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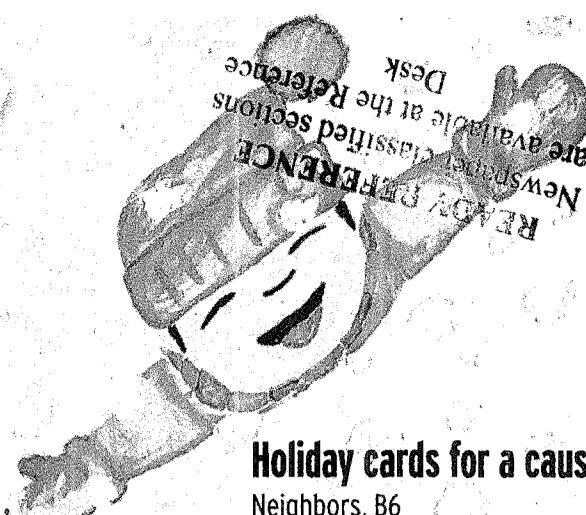
75 CENTS

Surprise: She gets her Harley ride - A3

WESTLAND OBSERVER

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Holiday cards for a cause
Neighbors, B6

AROUND TOWN

Birthday girl

While most folks were observing Veterans Day on Nov. 11, Viva Caughey was celebrating a milestone: her 100th birthday.

The Westland resident was born in 1909 in Marquette. She married Meryl O. Lynch in 1931 and they moved to Miami, Fla. When he died in 1938, she returned to Michigan and attended the Grace Hospital Nursing School to become a registered nurse.

She worked for the Visiting Nurses Association until she met and married Dr. Edgar Caughey in 1943. They met while attending the home delivery of a baby.

Caughey has four children — Patrick, Cheryl, Diane and Michael — and four grandchildren — Jeffrey, Jennifer, Shane and Cyndy.

She lives in Rose Cottage at the Village of Westland. Her hobbies include spending time at her cottage, walking and basketball.

Memories

The holiday season is upon us and we're asking readers to send us their favorite holiday memories and photos to the *Westland Observer* for the special holiday edition we are planning for Thursday, Dec. 24.

Did you get a favorite gift for Christmas, or do you have a special memory of Hanukkah? Is there a special tradition your family has to make the season merry and bright?

Share those memories with us. Send your items — be sure to include a photo, if you can — to *Westland Observer* Editor Sue Mason at smason@hometownlife.com.

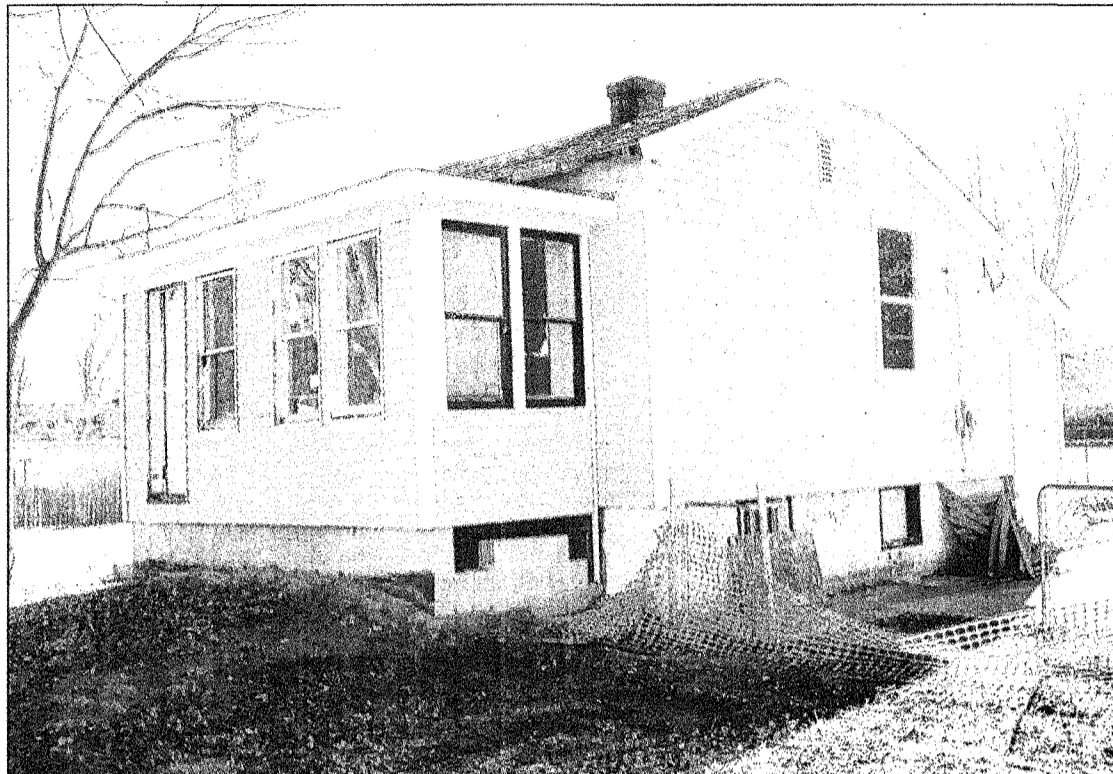
Dear Santa

Santa Claus is waiting by his mailbox for youngsters' gift lists and letters. The *Westland Observer* wants to make sure Santa Claus knows what children would like this Christmas and is asking youngsters to send us letters to him.

We will publish the letters in the newspaper during December before sending them on to the North Pole. The letters should include a snapshot of the letter writer. Send Santa correspondence to smason@hometownlife.com and be sure to put Letter to Santa in the subject line. They can also be mailed to Letter to Santa Claus, c/o Sue Mason, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226.

The *Observer* will publish letters throughout the month of December, so don't delay, kids. Get out the Wish Book and start making your lists.

And parents, you can send in your wish lists, too. Santa delivers to all who believe.



Efforts by the previous owner to rehabilitate this house on Farragut didn't come to fruition. Eventually, Wayne County received the home through tax foreclosure and was recently purchased by the city of Westland, which will demolish the structure using federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program funds.

Cleaning up blight, one house at a time

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Jack Middlebrook is familiar with vacant, blighted homes — he can see two from the front porch of his home on Farragut.

One home is across the street, while the second, which is in the poorest condition, is located next door. The tiny house on a 35-foot lot was recently purchased by Westland through a tax foreclosure for \$136 and will be demolished.

"The city was out this morning and ripped up the yard to take out the water (line). There have been rabbits, raccoons and squirrels in there," Middlebrook said. "If they knock it down, at least I will know what I need to do to put up a fence. If I had put up a fence, they'd knock it down if they demolished the house."

Strangely, the house had a relatively new

roof, siding and windows. A couple of years ago, Middlebrook said his nephew had purchased the house and started to rehabilitate it.

"He paid \$45,000 for it. He put in a new furnace and the siding, tore the garage down. He ran into some trouble — the city wouldn't work with him," said Middlebrook, who is medically retired. "It looked like a shack. It looks 150 percent better now."

The house on Farragut at the corner of Harvey is one of six homes Westland recently acquired using federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program funds. Homes are acquired for rehabilitation and resale or demolition based on their condition.

Along with contracts recently awarded to private companies to handle 40 home rehabilitation

Please see **BLIGHT, A2**

More homes acquired for stabilization program

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Federally funded efforts to address residential blight in Westland are moving forward with the acquisition of six vacant homes and awarding contracts for rehabilitation work.

"I'm excited. I think we have about 90 percent of the funds allocated. We need to have all of the money spent by August," Community Development Director Joanne Inglis said.

The city has received more than \$2 million in federal Neighborhood Stabilization funds. Those funds can be used for acquiring foreclosed, vacant or blighted homes; demolishing or rehabilitating the properties; rehabilitating or constructing new homes for home ownership opportunities and rehabilitating affordable rental properties; and offering down payment assistance to low- and moderate-income homebuyers.

As determined by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Westland's areas of greatest need are in the Norwayne neighborhood, along with the southeast and northeast corners of the city. The risk factor calculated by HUD is based on the number of foreclosures, subprime mortgages and delinquencies within neighborhood areas.

In total, the city has acquired a total of 19 properties — 13 single-family homes and six other

Please see **HOMES, A2**

Community turns out for fund-raising luncheon

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER



PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN

Binnie Trail, Sue Grigg and Stephanie Bigelow enjoy the Thanksgiving buffet prepared by students in the culinary arts program at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center. The \$10 donations are being used to provide Thanksgiving meals for needy families.

It was a never-ending job keeping the dessert table stocked with cheesecake, pumpkin rolls and pies and cookies, but Evelyn Weddington, Cayla Viar and Jenna Hill were up to the task.

Students in the culinary arts program at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center, they restocked the table three times during a 1½-hour luncheon Thursday.

"The cheesecake and the pumpkin roll went the fastest," Viar said.

"I was worried until I saw what people actually liked," Hill added.

It was the students' cooking that was center stage for the luncheon, put on by Chef Tony Paquette to raise money to provide Thanksgiving dinners for needy Wayne-Westland families.

"This is great for the community," said Amanda Faughnan, director of

the Resource Center. "I commend you and when you leave here today, feel good about what you've done for the community."

This is the third year that Paquette has hosted the benefit buffet. Guests paid \$10 each to dine on turkey and stuffing, fried shrimp, fish and breaded pork chops as well as stuffed potatoes and butternut soup. The money raised will help pay for Thanksgiving meals for needy families. Any money left will be used to help families at Christmas.

According to Faughnan, some 10 families have already requested assistance for Thanksgiving and the requests are sure to grow. She expects a lot of families helped last year will request the assistance and that there will be "a lot of new families."

"The need will be great this year,"

Please see **LUNCHEON, A6**

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Chatters murder hearing delayed until Nov. 24

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A preliminary examination for a Livonia man charged with murdering his wife outside a Westland bar was delayed for a third time Thursday in 18th District Court.

George Williams, 33, is charged with first-degree murder in the Sept. 27 death of his wife Sarah Williams, 28, outside Chatters Bar and Grill, where she was employed.

Both Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Rebecca Carmago and defense attorney Scott Nadeau requested the delay before Judge Sandra Cicirelli.

"We both have just received the phone and text message records of that evening. We also had a hard time locating one of our witnesses. We just located her," Carmago said.

The preliminary examination was rescheduled for 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 24. Held without bond since his arrest shortly after the murder, Williams made a brief appearance in the courtroom as the attorneys put the adjournment in the court record.

Based on the police investigation, Sarah Williams was found unconscious in the parking lot at Chatters Bar and Grill, 7640 N. Wayne Road, shortly after finishing her shift in the early hours of Sept. 27. She died later at an area hospital with the autopsy finding she had been strangled and suffered multiple blunt trauma, the latter the result of being struck by a vehicle.

George Williams arrived at Chatters during his wife's shift, police said, and the couple left together. Police said the couple

were reported to have been arguing about ending their marriage.

Other bar employees were still inside Chatters when a relative of George Williams called police after finding Sarah Williams injured in the parking lot.

The family member told police he had been contacted by George Williams and came to the bar. George Williams had fled and was later arrested in Toledo and returned to Westland after he waived his extradition.

The couple had been married for one year and had no children.

Sarah Williams had a daughter from a previous relationship and had also cared for her younger sister after their mother died.

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CELEBRATIONS

Hearing waived for man charged with shooting

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

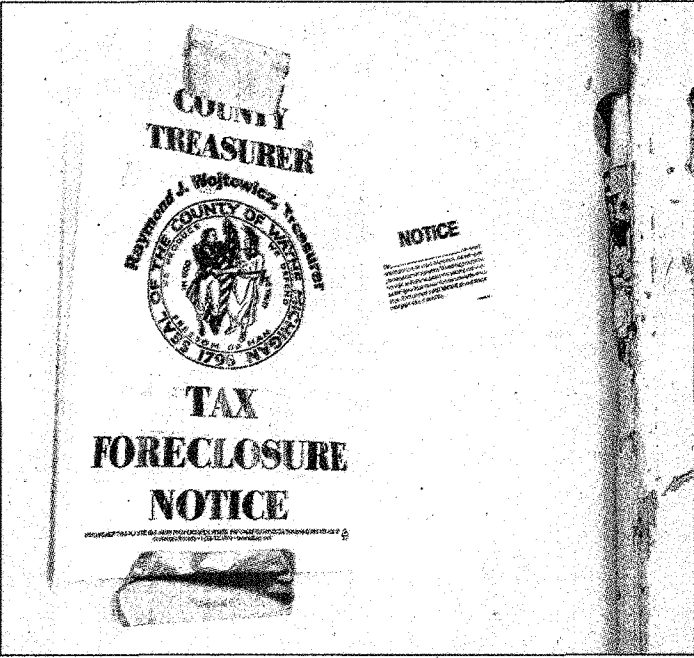
A Westland man has been ordered to stand trial on 15 felony charges stemming from an August standoff with police. On Thursday, Ducquang Nguyen, 23, waived his right to a preliminary examination in 18th District Court and was ordered bound over to Wayne County Circuit Court for trial. Nguyen has been held since his arrest Aug. 4 after police forcibly entered his home on

North Harvey. His preliminary examination was delayed to allow a forensic evaluation which resulted in Nguyen being found competent. Judge Sandra Cicirelli granted a defense motion to amend the complaint against Nguyen to add another felony — an additional charge of discharging a weapon — to the original 14 charges he faces. Held in lieu of a \$1 million cash bond, charges against Nguyen include two counts of assault with intent to murder,

two counts of assault with intent to do great bodily harm, two counts of assault with a dangerous weapon, felony firearm and discharging a firearm. The incident happened in the early hours of Aug. 4, when a man fired a shotgun through the rear doorwall of a home on Parent — the home backs up to Nguyen's home on North Harvey. Police received reports of gunfire to a second home which is located on North Harvey. Officers who responded to calls from neighbors reported

being fired upon several times and shots were also being fired inside the man's home. Eventually, police fired tear gas and sight and sound distraction devices into the home. After getting no response, officers entered the home and located Nguyen in a bedroom suffering from a self-inflicted knife wound. Circuit court arraignment for Nguyen has been scheduled for Nov. 19.

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The city of Westland is now the owner of this tax-foreclosed home abandoned home at 35469 Farragut and plans to demolish the building.

Santa Claus arrives to receive key to Westland

There will be music, a story and a visit by Santa Claus as the holiday season officially kicks off with Westland's annual Tree Lighting Ceremony 6:15 p.m. Monday on the north steps of City Hall. This year's event will include a rendition of *Ave Maria* performed by Jacques Marcum. Westland author Nancy

Spinelle will return for her seventh year to do a live reading of her latest story, *The Tale of the Christmas Stockings*. Mayor William Wild is encouraging attendees to bring new socks to the ceremony to benefit the Wayne/Westland Salvation Army. Residents may also bring socks to Westland City Hall, where a receptacle is

located in the lobby. The melodic voices of the St. Damian School Choir will fill the air as members lead the audience in singing some favorite holiday carols. The winner of the 2009 What Christmas Means to Me essay contest and the official lighting of the Christmas Trees will follow.

Wild will present the key to the city to Santa Claus. After the official festivities, everyone is invited to enjoy hot chocolate and cookies at Fire Station 1, which is located next to City Hall. In the event of inclement weather, the complete ceremony will be relocated to Fire Station 1.

HOMES

FROM PAGE A1
properties including duplexes and quad-plexes. Two companies, Guy Construction and Home Renewal Systems, were each awarded a \$400,000 contract to establish and manage the rehabilitation/resale component of NSP. Each firm will be expected to sell 20 rehabilitated homes during the 15 months of the project. The award is issued as an interest-free loan pending the sales proceeds, which would be returned to the city for additional NSP activity. The firms would earn an 18-percent

developer's fee. Some homes will be demolished instead of rehabilitated. In the Norwayne subdivision, that requires approval by the State Historic Preservation Office. The city has submitted 16 properties for demolition and seven have been approved currently. "We want to create green space in Norwayne. When the economy improves, we can sell the property for single-family homes," Inglis said. "We want to rebuild with less density. These would be owner-occupied homes. The Norwayne area is heavily rental properties."

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BLIGHT

FROM PAGE A1
and resales, Westland is also working with Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne County on the rehabilitation of four homes. Additionally, the city is working on agreement with the Wayne-Westland Schools building trades program to do rehabilitation work on blight-

ed homes. "We've moved forward with NSP. (Community Development Director) Joanne Inglis has done a great job on this," Mayor William Wild said. "Westland has been allotted over \$2 million to use in the areas of greatest need. We are moving forward acquiring properties and should be seeing some progress with demolitions in the future."

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AROUND WESTLAND

Bowling fund-raiser

The John Glenn High School wrestling program will hold its first bowling fund-raiser Sunday, Nov. 22, at Vision Lanes on Ford in Westland. The cost is \$20 for three games of bowling, shoes, pizza and pop. Registration is at noon, with bowling at 1 p.m. For further information or to register online, visit the Web site glennwrestling.com. For more information, call Judy at (734) 634-4595.

Used book sale

Stock up on books to read at the Friends of the William P. Faust Library of Westland's used book sale Thursday-Sunday, Nov. 19-22. Prices will be \$1 for hardcovers, DVDs and CDs, 50 cents for large paperbacks, 25 cents for small paperbacks, videos, cassettes and records and 10 cents for magazines. Reusable green bags also will be for sale at \$2 each. The Friends preview sale will be 10 a.m. Thursday. People can join the group that evening. Hours will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday, with a \$6 holiday special Saturday bag sale. Bring your own

brown paper grocery bag or comparable-sized reusable bag. Bring your own bag Sunday for the noon to 4 p.m. \$4 bag sale. Money raised helps support programs at the library. The library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

Camp times

Parents can give their kids something to do while they go shopping the day after Thanksgiving. The Westland Parks and Recreation Department is holding a One on One Multi-Sport Mini-Camp from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, Nov. 27, for children ages 5-13 or in kindergarten through the sixth grade. Kids can keep their skills sharp and have fun participating in sports like basketball, soccer, volleyball, dodgeball and even kickball. The camp is designed to provide a fun and positive environment for students on the school holiday. Campers need to bring their own lunch. The cost is \$55 for Westland residents and \$60 for non-residents. For more information, call (734) 418-3190 or check out the Web site www.1on1basketball.com/

michigan. Also offered will be a basketball camp during the Christmas break. Emphasis will be on drills that improve skills in the areas of dribbling, passing, shooting, defense and teamwork. Sportsmanship and confidence also will be emphasized. There will be two sessions: Monday-Wednesday, Dec. 21-23, pre-register by Dec. 17, and Monday-Wednesday, Dec. 28-30, pre-register by Dec. 23. Hours will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Each camper will receive a T-shirt and an award. Participants will need to bring water and lunch each day. Campers will be divided into two or three groups, depending on age and skill level. The cost is \$75 for Westland residents and \$82 for non-residents. For more information, call (734) 418-3190 or check out the Web site www.1on1basketball.com/

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Yoga classes

The Bailey Recreation Center is offering yoga classes. All levels of ability are welcome, and participants don't need to be strong, flexible, in shape, or relaxed for the class, however, attendance will improve these qualities and probably many more. The class is for those 13 years and older and is offered 7-8:30 p.m. Thursdays or 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturdays. The upcoming session is Thursday, Nov. 19-Dec. 17. The cost for a four-week session is \$20 for Westland residents per session and \$25 for non-residents. For more information, call the Bailey Center at (734) 722-7620.

American Legion

The American Legion, Westland Post 251, meets at 7 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month at the AMVETS Post 171 on Merriman Road between Avondale and Palmer. All veterans, male and female, with an honorable discharge are welcome to join. Visit the post Web site at www.post251.org or call (734) 326-2607 for more information.

Friends of Eloise

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

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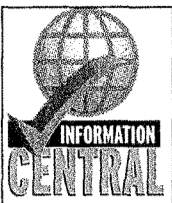
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Gluten-free food and Celiac disease

Ever think of how much of our food supply has wheat in it? (This includes all types and forms of wheat, such as wheat starch, wheat bran, wheat germ and cracked wheat, among others) Turn over an item you buy in the grocery store and take a look at the list of ingredients.



Imagine a world where you could not eat or drink anything with wheat in it (yes, including bread, most flours, pasta, and beer)? Add barley and rye to the list of "don't eats" and you can start to imagine what life is like for someone on a gluten-free diet.

Being on a gluten-free diet is often the result of being diagnosed with Celiac disease. In "The Gluten-Free Nutrition Guide," nutrition consultant Tricia Thompson says that Celiac disease is essentially a gluten intolerance "characterized by sensitivity to proteins found in the cereal grains wheat, barley, and rye." This "sensitivity" results in "inflammation and damage to the lining of the small intestine," possibly denying the body of its ability to "properly absorb several nutrients." If you think you have Celiac disease, see a doctor right away.

The debate over whether a gluten-free diet can alleviate autism was raised in Elisabeth Hasselbeck's book, "The G-Free Diet," but the research has yet to confirm or deny this. Even if you do not have Celiac disease, a gluten-free diet is a great way to learn more about the food you put in your body and feel better, on the whole.

To get more information about Celiac disease and gluten-free diets, visit the Public Library of Westland at 6123 Central City Parkway or call the Reference Desk at (734) 326-6123 to request one of these books. You can also request books via the library catalog at www.westlandlibrary.org.

Highlighted Activities

Book Sale sponsored by the Friends of the Library: Thursday through Sunday, Nov. 19-22. (Preview Sale Nov. 19, members only)

For more information call the library (734) 326-6123 or visit our Web site at westlandlibrary.org.

Novel Writing Month Meet-up and Write: 6-8:45 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 17, teens and adults.

Meet up with fellow National Novel Writing Month writers, get help with your novel, commiserate, laugh and churn out the pages. Laptops available in-house with valid Driver's License or State ID. Inquire at the Reference Desk to obtain a laptop. For helpful writing hints, visit www.NaNoWriMo.org.

Fiction Writing Group: 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 17

If you would like help developing your fiction or enjoy reading new and exciting fiction, please join us for one of our sessions. Two new stories will be covered each month by the group. Check with the Reference Desk for this month's stories or e-mail andy.schuck@westlandlibrary.org.

Adult Book Discussion Group: 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 17

Join us as we discuss "The Things They Carried" by Tim O'Brien. In these 22 recollections based on the author's platoon experience, the Vietnam War is replayed with horrifying reality. Each man is different, each story is different, but together they add up to one hell of a war. Please read the book before the meeting. Copies are available at the Reference Desk. All are welcome.

Job Search Strategies: 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 17

If you are feeling like you hit brick wall in your search for a job, join Preston Banks, president, Resume Solutions LLC, as he discusses practical strategies to keep your job search moving forward. All are welcome. Call (734) 326-6123 or stop by to reserve your seat.

Novel Writing Month Meet-up and Write: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21, teens and adults

Meet up with fellow National Novel Writing Month writers, get help with your novel, commiserate, laugh and churn out the pages. Laptops available in-house with valid Driver's License or State ID. Inquire at the Reference Desk to obtain a laptop. For helpful writing hints, visit www.NaNoWriMo.org.

Job Seekers Lab: Every Tuesday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesday 5-8 p.m. and Friday 1-4 p.m.

Have a question regarding formatting your resume, setting up an e-mail account, attaching your resume to an online application, searching for a job, or any other job related activity? Stop by the library where computers are set up specifically for job seekers. A librarian will be available to help.

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

Chess Night: Every Thursday evening at 7 p.m.

Like to play chess? Want to get better? Come to the library and play a couple of games. Bring your own board or use one of ours. Novices to Chess masters are all welcome. No sign-up required.

Information Central was compiled by Andy Schuck, reference librarian and leader of all of the writing programs at the library. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123 or go online to westlandlibrary.org.



DAVID L. MALHALAB M NEWS SERVICE | MNS PHOTO

Feeding the vets

The general manager of Applebee's Dearborn Heights restaurant Rita Daniels (at right) of Garden City and waitress Jeneau Paul (from left) prepare to serve Navy personnel YN3 Michael Balent of Toledo, Ohio, AE2 Marcus Austin of Detroit, HM1 Linda Kaluza of Warren, AT3 Jessica Dwyer of Westland, CT12 (SS) Chris Patterson of Ann Arbor and SK3 Tim Schultz of Belleville who stopped in for the Veterans Day Special. Applebee's honored all service veterans with a free meal. The group are all stationed at Selfridge Air National Guard Base.

Surprise: She gets her Harley ride

When Lori Morrison, owner of Ribar Floral in Plymouth, heard that Westland hospice patient Shirley Courlas' dying wish on her "bucket list" was to have a ride in a Harley Davidson sidecar, she decided to put her networking skills to work to make it happen.

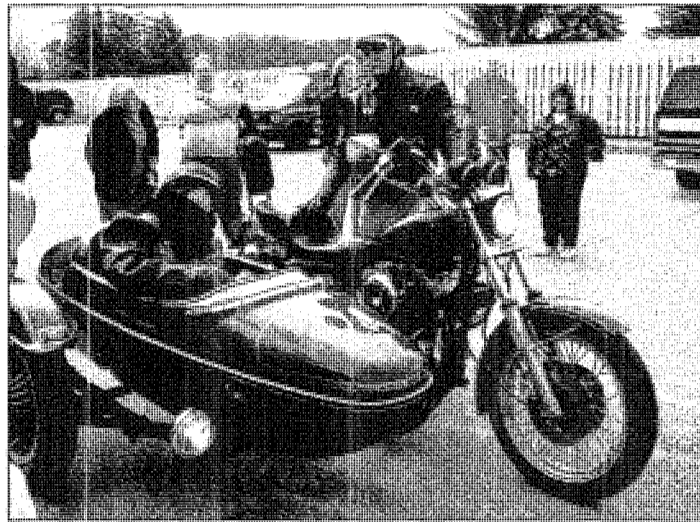
"I posted it on my Facebook right there from my phone," Morrison said, "Anyone who knows me knows I'm a Facebook addict, but it really works. People began posting responses right away. Leo Capazoli, owner of Plymouth Computers, contacted me about the request. When I told him the whole story he said, 'How could I say no to that?'"

Morrison passed along his contact information to Traci Rusk and Barb Frey, the caregivers at the Ashford Court's Bridgepoint program, where Shirley is a hospice patient and all of the arrangements were made.

Shirley is a retired Detroit public school teacher. She rode her own Harley Davidson motorcycle to school each day until age 73. She took her Harley Davidson sidecar ride on Halloween, which



Shirley Courlas is dressed to ride in a sidecar of a Harley Davidson motorcycle.



Shirley Courlas, 90, waits in the sidecar for her ride, a wish she made last summer.

also was her 90th birthday, at Ashford Court on Joy Road in Westland.

"I was there to give her flowers," said Morrison, "Along with Shirley's family, and the caregivers."

"At Bridgepoint we try to find little wishes to make someone smile as long as possible," said Traci Rusk, caregiver at Ashford Court's Bridgepoint program, "Shirley's son rode his Harley to see her when he visited in

the summer. Every time he left, she stood watching him go and said she wished she could ride again. That's how we got the idea. Even though she's not steady enough to ride on the bike, there's no reason she couldn't ride in a sidecar."

According to Rusk, Courlas was all decked out with leather pants and a Harley-Davidson jacket.

"I never expected this to mean so much to so many people," Rusk said, "Shirley is

such a sweet thing. She suffers memory loss, so it will be awesome to have video footage of this day to show her on days when she has trouble remembering. She'll be able to see she is still a cool happening chick."

"We should all be happy to know that caregivers like Barb, and Traci, and other kind generous people in the world do exist and that dreams still can come true," Morrison said.

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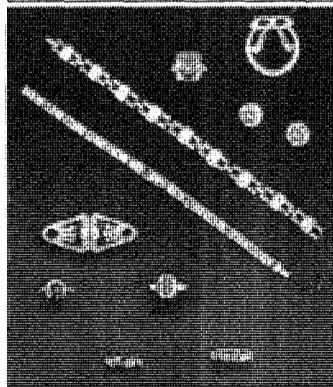
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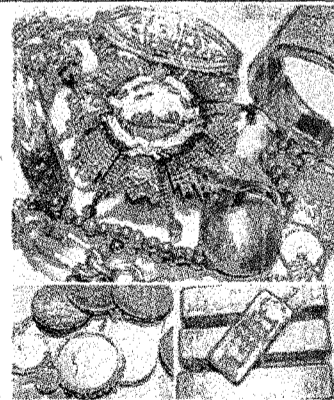
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Prices good Monday, Nov. 16th through Sunday, Nov. 29th, 2009



DEARBORN SPIRAL SLICED HAMS
HALF or WHOLE
\$3²⁹ LB.




GRADE A SHURFRESH TURKEYS
ASSORTED SIZES
69¢ LB.



U.S.D.A. WHOLE BEEF TENDERLOIN
SLICED & WRAPPED FREE
\$3⁹⁹ LB.

Fresh Meat and Seafood



PEACOCK BRAND AMISH TURKEYS
ASSORTED SIZES
\$1²⁹ LB.




GRADE A ASST. TURKEY PARTS
99¢ LB.




U.S.D.A. SELECT PRIME RIB ROAST
\$5⁹⁹ LB.



U.S.D.A. CHOICE BONELESS POT ROAST
\$1⁹⁹ LB.



DEARBORN FRESH & SMOKED KIELBASA
\$2⁹⁹ LB.



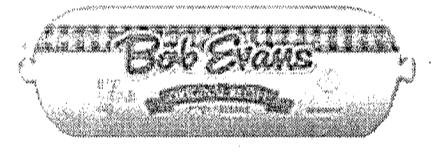
DEARBORN CLASSIC HALF or WHOLE HAMS
\$1⁹⁹ LB.




U.S.D.A. INSPECTED WHOLE BONELESS PORK LOINS
SLICED & WRAPPED FREE
\$1⁹⁹ LB.




26-30 ct. FRESH COOKED SHRIMP
\$6⁴⁹ LB.



BOB EVANS 16 oz. ASST. FLAVORS SAUSAGE ROLLS
3/\$5



GRADE A TURKEY BREAST
\$1²⁹ LB.



U.S.D.A. INSPECTED CENTER CUT PORK ROAST
\$2⁴⁹ LB.

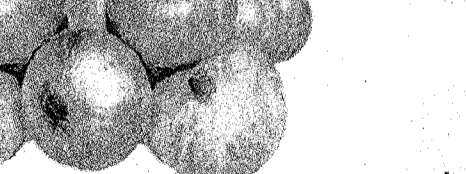


GRADE A FRESH WHOLE FRYER **99¢** LB.
FRESH SALMON FILLETS **\$5⁹⁹** LB.

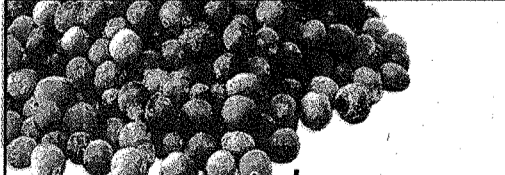
Fresh Produce



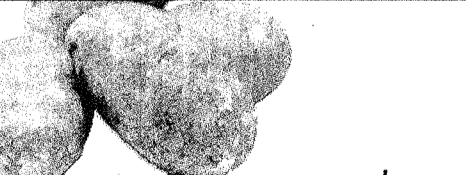
CRISP GREEN CABBAGE
19¢ LB.




3 LB. BAG COOKING ONIONS
79¢ BAG



12 oz. BAG CRANBERRIES
\$1⁹⁹ BAG




10 LB. BAG IDAHO POTATOES
2/\$5



#1 YAMS
69¢ LB.




CRISP CELERY
99¢ EA.



GRAPE TOMATOES
\$1⁹⁹ PINT

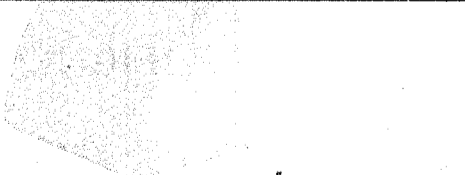
Fresh Deli



COPPERWOOD HONEY HAM
\$3⁴⁹ LB.



MOZZARELLA CHEESE
\$2⁹⁹ LB.



SMOKED PROVOLONE CHEESE
\$3⁹⁹ LB.



LIPARI WHITE TURKEY BREAST
\$2⁹⁹ LB.



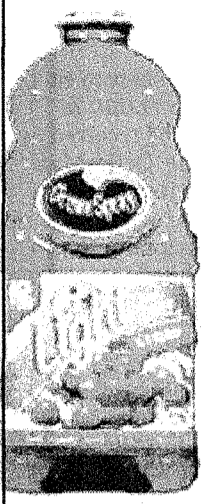
HOMEMADE DAILY TORTILLA CHIPS
\$2⁹⁹ BAG



FRESH MADE SPAGHETTI SALAD
\$3⁹⁹ LB.

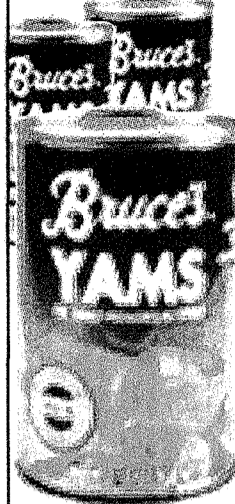
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Prices good Monday, Nov. 16th through Nov. 29th, 2009



OCEAN SPRAY
64 oz. ASSORTED
**CRANBERRY
JUICE DRINKS**

2/\$5



BRUCE'S
29 oz. CANS
**CUT
YAMS**

3/\$5



DUNCAN HINES
18.25 oz. ASSORTED
**CAKE
MIX**

99¢



WESSON
48 oz. BOTTLE
**VEGETABLE
OIL**

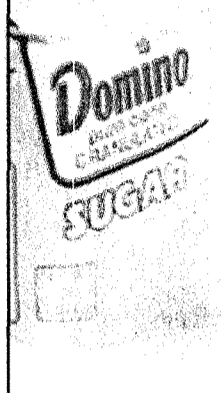
2/\$6



GREEN GIANT
VEGETABLES

- CORN
- PEAS
- CUT GREEN BEANS

79¢



DOMINO
5 lb. BAG
**GRANULATED
SUGAR**

\$2.99

Grocery Specials



KRAFT
16 oz. ASSORTED
**SALAD
DRESSINGS**

3/\$5




NESTLE
10-12 oz. ASSORTED
**TOLL HOUSE
MORSELS**

2/\$5



OCEAN SPRAY
14 oz. CAN
**CRANBERRY
SAUCE**
• WHOLE • JELLIED

\$1.19



SWANSON
14 oz. ASSORTED
BROTH

3/\$2



HINES
12 oz. ASSORTED
GRAVY

3/\$4



KRAFT
6 oz. ASSORTED
**STOVE TOP
STUFFING MIX**

\$1.19



RAGU
26 oz. ASSORTED
**PASTA
SAUCE**

2/\$5



DEL MONTE
15 oz. ASSORTED
FRUIT

2/\$3



JIFFY
8.5 oz.
**CORN MUFFIN
MIX**

2/\$1




KNORR
4-5.6 oz. ASSORTED
**PASTA OR
RICE SIDES**

4/\$5




NORTHERN
4 DOUBLE ROLL
**QUILTED BATH
TISSUE**

\$2.99



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• FREEZER
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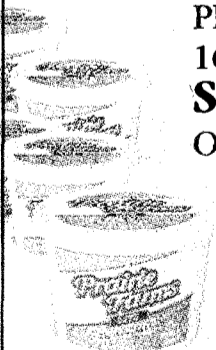
2/\$3



SHURFINE
100-9 IN.
**PAPER
PLATES**

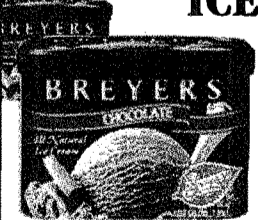
2/\$5

Frozen and Dairy



PRAIRIE FARMS
16 oz.
**SOUR CREAM
OR CHIP DIP**

5/\$5



BREYERS
1/2 GALLON
ASSORTED
ICE CREAM

2/\$5



KRAFT
8 oz. ASSORTED
**CHUNK CHEESE
OR SHREDDED
CHEESE**

3/\$5



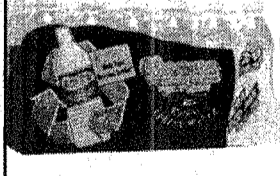
SHURFINE
16 oz.
**WHOLE
STRAWBERRIES**

\$1.99



2 LITER
ASSORTED
**COKE
PRODUCTS**

10/\$10
+ DEP




ABSOPURE
16.9 oz. 24 PACK
WATER

\$3.99



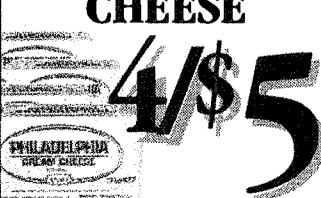
LAYS
10.5-11 oz.
**POTATO
CHIPS**

2/\$5



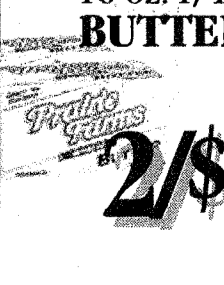
12 oz.
12 PACK CANS
**CRUSH OR
MUG**

2/\$7
+ DEP



KRAFT
8 oz. ASSORTED
**PHILADELPHIA
SOFT CREAM
CHEESE**

4/\$5



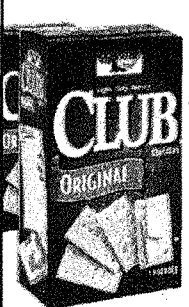
PRAIRIE FARMS
16 oz. 1/4'S
BUTTER

2/\$3



KRAFT
8 oz. ASSORTED
VARIETIES
COOL WHIP

4/\$5



KEEBLER
16 oz.
**CLUB
CRACKERS**

2/\$5



4 oz.
ASSORTED VARIETIES
**CRUNCH N
MUNCH**

88¢

EDUCATION

LUNCHEON

FROM PAGE A1

she said. Paquette hoped to raise enough money to provide at least 50 Thanksgiving dinners. The first year, the donations-only event was able to help 30 families. Last year, the benefit was able to provide meals for 46 families or 184 people.

"There's even more of a need this year, we need to do as many as we can," he said.

And with a steady stream of diners, it looked like he would meet his goal.

"It was excellent," Luddie Conner of Westland said. "I like it here so well, I brought a few friends. I like the food, it's very, very good. This is a good cause, so I think I'll bring more friends next year."

For Faughnan, the luncheon was a chance to introduce herself to the community. She's been on the job for a little over a week, replacing Maria Miter, who left in September to work with the Bright Futures program at Eastern Michigan University.

"This is the position I've wanted all my life," she said. "Thank you for your support and allowing me to do what I love to do."

Westland resident Linda Long, a member of Wayne-Westland's Health and Welfare Committee which advises the center, was among the people attending the luncheon and took time to chat with Faughnan. The meeting allowed Long to get information about a coat drive Faughnan is starting, so she can take it back to her employer, UPS.

"The Family Resource Center does a lot of neat things," Long said. "The advi-



Jenna Hill (left) and Cayla Viar, students at Wayne Memorial High School, keep an eye on the dessert table during the luncheon.

sory board allows the center to do a lot of great things in the neighborhood."

Faughnan also is collecting children's coats in all sizes to distribute to youngsters in need of warm clothing. Coats, as well as hats, mittens and boots, can be dropped off at the Family Resource Center located inside Lincoln Elementary School at 33800 Grand Traverse, Westland.

People who want to help with Thanksgiving dinners can send donations to or drop them off at the resource center. Checks should be made payable to the Family Resource Center.

For the students, the luncheon is only part of what they'll do for the fund-raiser. They also will bake apple pies for those Thanksgiving dinners. That will be an easier task for Viar, who worked on turkey cupcakes for the luncheon.



Chef Tony Paquette chats with Melissa Calabrese, a program coordinator with the Wayne-Westland Community Schools.

"They only showed us how to put on the cream, we had to determine how we were going to do the turkey face," she said. "We grabbed everything we could find — chocolate shavings, candy corn, Twizzlers,

M&Ms and sugar flowers. "Most of us didn't know about the party. We were surprised and they told us to just do our best," she added.

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SCHOOL BRIEFS

Cadets place 5th

The Wayne Memorial High School Army JROTC Raid are building on their Michigan championship. The team placed fifth in the United States in competition in Georgia recently.

The Raiders competed against the best teams in the country and tied with Paulding County, Georgia, only to lose the tiebreaker to finish fifth. They also finished second in the nation in the team physical fitness test, fourth in the gauntlet, a two-mile mostly uphill run with 40-pound rucksacks, and fourth in the cross-country rescue, a one-mile course through the woods and over an eight-foot wall with a 150-pound litter and 40-pound rucksacks.

Cadet Keslie Honeycutt also placed sixth in the female individual fitness event.

We are proud of our Raiders, and plan to win the 7th Brigade Championship in the spring," said Steven LaHaine, senior Army instructor and retired U.S. Army first sergeant. "Thank you to the staff, administrators, and to the district for the support that makes it possible to compete."

The Raider team includes the commander, Cadet Command Sergeant Major Tad Lloyd, and cadets Brian Browning, Jeremy Flores, Kelsie Honeycutt, Darryl Ison, Kevin Newborne, Amiaa Papineau, Hannah Plumley, Roger Tanner, Christian Williams, Briann Winn and Kaitlyn Durden.

Making her day

Teacher consultant Connie Leaym of Walker-Winter Elementary School in Canton

has a nice comfy chair to sit in. It's one of the \$1,000 in school supplies she received as the winner of the OfficeMax "A Day Made Better" contest. Principal Julie Mytych wrote an essay, nominating Leaym for the honor.

"I had to write an essay on why that person should receive the honor and Connie came to mind," she said. "She works with so many students and supports so many teachers in our school."

Leaym received her award at a surprise assembly.

"To say I was surprised is an understatement," she said. "I appreciate the way it was done, it was quite a moment. I felt a little bit like a rock star."

More than 1,000 teachers across the country were recipients of "A Day Made Better," a national cause event founded by OfficeMax and nonprofit organization, Adopt-A-Classroom. The name, "A Day Made Better," is derived from the concept that OfficeMax and Adopt-A-Classroom can make at least one day better for teachers by providing them with essential classroom supplies.

Through 1,000 simultaneous events, including the one at Walker-Winter, OfficeMax seeks to call attention to the issue of teacher out-of-pocket spending and motivate the public to take action by supporting local educators through Adopt-A-Classroom. "A Day Made Better" was first conducted in October 2007 and has since contributed to the funding of more than 10,000 classrooms.

In addition to a new chair, Leaym a printer, digital camera and a variety of school supplies.

"I did share," Leaym said.

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The 2009 Schoolcraft College Culinary Extravaganza, celebrating the pleasures of the palate and the culinary talent of Metro Detroit, was a great success. We extend a special thanks to the following for their generosity in donating their services & products. We invite you to visit them throughout the coming year!

Together We Can Educate...Innovate...Inspire

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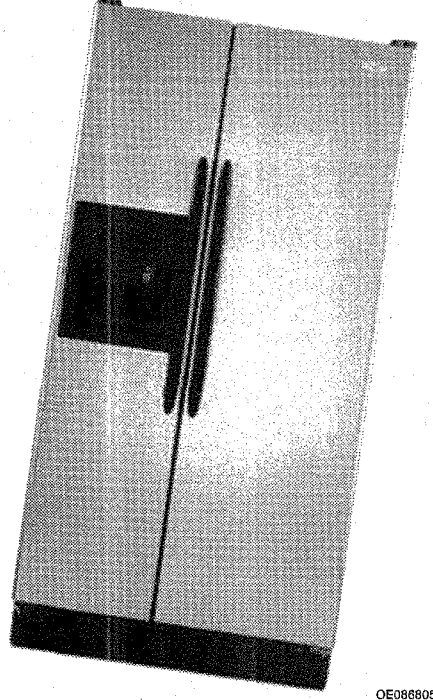
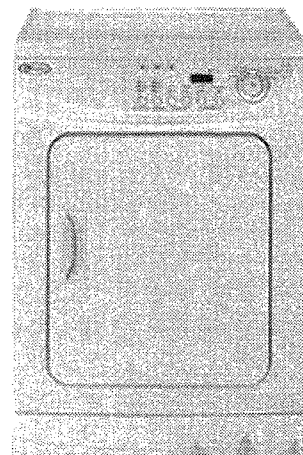
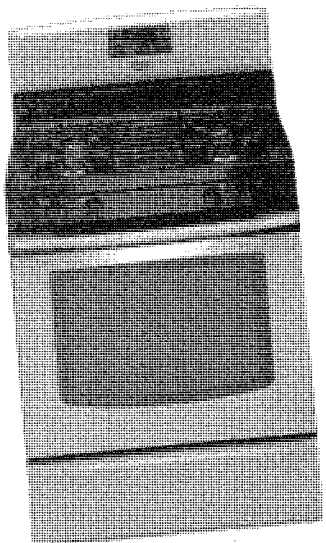
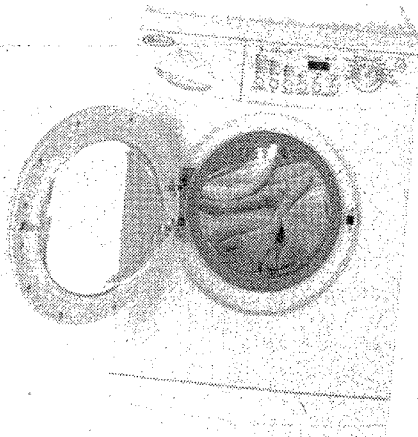
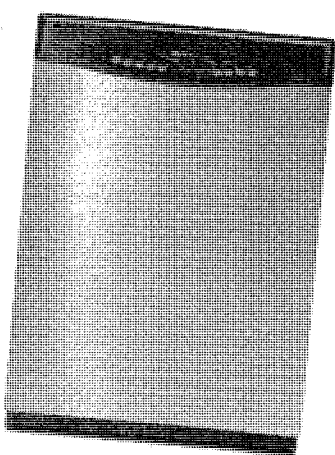
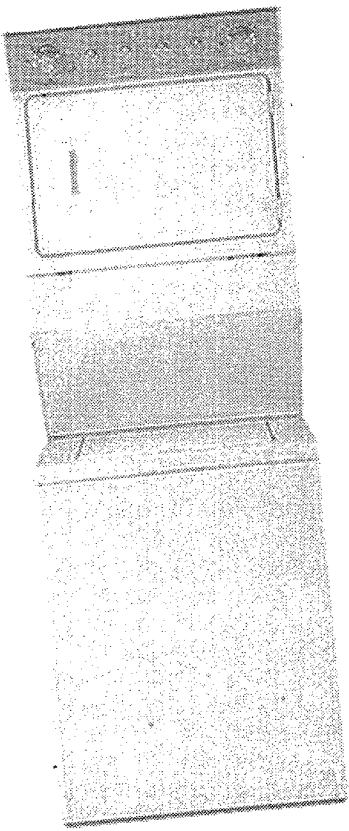


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See store for details!!

PRE-SALE PRICES AS OF NOV. 20

APPLIANCE	MODEL	MSRP	SALE	COLOR
STACK	MGT3800TW*	\$1,439.00	\$950.00	WHITE
TRADITIONAL WASHER	MVWC7ESWW*	\$599.00	\$499.00	WHITE
	MVWC400VW*	\$509.00	\$399.00	WHITE
TRADITIONAL DRYER	MGDC700VW*	\$649.00	\$524.00	WHITE
	MEDC700VW*	\$579.00	\$499.00	WHITE
	MGDC400VW*	\$529.00	\$424.00	WHITE
FRONT LOAD WASHER	MEDC400VW*	\$429.00	\$399.00	WHITE
	MAH2400AWW*	\$749.00	\$599.00	WHITE
	MHWZ600TW*	\$949.00	\$699.00	WHITE
HE DRYER	MHWE300VW*	\$1,099.00	\$699.00	WHITE
	MHWE450WW*	\$1,399.00	\$1,099.00	WHITE
	MDE2400AYW*	\$749.00	\$599.00	WHITE
	MGDZ600TW*	\$1,029.00	\$799.00	WHITE
MICROWAVE -OTR	MGDE300WW*	\$1,179.00	\$725.00	WHITE
	MEDE300WW*	\$1,099.00	\$699.00	WHITE
	MMV5207BAW*	\$419.00	\$275.00	WHITE
	MMV1153WW*	\$219.00	\$175.00	WHITE
ELECTRIC RANGE	MMV1153WB*	\$219.00	\$175.00	BLACK
	AER3311WAW*	\$351.00	\$299.00	WHITE
	AER5830VAW*	\$599.00	\$499.00	WHITE
	MER7662WW*	\$649.00	\$549.00	WHITE
	MER7662WB*	\$649.00	\$549.00	BLACK
GAS RANGE	MER7662WS*	\$749.00	\$649.00	STAINLESS
	AGR3311WAW*	\$351.00	\$299.00	WHITE
	MGR7662WW*	\$649.00	\$549.00	WHITE
	MGR7662WB*	\$649.00	\$549.00	BLACK
WALL OVEN	MGR7662WS*	\$749.00	\$649.00	STAINLESS
	JJW7530DDB*	\$1,149.00	\$399.00	BLACK
	DISHWASHER	MDBM601AWQ*	\$479.00	\$299.00
MDB5601AWQ*		\$479.00	\$299.00	BISQ
MDB6701AWW*		\$599.00	\$399.00	WHITE
MDB6701AWQ*		\$599.00	\$399.00	BISQ
TOP FREEZER	M1TXEMMWW*	\$899.00	\$759.00	WHITE
SIDE X SIDE	MSD2542VEW*	\$999.00	\$875.00	WHITE
BOTTOM FREEZER	MBF2556KEW*	\$1,599.00	\$1,324.00	WHITE
	MFD2562VEW*	\$1,799.00	\$1,499.00	WHITE



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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

Earth Angels
Details: Earth Angels, a children's entertainment/ performance non-profit group composed of kids ages 9 - 16 years old, is currently looking to fill spots. There's opening for girls ages 9 - 11, with at least two years of dance experience, and boys, ages 9 - 12 with no experience needed just an interest in performing. The group delivers a high energy show made up of choreographed dance routines spiced with theatrics and lip-synching to the great Oldies music of the '50s and '60s as well as some current fare.
Contact: www.earthangelsontour.org or by e-mail to eangell1986@comcast.net

TOPS 869 meetings
Time/date: Mondays, weigh-ins at 5:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Location: Adams Senior Village, 2001 Kaley Ave., south of Palmer, Westland.

Details: The group is for people age 18 and older.

Contact: The group which meets on Mondays is for people age 18 and older.

American Legion Post 251
Time/date: 7 p.m. first Tuesday of



Wish You Were Here

Carol Garrett of Garden City and her daughter Lisa Kleinert used a statue of a very famous person to tell folks wish you were here. They were on a family trip to Virginia and stopped for dinner in Corbin, Kentucky, where they found the very first Kentucky Fried Chicken store. Garrett's husband Michael took the picture. Also making the trip was her camera-shy son Joe. If you go on vacation, be sure to take a picture with your Observer and send it to Sue Mason, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226. Be sure to include your name and information about your photo.

the month
Location: 1217 Merriman Road, between Avondale and Palmer, Westland.
Details: All veterans, male and female with an honorable discharge are welcome to join.
Contact: www.post251.org or call (734) 326-2607
WCGH 25th Reunion
Time/date: Doors open 5 p.m. and party runs to 9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8
Location: Cafe Marquette, William D. Ford Technical Center, Marquette and Carlson

Details: All Wayne County General Hospital retirees and former employees are invited to attend. A buffet meal will be served. Priced \$16 (including gratuity). Pay at the door.
Contact: Kay Shafi at (734) 427-3437, e-mail chknlit@wideopenwest.com; Dennis Abraham at (734) 721-2917, e-mail fightingirish316@sbcglobal.net, or Pat Ibbotson at (734) 331-9291, e-mail pibbotso@aol.com.

Holiday show
Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21
Location: Lathers Elementary School,

28351 Marquette, Garden City
Details: The school is hosting a Holiday Craft and Vendor Show.
Contact: Lisa at Crafter2007@yahoo.com

Arts and Craft Show
Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21
Location: Sts. Peter & Paul Church Hall, 750 N. Beech Daly, Dearborn Heights

Details: Admission is \$1 for the 21st annual arts and crafts show. There will be a 50/50 raffle every hour, bake sale, and cabbage rolls and other ethnic food available.
Contact: Deb at (24) 946-0173 or Virginia at (734) 522-9653

Fish Dial-A-Ride
Location: Garden City, Livonia and Westland

Details: 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.
Contact: Call (888) 660-2007 and leave a message.

Higher Rock Cafe
Time/date: 7:30 p.m. second and fourth Fridays of the month.

Location: Wayne-Westland Salvation Army, 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer, Westland.

Details: 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.
Contact: www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com or call (734) 722-3660

FOR YOUR HEALTH

SAFE PLACE
Time/date: 7 p.m. Thursdays

Location: Fellowship Hall at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City.

Details: A SAFE PLACE is based on the Alcoholics for Christ program.
Contact: Russ Weathers at (734) 422-1995

Metro Fibromyalgia
Time/date: 1-3 p.m. Second and fourth Thursday of each month

Location: Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, just west of Ford in Garden City
Details: The first meeting has a speaker, the second meeting is open to discuss living with our fibromyalgia.
Contact: Lucy at (734) 462-1768, www.MetroFibroGroup.com

Menopause & More
Time/date: 7-9 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month

Location: Classroom 2 of the west addition of the Marian Women Center of St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: A support group for women, no registration is necessary, and the group is free of charge.
Contact: (734) 655-1100

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Boneless Butterfly PORK CHOPS \$2.99 lb.

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HOSPITAL WELLNESS CALENDAR

Garden City Hospital, at 6245 Inkster Road, offers a weekly schedule of health and wellness programs for residents. The lineup includes:

Monday, Nov. 16
Childbirth Education (3 of 6 classes) at 6 p.m. The six-week course prepares the expectant mother and coach for labor and delivery. Class runtime is 2 1/2 hours. There is a \$60 fee. Medicaid is accepted. A refresher course also is available. Call (734) 458-4330 for more information or to register.

Tuesday, Nov. 17
Get Up and Move at 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The exercise program is designed to help you get up and get moving, and is the perfect compliment to your diet program. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

Diabetes Self-Management Education (1 of 4 classes) at 9:30 a.m. A comprehensive series, participants learn self-care skills of nutrition, exercise, medication management, monitoring of blood sugar levels, foot and skin care, prevention of problems and psychosocial issues. Physician referral is required. There is a fee, but reimbursement is available by Medicare, Medicaid and

most commercial insurance plans. Call (734) 458-3481 for more information or to register.

Strength and Stretch at 2 p.m. is a non-aerobic exercise class designed to help strengthen and define muscles, as well as increase flexibility. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

Yoga (3 of 4 classes) at 4 p.m. The four-week session is \$32. Classes meet at Garden City Hospital's Cardiac Rehab. Call (734) 458-3242 to register.

Cerebral Aneurysm and Stroke Club at 7:30 p.m. Support is offered to those

who have had an aneurysm or stroke as well as to their family and friends. The club meets every third Tuesday of the month and is held in Garden City Hospital's Rehabilitation Unit dining room. For more information, call (734) 458-4392.

Wednesday, Nov. 18
Free blood pressure testing for senior citizens at 10:30 a.m. at the Maplewood Community Center on Maplewood just west of Merriman. Call (734) 458-4330 for more information.

CPAP and BIPAP Mask Fitting Clinic at 5 p.m. Visit the Sleep Disorders Center of

Michigan, 35600 Central City Parkway, Suite 103, Westland, from 5-6 p.m. any Wednesday for a free mask fitting clinic. No appointment is needed. Call (734) 458-3330 for more information.

First Aid (ARC) at 6 p.m. This American Red Cross class teaches how to care for injuries, sudden illness and other emergencies at home or on the job. The class is offered at Garden City Hospital's Health and Education Center at 6701 Harrison, north of Maplewood. There is a \$25 fee. Participants will receive a three-year certification upon successful completion. Call (734) 458-4330 for more information.

more information or to register.

Breast feeding class at 6 p.m. The 3-hour class offers expectant mothers information on the benefit of breast milk, breast-feeding techniques, getting a good start in the hospital and how to continue at home and work. There is a fee for the one-time session. Call (734) 458-4330 for more information.

Eating Disorders Support Group at 7 p.m. is for individuals with anorexia, bulimia, and compulsive and binge eating disorders. Men, women and teens invited to attend. Call (734) 458-4330 for more information.

Thursday, Nov. 19
Get Up and Move at 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. The exercise program is designed to help you get up and get moving, and is the perfect compliment to your diet program. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

Strength and Stretch at 2 p.m. is a non-aerobic exercise class designed to help strengthen and define muscles, as well as increase flexibility. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

Yoga (3 of 4 classes) at 6:30 p.m. The four-week session is \$32. Classes meet at Garden City Hospital's Cardiac Rehab. Call (734) 458-3242 to register.

Diabetes Self-Management Education (1 of 4 classes) at 6:30 p.m. A comprehensive series, participants learn self-care skills of nutrition, exercise, medication management, monitoring of blood sugar levels, foot and skin care, prevention of problems and psychosocial issues. Physician referral is required. There is a fee, but reimbursement is available by Medicare, Medicaid and most commercial insurance plans. Call (734) 458-3481 for more information or to register.

Daily programs
Garden City Hospital's Health Enhancement Center offers daily programs Monday through Friday in Phase II and III Cardiac Rehabilitation/Cardiac Wellness, a Peripheral Vascular Disease Exercise and Strength Training Program, and a Diabetes Exercise Program. These classes are presented and monitored by certified exercise physiologists. Contact the Health Enhancement Center at (734) 458-3242 to select an exercise program specifically designed for you.

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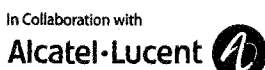
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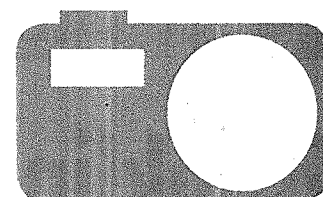
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Churchill spikers roll on to Elite Eight

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It was another convincing triumph as Livonia Churchill rolled into the state Class A girls volleyball quarterfinals with a 25-4, 25-9, 25-11 win over Detroit Cass Tech in the regional final Thursday night at Hazel Park.

The Chargers, now 52-5 overall, will face Carleton Airport, 48-5-1 overall, in the Final Eight beginning at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Brownstown Woodhaven.

The two teams met Sept. 26 in the Temperance Bedford Tournament with Churchill prevailing in three close games, 25-23, 23-25, 15-12.

Airport is led by 6-foot-2 middle hitter Jessica Nagy, a Miss Volleyball candidate.

"Airport is a big team, they go 6-0, 6-0 and 6-3 with (Jessica) Nagy being one of their big hitters," Churchill coach Mark Grenier said. "We will have to account for her as well as Jordan Erz.

"If we serve tough, play defense and transition some

of those rallies into points, we will have a chance against them."

Churchill, coming off a 25-3, 25-3, 25-7 regional semifinal win two days earlier over Detroit Cody, used a balanced attack once again to earn its third regional title in the last four MHSAA seasons with the lopsided win over Cass Tech.

"We played really well and did a nice job of competing," Grenier said.

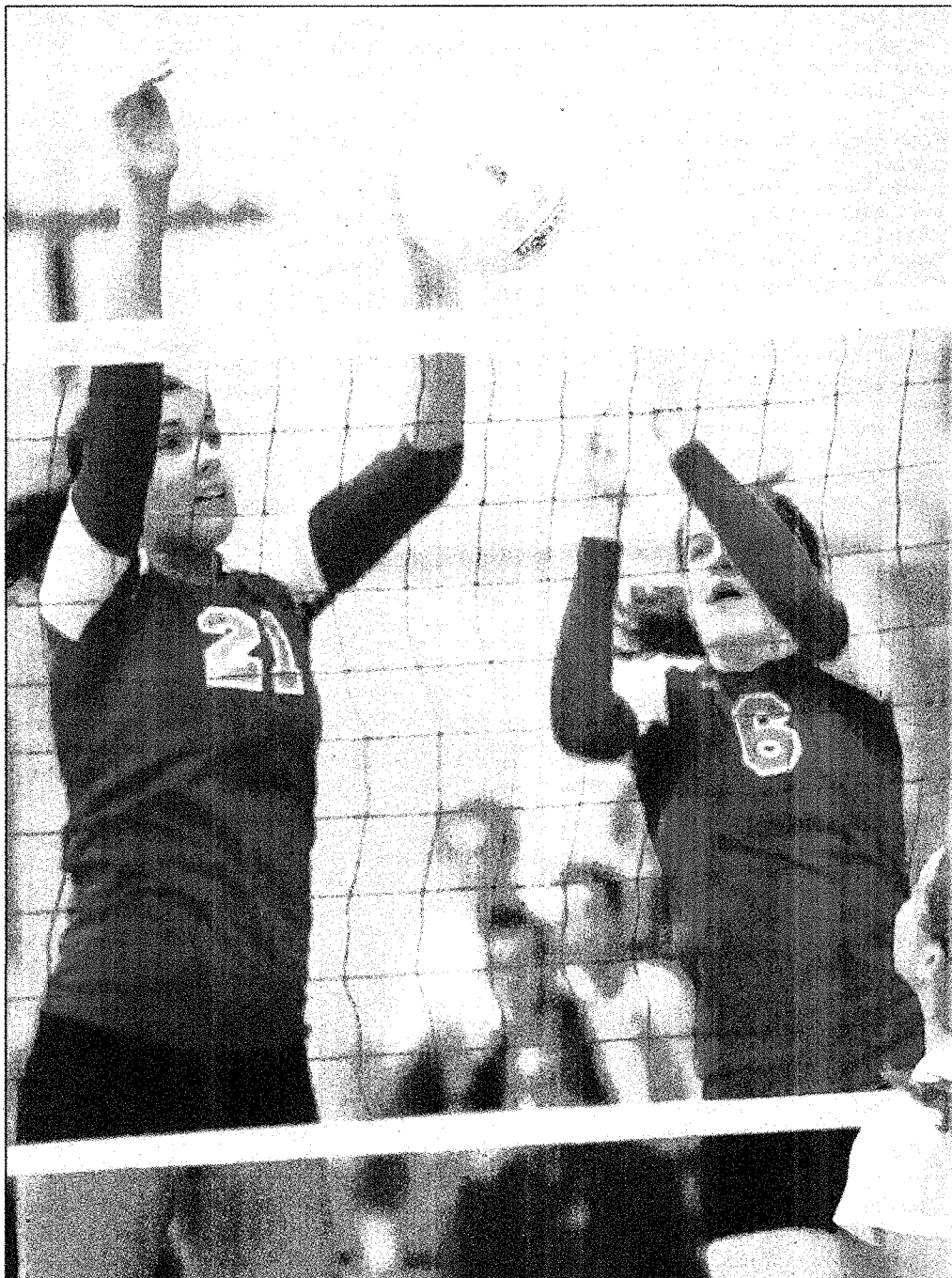
Junior setter Cory Urbats had 30 assist-to-kills to lead the way for Churchill.

Top hitters for the Chargers included seniors Sarah Suppelsa (12 kills and Cierra Yetts (10 kills).

Defensive standouts included senior Taylor Kerr and junior Kara Kempinski, 14 digs apiece; junior Nicole Kempinski, 12 digs; and senior Kristi Walker, six digs.

Kerr and senior Darcy DeRoo each served two aces. DeRoo also contributed three digs and two kills.

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Ladywood's Caitlin McClorey (21) and Claire Dezelski (6) go for the block during Thursday's Class B regional final against Riverview.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Timely return

Redford's Meernik a great addition to Denison's title run

BY JIM TOTH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It wasn't all that long, just about a year, but the elimination of soccer left quite a void in the mindset of Clare Meernik.

Fortunately, the absence was short-lived and the Redford native finds herself back on the field this fall once again competing at a high level and doing her best in assisting her teammates in their quest toward being crowned national champions.

Meernik is a highly-motivated and multi-talented 5-foot-7 sophomore mid-field/forward on the Denison University women's soccer team, which this weekend finds itself in the middle of the NCAA Division III Championship Tournament. Sporting a lofty 15-3-2 record that includes a North Coast Athletic Conference regular-season championship, the Big Red were slated to take on Transylvania College Saturday in a four-team regional semifinal held at Otterbein College in Ohio. If victorious, the Big Red would take on the winner of the Otterbein/Frostburg State contest Sunday afternoon for the right to move closer toward claiming the school's first national soccer crown.

"It's been a little bit of a roller-coaster ride this season and right now it's going pretty good," Meernik said. "We have pretty high expectations as a



OTTERBEIN COLLEGE

Redford native Clare Meernik has been an integral part to Denison University's success on the soccer field this fall. A sophomore, Meernik and her teammates are in competition at the NCAA Division III Championship Tournament this weekend at Otterbein College in Ohio.

team here and that's why it was disappointing when we lost last week (to Earlham in the conference tournament). But we have another chance and we're still playing and hopefully we can keep it going."

Based on its stellar regular-season mark, Denison was one of 21 teams to receive an at-large bid into regional competition.

A TIMELY RETURN

After a successful four-year varsity career with the Mustangs of Birmingham Marian High School, Meernik

Please see MEERNIK, B3

Quarters on tap as Blazers survive scare

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Maybe only a trip to Cedar Point could have provided more thrills.

That's because it was a harrowing ride much of the night for the Livonia Ladywood girls volleyball team, but when the roller-coaster finally came to a halt, the Blazers emerged wearing all smiles.

Earning its first state Class B quarterfinal berth since 2004, Ladywood needed all five games to pull out a 23-25, 25-22, 25-17, 14-25, 15-6 victory Thursday over a scrappy and determined Riverview squad in the regional final hosted by Livonia Clarenceville.

The Blazers, 39-22 overall, will face DeWitt in the Elite Eight beginning at 6 p.m. Tuesday at Williamston High School.

"It's not how we planned it," said a relieved Ladywood ninth-year coach Erin Craggs. "Even when it was 16-9 (the second game), our experience came through. We had to pick up our intensity. I think we were timid at the beginning, but we started to come on. We have a couple of seniors who have played a lot of volleyball, along with some of those juniors. I think our strength of schedule helps. We lost in the district finals last year and this was huge for them."

Already down 1-0 in games, the Blazers found themselves trailing 16-9 in the second game and staring a potential 2-0 deficit in the face.

"I think we had to get back to basics," Craggs said. "We were on our heels, we were pressing and feeling the pressure.

"We just had to do what we had done the last two weeks - serving well, playing defense



Ladywood players celebrate their first regional title since 2004.

and hit to transition."

Senior outside hitter Claire Dezelski had five of her team-high 15 kills during the second game rally, while sophomore McKenzie Kettner and senior Katy Rooney each added four.

"We're up 16-9, they came back and that's what turned it around," Riverview coach Tony Budimerovich said. "If we finish that (second) game off, that match is ours.

"We got caught in one tough rotation and they had one tough server and we went out. Their first two servers are very good. If we get by them, we'd be O.K."

Ladywood went ahead in games 2-1 with

Please see BLAZERS, B2

SIDELINES

Brandon saluted

Central Michigan University's Bailey Brandon (Livonia Churchill) was recently named Mid-American Conference Freshman of the Year in women's soccer.

Brandon is one of the top defenders on a CMU defense that leads the nation with 16 shutouts, two more than any other team in the country.

In addition to her defensive play, Brandon finished tied for fifth on CMU with seven points on a goal and five assists (tied for fifth in the MAC).

The MAC champion Chippewas (16-3-3), sporting a 17-match unbeaten streak (nation's third longest), opened first-round NCAA Tournament play Friday at Notre Dame against Purdue (12-5-3) with the winner facing either Notre Dame or IUPUI on Sunday.

All-WHAC soccer

Individuals from both the Madonna University men's and women's soccer squads were will represented on the All-Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference teams.

Earning All-WHAC first-team honors for the women were senior Jessica Austin (Livonia Franklin), who scored 11 goals, and senior Lia Melasi, who added two goals and three assists.

Senior midfielder Lauren Hess (Livonia Ladywood) made the second-team, while junior teammate Sarah Rokuski, a defender, made third-team and was named to the WHAC's Champions of Character teams for displaying the NAIA's five core values/

All-Academic choices, for those carrying a grade-point average of 3.25 or higher included Austin (language arts), Hess (nursing), Rokuski (dietetics), Franklin's Diana Brda (psychology), Katie Kozlowski (clinical imaging services), Plymouth's Brittany Warner (marketing) and Jaclyn Ventimiglia (nursing).

Junior midfielder Jacob Rosiek was MU's lone first-team men's selection, while senior midfielder Emilio Giorgi and senior midfielder Eric Kiebert made the second-team, while freshman forward Moses Otieno took third-team honors.

Seniors Isaac Saint John (business) and Mark Pikula (cinema arts) both earned All-Academic honors.

MU adds golfer

Madonna University women's golf coach Scott Marzolino announced the signing of Grand Blanc's Kaitlyn Brasher to an NAIA letter of intent for the 2010 academic year.

Brasher is a three-year letter winner who helped the Bobcats to a runner-up finish in the Division I regional.

The team MVP and captain was an All-State and a KLAA All-Lakes Conference pick after being named her team's MVP.

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Franklin singles players lead All-Observer selections

FIRST-TEAM SINGLES
Aaron Zhang, Soph., Plymouth: The sophomore really burst onto the scene for the Wildcats, becoming the first boys tennis player from the school to make it to the Division 1 state meet. He finished 17-6 and qualified by upsetting Ann Arbor Pioneer's top player in straight sets at the regionals. At the state meet, he lost to Northville senior Melvin Joseph.

His season did not go unnoticed, as he was named the team MVP, Most Improved Player and KLA A Scholar Athlete.

"Aaron has become a high-level player by combining incredible tennis skills and natural talent with mental toughness and an exemplary work ethic," said Plymouth head coach Tom Kimball.

John McDonald, Jr., F.H. Harrison: Playing No. 1 singles for the second year, McDonald compiled a 22-2 record and was a Division 2 state qualifier after a runner-up finish in the regional. He took first place at the Lakeland and OAA White Division tournaments. McDonald was a state quarterfinalist, losing to the No. 2 seed.

"John's game has improved tremendously," coach Joe Ludwig said. "He has much crisper shots and a more consistent serve, and he has incorporated a more versatile game plan. John is a pleasure to coach and will improve with time to become an even stronger player."

Stephen Payne, Soph., Liv. Franklin: The sophomore earned a trip to the Division 1 state finals after winning the regional. Payne, 23-6 overall, also captured Stevenson Quad and Warrior Classic. The Patriots' No. 1 singles player was also runner-up in the Monroe Classic and reached the quarterfinals of the KLA A Kensington Conference Tournament.

"Stephen was only one of four

individual qualifiers to advance to 'state' on his own," Franklin coach Dawn Fallu said. "And that was all through an injury to his dominant arm after being hit by a car just prior to the season beginning."

Walter Woods, Jr., Liv. Franklin: Nobody had a better season than the junior, who finished a perfect 27-0 at the Patriots' No. 2 singles player.

Woods earned regional and conference titles, while taking both the Warrior and Monroe classics, along with the Stevenson Quad.

"Walter's season this year was exemplary to say the least," Fallu said. "Twelve of his 27 matches were won 6-0, 6-0. He was never pushed to a third set - quiet impressive."

Ryan Hansz, Jr., Canton: The junior parlayed strength, poise and intensity into a 9-4 record, which could have been even better if not for missing part of the season due to injury. Another highlight was being champion in the back draw at the Plymouth Invitational.

Canton head coach Barb Lehmann said Hansz is a dedicated student-athlete who is well-respected by teammates, opposing players and coaches.

"Ryan is a strategist that sees the play and makes changes during and after the point," Lehmann said.

"Ryan maintains his determination throughout a match, never showing his frustration or excitement."

Josh Famie, Sr., F.H. Harrison: A senior co-captain, Famie racked up 16 wins in 21 matches at No. 2 singles for the Hawks. He finished second in the OAA White Division tournament, and he was third at the Lakeland tournament.

"Josh had his best season this year," coach Joe Ludwig said. "He is a four-year varsity player who has matured as a person and a player each year. He has been a joy to coach and will be greatly missed."

FIRST-TEAM DOUBLES
Brock Foster, Jr., Josh Perrin, Jr., Salem: The junior duo went 20-3 at No. 1 doubles and took first in all three of the team's invitationals.

"Both players play an aggressive style game and are quite comfortable controlling the net," said Rocks' head coach Bill Nelson. "Both players were elected captains by their teammates and their leadership was proven as they are coming back next year as two-year captains."

Foster (a 3-time All-Observer player) and Perrin (a 3-sport letter-winner) closed out the season with a regional semifinal loss to eventual state runner-up Ann Arbor Huron.

Preston Strauch, Sr., Max Kohl, Soph., N. Farmington: Strauch and Kohl had a winning record at No. 1 doubles while competing in the rugged OAA Red Division. They also served as team co-captains.

"They were leaders on and off the court, and they did a nice job improving throughout the entire season, which is why they both received the Most Improved Player Award at our banquet," coach Whitney Wasielewski said. "They had some great wins against some very strong teams like Andover and Lahser. They also had some close, three-set losses to tough teams like Seaholm. In my opinion, Max and Preston were one of the toughest one doubles teams in the state and would have done very well at the state tournament if given the opportunity to compete."

Josh York, Jr., Paul Franchina, Jr., Liv. Stevenson: This junior duo reached the semifinals at the highly competitive Division 1 regional at Novi as well as the semifinals of the Kensington Conference tourney.

The pair finished the season with an 11-6 mark.

"Paul and Josh had a great season," Stevenson coach Don McCathney said. "The were both very focused competitors that

2009 ALL-OBSERVER BOYS TENNIS TEAM FIRST-TEAM SINGLES

Aaron Zhang, Soph., Plymouth
 John McDonald, Jr., Harrison
 Stephen Payne, Soph., Franklin
 Walter Woods, Jr., Franklin
 Ryan Hansz, Jr., Canton
 Josh Famie, Sr., Harrison

FIRST-TEAM DOUBLES
 Brock Foster, Jr., Salem
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 Max Kohl, Soph., N. Farmington
 Josh York, Jr., Stevenson
 Paul Franchina, Jr., Stevenson

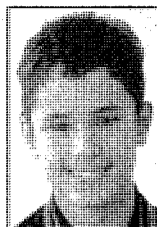
COACH OF THE YEAR
 Tom Kimball, Plymouth

HONORABLE MENTION
 Canton: Adam Payne, Varun Bandrit; Plymouth: Matt Dwan; Salem: Brett Foster, Jacob Scott, Mike Keum, Andy Steinman, Zenik Pelekh, Greg Selewski; Churchill: Eric Stromberg, Ryan McPherson, Ziwen Deng; Stevenson: Clayton Northey; North Farmington: Andre Dupret, Brook Heebner, Scott Kennedy; Farmington: Koushik Yadati, Joey Amis, Lokesh Pagadala; Harrison: Zach Wagner.

played very well together. They were both regional and conference semifinalists losing to only to higher seeded players. Josh controlled the net and Paul was a consistent baseliner. They steadily improved during the season and played their best tennis at the end of their year."

COACH OF THE YEAR
Tom Kimball, Plymouth: Accolades keep piling up for the Wildcats' coach, and it's easy to see why. Plymouth excelled all year, finishing 7-2 and capturing its first KLA A Central title with a 5-0 mark.

The Wildcats also placed fourth at the regional tournament, third at the KLA A Kensington Conference tourney and second at the Plymouth Invite while finishing on top at the Dexter Invite and Canton JV



Paul Franchina Stevenson



Ryan Hansz Canton



Max Kohl North Farmington



Josh Famie Harrison



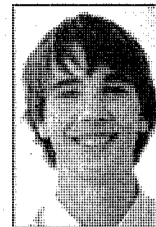
Brock Foster Salem



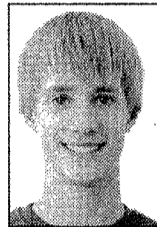
Stephen Payne Franklin



Walter Woods Franklin



Preston Strauch North Farmington



John McDonald Harrison



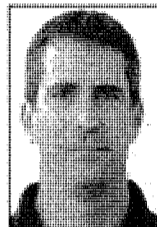
Josh Perrin Salem



Josh York Stevenson



Aaron Zhang Plymouth



Tom Kimball Plymouth coach

Invitational. Kimball also was named 2009 Michigan High School Tennis Coaches Association Regional Coach of the Year.

Another honor that Kimball is especially proud of is the 2009 All-State Academic Award that the Wildcats garnered.

"Perhaps the best accolades of this season are the comments I regularly received from opposing coaches and players about the exemplary sportsmanship and behavior of my players," Kimball said.

Finishing his 15th season as a tennis coach, which includes stints at Salem and Canton, Kimball also teaches business courses at PHS - which he emphasizes is his top job and top priority.

"(But) I have developed a passionate interest in playing and coaching tennis," he noted.

BLAZERS

FROM PAGE B1

convincing 25-17 win in the third thanks to four blocks and a kill by 6-foot-2 junior middle blocker Caitlin McClorey and ace serves by Dezelski, senior libero Ashley Hines and Kristine Aurand.

"The third game we lost ball control," Budimerovich said. "And when our offense became predictable, they were able to block well."

But the momentum Ladywood had gained was erased quickly in the fourth game as the Pirates roared out to a 7-0 lead and never looked back to even the match at two games apiece.

Riverview was led by 5-10

senior outside hitter Arianna Bazzarelle, who had six of her game-high 21 kills.

"Riverview played great and number 13 (Bazzarelle) brought her 'A' game," Craggs said. "She hit a ton of balls that we didn't touch."

"I can't say enough about the way they played. They kept us off our game and they served aggressively."

In the decisive fifth game, it was all Ladywood as the Blazers jumped out to an 8-1 lead with sophomore Jennifer Rhodes leading the way with five kills.

Rooney's block clinched the match.

Alex Hines, a 5-9 sophomore setter, finished with 34 assist-to-kills, while Ashley Hines and a team-high 28

digs. Rooney added 11 kills, while Rhodes and Kettner, two sophomores, added eight and seven respectively.

Dezelski also added 17 digs. The Pirates, who bowed out with a 39-11-5 record, got 46 assists from Nicole Karaboyas and 31 from Vana Kotsogiannis.

Deanna Petkov finished with 21 digs, while Bazzarelle

added 13. Melanie Petersen contributed eight kills, while Jordann Assed had five blocks.

"Once we got out on the court, we felt we could play with them," Budimerovich said. "We felt we should have won, but they (Ladywood) played a great match and you had to congratulate them."

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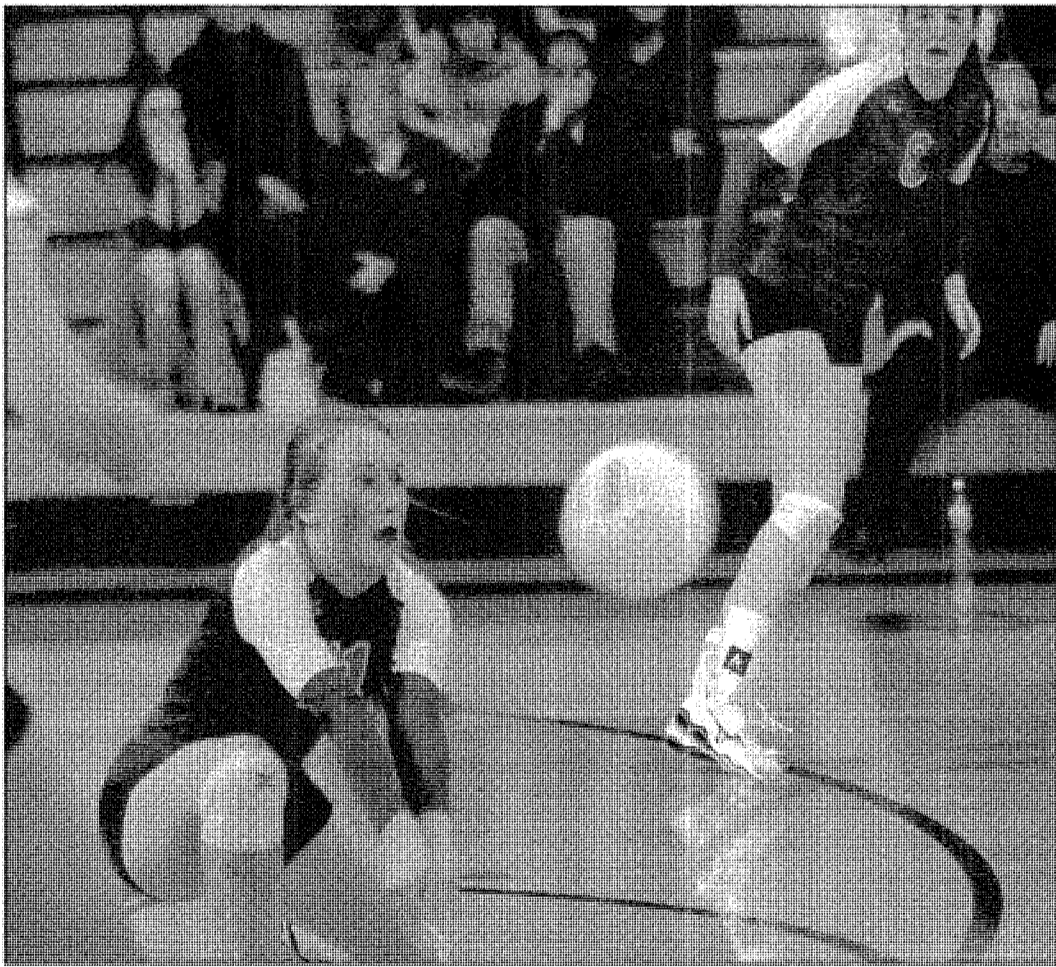
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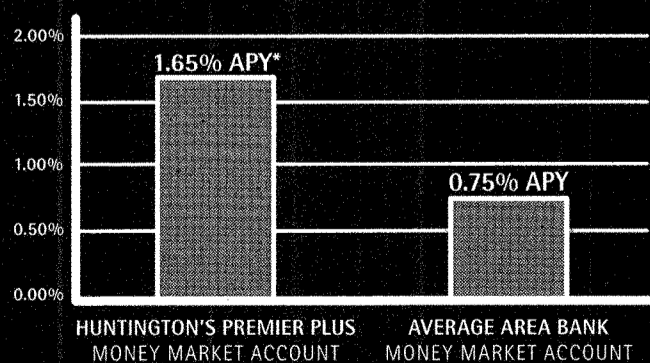
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Ladywood's Jennifer Rhodes (11) comes up with the dig as teammate Claire Dezelski looks on during Thursday's Class B regional final against Riverview.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A picture is worth a thousand words.



MMA market rate comparison source: Informa Research Service, Inc., Calabasas, CA, www.informars.com. Although the information has been obtained from the various institutions themselves, the accuracy cannot be guaranteed.

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Crusaders dump Saints, qualify for WHAC finals

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Madonna University women's volleyball team finds itself in an all too familiar position - seeking an unprecedented 13th Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference championship.

In the WHAC semifinals Friday night at the Schaefer Center in Fort Wayne, Ind., second-seed MU won the rubber match this season against third-seed Aquinas College, 25-19, 18-25, 25-19, 25-17.

The 22nd-ranked Crusaders, who improved to 32-6 overall, earned a spot in Saturday's championship final against host Indiana Tech, the top seed, or fourth-seeded Cornerstone University.

"I thought our serve receive was tough and we passed their serves well," MU coach Jerry Abraham said. "I also thought

we played with poise at the end of the match, which is something we've been up-and-down with and haven't done the last couple of weeks."

Katie Czarnecki, a 6-foot-1 left-handed sophomore outside hitter, led a balanced Crusaders' hitting attack with 11 kills. Livonia Franklin's Liz Dempsey and senior Mary McGinnis each contributed nine.

After closing out the first set, MU faltered in the second set despite leading 5-0 and 14-11 as the Saints got hot behind the hitting of Mollie Lounds, who had a game-high 13 kills.

But MU regrouped and was able to close out the match.

"I thought we kept the pressure on them in Games Three and Four and were able to make it hard on them," said Abraham, who notched his 912th career win. "I also thought our senior setter Inta

Grinvalds made some good decisions at crunch time and Amanda Koszela had some game-saving digs at critical points in Game Four."

Dempsey, a junior, had the set-winning kill in the third game to put the Crusaders up 2-1.

"The key was sustaining our focus and keep up the same intensity level that we had the first game," Dempsey said. "The third and fourth games we definitely had to adjust, try and hit at some different angles. We had to figure it out and mix it up."

Grinvalds recorded a game-high 36 assist-to-kills, while Koszela paced the defense with 12 digs.

Aquinas, which falls to 26-6 overall, got 29 assists from setter Katie VanderMeer and 11 digs from libero Sara LeClair.

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MEERNIK

FROM PAGE B1

thought her days of competing in the sport had been such a big part of her life were over. There would be no more beads of sweat produced through vigorous conditioning drills, no more hanging with teammates and no more joy in laying it all on the line to defeat a pesky opponent.

"It just didn't work out," Meernik said of her freshman season. "Once I was done with high school soccer I thought 'Wow, it's over.' I quickly realized how much I missed playing and how much I missed my teammates and the bonding that goes on."

Meernik decided to attend the off-season weight training and practice sessions that were held last spring and found the competitive juices flowing once again. Longtime Denison soccer coach Gail Murphy liked what she saw in Meernik and provided her with a spot on the varsity roster.

"Clare is just awesome and we love having her in our program," Murphy said. "She has an incredible work ethic and we've used her in many areas because of that."

"She is physically strong, very determined and has a great mentality for the game," Murphy went on. "Chemistry is very important on our team and she has been a tremendous positive."

Once she stepped on the field, Meernik wasted little time contributing as she netted the only goal of the game in a 1-0 victory over Endicott in just the second game of the season.

"By not playing for a year it took a little time to get my touch back and get my feet back," Meernik said. "It felt good. It felt like old times once I was able to do that."

WORKING AS ONE

Meernik has suited up for her share of teams and been around all kinds of teammates in her soccer career, dating back to the early days of par-

ticipation in the youth soccer leagues in Redford. She said she's never been part of a team with so much chemistry and camaraderie as what she found with the Big Red.

"It's easy to figure out why we won," Meernik said. "With our team it was all chemistry. There are no clicks on this team. The seniors didn't look down on the underclassmen and we didn't have that one player that sometimes everybody relies on and takes over a team. We were all just close and working hard together."

Meernik credited her days at Marian and her four seasons competing with the Mustangs soccer team for preparing her for the rigors associated with college athletics.

"At Marian coaches always demanded a lot of hard work," said Meernick, who also competed on the varsity level for two years in basketball and cross country. "Playing on my high school teams really allowed me to develop and become a better player in college."

Warrior spikers fall in regional final

BY JIM TOTH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Lutheran Westland's run toward the Class D girls volleyball championship ended Thursday night in regional final play Birmingham Roper as Auburn Hills Oakland Christian raced out to a two-games-to-none lead and held on to defeat the Warriors in four games.

Lutheran Westland, which finished with a 32-11-1 mark overall, dropped the first two

contests by scores of 25-13 and 25-20 before rallying to post a 25-20 victory in game three. Oakland Christian took game four by a 25-22 margin.

"We played poorly and they played really well in those first two games," Warriors head coach Kevin Wade said. "We battled back and won the third game and had a chance to win the fourth game. We were up 22-21 and they rattled off four straight points to beat us."

"My hat goes off to Oakland Christian, but we have nothing

to be disappointed over," he went on. "We had a really nice season after having a great season last year. Our seniors have gone 78-17-5 the last two years."

Rachel Strook again provided the power to the Warriors lineup as she slammed 15 kills and came up with 17 digs.

Emilie Freeman hammered out 10 kills, Nicole Zehel tallied nine kills and 19 digs, Emily Wilson contributed nine kills, Taylor Wiemer had 13 digs and Lauren Switzer handed out 36 assists.

A pair of 14-point career high scoring efforts from sophomore Heather Goodwin and freshman Kaylee McGrath carried Madonna University women's basketball team to a 78-38 win Thursday at Moody Bible Institute (Ill.) at the Solheim Center.

The Crusaders, now 2-0, shot 53.2 percent from the field (33-of-62), including 9-of-20 from three-point range.

Erin Bentley and Heather

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Pratt each added nine points for MU, which led 50-13 at halftime. Jacqui Mitchell scored a game-high 13 points for Moody (0-1).

Ocelot men fall

James Thomas notched a game-high 26 points as Grand Rapids Community College evened its overall record at 1-1

with an 89-79 win Wednesday at Schoolcraft College.

Jason Pratt and Aaron Stockdale added 15 and 12, respectively, for the Raiders.

Freshman center Aaron Felsner and freshman guard Gregory Morgan II (Redford Thurston) paced the Ocelots (1-4) with 21 and 20, respectively.

Gerald Bowler contributed 11 as the Ocelots dropped their fourth straight game.

Annual bowling tourney honors Redford's Kress

The 79th Annual Old Timers Bowling Tournament and party will take place on Saturday, Nov. 28, at Thunderbowl Lanes in Allen Park with squads bowling at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

This year's event is dedicated to Ted Kress of Redford, who has worked tirelessly over the past several years to help perpetuate the tournament, which has been and will continue to be one of the outstanding one-day bowling tournaments in the nation.

This event is steeped in tradition as many of the grand old names in bowling have competed. They come in to enjoy the fellowship which prevails and to relish old times. The current president of the Old Timers is United States Bowling Congress Hall-of-Famer Tony Lindemann.

He is currently in the hospital recovering from injuries suffered in an auto accident. If Tony cannot make it by the 28th, his duties will be handled by 1st Vice President, Barney Eagan who has recently returned to action after a long illness.

"Old" is part of the name and let's face it, we get a little older every year. Old can also be beautiful, as we can still enjoy this wonderful sport of bowling even when our reflexes and coordination betray us a little bit. The playing field is leveled a bit more as there are different categories by age: under 50 years, 50 to 59, 60 to 64, 65 to 69, 70 to 74, 75 to 79 and 80 and over.

The overall champion receives a wristwatch and trophy and each age group winner receives a wristwatch. Every entrant receives a free commemorative gift. This is a great tournament, don't miss it.

The entries come from all over the country. If you have not tried it, now is the time. Entry fee is \$22 and includes bowling banquet and refreshments or \$9 for bowling only. There will be 50-50 drawings and door prize raffles. Entry forms are available at most bowling centers around town or call Secretary John



Ten Pin Alley

Al Harrison

Chmelko at (586) 756-3240. Entries close Saturday, Nov. 21.

This is a USBC moral support sanctioned tournament for men only who have been associated with bowling at least 25 years and must be at least 40 years of aged.

I'll be there, hope to see many of my old friends there as well.

Another Old Timer has passed away recently, some of the older readers would remember Doug Bradford. A long-time bowling writer for the Detroit News, Doug had retired a few years ago and moved to Florida, where he had enjoyed the senior living in the sunshine state, Doug was an avid bowler and did much to promote bowling, especially the Old Timers event, which he enjoyed bowling in for many years.

If you have been viewing any of the current Pro Bowlers

Tour on ESPN you would see that the World Series of bowling is now going on and will conclude with the World Championships on Sunday, Dec. 13. Most of the action took place at Thunderbowl (arena), in August and September for viewing in November and December.

Sunday Nov. 15 at 1 p.m. will feature the Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) Viper Championship, the PBA Chameleon Championship will be viewed on Sunday, Nov. 22; followed by The PBA Scorpion Championship on Nov. 29 and the PBA Shark championship on Sunday Dec. 6.

Each one of the animal names are used to designate certain lane conditions which are put down on the lanes for a greater challenge to the pros.

This is one World Series that the New York Yankees cannot win.

Al Harrison is a resident of Southfield, and a member of the Detroit Bowling Hall of Fame and the Bowling Writers Association of America. He can be reached by email: tenpinalley710@yahoo.com.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL QUARTERFINAL PAIRINGS

CLASS A
at BROWNSTOWN WOODHAVEN
Tuesday, Nov. 17: Livonia Churchill vs. Carleton Airport, 7 p.m. (Winner advances to the state semifinals, 7:15 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 19 at Battle Creek's Kellogg Arena vs. Muskegon Reeths-Puffer quarterfinal winner.)

CLASS B
at WILLIAMSTON
Tuesday, Nov. 17: Livonia Ladywood vs. DeWitt, 6 p.m. (Winner advances to the state semifinals, 7:15 p.m. Friday, Nov. 20 at Battle Creek's Kellogg Arena vs. Vicksburg quarterfinal winner.)

PREP HOCKEY
Wednesday, Nov. 18
Ladywood at Cranbrook, 5:30 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 20
(Metro Invitational at Novi Ice Arena)
Churchill vs. Farmington, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 21
Ladywood vs. W.L. Western

THE WEEK AHEAD

at Arctic Pond, 6:30 p.m.
(Metro Invitational at Novi Ice Arena)
Churchill vs. Grand Rapids CC, 1:30 p.m.

GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING
MHSAA STATE FINALS
Friday-Saturday, Nov. 20-21
Division I at Holland Aquatics, noon.

MEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER
(NJCAA Division I Championships)
Thursday, Nov. 19
Schoolcraft vs. Barton Co. (Kan.) at Mercer Co. CC (N.Y.), TBA.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER
(NJCAA Division I Championships)
Thursday, Nov. 19
Schoolcraft at Tyler (Tex.) JC, 5 p.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Monday, Nov. 16
Marygrove at Schoolcraft, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 17
Madonna at IU-Purdue-Ft. Wayne, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 18
Schoolcraft at Kirtland CC, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 20
Madonna at Northwood (Fla.), 7 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 21
Madonna at Ave Maria (Fla.), TBA.
Schoolcraft at Flint Mott, 3 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Tuesday, Nov. 17
Madonna at Hope College, 7 p.m.

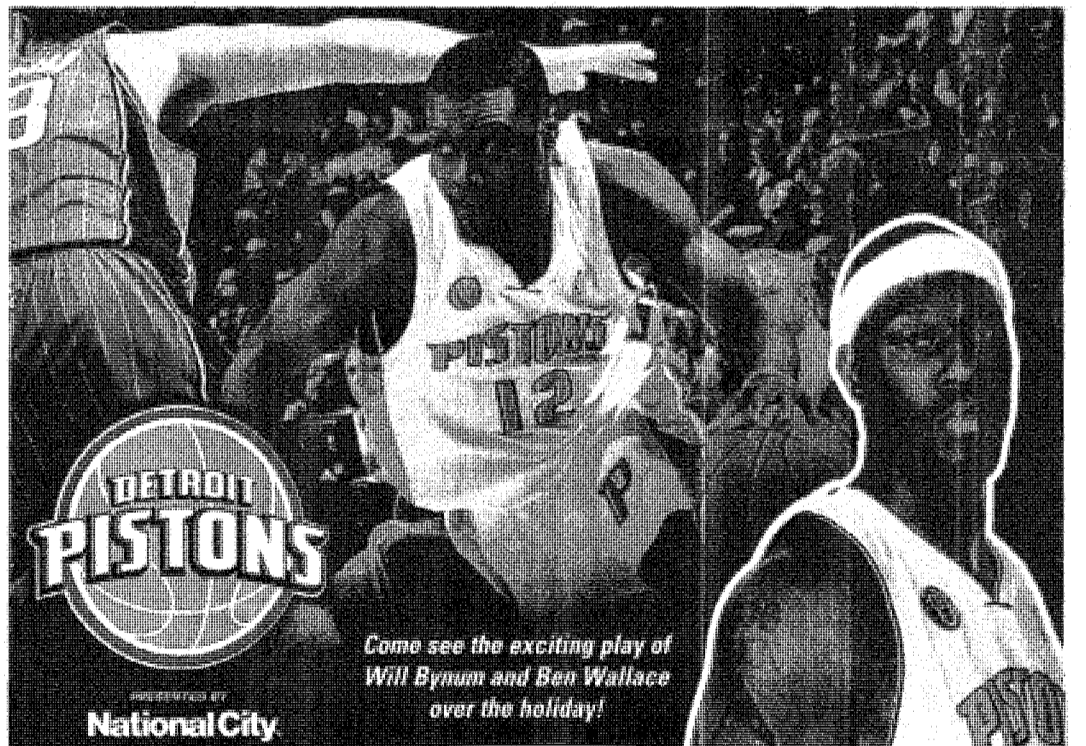
Wednesday, Nov. 18
Schoolcraft at Kirtland CC, 5:30 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 20
(WHAC/MIAA Challenge)
Madonna at Indiana Wesleyan, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 21
Schoolcraft at Flint Mott, 1 p.m.

WHAC/MIAA Challenge
Madonna vs. Bethel College (Ind.) at Indiana Wesleyan, 1 p.m.

TBA - time to be announced.



THANKSGIVING with the PISTONS

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GOOD FOR THE FOLLOWING GAMES:

- WED, NOV. 25 8:00 PM **Pistons Hat to first 5,000 fans courtesy of National City.**
- FRI, NOV. 27 8:00 PM **Pistons Schedule Mouspad to first 5,000 fans courtesy of Cavalier.**
- SUN, NOV. 29 1:00 PM **Ben Gordon Mini Bobblehead Ornament to first 7,500 fans courtesy of Coca-Cola.**

Plus, the first 3,000 kids 14 & under get a postgame autograph in person with a Pistons player courtesy of Coca-Cola.

Watch the Pistons at L.A. Lakers on **FSDETROIT** this Tuesday at 10:30pm. Check local listings for channel information.

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Bowl for Stevenson icers

The Livonia Stevenson High hockey team will stage a bowling fund-raisers beginning at 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 22 at Woodland Lanes, located on 33775 Plymouth Road, Livonia.

If pre-registered by Nov. 18, the \$20 ticket includes two games of bowling, shoe rental, two slices of pizza and soda. Check-in and lane assignments start at 12:30 p.m.

For more information, call Julie Sager at (734) 775-1114; or Sue Hermann at (734) 522-7115.

Elks Hoop Shoot

The 2009 Elks Hoop Shoot contest will be Saturday, Dec. 5 at the Livonia Community Recreation Center, located at 15100 Hubbard (off Five Mile Road).

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. the day of the event followed by the contest at 9 a.m. Age divisions for boys and girls include 8-9, 10-11, 12-13.

The contest is free. For more information, call (734) 466-2410.

Youth basketball set

Garden City Parks & Recreation Youth Basketball Programs are being offered this winter for boys and girls in grades three through six.

Boys and girls freshman (third and fourth graders) basketball offers a recreational focus stressing fundamentals of the sports. Cost is \$43 and all participants will receive a team t-shirt and medal. Games will be played Saturday mornings at Maplewood Community Center. Registration will be conducted Nov. 30-Jan. 9. The season begins Jan. 9 and will continue through March 6.

Boys junior varsity (fifth grade) basketball runs Jan. 26-May 4 and involves five elementary schools within the city. Practices will be held at the respective schools and games will be played at Burger

School for the Autistic. Cost is \$48 and tryouts are required. Registration will be held Dec. 7-Jan 9 at Maplewood Community Center.

Boys varsity (sixth grade) basketball also involves all five elementary schools in Garden City. Practices will again be held at the respective schools with games to be held at Burger School for the Autistic. Cost is \$48 and tryouts are required. Registration will run Dec. 7-Jan. 9 with games being contested Jan. 28-May 6.

For more information, call (734) 793-1882 or visit online at www.gardencitymi.org/parks.

MU softball camps

Madonna University will stage three winter softball camps at the MU Activities Center featuring specialized individual instruction covering all phases of the game for girls ages 7-18.

Among the camps offered include:

Hitting - 9 a.m. to noon, Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 19-20 (cost \$30); Fundamental No. 1 - 9-11:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30 (cost \$125 if registered by Dec. 1; \$125 after Dec. 1);

Fundamental No. 2 - noon-2:30 p.m. (cost \$125 by Dec. 1; \$150 after Dec. 1).

For more information, call MU head coach Al White at (734) 432-5783; or Steve Gentilia at (734) 776-1716. You can also e-mail awhite@madonna.edu.

WYAA girls volleyball

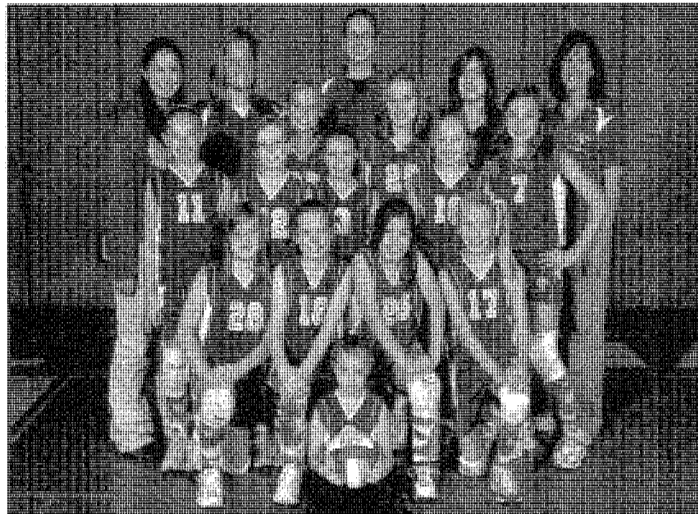
The Westland Youth Athletic Association is currently accepting registration for girls volleyball (ages 8-17) from 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays and 10 a.m. until noon Saturdays, at the WYAA's Lange Compound, located at 6050 Farmington Road (north of Ford Road).

The WYAA has a fundraiser to offset the cost of the program. Participants will also be given one raffle ticket



St. Michael JV3 first

The Livonia St. Michael JV3 girls volleyball team recently finished with a 9-1 record and were honored Oct. 24 with a commemorative plaque during the Catholic League Organization's Prep Bowl held at Detroit's Ford Field. Members of the fourth- and fifth-grade Gaels include (front row, from left): Allie Filiatraut, Monica Weinrauch, mascot Samantha Conn, Emma Toppi, Amelia Modes; (second row, from left) Kelly Gambino, Rachel Radwan, Reese Moschetta, Emily Ehrheart, Jillian Wilson, Sarah Cervenak; (back row, from left) coach Janice Filiatraut, Alexandra Davis, coach Shannon McCarthy, Katy LeWalk and coach Dawn Conn.



St. Michael JV2 first

The Livonia St. Michael JV2 girls volleyball team recently finished with a 10-0 record and were honored Oct. 24 with a commemorative plaque during the Catholic League Organization's Prep Bowl held at Detroit's Ford Field. Members of the fifth- and sixth-grade Gaels include (front row, sitting): mascot Paige Ebben; (second row, from left) Abbi Laurentius, Kayla Moss, Maddie Filiatraut, Mallory Venko; (third row, from left) Hailey Gorsuch, Isabelle Kissick, Megan Argenta, Madison Maurier; (fourth row, from left) Morgan Kruger, Maggie Shirk, Hannah Schwartz; (back row, from left) student assistant Julie Bonk, head coaches Cheryl Ebben and Elise Hickerson, player Hanna Ferro and assistant coach Janice Filiatraut. (Not pictured is assistant coach Gina Sykes.)

for each \$5 of paid registration fees. These extra tickets can be used to enter the WYAA drawing or sold to recover the cost of registration.

For more information, call (734) 421-0640; or visit www.wyaa.org.

Track coach wanted

The University of Detroit Jesuit High is seeking a varsity boys track and field coach for the 2010 season.

Those interested should forward a resume to: Mickey Barrett, Athletic Director, 8400 S. Cambridge, Detroit, MI. 48221; or fax to (313) 862-3299; or e-mail mickey.barrett@uofdjhsuit.org.

Open pickleball

Livonia residents are welcome to sign up for a unique recreational sport being offered by Northville Parks and Recreation - pickleball.

The sport combines ping pong and badminton, with a hard paddle used to send the ball over the net. Open pickleball sessions are held at the Northville Recreation Center based out of Hillside Middle School.

Beginner to intermediate play is 1-3 p.m., Mondays and Tuesdays (\$2 per person); and 10 a.m.-noon, Wednesdays and Thursdays (\$2). Three courts are available.

Intermediate to advanced play is 12 noon to 3 p.m. Wednesdays (\$3) and 6-8 p.m. Saturdays (\$4).

Paddles and pickleballs are provided at the center.

For more information, call (248) 349-0203.

Soccer training set

Waza FC West soccer club is conducting the 2009-10 Indoor Developmental Academy Training session Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 p.m. through Jan. 20 at Total Soccer in Wixom. The training session is open for boys and girls three to nine years old at a cost of \$100 per student. Each session will focus on

improving body coordination, footwork, dribbling with different parts of the foot, controlling the ball and shooting, balance, change of speed and direction, controlled breathing and positive reinforcement.

Contact Jessica Wimmer at Developmental@WazaFC.com for registration information.

Ice activities

The Learn-to-Skate (basic skills) program is being offered Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5-6 p.m. and Saturdays from 12:30-1:30 p.m. through Dec. 19 at Garden City Ice Arena. Cost is \$55 for the seven-week session.

For more information pertaining to the program contact Cynthia Keller at (734) 421-0980.

The ever popular Sticks & Pucks program is being offered Saturday and Sunday afternoons from 3-4:30 p.m. for all ages through the fall and winter seasons through the Garden City Parks and Recreation Department. The program is designed as an "open gym" for hockey players.

Cost is \$6 per skater with goalies skating free of charge. Helmet and gloves are mandatory with regulations set in place for wristshots and slapshots.

In addition, Adult Drop-In Hockey (18 and over) will be held Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. and Saturdays from 9-10:30 p.m. Cost is \$8 per skater with a limit of 20 per session. Goalies skate free with a limit of four per session.

For more information on both programs, call (734) 793-1882.

Public ice skating is available at the Garden City Ice Arena Saturdays from 1:30-3 p.m. and 7:30-9 p.m. and Sundays from 1:30-3 p.m. Cost is \$3 for children under 15 and \$4 for those 16 and over. Skates can be rented at a cost of \$2 per pair.

For more information, call (734) 793-1882.

To place your ad here contact us at careers@hometownlife.com or call 1-800-579-7355

Guide to Employment

CHECK OUT THESE EXCITING CAREER OPPORTUNITIES! For even more opportunities see our "award winning" classified section!

5000-5980
Employment
The Village of Westland, a mission of Presbyterian Villages of Michigan, is looking for a part-time activities assistant to work days in our Licensed Assisted Living Cottages. Experience with seniors is a must. Qualified candidate must possess top notch people skills with attention to detail, resident centered care and the ability to work as a team player. Only qualified candidates need apply. No phone calls and qualifications to:

HR Manager
32001 Cherry Hill Road
Westland, MI 48186
jfeasel@pvm.org

Help Wanted-General 5000
Banking
dfcu
FINANCIAL
needs friendly, upbeat, service oriented individuals to work Part-Time.
Hiring for branch locations. Job duties include cash handling & product sales. Goal oriented sales experience required.
Next class scheduled for January 2010. Intense paid training mandatory.
Must be available to work Mon-Fri. 9:15am-6:30pm Saturday 9:15am-2:30pm
Complete job description and locations available at dfcufinancial.com
See Member Relations Representative - PT
Accepting Applications through December 4, 2009
Apply in person at any DFCU Financial Branch Office
Credit Record in good standing required.
Equal Opportunity Employer

Help Wanted-General 5000
Customer Service/Estimator
A growing Franchise Co. is seeking a high energy & multi-tasking capable person to join our team. Duties include: In-Home Consultations and handle inbound & Outbound Calls.
Email resume & salary requirements to: jcohen@molly.ldmi.net

DISPATCHER
Ground transportation company servicing Metro Detroit airport seeking experienced dispatchers. Knowledge of Metro area and excellent communication skills a must. Experience within a courier or taxi dispatch environment is helpful. Two way radio and computer experience preferred. This position requires flexibility in scheduling as weekends/holidays/shift work are required. Starting wage is \$11.25/hour. Hard-working, dedicated individuals interested in a challenging opportunity forward resume with cover letter to:
Attn: HR Dept./DISP.
24957 Brest Road
Taylor, MI 48180
Fax: 734-946-7417
EOE

HUMAN RESOURCE SPECIALIST
Entry level position available at Co-op Services Credit Union in Livonia. Human Resource Management degree req along with strong interpersonal skills, organization skills, and the ability to manage multiple tasks. Excellent salary, benefit package, and work environment offered. Email resume with salary requirements to: sselowski@csco.org

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1-800-579-SELL

INTERNET MARKETING
Full time/part time temp position. Computer and marketing savvy person experienced with internet video creation and html. Experience with CS 4 and MS office desired. Must also be well organized and willing to learn all aspects of our marketing department. Resume to: resumes@tradefirst.com

MAINTENANCE TECH
Dependable person needed for general maintenance at a mid-size apartment community in Plymouth. Full-Time, benefits included. Must live on-site.
Call: (734) 455-3880
Fax resume: (734) 453-6050

Help Wanted-General 5000
MARKETING ASSISTANT
The Village of Westland, a Senior Living Community, is looking for a part time marketing assistant. The qualified candidate must have word and excel computer skills and a customer service background, be available to work Saturdays and be flexible during the week.
Send your resume to: jteasel@pvm.org

SHOP LABORER
Part time position in an industrial gas fill plant. Applications accepted Mon & Wed 9a.m.-2:00p.m. (313) 834-1663
Or email resume to Scott@cryogenics.com

SNOW REMOVAL
Part Time Removal help as needed for Southfield apts. Call 248-353-9050 or fax 248-353-1878

STOCK GROCERIES
2 Part Time Positions
Must have experience
Apply in person:
Holiday Market
520 S. Lilley Rd.,
Canton, 48188-1104

Teacher
Kindergarten/1st Grade Co-Teacher
For Montessori School in Farmington Hills. Experience required. Fax: 248-851-4237. Or email: administrator@montessoricenterfr.com

ZENITH 25" Console TV with remote. May deliver. Very good cond. Canton: (734) 446-6888

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT FULL-TIME
To support operations & transportation manager. Must have experience in design & management of Access Database. Proficient in Word & Excel. Associate Degree & 5 yrs. exp. necessary. Knowledge of ISO 9000 a plus.
Please fax resume 734-256-6400 or email: zdavis@generaloffice.com

BOOKKEEPER/SECRETARY AP/AR. Quickbooks. Exp'd. Farmington. Resume: fettermanagement@att.net

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020
PARALEGAL/LEGAL SECRETARY
for Birmingham commercial litigation law firm. Minimum 2 yrs. exp. Must have excellent grammar, computer, research and typing skills. Salary commensurate with exp.
Email resume to: MA@m-apc.com

Help Wanted-Dental 5040
DENTAL ASSISTANT
Small Livonia office needs exp'd dental assistant. No Saturdays. (734) 425-0850

RECEPTIONIST/DENTAL ASSISTANT
Experienced req'd. Friendly office. Livonia area. 734-525-3150 or fax: 734-525-6432

Help Wanted-Medical 5060
Echocardiographer
Mobile Diagnostics Company in Southfield is seeking a RDCS/RCS minimum 2 years' experience. RV7/vascular experience a plus. SIGN ON BONUS OFFERED
Email resume to: hjrjbs@visitingphysicians.com

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Full time, for pediatric office in Novi/Livonia, area. Exp. preferred. Fax resume to: 248-662-0365

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
For Rochester Hills family practice. FT/PT. Exc. pay & benefits. 2 yr. exp. necessary. Call Rob: (248) 650-1532

MEDICAL CLINIC in Garden City & Novi looking for •Receptionist •Medical Assistant •Biller •Manager
Please fax resume: (248) 592-0706

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST
For Rochester Hills family practice. Full-Time, exc. pay & benefits. 1 yr. exp. necessary. Contact Rob: (248) 650-1520

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST FT for busy Southfield internist office. Must have 2 yrs. exp. working in medical office environment. Benefits & vacation time available. Please fax resume to: 248-358-2511

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST, FT 2 yrs. of Phlebotomy exp. for busy West Bloomfield. References. (248) 855-5620

Help Wanted-Medical 5060
PHYSICIANS WANTED SIGN-ON BONUS
Increased salary! Full time with full benefits. Excellent opportunity! No call or weekends. Internal medicine, family practice, & geriatric needed. Practice located in Southfield. Call 1-877-531-9955
VPA
Visiting Physicians Association
Birmingham and Detroit, Co Honor

Help Wanted-Medical 5060
RN's, LPN's & CNA's
All Shifts.
Westwood Nursing Center
(313) 345-5000 x200

Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5060
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32435 Grand River, Farmington.

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Help Wanted-Sales 5120
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MILESTONES



Larry and Joyce Arnold of Canton

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

Larry and Joyce Arnold of Canton celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Nov. 14. The couple met at Scott High School in Toledo, Ohio, both graduating in 1956, and they were married on Nov. 14, 1959 at Glenwood Lutheran Church. Larry went on to receive his degree from the University of Toledo. They moved to Michigan in 1970, living in Plymouth for six years, and then settling in Canton where they still reside. The Arnolds have two children, Laura (Ed) Wright and Jeff (Kellie) Arnold, and six grandsons, Erik, Brandon and Ben Wright and Kyle, Jason and Jake Arnold. They celebrated their anniversary with family.



Larry and Joyce Arnold of Canton on their wedding day.

KOZIK-TEMPLETON

Kristin Nicole Kosik and Ryan Lee Templeton were married Aug. 15, 2009 at the First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth. The Rev. Dr. James Skimins officiated. A reception followed at The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth. The bride, daughter of Richard and Rosanne Kosik of Plymouth, graduated with an undergraduate and M.B.A. degree from University of Michigan in 2001 and 2007 respectively and works in Marketing for Ford Motor Company. The groom, son of Darrell and Sandra Templeton of Middletown, Ohio, graduated from Ohio State University with a degree in electrical engineering in 2001 and works for automotive supplier, Vitec. Dawn Gizewski served as the matron of honor and Jacqueline Kosik, Robin



Kosik-Templeton

Templeton, and Laura McIntyre were bridesmaids. Jason Templeton was best man. Jody Templeton, Justin Kosik and Shane Eversole served as groomsmen. The couple took a honeymoon trip to Greece and resides in Canton.

SCHWAGLE-WAGNER

Barbara Weiss of Farmington Hills and Stephen Schwagle of Royal Oak are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Kellie Breanne, to Joseph Donald Wagner, son of Laurie Wagner of Plymouth and A. J. Wagner of Northville. The bride-to-be is a graduate of Mercy High School and the University of Michigan and is employed as a dental hygienist in Chicago, Ill. Her fiancé is a graduate of Plymouth-Canton High School and the University of Michigan, and is attending graduate school at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University. He is a vice



Schwagle-Wagner

president at P&M Corporate Finance in Chicago, Ill. A September 2010 wedding is planned in Northville.

OLIVIA GRACE HELMICK

Olivia Grace Helmick was born Sept. 23, 2009, at Beaumont Hospital Royal Oak. She weighed 8 pounds, 10 ounces and measured 22.5 inches. Proud parents are Joseph and Erin Helmick of Farmington Hills. Grandparents are Richard and Nina McEachin of Ann Arbor and Kenneth and Barb Helmick of Livonia.



Olivia Grace Helmick

Metroparks brighten holidays for children

Add a special meaning to your next visit to a Huron-Clinton Metropark - drop off a new, unwrapped toy to brighten a child's Christmas through the "Toys for Tots" program. Starting Saturday, Nov. 14, seven Metroparks and the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority Administrative Office will serve as collection sponsors for the "Toys for Tots" program. Toys will be collected through Sunday, Dec. 6, at Lake Erie, Kensington and Metro Beach Metroparks, and the Administrative Office; and through Sunday, Dec. 13, at Lower Huron, Hudson Mills, Indian Springs and Stony Creek Metroparks.

New, unwrapped toys that have no violent connotations may be dropped off at park offices or the HCMA Administrative Office for this program, conducted annually by the United States Marine Corps Reserve to serve needy children in local communities. Donated toys will then be distributed to needy children in Wayne, Oakland, Washtenaw and Macomb counties through local Marine distribution centers. Park visitors and employees typically donate more than 4,000 toys each year at the Metropark collection sites.

Metropark drop-off centers: Administrative Office near Brighton, (800) 477-2757, Hudson Mills Metropark near Dexter/Ann Arbor, (800) 477-3191, Indian Springs Metropark near White Lake, (800) 477-3192, Kensington Metropark near Milford/Brighton, (800) 477-3178, Lake Erie Metropark in Brownstown, (800) 477-3189, Lower Huron Metropark near New Boston, (800) 477-3182, Metro Beach Metropark near Mount Clemens, (800) 477-3172, and Stony Creek Metropark near Rochester/Washington Township, (800) 477-7756.

Beaumont launches H1N1 call center

Got a question about the H1N1 flu virus? Beaumont Hospitals can help you identify flu symptoms and understand your treatment options through its toll-free, 24-hour-a-day call center. Beaumont registered nurses staff the center, which can be reached at (888) 375-H1N1 (4161).

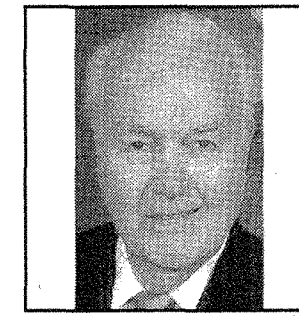
Dr. Jedd Roe, chief of Emergency Medicine at Beaumont Hospital, also will respond to questions about H1N1 flu during a live Web chat, 2-3 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 18, at www.beaumont-hospitals.com. "The call center and Web chat will provide information to those who suspect that they or someone they care for have the flu," stated Roe. "We'll help them determine when home treatment is appropriate and when they should see a physician or come into the Emergency Center for assessment and treatment."

Symptoms reported with this virus are similar to those experienced with the seasonal flu, such as fever, sore throat, cough, body aches, headaches, chills and fatigue. Most people who have H1N1 can recover without requiring medical treatment. However, certain people are at higher risk of developing severe symptoms that require medical care and possibly hospitalization. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, these people include those who are:

- age 25 or younger
- are pregnant
- have a chronic medical condition
- have suppressed immune systems

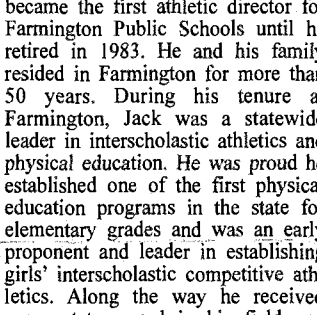
For more information about H1N1 and the seasonal flu, go to www.beaumont-hospitals.com.

11/15/09
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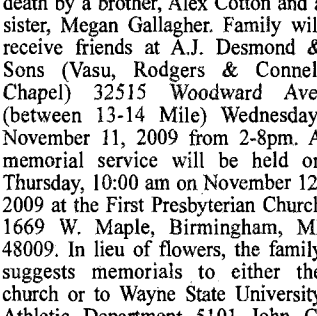
JOHN K. "JACK" COTTON

Age 86 of Birmingham, and formerly of Farmington, passed away on Sunday, November 8, 2009. He died at Borgess Medical Center in Kalamazoo from injuries suffered in a car crash on October 24th. Cotton was riding to the Wayne State University football game in Hillsdale when an approaching pickup truck crossed the centerline. The drivers of his car and the truck survived. Jack was born on October 17, 1923 in Penzance, Cornwall, England to John Kingsley Cotton, Sr. and Clara Cotton (nee Rowe). Jack came to Detroit as an infant and graduated from Northwestern High School in 1941, starting there in football and baseball. At Northwestern he met his future wife, Lois Urquhart. After spending two years enrolled at Wayne State, he joined the U.S. Army during WW II and saw action in the battles of Saipan and Okinawa in the central Pacific. He was wounded twice and received two Purple Hearts. While overseas Jack corresponded almost daily with Lois. In recent years he assembled those letters, which were solicited by, and recently accepted for, a Library of Congress project about WW II veterans. Following his service to his country, he returned to his education and graduated from Wayne State University. He was a football standout at Wayne before and after his army service and captain in 1946. He was named by Michigan State University to its all-opponent team. Jack and Lois married on September 21, 1946. Their wedding pictures show Jack with a swollen lip and black eye from that day's game. Following graduation from Wayne State he stayed on and was hired as a teacher and coach. He remained a lifelong supporter of Wayne State University. In 1956, Jack became the first athletic director for Farmington Public Schools until he retired in 1983. He and his family resided in Farmington for more than 50 years. During his tenure at Farmington, Jack was a statewide leader in interscholastic athletics and physical education. He was proud he established one of the first physical education programs in the state for elementary grades and was an early proponent and leader in establishing girls' interscholastic competitive athletics. Along the way he received every state award in his field and many national honors. After retirement Jack and Lois remained extremely active, acquiring a private business and serving in numerous capacities for their church, civic organizations and Wayne State activities. Jack was also elected twice and served eight years on the Board of Education for Farmington Public Schools. Along with his wife, he is survived by their four children, Kingsley (Beverly), Leslie Helwig (Rick), Mary Anne Cotton (Alan Koles), and Laurie Dalin (Mike). He was also a very special uncle to Kathleen Gallagher Lewis. He was a proud grandfather of seven: Anne Drolet (Michael Petrucci), Jack Drolet (Kavita), Lauren Allswede (Rusty), Alexander Cotton, Kate Larcom (Chris), Elizabeth Cotton, and Chase Dalin, and great-grandfather of Sophie Drolet and Madeleine Petrucci. He is also survived by two cousins in England, Jack Searle and Carlotta Fiskin. He was preceded in death by a brother, Alex Cotton and a sister, Megan Gallagher. Family will receive friends at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel) 32515 Woodward Ave. (between 13-14 Mile) Wednesday, November 11, 2009 from 2-8pm. A memorial service will be held on Thursday, 10:00 am on November 12, 2009 at the First Presbyterian Church 1669 W. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials to either the church or to Wayne State University Athletic Department 5101 John C. Lodge, Detroit, MI 48202.



MISS JEANNETTE MCCLINTOCK NICOL

Age 90, passed away 11/5/09 in Sarasota, FL. She was born on 3/16/1919 in Detroit, and grew up in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. She attended Brookside, Kingswood, Grier School, and Wellesley College, volunteered for many years at the Detroit League for the Handicapped, and was a longtime member of the Junior League of Sarasota. In 1955, she joined her parents, Frank & Elsie Nicol, on Longboat Key, FL, and cared for them until their passing. She is survived by her nephew, Dwight McClintock Moore and his wife Diana, of Spring, Texas, and is preceded in death by her parents, her sister Clara Childs Nicol Moore, and nephew Alfred Cleon Moore, Jr. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in her name to the charity of your choice. At her request, no services are planned.



ROBERT J. DEBENEDET, JR.

Age 44, passed away on October 21, 2009. Robert was a man who lived his life to the fullest. A devoted husband, father, son, brother & uncle. Robert was working as Director of Southern Operations for the LaSalle Group in Bufoxi Mississippi. Diagnosed with a rare form of cancer in late 2003, Robert never put his life on hold. After initial treatment, he continued to embrace the triumphs and the challenges that this world had to offer, living his life the way he always did. Continuing to be an example of the power of positive spirit, for his family and his many friends. Donations should be directed to: The DeBenedet Family Memorial Fund, c/o Aleda DeBenedet, PO Box 87072, Canton, MI 48187.

In Memory Of

In Memory Of EDDIE LIEBERT

My best friend who went to be with the Lord on Monday November 2, 2009. I will always miss you until we meet again. - Bernard Miley

KAREN L. MAGI

November 8, 2009, age 67. Beloved wife of Vincent. Dear mother of Lisa (Jason) Davis. Grandmother of Sydney and Hunter. Visitation was held Thursday and Friday. Services were held Friday at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth. Share your special thoughts and memories at www.schrader-howell.com

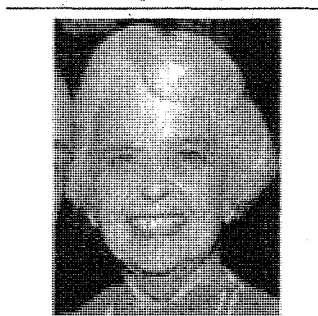
WILLIAM L. MULLEN

Died peacefully on the evening of November 7th at the Jupiter Medical Center. "Bill" was born on August 7, 1915. He was raised in the southwest and educated at the University of Wichita. During World War II he was production manager of Woodward Company who manufactured precision airplane parts for fighter planes. After the war, Bill founded and was president of Industrial Fuel Corporation. Upon retirement he began a cattle breeding venture at "Sherwood", a farm near Charlottesville, Virginia. After a second retirement, he and "Win" elected to spend their senior years at Lost Tree Village in North Palm Beach, Florida. There he became interested in community activities at the Lost Tree Club and served a term as president. Bill loved golf and played at every opportunity. Sailing was another activity he truly enjoyed, first racing then cruising with his wife "Win" on their boat "The Wilwin". He is survived by his wife Winifred Teare Mullen, and daughters Christine, Amy and Wendy. He will be sorely missed as a great contributor to the betterment of life for those around him and his beloved country. He was a man of great intelligence, integrity, and wit, much loved by all. Arrangements entrusted to: Aycock Funeral Home 1112 Military Trail Jupiter, Florida



HARRY MELVIN THOMPSON

Age 92 of Farmington Hills, Michigan, formerly of Livonia, Michigan, passed away November 10, 2009. Born in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, he graduated from the University of Saskatchewan with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He served as an officer in the Royal Canadian Air Force in World War II and then came home to marry his wife, Jean Elizabeth Edwards (deceased). He was the beloved father of Peggy (Norm) Schmidt of Farmington Hills, Michigan, and Bobbie (Gary) Steinko of Martin, Tennessee, and the loving grandfather of Geoffrey Schmidt (Hayley Weiss) of Cleveland, Ohio, and Megan Schmidt of Farmington Hills. Harry was a gregarious, loving man with a great sense of humor, an effective leader, and a strong believer in service to his community. He had a passion for hockey, curling, football, classical music, reading, current affairs, and traveling. A long-time resident of Livonia, Michigan, he was Livonia's Citizen of the Year in 1987. He coordinated the AARP tax center, volunteered at the senior citizen center, worked in the Cass Corridor on home rehabilitation, and was an active member of the Plymouth United Methodist Church. His memorial service will be Friday November 20, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. at Plymouth United Methodist Church. Contributions may be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, the American Heart Association, or the American Alzheimer's Association.

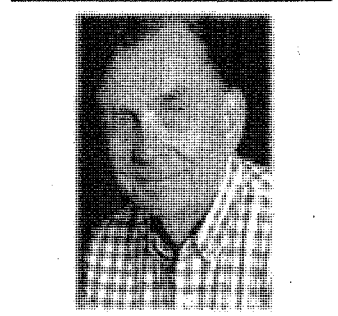


MERCEDES HEINEN RAKESTRAW

Age 91, of Columbia, MO, formerly of Birmingham, November 9, 2009. Beloved wife of the late Dr. William Charles Rakestraw, DVM. Loving mother of Patricia Cowden (Dr. John Williams Cowden). Grandmother of Catherine Cowden Fox (Gregory), William (Tracy), Thomas (Elizabeth), John David (Suzanne), Michael (Nancy), Daniel (April), and Christine Cowden Collie (Brian). Great-grandmother of 34. Funeral Mass was held Saturday at St. Hugo of the Hills Stone Chapel, Bloomfield Hills. Memorial tributes to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, 1820 Mt. Elliott Ave., Detroit, MI 48207 or Catholic Social Services of Oakland County, 1424 E. Eleven Mile Road, Royal Oak, MI 48067. A. J. Desmond & Sons (248) 362-2500. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

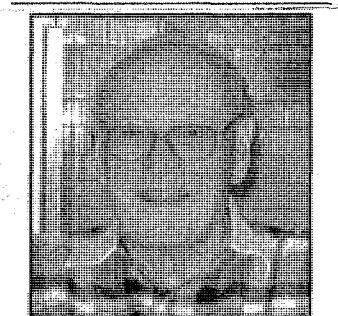
JOSEPH ROHATYNSKI

November 8, 2009, age 88. Member of the Company I, 123rd Infantry, 33rd Division of the U.S. Army, serving in the Pacific Theater during World War II. Beloved husband of the late Gladys. Dear father of Linda J. Scussel, Joanne (Kurt) Seifert, Therese Eaves, Karen Ward and Joseph (Tammy) Rohatynski Jr. Also leaves 11 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. Visitation was held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth. A Funeral Mass was held on Thursday morning at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, Plymouth.



CHESTER T. 'CHET' SOLOWIEJ

Age 85, long-time resident of Plymouth, passed away November 8, 2009 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital with his family at his bedside. Beloved husband of 65 years to Irene. Loving father of Richard A. (Cheryl), Glenn E. (Cheryl) and the late Daniel C. Proud grandfather of Scott (Anna), Sean, Eliza, Steven, Jordan (Sarah) and Nicole. Great grandfather of Thomas, Benjamin and Lucia. Chet will always be remembered for his friendly spirit, his charming and gregarious nature, and his instantly recognizable baritone voice. Chet was a benevolent and trusted member of his family, his community and his neighborhood. Active for many years as a leader in the Boy Scouts of America, long-time volunteer at the Plymouth Library, and decades long member of the Plymouth Lions Club, Chet believed in and practiced "community service" and helping those in need. Son, brother, husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, uncle, student, veteran, humanitarian, friend, colleague, mentor and advisor, are all worthy titles earned by this lovable man of honor. Services were held on November 11, 2009 from the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth. Memorials may be made to the Plymouth Lions Foundation P.O. Box 701159, Plymouth, MI 48170 or to the Charity of your choice. Share memories at schrader-howell.com



HARRY MELVIN THOMPSON

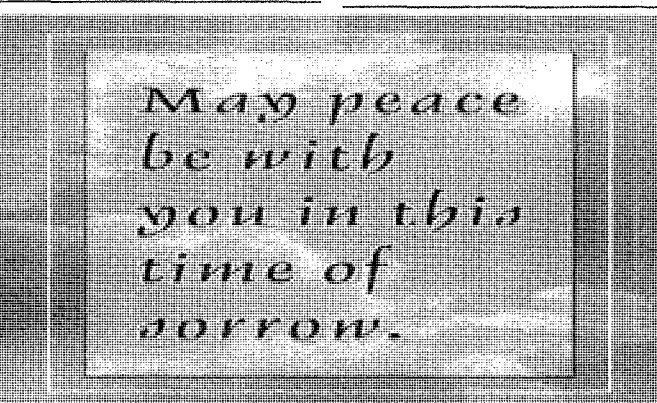
Age 92 of Farmington Hills, Michigan, formerly of Livonia, Michigan, passed away November 10, 2009. Born in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, he graduated from the University of Saskatchewan with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He served as an officer in the Royal Canadian Air Force in World War II and then came home to marry his wife, Jean Elizabeth Edwards (deceased). He was the beloved father of Peggy (Norm) Schmidt of Farmington Hills, Michigan, and Bobbie (Gary) Steinko of Martin, Tennessee, and the loving grandfather of Geoffrey Schmidt (Hayley Weiss) of Cleveland, Ohio, and Megan Schmidt of Farmington Hills. Harry was a gregarious, loving man with a great sense of humor, an effective leader, and a strong believer in service to his community. He had a passion for hockey, curling, football, classical music, reading, current affairs, and traveling. A long-time resident of Livonia, Michigan, he was Livonia's Citizen of the Year in 1987. He coordinated the AARP tax center, volunteered at the senior citizen center, worked in the Cass Corridor on home rehabilitation, and was an active member of the Plymouth United Methodist Church. His memorial service will be Friday November 20, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. at Plymouth United Methodist Church. Contributions may be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, the American Heart Association, or the American Alzheimer's Association.

JUDITH M. WORKEY

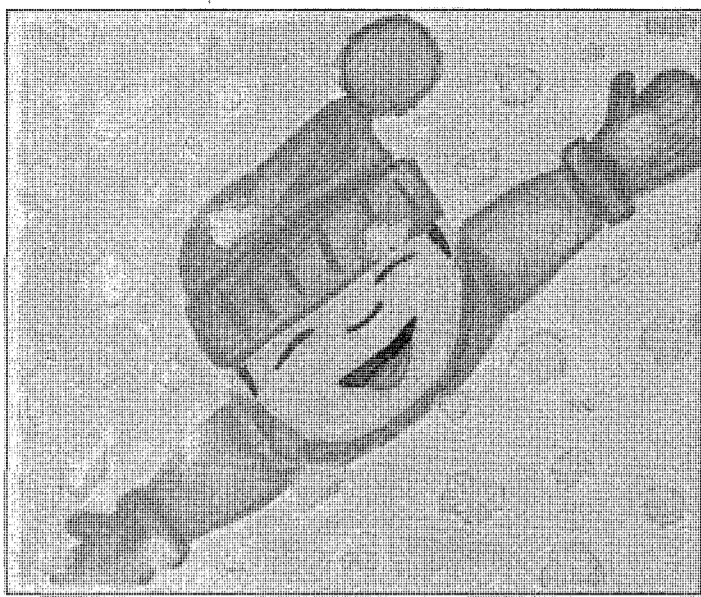
Of Warren, Mich. November 1, 2009, Age 66. Arrangements by Simple Funerals. Phone: 248-227-1954 or www.SimpleFuneralsInMichigan.com

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NEIGHBORS



Children's Hospital of Michigan Auxiliary offers this colorful holiday card with the greeting 'Capture the Joy this holiday season.'



Beaumont Hospital's Integrative Medicine program offers this card with art by a 17-year cancer survivor.

Cards for a cause

Send holiday wishes and benefit a local charity

You can help spread the mission of your favorite charity by buying and sending holiday greeting cards this year.

The card designs run the gamut — from children's art to photography — and support missions that involve health, pets, food assistance, and more.

Here's a list of some of the organizations offering greetings this season:

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION- GREATER MICHIGAN CHAPTER

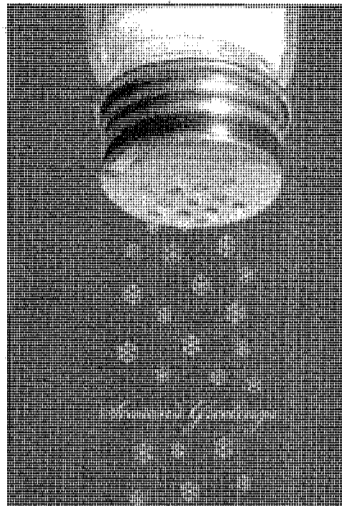
The organization has a variety of holiday card designs, with 45 percent of the proceeds benefitting Alzheimer's research and support. Most cards cost \$27 for a box of 25; some are \$31. Designs range from a whimsical polar bear clutching a candy cane to a manger scene. For all designs, you can select a verse, font and text color. To view all designs and order, visit www.alz.org/gmc. For more information, call (248) 351-0280.

BAND OF ANGELS

A set of 12 holiday cards and envelopes cost \$12 and feature a photo of a girl planting a holiday kiss on a boy in front of a Christmas tree. The greeting reads "May your Holiday's be filled with life's simple gifts." Buy them through the organization's Web site, www.bandofangels.com. Band of Angels advocates and educates on behalf of people with Down syndrome, autism and other disabilities. (248) 377-9308

BEAUMONT HOSPITAL

Beaumont Hospital's Integrative Medicine program is selling a card that will benefit programs for cancer patients at the hospital. The card, showing an angel holding a candle, is available in packs of 10 for \$15.90 (\$15 for the cards plus 90 cents



Spice up your holiday greetings with this card from the Forgotten Harvest collection.

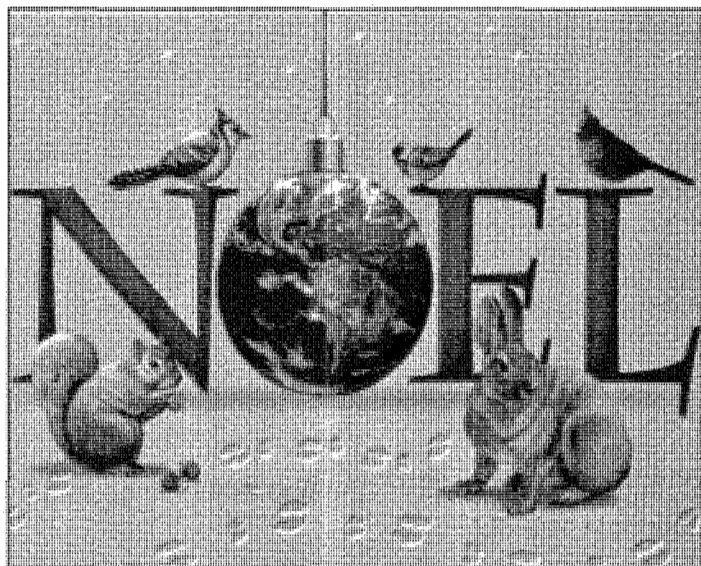
tax). All proceeds from the cards, minus printing costs, will benefit programs for Beaumont cancer patients. To order, call (248) 551-9990 or visit the Integrative Medicine program, suite 304 of the Beaumont Cancer Center, at Beaumont Hospital, in Royal Oak. Beaumont's Integrative Medicine program offers treatment to supplement standard therapy. Services include clinical massage, medical acupuncture, naturopathy, Reiki, healing touch, guided imagery, yoga and meditation.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF MICHIGAN

The Children's Hospital of Michigan Auxiliary holiday card, featuring a colorful picture of a child with open arms in the snow, is available in packs of 20 for \$20. The greeting reads "Capture the Joy this holiday season." Children's Hospital of Michigan Auxiliary holiday cards can be personalized with the sender's name for an additional cost. The cards are available online at www.childrensdmc.org/giftshop. Donation cards also



The Michigan Humane Society card offers the greeting 'May all your wishes come true this holiday season.'



This is one of the 11 holiday card designs available through Seedlings Braille Books for Children.

are available to remember someone special. For a minimum donation of \$5 per card, the donor will receive a card. Please see **CARDS, B7**

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

THE APPEARANCE AND THE PAIN

In arthritis, there is no relation between the amount of fluid and the amount of pain. A person with arthritis of the hands, shoulder, knee or ankles may be experiencing pain, but may have no fluid in its accompanying swelling as evidence of an impaired joint.

The same problem occurs with sore muscles. If the overlying skin is not red or the arm and leg does not look swollen, an observer could comment that "you look alright, when in fact "you" were far from well.

Doctors take this discrepancy into account when learning about the arthritic problem and then examining the areas of pain. How a person moves a joint is as important as what the individual says about the place and intensity of the pain.

At times, but not always, laboratory work and x-rays may provide information that reveals what questioning and examination did not bring out. However, doctors are wary of laboratory and imaging results as the findings are often irrelevant. An x-ray may show a change in a knee or ankle, but the doctor often knows that the abnormal finding on the image has little to do with patient's present pain. The same possible disconnect can occur between laboratory findings and the problem confronting doctor and patient.

When a patient has pain and nothing shows, the doctor is challenged in both diagnosis and treatment. Patients are also challenged to keep their composure and maintain a good outlook while time and investigation takes its course to a solution.

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CARDS

FROM PAGE B6

acknowledging the gift. For more information, contact the Children's Hospital of Michigan Auxiliary at (313) 745-0962.

Founded in 1949, the Auxiliary raises funds to assist various departments and programs at the Children's Hospital of Michigan.

FORGOTTEN HARVEST

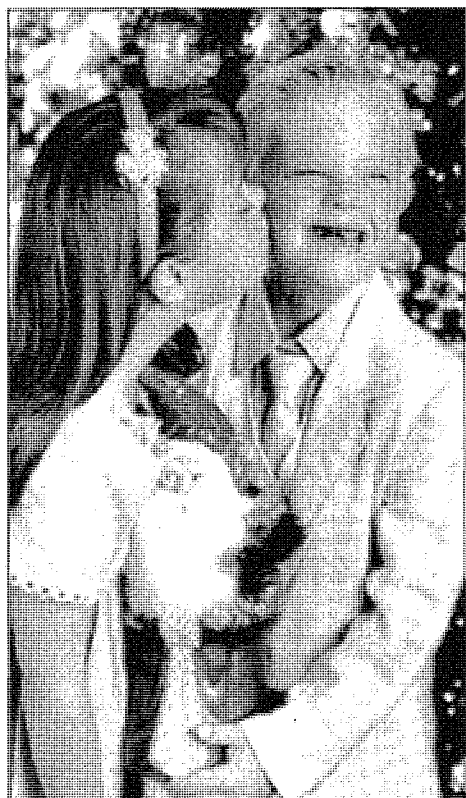
The organization's holiday cards feature whimsical food-related designs that help relate Forgotten Harvest's mission to collect and distribute prepared and perishable foods to emergency food providers in metro Detroit. In addition to its Season's Greetings design showing a salt shaker filled with snow flakes, Forgotten Harvest also is selling "Peas on Earth" and "Berry Christmas" cards. Cards and envelopes are sold in packs of 25 for \$23, with 100 percent of the purchase benefitting Forgotten Harvest. Single cards are available for \$1. Place orders at (248) 967-1500 or visit www.forgottenharvest.org.

LEADER DOGS FOR THE BLIND

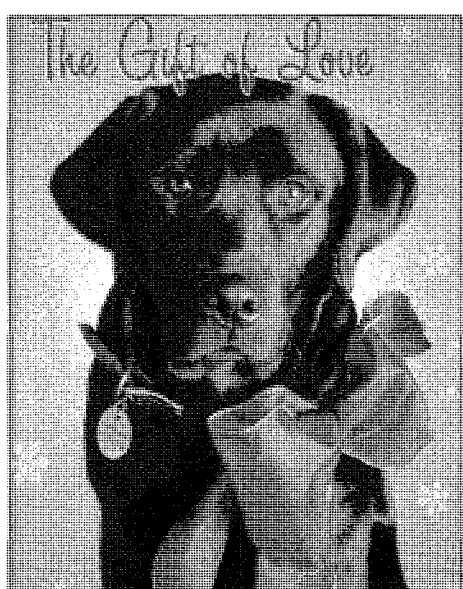
The cards, showing a photo of a Leader Dog pup, include greetings in print and Braille. They sell for \$20 for 20 cards/22 envelopes. Buy them with a credit card through the organization's Web site at www.leaderdog.org or in person from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, in the lobby of Leader Dogs' administration building, located at Avon and Rochester Roads in Rochester Hills. Leader Dogs provides dog guides to people who are blind and visually impaired to enhance their mobility, independence and quality of life. Each year, more than 270 students attend a 26-day residential training program to be paired with a dog guide. It also offers Trekker training and orientation and mobility training. (248) 651-9011.

MICHIGAN HUMANE SOCIETY

MHS 2009 holiday cards are available in one style. The cover illustration, donated by Skidmore Studio, features a dog and cat who excitedly receive the best holiday gift of all — a warm, safe, loving home. Each box of 15 cards and 16 envelopes costs \$12.95. Proceeds will benefit the more than 100,000 animals MHS cares for each year. Buy the cards through the MHS online store at www.shopmichiganhumane.org or by calling the MHS Shop Line at (800) 866-9189, 24 hours a day. The Michigan Humane Society (MHS) is a private, nonprofit organization that's working to end companion animal homelessness. For more information, call (866) MHUMANE or visit www.michiganhumane.org.



Band of Angels offers support for families of individuals with Down syndrome, autism and other disabilities. Its 2009 holiday card offers the greeting 'May your holidays be filled with life's simple gifts.'



Leader Dogs for the Blind is selling this holiday card with the photo of 'Blackjack,' taken by a Wisconsin woman who raised him through the organization's puppy program. The inside of the card includes a message about the dog, as well as a greeting in both print and Braille.

NEW HOPE CENTER FOR GRIEF SUPPORT

Two designs are available, both done by "artists" from the organization's KIDZ

program. The cards will be available in packages of 20 cards and envelopes for \$20 each and \$13 will be tax deductible. One is a manger scene and the other is a Christmas tree. Have them shipped at an additional charge or stop by the office at 315 Griswold, Northville and pick them up. To order, call (248) 348-0115. Proceeds to benefit grief support programs throughout southeast Michigan.

RIGHT TO LIFE-LIFESPAN

Christmas cards are available in two designs. The Baby King is a watercolor rendition of the first Christmas in blue and gold, showing the Infant Jesus, Mary, Joseph and the Three Kings. A gold foil-lined envelope is included. Cost is \$16 per box of 20. The other design, Mother and Child, depicts Mary holding the baby Jesus in her arms and is framed with an embossed foil border. Mary's robe and the background colors are shades of blue and beige. Cost is \$16 per box of 20. Other cards from previous years are available in packs of 10. Call (248) 478-8878 or visit the office at 29200 Vassar St., Suite 545, Livonia. The organization was established in 1970, and is the largest and oldest pro-life organization in southeastern Michigan, serving Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Livingston Counties.

SEEDLINGS BRAILLE BOOKS FOR CHILDREN

The Livonia-based nonprofit organization offers holiday greeting cards in 11 designs. New this year, Seedlings is offering two sizes of holiday cards — favorites from past years and a new smaller size. Once again, the holiday cards are created by Pumpernickel Press and priced at \$16 per box of 16 large cards and \$10 per box of 10 smaller cards. All designs are fine art embossed cards, made from premium grade, environment-friendly recycled paper, printed with soy inks and made in the USA — including the packing material. The cards are also packaged by occupational training workshop patrons. Buy cards from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the Seedlings' office, 14151 Farmington Road, Livonia. Call (734) 427-8552 for directions and more information. Visit its Web site, www.seedlings.org/donate.php, for a look at some of its new card designs. Seedlings Braille Books for Children is dedicated to increasing the opportunity for braille literacy by providing high quality, low cost children's literature in braille bringing the gift of literacy to blind children locally and around the world.

— Compiled by Sharon Dargay

IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

ADULT STORYTIME

Listen to a few good tales at TELLABRATION 2009, a world-wide storytelling event with a session Friday, Nov. 20, at the Livonia Civic Center Library.

Storytellers from all around the world across six continents, in 44 states and 14 foreign countries will get together on this same weekend and invite the public to listen to their tales.

The Detroit Story League and the Livonia Civic Center Library sponsor the Livonia TELLABRATION 2009 gathering from 7-9 p.m., at the library, 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington Road.

This year's performers are Detroit Story League members Carolyn Graves, Margaret Lockard, Mary Masson and Barbara Shapiro. Dorenn Lawton is the Maestro and will introduce the storytellers.

Tickets are \$5.00 at the door and include storytelling, refreshments and door prizes.

HONOR SOCIETY GATHERS

More than 130 Michigan

women educators of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International convened last month in Livonia for a fall conference.

Delta Kappa Gamma is a professional honor society for women educators. It's established in 50 states, 17 countries and has more than 110,000 members. Its mission is promoting professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

Members participated in a variety of professional development and personal growth activities ranging from technology training at Schoolcraft College's state of the art computer lab to a neuroscience session designed to help teachers teach more effectively. Many sessions offered the women the opportunity to earn SB-CEUs (State Board of Education Continuing Education Units). Tom Grace, a former Livonia resident and author of five thrillers, including *The Secret Cardinal*, was the keynote speaker.



Mary Masson is one of the featured storytellers at TELLABRATION 2009.

GARDEN CALENDAR

If you have an item for the garden calendar, submit it at least two weeks prior to the event to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

cent mantles, holiday lights, holiday wreaths, top 10 tips for lifelike trees, decorating a Christmas tree, holiday light tips and decorating an entrance.

At English Gardens

Holiday "how to" weekends will be held noon to 4 p.m., Nov. 15 and Nov. 21-22. Experts will conduct 15 minute demonstrations on a variety of topics, including: Make a bow, magnifi-

Area stores are at 155 N. Maple, Ann Arbor, (734) 332-7900; 22650 Ford Road in Dearborn Heights, (313) 278-4433; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, in West Bloomfield; (248) 851-7506. For information, log onto www.EnglishGardens.com.

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

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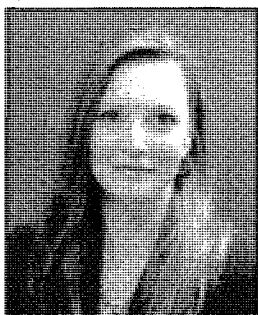


Fellowship trained in microsurgical reconstruction and specialty trained in lymphatic reconstruction for lymphedema. Dr. Studinger offers the most advanced breast reconstructive procedures and a full range of cosmetic procedures such as tummy tucks, face lifts, brow lifts, breast augmentation, Botox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

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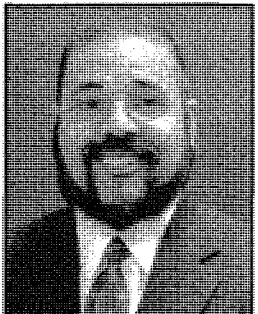


Fellowship trained in sports medicine and orthopaedic surgery. Coordinates care with other physicians, physical therapists, and athletic trainers. Specializes in arthroscopic surgery, knee replacements, cartilage restoration, rotator cuff repair, knee ligament reconstruction, tennis elbow and other sports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

Mubashir Sabir, M.D.

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Ste 204
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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.

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PROVIDENCE

Do your research before hiring air duct cleaners

The writing of this column is very dear to my heart and so are the questions I receive from the readers. The following is a very common one asked whenever I am in front of the public and it deserves a very candid response.



Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

Larry writes: "Hello Joe, I am writing for some recommendations regarding furnace duct cleaning companies. I have been researching them and am a bit confused about all the price differences. I have

researched two of them online and one company is saying \$250 for their premium service and the other is saying \$550 for their premium service. One is registered with the BBB and has not had a complaint ever. The other one I can't find anything on. Of course the lower price company is the one that has no information on them.

"I am trying to make an educated decision on a good thorough cleaning of all my home ducts. Our home was built in 2000 and we purchased it from the original owner in 2002. Since this is our seventh year in the home we have decided that it is about time to get a good duct cleaning. Do you have a company that you have worked with in the past that you can refer? Thank you, Larry."

Well Larry, let me first off praise you for doing some very necessary research on an industry that employs some very unscrupulous characters. There are thousand of these companies across America that rip off consumers right and left and they prosper

because not everyone goes to the trouble of checking them out like you're doing. You most likely get coupons in the mail or hear advertising and see the low bottom price which tends to capture most homeowners. The most common route for these companies is the phone call which touts their special low price — which I get every few weeks at my home. They're aggressive and they know just what to say to frighten most people. These sorts of air duct cleaning companies that I refer to will not do the job properly and may stir up some real problems in the quality of the air you breathe.

It takes three to four hours for a quality air duct company to do the job properly and the cost is usually from \$350-\$450 for the standard home. These companies can take a camera and send it down the air ducts to show you the before and after appearance and believe me, what you see will make you wonder why you didn't get it done sooner.

You should also go to the Internet and look up air duct cleaning associations such as nadca.com. Most of the good guys in this business are a member of such groups who monitor complaints very closely. As a member they must follow stringent policy to keep their membership and as for the crooks in this industry, they do nothing but tarnish the image of a great industry that does so much good for homeowners. As for whom I know and trust you can drop me a note at the e-mail address listed and I will be more than happy to give you a name that you can trust.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAM 1600 and Sundays at 2 p.m. on WDTK 1400. You can e-mail your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twmi.rr.com.

Pet lovers can help military, attend animal expo at the same time

Mutts & Mutts Rescue League of Redford is holding its third annual collection for military men and women who are serving overseas.

The organization also needs items for its K-9 Off Base Program that takes care of pets while their owners serve abroad.

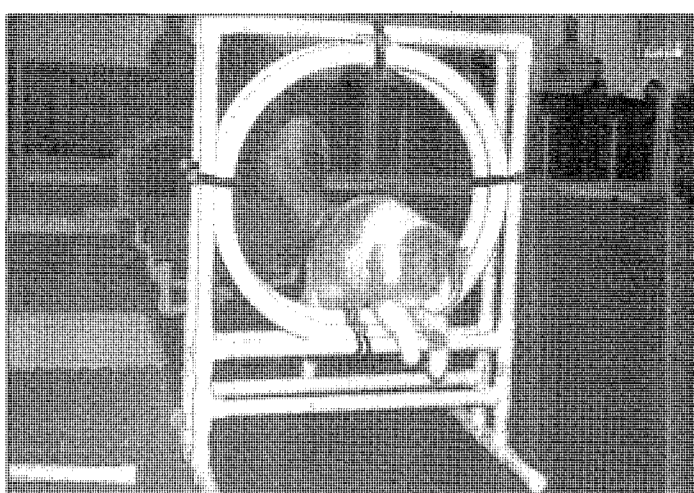
The collection drive is continuing through December at Flagstar Bank, 3233 Fairlane Drive, Allen Park, (313) 271-6653; National Storage Center, 9120 N. Telegraph, Redford, (313) 537-5378; and Wheat and Rye Bar and Grill, 8120 N. Telegraph, Dearborn Heights, (313) 908-1424.

Donna Law, of Mutts and Mutts Rescue League, suggests these items for overseas military: travel size hand sanitizer, tissues, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, gum, deodorant for both men and women, pre-packaged vitamins, lip balm, baby wipes, playing cards, hard candy, AT&T calling cards, powdered drink mixes, Tums, sunscreen, eye drops, topical ointment, cough drops, zip-lock style baggies in medium and large sizes.

Law also welcomes handwritten letters and drawn pictures from youngsters for service men and women.

The K-9 Off Base Program needs 13-gallon garbage bags, paper towels, bleach, Pedigree small bites dog food, Pedigree chopped beef can food, Pro plan chicken & rice dog food, Pro plan lamb & rice dog food, used and new collars and leashes, blankets, sheets, rugs, squeaky toys for cats or dogs, dog and cat bowls, newspapers and dog pillows.

The organization currently



Dogs aren't the only agility athletes. Cats compete in the sport, too. They'll demonstrate their abilities at the Michigan Family Pet Expo, Friday-Sunday, Nov. 20-22, at the Rock Financial Showplace.



has three dogs in its K-9 Off Base Program.

Mutts & Mutts Rescue League, founded in 1997, aims to provide a safe haven for unwanted animals, which are fostered in members' homes until they are adopted. It also has a wish list of items: blankets, rugs, towels, dog kennels, dog houses and hay for its outreach program, used wood privacy fence panels, dog and cat crates, dog and cat canned and dry food, leashes and collars of all sizes, a digital camera for

taking photos of the animals, bleach, phone cards and Costco or Sam's Club gift certificates.

All donations are tax deductible. Monetary donations may be sent to Mutts & Mutts, P.O. Box 40386, Redford, MI 48240. For more information, call Law at (313) 778-2262 or e-mail dmuttsmutts@aol.com.

TRAINED FELINES AND MORE

Yes, cats can jump through hoops and walk over ladders just as easily as their canine counterparts. The Great Lakes Area Cat Enthusiasts (G.L.A.C.E.) will show off its trained feline athletes during the International Cat Agility tournament, Michigan Family Pet Expo, Friday-Sunday, Nov. 20-22 at Rock Financial Showplace in Novi.

Expo visitors will see dozens of felines finessing their way through an obstacle course of tunnels, fences, hoops and ladders as their owners encourage them on

with toy birds and dragonflies dangling from the end of small wooden poles.

G.L.A.C.E., based in Okemos, awards cash prizes to owners of cats that demonstrate the fastest times with the least number of mistakes. Some cats may qualify for international agility titles and certificates. "People are always amazed when we talk about training cats," stated G.L.A.C.E. President Susan Lee.

"Actually, cats are more like horses than dogs on the agility course. They look ahead to the next obstacle much like a horse will look ahead to the next jump."

In addition to cat agility, the Michigan Family Pet Expo will offer entertainment by Johnny Peers and his 14 trained dogs, demonstrations by the Rick-N-Roll K-9s Performance Team with Frisbee catching, doggie limbo and other athletic feats, dock jumping by Ultimate Air Dogs, pet adoptions, a farm animal petting zoo, Paws With a Cause demonstrations, and more.

Show hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Nov. 20, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Nov. 21, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Nov. 22. Admission is \$9 for adults and \$5 for children (ages 3-12). Parking is \$5. Get \$1 off regular adult admission by visiting www.PetMichigan.com or by bringing a can or bag of pet food to the show. Food donations benefit local shelters and rescue groups. (One discount offer per adult, offers cannot be combined.)

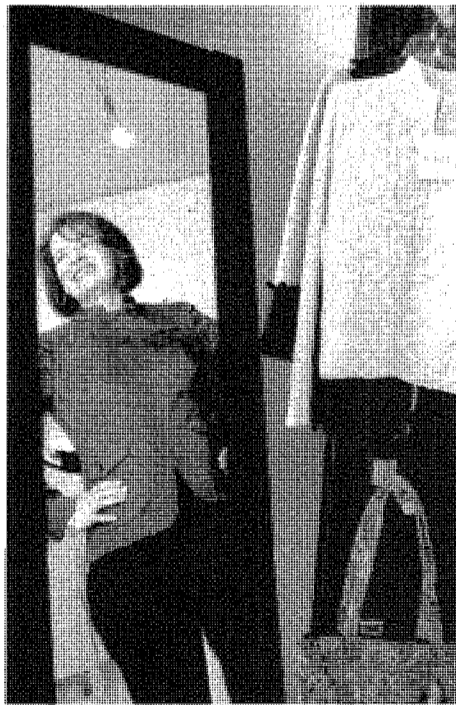
Rock Financial Showplace is at 46100 Grand River Ave., south of the I-696 Expressway, in Novi. For more information, go to www.petmichigan.com.

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- What to expect from a physician consultation.
- Question and answer session.

Tuesday, November 3, 2009

Providence Hospital – Southfield Medical Building Room 8C

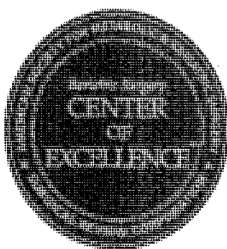
Wednesday, November 18, 2009

Providence Park Outpatient Center (SE entrance) Room A

Wednesday, December 2, 2009

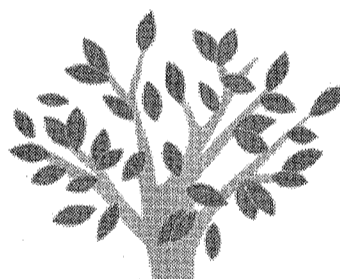
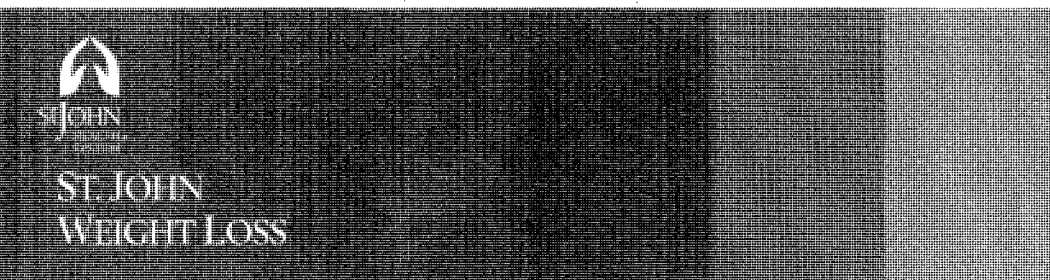
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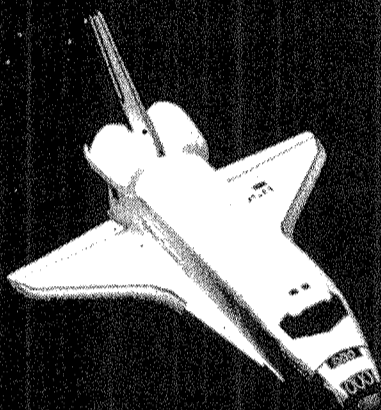
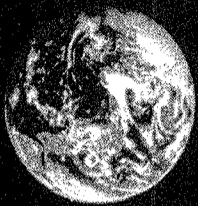
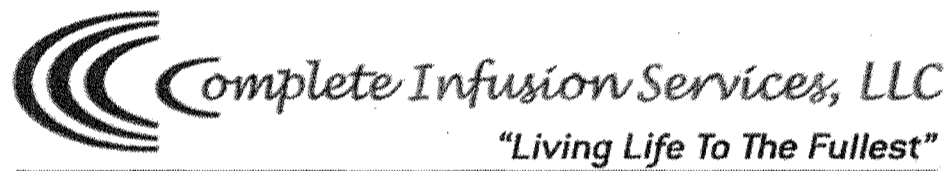
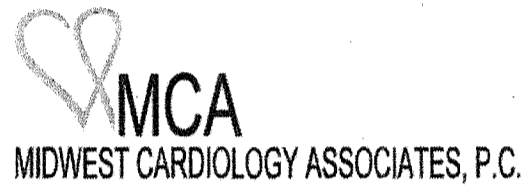
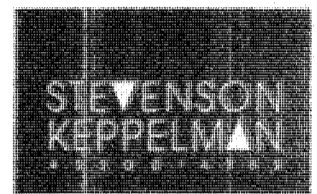
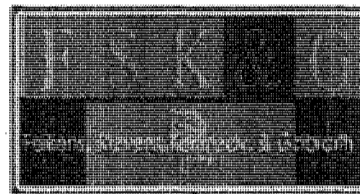
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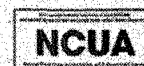
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Young people come together to talk about epilepsy

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
CORRESPONDENT

Kristen Pohutsky knew something was wrong when she started to black out a couple of years ago but didn't have health insurance to investigate the cause. Then the 25-year-old Farmington Hills woman wrote a paper on epilepsy for a class at Oakland Community College in Farmington Hills. The pieces of the puzzle, the lost seconds of time, suddenly formed a clear picture. She was diagnosed with epilepsy in September 2009 after going to the emergency room in July. Today, Pohutsky is among a growing number of young adults dedicated to spreading the word about the neurological disorder caused by a misfire in electrical functions of the brain. When uncontrolled epilepsy changes every aspect of a person's life from the ability to hold a job to driving a car.

"I was telling myself I was sleepy or tired," said Pohutsky, a graduate of Harrison High School. "I was doing research, seeing a lot of similarities. In the middle of all this I got married. My husband, Mike, noticed I'd stop talking and stare into space. "Everyone knows about breast cancer but a lot of people don't understand what epilepsy is. That's why I want to create an awareness about epilepsy and the need for a cure." Staff at the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan in Southfield have been working for 61 years towards the same goal. President Arlene Gorelick's observed a lot of progress over the 20 years she's been there. On Friday, Nov. 20, the foundation presents its Epilepsy Today Conference 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. for individuals with the disorder, their families and profes-

sionals at Doubletree Hotel Detroit/Dearborn. For details, call (800) 377-6226 or (248) 351-7979.

AT THE CONFERENCE

Speakers include Dr. Brien Smith, a neurologist at Henry Ford Medical Center; Dr. Gregory Barclay, associate professor of neurology at Wayne State University and founding director of Henry Ford Hospital's Comprehensive Epilepsy Program; Dr. Michael Nigro, pediatric neurologist with Michigan Institute for Neurological Disorders (MIND); Charles Spinazola, a psychologist who's practiced biofeedback over 30 years; and registered dietitian Rebecca Sparks of Children's Hospital of Michigan. Sparks talks about the ketogenic diet as a viable option for seizure control. Gorelick is especially excited about the performance of "In Their Own Words" during which individuals share their epilepsy stories. "It was the Epilepsy Center of Michigan 61 years ago. There was a stigma of epilepsy, people were ashamed to talk



Kristen Pohutsky and her dog, Suzy. The lab/rottweiler mix helps Pohutsky get into a sitting position when she is about to experience a seizure.

meet people struggling with epilepsy, or parents of children with epilepsy, to know you're not alone."

REACHING YOUTH

Tyler MacEachran, foundation vice president, believes it's essential to reach young people to get the word out about epilepsy. He's heading up a program that reaches onto college campuses and recruits students. The first was held Nov. 11 at Ferris State. In March, Eastern Michigan University focuses on women in history with epilepsy during Women's History Month. The programs came out of the foundation's Young Adult Leadership Council for those age 18-25 who have epilepsy or a passion for the cause. "We're working on improving employment prospects for young adults with epilepsy, making the college experience a lot more positive," said MacEachran. "We're trying to work with freshmen with a peer to peer packet that gives tips on getting the right amount of meds, taking meds, not mixing with alcohol, and they're also available as men-

tors. We educate campus safety personnel to recognize and respond to seizures. We're getting tailored to organize at each campus.

"I'm excited young adults are taking it upon themselves to change their campuses. We're going to start there and mover further into the community."

For information, call (248) 351-7979 option 1, Ext. 211, or look him up on Facebook www.facebook.com/tyler.maceachran.

Pohutsky is doing her part by studying molecular biotechnology. She hopes someday to help find a cure. In the meantime her lab/rottweiler mix, Suzy, is by her side providing an early warning.

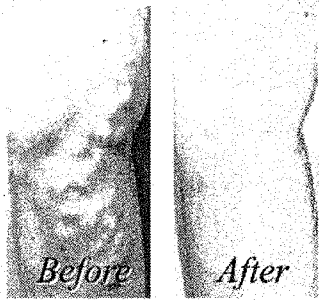
"I'm struggling to find the medication that's right for me," said Pohutsky. "Thirty percent of people with epilepsy have depression. With medication I've been through every range of emotion and was definitely feeling depressed after taking medication. My dog's been the best help. She knows when they're about to happen. When it happens out on a walk, she helped get me into sitting position."

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BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
CORRESPONDENT

The Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan is asking for the public's help to help those struggling with the neurological disorder. Frequently individuals with epilepsy try medication after medication until finding the one that's right for them. Two years ago bills were introduced into the Michigan Senate and House by state Sen. John Gleason, D-Flushing, and state Rep. John Espinoza, D-Crosswell, to prevent pharmacists from

switching medications without the consent of the patient and physician. Today, the numbers have been changed on the bills and reintroduced (SB 318 and HB 4408) and the foundation is still fighting to provide this protection for patients.

"It's very important in general because people struggle to get the medication that helps them. A change can lead to adverse events," said Arlene Gorelick, president of the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan. "In 25 to 40 percent, it's not controlled."

That's why fund-raisers like Talk About It @ Dinner, are important to create an awareness about epilepsy. Anyone wishing to help is asked to host a gathering to let others know about the disorder and raise money for the nonprofit.

The foundation supplies the educational DVD and materials for the event.

"We're hoping to have as many dinners as possible this month because it's Epilepsy Awareness Month," said Gorelick. "It doesn't have to be a dinner — have people over to watch the game, in the summer a barbecue. It can be anything you want. People can be creative, have a tea."

In the meantime, Gorelick wants to educate the public about First Aid for those having a seizure.

"If someone's having a seizure, lying on the ground, take everything out of the area that could harm them and do not put anything in their mouth. It's an old wives tale that people could swallow their tongue," she said.

"Instead, turn the person on their side, loosen their collar, wait for the seizure to run its course. If it looks like it's going around three minutes, call for help. Seizures usually only last a minute. Partial seizures, they may or may not lose consciousness. Just watch them so they don't wander into the street."

In Michigan, about 100,000 individuals, including 30,000 children, have epilepsy.

"We are about closing the gap to what can be done. Call us. There are a lot of new medications and surgeries, devices that work on the neuro system."

To contact the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan, call (800) 377-6226, (248) 351-7979 or visit www.epilepsymichigan.org.

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