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FIRST STEP DIRECTOR AIMS TO MAKE AREA FAMILIES SAFE, A8

THURSDAY
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The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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WESTLAND
OBSERVER

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IN BRIEF

City wins award

The City of Westland has been awarded the Honorable Mention City Livability Award by Waste Management Inc. and the U.S. Conference of Mayors. The 2010 City Livability Awards Program recognized the City of Westland for its outstanding leadership in support of urban livability with its Play Planet play structure and H20 Zone spray ground.

The 20 award-winning cities were determined by an independent panel of judges selected by the U.S. Conference of Mayors. The Conference of Mayors City Livability Program honors mayors and their city governments for developing programs that enhance the quality of life in urban areas.

Established in 1979, the City Livability Awards are given annually to 10 mayors and their cities, a first-place award and four Outstanding Achievement Awards for cities under 100,000 in population, and a first-place and four Outstanding Achievement Awards for cities of 100,000 or more inhabitants.

"The City Livability Award is one of the most prestigious and competitive awards by the U.S. Conference of Mayors," said Mayor William Wild. "It is an honor that our city has been chosen amongst hundreds of other city programs that were considered. Moreover, this distinction would not have been possible without the support of our talented staff, generous volunteers and wonderful residents."

The 2010 finalists for cities under 100,000 in population listed alphabetically by city include Aguadilla, Puerto Rico, Albany, N.Y., Burnsville, Minn., Carmel, Ind., Coral Gables, Fla., Gastonia, N.C., Lauderhill, Fla., Maiden, Mass., Norwalk, Conn., Racine, Wis., Reading, Pa., Schaumburg, Ill., Sugar Land, Texas, West Palm Beach, Fla., and Westland.

Fitness classes

Start the new year off with a new fitness class. Just pick the time and style that fits. All of the classes are held at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford, in the civic center complex. These classes are all drop-in and pay at the door. No preregistration is required.

The classes include fitness conditioning boot camp 5-6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, cardio-kickboxing/aerobics 6-7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, MMA kickboxing 7-8 p.m. Tuesday and/or Thursday and Brazilian Jiujitsu 8-9 p.m. Tuesdays and/or Thursdays.

The cost is $5 per person per one-hour class. For more information, call Cody at (734) 686-9882.

Pastors Ruby Beneteau and Michael Enerson share the same vision of helping the less fortunate and the homeless through the Lighthouse Home Mission housed at Enerson's Full Gospel Temple in Westland.

Center serves as beacon for western Wayne needy, homeless

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Ruby Beneteau remembers what it was like growing up in Detroit. Her father was an alcoholic and the family home lacked amenities. There was no hot water, so she took sponge baths. A pot belly stove provided heat, but not enough to keep icicles from forming inside.

And even shoes were limited.

"When you come from a life where you get one pair of shoes a year you can relate to people who are struggling," said Beneteau. "I see families come in with kids who literally share their coats and shoes and have no socks. I see it and it reminds me of my life."

The founder of Lighthouse Home Missions, Beneteau has been serving the needs of the homeless for 27 years, first at her small ranch-style home in Westland as the House of Refuge and now in facilities provided by the Full Gospel Temple on Palmer in Westland.

LHM operates a food pantry and clothing bank, a soup kitchen that provides hot lunches 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday and a warming shelter for the homeless open 7 p.m. to 8 a.m. in January, February and March. The mission also works with the people who come through the doors, finding them the resources to get back on their feet and back into society.

HELPING PEOPLE

According to Beneteau, LHM

Please see **CENTER, A2**

LIGHTHOUSE HOME MISSION

Where: At the Full Gospel Temple, 34033 Palmer, east of Wayne Road, Westland

Details: LHM has a food pantry and clothing bank. It operates a soup kitchen open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday-Friday and a warming center for the homeless 7 p.m. to 8 a.m. seven days a week. Staff is also available to help with referrals 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Donations: The mission is in need of donations of socks, especially white tube socks that fit both men and women and all sizes of feet; any warm clothing in sizes medium to extra-large, including thermal underwear; men's clothing, especially blue jeans; sweat shirts and pants for men and women, which can be used for sleepwear at night and worn under clothing during the day; warm hats, gloves and boots and pillows with plastic sanitary covers.

Contact: For more information, call Lighthouse Home Mission at (734) 326-3885.

Police seek suspects who took firefighter's debit card

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

While firefighters from many area departments converged in Wayne after the explosion of the William C. Franks furniture store Dec. 29, someone stole a wallet belonging to a Dearborn firefighter.

Westland police are looking for information on two suspects photographed using the firefighter's stolen debit card to take $1,560 from his credit union account.

The firefighter told Wayne police that he had parked his truck in the parking lot at Northside Hardware about 11 a.m. Dec. 29. The firefighter reported leaving his wallet and other personal items in the rear of the truck which wasn't locked.

Later in the day, the firefighter discovered his wallet missing and made a report with Wayne police. At the end of his shift, the firefighter said he was contacted by his credit union about numerous withdrawals made on his account that appeared suspicious.

The firefighter told police that he had a small piece of paper in his wallet on which the PIN for his ATM card had been written.

About 2:45 p.m. on Dec. 29, there were three withdrawals totaling $460 reported at an ATM inside the Exxon gas station at 1810 S. Wayne Road.

The card was used six times just after 1 a.m. Dec. 30 at an ATM at the Marathon gas station at 2646 S. Wayne Road to withdraw $1,100.

Anyone with information about the suspects is asked to call Westland police at (734) 722-9600.

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Security cameras photographed the two suspects sought in connection with the theft and use of a Dearborn firefighter's debit card.

Wild sees success in Westland in 2010

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Looking back at 2010, Westland Mayor William Wild is pleased with progress in the city.

"I know a lot of our residents are still hurting and looking for jobs but from the city's standpoint, we had a pretty good year," said Wild. "Overall, I really think we had a good 2010."

First on Wild's list of accomplishments was completion of a two-year balanced budget — only one year at a time is adopted by the council.

"The two-year budget is what I'm most proud of. We had projected $3.5 million and $12 million deficits (in 2011 and 2012)," said Wild.

Another high point was getting remediation and restoration work under way at Central City Park. Wild's first action as mayor in January 2006 was to close the park due to lead contamination.

"One of the things we said early in the year was that we wanted shovels in the ground by fall. They (the contractors) have done a great job in the short time that they've had," he said.

Once the remediation and restoration plan was approved, ownership of the park

Please see **WILD, A2**

Westland officials remember victims of store explosion

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Two Westland residents, employees killed last week in the explosion that destroyed a Wayne furniture store, were remembered with a moment of silence at the Westland City Council meeting Monday.

Westland Council President James Godbout asked for the moment of silence in honor of William C. Franks Furniture salesman James Zell, 64, and secretary Leslie Machniak, 54, who both died from multiple trauma after the store exploded.

Funeral services were held for Zell Monday. Private services were held for Machniak on Wednesday. Store owner Paul Franks, who was at the rear of the store when the explosion happened, is in serious condition at the University of Michigan Hospital burn center.

Mayor William Wild and council members offered condolences to the families of Zell and Machniak.

"I would ask everyone in Westland to keep them in their thoughts," said Wild.

City officials also praised the response of Westland firefighters and police who were the first to assist Wayne firefighters and police at the scene.

Wayne Mayor Al Haidous and City

Please see **VICTIMS, A2**

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Benefit raises $50,000 for families displaced by fire

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

More than $50,000 in cash and goods have been donated to benefit 39 families displaced by the Dec. 13 fire that destroyed a building at the Waynewood Apartments.

"I want to thank all of the residents who participated, in particular the Westland firefighters," Westland Fire Chief Michael Reddy said. "The response was heart-warming and overwhelming."

The donations were about equally divided between cash and goods — clothes, furniture, toys, food and miscellaneous items.

Each family, which represented a total of 78 people, received $1,250 in gift cards and a check from the Westland Firefighters Public Awareness Committee.

"We received more donated items than we could use for the families — we filled a whole tractor trailer. Donations came from all over southeast Michigan," Reddy said. "We called Goodwill (after the families' needs were met)."

Immediately following the fire, the Westland Fire Department established a donation center for the families at Fire Station 1. Due to the response, the donation center had to be moved to the larger Friendship Center.

Westland Firefighters Local 1279 donated $3,900 — $100 per family. Other donations included $5,000 from the Westland Community Foundation and $4,000 from the Waynewood Apartments management company.

Giftcards were donated by Meijer, Olympic Coney, Mary Denning Cakes and the D.A.V. Store on Middlebelt. A fund-raiser dinner was held at Marvaso's Italian Grille.

The largest contributions came through UAW Local 900 at the Ford Wayne Assembly Plant, which is headed by Westland Councilman Bill Johnson. The local donated $2,000 to the fund-raising dinner, provided a flat-screen television surround sound system raffled for $3,500 and solicited donations from corporations and civic groups totaling more than $20,000.

Along with Johnson, Fire Capt. John Adams was lauded for his efforts spearheading the fund-raising efforts for the Waynewood residents.

The displaced residents have found new apartments in other complexes owned by the same management company as the Waynewood Apartments.

"At the benefit, I talked with some of the families. They were so touched by the response, Some of the folks have moved as far as Southfield. They just wanted to be back in Westland," Mayor William Wild said. "I want to thank Chief Reddy and the fire department. Special thanks to Capt. John Adams, who went above and beyond."

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VICTIMS

FROM PAGE A1

Manager Robert English had each called to thank the Westland firefighters and police for their assistance following the store, believed to have exploded due to a natural gas leak, said Wild.

Westland provided 23 firefighters plus two firefighters who are members of the Southeast Michigan Urban Search and Rescue team which recovered the victims.

USAR held a large training exercise in Westland at two homes in Norwayne nearly a year ago, said Westland Fire Chief Michael Reddy.

"It was about two miles away (from the Wayne Road furniture store). The full USAR response was like the drill — they knew the area, the radio and the tactics," said Reddy. "There was triumph that Mr. Franks was pulled out. There was the tragedy of two lives lost but they got the best response possible due to that training. Our prayers and hearts go out to those who lost family members."

The Wayne Chamber of Commerce has created the William C. Franks Disaster Fund to assist families affected by the explosion. Donations can be sent in the name of the fund in care of Wayne-Westland Federal Credit Union, 500 S. Wayne Road, Westland 48186. For information, call the credit union at (734) 721-5700 or go to www.wwfcu.org.

The cause of the explosion is still being investigated. A part of the Consumers gas main believed to be the source of the gas leak was removed when the repair was made and is being tested.

The Michigan Public Service Commission also is looking to see whether there has been any history of gas leaks in the area where an explosion occurred and is investigating whether Consumers Energy has been compliant with state and federal regulations.

Consumers Energy had sent a sniffer machine to the area just before the explosion after a resident called to report the smell of gas. The utility had fielded two calls that morning, one of which was minutes before the explosion.

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Godbout sees similarities in response to flooding, explosion

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

At a meeting where firefighters and police were praised for their response to the explosion of a Wayne furniture store, Westland Council President James Godbout could see some irony in continued criticism over the city's cleanup efforts after extensive flooding in June.

"There was an outstanding job by both the fire department and police department. Everyone came to the forefront and stepped up," said Godbout. "We're criticized for responding to one disaster and praised for responding to another. When you respond to a disaster, you don't look at the cost. You step up and protect residents."

There will be costs connected to the fire and police departments assisting Wayne following the recent explosion at the William C. Franks Furniture store, located on Wayne Road just south of Glenwood — a dividing line between the two cities. There are also costs generated by responding to the fire that destroyed a 40-unit building at the Waynewood Apartments earlier in December.

"People expect leaders to step up," said Godbout.

The council president was responding to the comments from resident Burke Rock, who continued his criticism of $2.2 million incurred when the city hired Belfor to help flooded residents dry and sanitize their homes following the June flooding.

Despite an opinion from the city attorney that Mayor William Wild acted legally under the city charter, Rock continued to argue that the mayor had violated his oath of office by authorizing the emergency cleanup. The city auditors are going to make a recommendation on how to pay for the cleanup but it's expected it will come from the water and sewer fund.

"I request that at least one person stand up and seek an outside legal opinion before one penny is paid to Belfor," said Rock, who objected to city funds being used to pay for the cleanup. "There is a conflict of interest with the city attorney, who is paid $500,000. I would like an outside law opinion."

No one on the council supported the idea of a second legal opinion.

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Donations of clothing are distributed by appointment to needy families and used for the homeless who come to the mission's warming center during January, February and March.

CENTER

FROM PAGE A1

has clothed 3,384 so far this year. The warming center housed 145 people, while the soup kitchen has served 8,466 meals. Another 8,795 have been helped through the food pantry. And the Churches United Against Hunger, a collaboration of 27 churches in the area, has helped 84,293 people. At Thanksgiving, 225 people received food baskets and the number for Christmas baskets was 235.

"We're seeing people come to us who used to give us help," said Beneteau. "Many of the people coming here are working families. They're able to pay their bills but have little money for food. The main thing I'm trying to get across is that it's not about drugs and alcohol. We're seeing more families that are homeless."

Full Gospel Temple pastor Michael Enerson and his congregation reached out to Beneteau, first by helping clean and build racks for the donated clothing that filled her garage and putting up shelves in the basement for food. They also donated a freezer.

When the church built a new sanctuary, Enerson offered the old building to Beneteau. At the time she relocated to the former church, she was housing 78 people in her home. People saw what she was doing and started bringing her food and clothing. Her three sons would sell candy for Michigan Elite Teens and use the money to buy food. Dinner sometimes was 300 kid-sized hamburgers.

"A lot of those who came to the house were young people who had been abused, a lot of people who were hurting came to us," she said. "We had older couples with us. They'd call us mom and dad like the young people. We house all ages, all races."

Enerson shares in Beneteau's passion. He grew up in Detroit's Herman Gardens. He was one of six children his mother raised on state assistance.

"It was humble beginnings, so I understand about not having the necessities," he said. "I had just the basics."

BIBLE IS GUIDE

As a pastor, he looks to the Bible to guide him, but knows there's a difference between religion and relations.

"Jesus said comfort the poor, but there's a difference," he said. "Religion talks about God, relations is acting like him."

Both Beneteau and Enerson realize the current setup is temporary. Most of the homeless are singles and youth 19-21 years old who are trying to make it on their own, but it's hard because the startup costs are so great.

Both pastors realize that the current building is inadequate in meeting the needs of the poor and homeless. A more permanent building is needed to help them get back on their feet. They would like to see the CUAH churches duplicate what's being done at Full Gospel Temple. With churches sitting heated and empty most of the week, they could be used to provide a warm place to sleep at night. If more churches did that, more people could be helped.

"When I turned this building over to Lighthouse it cost $2,500 a month for heat," said Enerson. "It was a big building, sitting empty, so why not open it and use it for the poor and the homeless. We had people out sleeping in the snow and all we had to do was open the doors and bring them in."

"The churches are the lighthouses, there's one on almost every corner," said Beneteau. "If we use them as lighthouses, we'll be able to meet the needs of the poor. People look at our numbers and say it's wonderful what we're doing. We say it's sad because we could do so much more. Without a new building, we can only do so much."

"Most people are two paychecks away from being homeless, it's not going to get better overnight," she added. "We could do more than feed and shelter them."

They are thankful for the volunteers that have stepped up to help. Churches in Canton and Westland have taken on the responsibility of helping with food and watchmen at the warming center. Many of the homeless Lighthouse has helped also have come back to work there.

"It's an absolute miracle with all the volunteers," said Beneteau. "The more we have the more we can provide. I really believe God will not just provide for us, but provide for us to help others."

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WILD

FROM PAGE A1

was also transferred to the city from Wayne County, which had leased the land to Westland. Work on the remediation and restoration, including walking paths, soccer fields and parking are to be completed in June.

During 2010, Westland also completed the first year of the curbside recycling program which removed over 12 million pounds of trash from the landfill.

"That's 519 pounds per household, one-third of our solid waste. There are 80 percent of households participating," said Wild. "There are probably 10 percent of people who just won't do it and we also have vacant homes."

We've been trying to revitalize the Norwayne community. We had a road project, a community cleanup and are using the NSP dollars there."
WILLIAM WILD, *Westland mayor*

The city has also been putting a lot of effort in the federally funded Neighborhood Stabilization Program, he said, having committed the entire $2 million grant. Much of the city's efforts has focused on Norwayne where blighted homes are being demolished to help reduce the high density of the area.

"We've been trying to revitalize the Norwayne community," said Wild. "We had a road project, a community cleanup and are using the NSP dollars there. We've got an active citizens committee that has formed. I think we can use that to tie all together. The citizens committee will help us gain traction in Norwayne."

Economic development has also been positive in 2010, Wild said, most notably the announcement that the former Showcase Cinema will be replaced by a $14 million new state of the art 16-screen MJR theater.

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Youth Assistance offers mentor training

Training for adults interested in mentoring local teens is being offered by the Westland Youth Assistance Program and the Garden City Family Resource Center.

New mentor training will be held 5:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 7, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8, and 5:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11. Mentors do not have to live in Westland or Garden City.

"I know this is intense training — it's not typical, We hope to capture some adults with a New Year's resolution to help the community," Westland Youth Assistance Director Paul Motz said.

"Helping one kid helps the community."

Currently, Youth Assistance has 20 youngsters matched with adult mentors, Motz said, with another 10 kids waiting to be matched. The training includes listening and communication techniques to help provide support to teens.

"We believe the need for mentors will grow in 2011," Motz said.

Call (734) 467-7904 for more information about the mentoring program.

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Scout recycles unwanted mail 'to save trees'

Erica Buda has found a good use for all those unwanted holiday advertisements that come in the mail - and her idea could earn the 10-year-old Westland resident the Girl Scout Bronze Award in the process.

Within the first month of her project, Erica has collected and recycled more than 400 pounds of the unclaimed circulars, catalogs and magazines she finds around her father's apartment complex.

It all started when the fifth-grade student at Cooper Upper Elementary was looking for ideas for her Girl Scouts Bronze Award project. The Bronze Award is the highest award a Junior Girl Scout can earn. She noticed all of the uncollected advertisements piling up around her father's apartment complex, and when she learned that the complex does not recycle, she decided to do something about it.

"At my mom's house we recycle, but I saw they don't do it at my dad's complex, so my dad and I started going around and collecting from the buildings. We collect once a week," she said.

Erica and her father Joe fill at least two laundry baskets with the unclaimed circulars on each trip.

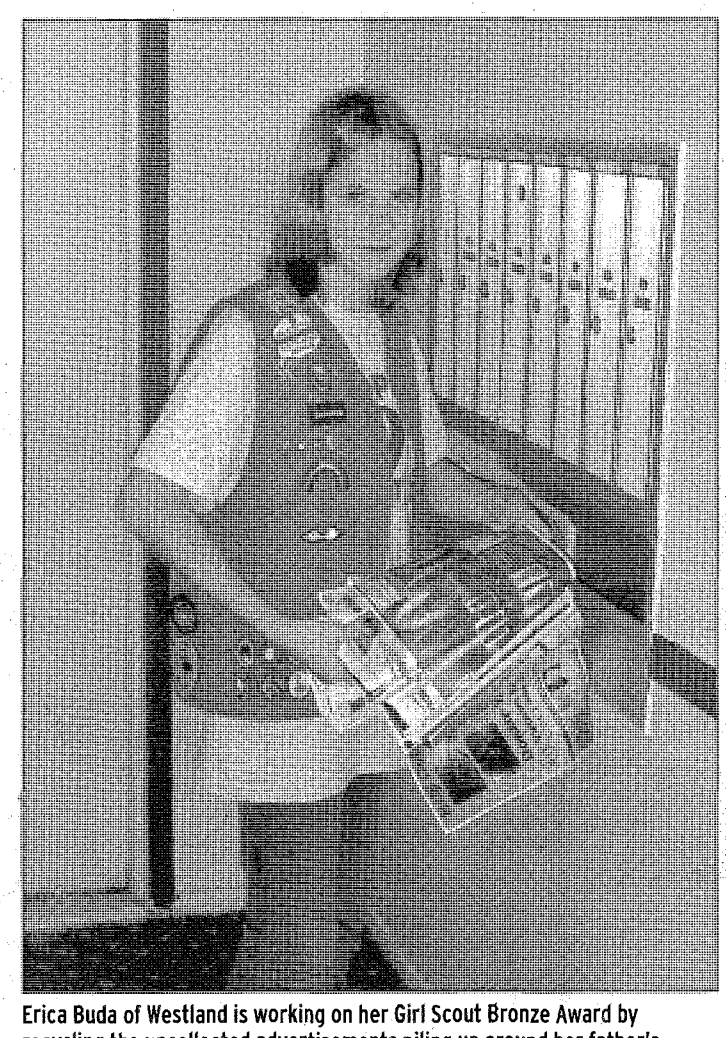
"We need to save the trees, and we should recycle," Erica said.

She plans to continue collecting until she submits her Bronze Award project next year.

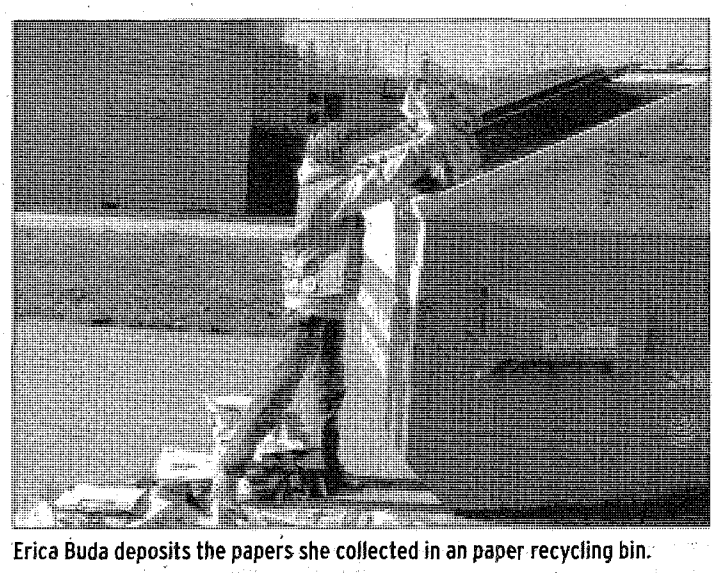
Erica is one of nearly 30,000 girls actively participating in Girl Scouting with Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan. She's an individual Girl Scout which means she isn't in a troop. Girl Scouting allows flexibility in how a girl participates with six Pathways. Pathways are Troop, Series, Events, Camp, Travel and Virtual (online). A girl can choose how she participates in Girl Scouts according to her interests and schedule.

GSSEM is the local council chartered by Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) to facilitate the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, designed to help girls develop leadership skills through three key elements - discover, connect and take action. Each element has a set of five outcomes, helping girls develop a strong sense of self; develop healthy relationships, and identify community needs.

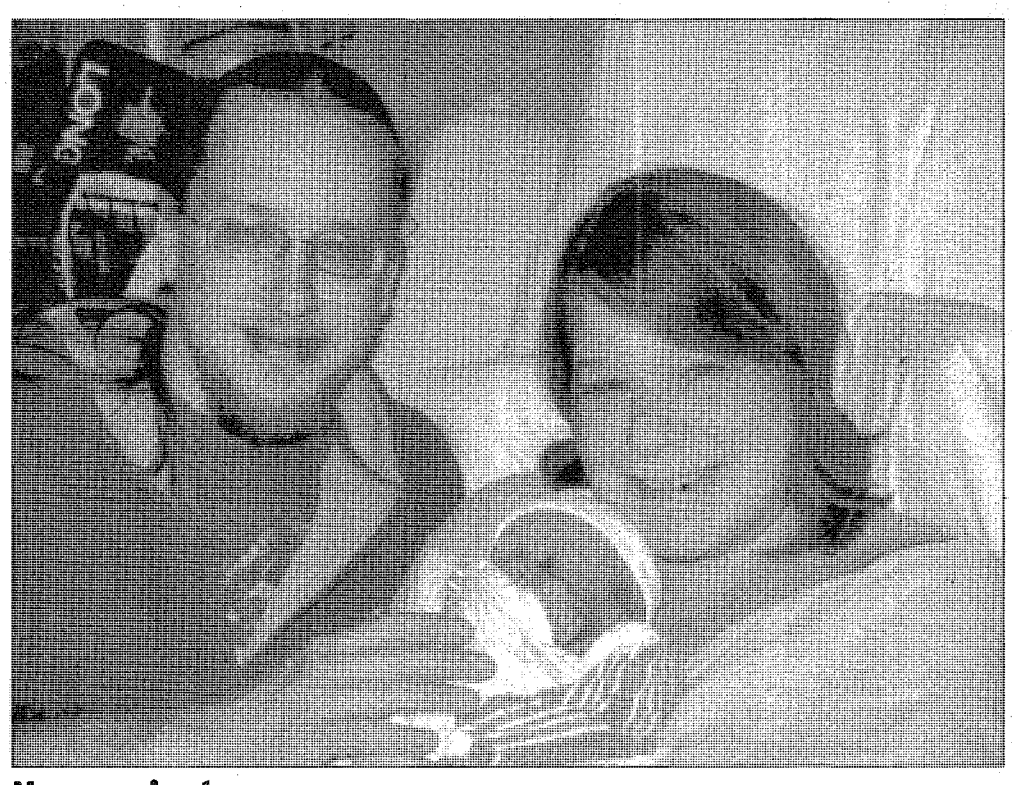
GSSEM serves nearly 60,000 girls and adult volunteers in Oakland, Macomb, Genessee, Lapeer, St. Clair, Sanilac, and parts of Wayne, Monroe and Livingston counties.



Erica Buda of Westland is working on her Girl Scout Bronze Award by recycling the uncollected advertisements piling up around her father's apartment complex.



Erica Buda deposits the papers she collected in an paper recycling bin.



New arrival

Logan Andrew Wilson has an unique birth date - 1-1-11. He also has the honor of being the first baby born at the St. Mary Mercy Miracle of Life Birthing Center in Livonia in 2011. Proud parents are Matthew and Deane Wilson of Garden City. Deane Wilson gave birth to Logan Andrew at 5:30 p.m. He weighed in at a healthy 6 pounds, 14 ounces and was 20 inches long. He is a little brother to Kayleen, who is 8 years old. Deane Wilson is a stay at home mom and Matthew works for Norfolk Southern Railroad. "I'm glad that we came to St. Mary Mercy Hospital," said Deane Wilson.

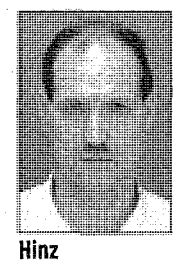
Driver in fatal accident to have competency exam

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A preliminary examination for a Westland man charged with killing a pedestrian struck by his vehicle has been delayed to allow time for a competency examination.

Terry Albert Hinz, 44, has been charged with involuntary manslaughter in the Aug. 4 death of Patricia Beaver, 19, of Sumpter Township. Police said Beaver was crossing Cherry Hill southbound at Wildwood at about 10 p.m. when she was hit.

"He (Hinz) made statements to officers at the scene that he ran the red light — that the light turned red just as he went underneath it," said Westland police Sgt. Patrick Corby.



Hinz

Following the accident, Hinz was released pending further investigation. Corby said that toxicology reports showed that neither Hinz or Beaver had drugs or alcohol in their system at the time of the accident.

Beaver had been at her father's Westland home, which is located near the intersection. Based on information from her family, Corby said Beaver was walking to the 7-Eleven store at Wayne Road and Avondale. Damage to the vehicle also indicated Beaver was walking south through the intersection, he said.

Free on $12,500 cash/surety bond, Hinz was scheduled for preliminary examination in Westland 18th District Court Dec. 28 before Judge Sandra Cicirelli. The defense requested an adjournment so that a competency examination could be done on Hinz, who was described in court as having diminished mental capabilities and as being a resident of a group home.

The case will be reviewed mid-March to determine the status of the competency evaluation and when a preliminary examination might be scheduled.

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BEST LOCAL SPORTS COVERAGE. PERIOD

LIVONIA FAMILY YMCA
Winter Open House
Saturday, January 8th
10 am - 2 pm
Open Swim & Water Games, Body Fat Testing, Swim & Nutrition Assessments, Tennis Evaluations
FREE Classes, Clinics & Demonstrations:
Come prepared to participate, have fun, try something new, learn new skills, meet the staff, or just watch!

11-2	Open Gymnastics
10-2	Tennis Lessons-Ongoing every 20 minutes
10	Preschool Sport Sampler
10, 11,12,1	Basketball & Dodgeball Clinics
10:30, 11:30, 12:30, 1:30	Soccer & Floor Hockey Clinics
10-11	Aikido
10-10:30	Cycle
10-?	Personal Training Group Workout
11-11:30	Kettlebell and TRX
12-12:30 pm	Karate
1 pm	Zumba

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Thursday, January 6, 2011 hometownlife.com

HAVE A STORY IDEA?
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Detroit Lions player's relative charged in gun case

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton police say Detroit Lions safety Louis Delmas didn't receive any preferential treatment when he wasn't charged — though his relative was — following a road rage incident involving a gun in December.

"The investigation was conducted, and (Delmas) was listed as a witness," police Sgt. Mark Gajeski said. "The gun was registered to him, but he has a concealed pistol license out of Florida."

Ravelle Sadler, a 20-year-old Cincinnati resident, faces trial on five weapons charges amid allegations he pointed a .40-caliber semiautomatic handgun at three teens while he was driving a silver Nissan Titan pickup truck on Ford Road about 2:15 a.m. Dec. 21. Delmas was a passenger in the Nissan.

Delmas, 23, told police Sadler was his brother, Gajeski said. Delmas lists his address as Miami, Fla., but lives in Canton during the football season, Gajeski said.

Sadler is accused of pointing the gun at the Garden City and Canton males — ages 16, 17 and 18 — after the teens drove alongside the Nissan near Ford and Lilley as one of them wore a Michael Myers-style Halloween mask while traveling west on Ford Road in Canton, police said. One of the teens told police the mask was worn as "a joke," according to a police report.

Delmas wasn't charged even though the gun was his, Gajeski said.

"There has been no indication that he gave (Sadler) the gun," Gajeski said. "We do not foresee any charges against (Delmas) in the future."

Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner said police investigated the incident and turned the information over to the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, which decides criminal charges.

"Our job is to do what's right and make sound decisions that are not based on public opinion or somebody's popularity as a public figure," Schreiner said.

Just this week, Sadler was ordered to stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court on three counts of assault with a dangerous weapon, one felony firearm charge and one count of carrying a concealed weapon.

If convicted, he could face penalties ranging up to five years in prison. The felony firearm charge carries a mandatory two-year term upon conviction.

Some people, including some readers of the *Observer's* online edition, have said the teens shouldn't have been involved in donning a mask for a prank after 2 a.m.

According to a police report, the teens feared Sadler was going to fire the gun, but they trailed the Nissan and called 9-1-1, prompting police to stop the truck near Ford and Ridge roads.

Police handcuffed Sadler who, according to the police report, initially denied knowing anything about a gun being inside the vehicle. Police said Delmas confirmed there was a gun in the truck, that it was his and could be found in a passenger side door panel.

The police report said the gun's chamber was clear of any rounds, but the weapon had a magazine containing 12 rounds.

One of the teens told police Delmas could be seen looking at their car, though a police report said Delmas told authorities he was half-asleep until he woke up and saw Sadler with a gun. The report said Delmas told police he reached over to take the gun from Sadler and wasn't sure if, during the process, the weapon may have been inadvertently pointed at the teens' car.

Delmas told police he carried the gun for personal protection. The report said he earlier had two alcohol beverages and decided to let Sadler drive. Delmas initially told police the gun was in the driver's side door and remained there after Sadler got behind the wheel.

However, the police report indicated Delmas later made another statement saying Sadler had only pointed his fingers at the teens' car and that the gun was in the passenger door panel the entire time.

Meanwhile, Sadler was bound over Monday during a preliminary examination in Plymouth 35th District Court. His bond was set at $30,000/10 percent.

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Police arrest man reportedly involved in home break-in

GARDEN CITY COP CALLS

Assault

A 48-year-old Garden City man was transported to Oakwood Hospital about 2:30 a.m. Jan. 1 after he was assaulted in the parking lot of Albert's on the Alley, 5651 Middlebelt.

He was treated for head and facial contusions at the hospital.

His friend, a 51-year-old Garden City man, said that he and the victim took turns buying each other drinks throughout the night. When his friend left, he decided to follow him out to the parking lot to make sure that he didn't drive while drunk.

He found his friend in a pickup truck that wasn't his, trying to start the vehicle without any keys and by using only his hands. He believed that his friend entered the vehicle by mistake because his own vehicle was just a short distance away.

About that time, the owner of the truck came out of Albert's and became angry because he thought the victim and his friend was trying to steal his truck. He pulled the victim from the truck, punched him and the victim's head hit the ground.

He allegedly also struck the friend who was trying to help but he refused treatment. The suspect drove his truck away and was gone when the police arrived.

Arrest

The police arrested a 24-year-old man in the 28000 block of Elmwood after an investigation in connection with at a home invasion in Garden City.

They found a bicycle on the front lawn when they arrived. It's believed to be the suspect's method of transportation. Although the police could see inside of the house, the man initially refused to answer the door.

They obtained permission from the homeowner to enter the house.

Police saw that the man was bleeding from his right hand and the right side of his head. It's believed that he used his hand to break the window to enter the home.

The police also found a TV set and other items covered in blood and a blanket covering up some jewelry.

While inside the home, a girl came up to one of the officers showed them a bracelet. According to the police report, she said "Hey, look what my Daddy just gave me."

Home invasion

A dog sitter for a home in the 29080 block of Balmoral reported a break-in about 11 p.m. Dec. 31.

He found the door open and a TV set in the street when he came to check on the house because the owner was in Ohio at the time.

The police observed a lot of search activity in the home.

A witness on the same block said that he saw an unknown 35-40-year-old man hanging around the area and also inside of a vehicle parked in the 28600 block of Elmwood.

Breaking and entering

A 16-year-old Redford Township youth was arrested as a suspect in the break-in of the A to Z Comics store at 32647 Ford about 3 a.m. Dec. 23. A surveillance camera captured the image of a male suspect about 5-foot-6 carrying a white cash register. A Redford teen was recognized and contacted at his home where he was arrested.

Home invasions

A woman returned to her home about 8:30 p.m. Jan. 3 in the 33000 block of Donnelly to find the rear door damaged. Cash and coins were taken.

• A resident in the 33000 block of Block reported that he side door was forced in sometime before 8:30 p.m. Jan. 3. Many pieces of jewelry valued at thousands of dollars was reportedly stolen. An observer reported seeing an SUV with tinted windows in the area about that time.

The police are investigating all leads including whether the jewelry was taken by a man known to the family.

The owner said that items disappeared in the past but she didn't file a police report.

• A resident in the 1000 block of Lathers came home about midnight Jan. 3 to find her front door open and a bedroom ransacked. Dresser drawers were disturbed and someone stole prescription Seroquel and Hydrocodon.

Also taken were a Pandora bracelet with charms and a Tommy Hilfiger watch.

Property damage

A resident in the 27500 block of Sheridan reported that a driver destroyed a Neighborhood Watch sign sometime before 7:45 a.m. Jan. 1. The driver didn't stop and wasn't there when the police arrived.

The damaged sign was turned over to the Garden City Department of Public Services.

-By Sue Buck

Fatal pedestrian accident under investigation

Livonia police continued an investigation this week into a fatal pedestrian accident on Five Mile, just east of Middlebelt, on Dec. 29.

A 51-year-old Westland woman was struck by a vehicle driven eastbound by a 26-year-old Redford man shortly after 8 p.m. while she crossed from the north side of Five Mile.

Livonia police and Livonia Fire and Rescue units responded to the crash scene. The pedestrian was taken to Botsford Hospital, where she was pronounced dead.

Witnesses told police two pedestrians ran across Five Mile. "The second pedestrian was trailing behind the other and was struck by an eastbound vehicle," said Sgt. John Gibbs of the Livonia Police Department.

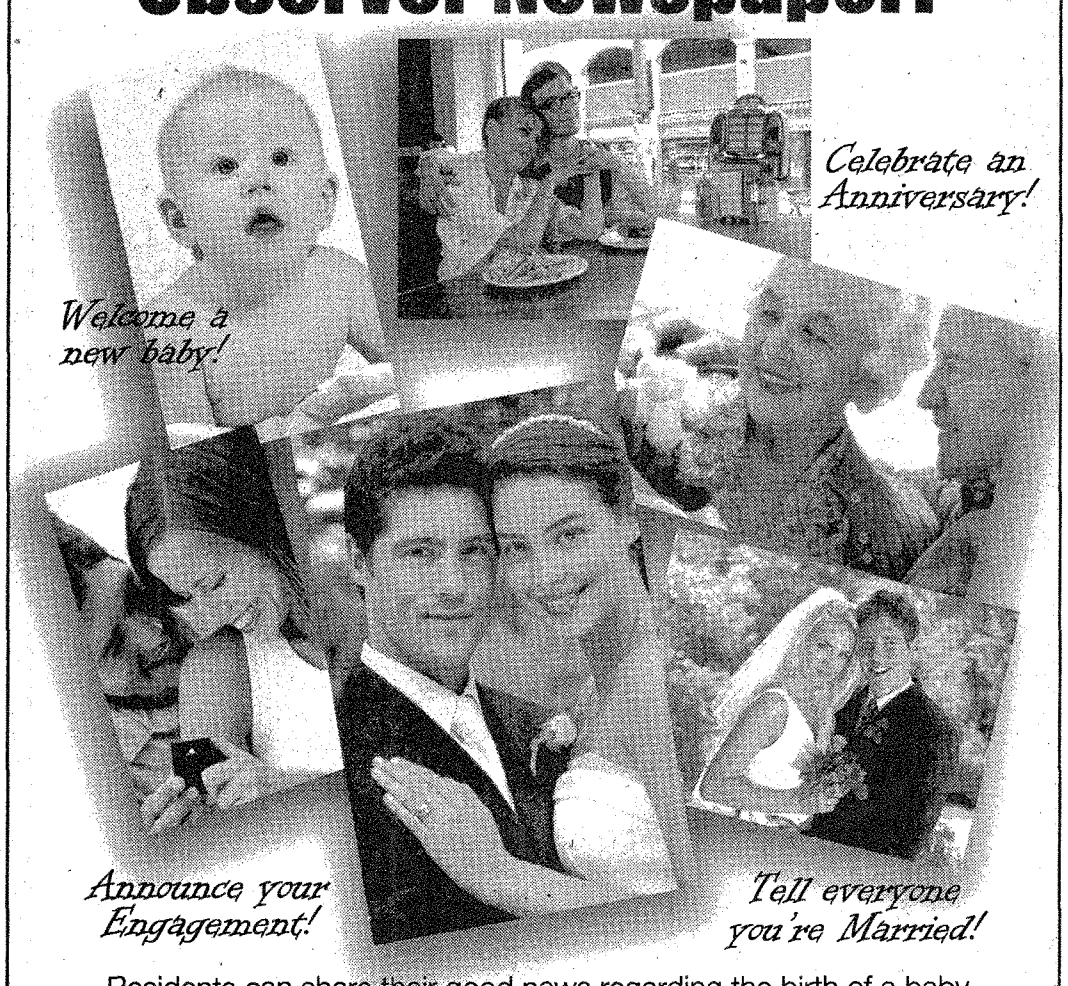
"The eastbound vehicle came to a stop after impact," Gibbs said.

The headlights to the vehicle were on at the time of the crash, according to police. Alcohol and drugs were not factors in the crash, Gibbs said.

Gibbs said the two pedestrians had just purchased items from a nearby convenience store before crossing the street.

Contractors working on Middlebelt recently installed countdown signals for pedestrians crossing at Five Mile, Gibbs said.

Share your good news with friends, family and neighbors in your
Observer Newspaper!



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Westland's Jaylee Modos donated blood during an American Red Cross blood drive at Westland's Faust Library. Her mother Janet accompanied her but wasn't able to donate due to a temporary deferral.

Donors turn out for blood drive

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Sitting inside the entrance of Westland's William P. Faust Library, Diane Ashburn called out to anyone passing as she tried to drum up potential blood donors.

"Good thing I don't mind rejection," said Ashburn, an American Red Cross volunteer who was actually convincing some passersby to stop in at the recent blood drive. "There is a such a critical need for blood."

An enthusiastic supporter of blood donations, Ashburn worked in donor services at the Red Cross for 17 years and moved to volunteering for the organization after retiring three years ago. Midway through the blood drive, donations were on track to at least meet the 25-pint goal.

Westland resident Janet Modos was at the blood drive with her daughter Jaylee, 18, who was giving blood. "I've donated a few gallons (over the years). I have a deferral at the moment, but I'll be back," Janet Modos said.

A Schoolcraft College student, Jaylee Modos said she didn't know her mother wasn't going to be able to donate when they came to the library.

Blood donor Kevin Honke talks to American Red Cross volunteer Heather Olsen during a blood drive at the Westland Faust Library. Both are Westland residents.

"I donated blood when I was at (Livonia) Franklin High School. I do it to help others. It's simple to do," Jaylee Modos said.

"And a few people we know have needed transfusions, so we've definitely seen the need. It's something easy to do and it doesn't take a lot of time," Janet Modos added.

Having juice and a snack after his blood donation, Westland resident Chad Irvin said he tried to make donations regularly, but hadn't donated for about a year.

"I got a card in the mail, so I came in. You never know what will happen," Irvin said. "You might be able to help people out and I want to make sure they have my own blood type on hand, if I need it."

When he posted his plans to donate blood on his Facebook page, Irvin said he got a positive response.

About 39 donors are usually needed to get 25 donated pints of blood, said Gail Wells, an American Red Cross donor services representative, since some people will be deferred for illness or other reasons.

"We're getting quite a few walk-ins at this drive. We encourage appointments because it helps us with processing — people with appointments will be processed first," Wells said. "Generally, people should allow an hour for blood donation. Some people may have a lot to discuss (during the screening) and some people have a faster blood flow than others."

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AROUND WESTLAND

Bible talks

Bible Talks will be held at the Bailey Recreation Center in Westland at 4 p.m. Sundays Jan. 9- Feb. 6. Presenting, in simplicity, the truth as it is in Jesus Christ, no collections or literature. Everyone is welcome.

Play auditions

Inspire Theatre announces auditions for *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940* at 6:30 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Jan. 10-11, at the Inspire Theatre inside Warren Road Light and Life Church, 33445 Warren Road, Westland.

Being sought are five men and five women ages 18-70ish. No singing or dancing involved. Arrive on time and come prepared to do cold readings.

The plot concerns several showbiz folks that have been gathered into a mansion house to flush out a serial killer. As the events unfold, there are bits from the past that seem to come back and haunt some of the characters. Once folks start dying off, the madcap search to find the killer begins. It's a door-slamming ride to a very funny finish line.

If you liked the movie *Clue*, you'll love *1940*. The performances are scheduled for March 4-6 and 11-13. For more information, call (734) 751-7057.

Spaghetti dinner

The monthly spaghetti dinner at the Dyer Senior Center in Westland will be 4-7 p.m. Friday, Jan 21. Enjoy spaghetti, salad and desert, as well as entertainment, for just $6.

The center also has pinochle and bingo at 1 p.m. Wednesdays and pinochle 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.

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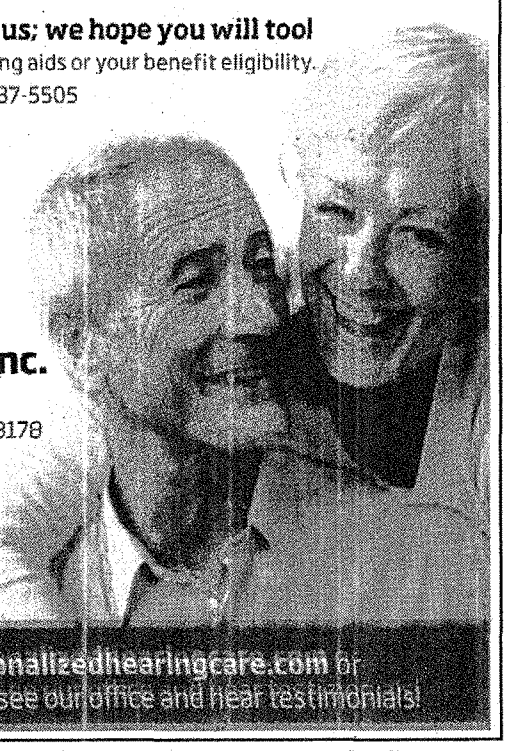

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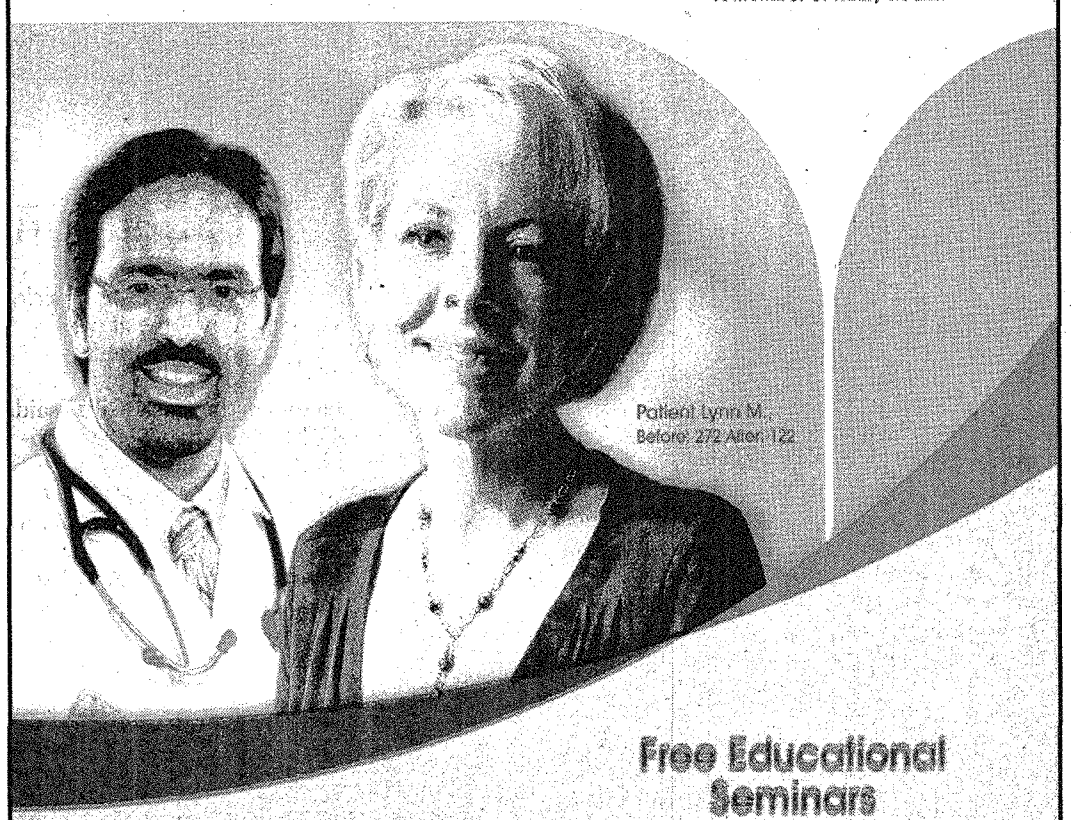

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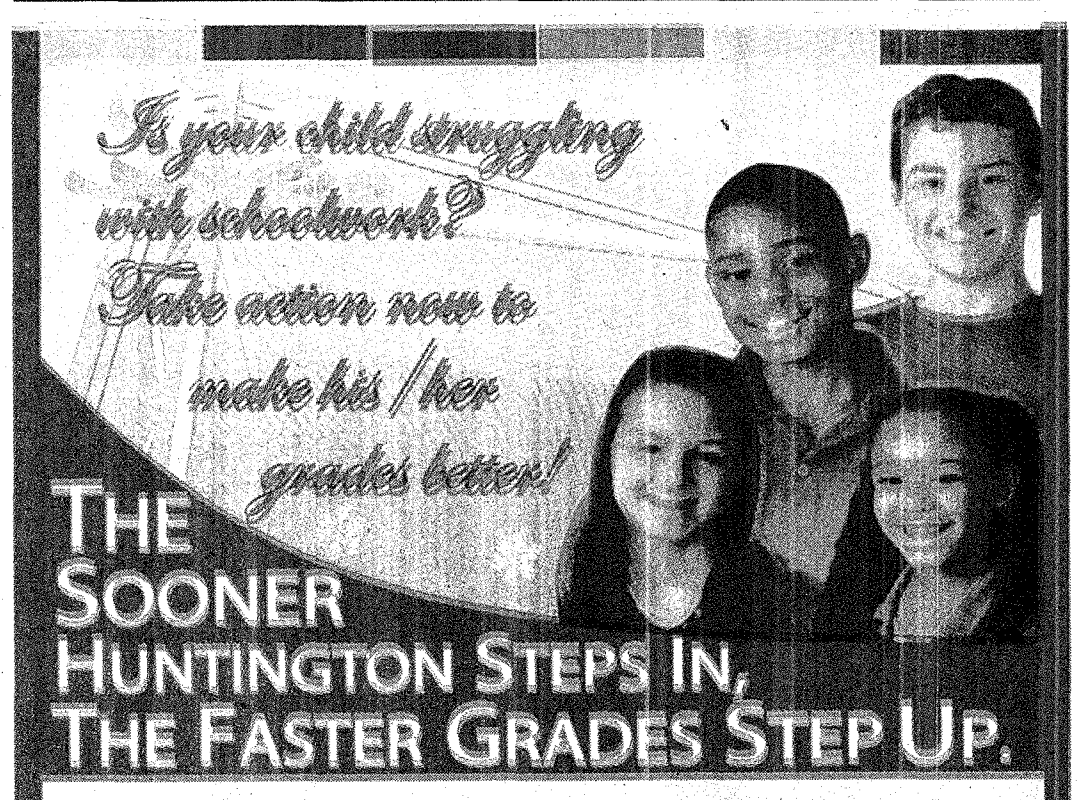

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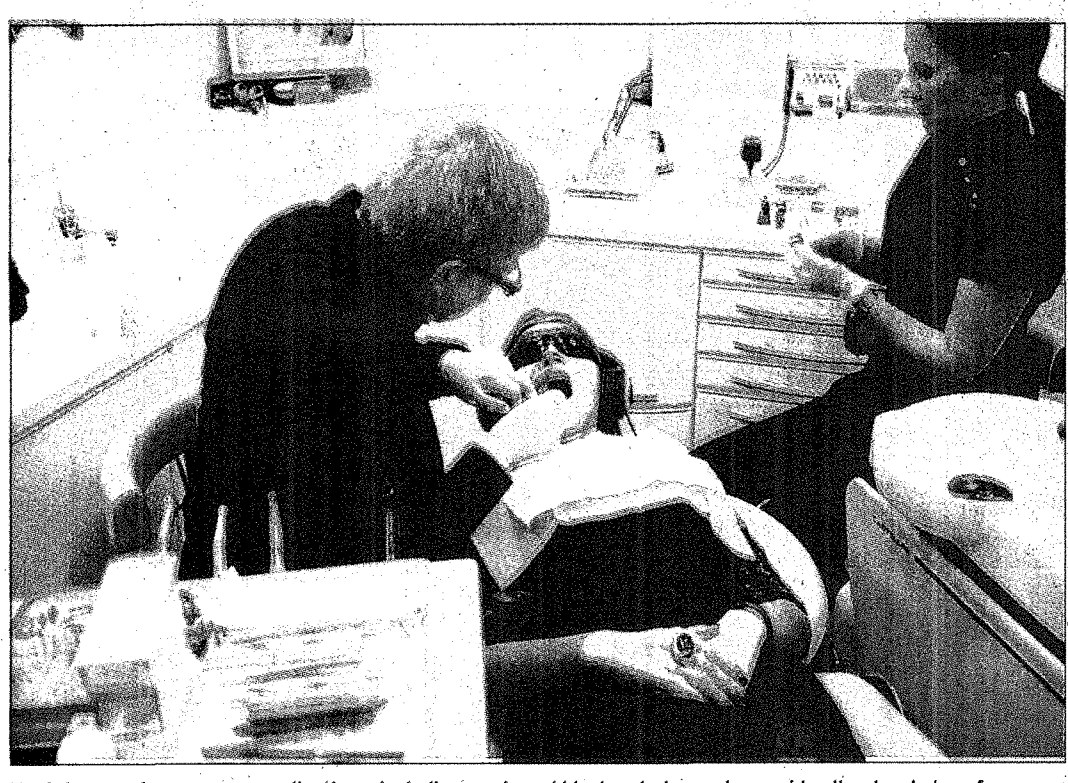


Nu-Calm uses four sensory applications, including music and black-out glasses to provide all-natural, drug-free technology to dental patients.

Westland lab tapped to do NuCalm training

Solace, a pioneer in the fields of applied neuropsychobiology and bioinformatics and manufacturers of NuCalm, the first all-natural, drug-free technology proven to naturally alleviate anxiety and stress, has announced a strategic partnership with Expertec Dental Laboratory Inc. in Westland.

Expertec will now offer continuing education courses on NuCalm in both lecture and live demonstration formats. The partnership makes Expertec the exclusive lab provider for NuCalm-based CE programs to dental professionals in Michigan. Courses will be hosted by Expertec as part of its ongoing curriculum and conducted by members of Solace's elite dental advisory board.

"Continuing education is a key driver for us to boost awareness for NuCalm as we pioneer applied neuropsychobiology in the dental industry," said Solace President and Chief Executive Officer Jim Poole. "It's paramount for us to find the right labs to partner with to become local centers of excellence for NuCalm nationwide."

"Our partners are an extension of our brand and customer experience. Therefore, we spend a lot of time vetting high-end esthetic dental labs to find those who truly understand the importance of providing leading-edge CE programs for their valued customers," he added. "Expertec Dental Laboratory is an excellent example of the type of partner we look for that offers tangible and intangible ways to provide value to their dentists, and can extend the NuCalm brand to the dental profession in Greater Michigan."

Expertec is a member of the Technical Research Consortium, a select group of independently owned regional dental laboratories across North America striving to bring leading-edge technology to its member dentists and provide the highest level of dentistry possible to their patients.

Liz Cascaden, director of marketing for Expertec, sees the partnership as an ideal fit for both companies. "Expertec is committed to providing the finest quality prosthetics, technical innovation and continuing education programs," she said. "Our customers come to us to discover the newest technologies to enhance their practices and increase their patient offerings. We believe NuCalm is going to be very popular with our customers and look forward to introducing this exciting technology to dental professionals throughout Michigan."

NuCalm has already proven popular in Michigan, according to Poole.

"At our last two CE programs in Michigan, over 80 percent of the participants purchased NuCalm systems, which is even more amazing given the current economic hardship in the state," he said. "We have every expectation Expertec will continue and even exceed this trend."

NuCalm leverages the synergistic benefits of four sensory applications. First, the patient chews the NuCalm tablets. Second, two patches are placed behind the ears and attached to the CES device for mild stimulation. Third, noise-dampening headphones are fitted on the patient – an MP3 player provides the neuroacoustic software embedded in classical music (the binaural-beat wavelength is actually masked by the music). Lastly, black-out glasses are placed on the patient.

The relaxation experience lasts as long as the patient listens to the neuroacoustic software. NuCalm has been used effectively for procedures lasting more than nine hours.

NuCalm causes no side effects and requires no recuperative time or post-procedure supervision, meaning patients can drive, return to work, play sports, or partake in any other type of activity with no restrictions immediately after having the procedure.

BUSINESS MILESTONES

Open House

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8
Location: Dorsey Schools Wayne/Westland campus, 35005 W. Michigan Ave., Wayne
Details: The Dorsey Schools Wayne-Westland Campus is holding an open house for people interested in learning more about its allied health and administrative programs.
Contact: (734) 595-1540

Senior Travel Show

Time/Date: 2-4 p.m. Jan. 16
Location: Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood, west of Merriman, Garden City
Details: Come and shop all of the new one-day and multi-day senior trips departing from Garden City. At this shopping market, seniors and adults can sign up for a series of trips for the spring, summer and fall. The afternoon also will provide seniors with discount coupons, free travel information and the chance to win a one-day get-away.
Contact: Call (734) 525-9777 to reserve a spot. Space is limited.

Get fit

Time/Date: Now through Jan. 12
Location: Planet Fitness in Westland Crossing, 34634 Warren Road at Wayne Road, Westland
Details: Aim to get fit at Planet Fitness where you can join for $20 and pay only $10 per month plus applicable taxes. The annual membership fee of $29 will be billed on or shortly after Oct. 1. Membership can only be used at the Westland Crossing location. Enjoy free unlimited fitness training. Offer expires Jan. 12.
Contact: Call (734) 525-4800 or join online at www.planetfitness.com.

Cake classes

Time/Date: noon- 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15 and 22
Location: Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe, 8036 N. Wayne Road, Westland
Details: Have you ever wanted to create a cake like the television chefs? Mary Denning's is be offering a one-day class to make a 3D Dragon Cake (Jan. 15) and a Fondant Flower Cake (Jan. 22). Cost is $40 per class. All materials will be provided. Participants must pre-register.
Contact: For more information or to register, call (734) 261-3680.

Music of Broadway

Time/Date: 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 16
Location: Joy Manor, 28999 Joy just east of Middlebelt in Westland
Details: A revue of some of the greatest music from the Broadway stage will be performed in an intimate cabaret setting. Music from "Rent," "West Side Story," Chicago," "Jekyll & Hyde," Wicked," "Billy Elliot," "Les Miz," "Phantom of the Opera" and more will be interpreted by four amazing singers and a seven-piece orchestra. Singers Michele Marzsalkowsi of Eastpointe, Kim Langeof Berkley, John Martin of Rochester and son Steve Martin bring a wealth of experience and talent to the show. The orchestra consisting of flute, violin, cello, guitar, keyboard, bass and drums is made up of Detroit's finest musicians. The concept for The Broadway Project came from Craig Strain of Farmington Hills, arranger, musician, as an idea for an hour of entertainment at Gilda's Club Metro Detroit. The event was a huge success resulting in the urging to produce it on a larger scale for the public. Pre-show activities include a complimentary light menu and a cash bar. Admission is $20.
Contact: Tickets may be purchased at Joy Manor by calling (734) 525-0960 or from Craig at (586) 924-6866, Nancy at (248) 892-9971, Ed at (586) 263 5223 or Keith at (734) 812 1707.

Winter Blow-Out Sale

Time/Date: Friday, Jan. 4, through Tuesday, Feb. 1
Location: Materials Unlimited, 2 W. Michigan Avenue in Ypsilanti
Details: Materials Unlimited is putting an end to the winter blahs with a Winter Clearance Blow Out Sale on selected antique items. Brighten your spirits with a restored antique light fixture or sparkling stained glass window. Warm your home with a hand-carved antique fireplace mantel. Hundreds of clearance items are marked down between 20 percent and 60 percent off on selected items, so there is sure to be a remedy for everyone. With charm and deals like these, curing your winter blahs has never been easier. Store hours 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, noon-5 p.m. Sunday, closed Monday.
Contact: (800) 299-9462

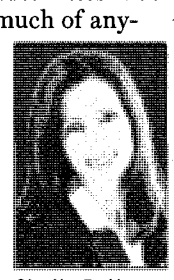
Mask Fitting Clinic

Time/Date: 5-6 p.m. Wednesdays
Location: Sleep Disorders Center of Michigan, 35600 Central City Parkway, Suite 103, Westland
Details: Attention CPAP and BiPAP users. Did you know that most insurances cover new supplies every year? Have you been wanting to try a new style of mask, but don't know how to get one? Garden City Hospital's Sleep Disorders Center can help. Visit the, any Wednesday from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. for a free mask fitting clinic. No appointment is needed.
Contact: (734) 458-3330 with any questions or for more information.

Motivation: the WHY Factor

A SUNNY NOTE

Good morning, Michigan! It's a new day, and with that comes new challenges, i.e. opportunities. But to accomplish much of anything, we need motivation. So where does it come from?



Clarity Patton Newhouse

The key to motivation is the WHY factor.

Why? Why? Why? Most of us began torturing our parents with this question as soon we learned to talk. We were obsessed with it. Why - because it's the most important question.

Everything we do has a WHY factor. I eat because I'm hungry; I pay the gas bill because I want heat, etc. If we don't have a reason for doing something, chances are we won't do it.

So here's the point, the key to motivation. Accomplishing something great - anything that we aspire to - requires a Red Hot Why. RED HOT. That's how success coach James Malinchak describes it.

Just focusing on the goal, such as "I want to be a millionaire," isn't sufficient motivation. We need a burning reason "why," a reason so hot it keeps us going through all the struggles we'll face on our way to our goal. Some experts suggest creating photo collages for your computer's screen saver or other visual reminders of the reasons why, such as the house you'll build with the extra money or the exotic destination you'll visit.

Determining "what" you want to accomplish will help you get out of the starting gate but determining "why" will help you cross the finish line.

Why do I write Sunny Notes? Because I want to be helpful and reliable, bringing you cheer. So I'm here to say I hope you have a sunny day!

Clarity Patton Newhouse

P.S. "Success isn't a result of spontaneous combustion. You must set yourself on fire."

Arnold H. Glasow

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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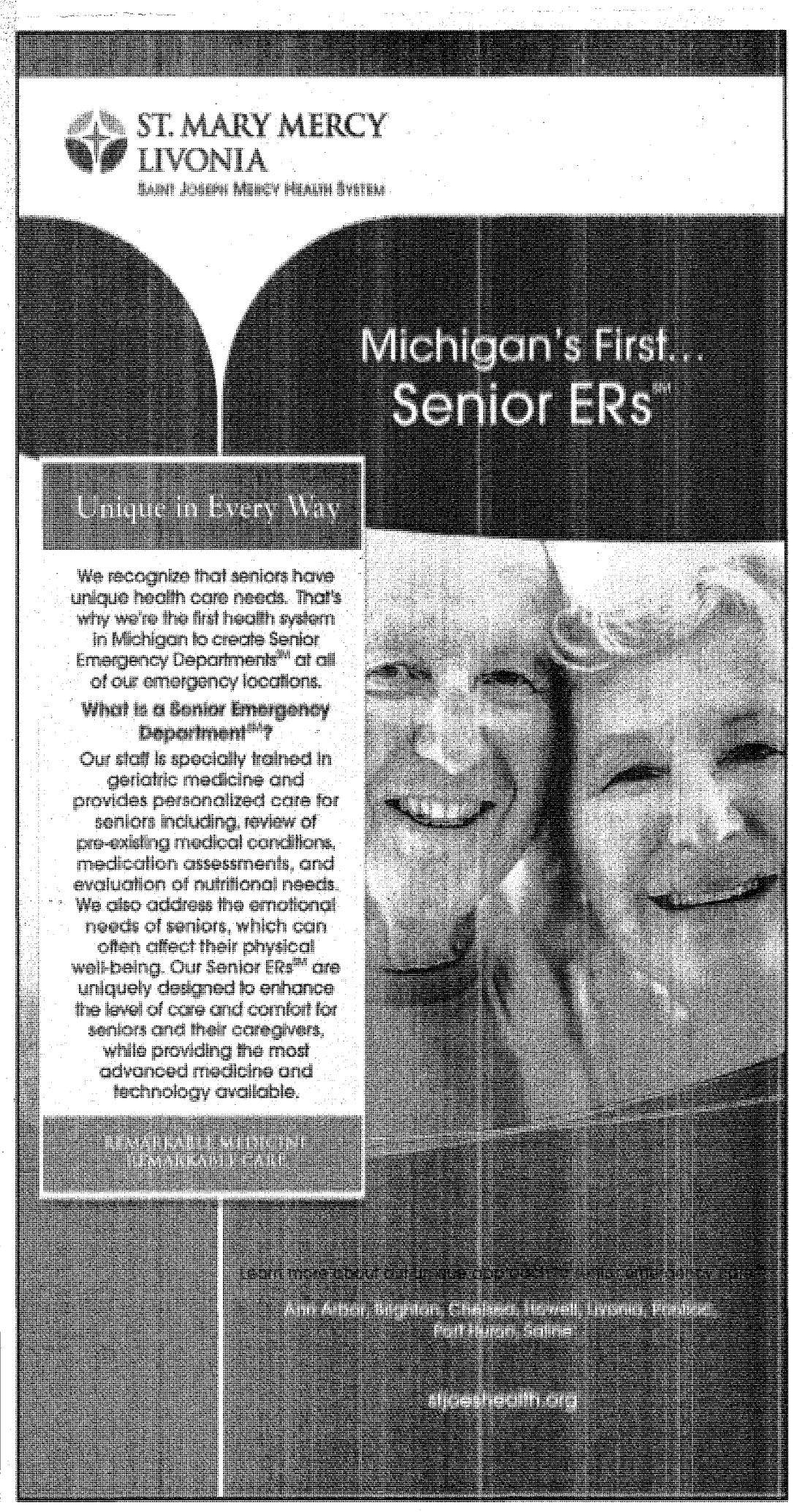

Committed to change

First Step's Ellis aims to make every family safe

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Judy Ellis remembers the day she volunteered to go to court with a woman who had been viciously attacked by her husband after she filed for divorce. The experience is why she has remained with First Step 30 years after answering an ad looking for volunteers.

"I know it's why I'm still here," said Ellis. "It was so horrific. We didn't get a chance to speak in court, there was no victim's rights."

The executive director of First Step for more than 25 years, Ellis has lead the Western and Downriver Wayne County Project on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault from its infancy to a $2.6 million nonprofit serving victims and their families in 36 communities.

In 2008-09, First Step touched the lives of 16,480 people. It provided 8,736 nights of safe shelter and through its community response advocates supported 2,586 survivors.

It's a far cry from the seven staffers and three active volunteers Ellis encountered in 1980, but her experiences then have kept her committed to one day having a community — a county — free of domestic violence and sexual assault.

"We hope that by educating people that they will understand that it's every third house," said Ellis.

"What we're about is responsibility, accountability and safety."

Judy Ellis started out as a volunteer, but 30 years later she is a champion for the victims of sexual assault and domestic violence as the executive director of First Step.

HER MISSION

And that was what Ellis knew she needed to provide that victim the day she walked out of the courtroom with her.

The woman's husband had cut off her ear and slashed her hands and face. He had been charged with felonious assault less than murder, and the prosecutor had assured the woman that he would get jail time. Instead, Ellis and the woman sat and listened in disbelief as the judge announced one year probation.

Active in his church, members of the congregation "showed up in their Sunday best" to support for him because she had filed for divorce. They even wrote letters on his behalf.

"He got away with it all," Ellis recalled. "As we walked out of the courtroom, all I could think was that I had to get her out of the state. She choked out, 'Judy, I don't think I'm worth anything.' At that time I made the commitment that things had to change."

And a lot has.

At that time it fell on the victim to pursue charges and most times assaults were deemed misdemeanors. Today, assault is no longer seen as the fault of the victim. Police officers receive training in handling domestic violence and sexual assault. The legal system pursues the charges.

There are laws on the books, however, there isn't the jail space or the resources to prosecute, Elllis said.

PARTNERS HELP

First Step, through partnerships like the one it has with the Oakwood Healthcare System, is there to provide free shelter, counseling, advocacy, assault response, 24-hour help line, legal information, children's counseling and programs, community response, food, clothing, transitional housing and other support to survivors of violence and their families.

It works with victims to understand what may happen.

"We don't tell them what to do, we help the individual see the lethality of it," said Ellis. "When we started, we saw women who were assaulted. It wasn't the same level of lethality you see today. You didn't see the children involved."

Admittedly, it's a constant challenge to raise money, especially in the current economy. And it comes at a time when more people are needing help. But First Step is able to offer more now, including 22 units to house victims and their families for up to two years. Sheltering is short term, transitional housing buys times so victims can get training and set goals, according to Ellis.

"We have to help all people be empowered so they can take action and tell people what has happened," she added. "We need to let them know there are ways to keep them safe. The right adults will do whatever they can to keep them safe."

NEW FACILITY

While some might consider the construction of a 14,000-square foot residential facility attached to the Family Center in Wayne as her crowning achievement, Ellis says it is volunteers who have helped the agency over the years. They are a "most powerful tool," people who have gotten involved and made it work.

"They get it, they understand and they're involved," she said. "It's a movement. Unfortunately, it should be further along. We're not there yet. We need zero tolerance, people need to be held accountable."

While she will be happy to see families move into the new facility, she admits the work is not done, not until every family is safe. In fact, it would be a "beautiful day when the phones aren't ringing not because they don't know us, but that the perpetrators know they will be held accountable."

"The most encouraging thing is that I'm working with the very best of people and their goal is to see change," Ellis said. "I'm honored to be a part of this agency."

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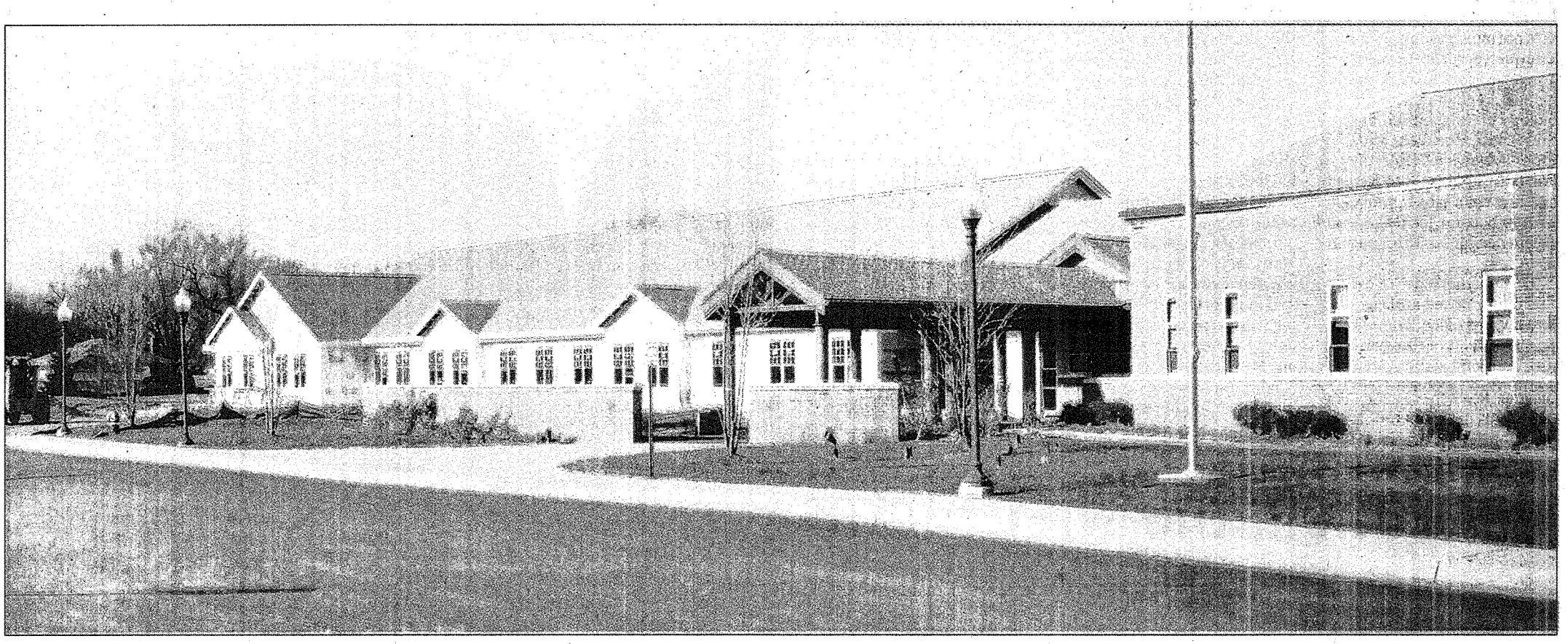


The construction of the Karen Colina Wilson Family Center is expected to be completed by the first week in March. The 14-000-square foot facility will provide a place for victims and their families to stay in a home-like setting.

First Step looks for help to finish new facility in Wayne

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It goes without saying that First Step has come a long way since its humble beginnings in a small white house next to Nankin Mills in Hines Park more than 30 years ago.

Formed in 1978 as an agency to assist survivors of domestic violence in western Wayne County, it now serves the victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in 36 communities, a 500-square-mile area stretching from Eight Mile Road on the north to Downriver in the south and from Redford on the east to Canton on the south.

According to First Step Executive Director Judy Ellis, the role of First Step also has changed over the years. In the beginning, it reacted to cases of domestic violence and later sexual assault. Today, it is proactive by contacting victims, letting them know what First Step is about and the services it has available.

"A big part of what we do is helping families," she said. "Victims need immediate support, but so does the family members. They need support, they need to know what to expect."

First Step has offices in Plymouth and Redford and a Family Center in Wayne as well as community sites with advocates to work with victims in Westland, Redford, Wayne Taylor, Inkster, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Lincoln Park, 33rd District Court in Woodhaven and 34th District Court in Romulus.

For Ellis, it has been "a dream for a very long time to have a building where people can live in dignity" and that is becoming a reality with the construction of the Karen Colina Wilson Family Center.

The new facility is a far cry from previous First Step emergency housing. Initially, the agency used a former group home at Five Mile and Sheldon and then bought a former nursing home on Ridge west of Beck in Canton Township. The latter facility, which First Step used for more than 20 years, was closed in 2008. Families are now in temporary housing until the new facility is completed "the first weekend in March."

The new residential facility will be attached to the west side of the Family Center at 4400 Venoy at Annapolis in Wayne. It will have 12 apartment-like suites with private baths, small kitchens and living areas.

The walls are up, the roof is on and windows have been installed in the 14,000-square-foot addition which Ellis calls "amazing." But First Step is still looking for in-kind and financial donations to complete the $5.5 million project. The push is on for funds to add the technology and security needed for the facility as well as a children's play area among other things.

"There will be no other facility like it in the state, but we need a lot of financial support," she said.

The agency is looking for help in identifying potential donors, such as individuals, service groups, businesses, foundations and religious organizations, as well as gifts to its capital campaign.

Donations also can be dropped off at its offices at 44567 Pinetree Drive at Sheldon north of Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth and at its Wayne Family Center on Venoy south of Michigan Avenue.

For information about First Step's new building, to donate or schedule a tour, call (734) 416-1111.

A more complete "wish list" also can be found on First Step's website at www.firststep-mi.org.

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

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Family Fun Day

Time/Date: 1-5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8
Location: Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan's Camp Linden in Deerfield Township
Details: Family members of all ages can spend an afternoon at Camp Linden, enjoying sledding, broomball, ice fishing, cross-country skiing, snow sculpting and snow painting, along with hot chocolate and s'mores around a fire in Hunter Lodge. Indoor and outdoor activities will be available. Prior membership in Girl Scouting is not required. Families of four can join in the fun with a registration fee of $20 - $5 for each additional family member. As a special incentive, any girl or adult who joins Girl Scouts through Family Winter Fun Day will receive a $5 discount on the $20 registration fee to become a member of Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan. Camp Linden is located 30 minutes from Flint and 45 minutes from Ann Arbor. Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan serves girls living in several counties including Oakland and Wayne. Pre-registration is required by Monday, Jan. 3.
Contact: (800) 49-SCOUT, Ext. 7261; pgrubaugh@gshom.org

Fibromyalgia Group

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13
Location: Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, south of Ford, Garden City
Details: Dr. Howard Schubiner from Providence Hospital and author of "Unlearn Your Pain" will be the guest speaker at the Metro Fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Support Group meeting. The group meets the second and fourth Thursday of each month at the church. There are no dues, but donations are accepted.
Contact: (734) 981-2519; www.MetroFibroGroup.com

Genealogical Society Meeting

Time/date: 6:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 17
Location: Livonia Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia
Details: Learn about the best web sites and strategies to find your ancestors via the U.S. Census without leaving home during this meeting of the Western Wayne County Genealogical Society. Also, find out the different avenues of research necessary to pursue the complete picture of one's genealogy. Meetings are open to the public. Guests are always welcome.
Contact: www.rootsweb.com/~miwwcgs/

New Hope Seminar

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 19
Location: New Hope Center for Grief Support, 315 Griswold, Northville
Details: Attorney Ron Thompson of Thompson-Platte will offer a legal perspective regarding the many issues someone might face when someone they love dies. These include minimizing tax consequences, dealing with decedent's creditors, methods to best protect surviving family members and the issues involving updating wills and trust. Seating is limited. Call to register.
Contact: (248) 348-0115

Fish Dial-A-Ride

Details: Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is seeking volunteer drivers and phone messengers. Volunteer drivers, using their own vehicles, designate days, times, and areas they are willing to drive. Volunteer phone messengers arrange client rides with our volunteer drivers one day each week from the comfort of their home. Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is a not-for-profit community service that provides free door-to-door rides to non-emergency medical and other necessary appointments for senior and disabled residents of Garden City, Livonia, and Westland who are unable to drive and have no alternative transportation.
Contact: For more information, call (888) 660-2007 and leave a message.

Earth Angels

Details: Earth Angels, a children's entertainment/ performance non-profit group composed of kids ages 9 - 16 years old, is currently looking to fill spots. There's opening for girls ages 9 - 11, with at least two years of dance experience, and boys, ages 9 - 12 with no experience needed just an interest in performing. The group delivers a high energy show made up of choreographed dance routines spiced with theatrics and lip-synching to the great Oldies music of the '50s and '60s as well as some current fare.
Contact: www.earthangelsontour.org or by e-mail to eangel1986@comcast.net

Higher Rock Cafe

Time/date: 7:30 p.m. second and fourth Fridays of the month.
Location: Wayne-Westland Salvation Army, 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer, Westland.
Details: Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Live bands perform beginning at 8 p.m. Admission is free, however, a free will offering will be taken to support the bands.
Contact: www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com or call (734) 722-3660

FOR SENIORS

Friendship Center

Location: 1119 N. Newburgh, Westland
Details: The Senior Resources Department (Friendship Center) offers a variety of programs for older adults.
Contact: (734) 722-7632, www.ci.westland.mi.us

Dyer Center

Location: 36745 Marquette, between Wayne Road and Marquette, Westland
Details: Offers activities Monday-Friday at the center.
Contact: (734) 419-2020

Senior Fitness

Location: Maplewood Senior Center, Maplewood west of Merriman, Garden City
Details: The Senior Fitness Room is open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday. Annual membership is $50 per year or $1 for a daily pass. Aerobic classes are held 8:45-9:45 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday.
Contact: (734) 793-1870

VOLUNTEERS

First Step

Details: First Step, which has been active in the effort to end domestic violence and sexual assault in western Wayne County and Downriver communities for more than 20 years, is looking for volunteers. Interested people must be at least 18, willing and able to travel to the Downriver area and complete a 55-hour training program.
Contact: (734) 416-1111, Ext. 223

Drivers Needed

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

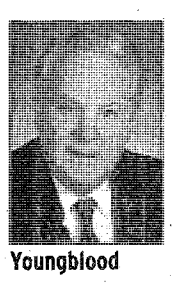
Wish You Were Here

Sgt. Anna Wolfe may be far from home while stationed in Kandahar, Afghanistan, but she's keep tabs on Westland with her Westland Observer newspaper. Wolfe strikes a Wish You Were Here pose with an issue of the Observer. If you go out of town, be sure to take a picture with your Observer and send it to Sue Mason by e-mail at smason@hometownlife.com or by mail to her attention at 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226. Be sure to include your name and information about your photo.

Website lets homebuyers shop for title insurance

Home buyers and sellers in the Detroit metropolitan area now have a new tool to help them shop for competitive title insurance rates.

The Wayne County Register of Deeds office has a new feature on its website - www.waynecountylandrecords.com - which enables consumers to compare rates from various title insurance carriers.


Youngblood

According to Bernard J. Youngblood, the Wayne County Register of Deeds, the website's rate calculator prompts consumers to enter either their purchasing and financing cost or their selling price. They will then immediately receive pricing information from the title insurance companies that are licensed in Michigan. The information includes website links and phone numbers for the various providers.

"Our rate calculator is a great tool for home buyers and home sellers," said Youngblood. "It empowers consumers to make informed decisions and it brings transparency to a purchase that consumers generally have no awareness of or control over."

He added that the cost of title insurance is a great unknown, one that is usually presented to consumers at the last minute at the real estate closing.

"It's too late then to do anything about it," Youngblood said. "Consumers should begin shopping for title insurance when they complete a purchase agreement to either buy or sell a house. With our new rate calculator, they can shop for rates quickly and easily."

He added that Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties are among the most uncompetitive title insurance markets in the country. Earlier this year, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) cited the tri-county area as one of two regions in the country (Portland, Oregon, being the other) where a monopoly exists in the title insurance market.

"We believe this website will help stimulate competition among the title insurance providers and result in more competitive rates for Wayne County consumers," Youngblood said.

For example, on a $200,000 home purchase with a mortgage amount of $150,000, the cost of a title insurance policy for a home buyer ranges from $536 to $892.25.

"That's a significant difference a consumer may never be aware of," Youngblood said. "It's a savings that the consumer can invest in their property or somewhere else."

The Register of Deeds' new rate calculator is part of the office's ongoing commitment to advocate for Wayne County consumers. The office also established the nation's first Mortgage & Deed Fraud Task Force, which targets individuals who attempt to falsify land records.

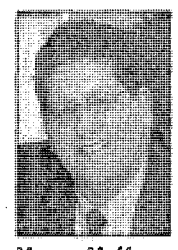
"Mortgage and deed fraud is a growing problem, especially with tech-savvy criminals who have been preying on innocent victims," Youngblood said.

The county task force was created by Youngblood in conjunction with the Wayne County Prosecutor and Wayne County Sheriff in 2005. Since its formation, it has a 100 percent conviction rate, having opened 742 cases and returning 112 homes valued at more than $5.4 million to their rightful owners.

Youngblood said similar units patterned after Wayne County's have been established in Cook County, Illinois, and other large counties across the country.

Tax planning important for the new year

Happy New Year! The holidays are over and it's time to get back to the real world. A couple things that happened over the last few weeks may have avoided reader attention so I thought it'd be a good idea to touch upon some of them.


Money Matters
Rick Bloom

Last month, Congress passed and President Barack Obama signed an extension of the Bush era tax cuts. Although, the main conversation about the extension was whether the tax cuts should go to the wealthy or not, there are some other consequences of the legislation that are important.

The first deals with people who itemize deductions. If you itemize and get your return done early, you may not be able to do so this year. Because the tax bill was passed so late in the year, the Internal Revenue Service needs time to adjust to the changes. Therefore, if you itemize your deductions you will not be able to file your tax return until at least mid-February or later. According to the IRS this issue affects taxpayers who itemize deductions on Form 1040, Schedule A.

Over the next month or so you will receive a variety of tax documents including 1099s and W-2s. Save these documents. The one sure way to have the IRS scrutinize your return is failing to report income from a W-2 and 1099. The new tax law also contained a provision that allows people over age 70½ and who are required to take a minimum required distribution from a retirement account to donate up to $100,000 of the IRA directly to charity. This was allowed in 2009 but until the Bush era tax cuts were extended, this was not allowed in 2010. Unfortunately, by the time the president signed the legislation the great majority of people could not take advantage of this provision. However, it is available in 2011. As opposed to taking the minimum required distribution at 70½ or older, you can have that money directly transferred into a charity. Particularly, for those who are generous in nature and who do not itemize deductions, this could be an excellent tax-planning strategy.

Another part of the new tax law deals with estates. Starting this year the first $5 million of an estate is tax free. An estate over $5 million will be taxed starting at 35 percent. In 2009, the first $3.5 million of an estate was estate tax-free. In 2010, there were no estate taxes so you could leave an unlimited amount of money to your beneficiaries without any estate tax. Prior to the change in law, in 2011 the estate tax exemption was set to be $1 million. This would have taxed more and more Americans. Now at least for the next few years there is some certainty in the estate tax system.

As a side note, for the majority of people there is no reason to pay estate taxes. A good estate plan that contains a living trust is one of the best ways for a family to avoid estate taxes.

There are lots of other changes to the tax law that are too numerous to mention. I guess you can analogize our tax laws to the weather in Michigan — constantly changing.

Therefore, my advice when it comes to taxes is never do long-term planning, never assume that you know the tax law and never be afraid to consult with a professional where needed. 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.

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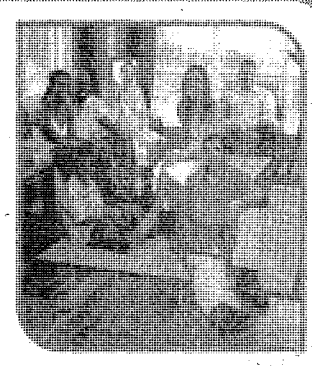

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WESTLAND OBSERVER

***Sue Mason**, Community Editor*
***Susan Rosiek**, Executive Editor*
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OUR VIEWS

Stand strong in 2011

Leaders, citizens work together on budget challenges

Another year of shrinking revenues for Westland and the Wayne-Westland Community Schools is behind us, but forecasts show we're not in the clear for 2011.

As depressing as it sounds, it's a reality that property values will continue to decline, bringing precious revenue flows to a trickle for our communities and our schools. State economic forecasters say we won't see an uptick until at least 2012.

Given this reality, we can only think of one New Year's resolution for the City of Westland and Wayne-Westland Community Schools: Keep on keeping on, with what you've got, in the smartest possible way.

Residents, students and parents of W-W students may not notice reductions in services, but the Board of Education has done a remarkable job — thus far — of keeping such cuts out of the classroom. If the economic picture doesn't improve, that may not be true for long.

We've seen evidence in our communities and in the school district of financial frugality and foresight in the past few years and we're confident this will continue in the new year.

It's important for leaders in each community and in the school district to keep communication with the public in the forefront during the tough decisions. They need to make sure they absolutely know the priorities of citizens, when it comes to services, before more cuts are made to their respective budgets.

We also urge officials to maintain the critical services of public safety. As evidenced in last week's explosion at a Wayne furniture store, you never know what's going to pose a very large public threat from day to day. We've seen many incidents in 2010 in which quick police response times have literally made the different between life and death, or the difference between a criminal getting away or being brought to justice. This must continue to be a budget priority in 2011.

In the school district, the 2010-11 school year so far has been one of change. We encourage the school board to continue to listen and communicate with parents and the public when making major decisions.

And, we encourage the residents of our communities and our school district to continue being active in your community and we challenge residents to pay attention to your local government, participate in the debates by attending council meetings or by expressing your opinions through this newspaper, either in print by e-mailing editor Sue Mason at smason@hometownlife.com or via our Story Chat element online at hometownlife.com.

Budgets can shrink, but the spirit of the community can remain strong. It just takes good leadership and an involved public in 2011.

First responders deserve thanks from a grateful public

Ten years ago, this country discovered what it means to be a first responder when hundreds of New York City firefighters were killed in the collapse of the North and South Towers of the World Trade Center. It elevated our first responders — both police and fire — to hero status. They are our first line of defense against the bad things that can happen to us on any given day.

It happened last week when a suspected natural gas explosion in Wayne destroyed the William C. Franks Furniture Store. Two employees were killed and the owner critically injured.

The response was tremendous. Firefighters from seven communities, including Westland, Garden City and Canton helped, so did Urban Search and Rescue teams from four counties. Even four laid-off Wayne firefighters turned out to help. We all watched as the drama unfolded as our first responders picked through the rubble of what was once a well-known business in the City of Wayne. They used their hands to clear debris in a search to find those two missing employees.

In the newspaper business, we learn early on that death trumps injuries. In tragedies, we report who has died first and then talk about those who survived. Such was the case with last week's explosion. But we also must acknowledge the efforts of police and firefighters who helped at the scene. Their thoughts and efforts were focused on finding the two employees still in the building. Every firefighter, every police officer hoped for the best, but were prepared for the worst. That's part of the job when you're a first responder.

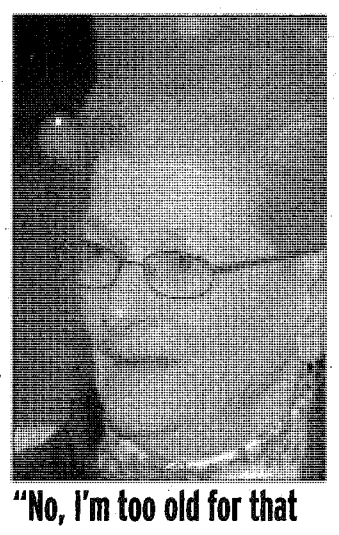
Mutual Aid, Automatic Response ... those are agreements cities have to help each other in times of need. The response last week went above and beyond those pacts. We are proud of our first responders and how they handled the situation. The outcome may have been the worst, but their efforts were the best.

And for that, we say thank you for being there for us.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Do you make New Year's resolutions?

We asked this question at Westland Shopping Center in Westland.



"No, I'm too old for that stuff."

Marie Tabweek
Redford

"I try to. This year I want to retire, so my resolution is to have a better golf game."

Al Moreno
Canton

"No, because a resolution can be made any point in time. People make New Year's resolutions and they're broken. I make mine at Easter."

Mike Curran
Windsor, Ontario

"No, I don't. I keep on the straight and narrow path all year round."

John O'Connell
Wayne

LETTERS

Thanks for the assistance

On behalf of The Salvation Army, I wish to convey my thanks to the many local companies, churches and organizations that came alongside The Salvation Army as we served together at the site of the store explosion in Wayne last week. Throughout the day, our emergency services canteens received donations of food and drink to be shared with the first responders and families displaced by the explosion.

The Adult Rehabilitation Center of The Salvation Army responded quickly and provided hot soup to the many, many first responders from cities throughout the metropolitan area as well as family members of the victims and those evacuated from their homes.

The response to this tragedy speaks volumes to the sense of community that exists throughout the city of Wayne. We join with so many in extending our sympathies to the families of James Zell and Leslie Machniak and prayers to Paul Franks as he continues to recover.

The Salvation Army Emergency Disasters Services is at the ready to assist with disasters, large and small. We consider it a privilege to come along first responders and other organizations in time of need to provide food, hydration and emotional and spiritual support.

George Aren, director
Emergency Disaster Services
The Salvation Army

Above and beyond the call

On Christmas morning, I went to feed the birds and squirrels at the home of an elderly friend who is in Florida. When I took a moment to look up, I saw a yellow cat about 60 feet up in a fork of tiny limbs of a large branch of a tree. He clearly had been chasing a squirrel. When the squirrel leaped up to a smaller limb, the cat turned around and froze with fear of how to get back to the main branch.

To picture where he was, hold out your hand as if to shake hands, separate your two top fingers, making a V. The cat was perched on the lower one. The cat was in that position for hours as the neighbor and I tried everything to get it to climb down. At 12:30 p.m., I could think of nothing else to do but go to the fire station and ask if they could help. So that is what I did.

I talked to a very nice fireman and captain at Fire Station 1 about the plight of the cat. I also told them about the squirrel who went about four feet above the car and appeared to be trying to get the cat to chase him. The cat would not move.

I didn't know what kind of a response I would get, an old man asking for such help on Christmas. I knew if I did nothing the cat would either freeze to death or fall to its death. To my amazement and relief, the captain asked "what was the address." He said they would be there shortly.

My worries for this poor cat were eased when the captain and fireman arrived with a ladder truck. While the captain was putting on he coat, gloves and hat and getting a blanket to wrap the cat in, he was telling me just what could happen, good or bad.

The fireman looked up and asked if that was the squirrel I was talking about. He was on a limb above the cat, flipping his tail and chattering at the cat. All of a sudden, the cat backed up a few inches, put its paw around the split and cautiously pulled itself around to the main branch. He then went straight down the trunk to the ground.

The captain said the cat knew we were coming so he decided to come down. I think the squirrel told the cat, OK, now they are coming to get you and put you in a cage. There will be no more freedom for you. Loser in my tree!

The one thing I know is just three days before our firefighters went above and beyond their duties to organize a fund-raiser for 39 families displaced after the Waynewood Apartments fire. That in itself gave me great pride in them. But when they were willing to help the least, an old yellow cat caught in a tree, my pride and my praise is as high as it could ever be.

God bless you all and may you all have a great 2011.

With all the thanks of an old man and an old yellow cat,

Jim Davis
Westland

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.

Winterizing can help

The last thing any driver needs is a vehicle that breaks down in cold, harsh winter weather. Winterizing your vehicle should be a top priority, saving you from the inconvenience of being stranded out in the cold. An investment of an hour or two to have your vehicle checked is all it takes to have peace of mind and help avoid the cost and hassle of unexpected emergency repairs.

Keep the battery connections clean, tight and corrosion-free. Batteries don't always give warning signs before they fail completely so it's wise to replace batteries that are more than three years old.

Antifreeze (coolant) should be flushed and refilled at least every two years in most vehicles. As a reminder, do not add 100 percent antifreeze as full-strength antifreeze actually has a lower freeze point than when mixed with water.

Have the brakes checked. The braking system is the vehicle's most important safety item and is key while driving on icy or snow-covered roads.

Check the tire tread depth and tire pressure. If snow and ice are a problem in your area, consider special tires designed to grip slick roads. During winter, tire pressure should be checked weekly as tires will lose pressure when temperatures drop.

Be diligent about changing the oil and filter at recommended intervals. Dirty oil can spell trouble in winter. Consider changing to low-viscosity oil in winter, as it will flow more easily between moving parts when cold.

Cold weather can affect the life of windshield wipers. Wiper blades that are cracked or torn, or that chatter, streak and don't properly clean your windshield, should be changed. Check the windshield washer reservoir in case it needs fluid.

Be sure to keep your vehicle's gas tank at least half full as that decreases the chances of moisture forming in the gas lines and possibly freezing. If you're due for a tuneup, consider having it done as winter weather magnifies existing problems such as pings, hard starts, sluggish performance or rough idling. To help you drive smart and save money, visit www.carcare.org and check out the free digital Car Care Guide.

Rich White
executive director
Car Care Council

What about education?

I was wary of Rick Snyder – the nerd – when he ran his gubernatorial campaign, and public education was No. 8 on his 10-point plan. We should all be disturbed beyond measure (actually three years, 363 days and counting) that Gov. Snyder's inaugural address included not one word about our pre-K-12 public education system. In fact, his address had but one miserly reference to children, at all.

It is unfortunate that the public education – preschool through college – of our state's most valuable resource – our children – is not among Michiganders or Rick Snyder's immediate concerns. Michigan is losing 50 percent of our born and bred college graduates to other states that offer stable employment opportunities and a better quality of life. Michigan children have for all practical purposes become an endangered species. Students' test scores on the National Assessment of Education Progress have been stagnant for more than six years and below the national average, including our wealthiest communities such as Bloomfield Hills. Detroit Public Schools is still at "Ground Zero" and has been joined by Ferndale, Hamtramck, Highland Park, Lansing, Lincoln Park, Oak Park, Pontiac, River Rouge, Saginaw and the list goes on. Michigan will not see even minimal life signs of economic recovery until we make a nationally enviable public education system a top priority and address the decades of compounding systemic issues that include ignoring the report from the Cherry Commission, an unstable funding mechanism, the Headlee Amendment, archaic teacher preparation programs, teacher unions with a mindset that warehouses bad practices instead of supporting workers' rights, consolidating our 550-plus school districts and ridding ourselves of ISDs that have become an economic albatross and, of course, term limits, term limits, term limits.

On Jan. 1, 2011, Michigan installed a governor with zero legislative knowledge and a newbie Legislature run from only one side of the political aisle. Mr. Snyder has yet to name an education policy advisor or liaison to the State Board of Education. Do Michiganders care that Rick Snyder thinks so little of our children or public education that he has not filled those positions, or even met with the state Board of Education? Mr. Snyder believes that "ditching the pessimism" is vital to reinventing Michigan. Why are Michigan's children supposed to be optimistic, and when do they become a vested part of our economic recovery?

Marcie Lipsitt
Franklin

Welcome Boys and Girls!

This month's contest features:

Happy New Year.

Share with us what 3 things you want to do in 2011.

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS

www.hometownlife.com

HOMETOWN WEEKLIES

Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights!

Hey kids!

Youth ages 7 - 13 are invited to send a letter and photo on what 3 things you want to do in 2011. Scoop will pick lucky winners from entries received:

Deadline for submissions: 2/1/11

Everyone who enters will receive a letter from Scoop and a small gift!

Send your entries for the New Year Contest to:

Scoop the Newshound
c/o: Michele Austin
41304 Concept Drive
Plymouth, MI 48170

Tell Scoop what you plan to do in 2011

Youth Name:

Youth Age:

Youth Community:

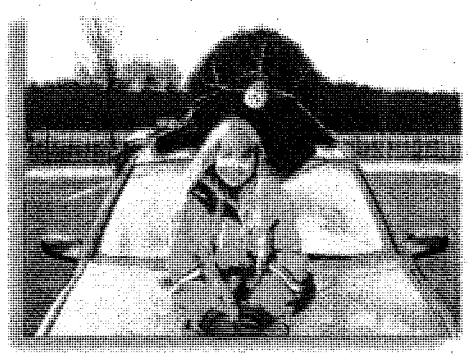
Parent's information to contact winning entry:
(Phone, email, home address)

SELECTED WINNERS WILL HAVE THEIR NAME, AGE, HOMETOWN, PHOTO AND LETTER PUBLISHED IN THE NEXT SCOOP HOUND DOG HIGHLIGHTS.

Lucky winners from last month's contest

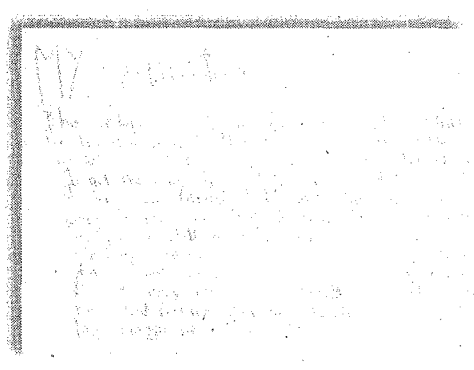
Send in your letter and photo, you may win a spot on Scoops Hound Dog Highlight page!

Scoop celebrated the holidays by visiting Santa at the Wayne County Lightfest at Hines Park, in Westland.



Angel Calhoun, 7 from Canton enjoys picking up her live Christmas tree.

Abigail Said, 9, along with Sara, 1, Adam, 4, Cecilia, 14, Noah, 12 from Westland love to decorate their house for the holidays.



Maggie Mae Thompson, 9 from Northville saved up her own money from doing chores, to celebrate the holidays by giving gifts to the poor.

Scoop, the newshound, will be offering contests on a monthly basis. Look for Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights page monthly in this newspaper!

GARDEN CLIPPINGS

Preschool Story Time

Registration is being accepted for the Garden City Library's preschool story time, "Once Upon a ..."

The story time will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesdays, Jan. 19-Feb. 16, in Room 3 of the Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood, west of Merriman.

The five-week program is for children ages 3-5. The focus will be on classic fairy tales and will include stories, flannel board stories, circle games and finger play.

Call (734) 793-1830 to reserve your spot.

Guest speaker

Metro Fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Support Group will have Dr. Howard Schubiner from Providence Hospital and author of "Unlearn Your Pain" when it meets 1-3 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13, at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, south of Ford, Garden City. The group meets the second and fourth Thursday of the month at the church. There are no dues, but donations are accepted.

For more information, call Ruthann at (734) 981-2519 or visit the website at www.MetroFibroGroup.com.

Senior Travel Show

Party Animal Travel will host a Senior Travel Show 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 16, at the Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood, west of Merriman, Garden City.

Come and shop all of the new one-day and multi-day senior trips departing from Garden City. At this shopping market, seniors and adults can sign up for a series of trips for the spring, summer and fall. The afternoon also will provide seniors with discount coupons, free travel information and the chance to win a one-day getaway.

Call (734) 525-9777 to reserve a spot. Space is limited.

Get flocked

Garden City High School's Project Graduation 2011 wants to make folks feel special by having their "cheerful flamingos" pay a visit have come to pay. They will typically stay only a few days, but they have been known to take flight early and land on a lawn of your choice for a small fee of $15, which is less than what that special someone paid to flock you.

It's a chance to return the Flamingo Flocking Favor.

Optional Flocking Insurance is available to protect you from any future flockings. The policy amount is $15 and good for the 2010-11 school year.

A word to the wise: Sometimes the flamingos have nothing to do and get bored, so, without notice they will take off for some random flocking. Again, the flamingos will only stay a few days, but when they act like that it's unclear how much fun they are having or how long they will stay.

You can insure a timely departure with a donation to Project Graduation. All Flocking Funds go to Support Garden City High School Project Graduation. Give PG's Flocking Specialists a call at (734) 612-5274 or (734) 904-3643 or send an e-mail to gardencityprojectgrad@yahoo.com.

New members

The Garden City Kiwanis Club of is recruiting new members to help provide assistance to the disadvantaged residents of our community — especially children — who are having a difficult time during this economic recession.

Founded in 1948, the Kiwanis Club of Garden City provides many community service projects each year including a "Baby Shower" for the Garden City Family Resource Center, a continuing Food Pantry drive, the Trauma Doll Project for hospitalized children, and the Third Grade Dictionary Project.

The club meets at noon on Thursdays at Amantea's Restaurant on Warren Road at Venoy in Garden City.

Anyone who is interested in attending one of the luncheons or with questions about the club's community involvement can call Gary Simon at (734) 751-4101.

Vacation Auction

The Oakwood Foundation is offering the use of a condo in Kissimmee or Puerto Vallarta as part of a vacation auction Benefitting First Step.

Available in the auction is a stay at the Tropical Hills of Puerto Vallarta Adventure March 19-26, 2011. Tropical Hills. The condo sleeps nine adults. Park Royal Los Tules is nestled among the tropical hills of Puerto Vallarta, the ideal place for its spacious gardens, eight pools, five tennis courts, snack bar, jogging track, half-mile of beautiful beach, facilities and equipment for water sports, bicycle and motorbike rentals and picturesque traditional Mexican-style villas equipped with kitchen.

The Kissimmee Florida Getaway is June 5-12, 2011. Stay at Highpoint Resort. Condo sleeps six adults and is just one mile from Walt Disney World Vacation Kingdom.

Submit one blind bid for each item, with a minimum bid of $500 (airfare not included) to the Oakwood Foundation, attention John O'Rourke at orourkej@oakwood.org.

Top blind bid submitted by 5 p.m. Jan. 10, will be determined to be the winner. In case of a tie, a random drawing of the top bidders will determine the winner. Proceeds benefit the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Partnership with First Step.

Museum fund-raising

The Friends of the Museum are continuing their fund-raising efforts, selling engraved brick pavers and renting the Grande Parlour for social and business occasions.

The bricks are $50 for the 4-inch by 8-inch size that has up to three lines. The 8-inch by 8-inch bricks are $75 and have room for up to six lines of text.

The Lathers General Store is open from noon to 3 p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays, offering a variety of collectibles and gift items. Call (734) 838-0650 for more information or visit www.sfhonline.org.

Free testing

As a service to the community, the staff of Garden City Hospital's Community Services offers blood pressure testing, free of charge, on a biweekly basis to senior citizens at the Maplewood Community Center, located on Maplewood just west of Merriman. Testing will be available at 10:30 a.m. For more information, call (734) 458-4330.

Office hours

Need to talk with Garden City Mayor Randy Walker? You'll find him Tuesdays at Garden City Hall. Walker will hold office hours 4:30-6 p.m. Residents can schedule an appointment by calling Administrative Assistant Margo Ciecierski at (734) 793-1660.

Donations sought

Have a used video, book or DVD you looking to pass on? Well, consider donating it to the Garden City Library which is looking for donations of books, videos and DVDs in good condition. For more information, call the library at (734) 793-1830.

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.
- 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.

Shop online

Help Garden City Schools support its staff and students whenever you shop at Amazon.com.

Simply follow the link at the bottom of the district's web site — www.gardencityschools.com. A portion of any resulting purchases will be returned to Garden City Public Schools. Products do not cost any more by using the link, and residents don't have to do anything more than click on the link to start shopping.

Donations sought

Have a used video, book or DVD you looking to pass on? Well, consider donating it to the Garden City Library which is looking for donations of books, videos and DVDs in good condition. For more information, call the library at (734) 793-1830.

Didn't Receive Your Dream Gift this Holiday?
Visit Showroom of Elegance and get what you really wanted!

Wall to Wall Savings!
Closed January 1-5 to prepare for this massive event!
Doors open at 9:30 a.m. • Jan. 6th.

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All Gold & Silver Chains .....20%-60% off original price
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All Diamond Bracelets .....20%-60% off original price
All 14kt Gold Bracelets .....20%-60% off original price
All 14kt Gold Earrings .....20%-50% off original price
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Closed Sun & Mon

Savvy Social Security Planning:
What Baby Boomers Need to Know to Maximize Retirement Income
Presented by: Sandra M. Kerr, CFP®
at the Royal Oak Public Library, 222 East 11 Mile Road
There are two opportunities for you to attend this informative workshop:
Thursday, January 20th
Or
Wednesday, January 26th
Both at 6:30 pm
Find out why advance planning is essential and how some little known rules can help you make the most of your Social Security benefit.
Learn the rules for:
- How your benefit will be affected by the age at which you apply
- How cost-of-living adjustments, or COLAs, affect benefits
- How spousal benefits work • How survivor benefits work
- How divorced-spouse benefits work • How working affects benefits
- What to do if you have other income from pensions or IRAs
- How benefits affect taxes

Registration is requested:
Call 248.735.8470 x 6
Email: susan@myvcp.com

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SECTION B
(WL)
SPORTS
THURSDAY, January 6, 2011
hometownlife.com

INSIDE
FOOD, B7
RELIGION, B8

Turning the switch

PCA's defensive adjustment sinks Warriors

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

After Plymouth Christian Academy head coach Keith Anleitner watched Lutheran Westland sink four triples in the first quarter Tuesday night, it was time to change things on defense.

Anleitner had the Eagles play man-to-man to start the second quarter in favor of zone coverage.

With a string of steals that led to transition baskets, PCA went on a 22-3 scoring spree to go up 38-20 at halftime and it catapulted the visiting Eagles to a 73-56 Michigan Independent Athletic Conference Blue Division boys basketball victory.

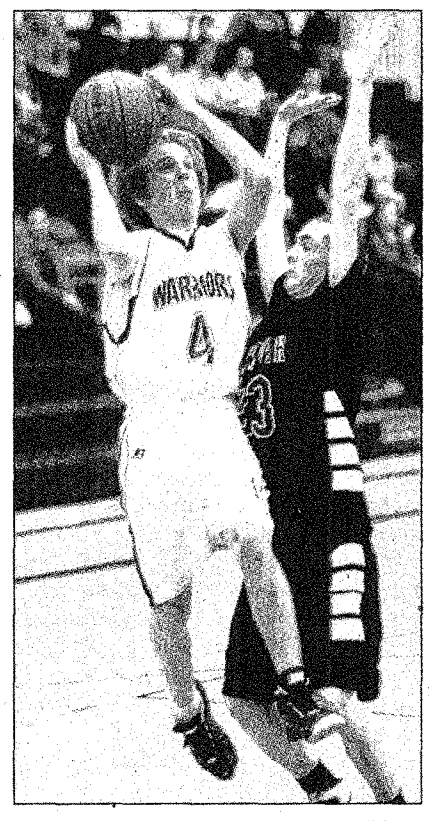
"I thought our kids played well right out of the gate, we had a 8-0 run," said Anleitner, after his first win as PCA coach. "Then they came back and hit a bunch of triples.

"We kind of switched it off, we had a zone to begin with and we just ended up with man-to-man because we needed to put ball pressure on their shooters."

Warriors' coach Doug Haller, whose team dropped to 1-3 overall and 0-1 in the MIAC Blue, said everything fell apart in that telltale second frame — which opened with his team ahead 17-16 thanks to a trey by junior Matt Sylvester as the horn sounded.

"There were turnovers, bad shots, we didn't get back on 'D' and they got some easy buckets," Haller lamented. "It took us out of the game."

Another problem for the Warriors was Plymouth Christian 6-5 center Eric Jipping, who muscled his way to 26 points and 11 rebounds.

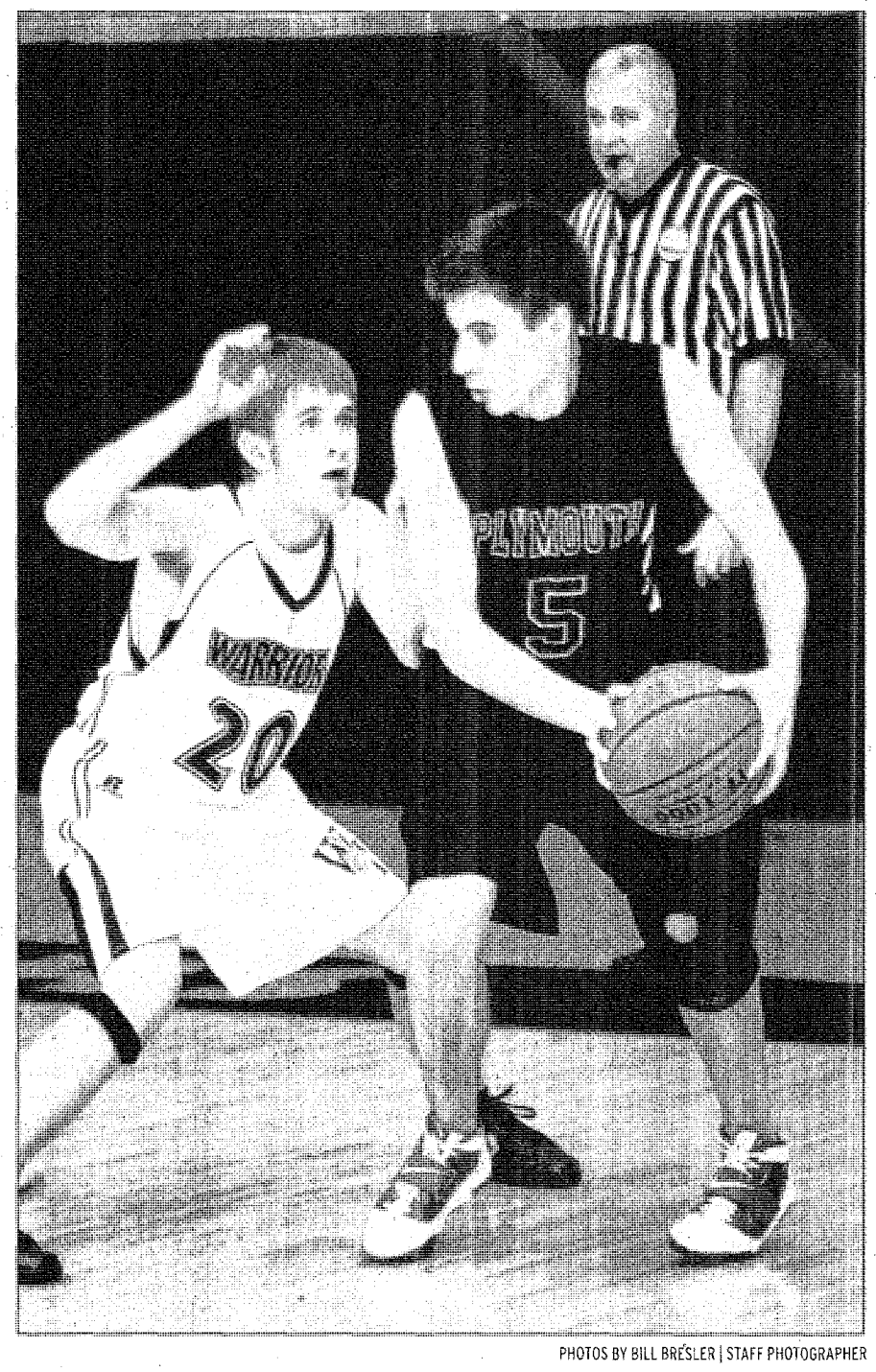


Lutheran Westland's Kent Krzyske (4) slides past Plymouth Christian defender Joshua Middleton for shot during Tuesday's MIAC Blue Division opener.

"Of course, with Eric Jipping inside, they had no answer for him," Anleitner said. "Their tallest guy on the court was 6-2 and he's 6-5.

"Our guys did a great job getting him the ball inside, so that kind of set

Please see **WARRIORS, B2**



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lutheran Westland's Marc Rosin (20) applies defensive pressure on Plymouth Christian's Christopher Scagnetti (5) during Tuesday's MIAC Blue Division opener.

Falcons soar by Ladywood, 62-42

GIRLS HOOPS

Livonia Ladywood got bushwhacked in Tuesday's Catholic League Central Division girls basketball opener.

Junior Rosanna Reynolds scored 19 points to lead three players in double figures as host Dearborn Divine Child remained unbeaten with a convincing 62-42 win over the Blazers in a battle of state-ranked teams.

"We contested shots, but they (Divine Child) shot the lights out and they played really well," said Ladywood first-year coach Anthony Coratti, whose team slipped to 5-1 overall. "Our kids fought and competed, but the ball did not go in the basket."

Nicole Urbanick and Haley Stempien chipped in with 12 and 10 points, respectively, for the Falcons, who led 38-25 at halftime.

Junior Cara Miller, a 6-foot-1 transfer from Ladywood, made three 3-pointers including two in the third period to stretch the Divine Child advantage to 54-33.

Senior forward Teresa Wojnarowski tallied a game-high 25 points and grabbed 12 rebounds for Ladywood. She was 7-for-9 from the foul stripe.

Ladywood was 10-of-13 total from the free throw line, while Divine Child connected on 13-of-24.

Divine Child improves to 5-0 overall.

EDSEL FORD 52, FRANKLIN 50: On Tuesday, host Dearborn Edsel Ford (5-3) held on during the final seconds to beat Livonia Franklin (2-3) in a nonleague encounter.

Franklin led 25-21 at halftime before the Thunderbirds charged back with a 14-9 third quarter surge to take a 35-34 advantage heading into the final period.

The Patriots were down six with 90 seconds remaining before getting a pair of stops and a pair of baskets from senior guard Chelsea Williams to pull within two, 52-50.

Franklin got another steal in the waning seconds, but could not get off a final shot.

Williams led all scorers with 20 points.

Marie Gaedke and Karlene Koos led Edsel Ford with 17 and 12, respectively.

Edsel Ford had a wide advantage in free throws making 22-of-36, while Franklin was 4-of-18.

W.L. WESTERN 30, CHURCHILL 14: Maddie Schram, Kaitlyn Smith and Shelby Turnquist scored six points apiece Tuesday to pace host Walled Lake Western (1-4) to a victory over Livonia Churchill (1-4).

Western led 13-9 at halftime and increased its lead to 22-11 after three quarters.

The Warriors were 2-of-6 from the foul stripe, while Churchill was only 2-of-10.

ANNAPOLIS 67, LUTHERAN WESTLAND 33: Jalissa Williams poured in a game-high 24 points Tuesday as host Dearborn Heights Annapolis rolled to a nonconference win over Lutheran High Westland (1-5).

The Cougars led 41-14 at halftime en route to the victory.

Junior Amanda Terranella led the Warriors with 13 points, while Aldreana Fikes each contributed eight points.

Annapolis was 7-of-17 from the foul stripe, while Lutheran Westland hit 7-of-9.

Glenn cages Tigers, 59-47

BOYS HOOPS

The Westland John Glenn boys basketball team caught a Tiger by the tail and wouldn't let go Tuesday night.

Junior guard Nick Daniels led a balanced scoring attack with 17 points as the host Rockets downed Belleville, 59-47, to improve to 3-1 overall.

Marcus Mecks and Kelly Maxwell each added nine points for the Rockets, who led 26-17 at halftime and 39-30 after three quarters.

Marquis Saulsberry and DeAnté Isom tallied 12 and 10 points, respectively, for the Tigers, who slipped to 3-3 overall.

Glenn won the free throw battle making 17-of-23 on the night, while Belleville connected on 8-of-13.

RIVERVIEW 55, WAYNE 32: Brad Stewart's game-high 20 points propelled the Pirates (2-2) to a nonconference win Tuesday at Wayne Memorial (1-3).

Corey Turner added nine for Riverview, which led 30-20 at halftime and broke it open with a 17-5 third-period run.

"They got hot and we went cold so we had to start pressing the rest of the game," Wayne coach Mike Schuette said

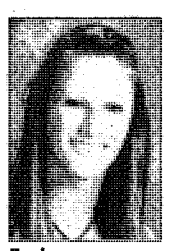
Please see **HOOPS, B2**

Westland gymnast Freier vaults onto national stage

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

As director of Figure Skating at the Novi Ice Arena, Micki Freier figured her daughter, Erin, wouldn't have to explore any other sports.

"I tried to get her to be a figure skater, but she didn't want anything to do with the ice," Micki said.



Freier

Starting competitively at age 6, Erin has carved her own niche and has evolved into a Level 10 gymnast already committed to the University of Arkansas, a top ten women's program and NCAA team qualifier.

Last May in Dallas, the 16-year-old from Westland captured the USA Junior Olympic uneven parallel bars individual title with a score of 9.6 and quickly drew interest from 15 different colleges.

"I do my homework in the car," said Erin, who keeps an impressive 3.78 grade point average at Livonia Churchill High School. "When I get home, I eat first, then go to bed. I get tired of it sometimes, but the first thing that keeps me going is that it's a full-ride scholarship and they're going to track all the skills I've been learning."

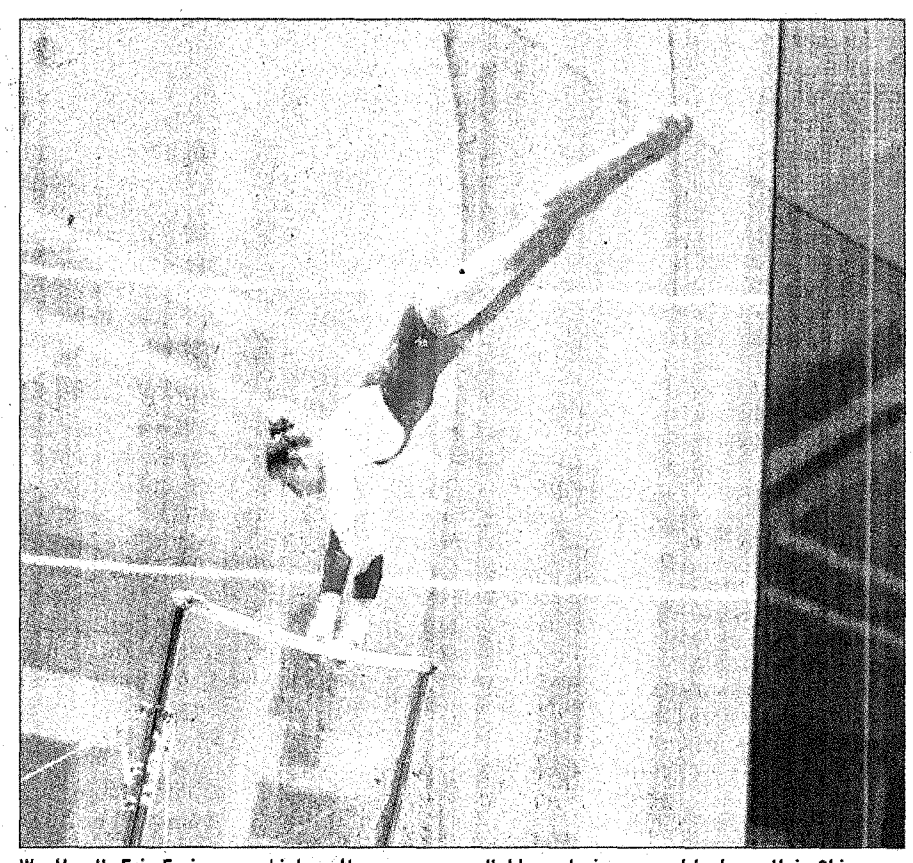
Erin Freier's daily routine these days is anything but routine for a teenager.

During the day, she attends high school classes before making a daily commute back-and-forth to Lansing to Gedderts' Twistars Gymnastics Club where she trains from 3:30-8 p.m.

Nicknamed "String Bean," the 5-foot-6 Freier got her start at the Michigan Academy of Gymnastics in Westland before migrating to EuroStars and Splitz clubs in Canton. She was also at the Oakland Gymnastics Training Center until the spring of 2009 before heading to join Geddert's in Lansing where she has found a home.

"It's the No. 1 program in the nation and she's been there one and a half years and we wanted what was best for her," Micki Freier said. "There are

Please see **FREIER, B2**



Westland's Erin Freier goes high on the uneven parallel bars during a meet last month in Chicago.

SIDELINES

1st Pitch banquet

Detroit Lions broadcaster and Fox 2 sports director Dan Miller will be the featured speaker at the Madonna University baseball program's second annual First Pitch banquet, Sunday, Jan. 23, at the Italian American Club in Livonia.

The event begins at noon with a social hour where fans can meet and get autographs from the 2011 Crusader players. The meal and program follow at 1 p.m.

Individual tickets are $60 (tables for 10 are $600). Proceeds from the event will help defray costs for the MU baseball program including travel, uniforms and other amenities.

There will also be a silent auction where attendees can bid on sports memorabilia items, along with vacation and golf packages, sporting event tickets and more.

For First Pitch banquet ticket information or sponsorship opportunities, call Linda Hall at the MU Advancement Office at (734) 432-5603.

Baseball signee

Grant Campbell, a 2008 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High, has accepted a scholarship offer to pitch at Kalamazoo Valley Community College.

Campbell also pitched for the Livonia Baseball-Softball Association Mudhens since 2007.

C'ville needs coach

Livonia Clarenceville High School needs a boys varsity track coach for the 2011 season.

Applicants can mail a resume, letter of interest and references to: Kevin Murphy, athletic director, Clarenceville H.S., 20155 Middlebelt, Livonia, MI 48152. You can also e-mail KMurphy@clarenceville.k12.mi.us.

Pats blood drive

The Livonia Franklin wrestling team is sponsoring a blood drive with the goal being 50 pints.

For more information, visit www.redcrossblood.org.

(Click on the account login tab in the upper right corner followed by donor login, enter zip code, create a profile under login set up a profile and enter "livoniafranklin" on the Find a Blood Drive page to set up an appointment.)

For more information, e-mail Franklin coach Dave Chiola at chiola44@yahoo.com.

Special skate

The three Livonia varsity hockey teams – Churchill, Franklin and Stevenson – will offer an open skate for special needs youths beginning at 5:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 9, at Edgar Arena, located at 33841 Lyndon (just west of Farmington and north of I-96).

Free skate rental is available.

For more information, e-mail Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni at livoniapublicschools.org.

Free throw contest

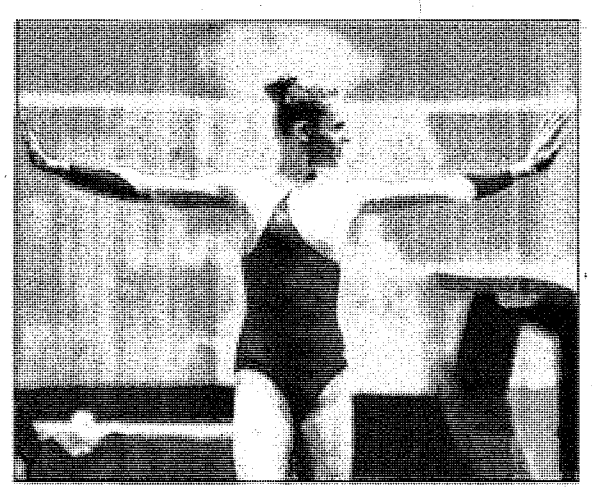
The 2011 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship for boys and girls (ages 9-14) will be Sunday, Jan. 30, at St. Thomas a' Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley, Canton.

Registration starts at 2 p.m. followed by competition at 2:30 p.m.

All contestants on the local level are recognized for their participation in the event. Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent.

Winners will advance through local, district and state competition. International champions are announced at the K of C international headquarters base on scores from the state level competitions.

For more information, call David Lengel at (734) 516-4930.



Westland's Erin Freier performs her routine on the floor exercise during a meet last month in Chicago.

FREIER

FROM PAGE B1

a lot of girls that go through those doors that are college recruits."

Last season, Erin finished fourth in the all-around (37.4) in the Michigan Gymnastics state meet (March 20) in Grand Ledge. She took first on floor exercise (9.625), third on bars (9.4) and fourth on vault (9.5).

At the USA Gymnastics Region 5 meet April 11 in Lansing, Freier placed fourth all-around (37.35), including a first individually on bars (9.55), third on floor (9.425), sixth on vault (9.45) and 13th on balance beam (8.95).

And at the USA Juniors in Dallas, she wound up 17th in the all-around (37.65) highlighted by a first on bars and a tie for eighth on beam (9.525).

"Everybody is positive in the gym and they really help me. And put up with a lot," Erin said of Gedderts. "They coach everyone and don't have favorites. They support me and everyone a lot. The support from my teammates is huge. It's a big family atmosphere.

"I've been upgrading my skills this year. The coaches are amazing and they're coaching me every day, making corrections to every little detail."

John Geddert, who runs the Lansing-based club along with his wife, Katherine, liked what he saw the first day Erin arrived.

"In my 30 years I've had kids come and go, but she's one who not only combines both the talent and the ability, but is also very driven and very focused," Geddert said. "She's a quiet kid and all business when she's in the gym."

Freier has parlayed her success into being a member of the Region 5 all-star team. The last two years, she has traveled to Grand Cayman Islands, along with trips to Slovenia and Italy.

"She knows what she wants to accomplish and has one goal in mind," Geddert said. "She's very goal-oriented and it takes a special kid to excel in those situations coming all that way each day. She also comes from a family of athletes and athletics is in her blood."

Erin's younger sister, Alison, 13, a student at Frost Middle School, is one Freier who found the ice to her liking. She recently returned from the USA Figure Skating Junior Nationals in Salt Lake City where she competed in the Intermediate Level.

Younger brother Logan, 11, meanwhile, plays travel hockey, baseball and football.

Micki Freier serves as Erin's daily chauffeur taking turns with her husband, Steve, a former college football player who is a physical education instructor at Franklin High School.

The commutes, however, do have their drawbacks as Steve, Micki and Erin totaled their Chevy Trailblazer during a crash with a semi-trailer truck on a snowy and icy surface coming back last month from a meet in Chicago.

Thankfully, nobody sustained any injuries.

Erin made unofficial visits to the University of Pittsburgh, Arizona, Michigan and Florida before settling on Arkansas where she'll enroll in 2012.

Micki said her daughter has an interest in going into pharmaceutical sales.

"I like the girls on the team and everyone was very nice," Erin said. "They really have a good business school and that interests me a lot."

There was also another factor in her decision.

"And I really like how they really don't get snow," Erin said. "It's pretty nice there in the winter."

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WARRIORS

FROM PAGE B1

up a pattern for our guys to go inside and then as the defense collapsed we got some three-point shots."

Also playing an excellent game for PCA (1-2) was sophomore point guard Mick Noel, who tallied 18 points, five assists and four steals.

"I just switched him to the point (from the wing) a week ago because we got to have him handling the ball," Anleitner said. "It's obvious when the ball's in his hands he creates good things."

The Eagles' defensive pressure forced 17 Lutheran Westland turnovers, and ultimately cooled off the Warriors' hot hands of the first quarter.

Warriors' senior Marc Rosin scored nine straight points — including a pair of back-to-back triples from the left flank midway through the first — as his team clawed back from that early deficit to go up 11-10.

But Rosin would finish with 14 for the night. Also hitting two treys in the first frame was Sylvester, but he would not score another point and finished with eight.

In the second half, Lutheran Westland came out more aggressively and diminutive senior guard Kent Krzyske fired up his team with 15 points (his total for the game).

Chipping in with nine second-half points was senior Derrick Mozham. However, by that time, the Eagles had enough of a cushion.

"He (Krzyske) plays his butt off and that's how we have to play as a team," Haller said. "Everybody's got to have the energy that he does. If we do, we're going to be fine."

Better shooting wouldn't hurt, either. The Warriors only hit 18 of 54 field goal attempts for the game.

Scoring seven points each for PCA were junior Christopher Scagnetti (also five assists) and sophomore Drew Ibach while sophomore Alexander Huber scored six and pulled down 10 rebounds.

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HOOPS

FROM PAGE B1

of his team's third-quarter demise.

Thomas White and Jordan Buck scored 11 and nine, respectively, for the Zebras.

Riverview was 9-of-13 from the foul line, while Wayne went 2-for-3.

W.L. WESTERN 38, CHURCHILL 32: Senior forward Will Griffen scored eight of his game-high 16 points in the decisive fourth quarter Tuesday as Walled Lake Western (2-3) rallied for a win over host Livonia Churchill (0-5).

Junior guard Corey Wade added seven points for the Warriors, who trailed 20-12 at halftime and 27-22 after three quarters before going on a 16-5 fourth-period run.

Western made 16-of-23 free throws on the night, including 9-of-14 in the final period.

"Western attacked the basket and the offensive glass," Churchill coach Jim Solak said. "We played well enough for three quarters, but then gave the game away."

Senior guard Josh Dillard had 10 points and six rebounds for the Chargers, who committed a total of 24 turnovers.

Senior forward Stephen Foster added seven points.

W.L. CENTRAL 55, CLARENCEVILLE 38: The Coric brothers combined for 25 points Tuesday as Walled Lake Central (4-1) pulled away in the second half for a victory over host Livonia Clarenceville (2-3).

Adam Coric led the way with 14 points, while Dan Coric contributed 11 for the Vikings, who led 26-17 at halftime and 41-27 after three quarters.

Sam Brown scored 10 points for the Trojans, who made only 2-of-9 free throws.

Central connected on just 5-of-11.

MU drops pair in DeVette Tourney

In a battle of Wayne County rivals, the Madonna University men's basketball team took Marygrove College to overtime, but it was the Mustangs who came out on top, 72-69, in the consolation game of the Russ DeVette Memorial Tournament last Thursday night at Hope College.

MU freshman point-guard Bobby Naubert (Livonia Stevenson) scored 19 points and added five assists en route to all-tournament honors but it couldn't keep the Crusaders from falling to 4-12 overall.

Senior center Geoff Gaylor posted a double-double with 15 points and 11 rebounds to go along with a career-high seven blocks.

Brandon Carlson, who also made all-tourney, paced the Mustangs (5-10) with 19 points.

Darryll Dixon added 13 points, while Justin McKinney contributed 11 points and 10 rebounds. Marcus Hopkins chipped in with 10 points.

McKinney's jumper with 43 seconds remaining in regulation tied the game at 59-all.

Travis Schuba's triple with only nine second left pulled MU to within one, 70-69, but Chris Sinagoga's made a pair of free throws to put the Mustangs back up by three.

Schuba's last-ditch three-pointer to tie missed as Marygrove held on for the victory.

MU led 36-29 at halftime and by as many as nine in the second half (51-42) before Marygrove charged back to tie it at 55-all with 3:17 remaining.

The rebounding was even at 39-all with MU shooting 27-of-67 from the floor (40.3 percent), while Marygrove connected on 28-of-64 (43.8 percent).

MALONE (OHIO) 74, MADONNA 65: Freshman Travis Schuba came off the bench to score a career-high 16 points Wednesday, but Madonna University (4-11) fell to Malone College (10-4) in the opening round of the Russ DeVette Memorial Holiday Tournament hosted by Hope College.

Eric Coblentz paced Malone (10-4) with a game-high 19 points, while Isiah Elliott and Ebiowei Porbeni added 16 and 10, respectively.

With two of the team's top three scorers — Bryant Slaughter (academic issue) and Kevin Henry (no longer with the team) — missing from the lineup, Schuba earned extended minutes (26) and hit 5-of-11 shots from floor, including 4-of-8 from three-point range.

Redshirt junior Mitch Cieslak added 12 points, while senior center Geoff Gaylor and freshman point-guard Bobby Naubert (Livonia Stevenson) each added 10.

Naubert also dished out a team-best six assists for the Crusaders, who trailed 36-32 at halftime.

Lady Rockets earn Roundball victory

Westland John Glenn kept its unbeaten girls basketball record intact with a 57-49 triumph last Thursday night over Southfield-Lathrup in the Roundball Classic held at Beverly Hills-Detroit Country Day Middle School.

The Rockets, now 5-0 overall, led by only one at halftime, 27-26, and increased their lead to 42-38 after three quarters. They outscored Lathrup 15-11 in the decisive final period but didn't take control until the final three minutes.

Junior forward Erica Covile paced Glenn with 22 points, 14 rebounds, five assists and four steals. Freshman guard Kaira Barnes chipped in with 15 points, five steals and two assists, while senior forward Andrea Gordon-McClain finished with 14 points and six rebounds.

Glenn made 15-of-18 free throws (83 percent) and hit 35 percent from the field.

Lathrup (3-2) got 16 points and nine boards from Amber McCann, while Kyra Littlejohn contributed nine points.

The Chargers connected on 10-of-16 free throws (63 percent) and shot 41 percent from the floor.

"Lathrup is extremely good and they big throughout their lineup, but I think our speed and quickness, along with our constant pressure over four quarters, was the difference," said Glenn coach Mark Anderson, whose state-ranked team returns to action Friday at home against winless Livonia Churchill.

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL
Friday, Jan. 7
John Glenn at Churchill, 7 p.m.
Plymouth at Franklin, 7 p.m.
Stevenson at Northville, 7 p.m.
Canton at Wayne, 7 p.m.
Taylor Truman at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.
Huron Valley at A.A. Greenhills, 7:30 p.m.
Luth. Westland at Inter-City, 8:30 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL
Friday, Jan. 7
Churchill at John Glenn, 7 p.m.
Franklin at Plymouth, 7 p.m.
Northville at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
Wayne at Canton, 7 p.m.
Marian at Ladywood, 7 p.m.
Luth. Westland at Inter-City, 7 p.m.
A.A. Greenhills at Wash. Christian, 7:30 p.m.

PREP HOCKEY
Friday, Jan. 7
Stevenson vs. South Lyon
at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 8
Churchill vs. South Lyon
at Kensington Valley Ice House, 6 p.m.
Franklin vs. Dexter
at A.A. Veterans Arena, 7 p.m.
Ladywood vs. Northville
at Arctic Pond, 7:30 p.m.

PREP WRESTLING
Saturday, Jan. 8
Novi-Detroit CC Invitational, 9 a.m.
Roch. Adams Invitational, 9 a.m.
L'Anse Creuse Invitational, 9 a.m.
Wyandotte Invitational, 9:15 a.m.

BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING
Thursday, Jan. 6
Churchill at Plymouth, 6:30 p.m.
Franklin at John Glenn, 6:30 p.m.
South Lyon at Stevenson, 6:30 p.m.
Canton at Wayne, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 8
W. Bloomfield Invitational, TBA.
Walled Lake Invitational, TB A.

GIRLS GYMNASTICS
Thursday, Jan. 6
Livonia Red at Brighton-Howell, 7 p.m.
Livonia Blue at W.L. Blue-Maroon, 6:30 p.m.

PREP BOWLING
Thursday, Jan. 6
Clarenceville vs. Salem,
John Glenn vs. Plymouth,
Wayne vs. Novi
at Novi Bowl, 3:30 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 7
Clarenceville vs. Novi,
John Glenn vs. Canton,
Wayne vs. Plymouth
at Novi Bowl, 3:30 p.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Saturday, Jan. 8
Davenport at Madonna, 3 p.m.
Schoolcraft at OCC-Orchard Ridge, 3 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Saturday, Jan. 8
Madonna at Davenport, 1 p.m.
Schoolcraft at OCC-Orchard Ridge, 1 p.m.

TBA – time to be announced.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Need baseball players

The Livonia Legends, a 10-and-under travel baseball team, needs a few players to complete their roster for the 2011 season.

Evaluations will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8.

For more information, call Livonia Franklin varsity baseball coach Matt Fournier at (734) 968-0499.

MU softball camps

Madonna University women's softball coach Al White and his staff will hold two sessions of winter camps, specializing in individual instruction, including:

Fundamental Camp No. 1 – 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Saturdays, Jan. 8, 15, 22 and 29, at the MU Activities Center, 36600 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia;

Fundamental Camp No. 2 – noon-2:30 p.m. Sundays, Feb. 6, 13, 22 and 27, at the MU Activities Center. The cost is $150 for each camp.

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

Franklin baseball camp

The fifth annual Franklin Future Stars spring baseball camp for boys and girls in grades 3-6 will be Saturday, Feb. 12 at the high school fieldhouse, located at 31000 Joy Road, Livonia.

Session 1, consisting of hitting, base running skills and infield work, will be from 9-11:30 a.m.

Session 2, consisting of pitching, catching, outfield and defensive kills, will be from 12:15-2:45 p.m.

Lunch will be from 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Each camper will bring his or her sack lunch. Campers and instructors will eat a supervised sack lunch together in the bleachers of the fieldhouse.

The cost for each session is $25, or $45 for both sessions.

E-mail Franklin varsity baseball coach Matt Fournier at mfournie2@livoniapublicschools.org; or call (734) 968-0499.

Stevenson baseball clinic

Learn the basics of throwing, pitching, hitting, infield-outfield play at a youth baseball clinic (grades 2-6) from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26 at the Livonia Stevenson High School fieldhouse.

The cost is $30 for the first 60 enrolled.

For more information, call Stevenson baseball coach Rick Berryman at (734) 455-8623; or e-mail Berry3724@aol.com.

WSU softball camps

Wayne State University will stage a series of hitting, pitching and catching camps for girls softball players in grades 4-12 at the Matthaei Building, 5101 John C Lodge, Detroit (corner of Warren).

The hitting camp will be from 9 a.m. to noon (Session 1) or 1-4 p.m. (Session 2) on Sunday, Jan. 9. Pre-registration cost is $35 or $40 at the door.

The pitching and catching camp will be from 9-11 a.m. (Session I); 10:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. (Session II); or 12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. (Session III) on Sunday, Jan. 16, 23, 30; and Feb. 6. The cost for the entire four Sundays is $100.

For more information, call (313) 577-7513; or (586-864-4233. You can also e-mail ab6906@wayne.edu; or kentpa@comcast.net.

Application forms are available on wsuathletics.com.

Micro-Soccer Shootout

The University of Michigan will stage its ninth annual Winter 3v3 Micro-Soccer Shootout camp, Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 5-6, at the Oosterbaan Fieldhouse in Ann Arbor.

The cost is $100 per team with a guarantee of four games. All proceeds will go directly to the U-M men's soccer program.

All skill levels are encouraged to participate with under-12 through men's and women's adult on Saturday followed by under-7 through under-10 recreational and competitive divisions on Sunday.

Registrations can be picked up at local soccer store outlets or obtain at www.umsoccer.com. (Registrations must be postmarked by Friday, Jan. 28 or dropped off by Monday, Jan. 31.)

For more information, call (734) 647-1201; or e-mail ldurkee@umich.edu.

Combine training

Combine training for high school football to prepare for the 2011 season will be Sundays, beginning Jan. 20, at the Auburn Hills Sports Dome.

Players will be taught drills and techniques used to prepare college seniors for the NFL Combine and use SPARQ, Michigan Preps and NUC testing protocols.

To register, visit www.coachjacksonspeed.com; or call coach Jaime Jackson at (248) 535-7404.

Indoor champions

The Horny Rams coed soccer team captured the White Division championship, Dec. 20, at Total Sports Complex in Novi with an 8-5 victory over Newport Pleasure. Members of the Horny Rams, who finished 7-1, include (back row, from left): Drew Edmonds, Wixom/Walled Lake Western; Andrew Stratton, Novi/Walled Lake Western; Chris Jackett, Redford Union; Adam Stacey, Livonia/Catholic Central; (middle row, from left) Victoria Maxe, Livonia Churchill, Karen Jackett, RU; Melanie LaDuke, Redford Thurston; Megan Kelley, RU; (front row, from left) Nick Giammarco, Northville; Andrew Brockie, Garden City; and Andy Rushlow, Commerce/RU.

NEWSPAPERS
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Meet the Observer All-Star

Sports Team

Knowledge, Experience, Dedication

The Observer Team has more than 100 years of experience covering youth, prep and local college sports teams. Our team is dedicated to providing what local readers expect - information about outstanding student athletes who compete in our hometowns and aim to be the best they can be in the classroom, on the field, on the court or in the pool.

Name: Dan O'Meara
Sports Editor

Beat: Farmington/Farmington Hills youth/prep sports

Experience: Has covered sports in the Farmington community for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers for more than 23 years and, for seven years, worked the same beat in Plymouth-Canton. Before joining the Observer, Dan worked for three daily newspapers - the Big Rapids Pioneer, The Daily News in Greenville and the Ypsilanti Press - from 1979 until early 1987.

Education: Graduate East Detroit High School; B.A. Journalism (minored in history and English) Central Michigan University in 1978.

Awards: Honored for sports writing, sport column writing and best sports sections by the Michigan Press Association and Suburban Newspapers of America

Personal: Lives in Westland. Attends annual homecoming reunions with former 'Shamrocks' from EDHS and enjoys covering the gridiron sport.

In his own words:
"I enjoy reporting and making the Observer the go-to source for sports information, especially when covering big games and events of heightened interest in the community.

It's always been my objective to make the Observer the paper of record for Farmington sports and the place where readers go for more than game coverage."

Name: Brad Emons
Sports Editor

Beat: Livonia, Westland youth/prep sports, Madonna University, Schoolcraft College.

Experience: Joined the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers in December 1977 and has covered the Livonia, Westland, Redford, Canton, Plymouth and Garden City sports beat for nearly three decades.

Education: Livonia Franklin High School grad where he played high school basketball on the Patriots' first district championship team
B.A. Journalism, Franklin College, Franklin, Ind.

Awards: Catholic League Hall of Fame (1996)
Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan Hall of Honor (2008)
O&E Journalist of the Year (1996)
College Tennis MVP, Franklin College 1977
Michigan Interscholastic Track Coaches Association Finish Line Award (2003)
Honored for sports column writing by the Michigan Press Association

Personal: Lives in Plymouth and is an active distance runner with two local clubs (Northville and Downriver). He averages 30-35 miles per week.

In his own words:
"Covering community sports is rewarding because it's remains the last bastion of amateur sports. The athletes and schools remain appreciative of the coverage."

Name: Jim Toth
Sports Editor

Beat: Garden City and Redford youth/prep beat

Experience: Has covered prep, youth and community sports at the O&E for 24 years in Troy, Rochester, Southfield, Royal Oak, Ferndale and Berkley. Before joining the O&E, Jim worked for the Dearborn Press & Guide from 1982-86.

Personal: Lives in Dearborn. An avid golfer, who enjoys covering football and basketball equally but knows the importance of reporting on all levels of athletic competition and the notoriety it brings to the community as a whole.

Education: Graduate of Dearborn Fordson High School, B.A. Journalism Michigan State University.,

Awards: Many state and national writing awards throughout his career from the Michigan Press Association and Suburban Newspapers of America. In 2010 he received MPA awards for sports writing and sports feature writing.

In his own words:
"I enjoy covering the prep and youth sports scenes because of the excitement it generates, the life-long lessons learned, and the character it builds in facing life's ups and downs. In conversations with athletes, you find the passion within to reach the pinnacle and lay the foundation for success after athletics."

Name: Tim Smith
Sports Editor

Beat: Plymouth and Canton youth/prep and Plymouth Whalers of the OHL.

Experience: Joined the O&E in 1986, as a news reporter for the Southfield Eccentric. He also covered news beats in West Bloomfield/Lakes (1991-97) and Farmington (1997-2001).

Joined the sports staff in 2001, covering the Redford-Garden City communities, Madonna University and Schoolcraft College.

Education: Graduate of Livonia Clarenceville High School, B.A. Mass Communication Wayne State University.

Personal: Lives in Livonia with wife Donna and 16-year-old daughter Elizabeth. He is the author of "Miracle Birth Stories of Very Premature Babies -- Little Thumbs Up!" (1999). Is a longtime recreational ice hockey goalie.

Awards: Finalist for Society of Professional Journalist's (Detroit Chapter) Journalist of the Year Award in 1996, O&E Journalist of the Year 1998. Writing, reporting awards from the Michigan Press Association and Suburban Newspapers of America.

In his own words:
"I cover teams from year-to-year, all season long. You almost feel part of the teams yourself and can't help silently cheering when an athlete or team does something incredible.
Another plus: When moms and dads thank us for what we do, chronicling the efforts of their sons and daughters in a way they can't get anywhere else. "

ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, January 6, 2011 hometownlife.com

HAVE A STORY IDEA?
Contact Editor Sharon Dargay
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Former film actress to speak at screening of 1962 classic

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Mary Badham starred in the 1962 film, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, but avoids watching it.

"I hear the score and I tear up," explained Badham, 58, who played "Scout," the daughter of Atticus Finch, roles that landed Gregory Peck an Oscar and Badham an Academy Award nomination.

"We really did become like a family," she added, recalling life on the set.

The former actress will talk about her experience working on the film, the message of the story penned by Harper Lee in 1960 and take questions from the audience Jan. 14-15 at the Redford Theatre in Detroit.

"For years I've been travelling around, teaching the lessons of *Mockingbird* and keeping it alive for children. I've been doing 'The Big Read' for a number of years and *Mockingbird* has been a number one pick," she said, referring to the National Endowment for the Arts program that encourages reading for pleasure and enlightenment. "It has been great fun to travel. It keeps me on the road and keeps me busy. They've even done it in Russia. I was sent to Russia a number of years ago. It was mostly adults and college students. I talked about what Birmingham, Alabama, was like when I was growing up and how it has grown and changed today. And in general, how the U.S. has grown as a country. Looking at race and equality and the opening up of our hearts to other human beings is so important."

Badham said she speaks about the importance of family while she's on the road championing the book and film. She's married, has two grown children and a granddaughter, and lives on a farm in Virginia when she's not travelling. And although she hasn't worked in the film industry since her teenage years, she has plenty to say about entertainment today.

"We need to turn off the violence and the electronics. People don't know how to have conversations today. If you look at TV now, everyone is screaming at each other," she said. "They are pulling at the lowest common denominator."

Mary Badham played "Scout" in the film, "To Kill a Mockingbird" and will make a personal appearance Friday-Saturday, Jan. 14-15 at the Redford Theatre.

Mary Badam at age 10 as "Scout" in the film, "To Kill a Mockingbird."

ROLE MODELS

Badham, the youngest child and only girl, was a tomboy in her family, but also grew up reading *The Wall Street Journal* to her father, a U.S. Army general. She said both he and her mother, a stage actress, stressed reading and made time for children.

"My parents were wonderful. I had the best," she said, also counting Peck and the other actors on *Mockingbird* as "strong role models."

"It's critical to take time to chill out and be one on one with children and give them the time they need, so they can learn how to deal with the world. This world is a crazy place to deal with."

MOVIE ROLE

It was her mother who took her to a casting call in Birmingham for *To Kill a Mockingbird* when she was 9 years old. Badham said she had no previous acting experience and just went along with what seemed like fun.

"It was five months of having a blast."

She did a few films after *Mockingbird*, but left the business to pursue college. Films by the late 1960s and early 1970s had too much "sex, drugs and rock and roll" and Badham, who had never planned to study acting, wasn't interested. She considered a career as a veterinarian, with a specialty in equine medicine, but left the university to marry and raise a family.

Now she savors her quiet time "off the grid" at her farm when she's not on the road.

"I love sewing and painting and I work in my garden and play with my pony," she said. "I've been so blessed. If I could just get people, especially these kids who say, 'oh, if I just had a lot of money,' to understand money is not the key. It's family and friends. If you have one close friend, you are doing well."

"TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD"

What: Screening of the 1962 film and personal appearance by Mary Badham, who played "Scout" in the movie
When: 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15; doors open one hour before show time
Where: The Redford Theatre, northeast corner of Grand River Ave. and Inkster, Detroit
Admission: $5 general admission includes free parking
Contact: Linda Sites at (313) 333-0080, GoodTimes@RedfordTheatre.com, or visit www.RedfordTheatre.com

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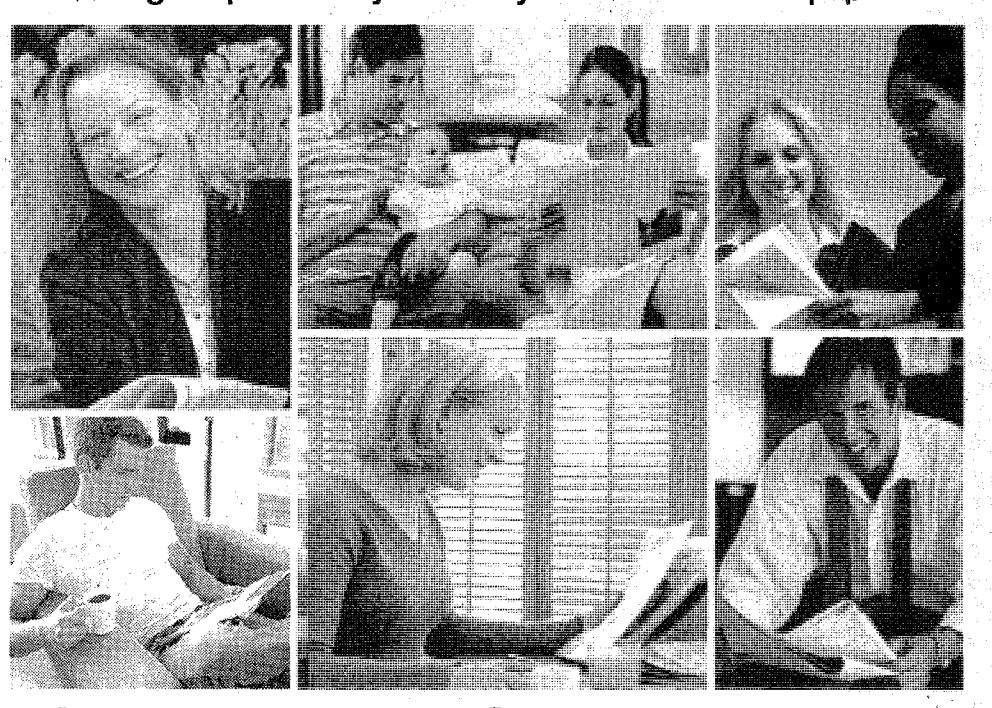

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Juice, an Ann Arbor ensemble, uses singing bike wheels, glowsticks, sound effect battles and music on invented instruments to create its signature songs in a one-of-a-kind show.

Ann Arbor ensemble returns to Canton theater

Juice, a percussion troupe that uses singing bike wheels, glowsticks, sound effect battles and invented instruments to create a one-of-a-kind show, will perform at 8 p.m., Friday, Jan. 7, 2011 at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, in Canton.

The Ann Arbor group, which performed at The Village Theater in 2009, will bring all-new material to the stage. Its nine members come from many different backgrounds but unite around their shared love for making original music and exploring new ideas.

"I'm really excited to be back at the Village Theater and put on what will be our best show yet," stated Brandon Krieg, the group's founder. "We had a terrific audience last time and hope to see them here again."

Tickets are $16 per person bought by Jan. 6, 2011. After that date they cost $20 for adults, $18 for seniors and students, and $16 for groups for 15 or more.

Visit www.CantonVillageTheater.org and click on "box office" or call (734) 394-5460.

Movie series kicks off season with 'Raiders of the Lost Ark'

The 2011 Movies at the Marquis series, "Classics through the Decades" starts Jan. 15 with a screening of the 1981 adventure film, *Raiders of the Lost Ark*.

Tom Holzer Ford sponosrs the series at the family-owned Marquis Theatre, 135 E. Main, in downtown Northville. The series runs Saturdays through March 19.

Here's the upcoming schedule:

• Jan. 15 – *Raiders of the Lost Ark* (1981): Directed by Steven Spielberg and starring Harrison Ford, this epic adventure introduced the world to famous archaeologist Indiana Jones. Presented by Preservation Dental

• Jan. 22 – *Funny Face* (1957) A fashion classic, Audrey Hepburn plays a reluctant model swept away to Paris by a handsome photographer. Presented by Next Chapter Bookstore & Bistro

• Jan. 29 – *Tootsie* (1982): Dustin Hoffman leads a star-studded cast as he plays an unemployed actor who dresses as a woman to land a soap opera role. Presented by Poole's Tavern

• Feb. 5 – *Sunset Boulevard* (1950): A former silent film star struggles with Hollywood obscurity in a dramatic classic starring William Holden and Gloria Swanson. Presented by Orin Jewelers.

• Feb. 12 – *It Happened One Night* (1934): Clark Gable and Claudette Colbert heat up the silver screen in this romantic comedy about a spoiled heiress and the roving reporter who courts her. Presented by Long Plumbing, Heating & Cooling, Kitchen & Bath Design.

• Feb. 19 – *Love Story* (1970): It doesn't get more romantic than this timeless tale of star-cross lovers played by Ali MacGraw and Ryan O'Neal. Presented by Stampeddler

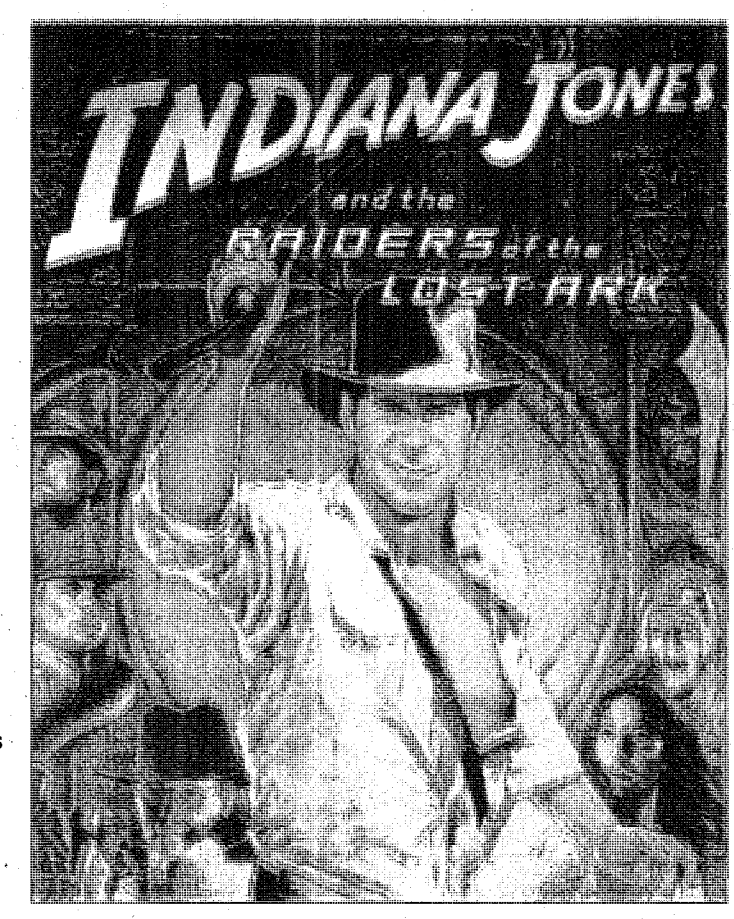
• Feb. 26 – *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner* (1967): A couple (Spencer Tracy and Katharine Hepburn) confronts their preconceptions when their daughter brings home her black fiancé (Sidney Poitier). Presented by Sincerely Yours

• March 5 – *West Side Story* (1961): The feuding families become two warring New York City gangs- the white Jets led by Riff and the Puerto Rican Sharks, led by Bernardo. Presented by Starring the Gallery.

• March 12 – *The Sting* (1973): Paul Newman and Robert Redford play con men that team up to steal a fortune from a crooked banker. Presented by Urban Optiques

• March 19 - *American Graffiti* (1973): Ron Howard, Richard Dreyfuss, Cindy Williams and Harrison Ford got their start in this tale of high school grads cruising the strip one last time. Presented by Edward's Café & Caterers

Showtime for all screenings is 7:30 p.m.; with doors opening at 6:45 p.m. Tickets are $3 and will be available at merchant-sponsor locations. For more information and updates on the 2011 Movies at the Marquis Series, visit www.downtownnorthville.com or call (248) 349-0345.



See "Raiders of the Lost Ark" Jan. 15 at the Marquis Theatre in downtown Northville.

Off-Broadway shows come to Novi with Andiamo dinner series

Steve Solomon's one-man comedy, *My Mother's Italian, My Father's Jewish and I'm in Therapy*, kicks off an 11-show series of critically-acclaimed Off-Broadway productions at Andiamo Novi Theatre.

Solomon's show runs Wednesday-Sunday through Jan. 23. Tickets for all shows in the series, which ends in June, are on sale now and range from $30-$35. Dinner and show packages are available for $79.95 and $89.95.

Performance times are 8 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, 7 p.m. Saturday and 5 p.m. Sunday.

There is something for everyone in the 2011 Off-Broadway Series. Shows bring to life such topics as the hilarity and ups-and-downs of relationships between families and men and women, and an up-close-and-personal (and humorous) look at many celebrities' memoirs. Audiences also will have mind-games played on them, will be taken to a galaxy far far away with one man's solo mission, and will feel like they are in the same room as the "Godfather" during a homage to Coppola's classic.

In addition to Soloman's show, other productions are:

Jan. 26- 30: Marc Salem's *Mindgames*

Feb. 3-5: *I Say Tomato, You Say Shut Up* - A Love Story featuring Annabelle Gurwitch and Jeff Kahn

Feb. 9-20: Mike Dugan's *Men Fake Foreplay*

Feb. 24-26: *One Man Star Wars*

March 2-20: *The Godfadda Workout*

March 23-April 10: *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*

April 13-24: Robert Dubac's *Male Intellect – An Oxymoron?*

April 29-May 1: *Celebrity Autobiography*

May 4-22: *Bad Dates*

May 25-June: *The Last Five Years*

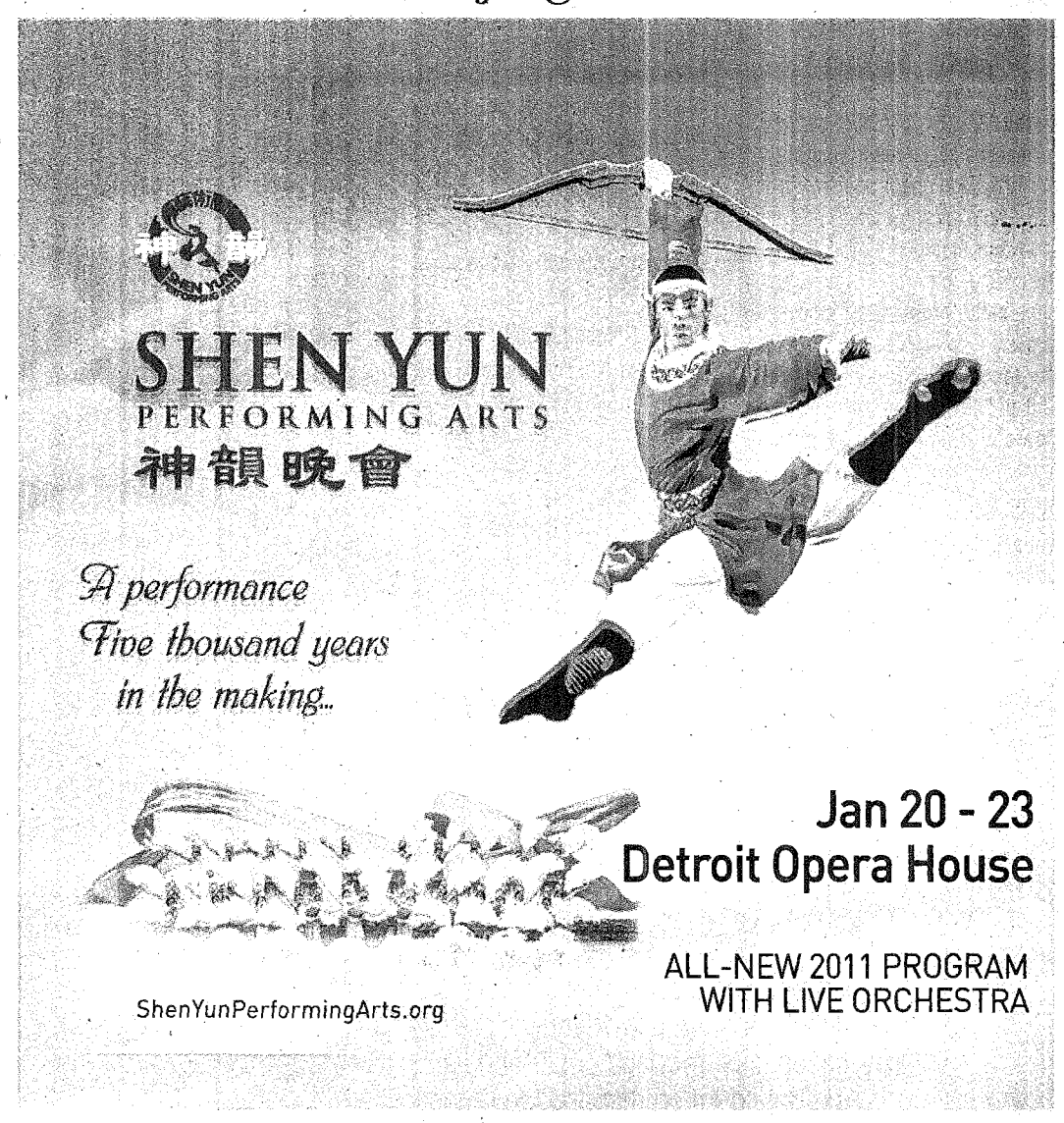
Buy tickets at the Andiamo Novi Theatre box office; by phone at the box office (248) 348-4448 or at Ticketmaster at (800) 745-3000; or online at www.ticketmaster.com. Dinner and show packages may be purchase only at the Andiamo Novi Theatre box office. The Andiamo Novi Theatre is located at 42705 Grand River Ave., Novi.

Marc Salem brings his "Mindgames" show this month to Andiamo Novi Theatre.

In concert

International recording artist Singer/songwriter Michael McDermott performs at 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8 at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton. McDermott's previous releases include his 1991 debut, 620 W. Surf, which featured the hit "A Wall I Must Climb," 1999's independently released Bourbon Blue and 2004's diverse Ashes that included "Everything I Got." The Chicago-based artist also has shared the stage with artists including Van Morrison, Aimee Mann, Seal, The Wallflowers, and many others. Tickets are $17 per person and $15 each for groups of 15 or more. Visit Cantonvillagetheater.org or call (734) 394-5300.

Classical Chinese Dance & Music in an Unforgettable Production



"When spirituality, reverence, and discipline are brought to art, something special is bound to happen..."

— *White Plains Times*

"Inspired... These beautiful, gifted people are expressing something that's both pure and good."

– *Philadelphia Weekly*

"Brilliant choreography... extravagantly beautiful!"

— *BroadwayWorld.com*

"Beautiful sound... strikingly intricate melodies."

– *NYTheatre.com*

Ticket Hotline: (888) 880-4110 www.DetShows.com

TicketMaster: (800) 745-3000 TicketMaster.com/ShenYunDetroit

ART

Art & Ideas
Time/Date: Saturdays, 1-7 p.m., through Jan. 29
Location: 15095 Northville Road, Plymouth Township, between eastbound and westbound 5 Mile intersections
Details: "Time Tells All" holiday-season art exhibition, a multi-artist retrospective of 2010 exhibitions. Artwork on display through Jan. 29, 2011; free
Contact: (734) 420-0775 or visit www.artandideasgallery.com

Northville Art House
Time/Date: Jan. 7-29; artist reception 6-9 p.m. Jan. 7
Location: 215 W. Cady in downtown Northville
Details: Erik Olson shows oil portraits of homes and structures in various stages of repair in a show called "An Outside View"
Contact: (248) 344-0497

CONCERTS

The Ark
Time/Date: Michael Smith, Jan. 6; Mountain Heart, Jan. 7; Jill Jack Birthday Bash, Jan. 8; Mississippi Heat, Jan. 9; David Francey & Craig Werth & Amelia Curran, Jan. 12; The Red Sea Pedestrians, Jan. 13; The Yellow Room Gang, Jan. 14; The RFD Boys, Jan. 15; BeauSoleil Avec Michael Doucet, Jan. 16
Location: 316 South Main, Ann Arbor
Contact: (734) 763-8587; www.theark.org

Seligman Performing Arts Center
Time/Date: 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8
Location: On the campus of Detroit Country Day School, 22305 W. 13 Mile, Beverly Hills
Details: Chamber Music Society of Detroit presents The Emerson String Quartet. Tickets cost $43-$75; students pay $25
Contact: (248) 855-6070 or visit www.ComeHearCMSD.org

Jazz @ The Elks
Time/Date: 7-10:30 p.m., every fourth Tuesday
Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780 at 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth
Details: Jazz musicians perform; no cover, but donations accepted
Contact: (734) 453-1780 www.PlymouthElks1780.com

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. Sign up for open mic from 6:15-6:45 p.m.; show starts at 7 p.m. 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 mjmmullen@yahoo.com

Music Hall
Time/Date: 8 p.m., Jan. 28
Location: 350 Madison, Detroit
Details: The Latin Jazz All Stars; tickets $30, $40 and $50
Contact: (313) 887-8500

Trinity House Theatre
Time/Date: Chris Trapper, Jan. 7; Ruth and Max Bloomquist, Jan. 8; Dave Boutette and the Folk Brothers, Jan. 14; Jay Stielstra Trio, Jan. 15; Sheila Landis featuring Rick Matle and Blues in the Night, Jan. 21; Billy Bynum and Company with Billy Brandt and Sarana Verlin, Jan. 22
Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia
Contact: (734) 464-6302, www.trinityhouse.org

Village Theater at Cherry Hill
Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 7
Location: 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton
Details: Annie & Rod Capps kick off the first concert of 2011 in the continuing First Friday Studio Series. The Capps are from Chelsea and will play American folk music in the Biltmore Studio at the theater. Tickets are $12 each, general admission
Also appearing: See Juice, an Ann-Arbor group that combines percussion, invented instruments, and humor in its performances, 8 p.m., Jan 8. Tickets are $16 if purchased by Jan. 6. Tickets bought after Jan. 6 will cost $20 for adults and $18 for seniors and students.
Contact: (734) 394-5460 or visit www.cantonvillagetheater.org

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: Dan Cummings, Jan. 5-8; Steve White, Jan. 12-15; Kurt Metzger, Jan. 19-22; John Roy, Jan. 26-29
Contact: (734) 261-0555, www.kickerscomplex.com

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle
Time/Date: Jay Black, Jan. 6-8; Tom Simmons, Jan. 13-15; Tom Segura, Jan. 20-22; Ken Rogerson, Jan. 27-29; Louis Ramey, Feb. 3-5
Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak
Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com

DANCE

Music Hall
Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14
Location: 350 Madison, Detroit
Details: The Russian National Ballet Theatre stages Tchaikovsky's "Swan Lake." Tickets are $30-$50
Contact: www.ticketmaster.com; (313) 887-8500

Polka Booster Club of America
Time/Date: Doors open 12:30 p.m., buffet dinner 1:30 p.m., dancing from 3-7 p.m.
Location: Msgr. Hunt K of C Hall, 7080 Garling Dr., Dearborn Heights
Details: Inauguration of officers and dance to the music of Duane Malinowski and The polka Jamboree; admission is $22.50 with beer, wine and pop included. Reservations required
Contact: Terry at (734) 422-1901 or Joanna at (313) 561-8389

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.bakerskeyboardlounge.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.-4 p.m. daily
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

Jazz Cafe
Time/Date: 2 p.m. in Spanish and 4 p.m. in English, Jan. 9
Location: Music Hall, 350 Madison, Detroit
Details: Pekka, puppetry for preschoolers. The show lasts 30 minutes and is aimed at youngsters, 2-5. Tickets are $10 for children and $20 for adults
Contact: www.ticketmaster.com; (313) 887-8500

FILM

Penn Theater
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Jan. 6-9 and 13; 9:15 p.m. Jan. 7-8 and 4:45 p.m. Jan. 9
Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth
Details: "The Social Network," all seats $3
Coming up: "Secretariat" 7 p.m. and 9:15 p.m. Jan. 14-15, 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Jan. 16 and 7 p.m. Jan. 20
Contact: (734) 453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

Redford Theatre
Time/Date: Jan. 14-15, 2011
Location: 17360 Lahser, Detroit
Details: "To Kill a Mockingbird," tickets $5. Mary Badham, the actress who played "Scout" in the film will appear live at each showing
Contact: www.redfordtheatre.com

MUSEUMS

Charles H. Wright
Time/Date: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday
Location: 315 E. Warren Road, Detroit
Details: Exhibitions include Art of the Masters: A Survey of African American Images, 1980-2000 through Feb. 28; Crowning Glories: Status, Style and Self-Expression through Jan. 17; The Test: Tuskegee Airmen Project through June 19; Framed Stories: The Art of Carmen Cartiness Johnson and Jerome Wright through April 11. Museum Admission is $8 for adults, 13-61; and $5 for youth, 3-12, and seniors, 62 and over. Members and children 2 and under are admitted free
Contact: (313) 494-5800

Cranbrook
Time/Date: 2 p.m., Thursday-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/Date: Through Jan. 28
Location: 155 S. Main, just north of downtown Plymouth
Details: The museum is closed for exhibit change and will reopen Jan. 29 with "Rediscovering the Civil War" exhibit
Contact: (734) 455-8940

SOMETHING DIFFERENT

Progressive International Motorcycle Show
Time/Date: 4-9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 7, 9:30 a.m.-8 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 8 and 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 9
Location: Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave., Novi
Details: Hundreds of motorcycles on display, vendors, stunt show and more; admission is $15 for adults, $6 for children, 6-11 and free for children under 6
Coming up: The Ultimate Fishing Show, 2-9:30 p.m. Jan. 13, noon-9:30 p.m. Jan. 14, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Jan. 15 and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Jan. 16; fishing tackle displays, boat dealers, fishing guides, outfitters, indoor lake packed with rainbow trout, fishing demonstrations, youth fishing clinics and more
Contact: (800) 331-5706 or visit www.motorcycleshows.com

THEATER

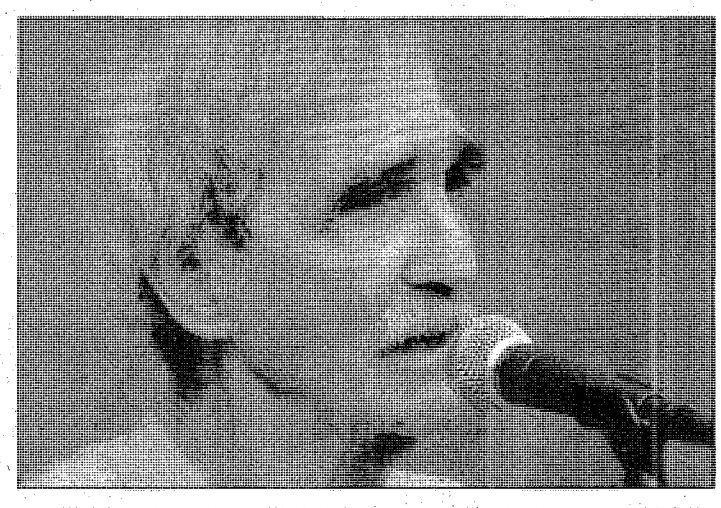
Farmington Players
Time/Date: Noon Sunday, Jan. 9
Location: Farmington Players Barn, 32332 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills
Details: Auditions for "The Producers."Show dates are April 29-30 and May 1, 6-8, 12-15 and 19-21.
Contact: www.farmingtonplayers.org

Grantland Street Players
Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays, Jan. 10-Feb. 21
Location: Grantland Street Playhouse, 27555 Grandland, Livonia
Details: In this readers theater workshop, participants will choose and work on a monologue from "Spoon River Anthology," by Edgar Lee Masters, with performance possibilities. Fee is $35 for non-members and $25 for members, due on or before Jan. 10. Send payment, made payable to Motor City Youth Theater, and registration to Nancy Florkowski, 15498 Meadowbrook Redford, MI 48239
Contact: (313) 535-8962 or www.mcyt.org

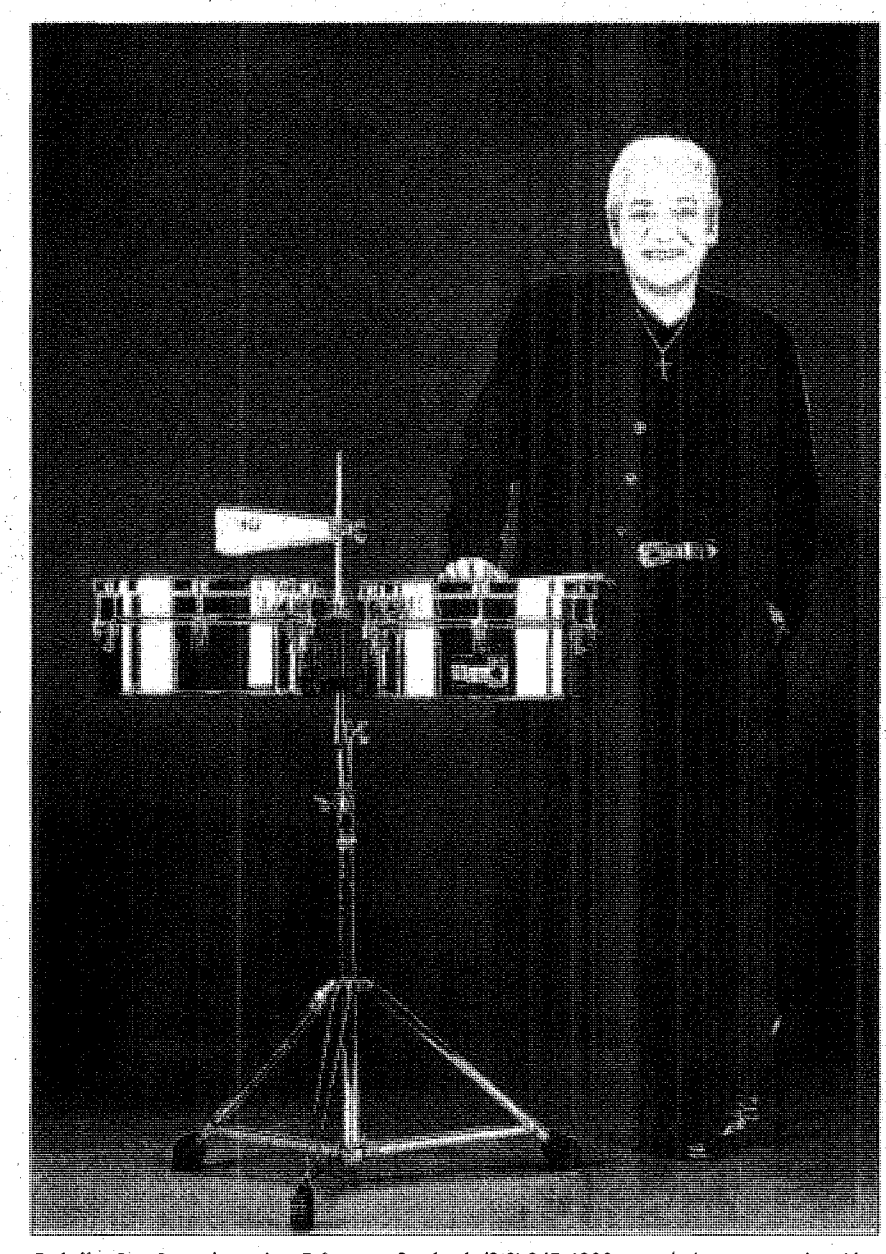
Trinity House Theatre
Time/Date: Fourth Tuesday of the month
Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia
Details: Improvisation workshops for all levels; $3 per session
Contact: Laura Gumina at (248) 225-0160

Village Theater
Time/Date: 8 p.m. Jan. 15
Location: 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton
Details: "Salute to the Great American Songbook" features Marcia Allen of Mt. Morris, Jymi Dill of Flint, Gary Errigo of Dearborn, Kim Hutchens of Dearborn, Jordan Mac of Wixom and Chris Scarlett of Novi crooning the classic standards of Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Nat King Cole, Ella Fitzgerald, Sammy Davis, Jr., and Peggy Lee. Tickets are $20 with a $5 discount for senior citizens, children 14 and under and groups of 15 or more
Contact: (734) 394-5460 or cantonvillagetheater.org

Pekka the puppet will entertain preschoolers Jan. 9, 2011 at Music Hall's Jazz Cafe in Detroit.



Jay Stielstra will perform with Judy Banker and John Sayler Jan. 15 at Trinity House Theatre in Livonia.



Pete Escovedo and other members of Latin Jazz All Stars will play Jan. 28 at Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts in downtown Detroit.

Join our commitment to a greener Earth!

We're taking small steps to make our publications more eco-friendly by using soy-based inks, recycled paper and local printers that "print on demand" to reduce waste and unnecessary travel.

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FOOD
Thursday, January 6, 2011 hometownlife.com

HAVE A STORY IDEA?
Contact Editor Sharon Dargay
Voice Mail: (313) 222-8883
E-mail: sdargay@hometownlife.com
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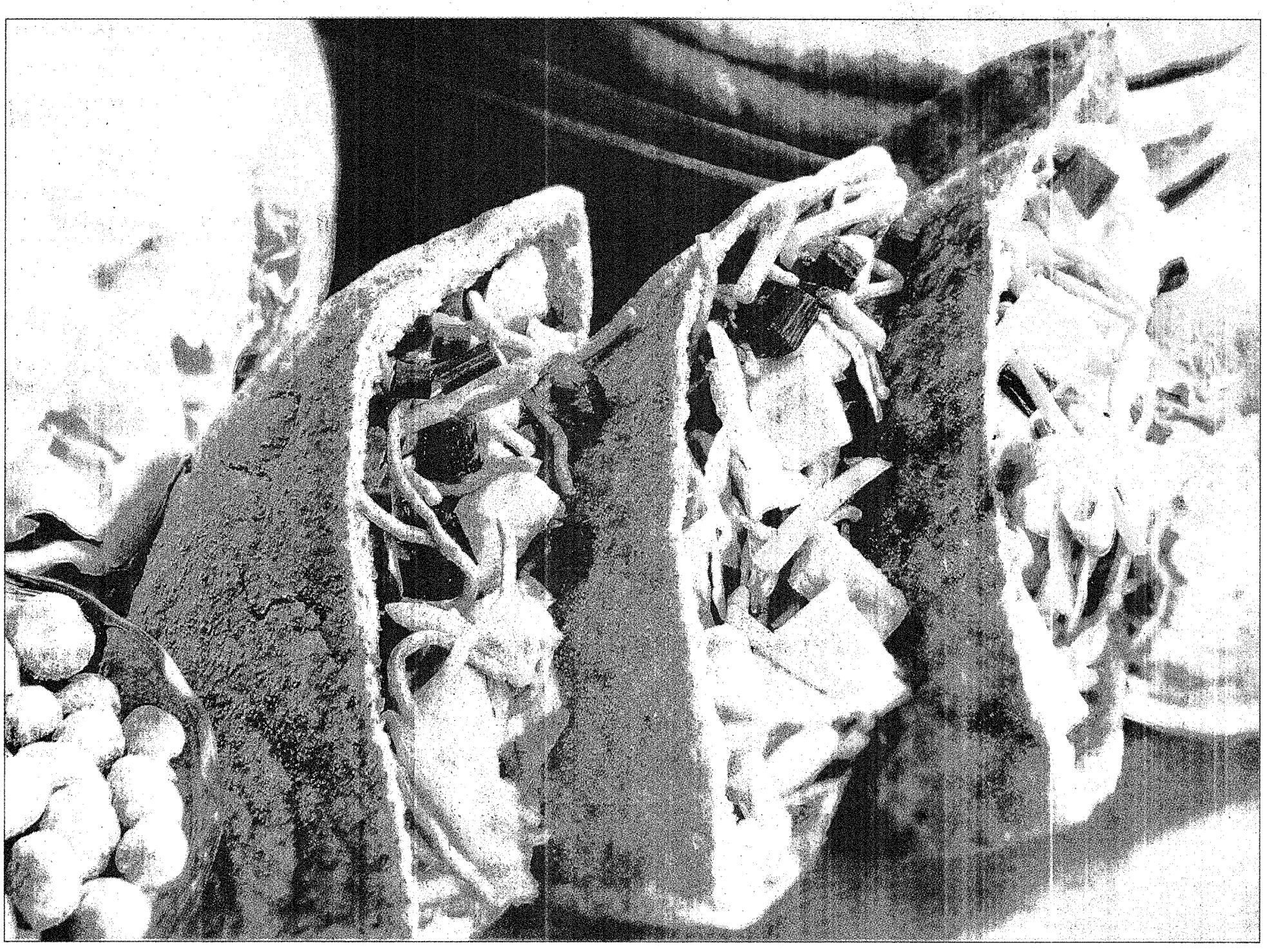


A BETTER BROWN BAG

If you think that taking lunch to work has to be as boring as the brown bag you pack it in, think again. With a little planning and creative thinking, you can have a satisfying midday meal wherever you find a table.

Taking your lunch to work saves you money, helps you control calories and allows you to boost your daily nutrition. You control the portions and the ingredients, so you can customize what you carry, ensuring that you get a good-for-you lunch that you'll enjoy.

Here are tips from the National Peanut Board that may inspire you to think outside the lunch box and create a brown bag meal you will be proud to carry.

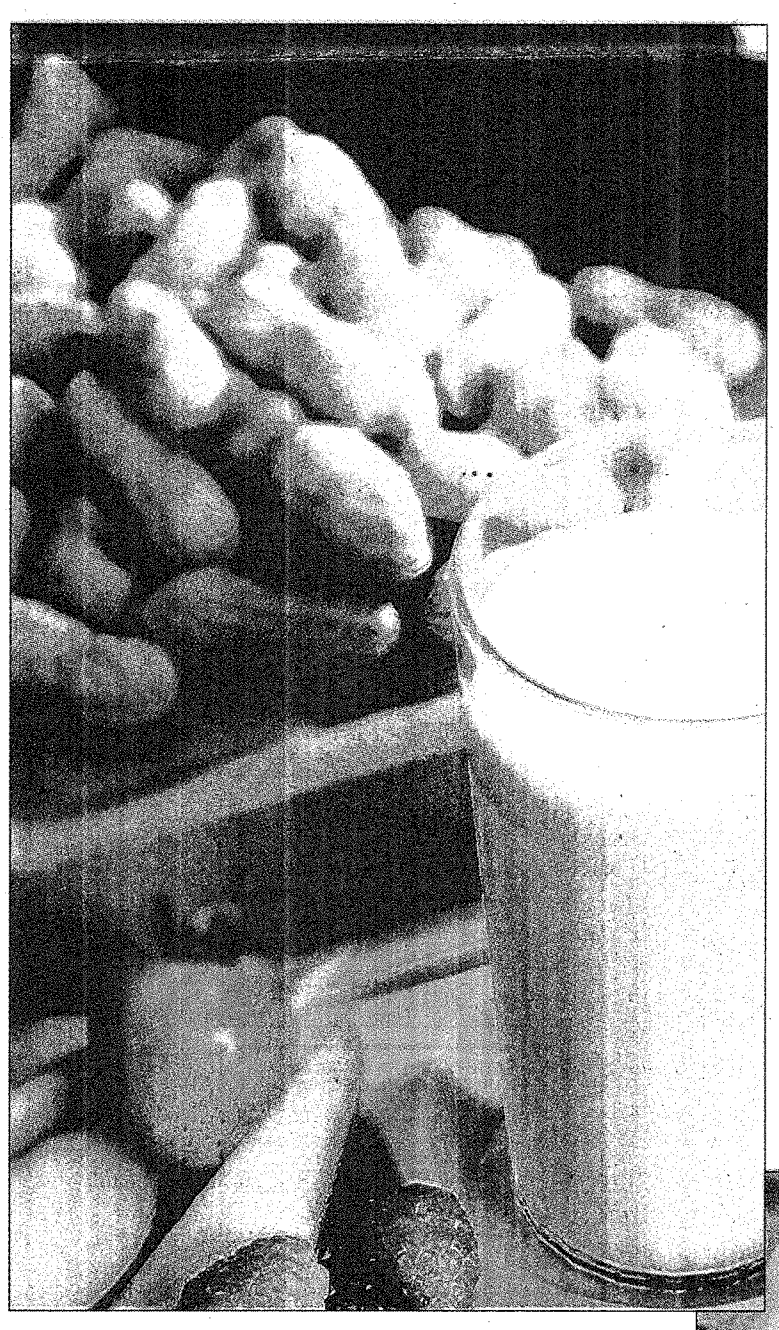
- **Plan ahead** — put lunch items on your grocery list and gather lunch-style recipes for your meal plan.
- **Balance choices** — select a variety of foods from www.MyPyramid.gov, including whole grains, fruits, vegetables, low-fat dairy and lean protein.
- **Think small** — pack a variety of snacks to satisfy any craving that may hit during the day.
- **Pack whole grain crackers** and sliced cheese as an alternative to a sandwich.
- **Pack a bag of snack peanuts** for an energy boost any time of the day.
- **Pack a banana** for a sweet treat that may save you from a trip to the vending machine.
- **Dress up fruits** and vegetables with protein-packed peanut butter dip (see recipe). Repurpose leftovers — instead of simply taking last night's dinner for lunch, use the ingredients to make something new.
- **Turn leftover roasted chicken** into a tasty chicken salad (see recipe).
- **Toss cold pasta** with dressing and chopped veggies for a pasta salad.

For more delicious ways to upgrade your lunch, visit www.nationalpeanutboard.org.

KICKIN' UP KIDS' LUNCHES

Even kids can get tired of the same sandwich every day. Liven up their lunches with some of these creative ideas and recipes.

- Pack frozen yogurt or an ice cold water bottle as an edible ice pack.
- Mix peanuts, chocolate morsels and raisins for a treat.
- Look for lunch boxes and food containers that keep foods safe and undamaged. Look for those with several compartments that keep foods separate.
- Present food in fun ways: fruit chunks on skewers, deli meats rolled up around sliced vegetables, breakfast for lunch.
- Add a nonfood treat, such as a fun eraser, sticker or other prize that children will enjoy just as much as a sweet treat.
- Pack individual sandwich ingredients and let the kids make their own creation at school.



ROCK 'N' ROLL LUNCH

1 small whole wheat tortilla spread with 2 tablespoons peanut butter, sprinkled with ¼ cup granola, rolled up and sliced

Carrots and celery with Dazzling Peanut Butter Chocolate Dip (recipe follows)

Blackberries

Drinkable yogurt

DAZZLING PEANUT BUTTER CHOCOLATE DIP

Yield: 4 (3-tablespoon) servings

2 tablespoons low-fat plain yogurt
1 teaspoon chocolate syrup
1 tablespoon peanut butter
Chocolate sprinkles (optional)

In a standing mixing bowl, mix yogurt and chocolate syrup on medium speed until well blended.

In a microwave-safe bowl, microwave the peanut butter at 70% power for about 1 minute or until melted; stir half-way through. Pour peanut butter into chocolate yogurt mixture and mix until smooth. Top with sprinkles if desired.

Serve with 1 cup assorted carrot and celery sticks, sliced cucumbers, apples or pear slices.

PITA POCKETS WITH CHINESE CHICKEN-PEANUT SALAD

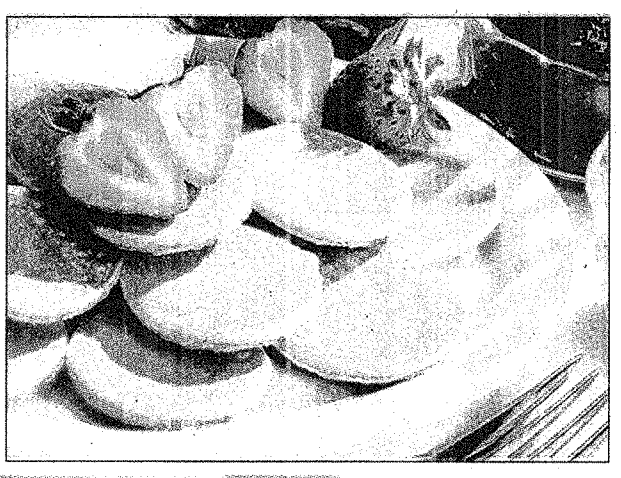
Yield: 6 pita pockets

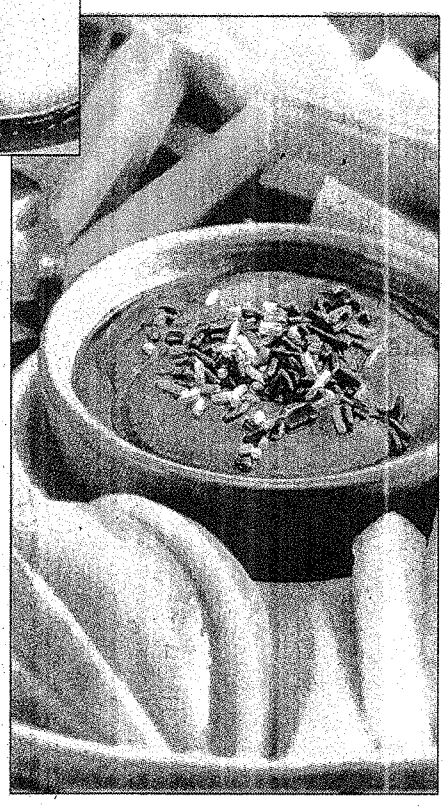
2 cups chopped cooked chicken
1 cup grated carrots
½ head roughly chopped iceberg lettuce, (about 4 cups)
⅔ cup chow mein noodles
⅓ cup canned sliced water chestnuts
4 tablespoons peanut oil
3 tablespoons creamy peanut butter
3 tablespoons seasoned rice vinegar
1 tablespoon lite soy sauce
1 tablespoon sugar
¼ cup chopped dry-roasted peanuts
2 tablespoons chopped green onions
3 pita breads, halved

In large bowl, mix together chicken, carrots, lettuce, chow mein noodles and water chestnuts. Set aside.

To make dressing: In separate bowl, mix together peanut oil, peanut butter, rice vinegar, soy sauce and sugar until smooth. Stir in peanuts and green onions. Stir until blended. Pour dressing over salad and toss well.

Fill pita pockets with even portions of chicken salad.





BREAKFAST FOR LUNCH

1 sausage link

3 mini peanut flour pancakes (recipes follows)

Fruit cup

Greek yogurt with honey (for dipping pancakes and fruit)

PEANUT FLOUR PANCAKES

Yield: 24 (3-inch) pancakes

Use your favorite whole grain pancake mix according to package directions for 12 full size pancakes.

Add ¼ cup peanut flour* + 2 to 4 tablespoons milk.

Let stand for 10 minutes before cooking.

*This low-fat, high protein, gluten-free flour is available at supermarkets nationwide and online.

– Courtesy Family Features

1/6/11

Passages

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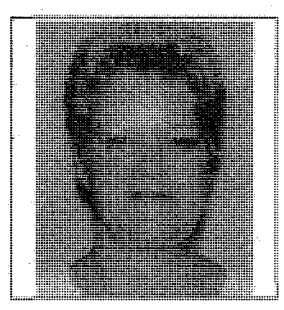
OE8659491

KATHRYN E. BLACK

Age 78; born on March 9, 1932 in Minneapolis, Minnesota and passed away on December 22, 2010 in Wayne, Michigan. Beloved mother of Vicki (Bill) Scott, Dorothy (Bob) Wallace, William (Jeanette) Black & the late Michael Balmer and Lynn Black; Loving grandmother of 9 grandchildren & 8 great-grandchildren; Dear sister of James (Rosie) Balmer. Memorial Service will be held on January 12, 2010 at 12:00 Noon at Cadillac Memorial Garden West Cemetery, 34224 Ford Road Westland, Michigan. Arrangements entrusted to the Harry J. Will Funeral Home Wayne Chapel.

DAVID M. CROCKETT

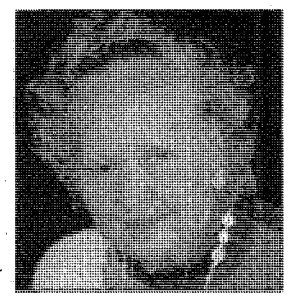
Age 88, died on January 3, 2011, after a courageous battle with Parkinson's Disease. He is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Mary, and four children, Jeffrey (Christine), Martha (Horace) Sneed, Paul (Theresa) and Amy (Ken) Carr. He also leaves four grandchildren, Andrew Crockett, Nicholas Crockett, Ali Crockett and Sarah Sneed, a sister-in-law, Martha (Leonard) Seale, and seventeen nephews and nieces. David was predeceased by his brother, Richard (June) Crockett, his sister, Laura McCamman, and his sister-in-law, Marjorie (Warren) Maxey. David served his country honorably as a Marine Corps Veteran of World War II and Korea. His professional career began with a Masters of Social Work from the University of Michigan. During his long career, he served as a probation officer for the Juvenile Court in Detroit, Director of St. Peter's Home for Boys, a social worker at the Plymouth Center for Human Development and, after retirement, as a probation officer for the Farmington Hills Court. David will be sadly missed by his family and his many friends, including old friends from his college days at Wayne State University, his fellow parishioners at Meadowbrook Congregational Church, where he served as a charter member and Life Deacon, and his fellow Kiwanians in Plymouth. David loved to garden, run in marathons, read books, sing in the church choir and follow Detroit sports teams. He was admired for his optimism, faith in God and his wonderful, dry sense of humor. He will always be remembered by his family as a devoted husband and father. Contributions can be made to the Meadowbrook Congregational Church Educational Endowment or Music Program. Funeral service Thursday, January 6, 2011, 1pm from the Meadowbrook Congregational Church, 21355 Meadowbrook Rd, Novi, with family receiving friends beginning at 12pm. Arrangements entrusted to the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main St., Plymouth. Share memories at schrader-howell.com



GLORIA JEAN DRABIK

Age 68, of Westland. Beloved wife of John "Sy". Loving mother of John P. (Bonnie), Joseph (Kim), Laura (Michael) Protic and Kimberly. Proud grandmother of eight grandchildren and one great-grandson. Dear sister of Alice, Dee Dee, Buddie, Rose, John, Arden, Darlene and Tommy. Memorial gathering Sat., Jan. 8, 2011 at 11 am until 1 pm Memorial Service at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 980 N Newburgh Rd (btwn Ford & Cherry Hill) Westland. Memorial Contributions may be made to St. Joseph Catholic Church, 3521 Fourth St., Wayne, MI 48184.

To share a memory, visit:
www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com



MARY V. MAURIN

Age 95, of Belleville, IL, formerly of Farmington Hills, MI, born November 7, 1915, in Baltic, MI, died Thursday, December 30, 2010, at Dammert Geriatric Center at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows, Belleville, IL. Miss Maurin worked in civil service for 35 years with the Department of the Army until her retirement. She belonged to the 50-Plus group and was a member of St. Alexander's Catholic Church in Farmington Hills, MI. Mary was preceded in death by her parents, Paul and Lucille, nee Rauh, Maurin; a sister, Frances VanGorp; and two brothers, Peter and Joseph Maurin. Surviving are her sister, Katherine Lanctot of Minot, ND; her nephew, David (Dottie) Lanctot of Belleville, IL; and other nieces and nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews. In lieu of all other gifts, memorials may be made to The Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows, 726 Community Drive, Belleville, IL, 62223, or in the form of Masses. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.rennerfh.com. Arrangements were by George Renner & Sons Funeral Home, Belleville, IL

ROBERT (BOB) A. SMITT SR.

82, of Westland, MI, formerly of Venice, FL, passed away Wednesday, December 22, 2010 at Maple Manor in Wayne, MI. Robert was born October 19, 1928 to Tony and Lottie Szmytkowski. Robert counted his blessings in loving friends and family who brought special joy and laughter throughout his life, especially during his illness. Robert enjoyed cars, golfing, playing cards with family and friends and always carried a tune in his heart. He was an extremely hard worker. He was employed at Ford Motor Company for 42 years. Robert will never be alone for he'll be embraced by all the family and friends he has ever known. All their hearts will beat as one, and the circle of their spirits will shine brighter than the sun. Robert leaves behind his loving wife Marge who was his best friend and soul mate for 61 years. He also leaves behind 1 sister, 8 children, 15 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren. Robert will be missed dearly by all who knew him. Services will be held on Saturday, January 8th at 11:00am at St. Raphael Church in Garden City, MI. Father Ray Lewandowski will officiate.

OBITUARY POLICY

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

Deadlines:

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

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

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Attn: Obits c/o Char Wilson
313-496-4968
For more information call:
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ask for Char or Liz

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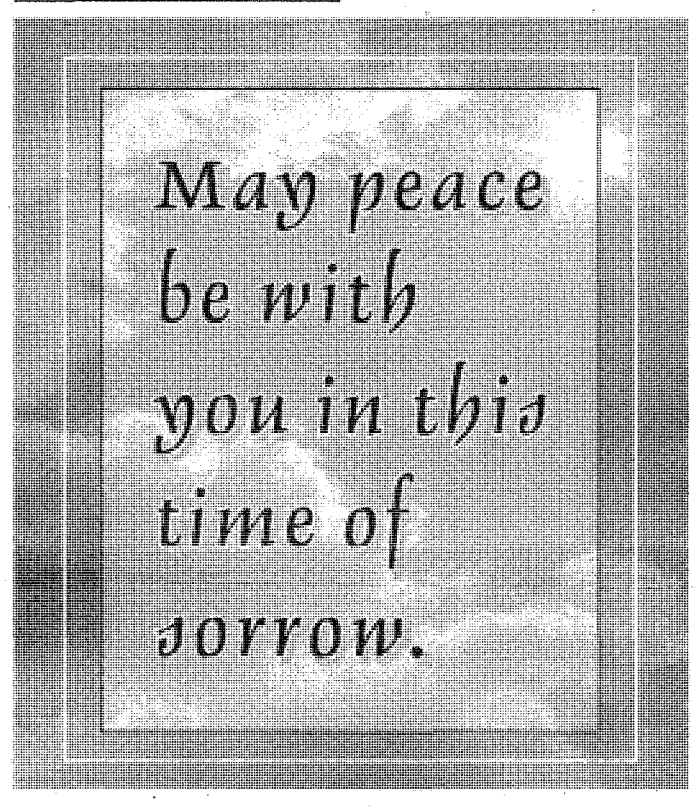

RELIGION CALENDAR

Send calendar items to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. Feel free to include relevant photos as attached jpgs. Or mail items to Sharon Dargay, The Observer, 615 Lafayette, level 2, Detroit, MI 48226. Submit items at least a week before expected publication date. Be sure to include a contact telephone number for readers, as well as any ticket prices for an event.

JAN. 13-19

Concert

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Jan. 15
Location: St. John Armenian Church, 22001 Northwestern Highway, Southfield
Details: Oakland Choral Society presents "Rachmaninoff's "Vespers" in Church Slavonic. Carols and an original composition will be included in the program; tickets are $15 and $25, available in advance or at the door
Contact: (248) 391-0184

Financial Peace University

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Jan. 18-April 12
Location: Clarenceville United Methodist Church, 20300 Middlebelt, Livonia
Details: Discover a world of freedom by using proven, biblical principles to permanently break free from the bondage of debt.
Contact: Register by calling (248) 474-3444 or by e-mailing to clarencevilleumc@att.net

Panel discussion

Time/Date: Approximately noon, after 9:30 a.m. Shabbat service and kiddush, Saturday, Jan. 15
Location: Congregation Beth Ahm, 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield
Details: Five shul members who attended the recent annual international conference of the World Federation of Jewish Child Survivors of the Holocaust (WFJCSH), will share their thoughts about the conference
Contact: Rene Lichtman at (248) 932-1834 or e-mail holocaustchild@comcast.net

JAN. 20-31

Former Catholics

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Jan. 25
Location: St. Michael the Archangel Parish, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia
Details: Six-week series, "Catholics Returning Home," is designed for non-practicing Catholics who are seeking answers to questions about the possibility of returning to the Church. The sessions will be conducted by former lapsed Catholics in a casual, non-threatening environment, with plenty of opportunities for questions and discussion.
Contact: (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200; www.livoniastmichael.org

Widowed Friends

Time/Date: 2:15 p.m. check in; 2:30 p.m. Mass, Jan. 23
Location: St. Thomas a' Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley Road, just south of Cherry Hill, in Canton
Details: Mass for widowed men and women, with refreshments and social time after
Contact: Pat at (734) 895-6246

ONGOING

AWANA

Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m., Wednesdays
Location: Faith Bible Church, 23414 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills
Details: AWANA program for children from kindergarten-fifth grade
Contact: (248) 426-0096

Classes/study

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 7-8 p.m., second Monday of the month
Location: 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia
Details: Open Arms Bible class for adults with developmental disabilities and special needs. Includes songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun.
Contact: Judy Cook at Emmanuel, (248) 442-8822 or e-mail to jcook59@att.net.

Livonia Unity
Time/Date: Monday movement Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.; Thursday Qigong meditation, 10-11:15 a.m., and Friday Therapeutic Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.
Location: 28660 Five Mile, Livonia
Details: Learn Qigong, the ancient form of Chinese energetic medicine – rid the body of toxic pathogens and painful emotions
Contact: (810) 813-4073 or gary@energeticarts.org.

Men's Bible study
Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m.
Location: Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township
Contact: John Shulenberger at (734) 464-9491

New Life Community Church
Time/Date: Jobs seminar, 8-9 am., Fridays; reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m., Sundays
Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville
Contact: (734) 846-4615 for information

Your Invitation to Worship

CATHOLIC

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:
First Fri. 7:00 p.m.
First 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.
OE08720912

UNITED METHODIST

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
OE08720908

PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

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
OE08720911

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

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
Staffed Nursery Available
Sunday School/Bible Class
9:45 am
Early Childhood Center
Phone 734-513-8413
Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ
Pastors: Davenport, Bayer, & Creeden
734-522-6830
OE08720907

GREEK ORTHODOX

NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
39851 West Five Mile, Plymouth Twp., MI
Sunday Services
Matins 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
OE08720917

Risen Christ Lutheran
David W. Martin, Pastor
46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth (1 Mile W. of Sheldon)
(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
OE08720910

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

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) 455-3196
OE08720909

PRESBYTERIAN

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
OE08720905

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

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
OE08720919

LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
17810 FARMINGTON ROAD, LIVONIA (734) 261-1360
WORSHIP SERVICES
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.
THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M.
website: www.stpaulslivonia.org
OE08720914

CONGREGATIONAL

North Congregational Church
36520 12 Mile Rd.
Farmington Hills
(bet. Drake & Halsted)
(248) 848-1750
10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School
Faith - Freedom-Fellowship
Ministers
Dr. Mark P. Jensen Rev. Mary E. Biedron
OE08720887

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

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Julie Brown, editor, (313) 222-6705
jcbrown@hometownlife.com

Association party mixes business and pleasure

Fun was on the agenda Dec. 16 when the Western Wayne Oakland County Association of Realtors held its annual holiday party.

"This time we just had a good time," said Dale E. Smith, executive vice president of WWOCAR, of the event held at American Legion Post 32 on Newburgh in Livonia. WWOCAR had done a charitable bowling fund-raiser for the Farmington-Farmington Hills Foundation for Youth and Families in the spring.

The December party drew just over 200. "We had a lot of Realtors," Smith said. "We had a lot of people related to our businesses," including bankers and attorneys.

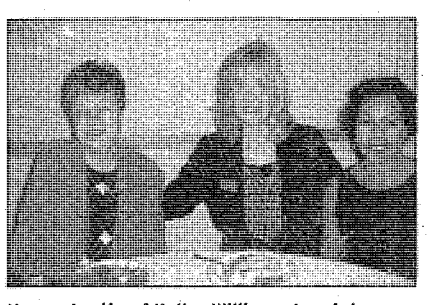
Fun was mixed with business talk as industry leaders look to 2011 and improvement in the housing market. "We have a lot of hope for what's going to be coming down the road," he said. A new governor of either party brings change.

"We have some hope that some of the programs in Michigan will be revitalized," Smith said. He noted home sales are comparable to the past but values have declined.

"They're coming back slowly but surely but they'll take a while," he said.

By Julie Brown

Cleveland Jackson of Brown Realty and Roxanne Fitzpatrick of Keller Williams Farmington Hills share a smile at the WWOCAR party in Livonia.



Nancy Austin of Keller Williams Ann Arbor, Sheila Grimes-Bhirdo of Coldwell Banker Preferred and Johnie Galens of Century 21 MJL catch up on happenings at the WWOCAR holiday party.

Jean Paul Pilot of P.R.O.S. Home Inspections, Neil McCloskey of Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel, and Jeff Zyck of CUTCO enjoy their time together at the recent WWOCAR party.

Fun was mixed with business talk as industry leaders look to 2011 and improvement in the housing market.

HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Sept. 20-24, 2010, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Canton

1316 Aberdeen St	$125,000
43944 Bannockburn Dr	$137,000
3571 Brooklyn Dr	$230,000
6619 Brookshire Dr	$154,000
8461 Chatham Dr	$475,000
8504 Chatham Dr # C6	$525,000
44264 Cherbourg St	$137,000
110 Cherry Grove Rd	$165,000
50494 Coolidge St	$230,000
514 Country Club Ln	$323,000
45536 Glengarry Blvd	$320,000
42260 Gloria Dr	$152,000
45941 Graystone Ln	$150,000
368 Harbor St	$235,000
8683 Holly Dr	$126,000
385 Innsbrook Dr	$260,000
46425 Inverness Rd	$310,000
47822 Jake Ln	$270,000
42661 Keystone Ln	$152,000
4018 Kimberly Dr	$175,000
1583 Mclaine St	$334,000
45478 Muirfield Dr	$288,000
45507 Muirfield Dr	$305,000
6476 N Beck Rd	$240,000
6151 Raintree Dr	$142,000
43431 Saltz Rd	$308,000
324 Savannah Dr	$245,000
44455 Savery Dr	$35,000
45245 Seabrook Dr	$280,000
41543 Singh Dr	$225,000
131 Village Way	$87,000
1302 W Crystal Cir	$185,000

Garden City

623 Belton St	$55,000
29624 Cambridge St	$73,000
31424 Leona St	$52,000
33025 Pierce St	$40,000
32917 Rosslyn Ave	$74,000
28945 Rush St	$76,000
6567 Sterling Ct	$110,000

Livonia

33063 Six Mile Rd	$100,000
14169 Bainbridge St	$115,000
18285 Brentwood St	$70,000
14305 Cranston St	$164,000
37479 Eagle Dr	$50,000
11025 Fairfield St	$90,000
11327 Fairfield St	$126,000
14824 Fairway St	$139,000
29150 Five Mile Rd	$255,000
18661 Floral St	$56,000
18515 Foch St	$112,000
18160 Glengarry Dr	$278,000
14108 Golfview St	$119,000
14555 Huff St	$70,000
9250 Merriman Rd	$95,000
39025 Orangelawn St	$104,000
19902 Rensellor St	$38,000
35274 Schoolcraft Rd	$124,000
9071 W Deborah Ct	$153,000
20059 Wayne Rd	$223,000
30295 Westfield St	$79,000

Northville

16958 Boulder Dr	$339,000
20050 Bryn Mawr Ct	$45,000
15732 Crystal Downs E	$500,000
40590 Delta Dr	$315,000
46572 Greenridge Dr	$309,000
16084 Morningside	$110,000
16316 Mulberry Way	$20,000
17808 Parkshore Dr	$1,200,000
340 Pennell St	$100,000
17313 Rolling Woods Cir	$429,000
42623 Savoy Ct	$65,000
44632 Spring Hill Rd	$490,000
16318 White Haven Dr	$220,000
15828 Winding Creek Ct	$466,000

Plymouth

8897 Ball St	$195,000
44542 Brookside Rd	$235,000
41443 E Ann Arbor Trl	$85,000
13800 Fawn Woods Ct	$349,000
50403 Fellows Hill Dr	$500,000
49204 Hunt Club Ct	$375,000
738 Kellogg St	$53,000
42430 Lakeland Ct	$117,000
11888 Lorenz Way	$288,000
11221 Maple Ridge Dr	$510,000
1294 Maple St	$330,000
565 McKinley St	$420,000
40718 Newport Dr	$61,000
44425 Oregon Trl	$128,000
305 Riveroaks Dr	$129,000
11811 Talltree Dr	$260,000
50212 Top Of Hill Dr	$480,000

Redford

17632 Centralia	$58,000
17729 Centralia	$30,000
15906 Delaware Ave	$43,000
15861 Knight	$52,000
11664 Marion	$75,000
9191 Nathaline	$54,000
9987 Rockland	$50,000
8923 San Jose	$59,000

Westland

37101 Amhurst Dr	$84,000
30869 Cherry Hill Rd	$54,000
35243 College St	$128,000
35714 Columbia St	$40,000
308 Ethan Dr	$150,000
29455 Hanover Blvd	$19,000
8580 N Hubbard St	$132,000
1424 S Berry St	$72,000
151 S Crown St	$55,000
1568 S Dowling St	$110,000
433 S Marie St	$83,000
34331 Somerset St	$80,000
34046 Tomahawk Dr	$89,000

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Sept. 7-10, 2010, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Canton

49529 Garfield Ln	$389,000
1712 Nowland Ct	$195,000
45037 Seabrook Dr	$276,000

Garden City

30941 Elmwood St	$72,000
673 Inkster Rd	$170,000
29205 Rosslyn Ave	$36,000

Livonia

29985 Curtis Rd	$174,000
17326 Doris St	$100,000
17730 Fairfield St	$193,000
18928 Filmore St	$20,000
20694 Laurel Ct	$45,000
31424 Merriwood Park Dr	$89,000
18009 University Park Dr	$62,000
18467 University Park Dr	$45,000

Northville

745 Randolph St	$90,000
41696 Rayburn Dr	$248,000
19991 Seabrook Ct	$76,000

Plymouth

48571 E Normandy Ct	$337,000

Redford

17708 Brady	$26,000
9207 Dixie	$49,000
24650 Donald	$55,000
19991 Garfield	$42,000

Westland

32756 Mackenzie Dr	$35,000
7335 N Middlebelt Rd	$400,000
477 Ravencrest Ln	$82,000
463 S Bryar St	$173,000
30893 Steinhauer St	$64,000

HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Sept. 20-24, 2010, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Beverly Hills

21747 Gates St	$230,000

Bingham Farms

31282 Old Stage Rd	$250,000
30505 Timberbrook Ln	$215,000

Birmingham

969 Bennaville Ave	$402,000
1709 E 14 Mile Rd	$27,000
911 Smith Ave	$450,000
1726 Stanley Blvd	$120,000
622 Vinewood Ave	$660,000
1440 Webster St	$268,000

Bloomfield Township

6715 Birmingham Club Dr	$610,000
3775 Millspring Rd	$259,000

Commerce Township

3418 Circle Dr	$217,000

Farmington Hills

37600 Amber Dr	$130,000
23963 Creekside Dr	$81,000
28540 Golf Pointe Blvd	$252,000
28272 Secluded Ln	$295,000
21513 Wheeler St	$100,000
21640 Wheeler St	$51,000

Franklin

30460 Stonegate Dr	$640,000

Lathrup Village

28807 Somerset Pl	$114,000

Milford

300 Wilderness Lake Ct	$480,000

Novi

23432 Argyle St	$450,000
41801 Primrose Dr	$100,000
50002 Streamwood Dr	$212,000
42700 W 10 Mile Rd	$235,000
42638 Whitman Way	$228,000

South Lyon

297 Ash Ct	$165,000
22985 Clarkshire Dr	$180,000
57730 Drake Ct	$342,000

Southfield

27715 Aberdeen St	$100,000
25041 Champlaign Dr	$35,000
19811 Dorset St	$62,000
30800 Pierce St	$107,000
25230 Southfield Rd	$85,000
25520 Southwood Dr	$97,000
20360 Winchester St	$80,000

White Lake

8450 Jamestown Dr	$303,000

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Sept. 7-10, 2010, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Birmingham

996 Chester St	$728,000
400 Hamilton Row	$440,000
1481 Hazel St	$110,000
1694 Holland St	$410,000
411 S Old Woodward Ave	$118,000
806 Smith Ave	$460,000

Bloomfield Hills

1275 Kensington Rd	$380,000

Bloomfield Township

7190 Cathedral Dr	$176,000
443 Henley Dr	$144,000
1924 Heron Ridge Dr	$1,460,000
2770 Mackintosh Ln	$278,000
1525 N Cranbrook Rd	$963,000
1310 Sandringham Way	$565,000
3141 Woodcreek Way	$530,000

Commerce Township

1750 Fenwick Dr	$50,000
1785 Fenwick Dr	$55,000
2175 Glen Iris Ct	$173,000

Farmington

22746 Clear Lake Dr	$233,000
24410 Farmington Rd	$100,000
28753 Hidden Trl	$234,000
29855 High Valley Ct	$205,000
37464 Legends Trail Dr	$228,000
25488 Ranchwood Ct	$225,000
33481 Stocker St	$139,000

Farmington Hills

32432 Heatherstone Dr	$185,000

Milford

208 Cumberland Trl	$760,000
855 Panorama Dr	$86,000

Novi

42056 Borchart Dr	$290,000
42890 Clay Ct	$260,000
25541 Dogwood Ln	$475,000
25905 Glenmoor	$325,000
2215 Novi Rd	$160,000

South Lyon

26100 Daria Cir W	$60,000
1137 Polo Dr	$160,000
26731 York Ct	$226,000

Southfield

18811 Alhambra Ave	$160,000
28227 Fontana Dr	$60,000
18444 Glenwood Blvd	$125,000
25660 Southwood Dr	$115,000

White Lake

8137 Vanden Dr	$125,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Career Seminar

There will be a Real Estate Career Seminar 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 20, at Keller Williams Realty, 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. For more information, contact: Lesley Aiello at (734) 459-4700 or laiello@kw.com.

Real Estate Sales and Appraising

Learn about a career in residential real estate. Attend a free one-hour seminar, or shadow a top agent to get an inside feel of the business. Seminars are at noon or 6 p.m. Wednesdays. To reserve a spot, contact Keller Williams Realty International, at (248) 893-2500, 27555 Executive Drive, Suite 100, Farmington Hills 48331.

Tax appeals

Learn strategies for property tax appeals from David E. Nykanen. He will cover actions you need to appeal your assessed values at the local Boards of Review. Presented by Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland on Thursday, Jan. 13, 5:30-9:30 p.m. at Club Venetian, 29310 John R, north of 12 Mile, Madison Heights. Seminar free to members, $20.00 nonmembers. Call (800) 747-6742. (www.REIAofOakland.com)

Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia. No obligation. Learn about reverse mortgages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

Free Foreclosure Tours

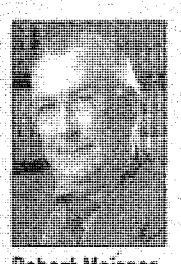
Free Foreclosure Tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96. E-mail Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.

Send Real estate listings to: Julie Brown, jcbrown@hometownlife.com, or Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette-

Law's aim: Protect brokers

Q: I understand that commercial brokers now have a lien on the property to satisfy their commissions. Do you have any information on that?

A: Michigan Public Act No. 201 of 2010 (Commercial Real Estate Broker's Lien Act) was signed by Gov. Jennifer Granholm on Oct. 5, 2010, to protect commercial brokers against losing rightfully earned commissions. The Act allows a lien to be placed on commercial property for nonpayment of the commission. The legislation is intended to prevent future lawsuits in regard to commissions. The Act only applies to written commission agreements executed after the Act's effective date of Oct. 5, 2010, to "commercial real estate," which is defined as any property that is not: (i) vacant property zoned for single-family use, (ii) property with four or fewer residential units, or (iii) property with more than four residential units if such units are single-family units that are sold, leased, or otherwise conveyed on a unit-by-unit basis.



Robert Meisner

With respect to leases, a broker may record a lien at any time within 60 days after a lease is signed, which attaches once the tenant takes possession of the property. The statute of limitations for a broker's lien is one year after the attachment of the lien and the parties can escrow an amount sufficient to satisfy the lien so that the buyer or seller cannot refuse to close a transaction due to the escrow account requirement. An escrow account is not required if either (i) alternative procedures are available that will allow the transaction to close and are acceptable to all of the parties to the transaction, or (ii) the proceeds from the transaction are insufficient to satisfy such lien.

Q: Our condominium has a prohibition on exterior attachments to the unit and several of the board members have been upset with pumpkins being put on the porches of our condominiums. I think this is unreasonable and irrational. What do you think?

A: Generally speaking, the Board of Directors has wide latitude in ensuring the aesthetic integrity of the condominium. Of course, that decision making process can be abused and it would appear that prohibiting pumpkins from being placed on the common elements for a limited period of time would be unreasonable unless there is a safety or other legitimate reason for doing so. However, the ultimate decision process rests with the board and your best recourse may be to elect board members who are more receptive to being neighborly.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for $9.95 plus $1 shipping and handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for $24.95 plus $5 shipping and handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-associates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

Challenging fun for ALL ages

Thursday PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

1 Delt neighbor
4 Cab driver
8 Produced, as eggs
12 Shinto or Zen (abbr.)
13 Kind of surgeon
14 Look at amorously
15 Santa — winds
16 Alert (hyph.)
18 Talking birds
20 Hydrocarbon suffix
21 Jab playfully
24 Locate, perhaps
28 "Simpsons" kid
31 Gun owner's org.
33 Not barefoot
34 Pub pint
35 Regal emblem
36 Forty-niner's quest
37 Where Anna met a king
39 Util. bill
40 Gayle's sis
41 Famed violin
43 Display model
45 — -tzu ("Tao" author)
47 Garret
51 Common toiletry
56 Romance
57 Speck of dust
58 This, in Havana
59 — be an honor!
60 Large African lake
61 Radio part
62 — kwon do

DOWN

1 Tot's wheels
2 Counting-out word
3 Big family
4 Why? (2 wds.)
5 "Exodus" character
6 Lout
7 Swiss painter Paul
8 Reduces
9 Ottoman official
10 Class
11 Fiddle-de- —
17 Social insect
19 Unusually bright
22 Cluster
23 Messed up
25 Hello, matey!
26 Crib filler
27 Jeannie portrayer
28 Quartet member
29 Got off a horse
30 Tail end
32 Competent
38 Ice cream treat
40 Realty offering
42 Morse click
44 Taj —
46 Felt grateful
48 Tease
49 Minute amount
50 — of ethics
51 XXI times C
52 Aah's companion
53 Ms. Hagen of films
54 Just — — suspected!
55 Depot (abbr.)

Answer to Previous Puzzle

T	K	O		M	I	R	Y		C	Z	A	R
E	A	U		O	C	T	O		R	U	N	E
T	H	R	A	S	H	E	D		A	L	I	E
E	N	S	U	E		S	E	A	G	U	L	L
			D	Y	E		L	O	G			
L	U	T	I	S	T	S		K	Y	O	T	O
S	P	A			E	I	N			W	O	E
U	S	U	R	P		R	E	F	I	N	E	D
			O	A	F		O	R	D			
U	N	A	I	D	E	D		Y	E	A	R	S
F	I	L	L		R	E	V	I	E	W	E	R
O	G	E	E		N	E	I	N		R	A	T
S	H	E	D		S	T	A	G		Y	M	A

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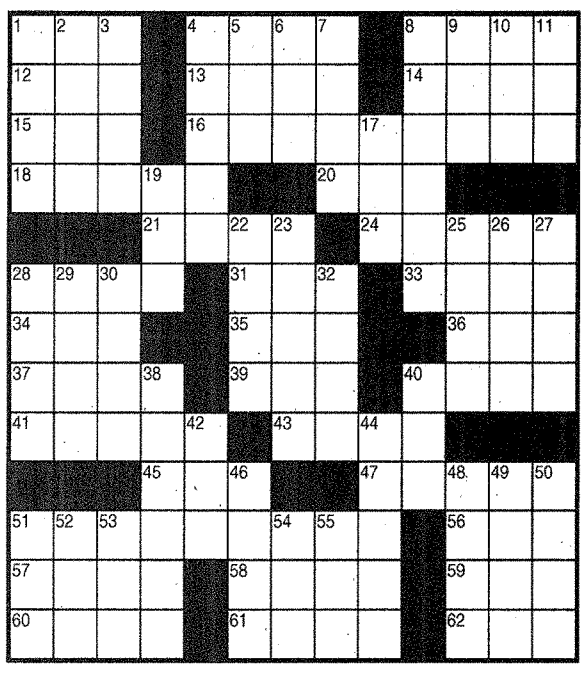


SUDOKU

			8	1	5		6	
	9		7	2			5	
7		1	3		9			
	2	4	1			8		
9	8			7		6	3	
1		6	5		3			4
	6				1		8	
2						9		7
8				3			1	6

Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Word Search — Football Fun

Q	B	L	D	F	E	L	T	W	P	J	F	A	O	T
I	W	O	A	K	I	I	K	N	U	C	F	N	V	H
G	W	X	J	N	G	E	W	W	N	D	O	F	N	V
N	U	S	D	H	O	O	L	F	T	D	K	O	M	U
V	B	U	T	W	D	I	Q	D	O	L	C	O	R	K
E	T	E	L	H	T	A	S	C	G	Q	I	T	H	C
F	N	S	C	N	J	E	U	S	O	O	K	B	J	A
D	E	U	B	O	W	L	E	S	E	H	A	A	Z	B
A	O	H	D	X	C	V	O	R	V	F	D	L	E	R
T	B	L	I	N	D	S	I	D	E	L	O	L	M	E
L	P	B	A	K	N	M	Y	H	E	F	A	R	N	T
M	C	A	O	L	M	W	D	I	D	H	E	B	P	R
U	R	J	S	Y	A	P	F	Z	I	U	D	R	E	A
K	O	V	F	S	F	V	J	X	T	R	O	K	A	U
Q	V	L	R	W	S	F	K	Q	Q	F	L	T	A	Q

athlete, blind side, bowl, down, field, field goal, football, kickoff, pass, professional, punt, quarterback, referee, tight end, touchdown

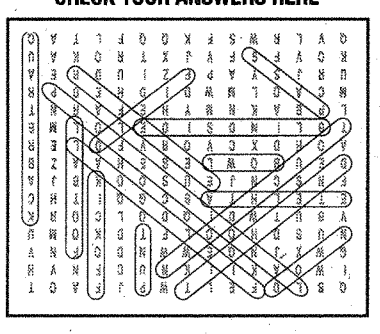
CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Sudoku

4	3	2	8	1	5	7	6	9
6	9	8	7	2	4	1	5	3
7	5	1	3	6	9	4	2	8
3	2	4	1	9	6	8	7	5
9	8	5	4	7	2	6	3	1
1	7	6	5	8	3	2	9	4
5	6	7	9	4	1	3	8	2
2	1	3	6	5	8	9	4	7
8	4	9	2	3	7	5	1	6

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Word Search



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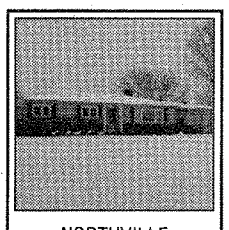
REAL ESTATE

HOMETOWNlife.com

Real Estate For Sale 3000-3990

Open Houses 3030



NORTHVILLE
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19224 MARILYN.
4 bdrm. brick ranch, 1.5 bath on nearly 1 acre with finished bsmt, updated windows & carpet, fireplace. 2 car garage $154,900 (W/Haggerty).
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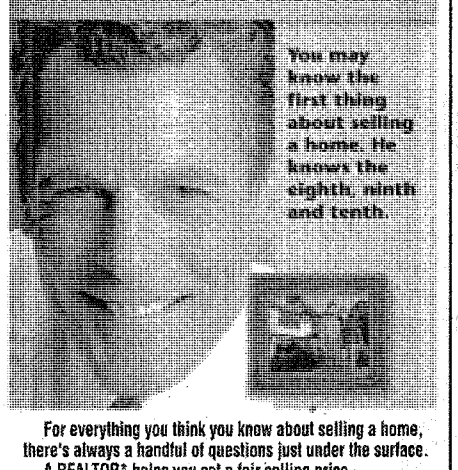
Bela Sipos
734-669-5813, 734-747-7888
Reinhart Commercial

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers
Recommends that you to contact a Realtor.



You may know the first thing about selling a home. He knows the eighth, ninth and tenth.

For everything you think you know about selling a home, there's always a handful of questions just under the surface.
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Announcements 6000-6990

Cards Of Thanks 6300

PRAYER: Pray 9 Hail Marys for 9 days. On the 9th day make 3 wishes & publish this prayer. Your wishes will be granted. M

Lost - Goods 6360

LOST: WOMEN'S SKI JACKET Multi-colored, lost Christmas Eve. 5 Mile, btw. Inkster and Middlebelt. Reward! 734-673-9914.

A word to the wise, when looking for a great deal check the **Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!**

Merchandise 7000-7790

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Antiques/Collectibles 7020

RECORD SHOW: Jan. 9, 10-4. $Cash Prizes$ LPs, 45s, CDs. VFW, 25671 Gratiot (N of 10), Roseville. 586-759-5133

Wizard of Oz Dolls, Collection, etc. Talking Judy Garland doll, heels light up. Too many items to mention. Also Marilyn Monroe doll, new in box, from Some Like It Hot Movie. **(734) 467-6352**

Auction Sales 7060

ESTATE AUCTION
Sat., Jan. 8th, 7PM
Cultural Center
525 Farmer
Plymouth MI
Collectibles/Antiques
Furniture/Accessories
Doll Collection
Glassware
Tools/Electronic
Household Items
Cash/MC/Visa
Bank Debit Cards
No Checks
Doors Open 6pm
JC Auction Services
734.451.7444
www.jcauctionservices.com

Moving Sales 7130

REDFORD: Fri-Sat, Jan 7-8, 9-4pm. 19919 Norborne, Beech Daly and Pembroke. Clothes, furniture, small appli.

Household Goods 7160

BED - KING SIZE, OAK Complete w/head/foot boards, matching 7 drawer dresser w/full length mirror, new cond. $500. **734-467-6352**

RECLINER, black, soft vinyl, massaging lift chair. Excellent condition $400. **Call: 248-684-1756**

WROUGHT IRON STOVE Franklin Style with ventless gas logs and rack. Some duct work and 2 decorative brass balls, $400. (313) 715-6706

Miscellaneous For Sale 7500

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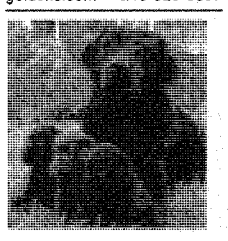
Dogs 7840

Golden Retriever Pups Website: crittersittersandtnt-goldens.com 248-625-8667



LABS, AKC, English, stocky black, OFA, gorgeous. $800 Guaranteed. 517-545-1649. www.kokomolabradors.com

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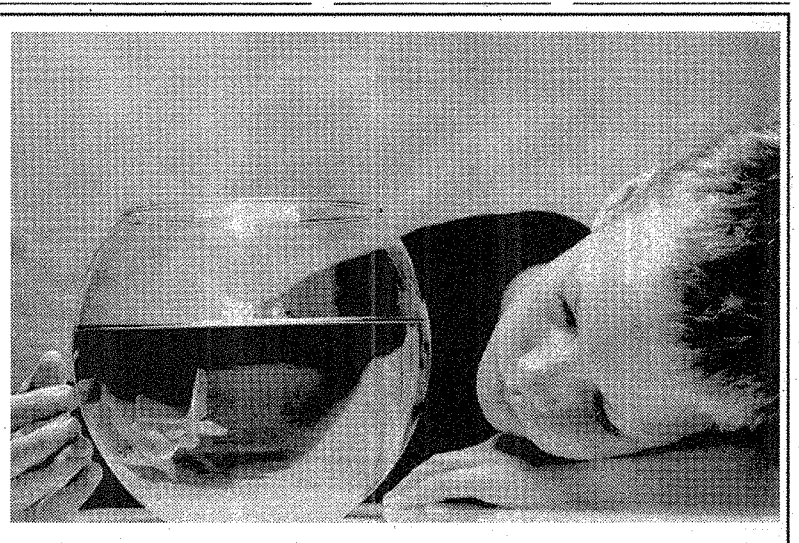
Lost - Pets 7930

LOST: Tailless (Manx) Cat. SW downtown Northville area; last seen 12/30/10. Light gray tabby; light green eyes; male; NO TAIL; sweet but shy. 248-349-6202

Local news.

You don't have to fish for it.
It's right here, from the front to the back of your



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-$200 Deposit w/ Credit
New Resident's Only
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Mon.-Fri. 9am-7pm
Sat.-Sun. 10am-4pm

WESTLAND
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$224 MOVE IN!
1st Month Rent Free
(for qualified applicants)
1 Bdrm-$550
2 Bdrm-$650
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*Short term leases avail.

Westland Park Apts.
LOOK
FREE RENT
2 Bdrm, 1.5 Bath, $665, 936 Sq. Ft.
1 Bdrm, $590, 728 Sq. Ft. "Special"
$100 off a month.
$200 Security Deposit
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No Pets, C/A, Vertical Blinds, Intercom.
Appliances include dishwasher.
Very clean Apartments
Excellent Maintenance
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Condos/Townhouses 4020

ROMULUS: 2 bdrm ranch on golf course. Full bsmt, 2 car garage, like new. Bad credit may be ok. **248-224-6696**

TAYLOR: 3 bdrm, 2200 sq.ft. Townhome at Midtown. Avail NOW. Like new. Bad credit may be ok. **248-224-6696**

Duplexes 4030

WESTLAND - 2 bdrm, air, bsmt, all appli, fenced yard. $750/mo., water incl., pets w/ permission. **(734) 612-6903**

Flats 4040

Garden City: Cozy 1-2 bdrm upper in quiet neighborhood. Appli incl. $575 + sec. No pets 734-377-2796, 734-255-5909

Homes For Rent 4050

CANTON 2 & 3 bdrm duplexes w/bsmt, near Ford & Sheldon. $757 & $857mo. A/C, appli. 1-2 yr. leases. 734-395-0829

FARMINGTON HILLS: 1,054 sq. ft. 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, fenced yard, $1000/mo. $20 application fee. Call: (248) 763-6151

GARDEN CITY 2 Bdrms, bath, 1 garage. Immediate Occupancy. Updated! $850 a month. 734-718-6985

GARDEN CITY: 3 bdrm, bsmt & garage, new kitchen, carpet & paint. $850 + sec. No pets. Call: (248) 910-3695

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3 bedroom, 1.5 bath, basement, country setting, $1100/mo. (734) 751-3519

LIVONIA: 4 bdrm, 2 bath, bsmt. Pets okay. $1095/mo. Inkster/Grand River area. **(248) 624-7333**

LIVONIA Schools. 3 bdrm, 2 car garage, c/a. Fully renovated, all new. No smoking/pets. $1050/mo. 248-569-4751

NOVI
Homes from $799/mo!
Several communities in the area! **888-884-1339**

REDFORD: 3 bdrm bungalow, huge master bdrm, bsmt, great kitchen, option, $750. **(248) 788-1823**

SOUTHFIELD: Remodeled 3 bdrm brick ranch, bsmt, c/a. Option avail. Immediate Occupancy. $850. **248-788-1823**

WAYNE
Clean, updated 3 Bdrm, 1.5 bath, 2 garage, basement. Central air, laundry facilities. Near shopping, schools, minutes from Metro Airport. Immediate Occupancy! No pets! $1000. 248-684-8440

WAYNE: Remodeled 3 bdrm ranch, huge master bdrm, immed occup, sec. 8, option avail. $650. **(248) 788-1823**

WESTLAND: 3 bdrm brick ranch, 2 car, Livonia Schools, C/A, $800; 2 bdrm ranch, $550, option. **(248) 788-1823**

WESTLAND: 3 bdrm duplex; also charming 2 bdrm house. Each w/ new carpet & fenced yard, $650. (313) 418-9905

WESTLAND AREA-
Livonia Schools, 2 bdrm, 3 car garage, $975/mo + 1.5 sec. Call: (734) 564-8402

WESTLAND: Clean 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath ranch, c/a, carpet thru-out, bsmt. No pets. Ford/I-275. $900. 734-591-9163

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		30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.	Other
1st Choice Mortgage Lending	(734) 459-0782	4.75	0	4	0	J/A
Accurate Mortgage Solutions	(800) 593-1912	4.75	0	4	0	J/A
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	(248) 740-2323	4.875	0	4.25	0	J/A
BRINKS Financial Group	(800) 785-4755	4.5	0.75	3.75	0.75	J/A/V/F
Cason Home Loans of Grosse Pointe	(313) 794-9001	4.75	0	4	0	J/A/V/F
Client Services by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	4.625	0.75	4	0.5	J/A/V/F
Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-6113	5.125	0	4.375	0	J
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	4.875	0	4.25	0	A
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-8830	4.875	0.5	4.25	0.375	J/V/F
First Michigan Bank	(248) 498-2824	4.75	0	4.125	0	J/V/F
First State Bank	(800) 372-2205	4.875	0	4.375	0	F
Gold Star Mortgage	(800) 784-1074	4.75	0	4.125	0	J/A/V/F
Golden Rule Mortgage	(800) 991-9922	4.75	0	4.125	0	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage	(248) 282-1602	4.875	0	4.25	0	J/A/V/F
Mortgages by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	4.5	1.5	3.875	1.125	J/A/V/F

Above Information available as of 12/30/10 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a $200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculations & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at **www.rmcreport.com**. Key to "Other" Column - J = Jumbo, A = Arm, V = VA, F = FHA & NR = Not Reported. All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders.

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$16.25 base-appt, flex sched, conditions apply, all ages 17+. 248-426-4405
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Help Wanted-General 5000

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Work with developmentally disabled adults. Canton.
(734) 722-4580 ext 14

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FT or PT in Wixom area; production focused, web experience necessary
Email resume:
jrender@jerrybaker.com

HOME HEALTH AIDES
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Golden Home Health Care
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or fax: 734-522-5797

PRESCHOOL TEACHER & AIDES
Full & Part-Time.
Call Farmington Hills Nursery School.
(248) 476-3110

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Or fax (248) 356-6757

SALES PRODUCER
Brighton Insurance Agency searching for a strong salesperson. Unlimited income potential. Call 810-201-4690

SECURITY OFFICERS
Positions avail in Romulus & Dearborn. Must be 21 years or older. Must have a clean criminal record and be drug free. Must have a valid driver's license and your own vehicle.
Open interviews being conducted at: Comfort Inn: 31800 Wick Rd. Romulus, MI, Tues. Jan. 11, 2011 btwn 10am & 2pm.
CONTINENTAL SECRET SERVICE BUREAU INC.
419 N. Huron St. Toledo, OH

Whse Dock Loader **$500+/wk Benefits CALL313-292-9300** Load, unload & rotate product food co. E-1 $185 J232 Local

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For a quality, growing immigration law firm in Farmington Hills, MI. Email resume to:
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or mail or fax (no calls please). See firm description and contact information at:
www.antone.com

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DENTAL ASSISTANT
Are you an experienced assistant looking for an opportunity to expand skills and advance professionally in a high-quality, leading-edge environment? Birmingham/Southfield area specialty practice seeks a bright, personable, motivated assistant to join its enthusiastic, dedicated clinical team.
Call: (248) 357-3100

DENTAL INSURANCE BILLER
Exp'd need only apply, Dentech exp. preferred. Approx 30 hrs per wk for our Westland Office. Fax resume to: 734-676-3641

Dental Surgical Assistant
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pofsinmi@yahoo.com

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MEDICAL ASSISTANT
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Fax: 248-557-6145
Email: pat@drtobar.com

Medical Biller
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echosystems@comcast.net

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Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080

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foodservice@ivplymouth.com

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• College degree or equivalent work experience in field sales.
• Proven sales track record.
• Have impeccable communication skills.
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Fax to 313-496-4793
Attn: Sales
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HOMETOWN WEEKLIES

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Help Wanted-Sales 5120

SALES PEOPLE
Never worry about having enough leads to make a great living again. We set quality appointments you just sell! Great opportunity to make $100K first year. Must have solid transportation and must present yourself well. If you can sell you can't beat this opportunity. Exp. wanted not required will train.
Call Allen 734-748-5761 or Email: abrooks@majicwindow.com

Help Wanted-Domestic 5240

HOUSEKEEPER
32-40 hrs/week, $12/hr. Above table only, others need not apply. Must have transportation, Livonia area. Call: (248) 478-4378

HOUSEKEEPER WANTED
Days, Part-Time, $8-$12/hr. Call btwn 9-5. **(734) 394-0864**

Childcare/Baby-Sitting Services 5370

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Infants to preschoolers. Ref avail. CPR Cert. 248-476-6565

Divorce Services 5610

DIVORCE $75.00
www.CSRdisability.com
CS&R 734-425-1074

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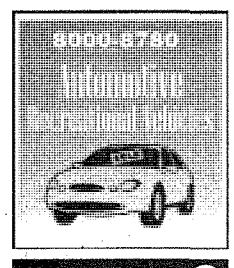

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Lariat 4x4 6.4 liter, perfect truck, must see. $38,788 Stk.# 11T1024A
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Mini-Vans 8240

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Dark blue, sharp. $5,995
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Dark blue. $7,595
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Loaded, one owner, 17,800K. $24,911 Stk.#10T6102A
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Loaded, one owner, 17,800K. $24,911 Stk.#10T6102A
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GMC ENVOY 2005
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Black, 4x4. $22,495
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GMC ENVOY XL 2004
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GMC JIMMY 2001
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GMC YUKON XL 1999
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Sports Utility 8290

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Loaded, one owner, low miles, must see. $10,788 Stk.#10T1035A
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MERCURY MARINER PREMIER 4X4 2008
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MERCURY MARINER PREMIER 4X4 2008
Certified warranty, heated leather and mirrors, roof. $21,869
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Green moss, AWD, leather, and 5-speed! Fun and safety! Just $7,995! 888-372-9836
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Buick 8360

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Silver, 43K. $7,995
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CTS 2007
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Chevrolet 8400

AVEO 2007
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