

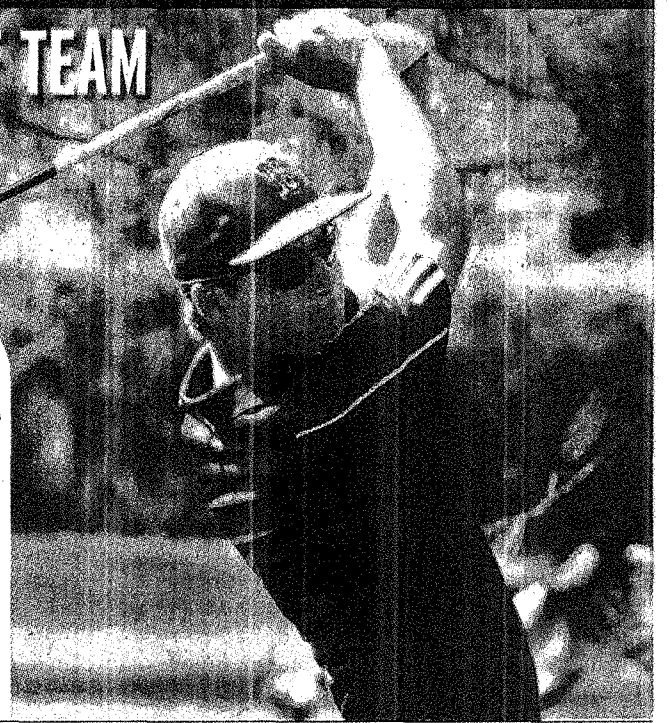
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SUNDAY
June 27, 2010

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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WESTLAND OBSERVER

hometownlife .com

IN BRIEF

Phase two

Get used to see some familiar local sites on television as the second phase of the city's marketing campaign for the Westland Shopping & Dining District. A commercial to promote the district is running on both WOW! and Comcast cable providers. The commercial, which promotes Westland as a shopping and dining destination will be shown on a number of channels including Fox Sports Detroit, TLC, E, Lifetime and the Food Network. The promotion will last for eight weeks.

"This new marketing initiative aims to give our city a competitive edge in the shopping and dining industry," said Mayor William Wild. "This commercial will encourage residents from surrounding cities to shop and dine in our All-American City."

The emphasis on promoting Westland shopping and dining is in part because the city supports our local businesses that help make Westland the great All-American city it is, said Wild. Second, he noted that Westland is home to one of the nation's oldest malls, Westland Shopping Center, featuring over 95 shops anchored by Macy's, Sears and JCPenney along with many other retailers found throughout the city.

Westland also offers many choices when it comes to restaurants. From fast food, to inexpensive family eateries to restaurants offering a more formal atmosphere, there is a great place to eat for everyone that is convenient and close to home.

The first phase of the campaign was centered around the 2009 holiday shopping season and consisted of print and radio ads and the creation of an informative link on the city's web site to give visitors information on restaurants, shops and service providers in the Westland Shopping & Dining District at www.cityofwestland.com and clicking on the Shop & Dine Westland link on the homepage.

The district has also hosted an outdoor movie night and a weekly farmer's market to draw visitors to the area.

Cult movies

The futuristic thriller Blade Runner (R) will be featured at Westland's Faust Library 7 p.m. Friday, July 9 after a week off for the July 4 holiday. The doors open at 6:30 p.m. and refreshments will be served. Those under 18 must be accompanied by an adult to attend Rated R movies such as this film starring Harrison Ford.

The library is located on Central City Parkway north of Ford. Admission is free.

Gov: No further school cuts coming

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

School districts won't get a rumored \$268 per pupil funding, Gov. Jennifer Granholm told a local audience Thursday. "There will definitely not be a foundation cut," Granholm said. "We have proposed holding education harmless, and

there's agreement in both the House and Senate."

Wayne-Westland Schools Superintendent Greg Baracy, whose district has had per pupil funding cut over \$2 million during the current school fiscal year, wasn't buying it.

"It's all political rhetoric. They cut us \$165 per student and they're not restoring us.

When they restore the cuts of the last several years, then they can hold us harmless," said Baracy.

Granholm, speaking at a meeting of the Plymouth A.M. Rotary Club which, ironically, took place at noon at downtown Plymouth's Fiamma Grille, said legislators had "agreed" to hold school districts harmless as

they decided what to do about an unexpected surplus in the state's school aid fund.

Not only will the state not make that cut, in fact, the governor said, school districts may even get "a very small" increase.

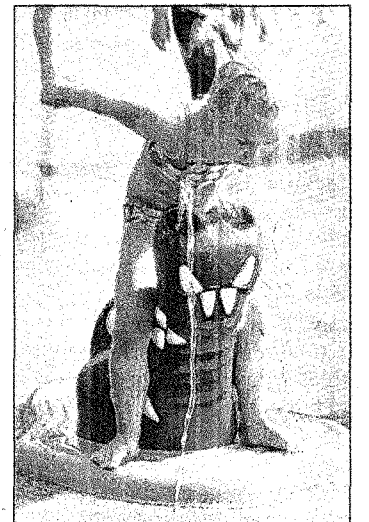
Granholm did say that some of the surplus in the school aid fund could be diverted to colleges and universities, if legisla-

tors can do it without hurting local school districts.

The rumored cut of \$268 per pupil would have cost Wayne-Westland Schools over \$3.4 million. The district has 12,800 students and a \$116 million budget.

If funding is maintained for

Please see **FUNDING, A2**



Summer is here!

Westland's Tattan Park hosted a Kick-off Summer event to celebrate the first week of summer vacation. (Above) Ava Mauracic kept cool at the H2O Zone at Tattan Park. (At left) Everyone gets a soaking when the bucket drops at the sprayground. For a story and more photos from this event, see Page A3.

Long ride: Local firm supplies tires for NASA lunar vehicle

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

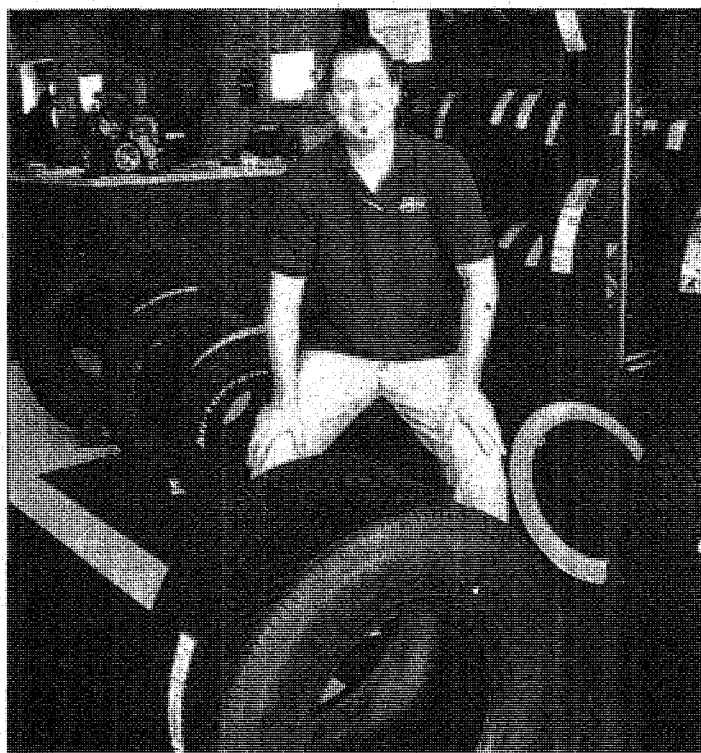
When the guy calling Harlow Tire identified himself as working for NASA, owner Brian Harlow wanted a clarification on who needed tires.

"Sometimes people will throw the name of their company around for a better rate. I asked if the tires were for personal use. He said no," said Harlow. "NASA has gotten tires from us before — we're on a list of suppliers. But absolutely, it's unusual to get a call like that."

In fact, the tires were for NASA's next generation lunar electric rover which is currently being tested in the desert. Along with tires and service for the general public, Harlow Tire also specializes in tires and wheels for hot rods.

NASA purchased 12 Mickey Thompson Sportsman Pro tires and wheels for the lunar vehicle, tires that have been in production for about 30 years.

"Normally, the tires run on a street rod. They grab better — they're wider tires. I'm not sure about roaming on the moon," said Harlow. "They are testing the vehicle right now. Once they are done, he'll order 12-24 tires. They cost a couple of hundred



Harlow Tire and Service owner Brian Harlow shows the same type of racing tires purchased by NASA for new electric lunar vehicle currently undergoing testing.

dollars apiece."

Harlow's parents, Jim and Margaret, founded the family business in 1965. Brian Harlow is now the owner of the business but Margaret still works there daily.

"It's very cool. It's interesting

to see and to think the tires we sent from here might be on the moon one day," said Harlow.

For more information, visit www.nasa.gov/exploration/home/LER.html.

lr Rogers@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-5428

Westland purchases more blighted homes

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland has acquired another five blighted properties through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program and moved ahead with efforts to redevelop another site.

The council approved the purchase of a home at 2317 Second St. for \$1,501 and a quadplex at 2128-34 Elbridge for \$18,000. The council had allocated \$600,000 in federal NSP funding to purchase foreclosed, abandoned and vacant properties.

Both properties are located in Norwayne, which was initially designated as the city's area of greatest — it was later expanded to include about two-thirds of Westland. Many of the Norwayne homes will be demolished to reduce the high residential in the area.

"I'm not opposed to tearing down buildings that need to be demolished," said resident Judy McKinney, who had earlier expressed concerns about the house located next to her home being demolished. "You need to take a second look at the ones that can be saved."

The city had already

acquired 29 homes under the demolition phase of the program with 17 of those buildings already demolished.

Another 26 homes were earlier acquired for rehabilitation. The city has contracts with two firms, Home Renewal Systems and Guy Construction, to rehabilitate 20 homes each by December. The city also has a partnership with Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne County for rehabilitation and new construction projects.

The council also approved a lot split for a parcel on the north side of Donnelly east of Wayne Road.

The city acquired the parcel and an existing home has already been demolished. One home is being built on the site by Habitat for Humanity and the lot split will allow two additional homes to be constructed.

The parcel is 24,000 square feet and has 180 feet of frontage on Donnelly.

"It's a very large site and we will end up with three lots that exceed the minimum lot size," said Planning Director Bruce Thompson, adding that the city itself was the petitioner on the request.

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AROUND WESTLAND

Farmers market

Fresh fruit, vegetables, baked goods, sausages and flowers will be offered at the Westland Farmers Market 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesdays through October. Look for the market on the east side of Westland Shopping Center along Wayne Road just south of Ashley's.

Get fit

The Bailey Recreation Center offers a variety of exercises programs.

Cardio-Kickboxing/Aerobics with the Mind, Body and Spirit Institute is enjoyable exercise to keep fit, build stamina, increase coordination, and develop balance and speed while practicing basic punches and kicks. This total body workout is designed to burn up to 800 calories per session. Taught by a professional fighter, students will learn self-defense, improve self-esteem and self-confidence, and increase mental discipline while toning and losing weight.

The class is open to student from beginners to advanced. Everyone will benefit from this workout. Anyone 15 years and older can participate although middle school students can attend if accompanied by a parent with the instructor's permission.

It's \$5 per person per class with sessions at 6-7 p.m. and 7-8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays on an ongoing basis.

For those who like their exercise a bit less martial, the Bailey Center offers drop-in aerobics for adults 6:30-7:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. It's a low impact workout with a variety of activities. Participants should wear comfortable clothes and athletic shoes.

The cost is \$5 per person per class or \$50 for 12 classes in six weeks.

For information about either class or other Bailey Center activities, call (734) 686-9882.

Help wanted

Westland Mayor William Wild is accepting resumes from residents interested in

serving on various boards and commissions that have vacancies. Here are the boards and commissions along with a brief description:

•Brownfield Redevelopment Authority - Established in 1997, the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority uses tax increment financing to help remediate environmentally affected sites in the community. The Brownfield Redevelopment Program can provide major benefits to businesses that redevelop contaminated, functionally obsolete or blighted properties.

•EDC/TIFA - The Economic Development Corporation (EDC) provides below market rate financing for eligible firms. The Tax Increment Finance Authority (TIFA), under the supervision of the EDC, implements an infrastructure improved plan within a specified district.

•Historical Commission - The commission collects, maintains and preserves any materials and documents relating to the history of Westland and Nankin Township. The commission also operates the Helen C. Brown Historical Museum.

•L DFA - The Local Development Finance Authority (L DFA) is an 11-member board, seven appointed by mayor, two from Wayne-Westland Schools, one from Wayne County and one from Wayne County Community College, representing four taxing jurisdictions implements a development plan to improve a 2.5 mile section of the Newburgh Road corridor.

•LOCC - The Local Officer's Compensation Commission (LOCC) determines the salary of all elected officials.

•Parks & Recreation Advisory - The advisory council reviews plans and specifications for work undertaken in city parks and volunteers for programs provided by the city's Recreation Department.

Anyone interested in serving on any of these board or commission can submit their resume to the Mayor's Office, 36601 Ford, Westland, MI 48185.



Westland Mayor William Wild (left) and Council President James Godbout accepted as plaque from Kelly Bates recognizing the \$1 million raised for the American Cancer Society by the annual Westland Relay for Life over ten years.

City honored for Relay efforts

In 2010, Westland's Relay for Life reached two milestones, completing ten annual events and reaching \$1 million raised for the American Cancer Society.

Westland Relay for Life

Chairperson Kelly Bates, who until getting married recently was Kelly Lawrence, presented a plaque commemorating those milestones to the city. Mayor William Wild and Council President James

Godbout accepted the award. "It takes an entire city pulling together - the residents and city workers. We have raised \$1 million in ten years," said Bates. "I would like to give the city a big hand for

that." The 24-hour event was held at Jaycees Park and teams committed to having people walking throughout the event symbolizing cancer never sleeps.

Hearing delayed for man accused of sexually assaulting girl

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A preliminary examination for a Westland man accused of sexually assaulting a young girl over a period of at least two years has been delayed until July 8.

Brandon Lee Fedosky, 20, had been scheduled for the hearing Thursday in 18th District to decide if there was

probable cause for him to be bound over for trial on seven felony charges.

Held in lieu of \$500,000 cash bond since his arrest in mid-May, Fedosky is charged with one count of first-degree criminal sexual conduct, one count of second-degree criminal sexual conduct, two counts of third-degree criminal sexual conduct, one count

of fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct, one count of committing a sex crime with a computer, and one count of distributing obscene material.

A not guilty plea was entered for Fedosky. A Frumint Court resident, Fedosky is charged with sexually abusing the girl since she was 12 years old.

The girl, now 14, reported

the alleged sexual assaults to a school counselor, which resulted in Westland police being contacted.

The charges of using a computer to commit a sex crime and distributing obscene materials stem from sexually explicit photographs Fedosky is accused of sending to the victim.

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FUNDING
FROM PAGE A1

the fiscal year that begins July 1, that would be good news for Wayne-Westland Schools.

"We have a little fund balance now but are projecting none after the 2010-11 fiscal year," said Baracy. "We're using fund balance to balance the budget."

Along with a \$165 per pupil funding cut in the current year, Baracy said the district was also hit with a \$1.4 million increase in health care costs which hadn't been anticipated.

"The bottom line is that we're really not being held harmless. Our expenses continue to go up and our revenue continues to go down," said Baracy. "The state has not restored the cuts, so how can they say we are being held

harmless? We get \$200 less per pupil then we did two years ago."

Granholt said she expects the deal to be done by July 1. In fact, she said she supports an amendment to the state Constitution calling for the budget to be done annually by July 1 and said the governor and state legislators should have their pay docked for every day after that until the budget is done.

It's been a long-standing complaint from school officials that their fiscal year begins July 1 but the state fiscal year begins Oct. 1. That change in the fiscal year was done by the legislature to buy some time during a financial crunch a number of years ago.

Staff writer LeAnne Rogers contributed to this story.
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Crowds fill Tattan Park to kick off summer



Holding on to her balloon, Alexandria Sheppard cools off with a bottle of water.



Plenty of youngsters cooled off at the H2O Zone sprayground at the official summer kick-off event at Tattan Park.



Enjoying the water at the H2O Zone sprayground was Asia Jackson.

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It was a perfect afternoon for outside fun — splashing in the spray park, climbing on the playscape or taking a break with a hot dog or a snow cone.

Westland's Tattan Park was packed Thursday as the city hosted a Kick-off Summer event to celebrate the first week of summer vacation.

As if the H2O Zone sprayground and the Play Planet Playscape weren't enough of an attraction, there were also bounce houses, food and beverage stations, face-painting, balloons, a dunk tank for volunteers looking to cool off more and live music.

"We had to get more hot dogs. Sam's Club donated 1,000 and we made a run to Gordon Foods to get more hot dogs," said Mayor William Wild.

"This is the first time we've been to the water park. All of it's really nice — it's good for kids and families," said Westland resident Nadiyah Myles, who was watching her daughter and nephew play in the H2O Zone. "We've been to the park a lot for the playscape. The kids call the big park. It keeps them busy, they run around and then go home, take a bath and go to bed."

It was also the first time Pam Fedea, accompanied by her



Having gotten her face painted, Kennedy Hassell enjoyed some cotton candy.

daughter and three grandchildren, visited the H2O Zone. Opened last fall, the spray park was designed by Fedea's son, architect Scott Catallo, who also lives in Westland.

"I'm 61 and this is my first time at a water park. I didn't know what it was — I think it's awesome," said Fedea. "I think every city should have one of these so you don't have to drive miles to another city."

Keeping with tropical theme, some seasonal Parks and Recreation employees were serving "lava juice" outfitted in grass skirts — they wore swim trunks underneath — with painted faces.

City staff were pitching in by manning different booths passing out information about

different programs or collecting drawing entries. Finance Director Steve Smith and Assessor James Elrod had the hottest job — grilling the hot dogs over open flames.

"We have the biggest playscape in the state, the splash park is always filled — this is what community is all about," said Westland Police Chief Alan Ramsden, as he watched the action.

Located just south of Ford along the west side of Carlson, Tattan Park was developed using funds from the Downtown Development Authority as part of its efforts to attract visitors to the DDA district.

lrogers@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-5428



Chris Watson mans one of the water spray guns at the H2O Zone.

GARDEN CLIPPINGS

Flea markets

Holding flea markets at the Straight Farmhouse the second and third Saturdays of the month has worked to increase visibility and earn money. The flea markets are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and run through Sept. 18.

Cheryl Stepanian, Maplewood Community Center supervisor, said that the farmhouse location on Merriman, north of Ford, means having 30-40 different vendors rather than 10 or 12 participants as in the past when the flea market was held at the com-

munity center, Stepanian said. Muriel Grima, a volunteer at the farmhouse, said the partnership has worked.

"This is the second year for the flea market," Grima said.

Spaces inside the farmhouse are \$15 which includes the table. Outside spaces are \$10 and sellers will need to bring their own tables. Sellers can register and pay the day of the sale.

The flea market helps support the Straight Farmhouse, home of the Garden City Historical Museum, and the Maplewood Center. For more information,

call (734) 793-1850.

Amateur Radio Field Day

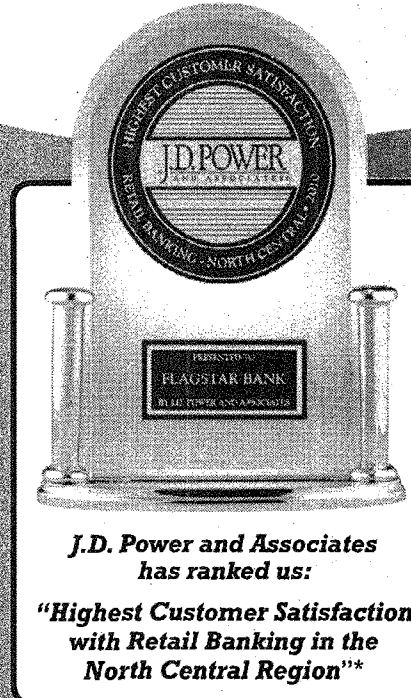
Interested in Ham Radio? The Garden City Amateur Radio Club is always interested in new members.

The club meets at 7 p.m. every third Tuesday of the month in Room 16 of the Maplewood Community Center. The center is located on Maplewood, west of Merriman.

Every Saturday, the group meets for breakfast at 9 a.m. at the Toast Restaurant, on Ford, east of Middlebelt.

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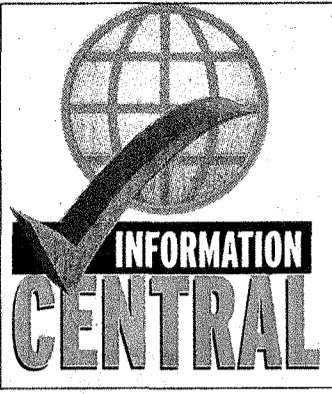
Dream a Little Dream

Have you ever had a dream that was so vivid or scary that you woke yourself up? How about one that keeps recurring? According to Lauri Loewenberg, author of *So What Did You Dream Last Night?* and founder of *thedreamzone.com*, the five most common dreams are falling, being chased, teeth falling out, being back at school and your spouse cheating on you.

If you're interested in what dreams mean or even why we have them, the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland can help you.

As part of the library's adult summer reading program, Summer Odyssey, Dr. James Uhl will be giving a presentation, *Dreams Interpreted*, 7 p.m. Thursday, July 1. Uhl is a noted author, teacher, lecturer, psychotherapist and spiritual guide. This will be an interactive program with audience participation as well as general information about dream interpretation. Please call (734-326-6123) or stop by the Reference Desk to reserve a spot.

The library also has a variety of books about dreams. A bookmark has been created



that includes the titles listed below plus other titles on dreams that the library has in its collection. It can be found at the Reference Desk area.

For more general information regarding dreams you might want to take a look at these titles: *The Complete Book of Dreams* by Julia Parker; *The Dictionary of Dreams* by Gustavus Miller; *K.I.S.S. Guide to Dreams* by Lisa Lenard; *The Nightmare Encyclopedia* by Jeff Belanger; and *Sylvia Browne's Book of Dreams* by Sylvia Browne.

Books about dream interpretation include the following: *Creative Dream Analysis* by Gary K. Yamamoto; *The Interpretation of Dreams*

by Sigmund Freud; *The Secret Language of Dreams* by David Fontana; *Tarot & Dream Interpretation* by Julie Gillentine; and *10,000 Dreams Interpreted* by Gustavus Miller.

Dreams can also have spiritual significance. Titles on this aspect include *The Art of Spiritual Dreaming* by Harold Klemp; *Dreams by Ann Spangler*; *Dreams and Miracles* by Ann Spangler; and *The Jewish Dream Book* by Vanessa Ochs.

The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland is open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday. By Susan Hanson

Highlighted Activities

•1000 Journal Movie and Discussion, 7 p.m. Monday, June 28. Stop by and view the film *1000 Journals* which shares the experience of the worldwide journey of 1000 journals and chronicles the collaboration of the thousands who have added to this global "message in a bottle." A discussion will follow. Learn how you can become a part of this amazing journal project

on a local level. No sign-up is needed.

•Fiction Writing Group, 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 29. Open to anyone 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 e-mail: andy.schuck@westlandlibrary.org

•Burger Bonanza, 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 30. This family event will be held in the Library Pavilion Just in time for July 4, students from Schoolcraft College's Culinary Arts Program will prepare delicious burgers with one-of-a-kind toppings for you to taste slider-style. Ingredients will come from local grocers and recipes will be available at the tasting. Space is limited. Sign up in advance at the Reference Desk.

•Science Fiction/Fantasy Book Club, 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 30. Join us for a discussion of Charles Stross's *Accelerando*. This novel follows several generations of

the Macx family through the rapidly transforming, Internet-enabled global economy of the early twenty-first century to the human and transhuman populated worlds of the outer solar system a half century later. All are welcome.

•Dreams Interpreted, 7 p.m. Thursday, July 1. Are you curious about the meaning behind that recurring dream? Dr. James Uhl will be here to discuss dream interpretation and to take your questions about your most puzzling dreams and nightmares. Sign up at the Reference Desk to reserve your seat. (734) 326-6123.

•Summer Concert Series: No concert this week. Join us next on Thursday, July 8 when Mustard's Retreat will perform folk music. All ages welcome. Seating is limited, so bring a chair if you're late. For a complete list of Summer Concert performers, stop by the library or check out westlandlibrary.org

•Friday Night Movie Cult Classics: No afterhours movie this week. Join us Friday, July 9, for the showing of *Blade Runner*. The doors open at 6:30 p.m. with the movie at

7 p.m.
•Job Seekers Lab, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays; 5-8 p.m. Wednesdays; and 1-4 p.m. Fridays. 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. No reservation needed.

•Drop-in Knitting Nights @ the Library, 7 p.m. every Wednesday. Everyone welcome, including crocheters.

•Chess Group, 7-8:45 p.m. Thursdays and 1-4 p.m. Saturdays. 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.

•Children, Teens Adults: Programs, Prizes, Reading, Fun - Join the Summer Reading Program today.

•The Library will be closed for Independence Day, Monday, July 4.

Westland Summer Festival kicks off Wednesday

Food, carnival rides, kids' games, a petting zoo, duck races and July 4 fireworks — the annual Westland Summer Festival has something for everybody.

The festival, which is celebrating "40 Years of Smiles and Laughter," kicks off 5 p.m. Wednesday, June 30, and continues through Sunday, July 4, closing with the fireworks display.

Held in the Westland

municipal parking lot, the festival will also open at 5 p.m. Thursday and Friday, July 1-2, and then activities begin at noon on Saturday and Sunday, July 3-4.

Throughout each day, there will be carnival rides, a midway, food concessions, a beer tent and arts and crafts. There will be a petting zoo and exotic animals on display.

There will be live entertainment each evening of the

festival:

- 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 30 — Swingshift.
- 8 p.m. Thursday, July 1 — Tony Phillips.
- 8 p.m. Friday, July 2 — Impact 7, Motown hits.
- 3-6 p.m. Saturday, July 3 — Topper Most, Beatles tribute, and 8 p.m. Trilogi.
- 3-6 p.m. Sunday, July 4 — Voice of the King Elvis Tribute and 7 p.m. Second Wind.

The Westland Jaycees are hosting children's events 2-6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, July 3-4. At noon Sunday, July 4, the Westland Civitans are holding the finals of their Baby Contest.

From 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, July 3-4, the Wayne Masonic Lodge will host a free child identification program at Westland Fire House No. 1, 36651 Ford, on the east side

of City Hall.

Each child who goes through the process will receive a dental impression as well as a CD containing a photo, video, digital fingerprints and their vital information. The Michigan Masonic Child ID Program provides the family with everything needed for the Amber Alert System. Parents or legal guardians of children who participate must be pres-

ent and fill out a permission slip for the child to receive this service.

The July 4 fireworks are scheduled to begin about 10:15 p.m. To accommodate the fireworks, which are fired over Central City Park, Carlson south of Ford will be closed off beginning earlier in the day. There will be no parking on the street to make room for more people to view the fireworks.

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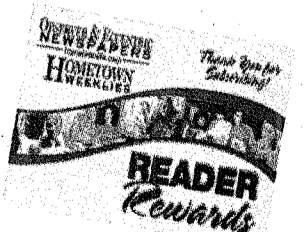


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Staying in touch

Chain massage of 1,108 sends a message worldwide

BY STEVE KOWALSKI
ECCENTRIC STAFF WRITER

SOUTHFIELD — For all the massages Irene Gauthier has given in the last half century, it's no wonder so many people were willing to stand in line to rub elbows with her on her 90th birthday.

Gauthier said she was "overwhelmed" by the attendance at a birthday party thrown for her Friday on the grounds of Irene's Myomassology Institute, which she founded at 26061 Franklin Road in Southfield. Family and friends should find out soon if the turnout was Guinness World Records worthy.

In celebration of Gauthier's contributions to massage therapy, organizers planned to set a new Guinness World Records standard for largest massage chain ever. With 1,108 in a line, including Gauthier at the front, the old record of 630 didn't stand a chance.

"We wanted to make it unbreakable," said Garden City resident Jennifer Simmons, a career services worker at Irene's Myomassology Institute who attended with her mother, Linda Radford, and sister, Brianna, of Westland.

Southfield resident Ezzell Segars wore No. 472, happy to be part of a world record effort. He has been coming to the institute for massages for 10 years, calling it the "best deal in town."

"Irene is the best," he said. "I can tell you she's an 'old pro.'"

Irene credits eating right and exercise for her long and happy life. Many of the well-



PHOTOS BY JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jennifer Simmons, a Garden City resident and career services associate at Irene's Myomassology Institute in Southfield, serves food to a chain massage participant.

wishers greeted Gauthier as she sat in the passenger seat of a golf cart prior to the assembly of the massage chain. Attendees took turns shaking her hand or merely wishing her a happy birthday. Diane Bailey, whose daughter, Kirsten, is beginning massage therapy classes at Irene's Myomassology Institute in the fall, greeted Gauthier in Polish.

"I said 'Sto Lat!,' which means, 'May you live 100 years,'" said Bailey, who has been a client for seven years. "She told me in Finnish what they say."

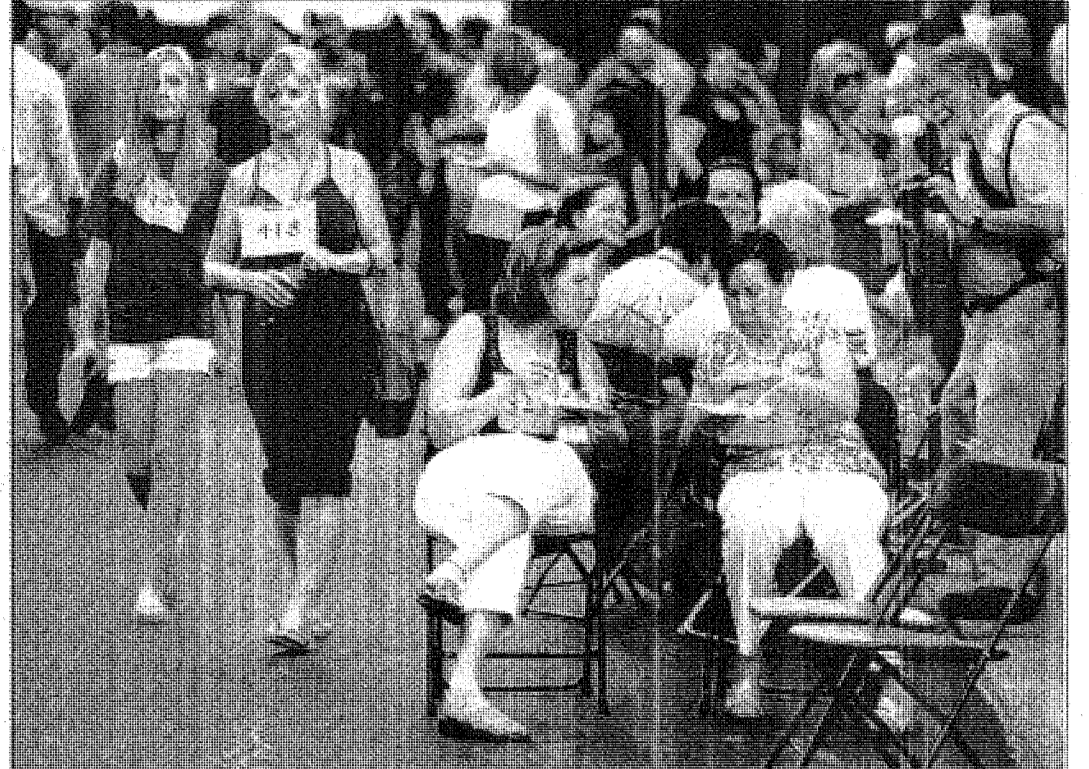
"Every time I've been here she's here. She wears the school on her shirt."

Kathy Gauthier, one of Irene's five children and the institute's current owner, was second in the chain behind her mother, followed by Irene's grandson, Chad Hartung, and another daughter, Yvonne Gauthier. The remainder of the line included friends and perfect strangers, extending for what seemed forever.

"I was hoping for a hot guy to get behind me," joked Radford, settling for a massage from her daughter Brianna.

Participants danced in front

of a stage and ate as they waited a couple of hours in the hot sun to form the chain. Once finished, Kathy Gauthier said the line resembled an "all-pro" team of massage therapists. The turnout was a testament to the friends her mother



Brianna Smith, 12, and her mother, Linda Radford, both from Westland, walk along the grounds of Irene's Myomassology Institute in Southfield, while Birmingham resident Lauren Burtell (seated, left) and her mother, Carmela Burtell, enjoy food in their seats.

made in a massage therapy career that had modest beginnings.

"She worked out of the basement until the first school opened in 1987," Kathy Gauthier said. "That's how she put food on the table as a

single mom."

Gauthier deserved being at the front, although one suspects she'd have been just as happy in the middle, giving a massage.

"Her office is right across from mine and she always

comes in and says 'You need to be balanced: get on my table,'" Simmons said. "She always says, 'It's not just rub, rub, rub. She lights up when she (gives a massage).'"

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Community garden seeks volunteers



Volunteers are needed to help weed and eventually harvest the crops at the Westland DTE Energy Community Garden which will provide fresh produce to the Gleaners Community Food Bank. Just drop by the one-acre garden at 38155 Cherry Hill, Westland. Make sure to bring your own water, gloves, tools and wear hard shoes.

Singers can be the Canton Idol

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

And the next Canton Idol is ...

OK, so it will be the first singer crowned by BeckRidge Chorale, an adult choral ensemble, in an *American Idol*-type competition.

True, the winner can be from most any southeast Michigan community.

"We're not picky about where they come from," BeckRidge artistic director Michael Gross said, because the choir draws its own singers from many communities.

The competition draws its name from Canton because BeckRidge Chorale has arranged for its *Idol*-inspired singing contest to play out inside the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, a 400-seat venue located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road on Canton's west side.

Young singers who will be in middle school this fall are urged to audition 7-10 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 15, while high school contenders should try out 7-10 p.m. Monday, Aug. 16.

"This is just another idea to get people singing and into the theater," Kelly Fifield, BeckRidge vice president of public relations, said.

Winners in each division earn \$500, while the runner-up receives \$300 and the third-place finisher gets \$200.

Contestants face a \$10 audition fee, though Fifield said arrangements can be made for those who can't afford it, and everything an aspiring *Idol* needs to know can be found in an audition packet at www.beckridgechorale.org. Look under the "concerts and recordings" section.

"They have to register," Fifield said.

Judges are expected to choose 30 middle school students and 30 high schoolers for separate preliminary rounds scheduled, respectively, for 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 1, and Thursday, Sept. 2. Audience support is encouraged, and tickets cost \$5 to help defray event costs.

Gross said the field will be narrowed to 15 middle school and 15 high school singers for final rounds set, respectively, for 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 3, and Saturday, Sept. 4. Tickets for the final rounds cost \$8.

For information or tickets, log on to www.beckridgechorale.org or call (888) 459-4887. Barring an advance sellout, Fifield said tickets also should be available at the door.

Aside from judges, audience members will have a say in who wins, Fifield said.

Gross said singers get to choose their own songs, but they have to be language-appropriate — that is, no explicit lyrics.

Gross said winners may be invited to sing with the BeckRidge Chorale during its Christmas concert at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

Why sponsor a Canton Idol contest?

"If you look at our organization, one of our mission statements is to educate. Our goal is to try and give those young adults an opportunity to express themselves musically," Gross said. "If we can educate and inspire these kids to make music a part of their lives, we will have fulfilled our mission."

dclem@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2238

NEWS BRIEFS

July 4th fun

Fourth of July is approaching, and with it will come parades, fireworks and family traditions.

We'd like to know how you celebrate our nation's birthday. Maybe your neighborhood runs an annual decorated bike parade. Or you go whole hog to deck the house and garden in red, white and blue. Do you continue a family or personal tradition that day?

Tell us about it. Write to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com or 615 W. Lafayette, Level 2, Detroit, MI 48226. Include a photo if you like. Make sure it's in jpg format if e-mailing.

We'll share your story with other readers on July 4.

Holiday hours

Due to the Independence Day holiday, Westland city offices and the 18th District Court will be closed on Monday, July 5. The Bailey Recreation Center will be closed on Saturday and Sunday, July 3-4, and will only be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on

Wednesday, June 30 through Friday July 2. The Bailey Pool will remain open with normal hours on these days.

Water study

Westland's Department of Public Services has begun the process of mailing their annual Report to Consumers on Water Quality. The city obtains its water from the City of Detroit by way of its Springwells Water Treatment Plant in Dearborn.

The report will list the results of the tests performed on the water, as well as additional information about water and health questions. State and federal requirements mandate that an annual report be sent to Westland consumers before July 1 each year.

Road work

Construction work designed to provide safety improvements at the intersection of Ford Road at Beck Road is anticipated begin this week, Canton officials announced.

Construction will include adding additional right-turn lanes on Ford Road and protected left-turns in all quadrants.

The project is being funded by the Michigan Department of Transportation and is anticipated to be completed by September. Officials are urging drivers to follow posted detours and drive carefully through the construction area.

For more information on road projects going on in Canton, visit www.canton-mi.org or call Public Works at (734) 394-5150.

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06200548

YMCA camp helps build kids' skills

BY STACY JENKINS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

This fort will be unlike any other.

The walls may end up slightly uneven, and the nails might not be precisely placed, but that's OK, because a group of 8- to 14-year-olds are building it with their own hands.

"Things may be a little crooked, but it's beautiful," said Rob Wiggle, who is leading the group in a specialty Fort Camp this week at the Farmington Family YMCA. "It's about them being able to build with their own bare hands."

Wiggle, who takes a vacation week off from his property management duties at the Y to run the camp, said many of the kids had never used a tape measure before, or know the difference between a nail and a screw.

They're learning in a hands-on way. He lets them do the work while he makes sure they're being safe.



Camp counselor Kortez Bruckner leads a game of Poison Frog with a group of 5- and 6-year-olds at the Farmington Family YMCA.

"You do stuff that you can't do at home," said Mallory Evatz, 8. "We got to use a saw."

Her sister, Carly, 11, said she's learning a lot this week at the camp.

"We got to drill and learn a lot about drills, wood and different tools," she said.

"I like using the power tools and learning about what all of the wood is called," said Nolan Paul, 9.

Brandon Becks, 8, said he used a drill once before, when he helped build a dog house for his neighbor's dog.

The campers designed the

wooden fort, which is situated around a large tree, making every effort for it to be a Kids Only zone. The door, for example, is designed to have a super secret entry gadget and they purposely measured the door opening to make it difficult for adults to enter.

"It will be a creepy door, you know, like the ones you see in creepy movies," said Ben Pearl, 12.

They're also planning to put a swing inside the fort.

"We get to do something that the whole camp will remember and use," said Lauryn Bryant, 11.

MORE CAMPS

Tim Church, camp director, said the Farmington Family YMCA offers many different day camps throughout the summer, including sports camps and specialty camps. All are organized by age groups and most of the programs include field trips.

All of the camp counselors

are certified in CPR and first aid and are screened and well-trained. Camp counselor-to-camper ratios are: 12:1 for ages 12-17; 10:1 for ages 9-11; 8:1 for ages 6-8; and 6:1 for ages 3-5.

The camps started this week and continue in one-week increments throughout the summer. Camps run 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with before- and after-care options offered for an additional cost.

Fees are \$165 per week for YMCA facility members and \$225 per week for program members. Teen camps, for kids

going into grades six-nine, are \$170 per week for facility members and \$230 per week for program members; some additional fees may apply for activities or over-night camps. Financial assistance is available for eligible families.

Call Tim Church, camp director, for more information at (248) 553-4020, Ext. 107, or stop by the Y, 28100 Farmington Road, north of 12 Mile to pick up a camp brochure.

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Still in the game

Chelios visits, says hockey remains in his blood

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Chris Chelios still remains a compelling and popular figure in Detroit hockey lore.

Despite being a year removed from the Red Wings, fans still lined up early Thursday evening around the new Canton Verizon Wireless Communications Store on 41802 Ford Road to catch a glimpse of one of the NHL's all-time great defensemen as he signed all sorts of memorabilia.

The 48-year-old played seven games last season with the Atlanta Thrashers making him the oldest player in the NHL after a stint in the minors with his hometown Chicago Wolves of the AHL.

In his 24-year NHL career, he spent seven NHL seasons in Montreal, parts of nine with the Blackhawks and 10 more with the Wings.

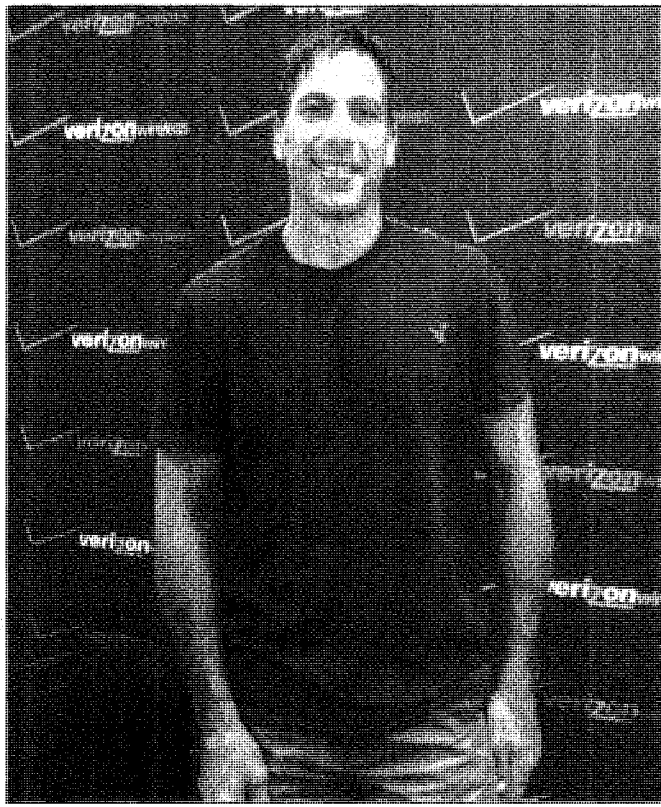
Chelios has played the most games of any active player in the NHL and is a certain Hall of Famer once he retires.

But when? "No idea," Chelios was asked following his promotional appearance. "I pretty much have my mind made up, but I'm going to work it out with the family still, and take a little vacation in a couple of weeks. But I'm pretty sure I'll still remain with hockey in some capacity."

Could Chelios go to somebody's front office or return once again to the ice?

"If something comes up I'll be interested in anything, whether it's playing or with management," he said. "But like I said, I'm leaning towards the management side only because I don't want to leave my family again."

Westland native Mike Modano, the NHL's all-time leading U.S. born scorer, is facing a similar situation after 20 seasons with the Dallas (and Minnesota) Stars. Modano, whose contract



MICHELLE ROSSIO | PHOTO

Former Red Wing Chris Chelios, who made a promotional appearance Thursday at a Canton Verizon Wireless store, said he remains undecided about his hockey future.

is up, doesn't know if he'll retire, return to Dallas as part of an vying ownership group, or play for another NHL team.

"I don't think he's got kids ... so, if I was him, I'd keep going," Chelios said. "Maybe he needs a change, and change is always a good thing sometimes. I haven't talked to him. But I'd guess my advice to him is that he has some good hockey left in him as far as I'm concerned. He's a great asset and it be great if he actually came back to Detroit and played for the Wings in front of his hometown."

Chelios, meanwhile, said he was glad to see the Blackhawks capture their first Stanley Cup in 49 years.

"It was great," said Chelios, who played on two Stanley Cup winners (Montreal and Detroit) and made 11 All-Star

teams. "Once Detroit was out, who else do you cheer for if you're from Chicago? I got to see a few games. It was great for hockey and great for the city. Congratulations for them. I know it's a good rivalry here. We had our good times here and now it's their turn."

As Chelios mulls over his hockey future this summer, he'll continue to stay in tip-top shape.

"I've got two boys (Dean, who plays for Michigan State and Jake) I train with," he said. "My daughter (Caley) actually is a pretty good athlete. She plays hockey and lacrosse ... so I've got lots to do as far as sports. I keep busy. With four kids you're always busy."

bemons@hometownlife.com
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AARON BELL | CHL IMAGES

Tyler Seguin found himself a hot commodity for interviews during the days leading up to Friday's NHL Entry Draft in Los Angeles. Seguin, who starred for the Plymouth Whalers, was picked second in the draft by the Boston Bruins.

Seguin is No. 2 pick; Ducks select Fowler

BY DAN O'MEARA
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Plymouth Whalers star centerman Tyler Seguin was the No. 2 pick in the NHL Entry Draft as many predicted he would be Friday.

After the Edmonton Oilers selected fellow Canadian forward Taylor Hall of the Windsor Spitfires, the Boston Bruins scooped up Seguin, a native of Brampton, Ontario.

The surprise in the first round at the Los Angeles Staples Center was Farmington Hills defenseman Cam Fowler not going until No. 12 to the Anaheim Ducks.

Fowler, who also played for the Spitfires this year, was the third defenseman to be drafted. Rated highly by NHL Central Scouting, many thought he might be a top-five pick.

Hall became the answer to the pre-draft question: Taylor or Tyler? But the Bruins were thrilled to get the 6-foot-1, 186-pound Seguin, who had 48 goals and 58 assists for the Whalers last season.

"It sounds amazing (to be a Boston Bruin)," Seguin said in a TV interview with Canada's

TSN. "It's a dream come true to go first round and to go to a team like Boston; it's fantastic."

Seguin, who graduated from Plymouth High School earlier this month, plans to be in the NHL and to be an impact player next season.

"That's my goal," he said in the TSN interview. "I'm very confident in my skills. After talking to the Bruins, I think I can come in and, hopefully, earn a spot."

"I think Tyler has a lot of potential," Boston GM Peter Chiarelli told TSN. "There's a lot of things we like. He's got a tremendous shot, vision, creativity."

"He's got a lot of things going for him. He's a good kid who comes from a good family, and we're excited to have him."

Like Hall, Seguin is considered NHL-ready and should give the Bruins a much-needed offensive lift, according to NHL blogger Tom Worgo of versus.com.

"He is just a terrific all-around talent," former Nashville Predators scout and draft guru Kyle Woodlief told

Please see **NHL DRAFT, B2**

SIDELINES

Uziogwe lifts Bucks

Kenny Uziogwe figured in all five goals Thursday as the Michigan Bucks downed the Kalamazoo Outrage, 5-1, in a Premier Development League game Thursday before 252 fans at Ultimate Soccer Arenas in Pontiac.

Bucks goalkeeper Mitch Hildebrandt (Livonia Stevenson/Oakland University) also saved a penalty kick in the first half as the Bucks improved to 6-2-1 (19 points) in the PDL's Great Lakes Division of the Central Conference. They are still a game behind the Chicago Fire Premier (7-2-1, 22 points) for first place (with a game in hand).

Uziogwe scored in the 14th, 59th and 65th minutes. Stefan St. Louis assisted on two of the goals, while Simon Omekanda had the other.

Uziogwe also assisted on Omekanda's goal in the 52nd minute and John Dreshaj's tally in the 86th minute.

Bucks defender Brian Klemczak (Stevenson/University of Michigan) played all 90 minutes in the win.

Kalamazoo (0-8-0) tallied an "own" goal in the 32nd minute to tie the game at 1-1.

The Bucks return to action Thursday, July 1 at F.C. London (Ontario) for the first of three road games including matches Saturday, July 3 at the Dayton (Ohio) Dutch Lions and Wednesday, July 7 at the Cincinnati Kings.

Fireworks tailgate

Madonna University will again host the Livonia Spree Fireworks tailgate party, Sunday, June 27, at the corner of I-96 and Levan Road.

Murrow's Boys, a local band, will be performing starting at 8 p.m. Bathrooms will be available and members of the athletic staff will be accepting donations for parking.

The fireworks start at approximately 10:20 p.m.

Diamond showcase

The Michigan All-Star Showcase, a camp for high school baseball players (graduating 2010-2013) interested in playing college baseball, will be held June 29-30 at Fifth Third Ballpark in Comstock, MI. Representatives from several colleges will be in attendance.

For more information, call (616) 635-0010 or visit online at www.grandvalleyestate-baseballcamps.com.

Coaches needed

The Redford Union School District is seeking qualified applicants to fill the positions of varsity boys basketball coach and junior varsity girls basketball coach.

Those interested are asked to contact RU Athletic Director Brett Steele at (313) 242-4270.

Please see **SCHOLARSHIP, B3**

Busuito recipient of award close to her heart

BY JIM TOTH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When Niki Busuito takes to the field next month at the Hope College Elite Soccer Camp in Grand Rapids, it will certainly be with a heavy heart.

Busuito, who just completed her freshman year at Redford Union High School, has been provided the opportunity to participate in such a prestigious camp after being honored as the initial recipient of the Mitch Butler Memorial Soccer Scholarship. The award is presented in memory of Mitch Butler, a student at Redford Union, who was tragically killed in a bicycle/automobile accident in October 2008.



Niki Busuito, a student at Redford Union High School, will be attending the Hope College Elite Soccer Camp in July after being honored as the initial recipient of the Mitch Butler Memorial Soccer Scholarship.

Busuito and Butler built their friendship at an early age through playing soccer and engaging in social activities and constructing the moral

values that accompany the sport.

"This scholarship is a way for our family to give back to our community that has been

there for us beyond our wildest expectations," said Amy Butler, Mitch's mother, who recently made Busuito aware of the honor. "Adults and, most specifically, kids have been there and supported us — and still do — and this is one way for our family to give back."

"We selected Niki because she possesses all the qualities we were looking for," Butler went on. "We chose someone with good morals, integrity and courage to do what is right, team spirit designed to help others, compassionate to others and humble, and the heart and passion for soccer. Those are the traits Mitch had and that's why we are honoring Niki."

Busuito said she has always admired Butler's passion for

the game and his ability to shine offensively.

"We played on our first soccer team together in Redford and he was amazing," Busuito said. "As I got older I continued to watch him and tried to pick up a lot of moves he would do scoring goals. He was amazing to watch."

"This was all unexpected," Busuito continued. "But it makes me feel good because it makes me feel closer to their family again. It's been different because I have felt farther away from them (the Butler family) since he's been gone. But I really appreciate this and thank them."

According to Butler, her son's passion for soccer started

Please see **SCHOLARSHIP, B3**

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COMMUNITY LIFE

Sunday, June 27, 2010

hometownlife.com

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Contact Editor Sharon Dargay

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Ponds, flowers, gazebos star on Trailwood Garden Club walk

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

An ornamental culvert filled with lush greenery and stone snakes around Suzanne and Jack Dempsey's Plymouth Township home.

It's one of the first features you'll notice walking up the driveway.

Take a right and cross its quaint wooden pedestrian bridge just beyond the home's expansive covered porch. Or follow it around to the backyard and enjoy the surroundings.

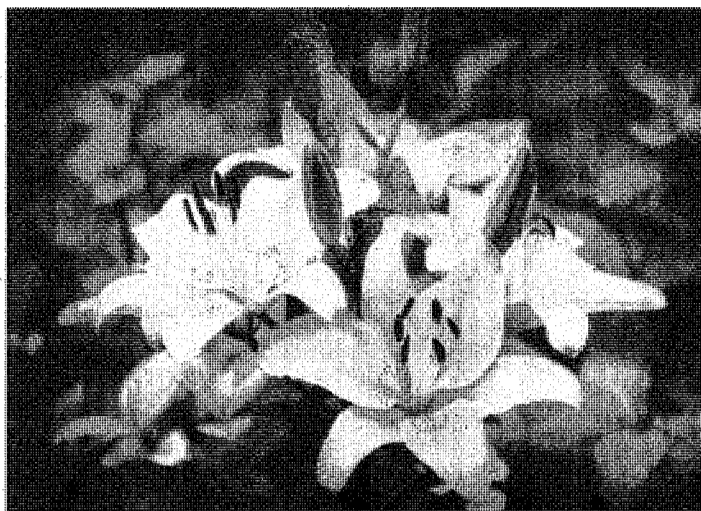
The Dempsey property is among eight residences on the Flowers are Forever Garden Walk, presented by the Trailwood Garden Club Tuesday, June 29.

The walk is meant to inspire, entertain and share the efforts of local homeowners for whom gardening is a labor of love.

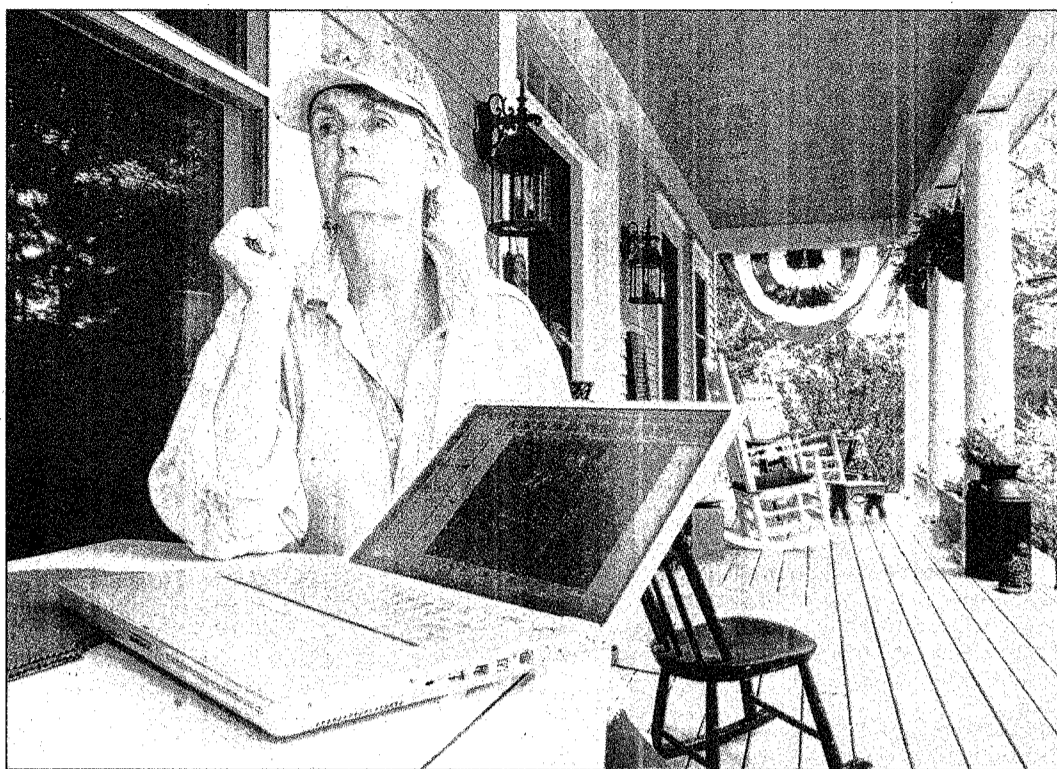
In addition to the Dempsey garden, visitors will see former farm property, landscaped with perennials — including a 30-year-old Climbing Hydrangea — and maple tree trunk artistically carved into an angel. At another site, a backyard pond attracts a variety of birds, from orioles to Great Blue Herons. One couple refers to different portions of their triangular-shaped property as "rooms," and another dubbed their home and garden "Hilltop Lodge" because of its similarity to a northern Michigan lodge motif.

At "Honeysuckle Hill," Suzanne Dempsey began preparing for the walk in early spring. A garden designer, Dempsey worked for weeks to bring the landscaping beds into perfect shape for visitors.

"We were on the Canton walk but that was before



A lily blooms at Suzanne and Jack Dempsey's Plymouth Township home.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Suzanne Dempsey keeps extensive records and photos on the landscaping progress.

FLOWERS ARE FOREVER GARDEN WALK

What: Trailwood Garden Club's 15th annual tour of local gardens

When: Noon to 8 p.m. Tuesday, June 29

Where: Visit the gardens at eight private homes throughout Plymouth Township; refreshments will be served

Tickets: Cost is \$8 pre-sale, \$10 on walk day. Tickets for children, 12 and under are half off. Little gardeners carried in arms are admitted free. No strollers permitted in the gardens. Tickets available at Saxton's Garden Center, 587 W. Ann Arbor Trail, (734) 453-6250; Backyard Birds, 627 S. Main, (734) 416-0600; Darlene Rinke, (734) 459-7499, and Kate Kerr, (734) 455-6867.

there was a lot of stuff in back here," said Dempsey, dressed in casual work shirt and cap, with a clothes-softening dryer sheet tucked into her ponytail to keep insects at bay while working. "After 2006 we put in the pond. The shed and kitchen garden came in '07. My husband said 'we've got to share this.'"

BUILDING FROM SCRATCH

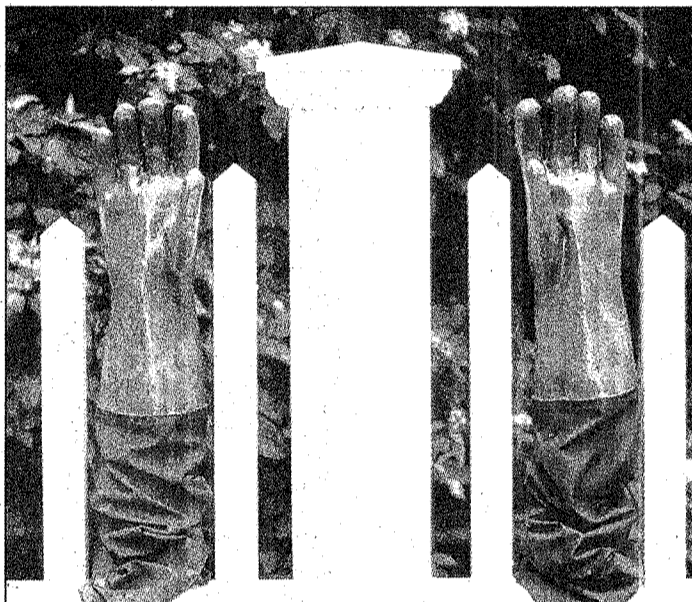
The couple built their house in 1990, moving in a year later from another Plymouth Township neighborhood.

The backyard slopes from a hill — currently topped by

charming retro lawn furniture — toward the house, making the culvert and French drain a must for keeping the area dry.

John Cullen, another landscape designer Dempsey met at a Chicago Garden Show, reworked the north lawn, burying a drainage ditch and adding French drains and drain tiles to the remainder of it. He also constructed a stone wall to create a clean edge between the north yard and adjacent woods.

The gazebo was the first structure built in the backyard, about midway from the



A section of fence and rubber work gloves form a surreal composition.



Herbs and flowers sit on the patio steps. In the background, part of the culvert/rain garden that directs runoff around the home.

hill top and the rear of the house. A collection of watering cans line the steps leading to the screened-in sitting area, which Dempsey's daughter, Anna, used in lieu of a playhouse while growing up. "She had sleep overs out

there. I remember going out and turning off the TV at night."

Dempsey keeps goldfish in the pond that is deep enough to overwinter the lilies at the bottom. It's located near the newly completed sunroom

and patio at the rear of the house. The nearby shed looks out on the pond and patio.

Please see **GARDEN, B5**




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INFLAMMATION OR INACTIVITY

Repeatedly arising in the morning with muscles aching, is this change a sign of arthritis?

This question takes a twist as individuals age. As one grows older, the tendency sets in to sit more, limit travel and restrict engagements outside the home. The result of moving less is that muscles lose their strength and stamina. Subsequent muscle aching reflects the effect of less activity and the loss of conditioning.

On the other hand, a number of muscle conditions can cause the same aching. Examples include polymyositis, polymyalgia and late onset muscular dystrophies. In turn, each condition has features that the doctor brings out by questioning and examination.

The physician's job is to determine the cause of the aching and prescribe medicine for a rheumatic problem, or make a strong recommendation that the individual undertake more exercise.


At times, the physician may obtain laboratory tests before deciding on specific treatment. If the results indicate that activity is the best therapy, the physician likely will tell the patient to exercise daily. Patients should take this recommendation in the same manner they would take directions for a heart pill. Daily means every day and the same holds true for exercise as for a prescription.

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Women get job search help from JVS program this summer

The Women to Work program offered by Southfield-based JVS is offering a summer session.

An information meeting will run from 9-11 a.m. Thursday, July 8, at JVS in Southfield. The sessions begin on Tuesday, July 13, and participants meet from 9 a.m.-noon, twice a week, Tuesday and Thursdays for five weeks. The last session is Thursday, Aug. 12.

"The program continues to be very popular," said Judy Richmond, Women to Work coordinator. "More and more people are taking part. Obviously, it's a sign of the economic times."

She noted in many cases now it's essential for more families to have two incomes. Spouses may have lost a job unexpectedly. "It's also often a difficult transition for families due to a sudden job loss," Richmond said.

Charter One Bank continues to sponsor the program, offered at no charge to participants.

Areas covered include interviewing, resumes, role playing, stress management,

Men are eligible to participate, and the program helps women who are divorced, widowed, or with a disabled spouse as well, its origins. Those interested in signing up should call Richmond at (248) 233-4232.

job search strategies and networking.

JVS gets groups of 15-18 people for Women to Work, "which is twice as much as it was in the past." All sessions are at the Southfield office, 29699 Southfield Road, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile in Southfield.

Men are eligible to participate, and the program helps women who are divorced, widowed, or with a disabled spouse as well, its origins. Those interested in signing up should call Richmond at (248) 233-4232.

- By Julie Brown

GARDEN

FROM PAGE B4

FOR WORK AND PLAY

"It was sited so when the windows are open you can hear the water in the pond," Dempsey said. She keeps gardening tools and books in the cozy workspace, but enjoys relaxing in it, too.

Tending to roses and a vegetable garden just beyond the shed's door is a new experience for Dempsey, who had a green thumb even as a child.

"I'm not a rosarian," she said, explaining that she is "forever reading" to enhance her knowledge about gardening.

"My ancestors were pioneers on farms in Michigan. It's all about farming. It's in my blood, she said, adding "I do recognize it's a gift from God. It's the talent he has given me."

Her best advice for budding gardeners who are inspired after taking the Trailwood Garden Club tour is to develop a "sense of space" in their yards.

"Develop your comfort zone so you can enjoy it — even if it's one little place."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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HEALTH

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Contact Editor Sharon Dargay

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Women's heart study seeks local participants 40 and up

Women 40 and over may participate in a free national women's heart study being conducted by The Detroit Medical Center and The Sinai Guild this summer.

The study will identify predictors of heart health in women. Participants will receive a free blood test, blood pressure check and ultrasound of the carotid and brachial arteries.

Most cardiac research has focused on men and this study will provide insight into the factors that affect heart health in women.

After the initial tests, each participant will be called annually for five years to check on their health. The tests are free and participants will receive a written report of their results.

No pre-registration is needed but an eight-hour fast is required. Tests will be given from 8 a.m. to noon at these locations:

- June 29 — Oak Park Jewish Community Center, 15110 W. 10 Mile, Oak Park
- July 11 and Aug. 4 — Temple Israel, 5725 Walnut Lake Road, West

Bloomfield

• July 21 — Adat Shalom Synagogue, 29901 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills

Additional information is available by calling The Sinai Guild office at (248) 538-6501 or online at www.thesinaguild.org.

The Sinai Guild, is a nonprofit organization that raises funds for medical needs in metropolitan Detroit, focusing on the hospitals of the Detroit Medical Center and the Jewish community.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

JULY

Eye exams

The Coburn-Kleinfeldt Eye Clinic will offer free eye examinations for senior adults from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Thursday, July 15, at 33400 W. Six Mile, at Farmington Road, in Livonia. Board-certified physicians and staff members will screen for glaucoma, cataracts, diabetic retinopathy, and other eye conditions which are more common among older individuals. The exam is free and patients will be examined in the order of their arrival. A limited supply of free eye drops for glaucoma will be distributed at the screening. Free parking is adjacent to the clinic building, which is wheelchair-accessible, and free refreshments will be served. Patients are asked to bring two canned goods or other non-perishable food items that will be donated to Help's on the Way, a local non-profit organization that provides food to the needy in the Detroit area. (734) 421-2020

Physical Therapy

Find out how physical therapy can help relieve back, knee and shoulder pain while keeping joints and muscles strong and healthy, at a free community seminar presented by Beaumont Hospital. The one-hour seminar will be led by a Beaumont physical therapist and a Beaumont doctor. The program is scheduled for 2-3 p.m., July 29 and 6-7 p.m., Aug. 2, at the hospital, located on Woodward Ave., and 13 Mile in Royal Oak. Register at (800) 663-7377.

ONGOING

Fitness classes

Exercise classes for men and women continue through April at the Metropolitan Seventh-Day Adventist School, 15585 Haggerty, north of Five Mile. Jeanie Weaver is a certified personal fitness trainer with 30 years of teaching/training experience. The sessions infuse Pilates, functional strength training, balance work, flexibility and motivational techniques in a 90-day fitness plan. Call (248) 446-9176 or

(313) 300-0957. E-mail jeanieweaver@charter.net.

Overeaters Anonymous

Meet 7 p.m. Thursdays in the Courtyard Room at Unity of Livonia Church, 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads, Livonia; and 7 p.m. Sundays at the Marion Professional Building at St. Mary's Hospital, 14555 Levan at Five Mile, Livonia, in Classroom 1. Call (313) 387-9797. Anyone who wants to stop eating compulsively is welcome. For more Greater Detroit Overeaters Anonymous information, call (248) 559-7722 or visit www.oa.org.

Breast cancer support group

Meets 6:30-8 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month in the Atrium of Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile (use south entrance off Levan Road), Livonia. Call (734) 655-1100, or visit www.stmarymercy.org.

Caregivers support group

St. John's Support Group for the Caregivers of Alzheimer's Patients or patients with other forms of dementia meet the first and third Friday of each month at 10 a.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 South Sheldon, Plymouth. Respite care for your loved one will be provided. Call Connie McNutt at (734) 895-1426 for information. Authorized by the Alzheimer's Association.

Metro Fibromyalgia

Meets the second and fourth Thursday of the month at 2055 Merriman, Garden City. For more information, call Lucy at (734) 462-1768.

Wayne metro caregiver support

Are you a caregiver of an aging parent, spouse or relative? Wayne Metro's Caregiver Support Groups offer assistance to those struggling to find or give quality care to loved ones. Meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month, 10 a.m.-noon, at the Kay Beard Building on Michigan Ave.,

Westland. Meetings are also held at the Village of Redford on Six Mile. The morning group meets 10 a.m. to noon on the second Thursday of the month; the evening group meets the fourth Thursday of the month from 6-8 p.m. Adult care may also be available. Call Nancy Coman at (313) 843-2550, Ext. 233.

Parkinson Support

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

CPR classes

Classes range from basic CPR for people who wish to know how to help save a life to certification for those who need CPR for work and state licensure, at DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Dr., Commerce. First aid classes also available. Classes offered weekday evenings and Saturday mornings. Price varies. Pre-registration required at www.hvsh.org/hvsh/calendar or call (248) 937-3314.

Arthritis support group

2-3:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at the Krieger Center, DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Drive, Commerce. Enter the building via the South Garden entrance. Registration not required.

Tai Chi classes

At 165 E. Square Lake, Bloomfield Hills (7 p.m. Monday and Wednesday), and 38121 Ann Arbor Road (11 a.m. Wednesday, and 7 p.m. Monday-Thursday). Presented by nonprofit Michigan Tai Chi Association in Livonia. For details, call (734) 591-3530.

Low vision support group

Meets 1-3 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main. For information, call Ellen Stross at (734) 453-0750, Ext. 232.

July 17 Milan event raises awareness of bladder cancer

The University of Michigan Department of Urology and the Comprehensive Cancer Center's Bladder Cancer Support Group — one of the first of its kind in the nation geared specifically toward bladder cancer — will hold a dinner-dance in celebration of the first-ever national Bladder Cancer Awareness Day on July 17. "Beating the Drum for Bladder Cancer," an Americana-style event will be held from 5:30-11 p.m. at the Family Center on 420 North St. in Milan.

Tickets are \$35 per person, or \$17.50 for children under 12. Children under 5 are free. Admission includes hors d'oeuvres, a gourmet dinner buffet, pastry assortment, coffee and punch in addition to participation in the scheduled program events, including survivor testimonials, bladder bingo and dancing.

Also on hand will be experts in bladder cancer from U-M and the American Cancer Society, a relaxation station with representatives and activities from U-M and The Wellness Community of Southeast Michigan, a kid-

rama with activities for kids, a silent auction and door prizes.

"This event and day is important because raising awareness of bladder cancer will inform people on how to recognize the signs and symptoms early," said Staci Mitchell, nurse practitioner and clinical coordinator of the U-M Bladder Cancer Support Group. "Early diagnosis and treatment of bladder cancer is imperative."

The Bladder Cancer Support Group is regularly attended by at least 40 participants who are either newly diagnosed bladder cancer patients, patients undergoing treatment or family members of bladder cancer patients. The group actively partakes in support activities such as roundtable discussions and educational seminars to provide information and guidance on living and coping with bladder cancer. All event proceeds will go directly to the group for future educational and awareness offerings.

To register, call Mitchell at (734) 615-4340 or Josh Bates at (734) 647-8739.



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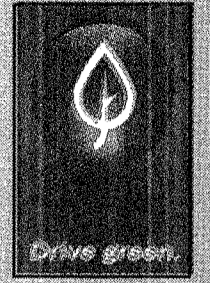


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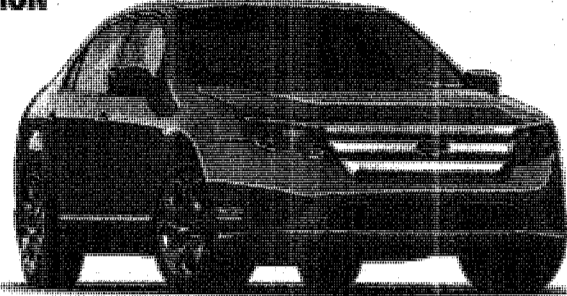
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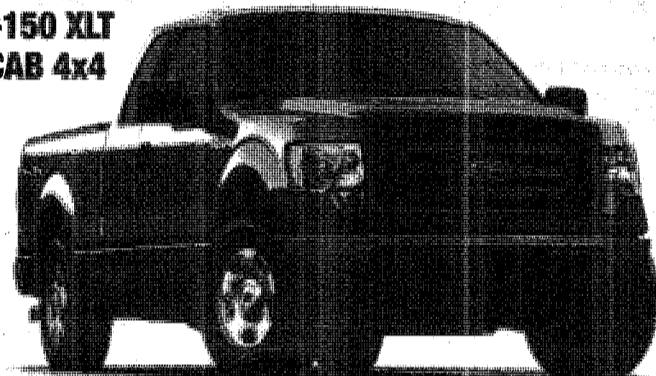
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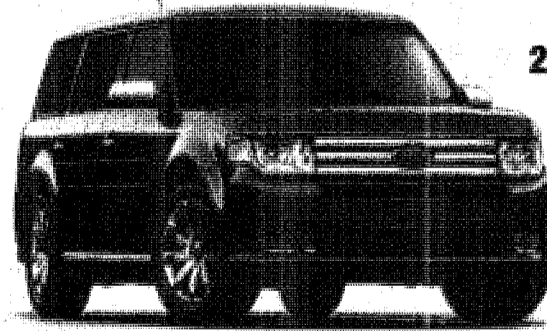
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