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75 CENTS

Teams work to smooth transition to Wayne-Westland schools, A4

# WESTLAND OBSERVER

online at hometownlife.com



World Championships beckon for Crystallette skaters, B1

## AROUND TOWN

### Census help

Westland is hosting three Questionnaire Assistance Centers to help people who may have questions or need help filling out their Census 2010 form. The centers will be open through Sunday, April 18, unless otherwise specified. Call the specific locations with questions. The sites are:

- William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, (734) 326-6123. Hours are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays except closed April 3, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays and 3-8 p.m. Thursdays.
- Dorsey Center, 32715 Dorsey, (734) 595-0288. Hours are 9 a.m. to noon Mondays and Fridays, noon to 3 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and 2-5 p.m. Wednesdays.
- Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford, (734) 722-7620. Hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mondays, 5-9 p.m. Wednesdays and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, April 18.

### Tax service

The Westland Friendship Center is taking appointments for anyone in the community who wishes to have their taxes prepared free of charge. This site is an E-file site only. Appointments are necessary.

Generally, the tax return service offered through AARP is for simple returns. There is no age or income requirement. The site manager has discretion over what returns they are willing and able to complete.

Taxes this year will be done on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Call (734) 722-7628 for an appointment or for more information.

### Livestream

WLND, Westland's government access channel, is now Live-streaming cable programming on the Web through [www.livestream.com/cityofwestland](http://www.livestream.com/cityofwestland).

WLND produces an average of 16 hours per month of original government access programs including Westland city council meetings, community events and programs, Mayor William Wild's month in review and "Spotlight On" city businesses. The programs can be accessed through Comcast Channel 12, W.O.W. Channel 10, and now Live on the Web at [www.cityofwestland.com](http://www.cityofwestland.com).

"The City of Westland is excited to launch their multiplatform media that can be received anytime and anywhere," said Wild. "It is important to use a variety of technology to keep the residents of our All American City informed at all times."

## City uses 'savings' to cover revenue losses

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

After spending cuts and staffing reductions through both layoffs and attrition, Westland officials are hoping to end the fiscal year with just under \$500,000 in fund balance.

Council members voted last week to approve an amendment to the 2009-10 fiscal year budget reflecting a loss of \$1.1 million in state shared revenue and other budget adjustments.

"Unlike many years in the past,

we'll reduce the budget. We've seen a big decrease — a lot of things have happened since June (when the previous fiscal year ended) that we need to account for," said Finance Director Steve Smith. "We lost over \$1 million in state shared revenue. A few line items are better than expected."

Overall, the general fund revenues were reduced \$1.78 million to reduce budgeted revenues to \$57.6 million from the earlier approved budget of \$59.4 million.

Total expenditures were reduced \$1.6 million to \$57.9 million — \$1.8

million from the fund balance, effectively the city savings account, to help balance the budget. That will leave a projected \$497,964 undesignated fund balance when the fiscal year ends June 30, down from a \$2.6 million fund balance on June 30, 2009. The city also has \$250,000 designated for Central City Park restoration.

With the cut in state shared revenue, Mayor William Wild issued a directive limiting spending to emergency purchases only. Smith noted that there had been 11 retirements since the fiscal year began

with those positions left vacant and more recently, 10 layoffs from the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 1260.

Later in the meeting, the council approved letters of understanding with police and fire unions that helped the city's financial picture through agreements, including postponing scheduled raises and offering early retirements.

"The administration has done a

Please see **BUDGET, A2**



Terry Collins of Westland admits he's not a song writer, but sings and plays a variety of songs like Jim Croce's "Working at the Car Wash Blues" at the William P. Faust Public Library's open mic night.

## Performers find niche at open mic night

BY SUE MASON  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Jeff Morrison nods to his buddy Tom Kozma for bringing his guitar to the William P. Faust Library. Two of the first performers to show up for the monthly installment of the library's open mic night, the two men strummed their guitars and talked.

"We both play and write our own songs, so this is a perfect venue," Morrison said.

"It's a supportive environment and an attentive audience," Kozma added.

Open mic night has been a happening at the library for 14 months. Musicians, singers, poets and writers show up and get to do two pieces before a small audience.

Set up to resemble a coffee house with a few tables and chairs, the program offers people "who don't go to bars or don't feel like going to a bigger venue" a chance to hear live performances, reference librarian Andy Schuck said.

"It gives them positive feedback," said Schuck, who videotapes the performances and posts them on the library Web site at [www.westlandlibrary.org](http://www.westlandlibrary.org)

Library Director Cheryl Napsha and Schuck came up with the idea after successfully staging a poetry slam. Initially, open mic night was held after library hours, but has been moved to 7 p.m. the third Thursday of the month September through April. This



Diana Hage of Westland reads two pieces, "I Remember" and "What Happened."

Please see **OPEN MIC, A2**

## Probationers do St. Paddy's alcohol testing

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Approximately 650 18th District Court probationers were tested for alcohol use on St. Patrick's Day and everyone passed.

"The Wednesday before Thanksgiving and St. Patrick's Day are the two biggest nights for drinking," said Christopher Raymond, chief probation officer at the Westland Court. "We had no violations. I think people are starting to get the message."

Those selected for the alcohol testing had been placed on probation for an alcohol-related offense and are prohibited from consuming alcohol as a condition of their probation.

The testing was scheduled 7-11:30 p.m. on March 17 and 7 a.m. to noon on March 18. This was the ninth year 18th District Court has had the alcohol testing program as a deterrent to drunken driving. The court's Probation Department staff performs the alcohol testing.

About 41 probationers didn't turn up for their testing, Raymond said, or about 7 percent which is average for no shows.

"We tell them that we assume they dodged us on purpose because they were drinking. We'll set them for a probation violation," said Raymond. "They will end up with a couple of days on work release. If they have other violations, they can get stiffer penalties. We review each case."

For those who missed the screening have a legitimate reason for missing, Raymond said the court will work with them.

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## Index

APARTMENTS ... C3  
AUTOMOTIVE ... C5  
CAREER BUILDER ... C1  
CROSSWORD PUZZLE ... C3  
HEALTH ... B8  
NEIGHBORS ... B5  
OBITUARIES ... B7  
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## Water bills to increase 16.2 percent

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland residents will soon see higher water bills, including a \$5 administrative fee.

Last week, the council approved the fee and an 11 percent increase in the water rates which is the equivalent of a total 16.2 percent increase.

Except for a question about \$2.5 million the water fund is repaying to the general fund over five years, the rate hike received no comments from the public. Council members had an extended presentation on the water fund at a study session prior to their March 1 meeting.

Part of the reason for the increase was to cover rate hikes the city received — 15 percent from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department for water

and 14 percent from Wayne County for sewer charges — as well as local overhead for the water and sewer department.

One problem is that Westland and DWSD are selling less water, which means less water fund revenue. Local water consumption in 2010 fiscal year is projected to be 19 percent less than in the 2008 fiscal year, which means fewer billed units over which to spread increased administration and debt service costs.

City officials cite several reasons for less water usage, including people conserving water to keep their expenses down and vacant homes which aren't using water. That spawned a fixed cost charge to local communities by DWSD regardless of the amount of water used — this year that will be \$600,000 for Westland. The \$5 administrative fee on

each bimonthly water bill will generate \$810,000 annually and is aimed at offsetting the fixed cost charge from Detroit.

In addition, communities, including Westland, had adopted voluntary efforts to reduce peak time water usage — a move aimed at keeping a better handle on rate hikes which factored in peak water use.

New debt service of \$800,000 and \$3 million in state revolving funds for water and sewer fund improvements to the city's aging infrastructure also are part of the equation.

Resident Mark Rodriguez questioned the \$2.5 million owed to the general fund by the water fund, which is supposed to be a self-supporting fund.

"Why was the money loaned

Please see **WATER, A2**

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# OPEN MIC

FROM PAGE A1

year, an open mic concert, featuring two performers who have come consistently to the program and shown improvement, will be invited to perform half-hour sets May 20.

The performers will be selected by judges — Schuck and emcee blues singer John Latini of Ypsilanti and folk singer Dave Boutette of Ann Arbor.

While the two performers have yet to be selected, Schuck said they've already been e-mailing each other about their choices.

"We get a lot of the same crowd. Performers like the

exposure," Schuck said, adding that one night a group of kids did a cartoon song with a choreographed dance.

Kozma, a Novi resident, discovered the monthly event on the library's Web site. He's attended four or five times and invited Morrison to join him.

A singer and songwriter from Detroit, Morrison has been playing the guitar since he was 18. At age 55, he describes his music as "easy listening, love songs, I would like to say, (with) a few standards and campfire songs so people know the tunes."

Kozma, also a singer and songwriter, offers up a "I don't like labels" about his music, but his friend quickly fills in the blanks.

"He does folk songs, he tells

stories, ballads, I would say," Morrison said.

Across the room, regular John Smolinski waits with Diana Hage to read his poetry. Hage describes him as "starving writer," but Smolinski, a Westland resident, shows a book of poems he's published.

"I took a creative writing class from Herb Scott at Western Michigan University and I've been dabbling ever since," he said. "I like to do pantoun — Malay verse of the 15th century made popular by the French."

He read several of his poems, including one written when he was 21 and worked as an attendant at Hutzel Hospital.

Hage, also a Westland resident, does creative writing, focusing on poems and her life experiences.

"But I have to inject in some humor," she said.

She got her start through

a creative writing class at Oakland Community College with Professor David James, a course "my kids got for me." When she finished it, they asked if she was going to continue. Her response was "How can I do better when I got an A?"

She's now taking creative writing classes with Schuck at the library and testing the literary waters at open mic night. Her selections Thursday night were *I Remember* and *What Happened?*, both about her experiences.

"I raised three children by myself. I'm very proud of them and what they achieved," she said.

A lot of the work was original, including a song by rapper Dominic Fisher, who is working on his first release, due out this summer. But singer Terry Collins of Westland showed he could wow the crowd by performing



A blues singer, emcee John Latini filled in between sets with announcements about upcoming open mic night events.

covers, including Jim Croce's toe-tapping *Working at the Car Wash Blues*.

"This is my kind of crowd, starved for entertainment," he said.

The final open mic night of

the season will be at 7 p.m. April 15 in the library meeting rooms. For more information, call the library at (734) 326-6123.

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## BUDGET

FROM PAGE A1

real good job looking at the city's five-year financial plan," said Michael Schwartz of city auditors Plante Moran.

The changes being made in city spending are helping address the \$3.5 million deficit projected for the 2010-11 fiscal year — a number that was set at \$12 million in 2011-12 and continuing to grow to a projected \$32 million shortfall in 2013, according to Schwartz.

Along with reduced staffing levels, Schwartz noted other positive steps regarding the budget include a savings due to a shift to a self-insured health plan, the curbside recycling program being more successful than expected and increasing levies as needed.

"Those are all positives but you're not out of the woods

yet," Schwartz said.

The council has already increased water rates 11 percent and added a \$5 administrative fee to cover rate increases from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department and Wayne County, along with supporting the local system costs.

Another increase is expected in the millage used to fund the police and fire retirement fund, in part due to the early retirements which are reducing spending in the general fund. Currently, the levy is 3.35 mills but that is expected to be increased by 1.5 mills. Currently, 1 mill in Westland generates about \$1.6 million in property taxes.

"Before the (police and fire) buyouts, we were looking at a 1-mill increase. There were a couple of reasons — it was going up because the taxable value (of property) was down, so we would get less money," said Smith. "Investment earn-

## WATER

FROM PAGE A1

and when? Is there a list? Why was this done?" said Rodriguez, who characterized the situations as a shell game. The city audit lists money owed to the general fund by

other funds, said Finance Director Steve Smith.

"Each year, the general fund charges the water fund money," he said. "The people who work in the water fund, the people who do the billing, are actually in the Finance Department, so we charge the water fund."

Charges to other funds are

ings were down in the retirement fund itself."

Investment earnings were particularly down when the previous fiscal year ended, Smith said, adding there has been some rebound over the ensuing months.

"The millage will be increasing more due to the buyouts. Those people will be draining the system," said Smith.

The police and fire departments are expected to lose about 44 positions over the next two fiscal years, along with delaying raises until the two years added onto their existing contracts. The total savings on the reduced manpower, in addition to other concessions, won't be totally known until the city knows exactly who is participating in the buyout program, said Wild.

"It's about a 15 percent drop in manpower in each of those years. It will get our 2010-11 deficit (projection) down to

\$500,000 with the cuts," said Wild. "We'll need an increase in the millage for the retirement fund. Once those people are in the retirement fund, we can smooth it out over 20 years. As the (stock) market does better, that helps it smooth it out."

With changes made in the pension calculation, Wild said the retirement fund will see some relief with the next wave of retirements.

"It definitely moves us on our number (deficit). It's important to me that even with the reduced numbers, we will continue to deliver exceptional services," said Wild. "We've a lot of cuts that people won't notice. We'll do things differently. It will be part of the budget presentation."

Under the city charter, Wild is required to present a proposed balanced budget to the council by April 1.

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# Treasurers hear good news from Lansing

BY SUE BUCK  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Lansing news came to Garden City at a quarterly meeting Thursday of the Wayne County Treasurers Association.

Newly-elected association president, Garden City Treasurer/Clerk Allyson Bettis, hosted the meeting at Albert's on the Alley.

The speakers were Summer Minnick, director of state affairs of the Michigan Municipal League, and Jano Hanna, executive director of the Wayne County Land Bank.

"It is important to get municipalities focused in the minds of legislators," Bettis said.

Minnick was ecstatic Thursday that the MML scored a win.

The state House General Government Committee two weeks ago passed a budget with a 3.1-percent cut to statutory revenue sharing, a 1.25-percent overall blended cut.

After hearing testimony from Hamtramck Mayor Karen Majewski and Andy Schor of the MML staff, the House Appropriations committee rejected the budget bill with the cuts.

"They stopped the bill," Minnick said.

On Wednesday, after day-long discussions, the House Appropriations Committee added an amendment to the bill to restore statutory revenue sharing to the current year level and to add a 1-percent increase. It also made the counties whole by wiping out the 3.1-percent reduction they had received, she said.

While this isn't a huge increase, Minnick said that it is a reflection of the House Appropriations Committee's desire to prevent further cuts to communities. The amendment also tie-barred the entire budget bill to 10 tax loophole bills, which would pay for the increase.

"We have been saying enough is enough," Minnick said. "We have been cut time and time again every year. This year, we



Jano Hanna, executive director of the Wayne County Land Bank, talks to treasurers during the luncheon meeting.

have drawn a line in the sand and said under no circumstances are we going to tell legislators that it (a cut) is OK. It makes it increasingly difficult for all of your communities to provide services. That's good news that they can't get it out of the House Appropriations Committee."

The final bill passed on a 19-8-4 vote, with 19 Democrats supporting, eight Republicans opposing and four Republicans passing or abstaining.

Minnick predicts that it will be difficult to get things done this year because this is an election year and there is a governor's race. She added that having a balanced budget is especially important to legislators who don't want to campaign with this task undone.

"Everyone is very nervous about their elections, and it will be a challenge for anyone to vote for any type of tax restructuring," Minnick said.

She added that a package of bills supported by the MML would allow communities to refinance their bond debt to a lower interest rate, but it would need to be within the life of the project, she said.

Hanna briefly talked about the Wayne County Land Bank, a governmental authority to manage abandoned, underutilized, or blighted property and turn it into a productive use, she said.

The TURBO program, which stands for Transforming

Underdeveloped Residential and Business Opportunities, is a program exclusive to the Wayne County Land Bank and offers economic incentives to encourage new developments and improvements to properties.

Wayne County Treasurer Raymond Wojtowicz said that treasurers in the county's more than 40 communities are key to having Wayne County respond well to its constituents at a time of high foreclosures.

"You have responded to the call," he said. "It's helping them stay in their homes. At the same time, government cannot pay their taxes for them. You, my dear colleagues, have been that front line of disseminating information to them."

He urged them to call, if they needed more information about foreclosures.

"It's helpful to them knowing that they are not out there alone," city of Plymouth Treasurer Teresa Cischke said.

Redford Treasurer Lily Cavanagh found the networking useful.

"Having the update is helpful because we should be in the know," Cavanagh said. "Because of the fact that we aren't going to be able to go to a lot of conferences, these lunches with legislative updates are so accessible. It helps to get us caught up."



Summer Minnick, director of state affairs of the Michigan Municipal League, talks with Garden City City Manager David Harvey during a quarterly meeting of the Wayne County Treasurers Association, held in Garden City.

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# Teams work to smooth transition to Wayne-Westland schools

BY SUE MASON  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

As a part of the 21st Century Schools Committee, Shawn Maxwell helped craft the recommendation that ultimately led to the closing of six Wayne-Westland elementary schools and a shift to a K-four/five-six elementary program.

Now she is a part of making the change a smooth and seamless process for parents and students who will change schools this fall as part of the district's Transition Team.

The parent-driven panel is meeting to come up with ways to provide parents with the information they need and activities that will make them feel welcome at their new school this fall. The Wayne resident has children attending Taft-Galloway School which is taking in from Vandenberg Elementary in the southeast

area of the school district.

"I was very pleased with the first (committee) meeting," said Maxwell. "A lot of parents showed up, it was more of a parent-based meeting. They had a lot of suggestions."

But Maxwell also is pleased with what has already begun happening in her neighborhood school. Vandenberg youngsters and their parents are being invited to participate in events at the school, like a recent activities night.

"You couldn't tell which kids were from where," Maxwell said. "People from the closing school came there because they want to help their children with this transition."

## MAKING PLANS

Maxwell's comments are music to the ears of Wayne-Westland school officials who are three months into planning the transition which will start

with the end of the current school year.

The district's Web site at [www.wwcsd.net](http://www.wwcsd.net) already includes a Find Your School geofile, allowing parents to type in their address and see which schools their children will attend from kindergarten through 12th grade. There's also a Transition Team icon to click on that takes parents to a Web page, explaining the purpose of the team, information on school start and end times for 2010-11 and schools that will get parking lot and playground improvements and a preference sheet for fifth-sixth-grade world languages and music.

The district worked with Wayne RESA to create geocodes for 40,000 homes in the school districts. For people new to the district or wondering where to go sign up their youngsters for kindergarten, the file provides a quick

answer.

"There's even been questions about where kids would go for kindergarten roundup," said Deputy Superintendent Charlotte Sherman. "They'll do it at their new schools. They'll be there with their next year administrators."

Seven administrative positions will be lost with the closings. Three, however, will move to new positions funded by the federal ARRA funds to work on improving student achievement and teaching methodology. They'll work through the summer to prepare for the talented and gifted program.

## PACKING UP

The district is dealing with the logistics of packing and moving furniture and supplies from schools that are closing to the 11 K-four elementaries and two five-six buildings. The technology items have all been

inventoried and determined where it will be moved to, and some teachers have already begun packing up such things as lesson plans and supplies that won't be needed until next year.

"The teachers packed themselves in the 1990s when we closed buildings and they did it in the 1970s," said Superintendent Greg Baracy. "They've been cooperating and we believe we will pull this off effortlessly. It's all in the best interest of the district and the children."

Baracy added that the Wayne-Westland Education Association also has been "very cooperative and understanding" in working out the placement of teachers for 2010-11. The hope is to have a majority of the staff placed by the end of April. Announcement of the tentative placement of principals for 2010-2011 were posted

on the district Web site on Friday.

The Transition Team also is planning and sharing activities with the schools to make the change "comfortable and exciting for the children and the staff." Activities like open houses, Taft-Galloway's recent family activities night and PTA get-togethers are being planned.

"Some schools have already borrowed from what was heard at the meetings," Baracy said. "If the team wants district-wide activities or they want to share with the other schools, we'll get the information and plans from them and help them carry it out, but they'll give us the information."

"This is all about what we can do to help the children and parents transition through this in a positive way," he added.

[smason@hometownlife.com](mailto:smason@hometownlife.com) | (313) 222-6751

## AROUND WESTLAND

### Belly dance class

Learn the intriguing art of belly dance at the Bailey Recreation Center 7:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesdays in an eight-week course that begins March 31.

Students will get a muscle-toning workout perfect for any fitness level. No experience necessary. Wear comfortable, form fitting clothes and bring a bottle of water. Optional coin scarves will be available in class.

The cost is \$50 for residents, \$55 for non-residents. Call (734) 722-7620 or stop by the Bailey Center 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily to register.

### Public defense

The public is invited to attend a meeting, hosted by the League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County to discuss our public defense system at 7:15 p.m. Wednesday, March 24, at the Livonia Civic Center Library on Five Mile east of Farmington Road.

Effective defense representation is part of the U.S. Constitution and fundamental

to a working justice system. But in Michigan, the system of public defense is failing. It fails the taxpayers who fund it, fails the families who rely on it to keep them safe, and fails to adequately uphold the constitutional rights of the accused.

The speakers will include Attorney Loren Khogali and Stephanie Change, Deputy Director of the Michigan Campaign for Justice.

### Child Safety

So many children are reported missing each day in the U.S. Police officials say that time is critical in the recovery of missing children. One major problem that costs precious time is gathering current photographs, fingerprints, and statistical information to assist law enforcement agencies.

Helping communities eliminate this problem is S.I.P. (Safety in Prints) Kids which will be at Jack Demmer Ford, Newburgh at Michigan Avenue in Wayne, 2-6 p.m. Friday, March 26, and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 27, to provide free digital fingerprinting and photos for all children. There

also will be face painting and balloons.

S.I.P. Kids will take a child's picture and fingerprints, using a digital inkless fingerprint capture device, and include them as part of the child's file, which will be provided to the parent. The parents can use the copy they receive to turn directly over to authorities anywhere in the world to instantly aid in an investigation.

The event is free of charge and also includes face painting and balloons. For more information, call Jack Demmer Ford at (734) 721-2600.

### Coffee hours

State Sen. Glenn Anderson (D-Westland) will hold district coffee hours on Monday in Livonia and Garden City. Residents can speak with Anderson from 9-10 a.m. at the Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road. From 10:30-11:30 a.m., Anderson will be at the Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood, Garden City.

Constituents who would

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

### Flower sale

The Wayne Ford Civic League will be selling Easter plants Friday-Sunday, April 2-4. Look for the plant sale at the 7-Eleven at 1826 S. Merriman, 31385 Joy and 8791 N. Wayne Road, Mobil gas, 1810 S. Wayne Road and Sunoco, 37400 Ford.

The group also will sell Mothers Day hanging basket plants Saturday-Sunday, May 8-9.

### Baby Shower

The Wayne-Westland Corps of the Salvation Army is holding a Community Baby Shower and Workshop for expectant or new moms 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, April 30, at the Salvation Army Center, 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer, Westland.

There will be food, prizes

and gifts for all as well as a learning experience for moms and moms-to-be. To reserve a seat, call (734) 722-3660.

### Gymnastics

Kids can learn to tumble, somersault and cartwheel at the next session of gymnastic classes at the Bailey Recreation Center beginning next week. Kids will learn progressive skills that will encourage self-confidence and coordination. These classes provide fun in a friendly environment where children can learn to do gymnastic stunts safely.

The weekly classes range from toddlers with no experience who need a parent to accompany them to intermediate level youngsters. The cut-off age for the classes is 12.

For the cost and full schedule of the classes, call (734) 722-7620.

### Free tax Preparation

Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency and the Wayne County Asset Building Coalition have once again partnered to provide free tax services to families

throughout Wayne County.

Wayne Metro's Free Tax Preparation is available through April 15 with permanent and mobile sites located throughout the county. Many offer night and weekend hours, making it convenient for families in need of assistance.

Families living in the western Wayne County communities can get their taxes done at Dartmouth Square Neighborhood Networks Computer Learning Center, St. Clements Episcopal Church, New Birth Church, all in Inkster, or at the Wayne County Library for the Blind and Handicap in Westland. Dates and times vary by location. Appointments are offered on a first come, first serve basis and are strongly encouraged to ensure efficient service. Walk-ins are also accepted at various locations.

Appointments can be made by calling (734) 284-6999. A complete list of dates, times, locations as well as additional information on the program can be found on Wayne Metro's Web site at [www.waynemetro.org](http://www.waynemetro.org).



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# Mother's life hinges on finding a bone marrow match

BY DARRELL CLEM  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Bracing for a courageous struggle for her life, leukemia-stricken Canton mom Kerry Brooks has the same dreams of any good mother.

She wants to watch her son Brendan, 8, and daughter Sydney, 6, succeed in school, learn to drive, attend their proms, celebrate their high school graduations and lead happy lives.

"I have two small children," Brooks said, sitting at her dining room table Thursday morning with husband Dave. "I want to get better."

Her only hope is getting a peripheral blood stem cell transplant, and her church, St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church of Canton, has answered the call to help her and others like her by asking donors to give blood and register to become bone marrow donors.

Brooks was diagnosed in February with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia and,

more specifically, the rarer Philadelphia chromosome positive form.

According to the National Marrow Donor Program, more than 10,000 Americans each year are diagnosed with life-threatening blood diseases such as leukemia and lymphoma, and their best — and sometimes only — hope for a cure is a transplant from an unrelated donor.

Brooks, 45, spent two weeks at the University of Michigan Hospital in February and was released on the same day her 73-year-old mother, Beverly Walker, died after a long struggle with heart disease.

Brooks had hoped this year would be better — that her family would get past its struggles and face a promising spring, a new beginning.

"I need a bone marrow transplant to be cured," she said matter-of-factly, braving the unknown. "This is what I've been dealt."

Brooks initially thought she had a sinus infection and that she felt tired because she was



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dave and Kerry Brooks explain the donor registry.

run-down from worrying about her mother. Yet her diagnosis brought a reality much more frightening.

Doctors have placed her on a pill form of chemotherapy that, for now, has put her leukemia in remission.

"So far, so good," she said.

Still, she and her husband have mustered the courage they will need for a potentially long

battle. They are doing everything they can to fight her disease. There's no other option.

"This is my wife," Dave Brooks said.

Kerry Brooks has a brother, but he wasn't a match for the procedure she needs. Despite her plight, she even managed to joke that her mother and father, Bill Walker of Westland,

should have had more children

so she'd be more likely to have a matching donor.

Nonetheless, Kerry Brooks, a 1982 graduate of Westland John Glenn High School, has found an extended family through her church, which, along with help from the St. John Neumann Parish of Canton, has organized an American Red Cross blood drive 8 a.m. to 6:45 p.m. April 2, Good Friday, at St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church, 555 S. Lilley.

Blood-donor appointments may be made by logging on to [www.givelife.org](http://www.givelife.org), clicking on the "enter a sponsor code" tab and typing in CCU, or by calling Cathy Hulett at (734) 981-1333, ext. 18, or Peggy Greene at (734) 637-8076. Volunteers who want to help during the event also may call.

The day of the blood drive, donors also may simply stop by without an appointment to become part of the National Marrow Donor Program and Be The Match Foundation.

"The bone marrow test only takes a few minutes," Dave

Brooks said, and it merely involves a simple cheek swab.

Dave Brooks urged those who can't make it to the Good Friday event to join the national registry by logging on to [www.marrow.org](http://www.marrow.org) and clicking on the "Join the Registry" tab. While he said those who join are asked to make a tax-deductible, \$25 donation, it isn't required.

Potential donors should be between the ages of 18 and 60, willing to donate to any patient and meet certain health guidelines. People who are HIV-positive, have hepatitis exposure, suffer from chronic lung disease or who have most forms of heart disease or cancer — among other conditions — cannot join, and more medical guidelines are available on the Web site.

In 2009 alone, more than 575,000 potential donors joined the registry. Now, Kerry Brooks can only wait — and hope — that a match will be found for her.

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# Be wary of preparer who won't sign tax return

**Q:** Dear Rick: I just had my tax return completed by a new tax preparer (my former tax preparer retired). After I picked up my return, I noticed he did not sign the returns. When I contacted him, he said that he never signs tax returns because it "increases the chance of an audit when you use a professional to prepare your return." Something doesn't seem right to me. Is this true? Should he sign the return? What should I do?



**Money Matters**  
Rick Bloom

**A:** His explanation as to why he did not sign your return is absolute nonsense. The fact that someone uses a professional to

prepare a tax return will in no way increase risk of an audit. In fact, it probably lowers your audit risk because a professional knows how to prepare a return. The one exception would be if you are dealing with a professional who has had problems in the past with the IRS. Returns prepared by a preparer who has had

issues with the IRS may be more scrutinized.

What increases your audit risk more than anything is the failure to report income, mathematical errors or sloppy returns.

In regard to signing tax returns, there are strict rules by the IRS that do require professional preparers to sign returns. Therefore, the fact that you paid someone to do your return and they won't sign it certainly raises a flag with me. Why are they afraid to stand by their work? It is very troublesome that the preparer will not sign the return.

It is important to realize that you are responsible for your tax return. Ultimately, if there are penalties or additional tax liability, you are responsible. The real issue is whether you should sign the return.

In no way would I recommend that you sign the preparer's name to the return. However, I recommend that you consider having someone else review the return. I don't want you signing an inaccurate return.

I am not suggesting that your tax preparer did anything wrong, however, the fact that

he did not sign the tax return causes me concern.

When it comes to tax returns, never forget that the ultimate liability lies with the filer. When you hire a professional to do your return, you don't necessarily want someone who's going to be overly aggressive or very conservative. What you want is someone who will follow the law — and, where there are issues involved, will discuss them with you so you'll understand the consequences.

When it comes to hiring someone to prepare your tax

return, there are lots of options. The key is to hire someone who understands the rules regarding tax preparation, who stays current on the changes in the tax laws and who will be there to stand by you and their work if the authorities have issues with your return.

Good luck!

**Rick Bloom** is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at [moneymatters@hometownlife.com](mailto:moneymatters@hometownlife.com). For more information, visit Rick's Web site at [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com).

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The *Observer & Eccentric* and Hometown Newspapers will select one winning essay a month during the regular baseball season (April-September). The winner will receive four game tickets, one Hot & Ready Little Caesars pizza and an autographed Detroit Tigers item. In addition, your name will be announced in pre-game festivities at Comerica Park.

E-mail your essay to: [cbjordan@hometownlife.com](mailto:cbjordan@hometownlife.com) with the subject line: PAWS for Applause. Or mail it to:  
Attn: Choya Jordan  
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Game tickets to be awarded to essay winners include: Sunday, April 11 (Detroit vs. Cleveland); Sunday, May 2 (Detroit vs. Los Angeles Angels); Sunday, June 13 (Detroit vs. Pittsburgh); Sunday, July 11 (Detroit vs. Minnesota); Sunday, Aug. 22 (Detroit vs. Cleveland) and Sunday, Sept. 12 (Detroit vs. Baltimore).

The winning essays along with a photo of the winner will be published in the *Observer & Eccentric* and Hometown Newspapers.

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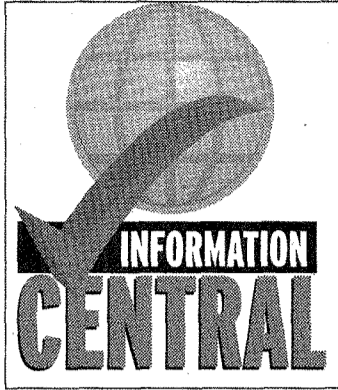
# Exploring classical mythology

With the recent movie releases of "Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief" and "Clash of the Titans," mythology is a hot topic. With a wealth of storytelling material, mythology is not just a subject to be taught in school.

Every culture has its own mythology, stories dealing with the gods, demigods, and legendary heroes of a particular people. Classical mythology often refers to the mythology of the ancient Greeks and Romans.

Mythology is pervasive in today's society. The entertainment field is full of mythological references in songs, movies, and television. Advertisers and corporations have relied heavily on mythology to name their products. The Olympic Games go back to the ancient Greeks with their celebration of sport. Astrology and astronomy refer to the ancient gods and myths in the naming of planets and the zodiac, not to mention the space program. For just a hint of some of the influence classical mythology has had on the modern world, try this Web site: <http://thanasis.com/modern/>.

The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland can help you explore the world of mythology. Titles you might want to consider include Thomas Bulfinch's "The Age of Fable: Bulfinch's Mythology," "Illustrated Bulfinch's Mythology" and "Myths of Greece and Rome," Mollie McLean's "Adventures of the Greek Heroes," Adrian Room's "Who's Who in Classical Mythology," Arthur Cotterell's "The Encyclopedia of Mythology and Classical Mythology: Ovid's Tales," Kevin Osborn's "The Complete Idiot's Guide to Classical Mythology," Gustav Schwab's "Gods and Heroes of Ancient Greece," Lesley Bolton's "Everything Classical Mythology Book," Mark Morford's "Classical



Mythology," Homer's "The Iliad" and "The Odyssey" and "Gods and Goddesses." There are also many other titles regarding other mythologies.

The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland is open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday or visit us on the Web anytime at [www.westlandlibrary.org](http://www.westlandlibrary.org).

**Highlighted Activities**  
**Everyone's Reading: Through April 28.** The book selection is Scott Turow's "Presumed Innocent."

Stop by the library to pick up a copy of the book and find when book discussions and many other programs are scheduled. Or visit the Web site at [www.westlandlibrary.org](http://www.westlandlibrary.org) or [www.everyonesreadinginfo.org](http://www.everyonesreadinginfo.org) for more information. Last days to enter our drawing to win tickets for the Scott Turow - Author Visit. Fill out a ticket by March 31. Winners will be announced April 1.

**New - Urban Fiction Book Club:** 7 p.m. March 22  
This month's selection to be discussed is "The Cartel" by Ashley and JaQuavis. Copies will be available at the Reference Desk.

**Friday Night Movie Madness:** 7 p.m. March 26  
This week's selection is "The

Blind Side." This movie is based on the remarkable true story of Baltimore Ravens offensive left tackle Michael Oher. Rated PG-13. This is an after-hours program. Library doors open at 6:30 p.m.

**Innocence Project with Kenneth Wniemko:** 7 p.m. March 23

Ken Wniemko was accused and convicted of a crime he did not commit. He spent 10 years in prison but was exonerated of the crime after attorneys from the Innocence Project, a group dedicated to using DNA samples to overturn wrongful convictions, came to his aid and pointed out discrepancies in his case. Come hear Ken and his attorneys talk about the experience and what they are doing now to help others in similar situations. This is an Everyone's Reading program.

**Fiction Writing Group:** 7 p.m. March 30, age 18 and up.

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 by e-mail at: [andy.schuck@westlandlibrary.org](mailto:andy.schuck@westlandlibrary.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. Demo: Buttonhole Basics. Materials provided. Crocheters are welcome, too.

**Chess Group:** Every Thursday 7-8:45 p.m. and Saturday 1-4 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 Susan Hanson, reference librarian. 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](http://westlandlibrary.org).

# Wings vs. Wings in hockey fund-raiser

It'll be the Wings vs. the Wings in an exhibition hockey game 7 p.m. Saturday, April 10, at the Mike Modano Ice Arena.

Westland Mayor William Wild will lace up his skates and lead the Westland Wild Wings against the Detroit Red Wings Alumni Association, which includes former NHL star John Ogrudnick.

There will be plenty of activities planned, including a Score-O, "chuck a puck," a Mite Hockey shootout, raffles, prize giveaways and much more.

Proceeds from this event will benefit Central City Park. The goal is to raise \$20,000 to assist in the restoration of the park which has been closed due to contamination since 2006.

"It was a great honor when members of the Detroit Red

Wings Alumni Association accepted the invitation to participate in this event to benefit our All American City," said Wild. "I will be meeting with my team to decide how many points we will need to spot them for it to be fair."

Tickets for the event are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children, kids age 3 and under are free and are on sale at the Mayor's Office, the Bailey Recreation Center, the Westland Chamber of Commerce and the Mike Modano Ice Arena. Seating is limited to 800 people.

There also are sponsorship opportunities available for businesses for the event. For a list of sponsorship levels, call Parks and Recreation Director Bob Kosowski at (734) 722-7620 or send an e-mail to [parks@cityofwestland.com](mailto:parks@cityofwestland.com).

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Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 20080 Allen Rd. Trenton, MI 48183 (734)479-5442 3/30/2010 at 10:00 am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due. Personal property described below in the matter of:

014 Willie Hopson GMC 250	VIN 1GDEG25KOK7506943
128 Mark Fairall	boxes, mattress, box-spring
130 John Cairns	boxes, totes, shelves
143 Justin Ebaugh	monitor, computer, boxes
313 Christina Koliba	bags, totes, dresser
404 Steven Niebizdowski	boxes, bike, tv
513 Brandiss Taylor	boxes, chairs
538 Salime Werdene	boxes, bags, dresser
715 James Hipshire	sofa, dresser, tv
958 Jason Faraj	boxes, bags, totes
1115 Brian Kenney	sofa, mattress, box-spring

Publish: March 14 & 21, 2010

**Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property**

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 9300 Pelham Rd., Taylor, MI 48180 (313) 292-9730 3/30/2010 at 11:00 am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due. Personal property described below in the matter of:

1008 Bobby Revis	boxes, TV, dresser
2009 Danny Tittle Jr	bags, dresser, TV
3031 Christina Cooper	boxes, bags, dresser
3042 Erna Austin	boxes, dresser, chair
3050 John F Zacchi	boxes, bags, sofa
3064 Andrew Jones	boxes, bags, washer
4001 Sharon Shaw	boxes, TV, dresser
4053 Jennifer Ireland	boxes, filing cabinet, tires
5002 Hope Popour	boxes, totes, chairs
5003 Edwin Omev	dresser, boxes, snow blower
5106 George Bojarski	boxes, totes, chairs
6009 David Baldwin	boxes, bags, desk
6080 Donald Daigle	boxes, totes, TV
6097 Breanne Evans	boxes, bags, vacuum
7064 Marcel Hunt	boxes, dresser, TV
9078 Terrance Vassarwest	stove, exercise equipment
9090 Felicia Bachman	boxes, bags, table

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EASTER ACTIVITIES

Get your kids in mood for Easter with some very bunny activities being offered in Westland and Garden City.

• Kids from all over the area will have the chance to turn in marshmallows for a prize at Wayne County Parks Marshmallow Drop 2010 on Good Friday, April 2, at Nankin Mills in Westland at 11 a.m.

More than 20,000 marshmallows will be dropped from a helicopter to children, who will scramble to collect these goodies during the county's 26th Annual Marshmallow Drop. Children will be divided into groups based on age, to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to participate fully.

Nankin Mills is located on Hines Drive just east of Ann Arbor Trail in Westland.

For more information on this or any other Wayne County Parks event, call (734) 261-1990.

• Westland Civitan Bunny Brunch, sponsored by the Westland Civitan Club and Westland Parks and Recreation, will be held 9 a.m.

to noon Saturday, March 27, at the Harris-Kehrer VFW Post Hall at 3323 S. Wayne Road.

The cost is \$3 for children 1-12 years and \$5 for ages 13 and older. All ages are welcome, but all children must have adult supervision.

Included is all-you-can-eat homemade, hot off the griddle pancakes with butter, syrup, breakfast sausage, juice, coffee, tea and milk. Besides the wonderful brunch, there will be a special visit by the Easter Bunny. Children are encouraged to make and wear an Easter bonnet or hat for their picture with the Easter Bunny. Bring your own camera to take photos.

For more information, call Donna Jensen at (734) 729-8075.

• Lunch with Easter Bunny noon-2:30 p.m. Saturday, March 27, at the Maplewood Community Center on Maplewood west of Merriman.

The lunch is for children ages 3-12 and includes lunch of pizza, salad, cookies and beverage, photos with the Easter Bunny (bring your camera), face painting, games, enter-

tainment in the gym, and a really Egg-citing Egg Hunt.

Seats are limited. Tickets cost \$6 and must be purchased in advance at Maplewood Community Center. Last day to purchase tickets is March 30.

The lunch is made possible by the support of the Garden City Kiwanis Club and senior volunteers. For more information call (734) 793-1850.

• The Westland Jaycees Easter Egg Scramble, co-sponsored by the Jaycees and Westland Parks and Recreation Department, is scheduled for 1-4 p.m. Saturday, March 27, in Jaycee Park, at Wildwood and Hunter. The event is open to youngsters age 14 and younger.

For more information contact the Bailey Center at (734) 722-7620 or the Westland Jaycee Hotline at (734) 226-0400.

• Easter Delight Night at the Bailey Recreation Center 4:30-6 p.m. Monday, March 22, will give kids a chance to make Easter eggs and their very own Easter basket. Youngsters will decorate a basket and then

make different types of Easter eggs. All supplies are included. The program is open to children 3-12 years old; children under 6 must be accompanied by an adult. The cost is \$25 per child - \$5 payable to the City of Westland and \$20 payable to the teacher at the class.

The Westland Civitan Club has arranged for the Easter Bunny to visit briefly on his way to decorate his own eggs. Parents are encouraged to bring a camera, if you would like pictures with the Easter Bunny.

Pre-register by March 25 at the Bailey Center is required. Supplies for your projects will not be available, if you do not pre-register.

• Hop by Westland Shopping Center at Wayne and Warren roads, where the Easter Bunny is visiting with youngsters 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sundays in the mall's East Court. Be sure to sign up for Kid's World at the customer service desk for fun things for kids age 12 and under to do. Photos also are available at the Easter Bunny Loft.

GARDEN CLIPPINGS

Public defense

The public is invited to attend a meeting, hosted by the League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County to discuss our public defense system at 7:15 p.m. Wednesday, March 24, at the Livonia Civic Center Library on Five Mile east of Farmington Road.

Effective defense representation is part of the U.S. Constitution and fundamental to a working justice system. But in Michigan, the system of public defense is failing. It fails the taxpayers who fund it, fails the families who rely on it to keep them safe, and fails to adequately uphold the constitutional rights of the accused.

The speakers will include Attorney Loren Khogali and Stephanie Change, Deputy Director of the Michigan Campaign for Justice.

Preschool sign-ups

Garden City Preschool will begin registration on Wednesday, March 23, for 3-year-olds. Call Linda at (734) 762-6362 for more information. Registration will be held at Lathers Elementary School, 28351 Marquette, Garden City. Registration hours are 1-3:30 p.m. for both days.

Call for an information packet. The preschool is a tuition paid program that run for 34 weeks September through May.

Sessions are 2 1/2 hours long.

Safari Day

Wondering what to do during spring break? Take your kids on a safari. The Maplewood Community Center and Garden City Library are sponsoring a Safari Day 1-3 p.m. Thursday, April 8, at the Maplewood Community Center.

The safari fun begins when children arrive. They'll receive a passport to Africa which will be stamped as they enter each into adventure room - the animal craft room, an obstacle course over crocodiles, dig in the sand to find insects. Try Toe fishing, play games and win prizes.

Little binoculars will be provided to each child to search for animals in the Jungle Room. Pizza, salad and jungle cake will be served in the Zebra Cantina.

The cost is \$7.50 per child, ages 4-9. Sign up at the center on Maplewood west of Merriman. For more information, call (734) 793-1850.

Gold/Blue Star Brunch

The American Legion Post 396 Ladies Auxiliary are planning a brunch to honor Garden City residents who are a Blue Star or Gold Star mother, wife, daughter or sister of a military service member that is on active duty or a military service member who has given their life to protect our country.

The brunch will be Sunday, April 18, at the American Legion Post, 6860 Middlebelt, Garden City. Call Kim Dold at (734) 536-0373 or Gail Truesdell at (734) 261-9085 for reservations.



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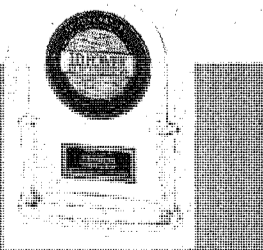
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March 26<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010

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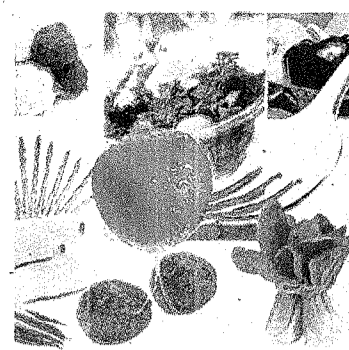
SUNDAY  
March 21,  
2010

Family shares its knowledge of healthy foods - Neighbors, B5

SPORTS, HEALTH & FITNESS, NEIGHBORS

SECTION B  
(WL)

# HOMETOWN LIFE



## Lady Ocelots derailed by defending champion

### Kirkwood bounces Schoolcraft, 58-44

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Schoolcraft College just can't get past the UConn of women's junior college basketball.

Three-time defending NJCAA Division II champion Kirkwood (Iowa) Community College ended the Lady Ocelots' dream of a national title Friday night with a 58-44 triumph in the tournament semifinals host by Illinois Central Community College in East Peoria, Ill.

Kirkwood, which improved its overall record to 35-1 overall, took on Patrick Henry (Va.) CC on Saturday in quest of its fourth straight title.

Schoolcraft, 32-2 overall, met Kankakee (Ill.) in Saturday's third-place consolation game.

Schoolcraft, which lost to Kirkwood in last year's national final, couldn't overcome a 33-21 halftime deficit.

After being down by as many as 20 points in the second half, the Lady Ocelots fought back with a 16-0 run and pulled to within six with less than six minutes remaining, but couldn't get over the hump.

Poor shooting plagued Schoolcraft, which connected on just 16-of-62 shots from the floor (25.8 percent). Conversely, Kirkwood was 23-of-67 (48.9 percent), including 7-of-14 from 3-point range.

"They (Kirkwood) shot 50 percent and we couldn't hit a shot," Schoolcraft coach Karen Lafata said. "They packed in a zone (defense) and switched looks from a 3-2 to a 2-3. Normally they're pressing out of a 2-2-1."

Staci Gillum and Kari Goodchild tallied 15 and 12 points, respective-

ly, for the victorious Eagles, who improved to 35-1 overall.

"They're an awfully good basketball team," Lafata said of Kirkwood. "They're patient on every possession. They set a million screens, run the shot clock down, and 'bam' — hit the shot. They recruit to a system and obviously it's effective."

Amber Avery scored a team-high 11 points and added a team-best nine rebounds for the Lady Ocelots. April Goins contributed 10 points and six rebounds.

Schoolcraft made only 6-of-22 3-point attempts (27.3 percent) and just 6-of-16 free throws (37.5 percent).

The Lady Ocelots committed only 10 turnovers and outbounded the Eagles, 40-37, but couldn't knock down enough critical shots.

Despite digging an early hole, Schoolcraft made a game of it in the second half.

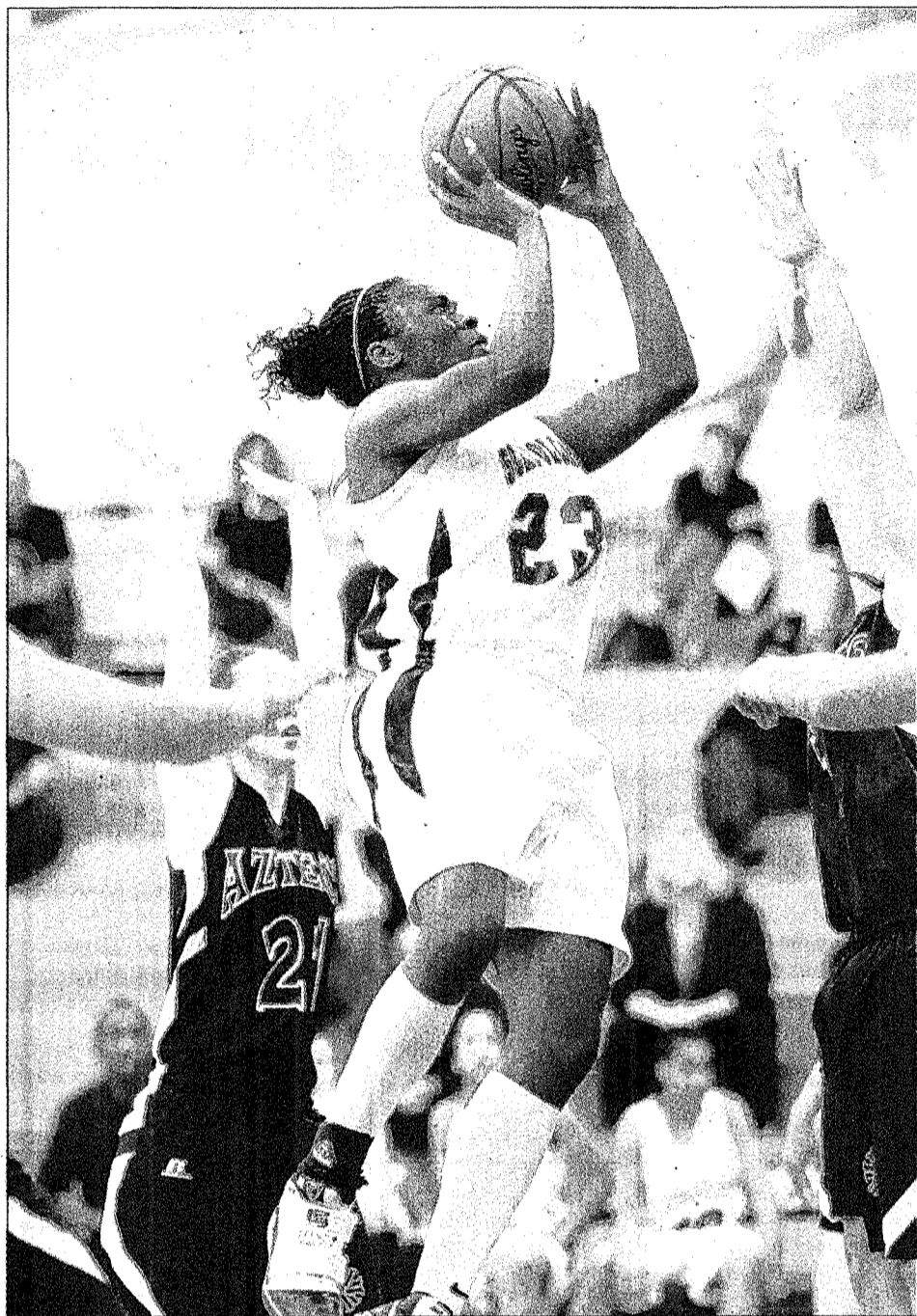
"We showed a lot of heart in the second half. We started to get back to playing Schoolcraft basketball," Lafata said.

Schoolcraft loses six players to graduation, including four starters.

"It's been a heckuva run for our sophomores," Lafata said. "They've been an incredible bunch and I don't think we've ever experienced anything like this two years in a row. I don't know if there's ever been a run like this where we've gone 32-3 (in 2008-09) and 32-2 (this season). It's been a tremendous ride. A lot of things have been done with this group and I'm so proud of them all."

For a recap of Saturday's NJCAA Division II third-place consolation final, visit [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com).

[bemons@hometownlife.com](mailto:bemons@hometownlife.com) | (313) 222-6851



BOB HUNT

Schoolcraft's Amber Avery had a game-high 16 points and grabbed 10 rebounds in a 65-56 NJCAA Division II National Tournament win Thursday over Pima (Ariz.) Community College.

## SIDELINES

### Kesler re-signs

Livonia native and U.S. Olympic hockey standout Ryan Kesler was signed Friday to a six-year contract extension through the 2015-2016 season with the National Hockey League's Vancouver Canucks.

"Today is an exciting day for the Canucks organization," Vancouver President and General Manager



Kesler

Mike Gillis told NHL.com. "Ryan Kesler has excelled as a two-way player and in his role as an alternate captain.

Ryan has showcased his ability to perform under extreme pressure and we are looking forward to continuing to see Ryan develop into one of the League's premier players."

In his sixth season with the Canucks, Kesler is having a career campaign with 21 goals and 45 assists (66 points). He has 12 power-play goals and four game-winners in 71 games.

In 391 NHL games, the Churchill High grad and Canucks' former No. 1 draft pick has 86 goals and 120 assists. He has 20 or more goals in three straight seasons.

Kesler, who played one season at Ohio State, also stood out in the recently played Vancouver Winter Olympic Games helping Team USA to a silver medal.

### Meet C'ville teams

Livonia Clarenceville will stage its Meet the Team Night for all spring sport athletes, parents and coaches beginning at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 25, in the high school cafeteria.

Topics covered include athletic and academic eligibility, sportsmanship, season schedules, team rules and consequences, team policies and banquet information.

A representative from Burke's Sporting Goods will be available to see shoes and other apparel.

For more information, call (248) 919-0408.

### LBSA registration

Registration for the 2010 Livonia Baseball and Softball Association (LBSA) will be from 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, March 27, and Saturday, April 10, at the Livonia Civic Center Library.

Divisions offered include High School (ages 15-16) and High School/Collegiate (ages 17-19). Within each division two levels of competitive play will be formed.

Rosters and teams are limited. Managers and coaches are needed for both divisions. Registration forms will be available at signup or online at [www.livoniabsa.com](http://www.livoniabsa.com) (under forms section). For more information, call George Coram at (248) 478-5071 or Curt Kreutzfeld at (734) 522-5413.

### Jr. spikers wanted

The Crusader Junior Volleyball Club, run out of Madonna University, is seeking four-to-six players for its 13-and-under team (cannot be 14 before Sept. 1, 2010).

For more information, call MU assistant coach Brian McClain at (734) 432-5612; or e-mail [bgmccain1@aol.com](mailto:bgmccain1@aol.com).

## Madonna bats sizzle in sweep vs. Britons

The sweet sound of aluminum was music to the Madonna University baseball team's ears Friday after as the 21st-ranked Crusaders swept a double-header from host Albion College at Joranko Field.

Zach Flavin went 2-for-4, including a homer and three RBI as MU won the opener, 14-7.

The Crusaders unloaded for 16 hits with Jeff Bultinck going 2-for-4 with a homer, four runs scored and an RBI.

Other top hitters for MU included Ted Toune (two RBI), Billy Hardin III (2-for-5, RBI), Matt Kay (2-for-4) and Dan Harder (2-for-3).

The Crusaders used four pitchers with Sam Haldane (2-1) going the first six innings to record the victory. He allowed four hits, walked three and fanned seven.

In the nightcap, MU improved to 14-3 overall with an 8-4 triumph as Flavin knocked in three runs to pace an eight-hit

### COLLEGE BASEBALL

attack.

Toune, the left fielder, went 2-for-4 with two RBI. Kay also drove in a run.

Chuck DeClarke led the Britons (2-4) with two hits and three RBI. Zac Neal and Adam Mazza also drove in two runs apiece.

Westland John Glenn grad Robert Fraser, who pitched the first 5.2 innings, got the victory. He struck out six walked three and allowed three hits to improve to 3-0 overall.

Albion starter Jacob Rinkinen (0-2) took the loss. He allowed seven runs (five earned) on seven hits in five innings of work.

MU returns to the diamond for a 1 p.m. double-header Tuesday at Ohio Dominican.

## Splitsville

### Crusaders divide two twinbills in Ohio

Madonna University's swing through the Buckeye State continued Friday with the Crusaders settling for a split of a doubleheader for the second straight day — this time with host Shawnee State.

MU captured the opener, 3-0, as pitchers Jess Irwin and Hallie Minch combined on a four-hitter.

Irwin went the first five innings, allowing two hits and a pair of walks while striking out five to improve to 7-0 overall.

Minch came on for the final two innings to earn her first save.

Rachael Kethe paced MU's seven-hit attack, going 2-for-2, while Brittney Scero, Cat Sidor (Livonia Churchill) and Kelly Lesko each collected an RBI.

In the nightcap, Ericka Leighty went 2-for-3 with an RBI, while Abbey Barrett drove in a pair of

### COLLEGE SOFTBALL

runs as Shawnee State (5-11) pulled out a 3-2 win in eight innings.

Minch, the MU starter, took the loss. She gave up two earned runs on five hits and now stands 4-2. Irwin pitched three scoreless innings in relief.

Winning pitcher Ali Thompson (5-3) gave up just three hits in eight innings.

The Crusaders are 11-2 overall. **MADONNA 2-1, RIO GRANDE (OHIO), 1-2:** On Thursday, Madonna University (10-1) gained a split of a doubleheader with host University of Rio Grande (9-5) at Stanley Evans Field.

The Crusaders captured the opener in eight innings, 2-1, as Ashley Shay (Garden City/Dearborn Divine Child) delivered

Please see **SOFTBALL, B2**

## World Championships beckon for Crystallite skaters

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The world stage awaits a local synchronized skating team.

The 19-member Crystallites of the Dearborn Skating Club, fresh off a silver medal finish, in the USFS U.S. Synchro Championships held March 5-6 Minneapolis, Minn., will compete as Team USA II at the ISU World Synchronized Championships, April 9-10, in World Arena in Colorado Springs, Colo.

The Crystallites, ranging in age from 15-26, will be among 24 teams representing 19 countries at the World Championships.

It has been a worldwind season for the Crystallites, who earned gold medals at the Prague Cup in the Czech Republic and the Mid America Championships in Fraser. They also collected a silver medal at the Kalamazoo Classic and a pewter medal at the Dr. Porter Classic competition in Ann Arbor.

In the U.S. Championships in

Mariucci Arena in Minneapolis, the Crystallites, skating to Sammy Davis Jr.'s "Love Me or Leave Me," finished second in the short program. They were only second to the Haydenettes (Mass.) and only .23 points ahead of reigning national champion Miami of Ohio University.

In the long program, skating to the Latin themed "Maleguerna" by the Brian Setzer Orchestra, they held their second position following a near perfect program by the Haydenettes, who earned the top scorer, while providing a cushion of 7.44 points over third-place Miami.

One of the youngest members of the Crystallites is Livonia Franklin High sophomore Alyssa Shomsky.

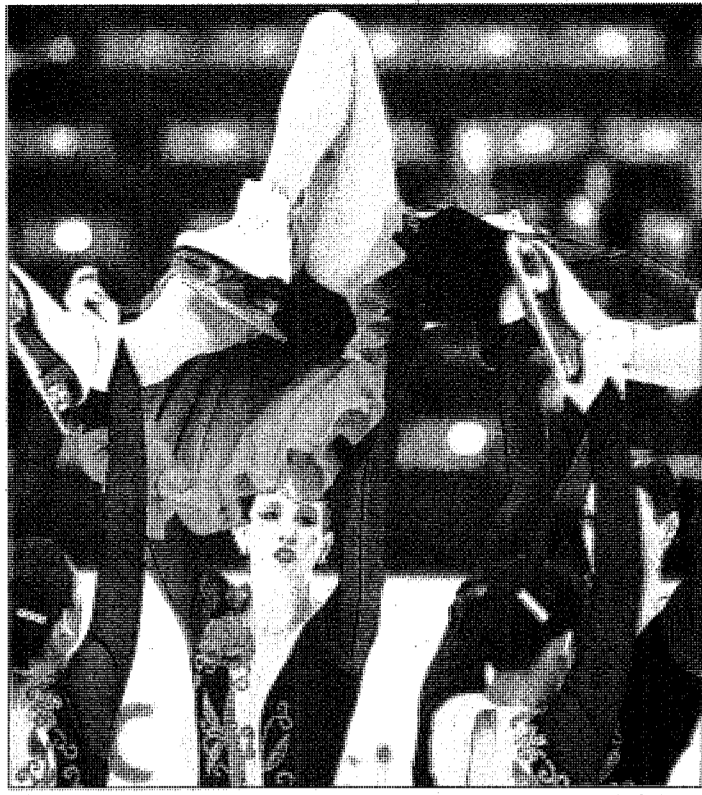
Among the other area team members include: Sharon Neff and Alexandra Panaretos, both of Birmingham; Kelsey Anderson, Devon Metiva and co-captain Kaitlyn Peterson, all of Dearborn; Meghan Quigley and Abby Tomba,



MYRA ZOLYNSKY

The Crystallites of the Dearborn Figure Skating Club will compete April 9-10 as Team USA II at the ISU World Synchro Skating Championships in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Please see **SKATE, B2**



MYRA ZOLYNSKY

Livonia Franklin sophomore Alyssa Shomsky is among the 19-member Crystallettes headed to the World Synchro Championships next month in Colorado Springs, Colo.

# Phoenix rise past Canton in state semifinals

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It took a rising Phoenix to snuff out Canton's championship dreams.

But the Chiefs' girls basketball team gave Detroit Renaissance a battle Friday afternoon at Michigan State University's Breslin Center before falling 50-47 in the Class A semifinal.

"Renaissance is a very good team," said Canton head coach Brian Samulski from the Breslin podium, flanked by dejected players Kari Schmitt and Alyssa Cottrell. "Our kids competed and gave everything they had, we just came up a few plays short and they made some good plays down the stretch."

The heart-wrenching defeat meant both teams left the floor with identical 24-2 records. Canton's only other loss also was to Renaissance, in overtime.

"Canton was an awesome opponent tonight, and I give all kinds of credit to them, they played their hearts out," said Phoenix head coach Diane Jones. "We threw all of our defenses out at them and they handled that pressure and they hit shots, especially in the first half."

"... I was really proud of my girls for stepping up and playing under the stress and continuing to battle back and handle their pressure at the end."

The game's wild conclusion was fitting for a game of back-and-forth runs and frantic play all over the court from the opening tip.

Detroit Renaissance hit back-to-back treys just moments after Canton sopho-

more guard Robyn Mack (11 points) put the Chiefs up 43-41 with just under two minutes to go.

## FAN-DEMONIUM

When Mack drained her jumper from the left corner, just inside the three-point line, the Canton-crazy "Reddy Zone" went mad with excitement — perhaps anticipating a victory and a repeat trip to Breslin for Saturday's final.

But Renaissance didn't fold under the pressure, and Phoenix junior guard Elizabeth Badgett (20 points) sank a three-ball from the right corner to put Renaissance back in front.

After Canton could not control the ball at the other end, senior guard Kenyah Dorsey — in the game to keep Mack from going "north-south" to the hole, said Renaissance head coach Diane Jones — nailed another trey from the opposite corner.

That deflated the Reddy Zone and meant the Chiefs needed to somehow win a free-throw contest in the final minutes to have a crack at sending the hard-fought game to overtime.

"I thought that was a big part of the game and then after that we sort of got into a free throw thing from there," Samulski said.

Canton still had a chance, with Mack's banker cutting the deficit to 47-45 with 46 seconds to go.

Badgett, fouled at the other end, made her first free throw but missed the second to briefly stir thoughts of a game-tying triple for the Chiefs. But senior forward Lorreal Jones pulled down the rebound and drew a foul.

"Lorreal's a great athlete and

we wanted to double her on that side," Samulski said. "She did a great job timing it as soon as it (free throw) hit the rim she flipped in and that gave them two extra possessions."

Canton dodged that bullet when Jones missed twice and got the ball back only to miss one field goal and lose another ball out of bounds as the Phoenix closed it out.

## HANGING IN THERE

Although both teams enjoyed scoring runs in the first half, the biggest lead of the day was Renaissance's 14-7 edge in the opening frame following another Badgett trey.

Canton showed it wouldn't disappear, as senior guard Lindsey Winters hit her first of two triples in the opening half and junior forward Sara Schmitt (12 points, seven rebounds) started a 10-0 run with a layup to make it 15-12 after the first.

In the second, twin sister Kari Schmitt (also with 12 points, seven rebounds) started it off with a bucket and the Chiefs went ahead on a layup by junior guard Melanie Pickert.

Winter's second triple, from beyond the top of the arc, gave Canton a 20-15 advantage with 5:45 left in the half.

Renaissance then went on an 11-3 run to go up 26-23 and Canton needed a pair of clutch jumpers by junior forward Kayla Bridges to take a 27-26 halftime lead.

The third quarter was an offensive struggle for both teams, with Canton managing just one field goal (a jumper by Mack).

There were turnovers, scrums and miscues (a Canton throw-in under the Phoenix

backboard was picked off and taken the other way for two). But the contest remained tight; Renaissance led 34-31 with one frame to play.

Canton hung around in the fourth, although Renaissance built a 39-34 lead on a Badgett layup.

Then the Schmitt twins each scored and Mack's layup evened things at 41-41 with 3:10 left. Mack connected again to put Canton ahead, in what would be a last hurrah.

"In basketball and life, that's what this is all about," Samulski said. "Every bounce doesn't always go your way. Every shot doesn't go in all the time. Both these kids and the entire team, they'll go to college, have great careers there and go get jobs. They're not going to get every job they apply for."

Kari Schmitt said playing in Breslin Center "was a good experience" and didn't create any more jitters than a team would normally have.

According to Cottrell, a senior, having a large, enthusiastic student cheering section behind the Canton bench made the trip to MSU all the more special.

"I don't think anyone realized we were good enough to make it to the Final Four," Cottrell said. "To have people finally come here and recognize that we made it to the Final Four, (that) we can come here and compete with the team that's now going to play in the finals, it felt good to have our school behind us."

Renaissance was set to face East Lansing in Saturday's final.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

## SKATE

FROM PAGE B1

Bloomfield Hills; Rachael Franchock, Milford; Amanda Allan, Plymouth; co-captain Laura Friedman, Canton; Alyssa Kirsch, Jacquelyne Zolynsky and Josephine Zolynsky, all of Farmington Hills; Tessa Hedges, Grosse Pointe Farms; Rebecca Camilleri and DonAe Poe, Redford.

Rounding out the squad,

coached by Shannon Peterson and Holly Teets, is Caitlin Britton (Chicago, Ill.) and Sarah Mahrt (Indianapolis, Ind.).

The support staff includes Ann Barr, Stacy Holland, Kevin O'Keefe, Denise Dobert and Mike Vigilante.

The Crystallettes, supported by the Ford Motor Co., will perform in a send-off exhibition beginning at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 1 at the Dearborn Ice Skating Center, 14900 Ford Road, Dearborn.

For more information on the Crystallettes, visit [www.dearbornfsc.com](http://www.dearbornfsc.com).

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## SOFTBALL

FROM PAGE B1

the game-winning double, scoring Brittney Scero (Canton) after a sacrifice bunt by Arielle Cox.

MU took a 1-0 lead in the top of the fifth on single by Erica Landess, a sacrifice bunt by

Rachael Kethe and a single from Scero.

The Red Storm pulled even in the bottom half of the inning on three singles and a sacrifice bunt.

Winning pitcher Jess Irwin, who improved to 6-0 overall, struck out 12, but allowed nine walks and five hits.

Losing pitcher Anna Smith (6-3) gave up two runs on seven hits and

a walk.

Rio Grande bounced back to win the nightcap by an identical 2-1 score as Leah Hamman cleared the left field wall with a two-out, walk-off homer in the bottom of the seventh inning.

Losing pitcher Hallie Minch (5-1) struck out a season-high 10, while allowing just two hits and a walk.

MU scored its only run in the top

of the second, when Tara LaMilza walked with one out, advanced to second on a stolen base and scored on a Landess double.

The Red Storm, however, tied it up in the bottom of the fifth on a two-out hit and an MU miscue.

Winning pitcher Allison Mills (3-2) allowed just four hits, walked two and struck out six in seven innings.

# Easter Egg Hunt

## Saturday, March 27th

12:30 p.m. Sharp – Ages 3 & Under and Ages 4-6

12:45 p.m. – Ages 7-9 and Ages 10-12

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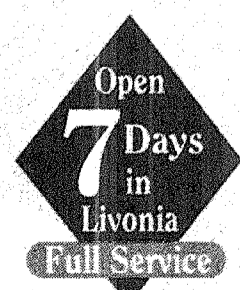


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# Lady Ocelots fend off Aztecs in tourney test

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Schoolcraft College clamped down defensively during the second half and rallied for a 65-56 victory Thursday over Pima Community College (Ariz.) in the quarter-finals of the NJCAA Division II Women's Basketball National Championships held in East Peoria, Ill.

The fourth-seeded Lady Ocelots, who earned a first-round bye, improved to 32-1 overall and will face three-time defending champion and top seed Kirkwood CC (Ia.), 34-1 overall, in Friday's semifinals — a rematch of last year's final. (See related story.)

Kirkwood advanced with a 66-55 win Thursday over Illinois Valley CC.

Schoolcraft, who trailed by as many as 11 points during the first half, limited the Aztecs (26-8) to 19 second-half points.

Emelda Chew's put-back basket with 3:27 remaining in regulation broke a 55-all deadlock and sparked the Lady Ocelots to a 10-1 run to end the game.

"We did the little things, the hustle-type plays," Schoolcraft coach Karen Lafata said. "We got second-chance points, points off turnovers and more rebounds (58-41).

"I'm proud of the way we fought through adversity in the first game of the tournament and after having a shaky first half. It was not a good first-half, but we were only down five (37-32) and I felt good about that."

Amber Avery (Southfield Lathrup) led Schoolcraft's balanced attack with 16 points and 10 rebounds.

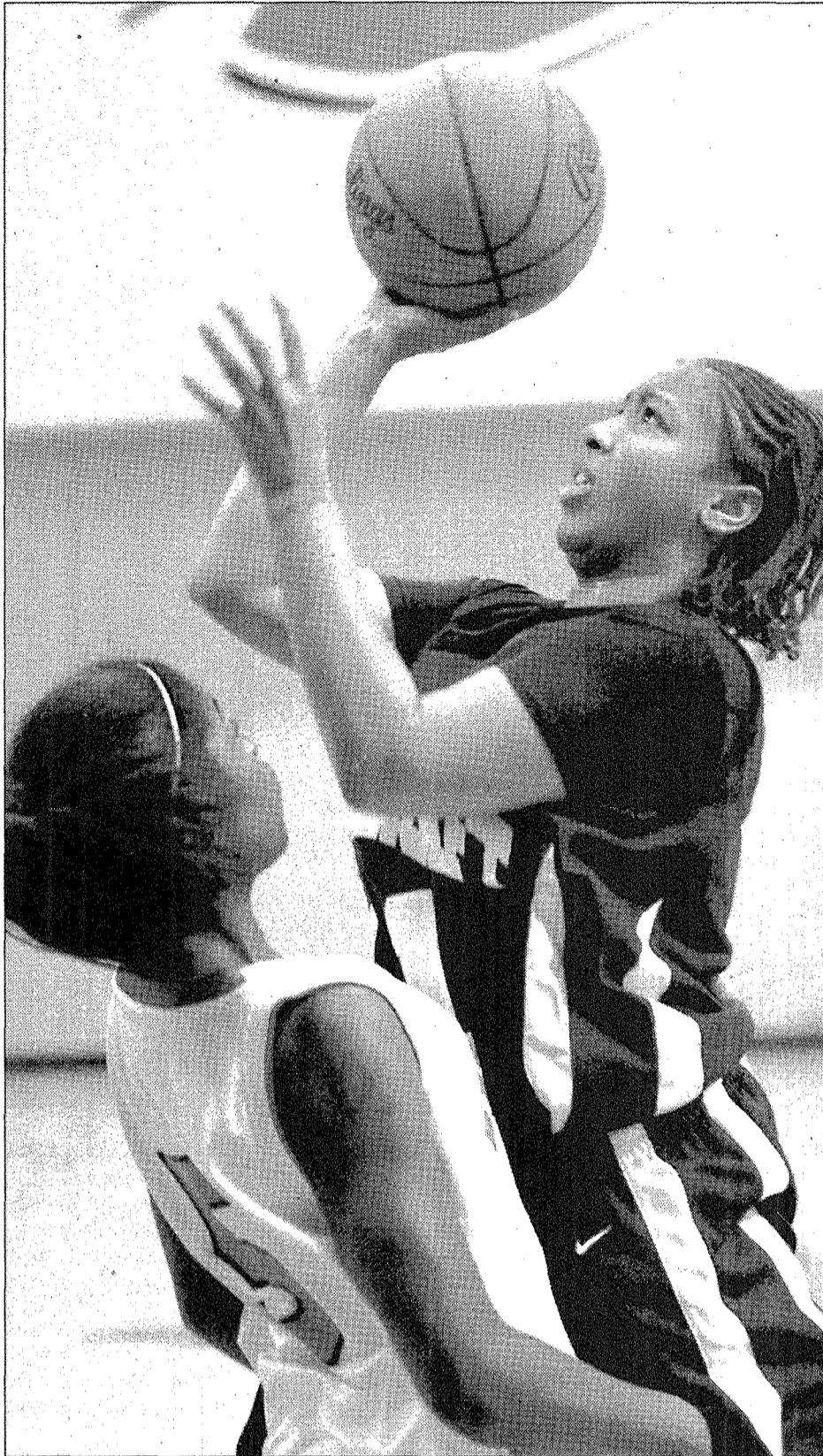
Antania Shepherd (Detroit Cody) chipped in with 12 points, while April Goins (Detroit Pershing) added 10 points and 11 rebounds. Kimberly Bee (Detroit CMA) and Angela Burrell (Detroit Northwestern) each added eight points. Bee also grabbed a team-high 11 rebounds.

Patricia Ramos and Adilene Villalobos each tallied nine for the Aztecs, who shot only 28.1 percent from the field (18-of-64).

The Lady Ocelots limited Pima's 6-foot-2 All-America center Tia Morrison, who fouled out, to seven points and 10 rebounds.

"Our strategy was to take of their big kid (Morrison) early and we did," Lafata said. "She was not a factor because she was not on the floor."

Schoolcraft, making its third appearance in the NJCAA Nationals, won despite shooting just 23-of-67 from the floor (34.3 percent) and 18-of-33 from the foul line (54.5 percent).



RENA LAVERTY

Schoolcraft College point-guard Angela Burrell, a 5-foot-4 point-guard from Detroit Northwestern.

## THE WEEK AHEAD

**GIRLS SOFTBALL**  
Friday, March 26  
Franklin at A.A. Huron (2), 4 p.m.

**GIRLS SOCCER**  
Wednesday, March 24  
W.L. Western at Franklin, 7 p.m.

**Thursday, March 25**  
Rochester at Stevenson, 7 p.m.

**Friday, March 26**  
Redford Union at Clarenceville, 5:30 p.m.  
Ladywood at L'Anse Creuse North, 7 p.m.  
Franklin at Farmington, 7 p.m.

**BOYS & GIRLS TRACK & FIELD**  
Saturday, March 27  
Huron Relays at EMU, 10 a.m.

**BOYS GOLF**  
Friday, March 26  
John Glenn vs. Thurston at The Woodlands (Van Buren), 3 p.m.

**GIRLS FIGURE SKATING**  
Saturday, March 27  
Individual State Championship at Midland Civic Arena, 8 a.m.

**MEN'S COLLEGE BASEBALL**  
(all double-headers)  
Tuesday, March 23  
Madonna at Ohio Dominican, 1 p.m.

**WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOFTBALL**  
(all double-headers)  
Sunday, March 21  
Madonna at Ohio Dominican, noon.

**Saturday, March 27**  
Madonna at Bethel College (Ind.), 1 p.m.

**ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE PLAYOFFS**  
(best-of-seven series)  
Tuesday, March 23  
Whalers at Soo Greyhounds, 7:05 p.m.  
Wednesday, March 24  
Whalers at Soo Greyhounds, 7:05 p.m.

**Friday, March 26,**  
(if necessary)  
Whalers vs. Soo Greyhounds at Compuware Arena, 7:05 p.m.

**Sunday, March 28**  
(if necessary)  
Whalers at Soo Greyhounds.

## PREP GIRLS HOOPS

**2009-10 ALL-KLAA KENSINGTON CONFERENCE GIRLS BASKETBALL FIRST-TEAM**  
Canton: Kari Schmitt, Jr. F; Sara Schmitt, Jr. F; Robyn Mack, Soph. G; Livonia Franklin: Chelsea Williams, Jr. G; Senneca Scott, Sr. C; Salem: Sara Stone, Sr. G; Bret deBear, Sr. G; Novi: Caroline Johnson, Sr. F; Kelsey Masserant, Sr. F-C; Alyssa Armiak, Jr. G; Livonia Churchill: Erin Menard, Soph. C; South Lyon East: Kate Grunewald, Sr. G; Plymouth: Stacey Klonowski, Sr. F; Wayne Memorial: Allie Coleman, Sr. G; South Lyon: Kristin Short.

Jr. G: Courtney Harrison, Jr. G; Westland John Glenn: Michelle Vanover, Sr. G; E'Aijsha Guster, Jr. G; Livonia Stevenson: Kristen Balhorn, Jr. C; Northville: Katie Giacomini, Jr. G; Tori Wright, Sr. G.

**HONORABLE MENTION**  
Canton: Kayla Bridges, Jr. F; Alyssa Cottrell, Sr. F; Salem: Rachel Norman, Sr. G; Novi: Jessica Cingel, Sr. C; Churchill: Darcy DeRoo, Sr. F; South Lyon East: Courtney Emery, Sr. G; Wayne: Holland Boertje, Soph. C; Plymouth: Alex Roberts, Jr. F; South Lyon: Gabrielle Williams, Soph. G; Stevenson: Emily Hollandsworth, Sr. F; Northville: Julia Ramey, Sr. F.

## PREP BOYS HOOPS

**2009-10 ALL-KLAA KENSINGTON CONFERENCE BOYS BASKETBALL FIRST-TEAM**  
Livonia Churchill: Adam Bedell, Sr. C; Tony Frezzell, Sr. G; D'Juan Cooks, Sr. F; Livonia Stevenson: Bobby Naubert, Sr. G; C.J. Mwila, Jr. G; Livonia Franklin: Andy McCaffery, Sr. G; Wayne Memorial: Daniel Hill, Sr. F; Derric Horton, Sr. G; Jamiel Strickland, Jr. G; Westland John Glenn: Marquise Graves, Soph. G; Canton: Dietrich Lever, Jr. PG; Kevin Weisz, Sr. F; Plymouth: Brennen Beyer, Jr. F-C; Mike Nadratowski, Jr. G; Salem: Jake Peterson, Sr. C; Tyler Stewart, Soph. G; Novi: Samer Ozeir, Jr. F; Jeremy Mims, Sr. G; Northville: Tim Hasse, Sr. G; South Lyon: Jordan Short, Sr. PG; Blake Jones, Sr. G; South Lyon East: Blake Jones, Sr. G.

**HONORABLE MENTION**  
Churchill: Raynard Allan; Stevenson: Kyle Bambach; Franklin: Mike Gadsby; John Glenn: Nick Daniels; Canton:

Brandon Duffey; Plymouth: Dion Johnson; Salem: Ethan Walsh; Novi: Justin Hopton; Northville: Andrew Baldwin; South Lyon: Aaron Shelp.

**2009-10 ALL-METRO CONFERENCE BOYS BASKETBALL FIRST-TEAM**  
Livonia Clarenceville: Levonte Brooks, Sr. G; Damien Quarles, Sr. F; Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook: Sterling Morrow, Soph. G; Steven Morrow, Sr. F; Alec Chimpke, Sr. F; Macomb Lutheran North: Anthony Calibee, Sr. G; Zach Bielecki, Jr. G; Harper Woods: JaJuan Collins, Jr. G; Hamtramck: Anthony Nrecaj, Jr. G.

**SECOND-TEAM**  
Clarenceville: Ben Watts, Sr. G; Cranbrook: George Orely, Jr. G; Lutheran North: Mike Bisbara, Jr. F; Harper Woods: Corey Austin; Sr. F; Hamtramck: Javontae Hines.

**COACH OF THE YEAR**  
Shane Finney, Cranbrook

## BOYS HOCKEY

**2009-10 ALL-KLAA KENSINGTON CONFERENCE BOYS HOCKEY TEAM**  
Livonia Stevenson: Jake Poynter, Sr. Def.; Cole Rochowiak, Sr. F; Danny Sager, Sr. G; Justin Shureb, Jr. F; Livonia Churchill: Jake Otto, Soph. F; Christo Papaionnou, Sr. F; Mike Woynick, Sr. F; Livonia Franklin: Jacob Wirgac, Sr. F; Canton: A.J. Rosales,

Jr. F; Plymouth: Zach Gambrell, Soph. F; Ryan Renault, Sr. F; Evan Swiczkowski, Sr. Def.; Salem: Josh Jarvela, Sr. F; Mario Macari, Sr. F; Steven Manser, Sr. G; Novi: Joey Ferriss, Jr. F; Tyler Perpich, Sr. F; Michael Pesendorfer, Jr. G; Northville: Matt Rosiar, Sr. F; South Lyon: Mike Hoy, Sr. Def.; Walled Lake Western: Julien Pierce, Jr. Jr. F; Chad Schram, Sr. F.

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**SPORTS ROUNDUP**

**Girls pom pon clinic**

Livonia Pom will stage a clinic for girls in grades 3-8 from 8:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, March 27 at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile Road, Livonia.

The cost is \$20 (includes a clinic T-shirt).

For more information, or to download the registration form, go to [www.livoniapom.com](http://www.livoniapom.com).

**T-Ball, Coach-Pitch**

Open registration for the City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation 2010 co-ed instructional T-Ball (ages 5-6) and Coach-Pitch (ages) is underway.

Registration is open to only those residing in the Livonia or Clarenceville public school district.

The season runs May through July. T-Ball scrimmages will be Monday evenings, while Coach-Pitch scrimmages are Thursday evenings.

Registration forms are available at all schools or at the Livonia Community Recreation Center, which is located at 15100 Hubbard (at Five Mile Road).

Open registration fees are \$40 (residents) and \$50 (non-residents).

Late registration will be from 9 a.m. until noon, Saturday, March 27, at the LCRC.

Non-resident registration follows at 9 a.m. Monday, March 29 at the Parks and Recreation office. That registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis through April 23.

Late registration fees are \$50 (residents) and \$60 (non-residents).

For more information, call (734) 466-2410 (option No. 2).

**Girls slow-pitch softball**

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation has announced its registration dates for its 2010 Girls 10- and 13-and-under slow-pitch softball leagues scheduled for June and July (scrimmages will be played Wednesday evenings).

Registration is open to those only living in the Livonia or Clarenceville public school districts.

Registration forms are available at the Livonia Community Center, 15100 Hubbard (at Five Mile); or can be picked up at area schools.

Late registration for school district residents is 9 a.m. to noon, Saturday, March 27, at the LCRC.

The non-resident registration begins at 9 a.m. Monday, March 29 at the LCRC and will be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis until April 23 (or teams are filled).

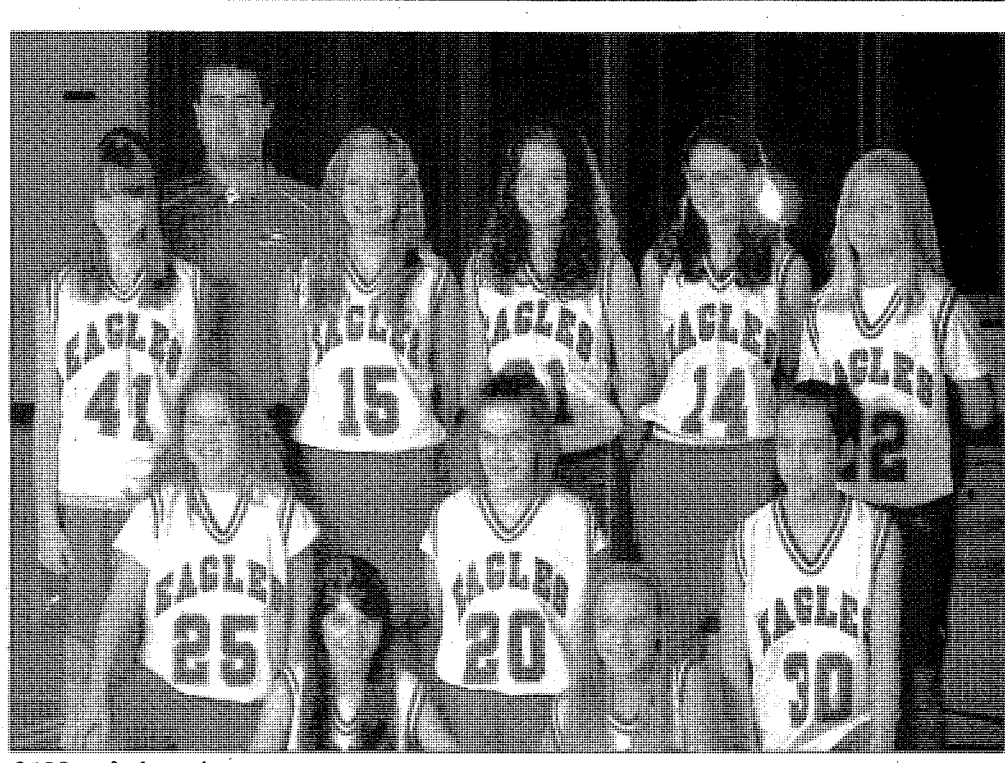
Late registration fees are \$50 (residents) and \$60 (non-residents).

For more information, call (734) 466-2410 (option No. 2).

**Women's golf league**

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation is offering a 20-week, 18-hole women's golf league beginning at 8 a.m. Thursdays, April 29, at Whispering Willows Golf Course.

The fee is \$26 per week (includes greens fees and cart). Non-residents are encouraged to join.



**CYO girls champs**

The Livonia St. Edith, a seventh-grade varsity girls basketball team, recently captured a Catholic Youth Organization division title with a 10-0 record along with Sacred Heart Christmas Tournament crown. Members of the Eagles include (back row, from left): Emily Finn, coach C.J. Aro, Megan Harnish, Danielle Marzec, Amber Riethmiller, Lauren Schnornack (middle row, from left) Taylor Koltunichik, Allie Strautz, Emma Hollinger; (front row, from left) Cassidy Lipinski and Arryn Dochenetz. (Not pictured is coach Tina Dike.)

for more information, call Alethea Van Gorp at (734) 604-9020; or e-mail [aavg@juno.com](mailto:aavg@juno.com).

**Adult soccer league**

The Canton Soccer Club is forming a seven-on-seven recreational soccer league for men and women Sunday evenings at Independence Park, located off Denton Road, in Canton.

The spring session starts April 18; summer session, June 20; and fall session, Sept. 12 (through Halloween).

The fee is \$85 per player (includes three session of eight games each, insurance and T-shirt).

To register or for more information, visit [www.cantonsoccerclub.com](http://www.cantonsoccerclub.com). You can also call adult field coordinator and field director Art Gasiewicz at (734) 776-9640.

**Girls hoop camp**

The Livonia Churchill Girls Summer Basketball Camp

(incoming grades 5-10) will be from 9 a.m. until noon, Monday through Thursday, July 12-15.

The fee is \$60 (if registered by June 15); or \$65. Included in the cost is camp T-shirt and awards.

For more information, call Churchill varsity coach Chad Jenkins at (734) 347-1267; or e-mail [cjenkins@livoniapublicschools.org](mailto:cjenkins@livoniapublicschools.org).

**Archery range opens**

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation has announced its spring opening for its archery range, located on Glendale Avenue (off Farmington Road between I-96 and Plymouth Road).

Range hours will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, April through Oct.; and 4 p.m. until dusk, Tuesdays and Thursdays, Sept.-Oct.

Season individual pass rates, for unlimited use, are

\$25 (resident) and \$40 (non-resident); two members, \$35 (resident) and \$50 (non-resident); three members, \$45 (resident) and \$60 (non-resident); four or more, \$55 (resident) and \$70 (non-resident).

Daily resident fees are \$4 (adult) and \$2 (youths 17-and-under). Non-resident daily fees are \$6 (resident) and \$4 (17-and-under).

Passes are available at the Parks and Recreation desk inside the Livonia Community Recreation Center, 15100 (at Five Mile Road).

For more information, call (734) 466-2410.

**Need volleyball coach**

Dearborn Divine Child High School is seeking applicants for a head varsity volleyball coach.

If interested, submit a resume and letter of interest before Jan. 11 to athletic director Tony DeMare at: [demare@divinechildhighschool.org](mailto:demare@divinechildhighschool.org).

**Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.**

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 24920 Trowbridge St., Dearborn, MI 48124 (313) 277-7940 3/30/2010 at: 1:00pm. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due. Personal property described below in the matter of:

1372	Amanda Pittman	boxes, tv, sofa
1402	Raul Unzueta	boxes, totes, lawn mower
1462	Rhonda Davis	boxes, bags, totes
2056	Jane Hawkins	boxes, pictures, lamp
2062	Ronald Francis	bags, totes, pictures
2214	Lisa Ouellette	grill, stove, refrigerator
2336	Layne Williams	boxes, totes, toys

Publish: March 14 & 21, 2010

**Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.**

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 3650 Enterprise Dr. Allen Park, MI 48101 (313) 441-3117 3/30/2010 at: 12:00pm. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due. Personal property described below in the matter of:

B065	Patrick Spangler	boxes, totes, microwave
B104	Rhonda Houston	bags, totes, washer
B128	Dwain Puryear	bags, boxes, totes
B152	Trina Moore	bags, tools, totes
B185	Tabita Latham	boxes, dresser, totes
B273	Rene Scott	boxes, totes, table
B369	LaMarr Holley	bags
D045	Jacqueline Roberts	boxes, totes, chairs
E016	Minnie Monson	boxes, bags, dresser
F014	Sturge Moreland	boxes, bags, bike
F047	Monica Garcia	boxes, bags, sofa

Publish: March 14 & 21, 2010

**GREAT LAKES TOWING**

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Vehicle to be auctioned for lien  
March 26th, at 10:00 AM.  
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**Are you a Baseball or Softball Player?**

Livonia Junior Athletic League is still accepting registrations for boys & girls between 8 and 18 years of age

Please visit [www.LJAL.com](http://www.LJAL.com) to download a registration form

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For additional help please call the Wayne County Taxpayer Assistance Department at 313-224-8185 or go to [www.treasurer.waynecounty.com](http://www.treasurer.waynecounty.com)

**RAYMOND J. WOJTOWICZ**  
WAYNE COUNTY TREASURER

# NEIGHBORS

## Family shares its knowledge of healthy foods in seminar

BY SHARON DARGAY  
O&E STAFF WRITER

Dr. Art Weaver is a living example of the lessons he teaches in his Better Living Seminars.

"I've been a vegetarian the past 86 years. My parents were vegetarians. There are all kinds of studies that show less animal product and more fruits, vegetables, nuts and grains that one eats, the less cancer, diabetes, constipation, hernias, obesity one has.

"When you add it all up, there's no question it gives you a significant health advantage."

He'll talk about the latest studies that showing a link between eating animal products and the increased risk of heart disease, cancer and other illnesses during a Better Living Seminar on plant-based diet and nutrition, 2:30-5:30 p.m., Sunday, March 28, at Metropolitan Adventist School, 15585 Haggerty, Plymouth. Cost is \$15 per person or \$25 per couple. Register by calling (248) 349-5683.

Doctors, dieticians and a certified fitness trainer will offer information on nutrition, exercise, cooking demonstrations, as well as a full vegetarian meal.

The seminar, which Weaver has produced for more than 40 years, comes less than two weeks after Gov. Jennifer Granholm issued a proclamation announcing Saturday, March 20 as "Meatout Day." After a backlash from livestock producers, the dairy industry and the Michigan Senate, which wanted the proclamation rescinded, Granholm also designated the date as "Michigan Agriculture



Natalie, 85, and Art Weaver, 86, on a recent trip to Egypt.

Day," including animal products. A group of meat lovers had planned to celebrate Meatout Day by serving meat and dairy products during a cookout on the Capitol lawn.

But Weaver, a Northville resident, has no interest in eating "dead animals" grilled or prepared any other way and through his years of study, remains firmly convinced that less meat consumption means better health.

"If I asked you if you want a pan of fried worms, you'd probably say no. But I'm sure in some places in the world, they'd think that's great," he said, adding that growing up vegetarian makes it easier to stay with a plant-based diet. Baby steps — eating one meatless meal a week and adding more fruits and vegetables — can help acclimate meat-eaters to a vegetarian diet.

### TASTY AND EASY

"There are several things to con-



vince people of. Number one is that it indeed is healthier. And I'll quote several studies that all are convincing that the less meat one eats, the better off they are," he said. "Number two is that they have to see it's tasty. No one will eat stuff they don't enjoy.

And number three is that it's economical and easily accomplished."

Weaver's wife, Natalie, 85, and daughter-in-law, Jeannie Weaver, a certified fitness trainer who teaches exercise classes at the Plymouth academy, will demonstrate cooking

techniques. Dr. Weaver's daughter, Ellen Higgins, a registered dietitian who now works in the radiology department at University of Michigan Hospital, will talk about eating more fiber without experiencing pain from flatulence or cramping.

### FAVORITE DISHES

Higgins also is a lifelong vegetarian, as are her children and grandbaby. She said meat-eaters often envision the plant-based diet as "a whole plate of vegetables," but don't realize that grains and vegetables can be shaped into meatballs, lasagna, "meatloaf," and other favorite dishes.

"They have the preconceived idea that it's not going to taste good," she said. Or they believe it will cost too much or demand too much preparation time.

"I stopped at Randazzo's and came home with nine bags of fruits and vegetables for about \$22. There was so much variety. People ask me how I can afford to buy blueberries year-round. It's because I'm not putting my money into meat and junk food."

She said the move toward a plant-based diet starts with a change in mind-set. Instead of planning an entire meal around a meat entree, consider the animal product as a "condiment" to be added sparingly to the main plant-based entree.

Jeannie Weaver also recommends learning one meatless recipe each week.

"The best changes are going to happen as an evolution, not a revolution," she said. "I'd never tell someone 'you need to quit eating meat right away.' You've got to increase your fruits and vegetables."

## Donate clothing, goods at the Detroit Zoo

The Salvation Army is collecting gently-used clothing and household goods from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., today, Sunday, March 21 and Saturday-Sunday, March 26-27 at the Detroit Zoo, located at 10 Mile and Woodward, in Royal Oak.

Contributions to the Salvation Army can

be made without entering the zoo admissions gate. A tax receipt will be available upon request at the time of donation.

Donations to The Salvation Army's Thrift Stores generate total funding for the organization's Southeast Michigan Adult Rehabilitation Center's 180-day residential

rehabilitation program for adults. The program provides food, shelter, education and counseling services to those re-establishing their lives free from alcohol and chemical dependencies. For more information, visit [www.SalArmyThrift.com](http://www.SalArmyThrift.com) or call (866) GIVE-TOO.

### SPRING MOTORCYCLE SAFETY COURSES OFFERED

Learn to become a safer motorcyclist through classes offered by Schoolcraft College's Continuing Education and Professional Development department. Classes are available starting this month and running through fall. The motorcycle safety program offers a variety of courses from the Basic Rider Course for someone who has minimal experience and wants to get a motorcycle endorsement, to the Experienced Rider Course, which is for licensed cyclists and is specifically designed for large touring motorcycles and sport bikes.

Upon successful completion of a State-approved Motorcycle Safety Foundation course, the Secretary of State waives the riding skills test required for a cycle endorsement. However, a short written test required for license endorsement will be given at the Secretary of State at the time of endorsement application. A more extensive test also will be given as part of the course. The fee for each course is \$25. For more information on the Motorcycle Safety Program, visit [www.schoolcraft.edu/ces/motorcycle.asp](http://www.schoolcraft.edu/ces/motorcycle.asp) or call (734) 462-4448.

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### Arthritis Today

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

### NEW DRUGS AND OLD DOCTORS

Today, news of medication travels fast. Internet headlines, twitter, television advertising and instant messaging mean that individuals with arthritis can learn that a new medicine is available the instant it arrives on the pharmacy shelf.

Such speed creates problems for physicians. Advertisement tells the patient that this new product works wonders in the treatment of arthritis. The physician who would prescribe the drug has the responsibility to know the new drug's risks and likelihood of benefit. Solid information on these questions can be elusive.

First, a new drug, even if thoroughly tested, has data on only a few patients. Furthermore, the volunteers recruited to test the new medication are usually otherwise healthy. New drugs are rarely evaluated in an environment of multiple conditions and a myriad of other medications.

In contrast, doctors in general practice see patient who not only have arthritis but who carry additional medical problems such as heart failure, hypertension, diabetes or asthma. Unwanted interactions of new medicines and chronic maladies well may occur.

The medical literature is slow to reveal these side effects because of the time required to gather data and prove the risks that accompany the new drug. In addition, few patients over age 70 are included in new drug testing, thus a doctor may not be aware of special precautions that he needs to take before using the drug for the elderly individual.

It is not hard for a patient to ask the doctor to try a new drug. However, because of the responsibility to do no harm, it is much more difficult for the doctor to write that new prescription.

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After

HOOR DETROIT MAGAZINE'S TOP DOCS+

Jeffrey H. Miller, MD  
Board Certified Interventional Radiologist  
Board Certified Phlebologist



# Can a replacement part improve performance of an appliance?

I received an e-mail from Aaron which prompted today's column and it is proving rather difficult to get an answer to define the change in his product's performance. Here is his e-mail:

I have a question about my Bosch dishwasher. After several years of solid performance, I received a recall notice. The local rep came out to the house and replaced the suspect component — the electronic piece that the buttons and LED display are part of. After he left, I noticed that the cycle times seemed to be longer. On the wash cycles, it's hard to be precise, since the unit adjusts cycle time based on the incoming water supply temperature. However, on the rinse cycle, the change is quite obvious. The cycle was always seven minutes in length, regardless of water temperature. I was a regular user of the rinse cycle, when it was only seven minutes. Now the rinse cycle is anywhere from 22 to 44 minutes, and I don't use it at all.

## Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

for a while, and in the end my rep got angry and ended the phone call. I have given up on having the local rep make further attempts. I am an engineer working in the automotive industry, and I have a hunch about what's going on with my service part. For service parts in automotive, certain electronic modules need to be programmed at the dealer for the specific application. The hardware is the same, but the software is modified according to the application. This avoids the dealer stocking several different part numbers. Is this practice also common with appliances? If so can the Bosch unit be programmed by flipping some switches, or pressing/holding certain keys in sequence? I watched the tech take the unit apart and am confident I could get back into the unit to set any switches if I needed to.

## ENERGY USAGE

My reply: My first thoughts on your problem may indicate that the manufacturer is meeting certain energy standards of today on yesterday's products. I know that this has been done with replacement components having to do with water consumption such as washing machines. There are strict guidelines set by the U.S. Energy Department to ensure that appliance makers save energy and water usage on major home appliances.

As a sideline, recent headlines indicate that the energy usage labels posted on products are not being truthful. More to come on that subject.

If this is the case, it seems odd that an increase in time on the rinse cycle from seven minutes to 22 could save energy. But, last year when I attended a service meeting where a manufacturer's representative was taking apart a new model dishwasher of the future, he pointed out that this particular dishwasher was going to save a ton of energy and water during its lifetime. He told us that the length of run cycle on this dishwasher was going to be three-four hours and it made me wonder how such a long run cycle could cost less than the normal one of, lets say 90 minutes.

In the appliance industry, service technicians are taught the basics of replacing certain parts for certain problems. There is no way that we even come close to the high technology developed in the automobile of today. My argument against all of the electronics installed on appliances today is the cost factor of replacement parts creating an obsolete product. Appliances were created to make it easier on the homemaker of America. They are not required to have anti-lock brakes, etc. Then again, who knows what the future holds for the appliance world. I'll soon write about the washer of the future that uses only one gallon of water to wash a full load. Stay tuned.

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 [apldr@twm1.rr.com](mailto:apldr@twm1.rr.com).

## NEW PART

I had the rep back out at it, and he simply replaced the part with a new one, which made no difference. When I pointed that out, he called Bosch and was patched into someone in India. They argued

# Women get job search help

For a number of years now, Southfield-based Jewish Vocational Services has been offering a Women To Work program. Its goal is to help women who've been out of the workplace, often with family responsibilities, return to paid employment.

The next information meeting will take place 9-11 a.m., Thursday, April 15. The program starts Tuesday, April 20, and consists of 10 sessions from 9 a.m. to noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays, except for the final session which will be on Friday, May 21.

All meetings are held at JVS, 29969 Southfield Road. Charter One Bank's funding provides the program free of charge.

"It's been extremely popular, and we've had larger groups than previously," said Judy Richmond, JVS Women To Work coordinator. The need within the community for assistance in conducting a job search is great, she said.

Job hunting strategies, interviewing,

resume writing and networking to be covered. "There is an assessment that's done, a computerized assessment," she said. The assessment helps participants to focus on a particular area of employment.

Use of the Internet in job searching is covered, a necessity today "more so than ever," she said.

Also covered are areas such as stress management, success in the workplace and financial literacy.

Men may attend the Women To Work sessions, although the program is really geared more for women. It used to be called "Displaced Homemakers."

JVS will be closed for Passover March 30-31, and April 5-6. Richmond will be off the rest of the week of March 30.

For information on Women To Work, call Richmond at (248) 233-4232.

- By Julie Brown

## MORE MILESTONES

### GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

Myron and Carol Hopper celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on March 19.

The life-long Plymouth residents were high school sweethearts who attended Plymouth High School together and married in 1960.

They have two children, Shawn, of Plymouth and Nicole (Scott) Wright of Plymouth. Nicole and Scott's children are Brendan, Evan and Caroline.

Myron is semi-retired barber of McMullen's Barber Shop in downtown Plymouth and Carol is a homemaker and grandmother.



Myron and Carol Hopper of Plymouth

### MAY WEDDING PLANNED

Gary and Sue Leadford of Canton are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Jessica Lynn, to Steven Joseph Yanosik.

The bride-to-be graduated from Canton High School in 2002 and earned a bachelor's degree in nutritional sciences in 2006 from the Honors College at Michigan State University. Jessica is a fourth year medical student at The Ohio State University College of Medicine and will graduate in June 2010. She will specialize in anesthesiology.

Her fiancé, son of Al and Candy Yanosik of Caledonia, is a 2002 graduate of Caledonia High School. Steve holds a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Michigan State University and is employed by American



Leadford-Yanosik

Electric Power in Columbus, Ohio.

Jessica and Steve met their freshman year at MSU.

A May 2010 wedding is planned at The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth Township.

**KNOW THE SCORE**  
check out the numbers in today's **Sports section**

## MILESTONES

### JULY WEDDING PLANNED

Jamie Wilson and Jason Michael Cohen, both of Livonia, announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Michelle St. James of Allen Park and Mike and Dawn Lewkowicz of Harland, is a 1993 graduate of Hartland High School and a 2001 graduate of Washtenaw Community College. She is employed as a veterinary technician at Veterinary Care Specialists,

Milford.

Her fiancé, son of Bob and Linda Cohen of Plymouth, is a 1993 graduate of Plymouth Canton High School, a 2000 graduate of Eastern Michigan University, with a bachelor of science degree. He works for Cohen's Professional Lawn Service.

A July 2010 wedding is planned at Cobblestone Farm, Ann Arbor.



Wilson-Cohen



# Passages

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### BETTY JEAN BURKHART

March 14, 2010, age 78. Beloved wife of Donald. Dear mother of Lee Burkhardt, Joyce (Kevin) Abraham, Denise (Mark) Bair and Susan (Al) Bednarski. Also leaves six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. Services will be held on Thursday at 11am at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth. Share your special thoughts and memories at: [www.schrader-howell.com](http://www.schrader-howell.com)

### BEVERLY A. HINSCH

Age 72, formerly of Livonia, Michigan, passed away Friday, March 12, 2010 at her home in Bonita Springs, Florida. She was born in Detroit, Michigan on July 31, 1937 the daughter of the late Charles and Elizabeth (nee Franke) Corner. Beverly attended Wayne State University and was a proud member of the Delta Zeta Sorority. She was also an avid bridge player. She is survived by her loving husband of 51 years James E. "Jim" Hinsch; sons, James Hinsch Jr., Robert Hinsch; daughters, Kathryn (Ben) Hinsch, Debra Renauer; brother, Charles; sisters, Betty Lou Corner, and Dorothy (Mike) Kotzan. Also surviving are her two granddaughters, Morgan and Renee Renauer. In accordance with her wishes funeral services will be private.

Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home (239) 992-4982 Family Owned Since 1978

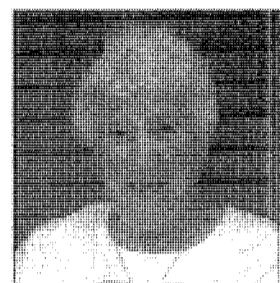


CLARE ANNETTE NEBEL JOHNSON

Wife of James D. Johnson, born April 14, 1926 at home in Gladstone Michigan to George Thomas Nebel and Isabel Mercier Nebel. Clare grew up in Gladstone Michigan moved with her brother to Garberville, California in 1943 to live with her Aunt Ann and Uncle George while her parents worked in a munitions factory in Oregon. Graduated from Garberville High School, completed Nurses training at St. Lukes in Chicago, Illinois and became a Registered Nurse. Re-met her childhood friend James in Ann Arbor Michigan and married September 9, 1950. Raised her family in Livonia, Michigan and North Olmsted, Ohio, later moving to Northville, Michigan. Survived by her husband, James; children Kathleen Johnson (Rob) Bartshe, Stuart (Julie) Johnson, Karen Johnson and grandchildren Audrey (Aaron), James, Helen, William, Michael and Christine. Also siblings Vicky Frantz, Priscilla (Jack) Fisher, Tom (Grace) Nebel, brother-in-law John Beahan and many nieces and nephews. Predeceased by her sister Kathryn Beahan and brother-in-law John Frantz. She was a talented artist of oils and watercolors and enjoyed cooking, sewing and knitting. She cross-country skied winters and golfed summers with her husband, James. Clare passed away February 17, 2010, memorial service will be held for the family April 17 at the Livonia Radisson Michigan Room from 1 - 3 and visitation is 3 - 5. Donation may be made to Heartland Hospice of Ann Arbor and to Alzheimer's Research.

### DOROTHY MACK-HARNER

March 17, 2010. Age 87 of Wayne-Westland. Loving mother, homemaker & nurse. Beloved wife of the late Bernard (Ben) Harner (1960) & the late Dewey Mack (1999). Loving mother of Carol (Jerry) Smith of Canton, Lori Clark of Howell, Rick (Cynthia) Harner of Traverse City & Dennis (Sue) Harner of Gainesville, FL. Dear sister of Nancy (John) Floyd of Stewart, FL. Also survived by ten grandchildren, ten great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild and many nieces & nephews. Dottie was born April 1, 1922 in Sunbury, PA to Richard & Triffie Peifer and was one of nine children. A memorial mass will be held at 11 am Saturday, March 20 at St. Mary Catholic Church, 34530 Michigan Ave., Wayne, MI. The family will be available at the church at 10:30. Cremation rites to be accorded in keeping with Dottie's wishes. Arrangements handled by the Uht Funeral Home. [www.uht.com](http://www.uht.com).



FLORENCE T. DUNEC

Age 91, March 12, 2010. Beloved wife of the late Joseph "Ed" Nyceck, Mitchell Nyceck and Sylvia Fary. Dearest aunt of Mary Ann Dixon, Fran Braum, Toni Hill, Frank Fary, Vince Fary, Pat Fary, Anita Moseley and Ken Nyceck. Also survived by brother-in-law Frank Fary, Sr. Second mother and great aunt of many. Her great and great-great nieces and nephews were her joy. Visitation Friday 3-8pm with a 7pm Rosary at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster Rd. (bet. Ford Rd. and Cherry Hill). In state Saturday 10am until 10:30am Mass at St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh (just south of 5 Mile), Livonia. In lieu of flowers memorials suggested to Angela Hospice or St. Edith Church.

### GERALD CREWDSON

Age 65, of Novi, March 15, 2010. Gerald was a proud Army Veteran. He retired from Ford Motor Co. after 38 years. He is survived by many cousins. Funeral Friday 11 AM at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, 33603 Grand River Ave., Farmington. Visitation Thursday 2-8 PM. [www.thayer-rock.com](http://www.thayer-rock.com)

### KEVIN NORMAN OSTROWSKI

Age 47, of Plymouth, MI., died March 16, 2010 at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, MI. Kevin was born Dec. 22, 1962 in Detroit MI. Kevin was an avid outdoorsman, loved carpentry work and cooking for friends and family. He is survived by his mother, Janet Callan (Leonard Wiczorkowski), of Lachine, MI., his father Norman (step-mother Margaret) Ostrowski, of Lady Lake, Florida; one brother, Kenneth (Phyllis) of Newport, MI, one sister, Jenise (Charles) Hunley of Plymouth, MI. One niece and nephew, Kaitlyn and Cody, grandmother, Helen Andrews and special friend, Sherri Jones, of Plymouth MI. At Kevin's request cremation has taken place, no services will be held.

### MARGARET I. KOENIGER (nee BERG)

March 10, 2010, age 85. Beloved wife of the late Pastor Leonard J. Koening and loving mother of the late Pastor Philip J. Koening and baby Paul Koening. Survivors include her daughter Kristine Wolfe, grandchildren Katherine and Mark Tiefel, Scott and Lindsey Wolfe, Abigail Wolfe and sister Catherine Thomas. Visitation will be at 10am, Saturday, March 20th, immediately followed by a noon Memorial Service at St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1343 Penniman, Plymouth, MI. In lieu of flowers, memorial contribution suggestions may be found at: [www.schrader-howell.com](http://www.schrader-howell.com).

### MARY BUNKER

Age 79, March 12, 2010, of Garden City. Beloved wife of 50 years of Thornton M. "Ted" Bunker. Loving sister of Virginia McNut, Jean Foster, Robert Armentrout and Richard Armentrout. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Memorial services will be held at a later date. Arrangements by R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 31551 Ford Rd., Garden City. Memorial contribution may be made to Angela Hospice.

### WILLIAM S. LORIMER

75 of Birmingham and Clarkston died 3/19/10 was the loving husband of Bernadine Lassaline Lorimer and deceased wife Patricia Dyer Lorimer. Survivors include 25 grandchildren and 6 children: Dan, Meg, Amy, Julia, Mike and Betsy. However, the number swells to hundreds if listing the people that looked to him as a father figure. Bills artistic talents and solid reputation as a custom Builder spanned over 50 years. He was a naturalist who always had time to listen and provide guidance for those in need. A memorial mass will be held Tuesday 3/23/10 at 11am at St. Daniels in Clarkston, 7010 Valley Park Dr. 248.625.4580. Afterwards there will be a gathering at their home. In lieu of flowers, donations can go to [www.landtrust.org/donations](http://www.landtrust.org/donations)

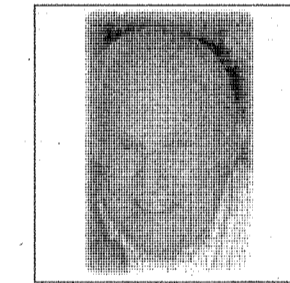
### In Loving Memory TOM M. HERLIHY 09-08-36 to 03-21-06 'Til We Meet Again! Love Family & Friends

### ROBERT BROOKES

Age 67, formerly of Westland, died March 12, 2010. Retired gas linesman from Consumer's Power Company. Survived by wife, Joan; children, Michael (Catherine) & Cathy, all of Redford & Mark (Dawn) of Roscommon; 15 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren & their grandfather, Andy Sambrone of Redford. Walsh Funeral Home, Roscommon 989-275-3600

### WILDA EARLINE KANE

Kane, Irlene, age 76, of Brownstown, March 17, 2010. Beloved wife of the late Richard. Dearest mother of Vanessa Fuhs, Melissa (Mike) Harview, Mark Kaljian and Shanta (Bill) Sagert and step-mother to Richard Kane, Joseph (Kathy) Kane and the late John (Kathy) Kane. Dear grandmother of Joseph Sagert. She was preceded in death by her mother, Hazel Smith. Funeral service is Sunday, 3:00 PM at Michigan Memorial Funeral Home, (next to Michigan Memorial Park) 30895 Huron River Dr., Huron Twp., (734) 783-2646. Visitation is Sunday, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Entombment at Michigan Memorial Park. [michiganmemorialfuneralhome.com](http://michiganmemorialfuneralhome.com)



WILLIAM O. BARTEL

Age 84, of Livonia, passed away March 18, 2010. Loving husband of 57 years to the late Annabel. Beloved father of Jill (Ronald) Ritzler, Gordon Bartel, Gary (Bernadette) Bartel. Preceded in death by William R. and Timothy Lee Bartel. Proud grandfather of Courtney Bartel, Matthew (Jennifer) Ritzler, Jonathan Ritzler, Sarah (Jonathan) Mitchell, Bradley, Steven, Mark, Becky and Adam Bartel. Great grandfather of Rachel, Christian, Emma and Mara. Mr. Bartel served in the United States Army during WWII receiving a Purple Heart and 3 Bronze Stars. He enjoyed farming, collecting model trains, but most of all he loved spending time with his family. Funeral service Monday 11:00am from Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church 14175 Farmington Rd, Livonia with visitation beginning at 10:30am. Friends may visit the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home 280 South Main, Plymouth, Sunday 2-9pm. Interment Riverside Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church or to Angela Hospice 14100 Newburgh Rd, Livonia, MI 48154. Share memories at [schrader-howell.com](http://schrader-howell.com)

### OBITUARY POLICY

The first five "billed" lines of an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$4 per line. You may place a picture of your loved one for an additional cost of only \$6. Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: American Flags, religious symbols, etc.)

### Deadlines:

Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday  
Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday

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

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OE08658429

# Detroit Medical Center executives get new roles

Two top Detroit Medical Center (DMC) executives, Mary Zuckerman and Timothy J. Ryan, recently received new job titles and responsibilities.

Zuckerman of Livonia has been appointed executive vice president, chief operating officer. She joined DMC in 2004 and is responsible for all hospitals operations and numerous corporate functions including construction, revenue cycle,

laboratory, retail pharmacy, nutrition services, radiology, customer service, the chief nursing office and certificate of need. Before joining the DMC, she spent eight years with Wayne County, the last two serving as the deputy county executive. Zuckerman earned a master's degree in public administration from Northern Illinois University and a bachelor's degree from Winona State University.

Ryan, of Royal Oak has been appointed senior vice president, chief business development officer. He will oversee physician recruiting, practice management, sports medicine, international services, and physician contracting, among other duties.

Before coming to the DMC in 2007, he was president and CEO of Detroit-Macomb Hospital Corporation and senior

vice president of St. John Health. He holds an M.B.A. degree and a law degree from the University of Michigan and a bachelor's degree in finance from Kalamazoo College. He is a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives.

"Mary and Tim's proven track records for system-wide improvements and getting results positioned them for their new leadership

roles," said Michael Duggan, president and CEO, Detroit Medical Center.

The Detroit Medical Center operates Children's Hospital of Michigan, Detroit Receiving Hospital, Harper University Hospital, Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, Hutzel Women's Hospital, Kresge Eye Institute, Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan, Sinai-Grace Hospital, and DMC Surgery Hospital.



Zuckerman

## MEDICAL DATEBOOK

### MARCH

#### St. Mary Mercy

"Parenting with Love and Logic" for parents with elementary age children, 7-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 24 in Classrooms 1 & 2. The program uses a common sense approach, teaching parents skills that cultivate confidence and good decision-making in children by offering them choices, empathy, and respect while adults avoid anger, threats, warnings, or lectures. The fee is \$10 per person, and registration is required. Call (734) 655-1162 for more information or to register. Or register online at [stmarymercy.org](http://stmarymercy.org) and click on "classes and events."

#### Autism conference

Registration is underway at [www.asdboards.com](http://www.asdboards.com) for the Second International Conference on Autism Spectrum Disorders - including Autism, Asperger's syndrome, AD/HD,

RAD and OCD - which runs March 26-28 at Troy Metropolitan Hotel, 5500 Crooks, Troy. The American Medical Autism Board and Dr. Phillip DeMio, present the conference, which will cover such topics as toxins in the environment, recovery stories, unique effective therapy techniques for improving your child's outcome, immunological treatments for yeast, viruses, and other pathogens, implementation of special diets, biomedical treatments for behavioral problems in adoptive children and much more. Cost is \$179 for three full days, or \$79 for any one general session day. Extra charges may apply for health care providers seeking additional course and AMAB credits.

2, will educate dog and cat owners about common behavior problems - and strategies to prevent them - when a new baby is brought into the home. Topics covered are what to expect from your pet, how to prepare for success, simple tips on an easy transition and how to anticipate and prevent potential behavior problems. Registration is required. Fee is \$10 per person. Call (734) 655-1159 for more information, or to register. Register online at [www.stmarymercy.org](http://www.stmarymercy.org) and click on "classes and events".

• "HeartSaver" Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation class (CPR), 6:30-9 p.m. Wednesday, April 14, in the Community Outreach Department, Classroom 10. The class is being offered through a partnership with the American Heart Association. Learn CPR and choking techniques for children and adults. To register, call the Community Outreach Department at (734) 655.8950, or register online at [stmarymercy.org](http://stmarymercy.org).

### APRIL

#### St. Mary Mercy

"Pet Preparation for Baby," 7-9 p.m., Thursday, April 8, in classrooms 1 and

# Web site, call center offer radiation exposure information

Beaumont Hospitals has launched a radiation safety call center and a radiation safety Web site to help consumers assess their risk to radiation exposure and learn how to reduce it.

There are many diagnostic medical tests that involve radiation exposure, including X-rays and computed tomography scans.

People with medical conditions requiring frequent medical imaging, and children, are at greater risk of harm from radiation exposure.

The call center is staffed 24 hours a day by registered nurses, specially trained and supported by Beaumont's radiation safety experts. The center's toll-free phone number is (888) 388-MYCT (6928).

The radiation safety Web site, with questions and answers on radiation safety, comparisons of radiation doses for various diagnostic tests and a radiation tracking wallet card, can be accessed at [www.beaumont-hospitals.com](http://www.beaumont-hospitals.com).

Beaumont will also be hosting a Web chat with radiation safety and imaging experts noon to 1 p.m., Wednesday, March 24. Go to [www.beaumont-hospitals.com](http://www.beaumont-hospitals.com) to participate in the chat.

"In general, the risk of developing cancer from radiation exposure is not a major concern when compared to the benefits of medical imaging procedures," says Dr. Duane Mezwa,

corporate chief of diagnostic imaging, Beaumont Hospitals. "By asking questions and making wise imaging choices, patients can reduce their radiation exposure when they require medical imaging, especially higher dose exams such as computed tomography.

"New CT technology, such as the Siemens Somatom Definition Flash CT, significantly reduces radiation exposure for a CT chest scan from an average dose of 8-20 millisieverts (a measurement of medical radiation) to less than 1 millisievert," Mezwa said. "The reduction in radiation exposure is especially beneficial for people with chronic medical conditions requiring frequent imaging, trauma patients, heart patients and children."

The three Beaumont hospitals are currently the only hospitals in Michigan with Flash CTs.

Radiation exposure may also be reduced when technologists use special "gating" techniques to lower tube voltage during CT imaging tests. In June 2009, a Beaumont-led study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association showed that radiation exposure for heart CTs can be cut in half using these techniques with no effect on image quality. Beaumont cardiologists are leading a statewide collaborative research study of CT heart scanning that includes hospi-

tals throughout Michigan.

In addition to using radiation for diagnostic testing, it is also used in therapies to treat certain cancers through a medical specialty called radiation oncology.

Beaumont radiation oncologists have pioneered new treatments and technology for pinpoint accuracy in targeting cancerous cells, while protecting adjoining healthy tissues and organs from radiation exposure. One of these inventions is Omnibeams, that combines CT imaging and robotic technology with a linear accelerator, a machine that treats cancer with a radiation beam. Invented and patented by Dr. Alvaro Martinez, chairman of Radiation Oncology, Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, Omnibeams' real-time imaging allows the radiation beam to be precisely targeted and automatically adjusted to account for movement in a patient's internal organs, changes in patient positioning or breathing.

"It's very important that patients with cancer research their treatment options," Martinez said. "If radiation oncology treatment is recommended, they should choose a center that treats a high number of patients and one that's involved in clinical research, because such centers have greater expertise and can offer the latest treatment advancements."

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