

WESTLAND'S HAASE IS OSU SIGNEE, B1

PASS THE POPCORN AND CHECK OUT THE MILITARY LIMO ENTERTAINMENT, B5

THURSDAY
June 23, 2011

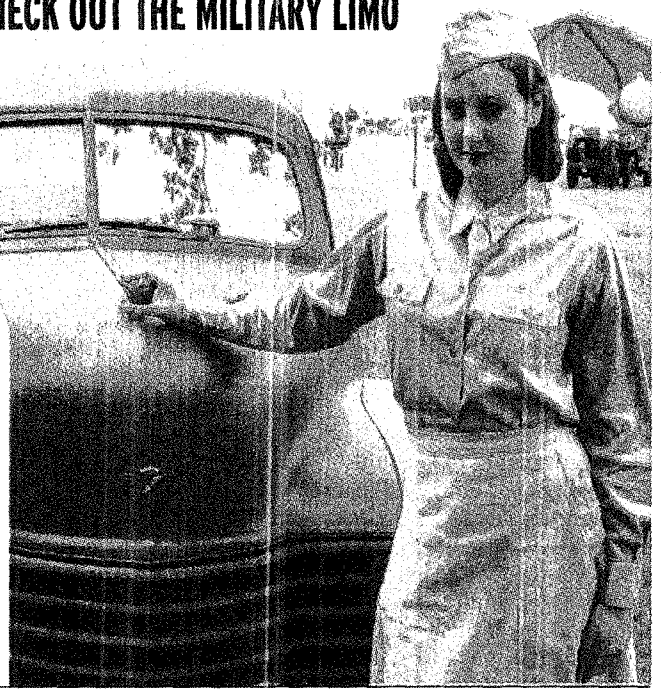
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WESTLAND OBSERVER

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IN BRIEF

Volunteers needed

If you've been looking for a volunteer opportunity, the Westland Festival Committee could use a hand with the upcoming summer festival. Held in the Westland City Hall parking lot, the annual summer event will run from Thursday, June 30, through Monday, July 4, closing with a fireworks display. Volunteers are needed to help in a variety of areas. For more information, call Shannon at (734) 502-9031.

The festival features carnival rides daily, along with entertainment and food. Masonic Lodge #12 will provide a child identification program during the festival.

There is still space available in the arts and crafts area. For more information on that, contact Paula at (734) 890-1588.

Returning for a second year will be the Miles for Memories Alzheimer's fundraiser which begins at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 2. Walkers will head north from Ford and Central City Parkway, walk to Warren Road and return back to the municipal complex. For more information about the walk, contact Donna at (734) 968-9236.

Contestants wanted

Applications are currently being accepted for the 2011 Miss Wayne County Scholarship Pageant, an official Miss America preliminary.

Any woman age 17-24 who lives, works full time or attends school full time in Wayne County is eligible to apply. Contestants will compete in the following categories: interview, lifestyle, swimsuit, evening gown, talent, and on stage question.

The winner will receive a cash scholarship and will represent Wayne County at the 2012 Miss Michigan Pageant to be held in Muskegon. The application deadline is Aug. 21. To apply online, visit www.misswaynecounty.org.

For more information, call (734) 367-0560 or e-mail SheilaMaell6@aol.com.

Applications are also available for the Miss Wayne County Princess Program, a noncompetitive pageant experience open to girls ages 4-12. Visit www.misswaynecounty.org to apply.

The pageant is set for Sept. 10 at Livonia Churchill High School, 8900 Newburgh, Livonia.

Office hours

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, will host district coffee hours on Monday, June 27. Citizens of the 6th Senate District are welcome to attend. No appointment is necessary.

From 9-10 a.m., Anderson will be at the Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia. Anderson will be at the Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood, Garden City, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Constituents who would like to address an issue with Anderson but are unable to attend may contact him by mail, P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48909; phone: (866) 262-7306; or e-mail SenatorAnderson@senate.michigan.gov.

There will be no coffee hours in the month of July. Coffee hours will resume at their regularly scheduled times and locations in August.

Teacher concessions to save district millions

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Concessions in a new three-year contract with the Wayne-Westland Education Association are expected to save the school district approximately \$4.5 million over two years.

On Monday, the board of education approved the agreement with the WWEA that includes a pay freeze for 2011-12 and 2012-13 with a wage

reopener in 2013-14.

"The critical part of the agreement was the first-year pay freeze. It helps us get through 2011-12 and the new budget," said Superintendent Greg Baracy. "I hope that we may be able to get through next year (2012-13), too. It will be difficult."

"In 2011-12, step increases for teachers who are below the top pay and experience level will be set at 4 percent. For the following two years, there will

be half step increases meaning the step raises won't go into effect until the second semester each year.

"Teachers would pay 10 percent of health care costs in each year of the contract in lieu of the \$480 they pay currently.

"The teachers will have two furlough days in 2011-12 and 2012-13 if the district's fund balance drops below 5 percent of expenditures. The unpaid days would come when students are not in

school, such as on snow days.

"The agreement also includes increases to class overload or the number of students that would trigger establishing an additional class. Beginning in 2011-12, one additional student would be allowed in classes for fourth through 12th grades - that number increasing to two students in 2012-13. In 2012-13, the kindergarten-

Please see **CONCESSIONS, A2**



Westland officials join participants in the Wild About Youth: WORKS teen summer job program during a kick-off at the Friendship Center.

Teens get to work during the summer

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A group of Westland teens don't have to worry about the tight summer job market thanks to a program matching youngsters with local businesses.

Sponsored by the City of Westland, Wild About Youth - WORKS, the Westland Chamber of Commerce and Wayne-Westland Schools matched 15 teens with local employers. In addition, Fifth Third Bank is providing training on banking and saving to the teens.

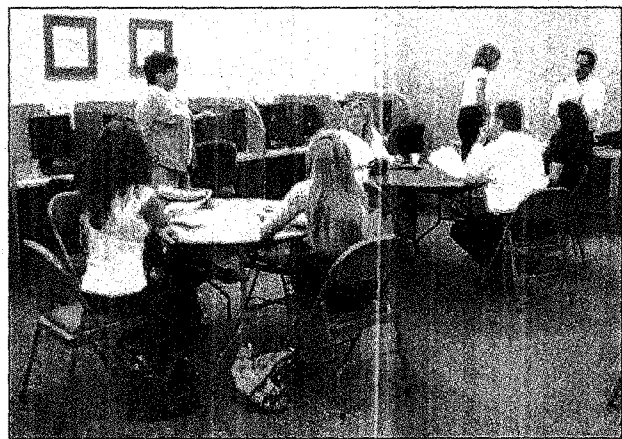
"I'm very excited. On the application, you could pick the health care field —

that's what I picked," said Arika Agnew, 16, an 11th-grader at Westland John Glenn High School.

Studying in the medical assistant program at William Ford Career Technical Center, Agnew was matched with Marquette House for a summer job through the Wild About Youth Works program.

"I'd like to be a doctor or a physical therapist. I already got to walk around with my boss and talk about what goes on there," said Agnew. "I'll start out in the kitchen. I also get to help out when the secretary isn't there, so I'll be like an

Please see **SUMMER JOBS, A2**



Cindy Candela, Wayne-Westland Schools jobs placement coordinator, (center) talks with teens and employers at the Wild About Youth: WORKS kick-off program.

County board will have to fill school board vacancy

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The 30-day window for the Wayne-Westland Board of Education to fill a vacant board seat will expire this weekend without a board member being appointed.

That means it will be up to the Wayne County Regional Education Services Agency Board to appoint a board member to fill the 11 months remaining on the term of William Gabriel, who resigned last month.

Board member Carol Middel refused to vote for two motions to appoint Scott Davis to the board. After the meeting, Middel said her no votes weren't anything against Davis — she preferred an alternative appointment.

Davis had been the third-place candidate — the top two candidates being elected — during the most recent school election. In the past, the board has appointed the top finishing non-elected candidate when they applied.

Only four board members were able to vote on the appointment, so a unanimous vote

was needed. Board member John Goci was absent and unable to connect via Skype as he had at an earlier meeting. Board member Jeffrey Hayton, appointed earlier this year, lost his bid for re-election and recused himself after applying for the appointment.

Along with Davis and Hayton, other candidates for the appointment included Virginia Shroat, Terry Hannah, former board member Frederick Weaver and Philip Palmer. Another applicant, Terry Barkley, didn't appear for the interviews.

Before the interviews began, Middel offered a motion to suspend the interviews as not being in compliance with the board policy requiring the full board to conduct the process.

Instead, retired teacher Middel proposed appointing one of the incoming board members, teachers-union backed Andrea Clawson or Tom Buckalew, to serve until their term begins in July. Then the board would have

Please see **VACANCY, A2**

Police: Man in custody after assault, fire

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A Westland man is hospitalized in a psychiatric unit as police investigate a fire Sunday morning at the condominium where he lived with his elderly mother.

The fire was reported at 9:30 a.m. Sunday at a unit at the London Townhouses located Ann Arbor Trail and Middlebelt.

"An elderly woman lives there with her son. He was beating his mother with a belt," said Westland police Sgt. Todd Adams. "She went to the neighbor's for help."

After the 80-year old woman had left her home, Adams said her son, 52, started a fire in the living room of the unit. Neighbors called police after seeing smoke from the unit.

"We're not sure if an accelerant was used. When police arrived, he (the son) was sitting on the curb in the parking lot," said Adams. "He told the officer who had responded, 'I'm guilty. I set the fire.'"

The man has a history of mental illness, Adams said, with police having responded to domestic violence complaints at the home previously. He was taken into custody and admitted to a psychiatric unit.

The woman wasn't injured by the fire and had no visible injuries from the assault, Adams said, but complained of some pain. She went to stay with a family member.

The investigation into the fire is continuing but Adams said charges could be filed against the man.

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



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INDEX

APARTMENTS ... B10
AUTOMOTIVE ... B12
CAREER BUILDER ... B11

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

REAL ESTATE ... B9
SPORTS ... B1
STRICTLY BUSINESS ... A9

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Raffle helps Goodfellows with year-round fundraising

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It may have taken three ghosts to get through to him but after that rough Christmas Eve, Ebenezer Scrooge was said to keep the spirit of Christmas in his heart throughout the year. Sounds like the Westland Goodfellows, who hold fundraisers throughout the year to help them meet their motto of No Child Without a Christmas. New for the Goodfellows this year is an Ace of Spades progressive raffle being held at Buffalo Wild Wings, 6677 N. Wayne Road, Westland.

"This is new for us and Buffalo Wild Wings. It's been going good," said Goodfellow program director Donna Knight. Licensed by the state, the 54-week raffle is based on a deck of cards — 52 cards plus two jokers. The cards are placed in envelopes marked 1-54. The winner of the drawing picks an envelope and the prize is determined by the card they receive. If the person gets the Ace of Spades, they win the entire jackpot. Any other card is worth \$50, jokers \$200 and the pot rolls over until someone picks the Ace of Spade. The tickets are sold for \$1 each and

entered for the current week. Drawings are held 9:30 p.m. Mondays. On June 13, someone picked the envelope containing the Ace of Spades and won the \$2,000 jackpot — it's a 60-40 raffle with 40 percent benefiting the Westland Goodfellows. It seems unlikely but the Ace of Spades was also drawn on June 20 with a \$500 prize. Goodfellows board members have the raffle tickets for sale but Knight said most are sold to patrons at Buffalo Wild Wings, which adopted a family through the Goodfellows last Christmas. "Not only is it a great fund-

raiser, it helps with increasing business (at Buffalo Wild Wings)," said Knight. "I hope it makes us a lot of money as the jackpot grows." In recent years, the Goodfellows have moved away from their traditional fund-raiser — selling newspapers on street corners due to safety concerns. Instead, the Goodfellows have had success with letter making citywide appeals for donations and other fundraisers such as weekly bingo at the Wayne-Ford Civic League and charity poker nights at Marvaso's Electric Stick. "We'd be thrilled to make

\$25,000 in the progressive raffle. We obviously owe a great deal to the Buffalo Wild Wings staff. They are key in that they are generating interest in the raffle," said Knight, adding the raffle may attract non-Westland residents and others you might not otherwise be solicited by the Goodfellows. Last year, the Goodfellows raised \$80,000 and provided a better Christmas for nearly 1,000 needy Westland children. Families were provided with vouchers to be used at Target or Meijer for toys and clothing, along with a box of nonperishable food and vouch-

er to purchase perishable foods at Heartland Market. There were also gift boxes of toys donated through collection boxes and school supplies. "It's a year-round effort to do that. We're real pleased with the community-wide mailer but also with the efforts of the fundraisers," said Knight, noting Westland Councilman Bill Johnson and the UAW members at the Michigan Assembly plant also provide a lot of support to the Westland Goodfellows. For more information, visit www.westlandgoodfellows.org. rogers@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-5428

SUMMER JOBS

FROM PAGE A1

assistant for my boss." Agnew's mother, Sandi Franka, was pleased that her daughter was able to get a job, particularly in a medical-related field. "I've been trying to get her a job. She's a pretty good student. With experience in the medical field, she can make sure this is really what she wants to go into," said Franka. "Working with the elderly, she will have more compassion." The students will work 16 hours a week at minimum wage in business ranging from Marquette House assisted living to Mancino's restaurant

and Nankin Hardware for six weeks over the summer. "It's quite a commitment for the businesses taking in youths and teaching them about jobs," said Westland Deputy Mayor Jade Smith. "It's also quite an effort for the students." The program is a great partnership, said Mayor William Wild, adding that he was very pleased with the businesses who stepped up to participate in the program while unemployment is still high. As part of the program, students will be required to open a savings account and be challenged to set personal financial goals. The students are required to attend at least one financial literacy training session presented by Fifth Third Bank. The students able

to save the most and meet their financial goals will be entered in a contest to win an iPad2 courtesy of Fifth Third Bank. At the kick-off meeting, Dave Joiner attended with his daughter, Caitlin, a junior at Glenn, who will be working at the Westland Biggby Coffee. "She signed up — I didn't even know about it," said Dave Joiner. "I wanted a job and I wanted to do something this summer — I usually don't do anything," said Caitlin Joiner. "I'm excited about working at Biggby." Once she finishes an associate's degree, Caitlin Joiner said she plans to transfer to Michigan State University and attend veterinary school. rogers@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-5428

Hearing for former WYAA president delayed

The preliminary examination for a former Westland Youth Athletic Association president charged with embezzling over \$20,000 from the group has been adjourned until Aug. 22. Galen Thomas Huren Jr., 46, of Garden City remains free on \$10,000/10 percent

bond. The preliminary examination is scheduled before 18th District Court Judge Mark McConnell. The single felony charge is that money was stolen from WYAA from January to July 2010. Police said cash that was collected when registrations were paid never were deposited

into the WYAA account. Representatives from WYAA filed a complaint with police in July 2010 after Huren had resigned as president. Huren, who has entered a not guilty plea, denied the allegations when interviewed by police. Huren had served as president since 2008.

VACANCY

FROM PAGE A1

a new 30-day time period in which to appoint a board member, Middel said. "I'm convinced we would be violating board policy from 1995. I want to err on the

side of caution," said Middel. "There has been a lot of controversy about the appointment. We have the authority to appoint seated board members (Clawson and Buckalew)." Middel commented that her proposal had been okayed by an attorney at the Michigan Association of School Boards. But Deputy Superintendent Charlotte Sherman responded that the district's attorney had also been in contact with MASB and there was no problem with the process being used by the board. In addition, Sherman noted the board policy requires that the person appointed to a vacancy be able to serve until the next regular election — a requirement Clawson and Buckalew could not meet. Davis was the only candidate

nominated and two motions offered for his appointment both failed 3-1 with Middel voting no. After the second motion failed, board President Skip Monit said, "No decision has been made, so it will revert to Wayne County for an appointment." Middel again called for the appointment of Clawson or Buckalew to fill the vacancy for two weeks. "It would violate board policy. They must be able to serve until the next vote," said Sherman. During board comments, Hayton said he would recommend contacting the district's attorney regarding Middel's proposal so the appointment wouldn't have to be made by the Wayne County RESA board. There were no plans for the Board of Education to meet prior to the June 26 deadline for making the appointment. It wasn't immediately known when the Wayne County RESA Board would consider the appointment. rogers@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-5428

Hearing delayed in shooting

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A preliminary examination for a Westland man charged with shooting a driver who stopped in front of his home has been adjourned until June 30. Craig Scott Glover, 42, is charged with four felony charges: assault with intent to murder, assault with intent to do great bodily harm, felonious assault and felony firearm. He had been scheduled for preliminary examination in Westland 18th District Court June 16. The shooting happened about 2:30 p.m. June 1 in the

street in front of the home in the 29000 block of Eton in the Annapolis Park Subdivision, where Glover lives with his mother. The victim, a 24-year-old Livonia man, had picked up a friend who lives on Eton and then pulled over as they talked. Glover, who didn't know the victim, began arguing with the driver, police said, then yelled something more as the Livonia man began to drive away. At that point, police said, the driver stopped and got out of his vehicle issuing an invitation to fight. Glover, who had a concealed pistol license, pulled a handgun from his waist band and fired a shot which

struck the Livonia man in the stomach. The man managed to get back into his vehicle and his friend drove him to the hospital. The shooting happened on a block where police said there are drug houses and their customers sometimes park on the street to use their illegal drugs. Glover is being held in lieu of \$100,000 cash bond. The investigation received some help from a nearby church which has a surveillance camera trained on its parking lot. The cameras captured the shooting incident on video. rogers@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-5428

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CONCESSIONS
FROM PAGE A1

through third-grade classes would have their overload level increased by two students. The WWEA represents 776 teachers and the agreement includes a reopening of the contract that was in place for the 2011-12 year. "A 1.5 percent raise was given up. It's a concessionary agreement. The district is facing dire circumstances," said WWEA Executive Director Evelyn Baran, who attended the board meeting with WWEA President Don Harris. The most difficult part of

the new contract was increasing class loads, said Baran. "It's very painful. With the state not funding education, there is not much we could do," she said. "The governor is taking \$3 million from Wayne-Westland education." Board members and Baran expressed their appreciation to the teachers for the concessions after extended discussions over 18 months. "I want to thank the WWEA representatives for stepping up and working with the board on cost containment," said Baran. "I hope this takes us through this year and next year." Unlike teachers, administration and other employee groups had made concessions

during the past year, Baran said, adding he expects to be going back to those groups for additional savings this year. "The teachers are our largest groups and biggest amount of money in cost containment," he said. "It will be a big influence on the other groups now that the teachers have stepped up. We've had some labor strife over issues beyond our control. We have to save ourselves - no one else is going to save us." Not seeing signs that the economy is improving, Baran said he thinks the district will have another couple of rough years financially. rogers@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-5428

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE

The City of Westland Summer 2011 tax bills will be mailed on or about July 1, 2011. The Summer Tax Bills are payable through Monday, August 15, 2011, without additional interest.

Publish: June 23, 2011

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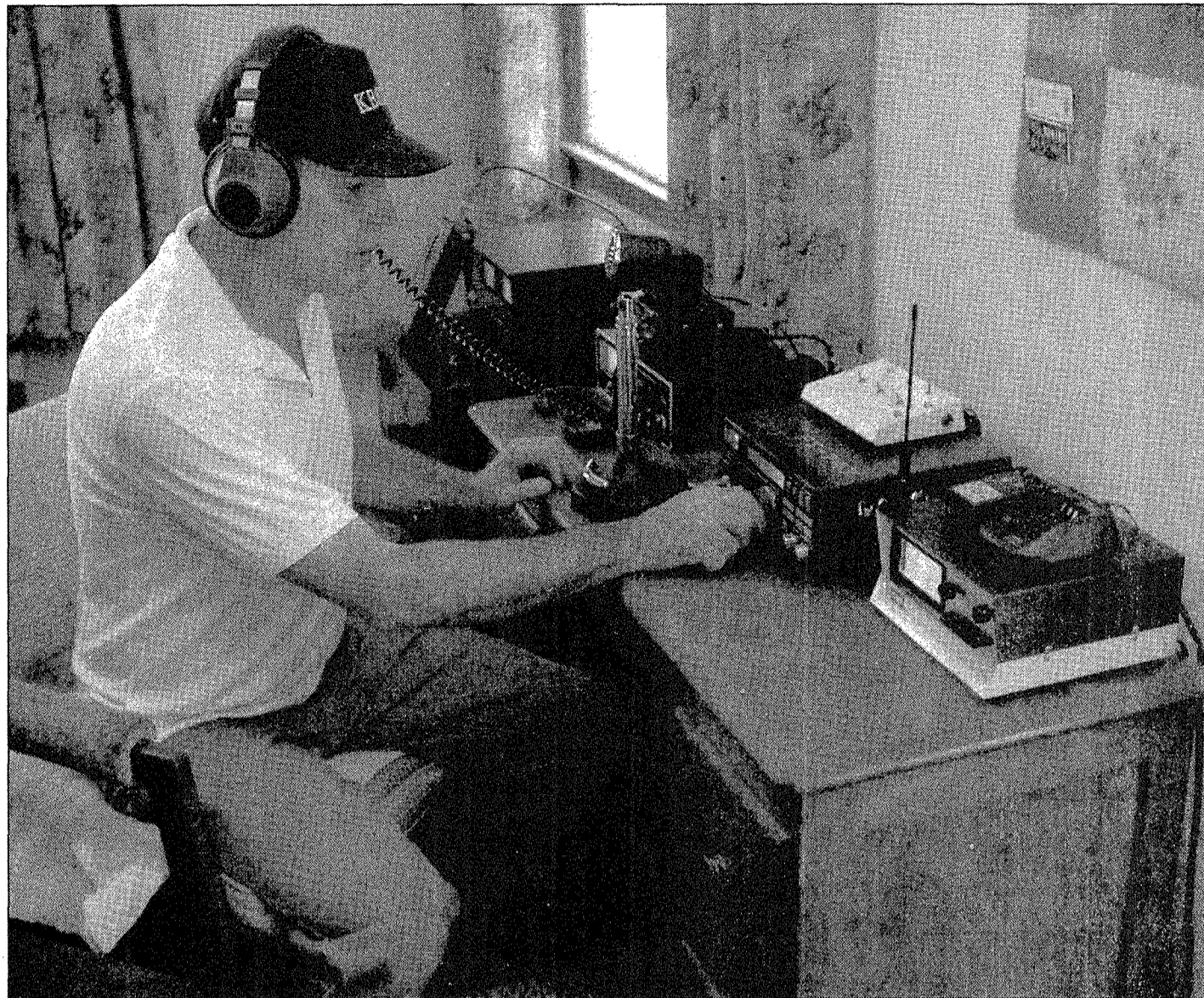
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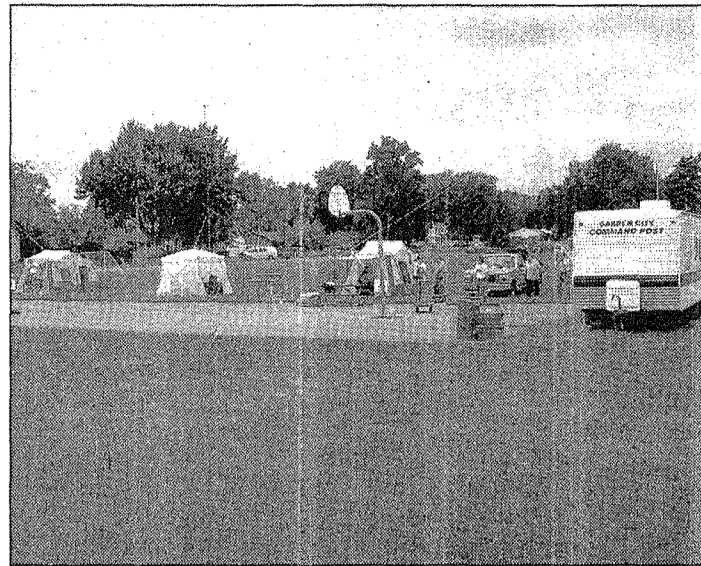
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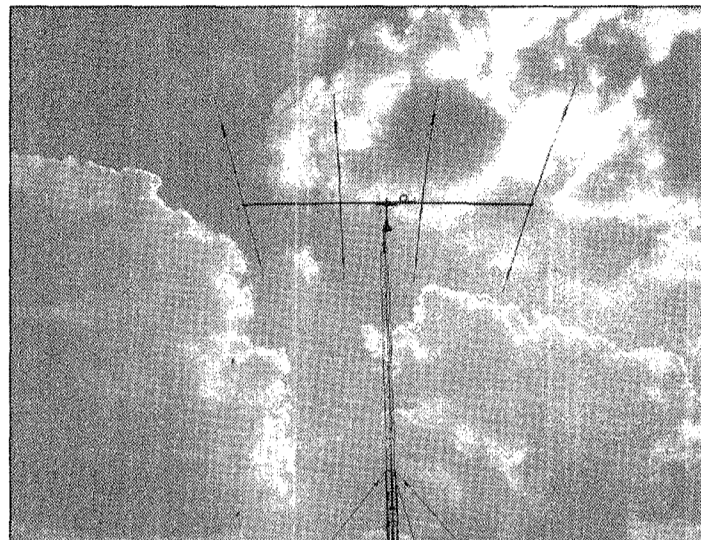
Radio Club gets ready for annual field day



Ham operator Andy Mallams is coordinating the annual amateur radio Field Day June 25-26 at the Maplewood Community Center in Garden City.



Each individual tent houses a complete radio station which is manned for 24 hours.



The powerful "Big Gun" antenna is used to zero in on a signal in a particular direction.

BY SUE BUCK
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Planning contacts that will be heard around the world, the Garden City Amateur Radio Club is gearing up for the annual Field Day June 25-26.

The event is being held on the grounds of the Maplewood Community Center, located on Maplewood, west of Merriman, in Garden City. The club invites the public to watch as they make long-distance contacts and practice emergency communication skills.

"Garden City-area amateur

radio operators will work around the clock on the weekend of Saturday, June 25, and Sunday, June 26, to set up field radio communication stations, get on the air and contact hundreds of other amateur operators, also known as hams, in the United States and Canada," said member and coordinator Andy Mallams.

This is part of their participation in the American Radio Relay League's Annual Field Day known as the "Shakedown Run" for the ARRL's National Field Organization.

"Field Day is a way for Hams

to get outdoors and have fun under some difficult conditions," said Mallams, a Garden City resident.

The event is held rain or shine.

"It's also a chance to test and improve the amateur-radio operator's emergency communication skills," Mallams said.

The Garden City Amateur Radio Club will use generators and battery power to simulate operations under emergency conditions.

"The challenge is to put together self-sufficient, working radio stations quickly and begin

making contacts with other radio operators," said Mallams, whose call sign is KB8IBS. "The ARRL Field Organization has been effective in establishing Emergency Communication Nets during floods, hurricanes, fires, earthquakes, terrorist attacks, and other major disasters, whether they be local, regional, or national in scope. The League estimates that more than 35,000 hams participate in Field Day every year."

The objective is to quickly establish communications, try out new ideas and equipment and see who can make the high-

est number of contacts during the contest period.

The club will begin setting up at 7 a.m. on Saturday, June 25. Formal operations will start at 2 p.m. and will continue until 2 p.m. Sunday. A large main antenna system is mounted on a 40-foot tower and uses a rotator making it directional.

"We use it to zero in on a signal in a particular direction," Mallams said. "It's a very powerful antenna and we refer to it as our 'Big Gun' antenna."

A command trailer houses two independent radio stations, each on a different radio

band. Individual tents house a complete radio station and each radio station, are manned the entire 24-hour period of the event and are also on different parts of the radio spectrum.

"There are five different radio bands that are used for Field Day," Mallams said. "The complete setup is capable of communicating both locally and worldwide anytime of the day or night."

For more information, contact Mallams KB8IBS at android747@yahoo.com.

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

Woman struck in head by piece of carnival ride at Livonia Spree

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A 36-year-old Westland woman was struck in the head by a piece of a carnival ride that broke off and fell 25 feet at the Livonia Spree Tuesday night.

The fiberglass and metal piece was part of a decorative facade with lights on it and weighed at least 100 pounds.

According to a preliminary city investigation, a hydraulic arm of the ride struck the corner piece, said Dave Varga, director of administrative services. "What caused the arm to hit the piece hasn't been determined yet," Varga said.

The woman was unconscious for a period of time, and was transported by Livonia firefighters who were at the Spree, Varga said.

The woman complained of pains in her head, neck, back and shoulder and was taken to Botsford Hospital. The injuries were not believed to be life-threatening.

The ride remained shut down today. State officials were expected to be at the site inspecting that ride.

Varga said the rides, operated by Wade Shows, are inspected by the state. "The city's inspection department checks the stickers that indicates (the rides) were approved by the state," Varga said. "Without the stickers, they are told not to operate the rides."

The building department checks electrical and plumbing systems, along with egress, at the festival, while the fire department checks fire-suppression systems.

Mayor Jack Kirksey said all

the rides had met state certification. Kirksey was asked if Wade Shows should be responsible for the maintenance of the rides, Kirksey said: "Absolutely."

Kirksey said Frank Zaitshik, owner of Wade Shows, has had a "good safety record for as long as we've known him."

"We've always experienced a good, safe operating environment," Kirksey said.

A phone message was left for Zaitshik seeking comment on the accident.

Kirksey said the city would work with state inspectors on its check of the ride.

"Our heart goes out to the woman who was hit," Kirksey said. "The accident could have been far more serious."

kabramcz@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2591



South Redford School District Opens Schools of Choice K-2

South Redford School District is now accepting applications for the South Redford School District Schools of Choice program for students in Kindergarten through 2nd grade.

The program is open to all residents of Wayne County. Download the South Redford Schools of Choice K-2 Program Guidelines for Enrollment and Online Application at: <http://southredford.net>

Applications must be submitted to the South Redford School District at the Jan Jacobs Administrative Office
26141 Schoolcraft, Redford, MI 48239.
Applications will be accepted
Monday, June 13, 2011 through Wednesday, August 31, 2011.
Contact the Administrative Office for further assistance at 313-242-0541

Schools of Choice Timeline
Application Deadline: August 31, 2011
Notification Date: September 1, 2011
Enrollment Deadline: September 9, 2011*

*If accepted, enrollment must be completed by the enrollment deadline or the space for your child will be forfeited.

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3 arrested for allegedly stealing metal fencing

Two men, 19, and a woman, 18, all Westland residents, were arrested early June 21 for stealing metal fence posts and rails from the Waywood Apartment, 6623 Yale.

Witnesses called police after seeing someone removing the fencing. Officers located the suspects with their pickup truck parked near some dismantled fencing. The driver, who told the officer his driver's license had recently been stolen with his wallet, said they were scrapping.

The driver was taken into custody for having no license on his person and held on warrants. He denied that they were stealing the fencing.

Police were familiar with the male passenger due to prior contacts and he was arrested on a warrant.

Witnesses told officers the two men had loaded the fencing into the truck and attempted to drive away. However, the fencing wasn't secured and fell out of the truck. The fencing was valued at \$250.

All three are facing charges of larceny and being minors in possession of alcohol. Officers poured out open beers found in the vehicle.

Stolen vehicle

A resident in the 38000 block of North Jean Court told police June 20 that he woke up just after 5 a.m. when he heard his work van driving away. He said he initially didn't realize it was

his vehicle — he thought a neighbor with a similar van was leaving for work. When he looked out the window, he said his van was nearly at the end of the street.

The 2006 white Chevy Express full-size van is owned by Wendy's Restaurants and used by the man who does maintenance. The van had two ladders mounted on the roof, a full-size American flag in the window of the rear window along with a U.S. Marine Corps sticker.

The vehicle was valued at \$25,000 with another \$4,000 worth of assorted tools listed as being inside the vehicle.

Break-in

On June 20, a resident of an apartment at 37533 Fountain Park told police she arrived home from work to find someone had kicked in her front door. She reported a jewelry box containing assorted jewelry valued at \$15,000 had been stolen along with her insurance card.

Larceny from a vehicle

An employee at Teletech, 38235 N. Executive Drive, told police June 19 that someone stolen all four tires and rims from his 2011 Lincoln MKX leaving the vehicle on blocks. He said the vehicle had been left parked overnight in the parking lot. The stolen items were valued at \$2,400.

—By LeAnne Rogers

Store clerk reports robbery

GARDEN CITY

When he left, she said her friend realized that someone had flattened all of her tires and they had to go to a gas station to repair the tires.

When the woman got home, she said her husband was waiting for her. He got out of his car and put his hand behind his back as if to draw the small handgun that he typically carries there, she said.

The female driver backed up and the woman called the Dearborn police, who responded. The police were able to return the cell phone to the woman and advised her to also contact the Garden City police about the incident. The Dearborn police didn't find a gun on the suspect.

Harassment

A Garden City woman filed police reports in both Garden City and Farmington alleging harassment.

The woman said that she found a type of boxer breed dog June 11 when she was on her way to church on Cherry Hill, east of Middlebelt. She said that she found the dog running loose and contacted the phone number that was listed on the dog's collar and left a voice mail message.

In the meantime, she took the dog into the neighborhood of Middlebelt and Leona where she asked neighbors if they recognized the dog. When she tried to put a leash on the dog, he escaped.

Returning home, the woman received a phone call from the dog's owner but had to tell her

that the dog escaped from her since she placed the phone call.

Because she works at a veterinarian office in Farmington, she informed the dog owner about what to do if the dog was micro chipped. Later, she said learned that the woman e-mailed her place of employment and also created a Facebook page where she alleged that the dog rescuer stole her dog.

On June 15, the dog owner came to her house with two other women alleging that she illegally had her dog and demanded that she give him up. The ongoing problems caused the Garden City woman to file the police reports against the dog owner.

She is also now considering applying for a personal protection order against the dog owner.

Attempt break-in

An employee at Healthy Drugs, 827 N. Inkster Road, reported that someone tried unsuccessfully to break in about 12:30 a.m. June 11. The police were called to the scene because of an alarm. The outside door was pried open but the interior door was still secure.

Stolen cars

A resident in the 1100 block of Deering reported that someone had stolen his 2005 Dodge Ram while it was parked in his driveway June 15-16.

The police found no evidence at the scene. The car owner reported that he hadn't heard anything unusual.

•The manager at the Auto

One of Garden City, 30634 Ford, reported that when he came to work about 7 a.m. June 18, a customer's car was gone. He said that he had parked the customer's car, which was left for repair, in front of the business overnight. When he returned in the morning, the car was gone.

The employee said that he was trying to reach the Livonia man who is on vacation to tell him about the theft.

When the police arrived to investigate, they found broken glass where the 1991 Chevy van was parked.

Marijuana possession

A resident thought that it was suspicious that a man was sitting in his car in the driveway of a home in the 28000 block of Hennepin with the car door open at 8 a.m. June 20. After he took his wife to work, the concerned citizen went to check on the man who he couldn't wake up. He then called the police.

Officers removed a 17.4 gram bag of marijuana from the man's lap, a pipe with burnt marijuana residue and a silver grinder. They then awakened the 20-year-old Garden City man after some difficulty and arrested him.

Fraud

A Canton Township man told police that someone made two fraudulent purchases with his credit card June 6 at the Speedway gas station, 28451 Ford. He said that a short time earlier someone had stolen his credit card while he exercised in an Inkster gym.

—By Sue Buck



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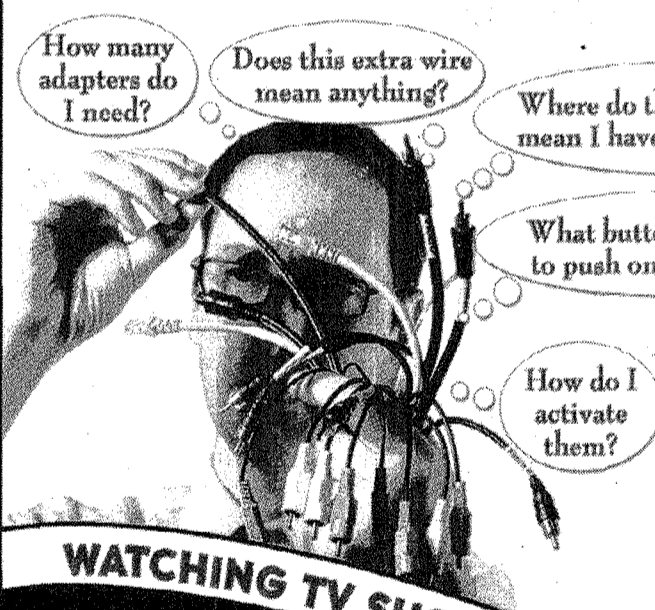
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Man robbed walking home; Westland man arrested

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Livonia police have arrested a Westland man in connection with the robbery and assault on a pedestrian Saturday night. Ryan Charles Brown, 23, was arraigned Tuesday in 16th District Court on one count of armed robbery and a count of unarmed robbery. A plea of not guilty was entered for the suspect. Bond was set at \$100,000 cash. A preliminary exam was set for July 5 in 16th District Court.

The victim was walking home from work shortly after 10 p.m. at Middlebelt and Orangelawn when he was robbed by a man who approached him and struck him in the head with a plastic fuel can, demanding his money.

The robber threatened to shoot the victim, according to Detective Ron McPhee. "The victim gave him money," McPhee said.

McPhee said the suspect fled the scene. "We found him in the area," McPhee said. "We had reason to believe he was the suspect based on a description from the victim and some other factors."

The victim refused immediate medical treatment after he spoke to police, but he went home and had his father drive him that evening to St. Mary Mercy Hospital where he was treated and later released for abrasions and bruises on his head and abrasions on his arm.

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Lab takes nominations for \$1 Jimmy buyer

The folks at Auto-lab of Canton South, an auto repair shop on Michigan Ave., want to make a difference in its community during trying economic times in Southeastern Michigan.

To do so, Auto-lab began Monday accepting nominations for a family who needs, but may not be able to afford, a safe, reliable vehicle.

People who know someone they feel deserves the opportunity to buy a 1999 GMC Jimmy for \$1 are asked to nominate that person. The goal of the program is to help someone who is really helping others.

"The past years have brought a lot of heartache to many people in our area, and the employees of Auto-lab of Canton South are trying to make a positive change by giving a deserving person the opportunity to buy a refurbished vehicle for \$1," said Auto-lab's Joe Alli. "The ideal person is someone not thinking of themselves but instead who



always looks out for others." With the help of O'Reilly Auto Parts of Canton, Value Plus Auto Parts of Garden City, Burhop's Collision of Belleville,

Hart Auto Detailing of Canton and Mark Chevrolet of Wayne, Auto-lab of Canton South has reconditioned a 1999 GMC Jimmy to look like new. It is a

four-wheel drive vehicle with automatic transmission, leather interior, and is fully loaded with options.

Nominations can be mailed

Auto-lab of Canton is taking nominations for someone to sell this GMC Jimmy to for \$1.

to "Auto-lab of Canton South Cares," 44744 Michigan Ave., Canton, MI 48188. All nominations must be post marked by July 8.

A committee of people from outside the company will read all the nominations and will determine the most deserving person to be the new owner of the GMC Jimmy for \$1. The chosen nomination will be announced on Friday, July 15.

All nominations need to include the following information:

- Nominating person's name, address, and phone number.
- Why that person believes the nominated person needs and deserves the opportunity to purchase the GMC Jimmy for \$1.
- Nominee's name, address and phone number.

The car will be on display at Auto-lab of Canton South until it is sold. Hours of operation are Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Three board members honored for their service

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Wayne-Westland school officials took a break from recognizing students and staff, turning the focus on three board members who have left or are leaving the board on June 30.

A tradition for the June board meeting, school Superintendent Greg Baracy acknowledged the many years of service of Skip Monit, who did not run for re-election, while Monit offered thank yous to Martha Pitsenbarger, who resigned from the board in January, and Jeffrey Hayton, who replaced her until the end of her term.

Monit is completing his 12th year on the school board and is one of the longest-serving Wayne-Westland board



Monit

presidents. He was active in the schools in the 1990s and "played a major role in helping push through the much needed bond issue," Baracy said.

"He pushed for the integration of technology in the schools to improve learning," said Baracy. "Whether it was those actions or upgrading the schools, his No. 1 thought through the process was the students. His decisions were driven by data and for the kids."

"He has left a huge positive legacy in Wayne-Westland. Wayne-Westland is a better place to learn and to teach because of Skip Monit," he said.

"It has been an honor and a privilege to serve this district, but more than that it's my pleasure to have provided our students with the latest learning tools to help guide them towards a bright future," Monit said. "I'm proud of the legacy I leave behind. Our district has returned to its standing as a leading district."

Monit added that his "passion and devotion" to the district has never faltered. "It's been a total joy to do the work I do and to be surrounded by a great group of people who were of the same mind."

Board Secretary Cindy Schofield, whose relationship with Monit started when their children were in T-ball, admitted that it was "going to be different without you."

"The kids were always what you were about," she said. "Your kids are grown, but you still do it for the kids of the community. You don't do this for any accolades."

Board Vice President Shawna Walker offered Monit a heartfelt thank you, telling him that "I will truly miss you, you helped me find my way."

Pitsenbarger, who was at the meeting, served on the school board for 15 1/2 years. She resigned in January when it became apparent a temporary stay in Myrtle Beach, S.C., where her husband, Jack, has been getting treatment for a bacterial fungus infection, was going to be for much longer.

"You could always count on her to do the right thing," said Monit. "I was fortunate to have

our terms run together and it was an honor to serve with her. I grew to appreciate her devotion to the district. She helped return this district to a lighthouse district. I will sincerely miss her and will fondly remember her. She had my back and I had hers."

"She was at our side in 1999-2000 when Gov. John Engler signed the equity language bill," said Baracy.

Hayton also was thanked for stepping in to fill the remainder of Pitsenbarger's term. He was an unsuccessful candidate for one of the two seats filled in the May school election.

"It was a pleasure to have you on the board," Monit told him.

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Hot rods, hot dogs and tasty beverages return to VFW

BY PAT MURPHY
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

For car buffs, the place to be is the VFW Post in Redford Township, where hundreds of vehicles are on display every Tuesday evening throughout the summer.

It's not a car show or a warm-up for the Dream Cruise later this summer in Birmingham. It's members and friends of the Kontinental Car Club showing off their prized cars, trucks or motorcycles, explained President Bob Silverberg of Plymouth, "We're here every Tuesday."

The VFW is the host, said Silverberg.

"We (the club) just keep things going," he said. "There's no charge and no pressure, just people who share a love of cars."

Normally, 250 or more vehicles are on display. But rain and the threat of bad weather deterred some car owners this week, and the vehicle turnout was closer to 150.

Those vehicles on display, however, were very nice, said Brian Miller of Garden City. He admitted to being a little



Tom Lazo with his '56 Chevy Sedan.

"car crazy," but Miller said he simply enjoyed the vehicles, the setting and the ambiance.

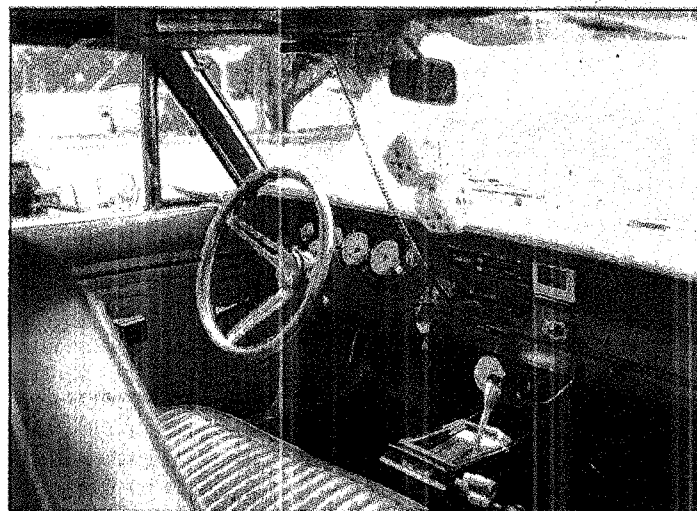
"I really like the music," said his wife Kelly, referring to the 1950s and 60s classics playing over the public address system. The music

was a little before her time, she said. "But I'm in the 'WhatAbouts,'" Kelly Miller said, referring to an oldies group based in Livonia, "and we sing some of these songs."

Dearborn Heights Resident Carol Sciborek proudly dis-

played her powder blue 1957 Ford, in mint condition of course. "I had one like that in high school," said the graduate of Fordson High School in Dearborn.

Refreshments are available, with hot dogs for \$1.50 and



A pair of fuzzy dice decorate the interior of this Dodge Dart Swinger.

an 18-ounce glass of beer for \$2.50.

As they do every week, club members select a motorcycle and car they consider the outstanding vehicles of the evening. This week the honors went to James Gross of Redford Township for outstanding motorcycle and Phil Kasperek of Garden City, owner of the best car.

Gross' bike was a 2005 Road Glide, manufactured by Harley-Davidson. Kasperek displayed a dark red 1939 Buick.

"I've owned it for about 20 years," said Kasperek. It takes a lot of work to keep it running, he said. "I've got a wrench on it all the time — otherwise it would cost a fortune and I couldn't afford it."

The informal car shows will continue into early September, said Jerry Marszalek of Redford Township. "Everybody's welcome," he said, "it's a relaxed, family-friendly setting."

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Cost containment critical for consumers

Over the last few weeks, many state universities announced tuition increases for the fall. Michigan State, University of Michigan, Oakland University and Western have all announced tuition increases of nearly 7 percent. The tuition increases are substantially more than the rate of inflation.

Don't forget that earlier this year seniors did not get an increase in their Social Security because the government claimed there was no inflation. The question is how do universities justify the increase?

Universities point to two issues when it comes to the increases.

The first is that subsidies from the state have been slashed (which is true) and secondly that their costs are

rising.

The question I have asked numerous times yet have never gotten a real answer, is why do tuition costs go up faster than just about anything else in our economy? Yes, declining state subsidies is part of the answer, however, I believe that universities have done a poor job in keeping expenses under control. And it's not only universities here in Michigan, it's a national epidemic. Universities and colleges have done a poor job of managing their affairs. However, as in government, there are very few consequences. After all, who ends up paying for their mismanagement? Parents and students.

I bring this up to highlight the differences between how you and I must handle our personal affairs vs. governments and universities.

Unlike universities and government, we cannot increase our revenue by passing costs on to someone else. Government passes the costs on to taxpayers, universities to students and parents. Because you and I cannot magically

increase our revenue, the only way we can keep our family finances in tact is to focus on the expense side of the ledger.

REVIEW COSTS

As the end of the second quarter of 2011 loom, this is a great time to review expenses and to look for opportunities to become more efficient. Whether it is raising deductibles on auto insurance, cutting back on the air conditioning or other ideas, look for opportunities to save on costs. This is not something to do once. It's something to constantly think about. Saving on costs should be part of everyone's DNA. Hopefully, it will become second nature to all of us.

What happens when a university is fiscally irresponsible? Nothing. On the other hand, what happens to us consumers when we don't keep our financial house in order? Bankruptcy. The consequences are tremendous when our balance sheet gets out of whack. Therefore, we need to be smarter than the government

and certainly smarter than universities, and that means look for new ways to reduce costs. Whenever you get one of those recurring monthly bills, instead of just paying examine if there are opportunities to reduce that bill by the next cycle.

Over the last few years many U.S. corporations have shown substantial profits. One thing that most of these companies have in common is that they have been tight with the buck. They have implemented a system of continuous improvement when it comes to cost containment. Consumers need to do the same thing. I don't care if you're currently in great financial shape or you are struggling. Make a determined effort to be more efficient and lower your cost of living.

Good luck!

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



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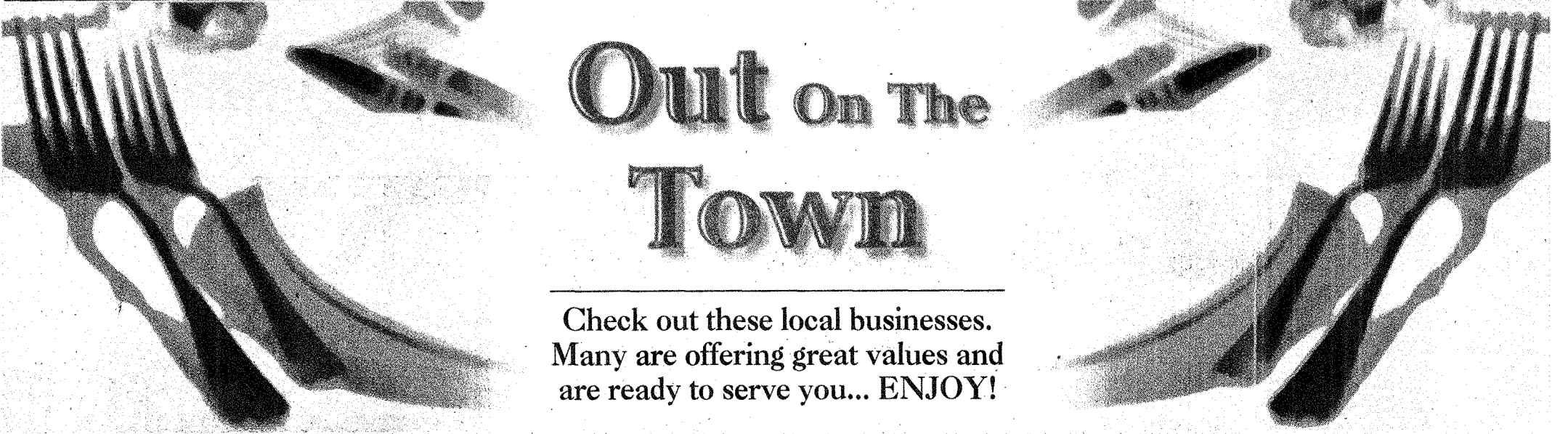
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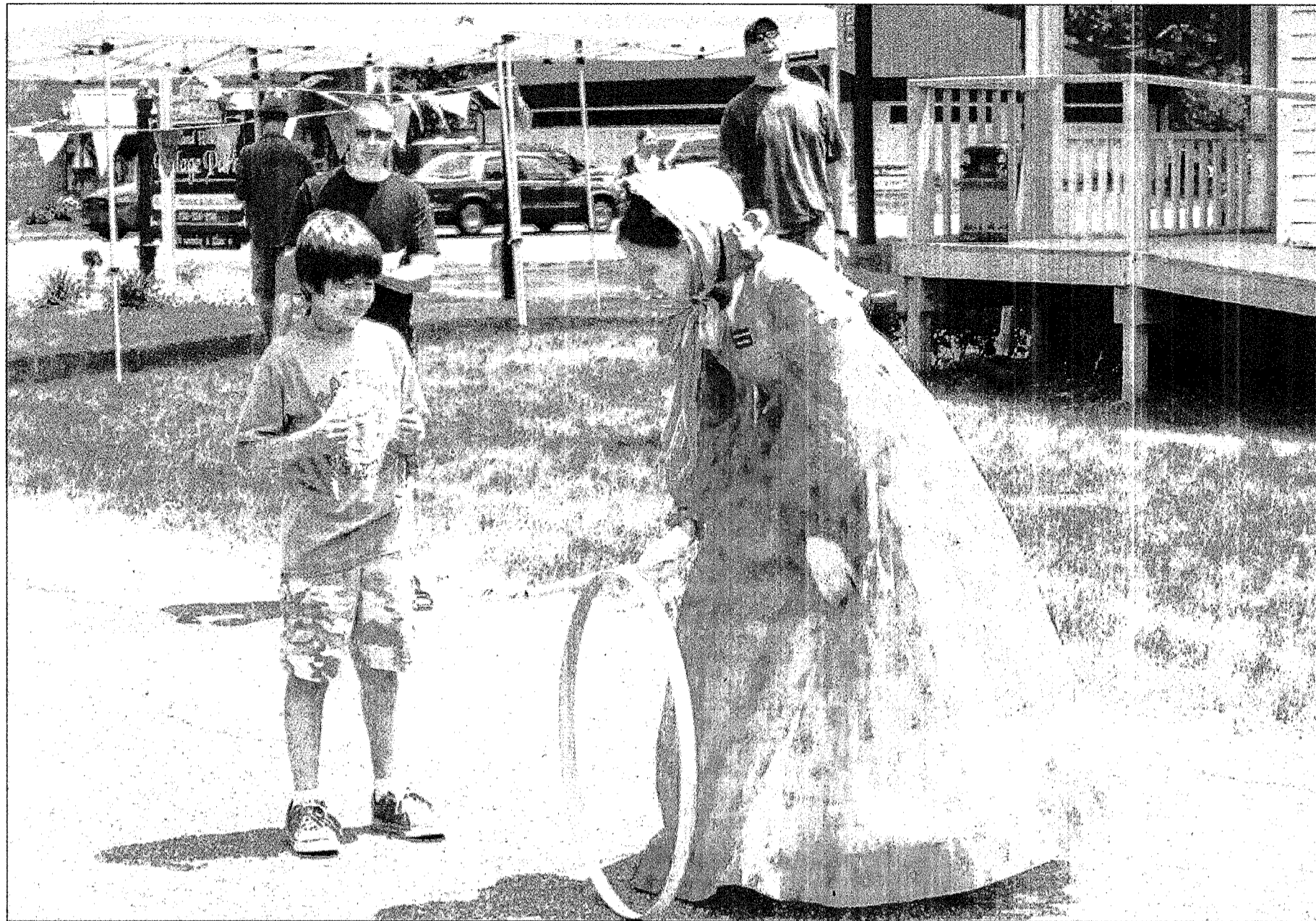
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PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN

Westland Historic Commission member Bethany Stawasz shows Wayne resident Luke Maldonado how to play Hoops and Graces during the ice cream social.

Organizers rate ice cream social a 'success'

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Respectable. That's what organizers are calling the crowd that turned out for an ice cream social at Westland Historic Village Park.

Hosted by the Westland Historical Commission and the Westland Historical Society, the three-hour event included old-fashioned games and antique cars and antique bicycles, provided by Westland residents John and Dorothy Grace, that guests could try their hand at riding.

"We thought it was successful," said Westland Historical Commission member Jo Johnson. "It was kind of a guess, but everything worked and we can expand on it for next year."

Volunteers went through 13 quarts of vanilla ice cream and eight quarts of chocolate ice cream, served with a choice of toppings. While it was free of charge, the groups did receive "quite a bit of money" through donations, Johnson said.

Rainy weather in the morning had organizers holding their collective breath, but when the sun broke out, Johnson made another run to Gordon Foods to buy more ice cream.

"We worried about the weather, it was a concern, but in the afternoon a lot of people came and stayed around," she said.

Historical Commission member Bethany Stawasz came in costume to coordinate the children's games. A croquet game was set up, and youngsters tried their hand at Hoops and Graces, in which a hoop is tossed between players by using wooden sticks.

The Graces brought two antique cars and a collection of bicycles ranging from the high wheel to a small tricycle. There also were smaller bicycles the children "could fool around with." And the group rolled out the Eloise fire truck for people to see and to close off the entrance to vehicles.

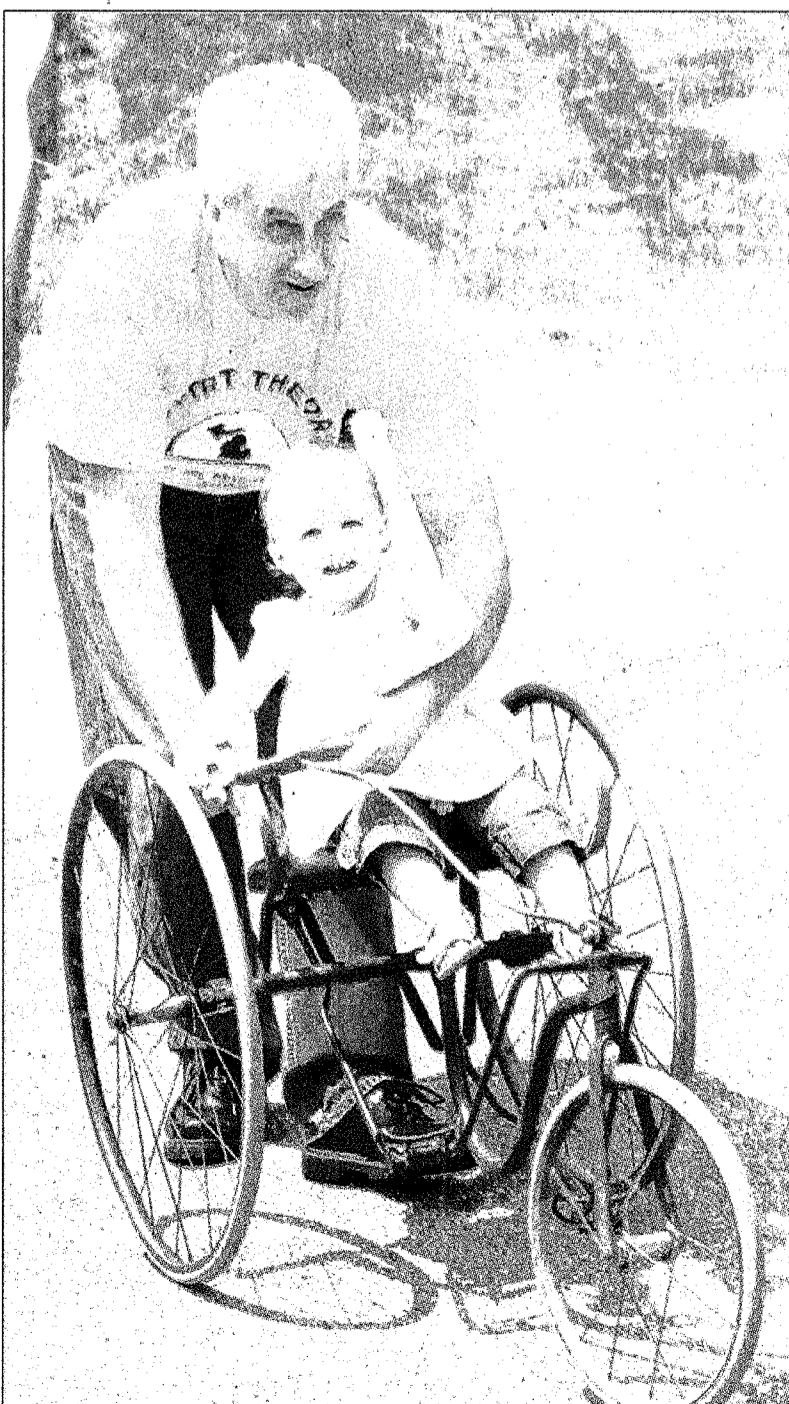
A couple of adults tried the high wheel and I even saw Dorothy on the bike riding around no handed," said Johnson. "I told her she was a show-off."

A first time event for the Historic Village Park, Johnson said it will become an annual thing.

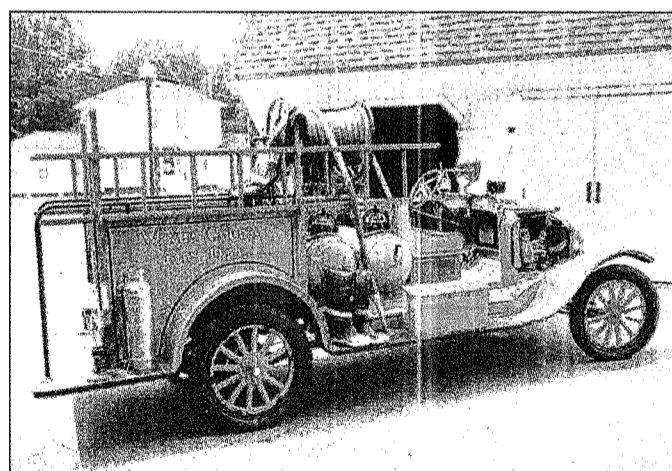
"We had a respectable crowd for the first time, we'll definitely do it again," she said.



Pat and Joe Gregoire of Wayne enjoying the ice cream during their first visit to the Westland Historic Village Park.



State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, helps his 15-month-old granddaughter, Isabella, ride the Governess Tricycle.



The fire truck used at Eloise was on display during the ice cream social and helped block a driveway to traffic.



Dorothy Grace rides the High Wheel 1889 Columbian bike. It was referred as the Ordinary bike back in its day.

STRICTLY BUSINESS

Thursday, June 23, 2011

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IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



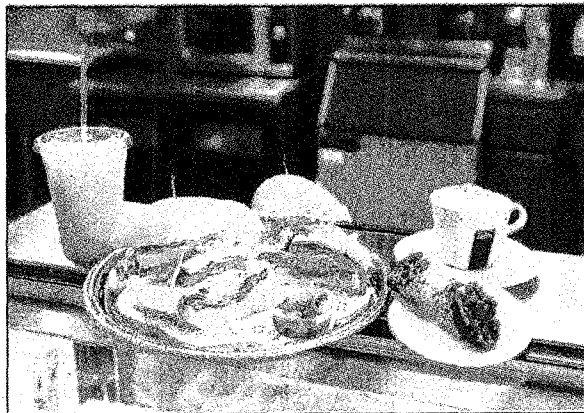
PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN

Owners Carlo Grecco, Frank Mastroianni and David Grecco offer a specialty of Italian sandwiches at Loaf & Pound.

Deli shop offers world tradition

LOAF & POUND

Business Address: 34815 Ford Road, Westland
Business Opened When: April 25, 2011
Number of Employees: 7
Business Specialty: Specialty Italian Sandwiches
Hours of Operation: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and closed Sunday
Business Phone: (734) 728-1799, www.loafandpound.com (still under construction)



A popular item at the shop is its Cosa Nostra Sandwich.

Observer: Tell us about your business, including the types of services and/or products you feature?

We are an Italian deli specializing in sandwiches, deli meats, pastries, coffees, smoothies, pastas, sauces, olive oil, and roasted peppers along with a lot of other things. We also do party subs and deli trays.

Observer: Why did you choose Westland?

We looked around different communities and felt that

Westland was missing the specialty of Italian sandwiches we wanted to offer. We also felt the diversity of Westland was exactly what we were looking for.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

Besides using the finest ingredients to make a great-tasting sandwich, and a large one at that, our name of Loaf & A Pound stems from old world tradition where a good loaf of bread and fresh meats and cheeses would truly bring a family together. Loaf and A Pound does just that at our deli counter, gives you a loaf of fresh

Italian bread and pairs it with a pound of selected deli meat for only \$5. How can you beat that!

Observer: How did you first decide to open your first business.

It was something we always dreamed about and finally took action into making it a reality.

Observer: Do you have a funny tidbit or story to share?

There is really not a funny story to share with our readers but we have been extremely overwhelmed by the positive feedback we have received from the community and are thankful for their support and look forward to remaining in Westland for a long time.

MILESTONES

Boot Camp for a Cause

Time/Date: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 25
Location: High Velocity Sports, 46245 Michigan Ave., Canton
Details: High Velocity Sports will host a Boot Camp workout for a Cause on Saturday, June 25, featuring Channel 7's Traffic Reporter Erin Nicole who will raise money for the Boys and Girls Club and Helen Phillips, winner of Season 7 of "The Biggest Loser" who will raise funds for the Helen Phillips Foundation which promotes a healthy lifestyle through nutrition seminars and school visits. The class will run 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and will be run by Fit Body Bootcamp fitness expert Shaun Hadsell. Come dressed to work out and then visit with vendors, nibble on healthy snacks and drinks, and meet Erin and Helen. Local newscasters and radio personalities will also be on hand. Tickets are \$20 each and will be available on the day of the event based on availability.

Contact: To register for the event, go to WorkOutWithErinNicole.eventbrite.com

Garden Sale

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, noon-5 p.m. Sunday now through Tuesday, June 28

Location: Materials Unlimited, 2 W. Michigan Ave in historic downtown Ypsilanti.

Details: Time is running out to by one item and a lesser valued item for 40 percent at Material Unlimited's Garden Sale. Whether you prefer mythical creatures, critters, or architecturally inspired designs, Materials Unlimited has what you need to complete your



This cast stone "Ram" from Campania International comes 11 different colors, is available for order. It retails for \$189.95.

spring garden. There has never been a better time to stock up and save!

Contact: For more information, call (734) 483-6980.

Next network star

Time/Date: Now through Thursday, June 30

Location: Art Van Furniture, including the Westland store at 8300 N. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: What's cookin'? It could be you! Enter to win "The Next Food Network Star" trip for two to the Food Network New York City Wine & Food Festival. One winner will be chosen to receive a trip for two that includes round-trip coach airfare to New York City, ground transportation, two nights' hotel accommoda-

tions, two tickets to the New York City Wine and Food Festival with special talent meet and greet! and \$1,000 cash. One entry per person. **Contact:** See stores for official rules and details.

Gamesters

Time/Date: Open 11 a.m. to midnight everyday

Location: Vision Lanes, 38250 Ford Road, Westland

Details: Gamesters is equipped with video games, pool tables, air hockey, a digital jukebox and an ice cream shop. It's also available to rent by the hour: \$25 for one hour, \$40 for two hours \$50 for three hours.

Contact: For more information, call (734) 641-8181.

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

New office

Dr. Gregory J. Hicks, D.C., has opened a new practice in Livonia. Dr. Hicks' former practice, Hicks Chiropractic, was in the Garden City/Westland area for 28 years. His new office is at 27620 Five Mile Road, Livonia.



Hicks

Dr. Hicks is a Chiropractor and a Nutrition Response Testing Practitioner. NRT is a unique, non-invasive, physical exam

using the nervous system and changes in muscle strength as a primary indicator of weakness in a body's organs and system. It provides the information needed to design a nutritional program suited specifically to a patient's needs.

People who are experiencing unresolved pain, or other health issues, NRT may be the answer. Call Dr. Hick's for a free consultation at (734) 427-6369.

New physician

Garden City Hospital has a new member of its medical staff.

Dr. Stacy Z. Ker, who specializes in nephrology, has joined the hospital's more than 360 physicians in 47 specialties to serve the community. Ker has offices at 18302 Middlebelt, Livonia.

Garden City Hospital provides comprehensive health care services, osteopathic medical education, and health care related programs to the community at large. 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 visit www.gchosp.org.

Hitting the windshield of life

Today I woke up thinking about someone I met about six years ago, who is one of the sunniest people I know. His name is Willie Jolley and he's the author of a delightful book whose key message is right there in the title.



Clarity Patton Newhouse

"A Setback is a Setup for a Comeback."

We all face setbacks in our lives. No matter how successful we are or want to be, success involves overcoming setbacks. Sure, let's make the most of the good times. But we can also bounce back from the bad times.

As Willie Jolley puts it, sometimes you're the wind-

A SUNNY NOTE

shield and sometimes you're the bug.

"When you're the windshield, you are big and strong and invincible; when you're the bug, you will keep running into obstacles."

He reminds us that even on the days when we're the bug, the outcome depends on our attitude.

A positive attitude helps develop resiliency.

"When you hit the windshield, you no longer smash and crash and die." You bounce off the windshield and are "thrust into a higher trajectory and you start to fly at a higher level."

Willie's book touchingly reminds us that we can survive setbacks and use them

to propel ourselves to even greater success.

Today - whether we're the windshield or the bug - let's have a sunny day!

Clarity

P.S. "There is little difference in people, but that little difference makes a big difference. The little difference is attitude. The big difference is whether it is positive or negative."

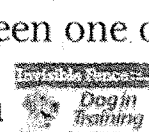
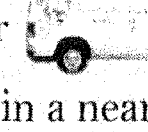
W. Clement Stone





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


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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



A nurse prepares a donor for a blood donation.

Gift of life

Start summer off by making a blood donation

The countdown is on to the three-day Fourth of July weekend. For many, it's the official start of the summer vacation season. It's time to kick back and do nothing, head north for some camping or fishing. Fireworks, festivals. It promises to be a grand old time.

But for some, the holiday may not be much fun. They are the people who are hospitalized and in need of the gift of life, a unit of blood. In fact, someone needs blood every two seconds. However, making sure there is enough blood available becomes difficult during the summer months. That's when shortages of all blood types happen.

Only 37 percent of the U.S. population is eligible to donate blood, however, less than 10 percent do annually. Of nondonors, 17 percent say they never thought about donating and another 15 percent say they're too busy. Of those who do donate, the number of reasons they give is because they "want to help others."

Giving blood is a way to make a difference that will never be in vain. Blood donations are constantly in demand, as donated blood can only be used for several weeks in some cases. Hospitals never know how much blood of a certain type they will require to help patients, and especially when a disaster takes place, there will be a dramatically increased demand for blood that a certain location may not be able to meet.

Wondering where you can make a donation? You can do it at the American Red Cross Livonia Blood Donation Center at 36650 Five Mile, west of Levan. The center has hours Monday through Saturday, mornings, afternoons and early evening. Give the place a call at (800) RED CROSS to schedule a blood donation appointment.

There are also a number of mobile blood drives taking place in western Wayne County. We've taken the liberty to list a few that are happening during June and July:

- 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. June 26, St. Raphael Catholic Church, 31500 Beechwood, Garden City.
- 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. June 26, Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, 47650 N. Territorial, Plymouth.
- 1-7 p.m. June 30, Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Drive, Canton.
- 1-7 p.m. July 1, Resurrection Catholic Church, 48755 Warren Road, Canton.
- 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 6, Bailey Recreation Center, 36601 Ford, Westland.
- 1:30-7:30 p.m. July 7, Gardner White Furniture, 39453 Ford, Canton.
- 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. July 8, Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City.
- 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 15, Isuzu Motors America, Inc., 46401 Commerce Center Drive, Plymouth.
- 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. July 24, Divine Savior Catholic Church, 39375 Joy, Westland.
- 2:30-8:30 p.m. July 25, Geneva United Presbyterian Church, 5835 Sheldon, Canton.

There's a plus to donating at this time. Everyone who comes to donate blood through the American Red Cross at any southeastern Michigan donor center or mobile drive now through Sept. 12, will be automatically entered to win a year's worth of free gas — a \$3,000 value.

Red Cross Racing also has returned for a fourth season. Between now and January 2012, Red Cross Racing participants can accumulate points by donating blood and referring others to the program. The purpose of the program is to encourage frequent blood donations and to recognize that frequency with points that can be used to purchase NASCAR/Red Cross Racing-themed merchandise.

Red Cross Racing is made possible by 3M, Roush Fenway Racing and NASCAR driver Greg Biffle.

Start your summer vacation off right this year. Set aside an hour to donate a unit of blood. Appointments can be scheduled online. Some of the blood drives provided a link to schedule an appointment, otherwise, call (800) RED-CROSS to schedule an appointment.

We urge our readers to take the time to donate blood. The fact is that if all blood donors gave three times a year, blood shortages would be a rare event. (The current average is about two.). If only one more percent of all Americans would give blood, blood shortages would disappear for the foreseeable future.

And wouldn't that be nice.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Who's your favorite Detroit Tiger ever?

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



"Al Kaline, seems to me he was an all-around good baseball player."

Mark Huhtala
Westland



"Al Kaline. My grandfather golfed with him. He's a great guy."

Robert Strutz
Westland



"I don't know, I don't like baseball."

Hedy Sullivan
Westland



"Justin Verlander. He's the workhorse of the team and usually carries the team in wins and losses."

Brittany Holbrook
Westland

LETTERS

Sincere thank you

My name is Edna Bradley and recently I was rushed by ambulance to Garden City Hospital. I had emergency surgery and was in intensive care, step down, and a regular room for almost two weeks.

I want to express and let it be known that the care I received was superb. On every unit the staff of Garden City Hospital was so attentive in every way and always with a warm smile on their faces.

I can't say enough about the excellent care I received. I now refer to it as Garden City Smiling and Caring Hospital.

Edna Bradley
Westland

Change pesticide rules

The U.S. Supreme Court has denied the petition by the National Corn Growers and FMC Corporation to revisit the decision by the District of Columbia Appeals Court that effectively banned one of the most toxic pesticides to birds and the environment ever produced.

FMC and NCG sought to reverse an Environmental Protection Agency decision to ban the pesticide — trade name Furadan — which is used on a variety of crops that make their way onto dinner tables all across America. FMC wants to keep producing carbofuran in spite of overwhelming scientific evidence linking it to farmworker poisoning and the deaths of millions of birds of more than one hundred species, including Bald Eagles, Eastern Bluebirds, Northern Pintails, and American Kestrels.

FMC's action to appeal was unprecedented. Never before had a pesticide producer so flagrantly put their interest in maximizing future profits ahead of human and wildlife health. Their tactic was to tie EPA in a Gordian knot of never-ending litigation. That concept is catching on. Most recently, Reckitt Benckiser began a similar course of action in an effort to prevent restrictions on d-Con, the No. 1 over-the-counter rat and mouse bait that is responsible for the deaths of birds of prey that feed on poisoned rodents.

If more companies decide to follow the FMC example and flex their corporate muscle every time a

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.

science-based environmental ruling does not go their way, the deep pockets of industry could undermine the way we regulate pesticides in this country.

To prevent millions of taxpayer dollars being wasted defending sound EPA decisions, and to ensure the safety of our environment and its wildlife, we must change our pesticide registration process. In the U.S., hazardous pesticides can be registered, if the risk of exposure to people or wildlife is deemed "acceptable." ... By contrast, in Europe, pesticides with carcinogenic, endocrine disrupting, reproductive, or mutagenic effects are denied registration from the outset, regardless of potential exposure. This holds industry to a higher standard and pushes them to develop safer chemicals ... ecological effects of pesticides can be insidious, and our collective memories are short. It has now been more than 35 years since DDT was banned, and we have since been lulled into believing that our environment is adequately protected by an agency whose hands are tied by outdated, industry-centric regulations. At a time when government spending is under ever-closer scrutiny, we have an opportunity to reduce fiscal waste while also taking care of the real bottom line, the future health of our planet.

George Fenwick
president, American Bird Conservancy

Teen restrictions unfair

Being a 16-year-old who drives, it has been brought to my attention that driving regulations for anyone with a graduated one driver's license have been extremely restricted. Although such laws were passed in order to benefit society and protect citizens of all ages, there comes a point where one needs to draw the line on how much to control people's lives. Not only do teens go through intense training to receive their license in the first place, but they also reach a milestone in their life when they gain a sense of freedom after finally receiving their first driver's license.

After 50 hours of parental supervised driving, three weeks of three-hour classes almost every day, and a formal driving test with a certified trainer, there is no reason for teenagers to be in by 10 p.m. and never have more than one person in the car. However, these regulations should be enforced if irresponsible teens violate other driving laws. The responsible teens who meet all expectations and follow driving laws just as well as any other driver should not be punished because of other foolish acts. Therefore, responsible teens should be able to take three friends out to a movie that starts at 9 p.m. and arrive home no later than midnight.

Furthermore, stricter rules and regulations lower the expectations for maturing teens and disappoint those who have worked for and deserve to be treated like an adult. Any further restrictions for teens regarding their licenses should be left for their parent or guardian to determine. I understand the purpose for the revisions that were made; however, I think the government should consider the large percentage of teens who have not done anything wrong in order to earn such punishments. I hope many people take these points into consideration the next time this topic is brought up.

Ashley Kaminski
South Lyon

Promoting Michigan begins with us

The best form of advertising is word of mouth.

While sitting on a flight to South Florida, my seatmate and I got talking about the beauty of Michigan.

He's lived in Florida a good part of his life and only thought of Michigan as a frozen wasteland or the old rust belt — until he moved to the beautiful town of Chelsea, Mich. Now he and his family enjoy the bounty of our stunning peninsulas.

Tom Watkins

My seatmate told me that when he can coax/encourage his Florida friends to venture north (summer only!), they are amazed by the vastness and glory of Michigan and return for vacations here, again and again.

That's when it hit me — those of us who call Michigan home often forget what our mitten state has to offer, taking our state for granted.

Perhaps we have let the woes following the Great Recession and our imploding economy and auto industry that once buoyed us for many decades weigh us down.

Perhaps it is time to revisit our state motto: "If you seek a beautiful peninsula,

look about you."

Look about us indeed.

I shared the idea of turning all Michiganders into state promoters with Mike Finney, president and CEO of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, asking that his job development and tourism agency consider providing us all with the tools to invite family and friends to enjoy/promote/explore Michigan.

What if we made it easy for individuals and families to "sell Michigan"? Could we put packages together containing discount coupons, maps, videos and other Michigan goodies and give them to Michiganders, thereby encouraging us all to share with relatives and out-of-state friends? It could help us make the beauty of Pure Michigan more attractive — and give our tourism industry a boost!

What about using social media networks to promote Michigan?

How about making those spectacular Pure Michigan commercials available to everyone and encourage them to load them on to Facebook, MySpace, and Twitter feeds, thereby promoting Michigan to family and friends, and making ourselves self-promoters of our state?

As it turns out, the crew at MEDC, under the leadership of the governor and Finney, has just finished the beginnings of such

a word-of-mouth campaign to promote Michigan.

As Joseph J. Serwach, managing director of communications for MEDC, stated in an e-mail to me: "in communications and marketing, we've continually learned that a simple conversation is the best way to educate, to influence, to make a case and change minds."

Word of mouth works!

Joe informed me the MEDC just completed a video, "Why Michigan?" The goal is to promote Michigan via social networking and are encouraging everyone to share "Why Michigan?" widely (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cWyZ1BnXYLg&feature=channel_video_title).

Take the time to download and watch, share and save; it is as inviting as it is stunning.

Michiganders, here's a tool for us to tweet and post to Facebook, MySpace and your favorite social networking outlets, informing families and friends about our great state.

Each and every one of us can turn into a Michigan-family promotional arm for "Pure Michigan — too good to keep to ourselves."

Tom Watkins is a business and educational consultant in the U.S. and China. He served as Michigan's state superintendent of schools, 2001-05. He can be reached at tdwatkins88@gmail.com.

Canton man robbed, beaten on bike trail

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A 55-year-old man told Canton police he was robbed and beaten while riding his bike near Michigan Avenue along a paved trail that runs alongside I-275.

The victim, a Westland resident, said the attack occurred shortly after 9:30 p.m.

Saturday along the I-275 Metro Trail while he was riding to a friend's residence at Sherwood Village, a mobile home park in Canton.

He told police he was approached by two white males and one black male — possibly in their late-20s or early 30s — who attacked him, pushed him to the ground and took \$110 from his wallet.

"They roughed him up, knocked him down, took his money and threw his bike and wallet in the (Rouge) river," Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner said.

The man told police he retrieved his bike and wallet from the river.

The victim sought treatment at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital. He told police the

attackers pushed him to the ground and kicked him in the head and ribs before leaving the scene.

The incident was reported as a strong-armed robbery because the assailants didn't produce any weapons.

The victim rode his bike home and went to bed after the attack, but he woke up sore the next day and went to the

hospital.

The attack prompted Schreiner to warn anyone using the trail to use caution.

"There are lots of desolate areas along the bike path," he said. "People should avoid riding alone when possible and be aware of their surroundings. The path has a lot of desolate areas that provide a lot of hiding spots (for

potential criminals)."

The assault along the 40-mile-long trail came after advocates recently celebrated the grand opening of a newly rebuilt section between Michigan Avenue and Hines Drive. Hundreds of people turned out for the River Day event.

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

AROUND WESTLAND

Wrestling camp

The Wrestling Program will hold its annual "Rocket Camp" 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday, July 25-29 in the Wrestling Room of John Glenn High School. The camp is open to high school students. The cost is \$100 and includes a T-shirt. Registration is at 12:30 p.m. Monday, July 25.

There will also be a Youth Camp 4:30-6 p.m. July 25-29 for youngsters in kindergarten through eighth-grade in the Wrestling Room. The cost is \$50 and includes a T-shirt. Registration is at 4 p.m. Monday, July 25.

Registration forms are available at www.glen-nwrestling.com. If you have any questions, contact Coach Polk at rocketwrestling@gmail.com or Judy at (734) 634-4595.

Healing Hearts

Hope 4 Healing Hearts, a grief support group for adults who have lost a loved one to the prison system provides a safe environment allowing members to share in a non-judgmental atmosphere. Individuals share ideas, resources and experiences that are helpful to one another.

Meetings are 6:30-8:30 p.m. the second and fourth Monday of every month at the Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660

Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland. Donations only.

For more information, contact Bonnie at (734) 646-2237, by e-mail at bonnie@hope4healinghearts.com or visit the website at www.hope4healinghearts.com.

Butterfly lecture

Brenda Dzedzic, president of the Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association will present a lecture on attracting butterflies to your garden at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 28, at the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland, 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford, Westland.

Learn the necessary components of a Butterfly Garden. Want Monarchs, Black Swallowtails, or American Lady butterflies in your landscape? Learn which plants to plant to attract the butterflies you want in your yard.

Golf Outing

John Glenn High School Wrestling Program will hold its 14th annual Golf Outing Fundraiser Saturday, Sept. 17, at the Idyl Wyld Golf Course in Livonia. The cost is \$85 for golf, cart, lunch at the turn, and steak dinner after golf.

Contact Coach Polk at www.rocketwrestling@gmail.com or Judy at (734)

634-4595 for more information or to make reservations. More information is also available on the website. Hole sponsorship and raffle donations are also being accepted.

For the Comets

Help the Westland Comets football and cheerleading teams raise money while earning a free beverage from Biggy Coffee in Westland.

The Comets are selling 200 Biggy travel mugs - 100 designated for football and 100 for cheerleaders - at \$10 each. The teams will earn \$5.65 for each travel mug sold. In addition, the person buying the mug is entitled to one free drink of their choice at Biggy Coffee on Ford just west of Newburgh which could be up to a \$5 value.

Store owner Mo Al Fakir is selling the travel mugs in the store throughout June.

Progressive raffle

The Westland Goodfellows have added a new progressive raffle to its fund-raising efforts. In addition to its long-standing regular Bingo event, held every week at the Wayne Ford Civic Center, and poker tournaments, at Marvaso's-Electric Stick, the Goodfellows have launch an "Ace of Spades" Progressive Raffle, a 54-

week event, hosted by Buffalo Wild Wings, 6677 N. Wayne Road, Westland.

Drawings are held at 9:30 p.m. every Monday. It is a 60/40 raffle with 60 percent of the jackpot going to the winner. People interested in participating, can visit Buffalo Wild Wings to get tickets each week.

Fund-raising events

The AMVETS Post 171 Relay for Life is continuing its fund-raising efforts with an online Avon fundraiser now through July 31. Go to jfinfrock.avonrepresentative.com and click on online events to place your order. Be sure to use the promotional code of AMVETRELAY2011. Team AMVETS will earn 30 percent of total sales now through July 31. Products will be home delivered.

Weatherization help

Weatherization Assistance is a home energy conservation program providing services to low-income residents. Families receiving weatherization services can expect heating costs to be reduced 20-25 percent, amounting to about \$300 saving per year.

Eligible projects include such things as floor insulation, storm windows, window repair/replacement, programmable thermostat,

furnace and duct repair or replacement and roof repairs.

Wayne-Metropolitan Community Action Agency manages the Weatherization Program for Wayne County, including the city of Westland. Contact Jeff Boyd, weatherization director, at (734) 284-6999.

Lions Club

The Westland Lions Club meets at 11:30 a.m. the second Monday of the month and at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month at Logan's Roadhouse on Ford in Canton. For more information, call Debbie Dayton at (734) 721-4216.

American Legion

The American Legion, Westland Post 251, meets at 7 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month at the Harris-Kehrer VFW Post, 1055 S. Wayne Road, Westland. All veterans, male and female with an honorable discharge are welcome to join. Visit the post Web site at www.post251.org or call (734) 326-2607 for more information.

Keep walking

In the mood to walk, but don't like the weather? Westland Shopping Center has the answer — mall walking.

Westland Shopping Center

opens its doors before usual operating hours for people who want to walk for exercise. Walking begins at 7 a.m. Monday through Saturday. Enter through Arcade 2 by Olga's Kitchen on the northeast end of the mall. All other doors are locked until approximately 8.30 a.m. On Sunday all doors are opened at 10 a.m.

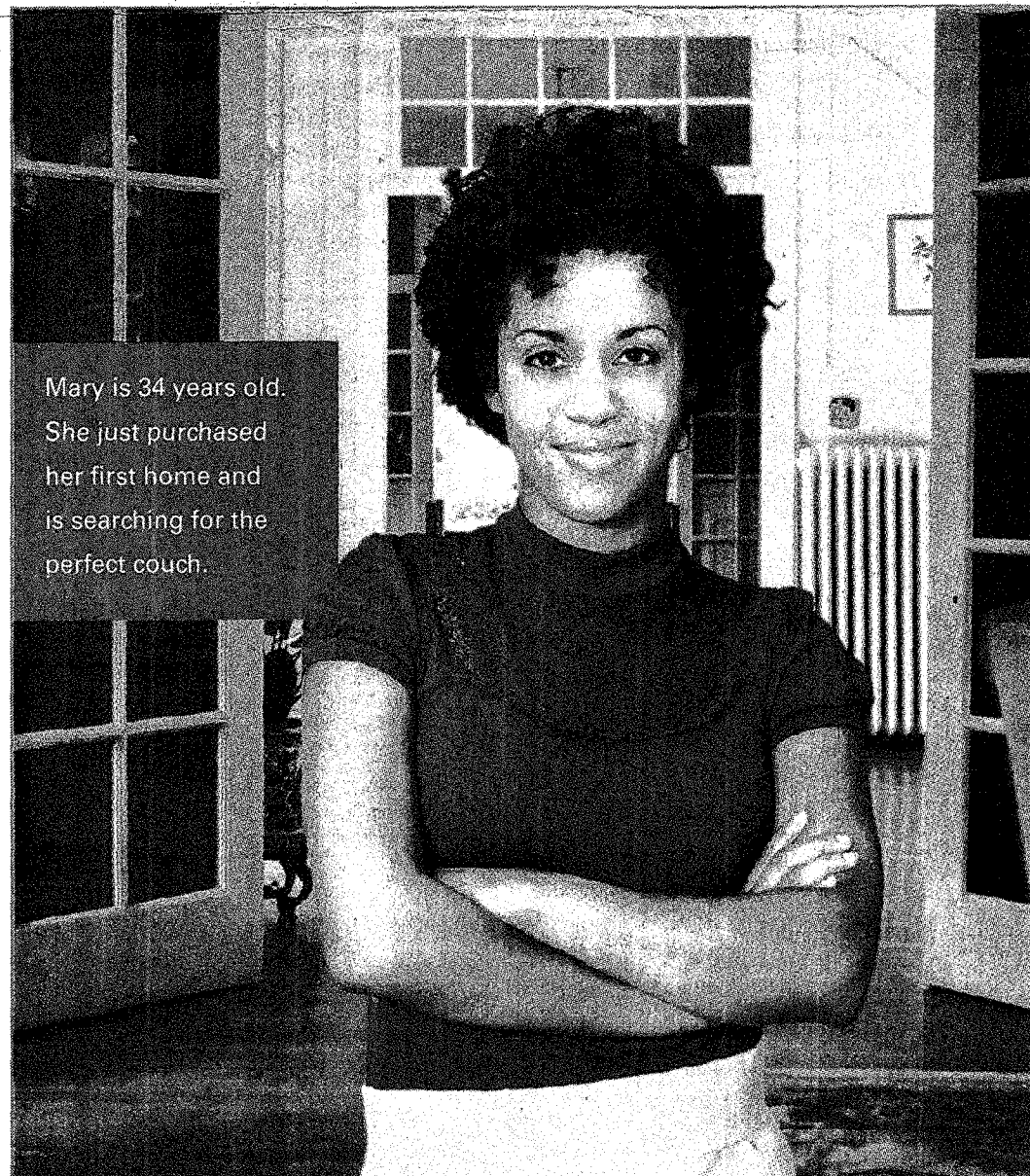
Westland Walkers also hold a meeting at 9.30 a.m. Wednesdays in the Community Room on the lower level. Call (734) 425-5001 to check when a meeting has been scheduled.

It's easy to become a member of Westland Walkers. Just fill out a registration card available at the Customer Service booth in East Court. Return it to the Customer Service associate or put it in the Walkers Box located on the side counter.

Westland Shopping Center is at Wayne and Warren roads in Westland.

CFL bulb recycling

Westland residents can recycle CFL's (Compact Fluorescent Bulbs) or other fluorescent bulbs for free at Home Depot at 39875 Ford, east of I-275, and IKEA at 41640 Ford, west of I-275. For more information, call Home Depot at (734) 844-7300 and IKEA at (734) 981-6300.



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<p>SUGAR-SWEET, GOLDEN-RIPE PINEAPPLES 2/\$5.00</p>	<p>FRESH-SALAD PICKLES 99¢</p>
<p>"GRADE A" WISCONSIN MUENSTER CHEESE \$3.69 LB. <small>Chunk or Sliced</small></p>	<p>ORIGINAL HOFFMAN'S HARD SALAMI \$3.99 LB.</p>
<p>LEAN & TENDER PORK CHOPS \$2.49 LB.</p>	<p>TENDER, FRESH, "GRADE A" CHICKEN BREAST \$1.79 LB.</p>
<p>"GRADE A" EXTRA LARGE EGGS 99¢ DOZEN</p>	<p>"GRADE A" ORGANIC HORIZON MILK \$2.99 1/2 GAL. <small>Homo, 1%, 2%, Fat Free</small></p>

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presents

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featuring

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conducted by Nan Washburn

7:30 p.m. Saturday, July 2

Kellogg Park, downtown Plymouth

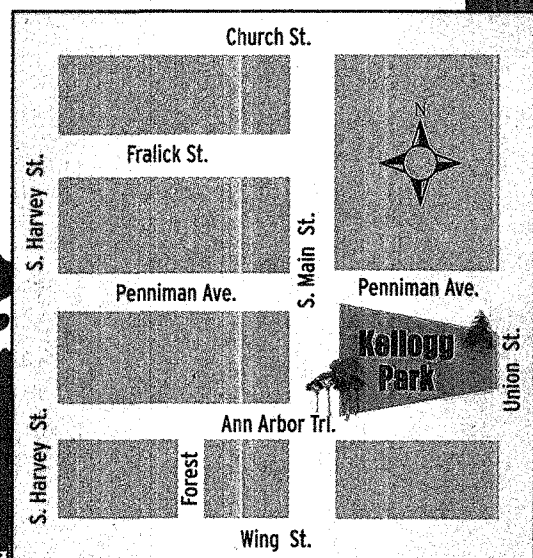
This fun, family-friendly concert showcases popular American composers and will conclude with the traditional classic, Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture.

Concert is FREE in Kellogg Park, downtown Plymouth!

Bring a blanket or lawn chair to beautiful downtown Plymouth and enjoy this not-to-be-missed concert in celebration of our nation's birthday.

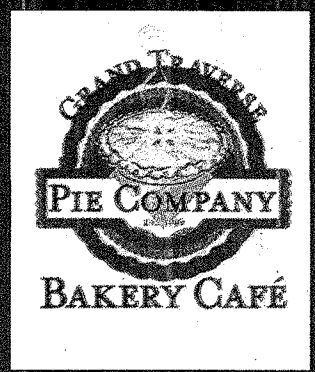
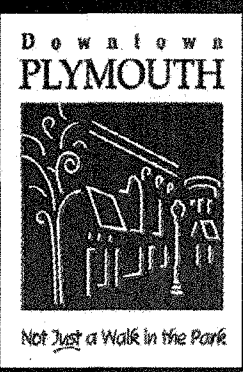
Hear The Michigan Philharmonic at:

*Friday, June 24 at 8 p.m. Pops Plus at Kensington Metropark. Enjoy an evening of great music on the lake in a beautiful park setting. Concert is free. \$5 park entry fee is required to Kensington. I-96 Exit 153 at Milford Road.



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Plainwell spoils Ladywood title quest, 2-1

Blazers eye 2012 season

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

So close, but yet so far. That was ultimate fate Saturday in Williamston as Livonia Ladywood came up short in its first state championship soccer bid in school history as Plainwell completed a 23-0-1 season by holding off the Blazers for the coveted Division 2 title, 2-1.

The Blazers, however, certainly had their chances, especially three golden opportunities during the final 11 minutes of a scoreless first half.

"That hasn't been happening for us the whole way here," said Ladywood coach Ken Shingledecker, whose team bowed out at 17-4-6 overall. "We haven't left any goals on the table. It's probably the difference maker in the game, right?"

Despite coming up empty, Shingledecker felt good about his team's play at halftime.

"I thought we played really well," he said. "We had about a 10-minute bad span in the middle of that half. Other than that, I thought we were on our normal path of what we were doing. I was pleased with where we were at."

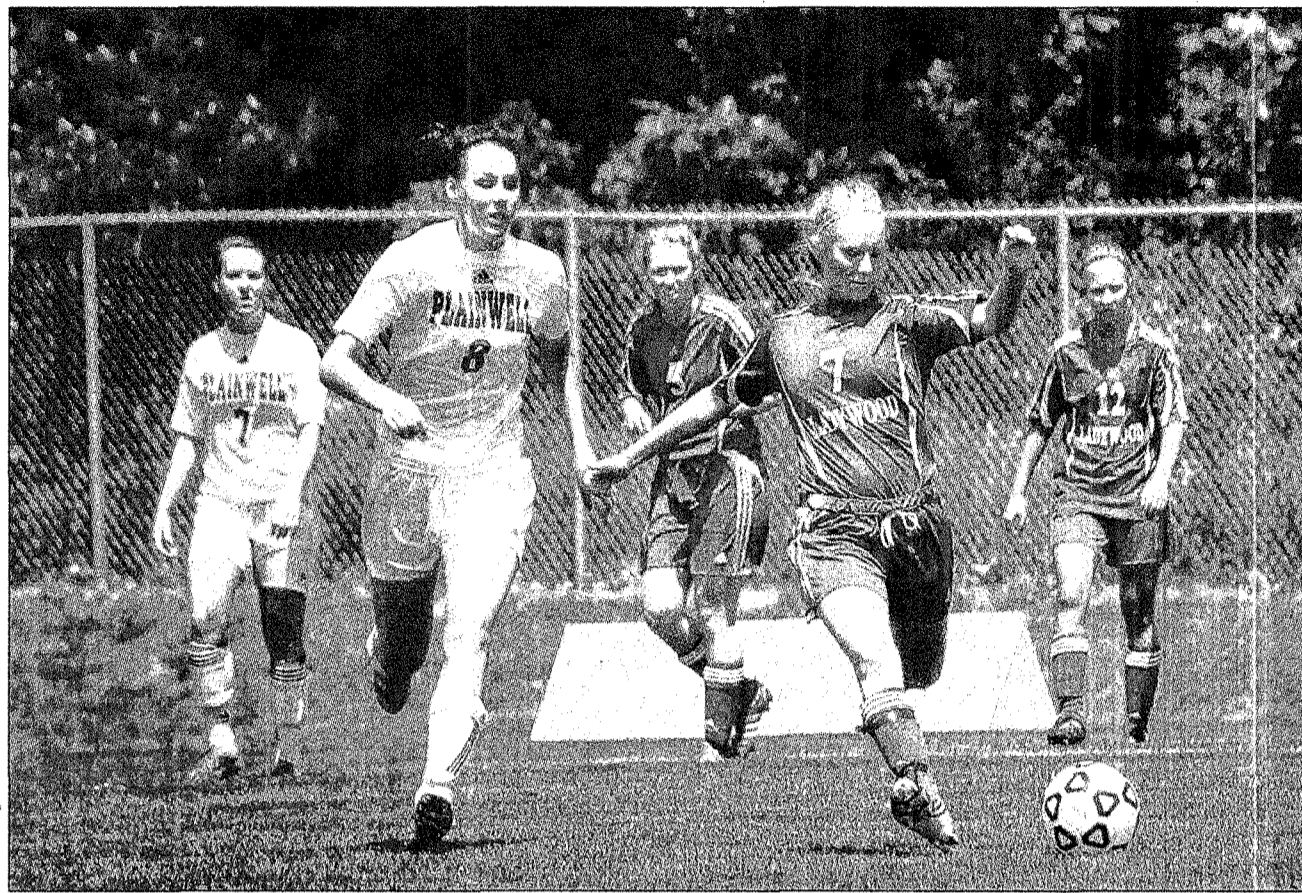
Plainwell midfielder Carlee Pallett, however, changed the complexion of the game when she scored with 35:09 left on a give-and-go from Kaitlyn Freitas off a corner kick.

The Trojans then appeared to have the match sewed up with only 18:05 remaining when Shelby Hubbell took a cross from Pallett scored to make it 2-0.

"The game-winning goal was one of the most beautiful goals you see all year," Plainwell coach Chad Wiseman said. "It's exactly what we've done all year. We countered out, down the flank, served the ball to the far post and she (Hubbell) buried it. That's what we've done all year."

Pallett proved to be a major thorn in Ladywood's side, especially during the second half.

"She's good, we knew that coming in," Shingledecker said of the Plainwell senior. "Every scouting report we received said they'd target number four coming down that right side. She was shooting across on that first goal, and if it was a shot, it was a good one. The ball she played across on the second goal was awesome. She had her head up the whole time. We had just pushed into a three-front and taken one out of the back and she got us on the counter attack. The game could have ended right there, but there was no quit in us."



Ladywood's Allison Bielski (7) clears the ball out in front of Plainwell's Lauren Saar (8) during Saturday's Division 2 state finals match in Williamston.

And while the Trojans were lulled into a false sense of security, Ladywood refused to fold as freshman Emily Huddleston buried a left-footed shot past Plainwell keeper Molly Meddock with 13:33 remaining to cut the deficit to 2-1.

Allison Bielski, who dribbled the ball along the back touch line, drew the assist.

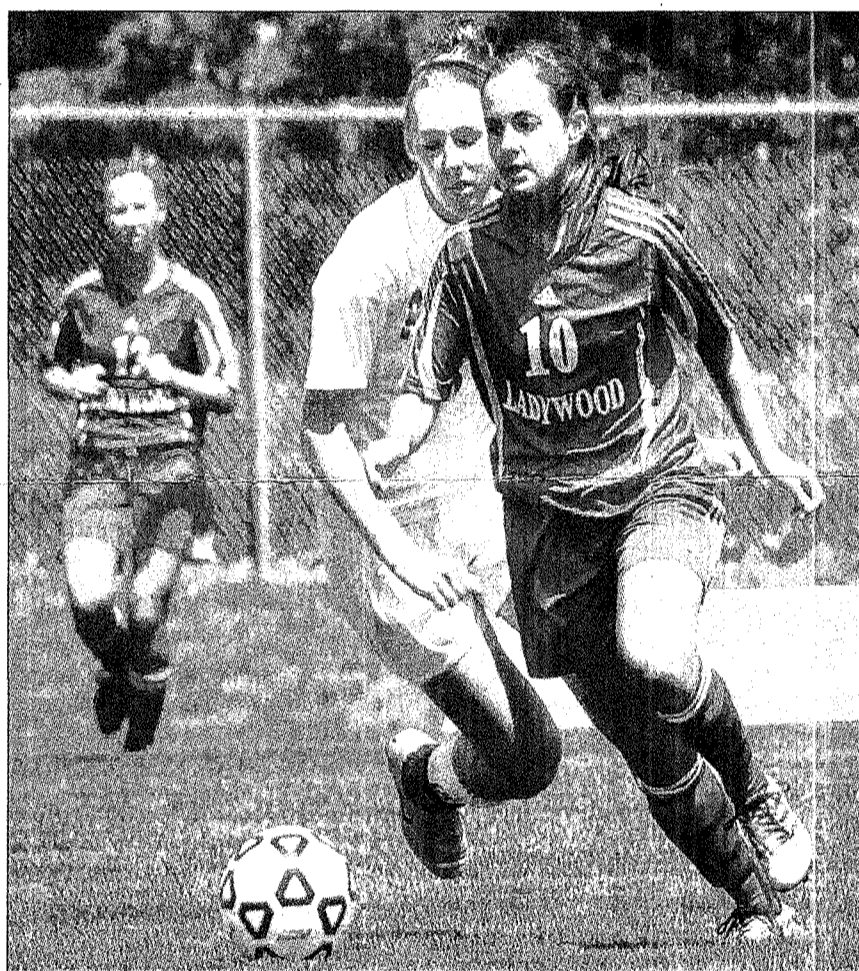
And the Blazers continued to apply the pressure down the stretch, but simply ran out of time.

Ladywood's most dangerous effort in an attempt for the equalizer was saved by Meddock on a cross by Domenique Sarnecky with only 35 seconds to go.

"I think we got a little excited after the two-goal lead," said Wiseman, who hoisted the school's first-ever state championship girls soccer trophy. "We let up a little bit, and when you let up a little bit against a team like Ladywood they're going to make you pay. They scored their first goal with enough time. They owned the last 10 minutes with the exception of the breakaway we had. But we held on and did enough to get the win."

With 8:29 remaining in the first half, Ladywood senior goalkeeper Madeline Reed made a huge stop when she went airborne to deflect a laser shot by Hubbell. The shot glanced off the crossbar.

Please see LADYWOOD, B3



Ladywood's Paige Brennan (10) moves the ball upfield during Saturday's state championship final against Plainwell.

Mr. Baseball weighs Indians offer

Westland's Haase is OSU signee

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland's Eric Haase has a nice dilemma put in front of him this summer.

The catcher and third baseman from Dearborn Divine Child High can stick with his commitment after signing an NCAA baseball letter-of-intent last November with Ohio State.

Or, the newly anointed Michigan Mr. Baseball can opt to go pro after being drafted in the seventh round of the Major League Amateur Draft recently by the Cleveland Indians.

Haase, meanwhile, will continue to play with 18-and-under Ann Arbor-based A. Green summer sandlot team, while leaning on representation from Sosnick Cobbe Inc., a sports firm based in Walnut Creek, Calif.

Among agency's signature clients include Jay Bruce (Cincinnati Reds), Josh Johnson (Florida Marlins) and Freddy Sanchez (San Francisco Giants).

"Obviously my family, and my adviser are giving me all the information I need, but it's mostly my family and I," said Haase, who went 1-for-3 Tuesday night for the East All-Stars in the a 9-5 loss to the West at Comerica Park. "They (Cleveland) haven't offered me anything yet, so I just have to sit tight. It's a long process. It's going to drag out a little bit. They just have to see me play a little bit more this summer."

"I like to catch. I love catching definitely, but I'll play anywhere as long as I can swing the bat."

Haase attended Graham Elementary and Stevenson Middle School in Wayne-Westland before enrolling at Divine Child as a ninth-grader where he made an immediate impression on the diamond.

"Eric has a tremendous skill set and he combines that with an outstanding work ethic," Divine Child coach Tony DeMare said. "He never stops working. He does everything with a purpose and he pays attention to detail. He's baseball's version of a gym rat."

"He's got an excellent baseball I.Q. He's a throwback and he's a tireless worker."

The 5-foot-11, 190-pound Haase played three different positions for the Falcons, including catcher, third base and pitcher (where he posted 17 career wins).

He holds the Divine Child season (14) and career (28) records for homers while sporting a .400-plus average.

Haase played on two Division 2 state championship teams (2008 and 2010) and is also the school record holder for career hits, doubles, run scored, RBI and plate appearances.

"They (the Indians) love the way he swings the bat," DeMare said. "They look at him as a catcher, but he can play several positions. He can hit for average and power and that's why he has a chance."

At a banquet Monday night, the Michigan High School Baseball Coaches



Westland native Eric Haase, a catcher from Dearborn Divine Child, earned Mr. Baseball honors. He was a seventh-round pick up the Cleveland Indians and has signed with Ohio State.

Association awarded Haase with the coveted Mr. Baseball Award.

"It was great," Haase said. "Everyone wants that win in high school. It's cool,

Please see HAASE, B3

Piechota's an All-Star for a night

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Even that doggone rain and 9-5 loss in the Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association Tuesday night at Comerica Park couldn't dampen Evan Piechota's spirits.

The Livonia Stevenson senior was scheduled to come out of the bullpen and pitch the bottom of the eighth inning for the East All-Stars, but he never made it to the mound because of Mother Nature.

It was disappointing in lieu of the fact that Piechota went 8-1 this season with a glittering 0.72 earned run average for the 25-10 Spartans.

Piechota, who also played shortstop this season for Stevenson hitting .360 with 28 RBI, did get in two at-bats bouncing to third and flying out to right.

The memories, however, will last a lifetime for Piechota, who will play

Please see PIECHOTA, B3

SIDELINES

Howse saluted

Livonian Ken Howse will be honored Friday night at the 17th annual Track and Field Old Timers Reunion and Dinner at Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Detroit.

Howse was a standout at Detroit Finney High where he was the 1967 City of Detroit and State of Michigan two-mile champion and record holder.

He was also a two-time All-City cross country and 1966 state champion. Howse later went on to the University of Illinois where he was an intercollegiate individual champion, team champ and team captain.

Howse was also a silver medalist at the National 25-kilometer and Central Collegiate 6-Mile Championships.

He clocked a 9:00.7 in the two-mile while running on a broken foot and posted a two-mile personal best of 8:39.0.

Bucks win again

Despite missing their top two scorers from the lineup, the Michigan Bucks earned their sixth consecutive Premier Development League victory with a 3-0 soccer win over the Hamilton (Ontario) FC Rage before 514 fans at Rochester's Borden Park.

The first-place Bucks now stand 6-1-1 (19 points) in the PDL's Great Lakes Division of the Central Conference.

Minus Kenny Ozoigwe and Luke Holmes, along with the team's third leading scorer Tommy Catalano in the 30th minute, Luckymore Mkosana picked up the slack by scoring goals for the Bucks in the fourth and 84th minutes. Stefan St. Louis also added a goal in the 82nd minute.

Bucks goalkeeper Mitch Hildebrandt (Livonia Stevenson/Oakland University) made several spectacular saves to notch his sixth shutout of the season. He has allowed just four goals in eight matches as the Bucks extended their winning streak to six.

The loss dropped the last-place Rage to 1-4-2 (five points).

Dynamite team

The Livonia YMCA Dynamite, an under-9 girls team, captured second place in the Western Suburban Soccer League's Second Division with a 5-1-2 record during the spring season.

Team members include: Andrea Abramson, McKenna Coury, Allie Fulton, Alexis Gibbons, Naomi Gizaw, Adrien Hartigan, Mandy Laiacono, Jenna McCann and Riley Pfeifer.

The Dynamite are coached by Laura, Don and Lesley McDougall.

Kids bowl free

The 2011 summer kick-off will allow kids (18-and-under) to bowl two free games from 1-4 p.m. Saturday, June 25, at Wayne Bowl, 369000 Michigan Ave., Wayne.

Standard shoe rental applies and free tattoos will be available. There will also be a \$2.50 hot dog combo (includes chips and a soft drink).

USBC-certified coaches will provide free instruction and \$1 raffle tickets will be available to win a new bowling ball.

The fourth annual Adult/Youth No-Tap tournament will be Sunday, June 26 to benefit the Wayne County USBC Scholarship Fund.

For more information, call (734) 721-7520; or visit www.wayne-bowl.com.

Hole-in-one club

Bob Heath, 81, of Plymouth used a 7-iron to ace the 145-yard, No. 5 hole Monday at Whispering Willows Golf Course in Livonia.

Heath, who has been playing for 60 years, shot an impressive 84 for 18 holes.

Mercy, FPS schools put eight on All-Area tennis team

First team singles

Angelica Woods, Franklin: The Division 1 state quarterfinalist and regional champion finished her senior year with a 20-4 record. Woods was also runner-up at No. 1 singles in the Kensington Conference Tournament.

Bound for Davenport University, Woods posted a career record of 78-16 mark and distinguished herself as one of the best players ever to put on a Franklin uniform.

"As co-captain, Angelica represented what a team leader is all about," coach Rick Clack said of the honorable mention all-stater. "She played USTA tennis during the off-season, which continued to improve her game."

Aimee Moccia, Stevenson: The freshman made quite a splash during her first prep season finishing with a 21-7 record while reaching the semifinals of the Kensington Conference and regional tournaments.

Moccia also was champion at the Stevenson and Howell invitational, and was also runner-up at Grosse Pointe South.

"She had an outstanding freshman season," coach Don McMathney said. "She played more like a junior or senior than a freshman. She's just a great competitor and really knows how to battle. She has all the strokes and has no weakness in her game."

Ariana Kabodian, Mercy: Kabodian was the Catholic League runner-up and a Division 2 regional semifinalist. Her record was 9-10, but she battled top competition throughout the season.

Anna Norman, Salem: The junior was outstanding all season for the Rocks, finishing with a stellar 12-5 record against a string of mostly very tough opponents, coach Lin Ware said.

Among highlights for Norman was a three-set victory over Livonia Stevenson's Aimee Moccia as well as a hard-fought 6-2, 7-5 loss to Ann Arbor Pioneer in the

2011 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS TENNIS FIRST-TEAM SINGLES

Angelica Woods, Sr., Liv. Franklin
Aimee Moccia, Fr., Liv. Stevenson
Ariana Kabodian, Jr., Farm. Hills Mercy
Anna Norman, Jr., Salem
Stephanie Petruska, Sr., Liv. Ladywood
Carmen Gaddis, Soph., Farm. Harrison

FIRST-TEAM DOUBLES

Danielle Balsis, Sr., N. Farmington
Riva Jaddou, Sr., N. Farmington
Emily Walsh, Sr., Farm. Hills Mercy
Laura Williams, Jr., Farm. Hills Mercy
Alyssa Muller, Sr., Farm. Hills Mercy
Kelsey Shaw, Sr., Farm. Hills Mercy

SECOND-TEAM SINGLES

Akanksha Vaishnav, Jr., N. Farmington
Jessie Guindi, Soph., Farm. Hills Mercy
Carolyn McCullen, Fr., Liv. Franklin
Ashley Walker, Soph., Salem
Erica Lay, Jr., Liv. Ladywood
Stephanie Wagner, Soph., Farm. Harrison

SECOND-TEAM DOUBLES

Kenzie Kettner, Jr., Liv. Ladywood
Jenny Rhodes, Jr., Liv. Ladywood
Quincy Banini, Jr., Liv. Churchill
Rylie Fallu, Fr., Liv. Churchill
Mallory Rojo, Sr., Salem
Sarah Bellaire, Jr., Salem

COACH OF THE YEAR

Linda Brennan, Liv. Ladywood

HONORABLE MENTION

Churchill: Ani Cooper, Mara Karageozian, Kristi Fada, Jayde Schulz;
Stevenson: Laura Gumpfer, Ashley Benvenuti, Lexie Ranski, Kathryn Maikowski, Taylor Tinham, Maiko Ruetimann; Ladywood: Erica Ley, Megan Glowacki, Mary Beth Rouna, Courtney Doenitz; John Glenn: Desiree Clenney, Shannon McFadden; Salem: Morgan Spencer, Kerry MacDonald, Emily Simmons, Emily Borkowicz; Plymouth: Lindsay Stemberger, Miranda Cerny, Britta Swanson, Kayla Griffey, Brittany Rose; Julia Fratila, Mariah Tsar, Andrea Haider; Garden City: Ann Silski, Jackie Pummil, Nhu Do, Emily Davis, Vanessa Hardrick, Ashley Genuend; Canton: Taylor Eppler; Farmington: Meghana Gadiraju, Emily Hubbard; Harrison: Lydia Miller, Allison Roman, Shannon Carter, Christine Mathis.

Division 1 regionals. She also had dual meet wins over Plymouth, Canton and Livonia Churchill.

"Anna Norman is a fierce competitor who always gives 110 percent on the court," Ware said. "She's been a great role model for Salem tennis and we will miss her next year."

Norman won't finish her high school career at Salem. Ware said she will be attending school in Germany.

Stephanie Petruska, Ladywood:

The senior captain finished with a 12-8 record, including runner-up finishes at the Monroe and Howell invitationals.

"Stephanie, along with our other singles players, carried our team this year," coach Linda Brennan said. "She always had a tough mental game. She never gave up on any match. One of her highlight matches came in her first match of the season against Salem's Anna Norman where Stephanie lost the first set, 0-6, and then came back and won the next two sets in a gruelling two-hour match. She will truly be missed by all next year."

Carmen Gaddis, Harrison: In her second year as Harrison's No. 1 singles player, Gaddis posted an 11-3 record, having played fewer matches due to rainouts and cancellations. She was a No. 3 seed at the North Farmington regional and reached the semifinals where she lost to No. 2-seeded Andover. Gaddis had wins over Rochester, Athens, Adams, Groves and North Farmington. She and Mercy's Ariana Kabodian did not play. Gaddis was the Lakeland Invite runner-up, but the matches were shortened to eight-game pro sets and didn't count.

"Carmen made phenomenal improvement over the course of one year, from her freshman to sophomore year," coach Janice Maxey said. "She's worked hard. She's just a really focused player. Her repertoire of shots, her strategy and movement on court have improved greatly. Her whole game has matured."

"She has a focus to her game; she's never out of a point and never out of a game. She's awesome to work with, a pleasure to coach."

First team doubles

Danielle Balsis-Riva Jaddou, N. Farmington: Balsis and Jaddou are repeat members of the all-area first team. They were selected last year as a No. 2 doubles team, and they moved up to No. 1 this year, posting a team-best, 10-5 record. The

highlight of their season was winning a Division 2 regional championship, beating Lahser's top-seeded, all-state team in the final (4-4) after a semifinal win over No. 2 Andover (6-0, 5-7, 7-5).

"Danielle and Riva were a strong team last season, which was the first year they played together," coach Whitney Wasielewski said. "Riva was a former singles player, and I moved her to doubles, where she proved to be very effective with partner Danielle."

"Both girls are very athletic and competitive, which is why they did so well at No. 1 doubles. I was very happy with their season and the results they had. Both girls were captains and showed leadership on and off the court."

Emily Walsh-Laura Williams, Mercy: Williams, a repeat member of the all-area first team, and Walsh were Division 2 regional semifinalists at North Farmington. The Marlins posted a 7-8 record against quality opponents.

Alyssa Muller-Kelsey Shaw, Mercy: Muller and Shaw were Catholic League runners-up and Division 2 regional semifinalists. Mercy's No. 2 doubles team compiled a solid, 15-5 record.

Coach of the year

Linda Brennan, Ladywood: The first-year varsity coach guided the Blazers to the Division 3 state finals after a runner-up finish in the Grosse Ile regional. Ladywood scored five points to finish 13th overall.

The Blazers also garnered runner-up finishes in the Monroe and Howell invitationals and posted a 7-8 dual-match record, which included a challenging schedule against the likes of Birmingham Marian (third in Division 2) and Farmington Hills Mercy of the Catholic League's Central Division, along with Division 3 state champion Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook and D3 state runner-up Beverly Hills-Detroit Country Day.

Brennan, an avid player herself at Huron Valley Tennis



Angelica Woods Franklin



Aimee Moccia Stevenson



Ariana Kabodian Mercy



Anna Norman Salem



Stephanie Petruska Ladywood



Carmen Gaddis Harrison



Danielle Balsis N. Farmington



Riva Jaddou N. Farmington



Emily Walsh Mercy



Laura Williams Mercy



Kelsey Shaw Mercy



Linda Brennan Coach of the Year

Club, coached the Ladywood JV squad for six seasons.

"I started coaching when my daughter Katie (now a varsity assistant) played tennis at Ladywood," Brennan said. "I coached tournaments for the

Ladywood team her senior year (2004) and I decided then that I loved coaching the girls. "I'm so happy how well our varsity did this year and I cannot wait until next year's varsity season."

SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS

John Glenn football

The Westland John Glenn Rocket football program will stage its annual camp (grades 8-12) from 9 a.m. until noon, Monday through Thursday, June 27-30.

The cost is \$25 (includes T-shirt, trophies and pizza party). For more information, call Steve Waller at (734) 419-2329;

or (734) 341-1590.

MYAA Football Champs

The Michigan Youth Athletic Association will host its fourth annual Football Champ camp for incoming grades 2-9, Monday through Wednesday, June 27-29, at Livonia Churchill High School.

Catholic Youth Organization

coaches from St. Edith, Our Lady of Sorrows, St. Michael, Our Lady of Good Counsel will be joined by Livonia Junior Athletic League, Northville youth, local high school and Popp's QB Tutor to instruct all positions.

For more information, visit www.miyaa.or; or e-mail info@miyaa.or.

Future Stars baseball

The Future Stars summer baseball camp for boys and girls in current grades 2-8 will be 9 a.m. until noon, Monday through Thursday, June 27-30, at Livonia Franklin High School, 31000 Joy Road.

The cost is \$60 and you must be registered by June 24. For more information, call

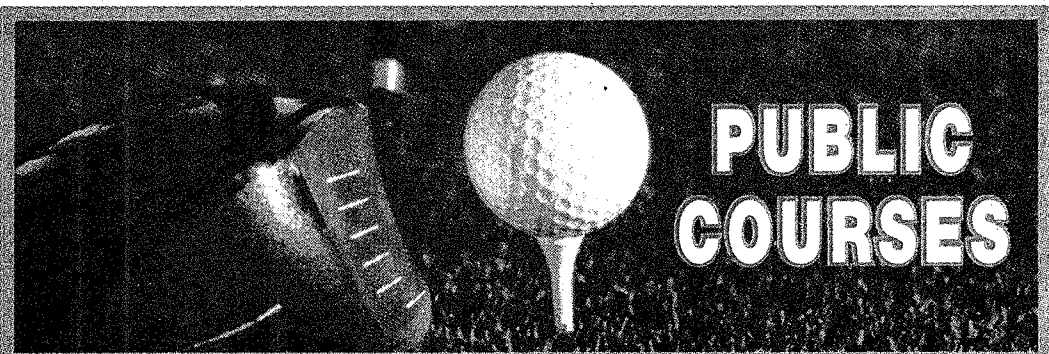
Franklin varsity baseball coach Matt Fournier at (734) 968-0499 or e-mail mfournier2@livoniapublicschools.org.

Catholic Central hoops

Novi-Detroit Catholic Central will stage four sessions of summer basketball camps including: Grades 5-7 - 9 a.m. to noon; and grades 8-9 - 1-4 p.m.,

Monday through Friday, June 27-30; also, grades 8-9 - 9 a.m. to noon; grades 5-7 - 1-4 p.m., Monday through Thursday, July 11-14.

The cost for each session is \$100. For more information and to download a camp flyer, visit www.catholiccentral.net; or call varsity coach Bill Dyer at (734) 261-0917.



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Stevenson's voice

Spartan athletics mourns loss of 'Rip' Collins

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Charles "Rip" Collins crossed paths on a daily basis with some of Detroit's sports greats serving first as a batboy and clubhouse attendant with the Tigers.

But Collins, who passed away early Monday morning at age 91, became a beloved figure during his 15 years as "The Voice" of Livonia Stevenson High Athletics.

The former Marine and Korean War veteran was a fixture at Stevenson sporting events whether he was announcing football, boys and girls soccer, hockey or boys and girls basketball games.

He was an ardent supporter of the Spartans, whether it was home or away, win or lose.

"He was just a great guy," Stevenson athletic director Lori Hyman said of the Farmington Hills resident. "He had a way with kids and he loved to be around sports. I'll remember his humor and how he brought out the little kid in people. He made people laugh and he didn't take it so seriously. It was just a game. He just had a zest for life and really lived a fulfilled life."

As a 14-year-old, Collins became attached with Tiger Hall of Famer Hank Greenberg and later worked as the visiting clubhouse attendant from 1975-1991 at Tiger Stadium. He also served as



CAROL GREENE | PHOTO

Charles "Rip" Collins and his wife Kathy became fixtures at Stevenson athletic events. The press box was dedicated in Rip's name last fall.

the Lions assistant equipment manager from 1952-1972, along with an abbreviated stint with the WFL's Detroit Wheels.

Collins was a decorated combat fighter pilot and earned the Distinguished Flying Cross while serving in the Korean War.

Collins spent the past nine months undergoing care at Angela Hospice in Livonia, according to Hyman.

"While visiting Rip, he always asked me about Stevenson athletics and said one of the most cherished highlights in his life was that the press box was named in his honor (last fall)," Hyman said. "Every day he looked forward

to hearing about Stevenson sports. I was glad he was still alive when we dedicated the press box in his name. It meant a lot to him."

Collins is survived by his wife Kathy. He had seven children including Michael, who passed away in 1996, along with Joe, Chuck, Bob, Jim, Kathy and Pat.

"He had a good life and he was quite a guy," Kathy Collins said.

The family said a memorial service is planned for early next month at RG & GR Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Road, Livonia.

For more information, call (734) 422-6720.



VERN WILLIAMS

Michigan State sophomore Derik Peterman, a Livonia Churchill High grad, will compete once again under the lights Saturday night at Ford Field in the Spree 61 Vault competition.

Pole vaulters jump at Livonia Spree 61

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Livonia Spree 61 celebration has a little bit of something for everyone.

On Friday and Saturday at Ford Field, some of the area's and state's top pole vaulters will compete in a jamboree featuring a 130-foot portable wooden runway over the softball diamond.

The Masters Division (40-and-over), featuring Canton's Matti Kilpelainen in the 65-69 age group, kicks off the event at 3 p.m. Friday. That will be followed by the 14-and-under boys and girls at 5 p.m. (also on Friday).

The age-group schedule for Saturday includes: Girls 15-16 - 2 p.m.; Boys 15-16 - 1 p.m.; Girls 17-18 - 3 p.m.; Boys 17-18 - 5 p.m.; College Men and

Women Open - 7 p.m.; and Elite Men and Women - 8 p.m.

Michigan State University's Derik Peterman, a Livonia Churchill grad, will headline the event. The Spartan sophomore finished tied for third last month at the Big Ten Championships in Iowa City, Iowa, and has posted a personal best 16 feet, 6 inches.

Eastern Michigan University sophomore Max Babits (16-6) and senior teammate Joe Tesner (16-1), another Churchill grad, are both expected to compete, along with recent Canton High grad Nick Alaniva, who placed third in the MHSAA Division 1 state finals with a mark of 15-1.

For information on the Spree Vault, e-mail Vern Williams at skyspark177@yahoo.com.

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

Bulls take twinbill against Rams

SANDLOT BASEBALL

The Michigan Rams took it on the chin not once, but twice Sunday at the hands of the Michigan Bulls in Livonia Collegiate Baseball League action at Bicentennial Park.

The 22-and-under Bulls won both ends of the Father's Day double-header, 3-2 and 3-0, to improve to 11-3 in the league.

Madonna University's Tom Hansen went all seven innings in the opener to pick up the victory. The left-hander allowed just two runs on five hits and one walk while striking out seven.

Devin Vander Molen had the game-winning RBI in the fifth inning scoring Tyler Baraton.

Theo Piccirilli and Nolan Wilson also knocked in runs for the Bulls.

Miles Sorise paced the 20-and-under Rams going 2-for-3 with an RBI.

Jeff Sorenson (Livonia Stevenson/Wayne State) also homered for the Rams.

Losing pitcher Greg Spiess went 4.1 innings, allowing two earned runs on six hits and two walks. Reliever Jake Engels struck out all five Bulls he faced in 1.2 innings.

In the nightcap, Bulls pitcher Mike Theodore pitched a three-hit shutout en route to the complete game. He struck out seven, walked four and hit one batter.

Losing pitcher Tyler Owings gave up two earned runs on three hits and four walks in 4.2 innings before giving way to reliever Zach Wedesky.

Jacob Rhodes and Nick Regnier drove in runs for the Bulls.

Mike Carson, Pat Lancaster and Sorise each singled for the Rams, who fell to 8-4 in league play.

KNIGHTS 6, RAMS 1: Ryan Kopf tossed a three-hitter Monday as the Michigan Knights (8-6) downed the Michigan Rams (9-5) at Bicentennial Park.

Kopf, who went all seven innings, struck out seven and walked only two.

Phil Celeski and Aaron

Cieslak each had two hits and two RBI for the 22-and-under Knight. J.J. Ciennik also added two hits.

Mike Schypinski, who went the first five innings, was the losing pitcher.

In a suspended game from June 12 due to a lighting failure, Schypinski came on with one out in the bottom of the seventh and struck out the final two batters to give the Michigan Rams the 1-0 win over the Knights Monday at Ford Field.

Schypinski, starter Jay Perry and reliever Jake Engels combined on a six-hitter.

Knights pitcher Chris Whitney had pitched all seven innings allowed six hits and two walks while striking out six.

John DiLaura singled in the game-winning run in the top of the seventh.

J.J. Ciennik and Phil Celeski each collected two hits for the Knights.

RAMS 7, DODGERS 1: On Friday, the Michigan Rams (8-2) scored three times in the second and seventh innings to down the 22-and-under Dodgers (1-10) in LCBF action at Livonia's Ford Field.

Mark Weist finished with three RBI for the Rams, while Pat Lancaster, Brian Brindley and Caleb Wick each added one.

Winning pitcher Jeff Sorenson worked the first four innings, allowing one run on five hits. He did not allow a walk.

Relievers Jay Perry and Zach Wedesky pitched two and one inning, respectively, to preserve the win.

Losing pitcher Matt Capone went all seven innings for the Dodgers, allowing seven runs (four earned) on eight hits and four walks.

James MacMillan went 3-for-3 and Anthony Sergi 2-for-3 in a losing cause.



Spring soccer champs

The Livonia YMCA Rockets finished the Western Suburban Soccer League Spring 2011 High School Boys Open Recreation Division 1 with a 7-1 record, tied for first place with Ann Arbor United. The Rockets, who outscored their opponents 39-12, are comprised of Livonia players who have been together for 13 seasons, including a 31-7-2 record during their last five with three WSSL titles and a Canton Cup championship. Team members include (standing, from left): assistant coach Steve Vasko, Michael Dolunt, Scott Brewer, Kyle Keller, Scott Vasko, Eric Martoia, Alex Prokop, Joe Flanagan, Kevin Francisco, James Hassinger, assistant coach Rod Hassinger, head coach Todd Francisco; (kneeling, from left) Chad Stevens, Tim Talty, Jeff Dombrowski and Jake Allen. (Not pictured are Toni Ianni and Franco Fenech.)



Blue Angels Soar

The 13-and-under Livonia Blue Angels went a perfect 5-0 last weekend in the American Youth Basketball Tour held in Livonia. The event drew over 90 youth teams from all over Michigan. The defeated teams from Ann Arbor, Detroit, Oak Park, Plymouth and Romeo en route to the title. Team members include (front row, from left): Brandon Tabone, Dante Toppi, Troy Branton, Conor Starrs, Matt McGillivray; (back row, from left) John Andoni, Austin Petrie, Nick Hitchcock, Logan Ryan and Jake Fanning. The Blue Angels are coached by Tim McGillivray, Pat Fanning and Gary Andoni.

LADYWOOD

FROM PAGE B1

"Their goalie (Reed) was tremendous, man," Wiseman said. "She probably made the best save of the game. You don't get to the state finals for no reason and both teams, I thought, left everything on the field today."

"Tremendous team. Ken's (Shingledecker) got those girls well coached. They just as easily could be standing in our position today. Somebody's got to lose, somebody's got to win. They're a very good team."

Reed is only one of three

seniors who graduate, along with defenders Becky Babon and Bielski.

"Our goalie, and two back-line players really kind of set the tone," Shingledecker said. "We cut our goals in half this year. That's how it's supposed to go. Defense wins championships or get you real close to winning a championship."

"That's one of the best goalkeepers in the state (Reed) — and Allison (Bielski) and Becky (Babon) — they're top-notch and they play a lot of minutes. And they give you a lot every time they step on the field. Those

are all three great kids. This program wouldn't be the same if they weren't here."

Last year, the Blazers reached the state semifinals before losing to Birmingham Marian and this season they got all the way to the finals.

Could next year be the year with 19-of-22 players returning?

"It's tough getting to this game," Shingledecker said. "You hope to do it every time you show up. If it's baby steps and that's how it's got to go, I guess that's how it's got to go."

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HAASE

FROM PAGE B1

a good experience. I knew I was in the race for it a little bit. I talked to my high school coach. I knew it was down to a couple of kids, but I had no idea until they actually told me. I was definitely surprised when I won it. I didn't know it."

In front of his family, including his grandparents and teammates, Haase treated Tuesday's MHSBCA All-Star Game just like any other. He wasn't awed by being in the big league ballpark.

"It's just baseball," Haase said. "You can't get too excited when it's going bad and can't get too excited when it's going good. You can't get too mad when it's going bad. You just

have to go out there and play. It doesn't matter where you are or what you're doing."

Haase drew interest during his junior season from several schools including Michigan State, Michigan and Eastern Michigan before settling on the Buckeyes.

"Once I visited there I was really impressed," said Haase, who hit .466 his senior season with 12 homers and 47 RBI. "And it was lights out from there."

And while he continues to weigh an important career decision, Haase believes time remains on his side.

"I'm kind of fenced in right now," he said. "They (Cleveland) want to see me play a little more over the summer and then come out with an offer, and then a decision to make in the fall."

"The process is long. A lot of guys that are in my situation end up signing on the very last day when they get everything settled out."

"I stay in contact with them (Ohio State). Anything new I just pass it along, but you've just got to be patient."

Haase credits his father Don for getting him to this point in his baseball career.

"He played a little bit of college ball here and there, but nothing really big," Eric Haase said. "But he's been my No. 1 coach and mentor."

And all the offseason training may result in a sizable bonus.

"I have a batting cage in my back yard and that's where all the work goes every night — constantly, a couple hours. It's just second nature to me."

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PIECHOTA

FROM PAGE B1

next season for Madonna University.

"It was cool," he said. "They (Coaches Association) paid for everything. We got to the hotel and we hung out with the guys. The banquet was very nice. When got here (to Comerica) we got here a little earlier than expected, so we got some time to relax in the lounge. There was Gatorade and seeds, and everything like that. It was a cool experience

getting on the field and getting announced. The whole ballpark — from the player perspective compared to the fan perspective — was really nice."

When Piechota was introduced as an East All-Star during the pregame festivities he clicked four photos of himself on the jumbo scoreboard.

But once he got to the plate, it was all business.

"I wasn't even paying attention," Piechota said of his name flashing in bright lights on the scoreboard. "I was focusing on the pitcher."

This summer, Piechota will continue to refine his game with the 18-and-under Michigan Bulls and the 20-and-under Michigan Rams (playing for his high school coach Rick Berryman).

Meanwhile, one player that impressed Piechota during his All-Star experience was East teammate Eric Haase, a Westland native from Dearborn Divine Child High.

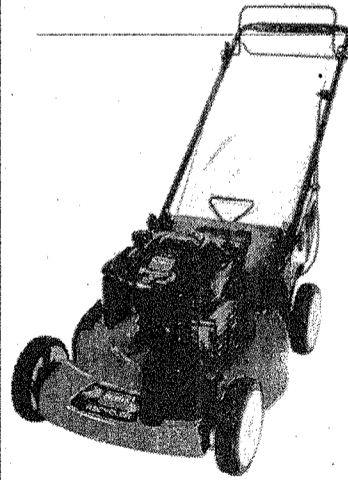
"He's good, Mr. Baseball," Piechota said. "He's got a real smooth stroke."

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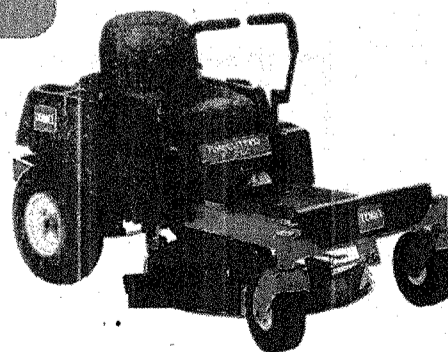
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Brothers minister together at Livonia church

Musician welcomed with open arms

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Grady Jensen has welcomed "a lot of visitors" to Open Arms Church in Livonia, since preaching his first sermon there three weeks ago.

But he expects his biggest crowd Sunday, June 26, when his brother, Gordon, sings at the 10:30 a.m. service.

"People that didn't even know this church was here will take a second look," he said, describing the kind of draw his songwriter/singer brother elicits.

"Basically, Gordon has been writing gospel songs close to 40 years and recorded with people like Bill Gaither and the Imperials. A lot

of people in the Detroit area know him and can benefit from his songs. He has written over 300 songs. People remember the songs because they mean something. Many people have been healed in his services."

Gordon Jensen has recorded 12 CDs and been nominated 10 times for the Gospel Music Association's Dove Award. His songs have been translated into 15 languages and recorded by such artists as The Oak Ridge Boys, Cynthia Clawson, Larnelle Harris, The Imperials and others.

Redemption Draweth Nigh, which he wrote when he was 18 years old, has been recorded more than 300 times and was used in the 1978 film *A Distant Thunder*.

Written in Red, Bigger Than Any Mountain and He's as Close as the Mention of His Name are some of his best-known songs.

Gordon sang in his brother's previous church in Flint, but will make his first appearance at Open Arms on Sunday.

"It's an honor to work with my brother. He's the newly elected pastor there. I'm excited to be a part of that new beginning," said Gordon, in an interview from his home suburban Nashville, Tenn.

Gordon has written songs and sung since he was a youngster. One of four brothers, he was born in Windsor, Ontario, Canada and grew up in Arizona and Michigan. As a teen he attended Brightmoor

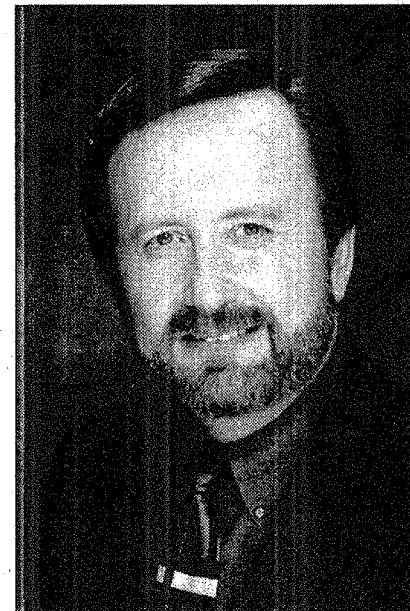
Tabernacle in Detroit, where he was invited to join the singing group, the Orrells.

"I went to Redford High School and I did finish. But we were full time by that time and had a record deal. I've been doing it ever since, on the road for 40 years."

He travelled with bands for several years, but launched a solo ministry in 1976.

These days he performs solo on piano or accompanied by a digital recording. He has sung throughout the country as well as overseas.

"I trust people will be inspired by the message of the songs," he said, referring to his appearance at Open Arms Church. "We'll also pray for people for healing."



Gordon Jensen

RELIGION CALENDAR

Send calendar items to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. Feel free to include relevant photos as attached jpgs. Or mail items to Dargay, Observer, 615 Lafayette, level 2, Detroit, MI 48226.

JUNE 23-29

Blood drive

Time/Date: Monday, June 27
Location: Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard, Livonia
Details: All blood types are needed. Call to make appointment or walk in.
Contact: (734) 513-5067

Clothing bank

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. June 25
Location: 41920 Joy, between Lilley and Haggerty in Canton
Details: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank offers free clothing and shoes to anyone in need
Contact: (734) 927-6686 or (734) 404-2480

JUNE 30-JULY 6

Concert

Time/Date: Dessert at 6:30 p.m., concert at 7:15 p.m. Thursday, June 30
Location: St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford
Details: Songs of the 1950s; dessert costs \$5 per person
Contact: (313) 534-7730

Lecture

Time/Date: 7:30-9 a.m. Wednesday, July 6, 13, 20 and 27
Location: Congregation Beth Ahm, 5075

W. Maple, West Bloomfield
Details: Howard N. Lupovitch teaches a summer series called "Esther's Children: Persian Jews Under Emperor, Caliph, Sultan, and Shah." Each lecture will be self-contained and can be attended independently. Tuition is \$50 for the series or \$15 per lecture. Advance registration is requested to help plan seating and photocopied handout materials, but walk-ins will be accommodated. Topics are "The World of Esther and Mordechai" on July 6; "Jews in Shi'ite Society," on July 13; "Under Sultans and Shahs" on July 20 and "Israel, Iran and the Persian Jews" on July 27. To sign up, send a check made payable to Congregation Beth Ahm, to 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield MI 48322 (Attention: Adult Ed). Also may pre-register by calling the office and pay at the door
Contact: (248) 737-1931

JULY 7-13

ENDOW

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., Monday, July 11-Aug. 31
Location: St. Aidan Catholic Church, 15500 Farmington Road, Livonia
Details: Michele Schmidt facilitates this women's study group, which is designed to help women discover their God-given dignity and femininity through Catholic teaching. Sessions explore Pope John Paul II's Letter To Women. Atmosphere is prayerful, but relaxed. Cost is \$60. Scholarships are available
Contact: Register at (303) 715-3224 or at www.endowonline.org

Movie night

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, July 13
Location: In Bixman Hall at St. Aidan, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia
Details: Free screening of "Toy Story 3" includes refreshments and a brief Q&A after the film. RSVP requested
Contact: (734) 425-5950

Rummage sale

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 8-9
Location: St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford
Details: Gently-used items; Kathy's Bake Sale will be open during sale hours
Contact: (313) 534-7730

Rummage sale

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, July 8 and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, July 9
Location: Trinity Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road, south of Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia
Details: Gently used items
Contact: (734) 427-2290

JULY 14-20

Concert

Time/Date: 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday, July 16
Location: Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Church, 9600 Leverage, between Inkster and Beech Daly, Redford
Details: Outdoor concert with Reggie Williams, Nails of Grace, Third Edition, Gospelypso, Kindred Nation, Force of One, Sanders Family Gospel Singers, Jennifer Nasto, and Krymsyn Gracey. Arts and crafts fair, games and food concessions
Contact: (313) 937-2424



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GORSKY, GENNIA B.
"Jenny"
Age 88, of Farmington Hills, MI. Passed away June 19, 2011. Arrangements: THAYER-ROCK Funeral Home, Farmington, MI

MILLER, LORRAINE R.
Age 81 of Howell formerly of Redford. Passed away June 8, 2011. Beloved wife of the late William, mother of Kathleen Ice, Carol Miller, Bruce (Karen) Miller and Bill (Cyndy) Miller. Further survived by her adoring grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Interment at Glen Eden Memorial Park. Online guestbook: www.HarryJWillFuneralHome.com

RIDNOUR, BETTY KATHERINE (Foster)
Age 73, June 17, 2011. Beloved wife of the late William. Loving mother of Teresa Lynn (Jeff) Sedlarik, and Jane Ridner. Very proud Grandmother to Anthony Sedlarik and Alisyn Sedlarik. She will be missed by all that knew her. No memorial plans are made at this time. Condolence may be sent to: sedlarikfamily@att.net

SEXTON-HERTER, (ELLIOTT), JANET
of Howell, formerly of Plymouth, MI, succumbed to her battle with Leukemia on Friday, June 17, 2011.

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.

Let others know...

When you've lost a loved one, place your notice on our website and in "Passages"...a directory located in every edition of your hometown newspaper.

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Your Invitation to Worship

<p style="text-align: center;">CATHOLIC</p> <p>ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH Tridentine Latin Mass St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8 38100 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-3200</p> <p>Mass Schedule: First Friday Mass 7:00 p.m. Saturday Mass 11:00 a.m. Sunday Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m. Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">UNITED METHODIST</p> <p>ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 30450 Farmington Road • Farmington Hills www.orchardumc.org 248-628-3620</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Worship: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. Christian Education for all ages Pastors: Carol J. Johns, Jim Braid, Margo Dexter</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)</p> <p>ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.) (734) 422-0494</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Friends in Faith Service 9:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Visit www.rosedalegardens.org For information about our many programs</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96 www.christsaviorsavior.org</p> <p>Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional</p> <p>Sunday School/Bible Class 9:45 am Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ Pastors: Davenport, Bayer, & Creeden 734-522-6830</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</p> <p>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">GREEK ORTHODOX</p> <p>NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH 39851 West Five Mile, Plymouth Twp., MI Sunday Services Matins 8:30 am, Divine Liturgy 10:00 am Rev. Fr. Demetrios Sean Gwostes. Parish Office 734-420-0131 Office Hours M-F 10:00 am - 2:00 pm www.nativitygocchurch.org</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fellowship Presbyterian Church Adult Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church 16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p>WARD CHURCH 40000 Six Mile Road Northville, MI 48168 248.374.7400 www.wardchurch.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Traditional Worship at 8, 9:30 & 11 a.m. Contemporary Worship at 9:30 & 11 a.m. Children's Programs available at 9:30 & 11 a.m. The Traditional Service is broadcast on the radio each week at 11 a.m. on 560 AM</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">CONGREGATIONAL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">North Congregational Church 36520 12 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills (bet. Drake & Halsted) (248) 848-1750 10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School <i>Faith - Freedom-Fellowship</i> Ministers Dr. Mark P. Jensen Rev. Mary E. Biedron</p>			

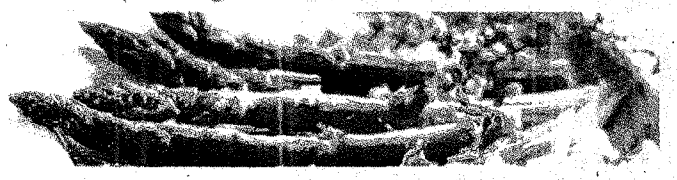
For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 248-437-2011, Ext. 247 or e-mail: dhart@dnps.com

ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, June 23, 2011

hometownlife.com

It's asparagus time — Food, B7



Pass the popcorn and check out the official military limo

New troupe will cast all who audition

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Uniformed soldiers will invade a screening of the 1957 epic film, *Bridge on the River Kwai*, Friday, June 23 at the Redford Theatre.

But breathe easy, the WW II re-enactors simply will be on hand to set the mood for the adventure drama, which tells the story of British POWs forced to build a railroad bridge for the Japanese.

A limo used by General Dwight Eisenhower in Europe during WW II also will be on display.

Linda Sites, a Redford resident who helps with publicity for the classic theater, said the added attractions are designed to enhance the film-viewing experience.

"You bring an epic film like this to the theatre, it's meant to be seen on the big screen," she said. "It's fun for young and old."

The movie will screen at 8 p.m. Friday with the limo and re-enactors on hand before the film and during intermission. Other screenings, without the enhancements will be at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday.

Doors open one hour before the film. Live organ music starts at 7:30 p.m. at evening showings and at 1:30 p.m. during matinees. General admission is \$4.

Sites said the theater screened *Bridge on the River Kwai* about eight years ago. It is among the many films that Redford Theatre patrons have requested over the years.

"We're always receiving requests. I get them via our suggestion box and also by e-mail," said Sites, who added



WWII re-enactors will be on hand during the showing of "Bridge Over the River Kwai" at the Redford Theatre.

that Eisenhower's limo likely will draw interest from veterans.

It's owned by a Plymouth resident who collects antique fire trucks, Cadillacs and other vehicles. At first, he wasn't aware it had a famous occupant.

"I have a buddy who owned several antique cars. He had a warehouse full and was trying to thin out his collection, I said, 'What's this dusty blob in the back?' He dusted it off and it was a Cadillac that he had in his collection for 20 years or more. I had it about that amount of time before putting all the puzzle pieces together," said the collector, who asked to remain anonymous, fearing theft.

While cleaning the car, he discovered "war papers and letters" that helped reveal its history. He said he also has WW II-era photos of the car. "I always had a fantasy that I would get something that someone (famous) had owned. I thought someday that would be nice. I waited a long time."

He said he's now in the market for other military vehicles. "I would love an artillery piece. That would be fun."

Bridge on the River Kwai won seven Academy Awards and stars William Holden and Alec Guinness and was directed by David Lean.

The Redford Theatre is located 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Ave., in Detroit; (313) 537-2560.



The vintage limo will be on display at the Redford Theatre.

Following Your Heart Players, a new theater troupe in Novi, will hold auditions for Jack & the Beanstalk from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, June 25, at Sheryl's School of Dance, 40500 Grand River Ave., Novi.

Call backs will be from 2-4 p.m. on audition day. Rehearsals will be held Saturday afternoons at Sheryl's and the play will be staged in November in Livonia.

Cost to audition is \$5. Participants should be prepared to perform a monologue and should have a copy of it on hand. They also should prepare a song that can be sung with a background tape or a capella, be dressed to move and have a head shot and paper work filled out.

The play's choreographer will teach participants — who will be paired with a small group — a dance that will be performed as a part of the audition.

At call backs, actors will be asked to read for certain characters.

Everyone who auditions will be cast. There is no age limit. Orientation will be from 1-4 p.m. Sunday, June 26 for actors selected to appear in the play. A participation fee of \$110 is due at the orientation. A script fee is \$25 and will be refunded when the script is returned. All payments must be in cash or check.

To obtain an application or for more information e-mail to FYHPLAYERS@yahoo.com.

Musical director is Thomas Mattison and artistic director is Stephanie Gladstone.

On behalf of the 20th annual Susan G. Komen Detroit Race for the Cure, locally presented by the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute, we THANK YOU for sharing our vision: a world without breast cancer.

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Jay Towers (WJBK FOX 2)
Paula Tutman (WDIV Local 4)
UAW Local 245
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Rhonda Walker (WDIV Local 4)
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MAY 21, 2011 DETROIT - COMERICA PARK

GET OUT!

ART
Art & Ideas
Time/Date: Through July 2; gallery hours are 1-6:30 p.m. Thursday and 1-7 p.m. Friday-Saturday or by appointment
Location: 15095 Northville Road, Plymouth
Details: "Parts of a Whole," an exhibition of assemblage, includes works by Lynn Krawczyk and Leann Meixner, both of Plymouth, and Joan Potter Thomas, manager of Northville Art House.
Contact: (734) 420-0775 or www.artandideasgallery.com
Art in the Sun
Time/Date: 4-9 p.m., Friday, June

24, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday, June 25; and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, June 26
Location: Downtown Northville
Details: More than 75 artists sell glass, metal, jewelry, mixed media, ceramics, painting and more
Contact: (248) 344-0497
Art from the Heart
Time/Date: 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, June 25 and 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday, June 26
Location: Ford Field, Farmington Road and Lyndon in Livonia
Details: Arts & Crafts festival held in conjunction with Livonia Spree
Contact: www.livoniaspree.com or call Livonia Arts Commission "bulletin board" phone line at (734) 466-2548

Festival screens Michigan-made, award-winning films

The Northville Art House and charity partner, Forgotten Harvest, will present the first annual "Reel Michigan" Film Festival Saturday, June 25 at Genittis-Hole-In-the-Wall, 108 E. Main, Northville.
 Reel Michigan will feature a wide variety of Michigan-made and Michigan-themed short films, as well as two full-length features. Many of the films have received multiple awards at previous festivals throughout the United States.
 Emceed by local personality Jimmy Doom, films will be shown in three groups at noon; 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. Films shown at 6 p.m. are for ages 17 and older only. An after-glow party with appetizers and cash bar will follow the final group of movies at Genitti's. Guests can mingle with local actors, filmmakers and artists, and then watch as awards are given to the filmmakers in each category. D.J. Anytime will also be on hand to provide music throughout the evening.
 There will be special guest performances throughout the day by local artist, Satori Circus.



Satori Circus performer

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Tickets are available through www.reelmichigan.ticketleap.com or at the door. Tickets are \$5 for the screenings at noon and 3 p.m. and \$10 for the show at 6 p.m., which includes the after-glow party. Donations of canned or non-perishable food will be collected to help our charity partner, Forgotten Harvest.
 For more information visit www.northvillearts.org or call (248) 344-0497.
 Here's the film schedule:
 • Noon
Iwo Jima Diary, a documentary/drama: At Age 77, Michigan native Mort Denell began illustrating his combat experience on Iwo Jima. Seven years and 300 drawings later, his story was complete.
Education Through Folk, a student documentary: The importance of music education is taught to people of all ages using traditional folk instru-

ments.
Soul Mates II, a foreign language/student documentary: Soul Mates is a documentary of the friendship between two teenage in the midst of WWII.
Shifting Gears, a student documentary: A short documentary about the rising "green" community in the city of Detroit, highlighting the city's Recycle Here program and Green Safe Products.
The Mythics, a student music video: Written by Chad Stocker, this music video explores haunting dreams.
Switch Hit Resistor, a narrative comedy and music video: When Detroit rockers WOODWARD show up unexpectedly, in the backyard of one high school outsider, his house party goes from lame to legendary.
 • 3 p.m.
No Escape, animation/horror: When a nightmare becomes a reality, sometimes there is no escape.
Missing, a narrative drama

and student mystery: *Missing* is a new take on the film noir genre about a young man, Carl, who receives a call that his father is missing. Carl has not spoken to his father in seven years. He must face his past and try to find his father.
Chat Room Killer, narrative and student horror: A killer prowls the internet in suburban Michigan, searching for his next victim.
Marison, a narrative/drama/student horror: Andrey, a ten year old boy visits Grandpa Lazar in the forest village and discovers a new, unusual friend in the forest the fairy that he names "Marison."
 • 6 p.m.
The Tank, a narrative drama: The Wayne County Detroit Jail is brought to life as five prisoners' lives collide while awaiting arraignment. These five men fight the system and each other for redemption.
5 Seconds, a narrative/comedy/horror: One guy ... one

girl...a mysterious passenger trapped in the trunk ... fries.
The Internet Style Guide for Bogs, a narrative comedy: A recent journalism school grad has just submitted his first article, but his boss has a couple of pointers.
The Spirit of Isabel, a narrative/drama: In a story of survival in an economically-collapsed Detroit, a young woman named Isabel struggles to get by. All alone, desperately seeking work, and on the verge of eviction from her apartment, she becomes a prostitute. Ashamed and tormented, she refuses to give up, having faith that hope and redemption are just around the corner. In a world growing smaller, and exponentially more dangerous, can Isabel find the strength to carry on?
Protangelina, a narrative/drama: A day in the life of a bar owner, his employees and patrons. This is a story of judgment, hope and promise, set in Downriver.

Summer Reading Programs

Farmington Community Library
 Registration begins 6/11/11 10am-12pm
 Meet Scoop from 10am-12pm
 23500 Liberty St
 Farmington, MI 48335
 Phone: (248) 553-0300

Canton Public Library
 Registration begins 6/20/11 9am-9pm
 Meet Scoop from 12pm-2pm
 1200 South Canton Center Road
 Canton, MI 48188
 Phone: (734) 397-0999

Livonia Public Library
 Registration begins 6/21/11 1:30-3:30 pm
 Meet Scoop from 1:30-3:30 pm
 32777 Five Mile Road
 Livonia, MI 48154
 Phone: (734) 466-2451

Plymouth District Library
 Registration begins 6/28/11 11am/ 2pm/7pm
 Meet Scoop from 11am-3 pm & 6-8pm
 223 South Main Street
 Plymouth, MI 48170
 Phone: (734) 453-0750

Redford Township District Library
 Registration begins 6/20/11 10am-8:30pm
 6/28/11 Meet Scoop from 11am-1pm
 25320 West Six Mile Road
 Redford, MI 48240
 Phone: (313) 531-5960

William P. Faust Public Library Of Westland
 Registration begins 6/18/11 10am-4pm
 Meet Scoop from 10am-12pm
 6123 Central City Parkway
 Westland, MI 48185
 Phone: (734) 326-6123

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FOOD

Thursday, June 23, 2011

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HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor Sharon Dargay

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Roasted Asparagus

It's asparagus time

Steam, microwave, roast or stir-fry this tasty vegetable

Michigan asparagus season is winding down — it officially runs through mid- to late June — but I continue to find it plentiful at local farmer's markets. For \$3 I recently bought a bag of fresh, slender spears — about three dozen — and have used them in and on everything from omelettes to homemade vegetable pizza.

Lightly steamed, they're a snap to make as a side dish with a light, simple lemon or orange sauce.

And they are easy on the diet. According to the Michigan Asparagus Advisory Board, the vegetable packs a lot of nutritional value, with 400 milligrams of potassium and 3 grams of fiber in just five spears. That's about 20 calories. Asparagus also is a good source of vitamin B6 and thiamin.

Try some in a salad or simply roasted. Here are a few suggestions from the Michigan Asparagus Advisory Board. Enjoy!
- Sharon Dargay

ASPARAGUS AND CRAB SALAD

This salad makes a delicious main course for lunch or dinner.

Dressing:
2 tablespoons olive oil
2 tablespoons rice vinegar
2 tablespoons sugar
1 tablespoon orange juice concentrate
1 tablespoon lime juice
1 tablespoon dark sesame oil

Salad:
2 cups cut-up fresh or frozen Michigan asparagus
12 ounces crab meat (fresh or canned) or imitation crab
1 (10-ounce) bag lettuce mix
1 cup ½-inch pieces cantaloupe
1 cup sliced seedless cucumber

For Dressing, combine all ingredients; mix well. Set aside.

For Salad, steam or microwave asparagus until tender-crisp. Drain and let cool. Cut crab into bite-size pieces. Combine asparagus and crab in a large bowl; add lettuce mix, cantaloupe and cucumber. Toss gently. Pour salad dressing over all. Toss to evenly coat. Serve immediately. Makes 4 to 6 servings.

Note: Substitute 1-½ cups cubed, cooked chicken for the crab, if desired.



Orange and Asparagus Salad



Asparagus Frittata

ASPARAGUS FRITTATA

This omelet that cooks in the oven makes a tasty supper or brunch.

2 tablespoons Italian dressing
¼ cup sliced fresh mushrooms
¼ cup chopped red pepper
1 (14.5-ounce) can Michigan asparagus cuts and tips, drained
8 eggs
¼ cup milk
½ cup shredded provolone cheese, divided
¼ cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese

Heat dressing in a large ovenproof skillet over medium heat. Add mushrooms and red pepper. Cook and stir 5 minutes. Add well-drained asparagus. Beat eggs, milk and ¼ cup provolone cheese in a medium bowl. Pour over vegetable mixture in skillet. If handle of skillet is not ovenproof, wrap it in foil. Bake in a preheated 350-degree oven 20 minutes or until eggs are almost set. Remove from oven and sprinkle with remaining ¼ cup provolone cheese and Parmesan cheese. Bake 5 minutes or until cheese is melted on top. Cut into wedges to serve. Makes 4 servings.

CHICKEN AND VEGETABLE STIR-FRY

This entrée goes together fast for a flavorful family meal.

Sauce:
½ cup chicken broth
¼ cup lemon juice
3 tablespoons soy sauce
2 tablespoons granulated sugar
1½ tablespoons cornstarch
1 tablespoon dark sesame oil
¾ to 1 teaspoon ground red pepper
Chicken and vegetables:
2 tablespoons vegetable oil
1½ pounds boneless skinless chicken breast, cut into thin strips
1 large clove garlic, crushed
1½ cups cut-up fresh or frozen Michigan asparagus
½ cup shredded carrots
½ cup sliced green onions
½ cup sliced fresh mushrooms
½ cup sliced water chestnuts

Hot cooked rice (optional)

For the sauce, combine all sauce ingredients in a small bowl; set aside.

For chicken and vegetables, heat oil in a large wok or skillet. Cook and stir chicken and garlic over medium heat 8 to 10 minutes or until chicken is no longer pink. Remove chicken and garlic from pan; keep warm.

Add asparagus, carrots, green onions, mushrooms and water chestnuts to the pan. Cook and stir 5-7 minutes or until vegetables are crisp-tender. Return chicken and garlic to pan.

Add sauce. Cook and stir over medium heat until sauce reaches a boil and has thickened. Serve chicken and vegetable mixture over hot, cooked rice if desired. Makes 4-6 servings.

ROASTED ASPARAGUS

Roasting makes asparagus more flavorful and sweeter. The texture, although not as crisp as steamed asparagus, is tender and medium firm. The spears do shrink and become slightly wrinkled.

Here are the six directions: Wash and trim fresh asparagus spears. Spread spears on a large rimmed baking sheet. Drizzle spears with olive oil and roll them around to coat lightly. Roast medium-thick spears in a preheated 450-degree oven about 15 minutes; thin ones about 10 minutes, occasionally shaking the pan to roll them around for even browning. Test with a fork to determine doneness. Spears should be tender throughout and lightly browned, but not charred.

Variations: Add 2-3 cloves chopped garlic to the spears before roasting. Or drizzle with balsamic vinegar or lemon juice after roasting. Roasted asparagus is great combined with pasta or rice for side dishes or salads and is especially good on a vegetable pizza.

COOKING ASPARAGUS

Fresh Michigan asparagus can be cooked several ways.

- To steam in a saucepan, steamer or frying pan, put 1 pound of fresh asparagus spears or two-inch asparagus pieces in ½ cup boiling water. Add salt, pepper and butter, if desired. Cover. Cook 5-8 minutes, or until crisp-tender.

- To microwave fresh asparagus, put 1 pound fresh spears in a microwave-safe rimmed plate or shallow dish. Add ¼ cup water and cover tightly. Microwave at 100 percent power for 4-7 minutes for spears, 3-5 minutes for pieces. Stir or turn halfway through the cooking time.

The best way to cook frozen or canned asparagus is to microwave it.

- For frozen asparagus, place frozen spears or pieces in a microwave-safe plate or shallow dish. If cooking whole spears, arrange with tips in the center. Add 2 tablespoons water and cover tightly.

- Microwave at 100 percent power for 4-7 minutes, depending on the quantity cooked. Spears take longer to cook than cut-up asparagus. Stir or rearrange the asparagus halfway through the cooking time.

- For canned asparagus, drain all but 1 tablespoon liquid. Transfer asparagus and remaining liquid to a microwave-safe bowl. Microwave at 100 percent power for 2-4 minutes stirring once halfway through the cooking time.

ORANGE AND ASPARAGUS SALAD

Quick and colorful, this salad appeals to kids and adults.

2 cups cut-up fresh or frozen Michigan asparagus

1 (6-ounce) bag spring or European lettuce mix

1 (11-ounce) can mandarin orange sections, well drained

½ cup thinly sliced red onion
¼ cup honey roasted cashews
¼ cup raspberry vinaigrette dressing

Steam or microwave asparagus until tender-crisp. Drain and let cool. Combine cooked asparagus, lettuce, oranges, onion and cashews. Pour dressing over all. Toss to evenly coat. Serve immediately. Makes 6 servings.

REAL ESTATE

B8 (*) Thursday, June 23, 2011

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'30 Under 30' Realtor pleased by 'huge honor'

BY JULIE BROWN
 OGE STAFF WRITER

Aleksandr Milshteyn, 28, of Edward Surovell Realtors in Ann Arbor, has been recognized among "30 Under 30" for Realtor Magazine of the National Association of Realtors. He is an associate broker/Realtor with the ABR (Accredited Buyer's Representative) and GRI (Graduate, Realtor Institute) designations, and had a 2010 sales volume of \$26.9 million, selling 143 homes that year.

Milshteyn was 8 when he discovered real estate; he has no family in the business so at 15 cold-called brokerages and landed a job at Edward Surovell as a weekend receptionist. Despite Michigan's economic woes, he doubled his sales in 2009 and had a 37 percent increase in 2010 with help from coach Walter Sanford.

"He is a coach out of Kankakee, Illinois. He helps Realtors increase their business, which is what he did with my business," Milshteyn said.

Milshteyn graduated from Washtenaw Technical Middle College in 2001 and also received an associate's degree in marketing that year from Washtenaw Community College. Milshteyn earned in 2003 a bachelor of business administration degree from Eastern Michigan University.

"It was a huge honor, a huge honor to be chosen," he said of the "30 Under 30" recognition.

Milshteyn has been involved in his real estate association for the past decade and in 2010 was the youngest president in the 90-year history of the Ann Arbor Area Board of Realtors. His advice is to set up campaigns targeting different segments of the market, such as mature owners, out-of-town owners and



Alex Milshteyn honored Realtor

investors.

"It's going after people who are in the market to actually buy and sell," he said.

There was a reception recently in Chicago for the "30 Under 30" honorees, including those from past years. "It's amazing to see the caliber of people that are there. A lot of exchange of ideas," he said, adding those ideas are good for his business.

He serves on the Board of Education for Washtenaw Technical Middle College, as well as

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the board for the Ann Arbor Art Center. "I serve on various commissions for the city of Ann Arbor," the Ann Arbor resident said.

You can visit www.alexmi.com for more information on him, as well as www.realtor.org for the other honorees nationwide.

"I have friends who are Realtors across the country," Milshteyn said. "This is home, I'm not leaving home." The current Michigan market is getting him ready.

"Good times or bad times, I'm prepared," he said. "I work as far east as the I-275 corridor," including Plymouth, Canton, Northville and Livonia, he said. "The inventory is much less than it was last year."

Ann Arbor's inventory is also dropping. "It's significantly less than it was last year," said Milshteyn, who sees the real estate market improving in south-east Michigan.

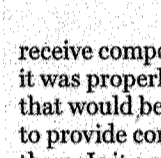
"I am amazed at the outstanding qualities and work ethic this year's '30 Under 30' honorees possess," said National Association of Realtors President Ron Phipps, broker-president of Phipps Realty in Warwick, R.I., in a statement.

Employee status not likely affected

Q: I notice that in some states the condo projects have a transfer tax on the transfer of a unit from one owner to another. Generally speaking, the association collects the transfer fee, but I have seen situations where the developer does so. Is that legal?

The board recently passed an amendment to the bylaws which basically states that board members, because of their involvement, will be receiving relief from their annual dues. Can board members receive such pecuniary benefits simply by acting as a board member without casting a shadow on their volunteer status? Would this action not make the board members employees?

A: They will, no doubt, lose their voluntary status and the protections under the Michigan Non-Profit Corporation Act. However, if the bylaws have allowed for board members to receive compensation, and it was properly approved, that would be a legal basis to provide compensation to them. Is it a good idea? I do not think so, but I also do not necessarily think that they become "employees of the Association." They still hold fiduciary duties to the association.



Robert Meisner

Q: My condominium association wants to fund a July 4th party using condominium funds. I have reviewed the bylaws, disclosure document, and have done a little research on the web. Everywhere I have looked, the description of uses of the monthly assessment is for repair, replacement, upkeep and maintenance. There is no mention that the funds can be used for any other purpose, especially a July 4th pig roast. How can I convince the rest of the board not to use these funds for a party, especially when we are on the verge of needing a new roof and other expensive maintenance items?

A: The Board of Directors has wide discretion in terms of how to utilize its funds. A key element of the operation of a Condominium Association is a social aspect of the condominium. I do not believe that it is necessarily unreasonable for the board to appropriate funds for a July 4th party for the benefit of the entire Association. However, the judgment of the board in using these funds when there are other necessary repairs, could be called into question. However, the best recourse is to find new directors who may better make use of the funds available to the association.

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

Complexes for seniors abound in our area

BY NANCY AUSTIN
 SENIORS REAL ESTATE SPECIALIST

Condo living has remained a practical housing choice for seniors for many years. It affords the owner the opportunity to live without the worry of lawn care, snow removal, or hiring hands to take care of the external needs of the structure such as roof, walls, basement, and siding. Owners are also free to pack up, leave, and travel without worrying about home.

There are many choices in condo living. An individual may choose a "regular" condo complex where age doesn't matter,

but the complex will have first floor living. Another condo might be above the ground floor unit. These are called stacked condos, much like an apartment arrangement. There can also be ranch condos with no one above or below.

Detached condos are just that. They are separated at every point. There are no common walls with another unit. These structures have become more desirable in recent years and construction of this type is on the rise. Detached condos provide more privacy than attached units as well as no worry about noise coming through

walls. There is plenty of room to plant flowers for those who enjoy gardening. The cautionary note here is that if you plant, you must care if what you plant. Underground sprinklers are almost always included. You may or may not be paying for water in your association dues, depending on by-laws provisions. In one condo complex, Bradbury in Plymouth, many individual owners have installed sprinkler systems as they were not installed at the time the complex was built. Some Bradbury condos, therefore have underground sprinklers and some do not.

Over-55 condo complexes for independent living don't proliferate in our area, but there are a few that deserve mention. In Plymouth, Bradbury and Crestwood condos are designated for the 50+ age group. Bradbury is a village-like setting of ground-floor living with basements and carports. There is a recently renovated clubhouse and a pool. Clubhouses are helpful, as this is where many activities are held. Owners can also rent them for a very small fee, enabling residents to have baby showers, retirement parties, and other such events. Activities such as card clubs, bingo, etc. are held in the clubhouse. Crestwood condos are apartment-style condos on pleasant grounds.

Of course, cost is significantly lower than other condos because they are apartment style but if you have a pet, Crestwood would not work for you. You must check the bylaws for each complex regarding restrictions such as pets.

Canton's first (excluding subsidized housing) 55+ condo community is under construction at Geddes and Beck. The Villas at Maple Creek have open floor plans and can include a fabulous sun room. There are attached garages, but no basements. The builder, Robertson Brothers, will make changes to the plan to accommodate aging-in-place devices and/or other needs. For more information, visit The Villas at Maple Creek and talk to salesman Chuck McHenry.

Farmington Hills's Botsford Commons is worth a visit due to its uniqueness. Condos are built in a circle rimming a complex of buildings which house other living arrangements such as apartments, assisted living and an Alzheimer's unit. All occupants from any of the living arrangements can avail themselves of the amenities in the main building (just across the driveway) which include a swimming pool, dining room, movie theater, craft room, library and bus service. There's even a little gift shop in the main building. Each condo has safety devices, such as strategically placed pull cords, large-number thermostats, walk-in showers, built-in tub benches,

barrier-free entrances and extra-wide arches and bathrooms to accommodate wheelchairs. Monthly dues include a live security patrol around the clock. I am not aware of any other condo complex in the metro area similar to Botsford Commons. There are several different floor plans, which include two and three bedroom units with or without basements. All have attached garages.

Emerald Pointe is a neat, detached condo community tucked into the northwest corner of Westland. The condos do not have basements but have attached garages. The two bedroom two bath units are generous in size. Vaulted ceilings, private entry and location are a few of the pluses for Emerald Pointe. All are on a small lot, but of sufficient size to make you think you aren't in a condo at all.

Should you desire any further information, selling price ranges and/or amenities of the above-mentioned communities or complexes, please contact me at the information listed at the end of this column.

If you know of any senior condo complexes not represented here, please let me know. This column is all about assembling information for seniors who like to know their options.

Seniors Real Estate Specialist Nancy Austin may be reached at nancyaustin@gmail.com or by calling her at (734) 718-8900.

SENIOR LIVING

HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of March 14-18, 2011, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Canton
 4183 Berkeley Ave \$40,000
 1757 Copeland Cir \$142,000
 3180 Empire State Dr \$175,000
 49253 Hanford Rd \$140,000

2330 Lexington Cir N \$208,000
 248 Patriot St \$186,000
 215 S Village Way \$90,000
 1866 W Roundtable Dr \$85,000
 7402 Willow Creek Dr \$165,000

Garden City
 31486 Rush St \$65,000
 6452 Sunset St \$43,000

Livonia
 36156 Fairway Dr \$265,000
 17830 Fairway St \$165,000
 17830 Fairway St \$170,000
 19226 Gary Ln \$270,000
 8964 Hanlon Ave \$135,000
 16080 Hubbard St \$284,000

32838 Indiana St \$101,000
 34713 Summers St \$130,000
 14404 Summerside St \$110,000
 15121 Taylor Blvd \$235,000

Northville
 18342 Blue Heron Dr W \$325,000
 17758 Devonshire Ct \$1,049,000
 19727 Hayes Ct \$83,000
 344 Saint Lawrence Blvd \$177,000
 39607 Springwater Dr \$120,000
 44347 Verona Ln \$150,000
 16179 Westminster Dr \$20,000
 16880 Yellowstone Dr \$121,000

Plymouth
 10549 Fellows Hill Dr \$392,000

325 Irvin St \$265,000
 9290 Saddlebrook Ct \$49,000
 9296 Westbury Ave \$147,000

Redford
 15864 Centralia \$27,000
 15567 Chelsea \$18,000
 12073 Columbia \$32,000
 10039 Crosley \$40,000
 24931 Elmira \$69,000
 19905 Fox \$35,000
 9095 Lenore \$30,000
 9095 Lenore \$45,000
 19425 Lexington \$57,000
 25920 Lyndon \$68,000
 12817 Marion \$34,000

9901 Nathalie \$40,000
 17736 Olympia \$35,000
 18693 Poinciana \$27,000
 9657 Rockland \$72,000
 26661 Southwestern Hwy \$30,000

Westland
 35229 Cady St \$65,000
 36779 Canyon Dr \$149,000
 37574 Colonial Dr \$46,000
 36133 Florane St \$71,000
 27949 Hanover Blvd \$65,000
 34436 Hazelwood St \$90,000
 33037 Mackenzie Dr \$92,000
 7271 N Newburgh Rd \$72,000
 35735 Roiff St \$75,000

HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of March 7-11, 2011, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Beverly Hills
 17181 Beechwood Ave \$223,000
 32724 Friar Tuck Ln \$400,000

Bingham Farms
 23630 W 13 Mile Rd \$161,000

Birmingham
 440 Bannville Ave \$250,000
 337 Fairfax St \$435,000
 1375 Humphrey Ave \$155,000
 1841 Melbourne St \$381,000
 211 Pilgrim Ave \$950,000

Bloomfield Hills
 241 Barden Rd \$345,000
 375 N Glangarry Rd \$300,000

Bloomfield Township
 939 Candlestick Ct \$345,000
 3310 Kernway Dr \$613,000
 2725 Turtle Ridge Dr \$950,000

Commerce Township
 8701 Cooley Lake Rd \$395,000

Farmington
 32718 Grand River Ave \$22,000
 22805 Lakeway St \$119,000

Farmington Hills
 27273 Arden Park Cir \$100,000
 27435 Cranbrook Dr \$186,000
 27672 E Echo Vly Unit 129 \$37,000
 31275 E Stonewood Ct \$296,000
 22554 Glenmoor Hts \$47,000
 35307 Hillside Dr \$100,000
 35854 Johnstown Rd \$192,000
 29105 Oak Point Dr \$160,000
 29979 Richmond Hill \$105,000
 24894 Toddy Ln \$175,000
 34790 W 8 Mile Rd #1 \$42,000
 27635 W Echo Vly Unit 114 \$40,000
 22540 Whittington St \$130,000

Lathrup Village
 18870 San Jose Blvd \$26,000

Milford
 1592 Boulder Lake Dr \$290,000
 253 Cumberland Trl \$635,000

Novi
 26981 Maxwell Ct \$231,000
 24423 Olde Orchard St \$37,000
 25920 Petros Blvd \$194,000
 42798 Wimbieton Way \$247,000

South Lyon
 525 Whipple St \$77,000

Southfield
 18175 Adrian St \$105,000
 18749 Autumn Ln \$134,000
 28694 Castlegate Dr \$205,000
 25422 Farmbrook Rd \$49,000
 26240 Franklin Pointe Dr \$38,000
 18920 Goldwin St \$62,000
 30228 Southfield Rd # A253 \$19,000
 27140 Sutherland St \$86,000
 20070 Winchester St \$39,000

White Lake
 8300 Altha St \$130,000
 8535 Eastway Dr \$290,000
 9075 Julia St \$38,000
 1818 Kristina Dr \$190,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Real Estate Sales and Appraising

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

Seminar on Tuesdays

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

Free Foreclosure Tours

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

