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THURSDAY March 24, 2011

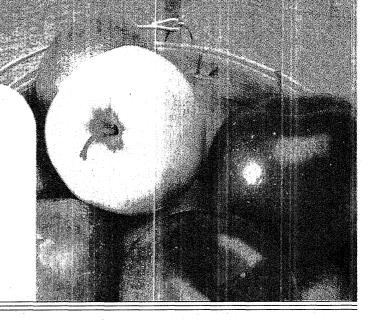
The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

> Volume 46 Number 86

> > \$1.00

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IN BRIEF

Tsunami benefit

Westland Liberty Tax and the American Red Cross have joined forces for a fundraiser to benefit people affected by the earthquake and tsunami in Japan.

From 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, March 26, Liberty Tax will have a moon walk, coloring contest for kids, food and beverages as financial donations are accepted for the earthquake/tsunami relief.

"We will have Red Cross envelopes for people to make donations or we will donate a percentage of the cost for preparing a tax return," said Candice Roberts, general manager for the office located at 2625 S. Wayne Road. "People can donate as much or as little as they want."

Liberty Tax annually has fundraisers and in the past has help generate donations for Haitian earthquake relief.

"Unfortunately, the earthquake and tsunami had just happened," said Roberts. "We're looking for items to be donated for a raffle."

For more information, call (734) 721-6600.

Cadet honors

Army JROTC Cadets from Wayne Memorial High School competed over the weekend in 7th Brigade's largest drill and academic competition ever.

Steven E. LaHaine, a retired U.S. Army first sergeant and the senior Army JROTC instructor at Wayne Memorial High School, has plenty to be proud of after his Zebra Battalion was named the 7th Brigade Academic champions at competition held in Kentucky

earlier this month. The two-day event was held at North Hardin High School in Radcliff, Ky., and featured 54 programs from Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan and Tennessee. In all, close to 1,200 cadets took part in the event.

In addition to the academic honors, the Zebra Battalion finished third in the Drill Competition, while Corey Sheldon and Aimee Papineau finished first and second, respectively, in the individual academic competition. Sheldon's Color Guard placed second, with Jackie Odien's Color Guard placing third, and Keslie Honeycutt's Armed Squad placing fourth in the competition.

In the Armed Drill individual competition, Steven Jones placed second, and Isabelle Letts placed third out of more than 350 cadets.

Traffic delays

Drivers are going to want to avoid Ford Road in western Westland due to construction project expected to continue until late June.

Contracting crews have started the bridge repair on Ford (M-153) over the C & O Railroad.

According to the Michigan Department of Transportation, eastbound and westbound Ford Road will be reduced to a single lane between Lotz and John Hix roads. This project includes repairs to the bridge railings, lighting, substructure and driving surface.

Drivers should expect delays when traveling in that section of Ford Road. The project is scheduled to be completed by June 24.

For up-to-date information on this project, go to the list of statewide lane closures online at www. michigan.gov/drive.

City sees if changes meet gov's qualifications

BY LEANNE ROGERS **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Dealing with projected budget deficits, Westland has already implemented many changes of the type sought by Gov. Rick Snyder, particularly regarding employee compensation.

"We're trying to see if any of the things that we did with concessions from employees will qualify," said Mayor William Wild.

Municipalities can qualify for a third of what had been statutory state shared revenue money for meeting each of the governor's three-pronged program.

Regarding the employee health care and compensations aspect, in 2009 the city began self-insuring health care and subsequently negotiated with employee unions to move to the same PPO-1 plan.

"All the health coverage was splintered up. We had to get everyone in one plan to see up-front savings," said Wild. "As we work toward employees paying part of the insurance, we want to do it across the board so it is fair."

New hires are required to pay 5 percent toward their defined benefit or defined contribution pension plans, along with some current employees

who are making the same contribution to their pensions. Currently, Westland would not meet the 1.5 percent multiplier the governor wants for determining pensions — that is 2.8 percent currently for most city staff.

EMPLOYEE PENSIONS

F000. E7

'We'll have contracts up for renewal. If we have to do this to qualify for state shared revenue, then we'll have to look at it in negotiations," said Wild. "We may qualify for some of this based on what we've already done."

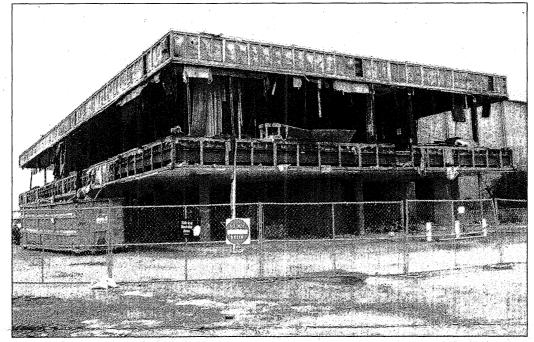
Westland's police and fire pensions are unusual in that they are established

under Public Act 345. The pensions are funded through a charter provision approved by voters that allows sufficient millage to be levied to cover police and fire pension costs - a levy separate from the general fund.

The city has already reached agreements with its largest union, American Federation of State, Local and Municipal Employees Local 600 and the UAW supervisors bargaining unit to eliminate retiree health care for employees hired after July 1, 2010.

"I'm really surprised the governor

Please see CHANGES. A2



Slowly but surely the former Quo Vadis Theater is being demolished. The property will marketed as a vacant

Rise and fall: Quo Vadis razed, ground broken for MJR Theater

BY LEANNE ROGERS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Slowly but surely the former Quo Vadis theater is being dismantled as ground will be broken nearby for a new movie

The front of the longtime Wayne Road fixture has been removed a week after demolition of the building got under way. There are no plans for immediate redevelopment of the site just north of Warren Road.

"(Property owner) National Amusements made the decision to demolish the building — that it's more valuable for redevelopment without the building," said Westland Community

Development Director Lori Fodale. "The building was no longer safe to show. It wasn't

safe to have people inside." The city is working with a commercial real estate agent, Fodale said, to get the parcel redeveloped. Possible uses include retail space, a restaurant, office, bank or educational institution.

MJR Theaters is scheduled to hold an official groundbreaking today (Thursday) for its new 16-screen theater on the site of the former Showcase Cinema, located further south on Wayne Road and also formerly owned by National Amusements.

Closed since 2002, the Quo Vadis Entertainment Center

opened in 1966. The building, with a very modern exterior and plush interior, was designed by Minoru Yamasaki, best known for designing the twin towers of New York City's World Trade Center destroyed in the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

The Quo Vadis was one of the first movie theaters to offer alcoholic drinks to patrons and had its Over 21 Club cocktail lounge on the second floor of the building.

Removal of the vacant theater will at least temporarily provide better exposure for other business located at the Westland Crossings strip center, said Fodale.

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Candidates filing nominat-

ing petitions must have valid

signatures from at least 222

Group seeks families with relatives on 'the Wall'

BY LEANNE ROGERS **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Families of military personnel whose names appear on the Vietnam Wall are being invited to attend the opening ceremony when the wall visits Westland in July.

"We're looking for any families in the area with relatives on the wall," said Ken Mehl, chairman of Westland Veterans Association, which is sponsoring the Vietnam Moving Wall visit July 21-25.

The opening ceremony will be at 6 p.m. Thursday, July 21. The display will be on the east lawn of Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road.

"This is an opportunity to share an extraordinary experience with Westland and our neighboring communities," Westland Mayor William Wild said.

The Moving Wall is a half-size replica of the Washington, D.C., Vietnam Veterans Memorial and has been touring the country for the past 27 years.

"I am extremely proud of the Westland Veterans Association to be chosen once again to display the Moving Wall in our city," Westland Council President James Godbout said. "I was very moved and proud to be part of the visit in 2006 and would hope all Westland residents take this opportunity to visit a part of history in our city."

The overall length of the Moving Wall is 252.83 feet, composed of 74 separate frames, each frame containing two silk-screened panels. Each of the two walls that make up the entire wall is

ABOUT THE WALL

· The Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C., was dedicated Nov. 13, 1982, to honor all Vietnam veterans. The concept and actual building of the Moving Wall grew out of the hard work and effort by John Devitt, Gerry Haver and Norris Shears, Vietnam veterans from California.

 The memorial is dedicated to the 2.7 million men and women who served in the U.S. military in Vietnam. As of March 1, 2011, there are 58,256 names listed on the memorial. Approximately 1,700 of these are still unaccounted for prisoners of war or missing in action.

• The Moving Wall was first displayed in Tyler, Texas, in October 1984 and has traveled to more than 1,100 communities since that time. Included in these visits were Guam, Saipan, Marina Island, Puerto Rico and Canada. The Moving Wall now travels the United States from March to December, spending about a week at each site.

126.5 feet in length, which is slightly longer than half the length of the Memorial in Washington, D.C.

The Moving Wall, like the memorial in Washington, was funded through contributions made by the public.

Expenses for a visit are also paid through donations and fund-raising. The 2006 visit

Please see WALL, A2

Ciaramitaro first to file for 2011 city election

BY LEANNE ROGERS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Petitions to run for four

seats on the Westland council and the city clerk's position became available Monday and the first candidate has filed.

Richard Ciaramitaro paid the \$100 fee in lieu of collecting signatures on a nominating petition to run for City Council. Ciaramitaro is quartermaster and POW/MIA chair at the Romanowski VFW Post in Westland.

Four council seats will be open this year — incumbents with expiring terms include Council President James Godbout and Councilmen

Michael Kehrer, Bill Johnson and Adam Hammons.

The top three vote-getters in November will be elected to four-year terms on council with the fourth-place candidate elected for a two-year

Clerk Eileen DeHart Schoof, who will be finishing her second four-year term this year, said she plans to run for reelection. Unlike the council positions, the city clerk is a full-time staff position.

The filing deadline is 4

p.m. Tuesday, May 10, with

candidates who have second

thoughts allowed to withdraw

their petitions up until 4 p.m.

Friday, May 13.

than 888 signatures or pay "The number of signatures required is based on 1 to 4 percent of the votes cast for Michigan Secretary of State in November," said DeHart

An Aug. 2 primary election would be required if more than eight candidates file to run for council seats or more than two candidates run for city clerk. The general election would be held Tuesday, Nov. 8.

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Mail call: Seniors help W-W address newsletters

BY SUE MASON **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Seniors at the Dyer Center understand the meaning of will work for food.

In exchange for coffee and doughnuts and a lunch, they'll spend the morning putting address labels on thousands of district newsletters that go out to residents at least four times

They sit in groups of four at tables in the community room, chatting about this and that as they peal and stick the labels on the newsletters aimed for particular parts of the district.

"They're so great, they totally know what's going on," said executive secretary Cheryl Watson, who divided up sheets of labels among the groups. "It's so great to have this group. You put the stuff on the table and they take over.

"It's a lot of work," said Ed Turner who's been doing the backpacks and labeling for 10 years. "Before the seniors started doing it, the staff did it along with their other work and it would take them three days. We get it done in a few

"It's fun," said Barbara Martin of Westland. "There's good conversation, a good cup of tea and you get lunch afterwards."

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 24, 2011

The latest labeling effort was newsletters announcing the district's Kindergarten Round-up which will be held 9-10 a.m. Tuesday, April 5. Close to 40,000 newsletters are being delivered to households in the district. Of that number, 8,233 are labeled by the seniors.

According to Watson, "it's quite an operation." The newsletters are sorted by carrier routes. The labels are specific areas of the cities that are in the school district. For Westland's 48186 and Wayne's 48184 ZIP codes, the newsletters are bundled according to the number of households on the postal route. In areas where only a portion of the addresses are in the district, the newsletters are labeled and banded in groups of 50 and put in bags.

"Usually we put them in groups of 100, but if there's 461 on the route we'll put a little bit more in each stack to even them out," said Mallory Mantey, who works in the district's communications department.

The newsletters have been redesigned and will have a dif-



Judy Cartwright uses the two-fingered approach to putting address labels on Wayne-Westland's quarterly newsletter.

ferent color theme each issue. "It's totally new," said Mark Wright, who also works in communications. "It'll have a different color every time. We have six colors, so it'll give residents a variety.

Among newbies trying their hand at labeling was Judy Cartwright of Westland who had her "whole little group of friends" at the table.

"We golf together, we play Bunco together and some of us go to church together," she said. "We even travel together."

Retired a year ago, Cartwright joked about being "able to sit down on the job" and eat on the job.

"Lunch, too?" she said. "This is fun. I'm with my friends, I get to have coffee and doughnuts and cookies."

Watson worked between tables, gathering those newsletters that were done and getting more labels for tables that had finished their stacks. Cartwright's table finished the allotment of Canton labels and waited for more, while



Tony Collins, Marilyn Grimm and Ross Bohmhauer work on packaging newsletters into bundles for the post office.

Turner's table saw their stacks of labels dwindle slowly.

"Some of these old fingers don't work so fast," he said. "If I move slow, I've got to blame it on something. It can't be

Along with information about Kindergarten Round-Up, the newsletter has stories about the district's I-SAVE energy conservation pro-

KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP

Time/Date: 9-10 a.m. Tuesday, April 5

Location: At Wayne-Westland's 11 elementary schools in Wayne, Westland, Canton and Inkster **Details**: Parents will have an opportunity to tour the school and explore programs, meet the principal and kindergarten teachers, receive registration materials and a free T-shirt, school supplies, and a backpack for youngsters. For parents who can't make it during the day, school offices also will be open 6-7 p.m. that evening. Children must be 5 years old by Dec. 1, 2011, in order to attend kinder-

Contact: For more information, call (734) 419-2083 or go online to wwcsd.net/kindergartenround-up.

gram preventing bullying and changes in the scoring of state standardized test. In addition to the mail deliveries, the district also has the newsletter on its website at www.wwcsd.net.

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

cost an estimated \$18,000.

"We are looking for donations. We'll get donations from business and all they get is their name in the program," Mehl said. "There can be no signage or advertising on the land where the wall is displayed."

Ken's Country Produce has agreed to donate all of the flowers that will decorate the display, Mehl said.

The Westland Veterans Association is selling commemorative T-shirts at various businesses and during the Westland Summer Festival June 30-July 4.

Along with financial contributions, volunteers are also needed to help out while the Moving Wall is being dis-

played. "The wall is open 24 hours a day and has to be manned the whole time. We need volunteers to be out there the whole time," Mehl said. "It's got to be wiped and cleaned each morning. It's a big undertaking, but it will be a good thing. We expect a gigantic turnout.

Although Westland is hosting the Moving Wall, Mehl said many people from other communities, such as the Brighton VFW, will be on hand to help.

For information on donating to cover expenses, volunteer or purchase commemorative shirts, contact Mehl at (734) 335-7943 or westlandveteransassoc@yahoo.com.

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slots, 90 table games and

didn't seek that," said Wild.

For residents and city workers, it's the requirement to have plans submitted by Jan. 1 for consolidation and shared services that could make big changes in how services are provided.

"This is the first step. People have resisted consolidation and have been able to put bandaged budgets together but they're out of money," Wild. "The governor has a stick and carrot. People have been talking about it for years. It will take a couple of years to get it started, it will be like dominoes."

SHARED SERVICES

Wild noted the city has shared services, such as emergency dispatching with Inkster, school crossing guards with Wayne-Westland Community Schools, police and fire mutual aid with Garden City, fire training with the Conference of Western Wayne, parks and recreation programs with Wayne and regional trash disposal through the Central Wayne County Sanitation Authority.

The governor is proposing changes in state labor laws to facilitate merger and consolidation of services.

Garden City, Dearborn Heights and Wayne have extended an invitation to Westland's 18th District Court to participate in a court consolidation feasibility study.

"I'm meeting with the judges," said Wild. "I'm hoping they will be willing to be part of that. The cheapest way to find the answers is if you're splitting the costs."

The requirement for municipalities to establish a citizens guide to their finances including a readily accessible performance dashboard by Oct. 1 isn't a concern for Wild.

"We can accomplish both of those by Oct. 1," he said.

The governor is also proposing that the state stop approving unfunded mandates, something Wild said he hopes will happen.

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Holding a Relay for Life fundraising event? Let us know about it. Send your information to Sue Mason at smason@hometownlife.com.

Bowling fundraiser Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. Saturday,

Location: Mayflower Lanes, 26600 Plymouth Road, between Inkster Road and Beech Daly, Redford Details: Alyssa's Angels will hold their second annual bowling fundraiser. Check-in is at 6 p.m. Cost is \$20 per person and \$15 for children age 13 and under and includes three 3 hours of unlimited bowling / 9 Pin No-Tap, shoe rental, two slices of pizza and pop, door prizes, 50/50 and basket raffles and cash bar. **Contact**: For more information, call (313) 937-8420.

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.

Euchre Tournament

Time/Date: 6:30-11:30 p.m. Saturday, April 2

Location: American Legion Post 32, 9381 Newburgh, Livonia Details: Team Red, White and Blue

is holding a euchre tournament to benefit Relay for Life. Entrance fee

is \$20. There will be cash prizes, 50-cent euchres, free hors d' oeuvres, cash bar, \$1 Jell-0 shots and 50/50 raffle. Seating is limited and tickets are available in advance at the Legion Bar or contact a team member.

Bowling benefit

WESTLAND RELAY FOR LIFE

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.

Creative Memories

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday, April 21 Location: AMVETS Post 171, 1217

Merriman, south of Cherry Hill, Westland

Details: Bring your friends and family and have some fun scrapbooking - traditional, digital, shop and make memories. Team AMVETS 171 will receive 30 percent of sales which will go toward the team goal for Westland Relay for Life. The event will be held in the club room and a cash bar will be available. 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.

AROUND WESTLAND

Democratic Club

The Westland Democratic Club will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 29, at the Dorsey Center, 32715 Dorsey, east of Venoy and south of Palmer, in Westland.

There willl be a discussion about the state, county and local budget challenges, featuring State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, Wayne County Commissioner Joan Gebhardt, D-12th District, and Westland City Council President James Godbout.

The board will meet at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call club President Nan Melke at (734) 674 - 7327.

Nature Walk

Holliday Nature Preserve Association is inviting residents to take a walk and learn about the Preserve at noon Saturday, March 26, at the Ellsworth Entrance (off Hines Drive across from Nankin Mills) and perhaps you'll spot some early signs of spring along the Tonquish Creek.

Walks last 60-90 minutes and are held regardless of the weather, so dress for conditions. For more information, go online to

HollidayAssociation@hpna.

Waste collection

Just in time for your spring cleaning, Wayne County will host a Household Hazardous Waste Collection 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 26, at the Wayne County Community College District, Western Campus, at 9555 Haggerty

Road, Belleville. The collection is open to Wayne County residents only and is designed to collect unwanted household chemicals for proper disposal. Items that will be accepted include household paints, stains, floor-care items, furniture polish, bathroom cleaners, lawn and garden chemicals, antifreeze, fluorescent and compact fluorescent light bulbs, old computers and TVs. Pharmaceutical waste (non-controlled substances only) and medical sharps in puncture-proof containers also will be accepted. All waste must be from residential sources. For more information, call the Wayne County Resource Recovery Coordinator at (734)326-3936.

Singles skate

Looking for a great way to meet new friends and enjoy a fun atmosphere? Look no fur-

ther, come and enjoy a great night out at the Mike Modano Ice Arena, 6210 N. Wildwood. Singles Skate Night is every Tuesday 9 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Rates for residents are \$4 and non-residents are \$4.50. Skate rental is \$3. This event is for ages 18 and older. For more information, visit the city website at www.cityofwestland.

Car seat check

Westland police and firefighters are joining forces to offer a free car seat inspection program on Saturday, April 9. The inspections will be offer 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Westland Fire Station 1, 36435 Ford, just east of Westland City Hall. Several replacement seats from the Grosse Ile Police Department and Children's Hospital will be provided to

Lenten Fish Fries

families who are in need.

The Men's Auxiliary of the Romanowski VFW Post 6866 is holding fish fries on Fridays during Lent.

Hours are 4-7 p.m. Dinners cost \$7 each and include fish (baked or fried), potato (fries or baked) or macaroni and cheese, homemade coleslaw and bread and butter. There will be a cash bar with bever-

ages. Carry-outs also will be available.

The post is at 28945 Joy Road, east of Middlebelt, Westland.

• St. Saint Damian Parish in Westland is holding Lenten fish fry on Fridays now through April 15.

Church members will be serving fish dinners 5-7 p.m. Fridays, March 11, 18 and 25 and April 1, 8 and 15. There will be no fish fry Good Friday, April 22.

A one-pice fish dinner is \$4.50, two pieces for \$6 and three pieces for \$7. Baked fish or shrimp (five pieces) dinners cost \$7, with a pierogi (five pieces) dinner costing \$6. Dinners included fries, tartar sauce, coleslaw, roll and drink. Side orders include macaroni and cheese, \$2.50, and fries, \$2; desserts also are available.

St. Damian Parish is at 30055 Joy Road, east of Merriman.

Glow skate

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

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

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



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NOTICE OF LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION OF THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF WESTLAND

WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN FOR THE MAY 3, 2011 SCHOOL BOARD **ELECTIONS**

Please take Notice that the Wayne-Westland, Inkster and Garden City School Board Elections in the City of Westland will be held on Tuesday, May 3, 2011. The last day on which persons may register in order to be eligible to vote at these School Board Elections in the City of Westland to

be held on Tuesday, May 3, 2011, is Monday, April 4, 2011. Persons registering after 4:00 in the evening on Monday, April 4, 2011 are not eligible to vote at these Elections. You may register at the Westland City Clerk's office or at any Secretary of State Office.

Publish: March 24, 2011

EILEEN DeHART, CMC Westland City Clerk

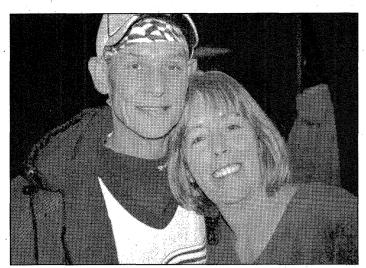
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David Wilkie and his wife Loretta smile for a photograph taken during his

Husband's death fuels her work with cancer patients

BY SUF MASON **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Loretta Wilkie remembers clearly the day she and her husband, David, stood on the beach along Lake Michigan and took a photograph of their feet in the sand. David told her they would always be together and take every step together.

The trip to Grand Haven was the first semblance of a vacation the couple had taken in years and was the last. David Wilkie died Feb. 19, six months after being diagnosed with stage 3 stomach cancer.

"I feel totally robbed right now," said Wilkie. "I'm angry and I'm devastated. I just lost my lifetime partner, my best friend. He was my childhood sweetheart."

Now the Garden City resident is refocusing her energy to get the word out about the cancer that claimed the life of her 49-year-old husband, a cancer that there is "not a lot of awareness of and one of the most difficult to go through,"

she said. David had trouble eating and had lost 30 pounds before the cancer was discovered. Initially misdiagnosed, a second check showed the tumor at the top of his stomach. A very aggressive form of cancer, it had already invaded his esophagus. David went through 28 rounds of radiation and 2 1//2 hours of chemotherapy every day to reduce the size of the tumor so he could eat.

In early February, doctors had thought they could do non-invasive surgery, but discovered the tumor was encased by five blood vessels that fed his organs. He was sent home, but was back in the hospital within a few days. The tumor had perforated his esophagus and stomach. He began to bleed internally and spent his remaining days in the intensive care unit.

'DARK SECRET'

Wilkie knew almost from the beginning that David would not win his battle with stomach cancer. She is a massage therapist with a practice in the office of Dr. Donald Shin on Middlebelt Road in Garden City. It was Shin who tipped her off that David's symptoms could be pancreatic or stomach cancer and explained the prog-

"He helped me from the beginning of the sickness to the end, I couldn't ask for a more compassionate person," she said.

Wilkie said she carried around the "dark secret" that David would die for those six months. She said nothing to him, to daughters Ashley and Nicole or their extended family.

"I'd cry all the way to work and cry all the way home, I'd sit in the driveway and put a smile on my face," she said. "It was what I had to do, my kids needed hope."

Adversity had been a part of the Wilkies' lives. They lost their home five years ago, when David lost his job. They rented a home from one of her clients, a cancer patient, and had moved some of their belongs there. When they went back a week later, they found someone had broken in and stolen their

"David said we're safe, everything else doesn't matter, we lost our house, we lost our belongings, but we're safe," she'

PAYING THE BILLS

That arrangement eventually fell through and yet another client stepped in to help, giving them the money to get their own home. But with David not working and running up against brick walls in trying to get help, she has fallen behind on bill payments.

He was receiving unemployment, but that money went to pay for his insurance. He had



With the death of her husband to stomach cancer, Loretta Wilkie is committed to continue her work with cancer patients through her Massages for Life business and to educate people about the disease.

her through it all. They were

with her and David every step

of the way. They picked her up

and helped her get going with

their kind words and meals.

She knows she must now

pick up the pieces of her life,

but it's hard. She and David

had been together since they

High School. Where she went,

"When you love somebody,

you don't love them with money

"You love them with your heart.

or material things," she said.

That's what David taught me,'

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

were in 10th-grade at West

he went and vice versa.

she said.

no life insurance, no pension, and because Wilkie signed papers for his treatment at the hospital, she must pay his medical bills as well as those she incurs because of a severe sugar problem that causes her to have seizures.

Friends organized a spaghetti dinner fundraiser on March 11 that turned into a fundraiser and memorial for David. Two hundred fifty people showed up, and Wilkie was amazed.

"The room was full and it just glowed," she said. "Everyone talked about his smile, about his giving from the heart."

Wilkie has been touched by cancer not only by her husband, but by many of her clients. While she admits she can't afford it, she doesn't charge cancer victims for her massages. She is there to help them in their battle, and working with them has helped her pick up the pieces of her life and given her a mission.

She wants people to know "how brutal" stomach cancer is. She wants people to know that they should take such maladies as acid reflux seriously and get help. She also wants to cancer patients to know that help is out there, that they need to know where to go and where to begin.

"I'd give my right arm for a cancer patient, but I couldn't help him," she said. "I have a lot of cancer victims as clients, I'm going to try to regroup and focus on them. I know I'll get there and David will help me."

She can't thank enough her family and friends that helped

Planners pave way for more charter schools

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The Canton Township Planning Commission approved a pair of special land-use permits Monday that pave the way for two new charter schools to be built in Canton.

The approvals set the stage for National Heritage Academies, which already operates Canton Charter Academy and Achieve Academy, to build another high school and a K-8 facility in Canton.

The high school — Canton Preparatory Academy - is expected to be a 56,000square-foot, 800-student building on Cherry Hill between Canton Center and Beck roads. It will sit within the boundaries of the Plymouth-Community Schools.

The as-yet-unnamed K-8 facility will be built on Palmer, east of Canton Center, within the Wayne-Westland school district boundaries.

NHA attorney Bryan Amann said the company wants to get the K-8 facility up and running in time for the September start of school; they're trying to decide whether to get the high school ready by then or wait, Amann said.

Although site plan approval for schools is now the purview of the state due to a recent decision by the Michigan Supreme Court, Canton Township planner Jeff Goulet said the township still maintain controls over the land-use when the intended use isn't what the area is zoned for. Canton is one of only a few communities to maintain the special land-use provision.

"We need to make sure public facilities, water/sewer, road infrastructure, etc., is suitable to meet their needs," Goulet said. "It's a non-residential use, and especially in the case

of private schools, there's a lot of traffic involved. We have a lot of zoning approval for schools that other communities don't use. It gives us some influence over the way land is being developed."

Amann said Canton's special land-use regulations gives the township "a foothold" on the development of schools that other communities don't have. He said that's good for the township.

"Canton is unique in the state, and it's a great benefit to the community," said Amann, who is from Canton. "We don't have schools as a permitted use (in residential areas), but we allow them because that's where we think they belong. Canton wins, to be honest, because it requires a client to come in and have a conversation with them.

Concerns over traffic are among the key issues, Goulet said. The charter schools don't provide busing, so there are a lot of students being dropped off and picked up. Goulet said NHA will be responsible, working in conjunction with Wayne County, to make sure roads are widened and turning lanes are deep enough to keep traffic from backing up.

Amann said NHA hopes to break ground on the elementary school in early May and hopes to have the building ready to go for the start of school in September.

"We'll now be working on two tracks, working the state site plan process and working in conjunction with Canton to wrap up the land-use entitlement," Amann said. "Now we know the big blocks are in place, and we have the entitlement in place, we can start detailed engineering and the site-plan process with the state. We're hopeful by early May you'll see some activity

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Thursday, Warch 24, 2011

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HAVE A STORY IDEA?

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

Owner finds guitar, guns, coins taken from home

Break-in

An electric guitar, amplifier, a 12-gauge shotgun, two rifles and a safe containing gold coins and identification were reported stolen from a home in the 7500 block of Harrison March 17.

The owner told police that he had been away since March 14 and returned home to find a door had been pried open. A bedroom window was also found open with the screen laying on the ground. The living room and bedroom were reported to have been ransacked.

The stolen items were valued

WESTLAND

at \$1,800 with \$750 in damage to the door.

Breaking into a vehicle

were called to Greenwood Villa Apartments, 7600 Nankin Blvd., about a man kicking and trying to open the driver's door of a Ford Fusion. The officer said the man, who appeared extremely intoxicated, told him

he was looking for his friend

who supposedly lives in the

The man told the officer he didn't know who owned the car which had the front driver's door handle completely broken off. A witness told police she was awoken by screaming coming from the parking lot. She At 4:30 a.m. March 18, police said she looked out to see the man and yelled at him but he never responded and kept trying to get into the car.

The man, a 29-year old Westland resident, was arrest-

Attempted larceny

At 6 a.m. March 17, a resident of the Hampton Court

Court, told police that someone had stolen the driver's side front wheel and tire from her 2000 Chevrolet Blazer.

About an hour later, a second resident at the complex called police to report that as he drove away from his apartment the driver's side rear tire came off. The lug nuts had been removed in an apparent attempt to steal the tire from the 1997 Chevrolet Blazer.

Break-in

On March 17, a Shelby Township man told police he

Apartments, 5693 W. Hampton was working at an apartment complex on Venov when he saw a man push a water heater out a window of a home in the 32000 block of Mackinac Court. As he watched, the man said a white Ford Ranger pickup truck, driven by a second man, pulled up and the pair loaded the water heater into the truck, then drove away.

Larceny from vehicle

A resident in the 33000 block of Fairchild told police March 17 that overnight someone had stolen items, including a Nintendo DS, a Sony

PlayStation and 1,000 games valued at \$4,600 from two unlocked vehicles.

Break-in

On March 15, a resident in the 31000 block of Allegan Court told police that he had been out of town for a couple of days and returned to find someone had forced open a window.

Reported missing were a blue ray/DVD player and a pellet rifle valued at \$210 along with a jar containing \$30 in coins.

-By LeAnne Rogers

Father says pinning daughter between cars was accident

Assault

Garden City police responded to a call about a woman injured after she was pinned between a Pontiac Grand Prix and a Mercury Tracer about 11 p.m. March 17 in the driveway of a home in the 6900 block of Burnley.

They learned that her father, who was drunk, had allegedly lost control and pinned the 20year-old between the vehicles.

A witness said that she heard a painful scream and heard the engine accelerate.

The victim said that she had gone out to talk to her father, who later backed his car backwards to the garage door and then moved the car forward.

Although the police have termed the incident a felony assault, the man said that he never intended to harm his daughter. He explained that his car was in neutral and when he took his foot off the brake, the

GARDEN CITY

car rolled.

apartments.

The daughter's boyfriend heard the commotion and came out to assist by jumping on the hood of the Grand Prix and trying to break the windshield in an attempt to gain the father's attention and get him to stop.

The woman was transported to Garden City Hospital where she was treated for abrasions on

The man registered a .22 blood alcohol level.

Break-in

Someone kicked in the side door of a home in the 6000 block of Belton sometime before 7:30 p.m. March 15.

The thief entered the basement and cut out copper plumbing valued at \$1,000. He also stole a dehumidifier.

The damage was discovered

by a Southfield-based RCH house inspector.

Urinating in public

Neighbors came to the defense of a 22-year old Garden City woman who endured obscenities after she questioned a man about why he was urinating on the exterior of her apartment wall in the 6400 block of Middlebelt about 8:30 p.m. March 17.

The man became belligerent about her questions and threw a "Rental" sign up against her

When the police arrived, the suspect questioned what was wrong about him urinating in

public. He said that he had consumed a large amount of alcohol that evening at nearby Sports Venue.

• The police responded to another incident of a man urinating in public outside of Albert's on the Alley, located

on Middlebelt, about 11 p.m.

The police described the drunken man as belligerent. The 28-year-old New Boston man registered a .22 blood alcohol level which was over the legal limit.

Property damage

A 37-year-old Keego Harbor man reported that someone cut the power supply and stole the central air conditioner unit, valued at \$2,000, sometime before 1 p.m. March 17 in the 28000 block of Florence.

He told the police that contractors have been in and out of the home recently.

The home was purchased for investment, according to the report.

Obstructing police

Responding to a call about a disturbance at an apartment in the 7000 block of Venoy, the police found that the man they were looking for had outstanding warrants.

His girlfriend said that she and the man had a verbal argument about 11 a.m. March 18. His girlfriend let the police into the apartment to look for the man who they found hiding under the kitchen sink.

Stolen car

A 67-year-old Dearborn Heights man reported that someone stole his 2002 Ford 250 sometime between 10:30 p.m. March 17 and 1:30 a.m.

March 18 from a Garden City Hospital parking lot on Inkster, north of Ford.

The truck owner explained that he took a relative to the hospital for treatment and when he left the hospital, he couldn't find the truck in the lot. He said that the vehicle is paid for and he has all of the keys.

Narcotics possession

Following a traffic accident on Ford at Henry Ruff about 6 p.m. March 20, the police found that the driver, a 38year-old Detroit woman, had a suspended license and had four different kinds of prescription medications in her 1995 Ford T-Bird which she couldn't prove were hers.

Attempted break-in

Someone unsuccessfully tried to break-in and gain entry at Performance Warehouse, 31963 Block, about 4 a.m. March 20. The suspect damaged a door valued at \$275 but didn't gain entry.

Disorderly conduct

When the police responded to a call that a man was harassing customers coming in and out of the front doors at Kroger about 8 p.m. March 19, they found that the 52-year-old Novi man had outstanding warrants.

The man, who was still wearing a hospital bracelet on his wrist, was sitting near the front door with two bags of clothing bearing Garden City

Hospital stickers.

A teacher at Burger School, 30922 Beechwood, said that she isn't likely to press charges against the person who took her \$8,000 ring, but she would like to have her ring back.

The police have questioned about five people who came into the teacher's room at that time and no one said that they took the ring.

The teacher was in her room at a time when there were no students or classes. She said that she set her ring down on a table because she planned to paint a wall and she didn't want to get paint on that ring.

She said that her back was to the table when she was painting. The ring had three bands of white gold soldered together with diamonds.

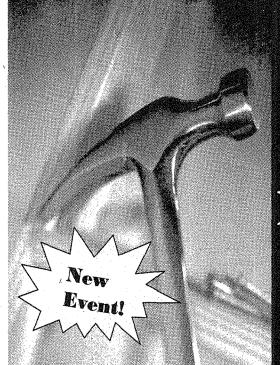
Disorderly conduct

The police arrested a 50year-old Westland woman at 11:45 am. March 19 after they found her drunk and on the ground near the CVS store at 27435 Ford.

The woman, who was still wearing a hospital bracelet, registered a blood alcohol level of .193 after she had consumed a bottle of wine that she didn't pay for. It's believed that she drank it in the store bathroom.

The woman was transported to Garden City Hospital for treatment.

-By Sue Buck



Livonia Home **Improvement** Show

Come and get great ideas for improving your home!

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.

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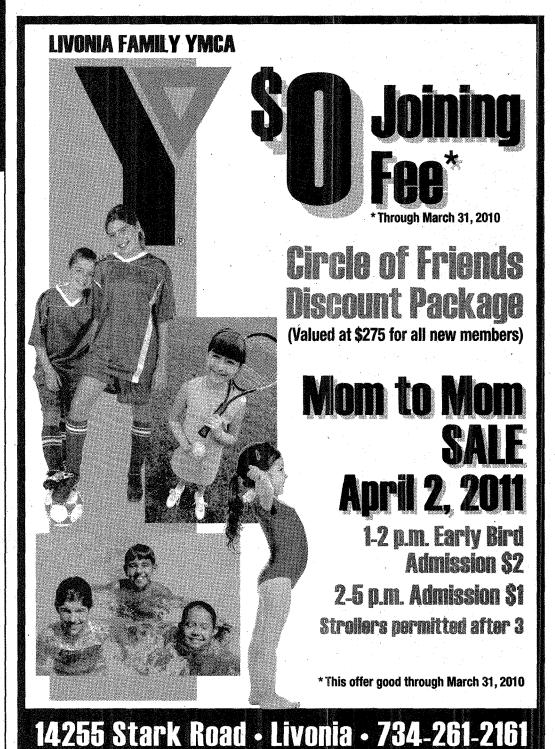
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PHOTOS BY THOMAS BEAUDOIN

Children's Library Associate Jennifer Murch talks to first-graders about the library during their tour.

First-timers: Program lets students explore library

BY SUE MASON OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

or a group of students from Rosedale Elementary School in Livonia, Monday was a day of firsts.

It started with them being firstgraders and went on to include their first field trip which was their first visit to the library, the William P. Faust Public Library.

"They're very excited," said teacher Sherry Lynn Nadon. "We've done this for five years, it's a fabulous program and reinforces what we're teaching them in the class."

For 11 years, the Westland library has been inviting teachers to bring their students to the library during March. The youngsters enjoy a story time and learn about the library rules from children's library associate, and storyteller Cari Fry and tour of the children's department before they split up into groups to find books to read and play at the puppet stage or in the children's play kitchen.

'VERY SUCCESSFUL'

"It's been very successful, we love having them come in," said children's librarian Claire Mueller. "It's fun to watch when they come in with their parents and they say, 'Hi, remember me." That's what we want to see happen"

The first-graders already know the difference between fiction and nonfiction, concepts reinforced by Fry.

"Fiction is a made-up story from the author's mind, nonfiction books have numbers and most are true," she said, showing them different books available that the library.

that the library.

She used her puppet, Leo the Mouse, to teach the youngsters who to take care of books and even taught them a jingle that explained the process of writing and publishing a book, set to the music of Farmer in the Dell. In her version the chorus started with "Hi, ho the library."

the library-O."

"You know about walking feet, whispering voices and hands to self, are you sure you're first-graders?" she asked as they left the meeting room and headed to the children's section.

"This is a great opportunity for them to explore," said Nadon, whose class was there with that of fellow first-grade teacher Lynn Merchant. "Each class has its own classroom library, so this is a natural transition for them. I see some kids wandering around, but what is great is that they can explore."

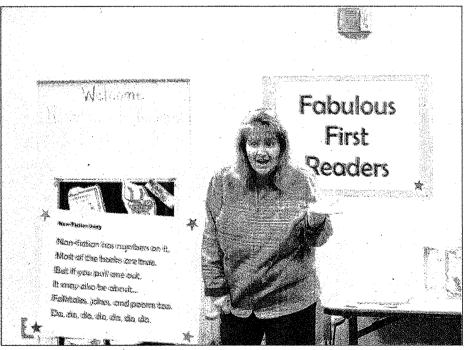
A popular spot for the young readers were what Mueller described as the fish bowls, round reading areas with a glass wall on one side that divides the children's section from the rest of the library.

'SOUNDED GOOD'

Six-year-old Alex Kleiner of Westland had found a book called Skunkdog to ready while lounging in the fish bowl.



Rosedale Elementary first-graders Shawn McDonald of Livonia and Alex Kleiner of Westland read their books in the "fish bowl" at the William P. Faust Library in Westland.



Children's library associate Cari Fry discusses how to tell if a book is non-fiction with the first-graders.

"It's about a dog who got sprayed by a skunk," he said. "It just sounded good and I'm able to read it."

Next to him was Shawn McDonald of Livonia who found relaxing in the fish bowl the best part of the library visit. "You get to learn about lots of stuff, but this part is the best," he said.

The Livonia public libraries do a similar program, but Nadon and Merchant opted for the Faust Library because it's closer to the school. That

and many of the students live in Westland. The group number 58 firstgraders and paled in comparison to the 115 students from Wayne-Westland's Wildwood Elementary that had visited the library a week earlier.

"They did a wonderful job," said Mueller, adding that the number of schools visiting the library is down this year because of the closing of six Wayne-Westland elementaries. "There's still a lot of students who



Rosedale Elementary first-grader Jack Reddy of Westland listen to children's library associate Cari Fry.



Hannah Tenkoraag (left) and Mackenzie Page, both of Livonia, listen as Children's Library Associate Cari Fry reads a book.

come. We had the group of 115, another 100 and we have 99 coming next

"It's such a great opportunity and it's free and they get to go home with a free bookmark," added Nadon.

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Clancy, we miss you

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 24, 2011

t's been three weeks since Clancy Callahan, our Irish wolfhound, died. My sister Gwen and I are devastated. He left extra-large paw prints

across our hearts. Clancy gave endless love. In dark times when I was laid off from my job, Clancy was there to bring light, hope and happiness. He



was an amazing pup and we had been through so much together.

Clancy was born Sept. 19, 2005, with a severe overbite that required extensive dental work during his first year of life. Clancy wasn't fond of seeing the doggie dentist in Dixboro, but tolerated him. Clancy never cared much for obedience school, either, but was a trooper. At four months of age, we started working with the first of three trainers. After successfully completing our six weeks of basic training in Belleville, Gwen and I realized we wanted to continue classes. It was a bonding experience with our big blond boy and we didn't want to give that up.

Next it was on to the K9 Academy in Wayne, where he trotted perfectly in the ring. The problem arose out in the real world. Clancy would see our neighbors, Chris and Rita, and take off without looking back. He was more than 115 pounds at this point and we were no

match at the other end of the leash. When he wanted to run somewhere, he went.

We did pass our AKC Canine Good Citizenship exam at the academy and even learned to watch our manners around wheelchairs and IV poles so we could eventually become a therapy dog. Something had to be done, though, about behaving in the real world.

TRAINING SUCCESS

That's when Bonny Wainz of Alternative Canine Training entered our lives. She was used to dealing with behavior problems. Bonny came to our home in Canton and worked with the three of us. Chris and Rita served as decoys as we walked past their house and through the neighborhood. Clancy was a perfect gentleman as he strolled by, his head high in the air trying to sneak a peak at them - but he didn't bolt.

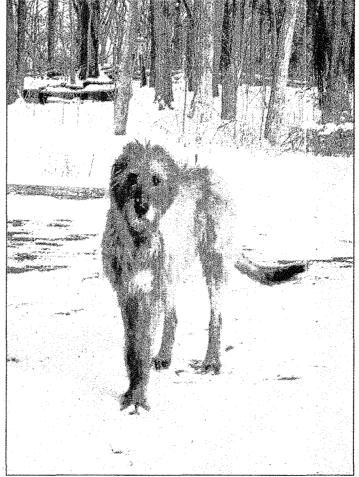
Finally, all of the training paid off. We were able to play with Clancy in our unfenced 1 1/2 acres without him racing next door to visit Chris and Rita. Bonny also worked with us to stop Clancy from "counter surfing." He was just the right height to snatch broccoli and whatever else was on the top of the cupboard as we prepared dinner. Clancy could get snippy if you tried to take food away from him and Bonny helped with this, too.

The three of us eventually were all trained when tragedy struck. Clancy was diagnosed with bone cancer June 14, 2010. Over the weekend he hit his leg on the glider and started limping, so Monday morning we went to see Dr. Kevin Roose, a veterinarian, in downtown Plymouth. It was from him we learned our Clancy would probably never turn 5.

Cancer is still a killer of dogs. Although there have been advances in veterinary medicine since Chopin — our first Irish wolfhound - died of osteosarcoma in 1989, certain types of cancer remain swift and deadly. Amputation and chemotherapy are the traditional options with no guarantee and a high-percentage of likelihood that after surgery Clancy would live only a few months. Some 99 percent of the time, the cancer reoccurs in another part of the body.

ALTERNATIVE THERAPY

Dr. Roose suggested we call Dr. Heidi Mier in Dixboro. She had extended the life of another dog with cancer and on our way out we spoke with Brook, her owner. She gave us hope that maybe he could live another year. Clancy had seen Dr. Mier when she was in practice with Dr. Roose. Dr. Mier had returned to school to study Eastern medicine and used Chinese herbs and acupuncture to treat dogs and cats not helped by conventional treatment. We chose a combination of alternative and traditional so Clancy could live out his days happily running, playing and eating like a little horse. And he did. We had so much fun. That's



Irish wolfhound Clancy Callahan left extra-large paw prints across his owners' hearts.

one of the reasons it is so difficult now. Every day is a struggle since Clancy died in his sleep Feb. 23. Only six days earlier, Clancy wasn't limping or showing any sign of pain. We were told the cancer wasn't growing as fast it had been. We took him home that night, but were back the next day and our happy lives

We'll never know exactly why Clancy died. It really doesn't matter. He's not suffering. We don't know how much pain he

was in because he never let on. All we know for sure is that we tried to give Clancy the best life possible. He taught us a lesson everyone should learn - to live every day to the fullest and to love each other.

Linda Ann Chomin is a free-lance writer and frequent contributor to the Observer Newspapers. A former staff member, she has written many columns about Clancy since he became a member of the family in December 2005. She lives in Canton Township.

AROUND WESTLAND

Dinner-theater

Inspire Theatre will be serving up a heaping helping of Elvis when it presents Graceland, dinner-theatre musical tribute to the King of Rock 'N' Roll, Saturday, April 2.

Doors open at 6 p.m. for the one-night-only event. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. and includes "C.C. Rider" chicken or "Tupelo" tilapia, "Roustabout" rice, "Viva Las Vegas" vegetables, "Suspicious Minds" salad, an "American Trilogy" of beverages and "Graceland" cake.

Tickets are \$25 for the dinner and show, which will presented at the theater inside Warren Road Light and Life Church, 33445 Warren Road, east of Wayne Road, Westland.

Tickets are available by calling (734) 751-7057 or online at www.inspirationtheatre.com.

Metro Fibro Group

The Metro Fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Support Group is hosting a seminar/workshop 1-5 p.m. Thursday, April 14, at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman Road, south of Ford Road, Garden City.

Dr. Howard Schubiner from Providence Hospital, and author of Unlearn Your Pain, and Dr. James Dowd, rheumatologist, and author of The Viramin D Cure, will be the speakers. The seminar/workshop costs \$40 per person.

The group has no dues but donations are accepted and appreciated. For more information, visit the website at www. ${\bf MetroFibroGroup.com\ or\ call}$ Ruthann at (734) 981-2519.



Jaclyn Kochis, MPVA director of development and public relations (from left), Jim Fausone, foundation board member, Mike Harris, executive director of the MPVA and Joan Noricks, foundation president take part in the signing of an MPVA endowment with the Canton Community Foundation.

Paralyzed vets open fund with foundation

The Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America has established an endowment fund with the Canton Community Foundation to create a planned giving program for the organization with some 550 members.

Michael Harris, MPVA executive director, said his board of directors chose the Canton Community Foundation for its expertise in nonprofit planned giving.

"This is one of the areas in which we are lacking," said Harris, a Westland resident: "People want to donate to us and we need to get our name out there."

Creation of the endowment is a positive move for both organizations. It broadens both organizations' exposure with donors and the public. The potential for collaboration between the foundation and the MPVA is expected to strengthen both organizations through projects both can complete for southeast Michigan.

"It assures donors who support the MPVA that their funds are being managed and reported on properly by the foundation," said CCF board member Jim Fausone, an attorney and partner with Fausone Bohn, LLP, and Legal Help for Veterans, PLLC.

ANNUAL INTEREST

Through the Canton foundation, the MPVA will receive an annual distribution from the interest on the endowment to use for its purposes. The MPVA is strengthened by investing its money and receives a greater return than if they invested on their own, said Joan Noricks,

foundation president. MPVA donors also receive a state tax credit because the organization's endowment is placed with a certified community foundation, Noricks said.

"This is an example of why we exist," Noricks said. "We have been moving forward with this educational program letting nonprofits know the

type of services we can provide them. This is proof that it

The new partnership followed the foundation's successful Veterans Educational Summit - "Navigating the Waters of VA Benefits" in September. A well-known veterans' advocate, Harris spoke at the event about available social services for veterans.

Working together again on a veterans' summit in 2011 is a potential project for the foundation and the MPVA, Noricks

SERVING VETERANS

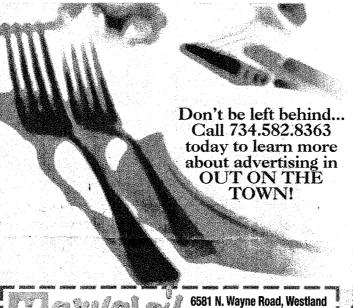
A former Marine, Harris leads the Novi-based MPVA that serves disabled veterans. His organization assisted veterans receive some \$10 million in benefits in 2010. "We are a small organization in numbers, but we have a loud voice," Harris said.

In addition to working with veterans to obtain benefits, the MPVA is a advocate for veterans and even non-veterans who are disabled or paralyzed to provide the highest quality of life. That includes working with companies and organizations to ensure that access and other civil rights are provided for people with spinal cord injuries

and other disabilities. Harris has worked with the developers of Comerica Park, the River Walk Conservancy and the University of Michigan to provide access. The U-M stadium now provides 329 seats for people in wheelchairs.

"It's about finding the right people who have an understanding of what it means to be in a wheelchair," Harris said.

Approximately 1,200 spinal cord injuries are reported annually in the United States, with approximately 200-300 reported in Michigan. Membership in the MPVA is open to all veterans with disabilities. Veterans' disabilities need not be service related, Harris said.



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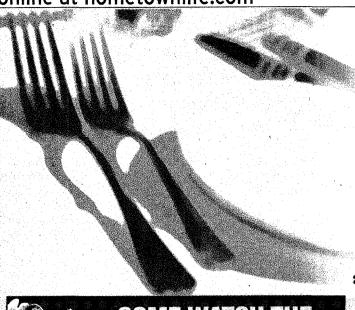


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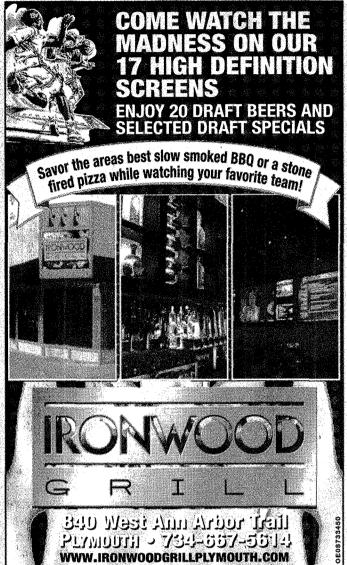


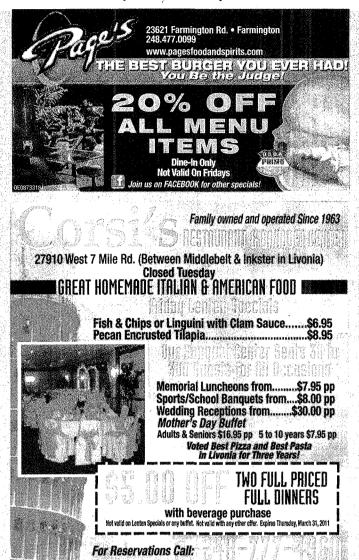






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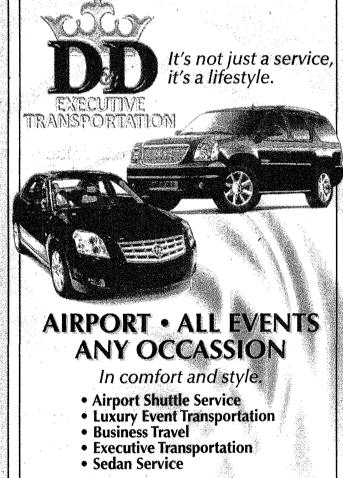
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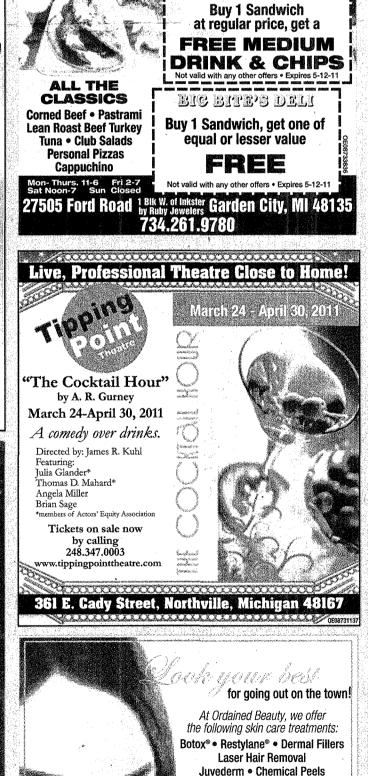


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Thursday, March 24, 2011

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

Comment online at hometownlife.com



The St. Mary Mercy Red Cross team - Trudy Smith, American Red Cross; David Spivey, President and CEO, St. Mary Mercy; Janet Searight, senior HR consultant, OTE/HR and Red Cross team lead; Jim Aldrich, performance improvement specialist; Jeannie Cox, administrative assistant, Marketing/PR; Cyndi Niva, HRIS coordinator, OTE/HR; Sally Santoni, operations manager, Radiology, and Diane Ward, CEO, American Red Cross Southeastern Michigan Blood Services Region - have been honored for blood collections in 2010. Not pictured is Marianne Simancek,

St. Mary Mercy honored for blood drives efforts

St. Mary Mercy Hospital has been recognized by the American Red Cross for its blood drive efforts.

The hospital was honored March 14 as the top Trinity Health facility with the highest number of units collected, 423 pints from its five blood drives in 2010.

'We had the biggest increase in donations out of any of the health systems in Michigan, said David Spivey, president and CEO, St. Mary Mercy. "It's important for us to take a leadership role in this initiative."

"It was wonderful not only what you were able to accomplish as a team in 2010, but the rippling effect you had on other health systems," added Carol Furlong, donor recruitment director, American Red Cross Southeastern Michigan Blood Services Region.

The 2011 blood drive goal for St. Mary Mercy is to increase donations by 20 percent, and it kicked that off with a blood rive on March 17. St. Mary Mercy will be hosting blood drives 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, June 2, Aug. 11, Oct. 27 and Dec. 27, in

The American Red Cross encourages area residents to join St. Mary Mercy Hospital employees and volunteers in donating blood on one of those dates. A blood donation takes approximately one hour to

To make an appointment, call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or visit redcrossblood.org, click on "Enter a Sponsor Code" and enter "stmarymercy."

An appointment sign-up sheet is also available in the St. Mary Mercy cafeteria.

MILESTONES

Tsunami fundraiser Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, March 26

Location: Liberty Tax, 2625 S. Wayne Road, Westland **Details:** Westland Liberty Tax and the American Red Cross have joined forces for a fund-

raiser to benefit people affected by the earthquake and tsunami in Japan. Liberty Tax will have a moon walk, coloring contest for kids, food and beverages and financial donations will be accepted for the earthquake/tsunami relief. A portion of tax returns prepared will also be donated. Liberty Tax annually has fund-raisers and in the past has help generate donations for Haitian earthquake relief.

Contact: For more information, call (734) 721-660.

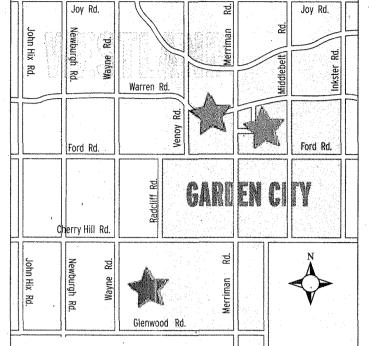
'Going Green' Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, April

Location: Amantea Restaurant, at 32777 Warren Road, Garden City Details: The Garden City Chamber of Commerce will host Anita Twardesky

of Riverside Kayak Connection in Wyandotte at the last of its three-part mini Building for the Future seminars. Twardesky will speak on "Going Green." She is the public

relations and marketing director at Kavak. She's active on the Greening Downriver Committee and serves on many other greening initiatives as well. The cost to attend is \$10. Contact: Call the chamber office at (734) 422-4448 to reserve a seat.

Get ready for Easter Location: Simply Polish, 6201 Middlebelt, Garden City **Details:** Start preparing for Easter. and get your Easter basket linens,



pisanki and Easter lambs at Simply Polish. And don't forget to print your

30 percent off coupon, good until March 30, available on the Simply Polish Facebook page and website at www.simplypolishusa.com.

Contact: For more information, call (734) 525-2880.

Debt-Free Living Time/Date/Location: 6:30-8 p.m. Monday, April 4, and 10:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 9, at DFCU Livonia, 37373 Seven Mile, and 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, April 5, at DFCU Dearborn, Fairlane Branch, 400 Town Center Dr., Dearborn.

Details: Among the many lessons learned from the recent financial crisis is how important it is for people to become educated in order to make sound decisions in today's complex financial world. The Debt-Free Living seminar was designed

to help you plan long-term financial goals and develop a budget, which is the foundation for any sound financial plan. As part of our seminar, we discuss how to develop a realistic budget that incorporates an often ignored, yet necessary, component. Topics covered included how to use a budget to reach your desired goals, how to position yourself to live on less income, methods to determine the amount of credit you can afford, ways to restructure existing debt to your advantage, how to incorporate a systematic approach to retirement savings and how to stop creating new debt. All seminars are conducted by our Accredited Financial Counselor Charles Hoff, Reservations are required for the seminars. Contact: Reservations can be made

by calling (313) 322-8480, or by email to charles.hoff@dfcufinancial. com.

USAA's Easy Deposit available at area UPS Store

USAA Federal Savings Bank is introducing USAA Easy Deposit at The UPS Store® location in Westland, making it the first bank to allow customers to deposit domestic checks through a non-bank retail cen-

The service was initially offered in San Antonio and San Diego last fall and has seen more than 13,000 checks, totaling more than \$13 million, deposited from USAA members.

By this spring, more than 1,900 pre-identified The UPS Store locations, including the store at 36500 Ford Road, west of Wayne Road, Westland, will offer the service nationwide. USAA members can find the locations offering the service by visiting usaa.com or accessing an application on their Android™ or iPhone™ mobile

"Our members are highly mobile; that's why we strive to stay at the forefront of making banking services accessible and convenient from anywhere," said David Bohne, president of USAA Federal Savings Bank.

"With this new agreement, members can visit any of the preselected The UPS Store locations to deposit a check in seconds. USAA Easy Deposit is just one of the many ways we make it easy for our members to bank with us."

USAA members with a USAA checking or savings account provide their USAA ATM or debit cards to The UPS Store associate, who swipes the card, selects the type of account and scans the check. USAA systems receive the forwarded check information and process the deposit. The UPS Store associate receives confirmation and returns the voided check to the USAA member. The deposit is immediate and can be verified through account alerts, visiting usaa.com, usaa.mobile or by calling USAA.

Members do not need their account number, PIN or a deposit slip. To help make the check deposit secure, personal information is not required or shared with non-USAA personnel. The entire process takes less than a minute.

"Our franchisees look for-

ward to being part of a solution that helps USAA customers do their banking," said Stuart Mathis, president of Mail Boxes Etc. Inc., franchisor of The UPS Store brand. "USAA Easy Deposit is a great example of how business organizations can make their customers' lives easier by maximizing technology and tapping into our nationwide network of convenient The **UPS Store locations."**

This new technology is just the latest innovative solution to make life simpler for USAA members. In 2006, USAA launched its Deposit@Home® service, which enabled qualified bank members to deposit checks by scanning them and submitting them to usaa.com from a home computer. USAA expanded this capability by launching USAA Deposit@ Mobile® in August 2009 and has seen more than 4.4 million checks deposited by qualified USAA members from mobile devices, totaling more than \$2.5 billion.

For more information about USAA, or to learn more about membership, visit usaa.com.

COMIC OPERA GUILD presents the Michigan Premiere NGLISH OFFENBACH'S OF GEROLSTEIN Sat., April 2, 8 pm & Sun., April 3, 2 pm, Village Theater 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton, MI 48187 Credit card orders: 734-394-5460 On Line: www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater or at Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Pkwy, Canton and at the door FINAL PERFORMANCES! Last weekend to see one of the world's most popular operettas, presented for the first time in Michigan. A lovelorn monarch promotes a handsome but inept soldier to commander-in-chief, with disastrous conequences. All set to the glorious music of the Father of Operetta!

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Taking risks requires confidence I've been thinking a lot this

week about how important it is to be willing to try and risk

failure, if we ultimately want to succeed at anything great. Years ago someone pointed out a baseball analogy that stuck with me ever since.

Clarity Patton Newhouse.

The greatest hitters fail more often than they succeed.

Babe Ruth had a batting average of .342, so he only got a hit about a third of the times he went up to bat. Imagine if he'd been afraid to swing because he might miss; we wouldn't be talking about him right now because he'd never have hit his

SUNNY NOTE

714 home runs.

I was reminded of this recently when I came across an article in Smart Business Magazine by Michael Feuer, the guy who co-founded OfficeMax in 1988 and then sold it for \$1.5 billion in 2003. Feuer's article points out that, "It's hard to get on base and ultimately score, if an executive is unwilling to take appropriate and measured

If we limit ourselves to attempting only things at which we know we cannot fail, then our achievements will be limited – at best. Because, as Feuer puts it, "If you bat 1.000 in business, you'll eventually

Taking appropriate and measured risks requires confi-

"The confidence portion of the equation is not being afraid to be wrong, to admit it and to try again another day," says

- and have a sunny day! **Clarity Patton Newhouse**

P.S. "Never let the fear of striking out get in your way." **Babe Ruth**

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

Retired general paves path for military women

BY JOANNE MALISZEWSKI CORRESPONDENT

Veterans' tales told by her father and grandfather helped set the stage for a 34-year military career capped as Michigan's first woman brigadier general.

Retired earlier this year, Carol Ann Fausone of Canton remains humble and introspective about the 2002 promotion that elevated her to a rank shared by only a handful of

But don't expect a hardened soldier. Fausone paved a successful path for women - and men as well - in the military and in her nursing career with a legacy of integrity, leadership and, above all, kindness and

"Carol Ann's nature is to care for individuals and their well-being, whether as a nurse or as a commanding officer," said her husband James Fausone, the Westland city attorney who works with veterans at his Northville-based Fausone Bohn, LLC. "I believe it is that fundamental trait that led her to rise to the rank of general and to be an officer who the troops were willing to follow. She always understood leadership is not about rank or position, but how you treat



Retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Carol Fausone was Michigan's first female general.

Despite a rich resume of accomplishments, Fausone's sense of her place in the world is humbling and inspiring. "It was such a great honor. When I see the flag flying, I am so proud to have served my country," said Carol Fausone.

Fausone's success has its roots in motivation and dedication. Beginning with her father and grandfather's stories, the Ohio native knew the military was for her. Tradition, service and commitment to her family, her country and her profession have long been her guideposts.

Two years after Fausone graduated from the University of Michigan with a degree in nursing, she received her commission in the U.S. Air Force as the Air National Guard and a medical officer.

DESIRE TO SERVE

"I just had this yearning. I wanted to serve my country and being a nurse was great," Carol Fausone said.

She had considered the U.S. Navy, but decided the Air Force would give her a greater chance to serve on missions. And it did. Her career has taken her halfway around the world and back. Among her stops were Korea, Honduras, Italy, Germany and the Balkan

Her first active-duty assignment as a second-lieutenant was at Fairchild Air Force Base Hospital in Spokane, Wash. As a commissioned officer, she climbed the ranks beginning as a clinic nurse, nursing service. coordinator and finally as a nursing education director.

When her active duty service was complete in 1981, Fausone and her husband returned to Michigan where she joined the Michigan Air National Guard assigned to Selfridge Air National Guard Base.

In 1995, Fausone was selected as the Medical Commander in the 110th Medical Squadron Air National Guard in Battle Creek. Her career includes work at Langley Air Force Base in Virginia as liaison between

the Air Combat Command for which she provided guidance for medical training, policies and programs. By 2001, she was the assistant to the **Deputy Assistant Secretary** of Defense for Health Affairs, Force Health Protection and Readiness.

CIVILIAN LIFE

In her civilian life, Fausone's educational career also grew with two master of sciences degrees, one in nursing, another in administration, both from Madonna University in Livonia. Her military education followed suit and she completed Air War College, Air Command and Staff College and Squadron Officers School.

When appointed brigadier general in 2002, Fausone was the director of nursing for St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia. By 2003, she became the Assistant Adjutant General for Veterans Affairs in the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs in Michigan following her passion representing veterans, and soldiers in all branches of the service, including the Coast Guard.

Policy matters and procedures were a part of her job. But her work was always about the people.

As the stars of a general

were pinned on her shoulders in 2002, Fausone credited her family, colleagues and friends for her success. Anyone who speaks with Fausone even for a short time, must suspect she recalls the names and stories of each person she has ever encountered.

"I followed the values of my mom and dad. You have to be kind to people. You have to work hard. And you have to treat people in the way you want to be treated," she said.

Fausone has maintained consistency in the values that drive her. Accountability and integrity are among her life standards, as is "service above self." Her role in the military was always clear: "It was to take care of our American heroes, those on active duty, in the Guard and our veterans."

PEOPLE SHE HELPED

Only one list is longer than her resume. It's the names of the people she helped, mentored or cared for throughout her career. When the news of her recent retirement as brigadier general spread, letters and phone calls poured in.

U.S. Air Force Capt. Michelle Ruehl, who is stationed at the Air Force Academy in Colorado, offered her thanks. 'Just as you taught me, I try to inspire young men and women

to be relentless in pursuit of their dreams. A young cadet in my classroom may become the future Air Force Chief of Staff - not because I encouraged her, but because you first encouraged me.'

Ruehl also captured Fausone's humility. When she moved out of her academy dorm room, a horrified, Ruehl watched as the brigadier general in full dress uniform grabbed the cadet's suitcase and headed for the elevator. Fausone's response: "There's work to be done. I'm perfectly capable of carrying this suitcase.

Retirement won't stop Fausone. She continues to serve on the University of Michigan School of Nursing Advisory Board, the Madonna Foundation Board and Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America Advisory Board. "I stay organized. You have to have a management tool box. If I am going to do something, I am going to do it to the best of my ability."

And her mission remains the same. Fausone will continue to help men and women who want a career in the military, and family and friends will always remain a priority. "I wouldn't be here today if it wasn't for my family. Our families are so important to us."

Annual Walk for Warmth raises \$45,000

More than 300 supporters participated in Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency's 15th Annual Walk for Warmth, held last month at Westland Shopping Center in Westland.

The event raised more than \$45,000 for the agency's **Emergency Utility Assistance** Programs with donations still continuing to come in.

Walkers enjoyed entertainment provided by RC DJ and Video and several performances by dancers from The Dance Academy at Westland Shopping Center.

Awards were given to both adult and youth teams with the highest team total, biggest team of walkers, best team name and those demonstrating the most team spirit.

Jeremy Biddle of Livonia won the grand prize of a golf or ski package for two at Boyne Highland Resort in Harbor Springs, for collecting \$1,500 in pledges to support the Walk.

"Even in these tough economic times, we had a great community turnout and it was the biggest Walk we've ever had" said Louis Piszker, Wayne Metro CEO. "Our agency has been receiving up to 2,000 calls a week for assistance. **Utility Assistance Programs** are desperately needed and often overlooked. Wayne Metro is proud to assist more than 1,000 families facing heatrelated emergencies each year."

Wayne Metro's Utility Assistance Programs support families in the 42 communities comprising out-Wayne County. www.waynemetro.org.

The walk is Wayne Metro's only fundraising event and all proceeds go directly to families in need of assistance.

Wayne County Executive, Robert Ficano and Westland Mayor William Wild kicked off the event as co-chairs of the walk. Several elected officials were also in attendance to show their support: Wayne **County Commissioner Joan** Gebhardt, D-12th Distric, State Rep Dian Slavens, D-Canton, and State Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth.

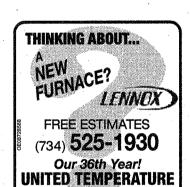
Wayne Metro walk was backed by presenting sponsor Daly Merritt, Inc.

For more information about the Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency, call (734) 246-2280, or visit

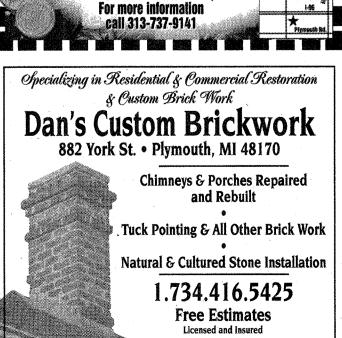


Several elected officials help kick off Wayne Metro's 15th Annual Walk for Warmth. Shirley McKee (from left), Madelyn Williams of DTE Energy, Wayne County Commissioner Joan Gebhardt, D-12th District, Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano, Westland Mayor William Wild, Wayne Metro CEO Louis Piszker, State Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth, John Daly of Daly Merritt, Inc., State Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, and Anthony Carroll line up to start the walk..

















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Sue Mason, Community Editor Susan Rosiek, Executive Editor Grace Perry, Director of Advertising

OUR VIEWS

Mail call

Letter writing needs to include all stakeholders

It's a request that's been made many times over the past decade. Wayne-Westland school officials asking residents to write lawmakers to let them know what the district needs their financial support. It's happened so many times that state lawmakers may recognize the return address.

"Oh, it's those folks from Wayne-Westland again."

"Yeah, it's us and we have a message: Our schools are broken because of your decisions. We can no longer afford to offer a first-class educational program with third-class funding."

For several years, we have heard from Lansing that we need a highly skilled, well-educated workforce to compete in the 21st century, but the 21st century education school districts provide isn't receiving 21st century funding. School districts have been short-changed and as of last year have seen tax dollars set aside for K-12 funding siphoned off to support higher education.

We have heard a lot about how ill-prepared students are who go to college and their need for remedial education, but as we said, it's hard to do more with less. Giving students 21st century technology to learn on costs money, money that isn't flowing from the state to the schools.

Last week, school Superintendent Greg Baracy put out yet another call to write letters and let lawmakers know that Gov. Rick Snyder's proposed budget is devastating at best. The cuts in school aid total \$945 per student — that includes a proposed \$300 this year, piled on top of last year's \$170 per

The district has rolled out a Legislative Tool Kit to provide parents with the information they need to write lawmakers and tell them enough is enough. E-mails, letters, phone calls, whatever it takes, residents need to respond to flood Lansing with a call to save, not destroy K-12 education.

student cut, an elimination of the more than \$6 million the district receives in lieu of millage disallowed at the start of Proposal A. The loss of funding to address declining enrollment and an increase of more than 4 percent in retirement costs will leave the district facing a \$14.5 million shortfall for 2011-12 or \$1,150 per student.

The first decade of the 21st century hasn't been and easy one for public education and the second decade is shaping up to be even worse. At one point,

Wayne-Westland had some \$25 million in the bank, money it has used to maintain the educational program. The district had tried to position itself to survive the next two years by closing six elementary schools, reconfiguring its elementary program, cost containment and seeking wage freezes and what school officials have described as a modest increase in health care co-payments from employees. All but two unions had agreed, leaving the district \$3.8 million short of its goal.

The district has rolled out a Legislative Tool Kit to provide parents with the information they need to write lawmakers and tell them enough is enough. E-mails, letters, phone calls, whatever it takes, residents need to respond to flood Lansing with a call to save, not destroy K-12 education.

Lawmakers and the governor must be told what the impact could be on the Wayne-Westland Community Schools, if the governor's budget proposal is approved as proposed. We believe that the letter writing needs to include more than adults. The students of this district will be impacted directly by what happens. State officials need to hear what they have to say from the simple words of a first-grader to the eloquent writing of a high school senior.

We urge all residents, young and old alike, to write letters ... lots of letters. Let Lansing know that their decisions are not in the best interest of Wayne-Westland students and, for that matter, any K-12 student in this state. Without adequate support, our students will fall behind academically and the reinventing of Michigan economically won't happen.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Complete this sentence: "I know it's spring when ..."

We asked this question at the William P. Faust Public Library in Westland.



"Probably when it stays 50 degrees for more than two-three days and I can unwrap my boat."

R.J. Tahhan St. Clair Shores

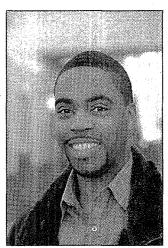


"When the robins are in town."

James Peters Garden City



"When the sun shines for several days in a row." **Lois Dumont**



"When the temperature starts changing." **Christopher Wildgoose**

LETTERS

Freedom has responsibilities

What a great hockey game! The Wild Wings really gave the Red Wings Alumni a challenging game. Congratulations to our captain, to all of the players, to Bob (Don Cherry) Kosowski, and to all the people involved in planning and executing another great family event in our city. A good time was had by all! Thanks!

From that high, we have to come down to a new all-time low after the last City Council meeting on March 7. Freedom of speech does not give anyone the right to personally attack, to allege accusations, to downgrade the accomplishments of our elected officials and/ or appointed leaders, to verbally spew venom at any and all of our hardworking leaders.

Freedom of speech gives us a right with tremendous responsibilities to use it right. No one has the right to demand responses; no one has the right to degrade others with sarcasm or other demeaning ways.

Issues should be addressed without personal attacks. Our issue is some citizens who repeatedly make personal attacks. The last meeting was an all-time low. Some of the personal questions that were asked were way off base. Stick to the issues. Period. Questions are asked and answered. It appears that even when a reasonable answer is given, the same questions continue to be asked.

Then, the threats ... election. We all know that an election is forthcoming as they always do. And, as always, the majority wins. And, all seated elected officials were and always will be elected by a majority whether we like it or not. For someone to repeatedly come up to the podium and demand that an elected official resign is way off limits because a majority of us elected our leaders.

No, none of our leaders or you or we are perfect. You see, God is not running for any election. We do know that corruption does exist in some governments and we hope and pry that we're not one of them. There is so much good in people and so much good is taking place for those of us who want to see

it. Of course, there are imperfections, but we certainly stand behind every leaders in our city. Just stop and look at all that is going on that is good in our city.

Regarding the natural disaster, the flooding action had to be taken, decisions had to be made and they were made to benefit the residents. For anyone to come and accuse the mayor and our leaders of doing wrong when they were acting on behalf of our citizens is not free speech. In our opinion, it borders on hatred, anger (to name but a few) negative traits that seem to be sweeping across our country.

There are respectful, decent ways of addressing any concerns and issues. Please remember that with every freedom there are attached responsibilities. That includes freedom of speech. And, in our opinion, three minutes is plenty of time to present issues and concerns that are free of vitriol.

To our mayor, our City Council members, the appointed department heads, know that we continue to support your leadership and hard work, knowing that it's humanly impossible to be perfect.

James and Mary Murphy

Westland

Protect greyhounds

Thank you for your informative article, "Get pets vaccinated, meet a Greyhound," on March

It is always a pleasure to envision the graceful presence of greyhounds out and about. Kudos to all involved at Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption for their tireless work rescuing, providing care for, and adopting greyhounds into loving homes.

Greyhound racing is cruel and inhumane. The greyhounds endure lives of nearly endless confinement in small stacked wire cages. While racing, they suffer and die from injuries such as broken limbs, paralysis and cardiac arrest.

Short-term investments, racing greyhounds are valued only as long as they generate a profit. Their post-racing fate falls to

devoted volunteer groups such as Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption.

Dogs play an important role in our lives and deserve to be protected from individuals and industries that cause them harm. I have adopted gentle, beloved greyhounds since 1997, and I am a board member of GREY2K USA, a national nonprofit organization that works to end the cruelty of dog racing. For more information, please visit www.grey2kusa.

Caryn Wood **Board of Directors GREY2K USA**

Tough Love from Tough Nerd

Just 48 days into his only term as Michigan's governor, the soft-spoken Rick Snyder has delivered the budget news most informed people were expecting. Proclaiming "we will no longer kick the can down the road," and attempting to address the state's long-ignored structural deficits, he has begun to wield the budget axe to close a \$2 billion shortfall. Michigan is not alone with a deficit budget and collectively the states' deficits. exceed \$85 billion. Across the country, austerity is the operative word in every state legislature and most are proposing cuts as a solution.

If anyone had any doubt that Mr. Snyder is not a politician, I believe his first budget, that has angered just about every special interest group in the state makes it clear he has no future political ambitions. And his standing in the latest polls bears that out.

While I do not agree with all of his budget recommendations I do give him credit for delivering the somber news personally, with his usual upbeat manner and not hiding from those that fervently disagree.

Michigan's government has been dysfunctional for many years and it is not Rick Snyder's fault that today as a state fiscally we are between a rock and a hard place.

But it soon will be.

Steve King Livonia

GUEST COLUMN

March 31: Deadline to pay '08 Wayne County property taxes

ver my more than 30 years as Wayne County treasurer, I cannot recall a more challenging time for so many property taxpayers. Like the rest of the country, Wayne County is experiencing record numbers of property tax

foreclosures. As county trea-

surer, I am required by state law to collect property taxes taxes that pay for government services that we all want, including police and fire protection, schools for our children and much

more. I know many who are having great difficulty paying their bills. Please don't ignore the problem; the time to act is now.

Raymond

Wojtowicz

Please note: March 31 is the deadline to pay or make arrangements to pay 2008 delinquent taxes. With this deadline just a few weeks away, I encourage those with delinquent taxes to contact our office right away.

We realize there are many reasons people have not paid their 2008 taxes. Please understand, we do not want your property, we need your payment and we are here to help. If the situation is not addressed, you stand to lose your house to foreclo-

We recognize these are challenging times for so many and have put in place programs to assist you. Several years ago, I instituted the Taxpayer Assistance Department designed specifically to reach out and inform those with delinquent taxes about payment options they may use to keep their property.

PAYMENT PLAN

We offer a payment plan that will allow you to budget your payments over the year and avoid foreclosure. If you live in the home and own the home, we can offer a hardship extension to give you additional time to pay. It is essential to act now as time

Our outreach is simple: "Let's talk." Our goal is to encourage people to contact us and not panic.

By contacting the Taxpayer Assistance Department, you will speak with a trained member of our staff who will take your information and work with you to explore available options. Please know that your privacy will be fully protected and all personal and property data is shred to ensure confidentiality.

We cannot guarantee that everyone

who contacts us will be able to save their property, however, we will do all that we can to advise you of your options. The 2008 tax year and any taxes prior to that is what needs to be paid or payment arrangements made before March 31.

READY TO HELP

My office stands ready to help. Through our extensive educational and informational awareness efforts, we are using every resource available to reach delinquent taxpayers to help them resolve their property tax issues. We have partnered with more than 20 community organizations to assist you in this time of need.

Those with delinquent 2008 taxes can pay their taxes in person or online, arrange a payment plan, or apply for a substantial hardship extension which will allow through the end of the year to pay the back

The payment plan option is an agreement that requires the taxpayer to pay 20 percent of the delinquency by the end of March, 20 percent by May 15, 20 percent by Aug. 15 and the remaining balance by the end of 2011.

More information about these two programs can be found on our website at www.treasurer.waynecounty. com, or by contacting our Taxpayer Assistance Department at taxinfo@ co.wayne.mi.us or (313) 224-6105.

Due to extreme volume, our phones are often overloaded. Also our offices will be extremely busy the end of the month, so I urge you to act now. If you have delinquent taxes, don't give up. Help us help you. Let's talk.

Raymond J. Wojtowicz is Wayne County

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Acting auditions

Time/Date: March 26, April 16 and 30 and May 14

Location: Fair Haven Assembly, 876 Beech Daly, north of Cherry Hill, Dearborn Heights

Details: Fair Haven Assembly in Dearborn Heights will be hosting an acting competition for anyone 18 to 27 years old. The auditions begin on March 26 and will be limited to 200 contestants. The best 48 will advance to judging on April 16, followed by the top 16 on April 30 and ends on May 14 with eight finalists. Prizes include a "behind-the-scenes" tour of the three Masonic Temple theaters, paid acting roles for finalists, and a cash bonus for the winner. There is a \$30 participation fee that is used for the costs of the competition and for the donation to help Convoy of Hope. The deadline to apply is March 19, and only the first 200 people get to compete.

Contact: For more information; go to fairhavenag.org/, click on "News/ Events" on the left side, and then scroll down and click on "GIGA 2011 Competition" near the bottom or by e-mail at info@communications4you.

Widowed Women

Date: Monday, March 28 Location: Toast Restaurant, 28340 Ford Road, just west of Inkster Road in Garden City

Details: All widowed women are invited to come to a Widowed Friends on Mondays in March at the Toast Restaurant to establish friendships, plan activities, share ideas and discuss what is offered.

Contact: Reservations are requested for each week you plan on attending. Contact: Laura at (734) 992-8238

Swing into Spring

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Friday, April 8 Location: St. Mary's Cultural Center, 18100 Merriman in Livonia

Details: The New Hope Center for Grief Support is hosting its "Swing into Spring" benefit Friday, April 8. Appetizers begin at 6 p.m., with dinner at 7 p.m. Chuck Gaidica, WDIV meteorologist, is the emcee. The event features auctions and live music. Tickets are \$40 each (cash bar not included) and must be purchased in advance. Casual summer attire required. Proceeds benefit grief support services at the center.

Contact: Register on-line at www. newhopecenter.net or call (248) 348-0115.

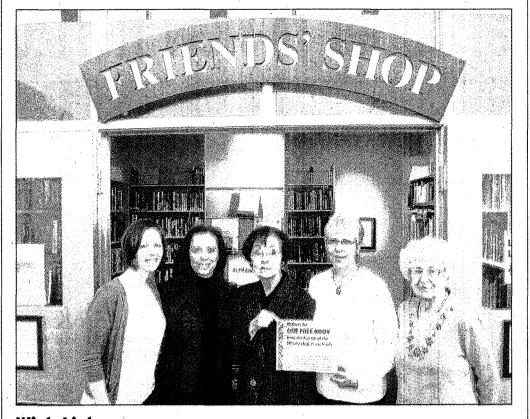
Volunteers needed

Location: Compassionate Care Hospice, 5730 N. Lilley Road, Suite A, Canton

Details: Compassionate Care Hospice is seeking caring, compassionate volunteers with big hearts to serve as friendly visitors for its patients. Their service area includes the counties of Oakland, Monroe, Wayne, Washtenaw and Livingston. Volunteers set their own schedules and typically donate one-two hours of their time per week. Compassionate Care Hospice is a community-based hospice organization committed to the highest quality of hospice care for patients, their fami-

www.plymouthnursery.net Mon-Sat 9-6 • Sun 10-5

Offers Expire 3/30/11



Wish List

Helping to promote the Westland William P. Faust Public Library's Wish List program are Megan Esseltine (from left), reference librarian, Friends of the Library President Meriem Kadi, Friends Vice-President Nan Borders, Friends Secretary Lynne Hagmann and Trustee Marie Promo. The Library Wish List program allows patrons to add specific, high-need items to the collection in one of two ways: by purchasing them directly from an online bookseller (Amazon, or Barnes and Noble) or by donating used items found on its Wish List on the library website at www.westlandlibrary.org. Not pictured are Trustee Ramona Shaney, Treasurer Inge Singleman and Trustee Marie Didomizio.

lies and other loved ones. Volunteers receive training and on-going coaching, and social opportunities are available as well. The next new volunteer is fast-approaching, and will take place at the office in Canton.

Contact: Call Justine Galat, volunteer coordinator, at jgalat@cchnet. net or 888-983-9050 to apply for an interview.

Crafters wanted

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 9

Location: St. Damian Parish, 29891 Joy, Westland

Details: St. Damian Parish is looking for crafters for its Spring Craft show. Cost is \$25 per table.

Contact: Call (734) 421-6130 or send an e-mail to cjnelius@att.net for more details.

American Legion

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

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

discharged. Contact: Bill Acton at (734) 326-2607, Ron Nickels at (734) 455-3415 or visit the website at www.post251.com or wwwpost251.org.

Fish frv

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

Details: Dinners cost \$8.95 per person.

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

Fish Dial-A-Ride

Details: Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is seeking volunteer drivers and phone messengers. Volunteer drivers, using their own vehicles, designate days, times, and areas they are willing to drive. Volunteer phone messengers arrange client rides with our volunteer drivers one day each week

from the comfort of their home. Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is a not-for-profit community service that provides free door-to-door rides to non-emergency medical and other necessary appointments for senior and disabled residents of Garden City, Livonia, and Westland who are unable to drive and have no alternative transportation.

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

Earth Angels

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

Higher Rock Cafe

Time/date: 7:30 p.m. second and fourth Fridays of the month. Location: Wayne-Westland Salvation Army, 2300 Venov, south of Palmer,

Westland. Details: Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Live bands perform beginning at 8 p.m. Admission is free, however, a free will offering will be taken to support the

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

EDUCATION

Willow Creek

bands.

Location: 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland

Contact: (734) 326-0078

9900 Ann Arbor Rd./Plymouth Rd. 7 Miles West of 1-275 • 1 1/2 Miles South of M-14

Corner of Gotfredson Rd

Details: Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool offers a Parent/Tot, Young 3's, 3-year and 4-year programs.

St. Damian

Location: 29891 Joy, Westland **Details**: St. Damian Catholic School offers preschool for 3-4-year-olds

and full day kindergarten through

grade 8. Contact: (734) 427-1680, www.stdamian.com.

YWCA Preschool

Details: The YWCA of Western Wayne County's Education Department offers quality preschool programs to children aged 2-5 years old at no cost to most families. There are many locations available throughout the community. Home-based programs are also available.

Contact: (313) 561-4110, Ext. 10

Organizations

Friends of Eloise

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

Location: Collins House in the Westland Historic Village Park, 857 N. Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill, Westland.

Contact: Jo Johnson (734) 522-3918

Westland Rotary

Time/Date: 12:15 p.m. Thursdays Location: Salvation Army, 2300 S. Venoy, south of Palmer, Westland Details: Community Service programs and planning. Catered lunch; visitors welcome.

Contact: Mary at (734) 729-5401

Writing Group

Time/date: 7 p.m. the second Wednesday of every month Location: Wayne Public Library, 3737 S. Wayne Road, Wayne

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

Toastmasters

Location: Westland Easytalkers Toastmasters Club meets every Thursday at 6:45 P.M. in the lower level of the Bailey Recreation Center. located behind the Westland City Hall on Ford between Wayne Road and Newburgh.

send an e-mail to shepry@yahoo.com

Details: Toastmasters provides a supportive environment where members can overcome the fear of speaking in public. The membership is a diverse group from different walks of life.

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

TOPS 869

Time/date: Mondays, weigh-ins at 5:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 6:15 p.m. Location: Adams Senior Village, 2001

Kaley Ave., south of Palmer, Westland. Details: The group is for people age 18 and older.

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

TOPS M128

Time/date: 7 p.m. Mondays Location: Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne Road, at Hunter, Westland

Contact: Pat Strong at (734) 326-3539 or Mary Lowe at (734) 729-6879

Garden City Dems

Time/date: 7 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month (September through June)

Location: Room 5 of the Maplewood Center, Maplewood west of Merriman, Garden City

Contact: Billy Pate at (734) 427-2344

Citizens for Peace

Time/date: 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month **Location**: Unity of Livonia Church on Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Livonia

Details: The group is dedicated to working for creation of a U.S. Department of Peace. All are wel-

Contact: Colleen Mills at (734) 425-0079

In Harmony

Time/date: 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays Location: Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland Details: For men interested in the chapter's Renaissance Chorus or who enjoy quartetting

Contact: call membership chairman Bob Wolf at (734) 421-1652, or attend a rehearsal

Veteran's Haven

Location: Veteran Haven's Outreach Center 4924 S. Wayne Road two blocks south of Annapolis in Wayne.

Details: Veteran's Haven operates a car, boat, camper and real estatedonation program. Donations are tax-deductible. Food is distributed to veterans once a month throughout the month and there is a supplemental food program 9 a.m. to noon Wednesdays.

Contact: (734) 728-0527

Silver Strings Dulcimer

Time/date: 7-9 p.m. the first and third Thursday of the month **Location**: Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City **Details:** Musicians and listeners are welcome to stop by and visit a traditional music jam. Acoustic instruments include hammered and mountain dulcimer, guitar, banjo, fiddle, harmonica, concertina, autoharp, recorder, pennywhistle, ukulele and upright bass.

Contact: (734) 482-2902, http://geocities.com/ssdsociety

A New Year's resolution that you can keep! SHOP LOCAL START HERE Stay connected with a subscription to

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Grow 'Green' with Us!

Adults find musical outlet in New Horizons Band

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 24, 2011

When a friend called to see if she knew anyone who'd be interested in a part-time job working at Evola Music in Canton and directing the New Horizons Band headquartered there, Lauren Erickson knew just who she'd recommend.

Lauren Erickson.

That was two years ago, and now Erickson is having the time of her life directing the band, originally designed as a place where adult novice musicians could learn to play. In those two years, the band has grown from four members who had a lot to learn to 17 members who are getting pretty good.

'When I took over they were definitely a beginning band," said Erickson, who earned a degree in music education, with emphasis on band and conducting, from the University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign. "This band has progressed to an intermediate band level, to the point where we're not really able to take in people at the beginning band level because the music is too hard. It freaks (beginners) out, they think, 'Oh, I can't play that. I can play Mary had a Little Lamb.'

The Canton New Horizons Band is patterned after others under the international umbrella of the organization founded by Dr. Roy Ernst, who wanted to create a band open to adults who had "played an instrument in elementary school however many years ago," Erickson said, and who wanted to take it up again but needed a band situation that's really more of a beginning band setting for adults. The concept, according to Erickson, "is growing by leaps and bounds."

Evola Music jumped in as the sponsor for New Horizons Band of Canton. The music



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Becky Palac of Westland plays Baritone Horn in the New Horizons Band.

store provides rehearsal space, support the band financially in terms of discounts on instruments and music, and the band's concerts are held there.

Erickson said the program New Horizons offers stands apart from other community bands, which are often audition-only and require more of a commitment than some of these beginning adults can make. There are similar New Horizons bands in Waterford and in Saline.

Instead, New Horizons offers the opportunity to meet one night a week in eightweek sessions in what is "really geared as a learning environment" where Erickson not only teaches instrumentation, but also incorporates music theory, lessons about composers and historical data.

"I heard the New Horizon's Band of Canton needed a clarinet player, so I dusted it

off (after 30 years) and tried the 'freebie night' and now I'm a regular," said Gayle Bortz of Canton. "The group is so much fun, the music is enjoyable, and it's great to be playing again."

Tenor saxophonist Bob Pici of Westland said he relied on playing by ear during more than 35 years of performing as a professional musician. Joining New Horizons, he said, helped him "face my fears" with regard to sightreading.

"I still have a long way to go, but I can honestly say that I have made steady progress in that area," Pici said. "It has been through the diligent efforts put forth by (Erickson) that I have progressed as far as I have."

New Horizons, which plays jazz, Broadway tunes and some classic concert band material, is starting to reach out to the public. They'll



tenor sax and Pecky Palac of Westland plays Baritone Horn.



The New Horizons Band of Canton, which has grown to some 17 members, meets once a week in eight-week sessions at Evola Music in Canton.

LEARNING TO PLAY

What: New Adult Beginning Band Class

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Where: Evola Music on Haggerty Road in Canton

Why: For those who've wished they could dust off old instruments or who wanted to play a band instrument when they were younger, but never really had the opportunity.

When: Next eight-week session starts march 31; classes meet Thursdays, 6-8 p.m.

Who: Open to ages 18 to second childhood.

Details: Call Lauren Erickson, (734) 453-5791.

make a presentation Monday at the Canton Public Library where they'll talk to some 50 families about instruments, what they sound like and the different qualities. The

event will include a questionanswer session and a performance from the band.

The band also made its first real public appearances over the Christmas holiday, performing at the Farmington Hills library and a nursing home in Saline. They also did a two-hour Christmas concert at Briarwood Mall in Ann Arbor to benefit the Salvation

Army's Red Kettle campaign. The band members leave after their performances feeling exhilarated," Erickson said. "They're proud of their accomplishment, and they're

provides enjoyment for other people. Some of this community outreach is striking a chord with our band members in a really positive way.'

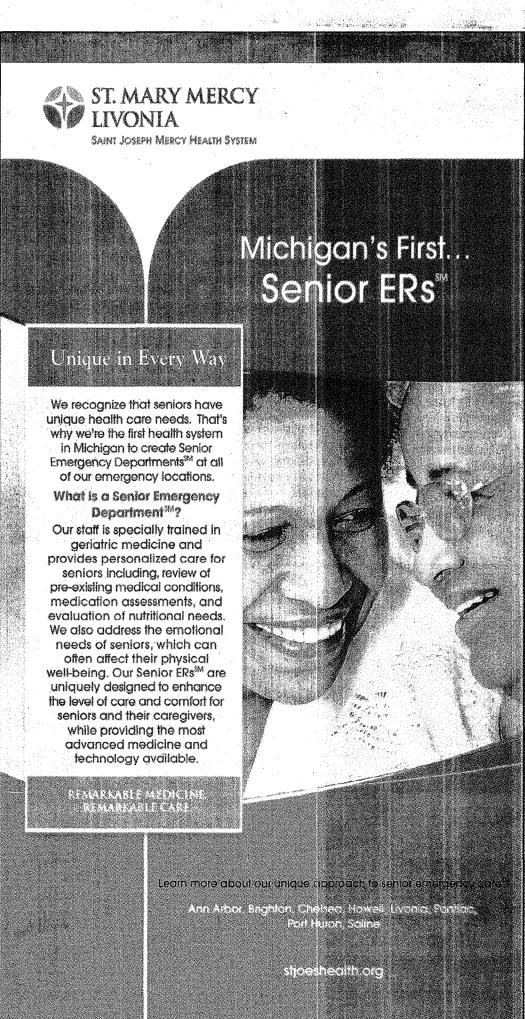
The next goal for the band is to grow. Erickson said she'd like to see it get to some 25 members, though not much larger because of space considerations. Regardless, the band will continue to expand its musical horizon.

"We are a small-time band with a very big heart," Erickson said. "We'll play for whomever wants to listen."

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SECTION B

(WL)

SPORTS

THURSDAY, March 24, 2011

hometownlife (iii) com

INSIDE

RELIGION, B4

F00D, B7



Bee created quite a buzz for Lady Ocelot hoops

All-time leader in rebounds, blocks

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Schoolcraft College women's basketball coach Karen Lafata remembers the scouting trip like it was yesterday.

Lafata went to watch a guard play from Detroit Communication & Media Arts, but found instead what she termed a "diamond in the rough" in center Kimberly Bee.

"CMA was playing Detroit Country Day in the regional final and Kim was going up against (6-foot-6) Madison Williams," Lafata said. "I saw a lot of potential and athletic ability. I said, 'Oh, my God, this kid can play.' She could have gone to Niagara (N.Y.) University, but she took a chance on us and it paid off big

Two years later, the 6-foot-1 Bee leaves Schoolcraft as one of the most accomplished women's basketball players in school

"The fact they had the No. 2 team in the nation, it was close to home and they had a winning team made me stay," said Bee, who helped the Lady Ocelots to a 53-6 overall record, not to mention two Michigan Community College Athletic Association and Eastern Conference titles.

A ferocious rebounder and shot blocker, Bee averaged 15.9 rebounds (third nationally) and 4.4 blocks (second nationally) per game during her sophomore season.

She leaves Schoolcraft with a slew of career records including total rebounds (841), offensive rebounds (340), defensive rebounds (501) and blocks (250).

Bee also owns single-season marks for total rebounds (510), offensive rebounds (217), defensive rebounds (293) and

Please see HOOPS, B2



Schoolcraft College's sophomore center Kimberly Bee (34) snags one of her 18 rebounds over Muskegon's Sarah Burr (32) during the MCCAA championship game earlier this month.

Real women play tackle

Dark Angels eye · April 2 opener

BY BRAD EMONS **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Who says there's a lockout? Who needs a mediator? Who needs a court hearing?

The new and expected to be vastly improved Detroit Dark Angels of the Women's Football Alliance will launch their National Conference season at 7 p.m. Saturday, April 2, at Westland John Glenn High School when they face North Central 2 Division foe Kentucky Karma.

After the five-time national champion Detroit Demolition folded unexpectedly prior to the 2010 season, the Dark Angels stepped in to fill the void.

'We started five weeks prior to the season and tried to put something together to keep women's football in Detroit," said new head coach Darren Wubbenhorst. "The Demolition had won five national titles under coach (Tony) Blakenship and it was important to keep women's football going."

The Dark Angels finished 3-5 a year ago, but expectations are much higher this season as this year's squad has been practicing three times a week.

"Last year we started with 25 players and were down to 17 due to injuries," said Wubbenhorst, a 1989 Glenn grad and the team's offensive coordinator. "We started with 52 this year and 78 tried out. So far the biggest difference is commitment and leadership. We are getting no less than 40 women per practice, and every position is being battled for by

multiple players.' Some of the remnants of the once fierce Demolition remain.

Wubbenhorst said the team's strength lies in the offensive line which is anchored by left tackle Mindy Corby, right guard Yolanda Cherry and center

led by the out-

standing trio

forward Kelly

Capoccia and

Maddie Reed.

senior goalkeeper

Brennan record-

Alecia Sweeney — all former Demolition standouts. Julie Wyatt will be at left

guard, while Lisa Toure moves

in at right tackle. They've won national titles, it's a veteran line, Wubbenhorst said. "It's the strong point of our team. We have 13 who can play. We'll go

as far as our line takes us.' Wubbenhorst said his offensive philosophy doesn't stray far from his playing days as an offensive lineman under coach Chuck Gordon at John Glenn.

"We'll do a lot of twoback, run pro-I (formation) and mess with the spread to keep everybody honest," said Wubbenhorst, who by day works as an office manager for an electrical contractor.

Last year out of necessity, Kris Vodojevski moved from wide receiver to quarterback. This year she could be sharing some signal calling responsibilities with Deirdre LaFrance.

"Kris was an All-America

Please see FOOTBALL, B2

Berger lifts Bears

Senior forward Kathryn Berger (Livonia Ladywood) helped Washington University in St. Louis (Mo.) earn a runner-up finish in the NCAA Division III women's basketball tournament last weekend at the Shirk Center in Bloomington, Ill.

Berger scored 28 points in an 87-77 semifinal victory over No. 7-ranked Illinois Wesleyan.

The 6-foot-1 Berger, named University Athletic Association Athlete of the Week, also notched her team-leading sixth double-double of the season with 11 points and 10 rebounds in a 64-55 loss Saturday to Amherst College (Mass.) in the national championship game.

Berger averaged 19.5 points and eight rebounds per game at the Final Four and was named to the 2011 NCAA Championship All-Tournament Team.

A member of the 2010 Lady Bears national championship team, Berger finishes her career ranked seventh in school history in scoring (1,143 points) and sixth in rebounding (717).

College Cup

The Michigan Bucks will host four top-flight collegiate teams, including NCAA Division 1 champion Akron and Final Four participant Michigan, all on Saturday at Ultimate Soccer Arenas in Pontiac.

The first exhibition match of the Bucks College Cup will be Michigan (17-5-3) vs. Akron (22-1) at 1:30 p.m. in a replay of last December's Final Four semifinal.

It will followed by Oakland University (7-11-3) vs. Akron at 3:15 p.m.; Michigan vs. NCAA participant Notre Dame (10-6-4) at 5 p.m.; Oakland vs. Notre Dame at 6:45 p.m.

Tickets are \$12 at the door, but pre-sale tickets are also available for all four matches for \$7, and can be purchased at the Utlimate Soccer Arenas front desk; or by contacting the Bucks office at (248) 334-7463.

For more information, visit www.buckssocer.com.

Steelneaders meet

The Metro-West Steelheaders monthly meeting will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 5 at the Livonia Senior Center, located at the southeast corner of Farmington and Five Mile roads.

Meetings are free and open to the public. No reservations needed. Captain Jerry Lee will be one

of two featured speakers. He has over 30 years of fishing and guiding experience on the Great

Among the topics include use of lead-core, rotators, cut bait, in-line boards and the latest downrigger savvy. His presentation also includes tips and tactics to consistently boat limits of fish for his customers on a daily basis.

Captain Chip Cartwright will also unveil the latest from Wolverine Tackle, which produces the world famous Silver Streak lures.

For more information, call Jim Robertson at (734) 383-

Ladywood squad poised for more success in 2011

See capsule outlook of area girls soccer teams.

BY BRAD EMONS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Ready or not, the 2011 girls soccer season kicks off Friday with three schools engaged in season openers. Only two of the eight schools in the Livonia-Westland are

GIRLS SOCCER **PREVIEW**

coming off winning seasons with Livonia Ladywood (14-5-4) making a run last June to the Final Four in Division 2.

Brooke Kosanic returns as a wide receiver for the Detroit Dark Angels.

Four of those five losses came against Catholic League Central Division foe and Division 2 state champion Birmingham Marian.

"We're excited to see how our tal-



Brennan

ented newcomers will mix into our offensive attack," Ladywood coach Ken Shingledecker said. "We feel that we will have a deeper team this year and that will help keep everyone fresh throughout games and the entire sea-

Capoccia

The Blazers, the Catholic League



Rothermel

ed nine goals and a team-leading 21 assists, while Capoccia finished with 16 goals and 10 assists as both earned first-team All-Observer honors. Reed, meanwhile, a second-team

All-Area choice, recorded seven shutouts including a 1-0 win in the regional final over Ann Arbor Skyline.

Meanwhile, nearby Livonia runners-up, are Stevenson will try and improve upon its 9-6-3 overall record and 5-4of junior center 1 finish in the KLAA Kensington midfielder Paige Conference's always formidable Central Brennan, junior

The Spartans' top returnee is second-team All-Area pick Krista Kane, a senior defender, along with Michelle Krawczyk, a senior goalkeeper.

"We still have the hardest schedule in the state of Michigan and hopefully it will get us ready to be competitive in our division and be ready for the playoffs," second-year coach Chris Grodzicki said. "We'll learn quick."

Livonia Churchill (7-9-2) finished third in the KLAA's South Division

Please see SOCCER, B2



PREP GIRLS SOCCER CAPSULE OUTLOOK

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 24, 2011

League affiliation: Kensington Lakes Activities Association Kensington Conference (South Division)

LIVONIA CHURCHILL

Last year's overall record: 7-9-2 Notable losses to graduation: Nicole Marlow, Darcy DeRoo, Rachel Staff. Leading returnees: Kelsey Rothermel, Sr. Def. (first-team All-Area): Rachel Blackney. Jr. MF; Rachel Zukowski, Sr. Def.; Megan McDonald, Sr. Def.; Kaylie Secord, Sr. GK; Sarah Bauman, Sr. MF; Kayla Szado, Sr. F.

Promising newcomers: Kelsey Parinello, Fr. MF-F; Kayla Munroe, Soph. MF. Hebestreit's 2011 season outlook: "We had our first scrimmage Monday night and it went well. We ran through three different

systems and were effective in all three of them. I can already see that we're dangerous and crafty early in the season. I think we'll be an improved team. We have an always tough schedule. Kaylie Secord has vasth improved physically and technically. We only have 19 players with three of them being keepers. It's a small team, but I think we'll be a good, solid team if we stay fit and stay away from injuries."
LIVONIA FRANKLIN

Head coach: Dean Kowalski, second

League affiliation: KLAA Kensington Conference (South Division). Last year's overall record: 2-16-2. Notable losses to graduation: Erin

Leading returnees: Alejandra Mesa, Sr. C-MF (second-team All-Area; 8 goals, 6 assists); Alexis Smith, Jr. GK; Natalie

Promising newcomers: Jessica Maurer, Soph. F; Jenna Michniewicz, Soph. Def Kowalski's 2011 season outlook:

season. This year is a great mix of talented, experienced upperclassmen and enthusiastic youth. Out of the 21 players on the team, only six are seniors. The team is filled with underclassmen excited about the season. We feel we will improve every game this season as the youth of the team will begin to learn how to play on the varsity level. The team will focus on toughness and speed to create a quick turnaround from last year."

LIVONIA STEVENSON

Head coach: Chris Grodzicki, second League affiliation: KLAA Kensington

Last year's overall record: 9-6-3. Notable losses to graduation: Kayla Kimble (first-team All-Area); Renee Boudreau (second-team All-Area); Ashley Welch, Molly McConnell, Amanda Jenaway, Shannon

Leading returnees: Krista Kane, Sr. Def. (second-team All-Area); Michelle Krawczyk, Sr. GK; Dayna Stevens, Jr. F; Alexi Kliza, Soph. MF; Kim Griffith, Jr. MF; Emily Chrzasz, Jr. MF; Cita Machines, Sr.

Promising newcomers: Olivia Kitz, Fr.
Def., Nicole Zuckerman, Fr. Def. MF; Carlin
O'Malley, Soph. MF; Katie Reamer, Jr. F.

Grodzicki's 2011 season outlook: "It's looking different. We're young, I don't know if that means rebuilding. The players who played significant minutes last year is a short list. There are a lot of new faces, which is good, Last year was hard being the new guy with so many returning players. This year they only know me and my style of coaching and how things are run. Hopefully I can mold them into a good team and win

some games."
WESTLAND JOHN GLENN
WESTLAND JOHN GLENN Head coach: Raiph Cabildo, first season. League affiliation: KLAA Kensington

Last year's overall record: 4-13-2. Notable losses to graduation: Ali Zarate (second-team All-Area); Katie Yax, Andee Samborski, Ashley Bailey.

Leading returnees: Jenna Williams, Sr. Jennie Humbach, Sr. F; Jessie Sanchez, Jr. MF; Ashley Sportsman, Sr. MF; Jasmine Sanchez, Sr. C-Def.; Amanda Urban, Jr. Def. Alexis Gagleard, Jr. MF.

Promising newcomers: Elise Penhollow,

Fr. Def.; Cecilia Said, Fr. Utility; Evelyn Acerrano, Fr. F; Marissa Edwards, Fr. F; Emily Hinkle, Fr. GK; Mariah Richards, Jr. Def., Erin McCurtis, Sr. Utility, Cathy Ionescu, Jr. MF; Lindsey Bessinger, Jr. MF. Cabildo's 2011 season outlook: "I see a

lot of commitment. It's a very young team.
We need to improve our communication skills out on the field. It's tough to come in as new coach when you've only touched the ball a week-and-a-half. We're still trying to figure out the team right now

WAYNE MEMORIAL Head coach: Jeff Parrish, second season.

League affiliation: KLAA Kensington Conference (South Division). Last year's overall record: 3-14-2.

Notable losses to graduation: Megan Maynor (second-team All-Area); Avalon Felan, Alicia Jacobs. Leading returnees: Erica Dye, Jr. Def. (All-KLAA); Aimee Papineau, Jr. MF; Alysia

Promising newcomers: Nicole Johnson, GK; Amber Parrish, Fr. MF; Savannah

Parrish's 2011 season outlook: "The

program at Wayne Memorial is developing and getting stronger. This year the team is much improved at virtually every position and has a deeper bench. We're returning seven starters from last season. I'm looking forward to watching this young group continue to get better each and every week

as they grow in confidence.

LIVONIA LADYWOOD Head coach: Ken Shingledecker, fourth

League affiliation: Catholic League (Central Division).
Last year's overall record: 14-5-4.

Titles won last year: Division 2 district Notable losses to graduation: Sydney DeLosh, Rachel Maceri, Shea McParlane,

Christina Eroyan, Mary Vance. Leading returnees: Paige Brennan, Jr. C-MF (first-team All-Area; All-State); Maddie Reed, Sr. GK (second-team All-Area); Kelly Capoccia, Jr. F (first-team All-Area); Allison Bielski, Sr. Def.; Becky Babon, Sr. Def.; Domenique Sarnecky, Soph. F; Liz Danger, Soph. C-MF; Catherine Garber, Soph. Def.; Morgan Chops, Jr. MF-Def.

Morgan Chops, Jr. MF-Det. **Promising newcomers:** Erin Cronyn, Jr,
F; Shelby Walsh, Soph., MF, Emily Huddleston,
Fr. MF-F; Marissa Ozog, Fr. MF-Def.; Deyana
Walker; Soph., MF; Megan Riethmiller, Jr., MF-Def.; Mary-Kate Szuma, Soph., MF; Becca Rhode, Jr., Def.

Shingledecker's 2011 season outlook:
"We are extremely excited heading into
this season. We return eight starters from
last year's state semifinal team. The entire defense, including our goalkeeper are returning, along with the players that were responsible for 43 of the 45 goals we scored in 2010. We will miss the excellent leadership that we received from our five seniors last year. But we're confident that this year's three seniors will show the same leadership

LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE Head coach: Amanda Moody, first

League affiliation: Independent. Last year's overall record: 6-10-3. Notable losses to graduation: Kristen Jolly (second-team All-Area); Morgan Tressier, Teresa Parent, Ashley Weich. Leading returnees: Jenny Cruz, Sr. Def.

Mary Zhen, Sr. MF; Sadie Zachos, Jr. MF; Britney Olds, Jr. Def.; Ashley Murphy, Soph MF, Amal Musleh, Soph. Def.

Promising newcomers: Summer Reddick Fr. Def.; Grace King, Fr. Def.; Brianna Tuuri-

Cesarz, Fr. GK; Karley Flores, Soph. MF; Kayla

Moody's 2011 season outlook: "This is going to be a year where we see what these girls are capable of. There are a lot of solid returners who are going to lead this program. This team is very young, but has a lot of potential to succeed this season. (Ashley) Murphy and (Sadie) Zachos are going to be the core of this team and there

are going to be a lot of strong girls to fill the spots around them." LUTHERAN HIGH WESTLAND **Head coach:** Sara Schafer, third season. **League affiliation:** Michigan Independent Athletic Conference (Blue

Last year's overall record: 3-9-3. Notable losses to graduation: Carly Girolamo, Miranda Kasprowicz, Emily Meier, Ashley Pniewiski, Amber Pniewski, Lauren

Leading returnees: Taylor Wiemer, Jr. Def.-MF; Jessica Drife, Soph. Def.; Angela Morrison, Soph. GK-MF; Christa Kasprowicz, Soph. Def.; Kelsey Kruger, Jr. MF. Promising newcomers: Alana Hiel, Fr.

Def.; Julia Yancy, Fr. MF.
Schafer's 2011 season outlook: "This year we have some young players joining the team. They are ready to step up and play There is a lot of potential in the entire team They come to practice every day and are working hard to improve as a team. We hope to improve throughout the season. The team is very excited to get the season started.

Gooding really good as Madonna goes 3-1

A 12-strikeout performance from sophomore Jeremy only two. Gooding in Game One and six different Crusaders coming through with base hits in the

nightcap earned COLLEGE the Madonna University BASEBALL baseball team a sweep of host Northwestern

Ohio on Sunday with a pair of 3-2 victories at Racers Field. MU, which won threeof-four on the weekend set, recorded its 700th victory in program history. The Crusaders improved to

Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference. Gooding improved to 3-0 on the year by going all seven innings. He struck out 12 and

14-9 overall and 3-1 in the

just four hits. Matt Kay (Canton) and Dan Harder each collected two hits

in the victory. Drew Adamiec also Harder each knocked in a run.

Losing pitcher Austin Park (0-2) went six innings, allowing six hits. He struck out one and walked three.

The Crusaders won the opener in nine innings as reliever Andy Omilian (3-3) got the victory.

Starter Aaron Saarela went the first 5.1 innings, allowing two hits and walking five. He allowed both runs.

Travis Schuba, who pitched 2.2 innings of scoreless relief, got the save.

The Crusaders benefitted from six Northwestern Ohio

run and Matt Kay scored twice.

Harder knocked in the lone

Ben Schubert had two hits for the Racers (5-8, 1-3). On Saturday, MU lost the opener, 4-2, but earned a split

with a 5-4 win in the nightcap. Zachary Petrick (1-1) pitched a complete-game five-hitter in the opener for the Racers. He

struck out three and walked

Losing pitcher Robert Fraser (Westland John Glenn) went six innings, allowing all four runs in the third innings. He struck out one, walked three and allowed five hits in falling

Fabian Placencia, Alex McKinstry and Ben Schubert each knocked in runs for the

Victor Barron had two hits and an RBI for the Crusaders.

MU scored a pair of runs on Barron's walk-off 2-run single in the bottom of the ninth inning to take Game Two.

Mike Gansser had two hits and an RBI for MU, while Kay also collected two hits.

Kyle Jeffries went 3-for-3 for walked only two while allowing Northwestern Ohio.

Starter Tom Hansen went the first 6.2 innings, allowing four earned runs on nine hits. He walked two and struck out

Omilian pitched 2.1 scoreless innings of relief to earn the victory. He struck out two and walked two.

Reliever Jeremy White took the loss for the Racers.

WHAC honors Kay

The Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference announced Monday that Madonna University senior Matt Kay (Canton) has been selected as the Baseball Player of the Week (ending March 20).

The award is the first of the season for Kay and the first for a Crusader this season.

Kay led No. 11-ranked MU to a 4-2 week and a 3-1 series win over Northwestern Ohio.

The right fielder batted .500 for the week with four extra base hits including a double, a triple and a pair of 2-run homers that occurred in back-toback at-bats at Goshen (Ind.) College.

He hit .417 in the four-game series at Northwestern Ohio.

behind KLAA champion Canton and Division 1 state runner-up Plymouth.

The Chargers are led by senior Kelsey Rothermel, a first-team All-Observer pick who anchors a strong defense.

"Kelsey is absolutely solid," Churchill 10th-year coach Dave Hebestreit said. "She'll play a number of different positions."

Westland John Glenn (4-13-2) has a new coach in Ralph Cabildo, who takes over for Jimmy Mortada.

Cabildo, who plans to start five freshmen, previously

coached four season the Glenn JV boys and spent one year with the Rocket girls.

Wayne Memorial coach Jeff Parrish enters his second season with high hopes led by junior defender Erica Dye, an All-KLAA selection.

The Zebras finished 4-13-2 a year ago.

"They will be play an even more exciting style of play this year as they learn the game and become more comfortable in their roles," Parrish said. "It's nothing but positive as this program grows and is developing a strong base of young talent."

Meanwhile, Livonia Franklin (2-16-2) hopes to climb out of the basement of the KLAA

The Patriots are led by senior center-midfielder Alejandra Mesa, a second-team All-Observer pick, along with junior goalkeeper Alexis Smith returns after making doubledigit saves in 15 games last

season. "We feel we ended last season on a high note by getting one of our wins in the (district) playoffs," Franklin coach Dean Kowalski said. "We are very excited and looking forward to competing in every game this season."

Livonia Clarenceville (6-10-3) is now an independent after the Metro Conference dissolved last school season.

The Trojans will be coached by former standout Amanda Moody, who takes over for

Trevor Johnson.

"There is potential in the younger girls and I am counting on them just as much as my older players," said Moody, who must replaced second-team All-Area goalkeeper Kristen Jolly. "Communication and competitiveness will be the key to succeed to our potential this season."

Lutheran High Westland (3-9-3), under third-year coach Sara Schafer, is now a member of the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference's Blue Division.

The Warriors hope to contend in the MIAC Blue led by junior defender-midfielder Taylor Wiemer.

blocks (142). In a Dec. 3 game against Sinclair (Ohio) CC, Bee recorded an NJCAA Division II record 11 blocks, to go along with 25 rebounds (third all-

time) and 18 points. So you can guess there's a reason why Bee is a big fan of the Orlando Magic's Dwight Howard and UConn All-American Maya Moore.

"I was always rebounder and shot blocker," said Bee, who also dabbled in cross country, volleyball and track as a prep. "I was always athletic, so I think it just came natural."

Bee was always a basketball fan, but didn't launch her career until she was a seventhgrader at Coffey Middle School

in Detroit. Now she's on the verge of



going to an NCAA Division I program with upcoming recruiting visits planned to St. rsity and Southern

Mississippi. She's also heard from Arizona of the Pac-10 and has already taken a visit to the University of Detroit Mercy, which is right around the corner from her family's home in the Seven Mile and Livernois

As a freshman at Schoolcraft, Bee concentrated primarily on rebounding and shot blocking on a 33-2 squad that finished third in the NJCAA Division II national

tournament. "Last year, she was surrounded by great players," Lafata said. "We had four 400point scorers as sophomores and she was our fifth leading scorer. She had the timing and ability to block shots. All she had to do was rebounding and just get better. This year she

was our only starter back." And Bee blossomed this season into a serious scoring threat, averaging 14.7 points per game while shooting 53.6 percent from the floor. The only downside to her game was free-throw shooting (94-of-179

for 52.5 percent). "She's just a stallion and has improved so much it's unbelievable," Lafata said. "She's one of the greatest ever come

through here." Bee not only was a leader on

the floor, but also in the classroom, where she carries a 3.0 grade-point average and plans

to study nursing. "She always showed up on time and never was an ounce of a problem," Lafata said. "She's quiet, intense and likable. Just a great success and a role model for the other kids."

The 20-year-old Bee knows all about being a team player despite some difficult circumstances.

She is the sixth oldest among 13 children. Her father, Larry, is disabled with multiple sclerosis and her mother, Karen, is currently

seeking employment. "I'm the only female hooper in my family," Bee said. "My dad couldn't get to the games, but he talks to me about basketball. I have older brothers who used to play. My brother, Christopher (21), was around for some of my games when he

wasn't working.' Bee, who plans to graduate from Schoolcraft after the spring term, will sign with an NCAA Division I school some-

time early next month. "I'll just try to get in the gym and do my studying," Bee said. "Of course, I love my sleeping. I like to get my rest."

Meanwhile, her departure leaves a huge void in the Lady Ocelots basketball program. Bee was recently named to

NJCAA Division II All-Region 12 team, along with earning first-team All-MCCAA and All-Eastern Conference honors. She also earned the Defensive Player of the Year award in the conference and is expected to reap All-America

honors.

'The fact that we wanted to win and that we had good team chemistry - that's what I'll just miss being an Ocelot," Bee said. "I'll miss my coaches and my teammates, who were like my sisters both years.

"Coach Lafata is one of best coaches I've ever had. She is demanding, and she wants to win, and I'm on the same page. She's very determined and overall a great coach. She'll do anything for team."

What a scouting mission this one turned out to be.

bemons@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6851

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Darren Wubbenhorst, a 1989 Westland John Glenn grad, is the new head coach of the Detroit Dark Angels.

wide receiver with the Demolition," Wubbenhorst said. "She was also an All-America cornerback. She's been working hard and is just a great athlete.

The Dark Angels coach said he also has a stable of running backs to choose from, led by Junita Payne and Cheron Guyton.

Former Livonia Ladywood High track standout Alexis Noel could also figure prominently, but has been battling a knee issue dating back to last

"She tweaked the same knee again," Wubbenhorst said. "She had 350 yards in three games last year. She ran track at West Virginia. She's our fastest ... a burner. We just get her out on the corner and let her go."

Sabreena Lachlainn will handle kicking and punting duties, while Vidojevski, and wide receivers Brooke Kosanic and Cheryl Luther, will be the

primary kick and punt return-

Also returning is tight end Yarlan Henry, who also doubles as a top-notch inside linebacker along with Shontelle Shelton. The defensive line is

anchored by Takanta George and Brandy Brewer, the latter whom played high school football at Saline. 'She (Brewer) goes to Central Michigan (University) and comes in each weekend on

be at the game," Wubbenhorst said. The Dark Angels also have a pair of standout cornerbacks in former Demolition player Enika Davidson and Jennifer Parker-Bacchus, a native of

Thursday night to practice and

Kinston, N.C. "Jennifer recently got married and moved here from North Carolina," Wubbenhorst said. "She played down there on one of the national powers.

She's our defensive captain." The Dark Angels will get their first taste of action at 2 p.m. this Saturday at John Glenn in a scrimmage against the Columbus (Ohio) Comets, which lost in the national

championship game a year ago. "It will be a controlled scrimmage - four series of 10 plays and hopefully two quarters of

live action with real officials.' Wubbenhorst said. "If you're going to be the best, you've got to beat the best. Talent-wise I think it's a good matchup. We're going to find out if we're for real." The Dark Angels, owned

and operated by Chuck Lauber and Aaron Brothers, will play

an eight-game regular season schedule before embarking on the WFA playoffs. "I think this year we've been more organized on and off the field," Wubbenhorst said. "We've had a whole year to prepare. We've gotten community backing and we've been able

to get some business sponsorships." Ticket prices for each of the four home games are \$7 for adults and \$5 for students. Children 10-and-under will be admitted free.

Not a bad deal compared to the NFL. For more information, visit

www.detroitdarkangels.com.

bemons@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6851

Detroit Service Learning Academy (DSLA) at 21605 W Seven Mile, Detroit MI 48219 will receive sealed bid proposals until 2:00 p.m. on April 7, 2011 for the following bid package: "Asbestos Abatement at Detroit Service Learning Academy - Annex". Bids will be opened publicly and read aloud at the DSLA at this time. Bids received after this time will be rejected. Bidding Documents may be obtained after March 30, 2011, from Nova Environmental, Inc., 5340 Plymouth Rd. Suite 210 Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105 Tel. 734.930.0995 and at the pre-bid examination. A mandatory pre-bid examination of the building will be held at 10:00 a.m. on March 31, 2011 at DSLA parking lot, south entrance to 21755 W Seven Mile Road. All bidders must provide familial disclosure in compliance with MCL 380.1267 and attach this information to the bid. The bid must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner or any employee of the bidder and any member of the DSLA Board of Education or the Chief Financial Officer of the DSLA. Proposals must include a bid bond or certified check made payable to Detroit Service Learning Academy for not less than 5% of the contract and must be submitted on the bid proposal form furnished with the specifications. These projects are subject to prevailing wages. All proposals will remain firm for a period of 60 days and provide performance/labor and material bonds upon award. DSLA reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.

BID ADVERTISEMENT

Publish: March 24 & 27, 2011

(WL)

Crusaders finish trip with 2 more victories

The 17th-ranked Madonna University women's softball team capped its Kentucky tour with a pair of victories Sunday in the Campbellsville/Lindsey Wilson Classic.

The Crusaders, who get a week off before COLLEGE returning to action this SOFTBALL Saturday at

home vs. Bethel (Ind.) College, stand 19-4 overall after sweeping host Lindsey Wilson College, 1-0 and 3-1.

Jess Irwin got the victory in the opener, going all nine innings to improve to 10-3. The right-hander from Monroe struck out a season-high 16 batters and allowed just three hits.

Jackie Barley went 2-for-4 and knocked in Arielle Cox with the game-winning run in the top of the ninth to give MU the

Losing pitcher Anyibell Ramirez (13-3) allowed four hits in 8.1 innings. She struck out 20 and walked only two before giving way to reliever Morgan Paschall.

The Crusaders also captured the nightcap as Hallie Minch (9-1) went all seven innings to pick up the victory.

The Garden City grad gave up six hits, walked three and struck out five.

Paschall, the losing pitcher, allowed five hits, walked one

and struck out nine. Tara LaMilza had two hits to

Madonna men's

coach Scott adds

2 new recruits

Madonna University coach

Eric Scott has added two men's

soccer recruits - Sean Koza of

Birmingham Brother Rice and

Scott Poole of Madison Height

Lamphere - for the 2011 fall

"I am happy with the start to

SOCCER

what I think will be an impor-

this year and I think the addi-

tion of Sean and Scott will help

Koza, who resides in West

ters at Rice under coach Barry

Brodsky as the Warriors cap-

tured three straight district

titles and won the Division 1 state championship in 2009.

"Sean comes from a well

respected high school program

at Brother Rice," Scott said. "He

led his team to a state title and

is a right back with a lot of good

attacking ideas going forward.

He is a natural leader and will

be a player we expect big things

Poole, a goalkeeper, comes

school shutouts under coach Joe

He was a three-year captain for the Rams and was named

Conference all-league team as

a junior (2009), while earning

his team's most valuable player

As a member of the Derby

County Wolves Academy team,

Association Cup championship team and was named the goal-

The Wolves advanced to the

regional finals and ended their

season third in the national

Prior to his time with the

the WAZA soccer club, train-

Wolves, Poole was a member of

ing under former MU assistant

Poole was part of the 2010

Michigan State Youth Soccer

to MU after posting 20 high

to the All-Macomb Area

Bloomfield, earned four let-

nt recruiting class

for the program,"

with those.

from.

Hanna.

award.

keeping MVP.

championship.

Scott said. "We had

some key spots to fill

Key components

pick up MU's hitting attack. All three runs were unearned as Lindsey Wilson committed four errors.

Alexis Rodgers and Amy Harner each collected two hits in the loss for the Blue Raiders

CAMPBELLSVILLE (KY.) 3, MADONNA 2: A three-run third inning Saturday carried host Campbellsville University (8-16) to a one-run triumph over Madonna University (17-4) at

Pitchers Martina Riney and Courtney Turpin combined on a three-hitter for Campbellsville.

Veterans Memorial Field.

Riney, the starter, went the first four innings, allowing two earned runs on three hits. She struck out eight and walked two.

Turpin earned the save by pitching three scoreless innings. Hallie Minch (8-1) suffered the loss.

In six innings, Minch gave up seven hits, walked one and struck out seven. All three runs were earned. Kacie Vincent had two hits and

an RBI, while Bailey Dillender also knocked in two runs for the Tigers. Arielle Cox and Kelly Lesko each knocked in a run for MU.
REINHARDT (GA.) 5, MADONNA 0: On

Saturday, Maddie Monroe pitched a four-hitter as Reinhardt (Tenn.) University (19-6) blanked Madonna University (17-3) at Veterans Memorial Field in Campbellsville/ Lindsey Wilson (Ky.) Classic.

Monroe (9-3) struck out 11, walked only two in going all seven innings. Jess Irwin (9-3) suffered the loss, giving up three earned runs on four

hits in six innings. Nicole Rice and Kelsey Floyd each knocked in a pair of runs for the

"Scott brings a lot of high level

club experience, having trained

recently with the Derby County

Wolves Academy team," Scott

goalie, but he also seems to be

In Scott's first season at the

said. "Not only is he a strong

well grounded and mature."

helm, the Crusaders finished

8-6 overall and 3-3 in the

Hodgson also adds 2

Madonna University

women's Soccer Coach Jeff

to his 2011 recruiting class on

Monday with pair of signings

"Mo" DeGrandis (LaSalle,

Ontario) and Ashley Parent

could walk in and play," said

Hodgson. "Both of these players

can do that for us. Any players

that I am bringing in, I expect

of Villanova to the conference

finals as a junior and was the

The outside midfielder was

All-Star team. She is also a four-

"Mo is going to come in and

probably start on the outside for

us," Hodgson said. "I've known

athletic, very quick and she's

strong. She will help us on the

Parent joins DeGrandis as

another import from across the

Detroit River and comes to MU

after earning letters in basket-

She was named her team's

ball, volleyball and soccer at

MVP as a junior after lead-

ing the Amherst in goals. As

a senior this past fall she was

year we were turning out a lot

of scoring chances and we just

didn't have many pure goal scor-

awarded the Golden Boot. "By the end of the year last

General Amherst.

Mo for a long time and she's very

selected to the WECSSAA 4A

year selection to the honor roll

team's goals leader.

at Villanova.

field."

DeGrandis led the St. Thomas

(Amherstburg, Ontario).

to letters-of-intent - Monique

"I was looking for players who

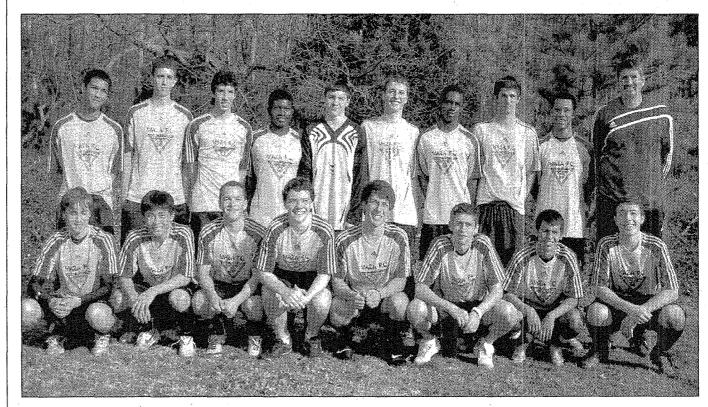
Conference.

to start."

Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic

under Gronthik and more

Gronthik Chatterjee.



Waza U-16 triumphs

Seven former Observerland soccer players helped the under-16 Waza FC Black capture the Jefferson Cup College Showcase, March 11-13, in Richmond, Va. Waza defeated the Toms River (N.J.) Elite Strikers, 3-0, in the finals as Dan Ovesea scored a pair of goals. They also defeated the Empire (N.Y.) Unite Soccer Academy, 2-0, and tied the Louisiana Chicago Fire Juniors, 1-1. Team members include (front row, left to right): Ronnie Basin, Farmington Hills; William Juang, Ann Arbor; Sam Keller, Ann Arbor; Tommy O'Connor, Farmington Hills; Ovesea, Canton; Alex Isaevski, Westland; Brent Winkler, Farmington Hills; Trevor Nessel, Novi; (back row, from left) Dom Hajdu, Farmington Hills; Matt Wilson, Novi; Kristian Rego, Bloomfield; Hussain Sandifer, Ann Arbor; Aaron Krupa, Ann Arbor; Jack Sobczynski, Rochester; Mussa Ibrahim, Ann Arbor; Bryan Maxwell, Commerce; Donald Payne, Farmington Hills; and coach Dan Diac. Not pictured is Graham Keep (Ann Arbor).

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Youth baseball tryout

Tryouts for the Michigan Bulldogs, a 10-and-under travel baseball team, will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, March 27, at Precision Baseball, 7835 Market Drive, Canton.

Registration starts at 10 a.m. For more information, call Lee Richards at (734) 718-8522.

LBSA registration

The Livonia Baseball and Softball Association will stage its 2011 summer baseball registration from 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, March 26 at the Livonia Civic Center Library.

Two divisions will be formed for both high school age (15-16) and high school-collegiate age (17-19).

Within each division, there will be highly competitive select teams, along with non-select teams. Rosters and teams are limited. Managers and coaches are also needed.

Registration forms are available at the signup or online at www.livoniabsa.com (under forms section). For more infor mation, call George Coram at (248) 478-5071 or Curt Kreutzfeld at (734) 522-5413.

WYAA baseball signup

Baseball registration for the Westland Youth Athletic Association will be 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays and from 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays at the Lange Compound Building, 6050 Farmington Road (north of Ford Road and west of Venoy).

The WYAA has openings for all age groups, including: Co-ed T-Ball (5-6), Co-Ed Machine Pitch (7-8), Mustang (10-andunder), Bronco (12-and-under), Pony (14-and-under), Colt (16and-under) and Palomino (18and-under).

Mustang, Bronco, Pony, Colt and Palomino age divisions involve local travel with interlocking leagues with other cit-

For more information, call (734) 421-0640 during normal business hours (or leave a message) or visit www.wyaa.org.

Steelhead fishing

The Metro-West Steelheaders invites the public free of charge to learn about fishing for steelhead trout - 8 a.m.-1

p.m. Saturday, April 2 on the Clinton River at Yates Park in Rochester Hills, and also from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, April 9, Huron River in Huron Park, located one block west of Telegraph Road and Huron River Drive, in Flat Rock.

No reservations required. Look for the Steelheaders ban-

Bring your fishing rod and a can of chicken noodle or vegetable soup (non-creamy). Midday, the Steelheaders will serve hot soup and hot dogs.

For more information, call Phil Bustos at (313) 670-2309; or visit www.metroweststeelheaders.org.

Tennis coach wanted

University of Detroit Jesuit High is seeking a varsity boys tennis coach.

Mail a resume to: Mickey Barrett, University of Detroit Jesuit Athletics, 8400 S. Cambridge, Detroit, MI. 48221; or e-mail mickey.barrett@ uofdjesuit.org.

For more information, call 313) 862-5400. Ext. 2309.

Girls slow-pitch signup

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will stage open registration for 2011 girls 10- and 13-and-under slow-pitch softball until enrollment reaches 160 participants in each division for those living in the Livonia or Clarenceville public school districts.

Registration forms are available at local schools or be picked up at the Livonia Community Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard (at Five Mile Road).

Late registration for school district residents is from 9 a.m. until noon beginning Saturday, April 9, at the Rec Center. Nonresident signup starts at 9 a.m. Monday, April 11 on a firstcome, first-served basis.

Open registration fees are \$40 (resident) and \$50 (nonresident), while late registration fees are \$50 (resident) and \$60 (non-resident).

For more information, call (734) 466-2410 (option No. 2).

WYAA fastpitch softball

Registration for the Westland Youth Athletic Association

517.372.2424

2011 girls fastpitch softball for all ages will be from 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays and 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays at the Lange Compound Building, located at 6050 Farmington Road (north of Ford).

Age groups offered include: 8-10, 11-12, 13-14 and 15-16.

Games for 10-, 12- and 16and-under will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays, while 14-andunder games on Mondays and Wednesdays.

The WYAA provides trainers for pitching and hitting instruc tion with indoor winter practices and on-site batting cage.

Teams will play league games and tournaments in preparation for high school competi-

For more information, call (734) 421-0640; visit www. wyaa.org (Facebook/WYAA softball); or e-mail busymichigandad.gmail.com.

Senior golf meeting

The Livonia Senior Men's Golf Association will stage its annual registration and business meeting at Q a m. Saturda April 16 at the Livonia Senior Center, located at the southeast corner of Farmington and Five Mile roads.

The LSMGA is open to all men ages 59 and up regardless of residency.

The \$25 membership fee includes lunch at the awards banquet. Single golfers are wel-

For more information, call Tony Amadori at (734) 261-

Women's golf league

The 20-week, 18-hole Livonia Women's Golf League will begin at 8 a.m. Thursdays, beginning May 5, at Whispering Willows.

The cost is \$26 per week (includes greens fees and cart).

Non-residents are encourage

For more information, call Alethea VanGorp at (734) 604-9020; or e-mail aavg@juno.

T-Ball, Coach-Pitch

Walk-in or fax-in registration for 2011 Livonia Parks and Recreation co-ed instructional, T-Ball (ages 5-6) and Coach-Pitch (ages 7-8) will be available

until the enrollment limit (640 participants in each division). Registration forms can be

picked up at area schools or the Livonia Community Recreation Center. You must be a resident of either the Livonia or Clarenceville public schools.

Late registration will be from 9 a.m. until noon Saturday, April 9, at the Recreation Center, located at 15100 Hubbard, Livonia. Non-resident registration begins at 9 a.m. Monday, April 11 at the Parks and Recreation office. Openings will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis until April 29.

The season runs from May through July with T-ball scrimmages on Monday evenings and Coach-Pitch on Thursday evenings. Open registration fees are \$40 (resident) and \$50 (non-resident) for Livonia and Clarenceville district residents.

Late registration fees are \$50 (resident) and \$60 (non-resi-

For more information, call

(734) 466-2410 (option No. 2).

Lady Spartan hoops The Lady Spartan Basketball

Camp will be from 9-11 a.m. (girls entering grades 4-6) and from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. (girls entering grades 7-9), Monday through Thursday, June 27-30, at the Stevenson High School fieldhouse.

The \$60 fee includes group and individual instruction from coaches and players from the Stevenson program.

In order to receive a T-shirt, you must be registered by June

For more information, email Stevenson varsity girls basketball coach Jen Knoph at jknoph@livoniapublicschools.

Stevenson cheer clinic

The Livonia Stevenson cheer clinic for girls in grades 3-6 will be from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the high school fieldhouse.

The cost is \$45 (includes lunch, instruction and customized routine).

Registrations are due by

Wednesday, April 20. To obtain a registration form,

e-mail Stevenson athletic director Lori Hyman at lyman@ livoniapublicschools.org.

THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP BASEBALL Thursday, March 24 Willow Run at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m Saturday, March 26 **GIRLS SOFTBALL** Thursday, March 24

Willow Run at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m. GIRLS SOCCER Friday, March 25 New Boston Huron at John Glenn, 4 p.m. Farmington at Franklin, 7 p.m. Wayne at Lakeland, 7 p.m. **BOYS & GIRLS TRACK & FIELD** Saturday, March 26 Huron Relays at EMU, 10 a.m

GIRLS TENNIS Saturday, March 26 Pinckney Invitational, 9 a.m **GIRLS LACROSSE** Friday, March 25 Ladywood at Farmington, 7 p.m MEN'S COLLEGE BASEBALL (all double-headers) Saturday, March 26 Sunday, March 27 Davenport at Madonna, 1 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOFTBALL

Saturday, March 26

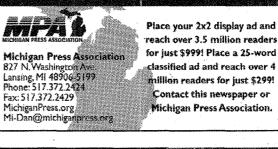
Bethel (Ind.) at Madonna (2), 1 p.m

amma Knife surgery offers several advantages over ers and Ashley is a pure type whole brain radiation for treating Brain Metastases. goal scorer," Hodgson said. " If If a loved one has brain cancer, ask your doctor for more she gets three, four chances a information, visit www.midmichigan.org/gammaknife game, one of those is going in or call toll-free (866) MI-GAMMA. the net."

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email: oeobits@hometownlife.com

View Passages Online: www.hometownlife.com



Age 74, March 15, 2011. Beloved husband of Barbara. Loving father of Mark (Jenny). Proud grandfather of Christian Edward Levengood. Dear brother of John Levengood. Preceded in death by son Michael L. Levengood. Visitation Sunday 12-6 PM and Monday 4-8 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd, (between Sheldon & Beck) Plymouth, MI. Memorial Gathering Tuesday 2-3 PM followed by a Memorial Service at 3:00 PM at First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial Rd, Plymouth, MI. Memorial Contributions may be made to either of the following; Boy Scout Troop 417, c/o Brookside United Methodist Church; 4000 Francis St, Jackson, MI 49203 or Plymouth First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial Rd., Plymouth, MI 48170.

To share memories please visit: vermeulenfuneralhome.com.

ANN JULIA (PETRINI) LINDAMOOD

Sept. 16, 1935 ~ Mar. 21, 2011 Ann was born September 16, 1935 to Aloysius and Mary Petrini in Sharon, PA. She graduated from Sharon High School in 1953 and was an Honors graduate from Catholic University of

America in Washington, DC, in 1957, and earned a Masters Degree in Management from Madonna University in Livonia, MI. Ann mar-ried Benton Lindamood September 7, 1963 and together raised four daughters: Mary, of Howell, Julia (Daniel) Argonis of Novi, Jane of New York, and Kit of Detroit. She has two grandchildren, Riley and Zachary Argonis, and many nieces and nephews. Ann was an Associate to the Adrian Dominican Sisters and a Spiritual Director. Visitation at MacDonald's Funeral Home, 315 North Michigan Avenue, Howell (517-546-2800) from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, March 24 and from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Friday, March 25 at St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church, 2201 South Old US 23 HWY, Brighton, MI. Funeral Mass at 11:00 a.m. Friday, March 25, at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Pax Christie USA or to the Adrian Dominican Sisters, 1257 East Siena Heights Drive, Adrian, MI 49221 or to the Church. Please visit the family's online guestbook at: www.macdonaldsfuneralhome.com



RICHARD THOMAS **MURRAY**

Age 80, March 19, 2011, of Garden City. Beloved hus-band of Peggie. Loving father of Michael (Debbie) Murray and Audie (David) Wacker. Proud grandfather of Brandon, Corey and Shannon. Dear brother of Patricia Hann. Visitation was held Mon., March 21 at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 980 N Newburgh Rd (btwn Ford & Cherry Hill), Westland. Funeral Mass held Wed. at St. Thomas a Becket Catholic Church, 555 S. Lilley Rd (corner of Cherry 555 S. Lilley Rd (corner of Cherry Hill), Canton. Memorial Contri-butions to the Disabled American Veterans would be appreciated. To share a memory, please visit: vermeulenfuneralhome.com



GEORGE C. SHOLLACK

Age 88, of Canton, March 17, 2011. Beloved husband of 51 years to the late Elaine. Loving father of Ron, Cyndee (Bryan) Prieskorn, and Steve (Christina). Dear grandfather of Dawn (Aaron) Zapata, Aaron (Tangie) Prieskorn, Nicholas, Brandon, and Justin Shollack. Dear great grandfather of Levi and Malachi Zapata, Jordan Emily, and Asher Prieskorn. Visitation Wednesday 3-9 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd., (btwn. Sheldon & Beck) Plymouth. In State Thursday, 10:30AM until the 11AM Funeral Service at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 10101 Ann Arbor Road (at Gotfredson), Plymouth. To share a memory, please visit: vermeulenfuneralhome.com

May You Find Comfort in Friends

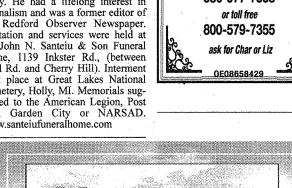
JEAN I. TUJAKA

Age 86, of Livonia, passed away on March 19, 2011. Loving wife of the late Sigmund. Beloved mother of Judi (Mark) Rippee and Donald Tujaka. Proud grandmother of Dawn (Mark) Bostwick and Alexandra Willey. Great-grandmother of Cole Bostwick Jean was a devoted homemaker, she also loved traveling, sewing and gar-dening. Funeral service Thursday 11:00am from the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main St., Plymouth. Interment Riverside Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Angela Hospice 14100 Newburgh Rd, Livonia, Mi 48154. Share memories at schrader-howell.com



CHARLES VARKOLY

Age 63, March 18, 2011. Beloved son of Elizabeth (the late Joseph) Varkoly Loving brother of Stephen (Kathy) and Barbara (the late Steve) Smith. Loving uncle of Kathryn, Christine and Matthew Smith Nephew of Charles (Mary Lou) Rowe. Charles proudly served his country as Staff Sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps in Viet Nam and in the Navy. He had a lifelong interest in journalism and was a former editor of the Redford Observer Newspaper. Visitation and services were held at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster Rd., (between Ford Rd. and Cherry Hill). Interment took place at Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly, MI. Memorials suggested to the American Legion, Post 396, Garden City or NARSAD. www.santeiufuneralhome.com



OBITUARY POLICY

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

Deadlines:

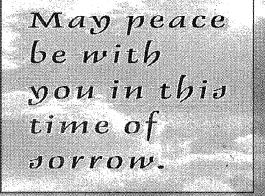
Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday

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

e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com

Attn: Obits c/o Char Wilson 313-496-4968

> For more information call: **Char Wilson** 586-826-7082 or Liz Keiser 586-977-7538





Music at Meadowbrook

The Detroit Handbell Ensemble, a 14-member auditioned concert choir. will perform at 4 p.m. April 10 at Meadowbrook 21355 Meadowbrook Road, between Eight Mile and Nine Mile in Novi. Under the direction of Michael Burkhardt, the Detroit Handbell Ensemble has become known for its creative programming and artistic expression. An afterglow will follow the concert. Tickets are \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door for adults. For students over age 10, tickets are \$4 in advance and \$5 at the door. Children 10 and under are free. For more information or tickets, call the church office at (248)348-7757.

Pastor fields questions about church teachings

St. Michael the Archangel Parish's learning series, "Why Be Catholic" will switch gears next month and give participants a chance to "Ask the Pastor."

Church pastor, the Rev. William Tindall, pastoral assistant Sharon Williams and apologist Gary Michuta will answer questions about

the Church, its teachings, practices, theology, and rituals at 7 p.m. April 13, in the school cafeteria, 11311 Hubbard, Livonia. The program is open to everyone regardless of religious affili-

For more information call (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200.

Gala needs volunteers

Organizers of the 75th anniversary celebration at St. Raphael Catholic School in Garden City are seeking volunteers to help with the milestone event.

The gala fundraiser and anniversary Mass are planned for Saturday, May 21. Archbishop Allen Vigneron will officiate at the worship service.

The organizing committee meetings are 5:30 p.m. the first Monday of the month, at 31500 Beechwood. Volunteers may

Information forms are available at the school near the office and in the entrance way at St. Raphael the Archangel Church, 31530 Beechwood.

Alumni, parents and students also may share their memories by visiting the school's Facebook page. Visit www.straphael-gc.org for a link to the page. For more information call St. Raphael School at (734) 425-9771 or e-mail to dbrzezinski@straphael-gc.org.



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Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.

Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.

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Rev. Fr. Demetrios Sean Govostes. Parish Office 734-420-0131 Office Hours M-F 10:00 am - 2:00 pm www.nativitygochurch.org

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Adult Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church

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

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at 9:30 & 11 a.m.

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9:45 am

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Phone 734-513-8413

St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran CHURCH & SCHOOL 17810 FARMINGTON ROAD, LIVONIA (734) 261-1360 WORSHIP SERVICES SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M. website: www.stpaulslivonia.org

CONGREGATIONAL

North Congregational Church



10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School Faith - Freedom-Fellowship

Dr. Mark P. Jensen Rev. Mary E. Biedron

ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, March 24, 2011

hometownlife (iii) com



Tartan Day party celebrates Scottish food, dance, music

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Marge Sellers loves all things Scottish — the pipes and drums, plaid kilts and dances, the meat pies and poetry.

The Farmington Hills woman also enjoys a good party — called a Ceilidh in Gaelic — as much as the next Scot, but says giving back to the community is as important as celebrating the Scottish culture. That's the main reason she and her husband, Mark, joined the Scottish American Society of Michigan two years ago.

"This group's sole purpose is community, companionship and doing for others and that attracts people like you can't believe," she said. "We've benefitted several groups — the Boys and Girls Club, veterans — members get together and pick out a charity. And it goes beyond that because Scots are known for their ability to hang onto a dollar and put it to good use."

The Society's Tartan Day Ceilidh on Saturday, April 2, in Livonia, will benefit the Alma College Pipe Band, while giving attendees a taste of Scottish culture.

Tartan Day commemorates the signing of the Declaration of Arbroath in 1320, which underscored Scotland's sovereignty over English territorial claims. In 1998, the U.S. Senate declared April 6 National Tartan Day. The U.S. House passed a companion bill a few years later.

"People come from as far away as Midland for Tartan Day," said Franklin Dohanyos, a Royal Oak resi-



Raggle Taggle Band will perform at the Scottish American Society of Michigan's Tartan Day.

dent who founded the Scottish American Society of Michigan. "We always do the Ceilidh on the Saturday closest to Tartan

"There are parties all over the world. Some pubs have Scottish foods or flags. We've got the same entertainment and food. The only thing that's different is that we're going to benefit Alma College. They have a huge Scottish festival over Memorial Day weekend, with pipe bands from all over the Midwest."

CEILIDH FUN

Dohanyos, who has taken bagpipe lessons and occasionally plays for weddings and other events, will perform on guitar with the Raggle Taggle Band at the Tartan Day Ceilidh. Other performers are the Alma College Pipe Band, the Detroit Caledonian Pipe Band, and Highland Dancers, along with Celtic fiddling and Scottish country dance demonstrations.

The family-friendly event includes a full meal with two meats. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$15 for children. Doors open at 6 p.m. April 2 at Monaghan's Knights of Columbus, 19801 Farmington Road, Livonia. Ticket deadline is March 31.

"A Ceilidh is a gathering. It's a way for people to get together and have a good time," said Sellers, the Society's parlia-



Members of the Alma College Pipe Band will be on hand at the Scottish American Society of Michigan's annual Tartan Day Ceilidh in Livonia.

mentarian. "You get a chance to see everyone you know and you meet new people. If nothing else we're able to promote the Scottish culture which is rich and deep and had a big hand in settling this country."

TWO ORGANIZATIONS

She and her husband are members of both the St.
Andrews Society of Detroit and the Scottish American Society of Michigan. St.
Andrews Society runs a cultural center in Troy and presents the annual Highland Games at Greenmead in Livonia.

Sellers said the newer Society is "a lot less formal" and on a "smaller scale" but is "open to everyone." Scottish American Society Membership and events are open to the public regardless of Scottish lineage.

"You don't have to be Scottish to join. We're more interested in having people of Scottish decent or friends of Scotland," Sellers said. "We do so many fun things. We want as many people to come as possible so they see a little bit of Scotland."

Dohanyos said close to 600 individuals receive the group's e-mail notices and 200 are paid members. The organization started a youth pipe band and plans a mini Highland Games in July during Scottish Days at Canterbury Village in Lake Orion.

"I've had this group for two years and we're having a blast," he said. "Our goal is to become the hub for Scottish activity in Michigan."

The Scottish American Society of Michigan meets at 3 p.m. generally the third Sunday of the month, at the Commonwealth Club, 30088 Dequindre, Warren. Annual fees are \$20 per household. Visit www.scotsofmichigan. com or call Dohanyos at (248) 399-1101 for tickets or more information.

Laugh all week long at annual comedy fest

Jordan Jones, a stand-up comedian from Canton, is among the "rising comedy artists" who will appear during the fourth annual Garden Fresh Laugh Detroit Comedy Festival, Sunday-Saturday, March 28-April 2 at Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle in Royal Oak.

Jones will perform during the Monday night showcase, along with 10 other comedians and host Auggie Smith. Brian McKim and Traci Skene host the second showcase on Tuesday and Karen Rontowski emcees the third on Wednesday. Eleven up and coming comedians are scheduled to perform each night along with the hosts. Showcases run from 8-10 p.m. each night and cost \$10.

Comedian Lynne Koplitz takes the stage at 8 p.m. Thursday, March 31 and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 1 and 2. Tickets are \$10 for Thursday's



Detroit native David Alan Grier will kick off the seven-day Laugh Detroit Comedy Festival, Sunday, March 27, at the Royal Oak Music Theatre. Nearly 40 top comedians will perform at Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle in Royal Oak, March 28-April 2.

performance and \$18 April 1-2. Koplitz has hosted a special on Comedy Central, and co-stars with Joan Rivers on We's "Joan Knows Best" television series.

Detroit native David Alan Grier kicks off the festival at 8 p.m. Sunday, March 27, at Royal Oak Music Theatre. Tickets are \$35-\$39.

Bob Saget helps close the festival at 8 p.m. Saturday, April 2, at the Royal Oak Music Theatre. Tickets are \$39.50-\$49.50.

The Royal Oak Music Theatre is located on Fourth, between Washington and Lafayette, in downtown Royal Oak. Get tickets for Gier or Saget at www. royaloakmusictheatre.com; (248) 399-2980.

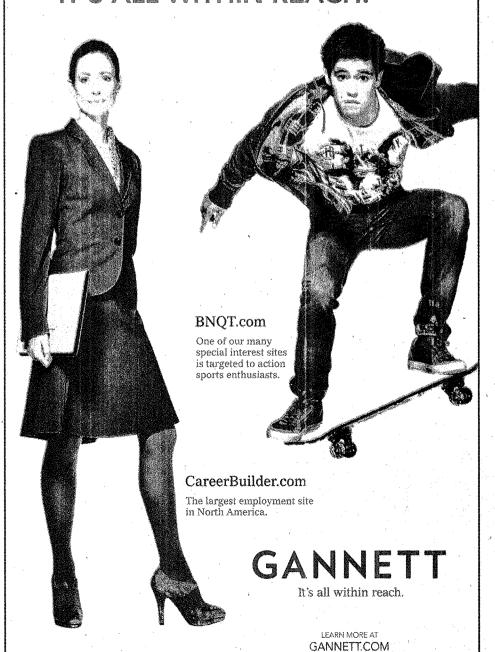
Mark Ridley's is at the corner of Troy Street and Fourth, two blocks south of 11 Mile, east of Main, in downtown Royal Oak. Visit www.detroitlaugh.com for more information. Get festival tickets at www.comedycastle. com.

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Jewish music fest offers classical to hip hop

The annual Jewish Community Center (JCC) Stephen Gottlieb Music Festival is underway with an eclectic mix of musical styles and performers.

The festival runs through Sunday, April 3 at JCC campuses in Oak Park and West Bloomfield. Performances at the West Bloomfield location are held at the new Berman Center for the Performing Arts, a professionally-equipped theater that can accommodate up to 600 individuals.

Proceeds from the music festival will benefit the JCC's Arts, Culture & Education Department. Here's what's planned through April 3:

Thursday, March 24: Jack Zaientz, an Ann Arbor area research scientist, will present "The Silver Age of American Jewish Music is Happening Now — And Why We're Missing It," 7 p.m., in Oak Park. Free, but a reservation is required.

Saturday, March 26: David Broza's guitar playing ranges from Flamenco sounds to rock and roll. The Israeli superstar combines the sounds of Israel, Spain and England, 8:30 p.m. in West Bloomfield. Center members, \$30; non-members, \$40.

Sunday, March 27: Mark Bloom merges jazz and Judaism, 2 p.m. in West Bloomfield. Children, \$5; adults, \$7.

Sunday, March 27: A progressive Jewish music showcase includes hip hop and jazz. Performers are V-Love, Diwon, Pitom and Stereo Sinai, 6 p.m. in West Bloomfield. Center members, \$12; non-members, \$15.

Monday, March 28: Elaine Serling sings at a free concert at 1 p.m. in West Bloomfield.

Monday, March 28: Amy Yassinger specializes in jazz, R&B and pop music. She sings at 7 p.m. in

Oak Park. Center members, \$12; non-members,

Tuesday, March 29: The Klezmatics, America's leading Klezmer band performs at 7 p.m. in West Bloomfield. \$10.

Wednesday, March 30: Elaine Serling repeats her free concert at 1 p.m. in Oak Park.

Thursday, March 31: A local music showcase features Heller, Stayer & Green, Maggid Steve Klaper and David Nefesh, 7 p.m. in West Bloomfield. Center members, \$12; non-members, \$15.

Saturday, April 2: Writer Gary Graff joins forces with Billy Brandt of Grievous Angel and the Mission Band, Martin "Tino" Gross of Howling Diablos and Mark Pasman of WCSX's "Motor City Blues Projects" for commentary and music at 8:30 p.m. in West Bloomfield.

Sunday, April 3: Edward Benyas, conduc-

tor and oboe soloist with the Chicago Chamber Orchestra, returns to his native Michigan to direct the first classical chamber orchestra program in the Berman Center for Performing Arts, 11 a.m., in West Bloomfield. A brunch is available at 10 a.m. Concert only is \$18 for center members; \$25 for non-members. Concert and brunch is \$33 for center members and \$40 for non-members.

Sunday, April 3: The Michigan Board of Cantors takes a musical romp through Detroit at 7 p.m. in West Bloomfield. \$25 for center members; \$35 for non-members.

The Oak Park campus is located at 15110 W. 10 Mile. The West Bloomfield center is at 6600 W. Maple. For tickets and more information visit www.jccdet.org.

ART

City Gallery

Time/Date: Through April 8; gallery hours are 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 24, 2011

Location: In the Costick Center at 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills Details: Work by Stephen Deeb. head of the art department at North Farmington High School Coming up: Farmington Art Foundation holds its Spring Exhibit

and Sale, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, April 14, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, April 15 and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 16 at the Costick Center. Opening reception, 6 p.m., followed by awards at 6:30 p.m., April 14

Contact: (248) 473-1856

Northville Art House

Time/Date: Through March 26. Hours are 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday

Location: 215 W. Cady in downtown Northville

Details: Beyond The Blueprint: Architects' Other Art, showcases the works of Metro Detroit artistarchitects, including Dennis Michael Jones, a visual artist and educator in Plymouth who continues to balance his architectural work with his

Contact: (248) 344-0497

Village Theater at Cherry Hill Time/Date: Through March 29; gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Monday-Friday Location: 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton Details: Pressed flower artwork of Shelley Xie, a self-taught artist and resident of Canton Contact: (734) 394-5300

COMEDY

Go Comedy!

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

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

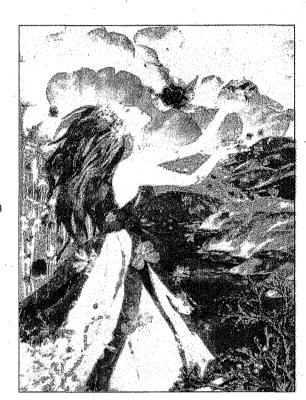
ticketmaster.com Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia Time/Date: 8 p.m. Mondays, open Mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local Legends: 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m.

Fridays, Saturdays Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

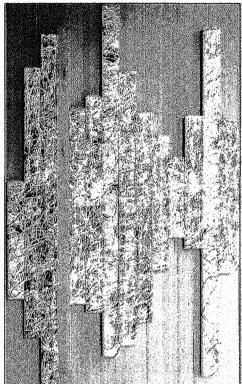
Details: Mark Sweeney, March 23-26; Chili Challis, March 30-April 2; Chas Elsner, April 6-9; Floyd J.



Beaucoup Blue will perform at 8 p.m. Friday, March 25 at Trinity House Theatre, 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia.



"Spring Shower" by Shelley Xie is among the works on display this month at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.



"Harvard" by Stephen Deeb and other works are on display in Farmington Hills.

Phillips, April 13-16; Mark Poolos, April 20-23; Claude Stewart, April 27-30; Mike Green, May 4-7; Rob Little, May 11-14

Contact: (734) 261-0555, www.kickerscomplex.com

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle Time/Date: Erik Griffin; March 24-26; Lynne Koplitz, March 31-April 2; Steve McGrew, April 7-9; Michael Somerville, April 14-16; T.J. Miller, April 21-23; Don Friesen, April 28-30; Kathleen Madigan, May 5-7; John

Pinette, May 12-14 Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak Stand-up classes: A six-week session with comedian Bill Bushart, meets 1-:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturday, beginning April 2. Cost is \$175. Call the Comedy Castle to reserve a spot Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com

CONCERTS

The Ark

Time/Date: May Erlewine & Seth Bernard, March 24; The Spring Standards, March 25; NewFound Road, March 26: Madcat, Kane & Maxwell Street, March 27: Steve Poltz, March 28; Dala, March 30; Matt Wertz, March 31

Location: 316 South Main, Ann

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

Baseline Folk Society Time/Date: Third Saturday of the month

Location: The JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth **Details**: Eight "open-mic" performances plus a featured group. Sign up for open mic from 6:15-6:45 p.m.; show starts at 7 p.m. Open mic performers may sing two songs. If more than eight performers sign up, a lottery will be held for the eight spots. Individual membership is \$25 and includes monthly concerts from September through May. Otherwise, admission to each concert is \$5 at the door. Family memberships are \$50 and include monthly concerts Contact: (248) 719-3464 or mjmmullen@yahoo.com

Chamber Music Society of Detroit Time/Date: Pre-concert talk, 6:45 p.m., concert at 8 p.m. Saturday, March 26

Location: Seligman Performing Arts Center, located on the campus of Detroit Country Day School, 22305 W. 13 Mile, Beverly Hills

Details: This concert marks the debuts of both cellist Zuill Bailey and pianist Piers Lane in metro Detroit and on the Chamber Music Society of Detroit series. They'll play music by Mendelssohn, Schumann, Rachmaninoff and Roberto Sierra. Single tickets range from \$43-75; \$25 for students



Go to www.hometownlife.com for details

Contact: (248) 855-6070 Jazz @ The Elks

Time/Date: 7-10:30 p.m., every fourth Tuesday Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge

#1780 at 41700 Ann Arbor Road. Plymouth **Details**: Jazz musicians perform;

no cover, but donations accepted. Complimentary hors d' geuvres Contact: (734) 453-1780 www. PlymouthElks1780.com

Trinity House Theatre

Time/Date: Beaucoup Blue with Annie and Rod Capps; March 25; Mike Mangione and the Union with The Potter's Field, March 26; Trinity House Theatre Benefit Concert, April 1; Empty Chair Night, April 3; Putnam Smith, April 8, Melissa Greener, April 9; The Choir, April 14; Brooks Williams with Mike Vial, April 15; Tim Eriksen with Nick Schillace, April 16; Songwriters Anonymous Showcase, April 29; Craig Cardiff, April 30 Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia Contact: (734) 464-6302, www.trinityhouse.org

Village Theater at Cherry Hill Time/Date: 8 p.m. Saturday, March

Location: 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton Details: Looking Glass, 8 p.m., March 26; tickets \$15

Coming up: Comic Opera Guild performs "The Grand Duchess of Gerolstein" 8 p.m. April 2 and 2 p.m. April 3; tickets are \$20 for adults and \$17 for seniors and students Contact: (734) 394-5460; cantonvillagetheater.org

Vivace Music Series

Time/Date: 8 p.m., Saturday, April 11 Location: The Birmingham Temple, 28611 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills **Details**: Eugenia Zukerman will share the stage with Russian/ American soprano Svetlana Strezeva and her daughter, pianist, Milana Strezeva. The program will feature music by well known Russian and French composers in folk and classical traditions. Tickets are \$23 general admission and \$20 for senior citizens and students Contact: Ann Sipher at (248) 661-

1348 or Joyce Cheresh at (248) 788-9338

DANCE

Farmington Players Barn Time/Date: 7 p.m. March 26 **Location**: 32332 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills



26 in Canton.

Details: Michigan Classic Ballet Company presents "Seasons of Spring." Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for children and senior citizens

Contact: www.michiganclassicballet.org

Music Hall

Time/Date: 8 p.m. April 2, 2 p.m.: April 3

Location: 350 Madison, Detroit **Details:** Complexions Contemporary Ballet interprets U2 and The Rolling Stones, along with compositions by many Jazz, Gospel and Blues greats. Tickets are \$30, \$40 and \$50 Contact: (313) 887-8500; www.ticketmaster.com

FAMILY

Arab American National Museum Time/Date: 2-5 p.m. Saturday, April

Location: 13624 Michigan Ave., Dearborn

Details: "Spring into Spring" with live butterflies, spring crafts, kid karaoke, cookie decorating, scavenger hunt and more. A pizza feast and sweet seasonal dessert will be served from 2:30-4 p.m. Themed gift basket raffle will be held during the event. Tickets for the raffle are \$1 each. Admission is \$6 for children ordered in advance at www.arabamericanmuseum.org or \$8 at the door; all activities and refreshments are included. Adults admitted free. Adult food tickets will be available for \$2 during the event Contact: Janice Freij at (313) 624-

Bakers Keyboard Lounge Time/Dates: 2-5 p.m. Sundays

Details: Jazz for Kids Program Location: 20510 Livernois Ave., Detroit Contact: (313) 345-6300,

0203 or jfreij@accesscommunity.org

www.bakerskeyboardlounge.com

Detroit Institute of Arts Time/Dates: 2 p.m. Sundays

Details: Target Family Sundays, storytelling, performances, free with admission

Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.

Detroit Zoo

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. daily Location: I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak **Details**: Admission is \$11 for adults

15 to 61, \$9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$7 for children ages 2 to 14; children under 2 are free Contact: (248) 541-5717

Music Hall

Time/Date: 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, March 26

Location: 350 Madison Ave., Detroit **Details**: Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia presents "The Very Hungry Caterpillar and Other Eric Carle Favorites," adapted, directed and designed by Jim Morrow, music by Steven Naylor, and narrated by Gordon Pinsent

Contact: (313) 887-8500

FILM

Ann Arbor Film Festival

Time/Date: through March 27 **Location**: Screenings at the Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor; film talks, parties, receptions at various locations in Ann Arbor **Details**: Animation, documentary, experimental films, family-friendly

films, feature length works, music video, short films and more. Contact: (734) 604-4627; view aafilmfest.org for event times and ticket prices

MJR Cinema

Time/Date: Saturday and Sunday through April 3

Location: MJR theaters, including 6601 Allen Road in Allen Park; 15651 Trenton Road in Southgate; and 7501 Highland Road in Waterford Details: Free children's festival

features "Yogi Bear," March 26-27; and "Megamind," April 2-3. Free for children, 12 and under; tickets for parents are \$1 each. Call the theater for show times or check online the Tuesday before the show at mirtheatres.com

Contact: Call the Allen Park theater at (313) 381-1125; the Southgate theater at (734) 284-FILM (3456); and the Waterford theater at (248) 666-7900

Penn Theater

Time/Date: 7 p.m. and 9:20 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 25-26 and 4:40 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, March

Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

Details: "Tron: Legacy," all seats \$3 Coming up: "True Grit," 7 p.m. and 9:05 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 1-2 and 5 p.m. and 7:05 p.m. Sunday, April 3

Classics: "The Birds," March 24; and "Psycho," March 31. All shows start at 7 p.m. and cost \$3 Contact: (734) 453-0870; www.

penntheatre.com **Redford Theatre**

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday, March 25 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, March 26

Location: 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Ave., in Detroit Details: "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang." Tickets are \$4

Coming up: Three Stooges Festival. 8 p.m. April 8 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. April 9; tickets \$5 Contact: (313) 537-2560

MUSEUMS

Charles H. Wright

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday Location: 315 E. Warren Road, Detroit

Details: The Test: Tuskegee Airmen Project through June 19; Framed Stories: The Art of Carmen Cartiness Johnson and Jerome Wright through April 11. Black Marriage Day enables couples to renew their vows, get valuable insight into strengthening their union, compete against other couples for prizes and dine and dance the night away. The special day is observed Friday-Saturday, March 25-26. Cost to attend all weekend activities including a strolling reception hosted by the Marriage Resource Center of Wayne County on Saturday, March 26 is \$45 per couple. Tickets are \$30 for couples who attend all activities except the strolling reception, and \$25 for couples for just the strolling reception. Call (313) 838-3006 for tickets. Regular museum admission is \$8 for adults, 13-61; and \$5 for youth, 3-12, and seniors, 62 and over. Members and children 2 and under are admitted free

Contact: (313) 494-5800

BENNY ANDERSSON & BJÖRN ULVAEUS' Fisher Theatre • April 13–17 Special Weekday Matinee Thursday, April 14 at 1PM Tickets at Fisher Theatre box office, Ticketmaster.com, 800-982-2787 and ticketmaster outlets • Info: 313-872-1000. BroadwayInDetroit.com & MammaMiaNorthAmerica.com

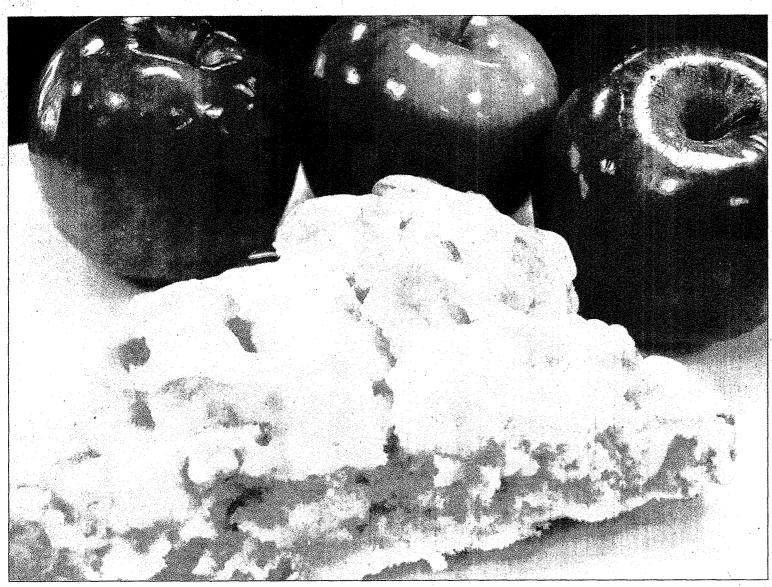
Groups of 12+: 313-871-1132 or Groups@BroadwayInDetroit.com

Broadway in Detroit sponsored by

vour Southeastern Michigan Lincoln dealers • DriveLM.com LINCOLN

"IT'S IRRESISTIBLE"

The big



Pure Bliss Apple Ginger Scones

Contest yields bushels of recipes

mateur cooks across the nation scoured magazines, cookbooks and family recipes to draw inspiration for their entries in the Michigan Apple Committee's 3rd Annual Online Recipe Contest.

The Committee awarded prizes to three top winners, as well as three runners-up.

"This is the first time we felt compelled to distinguish three runners-up because the entries were that good," said Holly Whetstone, the Committee's marketing and communications

The organization plans to feature the winning recipes, along with the winners' photos, on future recipe cards distributed at orchards, farm markets, trade shows and select grocery stores.

First place winner is an apple scone recipe; second place is a salad and third place is a pie. Runners-up are desserts and a vegetable-apple side dish.

PURE BLISS APPLE GINGER SCONES

Created by Nadine Mesch of Mount Healthy, Ohio

2 cups flour ¼ cup sugar

3 teaspoons baking powder

½ tsp salt

6 tablespoons cold butter 2 Gala apples, peeled and finely

chopped ¼ cup candied ginger, chopped

1 egg

½ cup heavy cream 1½ teaspoon lemon zest

GLAZE:

¾ cup powdered sugar

2 tablespoons lemon juice Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. In a large mixing

bowl combine flour, sugar,

baking powder and salt. Using a cheese grater, grate the cold butter into the flour mixture. Stir. Add chopped Gala apples and candied ginger. In a small bowl mix together the egg, cream and lemon zest. Gently mix into apple mixture. Stir until dough forms. Knead dough six times. Place on parchment paper, form into an 8-inch round. About 1-inch thick. Cut into 8 wedges; separate slightly.

Bake for approximately 15 minutes until just lightly golden. Cool slightly. Combine glaze ingredients, drizzle over scones. Now get ready for PURE BLISS and enjoy.

SKILLET APPLE-CHERRY PIE

Created by Donna Bardocz of Howell My mom always told me that most every thing comes back in style if you wait long enough ... my rustic technique of making and baking my apple-cherry pie in an ovenproof cast-iron skillet brings back days gone by. And too, the inside of the pie will surprise and delight with a yummy dumpling-type filling.

Makes 7 to 8 servings. Refrigerated pie crust (15-ounce box)

¼ cup dried cherries

¼ cup chopped pecans

¼ cup firmly packed light brown sugar

¼ teaspoon ground cinnamon ¼ cup (4 tablespoons) unsalted butter

¼ cup firmly packed light brown sugar

¼ cup (4 tablespoons) cherry preserves 4 tart Michigan baking apples, such as Golden Delicious, Gravenstein, Baldwin, Macoun, North-

ern Spy or Winesap, washed very well 2 tablespoons milk

1 tablespoon granulated sugar (for sprinkling

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F. Combine the dried cherries, pecans, ¼ cup brown sugar and cinnamon in a

small bowl and set aside. Select an ovenproof skillet that measures 9 inches across the bottom and 11-12 inches across the top. A cast-iron skillet works well and makes a homestyle presentation. Melt the butter in the skillet over medium heat, and then stir in the other 1/2 cup of brown sugar and cherry preserves. When the mixture is bubbling evenly over the surface of the pan -30 seconds or so - remove pan from the heat.

Do not peel the apples; the peels will help them to hold together. Halve them top to bottom, however, and core each half. A melon baller does a good job. Spoon some of the cherrywalnut mixture into each apple half,

compacting it with a finger. Quickly invert the stuffed apple halves and place them cut side down in the skillet. You should be able to get six or seven around the outside and one in the center. Finely dice the remaining apple half, if left over, and scatter the pieces between the apples. Sprinkle the leftover cherry-nut mixture between the apples.

Between two sheets of waxed paper, converge and roll together both top and bottom pie crusts to form one 12-inch circle. After removing the top sheet of waxed paper, invert the pastry over the apples, center it and peel off the other sheet of paper. Lifting the edge of the pastry, either tuck the edge straight down along the inside of the pan or pinch it to crimp the edge. Poke two large vent holes in the pastry with a paring knife, twisting the knife to enlarge

the holes slightly. Lightly brush the pastry with the milk and sprinkle surface with sugar. Place the pie directly on the center oven rack and bake for 20 minutes. Reduce the oven temperature to 375 degrees and bake until the top crust is golden brown, another 25 minutes.

Transfer the pie to a cooling rack and let cool for at least 30 minutes or to room temperature before serving.

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Comment online at hometownlife.com

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

Vegan chef, former **Detroit Piston to** speak at VegFest

Celebrity chef Tal Ronnen and NBA champ John Salley will be among the presenters at VegMichigan's annual vegetarian tastefest and expo, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 27, at the Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave., in

Visitors can hear talks on the health, environmental and ethical benefits of a plant-based diet and enjoy tasty vegan cuisine from two dozen local restaurants, along with national brand samples, food demonstrations, exhibits, children's activities, door prizes and more.

"The event is designed to give people real tools and resources for changing their diet for the better," savs event chair Wendy Jones.

Last year's VegFest, held in Ferndale, drew more than 2,100 attendees. The 2011 event is expected to draw upwards of 3,000.

Keynote speaker Ronnen is one of the most celebrated vegan chefs working today. In addition to preparing vegan meals for Oprah Winfrey's 21-day vegan cleanse, he catered the vegan wedding of Ellen DeGeneres and Portia de Rossi as well as the first vegan dinner at the U.S. Senate. Chef Tal's new cookbook, The Conscious Cook, is a New York Times best-seller. He has worked at several of the nation's top vegan restaurants and conducts master vegetarian workshops at Le Cordon Bleu College campuses nationwide. At VegFest, he'll speak and prepare delicious vegan recipes at noon and sign copies of

Salley returns to VegFest, having drawn recordbreaking crowds to the event the past two years. Salley follows a vegan diet and believes that this diet choice improved his game and his life. He will speak at 2 p.m.

Other VegFest speakers are Nathan Runkle, executive director of the national Mercy for Animals; Dr. Joel Kahn, corporate director of wellness for Detroit Medical Center Hospitals and director of preventive cardiology and cardiac rehabilitation at DMC Cardiovascular Institute; Jim Corcoran, co-founder of VegMichigan, Plant Peace Daily and VegFund; Harry Pianko, president of VegMichigan; and others. Chef George Vutetakis, author and founding chef of Royal Oak's Inn Season Café, will present a cooking demonstration and tasting. Chef Steven Delidow, culinary wellness representative at Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital and Celeste Ivey, proprietor of Patisserie Ci in Southfield, also will demonstrate cooking.

VegFest admission is \$10 at the door; \$5 for students; free for children under 6 and VegMichigan members. Parking is free. For memberships, discounted tickets and information on sponsorship exhibiting, volunteering or the day's schedule, call VegMichigan at (877) 778-3464 or visit www. vegmichigan.org.

Crunch your way to a healthy heart

CHOCOLATE ALMOND BARK

Created by: Almond Board of California

Yield: 32 servings

4 cups sliced California Almonds

½ cup unsalted butter, softened 1½ cups sugar

½ cup water

½ teaspoon vanilla ¼ teaspoon salt

1 pound fine-quality bittersweet chocolate

½ pound fine-quality semi-sweet chocolate 3 ounces of milk chocolate or white chocolate (optional)



Chocolate Almond Bark

Preheat oven to 400°F and oil a large baking sheet. Set aside. In a separate large baking pan, spread almonds and toast for 8 minutes or until lightly brown. Cool.

In a large heavy saucepan, bring butter, sugar, water, vanilla and salt to a boil over moderate heat, stirring with a wooden spoon. Boil mixture, without stirring, until deep golden color, about 12 minutes. Remove pan from heat and stir in 2 cups of the toasted almonds. Immediately pour onto reserved baking sheet and spread evenly. Refrigerate

Chop chocolate. In a hot double boiler, melt chocolate until smooth. Pour choco-

late over cooled almond toffee and spread evenly with a spatula. Sprinkle top with remaining almonds. If desired, drizzle with melted milk or white chocolate for contrast. Chill uncovered until firm, about 1 hour.

Break toffee into pieces. Store layered between sheets of parchment paper in an airtight container at cool room temperature, or chilled, up to I week. Nutritional analysis per serving; Serving size: 2

Calories: 246; Fiber 2.1 g; Total Fat: 17.5; Cholesterol: 8.2 mg; Saturated Fat: 7.2 g; Sodium: 22.1 mg; Monounsaturated Fat: 5.7 g; Calcium: 45.9 mg; Polyunsaturated Fat: 1.6 g; Magnesium: 42.6 mg; Protein: 4.17; Potassium: 211.5 mg; Carbohydrates: 24.5 g;

Vitamin E: 3.2 mg (Total alpha-tocopherol equiva-

- Courtesy Family Features

CITY BITES

Burger and a movie

Farmington Hills - Jaws Jumbo Burgers will celebrate Tom Hanks Day by showing Tom Hanks movies noon to 8 p.m. Sunday, March 27 and giving away a \$20 gift certificate to the 50th customer.

Films include Tom Hanks favorites like Toy Story 1, 2, and 3, The Polar Express, Forest Gump, and Turner and Hooch. Jaws Jumbo Burgers is located at 29216 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills; (248) 855-2228 or www.jawsjumboburgers.net

Vegan cooking

Plymouth - Dr. Art Weaver, professor emeritus of head and neck cancer surgery at Wayne State University, is the keynote speaker at a presentation on eliminating dairy, meat and fish from the diet.

It runs 2-5 p.m. Sunday, March 27, at Metropolitan SDA Junior Academy Gym, $15585\ Haggerty,$ Plymouth. The seminar will include cooking techniques, tips for preparing tasty vegetables and recipes, along with a meal.

Cost is a suggested donation of \$15 per person or \$25 per couple. Registration is necessary. Call (248) 349-5683.

Cupcakes for a cause

Plymouth - The Cupcake Station is selling purple cupcakes through Sunday, March 27 to help raise money for the Anita Kaufmann

It is donating \$1 from each purple cupcake sold to the Foundation, which educates the public about epilepsy and seizures.

In addition to its downtown Plymouth location, The Cupcake Station has stores at 116 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor and 136 N. Old Woodward, Birmingham.

Fish on Friday

Canton - Fish Fry Fridays are in full swing now through April 22 at the Summit on the Park Banquet Center, located at 46000

Summit Parkway. The all-you-can-eat buffet is served from 5-9 p.m. and includes cod, tilapia; seafood cakes; pasta; fresh vegetables; french fries; coleslaw; soft drinks, coffee and tea. Cost for adults is \$11.95 and for children under 12, \$4.95. Desserts and a full-service bar are available at an additional cost. The dinners are prepared by Summit Gourmet by Continental for dine-in or takeout. Reservations are for parties of eight or more. For more information call (734) 394-5460 or visit www.Cantonfun.org.

More fish

Nationwide - This month, Applebee's restaurants are serving an "All You Can Eat Fish & Chips" special all day every Friday through April 22.

In addition to the Canton location at 43500 Ford Road, Applebee's has restaurants locally at 36475 Warren Road in Westland and 17101 Haggerty, Northville.

PAGE B8 (*) Thursday, March 24, 2011 hometownlife (in) com

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

When vacationing, plan to reduce break-in chances

BY JULIE BROWN 0&E STAFF WRITER

Sgt. Mark Gajeski of the Canton Police Department says most vacationers in his community are pretty good about planning ahead to make a break-in less likely while they're away.

Sometimes, children of vacationers let word slip parents are out of town and there's a break-in, he said. "It's not just a random stranger that happened upon their house."

Common-sense advice can go a long way to making it less likely you'll be a break-in victim as you head out on vacation. Putting lights on timers, available at hardware stores, is a good place to start.

"That's a good one, timers on the lights," Gajeski såid. "And vary them." You don't want lights in different rooms all going on and off at the same time

"Make sure all your doors and windows are locked," he said. You'll need to have mail held and newspaper delivery stopped, or have mail/papers picked up regularly by a trustworthy neighbor

"If you're leaving this time of year, make arrangements to have your snow removed," Gajeski said. Some residents like to leave a radio or TV on to make the home appear occupied.

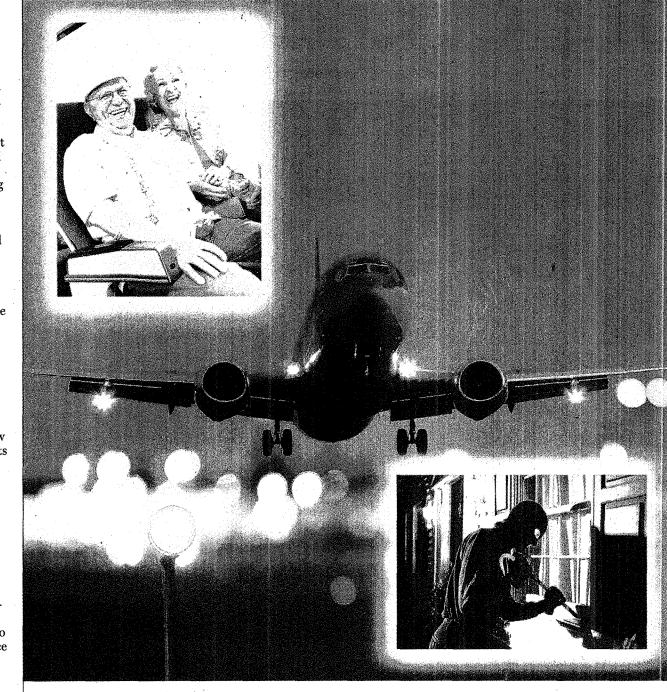
"Make sure that someone knows you're gone and has an emergency contact in case something happens to your residence," Gajeski said. You'll want to choose someone trustworthy and be sure he or she can get in touch with you.

Some more generic home safety advice, like not having shrubs obscuring windows, applies as well: "That's more regular day-to-day as opposed to going on vacation, but yeah," the police sergeant said.

If traveling for a long time, he recommends you consider using a safety deposit box at a bank for valuables. At the least, don't leave them in an obvious spot like a jewelry box in a master bedroom.

The Michigan State Police website offers these tips for vacationers to heed before leaving:

•Make your home appear occupied when you go out.



•Leave lights on and the radio play-

•Keep your garage door closed and locked.

•Use timing devices to turn inside lights on and off.

•If you will be gone several days, arrange to have the mail and papers

stopped or picked up. Half of all home burglaries occur during the day when alert neighbors could spot and report the thieves.

Outside your home, whether you're there or on vacation, state police urge

vou:

•Trim back shrubbery hiding doors

or windows. Cut back tree limbs that could help a thief climb to second story windows.

•Make sure all porches, entrances,

and yards are well lighted.

•Maintain the neighborhood. Dark alleys, litter, and rundown areas attract criminals.

HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Dec. 6-10, 2010, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

· .	Canton	
41664 Bedford Dr	OBILON	\$57,000
47879 Cardiff Ave		\$82,000
6951 E Spring Dr		\$181,000
42142 Gloria Dr		\$158,000
45632 Holmes Dr		\$205,000
2363 Lexington Cir N		\$248,000
47870 Pavillon Rd		\$330,000
160 Roseland Dr	• "	\$118,000
44136 S Umberland Cir		\$165,000
43964 Somerset Sq		\$155,000
798 Sorel Dr		\$125,000
41431 Stafford Ct	1	\$98,000
605 Stonehenge Dr		\$182,000
		•

44767 Twyckingham Ln	\$163,000	18352 Norwich Rd		- \$103,000	,	Redford	1
42916 Versailles Rd	\$117,000	19450 Rensellor St		\$52,000	15934 Dalby -		\$48,000
7626 W Claymore Ct	\$138,000	38735 Summers St		\$109,000	15065 Delaware Ave		\$95,000
8508 Westchester Ln	\$173,000	9284 Texas St		\$94,000	26840 Dover		\$35,000
6661 Woodmere Dr	\$222,000	16739 Yorkshire St		\$210,000	18315 Five Points St		\$3,000
405 Worthington Rd	\$144,000		Northville	*	15596 Gaylord		\$21,000
43607 Yorkville Dr	\$59,000	46080 Bloomcrest Dr		\$242,000	25108 Keeler	**	\$64,000
Garden City		19659 Fry Rd		\$67,000	15067 Kipke		\$80,000
7034 Middlebelt Rd	\$120,000	20312 Lexinaton Blvd		\$315,000	9187 Mercedes		\$70,000
1031 W Rose Ave	\$105,000	47680 Manorwood Dr		\$575,000	10060 Mercedes		\$32,000
Livonia	V.007505	46800 Merion Cir		\$545,000	15871 Woodworth		\$57,000
14363 Arden St	\$125,000	49100 Rainbow Ln S		\$299,000	11408 Wormer		\$58,000
15367 Ashurst St	\$144,000	15661 Troon Ct		\$640,000	77.10.5	Westland	400,000
32909 Brookside Cir	\$164,000		Plymouth	V	2709 Second St		\$64,000
17546 Country Club Dr	\$185,000	47046 Beechcrest Dr	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	\$235,000	38640 Alma Ln		\$180,000
20124 Floral St	\$20,000	44678 Charnwood Dr		\$214,000	941 Barchester St		\$84,000
9083 Fremont St	\$95,000	44957 Deer Run Rd		\$238,000	34263 Fairchild Dr		\$145,000
15170 Garden St	\$58,000	1656 Gloucester St	•	\$190,000	8254 Milburn St		\$65,000
29457 Grandon St	\$92,000	9019 Gregory Ln		\$146,000	7940 N Wildwood St		\$131,000
15680 Huff St	\$204,000	544 Leicester St		\$187,000	38467 Palmer Rd		\$65,000
11428 Mayfield St	\$130,000	40716 Newport Dr		\$68,000	29032 Richard St		\$19,000
37538 N Laurel Park Dr	\$110,000	51157 Northview		\$225,000	35348 Sheffield St		\$30,000
UI 300 II COULCI I DIN VI	. 01101000	onor normanda .		VEE0,000	000.00000000000000000000000000000000000		. 930,000

HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Dec. 6-10, 2010, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Beverly Hill	S
31988 Carlelder St	\$155,000
22614 King Richard Ct	\$300,000
16969 Marguerite St	\$122,000
20750 Smallwood Ct	\$236,000
Birminghar	n
1814 Banbury St	\$110,000
1585 Buckingham Ave	\$420,000
1599 Cheltenham Rd	\$167,000
1353 Hazel St	\$156,000
1807 Henrietta St	\$168,000
1259 Yorkshire Rd	\$540,000
Commerce Tow	nship

3309 Larosa St	\$76,000	Franklin		Southfield	
3559 Raftwood Dr	\$380,000	32667 Haverford Rd	\$270,000	18765 Addison Dr	\$132,000
Farmington		30645 N Greenbriar Rd	\$270,000	29320 Brooks Ln	\$195,000
23790 Gill Rd	\$150,000	Lathrup Village		25057 Champlaign Dr # 5h	\$39,000
21329 Larkspur St	\$105,000	28534 Sunset Blvd W	\$125.000	29260 E Chanticleer Dr	\$107.000
24089 Tana Ct	\$147,000	Milford	V120,000	26300 Franklin Pointe Dr	\$36,000
	\$141,000		6330,000		
Farmington Hills	* 10.000	1073 Harvest Valley Dr	\$330,000	20175 Harbor Ln	\$84,000
31178 Country Bif	\$49,000	Novi		18220 Nadol Dr	\$100,000
24425 Farmington Rd	\$193,000	50629 Amesburg Dr	\$529,000	27450 Pierce St	`\$88,000
21147 Flanders St	\$45,000	22280 Barclay Dr	\$460,000	28815 Red Leaf Ln	\$52,000
22011 Inkster Rd	\$57,000	28159 Carlton Way Dr	\$123,000	18920 Silvercrest St	\$90,000
21307 Metroview Rd	\$230,000	41644 Chattman St	\$260,000	30280 Southfield Rd	\$35,000
24637 Millcreek Dr	\$180,000	25806 Island Lake Dr	\$435,000	30280 Southfield Rd	\$44,000
29916 Muirland Dr	\$202,000	25946 Island Lake Dr	\$375,000	29071 Tiffany Dr W	\$57,000
	\$145,000	40511 Lenox Park Dr	\$229,000	30045 Wildbrook Dr # 103	\$40.000
30253 Ravenscroft St					
21434 Rockwell St	\$24,000	22750 Mondavi Dr	\$440,000	25560 Woodvilla Pl	\$143,000
38163 Southfarm Ln	\$180,000	23161 Mystic Forest Dr	\$315,000	White Lake	
20817 Sunnydale St	\$60,000	45360 Roundview Dr	\$259,000	10220 Cedar Island Rd	\$188,000
36451 Valley Ridge Dr	\$118,000	41584 Thoreau Rdg	\$290,000	8560 Cooley Beach Dr	\$84,000
37050 Valley Ridge Dr	\$187,000	21894 Worcester Dr	\$254,000	1400 Orchard St	\$71,000
30022 W 12 Mile Rd	\$24,000	South Lyon	14	8565 Pontiac Lake Rd	\$106,000
37859 Windwood Dr	\$211,000	200 Washington St	\$53,000	942 Roman Dr	\$120,000
21022 HIIIGHOOD DI	VE11,000	Lov mannington of	\$55,000	> 15 (touton b)	\$120,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

BIA

 Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will sponsor a three-hour Continuing Competency course, required for license renewal for both Builders and Maintenance and Alterations Contractors licenses, on Tuesday, April 12, from 9 a.m. to noon at Association Offices, 2075 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield. For those with licenses issued prior to Jan. 1, 2009, three hours of continuing competency are required each cycle. The instructor, Don Pratt, CGB, CGR, CGP, CAPS, of CECS of Michigan, LLC, will present one hour for each of the required subjects: legal issues, codes, and safety issues. Registration fees

are \$55 for members or guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at www.builders.org/events. php.

• Apartment Association of Michigan's (AAM) Property Management Council (PMC) will sponsor a seminar for leasing professionals called Leasing 101: The 2011 Tour on Friday, April 15, from 9 a.m. to noon at Association Offices, 2075 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield. Kathleen Mabie of Ann Arbor-based Success On Site will provide guidelines to increase occupancy immediately. Topics to be presented include Competitive Analysis, Closing from Start to Finish, Secure Contacts when they call, hit websites, or send e-mail, Meet and Greet Interface, Follow-up and more. The

entire leasing process will be covered.

Registration fees are \$69 for PMC me

Registration fees are \$69 for PMC members, \$79 for AAM or Building Industry Association members and \$99 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at: www.build-ers.org/events.php.

ers.org/events.php.
• Building Industry Association of
Southeastern Michigan's (BIA) NAHBR
Professional Remodelers Council will hold
a three-part seminar series called "Your
Master Planned Business" on April 19,
June 15 and Oct. 19. The seminars will
be presented by Dawn Drozd, business
coach and CEO of ClearVision Business
Coaching. Part One, to be presented on
April 19 is "Measure Twice, Cut Once." Part
Two is "Your Master Blueprint" and will

be held on June 15. Part Three is "Project Review" and will be held on Oct. 19.

The April 19 program will begin at 12:30 p.m. with lunch followed by the seminar from 1-2:30 p.m. It will be held at the Ford Conference & Event Center at 1151 Village Road in Dearborn in conjunction with the Pella Pro Expo being held later that day. The June 15 and Oct. 19 programs will each run from noon to 2 p.m., including lunch, at Association Offices, 2075 Walnut Lake Road in West Bloomfield.

Registration fees for members or guests are \$40 per person for each seminar or \$80 per person, if you register for all three seminars. For further information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at: www. builders.org/events.php.

Florida condo standards not bad

Q: I have heard about a recent article that was written about how much better or worse than Florida is community association living elsewhere in the country and/or abroad. Do you have any comments about that?

A: While I have not been everywhere in the United States and/or abroad, I have visited



Robert Meisner

a number of countries in Europe and generally inquire about the community association status in each country, particularly

condominiums or similar type developments. I have also had an opportunity to visit community associations in many states in the United States and talk to community association lawyers from many States.

What is particularly

interesting is that the same problems that occur in Michigan occur in Florida, California, Texas, Illinois, etc., in that people are basically the same as it relates to community association governance. While it is true that there are more "senior citizens" in Florida that have more time to stand around and watch the contractors and managers do or not do their thing, generally speaking, the issues concerning condominium governance result in the same types of decision making processes on the part of the Board with the same types of problems. In short, I do not think things are much different in Florida than any place else in the country, or for that matter, the world. Q: The president of our condominium association, who happens to be a doctor, is unwilling to pay any of his contractors a fair wage and got into a fight with his attorney over a legal bill even though the association recouped all of the legal costs from a delinquent co-owner. How do we deal with this director who doesn't seem to want to pay any service

A: Have the director read materials available on community association governance, as well as remind that director of his or her legal and fiduciary responsibilities to operate in the best interests of the Association, which includes having to spend money on vendors which are necessary to assist the association. It has always been a puzzle to me, in nearly 40 years of practicing community association law, that too many directors think their job is to spend as little money at whatever cost as opposed to improving the operation and organization of the board, and, consequently, the association and at the same time, avoiding potential personal liability for them as directors. This doctor probably doesn't perform house calls either.

vendor, but expects good service?

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

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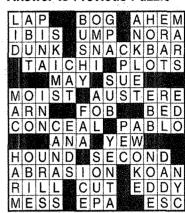
56 Staffer DOWN

1 Tangy taste 2 Overjoy 3 Bro's sibling

4 Mix the salad 5 Undergo genetic change 6 Film projection

7 Glittery fabric 8 Rank above

Answer to Previous Puzzle



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9 Before,

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21 Holiday quaffs 24 Deadly snake 25 Protective

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SUPERVISOR This is a hands-on position molding production set-up, mold changes and processing required. RJG training and lean manufac-

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for this hands-on position requiring experience run-ning CNC Lathes. Five to seven years direct experience in an industrial or machine shop, with CNO machine snop, with CNC machine experience and knowledge of CNC programming, G Code and M Code, set ups, production work and experience boring tively performed work or _equipment/prod Gantry load and unload

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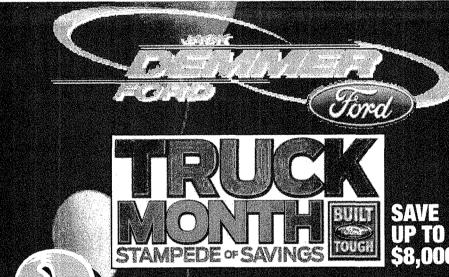


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