



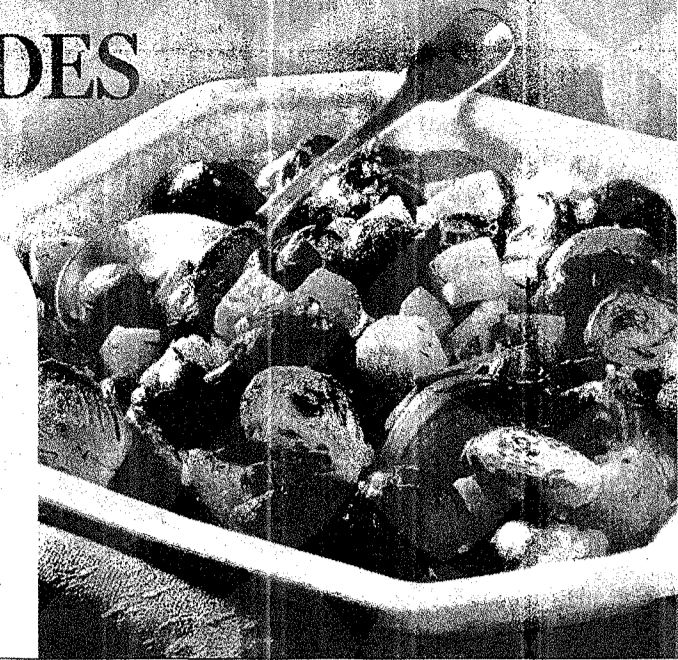
Winged and warbling
Backyard Beauties



PAGE A8

SEASONAL
SOUPS, SIDES
AND SALADS

FOOD, B11



THURSDAY
September 23, 2010

The Observer & Eccentric
Newspapers

Volume 46
Number 35

\$1.00

WESTLAND OBSERVER

hometownlife.com

IN BRIEF

Bike nights

Bring your bike to the Concrete Jungle where three extra bike nights have been added for the fall.

By popular demand 4:30 p.m. to dusk Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays are reserved for bikes only. The Concrete Jungle has more than 20,000 square feet of concrete for skateboarders to enjoy. It's open through November and offers open skating, birthday parties, special events and Friday night skate under the lights. It's also available for private rental.

Fees for Wayne County residents under age 17 are \$4 per session or \$6 for an all-day pass, and \$7 per session or \$9 for an all-day pass for Wayne County residents age 18 and older. Non-Wayne County residents pay \$7 per session and \$9 for all day for those age 17 and under, and \$3 per session and \$13 all day for those age 18 and older.

Fall sessions are 4:30 p.m. to dusk Monday-Friday (Tuesday and Thursday, bikes only), noon-4 p.m. Saturday and 4:30 p.m. to dusk (bikes only) on Saturday and noon-4 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. - dusk Sunday.

For more information, call (734) 722-7620 or visit www.cityofwestland.com/parksrecreation/con-jungle.html.

Foreclosure help

Homeowners facing foreclosure can schedule a private 30-minute one-on-one meeting with a foreclosure counselor from the Wayne County Fight Mortgage Foreclosure Program 5-8 p.m. Mondays, Sept. 27, Oct. 11, 18 and 25 at the William P. Faust Public Library on Central City Parkway north of Ford.

Call (734) 326-6123 or stop by the library to schedule an appointment. Space is limited.

The Mortgage Foreclosure Prevention Program is a no fee, Wayne County program providing you an expansive network of certified counselors who will help you avoid or manage a mortgage foreclosure.

For more information, visit www.FightMortgageForeclosure.com or www.WayneCounty.com or call (877) 693-6199 or (313) 833-2948.

Scrappin' fun

The Wayne-Westland Salvation Army will hold a scrapbook fund-raiser from 6-10 p.m. Friday, Oct. 1, and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 2, at the Corps Building at 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer. Westland.

There will be free demonstrations from Close to My Heart and Creative Memories. A Cricut Machine will be available to use, and participants should bring their cartridges. Each person will also have their own table and chair.

The Friday-Saturday package costs \$45 and includes dinner on Friday and lunch on Saturday, with beverages and snacks both days. Saturday only is \$40 and includes lunch, beverages and snacks. Registration must be paid in cash or by money order at the Salvation Army.

For more information, call (734) 722-3660.

City eyes mortgaging Taylor Towers

Money could fund capital improvements

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The mortgage on Thomas Taylor Towers was paid off in 2008 and now Westland is looking at taking some equity out of the 266-unit senior apartment building.

Three options for generating more

than \$5 million revenue — a conservative estimate — from the building were presented to council members Monday at study session.

"The city has been so focused on the budget and the fund balance that you need to focus on asset management," said auditor Michael Swartz of Plante Moran. "You can take the best benefit

for the city as a whole from this gem. Your roads and other assets need attention."

Council members would decide how to spend money generated by the refinancing, but Mayor William Wild expects it would be put into the Capital Improvement Program developed last year.

"This would be one-time money. We'll work with council on a consensus but capital improvements would be the safest place for the money," he said,

noting the general fund would not have to repay the loan, it would be covered by income generated by rent.

The building, originally funded through a HUD mortgage, is owned and operated by the not-for-profit Elderly Housing Commission. With the repayment of the mortgage, federal regulations allow the building ownership to be transferred to the city but that hasn't been done yet.

Please see **TOWERS, A2**



Stevenson Middle School student Hunter Braun. Hunter has been riding motorcycles ever since he was four years old and now competes in motocross races 20-25 times a year.

Youth finds his forte in motocross

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Hunter Braun doesn't really remember when he started riding motorcycles — the 12-year-old got his first bike when he was only 4 years old.

A Westland resident, Hunter has been riding ever since and competes in motocross races 20-25 times a year. Motocross is a cross-country style motorcycle race over a course of rough terrain with steep hills and sharp curves.

"It's fun going fast," said Hunter, a Stevenson Middle School student who has traveled with his family to other

states, including Tennessee, North Carolina, Maryland, Pennsylvania and Minnesota, for races.

The American Motorcyclist Association regional qualifying races are four-day events while 10 large national competitions last for a week. Recently, Hunter finished 20th in the stock class race at the Loretta Lynn qualifying race in Tennessee.

"That was with a crash and blown engine," said his father, Rich Braun. "Michigan is probably producing the best riders in his (Hunter's) class. There are four more riders here who are in the top five in the U.S."

A motorcyclist himself who sold

his bike to help fund his son's racing, Braun said Hunter was always interested in riding and racing motorcycles. Once he began racing, Braun said his son quickly passed him in terms of ability.

"Just getting over the fear of doing the jumps was the biggest challenge," said Hunter. "I've crashed bad before but I've never broken anything."

Hunter has amassed at least 200 trophies from his racing.

"We kind of quit collecting them in the last couple of years," said Braun. There's no local track on which

Please see **MOTOCROSS, A2**

City: Trees cut down to restore park

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Residents living near Central City Park continue to be unhappy about trees that have been removed for the upcoming restoration project.

"Several residents are in an uproar over what is taking place in the park. There was a huge tree behind the Bailey Center that had some history," said resident Donna Beaupre. "We didn't receive a letter like we do with a rezoning regarding this."

At Monday's council meeting, Beaupre got the same response she received at the previous meeting: The trees had to come down due to the excavation, geotextile membrane and 12 inches of top that will be placed at the park to remediate lead and other contamination.

"Most of the trees were taken out at the north end of the property. The geotextile cover has to go over all of it. Even if a few inches of soil were added, it would kill the trees," said Parks and Recreation Director Robert Kosowski.

Speaking later, Mayor William Wild said that an update about the park work had been placed on a hotline and a kiosk in the City Hall lobby, along with a cable television notice.

"We probably should have walked it door-to-door, that's what we did in the past, or dropped a letter," he said.

This first phase would address contamination on nearly 12 acres which is a little more than one-third of the 33-acre park. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment, formerly the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, worked with county and city officials to develop the approved

Please see **TREES, A2**

Tell us why family dinners are important

The *Observer* wants to hear about your family dinnertime and to encourage and challenge local families to eat together.

Share your family's experience and you could win a \$25 Kroger gift card (to help fix that dinner) and other prizes. Send a photo of your family eating dinner and short essay (100 words or less) explaining why your family's meal-sharing is important or how/why you plan to start a new tradition of family dinnertime to: **Sharon**

Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. Attach the photo (jpg format only) and provide first and last names of everyone in the photo.

The *Observer* will award three prizes — one for a children's essay and family dinner photo, one for a teenager's essay and family photo and one for a couple's essay and family photo.

Other prizes include a copy of *Let's Fix Dinner*, by award-winning author and illustrator Todd Parr (child's prize)

and movie tickets to Imagine Theater.

Family Day — A Day to Eat Dinner with Your Children™, is a national movement launched by The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University in 2001 to remind parents that frequent family dinners make a difference.

Statistics show that eating dinner together every night keeps the doors of communica-

Please see **DINNERS, A2**



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TOWERS

FROM PAGE A1

Whichever option for refinancing the council might pursue, a portion of the money generated would be allocated for improvements to Taylor Towers itself.

"The building is in really good shape. They do a pretty good job keeping it up, they don't let the building get in bad shape," said Wild.

At their next meeting, council members will consider awarding a contract to financial advisers St. James Capital which would handle getting a physical capital needs assessment, environmental reports and an appraisal on the building.

The physical capital needs assessment would determine how much work needs to be done on the building. For the example, \$662,500 was used for total repairs at \$2,500 per unit up to \$4.4 million or \$16,700 per unit for substantial upgrades.

"Short term, the improve-

ments would be paint, carpeting, maybe appliances," said Wild. "Long term, we probably need to look at the elevators, the heating and cooling and the windows — things that would improve energy efficiency."

The city has already realized \$1 million in the general fund from Taylor Towers. Federal regulations allows a management contract and fee to be paid to the Elderly Housing Services Corporation, which has the same board of directors as the EHC.

Annual income from rents paid at Taylor Towers are about \$308,000. The management fee had built up to the \$1 million which was transferred to the general fund, Wild said, leaving another \$1 million in reserve for the towers.

"How many federal programs still work 30 years later? It's still a very viable project with a 95 percent occupancy and they still have a 95 percent occupancy rate," said Wild. "We will still maintain ownership and control of the building."

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TREES

FROM PAGE A1

remediation plan.

Former Councilman Charles Pickering was also upset about the trees being removed.

"Over 150 trees were removed from the site — over 50 were 24-inch diameter. There were landmark trees," he said. "Every effort should have been made to save those trees. Citizens should have had the right to speak at a public hearing. You need to change the plan."

The remediation plan was discussed at a council study session which was open to the public, said Council President James Godbout.

"The removal of the trees was widely discussed. This part of the remediation plan due to contamination, it's not a typical development," said City Attorney James Fausone, responding to Pickering's charge that the city didn't follow its own tree ordinance.

The geotextile membrane can't be breached, Fausone said, so new trees can't be planted in the affected area. "It's for the safety of those who use the park," he said.

The city did do a tree survey, required by the ordinance, as

part of information submitted to the DNRE, Wild said, adding the tree ordinance was an exemption for public entities like the city.

The park has been closed since 2007 after the contamination became known. The east section of the park will be remediated through the geotextile membrane and new top soil while other areas will have the soil sealed off through the sidewalk and walking paths.

There also will be a passive ventilation trench, the installation of a slab vapor barrier for the concession stand, and several probes to monitor methane gas. Any restricted area outside of the park will be blocked off by an eight-foot high fence.

The plan includes a soccer complex, outdoor bathrooms, new pavilion and walking path. There also will be a concession stand to service the soccer complex, outdoor pool, H2O Zone and Play Planet.

The project has an estimated cost of \$2.4 million. The county will use parks millage money and \$1 million in brownfield development funds, while the city has pulled together a number of grants and even did fund raising to cover its share of the costs.

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Zips look to nip La-De-Dahs in annual baseball game

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Despite three straight losses to the Greenfield Village La-De-Dahs vintage baseball team, Mayor William Wild is hopeful the Westland Zip-A-Dee-Doo-Dahs will be victorious in their rematch Sunday at Jaycee Park.

In fact, Wild revealed a secret weapon for the game — Councilman Adam "the Hammer" Hammons. WLND produced a video promoting the game highlighting Hammons' supposed playing career starting out in the International Westland Baseball Association.

"I know we have lost three times, but we will win this time," said Wild. The production, which is airing on the municipal channels, borrows from baseball movies including *The Natural* and features a Cincinnati Reds baseball card for Hammons.

Beginning at 2 p.m., it will be a gentlemanly game of baseball played by 1867 rules. That means a substantially larger bat and no gloves. The La-De-Dahs vintage uniforms include

ties. Admission is free but donations will be accepted to benefit the Westland Historic Village Park. The Westland Historic Commission will provide a concession stand.

During the game, nonperishable food will be collected for the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army Food Pantry. Jaycee Park is located at Hunter and Wildwood next to Mike Modano Arena.

At 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 5, at the Bailey Recreation Center, the Westland Historical Society is hosting the Petticoat Ladies in "Maid in Michigan." Based at Garden City Presbyterian Church, the Petticoat Ladies provide costumed historical programs — this one highlighting people like the first woman to operate a lighthouse in Michigan.

Tickets are \$5 per person and advance tickets are recommended. For information or tickets, call Jo Johnson at (734) 522-3918, Georgia Becker at (734) 729-1605 or the Bailey Center at (734) 722-7620.

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DINNERS

FROM PAGE A1

tion open. It's the perfect time and place to reconnect and to show your kids and/or your spouse that they are your priority.

Plan a meal, turn off the television and put down the cell phone and eat together.

More than a decade of research by The National Center on Addiction and

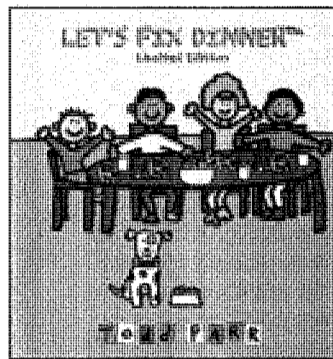
Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University CASA has consistently found that the more often kids eat dinner with their families, the less likely they are to smoke, drink or use drugs.

Family Day began as a grassroots initiative and has grown to become a nationwide celebration. In 2009 President Barack Obama, all the governors and more than 1,000 mayors and county executives proclaimed and supported

Family Day.

The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University was founded in 1992 by Former U.S. Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare Joseph A. Califano, Jr. The nonprofit organization aims to inform Americans of the economic and social costs of substance abuse and its impact on their lives.

For more information on Family Day, see www.casafamilyday.org. Sharon Dargay can



be reached online at sdargay@hometownlife.com or (313) 222-8883.

MOTOCROSS

FROM PAGE A1

Hunter can practice — he travels on a private track in Temperance owned by a friend of his father. Hunter is on a motorcycle four-five days week. "It's such a demanding sport

— 25 of the 42 kids he competed against at Loretta Lynn have personal trainers," said Braun. "Their parents aren't with them — they train in Georgia. At the level we're at, most of the kids are home schooled."

Adult racers can make money but for young racers motocross is a money pit, said Braun, an airport equipment

service agent for Delta Air Lines. The family garage is filled with four Suzuki RM85s — two reserved for racing.

Hunter's mother, Sheryl, and sister Nicolette, 18, accompany Braun and Hunter to races.

"The whole family goes — it keeps my daughter out of trouble. We all stay in a motor home," said Braun. "It's a good family

experience. You have to get along in fairly close quarters."

In his spare time, Hunter likes to skateboard and ride his bicycle. He said math is his favorite subject at school and when he grows up, he wants to work as an optician like his mother.

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- 6:00-11:00 p.m.....Vegas Games
- 8:00-11:00 p.m.....Teen Dance & Karaoke

SAT. SEPT. 25
Festival Hours: 12-11 p.m.

- 1:00-4:00 p.m.....Entertainment by Toppermost Beatles Tribute Band
- 5:30 p.m.....Chicken Parmesan Dinner \$10.00 per dinner (Catered by Marvaso's Italian Grille)
- 7:00-11:00 p.m.....Entertainment by The Reflections The Deacons of Doo Wop
- 8:00-11:00 p.m.....Teen Dance & Karaoke

SUN. SEPT. 26
Festival Hours: 12-9 p.m.

- 11:00 a.m.....Polka Mass
- 12:30 p.m.....Polish Dinner: City Chicken, Stuffed Cabbage, Kielbasa & Kraut, Green Beans, Potatoes, Salad & Roll (Catered by Halina's)
- \$10.00 per dinner
- 1:30-5:30 p.m.....Dancing With The Kielbasa Kings

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Chill at Joe and help First Step

First Step, along with honorary chair WXYZ-TV's Carolyn Clifford, are inviting families to chill out for a good cause Chill at the Joe 2-6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 10.

The family-friendly event at Joe Louis Arena will help raise needed funds to support First Step and its mission to help women and families overcome domestic violence and sexual abuse.

Chill at the Joe will feature a variety of crafts, games, entertainment, all-you-can-eat "game day fare," as well as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to tour the Red Wing's locker room. Guests can also bring their skates or rent a pair of skates to take a few laps on the ice at Joe Louis Arena and participate in hockey feats of skill.

"Everyone had a wonderful time at the event last year. It was inspiring to see so much support from the community," said Judy Ellis, executive director of First Step. "It's an afford-

able, fun-filled event for all members of the family, at the same time helping other families to overcome violence."

"First Step works hard to make every dollar count towards its services for victims and their families. The financial support raised at the event will improve the lives of the women and children who rely on the organization for help," said Clifford.

Tickets for the event can be purchased through Theresa Bizoe at (734) 416-1111 or tbizoe@gmail.com for \$30 per adult, \$20 for kids or \$100 per family. Net proceeds from sponsorships, silent auction and ticket sales will be donated to First Step.

First Step provides safe shelter, a 24-hour help line, counseling, advocacy, assault response, legal support, children's programs and other essential services designed to support victims of domestic and sexual violence and their families.



Who will it be?

They won't find out until halftime of Friday night's football game, but vying for the honor of being Homecoming King and queen at John Glenn High School is Brooke Graham (from left), Jake Zadorski, Sarah Nellis, Edwin Silva, Allie Murphy, Cody Bueje, Aubrie Scott, Kory Kalnasy, Rachel Kaz and Jared Coleman. The Homecoming festivities begin with the annual parade at 6 p.m., followed by the game at 7 p.m.

AROUND WESTLAND

Vendors needed

The Wayne-Westland Salvation Army is looking for sales consultants from direct selling companies to display and sell their products at a sales event Oct. 16.

Rental space is \$20-\$30 for the sale which will be held at the Salvation Army building at 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer, Westland. The event is a fund-raiser for two of the corps' youth groups which are working toward a week-long trip to the Northwoods Camp in Finlayson, Minnesota.

For more information, contact Sandy Kollinger at sandra_kollinger@usc.salvationarmy.org or Josh Hubbard at joshua_hubbard@usc.salvationarmy.org.

Texas Hold'Em

The Men's Club of St. Theodore Catholic Church will host Texas Hold'Em tournament Friday, Sept. 24, through Monday, Sept. 27, at The Electric Stick Poker Room at

Marvaso's Restaurant, 6581 N. Wayne Road, Westland.

Cash games will be played 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. Friday and Monday and noon to 2 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. The poker tournament schedule will be 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Friday and Monday and 1, 4 and 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. For more information on the Poker Room events and schedule, call (734) 713-7653 or go online to www.electrystickpoker.com.

Dinner show

Take step a back to the 1950s at a Fabulous '50s Variety dinner show, featuring celebrity impersonators Johnny Mathis, Pasty Cline and Dean Martin, Friday, Oct. 15, at the Harris-Kehrer VFW Post at 3323 S. Wayne Road, Westland.

Tickets are \$30 in advance and \$35 at the door and include a buffet dinner at 6:30 p.m., open bar 5:30-11:30 p.m. and entertainment and dancing starting at 8 p.m.; '50s attire encouraged. For tickets or more information, call the

VFW at (734) 721-9876 or Larry Mosier at (734) 728-7643.

Spaghetti dinner

The monthly spaghetti dinner at the Dyer Senior Center in Westland will be 4-7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 24. Enjoy spaghetti, salad and desert, as well as entertainment, for just \$6.

The center also has pinocle and bingo at 1 p.m. Wednesdays and pinocle is played at 1 p.m. Fridays.

The Dyer Center is at 36745 Marquette, east of Newburgh, in Westland. For more information, call (734) 419-2020.

Fitness classes

Get fit this fall with Pilates-Yoga Fusion with Elements of Exercise being offered 7:30-8:30 p.m. Thursdays, Sept. 23-Nov. 18, (no class Oct. 14) at the Bailey Recreation Center in Westland. Cost is \$48 for the eight-week session for residents and \$53 for non-resident.

Call (734) 722-7620 for registration information or for a

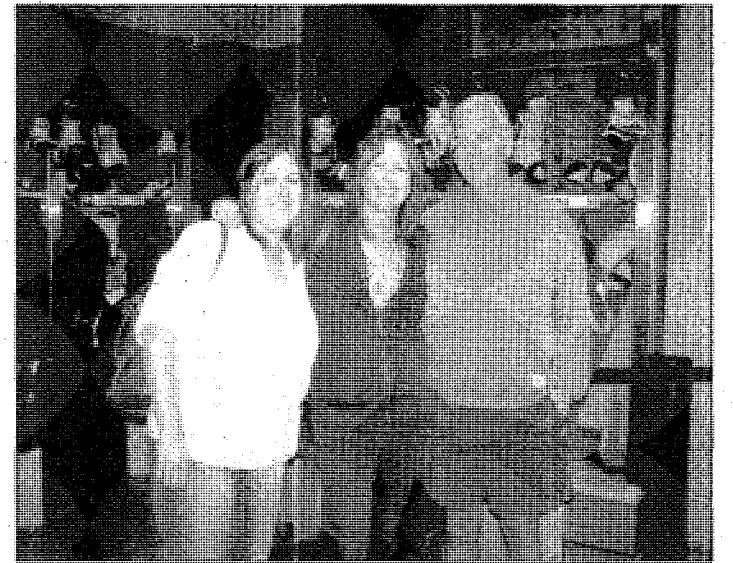
complete list of classes, visit the website at www.cityofwestland.com/parksrecreation/y-class.html.

Oktoberfest

Join the Westland Community Foundation on Thursday, Oct. 15, for its first Oktoberfest Celebration at Westland Historic Village Park, 857 N. Wayne Road, between Marquette and Cherry Hill.

The celebration will begin at 5 p.m. and run through 8 p.m. Admission is \$50 per person and includes food, beverages and live entertainment featuring "The Rhinelanders."

For more information, call the Community Foundation at (734) 595-7727.



Kristen Cyrul (from left) of Garden City, Susan Cyrul and James Cyrul, both of Grand Blanc, strike a pose in the Detroit Red Wings locker room during last years Chill at the Joe.

GARDEN CLIPPINGS

• 11:30 a.m. the fourth Monday of each month at the Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood, Garden City.

For residents who are unable to attend daytime office hours, Webb holds evening hours at 6 p.m. the fourth Monday of each month. The locations rotate throughout her district. Call (313) 224-0930 to confirm the location of the evening office hours for the current month.

Retirement party

A farewell party will be held 5:30-11:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 1, for Garden City Fire Chief Bill Forbush at Roma Banquet Center, 32660 Cherry Hill, east of Venoy.

Tickets cost is \$30 per person for dinner and open bar. Tickets are available at the fire station on Middlebelt, north of Ford, and by calling (734) 793-1780 or (734) 793-1794.

Coffee Hours

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, will hold local coffee hours in Garden City and Livonia on Monday, Sept. 27. Anderson will be at the Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia, 9-10 a.m. and at the Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood Ave., Garden City, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

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 by e-mail at SenatorAnderson@senate.michigan.gov.

Preschool openings

Garden City Preschool housed in Lathers Early Childhood and Kindergarten Center is opening a four-year-old Tuesday and Thursday afternoon class and a three-year-old Monday and Wednesday morning class.

For information or to sign up, call Jeannine at (734) 762-8550 immediately.

Office hours

Wayne County Commissioner Diane Webb, D-Garden City, is resuming office hours after taking a summer break. Webb represents the county's 9th District, which includes Dearborn Heights, Garden City, and Redford Township.

She will hold office hours on the following days and times:

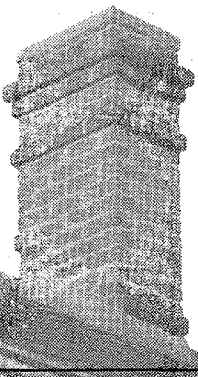
• 9:30 a.m. the third Monday of each month at the Berwyn Senior Center, 26155 Richardson, and at 11:30 a.m. at the Eton Senior Center, 4900 Pardee, Dearborn Heights.

• 10 a.m. the fourth Monday of each month at the Redford Community Center, 12121 Hemingway, in Redford Township.

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Thursday, September 23, 2010 hometownlife.com

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Sue Mason
 Voice Mail: (313) 222-6751
 E-mail: smason@hometownlife.com
 Comment online at hometownlife.com

Cemetery offices ransacked, money taken in break-in

Break-in
 Police were called to Cadillac Memorial Gardens West, 34224 Ford, Sept. 18 about a break-in at the office. An employee told officers that when he arrived for work, a window had been pried open — the grate of a nearby barbecue was bent and on the ground nearby. A broken window screen was found next to the grill.

WESTLAND

The offices had been ransacked and the manager's office door forced open. The door frame and handle were broken with the lock damaged. About \$280 was reported stolen from the petty cashbox, which had also been forced open.

Employees told police that drawers containing deeds and records with the letter "W" were opened in several locations and had been searched. Some files had been moved and gone through in the conference room.

Staff members also noted that there had been an attempted break-in a couple of weeks earlier.

Break-in
 A generator, six snowblowers, a power washer, a cordless tool set, a 24-inch chain

saw, a back pack blower and trimmers valued at \$7,700, were reported stolen from a garage at a home in the 5600 block of Huff Sept. 19. The owner, a South Lyon man, told police someone had entered through a broken window and took the equipment.

Burglary

Late Sept. 19, officers responded to an alarm call at Sprint, 34845 Ford, and found the rear door to the business had been pried open. Officers searched the store and no one was there but it did appear there had been some tampering with drawers. An employee arrived and reported that an unknown number of new cell phones were missing along with about \$400 in cash.

While checking on this business, officers noticed the door to Ringside Pet Grooming, located next door at 34859 Ford, also had a rear door open. About \$100 cash was reported missing.

Retail fraud

On Sept. 18, police were called to J.C. Penney, 35000 Warren Road, about a woman who had shoplifted 22 items of clothing valued at more than \$800. Store staff told police

they had been keeping an eye on the Detroit woman after recognizing her as a suspect in prior thefts. In the previous incidents, employees said the woman would load items into mesh bags and run from the store.

An employee told police he watched the woman selecting items without regard to price or size, filling one mesh bag and starting to fill a second bag. As she moved toward the doors still gathering items, the employee said the woman began talking on her cell phone and a vehicle pulled up outside the doors.

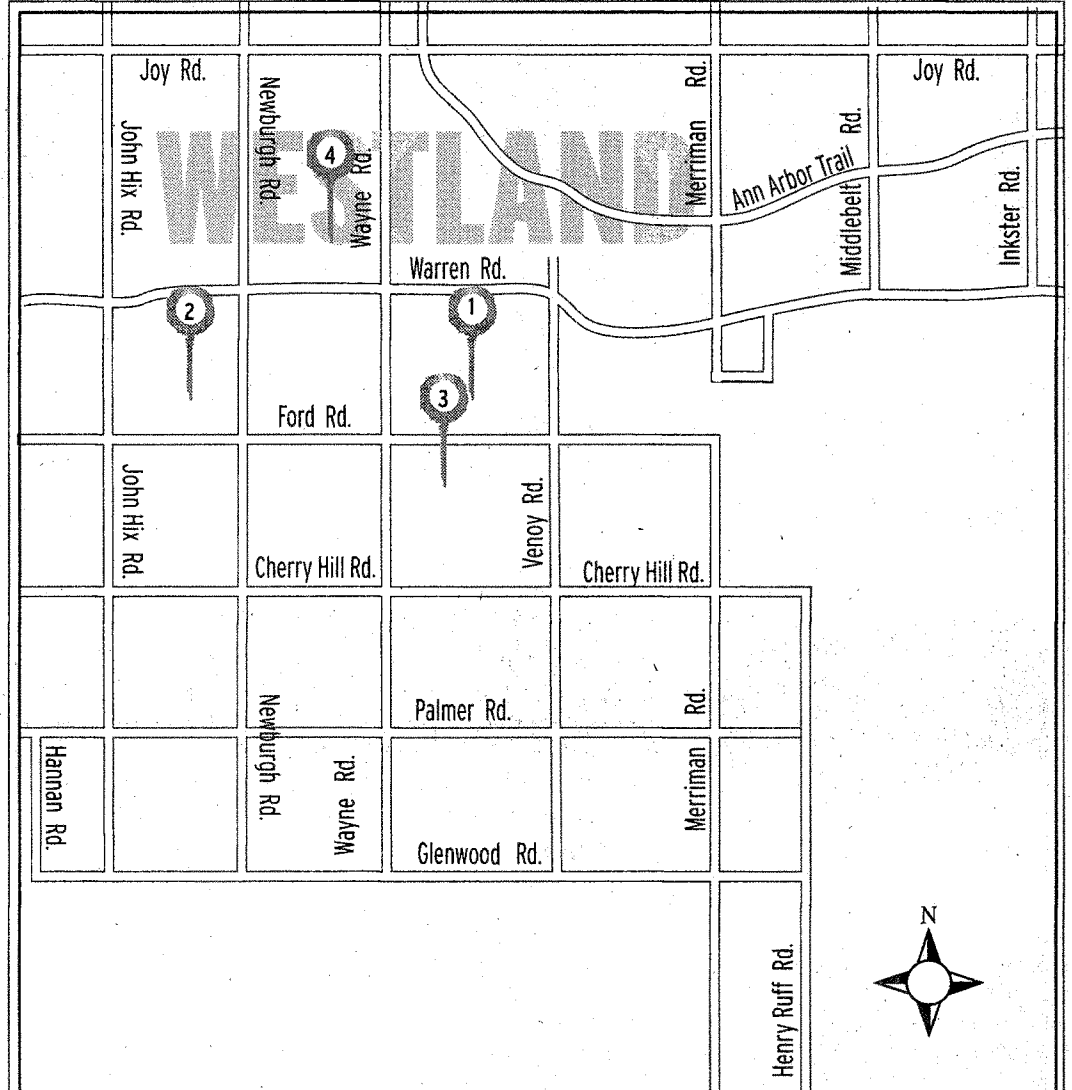
The employee who chased the woman as she left the store told police she dropped the bags and the vehicle pulled away without her.

The woman was arrested for second-degree retail fraud — she had an outstanding warrant for shoplifting in Livonia.

Attempted break-in

A resident in the 7800 block of Ritz told police Sept. 18 that she arrived home to find the bathroom window was open. The officer noted the blinds were pulled up and tied off. Nothing was reported missing.

-By LeAnne Rogers



Two women reportedly caught with fake prescription

Fraud
 Garden City police arrested a 47-year-old Redford Township woman and a 23-year-old Dearborn Heights woman about 11:40 p.m. Sept. 16 following an alleged prescription fraud incident at the CVS store at 27435 Ford.

GARDEN CITY

The pharmacist became suspicious when the back seat passenger passed a prescription to the driver in the drive-through and the information looked different.

The druggist called police when he saw a childish scrawl, saw that the phone number was scratched out and replaced with a cell phone number. The DEA number also was missing. The prescription asked for 60 Adderall, 120 Xanax, 120 Vicodin and 120 Soma, police said. It was written on a pad from the Tel-Ford Medical Clinic in Dearborn Heights, police said.

The Redford Township

woman also had outstanding warrants dating back to the 1990s. She refused to fill out a statement form at the police station, police said.

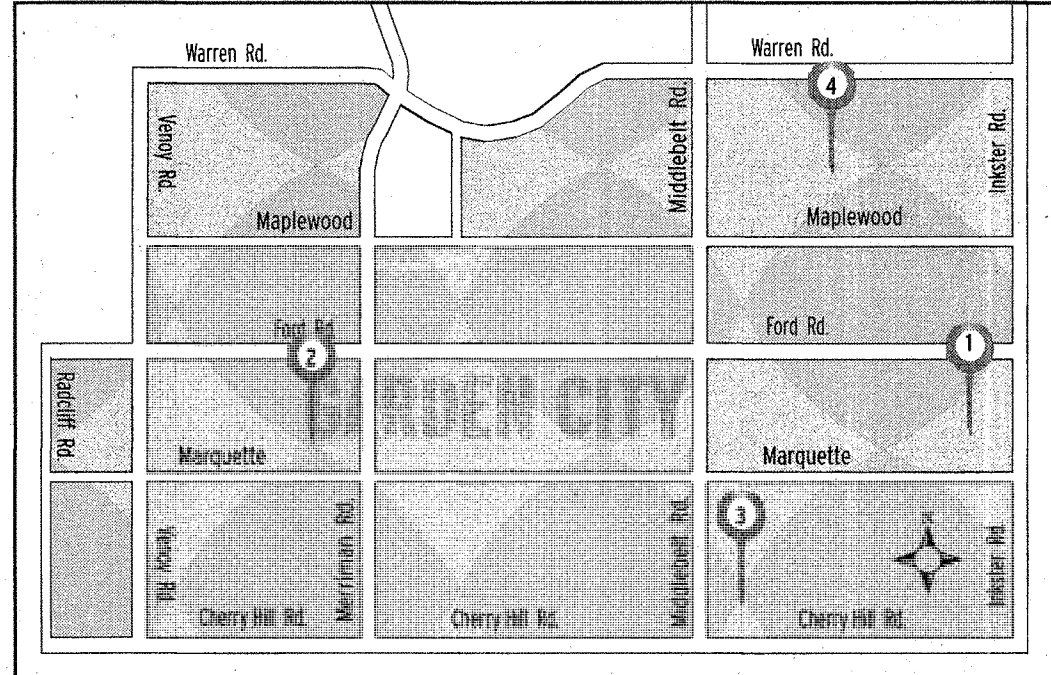
The Dearborn Heights woman filled out a statement half way and then refused to sign it, police said. She alleged wrongdoing by a property owner and a doctor in this fraud case.

The 2001 Land Rover the women were riding in was impounded. A passenger was released at the scene.

While police were investigating this crime, another prescription fraud case occurred about midnight Sept. 17 at the same CVS store, but police were unable to apprehend the suspect before he fled.

The same pharmacist told police he received a suspicious phone call from a man who said he was a doctor calling to confirm a prescription. When the pharmacist called back on the number he reportedly got a company instead. After the pharmacist told the customer that the police were outside, he reportedly fled in a black Buick Century-type vehicle with a loud muffler.

The police are looking for a black man, 25-35 years old, about 5-foot-10. He wore a baseball hat, a dark hoodie and Nike shoes.



Home invasion

The owner of a home in the 31400 block of Brown said someone did a lot of damage to the home which he was renovating sometime between Sept. 18-20.

When the 38-year-old Westland man came to check on the house, he found a number of holes in the drywall walls and ceiling. The ceiling was torn down in the first-floor bedroom. Tables, chairs and a dresser were smashed. An interior door and door jamb were also smashed

open, and a window was pulled from the door frame.

Someone also had turned on the water and flooded the basement of the home. The bathroom cabinets and toilets were overturned. The electrical box was also missing from the basement.

Trespassing

A 36-year-old Ypsilanti man was arrested for trespassing after police reportedly found him sleeping in the back of a United Christian Church bus at 29205 Florence at 2 a.m. Sept.

17. Church officials believe the man had been sleeping on the bus for some time.

Theft

An employee at Parkway, 29043 Warren Road, reported that someone attached a rope to two coin boxes and tore the boxes, valued at \$100 each, from their mooring. About \$50 was in each box.

Two visitors at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster, reported that someone stole their laptop computer which was accidentally left in a waiting room between 3-4 p.m. Sept. 17. Two women left a relative in the waiting room. When the man left, he forgot about the computer. It was gone when he returned to the room.

Break-in

An employee at International Bike Shop reported a break in before 10 a.m. Sept. 17. He found the back door open and currency taken from a cash drawer.

Property damage

An employee at ACE Hardware, 28715 Ford, reported graffiti at 10 a.m. Sept. 19. The area around the Dumpster, the fence and one of the back doors was spray painted.

Break-in

An employee at International Bike Shop reported a break in before 10 a.m. Sept. 17. He found the back door open and currency taken from a cash drawer.

Theft

Someone stole a stove from the 1970s from a home in the 6050 block of Helen sometime before 3 p.m. Sept. 17.

The owner said that he recently evicted a tenant.

Fake gun

When a witness called Garden City police because she thought she saw a man with a gun, the police soon found that it only looked like real shotgun.

The caller notified police that there was a man with a gun in the 1000 block of Gilman about 7:30 p.m. Sept. 15.

The man was seen running across a field behind Lathers Elementary School. The police couldn't locate him when they investigated, but did find a pellet gun that resembled a pistol grip shotgun that he had dropped.

-By Sue Buck

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Nankin Mills returns to 1800s with Pioneer Day

Did you ever wonder what it would be like to live in the 1800s?

Bring the entire family to experience yesteryear from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 25, at the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center in Westland.

There will be period demonstrations featuring blacksmithing, barrel making, wool spinning, weaving and much more. The musical sounds of Pix n' Sticks, with live hammer dulcimer, guitar, banjo, fiddle and vocals will fill the air. Historical storytellers will portray Harriet Tubman of the underground railroad, and Bela Hubbard, early Michigan geologist and explorer.

Kids will enjoy free pony and trackless train rides and have the opportunity to pet farm animals. There will also be kids' old time crafts and family pioneer games. In the new kids chore area, kids will see what it was like to wash clothes on a washboard, carry a yoke on their shoulders and churn butter.



Youngsters will have a chance to try their hand playing Hoops at the Nankin Mills Pioneer Day.

The event is free of charge, however, there will be tickets sold for kids' crafts of \$4 per child. A snack concession also will be available.

The Nankin Mills Interpretive Center is located on Hines Drive, just east of

Ann Arbor Trail in Westland. Parking is available off of Hines Drive, and can be reached even, if the road is closed at Ann Arbor Trail. For more information, call the Wayne County Parks at (734) 261-1990.

Share your good news, win dinner at Buddy's

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and Buddy's Pizza present "Good News, Good Chews!"

Share your good news with our readers and you could win lunch or dinner for four at any Buddy's Pizza (dine-in or carry-out) location.

Want to read about the hometown hero, the terrific student, the helpful neighbor, the group, church or synagogue that's working hard to make our region a good place to live, work and play?

The Observer & Eccentric and Buddy's Pizza are partnering to make sure good news is recognized and rewarded. Tell us about that special event, person or group effort that made you smile and feel good. Tell us about

the good things going on in your community and we'll share them with readers.

To top it off, you could win a scrumptious meal for four at Buddy's.

Marcy Brontman and Michelle Lawton of Buddy's along with O&E editors will select one overall winner each month (through 2011) to enjoy a special meal at Buddy's.

E-mail your good news story (include a photograph) to: goodnews@hometownlife.com.

Tell us your story in 150 words or less (attach photos in a jpg format as large as possible and be sure to identify everyone in the photo). Deadline is the last day of each month.

Buddy's Pizza was established in 1936 on the corner of Conant and Six Mile as a neighborhood tavern. It was not until 1946 that Buddy's introduced its famous square pizza — the first of its kind — to Detroit. It was the Buddy's official website states: "love at first bite."

More than 61 years later, Buddy's continues to thrive under the stewardship of Robert Jacobs, the son of the late Billy Jacobs and Shirlee Jacobs (now living in Florida).

Buddy's dine-in locations are Auburn Hills, Dearborn, Detroit (the original Buddy's), Farmington Hills, Detroit/Grosse Pointe, Livonia and Warren. Carry-out locations are Bloomfield Township and Royal Oak.

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STRICTLY BUSINESS

Thursday, September 23, 2010

hometownlife.com

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

Beginning Step in Westland is celebrating its fourth anniversary, proudly providing substance abuse treatment services in the Westland area since October 1, 2006.



Beginning Step leads to sober living

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

We are pleased to report to you that Beginning Step is celebrating its fourth anniversary, proudly providing substance abuse treatment services in the Westland area since October 1, 2006.

Beginning Step has also recently been accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, known as CARF, for a period of three years for its Intensive Outpatient Treatment: Alcohol and Other Drugs/Addictions (Adults) and Outpatient Treatment: Alcohol and Other Drugs/Addictions (Adults) programs. The latest accreditation is the second consecutive three-year Accreditation that CARF has awarded to Beginning Step.

CARF is an independent, nonprofit accrediting body whose mission is to promote the quality, value and optimal outcomes of services through a consultative accreditation process that centers on enhancing the lives of the persons served. By pursuing and achieving accreditation, Beginning Step has demonstrated that it meets international standards for quality and is committed to pursuing excellence.

This accreditation decision represents the highest level of accreditation that can be awarded to an organization and shows the organization's substantial conformance to the CARF standards. An organization receiving a Three-Year Accreditation has put itself through a rigorous peer review process and has demonstrated to a team of surveyors during an on-site visit that its programs and services are of the highest quality, measurable, and accountable.

We would welcome an opportunity to further acquaint you with our services by inviting you to our Open House on Friday, Oct. 1, from 3-5 p.m. We

BEGINNING STEP

Business Name and Address: Beginning Step, 917 S. Merriman, Westland

Your name and title: Donald J. Oesterwind Jr. and Scott Lorentz, business owners

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Your business specialty: Substance Abuse Treatment and Sober Living Community Housing

Business phone and/or website: Office (734) 641-1141, fax 734-641-1142, toll free (877) 641-1143

Websites: www.beginningstep.com, www.safestepcommunities.com

believe we are a valuable asset to the community we serve and are all the more valuable because of our CARF accreditation.

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

Beginning Step was born out of the shadows of its experienced sister agency, Safe Step, which over the last 10 years has become the leader in Southeast Michigan's sober living community housing programs. The same staff that makes Safe Step a success lends their skills, talents, and passion to Beginning Step's treatment and other related programs. As career clinicians, Beginning Step's program developers have assimilated modalities recognized by NIDA and the Michigan Systems Transformation for Consumers with Co-occurring Mental and Substance Use Disorders.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

In an effort to bridge the gaps between inpatient treatment services and independent sober living, Beginning Step recognizes the vital need for outpatient services for

individuals suffering from substance abuse addiction.

To meet the demands of Out-Wayne County and the Downriver area, Beginning Step offers a multi-phase program, which includes an Intensive Outpatient phase and an Outpatient service stage; both additionally designed for co-occurring illnesses and women's specific treatment. This programming is the result of many ideas, hopes, dreams, and experiences designed to assist addicted men and women with the ability to escape their world of despair and move to a better world with their "Passport to Recovery."

Beginning Step has assembled an exemplary group of staff members. They are uniformly dedicated, knowledgeable, skilled, and willing to extend themselves daily to deliver the best service to the persons served" - CARF Surveyor.

Observer: How has the recent economy affected your business?

Substance abuse and dependence are distressing grim realities in many households and present an enormous social problem to our communities; particularly during times of economic strife. Subsequently, with state budget cuts, treatment reimbursements have dropped over 50 percent in the last three years. With these drastic changes, Beginning Step has diversified its services to include transportation, DUI assessments, and expanded housing facilities.

Observer: What's in store for the future of your business?

Beginning Step prides itself on recognizing the needs of the community. Further expansion and diversification are in the planning stages to include residential treatment, case management services, peer support programming, family education classes, and treatment services for other addictions. Beginning Step also hopes to expand services to meet the needs of military members and their families.

MILESTONES

Win free clothes

Location: Westland Shopping Center, 35000 Warren Road, Westland

Details: Win free clothes from Forever 21 exclusively at Westland Shopping Center. Just "LIKE" www.facebook.com/westlandcenter and post on its wall your favorite stores at Westland Shopping Center for your entry in this free give-a-way. Once you join the center's fan page you will also get access to fashion advice, free gifts, exclusive sales, give-a-ways and much.

Contact: www.facebook.com/westlandcenter

School fund-raiser

Location: Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe is at 8036 N. Wayne Road, north of Warren Road, Westland.

Details: Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe is now offering gift certificates specifically tailored to schools and other organizations. Each gift certificate is redeemable for a different tasty treat each month of the year. These gift certificates are valued at more than \$100 and can be purchased for resale by your school or organization for the low price of \$25 each. Suggested sale price is \$30 each, gaining the fund-raiser \$5 per certificate.

Contact: Call (734) 261-3680 for more information.

SEND IT

Are you having a special event, a sale or just want to let people know where you are? Interested in being featured in our Business Q & A? It's as easy as sending your information to or requesting a Q & A form from Sue Mason at smason@hometownlife.com. You can also mail it to Sue Mason, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226.

Picture Day

Date: Saturday, Sept. 25

Location: Mr. B's Pet Salon, 27853 Ford, between Middlebelt and Inkster Road, Garden City

Details: Mister B's Pet Salon is hosting its fall Pet Photography Day with Woof Studios, providing owners opportunity to have their pet photographed in a professional setting. Families welcome. Photographs are by appointment only.

Contact: Call (734) 261-1960 for appointment.

Nutrition counseling

Location: Forum Fitness, 34250 Ford, Westland

Details: Dieticians from the University of Michigan are visiting Forum Fitness to answer members questions about nutrition. They're available noon-8 p.m. Monday-

Thursday and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Personal consultations are available all week. Stop at the front desk to schedule an appointment. A special seminar open to all is offered at 7 p.m. Mondays.

Contact: For more information, call (734) 729-7000.

Oktoberfest

Ashley's

Oktoberfest 2010

Time/Date: 4 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Oct. 2


Location: Ashley's, 7525 Wayne Road, Westland, MI 48185

Details: Join Ashley's in its celebration of Oktoberfest. The highlight of the celebration will be 12 different Oktoberfest kegs from Hofbrau House (the original Oktoberfest beer), Bell's Oktoberfest, Arcadia Jaw Jacker, Ayingier Oktoberfest, Arbor Brewing Hoptoberfest, Weinhenstephaner Festbier, Sam Adams Oktoberfest, Flying Dog Dogtoberfest, Short's Noble Chaos Oktoberfest, Southern Tier Pumpking, Spatan Oktoberfest and Warsteiner Brewery. Tickets include your choice of 10 samples from the Oktoberfest kegs, plus German food and live music. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 the day of the event.

Contact: Order advance tickets at www.ashleys.com. For more information, call (734) 525-1667.

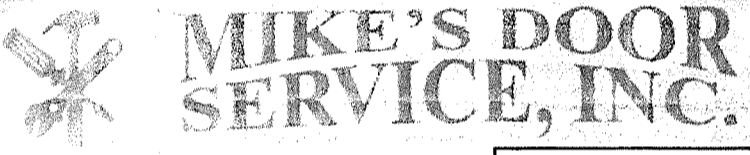
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Attitude: Change things, change life

Is today going to be a good day or a bad day? Life is so full of surprises that it might seem impossible to know early in the morning how the day will turn out. On one hand, it's true that many things are outside our control. But on the other hand, we control the single most determining factor, our attitude.



Clarity Patton Newhouse

Attitude is a choice - a choice that makes all the difference. In business, as in other aspects of our lives, there are so many times when a change of attitude not only changes our feelings toward a situation but actually helps improve the situation itself. Yet changing our attitude often seems like the most

A SUNNY NOTE

unnatural thing in the world. We assume that if something looks bad, sounds bad and feels bad, it must be bad. But the reality is that it only IS bad if we say it is.

I'm sure we can all remember plenty of occasions when we've turned "problems" into "opportunities" and it usually starts with the attitude we choose to have about the situation.

Changing the way we describe a situation to ourselves, for example from "this stinks" to "no problem," makes an amazing difference. Our self talk is inseparable from our attitude, and so just by changing the things we tell ourselves, we can change our lives.

This day, no matter what arises, let's make it a good one!

**Have a sunny day,
Clarity**

P.S. "Nothing can stop the man with the right mental attitude from achieving his goal; nothing on earth can help the man with the wrong mental attitude."

**Thomas Jefferson, 3rd
President of the United States
(1801-1809)**

"A positive attitude may not solve all your problems, but it will annoy enough people to make it worth the effort!"

**Herm Albright, Painter
and lithographer born 1876 in
Mannheim, Germany**

Clarity Patton Newhouse is Quality and Business Development Manager for Metropolitan Lincoln Mercury in Garden City. She writes "A Sunny Note" to brighten the day with encouraging insights for business and life. "A Sunny Note" also is published online at ASunnyNote.com for readers across America and beyond.



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Know the ins and outs of annuities

After reading an article about annuities in a non-financial magazine, it is clear there is a misunderstanding about what annuities are and who, if anyone, should invest in them. Annuities are contracts with insurance companies. There are two basic types — variable and fixed.



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

Even though there are similarities between the two, they also have major differences. The similarities are the tax consequences. Money in an annuity grows tax deferred. An investor is taxed when the money is withdrawn. When the money is withdrawn the income is taxed at one's ordinary income bracket, not the favorable capital gain bracket. In addition, if money is withdrawn prior to age 59½ there could be adverse tax consequences.

Where fixed and variable annuities differ dramatically is regarding how the money is invested. A variable annuity offers many investment

vehicles. Typically, these are mutual funds which will include a variety of equity and bond funds. The return as an investor is based upon the performance of the underlying investments. In a traditional fixed annuity, the investor receives a guaranteed rate of return.

With this option the insurance company typically invests your money in a variety of government and investment grade corporate bonds. The key difference between variable and fixed annuities is how the money is invested and the return. In a variable annuity, the investor bears the risk. With a fixed annuity the risk is with the insurance company.

There is also a fixed annuity (known as equity-indexed) in which the investor receives a guaranteed rate of return. However, the return can go up based upon the performance of the stock market. With these types of annuities, in addition to buying U.S. Treasury and government bonds for the portfolio, the insurance company also buys some options on various indexes of the stock market. If the stock market performs well, the return can rise. On the

other hand, if the market does not perform, the principal is not at risk.

Throughout my investment career I have recommended different types of annuities for different situations.

My advice constantly changes because the economic environment changes and tax laws change. The changes impact these types of investments.

What also changes is the investment products as companies add new features. Some benefit the investor while others are not so good. What made sense five years ago may not make sense today. The issue is what is good today.

In today's economic environment, I have a hard time recommending that anyone take new money and invest it into a variable annuity.

Although variable annuities grow tax deferred, they are not tax-friendly. Income taxed at ordinary income is not taxed at the favorable capital gain rate. Thus a variable annuity can double one's taxes, not lower them.

Another downside — penalties and fees associated with many of products. The hidden fees and expenses some insurance companies place on these

annuities make them inappropriate investment vehicles.

Fixed annuities (both traditional and equity index) can be appropriate investment vehicles for someone looking for an investment that has preservation of principal as its primary goal. There are many of these types of annuities that are investor-friendly and make sense for a conservative portion of someone's portfolio. However, not all fixed annuities are the same. Even though fixed annuities make sense for many investors, be very cautious before purchasing one.

In these challenging economic times, annuities are an investment vehicle that many people are exploring. My advice is to avoid variable annuities and focus on fixed annuities, whether traditional or equity-index.

Remember to always understand what you're investing in prior to signing on the dotted line.

Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at moneymatters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit his Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com.



Cooling off

When you're hot, you're hot, and for Valerie and George Schulteis's dog Ghost, cooling off means jumping in the backyard pond. "He loves to run around the yard playing ball then jumping into the pond to cool off," said Valerie Schulteis. "He loves to work and help out around the house by picking things up and handing them to us. He is a true heel dog and is always at his daddy's feet or in his truck." The family lives in Garden City.

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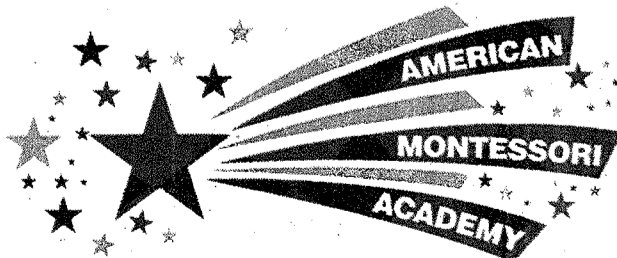
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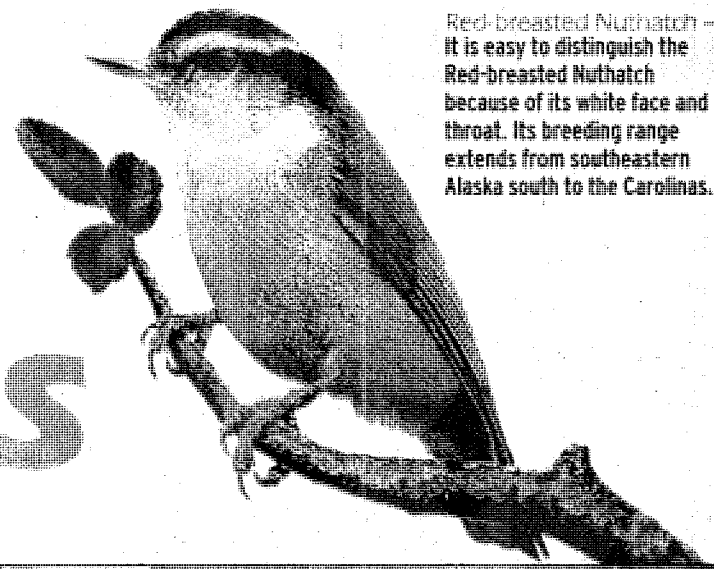
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Winged and warbling Backyard Beauties



Red-breasted Nuthatch — It is easy to distinguish the Red-breasted Nuthatch because of its white face and throat. Its breeding range extends from southeastern Alaska south to the Carolinas.

Most people could recognize a robin or a cardinal if they saw one — but what about a northern flicker or a lazuli bunting?

With several hundreds of bird species in North America year-round, many backyard birders are unfamiliar with some of the birds specific to their region. If you'd like to meet some unique feathered friends, follow these simple tips on how to attract them to your own backyard.

CREATE A FRIENDLY HABITAT

Birds have simple needs: food, water, shelter and places to raise young. By establishing these elements in your outdoor living space, you can make beautiful birds in your region feel right at home. In addition, incorporating these basic elements can help certify your backyard as a wildlife habitat by the National Wildlife Federation.

Water — Birds need a dependable supply of fresh, clean water for drinking and bathing. Placing a birdbath, especially one with a trickle or fountain, makes your garden a very desirable spot. John Robinson, Scotts chief ornithologist, recommends using a low, shallow birdbath, where birds normally find water. "Birds will naturally be attracted to water sources found at the ground level even more than those placed on pedestals. This is especially true if the source is in the shade to keep the water cooler," he says. Also, if you have a pond or stream, remember to add some flat rocks where birds can perch while drinking or bathing.

Shelter — Birds seek shelter at different heights. Make your garden more hospitable by growing vines, shrubs and trees. Evergreens provide excellent winter shelter, as well as protection from cats and other predators. Cavities in a dead or dying tree make great nesting spots. If there's one in your yard, let it stand unless safety is a concern.

Nesting — Many bird species will use the same plants that provide shelter as nesting spots. You can put up nesting boxes that will be used by species such as bluebirds, chickadees, wrens, woodpeckers and even owls.



Pyrrhuloxia — The Pyrrhuloxia is a songbird that lives in the open desert scrub of southwestern United States. Being a thick-billed, reddish bird with a crest, it marginally resembles its close relative, the Northern Cardinal.

FEED WILD BIRDS

Wild birds spend most of their time foraging for food such as insects, fruits, nectar and seeds. Many birds may require up to 10,000 calories a day and enjoy sampling a wide variety of foods. Therefore, providing numerous feeding options is the best way to keep them returning to your backyard habitat.

Growing a variety of plants that bloom and produce fruit, seeds or nuts at different times throughout the year attracts even more birds to your backyard. Many perennials, grasses, vines, shrubs and trees also are food sources. Naturally, native birds thrive on native plants, so selecting regional beauties that produce seeds, berries, or nectar increases food sources as well as shelter and nesting materials. Check with a local nursery to get advice on what plants are native to your area.

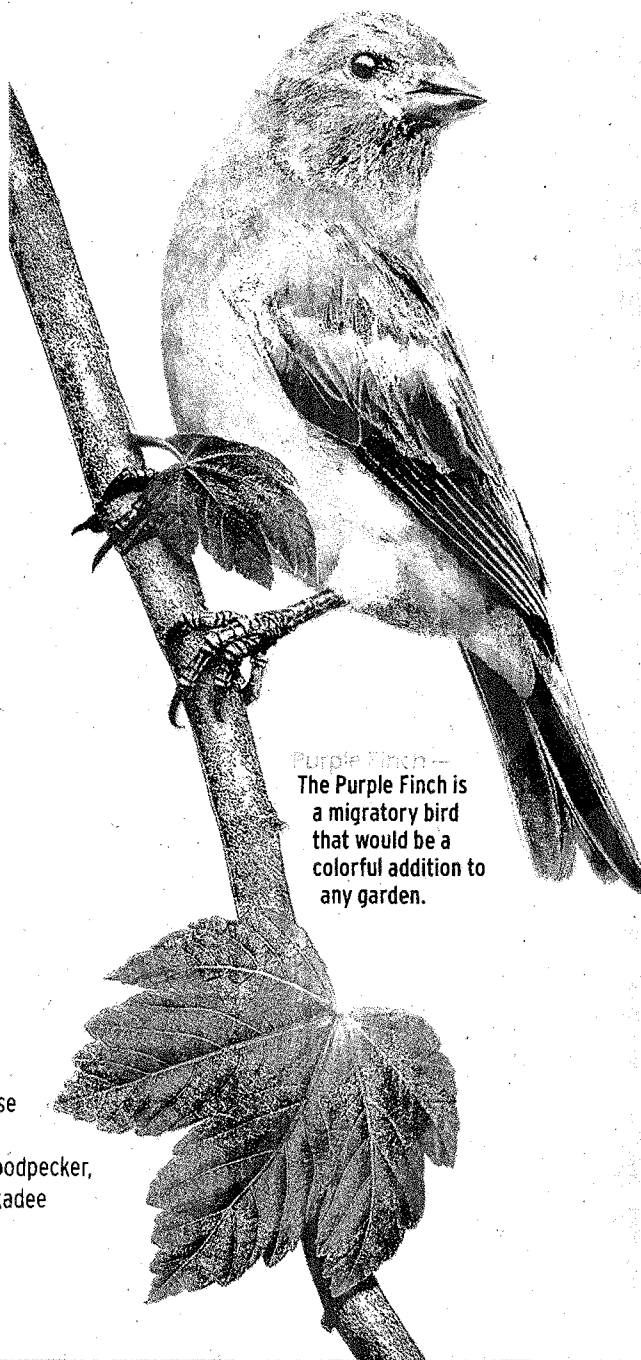
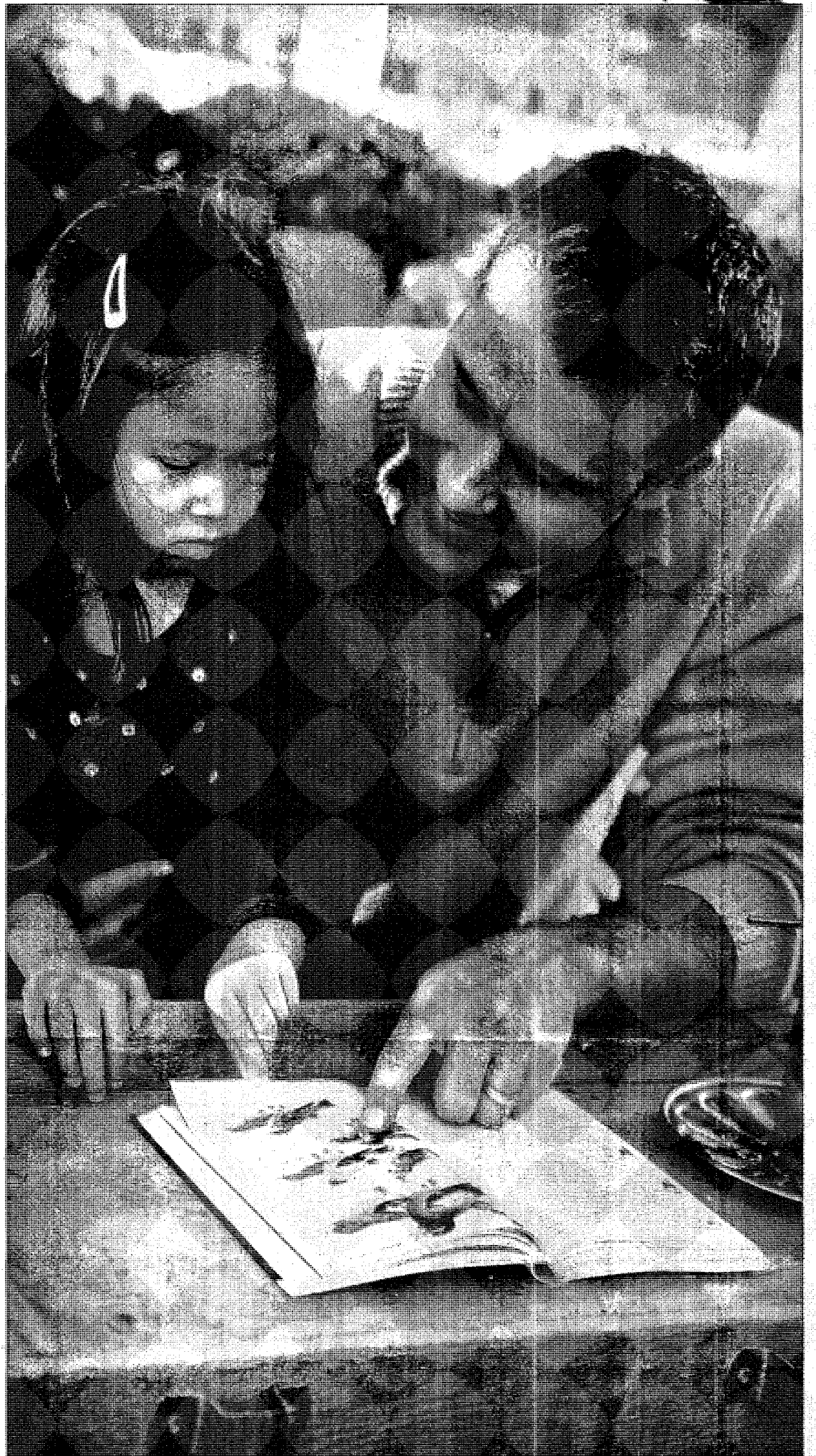
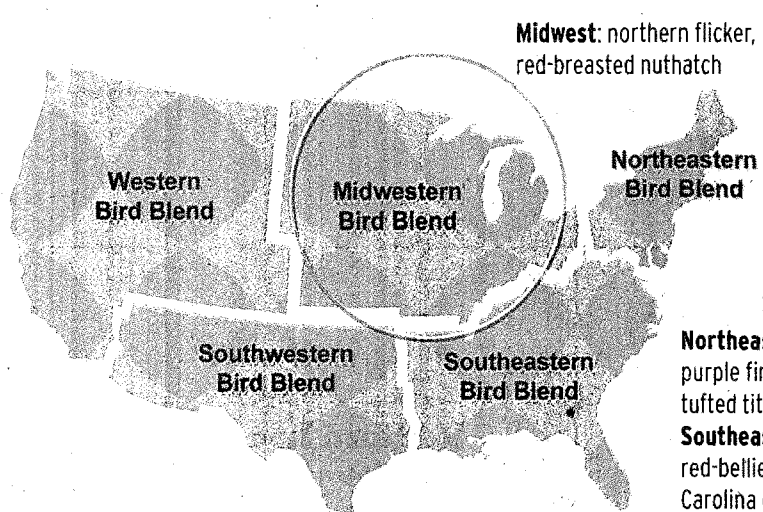
To supplement their diet, fill feeders with high-quality wild bird food. Not all birds enjoy the same seeds. Birds found in one area of the country may be different from birds in other regions. A great way to ensure the birds in your area are receiving the nutrition needed is to look for region-specific wild bird food, like Scotts Songbird Selections Regional Bird Blends.

To learn more about bringing unique birds to your backyard, sign up for the Backyard Birding e-newsletter at www.scottswildbirdfood.com.

— Courtesy of Family Features

BIRDS IN OUR REGION

Here are just a few of the unique regional birds.



Purple Finch — The Purple Finch is a migratory bird that would be a colorful addition to any garden.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BIRDS

- Identify birds with the National Wildlife Federation "Field Guide to Birds of North America." Find it at www.shopnwf.org.
- Find state and regional backyard bird guides at www.songbirdgarden.com.
- Learn how to participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count at www.birdsource.org.
- Learn more about participating in a Christmas Bird Count by contacting your local Audubon Society Chapter: www.audubon.org/bird/cbc/.
- Check with your local cooperative extension office to learn more about native plants and creating a backyard habitat for the birds in your region.
- Have your garden certified as a wildlife habitat by visiting the National Wildlife Federation website at www.nwf.org.
- Find out which species are visiting your feeders with the Bird Identifier at www.scottswildbirdfood.com.

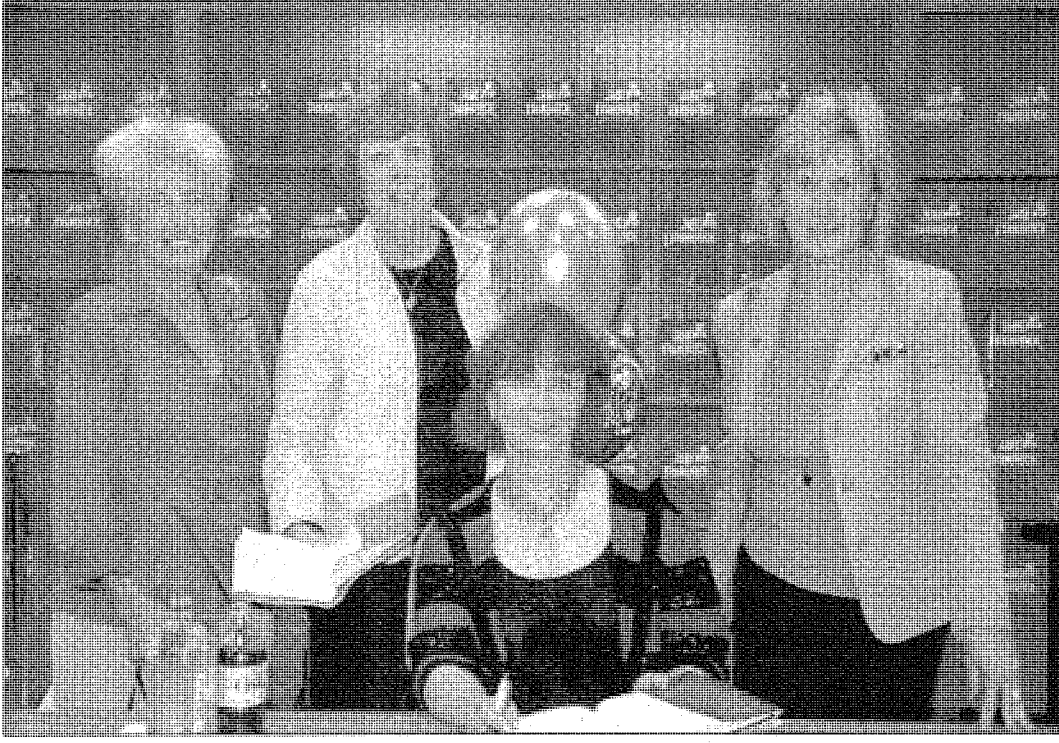


PHOTO BY JENN WILMARTH

Alice Brooks of Northville (right) and Barb Hendrickson of Livonia (center) pose with Janet Evanovich at the author's book-signing in Northville Tuesday. The fan on the left is unidentified.

Fans 'Plum' happy to meet favorite author

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

One couldn't have blamed Allen Youngpeter for feeling a little bit alone at the Northville Barnes & Noble store.

He was, after all, one of very few men in a sea of women waiting patiently to see best-selling author Janet Evanovich, in town to promote her latest book, *Wicked Appetite*. While Evanovich said women make up some 60 percent of her readership, the lines at Barnes & Noble bore a much higher female presence.

Youngpeter, a Canton resident, took his lone-maleness in stride, satisfying himself simply with getting Evanovich's autograph.

"I picked up one of her books at the airport, and I was hooked," said Youngpeter, who bought one copy of *Wicked Appetite* for himself and another to give as a Christmas present. "The characters are quirky, they're fun. It's a laugh-a-minute read with a lot of adventure thrown in. Her books are character-driven, and that's nice."

Fans lined up deep into the store after having secured color-coded tickets. They brought loads of books and their own personal cameras, were entertained by Evanovich's daughter, Alex, and local residents drafted to help with the event.

PARTY TIME

There was candy and cheese-cake, balloons and banter as the signing drifted into what Evanovich proudly calls a "party atmosphere," where fans could grab a photo and a hug.

"I'm not an ivory-tower writer," said the author, best-known for her Stephanie Plum series. "I love having the fans right there in front of me, I like to take pictures (with them), I like that they can yell at me."

Some 700 people rolled through the store in what has become a common sight for Evanovich, the New Jersey native who flavors her books

with Jersey humor and culture. Book signings, she said, draw a range of some 500 to (occasionally) 5,000 fans, all clamoring to get a piece of their favorite author.

But it hasn't always been that way. Evanovich, who went to Douglass College as a painter, got her start years ago writing stories that went unpublished — when rejection letters piled up high enough, she set them on fire — and transitioned into writing romance novels. She spent five years writing those, an experience she called "rewarding," before tiring of it and making the decision to move into mysteries.

NEW DIRECTION

She spent a couple of years retooling herself, learning to shoot and "drinking beer with law enforcement types" while crafting her image of Plum, the lingerie-buyer-turned-bounty-hunter who has become easily her most popular character. Plum stumbles through the career change, and through her personal life, the same way Evanovich herself grew up.

"There's a lot of me in Stephanie, and a lot of my daughter," Evanovich said. "I'm like a big stew ... you just dump everything in."

Her first Plum novel, *One for the Money*, was a little darker than the rest of the series, the latest of which is *Sizzling Sixteen*. That's by design, Evanovich said, in an effort to capture a little wider audience. She said she did tons of research in the beginning, talking to law enforcement officers and bail bondsmen, but needs less of that now, since the books have focused as much on the characters as the careers.

That focus is fine with readers, who find the Plum novels easy to read. The characters, from Plum herself to her quirky Grandma Mazur, are endearing to the readers.

"They make you laugh," said Alice Brooks of Northville, who waited in line with Barb

Hendrickson of Livonia, copies of *Wicked Appetite* in hand. "I love everything about Grandma Mazur. I can relate to them with their sense of character."

LAUNCH VEHICLE

While the Plum series draws legions of fans to Evanovich, she was in town to launch *Wicked Appetite*, the vehicle for a character named Diesel, a hero with strange powers. While Evanovich developed him in the Plum books, fans have taken to him in droves, prompting Evanovich to break him out into his own series.

"He became so popular it became obvious we had something really appealing," Evanovich said. "We decided to give him his own show."

While she's gotten famous writing Plum, Evanovich said Diesel might be her favorite character, and she called *Wicked Appetite* her favorite book. While Diesel has special powers — he can unlock doors without keys and sense disturbances in the atmosphere — he's also one of the more normal characters she's crafted.

"Of all the heroes I've created, he's the most normal," Evanovich said. "He has all these powers, but he's the 'guy.' He's confident, he's a little pushy in a charming way, he's the guy who steps out of his underwear and just leaves them there. He's an endearing character."

While there won't be any crossover between Diesel's world and Plum's, Evanovich also pointed out the creation of the Diesel series does not mean the end of the Plum series. Evanovich, who gets up at 5:30 a.m., figures she'll write Stephanie "until I die."

"It's all I do," she said of writing. "I don't have any hobbies. I'm the world's most boring person. I live in a fabulous place. I can't imagine not going to the computer. It doesn't seem right."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-

Baker's dozen: Denning sponsors cupcake contest

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Cupcake bakers can show off their skills at the annual Noodles N' Neighbors fund-raiser Friday, Oct. 1, at the Westland Friendship Center.

"There are a lot of contests on TV but not around here. We needed something exciting in this area," said contest sponsor Mary Denning of Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe. "Everyone wants cupcakes. Cupcakes are exciting."

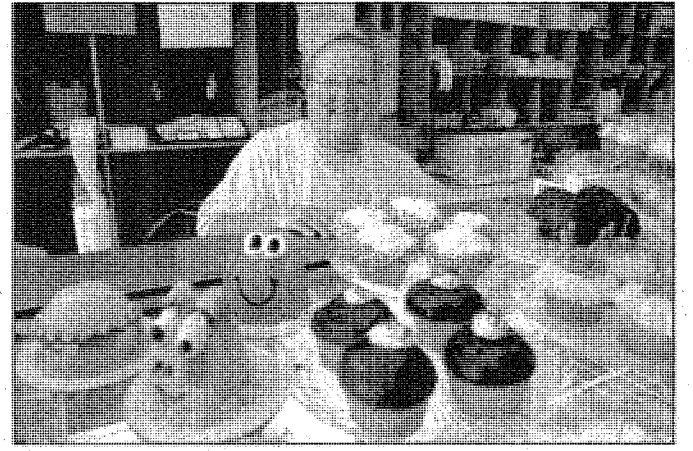
It happens that Noodle N' Neighbors, which this year is raising money for the restoration of Central City Park, is being held on the 18th anniversary of Denning opening her cake shop on North Wayne Road.

"We've always had little ones but now we've got the big cupcakes. People will order four cupcakes instead of a cake," said Denning, who credits a scene in *Sex and the City* with launching the current popularity of cupcakes.

Bumpy cake is Denning's best-selling cupcake with other flavors that include Red Velvet, Black Forest, Boston Cream and a yellow cupcake with sprinkles in the batter and on top of the frosting.

"Walk-in traffic buys more cupcakes than cakes but people order more cakes," said Denning.

"Cupcakes are nice - you can get a single size and not have leftover ones. You can



As a baker, Mary Denning knows how to create cupcakes. Now she's looking for local bakers to compete in her cupcake contest.

get six different ones. It's comfort food."

The contest has three categories: junior level which will be judged on taste and decoration; adult level judged on decoration, design and presentation; and adult judged on taste and flavor. Each category will receive an award plus a people's choice.

Cupcakes can be made from scratch or a box mix but contestants must bring recipes for their cupcake and frosting. The theme is Fall Fun. Each contestant must submit 12 chocolate cupcakes, 12 yellow cupcakes and 12 wild card cupcakes. Six of the cupcakes must be decorated on site, so contestants need to bring all the equipment and frosting needed to complete their creation. Standard size cupcakes - no mini cupcakes allowed.

Contestants also need to

bring a table covering, napkins, plates and decorations for their sites. The entry fee is \$10 which includes a dinner ticket that costs \$10. Entries including recipes are due by Saturday, Sept. 25 to Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe, 8036 N. Wayne Road, Westland Mich. 48185. For questions, call (734) 261-3680.

About 325 people attended Noodles N' Neighbors, sponsored by State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, last year. There will be live auctions, silent auctions, celebrity services and door prizes. The dinner is 5:30-8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 per person in advance at Westland's William P. Faust Library or the Friendship Center or at the door. For more information, call (888) 737-5325.

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OUR VIEWS

Mother's Day

Take time Sunday to honor Gold Star mothers

As of Aug. 31, 2010, combat missions in Iraq ended. "Operation Iraqi Freedom is over, and the Iraqi people now have lead responsibility for the security of their country," so proclaimed President Barack Obama.

As quickly as that war started it came to an end, and in between the March 20, 2003, beginning and the Aug. 31, 2010, end, more than 4,500 American soldiers were killed and more than 60,000 were wounded, at least 30,000 of whom were seriously wounded.

Now, this country turns its attention to Afghanistan where our soldiers have been fighting the Taliban since the start of Operation Enduring Freedom on Oct. 7, 2001. To date, the U.S. has lost more than 1,200 troops.

For many of us, these numbers are just that ... numbers. We don't see the names that go with them nor the sorrow their families feel. Our flags are flown at half staff to honor their sacrifice, but few if any of us can point to a lowered flag and say who it honors.

Our losses have been few in western Wayne County. The state flag has been lowered six times since the start of the War on Terror for five soldiers and Marines and one Army National Guardsman from our area. They are Army Sgt. Trevor Blumberg of Canton, Marine Cpl. David Smith of Garden City, Army Pvt. Joseph Blake of Livonia, Marine Sgt. Bryan Burgess of Garden City, Army National Guardsman 1st Class Matthew Hilton of Livonia and Marine Cpl. Jacob Turbett of Canton.

Each and everyone of these young men have a mother who still grieves the loss of a child. They are our Gold Star Mothers, a designation that has a part of the fabric of this country since World War I. Sunday will be their Mothers Day.

Gold Star Mother's Day is observed in the United States on the last Sunday of September each year. It is a day set aside to recognize and honor those who have lost a son or daughter while serving the U.S. Armed Forces. We always remember those who died on Sept. 11, 2001, and we need to do the same for those who are out there fighting and those who have died to end that terrorism.

This area's losses may seem small, but for the Gold Star Mothers, they are huge. Their loss is our loss. They deserve our support and our respect. Gold Star Mothers Day may not be as joyful a holiday as the one we observe in May, but it is a day we should observe nonetheless.

We can't afford to forget about our war dead. We ask our readers to take a moment on Sunday to remember those who have died while serving in our military. It doesn't need to be big and elaborate. It can be as simple as a short prayer or a moment of contemplation.

Whatever it is, just do it. And while you're at it, remember the Blue Star Mothers. It's their sons and daughters who are now on the frontline of the War on Terror.

ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS



The following are excerpts from readers participating in our online forum for discussing issues, In Your Voices. Find more comments or join the discussion on the Web at hometownlife.com.

The issue: Snyder's town hall meeting

Organizing an event like this takes time and money, KUDOS to Snyder for taking the time and spending the money to make himself available to the voters ... but SHAME ON Bernero for his showboat tactics. That wasn't the act of a leader, it was the act of a Bully who pushes himself into places he was not invited. Is this the kind of person we want in Lansing? My vote is NO for Bernero ...YES FOR SNYDER!!!

goblue22

I want Snyder to win so that all the people that insist a "successful businessman" can "do the job" or "finally make a difference" or "will run it like a business" will get their chance.

Unfortunately they will soon find out that very little difference will be made by such a person. I hope I am wrong, but I won't even bet a dime on it.

Then, after such a person has a chance, I can hopefully stop hearing about how badly we needed him/her.

50yrsinWestland

Good for BERNERO for dropping in on Snyder. Why won't Snyder agree to any debates? What is he afraid of? BERNERO has the EXPERIENCE we need to lead our state. Snyder just wants to buy his way into office no questions asked. BERNERO is the man for the job. Vote for VIRG BERNERO.

nomoreperks

The issue: First day of school

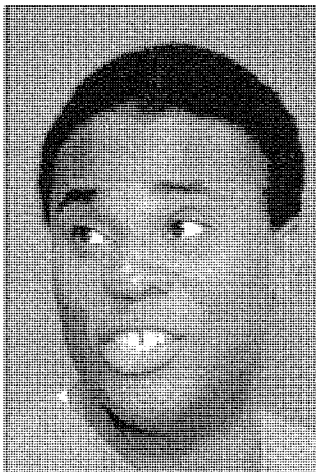
OK I am usually not outspoken, but this editor/writer must be swayed to write only positive things given directly from the WW Administration. Bussing is a joke, I know that at one elementary school the bussing show up and no one leaves until close to 4:30. The school releases at 4 p.m. This is totally unacceptable. One child is diabetic and needed some food or juice on the first day and didn't get anything. I know things will try to smooth out, but why didn't administration listen to parents when we had suggestions to help. Ideas come from everywhere not just from a certain group of people.

halfpint_48186

COMMUNITY VOICE

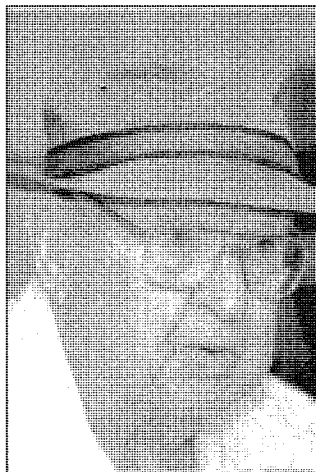
How well do you think the Detroit Lions will do this season?

We asked this question at the Maplewood Community Center in Garden City.



"I think they'll do really good, even though they lost the first game because of the ref. Their defense will do good this year."

Michael Archer
Inkster



"I think the Lions should win some. They can't do any worse than last year, so I hope they do better. They've been miserable the last two-three years."

Harold Whitt
Garden City



"Let's say a prayer as we speak that they can only get better."

Penny Klei
Garden City



"I can only hope for the best."

Michelle Prusak
Garden City

LETTERS

Mosher was there

Just recently, we all once again had the opportunity to accept the invitation from our Observer & Eccentric Newspapers to attend, and participate in the League of Women Voters Candidate Forum at City Hall Auditorium. We could be mildly impressed at the number of those in attendance, however, a rather large number of seats remained rather empty.

While several of the seats at the stage were sufficiently filled with candidates competing for public office in the Michigan Legislature, only two were filled, occupied by candidates seeking federal office, that for U.S. Congress in Michigan's 11th Congressional District. There are actually three candidates seeking that position, the third being that of the incumbent.

This has not been our first trip to this rodeo. In 2008, as always, the League again working as hard as they always do, made arrangements for a forum to be held. The incumbent did not attend and participate then, as well.

The League, headed by Paula Bowman, being cognizant of the risk they may suffer in terms of credibility for their well-earned reputation for being "nonpartisan," did not make a name place tag for the incumbent, they did not mail the Congress person a letter informing him the deadline for responding to their invitation had expired, no pictures of the proverbial "empty-seat" were taken or displayed, and no photographic cardboard "stand-up-sign" in the likeness of the perennial absent candidate were supplied.

All those in attendance witnessed was the announcement that a representative of the Congress person had communicated by electronic mail that afternoon the Congress person had a scheduling conflict, and would not be attending the forum.

As attendees, everything else we saw and heard was the usual evidence of the tremendous work performed by the League, yet another fine forum and opportunity for voters in our area to take advantage of, becoming more informed as they make plans heading for the polls on the Nov. 2.

We certainly hope those of us who chose to attend, (and everyone else) remember that Glenn Anderson, John Pastor, Joe Larkin, John Walsh, John Tatar, and Natalie Mosher were there!

R. Burnett
Livonia

Reduce oil dependence

While running for office, President Obama promised that if elected, he would get us off OPEC oil within 10 years.

Two years are gone and we still don't have a plan. In fact, there is some evidence that we're going in the wrong direction. In July 2010, we imported 388 million barrels of oil. That's the single largest import month since President Obama was inaugurated.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters via the following formats.

E-mail: smason@hometownlife.com.

Read or comment online:
www.hometownlife.com

Deadline: Letters must be received by 10 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at www.hometownlife.com.

The National Gas Act will create jobs, clean up the environment and improve our national security by providing tax incentives to organizations which operate fleets of vehicles that are fueled with imported oil to be replaced with vehicles that run on domestic natural gas.

Election Day will soon be here. Those who are running for office - be it open seats, incumbents or challengers - need to take a look at this legislation and make promising to reduce our need for OPEC oil a central part of their campaigns.

Brenda Nelson
Oak Park

'Bourne Identity' for voters

The movie "The Bourne Identity" was released over eight years ago and it is still one of today's most-watched DVDs. In this movie, actor Matt Damon has amnesia and valiantly endeavors to recover his memory. However, there are powerful forces working against him.

This movie is an excellent allegory of what is happening today in our national politics. Many voters have developed amnesia as to what happened during the Bush/Cheney administration where the following occurred:

- We were attacked on 9/11 even though memos were presented months in advance of the attack that Bin Laden was "determined" to attack the U.S. by flying airplanes into buildings.
- We invaded Iraq on the basis of lies spread by the Bush/Cheney administration. We know now that Iraq had nothing to do with 9/11 and had no weapons of mass destruction.
- For the first time in our 240-year history, Bush/Cheney and the Republican-controlled Congress instituted tax cuts which were predominantly a relief to the most wealthy Americans. When Bush was asked what sacrifice we Americans should embrace to help with the war effort, he said that we should "go shopping."
- Because regulators were lunching (and actually sleeping) with Wall Street

bank executives, our financial system went to the brink of collapse. As a result, Bush/Cheney passed the TARP which lent billions of taxpayer money at 0 percent to the banks that had bet against American investments and paid their executives millions while the value of our 401(k)s went into the toilet.

- Home values also went into the toilet and home foreclosures and bankruptcies hit all-time highs.
- We were losing 700,000 jobs a month.
- And we kept the cost of our wars off the books while borrowing billions every day from China and other countries which tripped our deficit.

Jason Bourne successfully battled nefarious forces that used everything they had to keep him from remembering his past. I submit that we Democrats, Independents and reasonable Republicans are engaged in a similar battle. Jason Bourne remembered and won. I hope we voters do, too.

Chuck Nichols
Northville

Support repair bill

The American Military Society is a veterans' organization whose membership includes active, reserve, National Guard, retired and veterans of the uniformed services, their families and survivors.

We ask that Congress support the passage of HR 2057 and S 3181, The Motor Vehicle Owners' Right To Repair Act. We believe car owners should have the right to choose where, how and by whom their cars and other motor vehicles are repaired. They should have access to all the repair information from the vehicle manufacturers.

However, this is not the case. Local, independent repair facilities are denied full access to computer codes and other service information from the vehicle manufacturers. This doesn't make any more sense than selling prescription drugs without the doctor's dosing instructions.

This is especially a hardship for military personnel and their families. They are often stationed in remote locations far from any dealerships. Spouses of deployed service members, holding their families together alone, are particularly disadvantaged when close, convenient repair shops cannot obtain access to the data needed to make car repairs. With a record number of dealerships now closed, the problem is even more acute. As more and more cars become more and more complicated, the problem becomes even more difficult.

The American Military Society encourages all service members, their families and all Americans to visit www.righttorepair.org to send a letter to each of their senators and their representatives, urging them to support this legislation.

Charles C. Partridge
colonel, USA (Ret.)
American Military Society

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- Citgo Gas 32912 Cherry Hill Rd.
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- CVS Pharmacy 27365 Cherry Hill Rd.
- CVS Pharmacy 31411 Cherry Hill Rd.
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- Firebird Gas Station 29435 Ford Rd.
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- Amoco Gas Station 38350 Ford Rd.
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- BP Amoco 35520 Van Born Rd, Wayne
- BP Gas 38800 Michigan Ave, Wayne
- BP Gas 35600 E Michigan Ave, Wayne
- BP Gas 30435 Cherry Hill Rd.
- BP Gas 31341 Van Born Rd, Romulus
- BP Gas 1220 N Wayne Rd.
- BP Gas 2910 Venoy Rd.
- BP Gas 31350 Michigan Ave.
- BP Gas Station 32889 Warren Rd, Garden City
- Bray's Restaurant 35650 Ford Rd.
- Buscemi's Pizza 1690 S Venoy Rd.
- Charles Liquor 129 S Venoy Rd.
- Cherry Hill Mini-Mart 35035 Cherry Hill Rd.
- Clark Gas Station 7975 N Middlebelt Rd.
- Corkscrew Party 37816 Ford Rd.
- CVS Pharmacy 7250 N Venoy Rd.
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- CVS Pharmacy 37527 Cherry Hill Rd.
- CVS Pharmacy 6501 N Wayne Rd.
- CVS Pharmacy 1750 S Wayne Rd.
- CVS Pharmacy 2950 S Newburgh Rd., Wayne
- CVS Pharmacy 31411 Cherry Hill Rd.
- CVS Pharmacy 31450 Van Born Rd.
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- Marathon Gas 32919 Cherry Hill Rd.
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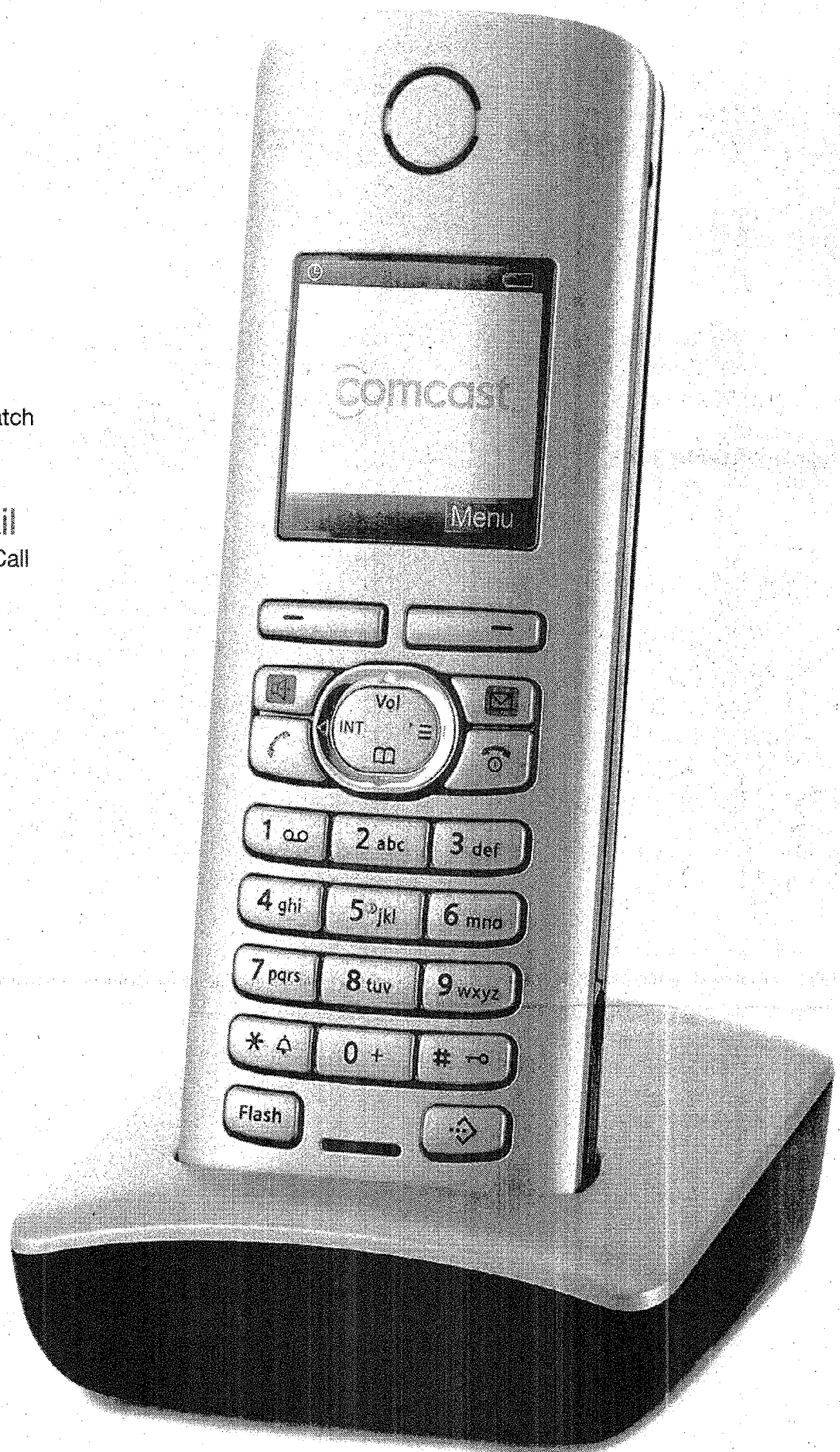
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at a corn maze

Major upset bid falls short for Madonna men

Notre Dame (Ohio) College, the nation's No. 4-ranked NIAA men's soccer team, rolled Saturday into Livonia's Greenmead Field not having given up a goal in seven games this season.

That streak came to an end as Madonna University scored twice, but the Falcons got the match's final goal to escape

COLLEGE SOCCER

with a 3-2 victory.

Notre Dame is now 8-0 overall, while MU falls to 4-2. "That team (Notre Dame) is ranked high for a reason," MU first-year coach Eric Scott said. "They are very good at what they want to do.

"We fought hard and I'm proud of the effort from everyone. Masato (Morioka) was fantastic at putting pressure on Notre Dame's backline and Mustapha (Olorunnimbe) took his chance as well after some good running in the box."

The Crusaders got on the board at the 20:54 mark of the first half, when junior Morioka

(Northville) dribbled down the sideline and crossed the ball into the middle of the 6-yard box to a waiting Olorunnimbe and the freshman striker buried the ball in the back netting for his third goal of the season.

Notre Dame tied the match at 1-1 just under seven minutes later, when Steven Kane stripped the ball away from

the man he was marking, broke in on goal, and slotted a shot to the far post to square the match 1-1.

The Falcons took a 2-1 lead in the 33rd minute, when Kane carried the ball onto the Crusader side of the field and sent a chip shot in on net

Please see **MADONNA, B4**

SIDELINES

MU golfers third

The Madonna University men's golf team finished tied for third in last weekend's 14-team Battle at Blackhorn Invitational held in South Bend, Ind.

Marian (Ind.) College led the field with a two-day team total of 1-over 286-291-577 on the par-72, 6,800-yard Blackthorn Golf Course, followed by Huntington (Ind.) University, 282-298-580; Madonna, 286-299-585; Wheaton (Ill.) College, 294-291-585; and Holy Cross (Ind.), 281-304-585.

MU's top finisher was Vince Carango, who tied for tied with an even-par 68-76-144.

Other MU finishers included Tommy Lucko (Livonia Churchill), 14th (72-76-148); Brett Quitiquit (79-71-150); Austin Stillman (Livonia Franklin) (74-76-150); and Jimmy Uelmen (72-78-150) all tied for 22nd.

Eric Hartstein of Holy Cross captured medalist honors with a 9-under 62-73-135.

Blazers win, tie

Junior Mackenzie Holme made four saves to earn the shutout Monday as host Livonia Ladywood and Ann Arbor Greenhills battled to a scoreless draw in Division II girls field hockey.

Ladywood is 4-1-2 overall and 2-0-1 in the division, while Greenhills is 3-1-2 and 1-0-1.

Greenhills senior keeper Sierra Patton had four saves.

On Friday, three different players scored second-half goals as they posted a 3-0 victory at Beverly Hills Detroit Country Day.

Junior Erin Cronyn had a goal and assist for the Blazers (4-1-1, 2-0).

Sophomore Jaclyn Snyder and senior Bridget Bonenfant also scored for the Blazers. Junior Kylie Birney had an assist on Cronyn's goal.

Holme had three saves for the shutout, while DCD senior goalie Amanda Tapp made 12 saves for the Yellowjackets (2-3, 0-2).

"It was a very competitive game," Ladywood coach Kris Sanders said. "Time expired in the second half whereby we play out the penalty corners and that's the way we added our third goal. We have never done that before, so it was very exciting for us to be able to score that way."

Stack benefit skate

The use of a suite with 21 tickets to a Detroit Red Wings game at Joe Louis Arena will be among the silent auction items for benefit skate to honor late Livonia Hockey Association director Jim Stack, 6-8 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 26, at Eddie Edgar Ice Arena.

There will be a \$5 minimum at the door for skating, along with another \$5 for coney dogs and chips.

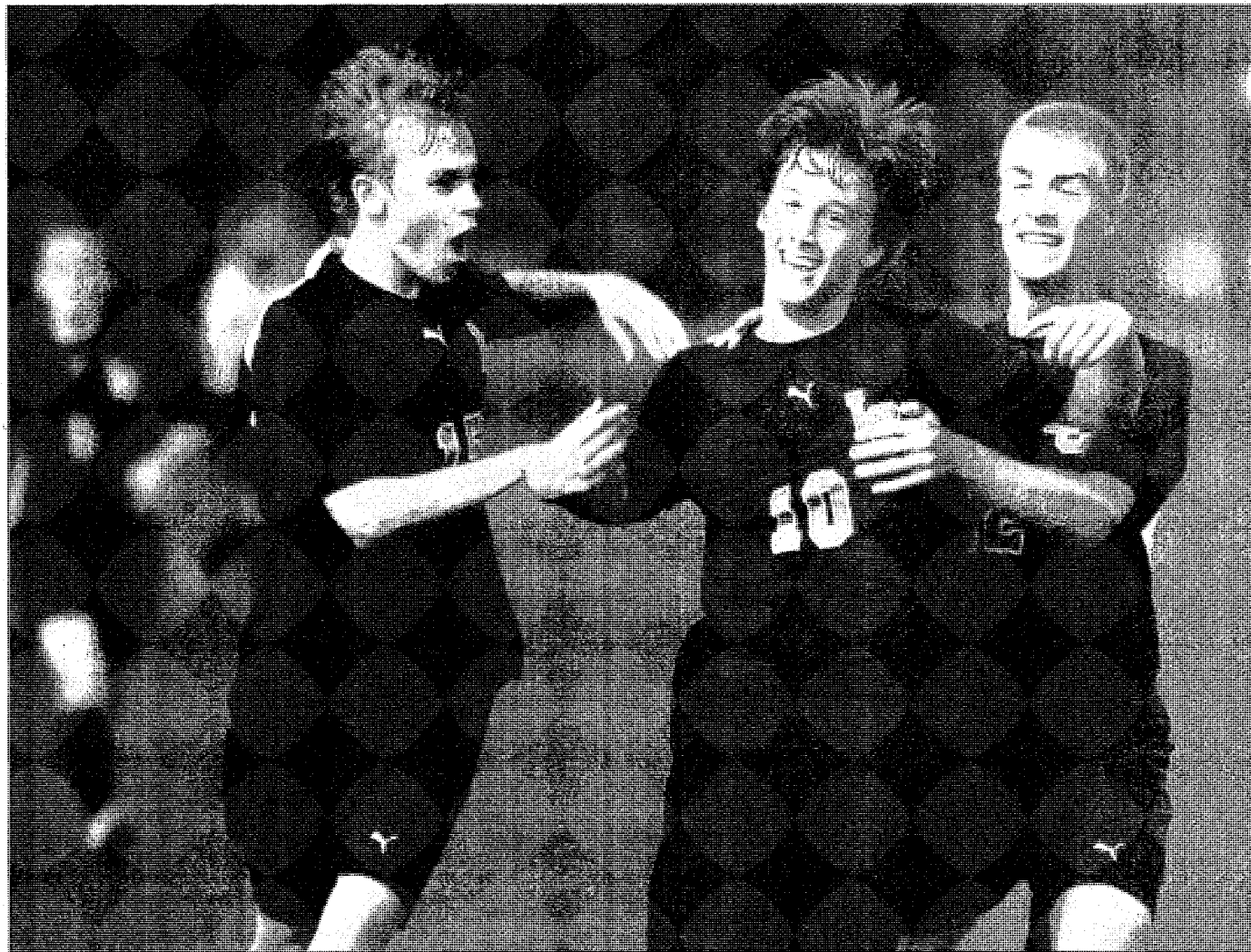
A 50-50 raffle, as well as a raffle for certificates from local businesses will also be offered. Free will donations will also be accepted for the Jim Stack Memorial Fund.

Other hockey memorabilia, including a bottle of wine signed by Ted Lindsay, a Ryan Kesler signed stick and an autographed Steve Yzerman jersey will be up for auction, as well as more Red Wing tickets.

For more information, e-mail JimStackMemorial@yahoo.com. You can also call Maureen Zoski at (734) 751-8703; or Glen Long at (734) 637-1145.

Emerson harrier 9th

Keenan Jones of Livonia's Emerson Middle School finished ninth out of a field of 197 in the 3,200-meter run in 11:54 during Friday's Michigan State University Spartan Invitational held at soggy Forest Akers Golf Course.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Churchill's Jeff Thomas (10) is congratulated by teammates Alex Jones (15) and Brian Lewandowski (12) after giving the Chargers a 1-0 lead over Canton.

KLAA South rivals fight to draw

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Following another crisp, highly competitive boys soccer matchup between Canton and Livonia Churchill Tuesday night, the first initial of the KLAA might stand for Krunch.

The host Chiefs and Chargers fought, scrapped,

collided and played to a 1-1 KLAA South deadlock.

"It was a good battle," Canton coach George Tomasso said. "It's a good rivalry between Canton and Churchill."

The Chiefs now are 8-2-2 overall and 3-1-1 in the division, while Churchill is 5-5-2 and 3-1-1.

Churchill coach Reid

Friedrichs said the match was one of playoff intensity from start to finish.

"I think both teams knew that if their team won they'd be in charge of the division or at least in first place at the time," said Friedrichs, listing state-ranked Plymouth and Livonia Franklin as other prime time players in the South. (Plymouth took over

sole possession of first place in the KLAA South with a 2-0 win over the Patriots.)

Canton needed a rally after falling behind 1-0 in the first half and high-scoring sophomore midfielder Bobby Budlong netted the equalizer with 17:09 left in the contest. Sophomore forward Dan

Please see **SOCCER, B3**

Schuette gets nod at Wayne Memorial

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Wayne Memorial has a new boys basketball coach with familiar name.

Junior varsity coach Mike Schuette will lead the Zebras' 2010-11 varsity squad, replacing Wayne Woodard, who stepped down last June after 10 seasons.

Woodard posted a 127-91 over his 10-year stint, including two Western Lakes Activities Association playoff, one WLAA regular season and three divisional titles.

The 63-year-old Schuette, who has 41 years with the Wayne-Westland Community Schools, has a lengthy coaching resume, including stints with the varsity boys (1992-93 through 1999-2000) and varsity girls (2003 through 2008-09) at John Glenn.

He also spent time as the boys and girls varsity coach at Redford Thurston and was Wayne girls coach in 1981-82. He is also been the longtime varsity baseball coach at Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook.

Schuette's best season at Glenn came in 1993-94, when the Rockets, led by Tony Goins

(Wayne State) and Guy Rucker (Iowa), made it all the way to the Class A quarterfinals.

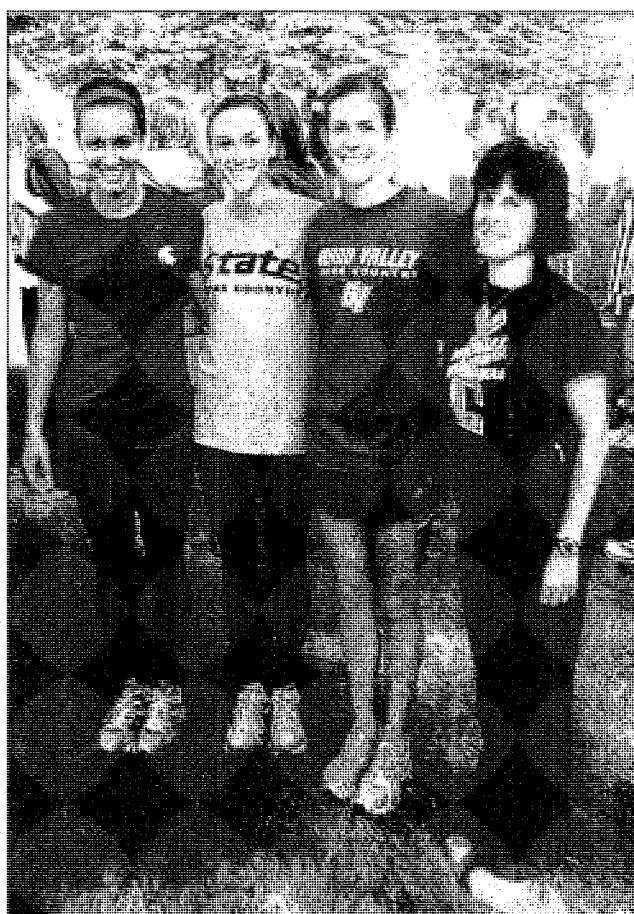
Schuette, who holds B.A. and M.A. degrees from the University of Michigan, was named Wayne coach shortly after school started after being interviewed by Wayne-Westland athletic administrator Greg Ambrose.

"I met with kids two weeks ago and took some information," said Schuette, currently a guidance counselor at rival Glenn. "We'll wait and see what we can do between now and the start of the season. Right now we can work with only four (players) at a time."

When the federally mandated court order switched the MHSAA girls basketball season from fall to winter, Schuette stepped down from the Glenn varsity girls position after going 58-94 in nine seasons. He returned to the bench last year to coach the Wayne JV boys squad, going 10-10.

The 15-6 varsity Zebras, KLAA South Division champi-

Please see **SCHUETTE, B4**



Charger connection

Livonia Churchill High, coached by Sue Tatro (far right), was well-represented in the women's collegiate division 6-kilometer race during Friday's Michigan State University Spartan Invitational cross country meet at Forest Akers Golf Course. MSU freshman Sara Kroll (far left) made her debut finishing sixth in 21 minutes, 6 seconds (5:40 per mile). Grand Valley State's Megan Maceratini (third from left) took 13th in 21:32 and teammate Kylan Cieslak (not pictured) placed 20th overall out of a field of 231 in 22:05. Unable to compete due to injury was MSU red-shirt sophomore Rachel McFarlane (second from left).

Simpson's hat trick lifts Glenn

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Brian Tomlinson is still in the getting acquainted stage with his Westland John Glenn boys soccer team.

The interim coach, who Sept. 12 replaced Jimmy Mortada, learned a little more Tuesday about his Rockets. And for the most part, Tomlinson liked what he saw following a convincing 6-2 win over rival Wayne Memorial.

Glenn is now 5-5-1 overall and 1-4 in the KLAA's South Division, while Wayne is 0-9 and 0-5.

"So far, so good," said Tomlinson, who is 2-1 during his brief stint. "We're going through some growing pains, but it's going to work out."

Just 11 minutes into the match, Wayne's Darren Glassmeyer and Glenn's Steve Thompson were banished with red cards for violent conduct.

That didn't sit well with the Glenn coach as the two teams played a man down — 10-on-10 — the rest of the way. (Both players will have to sit out the next match.)

"I definitely did not like the red card," Tomlinson said. "But I like how we got our heads back together after they (Wayne) made a good push in the second half. Wayne shows up to play us every year and this a great

Please see **GLENN, B4**

Hogan hero for Trojans in 39-20 win

Livonia Clarenceville earned its third gridiron win in four tries last Friday with a convincing 39-20 triumph over host Harper Woods.

Senior Deondre Hogan led the Trojans' charge on both sides **PREP FOOTBALL**

running for 123 yards and two touchdowns on offense and racking up a team-leading 15 tackles on defense.

"It was a breakout night for Deondre," said Clarenceville head coach Ken Fry. "He was an absolute madman out there on the field."

Hogan, who carried the ball 20 times, scored on runs of two and nine yards as the Trojans took a 21-6 lead into the locker room at halftime.

In the second half the Trojans added to the lead on a 24-yard TD scamper by senior Henry Segura, a 49-yard fumble return by Adrian Meyers and a 32-yard field goal off the foot of Ardit Dushkaj.

"They sort of knew they

Please see **FOOTBALL, B4**

Site Matters



The results are in. Consumers value and trust the premium-quality content found at newspaper Web sites as well as the advertising on those sites according to a just-released comScore survey.

Newspaper Web Sites continue to be the most used and valued sites for consumers seeking credible and trustworthy local content and advertising online.

Top Online Source 57percent of consumers identified local newspaper Web sites as the top online source for local information, ahead of the totals for all other media.

Source for Local Information Newspaper sites ranked first as a source for local information (29%), local sports (27%), local entertainment (26%) and local classifieds (39%), ahead of both local television Web sites and online portals. And, consumers value local content with 57% indicating that local information is very important.

Trustworthiness of Advertising Consumers agree that their opinion of online advertising is influenced by the type of Web site on which the ad appears. Local newspaper sites ranked first in trustworthiness of advertising.

Current, Credible and Relevant Consumers consider local newspaper Web sites to be the most trusted source of online advertising, with ads that are perceived to be more current, credible and relevant to them.

75 million unique visitors 37% of all active Internet users went to newspaper Web sites in January 2010, accessing more than 3.5 billion pages.

Local Matters, the Content Matters, the Site Matters.

Source: comScore 2010, Nielsen Online

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Youths from Rosedale Gardens Church build house on mission trip

Two groups from Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church in Livonia spent a portion of their summer working with Habitat for Humanity on separate mission trips.

Both groups worked on a project in Janesville, Wis.

The Young Adult group, with members ranging in age from 18-30, sent 20 individuals on the six-day mission. The group was formed nine years ago, when students coming out of the church's high school youth group, felt they needed a place to go after high school. The group not only travels on an annual mission trip, but also works on many service and fellowship opportunities throughout the school year.

The high school youth group sent 46 youths and six adults to Janesville. Each year, it undertakes a major mission project to help the less fortunate. Past trips have taken the youth group to Indiana, Mexico and South Carolina. In Janesville, members worked on the construction of a bi-level house, framing walls,



Members of a youth mission trip at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church in Livonia show the house they helped build in Wisconsin.

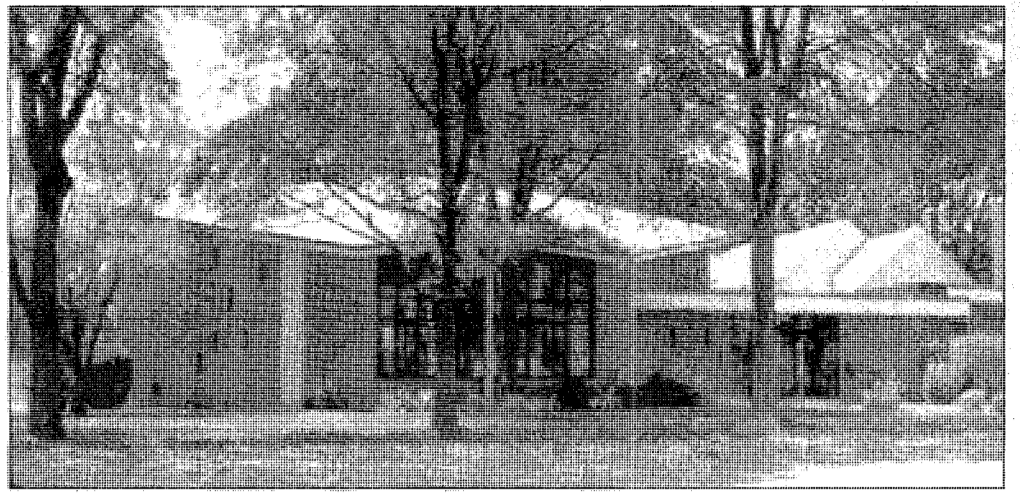
installing decking, and cutting lumber under the supervision of Habitat leaders. By the end of five days, the group finished framing both levels of the house.

The Young Adult group continued working on the same building, dubbed the "prayer house," because all of the lumber was donated by local churches, schools,

and groups. Every board was inscribed with a special message, blessing, or prayer.

In four days, the Young Adult group framed the outside and interior walls of the second level, lifted and secured the trusses, and shingled the roof.

For more about the Rosedale Gardens youth groups, visit www.rosedalegardens.org.



Prayer Temple, former home to Trinity Church of the Brethren, in Redford.

Congregation dedicates church in Redford Twp.

BY SHARON DARGAY
OSE STAFF WRITER

Members of Prayer Temple Missionary Baptist Church this month gained space to feed the homeless, conduct Bible classes and hold meetings.

The church moved from Detroit into the former Trinity Church of the Brethren building at 27350 W. Chicago Road, in Redford.

A dedication is set for 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 29 and will include a worship service, tour of the building and light refreshments in the fellowship hall.

The Rev. Anthony D. Johnson, a Westland resident and pastor of the church for 10 years, said the new Redford address is a good fit for the 44-year-old congregation.

"We were looking at property in Detroit and didn't like what we saw. So many of our members were migrating to Redford, Westland and the Inkster area," he said.

"The buzz word at our church is space. We finally have plenty of space necessary to do ministry. There was an on-going joke that we couldn't have more than one meeting at a time."

Now, with 10,000 square feet, the church can hold several classes and meetings at once. It also gained a fellowship hall for din-

ners and other activities.

Bible study classes are held at noon and 7 p.m. Wednesday and present a "practical" approach to scripture.

"If you're looking for something deep you're probably in the wrong church. We make it simple so that everyone can understand," Johnson said.

Mission, teacher and choir ministries meet on Thursday. The church feeds the homeless through quarterly visits to a shelter in Detroit, meets monthly with nursing home residents and has given backpacks and other items to needy students. "Community Days," Bible class in the out-of-doors, back-to-school rallies and community basketball games are among the congregation's many outreach programs.

Worship services are at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday. Sunday School runs 10:15-10:45 a.m. Sunday.

Johnson said the church youth ministry also plans to conduct its own service monthly in the church fellowship hall.

"We love God, the Word and worship," Johnson said. "We are Baptist by identity but we've been told it's a nondenominational presentation."

For more about Prayer Temple, visit www.ptmbc.net.

Take a tour of Capuchin ministry

Capuchin friars will lead tours of the Detroit Capuchin ministries on Sunday, Oct. 3 during a "Family Day" program that marks the 50th year of the Father Solanus Guild.

The Guild spreads the knowledge of the Rev. Solanus Casey, who was a beloved Capuchin friar credited with miraculous cures and valued for his wise and compassionate counsel. He faithfully served the people of Detroit by providing soup for the hungry, kind words for the troubled, and a healing touch for the ill. It also helps gather information to further Solanus' cause for sainthood.

Tour participants will be guided through the Solanus Casey Center, St. Bonaventure Monastery grounds, and the Capuchin Soup Kitchen's Meldrum site, which includes Earthworks Urban Farm.

Family Day will begin with the blessing of the new Father Solanus garden, at 11:30 a.m. The garden will grow vegetables, herbs, and flowers. The vegetables and herbs will be used in the kitchens of the

Capuchin Soup Kitchen's two locations.

"The Capuchin Soup Kitchen nourishes the physical body and the Solanus Casey Center nourishes the spirit," stated the Rev. Larry Webber, Solanus Center director. "This is a natural extension for both Capuchin ministries."

The free guided Capuchin ministries tour will start after the garden blessing and will continue until 3 p.m. The tour starts at the Solanus Casey Center entrance, 1780 Mount Elliott, Detroit.

"Even those who are well educated on the spirituality of Fr. Solanus will discover new information," said Brother Richard Merling, a Capuchin friar and Solanus Guild director.

"This is a day dedicated to families and to the holiness of Fr. Solanus. The tour ties together our Capuchin ministries of the Solanus Guild, the Solanus Casey Center, and the Capuchin Soup Kitchen... all of which Father Solanus is the common thread.

Father Solanus left St. Bonaventure Monastery in 1944, and here we are 66 years later, continuing to learn from his spirituality and holiness."

Free desserts created by Capuchin Soup Kitchen chef Alison Costello will be available at the soup kitchen's Meldrum site, across the street from the St. Bonaventure Monastery. Earthworks Urban Farm, a program of the soup kitchen, will be open for greenhouse and garden tours. Earthworks' harvest produce and the soup kitchen's On the Rise Bakery baked goods will be available for sale. Free light lunch snacks also will be available at the St. Bonaventure Monastery grounds.

Comfortable walking shoes are encouraged. In order to secure a food count, the Capuchins request an RSVP at (313) 579-2100, Ext. 169.

For more information visit www.SolanusCasey.org, www.solanuscenter.org, www.csk-detroit.org, and www.thecapuchins.org.

Your Invitation to Worship

<p>CATHOLIC</p>	<p>UNITED METHODIST</p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN (8700399)</p>	<p>LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD</p>
<p>ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH Tridentine Latin Mass St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8 38100 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-3200 Mass Schedule: Fri. 7:00 p.m. Sat. 11:00 a.m. Sun. Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m. Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.</p>	<p>ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 30450 Farmington Road • Farmington Hills www.orchardumc.org 248-626-3620 Worship: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. Christian Education for all ages Pastors: Carol J. Johns, Jim Braid, Margo Dexter</p>	<p>ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.) (734) 422-0494 Friends in Faith Service 9:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am Visit www.rosedalegardens.org For information about our many programs</p>	<p>Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia just north of I-96 www.christoursavior.org Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional Sunday School/Bible Class 9:45 am Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413 Staffed Nursery Available Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ Pastors: Davenport, Bayer, & Creeden 734-522-6830</p>
<p>St Genevieve Roman Catholic Church 29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220 (East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries) MASS: Tues. 7 p., Wed., Thurs. 9 a, Sat. 4 p., Sun 11a St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church 32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616 (between Merriman & Farmington Roads) MASS: Mon. 8:30 a., Fri. 8:30 a, Sat. 6 p., Sun 9a</p>	<p>CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</p>	<p>GREEK ORTHODOX</p>	<p>Risen Christ Lutheran David W. Martin, Pastor 46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth Twp., MI (734) 453-5252 Worship 8:15 & 10:45 am Sunday School 9:30 • Adult Bible Study 9:30 Nursery Care Available. All are welcome. Come as you are. www.risenchrist.info</p>
<p>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3195</p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN</p>	<p>NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH 39851 West Five Mile, Plymouth Twp., MI Sunday Services Matsins 8:30 am, Divine Liturgy 10:00 am Rev. Fr. Demetrios Sean Govostes. Parish Office 734-420-0131 Office Hours M-F 10:00 am - 2:00 pm www.nativitygochurch.org</p>	<p>LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD</p>
<p>LUTHERAN-ELCA</p> <p>ST. JOHN LUTHERAN, ELCA Farmington Hills 23225 Gill Rd. 249-474-0584 Saturday Worship • 5:30 PM Sunday Worship & Sunday School 9:00 AM TRADITIONAL/CHORAL SERVICE 10:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL - ALL AGES 11:15 AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE NURSERY AVAILABLE BILL & LAUREN KIRSH-CARR, PASTORS</p>	<p>Fellowship Presbyterian Church Adult Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church 16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org</p>	<p>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p>WARD CHURCH 40000 Six Mile Road Northville, MI 48168 248.374.7400 www.wardchurch.org Traditional Worship 8, 9:30 & 11 a.m. Contemporary Worship 9:30 & 11 a.m. Children's Programs available at 9:30 & 11 a.m. The Traditional Service is broadcast on the radio each week at 11 a.m. on 560 AM</p>	<p>CONGREGATIONAL</p> <p>North Congregational Church 36520 12 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills (bet. Drake & Halsted) (248) 848-1750 10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School <i>Faith - Freedom-Fellowship</i> Ministers Dr. Mark P. Jensen Rev. Mary E. Biedron</p>

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 248-437-2011, Ext. 247 or e-mail: dhart@dnps.com

ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, September 23, 2010

hometownlife.com

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Sharon Dargay

Voice Mail: (313) 222-8883

E-mail: sdargay@hometownlife.com

Comment online at hometownlife.com

Even corn can be spooky if it forms a maze

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Shari Peters will feed dozens of animals this year, all with the help of Maybury Farm's annual corn maze.

"It's for the animals. We've done it for several years now and it gets us through the winter months," said Peters, president of the Northville Community Foundation, which owns the farm. "We have sheep, goats, cows, turkeys, calves, chickens, draft horses, miniature horses, pigs, donkeys, every farm animal you can think of. We have llamas to keep the fox and coyote away."

Proceeds from the maze, which opened last weekend, will buy food for the farm animals through at least March.

"We're not a petting zoo. It's a working farm and our animals are there for a purpose," Peters said.

Approximately 350-450 volunteers annually help maintain the property, serve as docents, and assist with events. The farm grows produce for sale to the public, is open for visitors, runs garden clinics, a day camp and offers extensive educational programs on topics such as maple syrup production, farm animals, dairy and soils.

Once a part of Maybury State Park, the Foundation began negotiating for the property in early 2003 and took ownership in November that same year. Before it did, the farm's barns and livestock were destroyed in a fire.

"It was a February evening and the winds were about 40 miles an hour. Someone had put a kerosene heater in the barn. I was at a board of directors meeting the night it burned down. And then it became my responsibility to rebuild the whole thing," she said. "I had a wonderful Rolodex."

Peters said donations from both individuals and corporations helped



rebuild the barns and re-stock the farm, which reopened in September 2005.

"Today we have a group out there picking pumpkins for us. They're getting corn stalks ready for us and working in the corn maze."

The maze sits on 14 of the farm's 80 acres, includes a hayride and offers twisting, turning trails and dead ends that take about 45 minutes to complete. It's laid out in a tractor pattern, which can be seen only from above.

It's open 6-10 p.m. Friday, 1-10 p.m. Saturday and 1-7 p.m. Sunday, through Nov. 8. The last wagon to take visitors to the maze leaves one hour before closing time.

Visitors, age 18 and older, can compete in a treasure hunt for hidden wooden animals as they make their way through the maze. Those who find all of the animals qualify for a chance to win one of five Meijer Gift Cards worth \$100.

"What I heard everyone say is that this is a good maze. Oh, it may look

simple, but it has so many dead ends. We do have corn cobs in there and they will help you out."

She suggests trying the maze after sunset when it's dark and spooky.

"We have a ton of fun with it. And from the feedback we get, people enjoy it and realize the donation keeps the farm open.

Cost is \$9 for adults and \$7 for children, 3-11. Children 2 and under enter for free. Coupons for a \$1 discount are available at Tom Holzer Ford, 39300 10 Mile, Farmington

Hills and at Meijer, 20401 Haggerty, Northville.

Corn Stalks and hay stacks are available for \$8 each at the farm, along with snacks and drinks at the welcome center. Visitors can see the animals until about 5 p.m.

Maybury Farm is located at 50165 Eight Mile, a half mile west of the state park entrance, in Northville. Call (248) 374-0200 for more information.

Here's a sampling of other area corn mazes:

- Erwin Orchards' maze is open 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. daily through Oct. 31 at 61475 Silver Lake Road, South Lyon. Visitors who find six pictures hidden in the maze receive a free doughnut and glass of cider. Cost is \$5 per person, free for children, 2 and under. Nighttime weekend hours are 7:30-11 p.m., through Oct. 23 and Oct. 28-31. Admission is \$8 per person, cash or check only. Includes wagon ride, bonfire, cider, doughnuts and live monsters. (248) 437-0150.

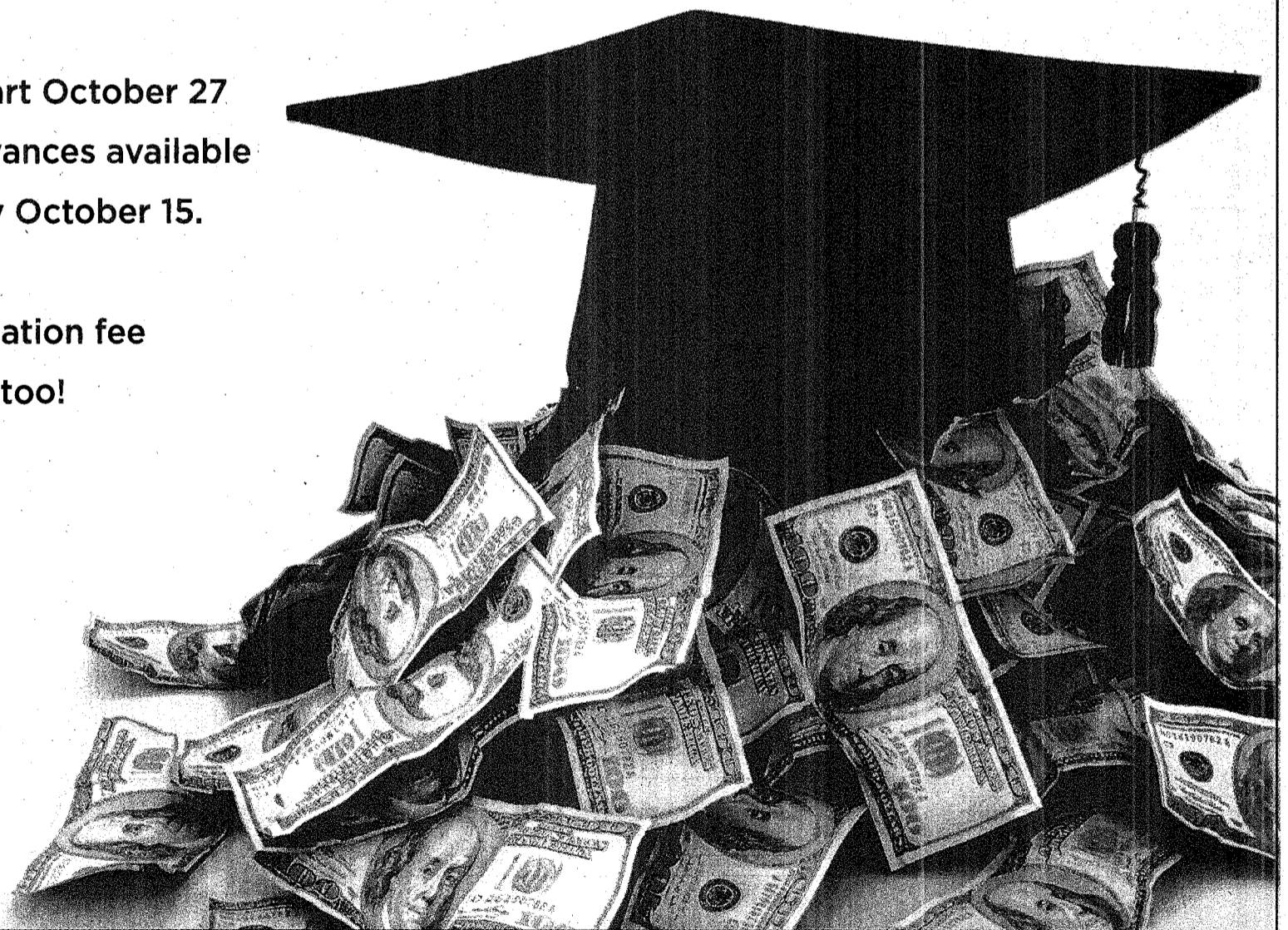
- New Lawn's Sod Farm is open 6-10 p.m., Friday, 1-10 p.m. Saturday, and noon-7 p.m. Sunday, through Nov. 7, at 50240 Martz, Belleville. Bring a flashlight to navigate this 13-acre maze cut in the shape of the Detroit Red Wings logo. The attraction offers three mazes in one for beginning through experienced visitors. Cost is \$6 for youth, \$9 for age 12 and over and \$6 for seniors. (734) 481-0033

- Wiard's Orchards offers a corn maze as a part of its country fair, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday and Sunday through Oct. 31. Admission is \$11.99 per person and free for babies under 23 months. Twilight admission, begins at 4:30 p.m. and costs \$9.25. Pony rides, face painting, candle dipping, karaoke, petting farm, labyrinth and many other activities are included. Wiards is located at 5565 Merritt, Ypsilanti; (734) 390-9211.

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ART

Art & Ideas
Time/Date: Oct. 1-Nov. 14, with opening reception 5:30-9 p.m., Oct. 2
Location: 15095 Northville Road, south of Five Mile, Plymouth
Details: "Diverse Forms, Diverse Meanings," with works by Schoolcraft College Art Faculty, Robert Bielat, Sarah Olson and Ellen Moucoulis
Contact: (734) 420-0775

City Gallery
Time/Date: Through Oct. 15
Location: Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills
Details: Great Lakes Beadworkers show beads with "attitude." Artists' reception, open to the public, will run 5-9 p.m. Friday, Sept. 19
Contact: (248) 473-1856

COMEDY

Go Comedy!
Time/Date: Various show times Wednesdays thru Sundays
Location: 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale
Details: Improv most nights. Open mic/jam session show for improvisers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays
Contact: (248) 327-0575; www.gocomedy.net

JD's House of Comedy
Time/Date: Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings
Location: 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield
Details: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday
Contact: (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster.com

Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia
Time/Date: 8 p.m. Mondays, Open Mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays
Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia
Details: Doug Williams, through Sept. 25; Ira Proctor, Sept. 29-Oct. 2
Contact: (734) 261-0555, www.kicker-scomplex.com

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle
Time/Date: Jackie Flynn, Sept. 23-25; David Alan Grier, Sept. 30-Oct. 2
Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak
Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.comedy-castle.com

CONCERTS

Antioch Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 5
Location: 33360 W. 13 Mile, at Farmington Road, Farmington Hills
Details: Pro Mozart Society of Greater Detroit presents The Berick and Martin Duo. Violinist Yehonatan Berick and pianist Pauline Martin will perform music by Mozart, Brahms, and Stravinsky. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$5 for students. Send checks payable to: Pro Mozart Society, 37099 Sandalwood Drive, Farmington Hills, MI 48331, or visit www.promozartdetroit.org.
Contact: (248) 788-2479

The Ark
Time/Date: The RFD Boys, Sept. 24; The Chenille Sisters, Sept. 25; Ellis Paul, Sept. 26; Griffin House and Tyler James, Sept. 27; The Parkinson Sisters and Lake Folk, Sept. 28; John Primer, Sept. 29; Bruce Molsky and Darol Anger, Sept. 30; The Ryan Montbleau Band, Oct. 1; Doyle and Debbie Show, Oct. 2; Eric Johnson, Andy McKee and Peppino d'Agostino, Oct. 3; Tannahill Weavers, Oct. 4; Abigail Stauffer and Wolfie Geske, Oct. 5; Antje Duvekot and Lucy Wainwright Roche, Oct. 6; The Steel Wheels, Oct. 7; Jill Sobule, Oct. 8; Raul Malo and Shannon Whitworth, Oct. 9; Justin Roberts & the Not Ready for Nap Time Players, Oct. 10; Willy Porter & Carpe Diem, Oct. 10;
Location: 316 South Main, Ann Arbor
Contact: (734) 763-8587; www.theark.org

Barn Theatre
Time/Date: 7:30 p.m., Sept. 25
Location: 32332 12 Mile, Farmington Hills
Details: Jill Jack; tickets are \$19 for adults; \$17 for seniors and students
Contact: (248) 473-1856

Baseline Folk Society
Time/Date: Third Saturday of the month
Location: The JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth
Details: Eight "Open-Mic" performances plus a featured group perform. Individual membership is \$25 and includes monthly concerts from September through May. Otherwise, admission to each concert is \$5 at the door. Family memberships are \$50 and include monthly concerts
Contact: (248) 719-3464 or mjimmullen@yahoo.com

Detroit Institute of Arts



Denene Pollock of Ypsilanti as Nurse Plimpton, David D. Fedewa of Northville as Styler and David Alexander of Redford as Farquhar rehearse a scene from "Mindgame," opening Oct. 8 at Barefoot Productions Theatre in Plymouth.



The Julliard String Quartet will perform Oct. 9 at the Seligman Performing Arts Center in Beverly Hills.

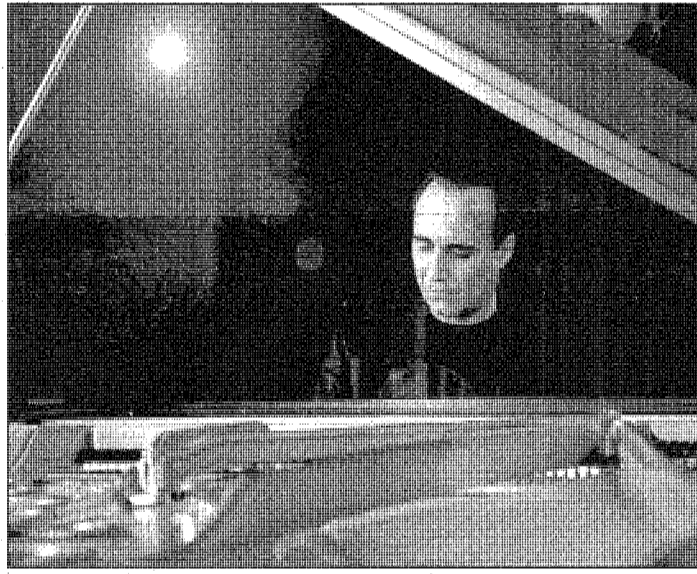
Time/Date: 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 15
Location: 5200 Woodward Ave
Details: George Winston performs; tickets \$8
Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org

Hillberry Theatre
Time/Date: Oct. 1 through Dec. 4 in rotating repertory
Location: 4743 Cass, Detroit
Details: "Hay Fever," one of Noel Coward's earlier, notable comedies; tickets \$10-\$30
Contact: (313) 577-2972; www.usshows.com

Detroit Symphony
Time/Date: 8 p.m. Oct. 1
Location: 3711 Woodward Ave
Details: Michael Camilo's Big Band - Caribe; tickets \$19-\$63
Contact: (313) 576-5111

Jazz Cafe
Time/Date: 8 p.m. and 10 p.m., Sept. 30 and Oct. 1
Location: Music Hall, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit
Details: Allan Holdsworth, Sept. 30 and Oct. 1; tickets \$30 in advance or \$40 at the door
Contact: www.ticketmaster.com; (313) 887-8500

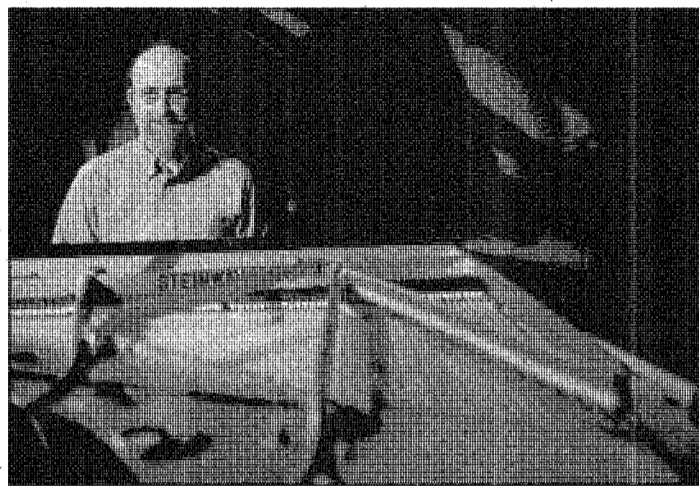
Livonia Symphony
Time/Date: 4 p.m., Oct. 9
Location: Louis Schmidt Auditorium, Clarenceville High School 20155 Middlebelt, Livonia
Details: Program includes Tchaikovsky, Mendelssohn, Beethoven and more; adults, \$20, students of any age, \$5 and senior citizens, 60 and over, \$18
Contact: (734) 421-1111; www.livoniasymphony.org



Michael Camilo will perform with the Detroit Symphony on Oct. 1.

Magic Bag
Time/Dates: Michelle Shocked, Sept. 24; The Mega 80's, Sept. 25; Rick Emmett, Sept. 26; Bettie Serveert, Sept. 30
Location: 22920 Woodward, Ferndale
Contact: (248) 544-3030, www.themagicbag.com

Music Hall
Time/Date: 8 p.m. Oct. 7-9
Location: 350 Madison, Detroit
Details: "The Merchants of Bollywood," a dance and music spectacular based on the real-life story of the Merchant family dynasty, whose members have been prominent choreographers and filmmakers since the beginning of the Hindi film industry in the 1920s; tickets are \$25-\$65
Contact: Ticketmaster.com,



George Winston performs Oct. 15 at the Detroit Institute of Arts.

Oct. 1; Jason Dennie and John Latini, Oct. 2; Madcat and Kane and Maxwell Street, Oct. 8; Rob Lute with Jo Serrapere, Oct. 9; Dana Cooper with Daphne Willis, Oct. 15; Daniel Martin Moore and Ric Hordinski, Oct. 21; David Nefesh with Delta Twins, Oct. 23; Roy Bookbinder, Oct. 29; Gaslight Square with Joel Palmer, Annie and Rod Capps, Jim Bizer and others, Oct. 30
Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia
Contact: (734) 464-6302, www.trinity-house.org

Village Theater at Cherry Hill
Time/Date: 7:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 8
Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road in Canton
Details: AcappellaFest Detroit includes regional a cappella sensation Cartoon Johnny (D.C.), as well as local Doo-wop favorites Full Throttle, and the winners of this year's "So You Think You Can Sing" competition from CMU, Fish 'N Chips. Tickets are \$12-20
Contact: CantonVillageTheater.org or call (734) 394-5460.

FAMILY
Bakers Keyboard Lounge
Time/Dates: 2-5 p.m. Sundays
Details: Jazz for Kids Program
Location: 20510 Livernois Ave., Detroit
Contact: (313) 345-6300, www.bakers-keyboardlounge.com
Detroit Institute of Arts
Time/Dates: 2 p.m. Sundays

Details: Target Family Sundays, storytelling, performances, free with admission
Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit
Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org
Detroit Zoo
Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Oct. 31
Location: I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak
Details: Admission is \$11 for adults 15 to 61, \$9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$7 for children ages 2 to 14; children under 2 are free
Contact: (248) 541-5717

FILM

Penn Theatre
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Sept. 24-26 and Sept. 30, and 5 p.m. Sept. 25-26
Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth
Details: "Despicable Me," \$3 admission
Contact: (734) 453-0870, www.penn-theatre.com
Redford Theatre
Time/Date: Sept. 24-25
Location: 17360 Lahser, Detroit
Details: "The Godfather," \$4
Contact: www.redfordtheatre.com

MUSEUMS

Cranbrook
Time/Date: 2 p.m., Thursday through Sunday
Location: 39221 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills
Details: Docent-guided public tours of Saarinen House, a rare integration of art, architecture, design and nature, depart from Cranbrook Institute of Science front desk. The tours are about 90 minutes long and take place rain or shine.
Contact: (248) 645-3200 for house tours; http://science.cranbrook.edu
Plymouth Historical Museum
Time/Dates: Through Oct. 24
Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth
Coming up: "Margaret's 1910" honors philanthropist Margaret Dunning's 100th birthday with a look at life in 1910
Contact: (734) 455-8940, www.plymouthhistory.org

THEATER

Barefoot Productions
Time/Date: 8 p.m. Oct. 8-9, 15-16, 22-23 and 2 p.m. Oct. 17 and 24
Location: 240 North Main Street, Plymouth
Details: "Mindgame" is a suspense-driven play which places the audience in the room with an escaped, cannibalistic serial killer; tickets are \$16 general admission, \$14 for students and senior citizens and \$14 for groups of 10 or more
Contact: (734) 560-1493

Spotlight on Youth
Time/Date: 7 p.m., Oct. 21-23 and 2 p.m., Oct. 23-24
Location: village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill, corner of Ridge and Cherry Hills, Canton
Details: "Alice in Wonderland Jr., the Musical; tickets are \$15
Contact: (734) 394-5300 or (734) 394-5460 or online at www.canton-mi.org/villageattheater

Village Theater at Cherry Hill
Time/Date: 8 p.m., Friday-Saturday, Sept. 24-25; and 2 p.m. Sept. 25-26
Location: 50400 Cherry Hill, corner of Ridge and Cherry Hill, Canton
Details: "Kiss Me Kate" by Cole Porter; tickets are \$18 for adults and \$16 for senior citizens and students
Contact: (734) 394-5300 or (734) 394-5460 or online at www.spotlightplayersmi.org

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 Adults \$15.00/Children 12/u \$9.50; BYOB
Saturday - Dinner Cruise - 6:00pm-7:30pm;
 \$19.50 for 1/2 chicken; \$23.50 for 1/2 rack baby back ribs; BYOB
Sunday - Afternoon Color Tour - 3:00pm-5:00pm
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 Cruises will run through October 31, 2010
 Please call for reservations - 734.325.6636
 or visit www.princesslaurariverboat.com

Kiss Me Kate
 Music & Lyrics by **COLE PORTER** Book by **SAM & BELLA SPEWACK**
 For tickets: Call 734-394-5300 or go to www.spotlightplayersmi.org
SEPTEMBER
 17, 18, 19, 24, 25 and 26
 Presented By **Spotlight Players**
 The Village Theater at Cherry Hill
 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton, MI 48187

Fashion in Detroit seeks runway models

Fashion In Detroit, Michigan's premier annual fashion event, will hold an open casting call to find undiscovered models for its runway shows that are planned for Oct. 22-23, at MotorCity Casino Hotel.

The casting call will take place 11 a.m.-7 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 2, in the Executive Ballroom at MotorCity Casino Hotel, located at 2901 Grand River Ave., Detroit.

The casting call is open to the public for both men and women ages 14 to 30. No previous runway experience is required.

Women must be a minimum of 5 feet, 7 inches tall, maximum size 6, and men must be at least 5 feet, 10 inches with a maximum jacket size of 44 inches.

Models must attend the open call with a headshot and a full-body photo. Professional prints aren't required.

Women should wear form-fitting clothing and high heels, and men should be dressed in fitted jeans and a fitted shirt.

All candidates in attendance will have their headshots and sizes reviewed. Some candidates will be invited to stay and walk for members of the Fashion in Detroit Executive Committee. Selected models must be available to walk the runway at Fashion In Detroit Oct. 22-23.

Fashion In Detroit is an annual, two-day fashion event co-created by Project Runway's Joe Faris, along with Karen Buscemi, K'Kio Hardin, Lians Jadan and Leslie Ann Pilling to put a fashion spotlight on Michigan and create a venue that fills the needs of many locally-based designers and the Michigan fashion community.

The two-day event this year will include 12 runway shows by a collection of local and national designers, designer trunk shows, "Cheers Michigan" product displays, a VIP private reception, and an Afterglow bash. Each day's admission ticket includes six fashion shows, gift bags, a souvenir guidebook/lookbook and eligibility for high-end giveaways.

Fashion In Detroit will feature top models showcasing the best designs of Spring/Summer 2011.

For more information, visit www.fashionindetroit.com, call (248) 677-1769 or e-mail info@fashionindetroit.com.



Motorcycles make their way to a previous Great Lakes Regional Chili Cookoff in Plymouth. Great Lakes Regional Chili Cookoff

Get your motor running, head out for chili, Oct. 10

Two motorcycle rides will make their way to the 15th Annual Great Lakes Regional Chili Cookoff on Oct. 10 in downtown Plymouth.

Cost of participating in the 5th annual Motor City Chili Ride or Dick Scott's Classic Motorcycles Chili Ride is \$10 and proceeds will benefit Habitat for Humanity. All riders will receive free VIP parking at the Cookoff and the first 50 registrants will get a raffle ticket to win \$1,000, \$500 or \$250.

The rides begin at Dick Scott's Classic Motorcycles dealership in Canton and Motor City Harley-Davidson in Farmington Hills. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. on Cookoff day at both locations. Escorted rides start at 10:30 a.m.

The Great Lakes Regional Chili Cookoff is in its 15th year and has raised more than \$185,000.00 for different charities. The 2010 charity is Habitat for Humanity.

The event will include a red and green chili competition, salsa competition, restaurant chili challenge and a battle of business chili competitions. "Steve King and the Dittilies" Band will perform, motorcycles will be on display, dogs will vie for the "hottest" costume and activities will be available for children.

For motorcycle ride information call Dick Scott's Classic Motorcycles at (877) 388-9508 or visit www.ClassicMotorcyclesDetroit.com. For information on the Motor City Chili Ride, call Motor City Harley-Davidson at (248) 473-7433 or visit www.motorcityharley.com.

Halloween party benefits the Detroit Opera House

Tour the Detroit Opera House and get spooked at the same time, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 30.

Guests at the second annual Haunted in the House will discover tricks and treats in the historic 1922 former movie palace's magnificent grand lobby and second floor, including a mind-warping performance by the Detroit Circus.

More than 600 people attended last year's inaugural event, which raised more than \$15,000 for Michigan Opera Theatre's opera and dance programming, as well as educational outreach.

Costumes aren't mandatory but cash prizes will be awarded for the best. Cash prizes will be awarded for the best costumes. DJ Tom T will spin spooky sounds, and an emcee from 93.9 The River will be on hand for the costume contest. Specialty

drinks, candy treats and midnight snacks also will be available.

The VIP lounge, sponsored by Centaur, Mosaic and Pegasus, will feature a private DJ and an open bar and hors d'oeuvres until 10 p.m. Midnight treats will be provided by Tubby's Southgate, Sander's Fine Chocolatiers and Zumba Mexican Grille.

Tickets for Haunted in the House are \$35 in advance and \$40 at the door. VIP tickets are \$75 and \$80 day of the event. VIP tickets include access to an event preview and VIP lounge, and valet parking. Guests must be 21 or older.

Tickets are available at the Detroit Opera House ticket office, 1526 Broadway, Detroit; by phone at (313) 237-SING; or online at www.MichiganOpera.org.

Roller derby skaters plans bout in Livonia

Roller Derby fans can see skating action up close at a discounted admission Sunday, Sept. 26 at Riverside Arena in Livonia.

Detroit Derby Girls' Motor City Disassembly Line will take on Canada's Tri-City Thunder at 6:30 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. The arena is located at 36635 Plymouth Road, Livonia.

Tickets are \$5 at the door.

Detroit Derby Girls regular season bouts have been held at the Masonic Temple in Detroit for the past five seasons, where the league has drawn sold-out crowds. The league's teams regularly use Riverside Arena as a practice venue.

"We are looking forward to hosting the upcoming international bout at Riverside Area,"

stated Detroit Derby Girls' President, Amy Ruby, who also skates under the name Racer McChaseHer. "Roller derby is a growing sport here in southeast Michigan and we're pleased to be able to bring our increasingly popular form of entertainment to new venues whenever we can."

"We have enjoyed a great relationship with Riverside Area for years and are excited to try a bout there."

Many of the local favorites of the Detroit Derby Girls will be compete in the international bout, including Dizzy Devine, Cats Meow, and Honey Suckit, voted fan favorite this year.

For more information about The Detroit Derby Girls, visit www.DetroitDerbyGirls.com.

Senior Fall Health & Living Expo

Friday, October 15, 2010
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Oakland Community College
Orchard Ridge Campus,
27055 Orchard Lake Rd.
Building H
Farmington Hills, MI

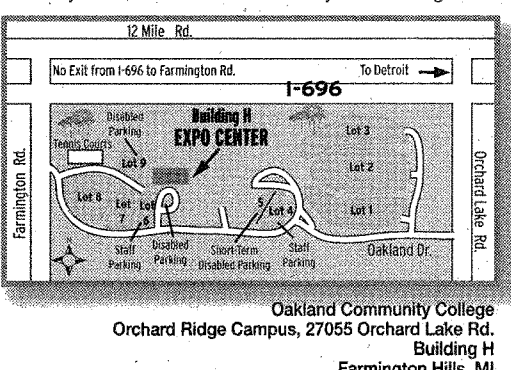
- Prizes!
Overnight stay and dinner at the Townsend Hotel
- Refreshments
- Curb-side Trolley Service
- Health Screening
- Free Parking
- Free Admission
- Entertainment

Entertainer
Del Grebe
(Female Vocalist)



- Social Security Programs, Services and Updates by Social Security Administration
- Guided Imagery & Aromatherapy by Wings of Healing
- Long Term Insurance by Richmond Financial
- Estate Planning by Jack Bolling

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HOMETOWN WEEKLIES
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Fall Festival

FOOD Live Entertainment Classic Cars Outdoor Movie DJ Entertainment

OCTOBER 2, 2010

Noon - 10:00pm
Downtown Northville

EVENTS:
Noon - 5:00pm Car Show
1:00 - 3:00pm Kris K Band
4:00 - 8:00pm Global Village
8:00 - 9:30pm Outdoor Movie "Cars"

Sponsored by:
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For more information call the Northville Chamber of Commerce: 248-349-7640 or visit our website: www.northville.org

FOOD

Thursday, September 23, 2010

hometownlife.com

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Sharon Dargay

Voice Mail: (313) 222-8883

E-mail: sdargay@hometownlife.com

Comment online at hometownlife.com

Seasonal Soups, Sides AND Salads



(Family Features)

Celebrate the change of seasons with a change in the menu. These recipes for soups, salads and sides featuring seasonal foods will be a welcome addition to the table. And they're simpler and quicker than ever when from-scratch ingredients are paired with convenient prepared options.

Soups: Cooler weather heralds the return to warm, satisfying soups. Versatile German Potato Salad Soup is an easy main dish that takes advantage of ready-to-use canned German potato salad. Simply combine the potato salad with sautéed bell pepper and onion, beer and a meat choice, if desired. Ready in 30 minutes.

Tip: Top the soup with crunchy rye croutons and crumbled bacon.

Sides: Roasting enhances the flavor of vegetables and fills the house with enticing aromas. Hearty Roasted Vegetables is a colorful mix of red onion wedges, baby portobellos, butternut squash, Brussels sprouts and herbs, plus a jar of whole pickled beets. The sweet-tanginess of the beets adds a delicious new dimension to the roasted flavor profile.

Tip: Vary the herbs ... try sage and parsley, or other on-hand favorites.

Salads: Focus on seasonal textures, flavors and ingredients. Beet and Red Cabbage Salad is delicious and doubles up on nutrient-rich vegetables. Using jarred pickled beets and sweet and sour red cabbage, all of the pickling, slicing and shredding is already done. Crisp-tart apple and crunchy toasted pecans are added just before serving.

Tip: Try substituting pears for the apple, walnuts for the pecans. Or, sprinkle with crumbled goat cheese or blue cheese.

For more delicious seasonal menu ideas, visit www.aunt-nellies.com and www.READsalads.com.

GERMAN POTATO SALAD SOUP

Preparation Time: 15 minutes

Cooking Time: 15 minutes

Makes 4 servings (about 1½ cups each)

1 cup chopped onion
1 cup chopped red bell pepper
1 tablespoon olive oil
2 cans (15 ounces each) READ German Potato Salad, chopped*
1 bottle (12 ounces) beer, preferably a light ale**
¾ cup reduced-sodium, fat free chicken broth
6 ounces (1 cup) diced ham, smoked turkey or sliced smoked sausage, optional
½ teaspoon salt, optional
¼ teaspoon pepper
1 tablespoon chopped parsley
Rye croutons, optional
Crumbled bacon, optional

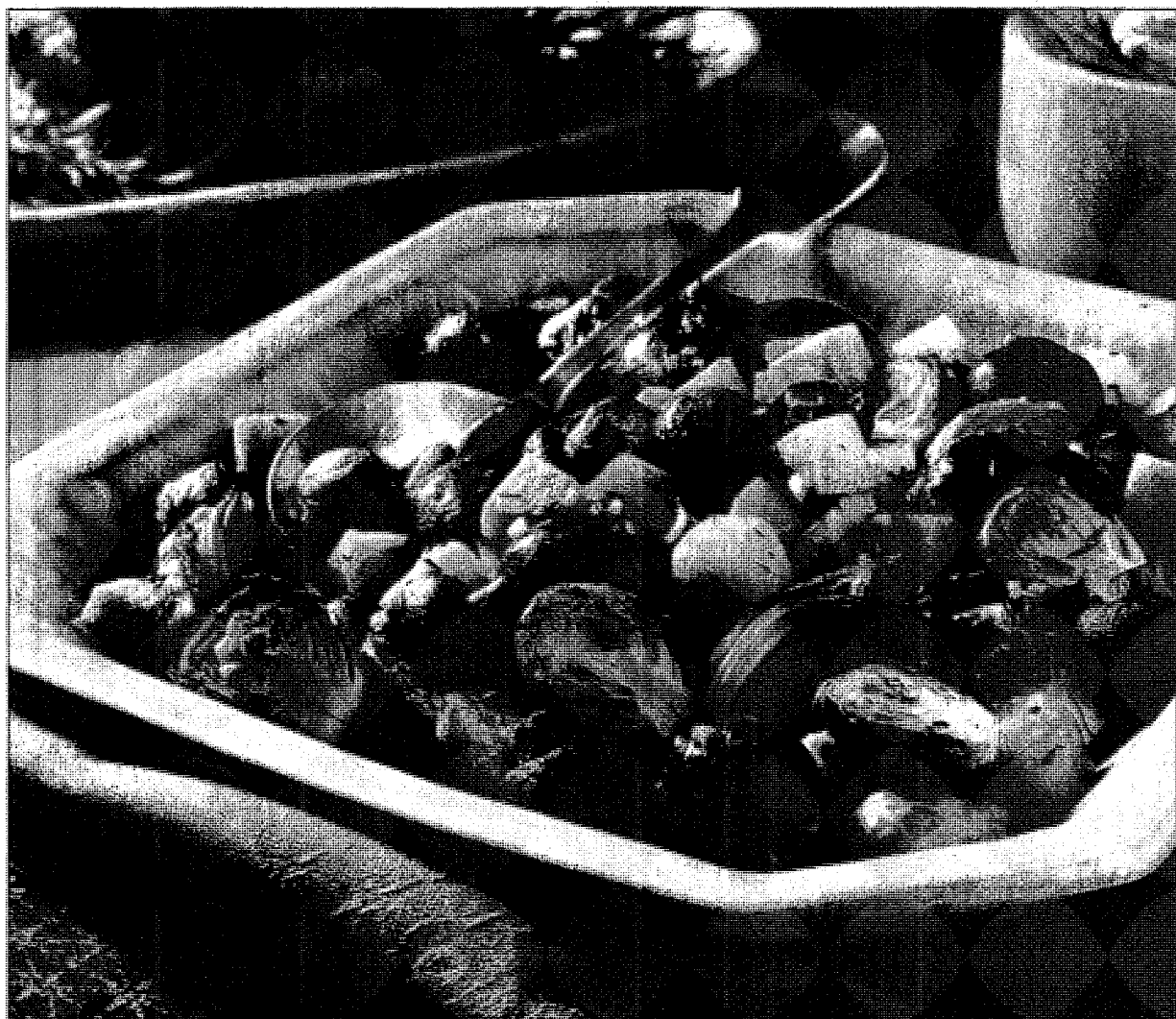
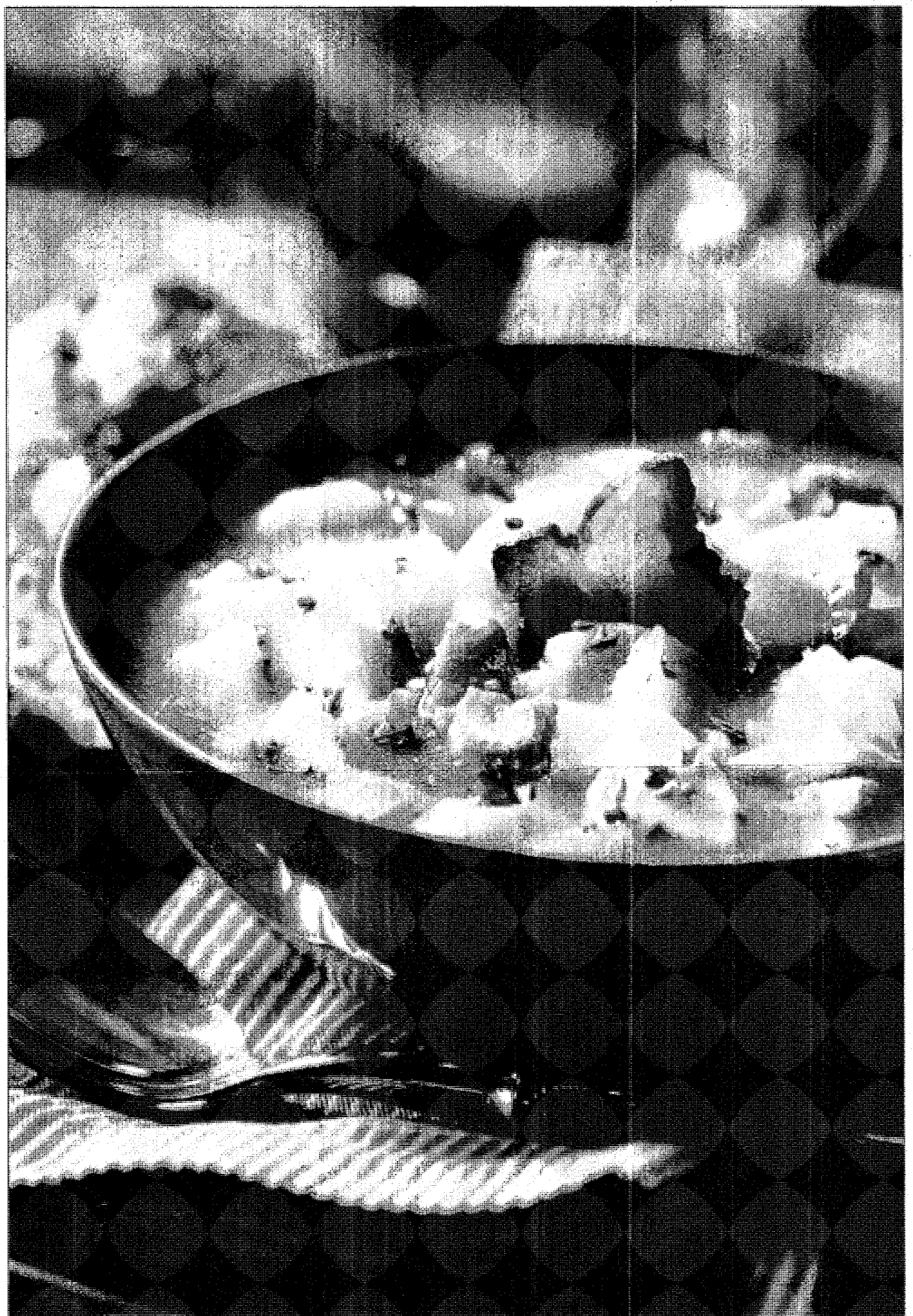
Sauté onion and bell pepper in oil in a Dutch oven or 3-quart saucepan over medium heat until onion just starts to brown, 5 to 7 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Add potato salad, beer, broth and meat, if using; stir to combine. Bring to a boil, reduce heat and simmer, uncovered, 10 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add salt, if desired, pepper and parsley.

Serve topped with rye croutons and bacon, if desired.

*Note: To chop potato salad, remove top from can, insert clean kitchen scissors into potato salad and snip until chopped.

**Substitute 1 can (14 ounces) chicken broth for the beer and chicken broth in the above recipe.



HEARTY ROASTED VEGETABLES

Preparation Time: 10 minutes

Cooking Time: 45 minutes

Makes 6 servings

1 jar (16 ounces) Aunt Nellie's Whole Pickled Beets, well drained
1 medium red onion, cut into 10 wedges
2 cups baby portobello mushrooms, cleaned and stems trimmed
2 cups butternut squash pieces (¾-inch pieces)
2 cups Brussels sprouts, ends trimmed and scored with a cross cut
3 tablespoons olive oil
1 clove garlic, finely chopped
2 teaspoons chopped fresh rosemary
2 teaspoons chopped fresh thyme
½ teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon pepper

Preheat oven to 400°F. Place all vegetables except Brussels sprouts on a rimmed baking sheet (15½ x 10½ x 1-inch) and drizzle with olive oil. Add garlic, rosemary, thyme, salt and pepper; toss to coat. Roast in oven 15 minutes.

Add Brussels sprouts; stir and continue to roast until vegetables are tender and browned, about 30 minutes, stirring once. Adjust salt and pepper to taste.

BEET AND RED CABBAGE SALAD

Preparation Time: 15 minutes

Cooking Time: 10 minutes

Makes 6 servings (about ¾ cup each)

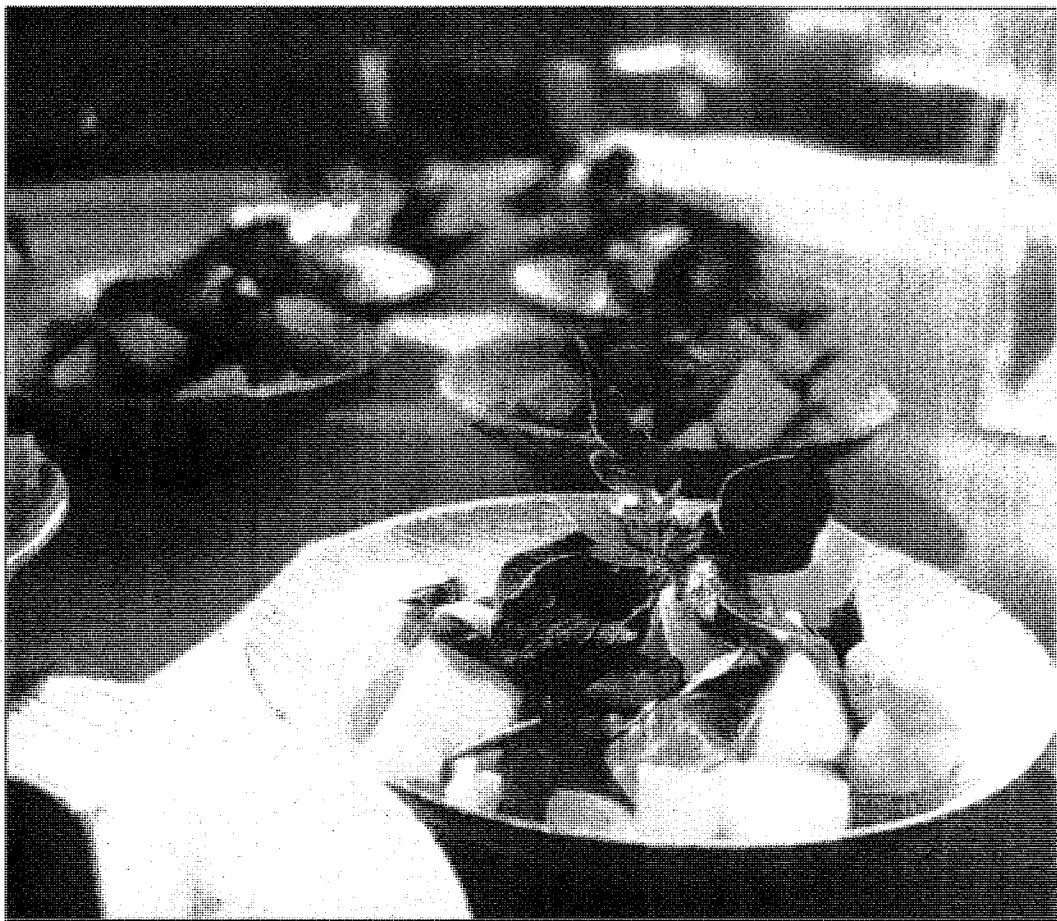
1 jar (16 ounces) Aunt Nellie's Pickled Beets, whole or sliced
1 jar (16 ounces) Aunt Nellie's Sweet & Sour Red Cabbage
½ cup red currant jelly
¼ teaspoon ground cloves
¼ cup thinly sliced green onions
1 cup chopped Granny Smith apple (about 1 small apple)
½ cup chopped toasted pecans*
Salt and pepper

Drain beets and cabbage, combining both liquids in a small bowl. Pour ½ cup of the combined liquids into a small saucepan; discard remainder. Add red currant jelly and cloves to saucepan; whisk to combine. Bring to a boil; reduce heat and simmer until liquid is thickened and reduced to ½ cup, about 10 minutes. Cool.

Meanwhile, cut sliced beets in half, or whole beets into wedges. Toss beets, cabbage and green onions with cooled red currant dressing.

Just before serving, stir in apple and pecans. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

*To toast pecans, bake in a single layer on a rimmed baking sheet in preheated 350°F oven until fragrant, about 5 to 8 minutes. Remove from baking sheet; cool.



Joe's Produce and Gourmet Catering in Livonia will offer caprese salad and other dishes Sunday, Sept. 26, at Schoolcraft College's Culinary Extravaganza.

Culinary Extravaganza

Sample signature foods, beverage from nearly 50 vendors

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Katherine Socall wouldn't miss Schoolcraft College's 19th annual Culinary Extravaganza for three reasons:

She's studying chocolate-making at Schoolcraft and has taken other creative courses at the school.

As owner of Biscotti Bar Bakery in Plymouth, she has worked with a nutritionist who teaches at the college.

And she wants Extravaganza patrons to taste delicious treats — including a wide array of biscotti — that are “good for them,” too.

“I think this is a wonderful opportunity,” said Socall, who will serve samplings along with nearly 50 other restaurant, bakery and beverage vendors at the event, Sunday, Sept. 26.

“The school is fantastic. I'm honored to be there.”

Socall has made organic and natural baked goods, along with gluten-free treats, for the past three years in Plymouth.

“We're known for our icing. We do nice icing that isn't overly sweet. I try to use more healthy things that won't raise your glycemic level,” she said. “If I use lemon oil, it's pure lemon oil. We don't want preservatives and things we know can cause potential harm. People need to eat well.”

She said her signature baked good — biscotti — is firm, but not too hard, and can keep for three months if properly stored. Her bakery is known for its unusual twist on biscotti flavors, from baklava to “Cosmopolitan Snowball.”

She'll serve mini cupcakes, cookies and a variety of biscotti at the Schoolcraft College event.

Joe's Produce and Gourmet Catering in Livonia will serve soup through dessert, all in bite-sized servings.

CULINARY EXTRAVAGANZA 2010

What: A celebration of food and wine, benefitting Schoolcraft College students and the Culinary Arts Program

When: 2-5 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 26

Where: VisiTech Center, Schoolcraft College, Livonia

Details: Patrons will taste samples from nearly 50 restaurants, pastry shops and beverage vendors. The event includes a wine seminar, silent auction and raffle

Tickets: \$50

Contact: (734) 462-4518; www.schoolcraft.edu/foundation/

“I know chef wanted to do a deconstructed mini caprese (salad),” said Laura Livingston, catering director. “While she's doing that, our pastry chef is doing some kind of shooter, in a shot glass.”

“We're still bouncing around ideas with the soup, maybe wild mushroom or tomatoes, whatever is happening (in season) right now.”

The catering staff at Joe's will have their hands full this weekend with the Culinary Extravaganza and a catering showcase, beginning at noon, Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 25-26 at the store.

Linens, floral and table arrangements will be displayed while patrons sample food and beverages.

The store has staffed a booth at Culinary Extravaganza for five years. Livingston said the event is a perfect setting for the store's chefs to show off their work.

“Now that we have 10 culinarians from Schoolcraft, it's a given that we'll be there.”

CITY BITES

Swashbuckling fun

Plymouth — Here's your chance to play pirate, win prizes and down drink specials from five participating pubs. On the Rocks Detroit and Zodiac Vodka will present the first annual Pirate Pub Crawl Oct. 2 in downtown Plymouth. Participants will don pirate and wench costumes and visit pubs from 8 p.m.-1 a.m. Event organizers say costumes aren't mandatory but add to the fun.

Pub crawl check in will start at 7:30 p.m. at 336 Piano Bar, 336 Main, where participants receive a treasure map to help guide them from pub to pub.

Cost is \$10 and includes free appetizers from 9-11 p.m. at Penn Grill; free tarot card readings at The Rock; posing for free photos with Nikki Black, Captain Jack Sparrow impersonator, at Sean O'Callahan's; and live music by the Robin Horlock Band at Ironwood Grill.

Pirates and wenches who get their treasure maps stamped at each venue will be eligible to win the grand prize of a free deluxe one-night stay at Motor City Casino. Contestants in the best pirate and wench costume contest will get a Zodiac Vodka prize package.

Advance tickets are available through On the Rocks Detroit's Facebook page, and via the participating venues. For more information e-mail to info@ontherocksdetroit.com.

All about chocolate

Plymouth — The sixth annual “A Chocolate Affair” to benefit First Step, will run 2-5 p.m., Oct. 3, at the inn at St. Johns, 44045 Five Mile, Plymouth.

First Step offers counseling and shelter for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, an Irish charity group, presents the event that will include music by Livonia Symphony string and horn ensembles, and chocolate tastings from local restaurants, bakeries, caterers, and chocolate makers.

The organization has added a garden luncheon this year. It will feature a speaker from First Step who will share her survivor story and a performance by “Voices in Harmony” from Sweet Adelines. The luncheon will be held noon-2 p.m. in the Garden Gallery at the Inn at St. John's First Step.

Tickets for the luncheon are \$25 advance sales only; tickets for the Chocolate Affair also are \$25, and a combined ticket is \$45. Tickets are available by calling Barbara Weir at (734) 453-1459 or Kittie Higgins at (358) 449-6570 and at the First Step offices in Plymouth, (734) 416-1111.



A pirate pub crawl in downtown Plymouth will feature Captain Jack Sparrow impersonator, Nikki Black.

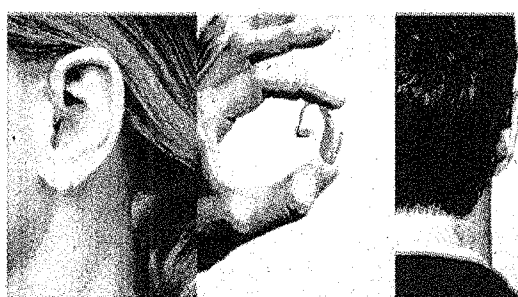
Participating businesses include Treat Dreams of Ferndale, Dearborn Inn, The Claddagh Irish Pub & Restaurant, Mary Dennings Bakery, Sander's Candy, Bahama Breeze, On the Border Mexican Cantina, Kilwin's of Plymouth, Jeff Zak Catering of Plymouth, Treats Catering of Farmington, Aubree's Pizzeria and Tavern, Romano's Macaroni Grill, Fat Chef in a Little Coat Catering, and The Plymouth Popcorn Company.

More chocolate

Dearborn — Mark Nov. 21 on your calendar for the 26th annual Chocolate Jubilee, a fund-raiser for the Alzheimer's Association. The chocolate taste festival costs \$50 and begins at noon, at The Henry (formerly the Ritz-Carlton). For ticket information call (248) 996-1048.



Cupcakes are among the chocolate desserts served at a fund-raiser for First Step last year.



SPECIAL INVITATION

October 12th and 13th, 2010

Please join us for refreshments and a demonstration of the newest digital technology from Oticon. Receive a bag of goodies and a chance to win a variety of prizes, including our grand prize...TV Ears!

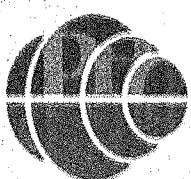
Attendees may be eligible to receive:

- RISK-FREE 2-week trial — try it at home and at work!
- \$200 OFF entry-level technology or \$400 OFF advanced and premium technology (per pair)
- Financing options are available for all purchases made during this event

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