

A TOP CAREER COACH REVEALS FAVORITE RÉSUMÉ STRATEGIES

SEE CLASSIFIED - SECTION C



MORE THAN JUST DINNER - IT'S AN EVENT, PAGE B6

Did You Remember?
Spring forward
to Daylight Saving Time
Started today at 2a.m.

SUNDAY
March 13, 2011

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Volume 46
Number 84

\$1.00

WESTLAND OBSERVER

hometownlife.com

A GANNETT COMPANY

READY REFERENCE

REFERENCE ONLY
WILLIAM P. FAUST
Public Library of Westland

Newspaper classified sections are available at the Reference

IN BRIEF

Coffee Hours

State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, will hold his next local coffee hour 9-10 a.m. Monday, March 14, at the at the William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway. Citizens are welcome to visit with LeBlanc and discuss issues and/or concerns. The local coffee hour takes place on the second Monday of each month.

Residents who have any comments or concerns, can also contact LeBlanc toll-free at (888) 737-5325 or at (517) 373-2576 or send an e-mail to richardleblanc@house.mi.gov.

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, also will hold a district coffee hour 9-10 a.m. Monday, March 14, at the William P. Faust Public Library on Central City Parkway, north of Ford.

Constituents who would like to address an issue with the Senator 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 SenatorAnderson@senate.michigan.gov.

Car seat check

The Westland Police Department in partnership with the Westland Fire Department will hold a Car Seat Inspection Event Saturday, April 9, at the Westland Fire Station at 36435 Ford Road.

The 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. event will be registered and certified by Safe Kids Metro Detroit and Children's Hospital of Michigan, which will provide certified Child Passenger Safety technicians.

"I am excited that the Westland Police Department will be able to offer the citizens some expert advice on the installation and use of the various child restraint systems for vehicles," said Westland Police Chief Alan Ramsden.

Several replacement seats from the Grosse Ile Police Department and Children's Hospital will be provided to families who are in need of a car seat.

First Readers

March is Reading Month and first-graders from throughout the community are getting an introduction to the William P. Faust Public Library through its First Readers Program.

Now in its 11th year, the early introduction to library services helps school children understand all that their library has to offer. Stories, songs and rhymes are used in interactive ways to make the First Readers Program fun and informative, according to children's librarian Bernadette Dwyer. Children learn to distinguish between fiction and nonfiction text. They are coached in how to care for books and encouraged to be responsible when borrowing library items.

For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

Skilled traders: Residents get help with TimeBank

Norwayne Community Citizens Council partners with the Greening of Detroit for a community garden. See story on Page A2.

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Say you're someone who likes to cook but isn't too crazy about mowing the lawn - the Norwayne Community Citizens Council is working to set up a system that would let people trade on

their strengths.

The group is working to establish a TimeBank, a program that lets participants trade an hour of doing something at which they have skills for an hour of some work they need done. Once established, the TimeBank would be open to residents all over Westland.

"It would be all over the community," said Hank Johnson, who chairs the Norwayne Community Citizens Council. "Essentially, you match a

need and skill. A person with a need can barter one hour of service," he said. "If you took someone to the doctor and it took 2-1/2 hours, maybe that person would clean your house for 2-1/2 hours."

With a time bank, the exchange doesn't have to be directly between the same individuals. A person banks the time they drove, cooked or made repairs, then can obtain the same amount of service they need from another participant. Professional ser-

vices also can be included.

"It's all computerized with web-based accounts, the only ones who can access your information are people in your time bank," said Westland Community Development Director Joanne Inglis. "I'm told it takes three to six months to get it established. You get the word out, go to churches and community groups. I talk about the program in the city newsletter this

Please see **TIMEBANK, A2**

'Nice to get thanked'



Mary Denning (right) of the Women of Westland congratulates 2011 Westland ATHENA Award winner Judy Ellis, the executive director of First Step.

First Step's Judy Ellis receives 2011 ATHENA Award

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Judy Ellis admits she's usually not speechless. But that's how she found herself when she learned she was the Women of Westland's 2011 ATHENA Award recipient.

"I'm extremely touched to receive this, it couldn't have happened at a better time," said Ellis, the executive director of First Step, an agency working with the victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in western Wayne County and Downriver. "It's a very powerful

reminder of what I have done and what I am doing."

Ellis received her award at the Women of Westland's seventh annual Chocolate Fantasy Ball Feb. 5. She was nominated by her associate director, Theresa Bizoe, who credited Ellis with taking First Step from "a small agency founded in Westland to a thriving nonprofit meeting the needs of women and children throughout Wayne County."

Along the way, she "has touched the lives of nearly 200,000 women, children and men who have come through the door of First Step for help," said Bizoe.

"Judy has spent her career helping women and their children overcome adversity," she added. "She has worked to provide supports and resources to help victims of violence to transform their lives. She has mentored hundreds of staff, many of who have had long and successful careers with First Step and in service to the community."

LEADING THE WAY

Ellis started with First Step as a volunteer when the agency was housed in

Please see **AWARD, A2**

Hotline welcomes pothole complaints

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Just about the time Michiganders start looking forward to winter ending, the pothole season gets into full swing.

Westland residents can report their most hated potholes through a new pothole hotline on the city website www.cityofwestland.org under the Department of Public Services or by calling DPS at (734) 728-1770.

"We didn't want people not knowing where to call about potholes," said Westland DPS Director Kevin Buford, who also is appearing in a WLND public service announcement about the hotline. "It's better if you can address an issue before it becomes a huge problem."

So far, residents are responding to the hotline.

"We've had quite a few calls and people leaving us e-mails," said Buford. "The majority are ones we knew about and were in the process of addressing." There were a few potholes reported that DPS wasn't really aware of like Sutton Street.

"We didn't know there was as much winter damage as there was," he said.

DPS crews are making cold patch repairs to the potholes. A number of streets which have been the subject of pothole reports are also among streets

Please see **POTHOLES, A2**

Residents find problem with snow removal efforts

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

At a time when many people are hoping the last heavy snow has fallen, two residents brought snow removal complaints to the Westland council.

Greenwood Villa resident Alvin Henderson, who uses a motorized wheelchair, said that the sidewalks along Warren and Wayne roads aren't being cleared after snowfalls. And if sidewalks are cleared, he said there are other obstacles.

"Some of the drives on Warren plowed the snow up over the sidewalk. I'm curious as to who is responsible (for clearing sidewalks," said Henderson. "I'd like the city to make sure the

sidewalks are maintained."

Property owners are responsible for clearing snow from sidewalks, said Department of Public Services Director Kevin Buford, adding the city is responsible for enforcement of that ordinance.

"We'll look at the properties and put them on a list to maintain. Sidewalk maintenance is very important to the city," said Buford.

Councilman Michael Kehrer commented that he had mentioned the problem with uncleared sidewalks following the last two snowfalls.

Another resident, Rick Elliott said that he had recently talked with Buford and Mayor William Wild about his complaints on how

Please see **SNOW, A4**

MORE CHOICES, MORE FLAVOR, MORE VALUE

MR MIKE'S GRILL
REAL HOME COOKING

ST. PATRICK'S DAY SPECIALS*

BREAKFAST
Corned Beef Swiss Omelette or Corned Beef Hash & Eggs \$4.99

LUNCH
Rueben Sandwich or Dinty Moore Combo \$6.99

DINNER
Corned Beef & Cabbage \$8.99

Lunch & Dinner Specials Include FREE Shamrock Rice Pudding or FREE Shamrock Milkshake!
*Available Thursday, March 17, 2011 only. No coupon required.

6047 NORTH WAYNE ROAD - WESTLAND
(734) 729-6453 (MIKE) Open 7am-9pm Daily
www.mrmikesgrill.com



Home Delivery:
(866) 887-2737

Return Address:
41304 Concept Dr.
Plymouth MI
48170

INDEX

APARTMENTS ... C3
AUTOMOTIVE ... C5
CAREER BUILDER ... C1

COMMUNITY LIFE ... B5
CROSSWORD PUZZLE ... C2
OBITUARIES ... B8

HEALTH ... B10
REAL ESTATE ... C2
SPORTS ... B1

Groups plan for community garden in Norwayne

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Starting this spring, Westland expects to have a second community garden — this one located in Norwayne.

Establishing a community garden had already been one of the goals set by the Norwayne Citizens Council. Now, the group will be partnering with the Greening of Detroit for the garden, which would be located on two vacant lots on Newaygo Court and Grand Traverse.

"For the first and maybe only time, they are doing a garden outside Detroit and have chosen Norwayne," said Hank Johnson, who chairs the Norwayne Citizens Council.

The garden will be discussed with Greening of Detroit at the citizens council meeting 5 p.m. Monday at the Dorsey Center. Representatives from groups getting involved in the garden, such as Ss. Simon and Jude Catholic Church, Ekklesia and Moving Forward Sober Living, will be on hand.

"We're all coming together

mainly to let Greening of Detroit know that we have support for the community garden," said Johnson.

Established in 1989 to improve the quality of life in Detroit through reforestation of neighborhoods, boulevards and parks through tree planting projects and educational programs, Greening of Detroit has expanded its outreach to include a broader scope of greening activities ranging from full park restoration to the creation of community and family vegetable gardens.

"We would earmark food from the garden for Norwayne folks who have a demonstrated need," said Johnson, who is working with Westland Community Development Director Joanne Inglis to help identify food recipients, possibly those who receive federal food commodities.

"I'm very excited about this," said Inglis. "The Greening of Detroit was at a SEMCOG (Southeast Michigan Council of Governments) meeting I attended with (Councilman) Adam Hammons and we got to

hear about it."

The garden will bring the two lots full circle. Westland acquired two blighted homes on Newaygo Court through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program. Instead of just demolishing the homes, they were first used for an Urban Search and Rescue training exercise sponsored by the Westland Fire Department.

Another partner in the garden is the Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency, which Johnson said would like part of the garden produce to be donated to Gleaners Community Food Bank.

Westland's first Community Garden, started last year, provided produce to Gleaners. Located behind a DTE Energy facility on Cherry Hill, that garden covers about one acre. During the first year, 2,229 pounds of produce was raised and donated.

For more information, attend the meeting Monday or call Johnson at (734) 444-8344.

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

TIMEBANK

FROM PAGE A1

month."

TimeBank, which has nearly 20 local chapters in communities including Lathrup Village, Royal Oak and Southfield, aims at letting people barter for needed services but also to provide an increased sense of community by neighbors helping neighbors.

"People can sign up to participate or to be on the planning committee," said Inglis. "The Norwayne Citizens

Council has set establishing a time bank as one of their goals along with a community garden and community cleanup in the spring."

Both Inglis and Johnson said they were excited about getting TimeBank established in Westland, along with efforts moving ahead with the community garden and spring cleanup.

"I'm very excited that we're seeing real interest in developing the community. Norwayne was never designed to be temporary housing - only the people who were assigned to the housing were temporary,"

said Johnson, referring to World War II factory workers who lived in Norwayne. "People confuse that and think the housing was designed to be temporary. It's exciting to be see people educated on that."

For more information on TimeBank, visit www.mitimebank.org. More information on a local time bank will be available when the Norwayne Citizens Council meets 5 p.m. Monday at the Dorsey Center on Dorsey east of Venoy or contact Inglis at jinglis@cityofwestland.com.

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

Time To Think Spring!
Enjoy Early Bird Savings & Installation!
Play Sets From \$499
Trampolines From \$659
Sale Ends 3/31/2011
Backyard Adventures | Alleyoop Sports | JumpSport
The Doll Hospital & Toy Soldier Shop
www.DollHospital.com 3947 W. 12 Mile, Berkley 248-543-3115 Mon-Sat 10-5:30, Thu 10-8:30, Sun 12-4

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

Tri-County Lawyers PC
Specializing in Bankruptcy
Starting at \$975 + filing fee
STOP Wage Garnishments
STOP Repossessions
STOP Foreclosures • STOP Forfeitures
STOP Seizures • STOP Levies
STOP Utility Shutoffs
Free Consultations
Tri-County Lawyers PC
Canton Ford Crossing
5840 N. Canton Center Rd. • Suite 290 • Rm 1 & 2 • Canton, MI 48187
<http://tri-countylawyerspc.vpweb.com>
734-254-9314
Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 528 (A)(4) and 11 U.S.C. § 528 (B)(2)(D), "We are a debt relief agency. We help people file for Bankruptcy relief under the Bankruptcy code."

EXPERIENCE NATURE'S HEALING POWERS
NATURAL LEGAL EFFECTIVE SAFE
WHICH CONDITIONS APPLY TO YOU? CERTIFICATION & EVALUATIONS DOCTOR ON SITE
EXCLUSIVE CUSTOMER SERVICE - SAME DAY APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE - CONVENIENT HOURS -
FIND RELIEF FROM: CHRONIC PAIN • ARTHRITIS • MIGRAINES • MUSCLE SPASMS • NAUSEA • MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS • ALZHEIMER'S • FIBROMYALGIA • NEUROPATHY • GERD • IBS • CROHN'S DISEASE • HEPATITIS C • SEIZURE DISORDERS • GLAUCOMA • HIV/AIDS
CONFIDENTIAL ~ SUPPORTIVE ~ PROFESSIONAL
COMPLIMENTARY CONSULTATION ~ FREE YEAR-ROUND SUPPORT
MICHIGAN MEDICAL MARIJUANA ADVOCATES
MICHIGAN'S LEADING MEDICAL MARIJUANA EVALUATION CLINIC
CALL FOR FREE CONSULTATION & DOCTORS VISIT
(248) 747-0836
CORPORATE OFFICE: 32730 NORTHWESTERN HWY FARMINGTON HILLS, MI 48334 Fax: 248-232-6188
WWW.MEDICALMICHIGANMARIJUANA.COM

Haven't been here before, haven't been here in a while? Visit us & discover our delicious "Old World" products...BAKED FRESH DAILY!

VILLA BAKERY ITALIAN FOOD
Bread: Fresh Baked Italian Bread, Specialty Bread (Call a day before to order), 9 Grain • Sicilian • Italian Rye • Pumpernickel, Wheat • Ciabatta • Zucchini • Banana Bread
Spaghetti Sauce: Meat & Marinara Buy it by the quart!
Our Signature Product: Pizza Rolls Stuffed with Mozzarella, pepperoni, & sauce
Cookies, Cannolis, Cakes: Pannetone • Angel Wings, Pizzelle • Baklava
Italian Pastas: Made in Michigan by Perino Food
Pizza: U-bake & Baked

DELI DEPT Italian, Polish and American Meats

Krakus Polish Ham \$4.99 lb.	Dellaio Top Round Roast Beef \$5.99 lb.	Lipari Hard Salami \$3.99 lb.
Oldani Imported Hard Salmi \$7.69 lb.	Parma Imported Prosciutto \$15.99 lb.	Premium Roasted or Smoked Turkey Breast \$4.59 lb.

Monthly Deli Specials
Boiled Ham.....\$2.99 lb
Smoked Ham.....\$3.99 lb
Corned Beef Slices.....\$4.99 lb
Hoffman Hard Salami.....\$4.99 lb
Parma Prosciutto Domestic.....\$8.89 lb
Mortadella Pistachio.....\$4.69 lb
Sliced Imported Pepperoni.....\$5.49 lb

We also carry Capocollo, Turkey, Pancetta, Keilbasa Loaf, Pastrami, Liver Sausage, Bologna, Headcheese Imported Prosciutto and more!
We carry Baccala Dried Fish to make your Lenten Sugo.

Extra Virgin OLIVE OILS | GOLD BEER | WINE 750 ml
First Cold Pressed | White • Reds • Zinfandel • Syrah Sangria • Blush • Vin Rose • Fortissimo Carlo Rossi-Gallons

Wednesday Coupon Offer
BREAD BUY 1 GET 1 FREE
Regular Italian Only • 1st Loaf Regular Price Good Only On Wednesday • Expires 4-17-11

Coupon Good Anyday
PIZZA \$2.00 OFF
Any Baked or Unbake Pizza • 1/2 sheet Expires 4-17-11

Open Tues-Sat 7:30 am-5 pm Closed Sun & Mon
734.425.6245
6237 Middlebelt | Between Warren & Ford Roads | Garden City
Save BIG on our "Day Old" Bread Rack!

WESTLAND RELAY FOR LIFE

Lia Sophia
Time/Date: 2 p.m. Sunday, March 13
Location: AMVETS Post 171, 1217 Merriman, south of Cherry Hill, Westland

Details: Bring a friend or two and support Team AMVETS 171 in "fishing for a cure." The team will receive 15 percent of the total sales. The sale will be in the club room.

Avon Fundraiser
Time/Date: Now through July 31

Details: Support Team AMVETS Post 171 by ordering your Avon products online. Go to jfinfrock.avonrepresentative.com and click on online events to place your order. Be sure

to use the promotional code of AMVETRELAY2011. Team AMVETS will earn 30 percent of total sales now through July 31. Products will be home delivered.

Bowling benefit
Time/Date: 4:30 p.m. Saturday, June 4, check-in is at 4 p.m.

Location: Town N Country Lanes, 1100 S. Wayne Road, Westland
Details: Enjoy some Cosmic Bowling and help Team AMVETS Post 171. Cost is \$20 of adults and \$15 for children age 13 and under for bowling, pizza and pop. There also will be 50/50 and basket raffles and door prizes.

AWARD

FROM PAGE A1

small house next to Nankin Mills. At the time the vice president of her father's real estate company, she gave that up to work as executive director of First Step. She helped to build it into \$2.4 million program with offices in Plymouth, Redford and Wayne and programs in cities like Westland and more than 45 staff members, as well as a new shelter scheduled to open next month.

Along the way, she has been recognized as an Alternative for Girls Role Model and Woman of Distinction by the Girl Scouts of the Huron Valley Council. She received the Wayne County Council Against Family Violence Spirit Award and 2003 SHERA Award from the Michigan Collation against Domestic Sexual Violence for demonstrating outstanding leadership in the work to end

violence against women in Michigan.

As the winner of the McGregor Fund's Eugene Miller Fellowship, she is preparing to take a six-month sabbatical to study vicarious trauma. Her goal is to set up a program at First Step to help the staff deal with the secondary trauma they experience while working with victims.

"If you don't work through the trauma, you can have symptoms yourself," said Ellis. "We have to help them so they can be healed and not feel that they have to leave the field after a few years. Listening to their clients and bumping up against the barriers the victims hit, they can have their own sense of and feelings of hopelessness."

Ellis decided she wanted to change things for women when she was in real estate and saw where women weren't. Very few women were vice presidents of a company and she found she had to work harder to gain the confidence of the people she worked with.

MAKING CHANGES

In the early years at the helm of First Step, she was one of very few female CEOs of nonprofits and found herself bumping up against a wall. A founding member of Zonta of Farmington/Novi Area, she credits Beverly McAllister and Carol O'Malley from Oakwood Healthcare with helping her "find her way."

"This has never been a job," said Ellis. "I felt I had something to offer and that this was where I was supposed to be and where God wanted me to be because I have a talent for making the world a better place for women."

After 30 years with First Step, Ellis knows that the time will come to hand her "baby" off to the next generation. It is, she said, "now a teenager" and she has a wonderful staff that can carry on her work. She plans to start her sabbatical within the next week, but will be back for the opening of the new shelter next month.

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

POTHOLES
FROM PAGE A1
for which the city has applied for federal funding to pay for reconstruction. For instance, Wildwood between Cherry Hill and Ford, Central City Parkway from Ford to Warren Road and Hix between Ford and Warren Road are streets Westland would like funded. The DPS telephone is answered 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

weekdays but voicemail messages can be left after hours and on weekend. The pothole reporting online also includes a link to a Google map showing where pothole complaints have been recorded.

The other big issue with residents now are calls that their sewers are backing up. In fact, Buford estimated about 99 percent of those calls are found not to be an issue with the sewer but with the weeping tiles that run around the perimeter of the house.

"There is a drain around the basement floor — the weeping tiles — and people never clean them out. We try to educate people about that," he said.

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

You found Scoop!
Go to www.hometownlife.com for details

YOUR NEXT STOP IS ON THE MONEY.
Experience Vegas-style action with 2,700 scorching slots, 90 table games and live Poker and Bingo. Throw in five delicious restaurants and free live entertainment, and your next gathering is sure to be a hit.
• Family Reunions
• Fundraisers
• Red Hat Society Trips
• Service Club Outings
• Tour Groups
• And much more!
For Details Call 877-FKC-8777
FIREKEEPERS
CASINO • BATTLE CREEK
FireKeepersCasino.com
I-94 to Exit 104
11177 Michigan Avenue
Battle Creek, Michigan 49014
MUST BE 21.

Westland library looks for adult literacy volunteers

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The adult volunteer program at Westland's William P. Faust Library was resurrected last fall and a new need was soon identified — adult literacy.

"We had people asking if there were local places to help adults with reading at lower levels but there wasn't a local program," said reference librarian Kristy Cooper, who is organizing the adult literacy program.

Cooper and one volunteer have already been trained as literacy tutors by the Washtenaw County Literacy Coalition and are each working one-on-one with someone needing help with their reading skills. Now the library is looking for more adult literacy volunteers with an informational meeting scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 16, at the library.

So far, about 11 people have indicated they will be attending the informational meeting but there is room for more.

"It would be amazing to have more tutors than students," said Cooper. "Usually there is a long waiting list for tutors."

Nationwide, it's estimated that there are 30 million adults who don't read well enough to understand a newspaper article at the eighth-grade reading level or to fill out a job application. Currently, more than 100,000 adults are on lists waiting to get paired with a literacy tutor.

Reading issues were evident as library staff worked with patrons utilizing the library's job-seeker lab, said Interim

Library Director Marilyn Kwik.

"When people are applying for jobs online, it tells you the fields to fill out. People were unable to fill out a basic application," said Kwik. "We're not even talking about writing a resume."

The students already receiving tutoring through the library are both adult women who decided to get help improving their reading skills after raising families, Kwik said.

"There are those who were not able to learn to read in school due to a disability or other reasons," said Cooper. Volunteer tutors don't need to be trained educators — just people who want to share their love of reading.

The Washtenaw County Literacy Coalition will provide on-site training at the library.

Volunteers are asked to commit to two hours weekly for one year — exceptions are allowed for illness or vacations.

"There really is a need. There is no other free service in Westland to provide this. This is very exciting," said Kwik. "There would be no commitment right away. People can find out about adult literacy at the meeting. If they can't attend, they can call us."

For more information, call the library at (734) 326-6123 or visit the website at www.westland.lib.mi.us. Advance registration isn't required to attend the informational meeting which will be held in the library's meeting room A.

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

Love for helicopters launches business

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Steve McFall always loved remote control helicopters. As a teenager, he was fascinated by them. McFall wanted one, but they were expensive, so he got a job at the Riders Hobby Shop store on Five Mile at Merriman, saving his money and finally purchasing one for \$1,700 for his 17th birthday.

McFall noticed that people often purchased helicopters from companies in Texas or California, but had to order without seeing the helicopter in person. "You'd see the picture in a magazine, but you never really know how big it was," McFall said.

McFall also found that parts often would be needed for the inadvertent — and often inevitable — crash.

So he decided that he would open a business, Experience RC, which sells remote control helicopters and parts. It started in his garage in Pinckney in 2009, but it eventually moved into a building owned by his father, who is also named Steve. His father owns Wayne Craft, an awning business at 13525 Wayne Road, and young Steve occupies space on the second level.

At Riders, McFall, who grew up in South Lyon and Westland, first met Tony Jimenez, who like Steve, enjoyed remote control cars, planes and helicopters.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Steve McFall flies a Blade MCX 2, a beginner's helicopter.

His new helicopter business gave McFall a chance to hook up with Jimenez, who today is his store manager. "It's just something we enjoyed," McFall said. "There's nothing like it in the Midwest."

FOR FUN AND RESEARCH

McFall sells the helicopters to fathers as gifts to their sons, but he also sells them to universities. "The universities use them for research," McFall said. "The helicopters will be used for camera work, and for physics classes."

Engineers will fly the helicopters in wind tunnels. But often engineers just enjoy the helicopters as a hobby, McFall said.

"We've shipped to every continent except Antarctica," McFall said. "We've shipped to New Zealand."

It helps that Jimenez knows Spanish. "He takes care of South America," McFall said.

McFall said the smaller helicopters can fly on a baseball diamond and up and down the street. Some are small enough to be flown inside a home.

The helicopters can be bought assembled or with assembly required using only small screws. They are flown by using a transmitter. Prices on about 50 models range from \$80 to \$3,500. Upgrade kits also can be purchased.

McFall has four full-time employees on staff.

'THIS WILL WORK'

McFall felt the bug to start his helicopter business after he attended Eastern Michigan University and

studied business. Starting the business in 2009 during the recession was a risk, McFall acknowledges, but he was confident in his dream.

"This is what we're going to do and this will work," McFall said. "People might stop going out to eat, but they will never get rid of their toys."

McFall sees that the prices have come down, even though some models go as high as \$3,500 today. He has seen helicopters selling for \$300 or \$400 as opposed to the \$1,700 he paid for a few years ago.

The helicopters get children out from behind the computer and into a hobby that gets them moving around outdoors, McFall said. Owners often join one or several clubs in the area, including the Midwest RC Society, Flying Pilgrims or the Detroit Aeromodellers.

Often the children learn how to fly them faster than their fathers do, McFall said.

The hobby may help generate interest in a career, he adds.

"These kids will be working in the aerospace industry," McFall said. "Our drones came from toy helicopters, from something they will play with in the yard."

"It's a good hobby," McFall said. "It's relaxing and you get a chance to learn. You learn hand-to-eye coordination from flying them."

kabramcz@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2591

OBSERVER NEWSPAPERS
WHERE HOMETOWN STORIES UNFOLD

HOW TO REACH US

Home Delivery/Custom Service.....1-866-88-PAPER (866-887-2737)
Newsroom.....(313) 222-2223 Fax.....(313) 223-3318
Classified Advertising.....1-800-579-SELL (7355)
Display Advertising.....(734) 582-8363

visit us online at hometownlife.com

615 West Lafayette, Detroit, MI 48226

CATCH THE BUS TO MOTORCITY.
For locations & reservations call Blue Lakes Charters & Tours
866-2-ROLLEN (866-276-5536)

MotorCity CASINO HOTEL

Offer subject to change or cancellation at any time without notice. MotorCity Casino Hotel and MotorCity Casino Hotel design are trademarks of Detroit Entertainment, L.L.C. ©2010 Detroit Entertainment, L.L.C. All rights reserved.

If you bet more than you can afford to lose, you've got a problem. Call 1-800-270-7117 for free, confidential help.

WANTED HOMES THAT NEED ROOFING

A select number of homeowners in Wayne County and the surrounding areas will be given the opportunity to have a lifetime Erie Metal Roofing System installed on their home at a reasonable cost.

Qualified homeowners will receive attractive pricing and have access to our special low interest unsecured bank financing.

An Erie Metal Roof will keep your home warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer.

Unlike other roofing materials, an Erie Metal Roof can be installed even in the Winter Months.

INQUIRE TODAY TO SEE IF YOUR HOME QUALIFIES!

Call Now!
1-877-650-6464
email: roofing@eriemetalroofs.com

HOBBY LOBBY

STORE HOURS: 9-8 MONDAY-SATURDAY • CLOSED SUNDAY

Canton Ford Road at Lilley, west of Ikea 734-983-9142

40% OFF Any One Regular Priced Item

Canton

Prices good in stores only March 14 through March 19, 2011. Selection may vary by store. Excludes gift certificates, previous purchases, online purchases, and items not available online.

Decorative Lamps INCLUDES NIGHT LIGHTS, LAMP SHADES, FINIALS, SHADE CHARMS & CORD COVERS

Wall Decor INCLUDES MIRRORS, ART, CLOCKS & SHELVES

Candles, Candle Holders, Reed Diffusers & LED Pillars EXCLUDES TEALIGHTS, VOTIVES & CANDLE VALUE PACKS

Garden Thermometers & Wall Decor

Iron & Metal Garden Decor INCLUDES HARDWARE, PLANTERS & PAINTED METAL DECORATIONS

Nylon Wind Socks & Wind Spinners & Flags

Decorative Garden Planters

Decorative Pillows, Throws, Tassels & Rugs

Home Accent Categories Shown 50% Off

Glassware INCLUDES GLASS WITH DECORATIVE ACCENTS & GLASS FROM OUR CRAFT & FLORAL DEPARTMENTS. EXCLUDES STAINED GLASS.

Decorative Knobs, Drawer Pulls, Hooks & Brackets

Decorative Birdbushes & Wind Chimes

All Woven Baskets, Storage Baskets & Hampers

Ceramics, Pottery & Polyresin INCLUDES TABLE TOP, BLUE & WHITE, ORIENTAL, SOUTHWEST & SEASONAL AS WELL AS ITEMS FROM OUR CRAFT AND FLORAL DEPARTMENTS.

St. Patrick's Day Crafts & Decor 40% Off OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES

Easter Plush & Stuffed Animals INCLUDES BUNNIES, CHICKS, DUCKS & MORE

Easter Baskets, Grass, Shreds & Fillers

Plastic Easter Eggs

Easter Crafts & Decor Categories Shown 40% Off EXCLUDES BASKETS WITH CANDY

Easter Kitchen & Dining

Easter Trees, Ornaments & Picks

All Easter Crafts INCLUDES WOOD, GLASS, PAPER, MACHE & PLASTER

Wooden & Metal Easter Decor

Floral Categories Shown 50% Off

Ribbon by the Roll INCLUDES RIBBON BY THE ROLL IN OUR WEDDING, SEASONAL, PARTY, FABRIC & FLORAL DEPARTMENTS. EXCLUDES RIBBON BY THE YARD.

Bridal Event! EXCLUDES CUSTOM MADE WEDDING ITEMS & RENTALS

Floral Stems INCLUDES FEATHERS AND ALL STYLES IN OUR STEVE'S CRAFT AND FLORAL DEPARTMENT.

Grapevine, Straw Wreaths & Lacquered Vine Wall Shapes

Flowering & Greenery Bushes INCLUDING PLANTS & FERNS EXCLUDES POTTED TREES

180 Ct. Sheet Printed Paper Packs 9.99 OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES

Entire Stock of Packaged Cards, Tags & Envelopes 40% Off OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES

Cricut™ "Expression" Electronic Die Cut Machine CUTS 17 TYPES OF MEDIA 279.99 OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES

Entire Stock of 3-D Embellishment Stickers 30% Off OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES

the Paper Studio® Scrapbook Totes & Organizers 50% Off OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES

All Science Kits, Telescopes & Mechanical Construction 30% Off OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES

All Stepping Stone Kits, Mosaics & Accessories 25% Off OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES

Dollhouse Furniture, Miniatures & Accessories 50% Off OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES

Candle & Soap Making Products 30% Off OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES

Children's Plastic Lacing Spools & Kits 30% Off OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES

Children's Multi-Purpose Tray 4.99 OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES

All Children's Needle Art Kits 30% Off OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES

Omega LaEspiga Nylon Crochet Thread 197 YDS. 4.99 OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES

100% Polyester Fiberfill with Stuffing Tool 2.99 12 OZ. IS OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES

Needleart Categories Shown

1 Love This Yarn! 3.99 10 OZ. EVERYDAY LOW PRICES

Colonial Packaged Stamped Cross Blanks 4.99 5.99 7.99 5.99 OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES

RH Eco Cotton 2.99 1 OZ. OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES



This photo of the Franklin High School Bel Canto Choir was taken during the taping of its performance for Detroit Public Television's Celebrate America program.

Franklin choir to perform on TV

The Franklin High School Bel Canto Choir, under the direction of Marilee Olsen, will perform on Detroit Public Television at 8 p.m. Tuesday. The choir will sing *On Eagles Wings* as part of Celebrate America, a national program designed to give youth a life-enhancing opportunity by showcasing their talents on public television. Students take the experience with them on DVDs and CDs to transfer to college and job applications. Franklin will be one of 10 Detroit-area schools featured. This is the second year Franklin's Bel Canto Choir has performed on Tim Janis' Celebrate America program. Olsen chose *On Eagles Wings* in memory of Chelsea MacLean, a choir student from the class of 2009 who died in 2007. The song was one of Chelsea's favorites, and it was sung at her funeral. The pearls the Bel Canto Choir wears are donated to the choir each year from Chelsea's

memorial fund. Members of the Bel Canto Choir must pass an audition. The choir does a December community tour that includes Botsford Kidney Center, American House, St. Robert's School, Four Chaplains Nursing Care Center and the Clements Circle Holiday Sing A Long at the Wilson Barn. It also has a fall choir camp as well as a 40-year tradition of singing in concert at St. Anne's Church on Mackinaw Island the weekend before Memorial Day. The choir's next performance is a Triad Concert at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 17, in the Franklin gym. This concert includes the Cooper Upper Elementary Choir, Emerson Middle School Choir and all the Franklin choirs including the Franklin Chorus and Cantando Chorale. The Bel Canto Choir's Spring Concert is at 7 p.m. Friday, May 20, in the Franklin auditorium.

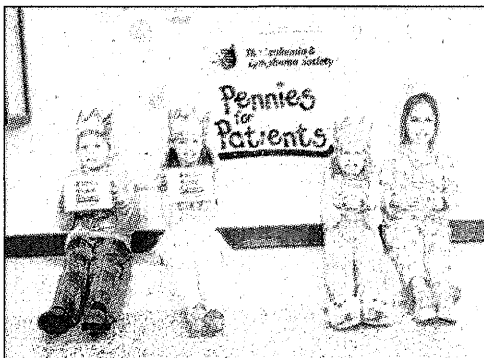
Edison students collect coins to find a cure

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It's called Pennies for Patients, but it was more than pennies that end up in student's canisters at Edison Elementary School. Youngsters at the Westland school spent two weeks last month, collecting money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, filling their individual and classroom banks with coins and cash to raise more than \$1,250. "We're not surprised," said PTO Vice President Mary Biber. "Historically, the Edison family has always been very generous, but with these economic times, we're floored by their generosity." This was first time the school participated in the national service learning program in which kids collect spare change to help those afflicted with blood cancer. The Edison PTO was contacted by the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society about participating in the program and the idea received the full support of the PTO board and Principal Sandy Kingston. "Mrs. Kingston was very supportive of this," said Biber. "She gave us bulletin board space to promote it and allowed me to talk to teachers about it. However, the day I was suppose to do that it snowed and there was no school." According to Biber, each child was given an individual coin canister to take home. When they were brought back, along with the pennies, there were a lot of \$1 and \$5 bills. Halfway into the two-week campaign, the school had



Showing off the classroom containers collected on the last day of the Pennies for Patients fundraiser at Edison Elementary are Sierra Weaver (from left), Christina Barchini, Chris Cybulski, Ryan Erickson, Hannah Bourdeau, Raven Nelson and Spencer Lampley.



Kindergartners Collin Hicks, Madison Sullivan, Sophia Biber and Zoey Wallace show their collection boxes for Pennies for Patients, a fundraiser for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

fourth-graders helped collect the classroom coin boxes on Fridays. The boxes were labeled and then taken to a Coin Star location where the money was counted and carefully recorded. Stephanie Mueller's fourth-grade class collected the most, \$270, and later this month those students will be treated to a pizza party courtesy of the LLS and Hungry Howie's. Finishing second was Sullivan's class which brought in \$149. And even though the collection drive ended more than two weeks ago, money is still coming in.

raised \$580. The money raised is used by LLS to further its mission to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma, and improve the quality of life of patients and their families. To spur donations, classrooms competed against each other to see who could raise the most money. Tim Sullivan's

SNOW

FROM PAGE A1

DPS crews are plowing after snowfalls. In particular, Elliott wasn't happy with snow that ended up piled on crosswalks and driveways after plows have

been through. "DPS seems to feel job one is clear every residential street ASAP. The street is not much use when you can reach it because the driveway is plowed over," said Elliott. "The crosswalk is piled up nearly the height of my shoulder. All the neighbors I talked to agreed

that DPS needs to do better." When DPS crews plow the street, snow will go back into approaches and driveways, Buford said. "I know when we come out that happens. We don't put the snow there to unnerve or disturb anyone," he said. "Our goal is to clear streets

so first responders can get to every home and residents have access. There is no other way to clear the streets without putting snow into approaches." Following each snow emergency, Buford said the city receives calls asking for driveway approaches cleared. "We can't do it, it's impossible," he said. "We're plowing the intersections the same way

we have the 18 years I've been here. We try to clear out the walkway approaches at intersection. I hope the majority of residents appreciate our services. We work 24-7." The city will work harder on snow removal, Mayor William Wild said, adding that this year had been difficult with the amount of snow that accumulated without thaws in

between storms. "We'll take a look at it. We will do a better job with sidewalks. The Fire Department is now doing some enforcement and will enforce (sidewalk clearing), especially if they are repeat offenders," said Wild. "We have residents who haven't shoveled their driveways yet."

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

FOUR SEASONS REHABILITATION AND NURSING

GREAT STAFF. GREAT CARE.

hcam
The Health Care Association of Michigan (HCAM) would like to congratulate Four Seasons Nursing Center's recent CITATION FREE SURVEY.

Certificate of Achievement
Four Seasons Nursing Center
2010

Congratulations on this impressive accomplishment! As you know, it takes team work and a facility-wide commitment to quality to earn a DEFICIENCY FREE SURVEY. You should take great pride in the quality of care you provide for your residents everyday — not just when the surveyors are there. Congratulations again!

How does a family know the time is right for hospice?



Meet Michelle Hall, RN and Case Manager with In-House Hospice at Four Seasons.
Hall's initial evaluation of a patient allows her to care for hospice patients by controlling symptoms such as pain, nausea and vomiting, but also anxiety and restlessness.

"My job is to identify the needs and develop a plan to alleviate symptoms as much as possible. At Four Seasons I have a very good working relationship with staff and physicians as well." The In-House Hospice team includes an RN Case Manager, social worker and spiritual support from nondenominational chaplains. Certified nurse assistants help with personal care like bathing and companionship. Music and massage therapy is also available. "We're basically there for the patient, but also for family to understand the disease process," said Hall.

Hospice has changed since Hall's grandmother died of cancer 20 years. "There was hospice available but it's grown," said Hall, a graduate of Schoolcraft College's nursing program.

Dorothy Bell-Ruth, a nurse practitioner and RN who has completed advanced education, has professional and personal experience with hospice. Her mother, Patricia, entered Four Seasons' In-House Hospice after breast cancer treatment. "My mom went through chemo and it exacerbated her Alzheimer's. She declined pretty quickly." In-House Hospice at Four Seasons provided support to Patricia as well as the family.

"Four Seasons takes over the management of the care," said Dorothy. "My mom had the PA (physician assistant) who treated her along with physicians. A nursing assistant came in several days a week just solely for mom."

Dorothy is a big proponent of palliative care and hospice. "I work in a critical care unit and often that is the course of action that needs to be taken," said Dorothy. "It's a wonderful program. When we can't cure, we provide comfort. At a certain point in illnesses, there's nothing more we can do medically. We need to make them comfortable."

In-House Dialysis | Cardiac Rehab | Respiratory Therapy
Secured Memory Care Unit | Short & Long-Term Care | Medicare and Medicaid Provider | Private Insurance

Drop in for a Visit Anytime! 734 | 416 | 2000
8365 Newburgh Road | Just South of Joy Road | Westland 48185

Take a Tour on our Website!
www.fourseasonsnursingcenter.com

Livonia Franklin Annual

CRAFT SHOW

Saturday, March 19th
10 am-4 pm

All Kinds of Crafts!
ART • PET ITEMS • JEWELRY
HOME DECOR • CLOTHING
and much more!

\$1 ADMISSION

Livonia Franklin High School • 31000 Joy Road • Livonia
No Strollers Please!

INSTANT CASH!

Buying Gold and Silver Jewelry,
Old Broken Jewelry, Coins, Dental Gold,
Silver Flatware...

NEED CASH? 6-MONTH JEWELRY LOANS

- Watch Batteries/Watch Repair
- Jewelry Repair
- Free Jewelry Cleaning
- Great Prices on All Estate Jewelry
- Affordable Bridal, Gold and Silver Jewelry
- Huge Selection of Chamilla and Amore & Baci Beads

A&E Gold & Silver Exchange
26410 Ford Road, Dearborn Heights
Between Inkster and Beech Daly
Inside Heights Shopping Plaza Next to Krogers
313-914-3759
Hours: Mon-Fri, 10am-6pm Sat, 10am-4pm



Dennis Bielskis and John Spencer at the site where the wall will be displayed.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Church youth worker honored by employer

Jason Adams of Garden City was honored by his employer for his service as a youth pastor at Bethel Community Church in Livonia.

Adams received the Employee's Reaching Out award Feb. 18 from Masco Cabinetry, where he works as a project manager.

The annual award recognizes employees who connect to the communities in which they live and work. This year eight Masco Cabinetry employees were nominated.

As part of the award, Adams received a glass statue and a check for \$1,000 for the charity of his choice. Adams will donate the check to his church.

Adams' involvement as a youth pastor for the past 10 years earned him the award. His ministry has impacted more than 350 youth. Recently, he began volunteering as the youth pastor at the Bethel Community Church.

"The success of any organization is based on people like Jason Adams — someone who is a team player and motivates everyone around him," said Karen Strauss, Masco Cabinetry president. "We are very pleased to have such a community-driven employee in the ranks and part of our team."

Pastor Rick Beaudrie of Bethel Community Church said he has never seen a man with as much drive as Adams has. "Jason is the real deal," he said. "I'm excited to work with him and mentor him."

Adams created the "Driven Youth" program at Bethel Community Church. The group focuses on faith building and building the life skills youth today need so that they have a clearer direction in an often-confusing world. Adams helps youth build life skills through computer training, college choice assistance and counseling. Participation in the youth building "Driven Youth" program nearly tripled in the first few months of development.

"He genuinely cares about kids and wants to see their lives change," Beaudrie said. "The problem with Jason is staying ahead of him. I have to pull back on the reins of his love for teens' life and family in order to assure continued success."

Adams, in receiving the award, encouraged others to volunteer. "You get back more than you'll ever give," he said. "You always see me smiling. You can do that, too, when you share yourself in your communities as well."

Canton first state stop for Vietnam wall

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

In its first trip to Michigan, the Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall is coming to Canton's Liberty Fest in June, culminating the tireless efforts of local veterans and their supporters.

The V-shaped memorial — not to be confused with others such as The Moving Wall — will stand 6 feet tall and stretch 288 feet across ballfield No. 3 on the north side of Heritage Park.

The wall, three-fifths the size of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., contains 58,227 names of Vietnam troops who died serving their country.

CRYING EYES

"When you see those names, it brings tears to your eyes and a lump to your throat to think of all these men and women who died," said John Spencer, a 66-year-old Vietnam veteran and Canton resident.

Spencer and Vietnam veteran Dennis Bielskis, members of the Vietnam Veterans of America Plymouth-Canton Chapter 528, discussed the project on a cold, overcast Thursday morning as they stood near the Heritage Park site where the wall will stand.

"The people I've talked to are all excited about this," Bielskis said.

The traveling wall is expected to draw large crowds from across southeast Michigan. Bielskis said the wall comes to Canton 11 years after The Moving Wall was here for Liberty Fest.

An opening ceremony is expected to occur about 6 p.m. Thursday, June 16 — the second day of Liberty Fest. A closing ceremony is tentatively set for 5 p.m. Sunday, June 19, the day after Saturday night's festival-ending fireworks show.

Greg Welsh, the Florida-based wall manager, said Thursday he hauls the aluminum wall in a 32-foot trailer pulled by a Ford F-350 truck,

and the memorial is assembled on site.

"This is our first trip to Michigan since we built the wall," Welsh said.

VETS FUNDRAISING

Veterans raised money to build the wall in 2005, and Welsh said it was publicly unveiled in April 2006 in Florida.

VVA Chapter 528 orchestrated the local effort, which Bielskis said comes 11 years after The Moving Wall made a local stop. Local veterans have raised the \$10,000 they need for the project, including a \$4,000 donation from the Canton-based America's Most Wanted Car Club, a Liberty Fest regular.

"A lot of their members come from the same generation we come from," Bielskis said.

Donations also came from VVA Chapter 528, the Plymouth-based Mayflower Lt. Gamble VFW Post 6695 and the Canton Veterans Memorial Association, among others.

Spencer chairs the traveling wall committee, and Bielskis serves as vice chair along with Al Dorey. Other committee members include Joe Agius, Gary Boucher, Bill Boudreau, Gordon Dorey, Ted Enright and Gary Pritchard, and they have had help from other supporters.

However, Bielskis said volunteers still are needed to help while the traveling wall is in town. To get involved, send him an e-mail to dbielskis@att.net.


While the wall is in Canton, veterans expect to have an hours-long reading of all the names listed on the memorial, though a precise time isn't yet known. Because the wall elicits somber emotions among many people who see it, organizers decided to put the memorial on ballfield No. 3, on the far north end of Heritage Park.

"It's the farthest away from the festival carnival," Spencer said. "We're trying to keep it away from the noise."



Employee Jason Adams received a \$1,000 check from Masco Cabinetry President Emily Luttenbacher (left) for his service as a youth pastor in Livonia. The award presentation was attended by his sister, Emily Luttenbacher, and his wife, April Adams (right).

BRING YOUR MONEY TO



COMMUNITY ALLIANCE
EST. 1966
CREDIT UNION
Your Guide To Financial Success

13-MONTH Certificate of Deposit

1.30% APY*

\$10,000 MINIMUM DEPOSIT

Serving Most of Wayne County!

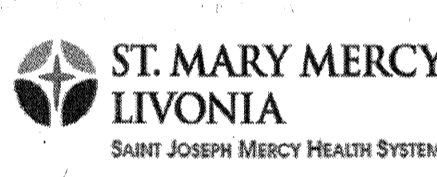
1 Auto Club Drive
(Inside North entrance of AAA Headquarters Building)
Dearborn, MI 48126
313.336.1534
800.287.0046

37401 Plymouth Road
(At Newburgh)
Livonia, MI 48150
734.464.8079

Open 7 Days in Livonia Full Service

communityalliancecu.org

*APY = Annual Percentage Yield. Show Your Card & Save bonus is not available with this offer. A penalty is imposed for early withdrawals on certificates of deposit, fees may reduce earnings. Minimum \$10,000 is required to open. Certificate balances exceeding \$1,000,000 are subject to management approval. This offer may be revoked by Community Alliance Credit Union at any time. Interest paid at maturity. Certificate will automatically renew to a 12-month term at the current rate.



ST. MARY MERCY LIVONIA
SAINT JOSEPH MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM

Michigan's First... Senior ERsSM

Unique in Every Way

We recognize that seniors have unique health care needs. That's why we're the first health system in Michigan to create Senior Emergency DepartmentsSM at all of our emergency locations.

What is a Senior Emergency DepartmentSM?

Our staff is specially trained in geriatric medicine and provides personalized care for seniors including, review of pre-existing medical conditions, medication assessments, and evaluation of nutritional needs. We also address the emotional needs of seniors, which can often affect their physical well-being. Our Senior ERsSM are uniquely designed to enhance the level of care and comfort for seniors and their caregivers, while providing the most advanced medicine and technology available.

REMARKABLE MEDICINE. REMARKABLE CARE.

Learn more about our unique approach to senior emergency care

Ann Arbor, Brighton, Chelsea, Howell, Livonia, Pontiac, Port Huron, Saline

stjoeshealth.org

Member of the 'bar'

Bartender 'flips' way to world competition

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton bartender Andy Hool wows his fans inside the T.G.I. Friday's on Ford Road as he easily juggles liquor bottles and tin mixers, tossing them high in the air and sometimes catching them behind his back.

"I can flip three or four, no problem," said Hool, 31, better known by his customers as Andy Bro.

Hool's skills have earned him an expenses-paid trip to Dallas, where he and nine other bartenders from the United States, Hungary, Sweden, Peru and Japan will compete Monday in T.G.I. Friday's World Bartender Championship.

It's a sport called flairing, and Hool certainly does it with flair.

"He's amazing," said friend and customer Angie

Kauffman, who plans a trip to Dallas with her husband, Andy, to support her favorite bartender.

MIDWEST CONTENDER

Hool, a former Livonia resident and the only Midwest contender in the contest, will compete in categories such as flairing, a speed round for mixing drinks and a knowledge test that draws from 150 cocktail recipes.

Hool earned one of 10 spots in the world competition after he advanced from a contest at the Canton bar to capture a regional title in Dearborn and a divisional championship at the Friday's at the Mall of the Americas in Bloomington, Minn.

"It's pretty cool. I'm pretty proud of it," he said Tuesday. "I love doing this. It's just like a sport. It takes practice."

As a child, Hool recalls being the boy on the sidelines while other athletes excelled at football and baseball.

"I was never the star," he said.

Now he has found himself in the spotlight for a sport that T.G.I. Friday's is lobbying to have included as an Olympics

event. And he's on places such as YouTube.

Hool attended St. Michael School in Livonia and is a graduate of Catholic Central, then in Redford. His parents, Gerald and Elizabeth Hool, still live in Livonia.

FAN FAVORITE

Hool now lives in Canton with his longtime girlfriend, Erica, and their 2-year-old daughter, Payton. He has worked for Friday's for four years and has been a bartender for two years and six months.

For the last few weeks, fans of Hool and other world championship contenders have been voting for their favorite bartenders online at www.world-btc.com/finalists. And while Hool hasn't garnered the most votes, it won't matter Monday as a panel of judges independently decides the world champion.

Bartenders are competing for a top prize of \$10,000 and an airplane propeller, often used in Friday's decor, with their name on it. At his employer's expense, Hool plans to catch a flight to Dallas along with his general manager, Tony Sieczkowski, and



HEATHER DUEITT

Andy Hool, alias "Andy Bro," competed against seven other contestants in the Divisional Bartending Championship last month in Minneapolis.

co-worker Vanessa Boatright.

Hool admits he has broken more than a few bottles, mostly at home, as he perfected his flairing skills. But now he's a pro — this Andy Bro — and he's ready to take the D, as in Detroit, to Dallas for a contest he said is supposed to air Monday evening on Direct TV.

"I'm very excited about going," Hool said. "I've been practicing my flairing, and I'm ready."

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

Allocation is foundation of a good portfolio

Q: Dear Rick: I've been investing for about five, or six years and have followed your advice about using mutual funds and building a diversified portfolio. My current allocation is 50 percent in a couple of bond mutual funds and the other 50 percent in stock funds. In the stock funds I have 60 percent in large company U.S., 20 percent in small company U.S., 5 percent in real estate and 5 percent in international. Do I have enough invested internationally? Currently, the 5 percent is invested in large company international. Does it make sense to continue to have a real estate fund in the portfolio? I also would appreciate any other suggestions. I consider myself an average-risk investor and I am looking long term. I don't think I will need the money for at least 15 years.



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

A: In reviewing your situation, I believe changes are needed. The first change I suggest is in the overall allocation of the portfolio. You are 50 percent equities and 50 percent fixed income. Generally this type of allocation calls for a conservative, short-term investor. You are a moderate, long-term growth investor and the overall allocation (50/50) does not match your situation.

I suggest a 60/40 split between stocks and bonds or even a 70/30 split. I've always been a believer, and all the independent studies confirm, that the key for a successful portfolio is to have the right allocation. Remember, in establishing an allocation, age isn't the relevant factor. It's what you are trying to achieve as an investor that is the key.

You are correct about your international exposure. We no longer live in an American economy, we live in a world economy and that's why it's

important to have a portion of your portfolio allocated to international companies.

In your situation, a good target allocation for international investing would be about 20 percent of your entire portfolio.

It is no longer sufficient to have only one international fund investing in large foreign companies, you need more. Similar to investing in the United States, your portfolio of international funds should be diversified. My recommendation is to have three different types of international funds. I suggest approximately 10 percent of the portfolio invested in large company international, with 5 percent each in small company international and emerging market funds. These three funds will work together to provide you with the appropriate international exposure you need.

Whether you should retain the real estate fund, my answer is yes. Real estate is a good diversifier. I recognize what has happened to the real estate market, however, have you seen how some of these funds have performed? When we think of real estate, we tend to only think about the residential market, which is completely different than the commercial market.

In addition, real estate funds invest in more than properties, they are investing in every aspect of the real estate industry.

One of the most important elements of a successful portfolio is the right allocation — it is the foundation of a portfolio. Always make sure that the allocation of your portfolio is adapted to your individual situation.

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.

Anderson blasts vote to expand financial managers' powers

State Sen. Glen Anderson, D-Westland, is voicing his opposition to several pieces of legislation voted on by the Senate on Wednesday that would greatly expand the power of Emergency Financial Managers who are appointed to try and fix cities, townships, and public school districts who have fallen into insolvency.

Anderson voted against the bill because he feels it gives sweeping, unchecked power to appointed officials, who are unaccountable to the public.

"This legislation gives Emergency Financial Managers a vast and danger-

ous expansion of powers, undermining local authority and voters, while establishing little oversight to ensure that they actually help these financially strained communities," said Anderson. "They will have the power to unilaterally send teachers packing, cut local police and fire, and receive virtually unlimited salaries that will exceed even the Governor, all on the taxpayers' dime."

Senate Democrats introduced a number of amendments that would restrict EFMs and enact safeguards to protect against potential abuses of power. An amend-

ment was introduced to cap the salary that EFMs could receive to compensate them for their services and would have capped their salary at the same level as is paid to Michigan's governor.

Anderson introduced an amendment that would have required EFMs to disclose their personal finances to ensure that they do not take that position with an inherent financial interest. The amendment, along with 16 other Democratic amendments, was defeated.

According to state Democrats, the legislation will have an even more devas-

tating impact because of the governor's budget recommendation and its implications for local school districts and municipalities. The governor plans to cut statutory revenue sharing expenditures, money that directly funds local police departments, firefighters and other vital services, by 34 percent relative to the previous fiscal year.

Anderson represents the 6th State Senate district which includes Livonia, Westland, Garden City and Redford Township. He serves as the Democratic vice-chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Waltonwood at Carriage Park...

retirement LIVING

And a whole lot more!

Whether you and your loved ones are looking for Independent Living or Assisted Living, Waltonwood at Carriage Park can meet all your needs — even changing ones! We encourage residents to live as independently as they can, while providing services and amenities to make days comfortable and carefree.

- Spacious apartment floor plans w/storage — balcony and walk-out patios available on some units
- Housekeeping & laundry services
- Homemade meals, activities and scheduled transportation
- Personal care services and caregivers on-site 24-hours a day
- Conveniently located near shopping and medical offices
- Gas, water, electric* and heat included

Did you know that you may qualify for up to \$2,540 in senior housing benefits from Veterans Benefits?

Join us for an informative workshop on the Aid and Attendance Benefit for Wartime Veterans and/or Surviving Spouses.

Thursday, February 24th
at 6:30 pm

Guest speakers from the American Association for Wartime Veterans

RSPV by February 22nd
(734) 335-8502

Call and schedule a personal tour today!

(734) 335-8502

*In Assisted Living only

WALTONWOOD

CARRIAGE PARK

A Singh Senior Living Community

2250 Canton Center Road
Canton

www.SINGHSeniorLiving.com

Chefs take Scout cookies up a notch at annual gala

Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan will host its third annual Cookie Gala, a celebration of one of America's most beloved sweet treats - Girl Scouts Cookies - 6-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 30, at Detroit's Atheneum Suite Hotel.

Tickets are \$75 each or \$130 for a pair, if purchased by March 23. After that date, tickets are \$100 each or \$170 per pair. Tickets are available online at www.gssem.org/cookie-gala or by calling (313) 870-2562.

Cookie Gala features Girl Scouts cookies kicked up a gourmet notch by some of metro Detroit's best chefs. Chefs create delectable desserts and appetizer recipes using Girl Scout cookies, and compete to have the best Cookie Gala recipes. This year, 14 restaurants and bakeries from throughout the metro area will compete.

Chefs spend weeks creating, testing and re-testing their top secret Cookie Gala entries. Each is assigned a Girl Scout cookie from which they create their own recipe. During the gala, attendees including celebrity guest judges taste and rate each of the recipes and choose the best for 2011.

"This year, we've got Tagalongs, which are little more challenging than the Do-Si-Dos we had last year, but we're testing different recipes and we'll come up with something good," said Matt Kouri, executive chef at The Hill Seafood and Chop House in Grosse Pointe Farms. The Hill Seafood and Chop House won the 2010 Cookie Gala Presenting Sponsor award.

"We're a bakery, cookies are definitely in our repertoire and it's challenging to find new ways to use them," said pastry chef Debbie Meyers of Sweet and Savory Bake Shop in Oxford. Last year's entry, Pomegranate Cranberry Cheesecake with Cranberry Apple Compote, won the bakery the CEO's Choice Award.

"I'm hoping my idea for this year's Lemon Chalet Crèmes turns out the way I'm imagining it will."

Also participating in the 2011 Cookie Gala are 220 Restaurants, Birmingham (Trefails), Andiamo Detroit Riverfront (Thin Mints), Atheneum, Detroit (Samoas), Fifty One-O-One, Dearborn (Do-Si-Dos), The Lark, West Bloomfield (Lemon Chalet Crèmes), Ocean Prime, Troy (Do-Si-Dos), Mosaic, Detroit (Dulce de Leche), Redwood Lodge, Flint (Tagalongs), The Roostertail, Detroit (Trefails), St. Clair Inn, Port Huron (Thank U Berry Munch), Holiday Market, Royal Oak (Thin Mints) and Gold'n Crust Bakery, Warren (Samoas).

Chefs from each of the participating restaurants will compete to win any of the Cookie Gala awards: People's Choice, Presenting Sponsor, Judges' Choice and CEO's Choice. Members of Girl Scout Troop 43799 from Grandview Elementary in Livonia will be choosing the winning restaurant as the first ever Girls' Choice award.

Ford Motor Company is the presenting sponsor of the 2011 Cookie Gala. Additional sponsors include Blue Cross Blue Shield Michigan, Budco, Clark Hill PLC, Comerica Bank, Commonwealth Financial Network, Dawda, Mann, Mulcahy and Sadler PLC, Delta Dental of Michigan, Elder Automotive Group, Hartland Insurance, Hylant Insurance, Motor City Electric, Preferred Moving and Storage and Quicken Loans.

Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan serves nearly 40,000 girls and adult volunteers in Oakland, Macomb, Genesee, Lapeer, St. Clair, Sanilac, and parts of Livingston, Monroe and Wayne counties, including Garden City, Westland, Wayne, Livonia and Redford. GSSEM provides a girl-led, girl-centered, fun-filled quality leadership experience.

There are many days when there just doesn't seem to be enough hours to get everything done and then there are those days that just seem to drag on and on. And no matter how much time you have, the work seems to keep piling up. So how do you get everything done in a shorter amount of time? The answer may be in learning how to better manage your time and be more efficient.

Mismanaged time can account for higher stress levels which can affect your overall health and life outlook. The Mayo Clinic suggests the following strategies to help your organizational skills, both at work and home.

- Plan each day.
- Prioritize your tasks.
- Say no to nonessential tasks.
- Delegate.
- Take the time you need to do a quality job.
- Break large, time-consuming tasks into smaller tasks.
- Practice the 10-minute rule (work on a dreaded task for 10 minutes each day).
- Evaluate how you're spending your time.
- Limit distractions.
- Get plenty of sleep.
- Have a healthy diet and exercise regularly.
- Take a time management course.
- Take a break when needed.

Some books that are at the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland may help you achieve this include "The Power of Less" by Leo Babauta, "100 Ways to Simplify Your Life" by Joyce Meyer, "1000 Best Quick and Easy Time-Saving Strategies" by Jamie Novak, "Getting Things Done" by David Allen, "Done!" by Don Aslett, "The Productivity Handbook" by Donald E. Wetmore and "The Personal Efficiency Program" by Kerry Gleeson.

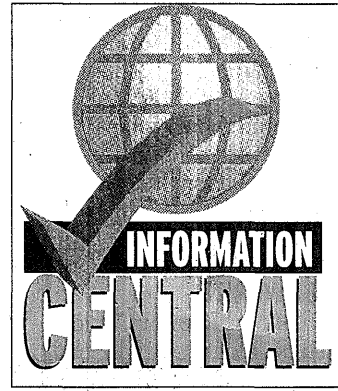
Your thought for the day: There are 1,440 minutes in a day and 29,020 days in an 80-year lifetime. Take control of your time and make this year the year you do what you want. (Linda Francis, author of "Run Your Business So It Doesn't Run You")

The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland is open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday and noon-5 p.m. Sunday, or visit us any time westlandlibrary.org.

Highlighted Activities

Green Jobs Training Information

Time management: Is it for you?



Session: 1 p.m. March 14

Learn about free training opportunities to prepare you for a green job in your future. Marie Guerra, Regional Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEPTP) representative, will explain how you can take advantage of this free training opportunity. Funding for this training is provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). No reservations are necessary. For more information, call (734) 326-6123 or visit the library and speak to a librarian. Training is available only for Wayne County residents.

Afternoon Movie Classics:

"Treasure of the Sierra Madre," 3 p.m. March 15, Ages 12 and up
Tough hombres and gun fights amid unbridled scenery. Join us as we explore the drama and grandeur of classic Western films from the American Film Institute's top 100 movies from the last 100 years. Today's selection is "Treasure of the Sierra Madre" starring Humphrey Bogart, with Walter Huston and Tim Holt. No registration necessary.

Writers Workshop: 7 p.m. March 15, adults and teens age 15 and up

Do you have a piece of writing that you need help with? The Writers Workshop critiques individual's writing in a workshop setting. All genres (fiction, poetry, memoir, etc.) accepted. We will tell you what is working with your piece, as well as what needs improvement. You must attend one session before your writing will be reviewed. To register, visit the Reference Desk or contact andy.schuck@westlandlibrary.org.

Sheila Landis Trio - Tribute to Ella Fitzgerald, the First Lady of Song: 7 p.m. March 15, adults and teens

Join us for a special (and free!) Women's History Month concert, featuring renowned Detroit-area jazz

and blues vocalist Sheila Landis and her trio, as they perform the group's "Tribute to Ella Fitzgerald, the First Lady of Song." Come and hear one of Michigan's true vocal treasures. Artist CD signing to follow. Call (734) 326-6123 for more information or to sign up. Walk-ins are welcome.

Adult Book Discussion Group: 7 p.m. March 15

This month we are discussing "Little Bee" by Christopher Cleave. Andrew and Sarah O'Rourke are journalists with careers that are putting their marriage in a rut. In order to reinvigorate their passion, the couple decides to retreat to a Nigerian beach. They soon hear that a small native village down the beach is being attacked by guerillas from the Nigerian government.

Yoga for Beginners - Morning Class: 10 a.m. March 16, adults and teens

Join Lois Gannon of evolve yoga studio in Ypsilanti as she leads a beginning Hatha yoga class. Interested parties should bring a yoga mat, if possible. Wear loose clothing. One of four morning classes this month. Sign up at the Reference Desk or call (734) 326-6123. Space is limited.

Yoga for Beginners - Evening Class: 5 p.m. March 16, adults and teens (Earlier evening start time this week only)

Join Lois Gannon of evolve yoga studio in Ypsilanti as she leads a beginning Hatha yoga class. Interested parties should bring a yoga mat, if possible. Wear loose clothing. One of four evening classes this month. Sign up at the Reference Desk or call (734) 326-6123. Space is limited.

Adult Literacy Tutor Information Night: 6:30 p.m. March 16

Find out how you can get involved and share your love of reading with an adult in need. There are currently no adult literacy agencies that service the Westland area and we are exploring what kinds of services we can provide. This is a fantastic volunteer opportunity that will make a great difference in someone's life. We will go over different types of training options and what's necessary to become a tutor - just 2 hours a week. No formal training in education is required and you don't have to make any commitments right away. Just show up and find out what adult lit-

eracy is all about! If you are unable to attend this information session and are still interested in adult literacy tutoring opportunities, give us a call at (734) 326-6123 or stop by the Reference desk and ask for Kristy.

Documentary Movie Night: "At the Death House Door" 7 p.m. March 16

Join us for a viewing of the documentary film, "At the Death House Door." Carroll Pickett served as minister to death row inmates at a Texas penitentiary for 15 years, believing that the death penalty was just. Then he met inmate Carlos de Luna. As he talked with de Luna and recorded his conversations on the day before de Luna's execution, Pickett came to believe that de Luna was innocent. Unlike Hollywood movies, de Luna was executed anyway, sending Pickett on a gut-wrenching quest to uncover the facts surrounding the poor man's highly questionable arraignment. No registration necessary.

Open Mic: 7 p.m. March 17, ages 12 and up

It's your turn to take the mic as we clap and laugh and sing and roll through the winter version of Open Mic. Contact the Reference Desk to sign up or just show up ready to perform. Singers, bands, poets and performers of all types encouraged. Local folk-rockers Dave Boutette emcees.

Friday Night Movies: "Toy Story 3," 7 p.m. March 18, ages 12 and up

Love movies? Join us as we watch projected Oscar nominees for the 2011 awards. Tonight's movie is Golden Globe nominee "Toy Story 3," starring Tom Hanks, Tim Allen and Joan Cusack. Refreshments available. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., movie starts at 7 p.m.

Career Management Series - Job Searching Workshop: 1 p.m. March 19

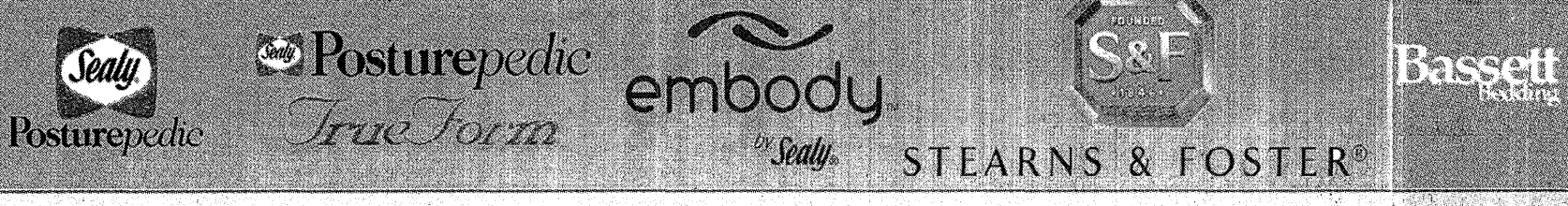
Join Preston Banks of Resume Solutions to learn new and practical strategies to keep your job search moving forward. Walk-ins are welcome.

Computer classes are offered all year long. Contact the library at (734) 326-6123 to find out more.

Information Central was compiled by Susan Hanson, technology librarian. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123 or go online to westlandlibrary.org.

GRAND OPENING INSIDE WESTLAND MALL

Free gifts to the first 100 customers



"LOW PRICE MATTRESS GUARANTEE or it's FREE!" (See store for details)

WIN EGYPTIAN COTTON SHEETS (700 TC)

WIN TOSHIBA HD TV's

WIN A FREE MATTRESS SET

SALE PRICE
\$465
QUEEN SIZE PILLOW TOP SET
SAVE \$634
REG \$1099
ONLY 36 TO SELL
OVER 57% OFF

Mattress Mountain™

New location in Westland Mall next to JC Penney
734.266.1998 • www.themattressmountain.com

Also located in Dearborn inside Fairlane Mall



COMMUNITY LIFE

Sunday, March 13, 2011

hometownlife.com

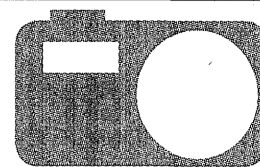


PHOTO GALLERIES

hometownlife.com

Marathon effort: Students stand up for good cause

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Alex Gortat plans to take a few more precautions this year before engaging in the biggest student activity on campus at the University of Michigan.

"I should have hydrated more," said the Livonia resident and U-M sophomore, recalling her first experience with the school's annual 30-hour dance marathon. "You are supposed to wean yourself off caffeine or you'll crash during the marathon."

Gortat, a Franklin High School graduate, managed to stay on her feet last year by heading to bed early the night before, changing shoes five times, and keeping the event's goal in mind — fundraising to help families with children in pediatric rehabilitation at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor and William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak.

Student marathon teams are paired with a family at the start of the fall semester and stay in touch with them throughout the year. Most families also attend the dance marathon, which will be held March 26-27 this year.

"The first time you meet is at pumpkin carving," said Tejas Joshi, U-M junior and a Plymouth High School graduate from Canton. "Meeting the family and kids is really inspiring. Some of these kids can't climb a tree, which is something every child does at some point. Seeing them enjoy their childhood without these things is inspiring. You learn about the family's struggles but are there with them at the same time."

Both Joshi and his sister, Priya, a U-M freshman, are



Smiles abound amid participants of the 30-hour marathon last year.

DANCE MARATHON AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

What: The largest student-run nonprofit organization at the university raises funds for families with children in pediatric rehabilitation at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor and William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. Its major fundraiser each year is a 30-hour dance marathon.

When: The dance marathon starts at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 26 and runs to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 27

Where: The Indoor Track and Field Building, 1150 S. State Street, Ann Arbor

Details: The public may cheer the dancers on during the event or make donations, but must also stand on their feet when they visit. No chairs are available during the 30-hour event. Dance teams engage in a variety of activities during the overnight marathon. The event culminates in a massive line dance performed by all participants.

Donate: Visit www.dmum.org; e-mail to dmum.info@umich.edu

involved in Dance Marathon of the University of Michigan, (DMUM), the largest student organization on campus.

Joshi, a biomechanical engineering major, joined the group his freshman year after attending an information session with his roommate. The two now are co-chairs on the executive board, a central planning team for the event.

BUILDING FRIENDSHIPS

"I liked the dynamic of everyone there and what they stood for. And I liked the social aspect," he said.

The organization enables new students to make friends quickly on the big campus. Joshi said some of his closest friends are DMUM members.

Gortat first heard about DMUM while she was at



Students chart up how much money was raised at last year's dance marathon.

Franklin. A best friend's brother was involved in the organization and a DMUM representative talked about the event at a Michigan Association of Student Councils conference that Gortat attended.

The psychology-business major signed on her freshman year. This year she is co-captain of a dance team.

"The great thing is you can become as involved as you choose to be," she said.

Last year her team was paired with an elementary school-aged youngster who used a wheelchair. This year, her new team keeps in touch with an 18-year-old who has cerebral palsy.

"We try to get to know him throughout the year. We write



U-M students perform a line dance at last year's dance marathon.

letters to him and we see him at the family events."

BOOSTING SPIRITS

That personal connection helps boost morale as the marathon stretches into its final few hours.

So do the myriad activities that keep students busy. Throughout the night they

learn portions of a line dance that comes together at the end of the marathon. They can shoot hoops, study, rub tired feet, eat, stretch, visit the morale-boosting spirit tent, watch performances, meet with their families and compete in team activities.

"There are no chairs in the building and no clocks. No one can have phones. It makes the time go by faster. While you are there it doesn't feel like 30 hours," Gortat said.

Joshi said staying awake for long time periods is "normal" for college students.

"It's more mental than physical, really," he said. "But just knowing you're doing it for a child who struggles every day with simple tasks, it's nothing compared to that."

Welcome Home!



Woodhaven is Livonia's only Retirement Community with every level of care!

- Assisted living – private rooms, studio apartments & 1 bedroom apartments
- Memory services – companion rooms, privacy rooms & private rooms
- Skilled nursing, rehabilitation, post hospital recovery & hospice care
- Independent living apartments – 1 & 2 bedroom with 1 or 2 baths
- Michigan's only Adult Day Program that is open 5 a.m. to 11 p.m., 365 days a year – FUNDING available for residents of western Wayne County over age 60 from TSA, AAA 1-C and OSA

What makes Woodhaven different?

- Not for profit mission
- Quaint bistro dining
- Four separate & distinct neighborhoods
- Recently upgraded physical, occupational & speech therapy



WOODHAVEN
RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

29667 Wentworth • Livonia

(1st street north of Five Mile, on the west side of Middlebelt)

734-261-9000

www.woodhaven-retirement.com gloriag@woodhavenrc.org

MY TRIVIA LIVE
Wednesdays 8 pm

Party Room Available
Teams • Groups

Sheehan's
EST. 1977
N THE GREEN
AN IRISH SPORTS PUB

HOME OF THE...FAMOUS GOURMET SHEEHAN BURGER

15 Varieties of 1/2 Lb. Burgers
Lunch • Dinner • Late Night Snacks • Kids Menus
Turkey Burgers • Chili • Soups • Salads • Munchies • 10 Draft Beers • Daily Specials

Watch All the Games
• 13 High Def Plasma TVs with Surround Sound
including 65" High Def Plasma
NCAA Basketball Tournament

St. Patrick's Day Celebration
THURSDAY, MARCH 17TH
OPEN 10 AM - 2 AM

PERSONAL PITCHERS
34oz. \$4.25 Draft Special
During All Detroit Pro Games & College Games

Corned Beef & Cabbage • Irish Stew
Corned Beef Sandwiches
Irish Pipers All Day
Giveaways • Green Beer, Guinness & Smithwick's on Tap

FREE CAB RIDES HOME

NO COVER CHARGE

34 Years of "Sharin' the Green"

FREE LUNCH OR DINNER
Enjoy Any One Menu Item FREE When a Second Item of Equal or Greater Value is Purchased.
Must purchase 2 beverages. One coupon per 2 customers. Cannot be combined with other offers. Dine in only. Value up to \$5.00. Not valid St. Pat's Day.

39450 Five Mile Rd., Just East of Haggerty, Next to Oasis Golf • 734-420-0646

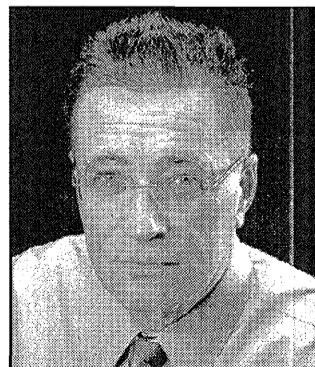
SOCIAL SECURITY

Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security Disability benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits.

The tragedy is that less than half of those persons who are denied benefits file an appeal. Thus, many thousands of people who deserve benefits never receive them.

Those denied can appeal on their own, but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet.

Attorney J.B. Bieske has represented only Social Security Disability clients for over 20 years. That is the only type of law he practices. And, he personally meets with all clients and appears himself at all court hearings. Many large firms assign clients to young associate attorneys with much less experience.



In addition to practicing only Social Security Disability law Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject. He also has been interviewed on various radio and television programs and has given speeches to many groups. Bieske's office staff consists of paralegals and secretaries who are also highly experienced in assisting him with Social Security Disability cases. And they are extremely helpful in answering questions with regard to the status of clients' cases and administrative procedure.

Attorney Bieske welcomes you to call him to determine if you may be

eligible for these benefits. He offers free phone or office consultations. If Bieske represents you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

In a recent radio interview attorney Bieske explained that many people are not even aware that they are eligible for Social Security Disability benefits. These are not the same as Workers' Compensation benefits. It is possible to receive both benefits at the same time. If you have an illness or injury (whether or not related to your work), are under 65 and unable to work full-time you may be eligible. Social Security Disability benefits are based on your work record or your deceased spouse's work record (Widow's/Widower's benefits).

Bieske represents clients from all over the state of Michigan. Call him at 1-800-331-3530 for a FREE consultation if you have been denied. Or if you are thinking of possibly of applying for Social Security benefits call him for FREE advice.

www.ssdfighter.com



Rescued dogs and their companions await a training session.



Brenda Woody works with rescued dogs on obedience before they are adopted.

Dog rescue planning fundraiser for new building

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

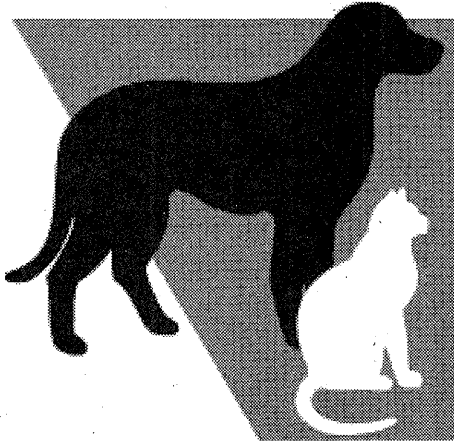
Brenda Woody of Westland runs a dog rescue with a twist — all of her charges take obedience training before they head to their new homes.

Her foster families train with their dogs and anyone who adopts must participate in free classes with Woody's Better Life Canine Center or show proof that they have signed up for training elsewhere.

"The biggest thing we do is training and rehab. We have some strong trainers. They all have different philosophies, but they all work together," said Woody, whose trainers donate their services to the group.

"I try to focus on the dogs that are in front of me and turn them into superstars."

Woody trains some of her rescued dogs at the exercise facility for humans — Better Life Fitness Center in Redford



PET PROJECTS

— that she and her husband own. She also has rented training space at Me and My Shadow, a dog swim and fitness center in Garden City.

"I always have about five or six dogs traveling with me," she said, adding that she also trains dogs at her home.

Next month she'll move obedience sessions into Better Life Canine Center's new location in Livonia. She and her 30-plus volunteers are working to get the building at 36855 Schoolcraft in shape for its first major fundraiser, Push for Paws, from 2-6 p.m. Saturday, March 19. The event, which will raise money for monthly rent, will include a silent auction, raffle, food, DJ, face painting, adoptable dogs, a parade of dogs in costume and more. Supporters also can donate to the nonprofit organization through its Web site at www.betterlifecaninecenter.com

Woody plans to create a

"homey environment" for the group's training and home prep program.

"The atmosphere will be really nice. The building has four bathrooms and two showers. I'd like to have a nice couch and dining room table, a bed and dresser," she said.

NEED FOR SPACE

The new building will enable Woody to concentrate all efforts in one place.

"We're growing by leaps and bounds and my space is limited right now," she said, explaining the need for a new location.

"If someone calls and they've taken a dog of the street, I can't put it into a foster home immediately. I need to evaluate the dog, take it to the vet and then put it in the proper foster home," she said. "For the first 36 hours I keep them with me. I sleep in the living room with them the first two or three days until the dogs becomes peace-

ful and balanced and then we move forward with obedience training."

Strays and relinquished dogs make up most of the group's adoptable canines. Woody offers free training sessions to dog owners who consider giving their furry companions to the group because of behavior problems. She said the obedience sessions avert many of the dog surrenders.

GETTING TRAINED

"We had a call from someone who said their hound dog had bitten their son. We found out it was a nip and the parents admitted the kid was constantly climbing onto the dog and they weren't correcting it. I have a trainer lined up to work with them for free," Woody said. "We have tons of those kinds of situations. People call with fundamental issues and they need guidance."

Woody started rescuing

strays on her own some 15 years ago. She organized the nonprofit organization and recruited volunteers three years ago.

"My husband had a dog when I met him. I had never bonded with a dog before — my family always had country dogs," she said. "I couldn't imagine having a dog in the house. If I saw hair on someone I thought, oh, gross."

"But here I am today, the 'dog woman.' It took me two weeks and I fell in love with that dog. It was a blessing because I had been wrapped too tight before that."

Woody hopes her organization with its emphasis on obedience training, can serve as a role model for other rescues.

"I want to help other rescue groups and get on the same page with this. What we're doing needs to be happening in all cities."

DOGS OF THE WEEK

Janey and Kleaner are two new dogs from Florida offered for adoption by Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption. Janey is a retired racing Greyhound who is learning how to be a companion animal. At her foster family's home she is learning to play with toys and is sleeping on a cozy bed for the first time. She's 4 years old with a brindle coat.

Kleaner is also a retired racer from Florida. He's 2 1/2 years old and has a beautiful blue coat.

If you're interested in adopting Janey or Kleaner, call Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption at (866) 438-4739 or visit www.greyheart.org.



Kleaner, a retired racer from Florida, is looking for a permanent home.



Janey is learning to be a pet in a family home.

WAYNE STATE'S SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA TO PLAY

The Wayne State University Symphony Orchestra will perform at 4 p.m., April 3, at the First Presbyterian Church of Farmington, located at 26165 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills.

Comprised of undergraduate and graduate students in the orchestral performance and music education programs at the Wayne State University, the WSU Symphony Orchestra is the premier orchestral ensemble in the WSU Department of Music.

This program will showcase some of the gifted winners of the university's 2011 Concerto Competition. It will also feature two favorites of classical music lovers around the world: Tchaikovsky's deeply lyrical Serenade for Strings and the stirring Reformation Symphony of Felix Mendelssohn.

A native of the Island of Crete, Kypros Markou is Professor of Music and Director of Orchestral Studies at Wayne State University, music director of the Dearborn Symphony Orchestra, and, most recently, the founder and conductor of the metropolitan Detroit area's newest chamber music ensemble, the Detroit Camerata.

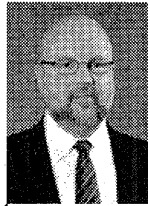
Maestro Markou has conducted orchestras throughout Europe and America, including engagements with the Moravian Philharmonic of the Czech Republic, the National Romanian Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Krakow Philharmonic of Poland, the Orquesta Sinfonica de Concepcion in Chile, the Rochester Philharmonic in New York and the Cyprus State Orchestra.

Markou has held conducting posts with the Cyprus Radio Orchestra, the Carnegie Mellon Philharmonic, and the Somerset Summer Music Festival in Pennsylvania. He served as director of the University Orchestra at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh and as associate conductor of the New England Conservatory Symphony. No tickets are required for this outstanding event. Donations will be collected and used to fund the musicians: recommended minimum: \$10 per person, \$25 per family.

First Presbyterian Church is located at 26165 Farmington Road in Farmington Hills, at the northwest corner of 11 Mile and Farmington Road. Ample free parking is available on site, and the entire facility is barrier free and handicap accessible.

F.I.S.H.E.R FUNERAL HOME

CREMATION SERVICES
Family Owned and Operated Since 1955



MICHAEL J. FISHER
Owner

Compassionate
Affordable
Caring

TRADITIONAL SERVICE WITH BURIAL
includes metal casket, outer burial container, viewing & service
\$2895

BASIC CREMATION
includes cremation process and county permit
\$695*

*\$200 additional for Memorial Services

TRADITIONAL SERVICE WITH CREMATION
includes casket facade, viewing & service
\$2195

Traditional funerals & alternatives tailored for any budget
24501 Five Mile Road • Redford (Between Beech Daly and Telegraph)

313.535.3030
www.fisherfuneral.net

Livonia Home Improvement Show

New Event!

**Saturday, March 26, 2011
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Churchill High School
Admission is FREE!**

This show will feature a collection of carpenters, electricians, concrete specialists, roofers, landscape designers, and other home improvement experts.

Plus, students from the Livonia Career and Tech Center will provide do-it-yourself project tips.

A few booth spaces remain. For details call the Livonia Chamber, 734.427.2122

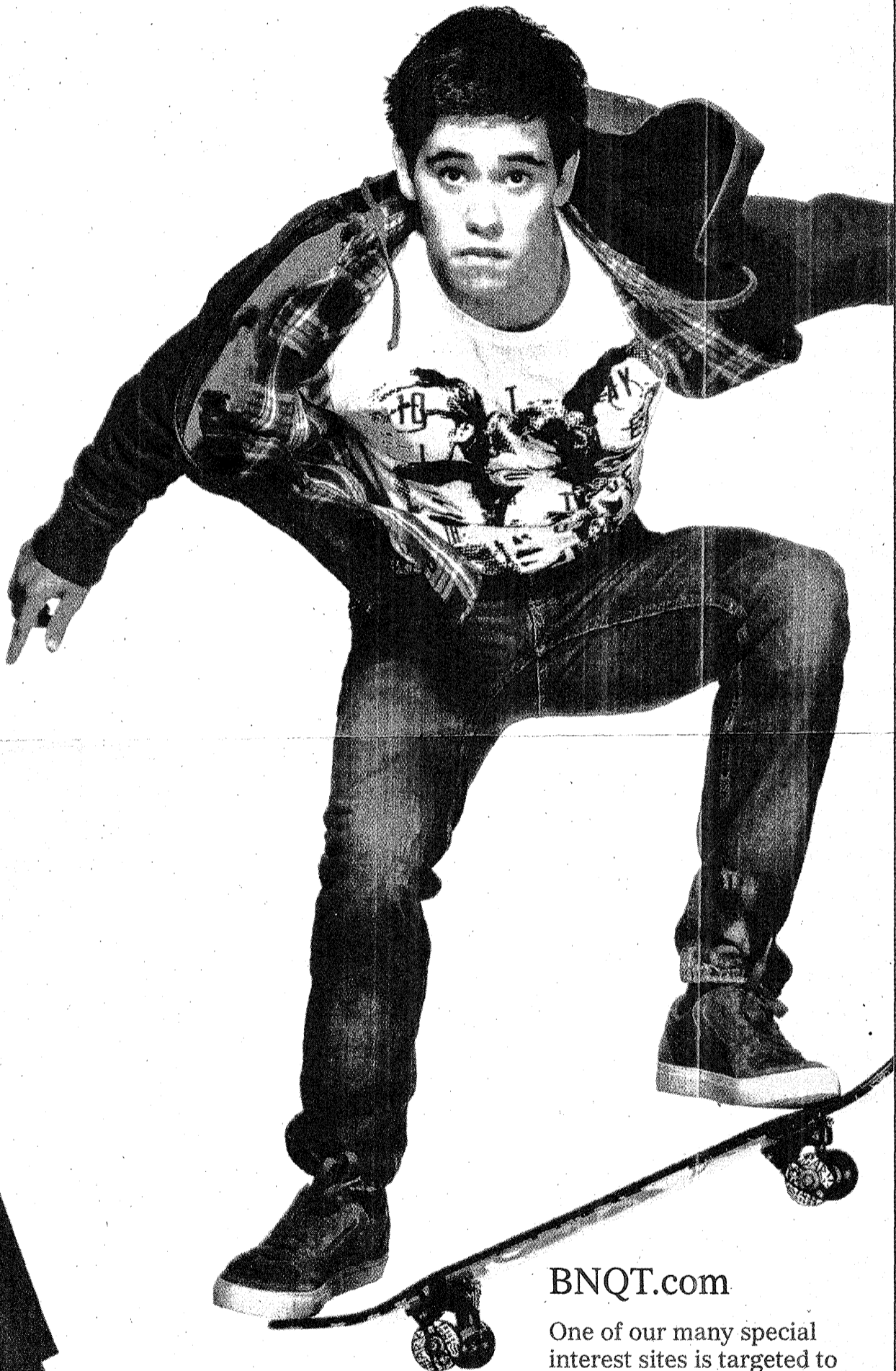
Sponsored by:
WMM WASTE MANAGEMENT
OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS
HOMETOWN WEEKLIES
www.hometownlife.com

Presented by:
PARKSIDE CREDIT UNION
Your Friend For Life
Livonia CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
people · business · community

UPWARDLY MOBILE

Whether we're helping people step up to a new job or reach new heights at the skate park, Gannett takes consumers where they want to go. And if you're interested in a COLLABORATIVE APPROACH TO HELPING YOUR BUSINESS GROW, Gannett is there for you, too. We invite you to engage – as millions of consumers do every day – through our powerful LOCAL-TO-NATIONAL NETWORK of broadcasting, digital, mobile and publishing brands.

IT'S ALL WITHIN REACH.



CareerBuilder.com

The largest employment site in North America.

BNQT.com

One of our many special interest sites is targeted to action sports enthusiasts.

GANNETT

It's all within reach.

LEARN MORE AT
GANNETT.COM

