 721-0098 or Chuck McBay at (734) 604-9910.

The Livonia Baseball Club will stage 2010 travel tryouts for its under-10 team. from noon to 2 p.m. and its under-12 team from 2-4 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 30 and Sunday, Sept. 20 at Livonia's Bicentennial Park (Diamond No. 7).

For more information, call Mike Turbin (under-12) at (313) 303-9728 or Joe Jakacki (under-10) at (734) 469-4217.

### Fall hoops league

Madonna University will sponsor a Sunday fall basketball league at 1 p.m. (ages 11-13) and 3 p.m. (ages 14-16) beginning Sept. 13 (through Oct. 25).

Each player will be guaranteed a minimum of seven games and will receive instruction prior to each game. (Game times will very each week.)

The cost is \$125 per player (includes reversible jersey).

For more information, visit www. madonnacrusaders.com (click on summer camps link at the top of the page).

### Women's hockey league

An adult women's beginners hockey league begins its fall session (Sept. through Jan.) at Veterans Arena in Ann Arbor.

The registration fee of \$190 includes a refundable jersey fee \$10.

No experience is necessary. Games scheduled at 7:50 p.m., 8:50 p.m., 9:50 p.m. and 10:50 p.m. on Fridays.

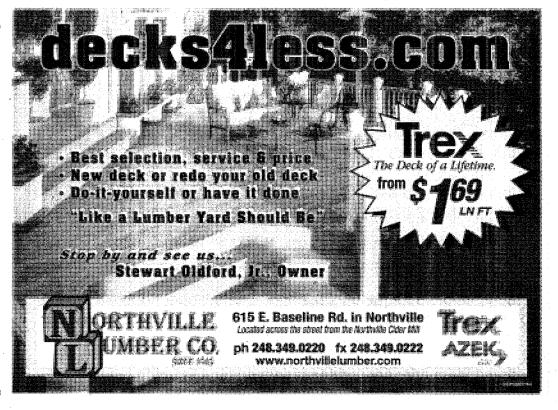
For more registration information, visit www.macrhl.com.

PREP FOOTBALL Thursday, Aug. 27 Waterford Kettering at Wayne, 7 p.m. John Glenn at Waterford Mott, 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 28 Clarenceville at Det, Univ. Prep. 5 p.m. Hartland at Churchill, 7 p.m. Stevenson at Franklin, 7 p.m Saturday, Aug. 29 Annapolis at Luth. Westland, 1 p.m. GIRLS VOLLEYBALL Thursday, Aug. 27 Wayne at Clarenceville, 6:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 28 Ladywood Inv. Quad. 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 29 Ladywood Tournament, 8:30 a.m. Portage Northern Invitational, 8:30 a.m. W.L. Central Invitational, 9 a.m. Carleton Airport Invitational, 9 a.m. Mich. Luth. Seminary Tourney, TBA. **BOYS SOCCER** Thursday, Aug. 27 Dexter at Churchill, 7 p.m. Stevenson at Franklin, 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 27 Clarenceville at S'field Christian, 4 p.m. Friday, Aug. 28 Huron Valley at Franklin Road, 4:30 p.m.

### THE WEEK AHEAD

Saturday, Aug. 29 (Showcase at E. Lansing Soccer Complex) Luth, Westland vs. Hudsonville Bapt., 10 a.m. Luth. Westland vs. W. Mich. Christian, 1 p.m. Luth. Westland vs. Muskegon CC, 5 p.m. BOYS & GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY Thursday, Aug. 27 Clarenceville vs. RU at Bell Creek Pk., 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 29 Lansing Catholic Invitational, 10 a.m. South Lyon Inv. at Island Lake, TBA. GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING Thursday, Aug. 27 Wayne State Warrior Relays, 5 p.m. Churchill at W.L. Western, 6:30 p.m Saturday, Aug. 29 Howell Invitational, 1 p.m. GIRLS GOLF Thursday, Aug. 27 Farmington Inv. at Glen Daks, 8 a.m. BOYS TENNIS Thursday, Aug. 27 Adrian Invitational, 8:30 a.m. John Glenn at Farmington, 4 p.m. Friday, Aug. 28 Stevenson at A.A. Pioneer, 10 a.m. Garden City at Wayne, 4 p.m. **GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY** Friday, Aug. 28 Warren Regina at Ladywood, 4:30 p.m

WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL Friday, Aug. 28 Delta CC at Schoolcraft, 4 p.m. Alpena CC at Schoolcraft, 8 p.m. (U-M Dearborn Early Bird Challenge) Madonna vs. Bethel (Ind.), 1 p.m. Madonna vs. Notre Dame (Ohio), 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 29 Alpena CC at Schoolcraft, 9 a.m. Delta CC at Schoolcraft, 1 p.m. (U-M Dearborn Early Bird Challenge) Madonna vs. Olivet Nazarene (III.), 1 p.m. Madonna vs. Northwestern Ohio, 3:15 p.m. **MEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER** Saturday, Aug. 29 Schoolcraft at Herkimer CC (N.Y.), 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 30 Schoolcraft vs. Frederick CC (Md.) at Herkimer CC (N.Y.), 2:30 p.m WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER Thursday, Aug. 27 Madonna at Cal-St, San Marcos, 8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 29 Schoolcraft vs. Sussex CC (N.Y.) at Herkimer CC (N.Y.), noon. Sunday, Aug. 30 Schoolcraft vs. Jamestown CC (NY) at Herkimer CC (N.Y.), 10 a.m. TBA - time to be announced



"We got caught not getting to

### **BELIEFS & VALUES**

### Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, August 27, 2009

## RELIGION

Hope Lutheran Church, 28600 Cherry Hill, between Inkster and Middlebelt roads, Garden City, is available for rent. For information, call (734) 427-3660.

■ St. James Presbyterian, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. For information call the church at (313) 534-7730 Praver

■ Music, singing, prayer at 7 p.m. Thursdays at St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through entrance #2, at the back of the church. For more information, call Grace at (734) 464-1896, Shirley at (734) 464-3656, or Geri at (734) 464-8906.

■ 7 p.m. Wednesday, at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Participate in an open time of praying silently and aloud together as well as responding to personal requests. Call (248) 476-8860.

■ Parish prayer and Eucharistic Adoration, third Wednesday of each month at St. Michael's Church of Livonia, corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads. The church will be open for worship from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. followed by Benediction service. For information, call (734) 261-1455.

7-9 p.m. the first and third Tuesdays of the month for prayer, spiritual healing and outreach at Good Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City. Call (734) 427-3660.

■ Single Point Ministries, for ages 30 and older, offers fellowship and related topics at 11:30 a.m., Sundays, in Knox Hall at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Coffee, doughnuts, conversation. Call (248) 374-5920. Tennis continues from 1-5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, and 4-7 p.m. weekdays any time the weather is above 45 degrees, at Rotary Park, Six Mile and



### Taking the stage

The Paul Keller Orchestra, a 15-piece big band, plays a concert at the First United Methodist Church in Plymouth 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 27. This concert is part of the noteworthy – concerts with a cause – series of First United Methodist Church. Admission is free; a free-will offering will be received to benefit Habitat for Humanity. The church is located at 45201 N. Territorial Road in Plymouth Township, a mile east of Beck. For more information, call (734) 453-5280.

Hubbard, Livonia. Walking club meets at 6 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday in the Single Point office. All fitness levels welcome.

■ Single Place Ministry continues to meet Thursdays 7:30-7:45 p.m. for social time, 7:45-8 p.m. opening, 8-9 p.m. program, at First Presbyterian Church, 200 E. Main St., Northville. Call (248) 349-0911 or visit www.

### singleplace.org. Cost is \$5.

Soup kitchen Learn about the Capuchin Soup Kitchen and the Solanus Casey Center in Detroit by participating in its "Day of Service" program. Dine with guests at the soup kitchen, tour the Earth Works urban garden, and take a self-guided tour of the Solanus Casey Center, a spirituality center dedicated to the Capuchin friar who is credited with miraculous cures and valued for his wise and compassionate counsel. The minimum age is seventh grade and the maximum size of the group is 30. The day starts at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 2:30 p.m. There is no cost. Lunch included. For information, send e-mail to ccrane@thecapuchins.org. To learn more about the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, visit www. cskdetroit.org. **Support** 

A weekly drop-in Food Cupboard (nonperishable items) is available 10 a.m. to noon Saturday mornings at St: Andrew's Episcopal Church, 16360 Hubbard, Livonia. There are no requirements, this a service the

church wants the community to be aware of and utilize if needed Donations of nonperishable items also accepted for the cupboard. Are you or someone you know struggling with depression, divorce, grief, addiction, relationship difficulties, or job loss? Real Life Church through its volunteers and partnerships with area ministries and professionals provides classes, seminars, care, support & recovery groups, counseling, and prayer to help you get through life challenges. Visit the Web site for details on current classes and groups offered as well as location, days and times www.realifeplymouth.com.

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■ The Clothing Bank has moved to a new location west of Canton Christian Fellowship. Free clothing (men, women and children) for those in need is available 10 a.m. to noon the fourth Saturday of each month, at 41711 Joy Rd. Call (734) 404-2480, visit www.CantonCF.org or send e-mail to info@cantoncf.org for information.

Overeaters Anonymous meets 7 p.m. Thursdays in the Courtyard Room at Unity of Livonia Church, 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads, Livonia, and 7 p.m. Sundays, in Classroom 1 at the 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. Weigh-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.



Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, August 27, 2009

L. KONDER

Brett Moore (left) as Oliver; Robert Doyle as Mr. Bumble; and Leah Page Cooley as Widow Corney in Spotlight Players' production of 'Oliver.

# **Spotlight Players sing way** through start, end of season

Spotlight Players kicks off its new season with Oliver!, the classic musical based on Charles Dickens' novel.

The show features a cast of local actors and follows the story of an orphan, played by Brett Moore in Victorian London as he makes his way from the cruel workhouse to the streets, where he joins a gang of lovable pickpockets and finds a friend in The Artful Dodger, played by Jeffrey Selewski.

Barbara Bloom choreographed the family-friendly show and directed the cast that includes actors from age 8 to 60-plus.

Shows are at 8 p.m. Sept. 18-19, 25-26 and at 2 p.m. Sept. 19-20, and 26-27 at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton. The Village Theater has free parking, is handicap accessible and has a concession stand.

Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$16 for seniors and students under 19. They're available by phone at the Village Theater Box Office at (734) 394-5300 or (734) 394-5460 or online at www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater or in person at The Summit on the Park or at the door. Box office opens an hour before show-

Spotlight Players, the resident adult theater group for the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, follows Oliver! with a drama, Crimes of the Heart, in November. Barefoot in the Park will open in February 2010 and Oklahoma! rounds out the season in April 2010.

Here's what's planned at other community theatres this fall: Barefoot Productions kicks off its fall

season with Mister Roberts, Oct. 8-25 at the Walker/Buzenberg building, 240 N. Main, Plymouth. (734) 582-9688

Rosedale Community Players Farmington Players includes Twelve Angry Men, Last Night of Balyhoo, Twigs and Funny Valentines in its 40th anniversary season.

Exact running order and show dates are to be arranged. The Redford troupe is searching for a new home and has found a temporary stage at Bushnell Congregational Church in Detroit. (313) 532-4010

Farmington Players starts its new season with And the Winner Is, a play written by Mitch Albom, Oct. 2-17. The Players' home is the Barn Theater, 32332 West 12 Mile, Farmington Hills. (248) 553-2955

# Hear rock, country, gospel music at Michigan State Fair

Watch horses prance, enter contests, ooh and aah your way along aisles of vegetables and perfect pastries, eat cotton candy, take a spin on a gutwrenching ride, watch acrobats and drill teams, dancers and rock musicians and much more at the Michigan State Fair.

FILTER

The nine-day event starts Friday, Aug. 28 at the fairgrounds, located at Eight Mile and Woodward in Detroit. In addition to the livestock,

agricultural displays, home and community arts exhibits, the fair offers a myriad local performers, as well as celebrity musicians.

Mark Farner, formerly of Grand Funk Railroad, kicks off a series of free nightly concerts in the fair bandshell. Farner performs at 7 p.m., Aug. 28. Farner sang with Grand Funk Railroad on such memorable hit songs as Closer to Home, Foot Stompin' Music, and We're in an American Band.

The Detroit area Gospel Show takes the stage from 4-9 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 30. Dennis Edwards and his Temptations Review will be perform at 7 p.m., Monday, Aug. 31 – Motown Day at the

fair Pete Rivera, original lead singer of Rare Earth will appear with Mike Pinera, original lead singer of Blues Image, Jerry Corbetta, original lead singer of Sugerloaf, and local Detroit bass player and session man Larry Prentiss. Performing as The Classic Rock All-Stars, the band will appear at 2 p.m. and as the Temptations Review opening act at 7 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 31. Red, Cavo and Pop Evil rock out at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 1. The fair will feature the final Michigan competition of the Colgate Country Showdown at



PHOTO BY CALEB KUH



Pop Evil

3 p.m. and 7 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 3. The showdown includes musicians who have won competitions at various locations around the state. The winner of this country music competition will compete for the national title.

Starship starring Mickey Thomas will perform at 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 4. The show will feature a complete retrospective of the biggest hits of the Jefferson Airplane, Jefferson Starship and Starship.

Survivor will take the stage at 7 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 5, followed by country artists Jake Owen and Love and Theft at 7 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 6.

The bandshell series ends at 7 p.m., Monday, Sept. 7, with Billy Squier, who is touring with his band for the first time since 2001.

The concert series is free. Admission to the Michigan State Fair is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children, age 3-12 and senior citizens, age 62 and older.

Children under 2 enter free. Fair hours are 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. (313) 369-8250.

### GETOUT

ART

### **Eastern Michigan University**

### CAR. CRUISE EVENTS

Botsford Commons "Cruise In" classic car show

### Tuition Free K-6 Montessori A **Education is Available** to Your Children



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Time/Date: Elements of Photography, Sept. 3-Oct. 2, Coping with the Unknown, Sept. 8-Oct. 2; Excavations, through Aug. 28

Location: Photography in the University Art Gallery, 900 Oakwood on EMU's Ypsilanti campus; Coping and Excavations in the Ford Gallery, in Ford Hall, north of Cross Street at Normal Street on EMU campus Details: Photography exhibit features work of nationally and internationally acclaimed photographers. Artist reception is 4-6 p.m., Sept. 9. Coping shows the work of Joe Meiser and Adrian Hatfield. Artist reception is 4-6 p.m., Sept. 10. Excavations is a master's degree thesis show

Contact: (734) 487-0465 or e-mail to jlockel@emich. edu

### **Farmington Hills City Gallery**

Time/Date: "Studies of Place and Views of Space" through Sept. 25

Location: Costick Center at 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Works by Rachel Reynolds and Robert Zahorsky

Contact: (248) 473-1856.

Lotus Arts Gallery

Time/Date: "Impression & Expressions: Exploring Modern Printmaking," through Aug. 29. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Location: 995 West Ann Arbor Trail, downtown Plymouth

Contact: (888) 889-4ART (toll free) or (734)453-5400 **Northville Art House** 

Location: 215 W. Cady Street, downtown Northville Contact: (248) 344-0497, or visit www.northvillearts.

### Village Theater at Cherry Hill

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday through Aug. 30

Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton Details: "Michigan Comics: Mirth, Mockery, Mayhem," features more than 100 pieces of original artwork - editorial cartoons, gag panels, comic strips, comic books, graphic novels and other works on paper - and showcases the talents of 40 Michigan artists Contact: (734) 394-5300 or visit www.canton-mi.org/ villagetheater

### BENEFITS

Dawn Farm Jamboree

Time/Date: 1-6 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 13 Location: Dawn Farm, 6633 Stoney Creek Road, Ypsilanti Details: Free admission. Proceeds for the farm that helps recovering alcoholics and drug addicts, raised through an auction, gift tables and sales. Live music by NoteWorthy, hayrides, pony rides, rock climbing wall, children's tent, chair massages, farm tours, live and silent auctions, vendors, food and beverages. Farm fresh eggs available for purchase

Contact: (734) 485-8725 or visit www.dawnfarm.org

Time/date: 4 p.m. to dusk, Friday, Aug. 28. Location: Botsford Commons, 21450 Archwood Circle, Farmington Hills

Details: Fifth annual event, cars, free outdoor concert with big band sounds

Contact: (248) 477-7400

### COMEDY

Go Comedy! Time/Date: Various show times Wednesdays thru Sundavs

Location: 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale

Details: Improv most nights. Three original sketch comedies 8 p.m. Thursdays: Jeremy Conn and Garrett Fuller, both of Garden City, in their one- act comedic play, "Travel Earth Timeshares," through Sept. 24. Open mic/jam session show for improvisers is 10 p.m.

Wednesdays Contact: (248) 327-0575; www.gocomedy.net

JD's House of Comedy Time/Date: Various show times Wednesday-Saturday

evenings

Location: 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield

Details: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday

Contact: (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster.com Jazz Cafe at Music Hall

Time/Date: 9 p.m. third Thursdays Location: 350 Madison Ave., Detroit

Details: Show Up, and Go Up, open call, free Contact: (313) 887-8532, www.jazzcafedetroit.com

Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Mondays, Open Mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia Contact: (734) 261-0555, www.kickerscomplex.com

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle

Time/Date: Open Mic 8 p.m. most Wednesdays **Location**: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak

Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com Palace of Auburn Hills

Time/Date: Frank Caliendo/Bill Engvall, Oct. 24 Location: 1 Championship Drive, Auburn Hills Contact: (248) 645-6666 or Palacenet.com

### CONCERTS

The Ark Time/Date: Little Feat, Aug. 27; Notorious, Aug. 28; Great Lake Swimmers, Aug. 29; Yid Vicious, Aug. 30 Location: 316 South Main, Ann Arbor Contact: (734) 763-8587; www.theark.org Canton jazz series Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 28 at Sam's Club on Ford Road Details: Bugs Beddow Band; free **Contact**: (734) 394-5460

### FOOD & WINE

89 (\*)

# New classes, tasting events offer expert tips on wine, spirits

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI CORRESPONDENT

If you've ever sat at a nice restaurant and wished you had a clue about what drinks complemented the food you just ordered, maybe taking a class at a local college, speciality store or wine bar is all you need to make your taste buds dance.

You don't have to be a wine snob to know the difference.

"From a social gathering standpoint it's becoming more popular and not as scary for people to understand what to do," said Shawn Loving, Schoolcraft College culinary arts department chair.

Schoolcraft College's fall enrichment classes give students a chance to learn about the new wines of Tuscany (class begins Monday, Sept. 28, for three weeks) and Bordeaux (class starts Monday, Nov. 2) with instructor/consultant and wine guru Lee Hershey.

In Oakland County, Oakland Community College is hosting "Wine Tasting Viva France," 6-9 p.m. Tuesdays, now through Sept. 8. Students will "travel" through France tasting wines from the most important regions while learning how to decipher different French wine labels. The cost is \$149. For more information, go to www.oaklandcc.edu/ce.

Other area community college enrichment classes will take students to regions around the world to learn about wines that are coming from New Zealand, Chile and Africa.

"They are doing much better and becoming much more popular and much more popularly priced," said Darlene Levinson, OCC Culinary Studies Institute instructor.

If you want to try something new, drinks with fresh herbs and savory flavors are among the latest drink trends, Levinson said.

"Some students are interested in know-

ing what's out there," she said. "They want to know about wines and how to read a wine menu."

If you think you know it all, there's always something new to learn.

"This weekend I'm having a girl party," said Levinson, who plans to serve friends pureed cucumbers, mixed with lemonade and lemon vodka.

Or, she said, you can use soda water and fresh herbs, like rosemary and thyme, from the garden. "There's a big movement to make drinks fresh and not use mixes," she added.

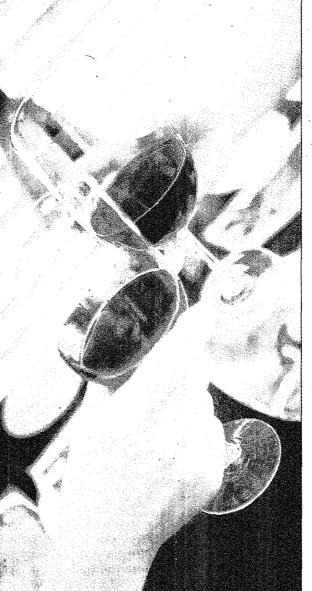
In one of her classes, Levinson says, "We taste something every week. Sometimes I put out 10 different vodkas and we taste the differences or 10 different whiskies and taste the differences. That's a lot of fun."

Loving, of Schoolcraft College, said, "I always followed a myth that wines had to be expensive. It's fun to know this red wine goes well with this protein or meat. It's a fun challenge to coordinate wines and spirits as opposed to be standoffish. It's more relaxing and inviting as a whole."

Area restaurants and wine shops also offer a variety of tasting events.

Grape Expectations, 555 Forest Ave. in downtown Plymouth, will host an Italian Wines/Wine Tasting Dinner at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 15. Patrons will sample wines from the Piedmont region and specifically from the winery Beni Di Batasiolo. Go to Grape Expectations on the Web at www.gewinebar.com or call (734) 455-9463.

WineStyles, 17386 Haggerty in Livonia, offers a variety of wine events each month. On Tuesday, Sept. 1, WineStyles offers Ladies Night from 5-9 p.m. Flights of wine (a sampling of six different wines) are just \$10. For more information, go to www. winestylesstore.com or call (734) 464-9600.



### Let fall culinary classes stir up your passion for good food

The Food Network and the popular movie, Julie and Julia, have put culinary arts in the spotlight.

Personalities, like Emeril Lagasse and Rachael Ray and the economy are feeding our basic instinct to learn how to cook, and bake well in our own homes.

Community colleges are offering a wide range of classes this fall through continuing education programs for cooking enthusiasts who want to spice up their international culinary repertoire, learn a new technique for cutting vegetables and herbs or create decadent desserts at home.

Schoolcraft College in Livonia offers an extensive list of classes from indoor grilling and breadmaking to intricate pumpkin carving and cake decorating.

Popular continuing education classes at Schoolcraft involve preparing vegetarian meals, making homemade baby food and healthy food preparation.

Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn offers culinary adventures to tempt anyone's sweet tooth with offering such as gourmet chocolate confections and "stuffed" cupcakes.

Oakland Community College's "Decadent Gourmet Apples" class lets students create five applies covered in rich caramel, enrobed in four flavors of chocolate and sprinkled with layers of crunchy toppings. Learn how to create a gourmet fresh fruit bouquet at an OCC this

For a complete list of continuing education classes and seminars: Schoolcraft at www.schoolcraft.edu/pdfs/ cepd/2009\_fall\_culinary\_seminars.pdf; HFCC is at, www. hfcc.edu/programs and OCC is at www.oakland.cc.edu/ce.

-Correspondent Diane Andreassi contributed to this story.

### Sample wine, food at festival this weekend

Wine and Food Festival 1-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 29, and 1-5:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 30.

the event, and include eight free wine samples, wine and food seminars and non-stop live entertainment. Designated Driver tickets may be purchased for \$10 and include two free soft drinks. Tickets for kids, age 12 to 17 years, are \$5 and those under 12 are admitted free.

Tickets are on sale now at Palacenet.com, The Palace and DTE Energy Music Theatre Box Offices and all Ticketmaster locations. Tickets will also be available at the Meadow Brook Music Festival Box Office the day of the event. Each ticket is valid for one-day admission to the festival grounds.

Express, Discover, Visa and MasterCard by calling (800)745-3000.

Award-winning wineries from the state of Michigan and across the globe will be on hand showcasing more than 100 varieties of wine including Chardonnay, Merlots, Rieslings, Sparkling, Dry Red and dessert wines. The festival's on-site retail store will have select wines available for purchase at the event. A list of components is attached.

Presenting sponsor Kroger will host a tent fea-



Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, August 27, 2009

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"Just wanted to let you know what a great job you did with my daughters Baby Shower. The service was excellent.

The food was great. Thanks for your attention to every detail - it was greatly appreciated. I will strongly recommend your establishment for parties. A great time was had by all."

Thank You again Paula

Northville

"The party Friday night was wonderful! Thank you very much for your own fine efforts in the coordination. The wait staff is to be commended for their outstanding service

But the food, Gayle, was from HEAVEN!!! We assembled a group of very discriminating palates (Seattle, San Francisco, Chicago, Manhattan and Atlanta). I am still getting rave reviews.

KUDOS to the chef for his culinary expertise."

**Betsye Ross** Cleveland, OH

"It was a pleasure to have our shower for Liz and Justin at Fiamma

Everyone involved was very Professional and Friendly. We also had many compliments concerning the wonderful food and

beautiful banquet room." Thank You,

Margaret, Dennis, Linda and Will Livonia & Plymouth

"We wanted to tell you what a wonderful job you did for our rehearsal dinner on May 26. The Banquet room in Fiamma Grille was just perfect for the occasion.

The food was wonderful and the service was exceptional." Joe And Jenny

Holiday Baplisms **Baby Showers** Wedding Showers Rehearsal Dinners Birindary Pariies Retirement Parties Iniimaie Wedding Receptions eilbloglog ruceuoun 🕸 Dinnərs!

Beinejusi Coordinatior Gaylə Moronəs For All Your Nəəds.

"Last evening my husband and I hosted our Corporate Christmas party at Fiamma Grille. From Start to finish it was a wonderful

The food was excellent, the service smooth and knowledgeable, the wine selection perfect. I know that during this busy time of year things don't always run smoothly.

Not last night, it was truly a delightful experience. "At Fiamma Grille eating and drinking is always a pleasure" says it best."

Thank You very much Karen and Ed

"Thank You so much for all your help with our wedding reception at Fiamma Grille! You did an exceptional job-we couldn't have asked for a better coordinator! Thank you to everyone who helped out as well - everything from food/drinks to the service to the decor was superb. We still receive compliments on our reception today,

Sincerely **Kevin and Amy** 

"I wanted to drop you a quick note to tell you what a wonderful job both John & Gayle did for my party. The food was beautifully executed and our server made sure everyone always had a full glass or cup. Everyone had a great time. Especially me since I did not have to worry about the meal or

Thank You **Betty Jean** 



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