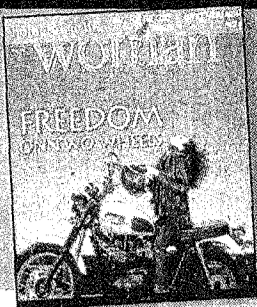




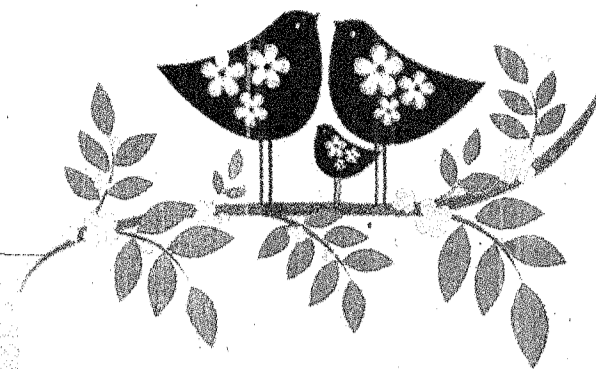
HOCKEY HALL OF FAME TO GET PUCK FROM HOWE'S TOOTH GOAL
SPORTS, B1

Hometown Life
WOMAN
SUBSCRIBERS - FIND YOUR COPY OF WOMAN WITH TODAY'S NEWSPAPER



GREEN STREET FAIR

MAY 6-8



WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN AND WHY - PAGE A5

THURSDAY
May 5, 2011

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Volume 46
Number 99

\$1.00

WESTLAND OBSERVER

hometownlife.com A GANNETT COMPANY

IN BRIEF

Golf outing

The Westland Fire Fighter's Public Awareness Committee is sponsoring a benefit golf outing for Children's Fire Safety.

The proceeds from the outing will be used to educate children about the dangers of fire and how to escape them. Throughout the year, the Public Awareness Committee promotes fire safety through school programs, after-school programs and the sponsorship of many other functions, both within the fire department and within the city.

"This is a great event that not only provides the major source of funding for the Public Awareness Committee, but also strives to provide a quality golf outing for attendees," said Westland Mayor William Wild. "Teaching children about fire safety is the first step in saving lives. Children are very excited to discuss emergency plans with their family upon returning from a demonstration."

The 2011 Children's Fire Safety Golf Classic will be held on Thursday, June 9, at the Gateway Golf Club, 33290 Gateway Drive, Romulus. The cost is \$125 per person and includes lunch, dinner, refreshments and prizes. The tee time for the four-person shotgun scramble is 8:30 a.m.

To participate in the golf outing or for fairway sponsorship information, call (734) 467-3201.

'Chicken Soup' time

Fans of the "Chicken Soup for the Soul" series will find a familiar name in the latest book - Courtney Conover.

The former Westland deputy mayor, Conover's story,



Conover

"Grandma's Trade Secret," is one of 101 stories about all the ages and stages of being a grandmother in "Chicken Soup for the Soul: Grandmothers" from Chicken Soup for the Soul Publishing.

This is the second time Conover's work has been featured in a "Chicken Soup" book. A story about her childhood pet Prince, a German shepherd-beagle mix, appeared in "Chicken Soup for the Soul: What I Learned From the Dog" in 2009.

For her, everyday life provides inspiration for her stories. For the latest "Chicken Soup" book, Conover writes about her grandmother, the late Edna Tucker whose "prowess with hair was the eighth wonder of the world." Her grandmother died in 1991, but Conover still thinks she's the coolest woman she's ever met. You can learn more about Conover on her website at www.courtneyconover.com.

Married, Conover and her husband, Scott, a former NFL offensive lineman-turned professional chef, live in Wayne.

Clawson, Buckalew win school board seats

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Wayne-Westland school board will have two new members come July 1, after voters in the district overwhelmingly supported retired high school teacher Thomas Buckalew and stay-at-home mom Andrea Clawson to fill the two four-year terms.

Clawson, a Westland resident, and Buckalew, a Wayne resident, finisher one-two in Tuesday's school election. Clawson received 1,288 votes, followed

closely by Buckalew, who garnered 1,195 votes in the unofficial results. The two had run together in the election which saw just 6.14 percent of registered voters go the polls.

"I would like to say thank you to everyone within the Wayne-Westland Community School District for the support, encouragement and their vote. I could not have done



Clawson



Buckalew

this without the support of my family," said Clawson. "It is wonderful that my hard work and dedication is recognized and I look forward to giving a voice to the community."

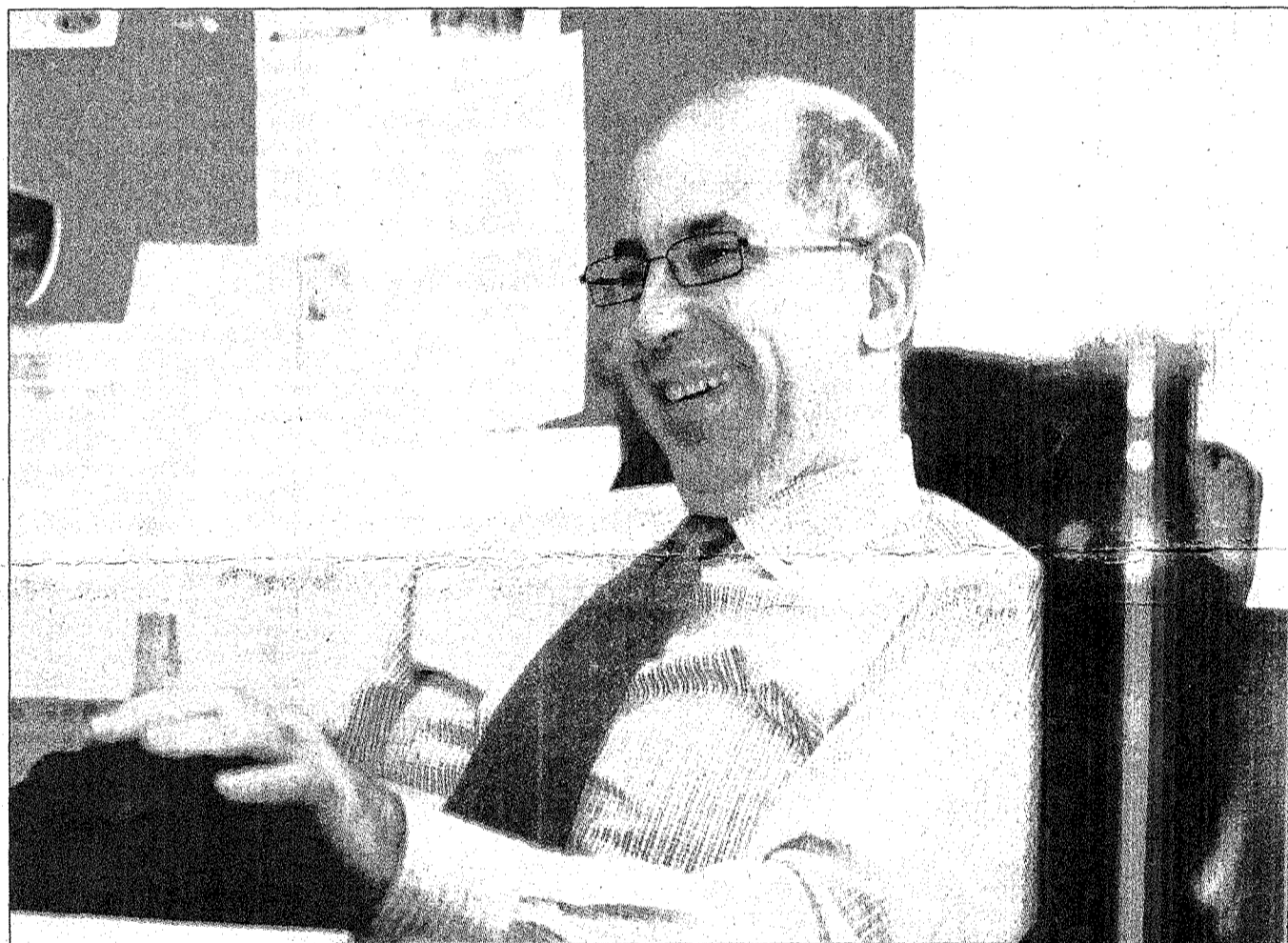
On the Elect Thomas Buckalew and Andrea Clawson to Wayne-Westland School Board Facebook page, Clawson said she also was "so glad to have had the opportunity to campaign" with Buckalew.

"I am very happy that I was chosen a trustee this year," Buckalew said in a prepared statement. "I look forward to working with the five current board members and with Dr. (Greg) Baracy on both budget issues and developing policies that improve student performance."

"All of the candidates in this year's election were qualified and would have done an excellent job, if they had been given the opportunity," Buckalew

Please see **SCHOOL BOARD, A2**

'I've been blessed to be in Westland'



Westland Police Chief Alan Ramsden never questioned his decision to join the department in 1991 as a police officer. Twenty years he leaving to become the athletic director for the Frankel Jewish Academy in West Bloomfield.

Ramsden retires as police chief after 20 years with department

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Looking back to when he started working as a Westland police officer, Alan Ramsden sees several good things.

"I had spent three months with Redford police. I talked to a friend who was a Westland officer and made the switch. I never questioned that decision," said Ramsden. "I was really lucky starting when I did. I got to work with a lot of the original officers who started the department in 1966. I consider that a

stroke of luck."

A Westland police officer since 1991, Ramsden is retiring after one year as chief. He has started a new job as athletic director for the Frankel Jewish Academy in West Bloomfield. Former Westland Deputy Police Chief Mark Engstrom joined the school as head of security when he retired last year.

During his time as police chief and deputy chief, Ramsden said he worked to increase awareness of the department's history with photographs and documents.

"People starting now won't understand the beginning of this place. We have photos of the first officers and the first chiefs. I personally worked for five chiefs," said Ramsden, a Westland native. "I've been blessed to be in Westland. I love it here. The council and mayor have been very good to us."

Along with picking up that history, Ramsden notes that he joined the department in time to see new technology like the first computers, including

Please see **RAMSDEN, A2**

Council wants city's fees reviewed

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Not too many changes were proposed for Westland's 2011-12 schedule of fees for everything from room rentals, ice time and dog licenses, but that could change.

At the council's second budget study session, Mayor William Wild agreed to take another look at the administrative fee schedule after comments from council members.

"We're charging \$25 for a Dorsey (Center) room rental - we're not even covering our costs," Council President James Godbout said. "It goes down the line - meeting rooms and stuff like that. We need to cover our costs."

Regarding the room rental, Wild said the buildings are already open, but Godbout disagreed. "I don't think the Dorsey Center is open unless there is an activity," Godbout said.

The main changes proposed in the fee schedule were new fees: a \$150 vacant home registration fee; an abandoned car towing fee of \$50 if an impounded vehicle is claimed and \$15 if it is unclaimed; a \$500 entertainment only fee.

The rate for ice time at Mike Modano Arena hasn't been established yet. Wild said the Westland Hockey Association is holding registration currently for the next season and rates would be based on how much ice time it would need.

"We also had discussed the splash park - resident and

Please see **FEES, A2**

Re-enactors participate in Armed Forces Day Celebration

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The year's schedule of events at Westland's Historic Village Park will kick off Saturday with the fourth annual Armed Forces Day Celebration.

"The theme is the 150th anniversary of the start of the Civil War but that's not the only thing going on," said Westland Historical Commission member Jeff Koslowski. "We wanted to have a lot of new things, so you're

not going to just say you'd seen it before."

Hosted by the Westland Historical Commission and Society, the Armed Forces Day celebration features military re-enactors from five different wars. For the first time, there will be a Revolutionary War re-enactor. In addition, there will be a War of 1812 re-enactor, three Civil War soldiers - two Union and one Confederate - and World War II, including a Women's Army Corps member.

Please see **EVENT, A2**

MORE CHOICES, MORE FLAVOR, MORE VALUE



HAPPY Mother's Day
SUNDAY, MAY 8TH

FROM MR. MIKE'S
BUY ANY DINNER
(At Regular Price)
GET 1 AT
1/2 OFF
(Of Equal Or Lesser Value)
After 3 P.M. Daily
With Coupon • Expires 6-4-11



Free Coffee and
Observer Newspaper
7 am-10 am Daily



6047 NORTH WAYNE ROAD - WESTLAND
NOW OPEN UNTIL 11PM EVERY FRIDAY & SATURDAY
OPEN MOTHER'S DAY 7AM - 9PM
www.mrmikesgrill.com



Home Delivery:
(866) 887-2737

Return Address:
41304 Concept Dr.
Plymouth MI
48170

INDEX

APARTMENTS ... B9
AUTOMOTIVE ... B12
CAREER BUILDER ... B11

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ... B9
HOME & SERVICE ... B9
OBITUARIES ... B4

REAL ESTATE ... B9
SPORTS ... B1
STRICTLY BUSINESS ... A8

EVENT

FROM PAGE A1

"We will also have our first nurse. As my professor said, history isn't just rich old white men," said Koslowski, who will give a talk on the attack on Ft. Sumter, which triggered the Civil War.

There will be Civil War artifacts on display at the Collins House loaned for the Armed Forces Day Celebration.

In addition, there will be demonstrations of period weapons using blanks.

"It's not just sit down and let me talk at you," said Koslowski.

The Armed Forces Day Celebration is scheduled for 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Historic Village Park, 857 Wayne Road, south of Marquette. There is

AT THE HISTORIC VILLAGE PARK

In addition to this weekend's Armed Forces Day, events at the Westland Historic Village Park include:

- Garden Club Plant Exchange 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 21.
- Ice Cream Social 1-9 p.m. Saturday, June 11. There will be ice cream sundaes, antique cars, old-fashioned bicycles and games.
- Historic Baseball Game 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25. Watch the La-De-Dahs from Greenfield Village take on the Westland Zip-A-Dee-Doo-Dahs at Jaycee Park.
- Americana Craft Show 1-4 p.m.

no admission charge, but donations will be accepted, and food and beverages will be available for purchase.

"None of us are paid, we do it because we love the city and want to promote its history," said Koslowski.

Saturday, Oct. 15. See old-fashioned crafts, such as spinning, weaving, candle dipping and rug hooking.

- DuMochelle Antique Appraisal. Appointments will be scheduled in early November at the Bailey Recreation Center.
 - Santa visit 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3. Santa Claus will be visiting and tours of the Octagon House will be available.
- The museum is open 1-4 p.m. Saturdays for tours and research. The museum is closed most holiday weekends.

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

RAMSDEN

FROM PAGE A1

units within patrol cars and the switch to semi-automatic weapons.

The department also formed a S.W.A.T. team, bike patrols, the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program and a police honor guard.

"I've seen a lot of changes. I don't think the methods of police work changed, but once we integrated computer it was a huge change," he said. "We could get not just a small amount of information but a huge amount of information in the car. I'm waiting with anticipation to see what they will do next with technology."

Another big change came during Ramsden's tenure as

chief — a shrinking budget.

"I'm the first chief to have to say we're in a period of cut-backs — to not worry about what I can bring to the department but what can I maintain," said Ramsden. "I wish I could have been here in times of plenty. That will have to wait for another chief and better economic times."

With a long and distinguished career with the department, Mayor William Wild said that Ramsden has done a great job as chief.

"Probably the biggest thing has been that he worked his whole career and now as chief, he has to cut the budget and manpower," said Wild. "I felt kind of bad about that. He still managed to do it without disrupting the department, too. His legacy is being able to handle downsizing without

missing a beat."

Along with Ramsden, Sgts. Jack McIntosh and David Zucchetto are also retiring.

"We've got to take a look at it, we could be at our (contractually) agreed upon manpower or below it," said Wild. "We just approved a new hiring list. My intent is to have agreed upon manpower. Since these are budgeted positions, my intention would be to replace them."

The Westland Civil Service Commission is holding a special meeting at 9 a.m. today (Thursday) to approve the chief's promotional list with the swearing in ceremony set for 4 p.m. The new chief will be one of the department's two deputy chiefs — Greg Angelosanto or Dan Karrick.

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

NEWS BRIEF

Baby shower

The Wayne-Westland Salvation Army and Warm Hearts are again hosting their annual Community Baby Shower for women who are

pregnant or the mother of an infant under 1 year old.

The shower will be held 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, May 6, at the Corps Community Center at 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer in Westland. A con-

tinental breakfast and lunch will be served, and all moms will receive prizes and gifts. No children will be allowed at the event.

To reserve a seat, moms can call (734) 722-3660, Ext. 107.

WESTLAND RELAY FOR LIFE

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

Dance for a Cure

Time/Date: 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday, May 6

Location: American Legion Post 32, 9318 Newburgh, north of Joy, Livonia
Details: Join Sue's Sailors and party for a cause. There is \$5 cover charge. Drinks will be discounted for the entire evening and munchies will be available. There also will be music by a DJ and dance games.

Get the picture

time/Date: 10 a.m. Saturday, May 14, to 10 a.m. Saturday, May 15

Location: Westland Jaycee Park, Wildwood east of Hunter, Westland
Details: Dramatic Dimensions Entertainment Relay Team will have an onsite photo booth fundraiser. Bring your smiles for a great cause.
Contact: (888) 213-3335 or online at www.dd2dj.com

Yard Sale/Chocolate tasting

Date: Saturday, May 21
Location: in the yard of held at AMVETS Post 171, 1217 Merriman, Westland
Details: The AMVETS Post 171 Relay for Life team is holding a yard sale with toys, books, jewelry, clothing and many more treasures for sale, as well as a Dove Chocolate tasting by Carolyn Marnon, Dove Chocolate

representative. Come out and taste the chocolate, book a party, and place an order for a good cause.
Contact: rflamvets171@yahoo.com for the yard sale and chocolatequeen@wowway.com or (734) 721-7660 about the chocolate tasting.

Avon Fundraiser

Time/Date: Now through July 31
Details: Support Team AMVETS Post 171 by ordering your Avon products online. Go to jfinrock.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.

Dine and donate

Time/Date: 11 a.m. to 1 a.m. Wednesday, May 25
Location: Buffalo Wild Wings, 6677 N. Wayne Rd. Westland
Details: Stop by Buffalo Wild Wings with flier available from Relay for Life AMVETS Post 171 Team. Enjoy, lunch, dinner or a snack and they'll receive 20 percent of total sales.

Bowling benefit

Time/Date: 4:30 p.m. Saturday, June 4, check-in is at 4 p.m.
Location: Town N Country Lanes, 1100 S. Wayne Road, Westland
Details: Come and enjoy cosmic bowling, 9-pin no tap 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. Check-in is at 4 p.m.
Contact: For more information, contact the AMVETS Post 171 Team at RFLAMVETS171@yahoo.com.

Quarter Mania

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Thursday, June 7
Location: Westland AMVETS Post 171, 1217 S. Merriman, Westland
Details: Join us to shop, book parties, ask questions about your favorite companies. This is a one-stop shop and great time to meet your local consultants. More than 100 items will be auctioned off. Bid on quality vendor items with one to four quarters (per paddle,) depending on retail value. Once all quarter bids are placed, a randomly chosen number is called. If the person with that number placed a bid, they win the item. Numbers will continue to be drawn until there is a winner. Bids are collected for each drawing. Some of the vendors include Scentsy, PartyLite, Mische Bags, Lia Sophia, Pampered Chef, Pure Romance, Tastefully Simple, "31", Dove Choc, Tupperware and Beijo Bags. Reserve a spot by June 3 by e-mail at RFLAMVETS171@yahoo.com.
Contact: Stacy Edwards at quartermania.stacy@gmail.com or by calling (734) 368-2765. Reserve your lucky numbers/paddles on the www.quartermiami.eventbrite.com.

SCHOOL BOARD

FROM PAGE A1

added. "I expect one or more of them will eventually be elected."

The two candidates, who won the endorsement of the Michigan Education Association /Wayne-Westland Education Association, and their supporters launched a massive door-to-door campaign to get out the vote, and remained connected with supporters through the Facebook page

Clawson is a member of the PTA, the school improvement

team and parent liaison at P.D. Graham Elementary. Married, she has two children in the school district. Buckalew spent his entire teaching career at John Glenn High School where he was an assistant and head wrestling coach, class sponsor, Social Studies Department chair and co-chair of the North Central Accreditation. Married, he has two adult children.

Finishing third in the election was former Westland mayor and city councilman Charles "Trav" Griffin with 978 votes, followed by Scott Davis with 426 votes and perennial candidate Harold Dunn with 182 votes.

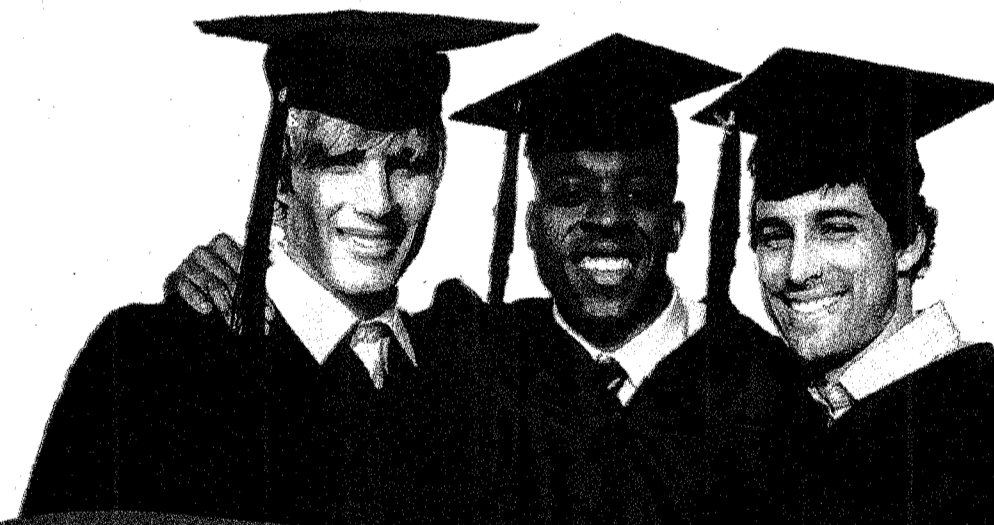
Appointed incumbent Jeffrey Hayton finished last with 170 votes.

Carolyn Byndas, who had withdrawn from the race but not in time to have her name removed from the ballot, received 462 votes.

The election filled two four-year terms on the school board, one held by school board President Skip Monit, who was disqualified after he failed to file the required number of nominating signatures, and Martha Pitsenbarger, who resigned from the board in January due to her husband's illness.

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

Receive a \$500 Scholarship



The possibilities are as unique as you are.

Apply for a Scholarship Today!

Parkside Credit Union is proud to award a \$500 scholarship to 4 high school seniors. Visit parksidecu.org to apply today! Or stop by any Parkside branch for a scholarship packet.

Deadline to apply is May 13, 2011.

(734)525-0700
www.parksidecu.org

Livonia Branch 36525 Plymouth Rd. Livonia, MI 48150
Westland Branch 1747 S. Newburgh Rd. Westland, MI 48186

PARKSIDE CREDIT UNION
Everything You Want in a Bank

FEES

FROM PAGE A1

non-resident fees," Godbout said. "We can't afford to operate facilities on a loss. I'm not saying that we need to make money, but we need to cover our costs. No one has men-

tioned cutting any services to residents at this point. That being said, we can't afford to supplement the costs."

Possible fees for the splash park are being researched, Wild said.

"Your comments assume that we didn't consider this when we were dealing with a deficit last year," Wild said.

Otherwise, the council bud-

get study sessions have been rather smooth — something likely due to the fact that members worked on a two-year budget last year. Council would be expected to consider the \$54.5 million balanced budget in June in time for the July 1 start of the fiscal year.

Council held a public hearing on the budget Monday during their meeting. The only citizen comments came from resident Judy McKinney who said she didn't like the plan to dismantle the Building Department by moving Building Director Roger Shifflett to a hybrid supervisor position and letting the two building inspectors bump into other bargaining unit positions.

The city would contract for building inspections and shift residential ordinance enforcement to the Fire Department, which has been handling commercial ordinance enforcement. The administration projects a \$250,000 savings from the move.

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

OBSERVER NEWSPAPERS
WHERE HOMETOWN STORIES UNFOLD
GANNETT

HOW TO REACH US

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

visit us online at hometownlife.com

615 West Lafayette, Detroit, MI 48226

ALL of our complete 48-COUNT ANNUAL FLATS
Over 20 different varieties for only.... **\$9.99**

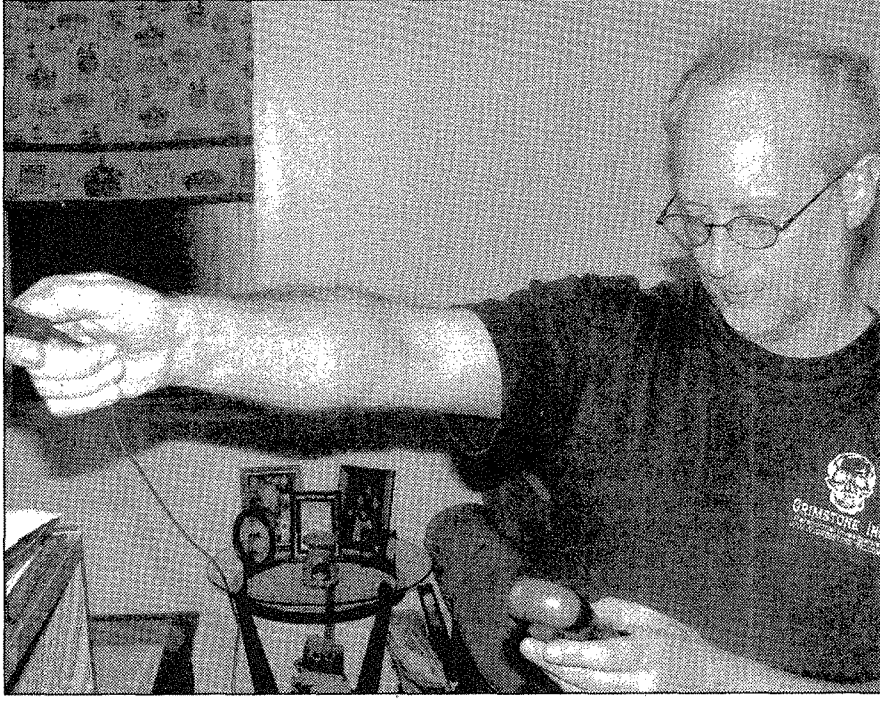
- Award Winning Proven Winners Flowers
- Large Selection of Annuals & Perennials
- Bacto Potting Soil, Peat, Compost & Topsoil
- Michigan Certified Nurserymen, Horticulturist and Master Gardener on Staff
- Mulch • Hanging Baskets
- Knowledgeable Staff & Friendly Service

SAXTON'S FLOWER CENTER
Providing Beautiful Flowers and High Quality Landscaping Materials to Farmington for Over 20 Years

Located at 24233 Orchard Lake Road (Just North of 10 Mile Road on the West Side of the Road)
www.saxtonlandscaping.com

Shop Local. Shop Saxton's. We Support Michigan Growers!

Dave Owens, a Warren resident, uses a Cellsensor Electromagnetic Field (EMF) Detector. This tool detects energy. One theory is that spirits use energy to manifest themselves. Haunted sites often have unidentifiable sources of electromagnetic fields which are unrelated to any wiring or appliances, experts say.



Ghost hunters pay visit to Straight Farmhouse

BY SUE BUCK
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

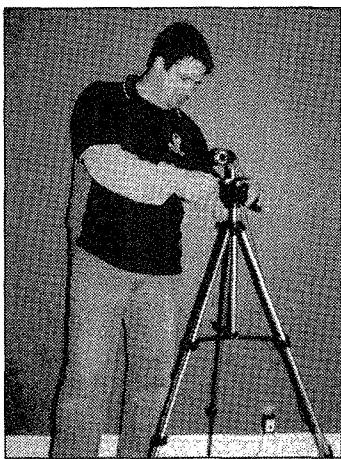
A group of paranormal investigators plan a ghost hunt Saturday, May 14, at the Straight Farmhouse in Garden City.

The farmhouse, home to the Garden City Historical Museum, is on Merriman, north of Ford Road.

Grimstone Inc., a Michigan-based Paranormal Research Organization, will host the ghost hunt from 7-11 p.m. The 145-year-old farmhouse is filled with age-old artifacts, history, and the "spirits" that left them behind.

The night will be filled with adventure as Grimstone Inc. guides guests through the techniques and equipment necessary in unraveling the mysteries.

Guests will have a chance to tour the farmhouse and ghost hunt with professional paranormal investigators while learning the ins and outs of documenting the paranormal. Director Chris Bailey said the tours are about 45 minutes



Mark Krueger, a Taylor resident, sets up a camera. The investigators use more than seven cameras to survey locations. Things missed during the investigations will show up during intense reviews of video filmed with these cameras.

long and have a series of stations with various pieces of Ghost Hunting equipment.

"They include video surveillance, still photography, EMF detection, temperature and Electronic Voice Phenomenon (EVP)," he said. "There will also be general presentations

in the main banquet hall and time for further questions and answers."

Mark Hammar, president of the Friends of the Garden City Historical Museum, said that paranormal groups have paid visits in the past. In one case, two visitors saw a phantom switchboard operator. The women were surprised that someone was there.

"Come on in," he reportedly said to the women.

They later learned that no one really was there.

A mischievous small boy also reportedly roams the lower floors of the Straight Farmhouse.

Paranormal enthusiasts who wish to attend the fundraiser can purchase presale tickets at www.grimstone-inc.com/fundraiser.php. The presale tickets are \$20, and tickets at the door will cost \$25. Space is limited. For more information, call Grimstone Inc. at (313) 444-GRIM or send an e-mail to investigators@grimstone-inc.com.

sbuck@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2249

Bin Laden's gone, 'still work to do'

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

After President Barack Obama's dramatic Sunday night announcement U.S. forces had not only found, but killed, Osama bin Laden, reaction flooded in from all corners, praising the effort and cheering bin Laden's death as a victory for the war on terror.

Though Terry Blumberg counts himself among those glad the architect of the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center has been dealt with, he sounded a warning note Monday in the aftermath of bin Laden's death.

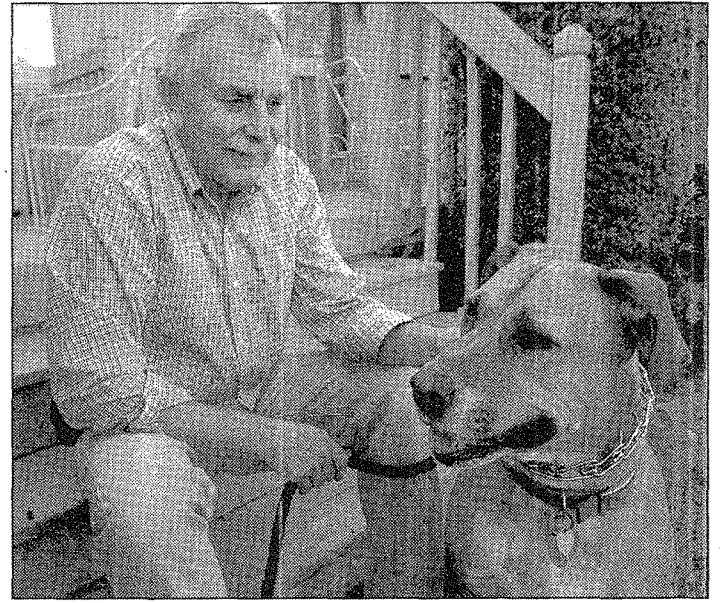
And he thinks his son, Canton Sgt. Trevor Blumberg, a member of the 1st Battalion of the 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment with the 82nd Airborne Division who died in Iraq in September 2004, would agree with him.

"There's still work to do," Terry Blumberg said. "(bin Laden) was their leader, and I'm glad they got him. But if you kill one of our generals, the war goes on. I think the war will go on for (terrorists), too."

Trevor Blumberg died Sept. 14, 2004, when a roadside bomb hit a convoy and destroyed the Humvee occupied by Blumberg and three other soldiers. His unit had been deployed to Iraq just three days earlier.

He's one of several local soldiers who gave their lives in either Iraq or Afghanistan. Among the others:

- Marine Sgt. Bryan K. Burgess died Nov. 9, 2006, while conducting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. He was assigned to Marine Forces Reserve's 1st Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division, Perrysburg, Ohio.
- Marine Cpl. Jacob H. Turbett died Feb. 13, 2010, in Helmand Province, Afghanistan, while on active duty supporting combat operations during Operation



Terry Blumberg, father of slain soldier Trevor Blumberg, said the fight against terrorism isn't over even though U.S. forces killed Osama bin Laden.

Enduring Freedom. He was assigned to the 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

In addition, Meredith Whalen, a 1996 Salem High School graduate, died in the attacks Bin Laden ordered on 9/11. Whalen, who was 23 at the time, was working on the 93rd floor of the north tower when the first plane hit. Her body was never found.

Canton Township Trustee Todd Caccamo, a former U.S. Marine reservist who served in Iraq, agreed with Blumberg and urged Americans to continue the fight.

"While eliminating bin Laden was certainly the right thing to do, and it felt great to hear the news, I hope America uses this success as motivation and encouragement for ever increasing the pressure on Al Qaeda and on those who would dare to do harm to Americans or her allies," Caccamo said. "This was a collective effort from our president to the private with his rifle in the field. Congratulations and thanks to our warriors of every stripe."

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus

McCotter said the country should rejoice in the elimination of bin Laden, then move ahead against terrorists.

"We do not revel over the death of bin Laden 'the Butcher,' we rejoice in the triumph of justice," McCotter said. "Now let us press our efforts against Al Qaeda and their terrorist cohorts, including Hamas, Hezbollah, and the tyrannical Iranian regime. For while our world has witnessed justice, our world remains dangerous and we must be ever vigilant against such clear and present threats to our liberty and security."

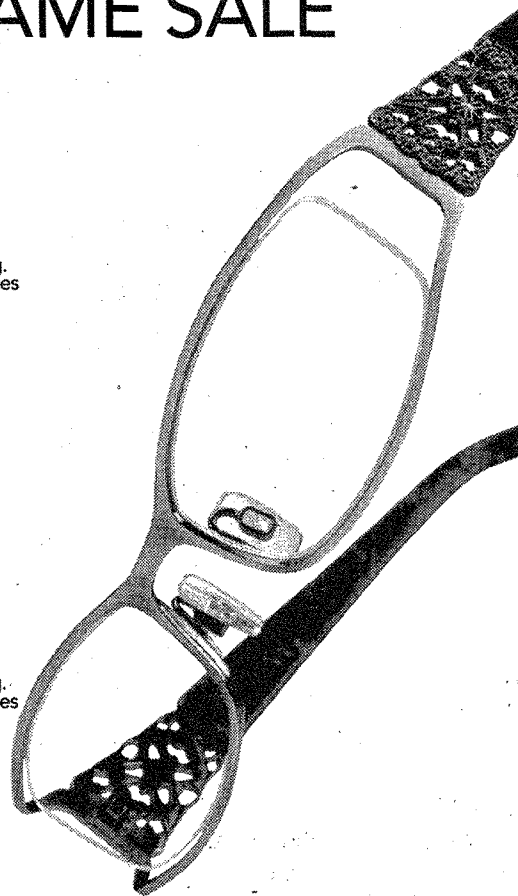
Blumberg said his son returned from a tour in Afghanistan and told him, "I have one of the best jobs in the world. I go get the bad guys and I make them pay." "My son was in the military before 9/11 ... he knew what he was there for," Terry Blumberg said. "The more he learned what happened (on 9/11), the more he wanted a piece of this guy. He didn't live long enough to see that happen."

"He'd be glad they got him, but he'd be smart enough to know it isn't over."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-8899

Macy's Optical DESIGNER FRAME SALE

60% off*
FRAMES
plus
40% off*
LENSES



BIGGEST CONTACT LENS SALE OF THE SEASON!
all brands on sale - May 1-31

Our doctor or yours - we fill all prescriptions. Convenient eye exam[†] appointments available. **We accept most vision care plans.**

Northland, 248-443-4520 • Westland, 734-458-5588 • Oakland, 248-597-2956
Lakeside, 586-566-2766 • Twelve Oaks, 248-344-6994



REG. PRICES ARE OFFERING PRICES, AND SAVINGS MAY NOT BE BASED ON ACTUAL SALES. *Selected designer frames 25% off; some special orders excluded; complete pair purchase required. [†]Eye exams performed by independent state licensed Doctors of Optometry. Cannot be combined with any other offer, vision care plan, package pricing or prior orders. Sale ends May 18, 2011.

For the location nearest you, call 1-888-889-EYES

ST. MARY MERCY
LIVONIA
SAINT JOSEPH MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM



Could You Be At Risk for Stroke?

May is National Stroke Awareness Month

Do you smoke? Have diabetes? High blood pressure? High cholesterol? Family history of heart disease?

Stroke - Time Lost is Brain Lost!

Learn more at our **FREE Educational Seminar** (Registration required.)

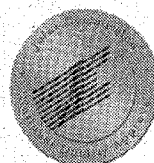
Tuesday, May 10
4:30 to 7 p.m.
St. Mary Mercy
Hospital Auditorium

Learn about the importance of emergency care for stroke, new technology and rehabilitation of a stroke patient.

Blood pressure screening, presentation and Q&A from a panel of experts.

To register call **734-655-2365**, or visit stmarymercy.org and click on **Classes & Events**.

Refreshments and light snacks will be served.



MICHIGAN
STROKE
NETWORK

St. Mary Mercy Hospital is a member of the Michigan Stroke Network, providing our patients with access to neurology specialists through the use of robotic technology at the bedside, 24 hours, seven days per week. Advanced Primary Stroke Center Certification from the Joint Commission

REMARKABLE MEDICINE. REMARKABLE CARE.

Green Street Fair

Recycle, build a 'canjo,' and take in free music

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Singer-songwriter Crystal Bowersox, the runner-up last May during the ninth season of American Idol, will be the headline performer at downtown Plymouth's 2011 Green Street Fair, which opens on Friday and runs through Sunday, May 8.

Bowersox, who plays in a variety of styles, including rock, folk and gospel, released her debut album, *Farmer's Daughter*, in December.

Her free concert will be 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday at the Eco-Beats Stage, at Union and Penniman. The free fair, in its fourth year, brings together a variety of companies, exhibitions and organizations that promote ecology-conscious products and practices and healthy living.

"We're very excited to have somebody of her caliber join us," said Raychel Rork, the Green Street Fair organizer, said of Bowersox's appearance. "It's going to be a great lineup, really, all three days."

This year's fair, the fourth, begins at noon Friday in Kellogg Park and nearby streets and continues through 5 p.m. Sunday. There are more than 240 participating exhibitors — businesses, individuals and organizations — making this year's fair the largest yet, said Rork.

"We're really proud of how far it's grown in only four years," she said, adding that 100,000 people are expected to attend over the course of the weekend. "It's going to be big."

The lineup will include many returning exhibitions as well as some new ones, and some exhibitors are traveling long distances to attend, Rork said.

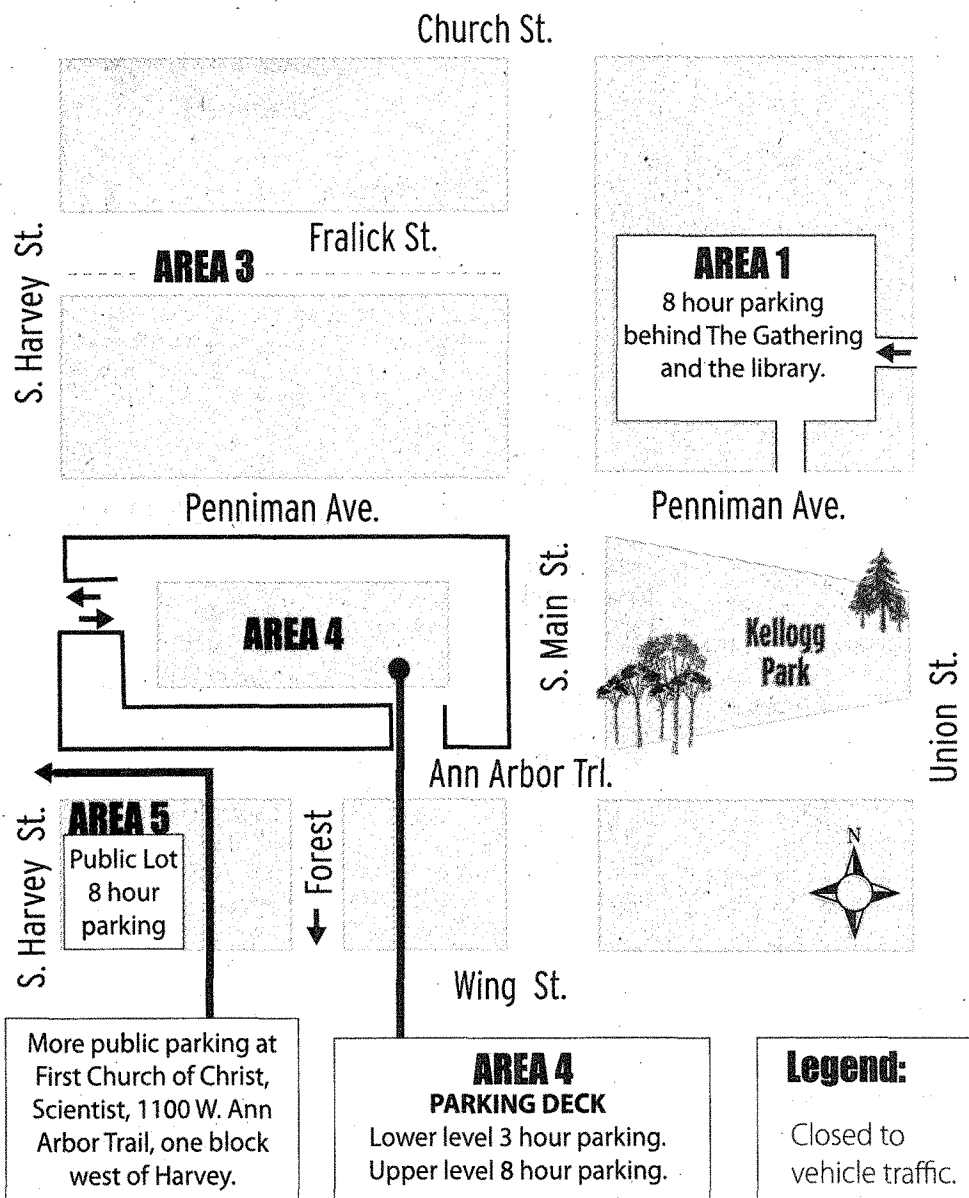
"This is becoming a very enticing event for them," she said. "It's free to the public. It's direct to the consumers."

Crafters who use repurposed raw materials will be on hand with, for example, jewelry, or purses made from burlap coffee sacks. There will be organic cotton clothing, easy-on-the-energy transportation, and demonstrations of organic cooking.

The food offerings will include organic chocolate truffles, organic vegan cupcakes and organic kettle corn. "Organic doesn't mean

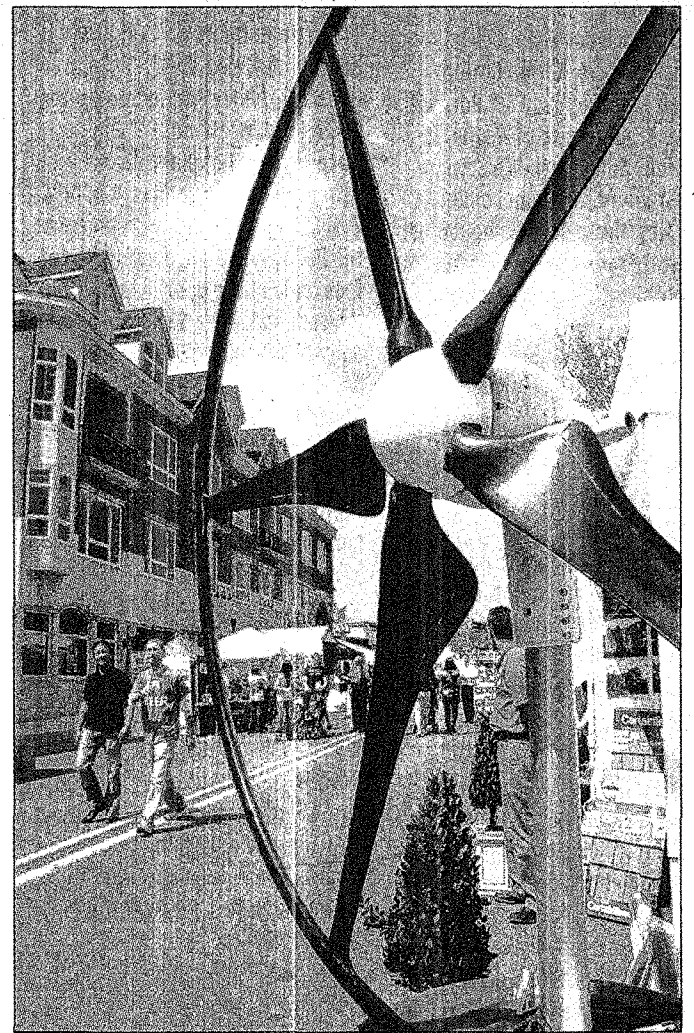
Public parking for 2011 Green Street Fair

On street parking is limited to 2 hours in most places.



WHY A FAIR?

Green Street Fair Inc. was founded to help educate and inform people of all ages about the benefits of green, organic, and eco-friendly products and services. To promote global interest and personal well-being, the Green Street Fair blends companies, artisans, entertainers, workshops and speakers together in a friendly and family-oriented outdoor environment. Consumers who attend the Green Street Fair will be encouraged to learn the advantages of taking strides, large or small, toward living a healthier and greener life.



Bob Mayes and Oak Electric offered wind power, solar panel, and backup generator systems at Plymouth's Green Street Fair last year.

it has to taste like cardboard," Rork joked.

Other highlights of the Green Street Fair will include a Mother's Day parade at noon on May 8, a Mother's Day craft activity for kids, organic cooking demonstrations, sponsored by Meijer and the Art Institute of Michigan, and the opportunity to recycle electronic waste — everything from computers to car batteries and vacuum cleaners — on Saturday and Sunday at Penniman and Harvey.

Proceeds from the resale of electronic waste will benefit the scholarship fund for pedi-

atric speech and language disorders at Beaumont Children's Hospital.

The popular Fort Box, in which children decorate repurposed corrugated boxes to build a kid-sized cityscape, will also return to Kellogg Park. This year's Fort Box will include replicas of some of the world's landmark bridges, built with recycled materials by students at New Morning School. Other Fort Box sponsors are *The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* and IKEA.

IKEA will also host an exhibit, Green Living, featuring home displays and the

chance to win a mountain bicycle or a \$500 IKEA gift card, at The Gathering on Penniman.

Other entertainment during the Green Street Fair will include:

- Abigail Stauffer, an Ann Arbor singer-songwriter, 1:15-2:30 p.m. Friday.
- The Sugar People, rock, pop and soul, 3:15-4:15 p.m. Friday.
- In Custody, a rock cover band, 4:45-6:30 p.m. Friday.
- The Mister Laurence Experience, fun rock for kids, 10:30-11:15 a.m. Saturday.
- The Deep Fried Pickle Project, a "junk band" that

plays bluegrass, metal and honky-tonk, noon-1 p.m. Saturday and 12:30-1:30 p.m. Sunday.

- Timothy Monger State Park, folk rock, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Saturday.
- Sista Otis, rock and gospel, 3-4:15 p.m. Saturday.
- Gemini, a duo playing acoustic music for children and families, 2-3 p.m. Sunday.
- Tracy Kash Thomas, a jazz performer, 3:15-4:15 p.m. Sunday.

All concerts will take place at the Eco-Beats Stage at Union and Penniman.

The Deep Fried Pickle Project will also host an

instrument-making workshop — visitors can build a "canjo," a kazoo or maracas — from 10-11:45 a.m. Sunday in Kellogg Park. The workshop is just ahead of the Mother's Day parade, and participants will be encouraged to join the parade with their new homemade instrument.

The Green Street Fair hours are noon-7 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. For more information, visit the fair's website, www.greenstreetfair.com.

mjachman@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2405

GREEN STREET FAIR HIGHLIGHTS

Eco-Beats stage line-up

Featuring American Idol's Crystal Bowersox and top notch entertainment from around Michigan, the weekend will be filled with a broad range of eco-beats.

FRIDAY, MAY 6

Abigail Stauffer 1:15-2:30 p.m.
The Sugar People 3:15-4:15 p.m.
In Custody 4:45-6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 7

The Mister Laurence Experience 10:30-11:15 a.m.
Deep Fried Pickle Project noon to 1 p.m.
Timothy Monger State Park 1:30-2:30 p.m.
Sista Otis 3-4:15 p.m.
Crystal Bowersox 5-6:15 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 8

Deep Fried Pickle Project 12:30-1:30 p.m.
Gemini 2-3 p.m.
Tracy Kash Thomas 3:15-4:15 p.m.

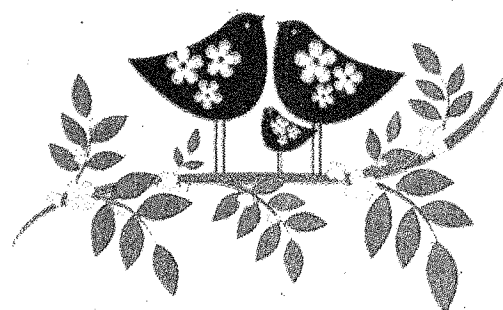
Other Highlights

•IKEA EXHIBIT

Visit the IKEA Canton exhibit in The Gathering, located off of Penniman between Main Street and Union to see an interactive sustainable home display and enter to win a \$500 IKEA Gift Card to help you live a sustainable life at home or a new mountain bike to help reduce your carbon footprint.

•FOCUS ON FOCUS

Get up close and personal for the first time with the all-new 2012 Focus that gets 40 miles per gallon.



•FORT BOX

Sponsored by *The Observer & Eccentric/Hometown Weekly Newspapers & New Morning School*. To kids, few things are as enchanting as a bona fide fort. With a little imagination, an old cardboard box becomes the center of the universe — a place where entering requires a secret handshake, a password or a classified knock. But building a fort is just as much an adventure as playing in it. Fort Box will resemble a small village where children of all ages can gather, share ideas and swap secrets. With the help from students at New Morning School in Plymouth, Fort Box will be going global this year. Students will build replicas of landmark bridges from around the world using materials such as corrugated plastic scraps, two-liter bottles, milk cartons, and the like. Concentrating on a world travel theme this year, eight to ten structures will be built and displayed in Kellogg Park, tying into the New Morning School engineering and architecture curriculum.

•THE PICKLED PINK MOTHER'S DAY PARADE AND INSTRUMENT BUILDING PLAYSHOP

Green Street Fair will celebrate Mother Earth

all weekend and will also be pulling out the stops to celebrate all moms on Mother's Day on Sunday. To kick off the Mothers Day festivities, Green Street Fair welcomes Deep Fried Pickle Project, a junk band from southwest Michigan that blends bluegrass, metal, jug band and honky-tonk tunes into their performances that embrace fans of all ages. In conjunction with their performances on Saturday and Sunday, "The Pickle Boys" are dedicated to music education and will bring with them an instrument play shop to teach kids (known to The Pickle Boys as "gherkins") and adults how to make homemade instruments out of recyclable materials. Children of all ages will be encouraged to craft a canjo, make a mom's day maraca, construct a kazoo, or a silly singing straw. The Pickles will demonstrate how to build and play these zany, multicolored music-makers to lead the Mother's Day parade on Sunday at noon. Event attendees are also invited to bring their own noisemakers such as pots, pans, bells, drums and the like. Decorated tricycles and bikes are also encouraged.

•MOTHERS DAY CRAFT STATION

Yelp will have a kid's craft table where the little ones can make mom an earth friendly surprise for Mother's Day.

•THE YELLOW JUG FOR OLD DRUGS

In lieu of flushing drugs down the toilet or throwing them into the garbage which can contaminate water supplies, event attendees can bring their medications to the Green Street Fair to properly dispose of unused, unwanted and expired drugs.

•CELL PHONE RECYCLING

Looking to recycle your old cell phones? Feel

free to bring them to Green Street Fair to make sure that they are recycled properly.

•E-CLUTTER FOR KIDS

A recycle-a-thon to help children with speech and language disorders. If you're tired of that old computer monitor sitting in your garage or have a drawer full of extra cables, toner cartridges or cameras, this is your opportunity to safely recycle these items and raise money for treatment scholarships at the Center for Speech and Language Disorders at Beaumont Children's Hospital.

Some 65 percent of all proceeds will benefit the Pediatric Speech and Language Disorders Scholarship Fund at Beaumont Children's Hospital affiliated with Children's Miracle Network.

Drop off your equipment at the Statewide Recycling Station at Green Street Fair on from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Go to www.greenstreetfair.com for a list of items accepted.

•ORGANIC COOKING DEMONSTRATION

Sponsored by Meijer and The Art Institute of Michigan: Discover how to create your own organic masterpiece in the kitchen. Live cooking demonstrations all weekend.

•FLIP YOUR LID

Flip Your Lid returns to Green Street Fair. Students at Smith Elementary School in Plymouth collected plastic lids of all colors, shapes and sizes to create oversized bugs that will be scattered around Kellogg Park throughout the weekend. Attendees of the event will also be encouraged to help construct the Flip Your Lid Mural which will be donated following the event.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ladies Night

Time/Date: 5:30-8 p.m. Thursday, May 5
Location: Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe at Annapolis in Wayne.
Details: Treat yourself to a night of pampering and shopping at a Ladies Night, sponsored by the Wayne Chamber of Commerce. Get a chair massage, hand massage, tarot card reading, facials and more. Shop and visit more than 30 vendors of local and home-based businesses while enjoying some refreshments and music. The event is free. Vendors include Acorn Shop, Arbonne, Beijo Bags, Cellar Door Soap, Cellar Dweller Jewelry, Karma Coffee, Garden Lawn Lights, J & S Portrait America, Jazzercise of Wayne, Tastefully Simple, Linda's Sewing & Embroidery, Lindt Chocolates, Mary Kay, Mische Bags, Longaberger Baskets, Pampered Chef, Party Lite, Strength and Spirit, Scentsy and more.
Contact: For more information, call the chamber office at (734) 721-0100.

Rouge Rescue

Time/Date: Saturday, June 4
Details: Friends of the Rouge are looking for volunteers to participate in the 25th Anniversary Rouge Rescue 2011. This annual river cleanup event has been so successful at removing trash that many of the sites now work on river restoration projects. There are volunteer opportunities for all ages with activities varying by site that may include trash cleanup, invasive plant removal, planting projects, woody debris management (moving wood in streams), nature walks, nesting box construction and more.
Contact: Call Friends of the Rouge

at (313) 792-9621 or go online to www.therouge.org for more information.

Tapestry display

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday through May 27
Location: William Costick Activity Center, 28600 Eleven Mile, Farmington Hills
Details: The Farmington Hills Chapter of the Embroiderers' Guild of America is displaying the guild's national tapestry, "America the Beautiful" at the Costick Center through May 27. This tapestry, depicting the U.S., its flora, fauna and geographic features, is in five panels, each 24 inches by 48 inches. In conjunction with the tapestry display, Farmington Hills Chapter will also display a selection of its members' work.
Contact: For more information, call (248) 473-1800.

Karate Tournament

Time/Date: Doors open at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, May 15
Location: Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford, Westland
Details: The Shotokan Karate Federation of Michigan is hosting a 2011 Michigan Karate Tournament at the Bailey Center. Spectator/parent fees (paid at the door) are: \$5 Adults 15 years and older. \$3 senior citizens age 65 and older. \$3 for children age 5-14 and children free age 4 and under. Check the website - www.karatemi.com - for the up-to-date tournament information.
Contact: For more information, call Sensei Tony Valvona at (734) 658-5683.

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.org.



Wish you were Here

During Spring Break, Marco Salinas, Regina and Diana Ronewicz, Lidia, Cecilia and Paolo Alvarez and Linda Bodnovits enjoyed wonderful weather at the Omni Cancun Hotel in Mexico. They were "real sorry to miss the snow and rain, the hot sun on the beach was great." According to Bodnovits "I loved walking on the beach each morning with the sun raising. The waves were breathtaking, and the color of the water, unbelievable. Sorry you couldn't all be with us." If you go on vacation, be sure to take a picture with your Observer and send it to Sue Mason as a jpg at smason@hometownlife.com or by mail to her attention at 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226. Be sure to include your name and information about your photo.

com or www.post251.org.

Fish fry

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 non-profit group composed of kids ages 9 - 16 years old, is currently looking to fill spots. There's opening for girls ages 9 - 11, with at least two years of dance experience, and boys, ages 9 - 12 with no experience needed just an interest in performing. The group delivers a high energy show made up of choreographed dance routines spiced with theatrics and lip-synching to the great Oldies music of the '50s and '60s as well as some current fare.

Contact: www.earthangelsontour.org or by e-mail to eangell1986@comcast.net

Higher Rock Cafe

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

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 send an e-mail to sheprey@yahoo.com

Toastmasters

Location: Westland Easytalkers Toastmasters Club meets every Thursday at 6:45 P.M. in the lower level of the Bailey Recreation Center, located behind the Westland City Hall on Ford between Wayne Road and Newburgh.
Details: Toastmasters provides a supportive environment where members can overcome the fear of speaking in public. The membership is a diverse group from different walks of life.
Contact: For information, call Bill at (734) 306-3980 or Curt at (734) 525-8445.

TOPS 869

Time/Date: Mondays, weigh-ins at 5:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 6:15 p.m.
Location: Adams Senior Village, 2001 Kaley Ave., south of Palmer, Westland.
Details: The group is for people age 18 and older.
Contact: The group which meets on Mondays is for people age 18 and older.

5th Annual
Spring Senior Expo
 Tuesday, May 17, 2011
 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 Schoolcraft College Livonia Campus
 in the VisTaTech Center
 Haggerty Road between 6 and 7 Mile Roads

Prizes

- Free Admission
- Morning Refreshments
- Free Parking
- Trolley Service

Workshops & Demonstrations!

Workshops

- Low Vision - 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m. Help for those who have been told there is no hope
- Combating the Diabetes Epidemic - 12:00 p.m. - 12:50 p.m. Take Action Now
- Ways to Manage Neck and Back Pain - 12:00 p.m. - 12:50 p.m.
- How to Choose a Skilled Nursing Facility - 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.
- 911 - Act in Time When to go to the ER - 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.
- The ABC Planning Process: A Non-Wall Street Approach to Investment and Retirement Planning - 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.
- What You Should Know about Long Term Care - 12:00 p.m. - 12:50 p.m.
- Senior Moving Made Easy - 9:00 a.m. - 9:50 a.m.
- Identify Theft Protection - 9:00 a.m. - 9:50 a.m.
- Making Sense of Medicare Understanding Medicare Basics 12:00 p.m. - 12:50 p.m.
- Social Security Updates - 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.
- The Truth About Estate Planning - 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

Fitness Demonstrations

- Zumba Gold - 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
- Strength Training for Seniors and Fit as a Fiddle - 10:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
- Line Dance - 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Prizes and/or entertainment provided by:

Entertainment Network Family Video 27416 E Mile Rd, Livonia MI

Presented by: hometownlife.com

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
HOMETOWN WEEKLIES
 A GANNETT COMPANY

VisTaTech CENTER

Schoolcraft College

AM580
 GREAT FUNK
 GREAT MUSIC

WWJ-950
 THE WISCONSIN

COME PLAY
 The Senior Fun Games!

BABY BOOMERS TURNING 65? COME HEAR MORE ABOUT MEDICARE!

Take advantage of state tax amnesty

BY RICK BLOOM
 GUEST COLUMNIST

The Michigan Department of Treasury announced another tax amnesty program. The 2011 program allows Michigan taxpayers who owe taxes to the state to pay with interest but without any penalties. In addition, taxpayers would avoid any potential criminal prosecution for failure to pay taxes. Tax amnesty programs are infrequent so if you owe money to the Michigan Department of Treasury, look into taking



Money Matters
 Rick Bloom

advantage of this opportunity. Like all government programs, there is fine print and this program is no different. The Michigan Amnesty Program applies to all taxes including income taxes, Michigan business tax, sales tax, use tax and withholding tax. The program runs from May 15 through June 30. To be eligible, the amnesty application must be postmarked before June 30 and include full payment of the taxes owed with interest. To apply, complete Form 3855. The form is available on the state's website, www.michigan.gov/taxes. The tax amnesty program is not for everyone. Obviously, if you do not have the money to pay the taxes and interest owed, you are not eligible for this program. For those who were thinking that you could

put your tax liability on a charge card, think again. The program does not allow charge card payments. In fact, debit cards are also not an accepted form of payment for this program. Owing money, whether it's to the State of Michigan or the IRS, is not a pleasant position. Therefore, I encourage individuals and businesses with issues with the State of Michigan to explore this program. It's amazing how much better you will sleep at night when you no longer owe the government. Good luck! Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at moneymatters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit his Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com.

AN EXCEPTIONAL HOME-LIKE SETTING FOR
 ACTIVE/ALERT, FRAIL/RECOVERING,
 MEMORY IMPAIRED AND ALZHEIMER'S RESIDENTS.

Crystal Creek
 Assisted Living

STATE LICENSED

- 24 Hour Professional Staffing
- Private/Semi Private/Barrier Free
- 3 Home Cooked Meals A Day
- Daily Housekeeping & Laundry
- Wander Secured/Enclosed Courtyard
- Planned Activities
- Beauty & Barber Shop
- On Call Nurse Practitioner
- Medication Management
- Incontinence Management

CANTON • (734) 453-3203
 Located at 8121 Lilley between Joy & Warren Roads
CrystalCreekAssistedLiving.com

Walkers step out to help March of Dimes

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Nancy Henzi of Livonia held her 7-month-old son Knox in her arms Saturday morning at the Nankin Mills area of Hines Park in Westland. Husband Matt was nearby, along with other members of Team Madison Hope Henzi for the annual March of Dimes March for Babies.

Knox's sister Madison Hope died in December 2007. "That's why we originally started to walk (for the March of Dimes)," Nancy Henzi said. "My daughter Madison would have been 3 on Christmas Eve. So now we've got an angel baby and a miracle baby."

Knox got therapy help, a lubricant to expand his lungs. He weighed 2 pounds at birth and was briefly on a ventilator, but well now.

"He came three months early," his mom said while waiting for the Saturday, April 30, March for Babies to start along Hines Drive. The couple are also parents to Ian, 12, her stepson.

This is the fourth year for their team, one of many to walk the flood-shortened route to benefit the March of Dimes. Other walks were held in nearby communities. Many walkers wore specially designed T-shirts in memory or honor of children, while some had photos affixed to their clothing.

Three friends from Garden City were waiting for the walk to start, Karen Crunk, Jennifer Egner (who now lives in Livonia) and Sheryll Catton. The women grew up in Garden City and went through school together.

"For my niece and nephew," Egner said of her first such walk. "They were born April 14."

The premature twins were born at 26 weeks, Crunk said. "They're doing good," Egner said. "My nephew had two surgeries this week. My niece is doing really well."



CARRIE HALLIBURTON

Participants head out for the start of the annual March of Dimes March for Babies held in Hines Park in Westland.

Dimes walk on Belle Isle. "I have a soft spot for babies, I do," she said.

PROUD WALKER

One of many proud walkers was Rolland Walt of Farmington Hills, doing his 38th annual walk. He was introduced to a cheering crowd. "I think gas was 38 cents a gallon," Walt told the crowd. "It's a pleasure to be here and I hope to be here again next year."

Walt, father of three and grandfather of five, was accompanied by daughter Judy Perry of Commerce Township. "My dad's just been a big walker," Perry said, noting the family hasn't had preemies. "It was 20 miles when they started."

He'd walk through Belle Isle and by Tiger Stadium. "I have a daughter like this,"

Walt said when asked the reason for his stamina.

The walkers were serenaded by the Ford Motor Co. Chorus, with Ford and the UAW as major event sponsors. At the chorus helm was Jon Drake of Redford, chorus director the past four years. The chorus began in 1944. Its first concert was the week of D-Day, he added. There are now about 30 members, including those from outside Ford.

"We do all these Ford charitable events," Drake said, adding that they'll perform at the Race for the Cure in Detroit Memorial Day weekend.

"Ford's a major sponsor of that."

Bill Curtiss of Allen Park is chorus president. "Everybody's having a great time," Curtiss said, noting the absence of rain.

WALKERS OF ALL AGES

Jennifer Nyberg of Canton is 17 and a Canton High School junior.

"I'm here with Key Club, (a Kiwanis youth branch)," she said. "I just have so much fun. This is my third time, I believe."

Born about 1½ to 2 months early, Nyberg had some breathing difficulties as a newborn, but is fine now.

"I had a lot of fun," Nyberg said, wearing her Canton lacrosse sweatshirt. "I love walking in this."

Many spoke gratefully of March of Dimes support for premature babies and those with birth defects. Nancy Henzi agreed the cause needs more awareness.

"I don't think we get nearly enough," she said. "Any help we can get to spread the word

on the mission, we welcome that."

Feeding the throng fell to the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth, with Jim Walk of Livonia as committee chair. Members served hot dogs from the grill, chips, pop and water. About 18 Kiwanians helped, said Walk, an 11-year member.

The service club has helped the March of Dimes walk about 15 years.

"We love giving back to the community," Walk said.

Work began that Friday night with unloading the truck. They had 2,000 hot dogs to grill.

"Anything that's left over will go to the Salvation Army and to Tonquish Manor, a senior facility in Plymouth," Walk said.

Fran Toney of Plymouth was among busy Kiwanians.

She served as Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce director from 1989 to 2008, when she retired.

"I get to do things like this," Toney said with a smile. "It's wonderful."

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano was site chair for the local walk. Ficano is a past chair of the southeast Michigan branch of the March of Dimes.

"Prematurity is still an issue," he said. "The March of Dimes does a lot of research that makes a lot of difference. I was blessed with my two children. I've got friends that have gone through it."

Christel Pardo of South Lyon is the mother of twins Josie and Colette, 17 months, who participated. Colette had a condition where she stopped developing. Pardo got steroid shots in pregnancy, which helped. The team also included stepson Trevor, 13.

"She's doing excellent, no problems," Pardo said. "We did Kensington last year. It's a great cause."

Liz Clark of Clinton Township and Kila Davis of Detroit were among some 17 walkers from Sigma Beta Xi sorority. "This is one of our philanthropies that we support to make sure we're giving back," Davis said.

Lori Kartmann of Dearborn walked with neighbor Lynn Helm, also of Dearborn. They wore T-shirts reading "Giant Steps 4 Tiny Feet."

Those were Kartmann's granddaughter's footprints. "She had a blast," grandma said. "We actually used her feet."

Evelyn, now 3, wasn't a preemie.

"She was not, but I was," said Kartmann, 53. She said she took until around kindergarten to catch up developmentally. She was six weeks premature at a time treatment was less advanced.

"Sometimes I actually say to myself that's why I'm young in spirit," she added.

GARDEN CLIPPINGS

Memorial Day

Garden City will hold its annual Memorial Day ceremony at 1 a.m. Monday, May 30, on the front lawn of Garden City Hall, 6000 Middlebelt, north of Ford. The guest speaker will be retired Air Force Major Rick Briggs. Amber Grand will again be singing the National Anthem.

If an organization wishes to present a wreath, they need to contact Margo Ciecierski no later than Monday, May 23, at (734) 793-1660.

After the ceremony, the VFW will host a luncheon, and all are welcomed to attend.

Ghost Hunt

Grimstone Inc., Michigan's premier paranormal research organization, is hosting a public Ghost Hunt at the Straight Farmhouse 7-11 p.m. Saturday, May 14. The 145-year-old farmhouse is now the home of the Garden City Historical Museum and is filled with age-old artifacts, history and the spirits that left them

behind.

Join Grimstone for a night of adventure as it guides participants through the techniques and equipment necessary in unraveling the mysteries left from the spirits of the undead. Guests will have a chance to tour the farmhouse and ghost hunt with professional paranormal investigators, all while learning the ins and outs of documenting the paranormal.

Paranormal enthusiasts who wish to attend the fundraiser can purchase presale tickets at www.grimstone-inc.com/fundraiser.php. The presale tickets are \$20, and tickets at the door will cost \$25. Space is limited.

For more information, call Grimstone Inc. at (313) 444-GRIM or by e-mail at investigators@grimstone-inc.com.

Blood drive

Garden City Hospital will hold an American Red Cross blood drive 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, May 27. The Red Cross Bloodmobile Unit will be in the Northeast Parking

Lot at the corner of Inkster Road and Maplewood on the Garden City Hospital campus, 6245 Inkster Road in Garden City.

Due to the limited number of openings, appointments will be necessary. The last appointment slot will be 4:30 p.m. Call (734) 458-4259 to schedule a blood donation appointment.

Golf outing

The Lyman Foundation is sponsoring the 32nd Annual Lyman Golf Outing benefiting Burger School for Students with Autism in Garden City.

The outing will be held on Aug. 13 at Hickory Creek Golf Course. The Lyman Foundation is looking for hole sponsors and golfers for the event! Hole sponsors will be acknowledged in the golfing program and with the local media.

For more information regarding hole sponsors or registering to golf in the event, contact Sharon Lundie at (734) 728-4919.

Auto Loan Rates for 2.99%*



The possibilities are as unique as you are.

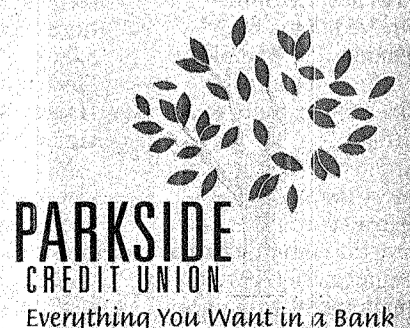
Spring Auto Madness!

Refinance your auto loan with us and we will beat your current rate by .25%! If we can't beat it, we will give you a \$25 VISA Gift Card.

Livonia Branch
36525 Plymouth Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150

Westland Branch
1747 S. Newburgh Rd.
Westland, MI 48186

(734)525-0700
www.parksidecu.org



*Annual Percentage Rate. 2.99% is for qualified borrowers. Rates and terms may vary based on credit score and age of vehicle. Other institutions promotional rates not applicable. VISA Gift Card in not redeemable for cash. Offer ends June 30, 2011.

Lock In A Great Rate! 6-Year Guarantee Period

4.00%* Limited Availability

*Rate subject to change

Contact Us Today at
Jalbert Financial Group

40 Oak Hollow #340 • Southfield, MI 48033

Phone: 248-281-1497

Email: Lauren@jalbertfinancial.com

www.jalbertfinancial.com

Rate offered on initial purchases exceeding \$5,000. Call for details. The Security Benefit Lighthouse Select Annuity (Form 4585), a flexible premium deferred annuity, is issued by Security Benefit Life Insurance Company (SBL). Guarantees are backed by the financial strength and claim-paying ability of SBLIC. Rates subject to change and has limitations. Not FDIC or NCUA Insured. Not insured by any government agency. Not approved in all States.



Jalbert Financial Group
TAX ADVISORY & ASSET PROTECTION™

050873055

STRICTLY BUSINESS

Thursday, May 5, 2011

hometownlife.com

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Sue Mason

Voice Mail: (313) 222-6751

E-mail: smason@hometownlife.com

Comment online at hometownlife.com

MILESTONES

Michigan Week program

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 17

Location: Warren Valley Golf and Banquet Center, 26116 Warren Road, Dearborn Heights

Details: The Garden City Chamber of Commerce, along with the Dearborn Heights Chamber of Commerce, will honor local businesses in a Michigan Week Resource and Luncheon Expo. The event will bring local, state and federal organizations together under one roof to assist the small business owner and/or entrepreneur by providing low-budget and free business services and resources. The Resource Expo from 9:30 to 11 a.m. will offer business owners and guest will be given access to short personal and confidential interviews with organizations offering low-cost and free business help. Some of the free resource groups include SCORE, Schoolcraft College, PNC Bank, CEED, Allied Media and more. The luncheon will begin at 11 a.m. and will recognize businesses, those celebrating milestone anniversaries, business awards or accomplishments. The cost to attend the luncheon is \$20 per person. Reservations are required.

Contact: For more information or reservations, call the chamber office at (734) 422-4448.

Recycle flip flops

Time/Date: Now through May 21

Location: Old Navy, 47196 Michigan Ave., west of Canton Center Road, Canton

Details: If you get new flip flops to start the summer season, don't throw those old ones in the trash. In an effort to reduce waste, TerraCycle Inc. and Old Navy are partnering in a drive to collect used flip flops and recycle them into four public playgrounds around the country. Just stop by an Old Navy store through May 21 to deposit used flip flops in designated collection bins.

Contact: For more information, call (734) 495-1017.

Social Media 101 for Beginners

Time/Date: noon-1:30 p.m. Friday, May 13

Location: Madonna University, 36600 Schoolcraft, Livonia

Details: Learn from a local social media expert who specialized in internet marketing and, business consulting and coaching. Discover the tech savvy ways to get ahead of your competition using social media; the number one rule of working with social media; social media benefits customers and the do's and don'ts of social networking. Cost is \$19.

Contact: Reserve a spot by May 13. For more information, call

Geralyn at (734) 432-5804 or www.madonna.edu (click on Con't Ed & Job Training).

ZUMBATHON FOR SARCOIDOSIS

Time/Date: 1:30 p.m. Sunday, June 5

Location: Skateland West, 37550 Cherry Hill, west of Newburgh, Westland

Details: Zumba for a cause. Help raise money for Sarcoidosis research at a Zumbathon. Come out and Zumba for 90 minutes and learn more about this fatal disease that is affecting more people than we even realize. Adults and children of all ages are welcome. Cost is a donation of at least \$15 per person at the door. Cash and credit/debit will be accepted. There also will be a 50/50 drawing. In sarcoidosis, the immune system does not function properly and blood cells become overactive. These blood cells release chemicals which causes masses of inflamed tissue to form in lungs, lymph nodes, heart, liver, skin, eyes, sinuses, brain/nervous system, bones/joints/muscles, and other organ of the body. The disease can affect men and women of any age and of any race.

Contact: For more information about the event, contact Derica at mszumba247@gmail.com To learn more about Sarcoidosis, go online to www.stopsarcoidosis.org.

Understanding those funky bar codes

BY JON GUNNELLS
GUEST COLUMNIST

TECH SAVVY

You've seen them around town. You've seen them posted on Facebook. They've been appearing in magazines, marketing campaigns and — if you own a Blackberry — even inside your phone.



Jon Gunnells

But what exactly are those square, black and white symbols and what do they do? They look like a distant cousin of bar codes, which have been on retail products for years — but how are they different?

They're actually called QR codes — short for quick response codes — and these codes are certainly catching on quickly. They've been around for years, but didn't start to make waves until Blackberry started integrating them into its Blackberry Messenger system.

Blackberry Messenger is a chat application used like text messages, but it has fewer restrictions. Users can send longer messages, embed pictures, video and voice data, create profiles and add friends to groups. Of course, the system is only available on the Blackberry.

So if a Blackberry user wants to get the contact information of, say, a new client, they can pull up the messenger system and scan another Blackberry user's bar code. Instantly, all of the new client's information

will be input into the other person's Blackberry. It eliminates the need to type in a name, workplace, multiple numbers and e-mail addresses. It even, in some aspects, can replace the business card.

QR codes aren't unique to the Blackberry. All smartphones have the ability to read QR codes through specific QR code reader applications. And they have more widespread benefits than quickly gathering someone's contact information.

They are quickly becoming a go-to feature for advertisers and companies to spread information to their readers and customers. Of course to benefit from the wealth of information QR codes possess, you first need to download a code reader application.

Blackberry users can try one of the many free code reader apps available at Blackberryappworld.com or within the Blackberry App World app. Check the reviews to make sure you are downloading a worthwhile product, as some of the apps don't always work so well.

iPhone and Droid users can visit their app stores and simply search the database for QR code readers; however, I hear Optiscan and Mark Reader are among the best.

Once you have downloaded and installed the QR code reader on your phone, you are now ready to scan any code anywhere — and believe me, they will be everywhere.

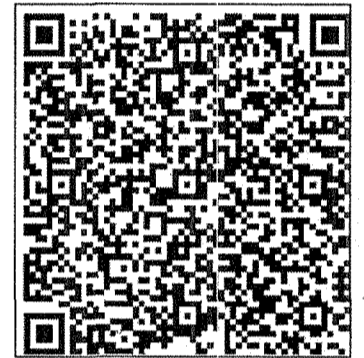
Earlier this month I took

a trip to Las Vegas and I was able to go to my airline's website and scan my flight's QR code to track my flight's progress and see if it was on time. For the return trip, I was able to do the same to avoid waiting too long at Metro Airport for a delayed flight.

I've also spotted QR codes on business cards, in magazine ads and even on a dinner menu because they are so easy to read using a smartphone device.

Better yet, QR codes are easy to generate, so if you wanted to create one to post on your website as a digital business card, or to put on your blog, or just on your wall to look hip and trendy, you can do so.

If you want to create a QR code, <http://qrcode.kaywa.com/> is an easy site to use. I built my QR code in less than two minutes — but it only took that long because I didn't know what information to add. In the end, I decided to create a QR code containing the tag line that is usually at the end of my columns. So if I did a good enough job teaching about QR codes, you can scan my code below to see my tag line and contact information.



United Health names new director

Canton-based United Home Health Services has named Dr. Judith Edge as its new medical director.

"We are honored and privileged to have Dr. Edge join the United team," said UHHS President Penny Rhein. "Together we will focus on achieving positive patient outcomes, maintain our tradition of home health excellence and caring, and enhance physician communication."

"Dr. Edge is truly an advocate for home care and her patients so it is a perfect fit," she said.

Edge is an Internal medicine physician affiliated with Garden City Hospital since 1989. She has a special interest in the geriatric population.

"It is with great enthusiasm that I join the staff at UHHS as their medical director," she said. "After giving a brief lecture to United's staff, I was impressed at what a professional, intelligent and caring group they are. It is my goal to improve and bridge the flow of care between doctor, nurse, and patient."

Edge takes over from Dr. Rosemarie Tolson who served for seven years as medical director. Tolson is pursuing other interests at Michigan State University, but will remain on United's board to represent them in the community.

United Home Health Services, a skilled Medicare-certified home care company, has been providing skilled nursing, therapy, home health aide, social work, and registered dietitian services in the comfort of home for 28 years.



Dr. Judith Edge has been named the new medical director at United Home Health Services.

It also provides caregiver and companion services for seniors including personal care, housekeeping, laundry, meal prep, grocery shopping, medication reminders, and transporta-

tion, as well as an Alzheimer's/Dementia program.

For more information, go online to www.uhhs.org or call Mary Jane Swanson at (734) 981-8820.

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

New staff members

Garden City Hospital's medical staff is growing. New medical staff members include:

• Dr. James S. Boal, Family Practice, with offices at 14100 Newburgh, Livonia.

• Dr. Hadi A. Dourra, Internal Medicine, with offices at 27144 Joy, Redford.

• Dr. Nedidema D. Teklehaimanot, Radiology, with offices at 23100 Providence Dr., Suite 420, Southfield.

Garden City Hospital now has more than 360 physicians in 47 specialties able to serve the community. For more information or to make an appointment with one of Garden City Hospital's new or existing physicians, contact the Physician Referral service at

877-717-WELL or go online to www.gchosp.org.

Appointment announced

Harvey Industries has announced the appointment of Rick Levin as executive vice-president of operations, effective immediately.

Levin will have complete responsibility for plant operations in Wabash, Ind., Aiken, S.C., and Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, and report directly to Harvey Industries CEO Jerome Harvey.

Most recently, Levin was vice-president of global brake operations at Affinia, Inc. Previously, he held the position of general manager at RBC Precision Products, vice-president of manufacturing operations at Federal-Mogul, general manager at Hayes

Lenmerz International and plant manager at Outboard Marine Corp.

Mr. Levin is a graduate of Lake Forest Graduate School of Management in Lake Forest, Ill.

"Rick brings with him a wealth of experience and technical expertise. He makes a great addition to our management team, and will contribute to the continued growth of our company," Harvey said.

Harvey Industries, LLC is a leading provider of high-quality aluminum castings, machining, assembly, and polymer injection molding. Harvey Industries is headquartered in Livonia and operates out of four plants strategically located in Wabash, Ind., Westland, Aiken, S.C., and Nuevo Laredo, Mexico.

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

Redford's Finest in Affordable Senior Living



Worry-free Independent Living Apartments

For More Information Or To
Take A Tour Call Today!

313.541.6000



Move In for \$175*
First Month FREE!

Includes:

- One and two bedroom apartments
- For Seniors 55+
- Fully equipped kitchen with dishwasher
- Patio or balcony
- Personal Emergency Response System
- Weekly movies and popcorn nights
- Library and computer lab
- Mini-theater
- On-site variety store
- Hair salon and barber shop
- Wellness and fitness center
- Transportation
- Guest suite
- Secure lobby with intercom

Limited Offer:
Stacked Washer/Dryer
added to each apartment!

Act Now! Receive
a new microwave as
our "housewarming" gift!

*Surety Deposit

The Village of
Redford

25340 W. Six Mile Road, Redford, Michigan 48240 www.pvm.org
(Located on the north side of Six Mile just east of Beech Daly Road)



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

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

OUR VIEWS

Rest easier Bin Laden's death means sacrifices weren't in vain

Our area has suffered its share of loss in the nearly 10 years since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks leveled the Twin Towers and steeled a nation's resolve.

Now that the orchestrator of that vicious attack on the American psyche, Osama Bin Laden, has been killed by U.S. military forces, their brethren — Army Sgt. Trevor Blumberg of Canton, Marine Cpl. David Smith of Garden City, Army Pvt. Joseph Blake of Livonia, Marine Sgt. Bryan Burgess of Canton, Army National Guardsman 1st Class Matthew Hilton of Livonia, Marine Cpl. Jacob Turbett of Canton and Marine Lance Cpl. Dominic J. Ciaramitaro — can finally, and truly, rest in peace.



Blumberg



Burgess



Hilton



Turbett

For what has been a very long 10 years, Americans have waited, wished and prayed for the announcement that came late Sunday night. U.S. forces, acting on a tip provided last August and using a perseverance born on 9/11, raided a Pakistani compound and engaged Bin Laden and his supporters in a brief firefight that resulted in Bin Laden's death. They took custody of the body, and DNA confirmed Bin Laden's identity.

The forces did it for their country, continuing a service that should make us all proud. And

they were doing it for those who died trying to do it before them. It's worth remembering why and how our local soldiers gave that ultimate sacrifice:

- **Marine Sgt. Bryan K. Burgess** of Canton died Nov. 9, 2006, while conducting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq.
- **Army Pvt. Joseph R. Blake** of Livonia died Aug. 17, 2006, from injuries sustained while on active duty in Afghanistan when his platoon encountered enemy forces small arms fire in Turkalay, Afghanistan.
- **Sgt. Trevor Blumberg** of Canton died Sept. 14, 2004, when a roadside bomb hit a convoy and destroyed the Humvee occupied by himself and three other soldiers. His unit had been deployed to Iraq just three days earlier.
- **Marine Cpl. David W. Smith** of Garden City died Dec. 11, 2005, during a training accident in Mount Fuji, Japan. He was 20.
- **Army National Guard Sgt. 1st Class Matthew L. Hilton** of Livonia died June 26, 2008, while on active duty supporting Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.
- **Marine Cpl. Jacob H. Turbett** of Canton died Feb. 13, 2010, in Helmand province, Afghanistan, while on active duty supporting Operation Enduring Freedom.
- **Marine Lance Cpl. Dominic J. Ciaramitaro**, 19, of South Lyon died April 23 while serving in Afghanistan. He was killed by a roadside bomb.

As you can see, some of them died within days of being sent overseas, while others died just before they were supposed to come home safe. Some were a little older, and some were very, very young. We can never do enough to thank them — and their families — for their sacrifice.

What we can do is hold the memory of their willingness to die for that which they believed, and an appreciation of the sacrifice they made, in our hearts. In the aftermath of the death of the terrorist Bin Laden, we can sleep better and feel better to know one immutable fact. Their sacrifice was not in vain.

LETTERS

Let's try democracy

The looming threat of "Appointed Financial Advisers," absolute authority to void all of the institutions and conventions of democratic government may be in for a test. Some of our fellow citizens who were paying attention in their civics classes have managed to acquire legal status for the circulation of petitions which, if accepted, will allow a recall election of the governor.

Now, signing one of these petitions does not mean you want to recall the governor, but it does mean you are respectful of and willing to allow the regular and legal process of democratic government to proceed so that those of our fellow citizens who have now seen what the governor has in mind for us can respond to his plans.

He managed to get elected without telling in detail what he was planning to do to those governmental and educational organizations which did not measure up to his expectations, and now that we are seeing him in action, some of us are not too sure about his plan for our future. After all, we have a long history of electing our school boards, city, county and township governments, and keeping control of these local institutions in the locale where they reside. For those of us who were paying attention in civics class having an appointed person we don't know and did not elect running our town or school smells like some other form of government we do not celebrate on July 4.

James Cook
Westland

AAUW prom dress thanks

The Plymouth/Canton Branch of AAUW would like to thank the many generous residents and friends who donated to our prom/party dress project.

We had an excellent selection of dresses and the girls were very excited over the variety and quality. Many parents stated how glad they were that people donated and how much this event helped them stay within their budget.

Thanks also to the Observer for their article on this event and publishing our request for donations. We could not have accomplished our goal without community support.

Esther Nelson
Membership chair
Plymouth/Canton AAUW

Congressman, where are you?

Congressman McCotter voted to abolish Medicare and replace it with vouchers.

Congress has been out for the past two weeks so they could hold Town Hall Meetings with their constituents. After calling the congressman's three offices, I was informed that he had no such meetings planned. Changing how our elderly are cared for is a pretty big deal. It certainly is deserving of "an adult conversation." If you are proud of your vote then meet with us to explain yourself. Who are you representing?

Terry Cannon
Livonia

Adult conversation needed

Congressman Thaddeus McCotter voted



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The sacrifice made by Marine Cpl. Jacob H. Turbett, killed in action in Afghanistan in February 2010, was one of thousands made in the war on terror, which was dealt a blow Sunday with the announcement U.S. forces killed Osama Bin Laden.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

E-mail: smason@hometownlife.com.

Read or comment online:
www.hometownlife.com

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

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

McCotter also provides a tax cut for our wealthiest citizens of more than 20 percent. This follows the Bush era tax cuts that went mostly to the wealthy and drove our nation to the brink of bankruptcy.

The Ryan bill presents these and other questions that need to be addressed. I hope that Mr. McCotter will make himself available in some public forum where he can explain his vote for this bill.

Dave Schneider
Livonia

Oil companies' subsidies

While gassing up my car this, it is difficult not to notice prices over \$4 a gallon. This affords the oil companies extorted their best profits this quarter ever. Exxon/Mobil had profits, again just for a quarter of this year, at \$10.6 billion for a 69 percent increase over last year. Shell made \$6.3 billion for this same period a 30 percent over last year, \$3 billion for Conoco Phillips which is an increase of 44 percent. Gulf Coast destroyer, BP still made \$7.1 billion, an increase of 16 percent over last year. The five largest oil companies reaped over \$1 trillion in profits for the last 10 years.

Before you justify as just smart businessmen, we provide the oil companies with \$4 billion of our tax dollars each year in subsidies. Yes, you and I pay the oil companies \$4 billion in our tax dollars each year.

Why do we permit this extortion? The U.S. House Republicans voted all again repeal of this corporate welfare. This was done at the same time social programs were slashed in the name of fiscal responsibility.

The GOP is little more than a subsidiary of the oil companies. Others have identified the GOP as Gas, Oil and Pollution party.

Gerald Maxey
Farmington Hills

with the majority of Republican representatives in favor of the budget plan presented by Congressman Ryan of Wisconsin. This legislation will eliminate the Medicare program that many citizens depend on for medical care. The program was passed decades ago because elderly people were unable to purchase health insurance in the private market. The Ryan plan provides a voucher system that is clearly inadequate. The bill offers no incentive for private insurers to write policies for older citizens who are most at risk. The budget plan leaves the elderly at the mercy of the private insurers who have not demonstrated that they can provide the elderly with affordable, quality coverage.

The bill supported by Mr. McCotter also guts the Medicaid program that helps indigent citizens deal with health care problems. It is amazing that Congress would leave our poorest citizens with no where to turn when they become ill. The bill supported by Rep.

Let's keep remaining Canadian trash out of Michigan

BY SEN. DEBBIE STABENOW
GUEST COLUMNIST

Michigan residents Jim Smith of Davison and Bonnie Bare of Clio are tired of seeing, hearing, and smelling the Canadian trash trucks that are still coming down I-69 from the Blue Water Bridge to the Brent Run Landfill in Montrose. They both share the view of so many people across our state that we don't want Canadian trash in Michigan.

In 2006, Sen. Carl Levin and I secured a groundbreaking agreement with Ontario officials to stop, by the end of last year, 1.5 million tons of Ontario's city trash from entering Michigan. This agreement was a success, slamming the brakes on more than 40,000 truckloads of garbage that were being picked up by city trash trucks in Canada.

While our agreement was an important victory, the fight to keep trash out of Michigan is not over. Commercial and industrial trash, which is not picked up by city garbage trucks, is still coming into Michigan.



Sen. Debbie Stabenow

The root of the Canadian trash problem is simple economics. Canadian companies dump their trash in Michigan because it's cheap. For example, Wisconsin charges \$12.99 per ton of trash and Illinois charges \$2; Michigan charges only 21 cents. While the state needs to address its trash policies and charges, I am doing everything I can at the federal level.

That is why I introduced the Stop Canadian Trash Act, to help change the economics. Currently, international trash trucks only pay \$5 toward inspection fees. My bill would give U.S. Customs and Border Protection the resources to inspect every single Canadian trash truck coming into Michigan, and it would make the trash companies pay \$500 per truck to cover these additional costs. That will fundamentally change the financial incentive that makes it cheaper for Canadian companies to ship their trash to Michigan instead of dumping it in their own landfills.

This is a safety issue as well. Right now, beyond a drive-through radiation detector, only 1 percent of all trucks are randomly screened by Customs. That means nearly all trucks passing through the border avoid

thorough inspection.

Trash trucks are filled with all kinds of things, making it easy to smuggle dangerous goods across the border. A report from the Department of Homeland Security found that because so few trucks are thoroughly inspected, dangerous materials can be carried across the border undetected. In one case, a truck driver was caught trying to smuggle nearly 2,000 pounds of marijuana in the back of a trash truck.

If Customs is catching this kind of illegal activity among the 1 percent of trash trucks inspected, imagine what's coming through in the other 99 percent!

My bill would not only change a financial incentive that makes it attractive to dump trash in Michigan, but it would also stop trash trucks from bringing dangerous and illegal materials into our state.

We are the Great Lakes State, not the Great Waste State. I will continue fighting until all Canadian trash has stopped coming to Michigan.

Debbie Stabenow represents the state of Michigan in the U.S. Senate. A Democrat, she has held the position since 2000.

ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS



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

The issue: Estimating voter turnout

I wish they wouldn't print such statements. I think a lot of voters figure why bother after reading statements of this kind. Lets hope I'm wrong and I'm sure Eileen hopes shes wrong as well. Every election is important and this one is even more so. This is a chance to change the status quo and make a difference. It what has happened in the past. If every registered voter voted, there could be a completely different out come, so get out and vote

jmckinney

I totally agree with you. When someone makes statement like that, it puts into our minds of 'why bother, I am not making a difference'. But we do make a difference. Every single person has the chance to be heard. VOTE VOTE VOTE.

halfpint_48186



Some 9,000 enthusiastic crafters are expected to attend the Great Lakes Mega Meet, a popular scrapbooking event, at the Suburban Collection Showplace Thursday-Saturday, May 5-7.

Court rules MERS-initiated foreclosures are improper

The foreclosures of thousands of homes across Wayne County and Michigan may have been done improperly, according to Bernard J. Youngblood, the Wayne County Register of Deeds.

Youngblood said that a recent decision by the Michigan Court of Appeals, which reversed the foreclosures of a home in Kent County and one in Jackson County, could have broad implications on certain homeowners who are currently in foreclosure.

In an opinion released on April 21, the court ruled that the two foreclosures were invalid because the wrong party - the Mortgage Electronic Registration System (MERS) - initiated the foreclosure process instead of the actual mortgage lender.

"According to Michigan state law, an entity must have an interest in a property to initiate a foreclosure," Youngblood said. "MERS is a computer system, and the Court of Appeals ruled it cannot foreclose."

MERS is a creation of the lending industry and allows banks and other financial institutions to avoid paying recording fees when titles to mortgages are transferred. Mortgages are sold several times throughout the life of a loan, Youngblood said.

According to Wayne County's records, MERS has initiated 50 foreclosures on Wayne County homes within the last six months and nearly 15,000 Wayne County properties under MERS have been foreclosed within the last five years.

"People have 180 days to redeem their properties, if they have been foreclosed on," Youngblood said. "I would advise people who have been in foreclosure proceedings with MERS to consult with an attorney who can review their file. There may be an opportunity to reverse or delay a foreclosure."

Another concern that he

has with MERS is the drain it puts on county budgets across Michigan. Allowing banks and lenders to avoid paying the recording fees takes away significant revenue from every Register of Deeds office in the state, Youngblood said.

Furthermore, Wayne County records reflect that of the 303,000 mortgages recorded within the last six years, 134,000 mortgages

have been filed under MERS.

The MERS system is under scrutiny across the country as it restricts the cash flow of county offices during these harsh economically burdened times. In addition, the system obscures the identity of a lender's true interest in "the official chain of title" at the Register of Deeds office, making negotiations difficult when borrowers need to reach out for refinancing.

Mega Meet caters to area's scrappers

You may have seen the T-shirt that warns, "Runs with Scissors."

However, the people coming soon to Novi don't run with just scissors, they also wield trimmers, wire cutters, and swivel blade knives. Some even employ guillotines. And they mean business - business for on-site vendors - many Michigan-based - as well as local hotels and restaurants.

They're coming to attend the Great Lakes Mega Meet, a popular scrapbooking event held at the Suburban Collection Showplace over Mother's Day weekend.

"This is an industry that went from \$200 million in total sales in 1996 to over \$2.5 billion less than 10 years later," said Kate Griswold, owner and organizer of the GLMM. "It's clear that scrapbooking is a hobby that has found a permanent place in households in Michigan as

well as all over the country. The goal of the GLMM is to provide scrappers with money and time-saving techniques and products in one convenient and exciting weekend."

About 9,000 enthusiastic crafters will be descending upon Novi to attend the annual event today through Saturday, May 5-7. The event provides scrappers with a weekend of scrapbooking ideas, products, hands-on classes and Make-It Take-It opportunities.

Participants will have the opportunity to browse 85 vendor booths, and sit down to work on projects in the open crop area. Professionals from popular companies that will be there include as Quick Quotes, SEI and Embellish It! This year, designer Jenni Bowlin will be on hand to teach scrappers new designs and techniques.

"Scrappers throughout Michigan have come to know

and love the Great Lakes Mega Meet," Griswold said. "There is the opportunity to see, touch, and try so many new things. To have so many classes available in one place at one time is something guests don't often get to experience anywhere else."

Late-night crops will be held Thursday and Friday. Crops provide scrappers with large work spaces and a friendly environment. Page and table contests keep things entertaining and fun throughout the evening. Guests are urged to reserve a spot at the crop early, as the events tend to sell out.

Class schedule, registration, ticket purchasing and discount packages are available at the event website at www.megameet.com. Friend Mega Meet on Facebook or follow them on Twitter @MegaMeet for the latest information about classes, registration and events.



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

Marvato's 6581 N. Wayne Road, Westland
734-405-5222
 Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 11am-10pm
 Fri.-Sat. 11 am-11 pm; Sun. Noon-10pm
ITALIAN GRILLE
\$10.00 OFF 2 Dinner Entrees
\$6.00 OFF 2 Lunch Entrees
 With this coupon and the purchase of 2 beverages. Good every day except between the hours of 6-9 pm on Fri. and Sat. Dine in only. Not good on holidays or with any other offers. Max 2 coupons per party. Offer expires 5/31/11.

Page's 23821 Farmington Rd. • Farmington
 248.477.0099
www.pagesfoodandspirits.com
 Join us on FACEBOOK for other specials!
THE BEST BURGER YOU EVER HAD!
 You Be The Judge!
FREE PRIME RIB NEW YORK STRIP
 Tuesday & Wednesday after 4 pm
 Buy one at our low price of \$14.95 with a one beverage minimum per person and get your choice FREE
20% OFF ALL MENU ITEMS
 Dine-In Only
 Not Valid On Fridays
 Cannot be combined with any other offers

Homeowners Wanted!
 Kayak Pools is looking for Demo Homesites to display our "Maintenance-Free" Kayak Pool. Save Thousands of \$\$\$'s, with this Unique Opportunity!
CALL NOW!
800.31.KAYAK
 (52925)
Kayak Pools
 kayakpoolsmidwest.com Discount Code:522056

MPA
 MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION
 Statewide Ad Networks
Just Imagine...
 reaching 3,500,000 readers with just one phone call.
 Contact your newspaper's advertising representative or call 517.372.2424

Live, Professional Theatre Close to Home!
Tipping Point Theatre
 May 19 - June 25, 2011
Crimes of the Heart
 by Beth Henley
 May 19-June 25, 2011
 Directed by: Kate Peckham*
 Featuring:
 Seth Amadei*
 Hallie B. Bard
 Sonja Marquis
 Maggie Meyer
 Ty Mitchell
 Inga R. Wilson*
 *members of Actors' Equity Association
 Tickets on sale now by calling 248.347.0003
 361 E. Cady Street, Northville, MI 48167
www.tippingpointtheatre.com
361 E. Cady Street, Northville, Michigan 48167

Garden City Michigan
CITY OF GARDEN CITY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
May 23, 2011

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Garden City Council will hold a Public Hearing at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan on May 23, 2011 at 6:53 p.m. regarding the Special Assessment.

CITY OF GARDEN CITY
 COUNTY OF WAYNE, MICHIGAN

SPECIAL ASSESSMENT PUBLIC RESOLUTION (#2) OF NECESSITY
Maplewood - Phase III (2011)

WHEREAS, a report has been received from the City Manager on reconstructing Maplewood, from Merriman to Hubbard, and Hubbard, from Maplewood to Parklane,

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to hear the views of property owners in the proposed district.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to call a Public Hearing for Monday, **May 23, 2011, at 6:53p.m.**, in the Council Chambers, 6000 Middlebelt, Garden City, MI 48135 to solicit public comments on the necessity of paving Maplewood, from Merriman to Hubbard, and Hubbard, from Maplewood to Parklane.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that notice of such Public Hearing be published in the newspaper of general circulation of the City, and that notice of such meeting be given by first class mail to the last known owner of each parcel affected thereby pursuant to the Garden City Code of Ordinances Chapter 40, Section 40.04(A).

Resolution:
 Adopted:

Publish: May 5, 2011

Discover Nature's Splendor at Schwartz's Greenhouse!
 Our Specialty is Spectacular Hanging Baskets!

Bedding Plants • Roses
 Vegetable Plants
 Perennials • Herbs
 Proven Winner Plants
 Garden Ornaments

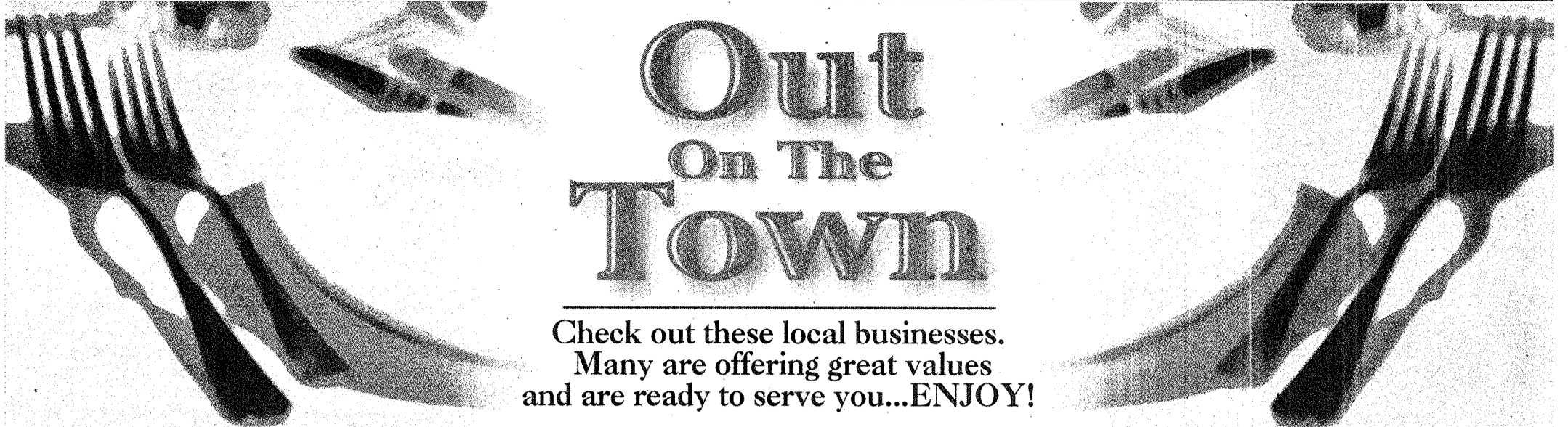
Over 12 Acres of Greenhouse and 2 Acres of Shopping!

Open May
 Mon. - Sat. 9AM - 8PM
 Sun. 9AM - 6PM
 June - Call for hours

30705 Sibley Road • Romulus
(734) 753-9269

Visit us online at www.schwartzgreenhouse.com

Authentic Home Cooking
Leon's
 Life is FULL of Choices...
 Enjoy homemade specials daily
All-You-Can Eat Soup Bar
 included with all entrees!
4 Homemade Soups Daily
Homemade Bread • Full Breakfast Menu
Mother's Day Breakfast Buffet
 8am-2pm **\$6.50 per person**
Mother's Day Special Menu
 Dinners include Soup & Salad
T-Bone Steak or Porterhouse \$10.95
New York Strip Steak \$8.95
Center Cut Pork Chops \$7.95
White Fish or Salmon Steak \$7.95
 Many Daily Lunch Specials under \$5 including Soup & Potato
 Banquet Room Available Family Owned & Operated Since 1983
Leon's Family Dining 248.478.7811
House of Leon 248.478.3710
 Both Locations on 7 Mile • Just E. of Middlebelt • Livonia



Out On The TOWN

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

It's Spring Time...It's BOTOX Time!
 Thru the end of April only!
BOTOX, Microdermabrasion and Chemical Peels are all.....25% OFF
 Offering treatments for Acne, Melasma, Roseacea, Shaving Bumps Hair Loss and the Removal of Flat Moles and Skin Tags
 Come in and leave **CLEAR, CLEAN & SMOOTH**
SKINNY'S MEDICAL SALON
 6271 Haggerty Road, West Bloomfield
 For an appointment, please call **248-669-0069**
 Don't Miss Our **GRAND OPENING** on May 3rd, 2011
 Ask about our **MOTHER'S DAY** Gift Certificates!
 Dr. David Criss, M.D.
 Dortha Green, PAC

IRONWOOD GRILL
HEAT UP THE NIGHT!
 All of our smokehouse items are slow smoked up to 12 hours with apple, cherry and hickory woods.
 There's nothing better than enjoying BBQ while watching your team on our 10 screens.
 HOUSE BURGERS • ROTISSERIE CHICKEN • CALZONES
 STONE FIRED PIZZA • SIGNATURE SALADS
 TAPAS STYLE APPETIZERS • LARGE SELECTION OF BEER & WINE

840 West Ann Arbor Trail
 PLYMOUTH • 734-557-5514
 WWW.IRONWOODGRILLPLYMOUTH.COM

Monaghan Banquet Center
 Rose Catering Inc.
 19801 Farmington Road • Livonia, MI 48152
Mass at Monaghan 11 am to 12 pm
Mother's Day Sunday Buffet
May 8th, 2011
DINNER 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM
 Swedish meat balls - Mac & Cheese - Cordon Bleu
 Sauerkraut & Kielbasa
 Honey, cinnamon baked ham - Vegetarian-Vegan Lasagna
 Cubed Pineapple, Honey Dew, Cantaloupe, Red & Green Grapes
 Spinach salad with raspberry and poppyseed dressings
 Assorted pastries
 Roasted Redskin Potatoes - Normandy Mixed Vegetables
 Rolls, butter
 Regular and Decaffe coffee - Iced tea
SERVED 12:00 - 4:00 PM
 Cash Bar Available
 Adults \$18.00
 (Ages 4-9 yrs) \$7.00 - Children 4 and under are free!
 Price includes Sales Tax & Service Charge
 For Reservations Call (248) 476-8385
 or e-mail rosecater@comcast.net
 to make your reservations right now!
 All Walk-ins Welcome

NOW OPEN!
BIG BITE'S DELI
BIG BITE'S DELI
 Buy 1 Sandwich at regular price, get a **FREE MEDIUM DRINK & CHIPS**
 Not valid with any other offers • Expires 6-30-11
BIG BITE'S DELI
 Buy 1 Sandwich, get one of equal or lesser value **FREE**
 Not valid with any other offers • Expires 6-30-11
ALL THE CLASSICS
 Corned Beef • Pastrami
 Lean Roast Beef Turkey
 Tuna • Club Salads
 Personal Pizzas
 Cappuchino
 Mon-Thurs, 11-6 Fri 2-7
 Sat Noon-7 Sun Closed
 27505 Ford Road 1 Blk W. of Inkster by Ruby Jewelers Garden City, MI 48135
 734.261.9780

DD EXECUTIVE TRANSPORTATION
AIRPORT ALL EVENTS ANY OCCASION
 In comfort and style.
 Dave and Dawn Archer have been in the transportation business since 2001, and in 2008 they decided to start go out on their own by starting D & D Executive Transportation. This family owned and operated business based in Canton, started with only one vehicle and the owners as the only employees, and has steadily grown.
 Starting as a very small operation allowed D & D to build a loyal customer base by providing excellent personal service at a reasonable price. Each year, D & D has added at least one vehicle, and the staff now includes Dave and Dawn's son, son-in-law, and daughter-in-law to name a few.
 To this day, D & D Executive Transportation brings that original idea of excellent service at a reasonable price, and also has begun adding other ways to serve you. The facebook page and website are regularly being updated, and they are always trying to make them more enjoyable for you.
 D & D is always looking for partner websites, so that their clients are able to find other services that could be useful to them. They are planning to continue to build the ad campaign, as well as expanding their fleet so that they can serve you all the better. The staff of D & D Executive Transportation encourages you to visit them online, on facebook, or to call them to find out more about the company.
 It's not just a service, it's a lifestyle
734.397.3741
 reservations@ddexec-trans.com
 www.ddexec-trans.com

Welcome to
Mayberry's
 EST 1991
27810 Grand River Ave. • Farmington
248.477.2525
 Open Easter and Mother's Day
 Serving BREAKFAST ANYTIME
FREE WI-FI
Buy One, Get One FREE!
 (Up to \$5.00)
 Not valid with any other offer.
 Expires May 23, 2011
 mayberrysfamilyrestaurant.com

Open 7 Days A Week!
 Mon-Thurs, 11am-10pm
 Fri-Sat, 11am-11pm
 Sun, Noon-9pm
ICHIBAN STEAKHOUSE
 Hibachi Steakhouse
 Sushi Bar • Thai Food
 Full Sushi Bar
 We use only FRESH ingredients - never frozen.
 Full Service Cocktail Lounge & Happy Hour Drink Specials
\$10 off Your Purchase of \$60 or more
 Ichiban Steakhouse • 734-414-1888
 43750 Ford Rd. • Canton, MI
 With this coupon. Offer valid Mon-Thurs. Not valid with other offers. Not valid holidays. Expires 6-1-11
\$20 off Your Purchase of \$120 or more
 Ichiban Steakhouse • 734-414-1888
 43750 Ford Rd. • Canton, MI
 With this coupon. Offer valid Mon-Thurs. Not valid with other offers. Not valid holidays. Expires 6-1-11
 43750 Ford Rd. • Canton 48187 • (734) 414-1888

DD EXECUTIVE TRANSPORTATION
AIRPORT ALL EVENTS ANY OCCASION
 In comfort and style.
 Dave and Dawn Archer have been in the transportation business since 2001, and in 2008 they decided to start go out on their own by starting D & D Executive Transportation. This family owned and operated business based in Canton, started with only one vehicle and the owners as the only employees, and has steadily grown.
 Starting as a very small operation allowed D & D to build a loyal customer base by providing excellent personal service at a reasonable price. Each year, D & D has added at least one vehicle, and the staff now includes Dave and Dawn's son, son-in-law, and daughter-in-law to name a few.
 To this day, D & D Executive Transportation brings that original idea of excellent service at a reasonable price, and also has begun adding other ways to serve you. The facebook page and website are regularly being updated, and they are always trying to make them more enjoyable for you.
 D & D is always looking for partner websites, so that their clients are able to find other services that could be useful to them. They are planning to continue to build the ad campaign, as well as expanding their fleet so that they can serve you all the better. The staff of D & D Executive Transportation encourages you to visit them online, on facebook, or to call them to find out more about the company.
 It's not just a service, it's a lifestyle
734.397.3741
 reservations@ddexec-trans.com
 www.ddexec-trans.com

Sunday, May 8
11:30am and 1:30pm Seatings
Mother's Day Brunch
BREAKFAST STATION
 Scrambled Eggs, Eggs Benedict, Bacon, Sausage, Hash Browns, Assorted Breakfast Breads
SALAD STATION
 Pasta Salad, Fruit Salad, Caesar Salad, Tossed Salad
CARVING STATION
 Roast Beef Au Jus, Honey Glazed Turkey Breast, Roast Pork Loin with Sautéed Apples, Au Gratin Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables
ASSORTED DESSERT TABLE
BELGIAN WAFFLE STATION • 11:30-1:30
 An assortment of toppings to accompany your waffles.
George Murphy's at the Creek
 36000 Seven Mile Bet. Farmington & Newburgh Rds. Livonia
248.473.1300
 Reservations Required

FOUR FRIENDS BAR/GRILL
OPEN 7 DAYS
 44282 Warren Canton (E. of Sheldon) (734) 416-0880
Sun-Wed Mix & Match DINNERS For 2 \$15.95
 Portions, Prices & Service With Neighborhood Comfort
DINNER Starts at 4 pm Mon-Sat. NIGHTLY SPECIALS
EVERY FRIDAY - BEST FISH FRY IN THE AREA!
Open Mother's Day
 Let Mom enjoy our home cooking for a change!
ENTERTAINMENT
 Thursdays KT's Alibi 8:30 pm
 Fridays Karaoke 9:30 pm
 Saturday, May 7th S.R.O. - Classic Rock 9:30 pm

Amantea RESTAURANT
 ITALIAN AMERICAN CUISINE
Mother's Day Reservations still available
Friday-FISH AND CHIPS \$9.25
\$10.00 OFF 2 Regular Priced Entrees
 with the purchase of 2 beverages.
 Valid Mon.-Thurs. With this coupon only. May not be combined with other offers or on holidays or carryout. One coupon per couple. Maximum 3 per table. Expires 6-30-11.
 32777 W. Warren • Garden City Just East of Venoy
734-421-1510

DD EXECUTIVE TRANSPORTATION
AIRPORT ALL EVENTS ANY OCCASION
 In comfort and style.
With prom right around the corner, trust your loved ones to our friendly, courteous, and safe drivers, all at a reasonable price.
 • Airport Shuttle Service
 • Luxury Event Transportation
 • Business Travel
 • Executive Transportation
 • Sedan Service
734.397.3741
 reservations@ddexec-trans.com
 www.ddexec-trans.com

Don't be left behind...Call 734.582.8363 today to learn more about advertising in OUT ON THE TOWN!

ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, May 5, 2011

hometownlife.com

LIVONIA BUSINESS
PEDDLES ORGANIC
STAPLES - FOOD, B7

door-to-door
organics

Musicians recycle materials into horns, strings and percussion

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

When Daniel Boone Daniel fills his second-hand tea pot with water, he's ready to make music.

When he brings out a washboard, he's thinking rhythm, not soap suds.

And his saw? You'll hear it sing before you see it cut any wood.

Daniel and his band members in the Deep Fried Pickle Project, can coax a melody from stuff found lying around the house, going for pennies at rummage sales and in heated bidding wars on Ebay.

"I have a really great enamel tea pot I found at a garage sale. I fill it with a little water and I have a mouth piece. I play it. It sounds like a drowning duck, but one that can play melodies," Daniel said.

He promises to have it on hand when the band plays the Green Street Fair in downtown Plymouth this weekend. The band also will teach kids how to make their own homemade instruments, possibly some "singing straws" and kazoo's, out of recyclable materials.

"We might build some sort of percussion instrument. We'll have to wait and see what else is up our sleeve," Daniel said.



The Deep Fried Pickle Project makes music from jugs, washboards, saws, tea pots, boxes and even the occasional manufactured instrument, such as the banjo.



Youngsters work on homemade musical instruments at a music festival. The Deep Fried Pickle Project will lead a similar workshop at the upcoming Green Street Fair in Plymouth.

PARADE

The *Observer & Eccentric* is a sponsor of the Green Street Fair, which will run noon-7 p.m. Friday, May 6, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, May 7 and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, May 8. Two Deep Fried Pickle Project members, Daniel and Alan Selvidge, along with Daniel's son, Max, who often plays with the band at children's shows, will perform from noon-1 p.m. Saturday and from 12:30-1:30 Sunday on the Eco-Beats stage.

The instrument building play shops will run from 1:30-3 p.m. Saturday and 10-11:45 a.m. Sunday. Daniel and Selvidge will show kids how to play the colorful instruments that they'll use to lead the Mother's Day parade from noon-12:30 p.m. on Sunday. Festival attendees may bring their own noisemakers, pans, bells, drums and pots, along with decorated tricycles and bikes to participate in the parade.

"It will be a blast. It gets kids involved and they feel a part of what's going on," Daniel said, explaining why the group teaches instrument-building. "A lot of the festivals we play are jam band festivals. The children need a good musical experience, too. They learn something about music and they are able to have some ownership in what is going on."

ARTISTIC MUSICIANS

The children's workshops come easily to both men, who both teach art in Coloma Community



Daniel Boone Daniel plays the saw for guests at a music festival.

Schools, northeast of Benton Harbor. They play jug band style music when they can during the school year and extensively during the summer.

"We have a lot of fun and we joke around a lot. We don't take ourselves too seriously and that has worked pretty well for us. We've been able to travel all over the country, play cool places and take our families on adventures."

They've been on the Bravo network and appeared in an episode of the PBS animated show *Postcards from Buster*, in addition to playing festivals nationwide.

About 80 percent of their instruments are homemade and most of the tunes are original. They play cover songs in "old time style" with a 20s- or 30s-era twist.

In addition to tea pot, Daniel makes music on washtub bass, washboard, jugs and flamingo and swan yard ornaments. Selvidge turned a cookie tin into a "canjo," which is played like a banjo and he is building a guitar out of a box that will replace his manufactured guitar.

"There is a lot of trial and error. My approach is different than Alan's. He is a perfectionist and spends time and money finding the perfect box," Daniel said. "It pays off. It looks great. All of my stuff is duct taped and bolted on."

Deep Fried Pickle Project fans will recognize favorites like *Pickle Juice* and *Rubber Legged Jim* when the group performs at Green Street Fair. A few lucky audience members will be invited on stage during *Rubber Legged Jim* to

play a percussion instrument "made out of his leg" while the rest of the audience sings "argh, argh" during the pirate-inspired tune. They'll also play songs from their new children's CD.

For more about the Green Street Fair visit www.greenstreetfair.com

Event benefits Penn Theatre

The sixth annual "PENNdemonium" Dinner Auction will celebrate the Penn Theatre's 70th anniversary, 6-11 p.m. Friday, May 13, at the Meeting House Grand Ballroom, 499 S. Main, Plymouth.

The event will include hors d'oeuvres, plated dinner with your choice of entrée, full open bar, dessert, raffle, live and silent auction, music and dancing.

Tickets are \$75 and proceeds benefit the Friends

of the Penn. Tickets must be purchased in advance. They're available by e-mailing to tickets@friendsofthepenn.org, stopping by the Penn Box Office during movie hours or by calling (734) 453-0870.

GIFTS THAT GROW!



WAVE PETUNIA BASKETS
Reg. \$24.99
\$19.99



Give mom a gift that will grow! Come pot up an annual for mom. \$4.99 per child. Personalized. Saturday 11am-noon and 2pm-3pm. See 'Events' on our website for more information.

Areas largest selection

GLAZED POTTERY
25% OFF

PLYMOUTH NURSERY
HOME & GARDEN SHOWPLACE

734-453-5500
www.plymouthnursery.net
Mon.-Fri. 8am-8pm
Sat. 8am-6pm • Sun. 9am-6pm
Offers Expire May 11

9900 Ann Arbor Road
7 Miles East of US-23 • 7 Miles West of I-275
1 1/2 Miles south of M-14
Corner of Gotfredson Rd.

MOTHER'S DAY Shopping Made Easy in Novi Town Center!

Shop for Mother's Day at Novi Town Center this year and you'll find great gift ideas at every store.



Choose from the latest fashions at one of our women's stores like TJ Maxx, Christopher & Banks and Lane Bryant. Or select the latest apparel from Running Fit, a best-seller from Borders Books or a gift certificate from Archivers or Charisma Salon. The possibilities are endless.

And every Mom would love to enjoy a great dinner with her family at Tony Sacco's Pizza, Bagger Dave's or Bonefish Grill.

Where's the one place to go for all your Mother's Day gifts? Come to Novi Town Center for the perfect way to say, "I Love You Mom" this year.

Watch for New Stores - Coming Soon to Novi Town Center!

You'll soon be enjoying new stores and the return of a long-time favorite, including Diamond Jim Brady's Bistro, MassageLuXe Salon, Performance Bike and Great Clips.



Novi Town Center
26132 Ingersol Drive • Novi MI • 248.347.3830
novitowncenter.com

SIMON

Celebrating...20 Years of Better Hearing!

- Experts in Hearing Aid Technology
- Complimentary Consultations
- Batteries, Maintenance, Loss and Damage Protection (for the life of warranty)



Dr. Karissa L. Jagacki
Audiologist



Kim Carnicom
Audiologist

- Satisfaction Guaranteed!
- Insurances Accepted

PERSONALIZED HEARING CARE, INC.
Audiology and Hearing Aids

Primary Care and ENT Physicians Trust Us...We Hope You Will Too!

South Lyon 321 Pettibone St., Suite 105
248-437-5505

Westland 35337 W. Warren Rd.
734-467-5100

Visit our website at www.personalizedhearingcare.com

More Online
For the complete Get Out!
listing visit hometownlife.com

ART

Northville Art House
Time/Date: May 6-14; artist reception 6-9 p.m. May 6; gallery hours are 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday
Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville
Details: Annual Northville High School Senior Class Art Exhibition
Contact: (248) 344-0497 or www.northvillearts.org

VAAL
Time/Date: Through May 27; awards presentation and reception 7-8 p.m. Thursday, May 5
Location: Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive
Details: Visual Arts Association of Livonia (VAAL) presents its spring art exhibit, "Artistic Expressions." The exhibit will feature the art work of VAAL members in water-color, acrylic, oil, pastel, mixed media and more. Show juror is Leslie Masters of the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center.
Contact: (734) 838-1204 or vaalart.com

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; gocomedy.net

JD's House of Comedy
Time/Date: Various show times Wednesdays thru Saturdays
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,



Off to see the wizard

Forever After Productions' cast rehearse a scene from the "Wizard of Oz" in preparation for shows May 19-25 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton. Performance times are 7 p.m. Thursday, May 19, Friday, May 20 and Sunday, May 22 and 2 p.m. Saturday, May 21. Shows at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 21 and 2 p.m. Sunday, May 22 have sold out. Tickets are \$15 and available from the Village Theater Box Office at (734) 394-5460 or at www.ForeverAfterProductions.com or at the door. The Village Theater is located at 50400 Cherry Hill, at Ridge Road. Forever After Productions is a youth theater company for children and young adults ages 6-21. Upcoming shows include Improv Off the Hook, June 10-12 and Disney's "Camp Rock The Musical" July 22-31. The 2011-2012 season includes Disney's "Aladdin" in November, "Little Women" in December, and "Grease" in January 2012.

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: Mike Green, May 4-7; Rob Little, May 11-14; Drew Thomas, May 18-21; Jef Brennan, May 25-28; Carlos Mencia, May 31; Bike Bobbit, June 1-4; Steve Lott, June 8-10; Dave Dyer, June 15-18

Contact: (734) 261-0555, www.kickerscomplex.com

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle
Time/Date: Kathleen Madigan, May 5-7; John Pinette, May 12-14; Harland Williams, May 19-21; Erik Allen, May 26-28; Jessi Campbell, June 2-4; Allan Goodwin, June 9-11; Nathan Timmel, June 16-18; James Johann, June 23-25; Dwayne Gill, June 30-July 2

Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak
Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com

CONCERTS

The Ark
Time/Date: Natalia Zukerman, May 5; Greg Brown, May 6; Josh White Jr., May 7; John Prine and Sara Watkins, May 7; Shape Note Singing, May 8 and June 12; Bettye Lavette, May 8; The Paul McKenna Band, May 9; Copper Box, May 10; Open Stage Showcase featuring Magdalen Fossum and Steve Kovich; Marcia Ball, May 12; Girlyman and Coyote Grace, May 13; The RFD Boys, May 14; Dan Hicks and The Hot Licks, May 15; Raul Malo and Seth Walker, May 17; Lynn Miles, May 18; Eddie from Ohio, May 21; The Greencards and ChessBoxer, May 22; Crash Test Dummies, May 26; Take a Chance Tuesday featuring Dragon Wagon, May 31; Gaelic Storm, June 1; Suzanne Westenhoefer, June 3; Lipbone Redding and the Lipbone Orchestra, June 4; Leo Kottke, June 5; Stacey Earle and

Mark Stuart, June 6; Joe Ely, June 7; The Hillbenders, June 8; Eliza Gilkyson and Sunny War, June 9; Bell XI, June 10; The RFD Boys, June 11; Mississippi Heat, June 12; The Hot Club of Cowtown, June 14; The Boxcars, June 15, Ivan & Alyosha, June 16; Paul Thorn, June 17; Christine Lavin and Don White, June 18; The Deanna Bogart Band, June 19; Guitar Shorty, June 20; Jimmie Dale Gilmore and the Wranglers, June 22; Lloyd Cole, June 23; Livingston Taylor, June 24; Annie and Rod Capps and Jason Dennie, June 25; The Waymores, June 26; J.D. Souther and Jill Andrews, June 27; Sara Swenson and Red Tail Ring, June 28; Stewart Francke, June 30
Location: 316 South Main, Ann Arbor
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 mjm-mullen@yahoo.com

Community Chorus of Detroit
Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. May 21 and 4 p.m. May 22

Location: Detroit Waldorf School, 2555 Burns, Detroit

Details: "Serenade to Music" includes music of Handel, Brahms, Vaughan Williams, Copland, Barber, Lauridsen, and others. The conductor, accompanist, and guest artists are from the University of Michigan music school. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at door
Contact: info@communitychorusofdetroit.com; or visit www.communitychorusofdetroit.com

Farmington Community Chorus
Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 6-7

Location: Mercy High School, 29300 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills
Details: The singers, under the direction of Steven SeGraves, present "Rodger That! The Music of Richard Rodgers." Tickets are \$12 in advance at the Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills or by phone; or for \$15 at the door
Contact: (248) 682-6562 for tickets; (248) 250-1447 for Chorus information

Jazz @ The Elks
Time/Date: 7-10:30 p.m., every fourth Tuesday

Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780 at 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: Jazz musicians perform; no cover, but donations accepted. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres.

Contact: (734) 453-1780 www.PlymouthElks1780.com

Michigan Philharmonic

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 6
Location: Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 40500 Cherry Hill in Canton

Details: The orchestra, under the direction of Nan Washburn, along with Indian percussionists and soloists, perform the music of the Indian film industry known as "Bollywood." This high-energy, multi-media performance wraps up Canton Culture Week, May 1-6, and is sponsored by the Canton Commission for Cultural, Arts and Heritage, celebrating the arts and diversity of the Canton community. Tickets are \$25 and include a pre-concert reception at 6:30 sponsored by the Partnership for the Arts & Humanities in Canton and Station 885.

Contact: (734) 451-2112 or www.michiganphil.org

Monahan's Knights of Columbus

Time/Date: Doors open 6:30 p.m. Friday, May 13
Location: 19801 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: The Birchler family presents "Jammin' to End Famine 2011," a concert benefitting Kids Against Hunger. Performers include a cappella vocal jazz group The Grunyons, 1960s rock band The Paisley Foggy; and 80s rockers 2 Dayz Gone. The event features a cash bar, free pizza, salad and sweets and for the kids, and free face painting by Fantastic Faces. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$10 for students
Contact: www.kidsagainsthunger-coalition.com; www.livoniakofc.com

Schoolcraft College

Time/Date: 8 p.m. May 6

Location: VisTaTech Center, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia
Details: Friday evening recital series features Suren Bagratuni on cello and Jen-Ru Sun on piano; admission \$20, students \$10, general seating. Get tickets from www.scb.oxoffice.com
Contact: (734) 462-4409



Holiday Inn
17123 Laurel Park Drive • Livonia, MI 48152

Mother's Day Brunch

Spend Mother's Day this year at the Holiday Inn hotel in Livonia. Our menu features a variety of chef prepared breakfast items and food stations including:

- Cooked to Order Omelets • Carved Dearborn Ham • Carved Herb-roasted Prime Rib of Beef with Garlic au jus
- Chicken Pommery with Stone Ground Mustard • Seared Salmon with Seafood Newburg Sauce
- Pork Tenderloin with Apple Cider Demi Glaze • Peel & Eat Shrimp • Chilled Mussels • A Variety of Salads & Delicious Desserts

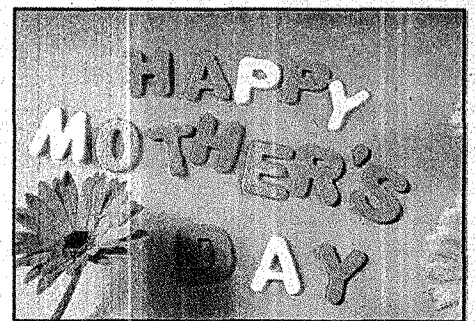
Kid Station Features: • Cheese Sticks • Spaghetti • Macaroni & Cheese

Adults.....\$26.95
Seniors.....\$20.95

12 and under.....\$15.95
5 and under.....Free

A 20% gratuity will be automatically charged for parties of 8 or more.

To make your reservations, please call:
734-464-1300 ext. 430



FOOD

Thursday, May 5, 2011

hometownlife.com

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor Sharon Dargay

Voice Mail: (313) 222-8883

E-mail: sdargay@hometownlife.com

Comment online at hometownlife.com

Eat your veggies

Livonia business peddles organic produce, Michigan-made staples door to door

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Door to Door Organics customers will find tomatoes, leaf lettuce, green onions, broccoli, green beans, strawberries, apples, oranges and bananas in their mixed "bitty box" this week.

They'll find the box on their door step.

"Everything we carry, all the produce is certified organic. We look for whatever is the freshest and the best," said Carlos Collier, Michigan director for the company that offers home delivery of organic produce in and around Boulder, Colo., Chicago, Ill., and Kansas City, Mo. The Michigan office, based in Livonia, delivers to customers in southeastern Michigan — as far north as Flint and as far west as Lansing and Ann Arbor.

"I'm delivering stuff the farmer dug up that morning or the day before. You can't beat that."

The company will be among more than 200 exhibitors promoting eco-friendly products and services at the Green Street Fair this weekend in downtown Plymouth. The *Observer & Eccentric* is among the sponsors of the fourth annual fair that will run noon-7 p.m. Friday, May 6, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, May 7 and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, May 8.

Visitors will get a chance to sample fresh fruits at Door to Door Organics' booth and check out the variety of box sizes — from "bitty" to large — that they can order for weekly home delivery. They'll also get a \$10 discount on their first box of home-delivered fruits, vegetables or fruits and vegetables, if they sign up for the service at the fair.

"They can try it for one time and we're okay if they walk away after that," Collier said, adding that he's confident they'll return.

"Organics is really it. People are looking for organics and looking for local."

LOOKING WEST

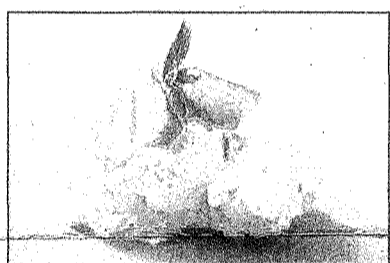
The company began in 1997 in Pennsylvania and added its Michigan location in 2007. When Collier took over as director in April 2010, the Livonia office delivered 650 boxes weekly. A year later, the company fleet makes more than 2,000 weekly stops. Collier is eager to expand services to the Grand Rapids area, Monroe and Toledo, Ohio. When he began getting requests from the west side of the state, he tried sending produce to customers by UPS.

"I had customers calling and begging me for it because they had no other options (for organics)," Collier said. "We'd pack a box on Tuesday and they'd get it on Thursday."

He discontinued the program because the two-day delivery sched-



Door to Door Organics delivers fresh fruits, vegetables and more to homes throughout southeastern Michigan.



Strawberry Mousse

The Door to Door Organics Web site offers recipes to help customers use the produce they receive in their weekly delivery boxes. This week, boxes included strawberries and the company offered this recipe for a fruity dessert, courtesy of allrecipes.com:

STRAWBERRY MOUSSE

(Serves 4)

Ingredients

- 1 quart fresh strawberries
- 2 tablespoons white sugar
- 1 pint heavy cream
- 6 egg whites

Method

1. Chop hulled strawberries in a food processor, leaving a few chunks. Stir in sugar.
2. In a bowl, whip cream until stiff peaks form. In another bowl, whip egg whites until stiff peaks form.
3. Fold whipped cream into strawberry mixture. Serve immediately.



Door to Door Organics buys local produce from Michigan farms during the growing season and from warmer climates out of state during the winter.

ule couldn't guarantee the produce would be fresh when it arrived on the customer's doorstep.

FRESH, ORGANIC

Freshness is a part of Door to Door Organic's mission. The company buys from several organic farms in Michigan and obtains organic produce from out of state sources during the off season.

"We deliver all year round and most produce during our non-growing season comes from warmer climates. But we will have a Michigan-only box that will be an option in June.

"Regardless of the growing season, people still want citrus, bananas,

mangos and those are things you can't get in Michigan."

The company Web site lists the origin of all produce. Customers receive a weekly e-mail explaining what's on the menu for each size box and they can look at the firm's Web site for weekly updates on box contents, as well as corresponding recipes. They can substitute up to five items in their box and buy additional foods such as artisan breads, organic meat, fish, soups, condiments, dairy alternatives, Michigan-made items and more.

"We want to do local as much as possible."

Boxes cost \$23 for "bitty," size, just right for two consumers; \$33 for small; \$39 for medium; and \$55 for a large mixed box.

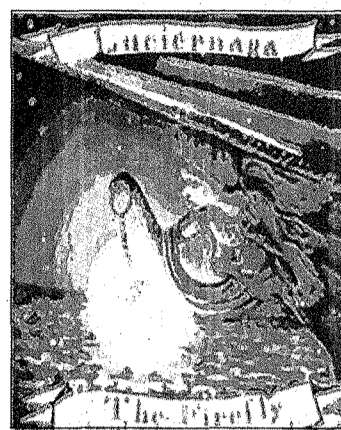
Customers pay as they go. Many community supported agriculture (CSA) programs that deliver locally-grown produce require payment for the entire season up front. Generally, there's no choice in contents.

"That brings to mind another advantage to our service. You can put delivery on hold or cancel at any time. There's no commitment," Collier said. Customers can order on a weekly basis, bi-weekly, or put the service on hold when needed.

There's no cost for delivery.

For more about Door to Door Organics, visit michigan.doortodoororganics.com. For more on the Green Street Fair check out www.greenstreetfair.com

BEER TRACKER



Think global, drink local

Michigan is to be reckoned with when it comes to great beer.

The state currently houses 80 breweries from Detroit to Houghton offering a full breadth of quality ales and lagers. Industry expansion continues as craft beer values strategically align with national trends of buying "local." Don't be lured into thinking the farther a pint travels to our table the better the quality or experience — this could not be further from the truth when it comes to Michigan beer.

Artisan, by definition, is a skilled worker who practices a trade

or craft. This was a concept heavily relied upon prior to the industrial revolution. The word itself conjures images of gnomes working diligently by candle light to master a craft only perfected by endless tinkering. Jolly Pumpkin Brewery has embraced the artisan aura with its reserve of craft beers. Founded in 2004 and located just down the street in Dexter, Jolly Pumpkin is an authority in Artisan Ales.

As we move toward spring, a Belgian IPA is good cross-over style to warmer weather. Luciernaga, which loosely translates to firefly, is a good place to start. The hypnotic label will tempt the most hardened beer advocate but the oak-aged elixir that lies within is where the experience really begins. Cheers.

Nate Parsons can be reached at mdevin@yahoo.com



Nate Parsons

Take mom to brunch

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 8 and brunch reservations are filling fast. It's time to choose a restaurant and reserve a spot. Here are a few suggestions to get you started:

- Andiamo, 38703 Seven Mile, Livonia: Includes a mix of breakfast and lunch items, such as bacon, sausage, crepes, biscuits and gravy, Eggs Benedict, French toast, white fish, chicken, salads, pastries and other desserts. Cost is \$28.95 for adults; \$14.95 for children, 5-10 and free for children, 4 and under. Brunch served 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., with a limited dinner menu from 4-6 p.m. Reservations suggested. Call (734) 953-3200.

- Fiamma Grille, 380 S. Main, Plymouth: Brunch is served 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and consists of four courses. The first course includes smoked salmon, bagels, pate, pastries, juice and coffee; the second offers salad, oven-baked French toast, soup, shrimp and grits, and Oscar Eggs Benedict; the third is an entree course featuring lamb T-bone, halibut, chicken and steak and the last course is desserts. Cost is \$26 for adults and \$9 for kids. A separate menu is available for youngsters. The restaurant will close from 2:30-3:30. It will reopen at 3:30 and serve its regular menu until 8 p.m. For reservations call (734) 416-9340.

- Five Restaurant at The Inn at St. John's, 44045 Five Mile, Plymouth: A plated Mother's Day brunch will be sold from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. with appetizers, a custom entree duet and desserts. Adults, \$39; kids, 6-12, \$11; kids, 5 and under, free. An ala carte menu and featured dinner selections will be available from 4-9 p.m. Make reservations by calling (734) 357-5700 or visit FiveRestaurant.com or on Facebook.

- Flemings Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar, 17400 Haggerty, Livonia: Mom gets a \$25 dining card for a future visit to Flemings when you take her to the Mother's Day brunch, served from 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. The brunch includes appetizers, desserts and entrees such as filet mignon frittata, berry-stuffed French toast, smoked salmon, filet mignon on buttermilk biscuits, and crab frittata. Cost is \$32. A separate menu, at \$15.95, is available for children, 12 and under. Call (734) 542 WINE or visit www.flemingssteakhouse.com/locations/mlivonia.

- Hickory Creek Golf Course, 3625 Napier, just north of Ford Road and two miles west of Beck, Ypsilanti: Brunch in The Greenside Tavern overlooking the golf course will include prime rib, white fish with dill sauce, chicken

and much more. \$19.95 for adults, \$9.95 for children, 5-12 and free for children under 4. Call (734) 454-1850 for reservations.

- Holiday Inn, 17123 Laurel Park Drive, just east of I-275, Livonia: Made-to-order omelets and other breakfast items along with a prime rib carving station, pork loin, chicken, salmon, shrimp and variety of salads. Special kids station includes macaroni and cheese, spaghetti and cheese sticks. Adults, \$26.95; seniors, \$20.95; children, 12 and under, \$15.95; and children, 5 and under, free. Call (734) 464-1300, Ext. 430.

- Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave., Novi: Brunch is served 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Diamond Center and includes made-to-order omelet and waffle station, French toast, grilled chicken with arugula pesto, assorted breakfast meats, roasted sirloin, portobello mushroom ravioli, salmon, redskin potatoes, lentil and rice pilaf, assorted fruits and salads and a sweet table. Complimentary parking. Cost is \$28 for adults; \$26 for seniors, 55 and older; \$14 for children, 4-12 years; and free for children, 3 and under. A cash bar will be available after noon. Reservations required with a credit card guarantee. Call (248) 348-5600, Ext 200.

