

IN BRIEF

Nature walk

Join members of the **Holliday Nature Preserve** Association to walk and learn about the preserve Saturday, Feb. 26.

The walk will be at noon and start at the Hix Park entrance on Hix Road north of Warren Road. Walkers will see a variety of trees and terrain the walk which will last 60-90 minutes. It will be held regardless of the weather, so walkers need to dress for conditions. For more information, visit www.hpna. org.

Pick the winners How good are you at picking

the winners in the Academy Awards? If you're feeling lucky,



pick this year's Academy Award winners in the Observer & Eccentric Oscar contest. If you're right, you could enjoy seeing mov-

ies at the Emagine Theaters for a year. The winner will receive a yearlong pass for two to **Emagine Theaters which has** locations in Canton, Novi, Rochester Hills, Woodhaven and one coming soon to Royal Oak. With movie tickets costing \$9-\$10 per person, using the pass once a week for 52 weeks makes the prize worth more than \$1,000.

Second-place winners receive four movie passes. To enter, go to hometownlife.com and correctly pick the top seven categories



Donald McKinnon has his 1947 Ford Coupe cleaned, polished and ready to be trailered to the 59th annual Megular's Autorama this weekend at Cobo Hall.

Westland retiree savors

Council OKs water rate hike, pays cleanup bill

BY LEANNE ROGERS **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

After listening to complaints about Westland's flooding cleanup and the amount billed by a private contractor, the council voted Tuesday to increase water rates just over 14 percent and pay the \$2.1 million bill from Belfor from the water and sewer fund.

The only opposing vote came from Councilman Bill Johnson, who unsuccessfully sought to have the portion of the rate increase needed to pay Belfor - about 24 cents per average water bill - split out of the remaining rate hike. Councilwoman Christine Bryant was absent due to a

possible injury after slipping on ice while heading to a council study session prior to the meeting.

While some residents continued to argue that Mayor William Wild exceeded his authority under the charter by bringing in Belfor to clean flooded basements on an emergency basis in June 2010 a position not supported by City Attorney James Fausone Johnson said his issue was the bill itself.

RIGHT CALL

"I think the mayor had the absolute right to call the company and an absolute duty to act. There is not an issue

Please see WATER RATES, A2

W-W board praises Sherman for her work

BY SUE MASON **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

adult education," he said. He added that he will recmmend that her position be filled. Saying that he was "a little taken aback" by the announcement, Trustee William Gabriel praised Sherman for what she has done for Wayne-Westland. "As a board member, I learned a lot from her," he said. "She's one person that's going to be missed." Trustee Carol Middel pointed out that she worked with Sherman on a lot of things "and while we didn't always see eye to eye, I was able to see your side of it."

Best Picture, Best Actor, Best Supporting Actor, Best Actress, **Best Supporting Actress, Best** Director and Best Animated Feature Film. The tiebreakers will the Best Musical Score and Best Documentary.

Last year's winner was Kelly Kolchuk of South Lyon.

The deadline to enter is 11:59 p.m. Saturday. Feb. 26. Then tune in to see how well you did. The Academy Awards program is Sunday, Feb. 27.

Tax preparation

The Westland Friendship Center is now taking appointments for anyone in the community who wishes to have their taxes prepared for free.

The center is an e-file site only, and appointments are necessary. Taxes this year will be done on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

There is no age or income requirement. Generally, the tax return service offered through AARP is for simple returns. Those individuals with lengthy returns, many rental properties or investments are encouraged to have a CPA or professional firm complete their returns.

The site manager has discretion over what returns they are willing and able to complete. Call for an appointment. Tax preparers are only on site during the day the center offers the service, so any tax question regarding a return must be taken by a staff person, and returned by a preparer at their convenience. For more information, call

(734) 722-7628.

Motor City's love of cars

BY SUE MASON **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Don McKinnon had one woman who said she could never ride in his 1947 Ford coupe because of the name on the back. It wasn't the blue oval, none can be found on the car. It's its nickname written on the lower edge of the trunk - Bertha Butts

"That was my idea," said McKinnon. "I call the car that because it has a wide butt."

Sunday evening's snowstorm didn't discourage McKinnon from backing it out of the garage of his Westland home Monday to show it off. Of course, he made sure the McKinnon's second time at the iconic driveway was clear of the nine inches of snow that had fallen overnight.

It's reflection of his philosophy about

owning the street rod: It's meant to be driven. He's put close to 5,000 miles a year on his classic cars, driving to places like Norwalk and Columbus, Ohio, and for a spin around the track at the Indianapolis Speedway.

'It's been in a lot of rain. When you travel, you get rained on," said McKinnon.

HEADED FOR AUTORAMA

But this week, the black coupe will be trailered to Cobo Hall Wednesday where it will be on display at the 59th annual Meguiar's Autorama as part of a 35th anniversary showing by members of the Motor State Street Rods. This is custom car show. His last visit was five

Please see AUTORAMA, A8

Demolition clears way for new MJR theater

When a photograph of the former Showcase Cinema flashed on the screen at Tuesday's council meeting, Westland Planning Director Bruce Thompson suggested that everyone take a good look.

"This is probably the last time you'll see it," said Thompson, adding that demolition is slated to get under way this week on the building.

The council approved the site plan for the new 16-screen MJR Theater that will replace the old Showcase Cinema on the east side of Wayne Road south of Warren Road.

"The new building will be in the same place (as the existing building) except further east to allow for more parking in the front - something the old theater didn't have," said Thompson. "All the screening, landscaping and other requirements have been met."

The existing building is 47,927 square feet and will be replaced by a building that is 67,996 square feet. The site plan calls for the two existing driveways from Wayne Road to be used by the new theater which is expected to



A steamshovel sits at the side of the old Showcase Cinema, ready to begin demolition. The 16-screen MJR Theater will be built on the site.

open by November.

The MJR Westland Grand 16 Cinema will have 3,100 seats and expects to have more than 800,000 admissions annually. -By LeAnne Rogers

86

81

B4

REAL ESTATE

Sports

BUSINESS



Charlotte Sherman began her career with the Wayne-Westland Community Schools and she will end it there.

The current deputy superintendent for instruction will retire effective June 30.

"Char will be with us until June, but I want to thank her for everything she has done for the students of the Wayne-Westland Community Schools," said school Superintendent Greg Baracy. "I can't come up with the words to express my deep gratitude for what she has done."

Sherman's request to retire was approved by the school board last week. She started as a student teacher in Wayne-Westland in 1970 and became a teacher in 1974. According to Baracy, she "held just about every teaching and administrative position there is in the district."

"She's very well connected with the kids in the high school, middle school and

"I'm going to miss you," she said.

"When I came on the board, I started working with Char, I always looked to her expertise," said school board President Skip Monit. "I want to thank you for all your years with us."

Sherman chose not to comment, saying she will speak closer to her departure.

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New school trustee expected to start Monday

the latest on this story.

BY KAREN SMITH

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Livonia school board expected to appoint one of seven applicants Wednesday night to fill the vacancy left by Trustee Dan Lessard.

The board on Tuesday narrowed the field from 18 applicants to seven, said board President Lynda Scheel.

They expected to begin interviewing them at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday in the board

Please visit www.hometownlife.com for office, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia.

The finalists were: Christopher Boloven, a law student; Jason Borregard, a real estate professional; John Grzebik, a materials handler and recording secretary of the Livonia PTSA Council; Bill Joyner, publisher of Friday Musings and a former Wayne County commissioner whose mother served on the school board from 1965-77; Eileen McDonnell, an administrative manager for PVS Chemicals who ran unsuccessfully for school board in 2007; Randy

AROUND WESTLAND

reached by calling (734) 632-

0314 and the Milford office is

Willow Creek Cooperative

available at (248) 685-9495.

Open house

Roulier, manager of strategic sales and retention for Blue Cross Blue Shield and a member of the district's school improvement team; and Jeff Wiggins, a law student who works in state Rep. John Walsh's office.

FIELD NARROWED

Board members narrowed the field by choosing up to two people each to interview. Boloven, Roulier and Wiggins each received more than one vote. The rest received one vote each, Scheel said.

Boloven had an unexpected business trip come up so he was

unavailable Wednesday night for an interview, Scheel said. However, "his application will still be considered," she said.

•

The candidates who did not make the cut were: Steve King, a former school board member who lost a bid for re-election in May; Dianne Nay Laura, a school board member from 1996 to 2000 and wife of Livonia City Council Vice President Joe Laura; Roger Cebulski, a laid-off teacher for the Livonia Career Technical Center; Stacey Dogonski, a member of the PTSA Council; Cheryl Clancy, Alicia Douglas, Michele Frizzell,

Lyndal Last, Thomas Michalsen, home in Oakland County. Hans Mills and Bryan Vezina.

ALL LIVONIA RESIDENTS

All seven finalists are Livonia residents. The district also includes a portion of Westland. McDonnell and Roulier have children currently attending Livonia schools.

Scheel said she was pleased with the number and quality of candidates. "We appreciate everybody who submitted their name," she said.

Lessard, 76, resigned Feb. 11 because he is getting married and moving to his fiancée's

Whoever is appointed to replace Lessard will serve until after the November election results are certified.

The remainder of Lessard's term, which expires in 2013, will be filled by whoever wins the November election.

School board members are paid \$50 a meeting. The board typically meets two or three times a month.

Scheel said she expects the new member will attend subcommittee meetings Feb. 28.

ksmith@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2098

Coffee hour

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, also will hold local coffee hours in Livonia and . Garden City Monday, Feb. 28.

He will be at the Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington, Livonia 9-10 a.m., then move to Garden City for a 10:30-11:30 a.m. coffee hour at the Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood.

Constituents who would like to address an issue with Anderson but are unable to attend may contact him by mail at P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI, 48933; by phone at (866) 262-7306; or by e-mail at ofcgander-*son@senate.michigan.gov.

Constituent hours

The staff of U.S. **Representative Thaddeus** McCotter, Michigan's 11th Congressional District, is holding office hours in several locations. This time is set aside so that the citizens served by the representative have the opportunity to speak with a staff member for assistance regarding any federal issue that they might have. This is not a political venue and no discussions of a political nature will be expected.

Office hours for Tuesday, March 1, are 9-10 a.m. at Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, 10:30-11:30 a.m. at the Northville Senior Center, noonp.m. at the at the Plymouth District Library, 1:30-2:30 p.m. at the Maplewood Community Center in Garden City and 3-4 p.m. at the Westland senior Friendship Center.

Preschool in Westland will be holding its annual Open House 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, March 8. Come and visit the classrooms, meet the teachers, and learn about preschool opportunities for Young 3's, three-year-

olds and four-year-olds. The preschool is at 36660 Cherry Hill, Westland, in Kirk of Our Savior Church. Visit its website at www.willowcreekpreschool.com or call (734) 326-0078 for more information.

Alumni game

Join the Westland Wild Wings as they seek a win against the Detroit Red Wing Alumni in a hockey game will be played Saturday, March, 12, at the Mike Modano Ice Arena, 6210 N. Wildwood.

The puck drops at 7 p.m. Tickets are available at \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Kids under age 3 are free. Seating is limited to 800, so don't be slow in getting tickets. They're available at the mayor's office in Westland City Hall, the **Bailey Recreation Center and** the Mike Modano Ice Arena.

Sponsorship opportunities also are available for this event with a range of levels and cost. For more information, contact Parks and Recreation Director Robert Kosowski at (734) 722-7620 or by e-mail at rkosowski@cityofwestland.com.

Proceeds of the event will go to fund improvement to the

Mike Modano Ice Arena.

Spaghetti dinner

be a cash bar, a silent auction, live auction and 50/50 and Jelly Jar raffles. Parrots will be sold for \$30. Get the winning Parrot and pick any Live Auction item. Only 100 parrots will be sold.

Tickets on sale now at the school and parish offices. For tickets or more information, call the school at (734) 427-1680.

American Legion

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

Glow skate

Enjoy some glow-in-thedark fun at Westland's Mike Modano Ice Arena 8-9:20 p.m. for Friday Glow Skate. The cost is \$3 for kids and \$4 for adults. Skate rental is \$3.

The arena also offers open skating 1:30-3:20 p.m. Saturdays. The cost is \$4 for kids, \$5 for adults and \$3 for skate rentals.

The arena is at Wildwood and Hunter, east of Wayne Road. For more information about ice arena programs, call (734) 729-4560.

AARP Tax Preparation

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



Snow day

Diane Kahler uses her snowblower to clear snow from the street around a van. A winter storm Sunday evening dumped some nine inches of snow on Westland, leaving residents digging out Monday morning.



Don Richater resorts to suing a push broom to clear that accumulated on his pickup truck.

A2 (W)

The Thursday, March 3, office hours. at 9-10 a.m. at the Canton Summit Senior Center.

The congressman has two offices in Livonia and Milford the district to serve constituents. The Livonia office can be



YOUR NEXT STOP

IS ON THE MONEY.

The monthly spaghetti dinner at the Dyer Senior Center in Westland will be 4-7 p.m. Friday, March 18. Enjoy spa-

ghetti, 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.

Margaritaville

St. Damian School will take a trip to Margaritaville when it holds a dinner-auction fundraiser Saturday, March 5 at the school. located in Joy Road west of Middlebelt.

The cost is \$25 per person and includes dancing, dinner catered by Helena's and live and to make an appointment, call silent auctions. There also will

Generally, the tax return service offered through AARP is for simple returns. Those individuals with lengthy returns, many rental properties or investments are encouraged to have a CPA or professional firm complete their returns. There is no age or income requirement. The site manager has discretion over what returns they are willing and able to complete.

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For more information, or (734) 722-7628.

WATER RATES FROM PAGE A1

between the mayor and me,' said Johnson. "I believe Belfor is making \$1.5 million profit out of this."

Specifically, Johnson cited what he called inflated rates for labor and charges for equipment that most companies would have brought as part of their service.

Some residents also questioned the rates billed for labor, the amount of hours billed by individual employees and costs for tools and protective gear.

The cleanup costs averaged \$2,800 per house compared to \$6.000 bills paid by residents who hired their own contractor and sought reimbursement from the city, said Wild.

"Some of the questions on the bill were cleared up at the study session. The bill has been scrutinized. We sat down with Belfor and negotiated early on to get the original bill of \$2.5 million to \$2.1 million," said Wild, adding the city also got Belfor to forgo its standard 1.8 percent monthly interest charge on unpaid balances.

FIVE INSTALLMENTS

The city will pay the bill in five payments spread over three fiscal years. The total rate increase - \$16.12 on an average bill based on using 14 units of water — is to cover an expected 9 percent water rate increase from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department and a 15 percent hike in sewer rates from Wayne County along with funding local projects and restoring the water-sewer fund to solvency.

Part of the council's goal in restoring the solvency of the water-sewer fund is to improve the fund's bond rating and avoid the higher interest rates to finance larger projects that result from the lower rating.

Some residents questioned

whether the council was setting a precedent that would require the city to handle clean up at homes in the future.

Resident Mark Rodriguez cited language in the city charter requiring the council to set uniform water and sewer charges and not allowing anyone to have free services.

"You're setting a precedent for cleaning homes, if there is flooding. Are you getting bids from restoration companies for other flooding (that might occur)," he said.

Describing the widespread flooding as the largest natural disaster of Westland's 45-year history as a city, Wild said the city had to respond.

"The saying is no good deed goes unpunished. I can look into the (television) camera and said that I did the right thing," said Wild. "We take care of our community. There is nothing in the charter that says what to do if there is a hurricane, a flood or plane crashes in your neighborhood. Unless you are sitting in this chair, you won't know what it is like to have to make this decision. We stepped up to do the best we can for the community."

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MUST BE 21

NEWS

Siblings rally to help brother beat lymphoma

BY SUE MASON **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

It may not have been hospital policy, but for Brenda Leclercq and her brother Brian Haddow, walking two dogs into the ICU unit at Botsford Hospital was important — not only to them, but to their baby brother Kevin.

"Brian and I decided that Kevin's best friends, Cody and Marley, two beautiful golden retrievers that are his kids, should come pay a visit in the ICU unit," Leclercq said. "We just knew if we got those dogs there, they would help him recover."

A 30-year employee of Detroit Edison, Kevin Haddow has been battling a rare form of immunoblastic T-cell lymphoma. His family has partnered with the Garden City Firefighters Local 1911 to stage a bowling fundraiser Friday, March 4, to help the Garden City resident.

The benefit will be at Garden Lanes, 29145 W. Warren Road, east of Middlebelt, and proceeds will be used to pay his medical expenses. He is single and faces a 50-percent cut in pay in June.

NIGHT SWEATS

Kevin Haddow went to the doctor to find out why he was having night sweats and a fever. According to his sister, he had no pain, just the sweats.

"His sheets would be drenched in sweat," said Leclercq, whose husband Bob is a retired Garden City fire captain. "Doctors were baffled until they did the blood work. They decided to follow up with some blood studies, and that's when we knew something was terribly wrong."

Oncologist Dr. Craig Gordon, director of neoplastic diseases at Botsford Hospital, ordered two tests. First was a bone marrow biopsy, followed by a lymph node biopsy two days later. It took three weeks to get the biopsy report, which told

BOWLING FUNDRAISER

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday, March 4

Location: Garden Lanes. 29145 W. Warren Road, east of Middlebelt, Garden City Details: The fundraiser for Kevin Haddow is in partnership with Garden City Firefighters Union Local 1911. The cost is \$25 for adults and \$15 for children under age 14. Included is three games, shoes and pizza. Proceeds will be used to pay for costs related to treatment and co-pays. Tickets can be purchased in advance or at the door. Donations also are being accepted. Checks should be made payable to Garden City Firefighters Union/Kevin Haddow. Contact: Brenda Leclercq at (313) 670-6816 or Cindy Whismand at (734) 0986.

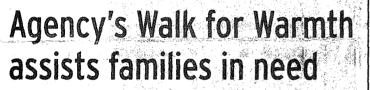
the family what type of lymphoma it was.

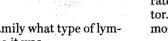
But while waiting for an answer, Haddow kept getting sick to the point that doctors had to begin some type of chemotherapy -- "It was a matter of life and death." They started to administer CHOP, one of the most common chemotherapy regimens for treating non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

The biggest problem was that Haddow's platelets were dropping and he started bleeding internally and had to have two surgeries to stop it, "even though they didn't know where he was bleeding," Leclercq said. "The doctors saved his life."

Every day challenged Haddow more. He didn't know that Christmas had come and gone, nor did he know that his five siblings had celebrated a new year.

"We stayed by his side, rubbing his feet, talking to him, to let him know that he wasn't alone in this fight for his life," Leclercq said. "We just looked forward to a new year, a new beginning for Kevin."





rated and was put on a ventilator. Then he developed pneumonia. 'MOUNTAINS TO CLIMB' "It was another mountain to climb, more prayers, try-

bowling fundraiser to help with his medical expenses.

ing to never give up on Kevin," Leclercq said. "The days and nights just seemed to run into each other, and it seemed like every time we got any hope of

At one point, Haddow aspi-

good news, bad news would follow with it."

That's when Leclercq and her brother Brian decided to take Cody and Marley to see Haddow. They didn't ask permission "because we knew the answer would be no."

"All of the brothers and sisters knew that if anything could bring Kevin back to

we decided to bring them to visit him in the ICU."

Leclercq and her brother walked the dogs into the hospital and stood in the waiting room, waiting for someone to scold them. No one did. People instead came up and petted the dogs, so they started walking through the hospital, just waiting to be stopped. When they finally got there, Leclercq remembers asking her brother, "Now what do we do?"

"He said, 'We'll just walk in," she said.

Concerned that they were so close but so far from her sick brother, Leclercq picked up the phone and told the staff that they were there to see Haddow and that she had a dog. When the automated doors opened, they quietly went to Haddow's room, where Leclercq held up his head so he could see them and they held the dogs up so he could touch them.

"Kevin spoke, we took pictures of the dogs with Kevin in his room," she said. "The doctors came by and talked to us, never saving a word. Somehow they knew that this might be the only chance to get Kevin to start the healing process."

the chance and the next day Haddow started to improve. After six weeks in ICU, Haddow is now home, "fighting with all his heart to get better and beat the odds." Cody and Marley are by his side. He faces 11 months of chemotherapy, at least once a month, if not more often.

His diagnosis is stage 4B, meaning bone marrow involvement. It has gone to his brain and he now has ports in the top of his head and one in his chest wall to receive his chemo treatments.

Doctors are optimistic and feel he can go into remission with the proper treatment. If the treatment doesn't work or if the lymphoma comes back, he will possibly need a bone marrow transplant.

"Kevin ĥas a long way to go, but he will make it," Leclercq said. "I believe that Cody and Marley saved Kevin. They brought him back. Miracles do happen, and Kevin is one.

"He truly is a hero to us," she added. "His fighting spirit amazes us. He know's that he has some mountains to climb, but faces them as a challenge. He will continue to fight with dignity and pride."

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Kevin Haddow of Garden City is finding he has help from his brothers and

sisters in his battle with immunoblastic T-Cell lymphoma. They're staging a

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 24, 2011

BY LEANNE ROGERS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Walking is a good way to generate some heat and money to help Wayne County families stay warm in their homes.

The Wayne Metropolitan **Community Action Agency is** holding its 15th annual Walk for Warmth 9 a.m. to noon Saturday. For the first time, the fundraiser will be held at Westland Shopping Center.

"We held this for 14 years at Southland Mall in Taylor. We decided to move it. We're trying to expand in western Wayne," said Erin Evans, Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency communications manager. "The mall has been great.

Each year, the walk draws 400-500 people who collect pledges to help families in need heat their homes. One hundred percent of the money raised, about \$40,000 in recent years, goes directly to families. Last year, Wayne Metro helped more than 1,000 with utility assistance payments but still couldn't meet the demand for services.

"We get 2,000 calls a week just for emergency utility assistance. The program is for people who have received a utility shut off notice or are at risk of shut off," said Evans. "We usually raise \$40,000 with the economy. Our goal is to raise \$50,000."

People can get involved by forming a team and collecting pledges - more information is available at www.waynemetro. org or by calling (734) 246-2280, Ext. 123. Evans said

people can sign up right up to the time of the walk.

"People just collect pledges --- we don't make them walk a certain amount. There will be entertainment at the same time. If they can't walk, they participate and watch the entertainment," said Evans.

Along with raising money, Evans said the Walk for Warmth is also a great way to make people aware of Wayne Metro, which recently opened an office at Westland's Dorsey Community Center located in the Norwayne community of Westland.

"This is really a great way to get us out there in the community," said Evans. "The walkers are from all over Wayne County and Oakland County."

Awards will be given to the youth and adult teams with the highest amount of pledges, biggest team of walkers, best team name and most team spirit. The individual that raises the most money over \$1,000 will win the Grand Prize Boyne Highlands Lodging and Lift or Golf Package. The grand prize package includes one night's hotel lodging for two in the main lodge at Boyne Highlands Resort and one-day unlimited lift tickets for two or one round of golf for two on choice of four Boyne Highlands golf courses.

The first 300 participants to pledge \$15 or more will receive an official 2011 Walk for Warmth T-shirt. The walk is a fun event for the entire family and includes a disc jockey, entertainment, face painting, door prizes and great shopping.

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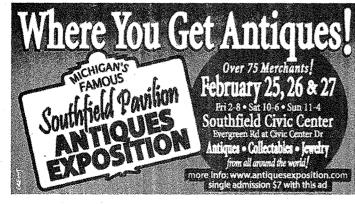
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12 POW CAS



A4 (WGc)

PUBLIC SAFETY hometownlife

Thursday, February 24, 2011

WESTLAND COP CALLS

Home invasion

MOn Feb. 17, a resident of an apartment at Hunters West Apartments, 6501 Yale, told police that someone had cut a screen and opened a window to enter the apartment. The resident said that a jewelry box belonging to his sister and containing miscellaneous earrings, bracelets and necklaces, valued at \$6,500, had been stolen.

The resident said that neither he nor his sister had been home for the preceding several days. It was unclear whether the window had been locked.

Copper stolen

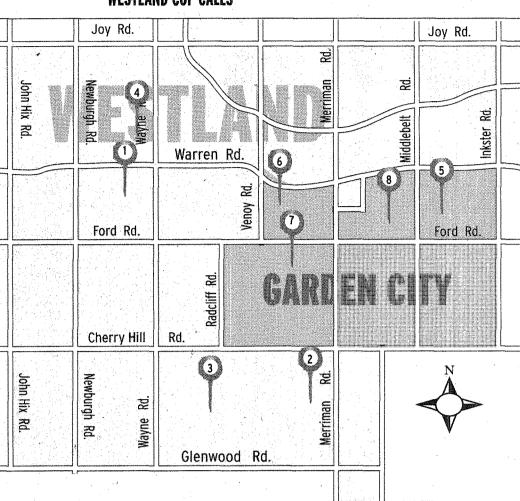
Copper plumbing was reported stolen from a duplex in the 31000 block of Allegan Court Feb. 17. A mortgage company employee told police that sometime since Feb. 3, someone had kicked in the front door of one unit and stole the plumbing.

Then someone kicked through the wall into the second unit and stole the pipes there. The kitchen counter, bathroom counter, toilet and several other cabinets were reported destroyed. The missing plumbing and damage was set at \$3,000.

Larceny from a vehicle police that a CPAP breathing machine and a home care breathing machine, valued at \$8,500, were stolen from his vehicle while it was parked in the 33000 block of Alaska Court Feb. 17. He said he spent the night at the location and in the morning found his vehicle door open with the items missing.

Retail fraud

Police were called to Kohl's, 35000 Warren Road, Feb. 17 after employees reported stopping a shoplifter. The employee told police that he saw a woman remove the tags



from a wallet, then selected a ring before entering the restroom. When the woman left the restroom, the ring was on her finger, the employee said.

The Romulus woman was stopped as she left the store without paying for the ring or wallet, valued at \$77. She was cited for retail fraud and released.

Attempted vehicle thefts

A resident of Warris Farms Apartments, 37195 McKinney, told police Feb. 17 that someone had tried to steal her 2005 Chrysler Sebring from the parking lot. She said that she had found the driver's door lock, the steering column and ignition damaged.

The manager of Warris Farms Apartments, 37115

McKinney, reported Feb. 17 someone had tried to steal a company plow truck. The 1994 Dodge Ram truck was reported to have damage to the passenger side door lock and ignition.

Stolen vehicles

On Feb. 17, a resident in the 800 block of North Bayfield told police that someone had stolen his 2007 Dodge Charger from the driveway. He said the vehicle is paid off. The man also told police that during a break-in at the home two years ago, the ignition key to the vehicle had been stolen but it wasn't clear if the thefts were related.

• A 2002 Chrysler Sebring was reported stolen from Colonial Village Apartments, 8181 N. Wayne Road, Feb. 17. The owner said he was current on the payments and had the keys to the vehicle.

• On Feb. 17, a resident in the Parkcrest Apartments, 36750 Parkcrest, told police that someone had stolen his 2001 Chrysler Sebring. He told police the car was paid for and that he had all the keys to the vehicle.

Larceny from a vehicle

A resident in the 1600 block of South Carlson told police Feb. 13 that he found the passenger door on his Ford Escape open. Reported missing from the vehicle were a snow blower, a radar detector and a CB radio valued at \$1,100 along with \$20 in coins. -By LeAnne Rogers

GARDEN CITY COP CALLS

ONLINE PHOTO GALLERIES

hometownlife 📶 com

Disorderly person

A 50-year-old Romulus 🕽 man ḋressed in camouflage-style clothing was arrested for trespassing, disorderly conduct and obstructing a police officer at the Kroger store, 5866 Middlebelt, about 5:30 p.m. Feb. 20.

The mother of two 13-yearold Girl Scouts who were selling cookies in the vestibule said that the man repeatedly cursed at them and used foul language. They told police he would walk in and out of the grocery store and vell obscenities. In one instance, he said, "I'm a gangster and I'll kill all of ya," they said.

He also took a box of Girl Scout cookies without paying for them and went inside the store. He returned a short time later with groceries and wanted to "trade" a grocery item he purchased for the box of Girl Scout cookies which he took.

He also threatened to kill the people inside the store and gained the manager's attention who told him he would be trespassing, if he returned. He didn't comply and the police arrested him. He was taken to the police station, processed and released with his groceries.

Vehicle theft

6 A 43-year-old Dearborn man said that his Ford truck, which had a snowplow attached to it, was stolen sometime before Feb. 16 after he parked it in the lot next to the Sunoco gas station at 32889 Warren Road.

He said that he parked it there because he didn't have room to park it at his house.

Although the truck was parked out of the view of the video camera, its departure, but not the driver, could be seen on the video.

The owner said that his tools and fuel pump equipment .

were inside of the stolen truck.

Theft

A 40-year-old Garden City woman said that someone stole the stereo from her 1994 Ford Explorer some time between 7 p.m. Feb. 17 to 7 a.m. Feb. 18 after she left it for repairs at American Transmission, 31749 Ford.

The dash was severely damaged, and the police could find no evidence at the scene.

• The father of sons who attend the Lathers Early Childhood and Kindergarten Center said that someone stole his Craftsman tool box and tools about 1:45 p.m. Feb. 18 after he picked up his sons and left the tools on the ground near the school.

He said that he took the tools out of his vehicle to make room for the boys. He realized that he left the tools at the school grounds when he returned home and couldn't find the tools when he went to the school to retrieve them.

Suspended license

The police arrested a 34year-old Ypsilanti man for driving with a suspended license about 4 p.m. Feb. 21 on northbound Middlebelt at Ford. Police found there was an outstanding warrant in Ypsilanti for his arrest on a family offense.

Retail fraud

A 35-year-old Westland woman was arrested about 5:30 p.m. Feb. 16 because she failed to pay for makeup at the Kmart store located at 29600 Ford, Garden City.

She told police that she forgot that she put the mascara and eyeliner in her pocket. When the police checked her criminal history, they learned that she had a fail to appear warrant out of 19th District Court in Dearborn. -By Sue Buck

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*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Rates are effective as of February 22, 2011 and are subject to change without notice. Stated rates are available for these model year vehicles for our members with 'A' credit scores, and they include a .50% reduction for automatic payments from your active Catholic Vantage Financial checking account with direct deposit. Your rate will be determined by your credit history, model year of vehicle, loan program and and additional account relationships. Other great rates are term selected, available. Ask us for details. Loans currently financed through Catholic Vantage Financial are ineligible for this offer



OE0873134

A5 (WGc)



Mary Mercy Hospital staff showed their support by wearing red for the American Heart Association Go Red for Women campaign.

St. Mary Mercy goes red for women

Heart disease is the No. 1 killer of women.

In support of American Heart Month, St. Mary Mercy Hospital celebrated the American Heart Association's National Wear Red Day on Friday, Feb. 4. 🛰

Each year, St. Mary Mercy raises awareness to this cause by encouraging employees, physicians and volunteers to wear red.

All month long, heart-conscious activities take place including healthy breakfast and lunch options in the cafeteria, heart smart seminars, free blood pressure screenings for staff, and Jeans Day.

Associates can donate \$5 to wear jeans or a colorful/ pattern scrub top to work. Proceeds benefit the American Heart Association Start! Heart Walk held in May.

"Bringing awareness to American Heart Month is important because it affects

services at St. Mary Mercy. "We know that 80 percent of cardiac events in women can be prevented if they avoid smoking and make smart diet and exercise choices. Women can also take advantage of our Heart & Vascular Center's wellness screening programs to help maintain a healthy life."

The Heart & Vascular Center's screening programs include:

• StavFit (\$49) - Includes bone density, blood pressure, cholesterol, Body Mass Index (BMI), and risk assessment

• ForeverFit (\$49) - Includes electrocardiogram (EKG), blood pressure, cholesterol, and cardiovascular risk assessment

• VascularFit (\$49) - Carotid artery ultrasound, Ankle-Brachial Index, abdominal ultrasound, and cardiovascular risk assessment

• HeartFit (\$79) - Blood

cardiovascular risk assessment The screening results are

provided to patients to share with their physician. For more information or to make an appointment for a wellness screening, call (734) 655-2961.

Go Red For Women is the American Heart Association's solution to save women's lives. With one out of three women still dying from heart disease, AHA is committed to fighting this No. 1 killer that is preventable.

GoRedForWomen.org, a premier source of information and education, connects millions of women of all ages and gives them tangible resources to turn personal choices into life-saving actions. For more information, visit GoRedForWomen.org or call 1-888-MY-HEART (1-888-694-3278).

Markets can mirror Michigan weather

prises. Therefore, before you

ing you can make some fast

money, think again.

jump back in the market think-

I want to remind everyone

about the opportunity to make

IRA contributions, both Roth

and Traditional, for 2010. You

have until April 15 to make a

2010 IRA contribution. For

most people, I recommend

Roth IRAs over traditional

money to grow tax-free versus

tax-deferred. In addition, with

a Roth IRA you're not subject

to required minimum distribu-

The downside of a Roth IRA

is that the money you are con-

In a Traditional IRA you get a

because you can deduct your

contribution. However, when

money is withdrawn from the

to income tax. I love having

money grow tax-free and the

Traditional IRA it is all subject

substantial tax savings up front

tributing is post-tax money.

IRAs, because they allow

tions at the age of 701/2.

nvestors have felt very good as of late because all the major indexes closed at twoyear highs.

However, just like we all know this is Michigan and

Mother Nature can remind us it is still wintertime at any point - markets can change at the same pace.

shown incredible strength. However, dur-

ing that time it hasn't always been blue skies. During the last two-year period there have been numerous times when the markets sold off. In fact, that's the way markets operate. They never go straight down or straight up, they're always zigging and zagging in one direc-

markets is this: Every so often there is a correction. I'm not saying the market today is

Author to speak about Holocaust Museum visit

Michigan author Robert M. Weir will speak about his visit to the Holocaust Museum in Berlin, Germany, during the monthly meeting of Citizens for Peace at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 8, at Unity Church in Livonia.

The public is invited. Weir pondered the question of how so many could kill so many during a recent visit to the Holocaust Museum. Deeply moved by what he learned at the 4.7-acre memorial to the mur-

dered Jews of Europe, he developed his presentation and discussion forum which includes a 12-minute video of the museum.

He will recount his personal emotions and the impressions he saw etched in the faces of those visiting the memorial. Weir hopes to elicit more questions from his audience and discuss the similarities of pre-war Germany and social conditions that exist in some nations today.

Weir writes and speaks about

people, peace, social justice, the environment and outdoor adventures.

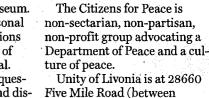
ready for a correction but I just ability to let it grow tax-free for want to remind investors to use as long as I choose. That is why your head. We all want this to I am always in favor of Roth be the end of winter; however, IRAs. we all know Mother Nature While it is not too late to will most likely have some sur-

make a 2010 Roth IRA contribution, it's also not too early to make IRA contributions for 2011. The sooner you make the contribution the longer the money grows. "

Don't forget that when it comes to investing, it's not picking the best performing investment that will make you successful. What will make you successful is picking the investment that best coordinates with your other investments in your overall investment strategy.

Before you buy anything know exactly what it costs to buy, hold and sell. Successful investors have learned that a key ingredient to higher returns is low-cost investing. Good luck!

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



Middlebelt and Inkster roads). Donations are desired, but not required. For more information, call (734) 425-0079.





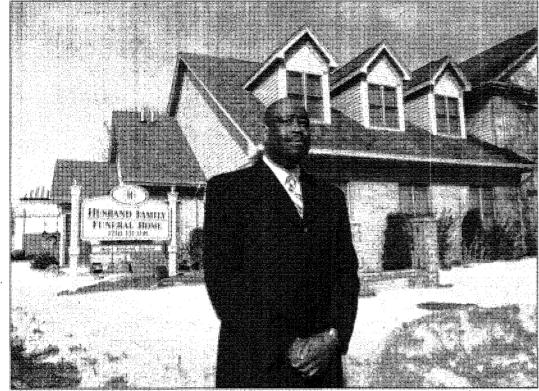
tion or the other. What's also inevitable about

No doubt **Money Matters** when you look over the last **Rick Bloom** two years, the markets have

A6 (WGc)

STRICTLY BUSINESS hometownlifemcom Thursday, February 24, 2011

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



Roger Husband is the owner/director of Husband Family Funeral Home on Wayne Road, south of Palmer, in Westland.

Director brings 30 years of experience to new funeral home

When the owners of a building on Wayne Road south of Palmer in Westland, formerly occupied by a funeral home, found themselves without a tenant, they had few options. They could attempt to sell or lease the building to another tenant or "turn lemons into lemonade."

The 11,000-square foot, two-story building, decorated throughout with warm colors, fireplaces, and even a banquet room, was the perfect environment for a funeral home. The building's owners placed numerous ads, taking inquiries from in and out-of-state funeral homes looking to expand as well as funeral directors looking to start their own businesses. Through a referral by Wayne State University's Mortuary Science Department, Roger Husband began conversations with the building owners. As a 30-year veteran of the funeral home business, he has serviced the Detroit area community in all phases of the grieving

HUSBAND FAMILY FUNERAL HOME

Business Name and Address: Husband Family Funeral Home, 2401 S. Wayne Road, Westland Your Name and Title: Roger Husband, owner/director **Business Opened When:** January 2011

Business Specialty: Husband Family Funeral Home is a full service facility, offering a wide variety of funeral and cremation packages and options. The facility has two chapels and a repast room

Business Phone and/or Website: (734)331-3349, www. rhusband.com

MILESTONES

Cooking Demonstration

Time/Date: 10 and 11 a.m. Wednesday, March 2 Location: Westland Weight Watchers Center located

inside the West Ridge Center at 36585 Warren Road, Westland.

Details: Chefs Jesse Gales and Isabella Nicoletti will offer a cooking demonstration and dessert sampling at the Westland Weight Watchers Center. The meeting is open and free to the public. Anyone who is interested in learning more about Weight Watchers can do so without having to pay a meeting fee. Galese and Nicoletti, the official chefs of Weight Watchers Group, will also share tips on healthful eating and cooking techniques, as well as answer questions.

Contact: Call 888) 332-6746 for more information.

Walk for Warmth

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 26 Location: Westland Shopping, 35000 Warren Road at Wayne Road, Westland

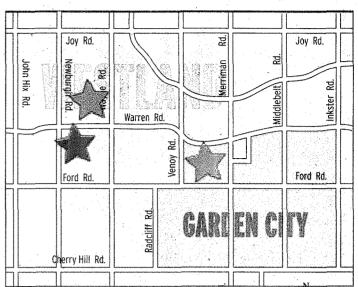
Details: Westland Shopping Center will serve as host for 15th annual.

Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency Walk for Warmth. Join Westland Mayor William

Wild and Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano in a fundraiser to help alleviate the struggles of people who are faced with making the choice to feed their family or heat their homes. Last year, Wayne Metro helped more than 1,000 people with utility assistance payments and still couldn't meet the demand for services. Register to come out and walk, become a Warm-A-Heart campaign partner or make a donation

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

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



online at www.waynemetro.org. Contact: For more information, call (734) 246-2280.

Crop Nights

Time/Date: 5-11 p.m. Friday, March 11 and April 8 Location: Maxwell's Arts and Treasurers, 32416 Industrial, north

" of Ford, Garden City Details: Join your fellow scrappers at Maxwell's fro Friday Night Crops. Maxwell's will provide the tables, snacks, and prizes. All you need to do is bring your supplies and have some fun. Call ahead to reserve a space. Cost is \$10 per evening. Profits will help outfit the Maxwell's stage with sound equipment.

Contact: (734) 427-5300, Ext. 7 for the store or Ext. 2 for the office or Laura by e-mail at laura@maxwellsartandtreasures.com.

Simply Polish

Location: Simply Polish, 6201 Middlebelt, Garden City Details: Simply Polish has begun its spring cleaning and is offering 30 percent off any item with a coupon available on its website at www.simplypolishusa.com. Simply Polish is your number one source for Polish pottery, amber jewelry, glass ornaments, crystal artifacts, dance lessons, dance costumes, Tshirts, language classes and more. When it comes to pottery, it stocks a wide variety of plates, mugs, cups and saucers, bowls, ovenware, stoneware, coffee and tea pots, candlesticks, home accessories, gifts and more. Contact: Call (734) 525-2880 for

information and store hours.

Coffee Connection

Time/Date: 8-9 a.m. March 10 Location: Personalized Hearing Care, 35337 W. Warren Road, Suite 3, Westland

Details: The Westland Chamber of Commerce's monthly Coffee Connection will be hosted by Personalized Hearing Cares located on Warren Road, just east of Target, in Westland. Stop in for coffee and get some networking done before you have to go to work. No need to RSVP, just stop in when you can. Contact: Call the Chamber at (734) 326-7222 for more information.

of Wayne State's instructors. During the vetting process, the building owners also learned of Roger's flawless reputation, known for his insight and complete professionalism when assisting families in their worst hours of need. Husband had planned to own

and operate his own funeral business one day. He realized that opportunities like this do not present themselves often and so, a partnership was formed.

Opening just six weeks ago, Husband Family Funeral Home is already lending support and outreach to a community of people who respect hard working, dedicated business owners. It is a full service facility, offering a wide variety of funeral

and cremation packages and

options. The facility has two

With highly competitive pric-

ing, they handle all aspects of

the funeral process, including

transportation and after-care

counseling, with dignity and

compassion.

chapels and a repast room.

🖎 ST. MARY MERCY

process.

A graduate of Wayne State University's Department of Mortuary Science, his's resume is very impressive. Among his many commitments, he continues to teach classes as one

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

High marks

Antoinette D. Martin, a financial advisor with an Ameriprise Financial advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. has received high marks from her clients in the recent Ameriprise financial advisor client satisfaction survey.

A Westland resident, Martin ranked in the top 25 percent of participating advisors who scored 96 percent or higher based on overall client satisfaction and the frequency of proactive contact the client

received from the advisor. Conducted by an independent research organization, the survey provides clients with the opportunity to rate their advisor. There are nine areas for clients to rate their advisor, ranging from financial knowledge to ability to

provide financial advice that

suits the individual needs of

"Client satisfaction is the

most to an advisor," said Don

metric that should matter

Froude, president of The

Personal Advisors Group,

Ameriprise Financial. "Our

the client.

advisors take pride in knowing their clients better than anyone in the industry. And based on the client satisfaction results, our clients appreciate the service they are receiving."

As a financial advisor, Martin provides customized financial advice that is anchored in a solid understanding of client needs and expectations, and provided in a one-on-one relationship with her client. Martin's office is located at 23054 Cherry Hill, Dearborn. She can be reached at (313) 216-0124.

When to give up? The answer is never

oday's topic is on my mind this week because of conversations with friends facing various employment

related challenges. When bombarded by adversity, this question often comes to mind. When to give up?

The answer **Clarity Patton** is as simple as it may be dif-Newhouse ficult. Never.

Don't give up your dreams. Don't give up your goals. Don't give up your faith in yourself. You are the only person guaranteed to always be there to cheer you on - or discourage you if you let that happen.

It's so easy to get discouraged in today's economy. The phrase "I can't" (that should be erased from our vocabulary) starts to

SUNNY NOTE

take hold. I can't possibly ... close enough sales, start my own business, find a new job, achieve my dreams. Actually, ves vou can (eventually), no matter how unlikely or even impossible the goal seems.

The question is: how many times are we willing to hear "no" before we get to "yes." The answer had better be, "as many as it takes" or we probably won't get there.

I've talked to people lately who aren't looking for jobs because they hear there aren't any available. OK, sure, I know the statistics and, yes, they may be against you. But if you don't enter the race you have no chance to win.

So if there's something you want to do - at home or at work - don't give up! And have a

sunny day. **Clarity Patton Newhouse**

P.S. "Nothing in the world can take the place of Persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful men with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent.

Calvin Coolidge,

30th President of the United States (1872 - 1933)

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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A7 (WGc)

Students celebrate success of Cell Phones for Soldiers

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN CORRESPONDENT

The free Little Caesars pizza was definitely a hit with students at Churchill High School recently.

Churchill students were rewarded with the pizza for collecting the most cell phones for soldiers in December in a competition with Franklin and Stevenson high schools. Students in Livonia Public Schools collected 3,000 cell phones at the district's 24 schools.

Holmes Middle School won the middle school competition and will have pizza parties for 900 students Feb. 23-25.

The prize was the Pizza Party courtesy of the GM Military Discount Program, Chevrolet, Little Caesars Pizza, and 99.5 WYCD Detroit's Country radio station (CBS Radio).

REACHING OUT

"I love pizza" was the first thing out of Megan McDonald's mouth as she sat with students from the leadership classes. For them, it was a jubilant occasion and everyone was proud of the accomplishment.

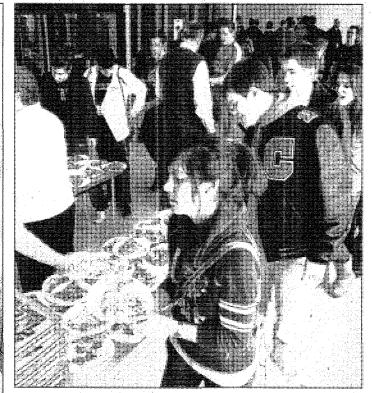
"It was a good experience," said McDonald, a senior. "It's reaching out to the community and showing our support."

McDonald was one of the Churchill students who wrote Christmas cards to Michigan-based troops overseas and enclosed a pre-paid phone card as part of the green initiative. The used phones collected by Livonia students were recycled and proceeds used to purchase prepaid cards worth 180,000 minutes.

"We wanted to tell them we appreciate them," said McDonald.

Founded in 2004, Cell Phones for Soldiers was the idea of Robbie and Brittany Bergquist, then 12 and 13 years old. Based in Massachusetts, the nonprofit organization has provided U.S. service men and women with more than 90 million





Tracey Van De Ven and Keith Chartrand pick up some pizza for lunch.



Devonte Woods passes out water bottles.

competition between the schools."

"And we crushed Stevenson and Franklin," added senior Tom Windle. "We always like to beat them. Our canned food drive we collected 39,412 Phones for Soldiers, visit cans for Goodfellows."

Gina Davis and her cochairs are about to start planning an early April auction for First Step, the agency offering services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. The cell phone

drive was especially important to her.

'It hit home," said Davis. "One of my family members was in the war."

For information about Cell www.cellphonesforsoldiers. com, or www.facebook. com/JoinCellPhonesforSol diers. Local school districts can contact linda.stouffer@ GM.com if they are interested in holding a district-wide school drive.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Parent Georgi Ryktarsyk and student Derek Goeglein prepare for the lunch crowd at Churchill High School's pizza party.

minutes of free talk time. Locally, the cell phone drive evolved from the GM Military program that provides discounts on vehicles to active and reserve soldiers.

"Livonia has a high concentration of military families. That's why we chose it," said Linda Stouffer, marketing manager of Vehicle Purchase Programs for GM. "We wanted to find a way to give back to the military. We know how important it is for them to keep in contact with their families.'

Stouffer would like to challenge other districts to hold a used cell phone drive for soldiers. She was amazed at the number of phones collected by Livonia students. The drives have netted more than 30,000 cells from around country.

"LPS represents 10 percent of that," said Stouffer as she watched a steady stream of students pass in front of her with their pizza.

PARENTS HELP TOO

Georgi Ryktarski, a mother and member of the PTSA, and student Derek Goeglen had been stacking pizza boxes before the lunch rush began and still were busy. Ryktarski was one of 10 PTSA volunteers. She thought it was "important to help the students" whenever she and her husband could.

Churchill Principal Joe Anderson was happy for the PTSA's help. He was worried about how they were going to serve 2,100 kids, but the staff came up with a plan to give students different color tickets for each of the parties that were held on three consecutive days. A total of 358 pizzas were consumed at Churchill.

"It's a great recognition for kids to be rewarded for doing something nice," said Anderson. "Our students already know how important it is to help others. I wasn't surprised they won." ----

Little Caesars stores began supporting Cell Phones for Soldiers in March 2010. Since the partnership began, customers have donated more than 24,000 phones.

BUILDING COMMUNITY

Assistant Principal Marsha Byrd said the Cell Phones for Soldiers drive "was a good way to build community and make it a smaller world, and for students to be exposed to different aspects of life like businesses and military. It was good for students to see the impact of working together. It's been wonderful. Everybody worked together."

"It was something we could actually do instead of contributing money," said Stephen Charnley, a senior.

Student activities director Karla Halvangis helped by promoting the cell phone drive. "I tried to play up the





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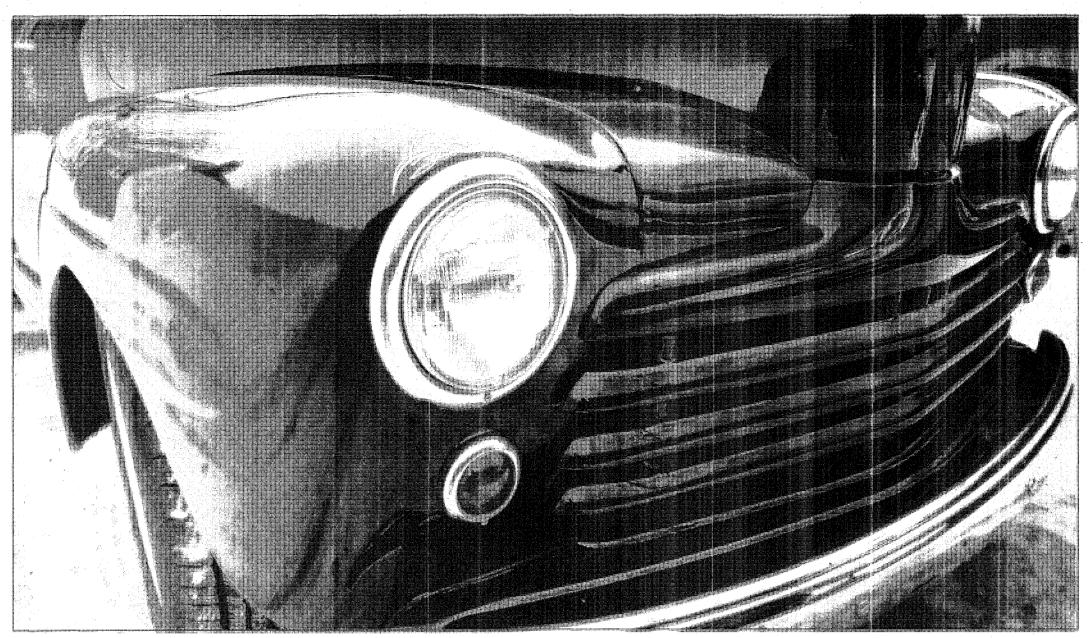
Monte Cristo Sandwich



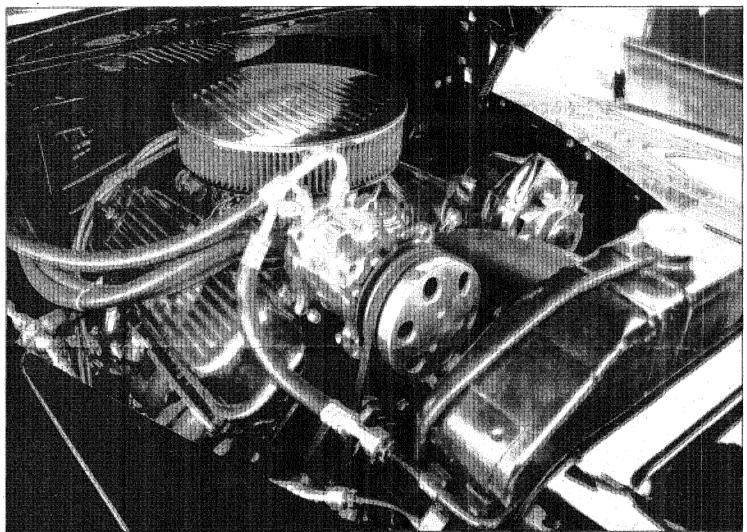
Ultimate Pubporium Cheeseburger

\$6 ALL DAY

Å8



While the car was completely done. McKinnon added pinstripes to the front and rear of the car.



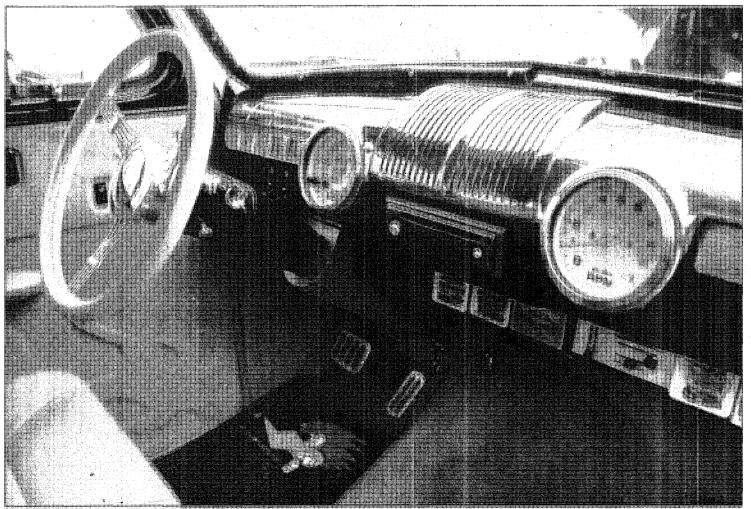
Classics, customs invade Cobo for annual Autorama

B illed as America's Greatest Hot Rod Show, the turbo charged 59th annual Meguiar's Autorama roars into Cobo Center in Detroit Friday-Sunday, Feb. 25-27.

The annual winter ritual brings the most devout gear heads and just plain curious folks, with more than 1,000 exhibits of hot rods, custom cars, trucks, vans and motorcycles of the past and present. This year's show features award winning customs from across the country, including the radical custom car Scythe, presented by Galpin Auto Sports, Dennis Li'l Daddy Roth's Streetnik Bandit, the Goodguys Hot Rod of the Year and The Downtown Brown '30 Ford. New this year is the Hollywood Legends car display, featuring some of the most famous TV and movie cars in history, including the KITT car from Knight Rider, the Torino from Starsky ど Hutch, the General Lee from Dukes of Hazzard, the sheriff's car from The Andy Griffith Show, the Ghostbusters movie car. the Monkeemobile and the Green Hornet TV Car. The entire lower level of Cobo Center also features Detroit Autorama Extreme 1953 with 225 traditional rods, customs and bobber bikes presented by 89X. At the heart of Autorama are hundreds of sizzling striped and souped up masterpieces of backyard car jockeys from across the country who flock to the motor city to show off their originals for the first time. The autos compete for awards and prizes in

the Summit Show Car Series. The series competition culminates in the awarding of a check for \$1,000 each to the Pirelli Great 8. One of the great eight is named winner of the prestigious Ridler Award for the best vehicle first time shown sponsored by GM Performance Division.

Under the hood of Don McKinnon's 1947 Ford Coupe is 454 Chevy motor and overdrive automatic transmission.



The car may be a 1947 but it has newer features like air conditioning, heat and a stereo. It also sports Mopar floor mats with Woody the Woodpecker on them.

The winner receives \$10,000 in cash plus a custom trophy and a jacket.

Other features at this year include Preservation Award Winner Barry Ewing with his Oliver Hines' 1933 Ford Coupe, winner of Autorama best in show 1955, 1956 and 1957, The Drag City USA exhibit presented by Milan Dragway, featuring vintage race cars, the 17th annual Toy A Rama and the Hot Rod Heritage Fine Art Exhibit.

Appearances on the Celebrity stage include Jonathan Hillstrand from Deadliest Catch, Debby Ryan from Disney's Suite Life on Deck, Billy Bretherton from Billy the Exterminator, Sammi Sweetheart from MTV's Jersey Shore and WWE Wrestling Superstar Shawn Michaels.

Show hours are noon-10 p.m. Friday, Feb. 25, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26, and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 27. Admission at the door is \$18 for adults, \$5 for children 6-12 years and children under age 5 free. Discount tickets -\$15 for adults and \$4 for children - are available at O'Reilly's Auto Parts.

For more information call (248) 373-1700 or go to the Autorama website at www.autorama.com.

AUTORAMA FROM PAGE A1

years ago when the club celebrated its 30th anniversary at Autorama. That time the temperature was 50 degrees and he drove his '37 Ford there.

"I've been playing with motors since forever," said McKinnon. "I bought my first car when I was 18, a 1963 Plymouth. I street raced with it a lot."

Over the years, the retired Detroit police officer has owned a 1969 Dodge Dart, 1971 Dodge Demon, 1963 Dodge and a 1937 Ford that was destroyed in a house fire at his other house in Detroit. He used the insurance proceeds to by the '47 Ford from a guy in Woodhaven after a friend refused to sell him his coupe.

"My friend found it on the Internet," said McKinnon. "I went to look at it and two of my friends came a long. While I was looking it over, the one friend said he didn't know why I was looking at it because I'd already bought."

The coupe is pretty much as it was when he bought although he rebuilt the motor last fall and spent the winter cleaning and waxing it. Under the hood, the car has a 454 Chevy motor, an overdrive automatic transmission, Mopar front suspension. The interior is done in leather and it comes with air, heat, stereo and seat belts.

"It's a new car with an old car body basically," said McKinnon.

SOCIAL CONNECTION

McKinnon's wife, Gerri, enjoys the rides. When he thought about quitting the club, she told him no and When they thought about moving to Georgia where a friend lives, they decide to stay in Michigan. There's not the enthusiasm for classic cars down there like here.

"A lot of my club friends are retired, they love old cars and love doing things in them," he said. "It's our social life. If something would have happened to friend, we would have been alone."

"I was a Motor City kind of kid," he added. "I had model cars when I was little. I've been interested in them forever. It's a lifestyle."

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

CALENDAR

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 24, 2011

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 Widowed Women

Date: Monday, March 7, 14, 21 and 28

Location: Toast Restaurant, 28340 Ford Road, just west of Inkster Road in Garden City

Details: All widowed women are invited to come to a Widowed Friends on Mondays in March at the Toast Restaurant to establish friendships, plan activities, share ideas and discuss what is offered. **Contact**: Reservations are requested for each week you plan on attending.

Contact: Laura at (734) 992-8238 **Open House**

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, March 6 Location: St. Robert Bellarmine School, 27101 W. Chicago, Redford Details: St. Robert Bellarmine School is accepting enrollment for our preschool for 3-4-year-old children. It also has openings in grades K-8 for the 2011-2012 school year. The school offers a strong academic curriculum as well as art, music, library, computer, physical education and Spanish. It emphasizes strength in academics, respect for others and belief in Christian values in a quality faith-based educational environment. Latchkey is available before and after school. Contact: Call (313) 937-1655 or visit the website at www.strobertbellarmine.com and click on the school link.

American Legion

Time/Date: 7 p.m. first Tuesday of the month

Location: Harris-Kehrer VFW Post, 1055 S. Wayne Road, Westland **Details:** American Legion Westland Post 251 meets at the VFW hall the first Tuesday of each month. The post welcomes all veterans male and female who have been honorably discharged.

Contact: Bill Acton at (734) 326-2607, Ron Nickels at (734) 455-3415 or visit the website at www.post251. com or www.post251.org.

Angela Hospice

Time/Date: 5:30 p.m. Thursday, March 24 Location: Laurel Manor, 39000



Wish You Were Here

The sun was shining when Rob Ozenghar of Westland and Gail and Larry Cranston of Jensen Beach, Fla., posed with Ozenghar's Westland Observer at the Florida Costal Oceanographic Center in Stuart, Fla., and shared the Westland Observer. They also visited the New York Mets training camp. If you go on vacation, be sure to take a picture with your Observer and send it to Sue Mason as a jpg 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.

21 or until sold out. Tickets for purse raffle also can be purchased. Winners need not be present to win. Contact: Call Contact Barb Iovan at (734) 953-6045 or by e-mail at biovan@angelahospice.net.

Fish fry

Time/Date: 5-8 p.m. every Friday Location: Monaghan Knights of Columbus, 19801 Farmington Road, between Seven and Eight Mile roads, years of dance experience, and Livonia

Details: Dinners cost \$8.95 per person.

Contact: For details and reservations, call (248) 476-8383.

Juried Craft Show

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 9 Location: Eton Senior Center, 4900

Pardee, Dearborn Heights, Details: Vendors can visit the Eton Senior Citizen Center to pick up an application for the crafts show between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Application deadline is March 4. The show will feature jewelry, edibles, art wear, wood, personalized Items, paper and glass. Food will be available for purchase. and there will be a raffle. The show benefits the Dearborn Heights Senior Citizen Program. Contact: For more information, call (313) 277-7765.

Contact: For more information, call (888) 660-2007 and leave a message.

Earth Angels

Details: Earth Angels, a children's entertainment/ performance nonprofit 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 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 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,

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

Writing Group Time/date: 7 p.m. the second

Wednesday of every month Location: Wayne Public Library, 3737 S. Wayne Road, Wayne Details: The Story Circle Network is made up of women who want to explore their lives and souls through life-writing, writing that focuses on personal experience through memoirs and autobiographies, in diaries, journals and personal essays. Participants should bring a notebook or laptop computer to each meeting to spend some time writing, and for those who are comfortable doing so, sharing their writing. Membership in Story Circle's National Network is optional. Participation in the group is free.

Contact: www.storycircle.org or send an e-mail to shepry@yahoo. com

Toastmasters

Location: Westland Easytalkers Toastmasters Club meets every Thursday at 6:45 P.M. in the lower level of the Bailey Recreation Center, located behind the Westland City Hall on Ford between Wayne Road and Newburgh. **Details**: Toastmasters provides a supportive environment where members can overcome the fear of

speaking in public. The membership is a diverse group from different walks of life.

Contact: For information, call Bill at (734) 306-3980 or Curt at (734) 525-8445.

TOPS 869

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

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

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

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

Leaion Post 251

Time/date: 7 p.m. first Tuesday of the month

Location: 1217 Merriman Road, between Avondale and Palmer. Westland.

Details: All veterans, male and female with a honorable discharge are welcome to join. Contact: www.post251.org or call (734) 326-2607

TOPS M128

Time/date: 7 p.m. Mondays Location: Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne Road, at Hunter, Westland Contact: Pat Strong at (734) 326-3539 or Mary Lowe at (734) 729-6879

Garden City Dems

Time/date: 7 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month (September through June) Location: Room 5 of the Maplewood Center, Maplewood west of Merriman, Garden City Contact: Billy Pate at (734) 427-2344

Citizens for Peace

Time/date: 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month

Location: Unity of Livonia Church on Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Livonia Details: The group is dedicated to working for creation of a U.S. Department of Peace. All are welcome.

Contact: Colleen Mills at (734) 425-0079

In Harmony

Time/date: 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays Location: Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland Details: For men interested in the chapter's Renaissance Chorus or who enjoy quartetting Contact: call membership chairman Bob Wolf at (734) 421-1652, or attend a rehearsal

Veteran's Haven

Location: Veteran Haven's Outreach Center 4924 S. Wayne Road two blocks south of Annapolis in Wayne. **Details**: Veteran's Haven operates a car, boat, camper and real estatedonation program. Donations are tax-deductible. Food is distributed to veterans once a month throughout the month and there is a supplemental food program 9 a.m. to noon Wednesdays.

Contact: (734) 728-0527

Silver Strings Dulcimer

Time/date: 7-9 p.m. the first and third Thursday of the month Location: Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City

Details: Musicians and listeners are welcome to stop by and visit a traditional music jam. Acoustic instruments include hammered and mountain dulcimer, guitar, banjo, fiddle, harmonica, concertina, autoharp, recorder, pennywhistle, ukulele and upright bass. Contact: (734) 482-2902, http:// geocities.com/ssdsociety

Garden City Kiwanis

Time/date: 12:15 p.m. Thursdays Location: Amantea Restaurant. 32777 Warren Road, Garden City Details: Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to bettering the world one child and one community at a time. Guests and potential new members are always welcome.

Share your good news with friends, family and neighbors in your

Schoolcraft Road, Livonia Details: Designer purses full of gift certificates, donated by Emmy-winning actress Mariska Hargitay, star of "Law and Order: SVU," NBC's "The Today Show" co-host Kathie Lee Gifford, popular WDIV-TV Channel 4 news anchor Carmen Harlan and WOMC 104.3 FM's "Sunday Brunch" host Stacey DuFord will be raffled off during Angela Hospice's fourth annual women's event, "Laughter Lifts You Up!" Guests will enjoy a gourmet meal with dessert and a wine, beer and soda bar. A fashion show of designer purses will entertain guests before the night's main act, comedian Debi Gutierrez. All proceeds from the event benefit grief support and counseling programs offered by Angela Hospice, free to the community for all ages. Reservations are \$45 per person and are available through March

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.

bands.

Westland.

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

ORGANIZATIONS

Friends of Eloise Time/date: 7 p.m. third Tuesday of the month (except July, August and December)

Location: Collins House in the Westland Historic Village Park, 857 N. Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill, Westland. Contact: Jo Johnson (734) 522-3918

Westland Rotary

Time/Date: 12:15 p.m. Thursdays Location: Salvation Army, 2300 S. Venoy, south of Palmer, Westland Details: Community Service programs and planning. Catered lunch; visitors welcome. Contact: Mary at (734) 729-5401

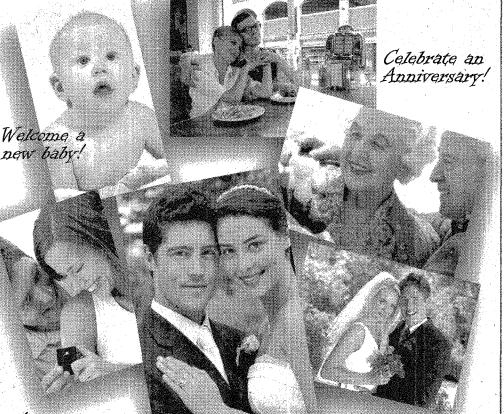
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OPINION

Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.



Director of Advertising

OUR VIEWS

Double shock

THURSDAY, February 24, 2011

Governor's budget means tough times for city, schools

Shock is the strongest word we can think of to describe the message that came out of Lansing last week.

We should have known Gov. Rick Snyder's budget was going to be bad news for the city, schools and residents when an aide was chastised for calling it an "atomic bomb" even before it was unveiled, but we had no idea it would be so severe.

We can't say we didn't expect cuts. We knew they had to happen. It's the scope of them. The governor plans to have the state in the black in two years. Unfortunately, that won't be said of cities and schools that will bear the brunt of the state's light-year jump to fiscal health.

The cities had been preparing for less in shared revenue, but even on a good day, a range of \$1.2 million to more than \$2 million is hard to swallow for the city of Westland. And resuscitation may be necessary for Wayne-Westland school officials who will see \$14 million is revenue disappear, if the governor's budget is approved as is.

The governor's proposals are painful at best. They leave us reeling at the thought it what must be done, especially with the schools, to balance the budget. Luckily, both the city and school district have fund balances that will cushion the blow, although the district's reserves represent about one-third of the revenue it stands to lose.

Declining property values — Westland is facing a 9 per-cent drop this year — are taking a toll, and residents are being asked to pay more, like the increase in the police and fire retirement millage and the 14 percent increase in water rates, to fill in the gap.

The school district can't ask residents for a tax increase, it must rely on the state for most of its revenue. And the message from Lansing last Thursday was a deeper cut in per pupil aid which will short the district another \$5.9 million, as well as losing \$6.1 million the district has received in lieu of millage disallowed when Proposal A was enacted. Those cuts, coupled with an increase in the state retirement rate to 24.46 percent, leaves Wayne-Westland facing a funding cut of \$1,140 per student.

Both the city and the school district had tried to prepare for the worse. For the city, it was mission accomplished, but the school district wasn't quite as successful. It closed schools and garnered concession from many of its employee groups, but it could not get three unions to agree, including its largest, the Wayne-Westland Education Association.

Both entities are caught between the proverbial rock

COMMUNITY VOICE

hometownlife

What did you think about Gov. Rick Snyder's budget proposal? We asked this question at the William P. Faust Public Library in Westland.



"I think there's a lot more for me to learn. Because it was so intense, people aren't able to look at it on TV and capture every budget detail."

> **Anne Prokopchak** Westland



"I have a concern about regarding taxing pensions and raising the premiums on health insurance. I want to hear more of what to do. It's a hard pill to the details are."

Diane Mehl Westland



be done. I'm retired and I get the tax break, but it's something we've got swallow."

Stanley Nagi Livonia



"I have no idea, I really haven't heard anything about it."

Jacob Rinal Westland

LETTERS

Republican and proud of it

I read your article in the local news section of the Observer on Feb. 20. My

response is to the comment from Mr. Kaminski.

I'm anti-Democrat period. I never vote Democrat and probably never will. You say you are worried about this state. You should be since you were a blue collar worker at Chrysler. I dislike the UAW as they are a big part of what has caused this mess (grèed) in Michigan.

Didn't your Chrysler (and GM, but no Ford Motor Company) go to the government with their hands out? You said that Republicans are pro-corporation. Did the present administration (Democrat) not provide taxpaver money to bail out Chrysler and GM?

Lastly, and the most ignorant part

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.

from people who are on fixed incomes, who see costs of medicine, food, and gas rising almost daily. It was not surprising that the Chamber of Commerce gleefully endorses this budget.

When will people see this for what it is. Republicans, if you genuinely believe in no new tax increases, then you will not support this pension tax.

> Les Weiguim Southfield

Vision of Progress

Pancreatic cancer is the fourth-leading cancer killer in the United States. Last year alone, more than 43,000 people were diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, and of those nearly 37,000 died from the disease. Pancreatic cancer remains the only major cancer with a single-digit five year surviva rate at just 6 percent. This five-year survival rate has not improved substantially over nearly 40 years. The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, a national organization fighting pancreatic cancer in a comprehensive way, is leading the way to increase the survival rates of people with this devastating disease by announcing The Vision of Progress: Double the Pancreatic Cancer Survival Rate by 2020. The organization is doubling its efforts to raise awareness, support patients and intensity advocacy for a national research strategy dedicated to finding a cure by undertaking this bold new initiative. Working to double the survival rate by 2020 through a comprehensive approach to know, fight and end pancreatic cancer is creating hope for all those who have been touched by this insidious disease. This initiative is important to me because I lost my grandmother, Helen Jagielski, to this disease over 20 years ago. Since her passing, I have continued to watch numerous friends battle pancreatic cancer, many of whom have not survived. As a member of the cancer research field, I am confident that we can see major progress in this disease, but we can't do it alone. In order to achieve this goal we must support those who have been afflicted by pancreatic cancer and advocate for greater awareness and more resources to fight this disease. To learn more about this initiative and how you can become involved in the fight against pancreatic cancer, please visit www.pancan.org.

and a hard place. Any cuts they make to accommodate the revenue losses will be affect the quality of life and the educational program in Westland.

We are all doing more with less, trying to survive until the state's economy has improved. The governor said his budget will create jobs which is what is needed at this time. However, the bottom line may be job-neutral, if cities and school districts slash their payrolls to make ends meet.

The question mark in all of this is what state lawmakers will do. Our hope is they will find a happy medium that will both cut the state's deficit without passing all of it down to the cities and schools. We will have to wait and see what lawmakers decide. Time will only tell just how badly our cities and schools will be impacted.

ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS



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

The issue: The governor's proposed budget

Proud to be an American. At least I know I am poor.

RochelleParks

I am sorry to write this post. But as a concerned parent in this state and district, it is my belief that Dr. Baracy was kind of hoping something like this might come up. I believe that he knew something like this might happen in the state and he had a plan to make more cuts in the budget. I believe the district will yet again try to close more elementary schools in the district. This is not a choice that should be made. We see how many problems we are faced with this year, and we as parents/students/ staff are hoping the "kinks" get worked out for next year. To me this will not be the case. I know we all were not expecting to hear Gov. Snyder's plans to be this harsh. My own jaw is still dropped opened with it. But please Dr. Baracy, I urge you to really look at everything, and every aspect of the district when you decide to go ahead with your new plan. This is only my opinion.

halfpint

The Issue: Missing trip to China

I have had the privilege of knowing Lance for a few years and am deeply sorry that he couldn't take advantage of this wonderful opportunity. I think it would be nice to see the City honor him for his hard work and dedication. Perhaps the Mayor could ask Lance to lead the "Pledge of Allegiance" at a council meeting?

GlennTo

of your comment was "People who call themselves Republicans and don't make \$250,000 a year are jerks." I am a 43-yearold retiree, drawing a government pension. I am a Republican and I don't make anywhere near your \$250,000 mark. According to you, that makes me and countless others, jerks, yet you have never met me. I don't think you are a jerk though, rather a bitter retired blue collar UAW Democrat. **John Buresh**

Westland

Budget proposal unfair

Gov. Snyder,

Your budget proposal is unfair to retirees. However, with the millions your family has socked away, you probably have no concept of what living on a fixed income is all about.

Last year, your party cut the Michigan Promise Scholarship (costing us an additional \$1,000 a year to pay our daughter's tuition, which some of us would call a tax increase) and now you propose a tax on private pensions.

You are certainly no advocate of working class families trying to provide a better future for their children.

But one thing you may have failed to consider is that Michigan is not the only place to live out one's retirement years. If I am going to be taxed to death (at the expense of your program of providing tax breaks for small businesses creating minimum wage or low paying jobs), I personally am going to opt to live in a state with a more favorable climate than Michigan.

> **David and Lynne Mrozek** Livonia

What's missing in budgets

Recently President Obama and Gov. Snyder with their advisers released budgets. One wonders if and/or how much these facts were considered: The poverty level in the U.S. is the highest since the 1940s. The middle class is collapsing. Sixteen percent of citizens are unemployed or underemployed. The gap between rich and poor is wider than ever before. Yet tax rates for millionaires are lower.

To deal with huge deficits (caused mainly by Wall Street) both budgets are similar in two respects. One, they contain pro business policies. On the federal level, large

corporations pay no income tax. Gov. Snyder suggests a huge reduction in business taxes.

Two, neither deficit reduction plan mentions Social Security. I heard some startling news when a well-known senator stated there is a surplus in Social Security for the next 27 years. However, it is believed some Republicans want to privatize the system.

A main difference between the federal and state budget is found in the area of social services for society's most vulnerable people. The president would not agree with our governor's plan for low income workers to lose tax refunds.

A second difference is in the area of education. President Obama stresses the importance of education and does not advocate cuts to K-12 or universities as proposed by Gov. Snyder.

Since the midterm elections, Republicans control several state governorships plus the House of Representatives. Many stress ideology and hold extreme views. Gov. Walker in Wisconsin uses budget deficits as a ploy to dismantle unions. Rep. Paul Ryan, also a Wisconsinite, is chair of the budget committee who echoes Wall street's wishes.

Michigan Republican Gov. Snyder appears to be more moderate and realistic. However, he may not have the support of all fellow Republicans.

It is imperative for the future of our state and our country for governors and all representatives in state houses and in Congress to have meaningful dialogue and to reach compromises in order to maintain democratic principles. Above all, they must work together to assure taxes and spending are simple, equitable, efficient and that sacrifices are fairly shared.

> Hannah Provence Donigan Commerce

Working class hurt

I read with great interest Gov. Rick Snyder's budget overhaul. It does not take a genius to see that again the business party (Republicans) have put together a budget that hurts the working class, poor and elderly.

As for "no tax increases," how is that being disguised when there is new taxes on pensioners and all those who use an IRA in retirement? Those new taxes will come

Christina Jagielski Plymouth

Oil debacle

Mideast turmoil can choke off oil supplies. President Obama still violates court orders to permit deep water drilling. His dreams of green energy supersede promises to create jobs and prosperity.

Shutting down available gasoline will not spark the next Sputnik challenge or "Win The Future." Running out of gas will bankrupt the nation. America contains enough oil for the rest of this century, but it remains off limits. Changing this could save the country and his presidency.

> **Hank Borgman** Farmington

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 24, 2011 ATI (WGcReLCP)

ATENTONI If your business or organization serves seniors, you'll want to be part of this exciting event! SIGN UP NOW!

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(WL)

SPORIS hometownlife

RECORD SALE TO BENEFIT SCHOOL RADIO STATION ENTERTAINMENT, B5



THURSDAY, February 24, 2011

Livonia Schools to allow dual sport participation

BY BRAD EMONS **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Soccer players will now be able to kick for football teams under a new policy adopted recently by the Livonia Public Schools.

Effective beginning with the 2011 spring sports season, LPS will allow dual sport participation at the varsity level after it was approved by the Livonia Athletic Council, LPS Central Office personnel and Superintendent Randy Liepa.

The only time Livonia has allowed dual sport participation was during the 2006-07 school year when a gender equity ruling from a federal judge mandated the Michigan High School Athletic Association change its girls

Hage

boys and girls golf and tennis fall and spring seasons.

In the fall of 2007, Churchill's two-time Division 1 individual girls golf champion Shannon Warner (2007 spring; 2006 fall) was also allowed to participate in volleyball after being a member of the Chargers' 2007 (winter) Class A championship team. Under new guidelines

volleyball

season from

the winter to

the fall, girls

from the fall

to the winter,

and flip-flop-

ping both the

basketball

adopted by Livonia, it means – among other things – that a girls soccer player came run track and field, a gymnast can competitive cheer, and a baseball or softball player can also participate in golf or tennis.

The Athletic Council began discussions about implementing the new policy last the fall with input from the varsity coaches from Churchill, Franklin and Stevenson high schools.

"While these situations may be rare, they will require the cooperation, patience, understanding, commitment, and communication on the part of many in order for the process to function accordingly," Churchill athletic director Marc Hage said in a press release.

"Implementation of this policy cannot, and will not, occur if the two involved coaches have not met with me first (together) athletes of superior skill level and there is not an accompanying 'dual sport participation' form on file in the athletic office. I will be meeting with the affected athlete as well."

Under the new LPS policy, an athlete will also have to declare a "primary" and "secondary" sport of competition. In doing so, the primary sport will take precedence concerning matters or a situations of potential conflict. Should additional conflicts still remain, the school athletic administrator will make the final determination.

"Understand also that the history of dual sport participation at the high school level has shown us that this situation only occurs in rare instances and usually with

and ability," Hage said. "We are not talking about the majority of athletes in a given season, by any means. You will also find that this policy is common practice in the KLAA (Kensington Lakes Activities Association) and this will now allow Livonia to become more competitive at the varsity level of competition."

Hage said the coaches will ultimately be the central figures in making dual sport participation work.

'This will be a learning process for both of us," he said. "But I do believe it is a positive move in the right direction for our athletic program and student athletes."

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Rockets fizzle in 4th quarter

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

For three quarters Tuesday, Westland John Glenn gave Canton all it could handle in the KLAA girls basketball tournament semifinal.

But then the state-ranked Chiefs went to work.

Canton turned a 36-35 lead after three periods into a 54-36 victory – not allowing the visiting Rockets to muster a single point in the fourth.

With the win, the Chiefs (17-2 overall) will host 17-2 Grand Blanc in the KLAA tourney championship game. That game will begin at 7 p.m. Thursday. Glenn dropped to 16-3 overall, with all losses at the hands of the Chiefs. 'We're at the point of the year, that's a great game to have," said Canton coach Brian Samulski, about the 32-minute physical battle that just took place. "You're going to have games like this all the time (in the playoffs) and you want to play the best people.

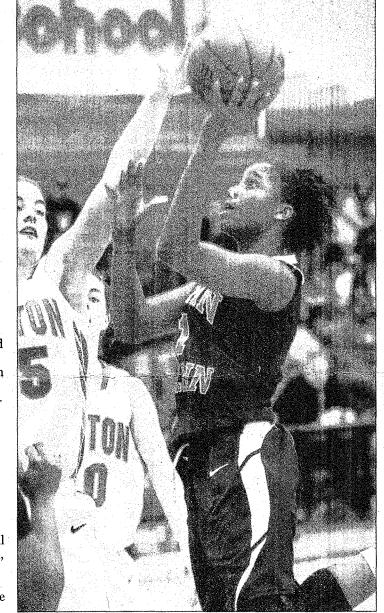
team.

Glenn coach Mark Anderson said his team stayed with the Chiefs until the tell-tale fourth. The physical play of Joslyn Massey (10 points, 12 rebounds) was a key to the Rockets' success to that point.

"We really wanted to match Canton's toughness," Anderson said. "They are a mentally and physically tough, tough team. And we just wanted to come out and match that.

"Maybe early in the fourth quarter we kind of lost our intensity, we weren't matching their physical play."

Power forward Andrea



Ladywood denied in **A-B finals**

BY DAN O'MEARA **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

While they may be down at times, the Farmington Hills Mercy Marlins demonstrated again Sunday afternoon they can never be counted out of a basketball game.

Mercy staged yet another second-half **GIRLS HOOPS** comeback to defeat

Livonia Ladywood in

the Catholic League A-

B Division final at the University of Detroit Mercy's

Calihan Hall, 46-42.

The Marlins last captured

Wydryck All-WHAC Madonna University senior forward Tabatha Wydryck earned first-team All-Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic conference honors

SIDELINES

for the second straight year in women's basketball. The 6-foot-1 Wydryck also

made the WHAC's All-Defensive team, while sophomore center Kaylee McGrath (Livonia Stevenson), who averages a team best 15.1 points and 7.4 rebounds per game, earned third-team All-WHAC honors.

Freshman guard Rachel Melcher was tabbed on the WHAC's All-Newcomer squad, while Stacey Szerlag was named to the Champions of Character team. Academic All-WHAC honorees included Erin Bentley, Katie Martin and Megan Murphy.

Naubert All-Frosh

Bobby Naubert, a 5-foot-10 guard from Livonia Stevenson who averaged 10.9 points and 3.2 assists per game, was named to the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference's All-Freshman squad. Senior center Geoff Gaylor earned third-team All-WHAC and All-Defensive team honors, while redshirt junior Tyler Coker was selected to the conferences Champions of Character squad. Senior Ryan Bahnmiller was named All-Academic. MU head coach Noel Emenhiser was voted by his peers as the league's Co-Coach of Character along with Siena Heights' Al Sandifer.

MU baseball 2-2

The No. 11-ranked Madonna University baseball team dropped its final two games Saturday in the Tennessee Valley Invitational falling to host Bryan (Tenn.), 5-4, and No. 25-ranked Rio Grande (Ohio), 5-2.

Redshirt senior Jeff Bultinck belted a three-run homer in the top of the seventh against Bryan to put the Urusaders on top, 4-3,

but the Lions tallied a pair of runs

in the bottom of the seventh to

Andy Omilian, in relief of

starter Aaron Saarela, took the

loss for MU. Bryan starter Jason

Ridenhour went all seven innings,

allowing four earned runs on six

and scored twice for Bryan (7-3).

Grande jumped out to a 3-0 lead

and MU could only counter on

a 2-run homer by Canton's Matt

three earned runs on 10 hits in five inninas. Reliever Erik Wright (Canton) allowed two runs (both unearned) on two hits over the

Eric Ford went all seven

innings for Rio Grande (3-7), scat-

tering eight hits and allowing two

earned runs. He struck out seven

Steve Pelletier each collected two

The Crusaders (2-2) return to

and walked two. Bultinck and

Kay, his third of the season. MU starter Robert Fraser (Westland John Glenn) gave up

hits. Aaron Smith went 2-for-4

In the second game, Rio

pull out the win.

"It was good to play them (Rockets), they're a great

Gordon-McClain fouled out in the fourth and guard Erica Covile played much of the second half with four fouls, but Anderson said that didn't cause the Rockets' late slump.

"They (Chiefs) were in foul trouble, too," said Anderson, referring to senior guard Melanie Pickert, on the bench much of the game due to foul trouble.

Canton senior forward

Please see ROCKETS, B2

BILL BRESLER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

John Glenn's Erica Covile (right) goes for a shot over Canton's twin sisters Kari (25) and Sara Schmitt in Tuesday's Kensington Conference title game.

Area grapplers headed to the Palace

the league crown in 1983. Since then, their only other appearance in the championship game was in 2006.

"That was something we talked about throughout the season," pointing to the banner (in the Mercy gym) and saying, 'Hey, it's time to update that," coach advanced to the final, we

SC women secure 5th title in row

The fifth-ranked Schoolcraft College women's basketball team wrapped up their fifth straight MCCAA Eastern

Conference

title

COLLEGE HOOPS

Saturday afternoon with a 71-64 victory over stubborn Macomb Community College.

Sophomore center Kimberly Bee's 19 points and 15 rebounds paced the Lady Ocelots, who improved to 24-3 overall and 14-0 in the conference.

Bee upped her defensive rebounding total to 245, breaking the single season mark of 244 set by Sheray Brown (2008-09).

Shawnicka Thomas added 18 points and 10 rebounds for Schoolcraft, which captured its 61st straight game at home, including 49 in a row in the conference.

Diamond Tolliver chipped in with 11 points, including two key free throws to put the game away following a steal. That came after Macomb (18-8, 8-7)

Please see SCHOOLCRAFT, B2

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Novi-Detroit Catholic Central continues to be the cream of the crop at team and individual wrestling tournaments.

But several other area teams made strong showings the Division 1 state individual wrestling regionals held Saturday at Plymouth High School.

CC paced the field with seven individual champions, but Canton wasn't far behind with five out of six who wrestled qualifying for the March 3-5 individual state finals at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

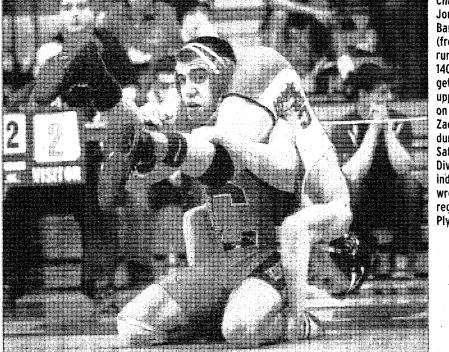
The Chiefs racked up three individual champions, while Livonia Franklin brought home a pair as both Gabe Martinez (119) and Matt Roos (160) garnered titles.

Martinez, a sophomore, raised his season record to 54-6 by winning on a 12-0 major decision over Salem's Cody Korpus.

Roos (49-4) also won by a 9-0 major decision over CC's Andrew Erickson.

Roos will be making his second straight trip to the finals.

"He went to 'states' last year, but didn't place," Franklin coach Dave Chiola



said. "So we're hoping for better results this year."

Chiola said the key matchup for Martinez was Livonia Churchill senior Jake Meadows (45-4) in the second round. Martinez won a 10-5 decision.

"We knew the winner of that match had a great shot at being regional champ," Chiola said. "So once we won

that we were pretty focused and pretty confident."

Despite the loss, Meadows will go to 'states' for the Chargers by way of a thirdplace finish.

Two other Patriots will compete at the finals following fourth-place showings including 112-pounder Danny Martinez (51-12) and senior 130-pounder Steve

Gary Morris said. "Once we talked it up a little more;

Please see LADYWOOD, B2

Churchill's Jonny Bannoura (front), the runner-up at 140 pounds, gets the upper hand on Canton's Zach Marsh durina Saturday's **Division** 1 individual wrestling regional at Plymouth.

action Friday, March 4, in Phoenix, Ariz., in a twinbill vs. Malone (Ohio) to start a 10-day spring trip. MU inks golfers Madonna University men's golf

hits for MU.

final two.

coach Steve Mato announced the signing of Dexter's Nick Dackiw to an NAIA letter-of-intent.

Dackiw placed eighth in last year's MHSAA Division II state finals with a final round 78 for the state-qualifying Dreadnaughts. Meanwhile, MU women's

coach Scott Marzolino has added Chelsea Collura (Riverview Gabriel Richard) and Becca Porter (Temperance Bedford) to next year's squad.

Collura posed five top-six finishers on the Adams Junior Golf Tour and ended the year 20th in the tour championship.

Porter is a four-time All-Southeastern Conference and four-time MHSAA state finals competitor who placed 20th last year's Division 1 finals.

weight Omar Haymour (28-14) and sophomore 160pounder Allen Steele (28-16) were eliminated in the ear-

Churchill senior Jonny Bannoura (37-8) also qualified with a runner-up fin-

Please see WRESTLING. B3

Tuyo (53-6).

Franklin junior heavy-

lier rounds.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHE

Eagles swoop by C'ville in OT

Pats slide by Highlanders, 56-49

Getting 25 points from senior guard Chelsea Williams, Livonia Franklin climbed over the .500 mark with a 56-49 KLAA crossover girls basketball victory Tuesday night at Howell.

B2

The Patriots, who withstood a 20-15 Howell run in the final period, improved to 10-9 overall.

Williams also added five assists, five rebounds and five steals in the victory.

Senior forward Amanda Borieo chipped in with 12 points, six rebounds, two blocks and two steals. Senior guard Jessica Emery added nine points.

Katie Kubiak and Kaitlyn Stroinski tallied 18 and 15 points, respectively, for the Highlanders (6-13).

Howell made 19-of-23 free throws compared with Franklin's 9-of-17. KETTERING 53, STEVENSON 36:

Allison Bicknell's 14 points carried Waterford Kettering (18-1) to a KLAA crossover victory Tuesday at

SCHOOLCRAFT

pulled to within three, 67-64,

Shealica Grandberry also

Sadie Howell and Jackie

Highstreet tallied 18 and 13

points, respectively, for the

Monarchs, who enjoyed a 32-

with only 16 seconds left.

dished out six assists.

31 halftime advantage.

SCHOOLCRAFT 71, ST. CLAIR 68:

Diamond Tolliver's triple with

28 seconds left and a pair of free

throws by Charlise Slater with only

12 remaining helped secure another

MCCAA Eastern Conference win

Tuesday night for host Schoolcraft

Observer & Eccentric

FROM PAGE BI

GIRLS HOOPS

Livonia Stevenson (12-7). Hannah Stinson added 11 points for the Corsairs, who led 25-15 at

halftime before going on a 19-9 third-period run. Kristen Balhorn and Jorden York paced the Spartans with 10 and nine points, respectively.

Stevenson made only 12-of-29 foul shots, while Kettering con-

nected on 14-of-17. BRIGHTON 57, WAYNE 53: On Tuesday, Laura Taylor and Alexis Garon scored 14 and 12 points, respectively, as the host Bulldogs (6-13) defeated Wayne Memorial (3-16) in a KLAA crossover.

Wayne's Jaylyn Hammac led all scorers with 18 points. Holland Boertje chipped in with 14.

Brighton made 20-of-26 foul shots, while Wayne hit 12-of-15. MILFORD 59, CHURCHILL 37: Lindsey

VanDye tallied 21 points and Lauren Smith added 15 to lift the Mavericks (7-12) to a KLAA crossover triumph Tuesday over visiting Livonia Churchill (3-16).

The Chargers, who trailed 30-20 at halftime, got a team-high nine points from sophomore guard

College (25-3, 15-0) against St. Clair

Tolliver finished with 15 points,

Sophomore center Kimberly Bee

six assists and six rebounds, while

Slater also tallied 15 points as

Schoolcraft won its 17th straight.

contributed 11 points and a game-

high 14 rebounds for the Ocelots,

who trailed 56-53 with 7:30 to go

Korea Jackson and Chaniese

Turner paced the Skippers with 26

and 25 points, respectively. Turner

for 28 rebounds. MADONNA 62, AQUINAS 54: Madonna

University (11-14, 7-9) sent Tabatha

afternoon as the Crusaders downed

visiting Aquinas College (9-21, 5-11)

inside the MU Activities Center on

Check out our new redesigned website

Wydryck out in style on Saturday

and Melayka Vaughn also combined

before going on a 9-0 run.

County Community College (17-11,

9-6).

Sydney Anderson.

Churchill was 7-of-11 from the foul stripe, while Milford made 4-of-8.

INTER-CITY 46, LUTHERAN WESTLAND 35:

Junior center Amanda Terranella's 16 points and 11 rebounds went in vain Tuesday as host Lutheran High Westland (1-16, 0-9) fell to Allen Park Inter-City Baptist (5-12, 2-7) in a Michigan Independent Athletic Conference Blue Division game.

Angela Morrison added nine points, while Aldrena Fikes contributed eight rebounds for the Warriors, who trailed 22-12 at halftime and 38-15 after three quarters.

Rachel Muscat scored seven points for the Chargers, who won despite making only 13-of-30 free throws. Lutheran Westland made 11-of-20 from the foul stripe.

THURSTON 49, CLARENCEVILLE 26: On Monday, Lexus LeGardy scored 14 points and Brijanae Durough added 12 as Redford Thurston (9-10) rolled to a non-conference win over host Livonia Clarenceville (5-14).

Clarenceville, which trailed 23-16 at halftime and 38-22 after three quarters, got eight points from Jodi Ankiel. The Trojans made 6-of-12 free throws, while Thurston was 8-for-18.

The 6-foot-1 Wydryck, MU's

lone senior this season, finished

being presented by coach Carl

Graves with her jersey framed

as well as tokens of appreciation

from her teammates for her four

With their win, the Crusaders

secured the fifth seed for the WHAC

playoffs (Wednesday at fourth-seed-

Sophomore center Kaylee

McGrath (Livonia Stevenson) led

for her sixth double-double of the

MU with 14 points and 10 rebounds

year. Junior center Becca Wojcinski

Taelor Sanders led Aquinas with

years of service to the Crusader

with 13 points. She was honored in

a pregame ceremony that included

Senior Day 2011.

program.

ed Indiana Tech).

added 12 off the bench.

nine points.

hometownlife

BY MIKE ROSENBAUM CORRESPONDENT

A near-blowout game at Redford Thurston became a nailbiter as Livonia Clarenceville erased a 21point deficit to force overtime Tuesday before the host Eagles surged in front again[®] and held on for a 78-72 boys basketball victory.

Thurston built a 52-31 lead with 3:05 remaining in the third quarter before the Trojans began chipping away.

The Trojans (7-9) hit the offensive glass hard in the second half and pounded the ball inside to DeOndre Hogan, who scored eight points in the fourth quarter.

Trailing 62-53, Hogan scored off a pass from Sam Brown, who hit a short jumper to make it 62-57 with 2:12 remaining. After Thurston missed a pair of free throws, Hogan scored on a putback with 1:10 left.

Two more missed Thurston free throws later, Hogan to pull the Trojans within 62-61 with 41 seconds left.

Thurston's Xzavier Bowen then split a pair of free tosses with 37.5 seconds on the clock, but Derrell Woods answered with a short jumper to tie the game at 63.

The Eagles ran an effective final play, as Bowen penetrated and fed to J'Sean Jones, who was fouled with 4.8 seconds left. But Jones missed both free throws to send it to overtime. Thurston's Anthony Barley

and Woods exchanged buckets to start the OT, then Barley sank two free throws. After a Woods miss, Marquis Johnson hit the game's biggest shot, sinking a three-pointer for a 70-65 lead.

"I thought that was huge," Thurston coach Brian Bates said. "He was open; he had a good look at it."

"That three was a dagger," Clarenceville coach Justin Johnson said.

The Eagles built a 74-67 lead before the Trojans rallied again, moving within 75-72 on a Hogan basket with 30 seconds remaining. But Thurston then sank three of four from the line to close out the victory. Johnson said the keys to his team's comeback bid included "just not giving up," along with aggressive defense and offen-

sive rebounding success. Likewise, Bates credited the Trojans for playing hard when they were in a hole.

"They got back in the game and they went to their strong suit," he said. They went to their two kids inside."

Bates said the Eagles "kind of got out of it mentally a little bit" in the third and fourth quarters. "We got a few fouls there in a row, and we started to lose our focus."

Although the game was on

the line in the fourth quarter and overtime, Johnson said the Trojans' poor second quarter was the key to the contest.

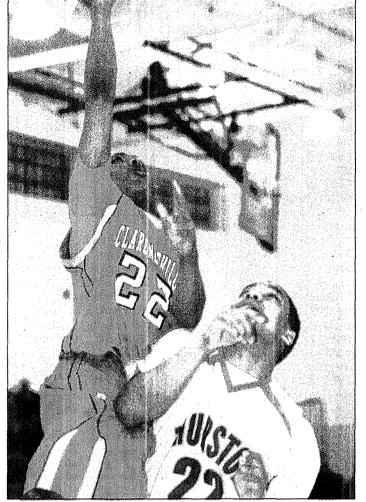
"The first half was the biggest problem," Johnson said. "If we play like we did in the fourth, we don't worry about that 15-point (fourth-quarter) comeback.

"We've got to play from start to finish. When we do that, we win."

Barley led all scorers with 20 points, Johnson added 16 and Jones 10.

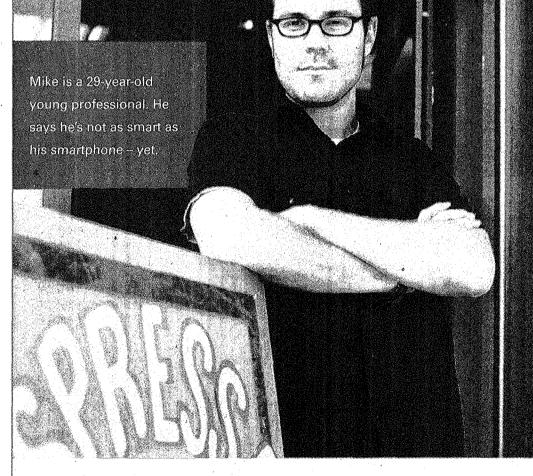
Hogan and Damien Quarles tallied 14 points apiece for Clarenceville.

defender Eric Wilson during Tuesday's non-conference encounter. Johnson said the keys to his the line in the fourth quarter



Clarenceville's Kassius Kelly (left) goes in for the layup over Thurston

OBSERVER STAFF PHOTO



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ROCKETS

Kayla Bridges, who scored nine points, re-entered the game to open the final stanza and soon thereafter senior forward Kari Schmitt (eight points, five rebounds) canned a short hook shot to put the Chiefs ahead to stay at 37-36. But she laughed when asked

But she laughed when asl if she was Canton's secret weapon in the 19-0 final frame.

"I think we were very patient in the fourth quarter," Bridges said. "We made them play defense for a long time and that's what Brian kept telling us to do. Wait for the perfect opening, don't take quick shots.

"And that's what we did. We waited, got really good shots and wore them down."

Junior guard Robyn Mack (seven points, three steals) scored back-to-back buckets about two minutes into the

LADYWOOE FROM PAGE B1

using it as a goal.

"It's a credit to these kids. Being down at halftime and not having much going our way against a quality opponent like Ladywood, they could have said: 'It's not our day, but the kids kept chipping away and, finally, we got things turned around. I'm just very, very proud of them for fighting like they did."

After an even first quarter, the Blazers outscored the Marlins in the second, 18-6, and went into halftime with a 31-19 lead.

Morris said he was a little surprised by the lackluster first half, because the Marlins (15-4) had been playing so well the last six games.

"We just came out flat, or we were a step slow at both ends of the floor," he said, quarter to make it a 42-36 advantage.

And with the Rockets trying to employ a half-court press, the Chiefs managed to circumvent that by throwing long passes to wide-open senior forward CarolAnn Sexauer (10 points) at the other basket.

She easily deposited four layups over a two-minute span to blow the game wide open.

The Schmitt twins kept Canton close in the early going, each scoring six points in the first (which ended 13-12 John Glenn).

Senior forward Sara Schmitt, who led all scorers with 20 points, also played strong down low in the second quarter. Her eight points in the quarter sparked Canton's 17-10 margin, giving the Chiefs a 29-23 halftime lead.

But Glenn owned the third quarter, as the game's pace quickened to Samulski's chagrin.

"For the most part, I thought we defended well and played well," Samulski said. "The

adding that was especially so in the second quarter when Ladywood (14-4) dominated the play.

"In the third quarter, we started playing better defensively, although we still struggled to score. As we got into the fourth, we were able to create some offense from our defensive pressure."

Mercy trimmed the deficit by five in the third period to 35-28 and outscored Ladywood in the fourth, 18-7.

Candice Leatherwood, Sarah Benson and LaRae' Prater scored five points each in the final quarter, and it was Prater's basket with 2:34 remaining that put the Marlins in the lead to stay, 43-41.

Benson led the Mercy offense with 13 points. Janelle McQueen scored 12.

Leatherwood, a freshman point guard, drew two fouls in the first three minutes of the game and was on the third quarter I thought we started playing a little fast and turned it over too much."

With about 5:33 left in the third, John Glenn guard Kaira Barnes (nine points) converted a three-point play to cut the deficit to 31-26.

Erica Covile (10 points, four boards) scored a couple buckets and Shakeya Graves' spinning jumper in the paint put the Rockets back on top, 36-35 in the final seconds.

However, Samulski must have flipped the switch before the fourth began, because momentum swung back to Canton in a big way.

"I just think they are a well-coached team, a welldisciplined team and I mean, we got after them," Anderson said. "I knew three things were going to happen today.

"Either we were going to win or we were going to lose, but I definitely knew win or lose we were going to get better. I know we got better today."

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bench for much of the first half. That hurt Mercy at both ends of the floor, according to Morris.

"She's a very good defensive player and is very good at getting us into our offense," he said. "We were fortunate to have her for most of the second half."

Leatherwood fouled out with a minute and a half left in the game, but Mercy had the lead by that point.

Ladywood sophomore pointguard Andrea Anastos scored a game-high 20 points.

The Blazers were 16-of-23 at the foul line, the Marlins 10of-23.

Mercy will play Detroit Public School League champion Renaissance in the Operation Friendship game 6:30 p.m. Friday at Ladywood. The consolation game will match the host Blazers against Detroit Pershing at 5 p.m.

domeara@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2323

PREP WRESTLING RESULTS

125: Ken Bade (CC) p. Said Youssef (P), 4:17; 3rd: Ian Stirton (N) won by default over Mannie Govantes (Farm.). 130: Logan Marcicki (CC) p. Alec Breckenridge (P), 15; 3rd: Kirk Wawrzyniak (Roseville) dec. Steve Tuyo (Franklin), 6-2. 135: Alec Mooradian (CC) won by major dec. Nelas Selamon (Steuling Neidher), 13-0: 3rd:

Nolan Solomon (Sterling Heights), 13-0; **3rd:** Riley Hanson (CC) dec. Matt Pfeffer (Fraser),

140: Mike Babicz (CC) dec. Jonny Bannoura (Churchill), 5-1; 3rd: Zach Marsh (CNT) won by default over Jake Vincent

(CN1) won by default over Jake Vincent
(University of Detroit Jesuit).
145: Nick Mason (CC) won by default over Nick Tomski (Farm.); 3rd: Brandon Mattinen (DeLaSalle) dec. Chris Caverly (Northville), 2-1. Feb. 19 at SALINE
171 pounds: Tomas Gomez (Southgate) decisioned Will Royster (Kalamazoo Central), 5-3; 3rd place: Vince Tkac (Brighton) dec. Kameron Jones (Westland, John Glenn). 6-4

Kameron Jones (Westland John Glenn), 6-4.

Smith (Temperance Bedford) pinned Dimitrus Smith (Temperance Bedford) pinned Dimitrus Renfroe (Wayne Memorial), 2:33. 103: Mitchel Rogaliner (Bedford) dec.

215: David Pope (Monroe) dec. Ben

Shayne Wireman (Holt), 3-1; **3rd:** Martin Rodriguez (Grand Ledge) dec. Kyle Gillies

(John Glenn), 8-2. 145: Denver McLauglin (Monroe) dec.

dec. Jalen Jones (Wayne), 3-2. DIVISION 4

Derek Saunders (Monroe), no score available; **3rd:** Travis Vanderveen (Portage Central)

at MANCHESTER 103 pounds: Isaac Dusseau (Hudson) decisioned Zachary Francis (Lutheran High Westland), 8-4; 3rd place: Carter Ballinger

(Jonesville) pinned Brendan O'Connor (Monroe St. Mary Catholic Central), 2:49.

Crusaders collapse in 2nd half, fall to Saints

Madonna University squandered a 16-point halftime lead and ended the regular season Saturday in Grand Rapids with a 61-46 Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference men's basketball setback to host Aquinas College.

Damacious White scored a game-high 20 points for the Saints, who improved to 12-18 overall and 4-12 in the WHAC.

The Crusaders (8-21, 6-1) got 14 points and six rebounds off the bench from sophomore forward Connor Leidal (Livonia Franklin).

COLLEGE HOOPS

Senior Bryan Slaughter (Westland) and freshman Bobby Naubert (Livonia Stevenson) each contributed nine points.

Tim Jensen and Matt Weiss added 17 and 15 points, respectively, for Aquinas, which outscored MU 30-2 to start the second half.

MU will travel Thursday to Fort Wavne, Ind., to face Indiana Tech in the opening round of the WHAC playoffs. (Game time is 7:30 p.m.) ST. CLAIR CC 77, SCHOOLCRAFT 65: Tory Villolovos scored 23 points and A.J. Burton added 15 Tuesday to lift St. Clair County Community College (19-10, 9-6) past host Schoolcraft College (9-19, 3-12) in an MCCAA Eastern Conference matchup.

The Skippers led 33-24 at halftime before Schoolcraft tied it at 58-all with just over seven minutes remaining. St. Clair then responded with a 9-0 run to put the game away.

Karl Moore paced Schoolcraft with 16 points and 14 rebounds. while Daniel Hill (Wayne Memorial) also added 16 points and seven boards. Lydell Mason contributed 15 points, 11 rebounds and four blocks in the loss.

Schoolcraft was 17-of-32 from the foul line, while St. Clair hit 7-of-15. MU will being the WHAC playoffs

100 backstroke: 1. Joey Wakeford (WJG), 56.39; 2. Simion (Canton), 58.85; 3. Earls (P), 59.53; 4. Williamson (WM), 1:00.64; 5. Krebs

(Canton), 1:02.54; 6. Brad Johns (LC), 1:03.88. 100 breaststroke: 1. Zhang (Canton),

Dillon (Canton), 1:09:07. 400 freestyle relay: 1. Canton (Carlson, Jin, Krebs, Simion), 3:30:16; 2. John Glenn (Vader, Ferguson, Stevens, Josh Wakeford), 3:36:42; 3. Plymouth (Koch, Austin Ryan, Kyle Strobel, Weber), 3:45:41; 4. Churchill, 3:45:8; 5. Wayne, 3:46:59; 6. John Glenn, 3:48:04. KLAA CENTRAL DIVISION BOYS SWIM MEET Feb. 18-19 at South Lyon TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Northville, 643 points; 2. Salem, 455; 3. Novi, 439; 4. Livonia Stevenson, 376; 5. South Lyon, 286. FINAL EVENT RESULTS 200-yard medley relay: 1. Stevenson

200-yard medley relay: 1. Stevenson (John Ferrara, Jake McNamara, Kellen Schoff, Adam Ferrara), 1:41,24: 4. Salem

(Jeremy Wellman, Turner Solterman, Eric Li, Matt Collingwood), 1:44.83; 6. Salem (Jason

Zhang, Smaran Bhaktawara, Jerry Bai, Kyle Stokfisz), 1:46.88.

200 freestyle: 1. Adam Seroka (S),

1:01.5 (meet record); 2. Vincentini (LC), 1:04.24; 2. Corey Robbins (WM), 1:05.1; 4. Larkins (LF), 1:06.02; 5. Jouney (P), 1:06.24; 6. Dillon (Canton), 1:09.07.

BOYS SWIM RESULTS

at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at Indiana Tech

SCHOOLCRAFT 77, MACOMB CC 69: On Saturday, Karl Moore's 20 points and 10 rebounds powered host Schoolcraft College (9-18, 3-11) to an MCCAA Eastern Conference win over visiting Macomb Community College (7-21, 2-13).

The Ocelots, who trailed 36-34 at intermission, also got 15 points from Lydell Mason (Westland John Glenn) and 14 each from Daniel Hill (Wayne Memorial) and Anthony Nash. Mason also grabbed seven rebounds.

Keith Drain and Alan Hardy scored 19 and 16, respectively, for the Monarchs.

Schoolcraft hit 23-of-33 foul shots, while Macomb made 17-of-28.

1:45.42; 4. Max Mills (S), 1:50.35.

200 individual medley: 1. Joon Chung (Novi), 1:57.64; 4. J. Zhang (S), 2:05.13. **50 freestyle:** 1. Collingwood (S), 22.02; 5. Brandon Bielicki (LS), 23.11.

Brandon Bielicki (LS), 23.11. 1-meter diving: 1. Kevin Bain (Northville), 473.85 points; 6. Nick Griwicki (S), 330.05; 7. Charlie Dillon (S), 327.75. 100 butterfly: 1. William Greenlee (Northville), 53.94; 2. Seroka (S), 54.27; 5. Li (S), 56.64; 6. Bai (S), 56.68; 7. Mills (S), 56.99. 100 freestyle: 1. Schoff (LS), 48.44; 2. Collingwood (S), 48.93; 6. Bielicki (LS), 50.54. 500 freestyle: 1. J. Zhang (S), 502.49; 4. Grant McNamara (LS), 5:06.68

Grant McNamara (LS), 5:06.68 200 freestyle relay: 1, Stevenson (Bielicki, J. McNamara, Adam Ferrara, Schoff), 1:30.46; 4, Salem (Aaron Micek, Bai, Nile, Sarcha), 1:32 65

Mills, Seroka), 1:33-56. **100 backstroke:** 1. Schoff (LS), 53.77; 2. Ferrara (LS), 55.59; 3. Li (S), 56.94; 4. Wellman

100 breaststroke: 1. Jong Min Kim (Novi), 1:02.85; 2. J. McNamara (LS), 1:03.09; 4. G. McNamara (LS), 1:05.58; 7. Solterman (S), 1:06.96

400 freestyle relay: 1. Salem (Collingwood, J. Zhang, Milis, Seroka), 3:18.09; 5. Stevenson (Bielicki, Evan Shatter, Brendan Stanisz, J. Ferrara), 3:28.95.

MHSAA INDIVIDUAL REGIONAL WRESTLING RESULTS (Top 4 advance to state finals) DIVISION 1

Feb. 19 at PLYMOUTH 152 pounds: Andrew Garcia (Novi-Detroit Catholic Central) decisioned Shon Powell (Birmingham Brother Rice), 7-3; **3rd place:** John Montgomery (N) won by major dec. over Dan Wagner (Southfield), 15-4. **160:** Matt Roos (Livonia Franklin) won by

major dec. over Andrew Erickson (CC), 9-0; **3rd:** Brennan Kelly (Warren DeLaSalle) pinned

Josh Rezney (Fraser), 4:49. **171:** Kevin Beazley (CC) dec. Braden Price (Canton), 1-0; **3rd:** Trevor Maresh (N) won by default over Shawn Miller (Grosse Pointe

189: Anthony Abro (Canton) dec. Miles Treatout (CC), 5-3; 3rd: David Sparling (Novi) won by major dec. over Mouhamad Soukar

(Dearborn Fordson): 9-1. 215: Chris Nash (Roseville) p. Lucas Luchonok (Dearborn Edsel Ford), 1:15; **3rd:** Justin Roe (Farmington) dec. Jadon Cook (G.P.

North) 10-7 285: Ben Poirier (Canton) dec. Reggie

Lewis (Grosse Pointe South), 5-3; **3rd:** Jim Froehlich (Fraser) dec. Kyle Gray (Warren Mott) 10-3 103: Ben Griffin (Canton) dec. Evan Toth

(CC), 7-5; **3rd:** Garett Strube (Mott) dec. Matt Cusumano (DeLaSalle), 8-4. 112: Doug Zundel (Roseville) dec. T.J. Fagan (CC), 5-3; **3rd:** Malik Amine (CC) won by

major dec, over Danny Martinez (Franklin), 13-2.

119: Gabe Martinez (LF) won by major dec. over Cody Korpus (Salem), 12-0; **3rd:** Jake Meadows (Livonia Churchill) dec. Kevin Kennerly (Farm.). 3-2.

(S), 59.34

an early round 119-pound regional match. Martinez won the match and his weight class, while Meadows also gualified for the individual state finals.

who took a fourth at 171, and sophomore Kylie Gillies (50-7), who also placed fourth.

junior Dimtrus Renfroe (49-8), who added a fourth at 215, and junior teammate Jalen Jones (41-13), who also placed fourth at 145.

Warriors send Francis

Lutheran High Westland freshman Zachary Francis made it all the way to the 103pound finals in Division 4 at Manchester before losing to Isaac Dusseau of Hudson, 8-4.

Francis will take 36-6 record to the Palace.

tsmith@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2637

KLAA SOUTH DIVISION KLAA SOUTH DIVISION BOYS SWIM MEET Feb. 18-19 at Westland John Glenn TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Canton, 519 points; 2. Westland John Glenn, 492; 3. Plymouth, 482; 4. Livonia Churchill, 335; 5. Wayne Memorial, 217; 6. Livonia Franklin, 203. FINAL EVENT RESULTS 200-averd mediav relav: 1. Canton

200-yard medley relay: 1: Canton (Jay Jin, Jacob Dillon, Victor Zhang, Evan Champine), 1:43.82 (meet record); 2. Plymouth (Cameron Earls, Alex Jourey, Ethan Christensen, Adam Liakos), 1:44.06; 3. John Glenn (Joey Wakeford, Nick Stevens, Paul Gutu, Ryan Boes), 1:48.69; 4. Wayne, 1:49.41; 5. Churchill, 1:51.02; 6. Franklin, 1:53.98

200 freestyle: 1. Zhang (Canton), 1:45.94 (meet record); 2. Josh Wakeford (WJG), 1:54.01; 3. James Scott (LF), 1:54.23; 4. Adrian Simion (Canton), 1:54.56; 5. Zach Koch (P), 1:54.98; 6. Jake Ferguson (WJG), 1:57.67. 200 individual medley: 1. Jin (Canton),

2:05.69 (meet record); 2. David Vincentini. (LC), 2:08.78; 3. Christensen (P), 2:12.46; 4. Brandon Larkins (LF), 2:12.57; 5. Nick Weber (P), 2:13.86; 6. Christopher Krebs (Canton),

50 freestyle: 1. Gutu (WJG), 22.96; 2. Liakos (P), 23.01; 3. Zachary Williamson

(WM), 23.19; 4. Mike Carlson (Canton), 23.21; 5. Kyle Mikols (LF), 23.34; 6. Evan Champine (Canton), 23.54. 1-meter diving: 1. Alan Robinson (LC),

242.05 (meet record); 2. Ryan Kilgore (Canton), 312.90; 3. Connor McManus (P), 278.30; 4. Chris Sharp (LC), 271.60; 5. Connor Monroe (WJG), 258.45; 6. Ainsworth Orr (WJG), 248,20,

(W30), 246.20. **100 butterfly:** 1. Christensen (P), 56.17; 2. Earls (P), 58.21; 3. Gutu (WJG), 1:01.07; 4. Jonathan Marceau (Canton), 1:04.5; 5. Kenny Densteadt (LC), 1:04.93; 6. Nick Williams (WM),

100 freestyle: 1, Jouney (P), 51.01; 2. Liakos (P), 51.18; 3. Joey Wakeford (WJG), 51.74; 4. Carlson (Canton), 51.79; 5. Champine (Canton), 53.42; 6. Franklin Qiu (LC), 53.66. 500 freestyle: 1. Jin (Canton), 4:58.76

(meet record); 2. Ferguson (WJG), 5:09.29; 3. Koch (P), 5:10.19; 4. James (LF), 5:10.41; 5. Josh Wakeford (WJG), 5:12.79; 6. Derik Atzinger (LC), 5:27.37.

Atzinger (LC), 527.37. 200 freestyle relay: 1. John Glenn (Gutu, Dave Vader, Josh Wakeford, Joéy Wakeford), 1:32.0 (meet record); 2. Canton (Carlson, Dillon, Champine, Zhang), 1:32.08; 3. Plymouth (Earls, Jouney, Christensen, Liakos), 1:34.06; 4. Franklin, 1:37.35; 4. Churchill, 1:40.08; 6. Wayne, 1:42.18.

Spartans mercy Mott with 11-goal outburst

Livonia Stevenson scored a goal during the first shift of the game and never looked back en route to an 11-3, mercyshortened boys hockey win over Waterford Mott in a KLAA crossover game Saturday at

Canton's Arctic Edge Arena. "I was pleased with the way we kept pressure on them and didn't let them back in the game," said Stevenson coach Gerry Vento, whose team improved to 15-5-3 overall. "We were pretty focused from the start of the game.'

Senior forward Ryan Urso scored that opening goal and led the Spartan attack with his 10th and 11th of the season to go along with four assists. Fellow senior forward Andrew Palushaj racked up four points, including two goals to push his season total to a team-leading 20.

Steelheaders meeting

Best Chance Too charter

captains Bill Bale and Dave

speakers for the Metro-West

Steelheaders meeting begin-

ning at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March

1 at the Livonia Senior Center,

located at the southeast corner

of Farmington and Five Mile

Engel will be the featured

BOYS HOCKEY

Senior forward Justin Shureb contributed his ninth goal of the season and two assists; senior defenseman John Mandryk had three assists; and sophomore forward Max Humitz picked up a pair of goals (his 14th and 15th) and an assist.

Senior forward J.J. Pettersson chipped in a pair of goals to move his season total to nine, while senior defenseman Brendan Hay collected in his fourth goal of the year and an assist.

Other goal scores included senior forward 1 im Pruchnik (eighth) and Nick Barr (third). Barr's goal 4:33 into the third period ended the game. Scott Cuthrell and J.D. Clemence, both short-handed,

and Colin Lark (power play) tallied goals for the Corsairs (15-6-2 overall).

Sophomore netminder Connor Humitz stopped 20-of-23 shots to earn his 13th win of the season.

The Spartans, who converted four-of-six power play chances, outshot Mott, 36-23.

CHURCHILL 9, MILFORD 0: Fourteen different players recorded at least one point Saturday as Livonia Churchill (11-9-2) rolled to a KLAA crossover mercy rule victory over the Mavericks (8-15-1) at Canton's Arctic Edge. The Chargers had eight different

goal scorers as Devin Smythe led the way with two goals and one assist. Ben Proben, Brad Milks, Steve

up in the second period. Eric DeMercurio went the distance in goal for Milford.

FRANKLIN 6, GRAND BLANC 4: Two goals each from Adam Michael and Zach Wiacek carried Livonia Franklin (7-13-4) to a win Saturday morning over Grand Blanc (4-17-1) in a KLAA crossover at Canton's Arctic Edge.

The Patriots scored two goals in each period leading 2-0 after one and 4-2 after two.

Wiacek's power play goal with 4:39 left from Mike Diaz, who finished with four assists, proved to be the game-winner. Wiacek then added an empty netter with 39 seconds remaining to seal the win.

Tyler Dewhirst contributed a goal and assist, while Adam Webb also scored for the Patriots. Josh Dude also collected an assist. **Bourie Petrich and Hunter Mora**

ish at 140. He ultimately lost 8-3 in the finals to CC's Mike Babicz.

WRESTLING

FROM PAGE B1

Not qualifying were Churchill sophomore Jon Locklear (28-15) at 103 and Livonia Stevenson junior Jake Range (44-8) at 285.

Glenn, Wayne qualifiers

In Saturday's Division 1 regional at Saline, both Westland John Glenn and Wayne Memorial each got two through to the Palace.

Glenn qualifiers included

senior Kameron Jones (48-10),

Wayne's qualifiers included

Franklin's Gabe Martinez (left) and Churchill's Jacob Meadows lock up during

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

B3



with one goal and one assist each. **Riley Brown and Mike Gambino**

completed the Churchill goal scoring. Alex Estes played the first period in goal for Churchill before Jesse

instruction with indoor winter

Teams will play league games

practices and on-site batting

and tournaments in prepara-

tion for high school competi-

For more information, call

softball): or e-mail busymichi-

The Livonia City Soccer Club

has opened registration for the

cer program for both boys and

be found on the club's website,

www.livoniacitysoccerclub.com

or by calling the club offices at

Registration information can

spring 2011 recreational soc-

girls in all age groups.

(734) 464-8575.

(734) 421-0640; visit www.

wyaa.org (Facebook/WYAA

Livonia soccer signup

gandad.gmail.com.

cage.

tion.

Chambers and David Turel finished

each recorded a goal and assist for the Bobcats. Matt Kraemer chipped in with two assists.

Franklin netminder Matt Slinder made 38 saves, while Grand Blanc's Mitchell Behm had 23 stops.

COMPETITIVE CHEER

MHSAA GIRLS COMPETITIVE MHSAA GRES COMPETITI CHEER DISTRICT RESULTS DIVISION 1 Feb. 19 at SOUTHGATE ANDERSON TEAM STANDINGS (top 4 advance to regional): 1. Southgate, 799 8112 2 Livonia Stevenson 748.5816; 3. Canton, 743.0280; 4. Livonia Franklin, 742; 5. Saline, Livonia Frankin, 742; 5. Saline, 723.2696; 6. Livonia Churchill, 717.4472; 7. Temperance Bedford, 715.812; 6. Westland John Glenn, 711.3040; 9. Plymouth, 697.7168; 10. Brownstown Woodhaven, 696.0260; 11. Warren Mott, 694.2944; 12. Monroe, 648.6440; 13. Wayne Memorial. 6:44.9180; 14. Inkster, 575.1320.

DIVISION 3 Feb. 19 at BROOKLYN COLUMBIA CENTRAL TEAM STANDINGS (top 4

advance to regional): 1. Grosse Ile, 711.3896; 2. Brooklyn Columbia Central, 686.9948; 3. Livonia Ladywood, 673.1986: 4. Onsted 667.5766; 5. Monroe Jefferson, 664.0370; 6. Livonia Clarenceville, 654.7104; 7. Lansing Catholic Central, 654.6142; 8. Ida, 653.7092; 9. Flat Rock, 644.2460; 10. Stockbridge, 628.9320; 11. Williamston, 618.6072; 12. Romulus Summit Academy, 610.3352.

BOYS BASKETBALL Thursday, Feb. 24 Clarenceville at Edsel Ford, 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 25 Hartland at Churchill, 7 p.m. Grand Blanc at Wayne, 7 p.m. John Glenn at Wat. Kettering, 7 p.m. Franklin at Lakeland, 7 p.m. Univ.-Liggett at Luth. Westland, 7 p.m. Ypsi Calvary at Huron Valley, 7 p.m. (Kensington Conference Championship) Novi vs. Stevensor Salem winner, 7 p.m GIRLS BASKETBALL Thursday, Feb. 24 W.L. Central at Franklin, 7 p.m. W.L. Western at Churchill, 7 p.m. Lakeland at Stevenson, 7 p.m. Hartland at John Glenn, 7 p.m. W.L. Northern at Wayne, 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 25 Ypsi Calvary at Huron Valley, 5:30 p.m. Clarenceville at M.H. Lamphere, 7 p.m. (Operation-Friendship at Ladywood) Ladywood vs. Detroit Pershing, 5 p.m. Mercy vs. Detroit Renaissance, 7 p.m. PREP HOCKEY Thursday, Feb. 24 Ladywood vs. Port Huron at Plymouth's Arctic Pond, 6 p.m. Stevenson vs. Birm. Brother Rice at 0.P. Honeybaked Arena, 6:40 p.m

THE WEEK AHEAD

Friday, Feb. 25 Churchill vs. Wyandotte at Yack Arena, 7:25 p.m. **BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING** Friday, Feb. 25 Kensington Conference Preli at South Lyon East, 4 p.m. ference Prelims Saturday, Feb. 26 Kensington Conference Finals at South Lyon East, noon. PREP BOWLING (MHSAA Team Regionals) Friday, Feb. 25 Division 1 at Westland Bowl, 8:30 a.m. Division 2 at Merri-Bowl. 10 a.m. Division 3 team at Nortel Lanes, 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 26 (MHSAA Individual Regionals) Division 2 at Merri-Bowl 8 a.m. & 1 n.m. Division 1 at Westland Bowl, 8:30 a.m. Division 3 at Nortel Lanes, 9 a.m. MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Thursday, Feb. 24 (WHAC Playoffs-Quarterfinals) Madonna at Indiana Tech. 7:30 p WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Saturday, Feb. 26 (MCCAA Finals at Schoolcraft) Western Conference champion vs. Schoolcraft College, 3 p.m. TBA - time to be announced.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING WILLOW RUN AIRPORT FAR Part 150 Study

Holiday Inn Express Hotel 46194 N. I-94 Service Drive Belleville, Michigan

Tuesday, March 29, 2011 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The Wayne County Airport Authority is in the final stages of conducting a FAR Part 150 Aircraft Noise and Land Use Compatibility Study for Willow Run Airport. The Study represents the combined efforts of community and airport stakeholders who have an interest in activity at the Airport.

This Study Advisory Committee jointly participated in developing specific proposals for noise abatement following a detailed review of noise impacts generated from the current Airport configuration. The public is invited to attend a Public Hearing concerning the Study, forecasts, the existing and future Noise Exposure Maps and the Recommendations of the Study. The Consultants preparing the Study and Airport Authority staff will be available to answer questions in an Open House format, and both verbal and written comments will be accepted by a court reporter. A formal presentation will be made at 6:15 p.m. with an opportunity for public comment. Written comments will also be accepted for ten days following the Hearing, until April 8, 2011. Written comments can be sent to the Noise Program Manager at Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport, LC Smith Building- Mezzanine level, Detroit, MI 48242. A copy of the Recommendations Chapter is available for public review at the Willow Run Airport Administrative Offices, 801 Willow Run Airport, Ypsilanti, MI. and at the Airport website at www.willowrunairport.com. Pre-arranged appointments can be made by calling (734) 942-1503.

Reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired will be provided upon three (3) days notice to the Noise Program Manager by calling 734-942-1503.

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Publish: February 24, 2011

SPORTS ROUNDUP

to the public. No reservations required.

Jim Robertson at (734) 383-2790.

Registration for the Westland Youth Athletic Association 2011 girls fastpitch softball for all ages will be from 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays and 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays at the Lange Compound Building, located at 6050 Farmington Road

Age groups offered include:

Games for 10-, 12- and 16and-under will be on Tuesdays

ers for pitching and hitting

For more information, call

WYAA fastpitch softball

(north of Ford).

8-10, 11-12, 13-14 and 15-16.

and Thursdays, while 14-andunder games on Mondays and Wednesdays.

The WYAA provides train-

mra 1 Michigan Press Association 827 N. Washington Ave Lansing, MI 48906-5199 Phone: 517.372.2424 Fax: 517.372.2429 MichiganPress.org Mi-Dan@michiganpress.org

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oeads@hometownlife.com

roads. Bale and Engel fish tournaments throughout Lake Michigan and will speak on coho salmon, steelhead, lake trout and brown trout fishing. Dan Keifer, Community Outreach Coordinator of the

Clinton River Watershed Council, will provide updates on efforts to control entry of Asian Carp into the Great Lakes

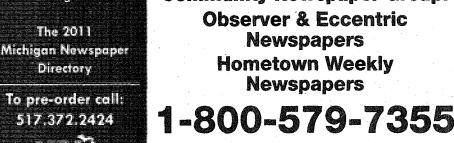
Meetings are free and open





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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 24, 2011

TERRY LEE HEWER

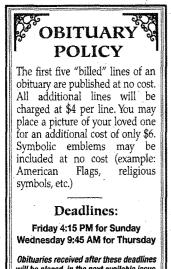
B4

(*)

February 21, 2011, age 57. Eternal soul mate of Lori. Loving Dad to Terry E. (Kasey) Hewer, Steven (Breanne) Hewer and Alicia (Billy) Groulx. Also leaves 16 grandchildren. Dear brother of Michael (Joann) Hewer and Richard (Denise) Hewer, Robert Hewer and Bud and Barbara Boje. Visitation Thursday from 1pm until 9pm and Friday from 12:30pm until time of funeral service at 1:30pm at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth.

GARY LEE PUCKETT

55 yrs of age, passed away on January 24, 2011. He was preceded in his death by his mother Gloria J Kopke. Gary is survived by his father James Puckett, two daughters, Freedom & Mary. Siblings Vicki Puckett, Debbie Daugherty, Tricha Parsons & Ty Kopke, several aunts, uncles, nieces & nephews.



Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue. e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to: Attn: Obits c/o Char Wilson 313-496-4968 For more information call: Char Wilson 586-826-7082 or Liz Keiser 586-977-7538 or toil free 800-579-7355

ask for Char or Liz



EDWARD K. THORP

Age 40, passed away peacefully Feb. 2011 after a long battle with Leukemia and complications from a Stem Cell Transplant. Beloved husband of 13 years to Kelly (Fitzpatrick). Loving father to his young daughters Regan (10) and Ryan (2). Loving son to Peggy (Jerry Orlowski) Thorp and Don (Judi) Thorp; cherished son-in-law to Tim and Terri (Sullivan) Fitzpatrick. Brother to Kate Thorp; step-brother to Tricia (Joe) Gregart and Damon Pitser. Beloved grandson to Josephine (Thorp) Argylean. He is also survived by many extended family members and friends. He will be remembered by all for his love of family and friends, his self-less and caring spirit, his strength and determination, his gift as a talented musician and his love of life. Visitation Thursday and Friday 2-9pm with a Scripture Service Friday 7pm at Vermeulen Funeral Home at 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd, Plymouth. Funeral Mass Saturday 6pm at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, 47650 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you consider a dona-

tion to the Ed Thorp Memorial Fund c/o Renee Kochanek, 49730 Pine Ridge Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170.

- Read about Ed's struggle for health or leave a comment at http://thorpfamilychronicles.
 - blogspot.com/. Please also see
- http://vermeulenfuneralhome.com /a/obituaries.htm
- to leave a condolence message for the family.

May You

Comfort in

Find

May peace

Family

Friends



RELIGION

SUZANNE PITLUK

Santa Paula, CA - A Michigan resident for most of her life, passed away on Wednesday, February 9th at UCLA Medical Center in Santa Monica, CA. Suzanne was an active and proud North Farmington High School band, theater, and football mother. She served as the NFHS Marching Band camp nurse for 10 years, hemmed many costumes for the productions, and cheered on the Raiders to numerous victories. Born in 1953 in Detroit, Michigan, Suzanne received a Nursing Certificate from St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. A believer in continuing education and constant learning, she was taking classes at the University of Detroit Mercy, from which she was looking to obtain her Bachelors of Science Degree in Oncology Nursing. Suzanne practiced nursing in the Metro Detroit area since 1976 and worked at various hospitals throughout Southeast Michigan. Her job in Michigan was as an last Oncology Certified Nurse with the University of Michigan Cancer Center. There as a Staff Infusion Nurse, she helped those inflicted with similar diseases as her. Besides calling on science and medicine, she drew from her own personal experiences with cancer to help her patients cope with their difficult times. Before her passing Suzanne had applied for her California Nursing License so she could continue helping others. Suzanne loved her family and they were always put before her own well being. She enjoyed socializing, meeting new people, traveling, and liv-ing life to the fullest. Although she dabbled in an array of hobbies, she was an arts and crafts extraordinaire, a talented seamstress and gardener, and was pick-ing up rose gardening after moving to Santa Paula with her husband Jack in May of last year. Her wonderful smile and presence always kept a room cheerful. Her laugh was loud and contagious and her energy and views about life were infectious. One of her many passions included breast cancer awareness and telling her story to help others. An advocate of fighting breast cancer and finding a cure, she participated in numerous walks including the Susan G. Komen 3 Day and the American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer. Not only a walker, she was usually called upon to be a speaker or participate in the opening/closing ceremonies. She is survived by her husband, Jack, her two children Gretchen and Nathan; her parents, Vic and Esther Schroeder of Interlochen MI, her remaining sisters, Johanna DeMeyer and Heidi Good of Royal Oak, Mi and South Lyon, MI and many nieces, nephews, and other family and friends, to whom she brought great joy and caring. She is predeceased by her youngest sister Gretchen Little, 2007. Memorial gifts may be made in Suzie's name to one of three organizations: - The University of Michigan

- The University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center funding Suzie's world class Michigan

 inding Suzie's world class Michiga doctor, Dr. Daniel Hayes
(www.cancer.med.umich.edu).
SU2C – Stand Up to Cancer
(www.standup2cancer.org) whose Breast Cancer team was led by

Sue's California doctors,

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aprayerbreakfast.org.

speaker Chuck Gaidica will speak at

the Livonia Prayer Breakfast in May.

payable to Livonia Community

Community Prayer Breakfast,

Inc., Attention: Sally Butler,

33300 Five Mile Road, Suite

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For more information call

(248) 476-9427 or visit livoni-

The Livonia Community

Prayer Breakfast Inc. is recog-

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501(c)3 charitable and religious

organization. A charitable tax

deduction may be recognized

in excess of the \$9 value of

printed program.

the breakfast. Sponsors will

be formally recognized in the

Chuck Gaidica, WDIV-TV's weather anchor and meteorology director, will speak at the 37th Annual Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast Thursday, May 12, at St. Mary's Cultural Center, 18100 Merriman, Livonia.

He'll talk about "Weathering the Storms of Life."

Gaidica, a motivational speaker and author, recently wrote two children's books. *Tommy Starts Something Big*, is about a boy whose one moment of pain leads him to start a movement that gives back to others and *Cuddling is Like Chocolate* deals with the health and wellness of touch. His goal is to encourage people of all ages to connect at a deeper level.

His website, CuddleAlert. com, offers information about his books, cuddling, and his speaker presentations. A portion of the proceeds from his company buy Cuddle Bears that firefighters and first responders use to comfort children during times of tragedy and crisis.

Gaidica, a Northville resident, also helped launch the Tipping Point Theatre, a professional theater in downtown Northville.

Tickets for the prayer breakfast are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students, K-12. They're available by sending a check

Lenten fish fry returns

Does your church offer a Lenten fish fry?

Send us the particulars — serving times, dates, church location, cost, menu choices and church phone number or other contact and will publish the information through Lent in the *Observer*. Send information to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com or mail to her at 615 Lafayette, level 2, Detroit, MI 48226.

Moms pray for children

St. Michael the Archangel Parish of Livonia has started a new women's prayer group. St. Monica's Prayer Group meets from 10-11 a.m. in the church rectory conference room, at the parish, 11441 Hubbard.

Participants gather to support each other in praying for their children, regardless of age. The group is open to all women. Prayer group members may attend sessions when they can. Weekly participation insit required. For more information, call the parich office at



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.

FEB. 25-MARCH 2 Mass for widowed

Time/Date: 2:30 p.m. Feb. 27 Location: St. Columban Church, 1775 Melton, between Woodward and Coolidge, north of 14 Mile, Birmingham

Details: Presented by Widowed Friends, a peer group in the Archdiocese of Detroit. The widowed celebrate Mass together and meet and mingle in a safe setting afterward. Refreshments served during the fellowship.

Contact: Gerry at (586) 795-0477 or visit www.widowedfriends.org

Reconciliation workshop

Time/Date: 2 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 26 Location: Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, west of Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Bishop Augustin Ahimana of Rwanda will share his experiences during and after Rwandan genocide. He will show the necessity of forgiving and being forgiven. Participants will learn the importance of forgiveness in their lives. Lunch will be served. A free will offering will be accepted. No charge for the workshop **Contact:** (734) 367-0422

Tax preparation

Time/Date: 1:30-5:30 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 27

Location: Faith Bible Church, 34541 5 Mile, Livonia

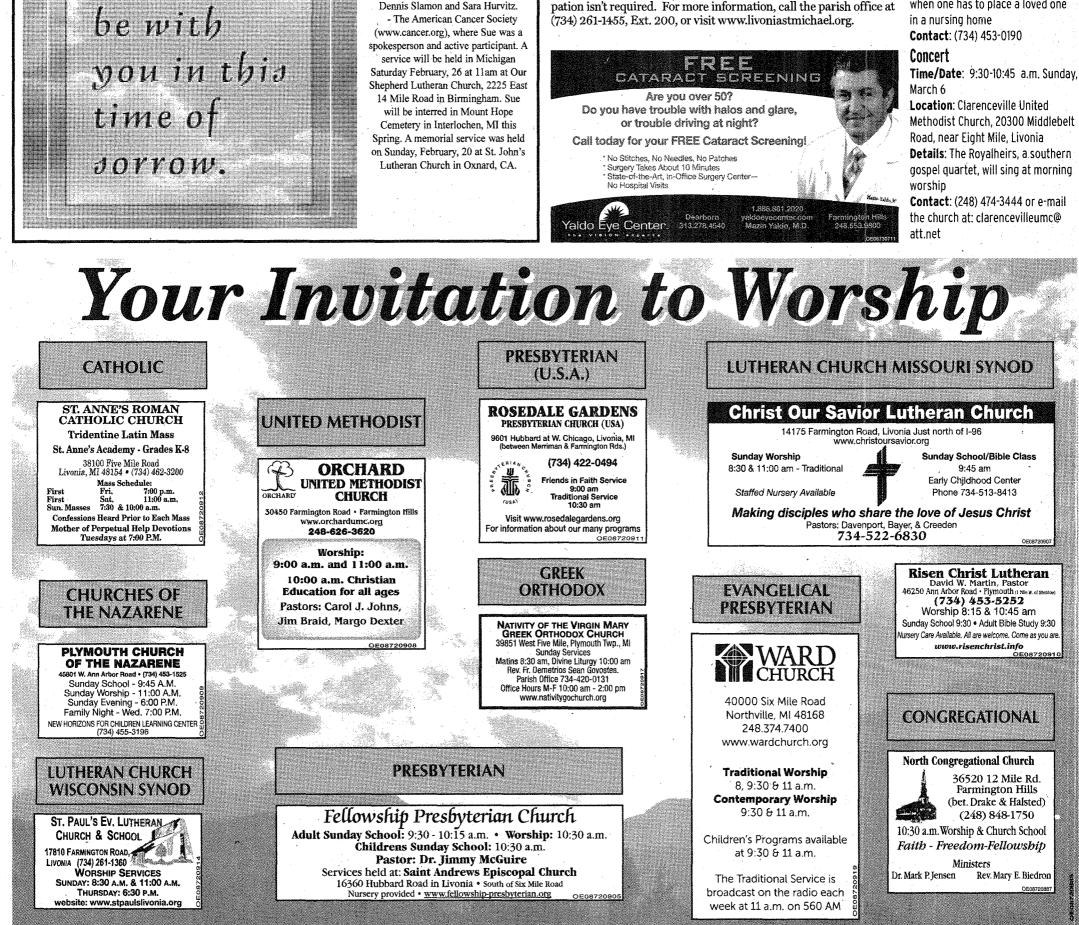
Details: Free tax preparation service directed by Jeff Conolly, an accounting services professional **Contact**: (734) 464-7990

MARCH 3-9

Alzheimer support

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-noon, March 4 Location: St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth Details: James P. Lampertius, a specialist in elder law and the principal of the law firm Lampertius & Associates will speak to the

St. John's Support Group for the Caregivers of Alzheimer's patients. Lampertius will cover the legal and financial facts that need to be faced when one has to place a loved one



Sharon Dargay, editor . (313) 222-8883 . sdargay@hometownlife.com

ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, February 24, 2011 hometownlife 🔟 com

Find vinyl and CDs at annual radio station benefit

BY SHARON DARGAY O&E STAFF WRITER

You can help bolster 88.1 FM The Escape's bottom line while shopping for favorite tunes Saturday, Feb. 26 at Salem High School in Canton.

The student radio station, WSDP, will hold its third annual record show in the school cafeteria from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Vendors will sell vinyl records, 45s, imported music releases, CDs, memorabilia, posters and other collectibles.

Folk musician Matt Watroba will sell much of his music collection, including Americana, bluegrass, blues, folk and country tunes.

"He used to teach here," said Bill Keith, WSDP station manager. "He has always remained a good friend of the radio station. His wife will be out to watch a couple tables of their CDs. I'm excited. He knows so many different artists. He has built a collection over the years."

Keith said the radio station raises about \$20,000 annually, although the Plymouth Canton school district pays the lion's share of its budget.

Its major fundraiser, an auction, will be held in May. The annual record show is a "mostly fun event" that generally brings in \$1,000 or more.

INDEPENDENT ARTISTS

The student-run radio station, in operation since February 1972, airs music as well as news and sports programming 24 hours daily.

"We try to play new and up and coming artists," Keith said, adding that auditions are held for staff positions.

88.1 the Escape is among about approximately a dozen student high school radio stations operating in southeastern Michigan.

"There's a mystique about radio and music," Keith said, explaining the station's popularity among stu-

Shoppers peruse bins of albums and CDs at a previous 88.1 FM record show.

dents. "The vast majority may not go into it as a career, but it still has benefits for communication skills, learning team work and working in a business environment."

DONATED RECORDS

Radio station staff members will sell donated CDs and music purged from the WSDP collection at the upcoming show.

"This year we have a lot of vinyl donated to us. A friend of the station donated two large crates of records," Keith said.

A teacher also donated several crates of records, including albums still sporting their sealed plastic covers.

"I was flipping through them and found four albums from the late 1960s by Rocky Barra, who's now pastor of one of the largest churches in Canton," Keith said, referring to the pastor of Connection Church. "I knew the name because my sister attends the church."

Keith e-mailed the church and discovered that the pastor had been in a band years ago.

"I had seen one of his records at a show once and did a double take. I regretted afterward that I had put it back," Keith said.

He said the four Barra albums that were donated to the radio station's fundraiser are all sealed. "I haven't even cracked them open

a portion of his music collection at the 88.1 FM Record Show.

vet.* Check out the radio station's website at 881theescape.com

Shake off winter blues with classic comedy

adhe & handownfi

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Spotlight Players wraps up its run of the sweet comedy, *Harvey*, Friday-Sunday, Feb. 25-27 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

Greg Bowman, the mid-day anchorman on WWJ radio AM 950, plays Elwood P. Dowd, the man who sees a 6foot rabbit, Harvey, in this classic story that was made popular by the film that starred Jimmy Stewart.

"We're not trying to recreate the movie and, indeed, we can't. You won't see Jimmy Stewart, Josephine Hull, or Jesse White, but you will see Elwood P. Dowd, Vita Louise Simmons, Mr. Wilson - and Harvey," stated Mike Cuba, director.

In addition to Bowmann of Ferndale, the cast includes Rebecca Winder of Canton as Myrtle Mae Simmons; Lisa Brawley of Livonia as Vita Louise Simmons; Linda Trygg of Westland as Mrs. Chaunvenet; Lindsay Frischmuth of Plymouth as Nurse Kelly; Richard Holland of Livonia as Mr. Wilson; Steve Sedore of Plymouth as Dr. Sanderson; Gary Regal of Wyandotte as Dr. Chumley; Marian Busa of Canton as Mrs. Chumley; Pat McKane of Canton as Judge Gafney and Matt Houser of Waterford as the Cab Driver. Judy Cannizarro of Canton is producing the play.

Curtain is at 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 25; at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26 and at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 27. Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$16 for seniors and students under 19. Tickets are available at the door or in advance by calling (734) 394-5300 or (734) 394-5460 or by visiting www.spotlightplayersmi.org. The theater is located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton.





sponsored by Canton's Building and Inspection Services. Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and the Canton Chamber of Commerce March 5-6 Free Admission • Free How-In Parking & Undishings! Refreshments Win a tree 1KW Kid's Cornei Solar Energy System Proiect from Rapid Home Centerl Improvement Lue Wooncarving Multiple Raffles Demonstrations Held Throughout the Weekendt Visit www.canton-mi.org or call 734/394-5200 Summoning Para 46000 Summit Parkway Saturday: 9am - 5pm Sunday: 11am - 5pm

ART

online at hometownlife.com



Colleen Cannon looks over some of the many teapots sold at her store, TranquiliTea in downtown Plymouth. The store will celebrate its fifth anniversary with prizes, treats and tastings on Feb. 26.

Spend a tea-riffic weekend in Plymouth

BY SHARON DARGAY O&E STAFF WRITER

B6

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Tea-lovers can party with the likes of Earl Grey and Jasmine Green Saturday Feb. 26 and then take in a little history with their favorite brew on Sunday, Feb. 27.

Two tea-related events are planned in downtown Plymouth this weekend. The first celebrates the 5th

anniversary of TranquiliTea and the second pairs crazy hats, a guest speaker and tea at the Plymouth Historical Museum.

The anniversary party runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the store, 904 W. Ann Arbor Trail, and will include door prizes, treats and tea tasting throughout the day. The store also will donate 10 percent of its gross sales to First Step, the local organization dedicated to reducing domestic violence and sexual abuse. Anyone who makes a cash donation to First Step will get an additional entry for the prize drawings. Door prizes will include tea packages from our various venders, polish pottery, tea cozies, and more. **Owners Colleen and Patrick**

Cannon sold 40 different teas then they first opened TranquiliTea in 2006 and now carry more than 150 varieties. Cannon said he enjoys

earthy, robust teas such as Black, Pu Erh and Royal Golden Yunan and the green tea, Lung Ching. His wife likes Japanese green teas and dessert teas.

"One of the teas we very much agree upon is Genmaicha, a Japanese green tea that has roasted rice and popcorn in it - yes popcorn," he said.

"Currently we only blend one tea in the store. Blending tea takes a lot of space and you must do it in bulk. We leave that to those that have been doing it for years. However, we taste test every loose leaf tea that is on our shelves. We reject many more that we select."

ALMOND AND CHERRY

Their most expensive tea, Organic Silver Needles, is a white tea that retails for \$7.50 per ounce. Most of their teas average about \$2.50 per ounce.

TranquiliTea also supplies the Plymouth Historical Museum with its signature "Mary's Blend," a tea that honors Mary Todd Lincoln. It will be served at the museum's Mad Hatter Tea on Feb. 27.

"It's a Ceylon tea with cherry and almond flavoring," Cannon said. "We have been told that Mary Todd Lincoln's signature dessert was a cherry almond cake. We had a tea tasting with the Museum and it was decided that the tea was a nice fit."

Mad Hatter Tea will include a full Victorian-style tea with sandwiches, scones and other fare, followed by the presentation, "Hookers, Crooks and Kooks. Aunt Merle Didn't Run a Boarding House," by Jana Broglin. Guests may wear their craziest or favorite hats in keeping with the tea's theme. Tickets are \$25 for Plymouth Historical Society members and \$30 for nonmembers. Call (734) 455-8940 for tickets.

For more about TranquiliTea, call (734) 459-9686

Festival in need of local performers

ing registration for its annual VSA Michigan Festival - A Celebration of Arts-Ability, a two-

The Southeast Regional Committee is accept- friends. Performers will be given VSA art festival T-shirts. The VSA Michigan 2011 Emerging Artists Touring Exhibit also will be featured.

Art & Ideas Gallery Time/Date: 1-7 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 24-26 Location: 15095 Northville Road, **Plymouth Township** Details: Free interactive art project allows all ages from the community to participate. "Collaging History" arranges historical photos and other images installed on the gallery walls, also using drawing to make unusual connections between past and current events Contact: (734) 420-0775 or www. artandideasgallery.com

Dirty Show

Time/Date: 7 p.m.-2 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 26 Location: Bert's Warehouse Theatre, 2739 Russell Street, Detroit Details: Erotic art, performance art; tickets \$20 in advance or \$25 at the

door Contact: dirtydetroit.com or call (313) 393-3233

Northville Art House

Time/Date: 6-9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 25, preview and reception; 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26 and noon-4 p.m. Sunday, Feb 27 are general sales days

Location: 215 W. Cady in downtown Northville

Details: Sale of gently-used art to benefit Northville Art House. Tickets for the preview are \$10. Contact: (248) 344-0497

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. Mondavs. 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

GET OUT!



Youngsters enjoy "The Beach," a giant sandbox at the Cottage & Lakefront Living Show. It runs Feb. 24-27 in Novi.



See the film, "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" Feb. 26 in downtown Northivlle.

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle

Time/Date: Ian Bagg, Feb. 24-26; Tim Nutt, March 3-5; Sean Patton, March 10-12; Lowell Sanders, March 17-19; Erik Griffin, March 24-26; Lynne Koplitz, March 31-April 2 Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com

CONCERTS

The Ark Time/Date: The Asylum Street

Spankers, Feb. 24; BreakFest, Feb. 25; Susan Werner, Feb. 26; The Jeremy Kittel Band, Feb. 27; Studebaker John & the Hawks, Feb. 28 Location: 316 South Main, Ann Arbor

Contact: (734) 763-8587; www. theark.org

Barn Theatre

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. March 10-12 Location: Farmington Hills Players' Barn Theatre, 32332 12 Mile in



Josh Rose will perform, along with Andrew Calhoun, March 5 at Trinity House in Livonia.

and Pauline Martin on piano; \$20 general admission, \$10 for students. Get tickets online at www. scboxoffice.com; in person at the Schoolcraft College Bookstore, 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday; and by calling (734) 462-4409 Contact: (734) 462-4403

Trinity House Theatre

Time/Date: Drew Nelson, Feb. 18; Michael Smith, Feb. 19; Blue Water Ramblers, Feb. 26; The Waymores, March 4; Andrew Calhoun with Josh Rose, March 5 Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia Contact: (734) 464-6302, www.trinityhouse.org

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

day showcase of singing, dancing, drama and instrumental music by more than 200 children and adults with developmental and physical disabilities.

The festival is slated for 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, June 3, in the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia, and 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 4, at the Michigan State University Community School in Detroit. Throughout the year the children and adults participate in music and art therapy classes. The festival not only gives performers with mental and physical challenges the opportunity to show off their talents but also to participate in hands-on art activities. On Friday, they have the opportunity to eat lunch with their

The Southeast Region Committee members Jody Conradi-Stark, Margaret Hull, Cindy Babcock, Connie Lott, Linda Ann Chomin, and Gayle Owens put on the festival. VSA enables children and adults with disabilities to experience and grow though the arts. The nonprofit was founded by Jean Kennedy Smith more than 25 years ago as Very Special Arts after her sister, Eunice Kennedy Shriver, started Special Olympics in 1968.

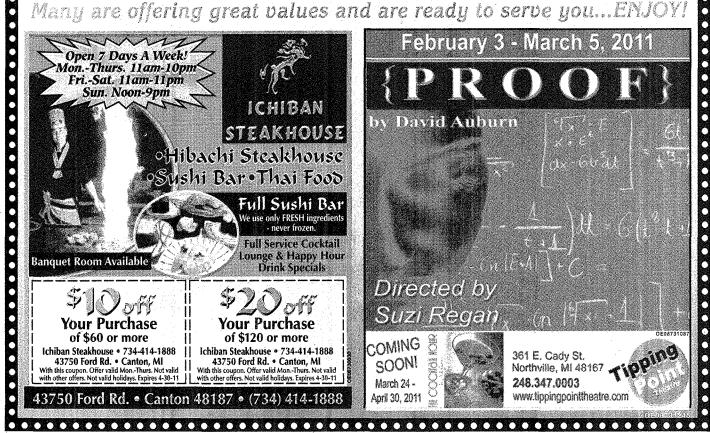
The VSA The event is open to the public and free of charge. For additional information, contact Conradi-Stark at (313) 273-7762 or e-mail catinc@earthlink.net.

The deadline to submit an application to perform in the showcase is April 1.

Details: Shane Moss, Feb. 23-26; Steve McGrew, March 3-5; LA Hardy, March 9-12; Mo Mandel, March 16-19; Mark Sweeney, March 23-26; Chili Challis, March 30-April 2 Contact: (734) 261-0555, www.kickerscomplex.com

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Check out these local businesses. Many are offering great values and are ready to serve you... ENJOY!



Farmington Hills Details: Blackthorn performs Celtic music: tickets are \$19 for adults and \$17 for seniors and students Contact: (248) 473-1848

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

Dick O'Dow's

Time/Date: 9 p.m. March 5 Location: 160 W. Maple, Birmingham **Details:** The Terry Murphy Band plays progressive folk music from the U.S., Canada, Ireland and the **British Isles** Contact: (248) 642-1135

Hard Rock Cafe

8

Time/Date: 9 p.m. Feb. 24 Location: 45 Monroe Street, Detroit Details: Christian rockers, Sweet Crystal and MediSin Wheel; \$5 cover Contact: (313) 964-7625

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. Complimentary hors d' oeuvres Contact: (734) 453-1780 www. PlymouthElks1780.com

Schoolcraft College

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 25 Location: The Presentation Room at the VisTaTech Center on campus, located at 18600 Haggerty, Livonia Details: Yehonatan Berick on violin Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.

ога 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

FILM

Movies at the Marguis

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m., Feb. 26 Location: Marguis Theatre, 135 E. Main, Northville Details: "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner," tickets \$3 and available at Sincerely Yours, 110 N. Center, Northville

Coming up: "West Side Story," March 5, with tickets at Starring the Gallery; 118 W. Main, Northville; "The Sting," March 12 with tickets at Urban Optiques, 105 Maincentre, Northville; and "American Graffiti," March 19, with tickets at Edward's Cafe & Caterers, 115 E. Main, Northville Contact: (248) 349-8110

Penn Theater

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 25; 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 26-27

Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

Details: "Tangled," all seats \$3 Coming up: "Harry potter and the Deathly Hollows Part 1," 7 p.m. March 4; and 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. March 5-6; "The King's Speech," 7 p.m. and 9:25 p.m. March 11-12; 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. March 13

Classics: "The Man Who Knew Too Much," March 3; "Vertigo," March 10; "Rear Window," March 17; "The Birds," March 24; and "Psycho," March 31. All shows start at 7 p.m. and cost \$3 Contact: (734) 453-0870; www.

penntheatre.com

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

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Contact Editor Sharon Dargay Voice Mail: (313) 222-8883 E-mail: sdargay@hometownlife.com Comment online at hometownlife.com



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FOOD

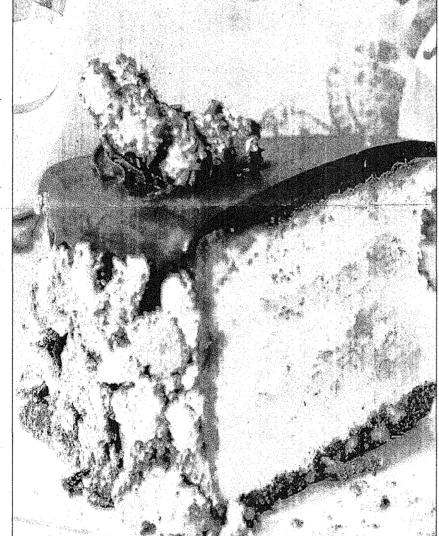
Thursday, February 24, 2011

Fired Samoas Shrimp

Mix cookies into cake, shrimp coating

E at Girl Scout Cookies straight from the box. Freeze them for future snacking. Or mix them into a recipe. But buy them now. Most troops in southeastern Michigan sell cookies through mid-March. Some, including troops in Plymouth and Canton, conclude regular sales this week, but may schedule a few bonus cookie days in March.

To find local cookie booths, log onto the Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan Web site,





Chefs turn Girl Scout Cookies into desserts

Tickets are on sale now for the Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan annual Cookie Gala.

Chefs from 220, Andiamo Detroit Riverfront, Atheneum Suite Hotel, Fifty-One-O-One, The Hills Seafood and Chop House, The Lark, Ocean Prime, Mosaic, Redwood Lodge, The Roostertail, St. Clair Inn and Sweet & Savory Bake Shop will create unique desserts using Girl Scout Cookies for the event, which will run from 6-8:30 p.m., March 30, in the Atheneum Suite Hotel, 1000 Brush Ave., in the heart of Greektown in Detroit.

Visitors can taste their creations and cast votes for their favorites.

Tickets are \$75 each or \$130 for a pair, on or before March 23 and \$100 each, \$170 per pair, after March 23.

The event will include hors d'oeuvres and desserts, a cash bar, live and silent auction and the opportunity to mingle with business and community leaders.

Get tickets through the Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan Web site at www.gssem.org and click on "for supporters" and then "cookie gala."

Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan, which includes troops in Plymouth and Canton, will hold five "Girl Scout Cookie Bake-Off Benefit" events this year. The first was held Tuesday, Feb. 22 in Lansing.

Other benefits are scheduled April 28 in Kalamazoo, May 3 in Jackson, Sept. 22 in Ann Arbor and Nov. 17 in Saginaw.

The events, held in each of the Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan Council regions, support Girl Scout outreach to low income and at-risk girls.

As people mix, mingle and bid on silent auction items, local chefs compete to see who can create the best dessert made from Girl Scout Cookies.

Go to www.girlscoutbakeoff.com

www.gssem.org or Heart of Michigan Girl Scouts, www.gshom.org, and click on Cookie Locator.

Thin Mints are the biggest selling Girl Scout Cookies nationally. Samoas, the second most popular, account for 19 percent of sales.

Samoas, vanilla cookies covered with caramel, rolled in toasted coconut and striped with a chocolaty coating, mark their 35th birthday this year.

Here are a few recipes using Samoas from Little Brownie Bakers, maker of Girl Scout Cookies:

FIRED SAMOAS SHRIMP

Yields 5 shrimp Inaredients 5 extra-large shrimp, peeled and de-veined 5 Samoas® Girl Scout Cookies, finely chopped 2 cups seasoned bread crumbs 2 cups flour 1 cup coconut flakes 4 egg whites 1 pinch cayenne pepper 1 lime for garnish Vegetable or peanut oil for frying **Directions:** 1. Toss coconut flakes

with bread crumbs, cayenne pepper and chopped Samoas® Girl Scout Cookies.

2. Dredge shrimp through flour, followed by egg whites and Samoas® Girl Scout Cookies mixture.

3. Fry shrimp in vegetable oil at 350 degrees until golden brown.

4. Garnish with coconut flakes and lime wedges. Serving Suggestions:

• Serve warm.

• Arrange in a star pattern on a salad plate, or on a bamboo skewer with tropical fruits.

• Can be served as an appetizer, in a salad, or as an entrée.

• If serving as an entrée accompany with fried plantains and wild rice Samoas Dream Cake

1 box yellow cake mix-

1 cup heavy cream

1 cup brown sugar

1 stick of butter

1 teaspoon vanilla

Coconut Caramel Filling:

1 egg yolk, slightly beaten

Chocolate Ganache:

2 tablespoons butter

2 tablespoons sugar

6¹/₂ tablespoons milk

Bottom and Sides:

Directions:

three 8-inch pans.

in refrigerator.

ies

10 ounces chocolate chips

2 boxes of Samoas® Girl Scout Cook-

1. Mix and bake yellow cake accord-

ing to manufacturer's instructions using

2. To prepare the coconut caramel,

mix brown sugar, egg yolk, cream and

then add mixture. Cook mixture over

medium heat until it boils for one min-

ute - stirring often with a wire whisk.

sweetened coconut flakes. Chill mixture

3. Line a 10" springform cake pan

with parchment paper. Chop one box of

Samoas[®] and press into bottom of the

springform pan. Sprinkle 2 ounces of

chocolate chips over chopped cookies,

place in the oven until chocolate chips

Remove from heat and stir in 2 cups

vanilla. Melt butter in a sauce pan

1 cup heavy cream

2 cups sweetened coconut flakes

1 box Samoas® Girl Scout Cookies

1 can store bought caramel frosting

Serves 8

Cake:

Ingredients

SAMOAS DREAM CAKE

melt. Using the back of a spoon, spread chocolate over cookie crumbs as evenly as possible.

4. Place first layer of cake on top of melted chocolate and crumbs. Spread half of coconut caramel filling over cake. Place second layer of cake in pan and top with remaining filling. Place third layer of cake in pan. Remove sides of pan and spread caramel icing over top and sides of cake. Chill cake while preparing chocolate ganache.

5. Prepare the chocolate ganache by melting butter and cream in the top of a double boiler until it is about the consistency of bottled creamy salad dressing — thin enough to pour, but thick enough to coat the top of the cake without running off.

6. Place cake on cooling rack with a cookie sheet (preferably with sides) underneath.

Pour chocolate ganache on to the middle of the cake. Encourage it to roll over the sides of the cake with a palette knife, spatula, or the back of a spoon. Cover the cake as evenly as possible while trying to minimize the strokes used — the fewer strokes you use the smoother the finish will be.

7. Chop the second box of cookies and press onto the sides of the cake. Chill cake and remaining ganache in refrigerator. If desired, slide cake off parchment paper and springform pan bottom using a long spatula.

8. Finish the cake with piped rosettes of ganache and cut cookies or other fanciful decorations such as butterflies, honeybees, birds, etc. using tinted icing. Dream big!

SAMOAS® SWEET ROLLS

Serves 4 Ingredients

- Crepes:
- (To save time you also can use pre-made crepes). 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon double-action baking powder
- ½ teaspoon sait 3 tablespoons powdered sugar
- 3 finely chopped Samoas® Girl Scout Cookies
- 3 eggs
- ²/₃ cup milk

½ cup water

- ½ teaspoon vanilla
- Filling & Garnish:
- 18-ounce package cream cheese
- 3 tablespoons powdered sugar
- ½ teaspoon vanilla
- 2 ounces chocolate syrup
- 6 finely chopped Samoas® Girl Scout Cookies
- 4 teaspoons cinnamon
- Berries (red raspberries, strawberries, blueberries, etc.)

Crepes:

Combine liquid ingredients in a mixing bowl and mix on low speed for one minute. Add all dry ingredients and mix on low speed for 30 seconds, then on medium speed for one minute. Cook crepes on medium heat in 8-inch skillet using non-stick spray until very light brown. Turn once. Set cooked crepes aside using wax paper to separate.

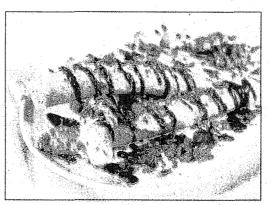
Filling:

Mix all filling ingredients, except finely chopped Samoas[®] Girl Scout Cookies, together in mixing bowl on low speed for 30 seconds, then at high speed for 2 minutes or until thoroughly combined. Fold in half (approximately 3 cookies) of finely chopped Samoas[®] Girl Scout Cookies.

Spread approximately 3 tablespoons of filling onto each crepe and roll up.

Garnish:

Place two Samoas[®] Sweet Rolls on four dessert plates and stripe chocolate syrup across then sprinkle remainder of finely chopped Samoas[®] Girl Scout Cookies (approximately 3 cookies), and dust lightly with cinnamon. Add other garnishes such as berries or fruit-flavored syrup if desired.



Samoas Crepe Roll

for ticket information. Here's a sampling of recipes from the 2010 event in Ann Arbor. **APPLE OLIVE OIL CAKE** By Paesano Restaurant and Wine Bar, Chef Carla Hoopingarner Cake: 3 whole eggs 2 cups all-purpose flour 1 cup granulated sugar ½ teaspoon baking soda 1 cup light brown sugar ½ teaspoon baking powder 1½ cup extra virgin olive oil 1 teaspoon kosher salt 1¼ cup whole milk 4 ounces almonds, ground fine 3 ounces store-bought apple butter Dulce de Leche Apple Filling: 2 cups Dulce de Leche Girl Scout Cookies, crushed fine 2 cups store-bought apple butter **Cinnamon Mascarpone Frosting** 2 pounds mascarpone cheese, room temperature ½ cup powdered sugar

2 cup powdered sugar

1½ tablespoon ground cinnamon

Make the cake:

Grease and line three 9-inch cake pans with parchment paper. Set aside. Preheat oven to 350. In a large bowl, whisk together the eggs and sugars. Whisk in the oil, milk, and apple butter. Set aside. Combine flour, baking soda, baking powder, and salt. Sift into egg batter and whisk smooth. Whisk in almonds. Divide batter evenly among the prepared pans. Bake until golden, approximately 45 minutes to an hour.

Make the filling:

Combine ingredients. Set aside until ready to assemble.

Make the frosting:

Use a rubber spatula to fold together cheese and sugar. Add cinnamon. Assemble the Cake:

Place one layer of cooled cake on flat work surface or cake stand. If layers baked unevenly or 'puff' in center, trim so that each layer is flat and even. Top cake with half of the dulce de leche apple filling and spread evenly, leaving about ½ inch around edge to keep the filling from squeezing out. Spread about ½ cup of frosting over filling. Place second layer of cake on top of the frosting. Repeat step two. Place final layer on top. Use the remaining frosting to frost the top and sides of the cake. Garnish as desired.

More Chef recipes online at hometownlife.com

APARTMENTS



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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

hometownlife

EMPLOYMENT

Contact Us

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CLASSIFIED DEADLINES: SUNDAY EDITION, 4:30 P.M. FRIDAY THURSDAY EDITION, 4:30 P.M. TUESDAY

Julie Brown, editor . (313) 222-6755 icbrown@hometownlife.com

Treat all children well

Q: I am concerned about our condominium association treating families with children differently in regard to violations of the rules then persons without families, particularly, the use of the common areas. How can I convince my board that they have got to get their act together?

A: They might be interested in a case that has been well publicized out of Massachusetts where the Justice Department settled a lawsuit

against an association over

allegations that it regularly discriminated against residents

Robert Meisner with children. The Justice

Department claimed that the complex fined families \$500 when their children violated Condominium Rules by playing tag or whiffle ball games in outdoor common areas while residents without kids were fined only \$10 for similar rule infractions. Additionally, the association retaliated against one resident who lodged a complaint with the Department of Housing and Urban Development over the excessive fines by charging her \$1,000 to pay for the association's costs to defend against her complaint. In effect, the association was sanctioned to the tune of \$150,000. If that doesn't shake them up, I don't know what can other than a lawsuit. Q: I have heard that the housing and attendant pricing has eased up in the Boston area, in particular, in the suburbs because of foreclosures. I am particularly interested in the Needham community. Do you have any information? A: Because of the excellent schools. attractive downtown area and train commuter service to Boston, Needham continues to be a very affluent community that is holding its real estate prices well. At best, prices have gone down 10 percent and in many instances, vacant lots are being gobbled up as there are few, if any, that are buildable. There are restrictions in terms of the type of house that can be constructed on relatively narrow lots in the community and homeowner associations are very diligent in enforcing the aesthetic guidelines. There are spec homes that are available but you are not going to find a bargain as you would in other parts of the Northeast.

As winter continues, saving energy costs remains essential

AUTOS

Cutting back unnecessary energy use is an easy way to keep your hard-earned money in your pocket. Here are some suggestions you can do at home, at absolutely no cost to you. These tips are from a recent Newsline publication of the Western Wayne Oakland County Association of Realtors.

• Let the sunshine in. Open drapes and let the sun heat your home for free (get them closed again at sundown so they help insulate).

• Rearrange your rooms. Move your furniture around so you are sitting near interior walls - exterior walls and older windows are likely to be drafty. Don't sit in the draft.

• Keep it shut. Traditional fireplaces are an energy loser — it's best not to use them because they pull heated air out of the house and up the chimney. When not in use, make absolutely sure the damper is closed. Before closing the damper, make sure that you don't have any smoldering embers.

• If you decide not to use a fireplace, then block off the chimney with a piece of rigid insulation from the hardware store that fits snugly into the space (dampers don't shut fully without some leaking).

• Eliminate wasted energy. Turn off lights in unoccupied rooms. Unplug that spare refrigerator in the garage if you don't truly need it — this seemingly convenient way to keep extra drinks cold adds 10-25 percent to your electric bill. Turn off kitchen and bath-ventilating

fans after they've done their job - these fans can blow out a house-full of heated air if inadvertently left on.

• Keep your fireplace damper closed unless a fire is burning to prevent

up to 8 percent of your furnace-heated air from going up the chimney.

 Shorten showers. Simply reducing that lingering time by a few minutes can save hundreds of gallons of hot water per month for a family of four. Showers account for two-thirds of your water heating costs. Cutting your showers in half will reduce your water heating costs by 33 percent.

• Use appliances efficiently. Do only full loads when using your dishwasher and clothes washer. Use the cold water setting on your clothes washer when you can. Using cold water reduces your washer's energy use by 75 percent.

• Be sure to clean your clothes dryer's lint trap after each use. Use the moisture-sensing automatic drying setting on your dryer if you have one.

• Put your computer and monitor to sleep. Most computers come with the power management features turned off. On computers using Windows, open your power management software and set it so your computer goes to sleep if you're away from your machine for five to 15 minutes.

Those who use Macintosh computers look for the setting in your Control Panels called "Energy Saver" and set it accordingly. When you're done using your computer, turn it off (see next tip). Do not leave it in sleep mode overnight as it is still drawing a small amount of power.

• Plug "leaking energy" in electronics. Many new TVs, VCRs, chargers, computer peripherals and other electronics use electricity even when they are switched "off." Although these "standby losses" are only a few watts each, they add up to more than 50 watts in a typical home that is consumed all the time. If possible, unplug electronic devices and chargers that have a block-shaped transformer on the plug when they are not in use. For computer scanners, printers and other devices that are plugged into a power strip, simply switch off the power strip after shutting down your computer. The best way to minimize these losses of electricity is to purchase ENERGY STAR® products.

Every home is different. With a quick trip to your local hardware store, you have even more choices at hand.

heating costs can result. Check state's down payment assistance program

 Replace incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs, especially in high-use light fixtures. Compact fluorescent lights use 75 percent less energy than incandescent

lights. Plug your home's leaks. Install weather-stripping or caulk leaky doors and windows and install gaskets

behind outlet covers. Savings up to 10 percent on energy costs can result. • Install low flow showerheads. If you do not

already have them, low-flow showerheads and fau-

cets can drastically cut your hot water expenses. Savings of 10-16 percent of water heating costs. • Wrap the hot water tank with jacket insulation. This is especially valuable for older water heaters with little internal insulation. Be sure to leave the air intake vent uncovered when insulating a gas water heater. Savings up to 10 percent on water

ow would you like to get a below market interest rate? And how would you also like to get \$7,500 down payment assistance from the

This is a

program from



Wes McCaig

the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA).

The MSHDA down payment assistance program works with FHA and Rural Development loans. The maximum assistance of \$7,500 can be used for down payment,

GUEST COLUMN

closing costs, prepaid expenses and a home inspection. The assistance from MSHDA is a zero-interest, payment free loan which you pay back only when the first mortgage is paid in full.

When using the MSHDA program, homebuyers often receive a below market fixed interest rate on their first mortgage. In addition, MSHDA only requires a contribution of 1 percent of the sales price from the home buyer. For example, on a \$150,000 home, a homebuyer using the MSHDA program can purchase a home with as little as \$1,500 out of pocket. So who qualifies for this

program? Well for starters,

homebuyers wishing to use the MSHDA program will have to meet certain requirements pertaining to household income, assets and homeownership. The maximum home sales price is \$224,500 and applicants must have less than \$5,000 in the bank, excluding retirement funds.

In all of Oakland County (except Royal Oak and Pontiac), the program is only available to applicants who have not owned a home within the past 36 months. The maximum household income is \$69,800 for a household of one-two people and \$80,270 for a household of three or more. In Royal Oak and Pontiac, there is no restriction on prior homeownership and the income limits are more generous, at \$83,760 for

a one-two-person household and \$97,720 for a household of three or more.

In all of Wayne County (except Detroit, Ecorse, Hamtramck, Highland Park and River Rouge), the program is only available to applicants who have not owned a home within the past 36 months. The maximum household income is \$69,800 for a household of one-two people and \$80,270 for a household of three or more. In Detroit, Ecorse, Hamtramck, Highland Park and River Rouge there is no restriction on prior homeownership and the income limits are more generous, at \$83,760 for a one-two-person household and \$97,720 for a household of three or more.

In all of Washtenaw County,

there is no restriction on prior homeownership and the maximum household income is \$101,040 for a household of one-two people and \$108,000 for a household of three or more.

To see if you qualify, contact a MSHDA approved mortgage lender today. You can view the list of approved lenders at www.michigan/gov/mshda.

Wes McCaig is the owner and broker of Visible Home (http://www.visiblehomes.com), a real estate brokerage which combines traditional real estate with innovative technologies. Visible Homes provides full service real estate in Michigan, and is a member of the National Association of Realtors, Michigan Association of Realtors and the Western Wayne Oakland County Association of Realtors.

South Lyon

Southfield

White Lake

\$158,000

\$99,000

\$35,000

\$124,000

\$45,000

\$292,000 \$188,000

\$95,000

\$140,000

\$170,000

	HOMES	S SOLD-OAKLAND	* •	
These are the area residential real estate also	Bloomfield Township	Farming	ton Hills	1677 Harbor Cv
These are the area residential real estate clos-	2790 Amberly Rd \$56	2.000 29111 Hemlock Dr	\$165,000	40944 Hollydale
ings recorded the week of Nov. 8-12, 2010, at	4390 Chisholm Tri \$220	0,000 27580 W Echo Viy	\$53,000	22816 Talford St
the Oakland County Register of Deeds office.	937 Lampwick Ct \$330	0,000 Mill	ford	
	4185 Meadowlane Dr \$15	5,000 577 Florence Ct	\$250,000	22344 Brookfield Dr
Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales	400 N Cranbrook Rd \$60	5,000 520 John R	\$128,000	245 Brookwood Dr
prices.	2362 Rutherford Rd \$5	7,000 4271 W Highland Rd	\$143,000	1275 Coach House Ln
, · · · · · · · · ·	1150 Timberview Trl \$90	D,000 Ne	ovi -	1108 Gallop Ln
Beverly Hills	100 W Hickory Grove Rd \$30	0,000 30782 Ardmore Ct	\$64,000	
16904 Dunblaine Ave \$110,000	Commerce Township	22119 Barclay Ct	\$358,000	18514 Hilton Dr
18204 Kinross Ave \$165.000	4417 S Commerce Rd \$14	3,000 21860 Barciay Dr	\$370,000	
Birmingham	Farmington	24639 Bashian Dr	\$43,000	9359 Gale Rd
1236 Yorkshire Rd \$270,000		3,000 22192 Chase Dr	\$435,000	10199 Lakeside Dr
1220 101421016140 2210/000	31661 Lamar Dr. \$120	1000 24723 Glanda St	¢150.000	

24723 Glenda St

31661 Lamar Dr

HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate			
closings recorded the week of Nov. 8-12,			
2010, at the Wayne County Rec	ister of		
Deeds office. Listed below are cities,			
addresses, and sales prices.			
Canton			
49082 Castleside Dr	\$380,000		
41521 Cumberland Dr	\$140,000		
45482 Fountain View Dr	\$330,000		
50477 Monroe St	\$200,000		
1829 Pebble Creek Dr	\$245,000		
6254 Porteridge Ln	\$160,000		
Garden City			
6848 Cardwell St	\$57,000		
32713 Florence St	\$27,000		
Livonia			
14216 Arden St	\$130,000		
9896 Farmington Rd	\$88,000		
15628 Fitzgerald St	\$144,000		
38715 Grennada St	\$149,000		
9074 Newport Way	\$72,000		
16108 Southampton St	\$210,000		

\$94,000

1 170040	
50546 Beechwood Ct	\$94,000
1010 Church St	\$279,000
40723 Firwood Dr	\$154,000
40803 Newport Dr	\$40,000
9357 Village Manor Dr	\$308,000
352 W Spring St	\$30,000
1034 York St	\$90.000
Redfor	
15457 Chelsea	\$24,000
26005 Elsinore	\$59,000
19935 Gaylord	\$36,000
17248 Lennane	\$72,000
9079 Mercedes	\$75,000
15561 Norborne	\$5,000
15593 Pomona Dr	\$20,000
Westlan	
36230 Abbey Dr	\$135,000
1785 Daisey Ln	\$106,000
1950 Dunn Ct	\$79,000
34636 Fairchild St	\$49,000
36756 Gilchrist St	\$46,000
30528 Grandview Ave	\$72,000
7369 Manor Cir	\$22,000
37582 Robinson Ct	\$115,000
1511 S Walton St	\$43,000
1207 Windham St	\$75.000
icor minanam oc	\$10,000

Plymouth

Investors

\$120,000

The Real Estate Investor Association of Wayne County holds monthly meetings the first Tuesday of each month at the Holiday Inn, 17201 Northline Road, Southgate. At 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 1, Sherlock Homes will speak on "What's going on in your properties that you don't know about?" A lot of homes have "ticking time bombs" in their structures, heating systems, electrical systems, etc. The occupants are unaware of these until something major occurs. He will also have an update on mold, and a handout on lead. Entrance fee is \$20 for nonmembers to be applied to annual membership. For information, call (313) 819-0919 or visit www.reiawaynecounty.org.

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

\$150,000

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.

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.

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@meisnerassociates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

(二) 新建立

\$20,000

\$20.000

Northville

6496 Lincoln Dr

16412 Mulberry Way



89



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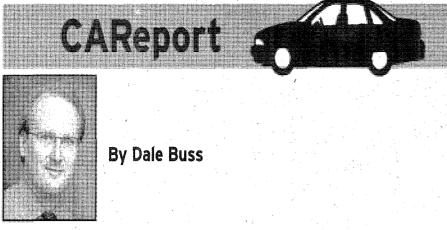




Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 24, 2011

THAWING OUT, AUTO BRANDS BRING 'A' GAME

Advertising Feature



Presidents' Day Weekend has become almost the unofficial start of the spring automotive selling season. And with that holiday already past, and spring less than a month away, auto brands have begun reasserting themselves in hopes of taking a bigger share of a steadily rising U.S. auto market.

Toyota, for example, has just come out swinging with a new advertising campaign to join with its aggressive program of sales incentives to attempt to take back some of the U.S. market share that it lost during its annus horribilis of 2010.

The campaign, "#1 for a Reason," focuses on many of the things that American consumers may have forgotten about how good Toyota is.

They include the fact that Camry remains the nation's No. 1-selling car, that the Corolla is the world's bestselling car of all time, and that Prius is the best-selling hybrid in the world. Toyota Tacoma is the market's bestselling small pickup truck. Toyota has the most fuel-efficient product lineup of any full-line American manufacturer. That sort of thing.

"It's a very celebratory campaign," Bob Carter, Toyota division general manager, told automotive journalists earlier this month.

Timing might just be right for Toyota to come out of its defensive crouch and

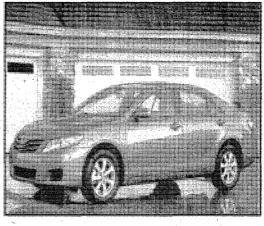
begin asserting its brand bona fides again. The federal government just last week proclaimed that only the original mechanical problems in Toyota vehicles were responsible for the worst of last year's safety recalls -- and that there is no reason to suspect any, more insidious problem related to in-vehicle electronics and software. That validated the position Toyota executives had taken all along.

Plus, auto sales in general are picking up in the U.S. as the traditionally robust spring selling season approaches. Toyota retains the largest retail-market share of any automaker in America because it continues to spurn most fleet sales; fleets comprise a huge portion of sales to the traditional Big Three.

And even the emphasis of Toyota's campaign, promoting the brand overall instead of specific products, might be wise. Toyota continues to face a relatively sparse pipeline of new products this year, except for a larger version of Prius. So it may be more appropriate to focus on specific new Toyota models later, once they're actually launching.

In the meantime, the "#1" campaign could make for baby steps in the right direction for Toyota.

Meanwhile, General Motors has finally come up with a new answer to the dominance of Ford's Sync infotainment system.



Chevrolet MyLink is meant to answer Ford Sync in the infotainment market.

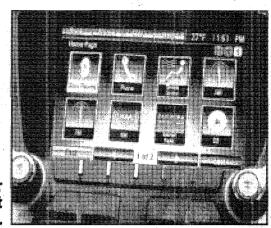
GM announced its new Chevrolet MyLink system that will provide text messaging, e-mails, traffic advisories and other connected-car functions in the Chevy Volt and Equinox beginning this fall.

For the past few years, as they watched Ford introduce Sync and develop it quickly into a powerful brand advantage for Ford vehicles. GM executives have maintained that they could meet the competitive infotainment threat by building out their OnStar system and brand. Originally conceived as a safety-and-security system whose reliability is tied to the fact that it is "hard-wired" into GM vehicles, OnStar has been attempting to morph into a platform for Sync-like features such as hands-free texting as well.

But the transformation of OnStar into a Sync-beater perhaps was destined to fail. And for new CEO Dan Akerson, a veteran of the telco business, it simply was unacceptable for General Motors - a venerable technology leader in the industry -- to play second fiddle in an area that has become as crucial as infotainment. Toyota, Kia and every other major brand are making big moves in this arena as well.

GM claims that MyLink carries some

Toyota's new advertising campaign boasts about Camry, still the nation's No. 1-selling car.



advantages over Sync already. For one thing, MyLink's software will be continuously updated "over the air," whereas Sync owners must update the software themselves or, in some cases, . bring their vehicles into dealerships for updates. GM also promises an unprecedented level of integration with Pandora internet radio as part of its system, a feature that Millennial consumers were clamoring for.

Let the scramble begin!

And Chrysler has begun clearing the way for the arrival of the new Fiat 500 on the shores of America.

Fiat wants to save buyers of its new 500 car from some of the less-thandesirable elements of the dealership experience when the Italian-made curiosity begins arriving here in volume within several weeks. North American Fiat chief Laura Soave has let it be known that the 130 Chrysler dealers who have qualified to sell the Fiat 500 will be encouraged to use "no-haggle" pricing.

Just about everything concerning Chrysler and its new owner is iconoclastic these days. No-haggle pricing would fit right in.

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