

THURSDAY
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WESTLAND OBSERVER
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IN BRIEF

Nominations needed

The Westland Chamber of Commerce is seeking nominations for their 2011 Awards Program.

The Westland Observer is once again co-sponsoring the First Citizen Award with the chamber. The award was created to recognize an individual for outstanding local volunteer community service. Last year's recipient was Antoinette Martin from Ameriprise Financial.

The Business Person of the Year Award, which is again being sponsored by TDS Metrocom, also will be given out. The Business Person of the Year Award was established to recognize a member of the chamber that stands above the rest. Last year's recipients were Mo and Al Elfikir from Biggy Coffee.

The awards will be presented at an "Oktoberfest After Hours" style event 5-7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6.

People interested in nominating an individual as First Citizen or someone for the business person award can find nominating forms in the chamber's August newsletter, which can be found on the chamber website at www.westlandchamber.com. The deadline for nominations is 4 p.m. Sept. 15. Local residency is not required for either award, and individuals currently holding or seeking public office are not eligible.

Nominations can be mailed or dropped off at the Westland Chamber of Commerce, 36900 Ford, Westland, MI 48185 or faxed to (734) 326-6040.

Book sale

There's plenty of books to choose from as the Friends of the Library extend their special sale through the month of August.

Stop by the Friends Shop at the William P. Faust Public Library. Hardcover fiction books are selling for \$1 each. Buy two and get a third one free.

The library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

Coffee Hours

State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, will hold his next local coffee hour 9-10 a.m. Monday, Aug. 8, at the William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway. Residents are welcome to visit with LeBlanc and discuss issues and/or concerns. The local coffee hour takes place on the second Monday of each month.

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

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, will hold district coffee hours on Monday, Aug. 8, in Westland and Redford. No appointment is necessary.

Anderson will be at the William P. Faust Public Library 9-10 a.m. and at the Redford Community Center, 12121 Hemingway, Redford, 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, at P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48933, by phone at (866) 262-7306 or by e-mail at SenatorAnderson@senate.michigan.gov.

City to buy 5 tax-foreclosed properties

Campaign closing in on 100 sales, Page A3.

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The City of Westland will purchase five more vacant homes in the Norwayne Subdivision and the Annapolis Park Subdivision under the Neighborhood Stabilization Program.

The Westland City Council approved spending more than \$69,000 in Community Development Block Grant and HOME funds to buy four homes on Genessee, Hillsdale, Oscoda and

Dryden in Norwayne and one on Julius in the city's south end.

According to Joanne Inglis, director of housing and community development, all of the properties are vacant and are being acquired through tax aversion or for back taxes through Wayne County.

"The four properties in Norwayne have been certified as blighted and will be demolished," said Inglis. "What it costs to rehabilitate those properties far exceeds the cost of the property."

She added that the home on Julius will be renovated and sold.

The city has been actively acquiring and rehabilitating or tearing down homes in the Norwayne Subdivision in an effort to improve the neighborhood and lessen the housing density in the 65-year-old subdivision.

However, Judy McKinney questioned the selection of the four Norwayne homes, saying that there are other places that need to be addressed.

"In Detroit, the mayor wants to bring people close together, here you want to put in more space," she said. "It seems like you've put a lot into acquiring a lot in Norwayne, when

we have other homes that need to be added, homes that are boarded up. We have other places that need to be addressed."

The city has been using NSP funds to acquire property for some two years and is involved in a campaign with 14 other communities in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties to sell 100 previously foreclosed or abandoned homes by the end of the year. Housing experts are calling the campaign a national success story.

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

'FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS'



Thomas Anderson Carter flips a 507-pound tractor tire during a "Friday Night Lights" strong man competition among football players at John Glenn High School in Westland.

Glenn football teams show power in strong man competition

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Senior Michael Cach wanted to be the last varsity player to take the field at John Glenn High School. But as he worked his way from one end zone to the other he wasn't alone. Every member of the freshman, junior varsity and varsity teams and the coaches were there to cheer him on.

He wasn't in a foot race to

score the winning touchdown. It was more like a test of endurance as he flipped a massive tractor tire, swung a sledge hammer, lifted weights and slung a power bag over each of his shoulders.

Welcome to John Glenn High School football's version of *Friday Night Lights*, a strong man competition that let the players show their fans

Please see **FOOTBALL, A2**



Tyler Clemons use a sledge hammer to hit a tire. He did 10 repetitions with his right and left hands.

New charge surfaces as auto shop owner pleads guilty to fraud

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The owner of a Westland repair shop has been ordered to repay Fifth Third Bank the money he received after making more than \$10,000 in fraudulent charges to an Indiana woman's debit card.



Tlais

On Tuesday, Michael Tlais of Westland was in 18th District Court where he pleaded guilty to one count of credit card fraud, stemming from six charges made to the woman's card after she used to pay for repairs made to her mother's card on July 7.

The woman had authorized a charge of \$383.99 for the repairs, but discovered five additional charges of more than \$9,200 were made on July 13, July 18 and July 23, all originating from Westland Auto Repair which Tlais owns. The woman discovered an additional charge of \$1,338 which showed up last Friday, just after Tlais had been released on bond.

Tlais's attorney told District Judge Mark McConnell that his client "didn't intend to keep the money, but have the use of it for a month or so."

"He thought the victim would not get notice of it for a month and once it came to light he would make it good," said the attorney. "He committed a crime, he did it because he was in financial distress. He told me he thought it was the wrong way to take a loan."

"Everyone can have financial distress, but they generally don't take someone

Please see **FRAUD, A2**

Send us a photo of your favorite car and win free gas!

The countdown has begun to this year's Woodward Dream Cruise - the world's largest one-day celebration of all things car and car-related. This is car country and we know that many of you have that special photo of your favorite car. Take this opportunity to share it with the hometownlife.com audience and you could win free gas.

Send us a photo of you and your favorite car (by the end of August) and you will be entered into a random drawing to win one of three \$25 gas cards. The photo can be of your current classic car or one that you drove as a teenager. Send the photo (jpg format only) along with your name, community where you live, and a one-line description of the car and why it is (or was) your favorite to photos@hometownlife.com.

Then "cruise" into the "My Favorite Car" gallery on hometownlife.com on Friday.



Share a photo of your special muscle car, street rod, custom car, collector vehicle or other car with readers. Then get ready for this year's Woodward Dream Cruise on Saturday, Aug. 20, and more than one million visitors and 40,000 cars cruising along Woodward Avenue.

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Westland signs on to plan to clean up ex-airport property

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Not ones to look the proverbial gift horse in the mouth, Westland City Council has agreed to a proposal that would clean up a former municipal and industrial landfill site along with providing money for parks and recreation. Ford Motor Co. and 3M Corp. are the responsible

parties, along with the city, for cleaning up a 19.5-acre site located southeast of the Emagine Theater on Ford. Under the agreement, the corporations will purchase the property and pay for remediation of the pollution before transferring ownership to the city. The agreement requires the city to maintain the property for recreational use and pro-

vides \$390,000 that Westland is to use for recreation improvements although those funds don't necessarily have to be spent on the site. The 19.5 acres and 8.5 acres of the Emagine property had been used as a general landfill from 1958-65. Known as the National Airport property, the original 180-acre site, which was bounded by Ford and Cherry

Hill, John Hix and Lotz, had been used as private airport beginning before 1949. Ford and 3M had been studying how to handle the clean up of the property since 1994, said City Attorney James Fausone. "Changes have occurred which allows them to proceed, if they can take over ownership of the property," said Fausone. It's expected that the reme-

diation, which would require Department of Environmental Quality approval, would be similar to the remediation project underway at Central City Park. That means clearing and regrading the site, installation of a geotextile barrier covered with top soil and grass, along with methane gas monitoring. Once the remediation is complete and the property

transferred to city ownership, the city would be required to maintain the integrity of the soil cover and restrict use of the property for recreation. That could range from open fields to a developed recreational use. Plans call for work to be done on the property during the summer of 2012 with seeding in the spring or fall of 2013.

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

FOOTBALL

FROM PAGE A1

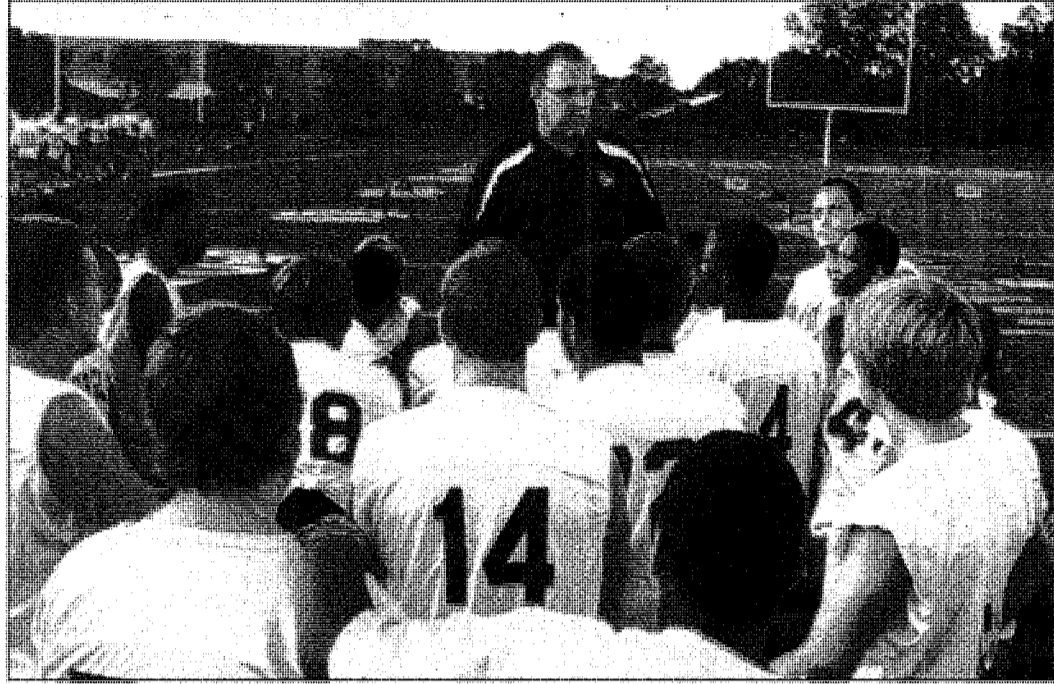
and families their new found strength. "They've been so fired up all summer and they want you to see what they've been doing," varsity coach Tim Hardin told the crowd. "We train year-round — winter, spring, summer — and we're transitioning to other stuff, strong man stuff."

Worried that his team had plateaued, Hardin brought on strengthening and conditioning coach Will Tofilski who devised a workout program that will build the players' core strength and build muscles in their body.

"We've been doing this all summer," said Hardin. "They do the whole course Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 5 to 7 as the sun goes down." The event had all the flavor of a Friday night football game. The lights were on and boosters manned the concession stand and hawked Rocket spirit wear and 50/50 tickets while Keith DeMolay was in the booth doing the announcing. The was even a \$5 entrance fee.

"I'm loving every second of it," said Kris Dondt, who was there to watch son Bradley, a member of the freshman team. "He's finishing every one, he's doing great. It's exactly what I was looking for."

Dondt played football when he was in high school and



Football Coach Tim Hardin talks to players before the start of the competition.

views this year as a "handing off of the baton" to his son. "I wished they'd had this when I was in high school," he said. "It's helps bring a team together. The team's rooting for you to finish, you're not out there running by yourself."

Senior varsity player Duron Govantes had to admit he was scared at first that he wouldn't be able to flip 507-pound tractor tire. That's not the case now.

"They taught me how to position my arms and legs, it's all in the technique," he said.

Freshman Andre Brown finished the nine-station course in 6 minutes and 54 seconds. "It's tough," he said.

"Everything makes you work everything. I'm just glad I finished."

Junior Jake DeMoss, a line-backer and receiver, said the circuit was hard, especially the sea bag life which required placing a 113-pound duffel bag 10 times on each shoulder.

"It's definitely challenging, and I can definitely tell a difference from when I first started," he said. "I didn't come for the spring season because I played baseball. I could tell the difference in the team, but I was able to catch up."

"That was actually tiring," said kicker Alex Isaevski, who divides his time between soccer and football. "The sea bag was tiring because of the number of times you have to do it. You have to use your whole body. The easiest were the arm raises."

Along the sidelines, LeAnn and Jeff Pennington were watching son Drew, a junior.

"In the beginning, he complained, but not so much now," said Jeff Pennington. "He complains more on the hot days."

LeAnn Pennington thinks it's "cool" that her son is going to Glenn.

"I went here," she said. "It's

neat that you've gone here and then have a son play football here."

When Cach finished the course, the coaches huddle and came up with nine players, three for each team. Two of the trophies were for the best times while the third recognized the most improved player.

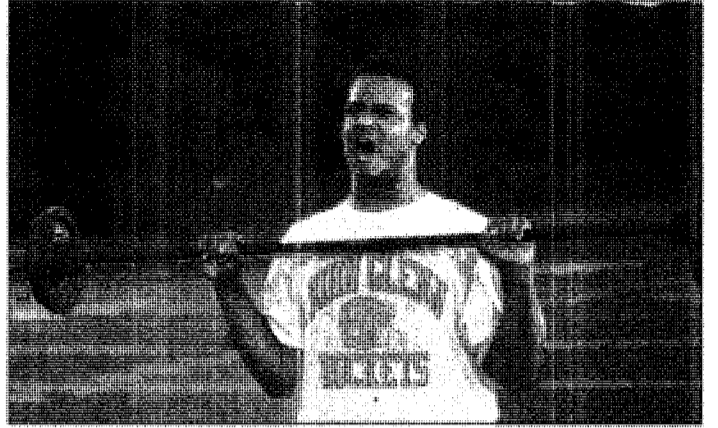
Among the freshman, Logan Luttrell and Kyre Lang had the best times of four minutes, 55 seconds and five minutes, 35 seconds respectively, while DeShawn Baker-Williams was recognized as the most improved player. On the JV squad, Zack Tofilski with a time of six minutes, 14 seconds and Adonis Lamb with a time of seven minutes, 29 seconds walked away with trophies. The most improved player was Trey Trotter.

"He impressed the hell out of me when he showed up," said Hardin.

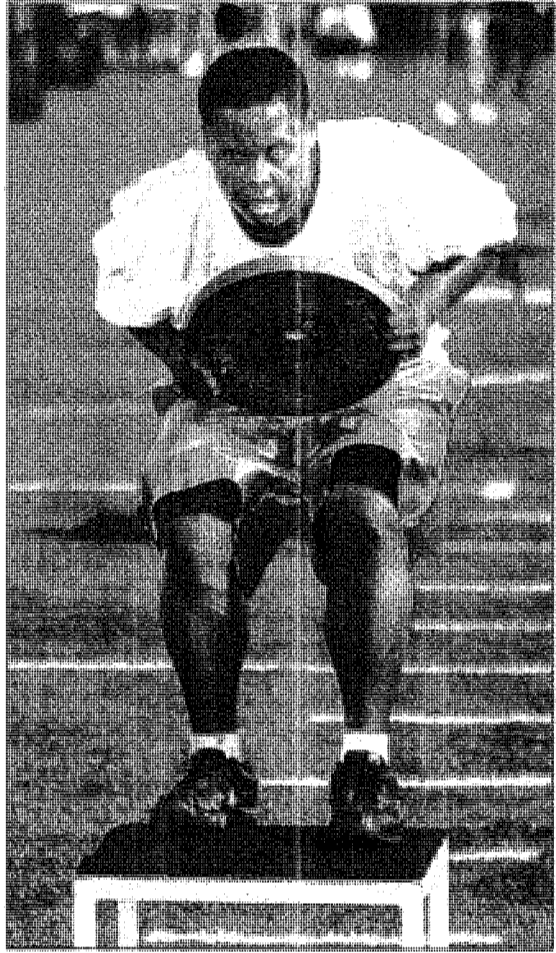
Alex Ryan had the fastest time among the varsity players at six minutes, 54 seconds, followed by DeMoss at seven minutes, six seconds.

Hardin gave the trophy for most improved player to junior Mike Lada.

"When school ended, I told



DeShawn Baker-Williams does power cleans at one of the competition stations. He was recognized as the most improved freshman player by the coaches.



Malcolm Deshields does one of 10 repetitions at the Plate Weight Explosion Box. He had to jump on and off the box holding the weight to his chest.

him he showed potential but he was way out of shape," Hardin said. "I went on vacation and when I came back a week later he was a totally different player."

Hardin declared the inaugural "Friday Night Lights" a success, Hardin told the crowd to "look for great things" this football season.

"We're doing things differently and hopefully that will translate to the field," he said.

Dondt agreed with Hardin. "I just watched these kids put so much into this, if every kid gave 110 percent, they should have their own personal trophy," he said.

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FRAUD

FROM PAGE A1

else's money," said McConnell. The attorney also told McConnell that the night Tlais spent in jail awaiting arraignment had a "tremendous effect on him" and that he was "very remorseful" about what he did. "I truly believe this is the last time the system will see Mr. Tlais," he added. "He learned his lesson by spend-

ing a day in jail. He won't do it again."

Fifth Third had already received more than \$9,200 in restitution from Tlais, and McConnell gave him until the end of the week to repay the remaining \$1,338. He also sentenced him to one year of supervised probation and ordered him to stay away from the victim. He also will have to do 10 days on the volunteer work program, and pay court fines and fees of more than \$500.

He was spared jail time. Tlais could have been sentenced to up to 93 days in jail. McConnell, however, sentenced him to one day and credited him with the time he had been locked up awaiting arraignment.

The victim had asked that McConnell to consider two previous cases in which Tlais had made fraudulent charges on credit cards of two elderly customers. In a 2008 case, \$1,995.23 was charge to a woman's credit card for a repair bill of \$195.23. In 2005,

a customer's credit card was fraudulently charged some \$5,400. Tlais eventually did make restitution in both instances.

"I hope you don't go easy on him since this is his third offense," the woman said.

The fraud conviction may not be the end to Tlais's problems. The State of Michigan has been notified by police that his mechanic and business licenses have expired.

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SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Attorneys J.B. Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 42 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear personally at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced attorneys to your case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and only fly the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi



for attorneys about the subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi offer free phone or office consultation. If they represent you, there will be **no fee charged until after the case is won**. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

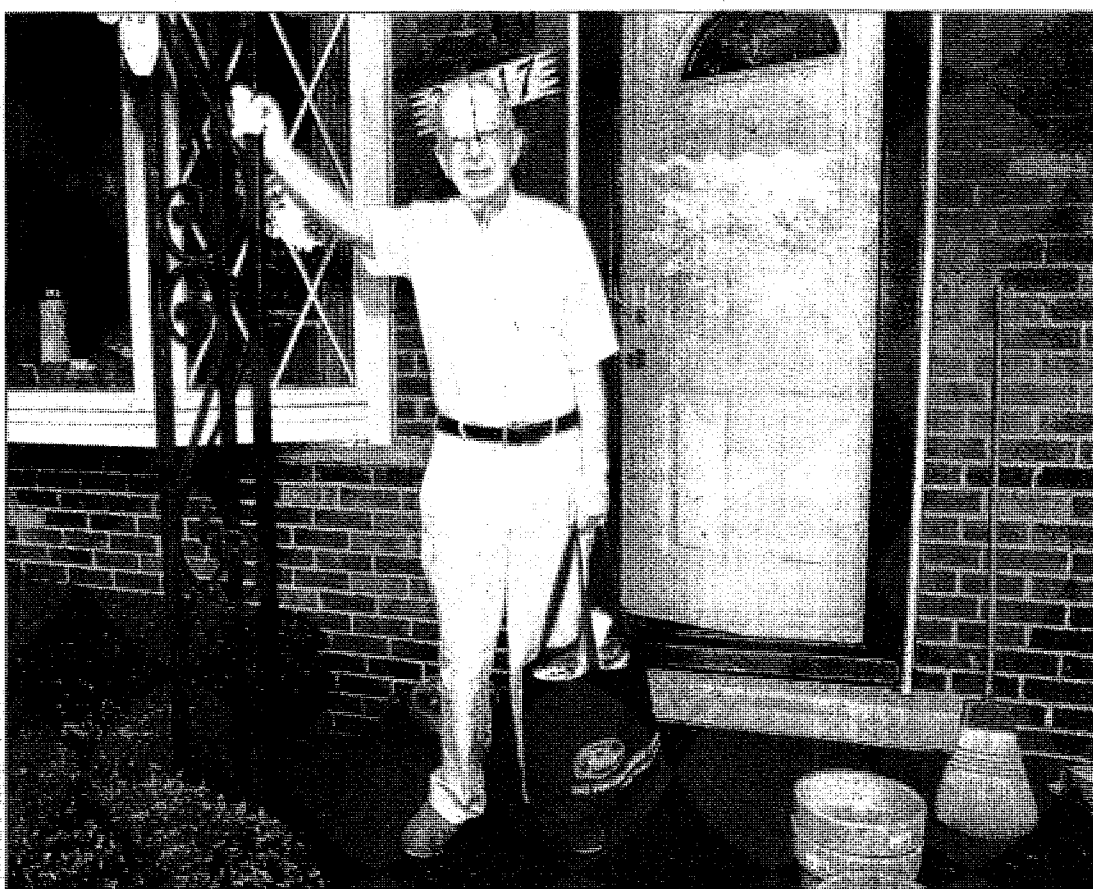
Bieske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-275. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of 12 Mile Road. Call them at **1-800-331-3530** for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written a book

www.ssdfighter.com

can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary they have won several hundred cases before a court date is even set.

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



Douglas Seal, a Fuller Brush salesman, has been a familiar caller at homes in Dearborn and Garden City for more than 52 years.

Tri-county home initiative nears goal of 100 sales

A campaign to sell 100 previously foreclosed or abandoned homes that have been renovated and sold at bargain prices during 2011 in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties is being recognized by housing experts as a national success story to help rebuild neighborhoods hardest hit by the foreclosure crisis.

A coalition coordinated by the Michigan Association of Realtors, Western Wayne Oakland County Association of Realtors and Metropolitan Consolidated Association of Realtors along with the Michigan State Housing Development Authority, government, development and civic leaders, has sales that are pending or have closed on 94 of the 100-home inventory since the initiative began Feb. 1 in 15 metro Detroit communities.

"Municipalities across the country can learn from our Realtors' success in Southeastern Michigan," said Ronald Phipps, president of the National Association of Realtors. "When public and private leaders come together, we can overcome the stereotypes of abandoned and foreclosed properties, sell houses that have been beautifully restored and help stabilize communities."

The 15 municipalities participating in the MAR-led coalition includes Westland, Redford, Eastpointe, Ecorse, Ferndale, Hazel Park, Holly, Inkster, Keego Harbor, Lake Orion, Oak Park, Ortonville, Pontiac, River Rouge and Royal Oak Township. The communities contracted with Farmington Hills-based Home Renewal Systems to refurbish, market and partner with local real estate agents to sell the homes.

The 100 houses restored by Home Renewal Systems are "real estate owned," or REO, which is a class of property owned by a lender, typically a bank, government agency, or government loan insurer, after an unsuccessful sale at a foreclosure auction.

Non-rehabilitated REO properties spend an average of 222 days on the market, but when communities put in the work to upgrade these homes, they sell approximately five months sooner. The properties are valued from \$50,000 to \$150,000.

Federal grants were awarded to the 15 communities as part of the

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Neighborhood Stabilization Program.

To purchase a house, the income of a one-person household must be below \$58,700, and a percentage of the homes are designated for buyers earning less than \$24,450. The income threshold for a four-person household is \$83,900.

As part of the coalition effort, MAR is teaming with non-profits and Home Renewal Systems to offer education seminars, at no cost to homebuyers. The classes guide buyers through the process and responsibilities of owning a home.

"Rehabilitating and returning foreclosed or abandoned properties to the affordable housing stock is key to revitalizing neighborhoods," said Craig Nickerson, president of the National Community Stabilization Trust. The national non-profit organization is working with the coalition, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and the nation's leading financial institutions to ensure access to foreclosed properties.

"We are creating more opportunities to improve the quality of life for families and ensuring communities flourish with safe and appealing places to live," he said.

"These are houses that can have hardwood floors, state-of-the-art energy-saving appliances and other amenities that defy the perception of foreclosed or abandoned homes," added Claire Williams MAR president. "Buyers can now purchase their own homes for less than the cost of renting."

Buyers of these foreclosed properties typically have a minimum income limit of \$1,200 per month (minimum income limits can include employment income, social security, alimony and child support). Qualified buyers can receive down payment assistance, from as little as \$5,000 up to as much as 50 percent of the purchase price of the home, to cover closing costs and make mortgages affordable.

"We only need to sell six more homes in Wayne County to reach our goal of 100 by the end of the year," HRS Vice President Shannon Morgan said. "With Detroit's urban renaissance underway, we're extremely optimistic that we'll be able to match those six homes with excited buyers soon."

Salesman finds niche with Fuller Brush

BY SUE BUCK
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Douglas Seal has long ago given up the large, heavy briefcase that was the signature of the Fuller Brush salesman.

The company prides itself on "superior home cleaning solutions," and the profession, which goes door-to-door, is more than a century old and one of the few businesses which still makes house calls.

Seal, a Garden City resident who has sold the products for more than 52 years, continues to do so in a more streamlined fashion. His briefcase has been replaced with a large canvas tote and the display bottles are empty plastic, all making for an easier carry on his typical route in Dearborn and Garden City.

"I wanted to be a sales rep for a drug firm which went to doctors' offices," said Seal, 78. "I took their test and they said that I had a fantastic memory, but I wasn't aggressive enough. They suggested that I do this. It turned out so well that I kept on doing it."

The self-employed independent dealer said that he loves his job

because he can set his own schedule. "Nobody tells me what to do or when to do it," he said.

Fuller Brush salesmen were quite visible decades ago along with the milkman who made home deliveries and the Watkins salesperson who pushed seasonings, spices and condiments.

"Some people I call on every other week; others once a month, depending on their needs," he said. "We still sell brushes, but not as much."

Today, there is more of an emphasis on cleaning products that are used up quickly and for which there is a constant need. He carries things like the old-fashioned feather duster and a pack of three scouring pads that will last a year. There's also sponges for the kitchen, bath and everywhere. Laundry soap and degreaser are popular items.

"I just had a lady from Belleville place a \$125 order," Seal said.

The products in the catalog all bear a Made in USA seal. They are manufactured in Great Bend, Kan.

Seal's wife, Barbara, who died eight years ago, was a big help to him and also sold the products for five years.

After she died, Seal also took over her Avon business.

"Selling Avon is easy," he said. "They call me."

The personal touch of greeting customers at their front doors works better for him than phone calls, he said. That personal touch can mean a \$50 order as opposed to a "No, thank you" on the phone.

Originally from the west side of Detroit, Seal has lived in his current home for 51 years. With his wife, Barbara, they raised their three children, Debbie Myers, Dawn Rapp and Jeff.

"People are so nice to me," Seal said. "If I don't show up for awhile, people worry about me. They say, 'Where have you been, Doug?'"

Seal's business is listed in the Yellow Pages, but he has no e-mail address.

"I don't even have a computer," Seal said. "I couldn't care less."

He also prefers cash or checks.

He has brochures out at Bartz Bakery at Ford and Telegraph in Dearborn. "I get good orders that way, too," he said.

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

GARDEN CLIPPINGS

Dine and Dash

Eating out has never been more fun than Garden City Chamber of Commerce's eighth annual Dine and Dash restaurant rally 6-10 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 13.

Enjoy the tastes of the various Garden City restaurants. Park at one restaurant — you'll be assigned a starting location — then use the "Big Yellow Bus" provided by Garden City Public Schools, to visit all of the participating eateries before returning to your starting point. Enjoy free food, entertainment, if available, purchase drinks, if you wish, and experience a taste of the restaurants in the Garden City area.

Tickets include a souvenir Dine & Dash shirt to be worn during the event, (the T-shirt is your ticket), complimentary appetizers from the participating restaurants, transportation and an evening of pure fun for family and friends.

Tickets cost \$18 for adults, \$17 for senior citizens and \$70 for a party of four. All tickets must be purchased in advance -limited seating available. They're available from Garden City Chamber of Commerce. Call (734) 422-4448 or visit www.gardencity.org, and click on Hot Events.

Golf outing

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

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

For more information regarding hole sponsors or registering to golf in

the event, contact Sharon Lundie at (734) 728-4919.

Summer hours

Wayne County Commissioner Diane Webb, D-District 9, will be conducting office hours for the summer months by appointment.

In scheduling a one-on-one meeting, constituents in the communities of Garden City, Redford and Dearborn Heights will be given an opportunity to discuss key issues and voice concerns in a comfortable setting with Webb.

To make an appointment with Webb, call (313) 224-0930.

Community Chat

Catch up on what's happening in Garden City with GC Community Chat with Kerry Partin at 9 p.m. every Thursday night at talkshoe.com/tc/82757. Also check out his website at communitychat.weebly.com. The talk show and website are dedicated to the residents and businesses of Garden City.

For more information, contact Kerry at gcommunitychat@gmail.com.

Garden City Kiwanis

The Garden City Kiwanis Club of is recruiting new members to help provide assistance to the disadvantaged residents of our community — especially children — who are having a difficult time during this economic recession. Founded in 1948, the Kiwanis Club of Garden City provides many community service projects each year including a "Baby Shower" for the Garden City Family Resource Center, a continuing Food Pantry drive, the Trauma Doll Project for hospitalized children, and the Third Grade Dictionary Project.

The club meets at noon on Thursdays at Amantea's Restaurant on

Warren Road at Venoy in Garden City.

Anyone who is interested in attending one of the luncheons or with questions about the club's community involvement can call Gary Simon at (734) 751-4101.

Museum fund-raising

The Friends of the Museum are continuing their fund-raising efforts, selling engraved brick pavers and renting the Grande ParLOUR for social and business occasions.

The bricks are \$50 for the 4-inch by 8-inch size that has up to three lines. The 8-inch by 8-inch bricks are \$75 and have room for up to six lines of text.

The Lathers General Store is open from noon to 3 p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays, offering a variety of collectibles and gift items. Call (734) 838-0650 for more information or visit www.sfonline.org.

Shop online

Help Garden City Schools support its staff and students whenever you shop at Amazon.com.

Simply follow the link at the bottom of the district's web site — www.gardencityschools.com. A portion of any resulting purchases will be returned to Garden City Public Schools. Products do not cost any more by using the link, and residents don't have to do anything more than click on the link to start shopping.

Recycle for cash

Drop off used ink jet cartridges, cell phones, digital cameras and similar items at City Hall. Garden City Charities, a group formed by city staff, sends the items off to be recycled by Cartridges for Kids and gets cash in return. Money raised by Garden City Charities benefits local organizations.

Graffiti reported at Lathers

Stanley Szcotka, director of Student Services for Garden City Public Schools, asked the Garden City police that he be put on record for all incidents of graffiti at Lathers Elementary School, 28351 Marquette.

He called it a continual problem in a July 25 police report which said that somebody scribbled "Hightop" on the D5 door of the school.

Similarly, someone illegibly wrote something on a window and pillar.

Recovered counterfeit bills
An employee of the Intimate Ideas store located at 29470 Ford, found five, \$5 counterfeit bills when she went to get change for a \$50 bill from the Kmart store located on Ford at Middlebelt on July 30.

She said that she typically goes to the Kmart store to get change.

When she checked the bills with a special counterfeit detection pen, she discovered that five were counterfeit.

Home invasion

A resident in the 31000 block of Windsor reported that three unknown men entered his home about 10:45 p.m. July 30 without permission through a closed and unlocked door.

He said that the men who were wearing backpacks said that they entered the wrong house.

When the resident picked up the phone to call the police, they walked out the door and drove away in an older model Taurus.

They reportedly weren't confrontational.

Two were black males. One was described as a heavy white male. All three were about 20 years old.

Nothing was missing from the home.

Property destruction

A 57-year-old Dearborn man reported to police July 21 that someone damaged the passenger side door of his vehicle which was parked in the lot of Garden City Hospital lot at 6245 N. Inkster Road.

The police said that it looked like a sharp object was used to inflict the damage which they said looked intentional.

Theft

A Garden City man reported that someone stole his son's bike which he parked near the alley about 10 a.m. July 23 at the ACE Hardware store located at 28715 Ford.

The Garden City father described his son's bike as a 27-inch men's mountain bike valued at \$400.

An observer said that he thought that he saw someone take the red and black bike and ride away east-bound on Ford but could provide no additional details.

Stolen plate

A resident in the 200 block of Arcola reported that someone stole the license plate from a 2001 Pontiac Grand Am that was parked in the street before July 22.

Identity theft

A Garden City woman who lives in the 32200 block of Marquette reported July 23 that someone stole her identity and used her debit card to make a purchase at Gardner White that was delivered to an address in Gibraltar.

She said that she didn't give anyone permission to use her card which was still in her possession and said that she didn't know anyone at that address.

Stolen auto

A resident who lives in the 1100 block of Middlebelt reported that his 1990 Cadillac Brougham was stolen some time before July 28.

He said that the car was parked in the apartment parking lot.

He added that the fuel pump was bad but the car was still drivable.

Disorderly conduct

When the police arrested an intoxicated woman at Marquette and Venoy, they discovered that she also had outstanding warrants.

Two observers noticed that the 46-year-old Wyandotte woman was driving and acting erratically about 3:45 p.m. July 28.

When the police arrived, they found her lying asleep on the ground, thinking that she was in Wyandotte. She could not provide her address.

She wore a Kroger uniform of a blue shirt and black pants, according to police.

Churchill grad Nicole Campbell dances in New York



Campbell

Nicole Campbell of Westland recently attended the All Star Dancers National Convention in New York City. She was selected to participate in the convention when she performed a jazz routine at the Kids Artistic Revue Competition in Walled Lake. Campbell is a student at the

Robert Lee School of Dance in Garden City.

The five-day convention included a dance workshop and a "mock audition" taught by the World Famous Radio City Rockettes at Radio City Music Hall. Campbell also attended classes at New York's premier dance studio, The Broadway

Dance Center, and she participated in workshops taught by Broadway show performers.

The All Star Dancers National Convention is coordinated by Artistic Adventures of California. Campbell is a 2011 graduate of Livonia Churchill High School and the daughter of Anna Campbell.

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St. Mary Mercy tops off major expansion project



Emergency Medicine Program Director Bruce St. Amour, DO, Graduate Medical Education, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, signs the beam. Nearly 700 names of employees, physicians, volunteers and community partners adorned the beam.

Cheers and applause erupted as a crane hoisted the 27-foot, 500 pound steel beam Wednesday morning marking St. Mary Mercy Hospital's new \$89 million addition at the Livonia medical complex at Five Mile and Levan roads.

A crowd of more than 200 employees, hospital officials, local leaders, area residents and hospital friends cheered as the beam was hoisted atop the steel structure by Granger Construction.

A light rain started to fall as the Rev. Luke Iwuji, hospital chaplain, blessed the beam. "I don't think we will need any more water," quipped Iwuji as he quickly sprinkled some holy water on the beam just before workers hooked it to the crane.

Some 700 people — hospital employees, physicians, volunteers and guests — had signed the beam over the last four days to leave their mark in history.

MAJOR PROJECT

The expansion, 154,000 square feet, is the largest construction project in size and investment in the hospital's history and one of the largest in the city of Livonia's history.

The new building on the hospital's southwest side of campus will include a state-of-the-

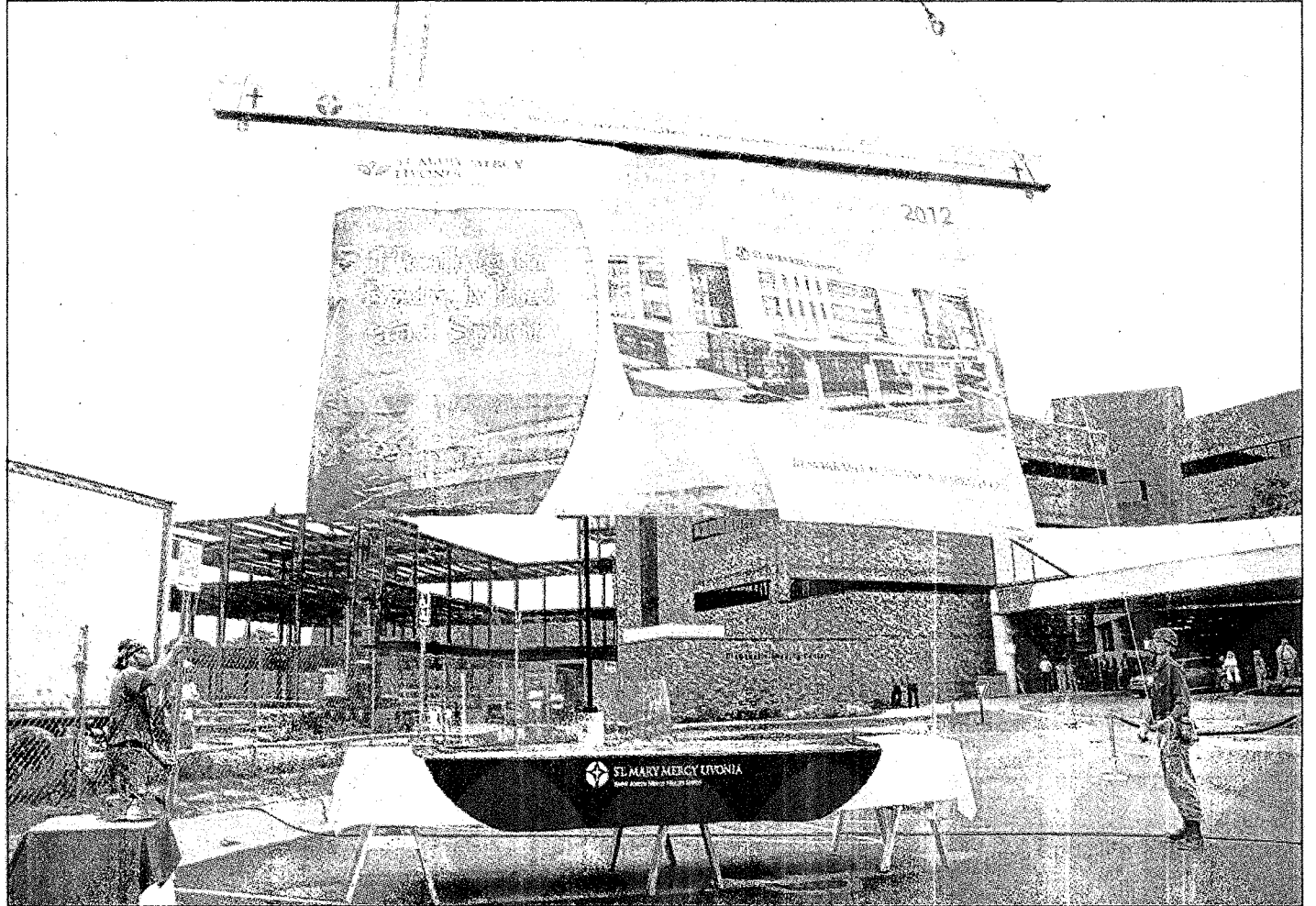
art Emergency Department with 14 Senior ER rooms (specific to seniors ages 65 and older and doubling its current size) and two floors of all-private patient rooms, boasting the latest technology.

St. Mary Mercy President and CEO David Spivey described the project as "building a new hospital from the inside out," also the theme of Wednesday's event because the project will renovate current semi-private inpatient rooms at the north end of campus to private rooms.

Guests listened as Sister Mary Renetta Rumpz, former president of St. Mary Hospital and a member of the St. Joseph Mercy Health System Board, traced the hospital's long history of service to the community and the transformation of services over the last 52 years.

Special guest Tom Celani, president of Heart of Livonia and co-chair of the philanthropy campaign for the new building, presented a check for \$50,000 — the first installment of a \$200,000 gift — for the hospital's "Generations Together" Fund Campaign. Celani's father, Ben, was a founder of the nonprofit Hearts of Livonia which raises money for local charities.

The three-story South



The ceremonial beam, 27 feet long and weighing more than 500 pounds, was hoisted atop the steel structure by workers from Granger Construction.



Alexis Michaels, MD, Emergency Medicine, St. Mary Mercy Hospital signs the ceremonial beam.

Pavilion is expected to open no later than early October 2012. The north-end renovation of current inpatient rooms should take another 18 months after that, according to hospital officials.

"This new design will not only promote patient and family-centered care, but will also address present-day needs

and technology trends of the future," said Jennifer Kennedy, director of marketing and public relations at St. Mary Mercy. "This will allow us to better serve the body, mind and spirit of our patients, enhancing the patient care experience."

EXPANSION HIGHLIGHTS

The first floor will be

a 45,000-square-foot Emergency Center consisting of 55 treatment rooms, more than doubling the space of the current EC.

Also include are:

- Two triage rooms for initial assessment
- Four trauma bays for care of the critically ill or injured
- Six rapid assessment bays for evaluation and testing of noncritical patients
- Six fast track bays for care of minor injuries
- Fourteen general treatment rooms
- Seven behavioral medicine treatment rooms
- Two radiology rooms and a CT scanner
- A spacious visitor waiting area
- A meditation room.

The first floor will also

contain classrooms for the hospital's Graduate Medical Education program.

The second and third floors of the new addition will include spacious private medical, surgical inpatient rooms. Each floor is 33,000 square feet.

The north-end portion of the project — current inpatient rooms on the third, fourth and fifth floors — will be redesigned and renovated into private rooms.

St. Mary Mercy Hospital, a 304-bed acute-care hospital, is part of the Saint Joseph Mercy Health System, a newly expanded health care organization serving southeast Michigan and a member of Trinity Health, the nation's fourth largest Catholic health care organization,

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Wayne County official named WCAA board CEO

An assistant chief executive officer and chief development officer for Wayne County has been selected to serve as the chief executive officer of the Wayne County Airport Authority board of directors.

On Wednesday, the board appointed Turkia Awada Mullin as its new CEO. She will be responsible for the strategic direction, management and administration of the authority, which governs the operations of Detroit Metropolitan Airport and Willow Run Airport.



Mullin

"We have selected an outstanding CEO who will provide strong leadership and a dynamic vision for Metro and Willow Run Airports," said Suzanne Hall, a WCAA board member who chaired the CEO search process. "Turkia Mullin definitely possesses the qualifications and leadership ability to give our airports a competitive edge over other North American airports. She will be very attentive and responsive to the needs of our airlines and tenants and will provide disciplined fiscal oversight of our operations."

In addition to seeking a senior executive candidate with a superior command of public sector financing, construction, facility management and operations, a top prior-

ity of the board was looking someone with comprehensive economic development experience.

"We have built one of the world's most modern, efficient and user-friendly airports with one of the highest customer satisfaction levels in the industry," Hall said. "We have selected a CEO that can maintain and build on these high standards of excellence while also looking inside and outside the airport proper for new economic development opportunities."

Hall said Mullin would focus on optimizing non-airline revenue through new business enterprises and operating structures.

"During our interview process, Turkia expressed a thorough understanding of how Metro can realign airport concessions and make airfield capital improvements to generate more revenue and better serve airport passengers and corporate clients," Hall said. "More importantly, she identified strategic partners and funding sources that can help make this happen without significant investments by the airport."

While with Wayne County, Mullin has been responsible for re-engineering a county government that is contending with multi-million dollar deficits brought about by declining revenues. She has managed multi-million dollar construction projects, completing them on time and under budget, and

has also negotiated complex real estate, leasing and development agreements.

A veteran of the U.S. Army, Mullin received her bachelor's degree in accounting from Wayne State University and her juris doctor degree from the University of Detroit Mercy Law School.

She was a lawyer in private practice before joining Wayne County's Corporation Counsel in 2003 as a principal attorney for real estate. She was named assistant chief executive officer in 2005 and added the duties of chief development officer in 2009.

Mullin has led an economic development team that has brought in more than \$5.5 billion in private sector investment to Wayne County, including General Electric and Vanguard's acquisition of the Detroit Medical Center. Her efforts earned Wayne County national recognition from Site Selection magazine, which ranked her department as one of the top 10 economic development agencies in the nation.

She also oversaw the purchase and renovation of the Guardian Building and helped advance the Cobo Hall expansion and modernization project and the Detroit Aerotropolis Development Corporation.

Mullin replaces Genelle Allen, who has served as interim CEO for the past year. A former executive vice president of the WCAA, Allen informed the board at its May

26 board meeting that she did not want to be considered as the permanent CEO.

"The board would like to thank Genelle Allen for her dedicated leadership as interim CEO during the past year," said WCAA Board Chair Rene Papis Axt. "Ms. Allen did an excellent job and we look forward to her future contributions as part of our management team."

At that May 26 meeting, Axt announced that the board would be conducting a national search for a new CEO. She also assigned three board members - Hall, Charlie Williams and Sam Nouhan - to lead the process to search and select a new CEO.

Drawing on airline industry best practices, the group put together a job description that was patterned after one authored by Tampa International Airport, which recently concluded a search for a CEO.

The work group immediately began vetting candidates and issued a request for qualifications for executive search firms. After reviewing proposals, the work group engaged Trustinus, LLC, a prominent regional and national executive search firm based in Southfield with offices in Chicago and Dallas.

Trustinus launched a national search and reviewed 61 candidates from across the country that either submitted resumes or were contacted directly by Trustinus.

Trustinus conducted extensive interviews with 30 candidates and recommended six finalists that were interviewed by the work group. Two finalists were from Michigan and four were from other states and the District of Columbia.

Mullin and WCAA board will now negotiate her compensation package and determine her starting date as CEO.

The Wayne County Airport Authority is an indepen-

dent agency that was created on Aug. 9, 2002, under Michigan Public Act 90, to operate Detroit Metropolitan and Willow Run Airport. A seven-member board of directors governs the authority. The Wayne County Executive appoints four members, two members are appointed by the governor of the State of Michigan and one member by the Wayne County Commission.

Miss Wayne County program looking for 'princesses'

Miss Wayne County Scholarship Organization organizers are holding the second annual Miss Wayne County Princess Program.

The event is maintaining the mission of the scholarship program to help young women become successful leaders. The

Princess Program is for girls ages 4-12.

Each princess will receive a tiara and sash and participate in the 2011 Miss Wayne County Pageant on Sept. 10 at Churchill High School in Livonia.

They will also be guests of honor at a Princess Tea Party at

the Governor Warner Mansion in Farmington. Guests will include Miss Wayne County 2010 Sarah Suydam, the 2011 Miss Wayne County contestants, and Miss Oakland County Outstanding Teen 2011 Cassidy Nugent.

This program offers friend-

ship and mentoring and is not a competition. The participation fee is \$50. All fees support the Miss Wayne County Scholarship Organization.

Participants do not have to be a Wayne County residents. To apply, visit www.misswayne-county.org.

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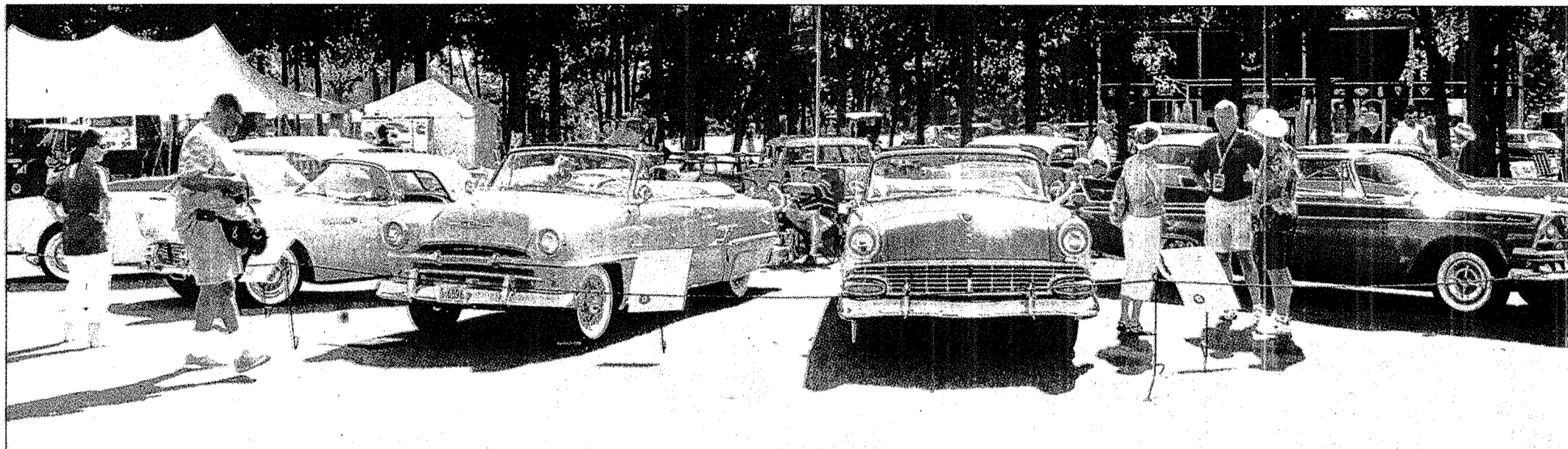
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The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth Township provided a new home for visitors to the Concours d'Elegance Sunday.

Rarest of the rare cars turn up at Concours

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Of the hundreds of classic and antique cars on display Sunday at the Concours d'Elegance of America, two were among the rarest of their kind — even when new.

Tom Griffith's 1950 Lea Francis Sports Roadster, he says, was one of only six delivered to the U.S. from the manufacturer in Coventry, England, and one of only 77 ever made. Rescued from a pig barn in Wisconsin, the model is the only one still on the road in the U.S., he said.

"Probably the most original example of this car in existence," said Griffith as he talked about restoring the four-cylinder Lea Francis.

Nearby Sunday on the golf course at The Inn at St. John's was William Ruger Jr. and his 1936 Cadillac 90 Series V-16, a 6,000-pound behemoth with, yes, a 16-cylinder engine and a "turret top" body by Fleetwood, the famed automobile body specialists. Only 50 V-16s were made annually between 1934 and 1937, said Ruger, and only 11 in the four-door sedan body style of his car.

"Mechanically, it's quite advanced" and also easy to drive, Ruger said.

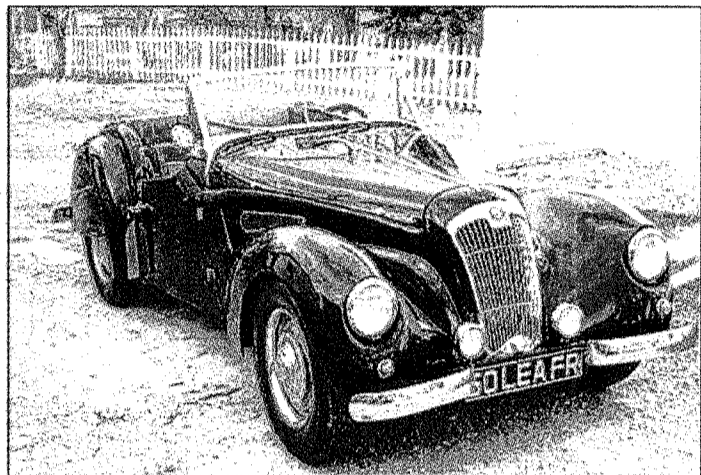
PERSISTENCE PAYS

Griffith, of Verona, Wis., is partial to British sports cars; his collection also includes a 1949 Triumph, a 1935 MG and a 1952 Allard. This year's Concours was his first.

Griffith bought the Lea Francis about a year ago from a woman whose late husband had driven it. It had sat in a pig barn, where many other vehicles owned by local residents were also stored, for more than three years, and the widow hung onto it for sentimental reasons, he said. The car had been in her husband's family for 57 years.

"Nobody could get to this widow. She didn't want to sell," he said.

It took some coaxing, and a promise of the first ride in the restored car, and the



This 1950 Lea Francis Sports Roadster, one of only 77 made, is owned by Tom Griffith of Verona, Wis., who enjoyed telling admirers about it during Sunday's Concours d'Elegance of America at The Inn at St. John's.

woman agreed to part with it for \$10,000, Griffith said. Ultimately, he said, he had convinced her that he would do what her husband would have done — restore the car — and showed her examples of his previous restorations.

"She's very pleased that she did sell me the car," Griffith said.

Rust wasn't an issue for the aluminum body on the Lea Francis, Griffith said, and the engine, with just 16,800 miles, needed little but hoses, clamps and a good cleaning.

"I just cleaned it up. That's all I did," Griffith said. With a new battery and fresh gas in the carburetor, it started right up, he said.

The roadster needed brakes and paint, and some parts needed to be rechromed, but the glass is original, and so is the upholstery, though it had been recovered by someone who apparently didn't like the original style, Griffith said.

The British man who had obtained the assets of Lea Francis when the company failed in the 1960s helped Griffith by supplying needed parts.

Griffith, an executive at Badger Printing Systems, likes to take his vintage cars out.

"I go grocery shopping in this car," he said. "I drive my cars. They don't just sit and look pretty."

GARAGE FIND

Ruger, of Newport, N.H., has had his Cadillac V-16 since

1995. "It needed everything" but "wasn't a wreck," said Ruger. "It was just in somebody's garage," he added.

The Cadillac was restored by Fran Roxas, who has a restoration shop in the Chicago area (Roxas also restored this year's domestic best-in-show winner, a 1933 Duesenberg SJ Riviera Phaeton).

The restored V-16 was ready for two Concours shows in 1998: one at Pebble Beach in California and the other at Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester, where the Concours d'Elegance of America was held for 32 years before being moved to The Inn at St. John's this year.

Ruger said he enjoyed his return to the Concours, and this year's new venue. "I like it very much. I think it's an improvement because the hotel is right on the grounds," he said.

The retired chairman of the firearms manufacturer Sturm, Ruger & Co. Inc., Ruger has a collection of about 30 cars. "There are also collections that are much bigger than that," he said.

Other rare cars at the Concours included a 1966 American Motors Marlin, with a 270-horsepower V-8 engine (only 4,547 made), a German-built 1964 Amphicar, made to travel on land or water (3,878 made) and a 1948 Tucker (only 51 made).

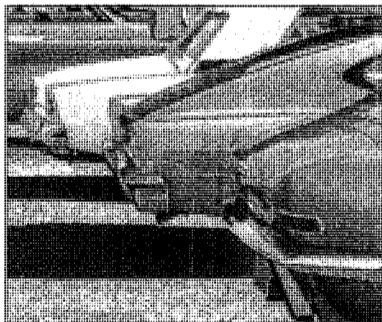
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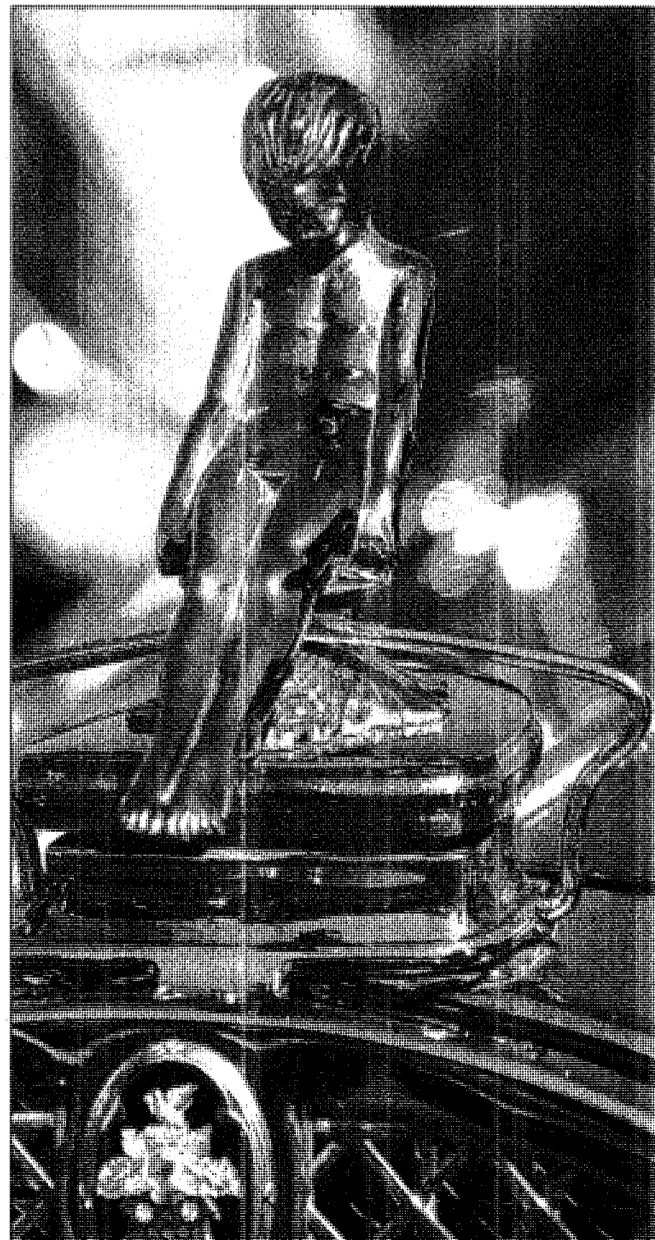
Owner Bob Anderson from Philadelphia with his 1939 Lincoln Continental Cabriolet Prototype and Concours d'Elegance judges Guy Zaninovich of Ann Arbor, Webster Peterson of Minnesota and Ford Motor Co.'s Jim Farley.



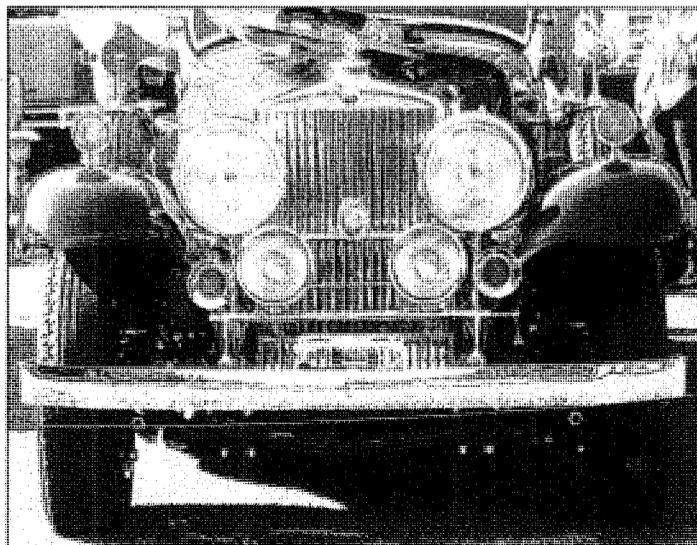
This Aston Martin drew a large crowd, as did the other cars featured at Sunday's Concours d'Elegance.



The Avanta was one of the cars on display.



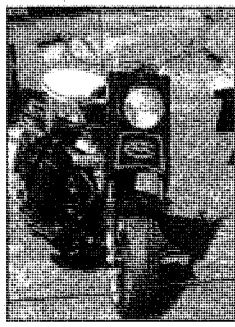
This 1930 Packard 745 Sport Phaeton features its unique hood ornament.



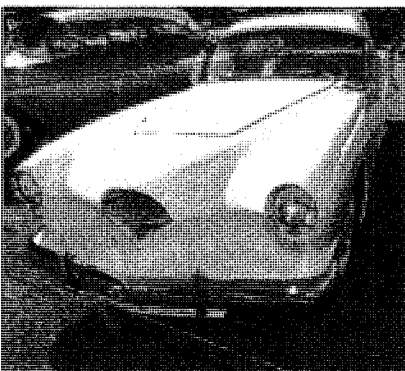
The Mitchell Collection had its 1932 Stutz DV-32 Bearcat at Concours d'Elegance.



Luca Bigioni from Toronto sits in his father's 1952 Champion Special Indy car during Sunday's Concours d'Elegance.



Sunday's event featured this 1959 Cushman Eagle motorcycle with a suicide clutch.



This 1954 Kaiser-Darrin "Pine Tint" was on display Sunday.



John Wall from Rochester gets a look at a 1967 Mercury Comet "Funny Car."

Art to art talk

Pottery painting helps kids deal with grief

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Dallas Teddy has experienced a lot of loss in her short life.

Teddy, a 17-year-old from Livonia, has lost both of her grandmothers and three friends, the last less than a year ago.

Seeking help with her grief, Teddy, the daughter of Bruce and Tracy Teddy, turned to the New Hope Center for Grief Support in Northville. That's the group with which she took part in an evening of art at downtown Plymouth's Creatopia Tuesday. Nearly two dozen youngsters, all of them in the same boat as Teddy, spent a couple of hours creating art and painting pottery in memory of loved ones they've



Dallas Teddy of Livonia works around a cast on her left hand to paint a piece of pottery during New Hope Center's art event at downtown Plymouth's Creatopia.

lost. "I think it's calming, I like painting," said Dallas Teddy, who had to manage the paint brush with a cast on her left hand. "The group is helpful because I realize there are other people who have lost someone. They know how I feel." That sense of unity is a key component to the work

done at New Hope Center, a grief support center designed to help people work through their grief over the loss of a loved one. Elaine Dzwonkowski, New Hope's KIDZ group coordinator, said art therapy is a good outlet for kids who've suffered a loss. She especially likes it when the children pick a piece of art that would have had meaning

to the loved one. She cited one young girl who chose a jewelry box with a rose on top of it because her mother's favorite flower was a rose. She said it's also good when a parent gets involved in the activity. "Art therapy is a good thing," Dzwonkowski said. "Parents working with a child on something like this is very soothing. That's what we're



Brittany and Ashley Jones paint a couple of large mugs during the art event sponsored by New Hope Center at downtown Plymouth's Creatopia. The sisters lost their father exactly a year ago.

looking for." Karen Jones attended the Creatopia even with her daughters, Brittany and Ashley, in memory of their father, Jeff, who died exactly a year prior. After his untimely death, Karen Jones said she sought help at Ward Church in Northville, while her daughters attended group sessions at Church of the Nazarene. Both programs were sponsored by New Hope. She said the art project not only brought some solace into their lives, but also gave the day something other than solemn meaning. "I thought it would be nice

to come on this day," Karen Jones said. "I didn't want it to be a sad day only." Tracy Bruce said the art therapy, and the group therapy, has helped her daughter cope with all the loss by showing her how many other people have had loss, and how they're dealing with it. "There are so many kids who don't know what to do" with their grief, Tracy Teddy said. "The group is nice because they teach the kids grief isn't something that comes naturally. It's been good for (Dallas)."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6899

AROUND WESTLAND

Garden event

Brenda Dziedzic, president of the Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association, is holding an open garden event 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 27, at her home at 1263 Springer St., Westland.

There will be butterflies as well as a display of eggs, caterpillars, and chrysalises of various butterflies. The *Learn About Butterflies in the Garden* book will be available for \$21.

For more information, call Dziedzic at (734) 326-0578 or go online to www.ButterfliesInTheGarden.com.

Outdoor movie

The Westland Downtown Development Authority is sponsoring a Park It movie night Wednesday, Aug. 24 in the parking lot of the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford. *Yogi Berra* will be shown on the big screen at 8:30 p.m., but the fun starts at 7 p.m. There will be live music, inflatable bouncers, kid's activities and free giveaways. There also will be concessions with food available for purchase.

The movie night is free of charge.

Open house

Westland Free Methodist Church will hold a preschool open house and sneak peek 6:30-8 p.m. Monday, Aug. 8, at the church, 1421 S. Venoy, south of Cherry Hill, Westland.

Receive enrollment information, meet the teachers, see the classrooms, and do fun preschool activities. Parents who enroll a child for the 2011-2012 year will receive half off the enrollment fee - a \$25 savings.

For more information, call the preschool at (734) 728-3559 or send an e-mail to wfm-preschool@yahoo.com. Or visit the website at www.livesare-

changing.com/html/preschool.htm.

Farmers Market

Westland Farmer's Market is open 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Tuesday in the Westland City Hall parking lot at 36601 Ford Road, through Oct. 25. Stop by and enjoy a wide array of fruits, vegetables, baked goods, jams, flowers, crafts and many other great items.

For more information, call Robert Kosowski at (734) 722-7620.

Summer bowling

Westland Youth Assistance Program is hosting a free summer bowling league for Westland youth, between the ages of 10 and 16. The league meets 6-8:30 p.m. Fridays through Aug. 12 at Westland Bowl, at 5940 N. Wayne Road. Space is limited to the first 80 Westland youth to register.

For more information, call (734) 467-7904.

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.

Free workshop

Westland residents at risk of losing their homes can attend a free Loan Modification and Short Sale Workshop held 6-7 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Dorsey

Community Center, 32715 Dorsey east of Venoy. Annette Compo of WJR Real Estate 411 and Linda Miller, an MSHDA-certified foreclosure counselor with National Faith Homebuyers, will be on hand to meet with residents one-on-one to do an overview of the foreclosure process and present them with various options for their situation.

The city of Westland is working with developers to assist residents that lose their home to foreclosure to try to remain in the same neighborhood.

To register for the workshop, call (313) 378-5418 or send an e-mail to lindamiller@nationalfaith.org.

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 www.hope4healinghearts.com.

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.

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 insula-

tion, 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.

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.

Every Friday 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
from August 5th - August 26th

2011 Canton Color Tour JAZZ SERIES

Date	Artist	Location	Color Block
August 5	<i>The Brothers Groove</i>	Super Bowl Ford between Canton Center & Sheldon	
August 12	<i>Randy Scott</i>	Sam's Club Ford & Lorz	
August 19	<i>Thornetta Davis</i>	IKEA Ford & Haggerty	
August 26	<i>"RYZ" & Genard Gibbs</i>	Lowe's Ford between Sheldon & Morton Taylor	

New This Year! JAZZY CARRY OUT SPECIALS

Mention "ShopCanton" at participating restaurants to get the special from 6 pm - 8 pm on concert Fridays. For details on carry out specials contact the restaurant or go to ShopCanton.org

- Antonio's Cucina Italiana- 734-981-9800
- Bailey's Grill and Pub- 734-844-1137
- Big Boy- 734-459-5555
- Carrabba's Italian Grill- 734-844-7400
- Chilli's- 734-844-9050
- Elite Pizzeria- 734-335-6716
- Hayden's Grill and Bar- 734-895-3388
- Jimmy John's- 734-844-6112
- La Sharm- 734-981-6666
- Leo's Coney Island- 734-981-5483
- Max & Erma's- 734-981-3370
- Palermo's Pizza & Restaurant- 734-455-5210
- Parthenon Coney Island- 734-981-0200
- Tourmina's Pizza- 734-981-0060

Watch for updates at ShopCanton.org
[facebook.com/ShopCanton](https://www.facebook.com/ShopCanton)
twitter.com/ShopCanton

Every week, a commemorative gift for the first 25 people who turn in receipts for a minimum of \$25 from a Canton merchant.

In the event of inclement weather, all concerts will be held indoors at Super Bowl 45100 Ford Rd.

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In cooperation with
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and the Canton Chamber
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STRICTLY BUSINESS

Thursday, August 4, 2011

hometownlife.com

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Sue Mason

Voice Mail: (313) 222-6751

E-mail: smason@hometownlife.com

Comment online at hometownlife.com

MILESTONES

Free Muffin

Time/Date: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 5

Location: Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe at 8036 N. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: Aug. 5 National Work Like a Dog Day, and Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe is observing the occasion. Stop by the bakery and receive a free muffin to help you relax.

Contact: For more information, call (734) 261-3680 or (888) 715-4479.

After Hours Networking

Time/Date: 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 23

Location: Sandy's on the Beech, 25853 Five Mile, Redford

Details: The August After Hours will be a joint venture of the 5 Star Business group. Appetizers will be provided. The 5 Star Business group is a joint effort between Dearborn Heights, Garden City, Redford, Wayne and Westland Chambers to offer more opportunities to the members within each chamber. The driving force behind is power in numbers. The goal of this multi-chamber organization is to provide members with networking opportunities with a larger group of people. A larger audience allows for amazing opportunities to exchange ideas and create partnership opportunities with individuals from other areas.

Contact: Call the Westland Chamber at (734) 326-7222 or the Garden City Chamber at (734) 422-4448.

Dine for \$7.99

Time/Day: 4-6 p.m. Monday-Thursdays

Location: Texas Roadhouse, 36750 Ford, Westland

Details: Texas Roadhouse is now offering 10 dinners priced at just \$7.99. This legendary offer is similar to the Texas 2fers offer but is even better by offering you more choices. Your dinner options include steak, pork chops, chicken and salads. All dinners except salads come with two made-from-scratch sides of your choice and fresh baked bread.

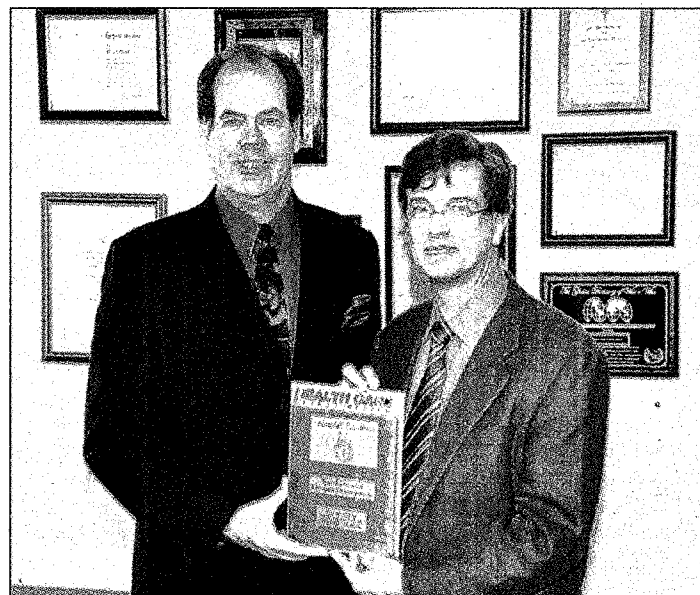
Contact: For more information, call (734) 729-4570.

Miracle Treat Day

Time/Date: Thursday, Aug. 11

Location: The Dairy Queen of Garden City, 28825 Ford, Garden City

Details: Kids love DQ, and the feel-



Award of Excellence

Mark Spiess, publisher of Health Care Weekly Review, presents the 2010 Award of Excellence to Dr. Gerold Bepler, president and CEO of the Karmanos Cancer Institute. The institute was selected the winner in the Specialty Hospitals category by Health Care Weekly Review. "We're extremely pleased to win this prestigious award from Health Care Weekly Review," said Bepler. "People in metro Detroit have many options when it comes to receiving cancer care. Karmanos strives to be the preeminent center for the best cancer care in the region, as well as one of the top cancer centers in the nation. This award is a wonderful acknowledgement of our efforts."

SEND IT

Are you having a special event, a sale or just want to let people know where you are? Interested in being featured in our Business Q & A? It's as easy as sending your information to or requesting a Q & A form from Sue Mason at smason@hometownlife.com. You can also mail it to Sue Mason, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226.

ing is mutual. That's why \$1 or more from each Blizzard Treat sold at participating locations on Miracle Treat Day, Aug. 11, will help sick and injured children at the local Children's Miracle Network Hospital. Join DQ and help make miracles happen. While you're at DQ, try the August Blizzard of the Month - the new Nutter Butter Blizzard Treat. It includes Nutter Butter cookie pieces and peanut butter cr me filling blended with creamy vanilla soft serve.

Contact: For more information, call (734) 427-7850.

Sneak Peek

Time/Days: Saturday, Aug. 6

Location: Pandemonium, 1858

Middlebelt, Garden City

Details: Get a Yu-Gi-Oh! Sneak Peek - Generation Force. Play Begins at noon, with a sealed deck. Cost is \$29, and all players receive five packs of Generation Force Pandemonium is a true hobby gaming store, specializing in collectible card games, miniature games, role-playing games, Chess, Sci-Fi/Fantasy/Strategic board games, Forge World, used miniatures and books and much more.

Contact: (734) 427-2451

Client discount

Time/Date: Going on now

Location: Saranda's Salon, 35135 Warren Road, Westland

Details: To celebrate our 36th year in business, Saranda's is offering a 20 percent loyalty discount for preferred clients. Mention code 20 LPC. Saranda's is a full service hair salon offering men's and women's cuts, formal styling, color, highlights, permanent waving, Brazilian straightening treatments and facial waxing. Salon hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays. Walk-ins are also welcome.

Contact: Call for an appointment at (734) 728-4834, or visit the website at www.sarandasalon.com.

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Program accredited

St. Mary Mercy Hospital's cancer program has again been awarded the honor of accreditation with commendation from the Commission on Cancer of the American College of Surgeons. St. Mary Mercy is the only hospital in western Wayne County with this significant distinction.

Accreditation of a cancer center is granted only to those facilities that have voluntarily committed to providing the highest level of quality cancer care and that undergo a rigorous evaluation process and review of their performance. To maintain accreditation, facilities with CoC-accredited cancer programs must undergo an on-site review every three years.

"Our accreditation by the CoC is a way for our patients and our referring doctors to

know without any doubt that St. Mary Mercy is committed to providing outstanding cancer care," said Dr. Walter M. Sahjidak, medical director of Radiation Oncology and 2010 Cancer Committee Chairman at St. Mary Mercy Hospital. "The physicians and the staff here are extremely proud to have earned this recognition."

The American Cancer Society estimates more than 1.5 million cases of cancer will be diagnosed in 2011. Only 25 percent of U.S. hospitals with a cancer program are accredited, and more than 71 percent of patients who are newly diagnosed with cancer are treated in these facilities.

Receiving care at a CoC-accredited cancer program ensures that a patient will have access to:

- Comprehensive care, including a range of state-of-the-art

services and equipment.

- A multi-specialty, team approach to coordinate the best treatment options.

- Information about ongoing clinical trials and new treatment options.

- Access to cancer-related information, education and support.

- A cancer registry that collects data on type and stage of cancers and treatment results and offers lifelong patient follow-up.

- Ongoing monitoring and improvement of care.

- Quality of care close to home.

St. Mary Mercy Hospital is a 304-bed hospital in Livonia that provides acute-care medical and health services to the community. For a physician on staff at St. Mary Mercy, (888) 464-WELL or visit www.stmarymercy.org.

Empowering questions: Asking the right ones

Here's the concept I'm contemplating: "The quality of your life and your business is directly

relative to the quality of the questions you ask, especially the questions you ask yourself." This quote is from Niurka, a compelling speaker I heard at a Yes Network seminar.

We all talk to ourselves (admit it!) and Niurka reminded me of how important it is to ask ourselves the right kind of questions, specifically: Ask



Clarity Patton Newhouse

A SUNNY NOTE

empowering questions.

Use words that frame questions in the affirmative. For example, we should ask ourselves "How can I be even more productive..." instead of "Why do I never get enough done..."

"Your subconscious mind will go to work on any question you ask yourself," said Niurka. "The brain is like a missile that will move through all the information until it finds answers that fit the question, so your ability to formulate the question determines what you will get in the midst of infinite possibilities."

So ask yourself empowering questions and your subconscious will reveal empowering answers.

Imagine the possibilities - and have a sunny day!

P.S. "We are what we think." Buddha

Clarity Patton Newhouse is co-president of Sunny Media Group Inc., located at 39209 Six Mile, Suite 165, Livonia. 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. To reach her call (734) 855-4728 or find her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/sunnynotes.

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NEWSPAPERS OBSERVER
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A GANNETT COMPANY

Kroger launches Comforts for Baby site

Comforts, a line of baby products from The Kroger Co., is making it easier for experienced moms to share their words of wisdom with others through a new website launching today.

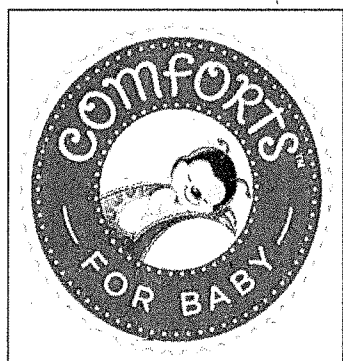
"Our goal is that busy, experienced moms will think of us first and foremost for their children's needs, and ComfortsForBaby.com, complimented by Facebook and Twitter, will be valuable resources for reinforcing this brand position."

ComfortsForBaby.com enables busy moms to access and exchange ideas online, offering a community where mothers can - between breaths - share their insights and experiences parenting newborns, infants and toddlers. The website is available in English and Spanish, with the latter designed specifically to engage Latina moms.

Guided by a whimsical cartoon firefly called "Flicker," the website features original content from and for moms.

According to Paula Andrus, a mother of three and the site's official "Chief Comforts Mom," ComfortsForBaby.com speaks to a cross-section of moms. It's a place where they can share, support and learn from each other.

"All moms are looking for the tried and true and want to hear from others about what works and is practical and realistic," Andrus said. "ComfortsForBaby is a place for those who have 'been there and done that' to share their expertise with other moms and to find community support for



themselves."

Andrus will help shape the website's editorial content, create original articles and provide insights based on her real-life experience as a busy mom.

"As a mother myself, I know what works, and I want to share as much valuable information as possible to help other moms make the most of their demanding days," Andrus said.

The website will offer advice-oriented articles, such as how to soothe a crying baby or make mealtimes more fun and nutritious. Articles focused on newborns, infants and toddlers will be updated weekly.

Another feature will focus on products. It will provide an opportunity for moms to share their feedback online with other moms. "Mothers find authentic reviews extraordinarily valuable when choosing products for their children," Andrus said.

In order to help mothers find baby-related items that meet their needs, the new site offers plenty of information about Comforts, a line of quality baby products at good prices.

Value-conscious moms will

regularly find digital coupons (downloadable to shoppers' savings cards) for a range of Comforts products on the site. And by clicking "Like" on the ComfortsForBaby Facebook page, mothers will have exclusive access to participate for a chance to win in various contests, sweepstakes and promotions that will be held throughout the year.

Comforts offers products that meet a baby's needs from day one through the toddler years. Site visitors can find details about the nutritional content of baby foods, the hygienic nature of soaps and shampoos and the safety built into such baby accessories as sippy cups, teething and pacifiers. There also is a special section about Comforts Touch of Nature diapers, a more environmentally friendly brand of disposable diapers.

Mothers can discover, for example, that the Comforts baby formula has exactly the same nutritional content as the leading brands, but given its reduced price, it can save moms about \$600 per year.

"The launch of ComfortsForBaby.com effectively harnesses our years of experience in this category to better serve the needs of our customers," said Noel Fonseca, Comforts Brand Manager. "Our goal is that busy, experienced moms will think of us first and foremost for their children's needs, and ComfortsForBaby.com, complimented by Facebook and Twitter, will be valuable resources for reinforcing this brand position."

Meet the Ritchie Boys

Exhibit tells the little-known story of WWII heroes

BY STACY JENKINS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

"Greetings from Camp Ritchie" postcards show a picturesque, almost resort-like campus where certainly any member of the military would want to train.

But, it wasn't just for any serviceman or woman. It was a place for specific soldiers with

RITCHIE BOYS EXHIBIT

What: Secret Heroes: The Ritchie Boys

Where: Holocaust Memorial Center, 28123 Orchard Lake Road, north of 12 Mile in Farmington Hills

When: Open 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday through Thursday; and 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday. Closed Saturday and on Jewish holidays.

Info: Call (248) 553-2400 or visit www.holocaust-center.org

Exhibit sponsors: American House Senior Living Communities, The Detroit Jewish News and Ernest Wachtel (Ritchie Boy) and family (daughters Mindy Silverberg, Cheryl Friedman and Terry Lebewohl).

specific characteristics and skills that would be critical in fighting World War II.

Nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains in Maryland, Camp Ritchie — named after Maryland Gov. Albert Ritchie, who served from 1920-

35 — was an intelligence camp where psychological warfare tactics were taught.

Those who received the special training became known as the Ritchie Boys and were selected for knowing the German language,

culture and the German mentality. Most of them were Jewish boys who had immigrated to the U.S., including Guy Stern, who came to the United States from Hildensheim, Germany, when he was 15 years old.

Soldiers took classes in German Army organization, Morse Code, studied *The Order of Battle of the German Army* and more.

Stern said the book was invaluable.

"We could look up commanders, signal calls, so we could overwhelm them with our knowledge," he said.

They did field exercises, role playing, close combat training and document reading.

Their newfound skills,



Si Lewen's sketch pad is filled with images from the field during his tenure as a Ritchie Boy during World War II.

knowledge and tactics became their fierce weapons.

"Everyone at Camp Ritchie felt it was their war," said Stern. "And they had to be a part of it."

They knew they would be deployed.

Some were shipped to Africa, some to Italy and others to England.

Stern remembers arriving at Lygon Arms in Broadway, England. The Army headquarters was at a British boarding school, where plans were made for the invasion.

"I was very scared," said Stern, who was 21 years old at the time. "All of us were scared. I was a former German Jewish national."

Stern's unit soon found itself on a loaded landing craft, making its way across the English Channel, to Saint Mere Eglise in Normandy, France.

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experiences and the work of the Ritchie Boys years ago, but that was the extent of it.

He told Goldman about the Ritchie Boys and Goldman soon named him curator of what would be the first exhibit in the new gallery at the center.

Goldman said the gallery will house traveling exhibits, so people can have different experiences when they visit the center.

"It gives people a reason to come back," he said.

Stern started delved into his research.

"Many people started helping me and we started investigating," he said.

They went to the National Archives, the Library of Congress and four or five other archives, seeking information and documentation relating to the Ritchie Boys and their work.

They located 50 of the Ritchie Boys. As the exhibit came together and plans were made for a reunion, which occurred last weekend, many of the Ritchie Boys said they couldn't travel to Michigan, from points all around the country, for health and other personal reasons. Fourteen said they could come to Michigan; 12 actually attended.

"I was real excited about meeting the boys," said Goldman of the reunion.

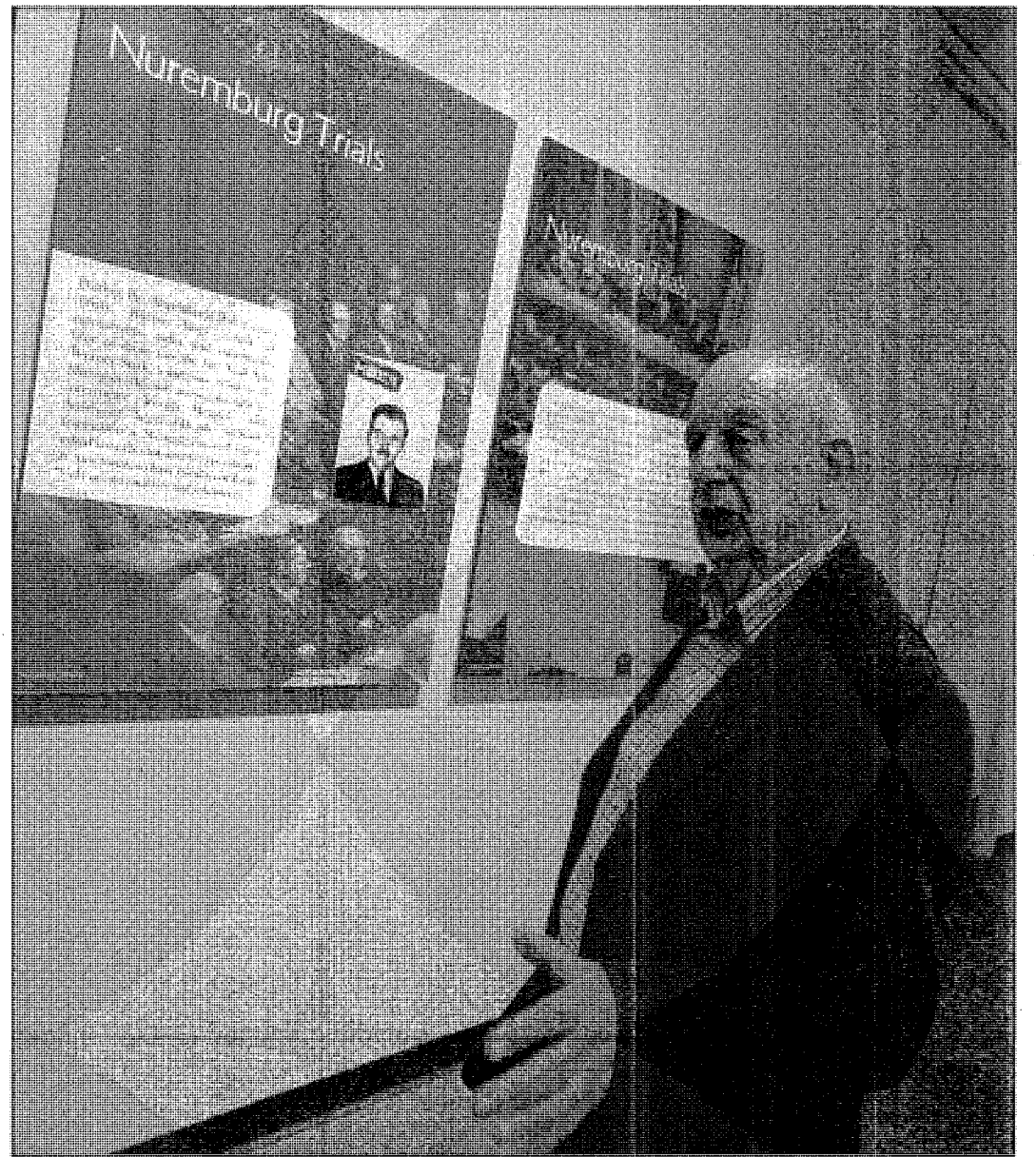
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PHOTOS BY JOHN STORCHZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Guy Stern explains that some of the Ritchie Boys were translators in the Nuremberg Tribunals.

"It was such a team effort," said Stern. "Everybody in this organization pitched in."

NINE PROFILES

The exhibit is divided into four sections, which follow nine of the Ritchie Boys through the events, from recruitment to training, to combat, to postwar civilian life.

Fred Howard is one of them. "He was my closest friend," said Stern, pointing to a photo and narrative on the wall. "We formed sort of a two-man team — people said it was like 'good cop, bad cop.'"

Stern was known to disguise himself as a Russian commissar, complete with a uniform adorned with medals. Fred Howard worked with him on this particular tactic.

"If a prisoner refused to give information, (Howard) would say, 'I have to turn you over to the liaison from the Russian Army,'" said Stern, noting that

usually worked.

Other tactics involved "becoming a buddy" to a prisoner to gain his trust.

"If we talked about soccer for 15 minutes, then I disappeared as an American, then I could get the information I wanted from him," said Stern.

Overwhelming the enemy with knowledge was another tactic used by the Ritchie Boys in getting valuable information from the enemy. A third tactic involved good old-fashioned bribery — they would give the prisoners something they wanted, like food and cigarettes, in exchange for information.

A fourth tactic was playing on their fears, said Stern.

They used mobile broadcast units at the German lines to shout propaganda and they distributed leaflets containing propaganda to weaken the resistance.

Stern recalls that Cpl. Walter

Midener single-handedly got 340 German soldiers to surrender to him.

"He was so persuasive," said Stern. "He got the silver medal for this."

The exhibit documents the post-war lives of the nine profiled Ritchie Boys.

"We split apart into all sorts of professions," said Stern, who was most recently a German professor at Wayne State University.

REUNION

Seeing some of the Ritchie Boys last weekend was a thrill for him.

"In a way, it's so emotionally charged, because you saw the people who marched with you; the people who took the same chances and took on the same tasks," he said. "Also remarkable was that so many young people were here at the reunion — they learned things about their forefathers that they didn't know before. It was a discovery of their own heritage."

And, that's not the only good thing that's come from the exhibit, hopes Stern.

"I think the legacy of not only the Ritchie Boys, but the time we were active, we had a nation united in a common effort and we worked together," said Stern, who is 89 and lives in West Bloomfield.

"I wish for my country that the same commonality and effort will prevail in the future. Our nation can be great if we stand together."



Guy Stern explains the various training topics covered at Camp Ritchie.

sjenkins@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2369

CITY OF WESTLAND - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAMS PROGRAM STATUS AND SUBMISSION OF THE CAPER (July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011)

The City of Westland will hold a public hearing on the status of CDBG and HOME programs, year ended June 30, 2011, Westland Housing Commission, August 16, 2011, 5:30 p.m., 32715 Dorsey, Westland. All interested persons are encouraged to attend. Draft CAPER available for comment August 16 - 30, 2011. Submit written comments to: Dept Housing & Community Development, 32715 Dorsey Road, Westland, MI.

CDBG FUNDS EXPENDED - 7/1/10-6/30/11

Project	Status	Amount
C.D. Administration	Annual, Complete	\$185,862
Rehabilitation Administration	Annual, Complete	\$178,510
Housing Rehabilitation	Annual, Complete	\$86,650
Senior Programs	Annual, Complete	\$159,999
First Step	Annual, Complete	\$7,915
Youth Assistance Program	Annual, Complete	\$27,000
City Projects (Fire safety equipment, Friendship Center improvements, Central City Park remediation)	CC Park, Complete	
	Fire Safety, Complete	
	Friendship Ctr, Ongoing	\$131,244
Community Resource Officer	Annual, Complete	\$116,000
Outreach Ordinance/Code Compliance Officer	Annual, Complete	\$105,000
Samuel B. Ware Community Center	Annual, Ongoing	\$13,999
NSP - Acquisition/Demolition	Annual, Ongoing	\$59,554
Rental Rehabilitation	Annual, Ongoing	\$0
Central City Park Remediation	Annual, Complete	\$250,000
TOTAL CDBG EXPENDITURES		\$1,321,733

CDBG FUNDS EXPENDED - 7/1/10-6/30/11

Project	Status	Amount
HOME Administration	Annual Complete	\$35,038
Comm. Housing Devt. Organization (CHDO)	Ongoing	\$136,172
Rental Rehabilitation Program	Ongoing	\$58,760
Homebuyer Program	Ongoing	\$11,500
NSP - Acquisition/Renovation	Ongoing	\$128,454
HOME Housing Rehabilitation (Limited)	Ongoing	\$0
TOTAL HOME EXPENDITURES		\$369,924

CDBG program income is \$30,000. No HOME program income was collected. Financial data is subject to reconciliation and audit adjustments. The City of Westland will submit the CAPER to the Detroit HUD Office on September 15, 2011.

William R. Wild, Mayor

Publish: August 4, 2011

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OUR VIEWS

Extra effort Use bonus time to take stock of state budget

Thanks to single-party dominance by Republicans, Lansing was able to submit a balanced budget months ahead of schedule. This means that lawmakers don't need to spend the summer and fall engaging in partisan budget fights, which has been the norm in recent years.

Instead, they should use this bonus time to take stock of what the budget accomplished and what it failed to do. At the same time, they should shy away from using up political capital with unnecessary social issues and rather spend time on two basic areas: running an efficient state government and creating jobs.

In addition to its early completion, the budget has a number of other strong points. For the first time in a decade, it is truly a balanced budget in that operating expenses are less than projected revenues. In years past, the constitutionally required balanced budget was achieved only by a series of gimmicks, some of which were quite costly to taxpayers.

This budget is not only balanced but it even set aside funds for future obligations, such as retiree health care for state employees and the start of building up cash reserves that were drained to balance previous budgets.

Such gains came at a cost, most notably to public education — where colleges and public K-12 schools saw big cuts — and to retirees who will see their pensions taxed. The cuts were made deeper thanks to a tax reform that actually reduced taxes for thousands of businesses.

Before Republicans get too busy patting themselves on the back for supposedly making Michigan a more attractive place to set up shop, they should note that there is no evidence that the lower taxes will produce job gains. In fact, Gov. Rick Snyder, who pushed hard for the tax cuts, steadfastly refuses to set any type of standard — a dashboard, if you will — to measure whether the tax cuts work.

Since the Republicans won't do the heavy lifting on this issue, let's look at a report from the Citizens Research Council of Michigan, a nonprofit research organization that analyzes state and local government and finances.

The council says that there could be positive impact in cutting business taxes, but that will pretty much be offset by reduced disposable income because of the tax hike on pensions. "Any net effect, positive or negative, is likely to be small," according to the report.

As badly as public education is hurt in this budget, the future just gets worse. The retirement plan, which Lansing hasn't addressed, will gobble up even more of school budgets.

Further, the full impact of cutting business taxes won't be felt until the next fiscal year, further cutting into the money available for schools. Some legislators are looking at more tax cuts, including \$300 million in tobacco taxes.

Cutting revenue further will eventually hurt school funding. It's one thing to say that schools need to be more frugal in how they spend money; it's another thing to strangle schools by systematically cutting off revenue. A modest business tax isn't going to attract firms if the state continues to say it doesn't value education.

Lansing has a balanced budget. That's a good thing. But it's only a single step toward producing an effective state government. Republican leadership has proved it can slash costs. But the jury is still out on whether the cuts were done judiciously. It remains to be seen if Republicans can run a good state government and provide services worthy of a state worth living in.

COMMUNITY VOICE

July was the hottest month on record. What did you do to keep cool during this bout of hot weather?

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



"We've been going to the beach. Yesterday, we went to a friend's house that's by a beach. Sometimes we stay inside."

Jetul Amin
Westland



"I've been drinking iced tea and ice water and staying in my air-conditioned house."

Ken Bauschat
Westland



"We've been going to the pool at my apartment complex and staying in air conditioning as much as we can."

Jeff Helias
Westland



"I've been staying inside in the air conditioning."

David Range
Inkster

LETTERS

Remembering Elmer McKee

Elmer McKee was a lifelong resident of Nankin Township/Westland. Elmer, who passed at his home on July 23, 2011, was born in 1914 and lived all 96 years of his life on the family farm which his grandfather had bought in Nankin Township around 1874. The property was bisected by Cowan Road with the south end fronting onto Warren Road.

Just east of the farm on Cowan Road sets the Perrinsville One-Room Schoolhouse which had been built in 1856. Elmer attended school there in the 1920s, grades one through eight.

In 1932, all of the buildings on the McKee farm land were torn down. The first structure to be built was a barn, and the family lived in it until the brick house that we now see setting on a small knoll on Cowan Road was completed.

At one time the McKee farm consisted of 65 acres. Apple orchards were one of the main crops grown there. Plowing the land turned up many an Indian arrowhead. He donated his collection to the Westland Historical Museum.

Elmer farmed the land until 1958 at which time he went to work for Wayne County Forestry Division where he worked for 17 years.

Elmer was known for always lending a helping hand. That helping hand reached out to fellow workers, to friends, to his church family at First United Methodist Church which he loved and supported, and for local historical purposes. Elmer supported fundraising endeavors for the restoration and maintenance of the Perrinsville One-Room Schoolhouse. He and wife Sarah donated a portion of their farmstead for a school which opened in the fall of 1959, but with declining enrollment its doors were closed in 1983. To honor his father the school was named Robert J. McKee Elementary School.

Those of you who knew Elmer remember how he enjoyed meeting with coffee cronies at Tim Hortons. At his service of remembrance instead of sadness I felt uplifted listening to folks remember with fondness our Elmer McKee, and seeing a Tim Hortons coffee mug signed by his coffee cronies. His kindness and always smiling face will long be remembered.

Ruth Duncan Dale
Westland

Start cutting at top

Salary of retired U.S. presidents ... \$199,700.
Salary of House/Senate ... \$174,000
Salary of Speaker of the House ... \$223,500.
Salary of Majority/Minority Leaders ... \$193,400.
Average Salary of Soldier deployed in Afghanistan or Iraq ... \$38,000.

I think we found where the cuts should begin!
All government employees across the board NOT in combat should chip in and take pay cuts, supply their own cars, stop expensing meals, limit business travel, quit playing politics at taxpayers' expense and get serious about the U.S. economy!

Carlos Manza
Westland

Visit to Wall heals heart

Recently I was afforded the opportunity to visit the Vietnam traveling memorial wall in Westland. Two of my children along with eight of my grandchildren accompanied me. I stood in awe as a man in uniform etched my brother's name for me on paper. After viewing my brother's name on the wall, we

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.

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

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

sat in silence for awhile. Memories of my brother who was seven years older than I came flooding back. In silence and in awe, I felt my heart begin to heal. The tears started to flow as I recalled past hurts and anger at my brother for returning to Vietnam to begin his fourth tour of duty.

My brother, Sgt. Larry E. Smith, died in Vietnam on Feb. 28, 1971. He was returned to us for burial enshrouded under glass. We couldn't touch him one last time. Two soldiers guarded his casket 24 hours a day as he lay in state at Caldwell-Mulligan Funeral Home in Garden City. The funeral procession drove by our home and paused there for Larry's last visit to his childhood home.

I told myself Larry wasn't really dead: Our government made a wax figure of him because he was on a top secret mission. I couldn't let him go. I looked for him for years after his death. He was the man hitchhiking on Ford Road, the guy sitting at the counter at a local restaurant, drinking a cup of joe. He was the man pushing a small boy on a swing in Hines Park.

He missed my wedding that August. He missed the birth of my first child the following year. He missed our first annual Smith family reunion in his honor that summer. I still miss him.

As I sat there at the wall, tears running down my face, I heard my grandson Mathieu ask his mom, "Why is Nana crying?"

I say that one day Mathieu will understand the sacrifice his great uncle made for him and all children of our great nation. Maybe someday he will understand why I place my hand over my heart each time I hear our National Anthem being played or why men remove their hats and all stand in respect for the great sacrifice made by the men and women of our armed forces.

Let's we forget, pray for our troops today. Pray for their families who wait at home for the safe return of their loved ones. When you see a man or woman in uniform, thank them for their service. Please don't forget them. I know I never will.

Etched in Stone

*I saw your name etched in stone
When I came to visit the Wall
And the memories came flooding back
Of why you felt the need to fall.
I recalled our last conversation
But couldn't understand why
You thought it was your duty
To return to Vietnam and possibly die.*

*We cried as we looked at the pictures
Especially the ones of your so.
You said your job wasn't over,
You wouldn't abandon us and run.
I didn't understand the brotherhood
Shared by you Comrades in arms,
Family, friends, and country,
Your need to protect us all from harm.
You wore a patch of Old Glory over your heart*

*As a symbol of your love
For all the people of our nation
You carried with you to heaven above.
Mom and Dad never got over your death,
Never got to visit the memorial wall,
But Dad raised the American flag every-day*

*In memory of how you stood tall.
Now, every time I see the flag raised
I pause to remember all that you gave
To keep our nation free of oppression
Allowing Old Glory to continue to wave!*

Cheryle Keese
Westland

Medicare cuts unacceptable

As one of the people who have children under 54 who would lose their Medicare coverage under the Republican budget that passed in Congress, I'm shocked at the hypocrisy of the Republicans. They want to take away our children's Medicare and send them off on their own into the insurance market with a privatized voucher that will increase their out-of-pocket costs by over \$6,000 a year, but they still want to keep their government-paid health care!

These "fiscal conservatives" conveniently forget to mention that they get government insurance they don't want to give up. Where do they get off telling me to take cuts in benefits, if they won't practice what they preach?

Instead of making seniors, who can't afford to pay more, absorb the cost increases, they need to insist that Medicare negotiate drug prices just like every other country and company in the world. Stop subsidizing the private-for-profit health insurance companies out of our Medicare money. If they can't do it better and cheaper, then eliminate them from the program. Make the hospitals control their costs now, we are all being forced to make due with less, they need to do the same. Medicare operates at a much lower cost to us and everybody is covered — no exclusions, no increased premiums if you get sick. So much for the myth that the private sector does everything better than the government, just because they keep saying it over and over does not make it true.

The thing that upsets me the most is that these "fiscal conservatives" are perfectly willing to give tax breaks to millionaires and big oil companies and allow multinational corporations to evade taxes by moving their money to tax havens, but then they vote to cut benefits and raise taxes on middle class and senior citizens!

This plan would force seniors to sell out our children to protect our benefits. This is unthinkable! Playing off parents against our children is unacceptable.

I will not call this bunch Republicans because the majority of real Republicans that elected them do not agree with these policies. They are betraying their own supporters. Many of these people are on Medicare and Social Security and cannot afford more costs or cuts.

David Wansley
Garden City

ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS



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

The issue: LPS Food service

Could that fact that PCCS charges much less than LPS for lunch (75 cents less at the elementary level) have anything to do with LPS students not buying lunch as often???? So, are they saying that PCCS offers a better quality product and much cheaper rates than LPS - I say do it!

bow_wow

Here here! I have looked over the LPS lunch menu's for my 2 daughters and they are not healthy at all. I agree with you that the cost is out of line as well. If PCCS can do it better/cheaper/healthier, let them take it over, lay our staff off and they can apply to work for PCCS.

edjew

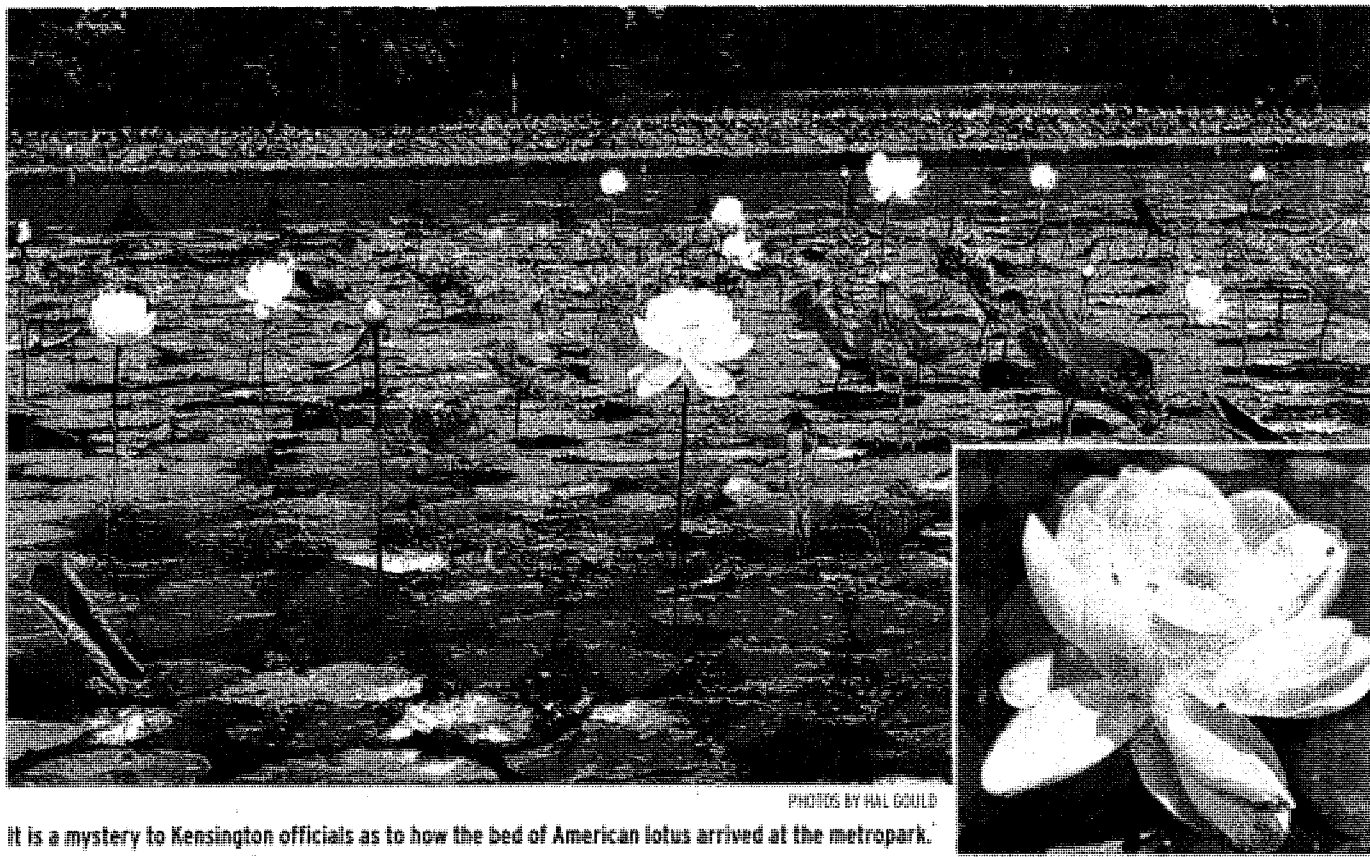
The issue: Letters

To Ms. Roberts,
Can you please name me another cities park that is for residents only?

It is mostly prohibited by law when any federal or state tax dollars are used at any time or anyplace in a park. The only one I can even think of is Camp Dearborn, which is way out in Milford.

I also understand that much of the parking at central city park has been closed for construction and will open this fall. If you don't mind a very short walk, there is parking by the rec building only 50 yards away, even more if you walk 100 yards away.

analyticthinker



PHOTOS BY HAL GOULD
It is a mystery to Kensington officials as to how the bed of American lotus arrived at the metropark.

D.C. lessons: Try to keep financial house in order

BY RICK BLOOM
GUEST COLUMNIST

As I was writing this column, the politicians in Washington were debating then voting on raising the U.S. debt ceiling. However, they had not begun to address the bigger problems of the debt and the deficit.



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

I believed they would reach some compromise and there would be no disruption in Social Security or veteran benefits. Some of the issues, however, discussed and debated deserve comment.

I am happy that the conversation in Washington has changed dramatically over the last year or so. It wasn't too long ago that politicians were all talking about spend, spend and spend some more. Now, the conversation has changed and they are talking about fiscal responsibility.

That is a positive development. Our country's debt has mushroomed over the last couple years and it is strangling future growth in America. The conversation about spending cuts is, a positive development. Of course, where those spending cuts are and how they are implemented is a concern.

I have paid close attention to the childish behavior in Washington and the most disappointing aspect of it has been how irresponsible our leaders have been. Whether it's members of Congress, the Senate, or the president, they all did nothing until the debt problem became a crisis. Shame on them. However, there is a lesson to be learned,

and that is when dealing with our personal financial affairs we cannot afford to be as irresponsible as our elected representatives.

When you and I have a financial crisis, the key is to try to identify the problem as soon as possible and come up with a game plan to resolve it. In other words, do the exact opposite of what Congress and the president have done. When you address a problem before it becomes a crisis, you generally have more options available. When you delay and wait until the last minute, the options are limited.

I believe that you can't rush into decisions. Rather, you need to take your time and review the appropriate documents. One reason people get into trouble with their mortgages, particularly adjustable rate mortgages, is they never took the time to understand what they were signing.

Although our elected leaders don't take the time to read what their voting on, you and I can't afford to be that negligent. We have to be proactive.

If nothing more we should learn something from what's been happening in Washington. We need to monitor our financial situation on a regular basis and when problems arise, don't ignore them. Work through them as soon as possible. That doesn't mean that when problems exist they are easy to solve, because they're not. However, delaying and waiting until the last minute only compounds the problem and makes it much more difficult.

Good luck!

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

'It's a mystery'

Experts unsure how endangered lotus thrives in Kent Lake

BY AILEEN WINGBLAD
STAFF WRITER

"Water lilies on steroids." That's what Kensington Metropark interpreter Mark Irish calls the extraordinary American lotus bed that has somehow managed to take root and thrive in Kent Lake. Boasting magnificent white petals measuring an average of eight inches across, orange seed cones and massive leaves, the lotuses — though native to the area — are an endangered plant. According to Irish, the only other place in Michigan that the American Lotus is found is in western Lake Erie.

Kensington is known for its fishing and canoeing spots, picnic areas, woods, farm center and bike path, Irish said, yet having a rare find such as the American Lotus for park visitors to enjoy is another point of pride for the metropark. "A lot of people don't know about (the lotus bed). But of those who have come out to see it, most really like it," he said.

The lotuses have acorn-sized seeds favored by woodchucks and other animals. Their leaves provide shade and cover for fish that inhabit the waters below the bed, Irish explained.

"The funny thing is we

don't know how they wound up here," he said. "Right now, it's a mystery."

Irish won't commit to any theory to explain the lotuses finding their way into Kensington about five years ago, but said it's possible the seeds were carried into the park by animals or people. A woman living near Lake Erie takes credit for the re-emergence of the lotuses several years ago in that area by spreading seeds in the water, Irish said, but so far no one has come forward with a similar claim for Kensington.

Regardless of how the lotus came to the metropark, it's an awesome sight to

behold, he noted.

"To have something this large — the largest wildflower in North America — right here, is definitely a cool thing," Irish said.

To check out the lotus beds from shore, the best viewing is the Island Road picnic area, Irish said.

People can also get up close and personal with the lotus bed via a short canoe or kayak trip into Kent Lake. Enter the water at the west boat launch. Canoes, kayaks, rowboats and paddle boats are available for rent at the metropark.

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Contestants sought for Miss Michigan pageant

Michigan made history when the first Arab-American woman won the 2010 Miss USA crown. Rima Fakhri of Dearborn was first selected as Miss Michigan USA 2010 to represent the state of Michigan at the Miss USA Pageant in May 2010 at the Planet Hollywood Resort and Casino in Las Vegas.

One of the year's most anticipated events, the 2012 Miss Michigan USA and Miss Michigan Teen USA competitions are slated for Sept. 30-Oct. 1, at the McMorran Place Sports and Entertainment Center in Port Huron, according to Melissa Pitchford, executive state director with the Miss Universe Organization.

Young ladies ages 13-26 interested in winning the title can apply at www.missmichiganusa.com

and www.missmichiganusa.com. A complete list of rules and regulations are available in the "enter now" section of the website.

Channing Pierce of Royal Oak was crowned Miss Michigan USA 2011 and competed for the title of Miss USA in June. Taylor Sherman of Dearborn Heights won the 2011 title of Miss Michigan Teen USA and competed for the Trump-owned Miss Teen USA Pageant in July 16 at the Atlantis Resort in the Bahamas.

"We are always overwhelmed by the response and caliber of all the participants from Michigan," Pitchford said.

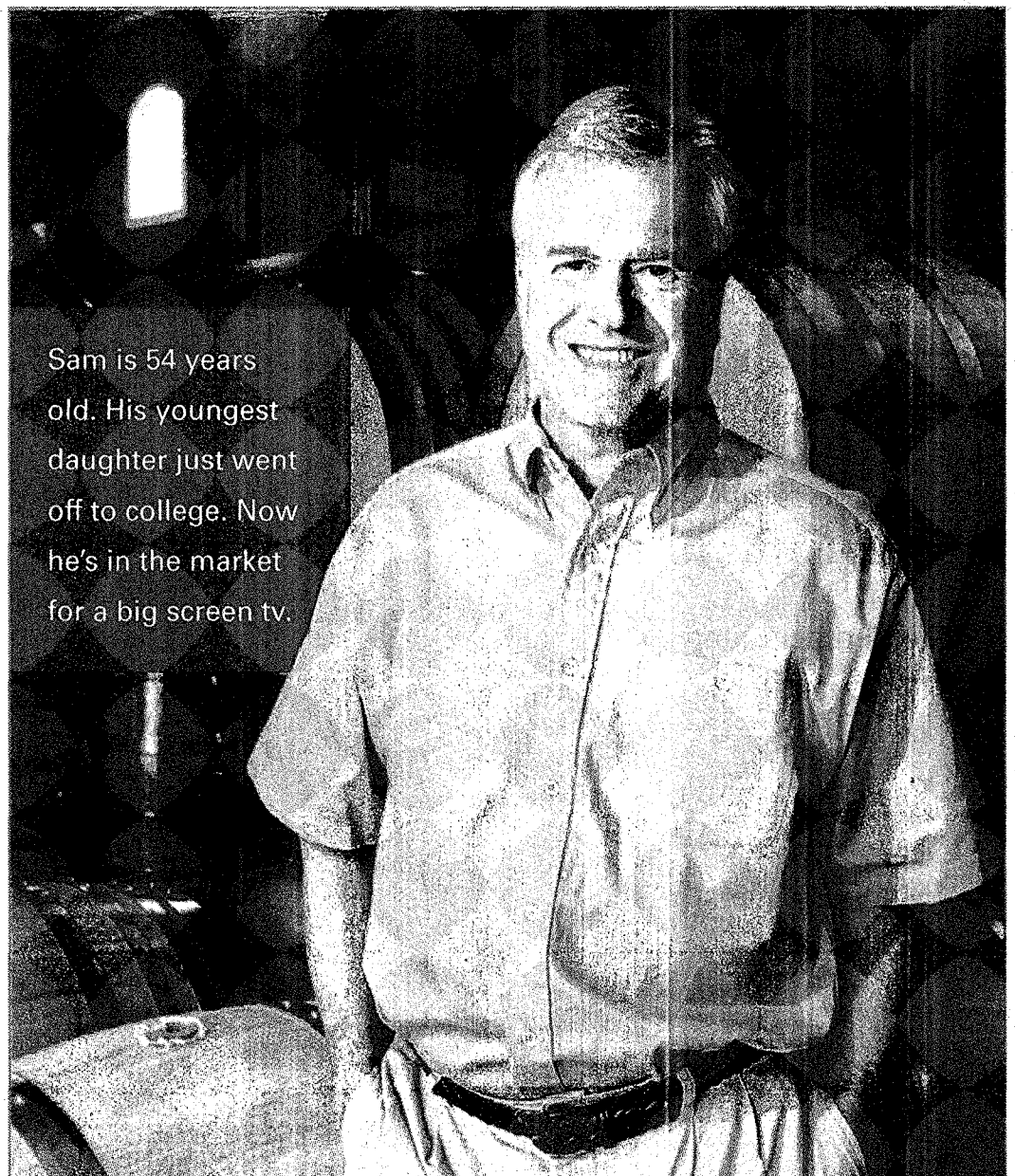
"There is no better opportunity for ambitious young women out there today. The Miss Michigan USA and Miss Michigan Teen USA competitions offer women

in the state of Michigan a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to advance their personal and professional goals."

Miss Michigan USA 2012 and Miss Michigan Teen USA 2012 will represent the state at the Trump and NBC Universal national events. A scholarship package valued at more than \$1 million to the winners, finalists and semi-finalists is offered, including a full four-year tuition scholarship to both Miss Michigan USA and Miss Michigan Teen USA to Baker College of Michigan.

Miss Michigan USA and Miss Michigan Teen USA 2012 will receive full talent representation by The I Group Model and Talent Management.

For more information, visit www.missuniverse.com or www.missmichiganusa.com.



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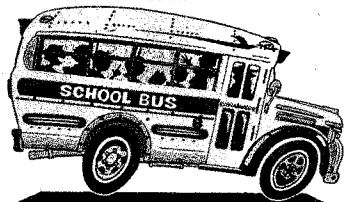
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Madonna University dean re-appointed to state board

Gov. Rick Snyder recently announced the re-appointment of Madonna University's Teresa Thompson to the Michigan Board of Nursing.

The board was created to establish qualifications for nurse licensure, establish standards and approve nurse education programs; develop and implement criteria for continued competency; and take disciplinary action against licensees when the health, safety or welfare of the public has been adversely affected.

"I believe it is important to



Thompson

process is an important one to protect the public and regulate the profession." Thompson, of Farmington Hills, is the dean and professor at the College of Nursing and Health at Madonna University. Thompson earned a regis-

give back to the profession and being part of the board offers a level of service like no other," Thompson said. "The regulatory

tered nurse diploma from the Good Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing in Ohio, both bachelor's and master's degrees in nursing from Wayne State University and a doctorate from the Wayne State University College of Nursing. She represents registered professional nurses with a master's degree engaged in nursing education in a baccalaureate or higher program.

Thompson has served on the board for the previous two years. This appointment is her first full-term, which is a four-year appointment.

"I am pleased to be re-appointed. With 23 members on the board, I have witnessed a commitment at all levels of nursing, as well as the public commitment, to have an accountable process for the profession," Thompson said.

Also recently appointed or re-appointed to the board by Snyder are Kathy Bouchard-Wyant, Leah Cohen, Mary Corrado and Mary Brown.

Bouchard-Wyant, of East Lansing, is a project coordinator for the Sparrow Physicians Health Network and is a founding member of the Unit

Based Council at Sparrow Hospital, which works to develop best practices methods and solve issues.

Cohen, of Dimondale, is a clinical nurse specialist for critical care at Sparrow Hospital and has served as a nurse educator for critical care, assistant department manager to the neonatal intensive care unit, stroke intensive care unit and neuro step down unit.

Corrado, of Canton, is president and CEO of the American Society of Employers and has more than 15 years of expe-

rience in association management. She is a certified compensation professional as well as a certified management assessor. Corrado earned both bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Michigan. She represents the general public and replaces Jody Weissler.

Brown, of Dimondale, is a registered nurse for Ingham Regional Medical Center and the Lansing Surgery Center. She previously served as a legislative assistant in the Michigan House of Representatives.

Mad 4 Mitch movement brings students together at Madonna

People are going mad for Mitch. And the folks running the Mad 4 Mitch Facebook page hope it's contagious. Mitch Cieslak, a Madonna University student-athlete, was thrust into the spotlight of a marketing campaign by a challenge presented to his class.

It all started with a discussion about how social media has leveled the playing field and how six students in a summer evening hospitality marketing class can have the same impact as a Fortune 500 company because of social media.

"I assigned the class a project to come up with a Facebook fan page. After much debate, the class came up with a topic they were most passionate about. They wanted to find a better way to make new friends at a commuter school and thought they could achieve

this by finding a common meeting space," said John Murray, instructor at Madonna.

The students decided that the best place to meet was at basketball games at Madonna's Student Activity Center. Since

they wanted to make sure no one was excluded, even those who didn't like basketball, the class came to the conclusion that they had to find something all students would like, which was Mitch Cieslak.

"He's a pretty great guy. It's hard not to like him," Murray said.

What began as a half-hearted acceptance of an assignment soon turned into something the students

became truly passionate about. They created a mission statement, produced their own commercial, hired a mascot, designed a logo, established a blog, printed T-shirts and spoke to more than 100 incoming freshman about the importance of being proactive to make new friends.

In three weeks, Mad 4 Mitch received more than 850 unique visitors and has tallied 319 likes on Facebook.

"A Fortune 500 company would consider it a great success to get that many likes in less than a month, but the six students in this hospitality class will not be happy unless they have 1,000 likes," Murray said.

So the effort continues, and as the fall semester approaches they plan to continue the Mad 4 Mitch effort. Everyone is invited to like the page and follow along.



Cieslak

Concert benefits young mom with brain cancer

BY KAREN SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A benefit concert will be held Saturday, Aug. 6, for a young mother with incurable brain cancer who grew up in Livonia.

Megan Marolla-Stieg, a 1995 Franklin High School graduate whose parents still live in Rosedale Gardens home where she grew up, was diagnosed earlier this year with grade III glioma. She has two sons, Parker 4 and Keaton 2.

Marolla-Stieg underwent surgery, radiation and chemotherapy and is continuing with chemo. Her tumor has shrunk from the size of a silver dollar to a dime, said her mother, Barbara Marolla.

"She's doing real well. The doctors are real, real pleased," Marolla said. "We've got a lot of people praying. We put the word out."

Doctors believe the cancer, though not curable, may be manageable with experimental drugs, Marolla said.

Marolla-Stieg, 34, moved two years ago to Denver with her husband James, a 1993 Franklin grad.



Megan Marolla-Stieg with older son Parker, 4. Proceeds from the Aug. 6 concert will go toward clinical trials to help Marolla-Stieg manage her incurable brain cancer and to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital brain tumor program.

She was working as a commercial artist for Quiznos before her diagnosis; her husband is a heating and cooling engineer.

Marolla-Stieg started having symptoms, including weakness, fatigue and migraines, sometime between Thanksgiving and Christmas last year, according to the www.mylife.org website where she updates family and friends on her progress.

An MRI Jan. 25 found the tumor on the right side of her brain in an area that controls the entire left side of the body's motor skills.

Marolla said doctors removed as much of the tumor as they could without impairing her daughter's quality of life.

That was followed by eight weeks of chemotherapy and radiation together. She is now undergoing six months of chemotherapy treatment.

"I feel pretty good," Marolla-Stieg said in a telephone interview Tuesday. "I feel a lot better than before I had my surgery, that's for sure."

Marolla-Stieg is coming home for the benefit concert, which will be held at 8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 6, at the Majestic Theatre in Detroit. The concert will feature six local punk bands. Cost for all ages is \$12. Tickets may be purchased at the door or through Ticketmaster.

Marolla-Stieg will donate 25 percent of the proceeds to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital brain tumor program. The other 75 percent will go toward clinical trials not covered by insurance to help her manage her cancer.

Donate online at www.mylife-line.org/meganstieg.

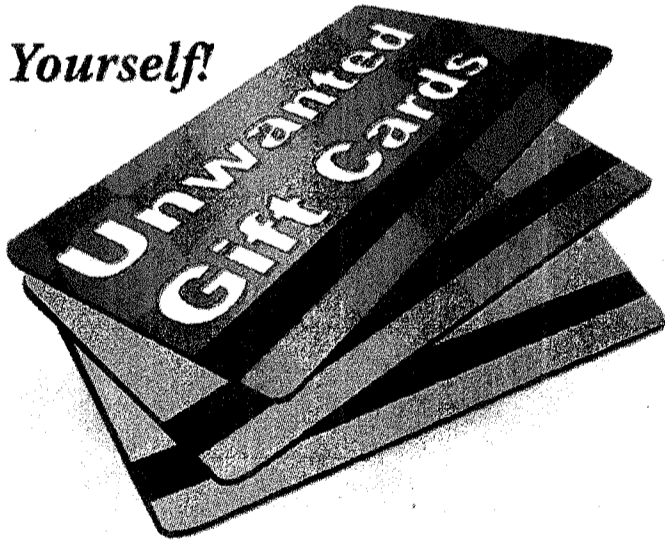
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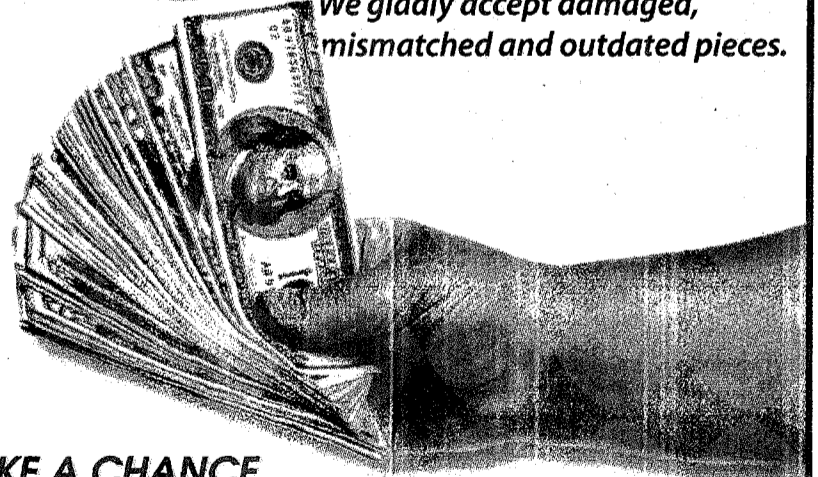
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Rockets coach Anderson let go Assistant Kovatch named

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

GIRLS BASKETBALL

In a stunning development, Mark Anderson is out and Eric Kovatch is in as Westland John Glenn varsity girls basketball coach.

Anderson, who guided the Rockets to a 19-4 overall record last season, was informed Monday by Wayne-Westland Schools athletic director Greg Ambrose that his contract would not be renewed for a third season.

Kovatch, who teaches science at Glenn, was a paid varsity assistant under Anderson last year and coached the Rockets freshman team the previous two seasons before the 2010-11 team was dropped due to a lack of interest.

The 6-foot-8 Anderson, who played basketball at Central Michigan University, is not a Wayne-Westland district employee.

The 38-year-old Kovatch, a native of Yale and a University of Michigan graduate, has taught in the Wayne-Westland Schools the past 10 years and is a member of the teachers union where he had the option to file a grievance if not given the position.

"There's a (job) posting period and all (coaching) contracts are terminated at the end of the school year," Ambrose said. "All positions at the end of the year are open and we have to consider all applicants. There's a whole process to the hiring and we sent it to Human

Resources and it took some time to resolve.

"Nothing against Mark or what he was doing, but we had to go by what the (district) contract says. Based on what the contract says we had to honor it. You try and stick with those who have been coaching to keep the continuity, but sometimes you run into something like this and you have to make an adjustment."

Kovatch, who was an assistant girls track coach in the spring and will be the Rockets freshman football coach this fall, said he applied for the position when it was posted on May 1.

"I was encouraged by players and parents," Kovatch added. "I look forward to working with these girls. My bottom line — and the main goal and beyond — is to make sure they have a great experience and carry with them a good and wonderful high school experience. The basketball part will take care of itself."

After going 6-15 in his inaugural season as Glenn girls varsity coach, Anderson, with the help of three high-profile transfers, won 19 of 23 games with the only losses coming against Class A state champion Inkster (in the district final) and KLAA South Division rival and two-time state semifinalist Canton (three times).

Please see **ROCKETS, B3**



Paul Fried of Farmington Hills shows off his new recumbent bicycle that has enabled him to continue riding after a serious accident last year.

Back on the bike

Recovered from injuries, Fried rides for CCFa again

BY DAN O'MEARA
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The only person who thought Paul Fried would be able to ride in this year's Paul Fried Charity Ride was Paul Fried.

Doctors, family members and friends thought Fried would never ride a bicycle again, following a serious training accident last year.

But the 61-year-old Farmington Hills man was determined to participate in the event he started three years ago to benefit the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America.

"Nothing could keep me off the bike," Fried said. "After I got out of intensive care, I was already thinking about riding again.

"Where there's a will, there's a way. I love it. Riding is a passion for me. I would hate to give it up.

"Everybody said, 'Don't get your hopes up; you might not heal.' I said, 'Don't worry; I'm going to be fine.'"

And he is, now. Through sheer will, he'll be pushing the pedals at the fourth annual Charity Ride for CCFa on Saturday, Aug. 20, at Kensington Metropark in Milford.

Just two days after last year's ride, Fried and other cyclists were riding in a tight pack when Fried's bike collided with another.

He flew over the handle bars and suffered catastrophic injuries — a broken pelvis, collarbone and ribs, a cracked spine and a collapsed lung

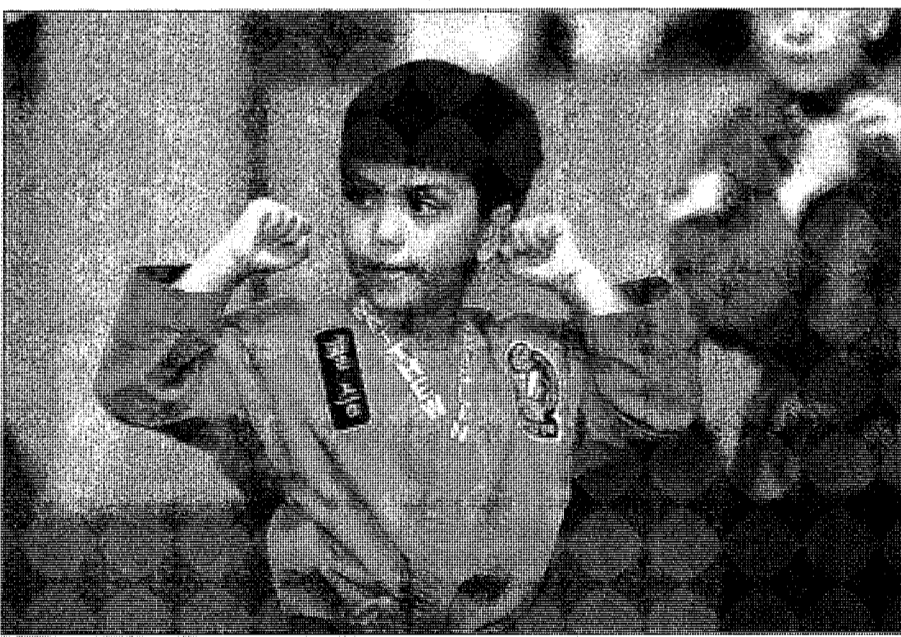
— when he landed on the pavement.

Fried's recovery has been nothing short of miraculous.

"That's what they told me in the hospital, considering my age and health situation," Fried said, adding an orthopedic surgeon put everything back together. "He said I probably wouldn't walk again for five or six months, fully unaided.

"I was very determined, and I did it in three and a half months. I consider myself extremely lucky, because I walked away from this with no residual effects. I could have been crippled; I healed up nicely. Maybe that's the power of positive thinking."

Please see **FRIED, B2**



Young Matthew McFarlin exudes confidence while going through patterns recently at the Novi Dojang.

Boy wonder, 6, eyes black belt

At promptly 4:45 p.m. every Monday and Wednesday, Matthew McFarlin strides confidently through the huge gymnasium of Canton's Lifetime Fitness Center.

His destination: the choi kwang do dojang (classroom). Classes start at 5 p.m.

More often than not, he will lead the other students through warmup exercises before resuming his place at the rear of the group. For the next two hours, Matthew will participate in intricate patterns designed to promote self-defense, speed, balance and flexibility.

The bright red and black martial arts uniform he wears is a bit unusual in itself, but what surprises most observers is his age. On Aug. 6,

Matthew will test for his first-degree black belt, which is expected to make him one of the youngest ranking black belts in the country at just 6 years old.

So what exactly drives the pint-sized dynamo who won't turn 7 until September?

"If I knew what it was, I would bottle it and sell it on TV," joked Matthew's dad, John McFarlin of Dearborn. "I'd be rich."

The youngster immediately took to choi kwang do after parents John and Arcelie McFarlin signed him up shortly after he turned 4.

"After his second class, I could tell, it was something he really, really liked to do," Arcelie said.

Please see **BLACK BELT, B2**

Menovcik's second 'good next step'

BY DAN O'MEARA
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The 2011 racing season "has been an on-and-off struggle" for Steve Menovcik due to a heel injury that doesn't heal quickly when you're a dedicated runner.

Menovcik was definitely *on* when he ran in the annual Founders Festival four-mile road race July 17 in Farmington, however.

The 42-year-old attorney was the men's Masters Division winner for the second year in a row, and he was the second runner overall across the finish line.

His goal was to break 22 minutes and he did, running well under that target time at 21:39.

Menovcik, who runs a lot of 5K and 10K races, puts it in the top 15 to 20 percent of his performances based on average time.

"I lost about nine weeks (of training because of the injury)," he said. "I've been working the last 10 weeks to try and get back. I was very happy and

pleased with how the race went and the time I ran."

Furthermore, Menovcik was less than a minute behind the overall men's winner — Emery Pitcel of Richmond, who ran 20:49 and is less than half Menovcik's age.

"I was happy with that," Menovcik said. "I got a chance to talk to him briefly, and he's a really good, young runner (from Grand Valley State University)."

"I remembered him from last year. He passed me this year just before Mile 2. He runs a very smart, strategic race, and has a lot of potential at age 20."

Menovcik, a longtime Farmington Hills resident who works with the Michigan legislature and now lives in the Lansing area, competed in his fourth Founders Festival race.

"The Founders is the only four-mile race during the year," he said. "I actually like the distance. It speaks volumes about a race when the top four finishers come back to race," he said. "Herman (Smith of the Farmington

Hills Recreation Division) does a great job with registration and running the race. It's always very well done; I'll always put that on the calendar.

Menovcik is more of a long-distance runner, but he likes the Founders race as a nice change of pace.

He's won the Detroit Race for the Cure twice, in 2008 and 2009, and he's won the St. Mary Mercy Hospital 5K in Livonia three straight years.

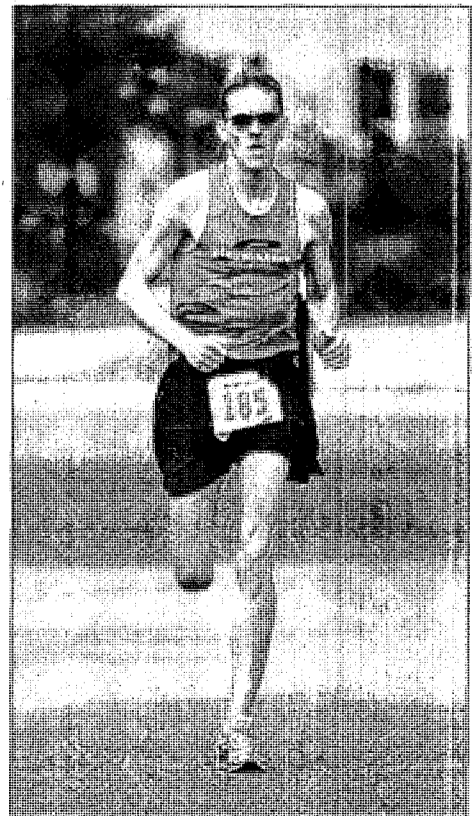
Menovcik's best marathon finish was 13th overall in the 2009 Detroit event when he ran 2:48.41. That was just two weeks after running a marathon in the St. Paul, Minn.

He also ran the Houston Marathon (2:47:28) in January, and his best time remains the 2:41:47 he ran at the San Antonio Marathon in 2008.

Golf had been Menovcik's sport of choice until nine years ago when he started running.

"I've loved it ever since," he said.

Please see **MENOVCIK, B3**



Steve Menovcik competes in the 2011 Josh Spalsbury Comet Chase 5K race in Grand Ledge on June 18.

SIDELINES

Haeger to Red Sox

Tim Wakefield may have some knuckleball company some day as the Boston Red Sox recently signed Livonia native Charlie Haeger, who was released earlier this month by the Seattle Mariners' Tacoma Rainiers of the AAA Pacific Coast.

The 27-year-old right-hander, a Detroit Catholic Central High grad, went 2-2 with a 7.74 earned-run average for the Rainiers after undergoing back surgery earlier in the spring.

Haeger, who resides in Plymouth, had signed a minor league contract with the Mariners last year. He has spent parts of five Major League seasons (2006-10) with the Chicago White Sox, San Diego Padres and Los Angeles Dodgers.

In 34 major league games, Haeger is 2-7 with a 6.40 ERA in 83 innings.

BCAM All-Stars

Livonia Stevenson 6-foot-9 center Jalen Reynolds and Canton guard Dietrich Lever will play Saturday in the 32nd annual Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan All-Star Basketball Festival for seniors Saturday at The Palace of Auburn Hills.

The four-game slate starts with the Class C-D girls game, featuring Miss Basketball Jasmine Hines (Central Lake), at 2 p.m. followed by the A-B girls at 3:30 p.m. Farmington Hills Mercy guard Janelle McQueen will play for the White team in the A-B girls game.

The Class C-D boys game, featuring Mr. Basketball Dwaun Anderson (Suttons Bay) starts at 5:40 p.m. (followed by a slam dunk contest). The A-B game completes the slate at 7:50 p.m.

Reynolds, headed to Brewster Academy (N.H.), will play for the A-B White team, while Lever will play for the A-B Black squad.

Tickets are priced at \$10, \$15 and \$20 and are available at TicketMaster and the Palace box office, or by calling (800) 745-3000.

Murphy sets marks

The Spartan Aquatic Club's Camden Murphy set a pair of records in last weekend's Michigan Long Course 14-and-Under State Championship meet held at Eastern Michigan University's Jones Natatorium.

Murphy swam a 1:03.59 in the 100-meter backstroke to break the record of 1:04.94 (set in 1985) and the 50 butterfly in 28.5. He also captured the 200 butterfly (2:28.49), 50 backstroke (33.03) and took second in the 50 freestyle (27.48) and 100 freestyle (1:00.94).

Heersink medals

Livonia's Ian Heersink came away with three medals in last week's National Roller Figure Skating Championships held in Fort Wayne, Ind.

The 12-year-old, representing Riverside Arena in Livonia, captured a silver medal in the Elementary A Boys Circle Figures, along with bronze medals in the Boys Loops and Combined Figures.

It was the fourth consecutive year Heersink has medaled at the Nationals.

O&E men's golf

Registration is on for the 2011 Men's Observer & Eccentric Open, a 36-hole medal play event Sunday-Monday, Sept. 4-5, at Fox Creek and Whispering Willows golf courses.

The entry fee is \$95 and is limited to the first 120 golfers. There will be \$2,500 in guaranteed prizes in three different flights (championship, first and seniors 55 and up). Entries close 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 27.

For more information, visit www.golflivonia.com or call (248) 476-4493.

The Big Chill

Late Thunder Bay goal keeps Bucks from Final Four

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Thirteen-hour bus rides are never enjoyable.

But the Thunder Bay Chill made the long trek from northern Ontario well worth it with a 2-1 victory over the host Michigan Bucks for the Premier Development League's Central Conference title at Ultimate Soccer Arena's in Pontiac.

Wilson Rodrigues Neto's unassisted goal in the 86th minute coming off a corner kick restart proved to game-deciding goal and propelled the Ontario team into next weekend's PDL Final Four.

"That's what we're all about, we do a lot of traveling," Chill coach Tony Colistro said. "This was actually one of our shorter trips."

"A lot of the guys came back from last year's (Final Four) team that had a lot of experience, they really wanted to go there. But they knew it was going to be a tough path and the Bucks had been there many times before, too."

Thunder Bay's first goal came off a restart. Midfielder Gustavo Oliveira-Arajao De F scored in the eighth minute off a free kick from 20 yards out to stake the Chill (14-2-2) to a 1-0 lead.

"I was trying to switch up the wall," said Bucks goalkeeper and Livonia Stevenson High grad Mitch Hildebrandt said. "It was just my mistake. The kid hit a ball, it went through the wall and deflected. It took a short hop and went right over me. If I could do it 20 more times I'd probably save 19. It was just a tough pill to swallow on that

one."

The Bucks (13-3-2), however, evened the count at 1-all when Stewart Givens drilled a penalty kick into the lower left corner net just three minutes later.

But that was the only goal Thunder Bay goalkeeper Stephen Paterson would yield the rest of the night.

The Bucks, coming off a dramatic 3-2 double-overtime win the night before in the conference semifinal over the Des Moines (Iowa) Menace, seemed to slow down at the start of the second half.

It also didn't help when Bucks had to play a man down after midfielder Thomas Catalan left to go to the locker room just before halftime to have a bloody cheekbone re-stitched.

Catalan did return early in the second half, but there was a shift in play.

"I thought we were getting caught with our outside backs, coming up too soon and they (Thunder Bay) were coming back on the counters early in the second half and it kind of put us back on our heels," said Bucks coach Gary Parsons.

"They did amp it up and they played much better in the second half. In the first half we didn't put our chances away, and in the second half they kind of equalized the game, stepped it up and got a good goal."

Hildebrandt, who plays for Oakland University, also saw the same pattern develop.

"They (Thunder) came out really well in the second half," he said. "We came out - too many gaps. We were all over them the first half and that kind of played into us going

forward and getting caught."

Rodrigues Neto's goal, a laser shot off a deflection, then sealed the Bucks fate.

"We haven't done well (on restarts)," Colistro said. "We were getting a lot of corners, but we hadn't been capitalizing. We have been practicing them a lot with Wilson, who got the game-winning goal, as our key player. Usually he's heading the ball into the net, but we'll take it any way we can get it."

Although the Bucks fell short of their goal of reaching the PDL's coveted Final Four, they did capture the Great Lakes Division of the Central Conference.

"These guys are a pleasure to have," Parsons said. "They're all good players. I'm very, very happy with the commitment they made over the summer time. That's the most difficult thing keeping these guys going during the summer time because it's also vacation time with the guys out of school and stuff."

"To get that to make the commitment and play for you all summer, and balance the schedules, and maybe give up some things... it's sacrificing and I love them. The guys are great."

Hildebrandt, who had an eight-match shutout string snapped in the semifinals, also benefited from the summer experience.

"I'll take away friendships," he said. "These were a great group of guys. It was great playing with them. Everybody gave heart. With my play... I was consistent through 18 games. It was good."

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JOHN MCFARLIN

Hard-kicking Matthew McFarlin shows his stuff during Northville's Fourth of July parade.

BLACK BELT

FROM PAGE B1

At that time, classes were being instructed by Master Dorothy Stoddard. Michael Ayerst took over the Canton choi program when Master Stoddard retired to devote full time to her new duties as a grandma.

The McFarlins initially were apprehensive that it might affect Matthew's progress, but if anything it seemed to make him even more determined.

"We asked him if it was going to bother him to have a different teacher, and he said 'Nope' and that was that," Arcelie said.

What exactly attracted young Matthew to martial arts?

According to John, "If I had to make a guess, I would tell you that he got it from watching the WWE (World Wrestling Entertainment) on TV. He wanted to be like Shawn Michaels, who called himself 'The Heartbreak Kid.'"

"Shawn was known for a high kick maneuver he called 'sweet chin music' and Matthew was trying to do it himself. We figured that choi kwang do would be the way

to go, because they promoted self-defense without advocating any kind of physical contact."

These days, the "Sweetheart Kid" is almost like any other 6-year-old. He plays soccer, enjoys T-ball, bowling and fishing and is taking swimming classes at the Canton Lifetime Fitness Center.

YOUNG AND PROUD

Matthew, who will be entering second grade at Howard Elementary in Dearborn this fall, recently joined the Choi Demo Team based out of Novi. As one of the youngest and most advanced junior students, it makes him proud to be part of such a tightly organized squad.

The Demo Team performs choreographed routines set to music for conventions, seminars and at monthly color belt tests held in Novi. Most recently, they were seen at the Northville Fourth of July Parade.

Sabumnin (which means teacher or instructor in Korean) Ayerst put Matthew's accomplishments in perspective.

"If he keeps going the way he has, working hard at it, by the time he's 22 years old he could be a fifth-degree black

belt, which would make him the youngest, highest ranked black belt in the world," Ayerst said. "But if nothing else, we've given him the tools to succeed in whatever he wants in life. He can be anything he wants to be."

And as for the parents?

"I used to cry like a baby every time Matthew would earn a higher color belt," John said. "But he's been promoted so many times that these days my eyes just get a little misty."

According to Arcelie, "Matthew has put a lot of hard work into his choi lessons. He's a good boy, the best thing in our lives."

As a reward for his last promotion, to brown belt senior, the parents purchased Matthew tickets for The Wiggles concert held July 29 at The Palace of Auburn Hills.

Aren't The Wiggles an act for little kids you might ask? Yes, they are. But at 6, Matthew is still little. He likes The Wiggles.

And maybe someday, who knows, World Wrestling Entertainment might be looking for a new "Heartbreak Kid."

This article was submitted to the Observer.

Plymouth Canton Cruisers seize state title

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

After being hired last March, Josh and Alexandra Morgan have made quite a splash as swim coaches for the Plymouth Canton Cruisers.

The Cruisers were in cruise control last weekend, capturing the team title in the 2011 Michigan Long Course 14-and-under State Championships held at Eastern Michigan University's Jones Natatorium. The combined girls and boys teams accumulated 1,116 and 967 points, respectively, for a grand total of 2,083 to seize the crown in the 57-team field in a meet which was co-hosted by the Cruisers and Bulldog Aquatic Club.

Kingfish Aquatic and Club Wolverine placed second and third overall with 1,942 and 1,485.5, respectively.

The Cruisers' Jon Wang was the top individual point-getter for Boys 10-and-under with a total of 109 including firsts in the 100-meter freestyle (1:08.16), 200 freestyle (2:25.36) and 400 freestyle (5:04.54).

He also took a second in the 200 individual medley (2:49.33) and a third in the 100 butterfly (1:17.29).

Wang also teamed up with Eric Liu, Gabriel Cohen and Tristen Shao for first in the 400 medley (5:37.26) and 400 freestyle (5:01.51) relays.

Liu also took third in the 50 backstroke (38.57).

Another Cruisers standout

SWIMMING

was Jack Walsh, who was runner-up in individual points with 107 thanks to firsts in the 100 backstroke (1:03.51), 400 IM (4:47.82) and 200 breaststroke (2:17.16).

Walsh added a second in the 200 IM (2:16.9) and teamed up with James Xue, Max Conblath and Socrates Papageorgiou for firsts in the 800 freestyle (8:36.38) and 400 medley (4:20.67) relays.

Papageorgiou contributes firsts in the 100- and 200 breaststroke events with times of 1:09.89 and 2:35.7, respectively, along with a third in the 200 IM (2:20.59).

Not to be outdone in the Girls 13-14 age division was the Cruisers' Miranda Tucker, who tied for second overall in points (114).

She placed first in the 100 breaststroke (1:14.57), 200 IM (2:25.18) and 200 breaststroke (2:41.56).

Tucker also added second in the 100 butterfly (1:05.8) and was a member of three first-place relay teams.

The foursome of Hannah Jenkins, Lisa Zhang and Linda Zhang set a state record in the 400 medley relay (4:35.65) and won the 800 freestyle relay (9:06.19).

Tuckers, the Zhang sisters and Emily Toro also won the 400 freestyle relay (4:07.26).

Linda Zhang also finished second in the 100 breaststroke (1:15.72) and placed third in

the 200 breaststroke (2:47.43) and 200 IM (2:29.07).

In the Girls 11-12, Meghan Mans led the way for the Cruisers with a first in the 100 backstroke (1:11.18); second, 50 backstroke (33.37) and 100 backstroke (2:33.45); and third in the 400 freestyle (4:48.12).

The Cruisers' quartet of Mans, Katie Xu, Emma Noonan and Nicole Pumper placed third in the 400 freestyle (4:27.15) and 400 medley (4:52.25) relays.

Xu also added a second in the 200 breaststroke in 2:56.05).

Michael MacGillivray (Boys 11-12) earned top three finishes in four different events for the Cruisers led by his win in the 200 backstroke (2:36.04). He also took second in the 100 backstroke (1:12.7) and thirds in the 50 backstroke (34.41) and 400 IM (5:32.2).

In the Girls 10-and-under, Jenna Chen placed third the 50- and 100 breaststrokes with times of 42.19 and 1:32.6, respectively.

Chen, Kylie Goit, Anne Tustian and Miranda Li were runner-up in the 400 medley relay (5:54.29) and third in the 400 freestyle relay (5:23.12).

The Cruisers now move on to the 14-and-under USA Swimming Zone Championships representing Team Michigan at the IUPUI Natatorium, Aug. 5-8, in Indianapolis, Ind.

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Warrior Dashers

Livonia Churchill High alums Quinn Osgood (right), Ryan Keeling (middle) and Stephen Charnley (left) finished runner-up, fourth and 13th, respectively, in the Boys 14-19 age division Sunday at the Warrior Dash, a 5-kilometer adventure race held in Mount Morris. The two-day 3.1-mile cross country foot race, which attracted a field of nearly 5,700, featured 11 obstacles including fire-jumping, rope-swinging and mud-crawling (under barbed wire). Osgood, a 2010 Churchill grad, was fourth overall in 24 minutes, 20.2 seconds (7:51 per mile), while Keeling, another 2010 alum, was eighth in 25:07.3 (8:06 per mile). Charnley, who graduated in June, placed 51st overall in 28:03.4 (9:03 per mile).



FRIED

FROM PAGE B1

Fried, the co-owner of an accounting firm, was diagnosed with Crohn's disease when he was 20. His injuries were made worse by the fact he also has osteoporosis, the result of taking steroids to treat the Crohn's disease.

"Doctors warned me about that, if I got in an accident," he said. "Never in my wildest imagination did I anticipate something like this."

"I'm very lucky; I cracked my helmet, but I didn't have any head injuries. I've had a lot of close calls in life, but somebody up there likes me. I'm still here and still plugging along."

REACHING COMPROMISE

Fried's determination to ride a bike again led to serious discussions and even arguments with family members and friends.

"I've always felt there's an answer to everything," Fried said. "My friends and business partner were extremely nervous about me resuming the sport."

The answer was a recumbent bike, which has the rider seated in a reclined position instead of being forward leaning on the handlebars.

That was the solution, the compromise, that resolved the debate between Fried and others concerned about his safety.

Fried sits even closer to the ground and is further reclined in his version of the recumbent bicycle.

"It's a racing bike," he said. "It's built for speed and it's very fast. I didn't think I would

enjoy it as much as I am. It came in six weeks ago, and I've been riding it ever since. I love it. I did 35 miles on Sunday morning, so I'm happy with my progress. I'm ahead of where I thought I'd be at this point."

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

The Aug. 20 event will be a 25-mile ride. To participate or make a donation, see the website at online.ccfca.org/paulfriedcharityride2011 or send an e-mail to PAF123@aol.com.

"I may go the whole 25, but I'll probably just do two laps and 16, so I can spend some time talking to some riders there," Fried said.

"I would love to do the full event, and I know I can do it. My goal this summer is to get up to 50 to 55 miles at a time."

Fried's other goal is to raise \$10,000 again, as the event did last year with 75 riders. He hopes to increase that amount by one or two thousand. He added 100 percent goes to CCFCA.

Fried hadn't ridden a bike

Due to health concerns, none of his doctors would sign the permission form the next year. That's when he got the idea to start the Paul Fried Charity Ride for CCFCA and have an event closer to home.

"I developed a philosophy 41 years ago when I was diagnosed with Crohn's," Fried said. "My attitude has always been I truly can overcome anything. I look on the bright side no matter how many times I end up in the hospital. It's a bend in the road, and I can overcome any obstacle."

"My daughter, Katie, always says: 'I'm so proud of you; you've overcome so much and always have a wonderful attitude.' I don't want to go through life thinking, 'Woe is me.' I'm not going to let illness define me or get me down. My attitude is to control my life and how I live it."

SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS

Churchill gymnastics

The Livonia Churchill gymnastics camp for girls ages 11-and-up will be 6-8 p.m. Monday through Friday, Aug. 8-12. The fee is \$79.

For more information, e-mail camp director and Churchill coach Kelly

Grodzicki at kgrodzic@gmail.com; or Sara Wilchowski at sarahwilchowski@gmail.com.

Madonna girls softball

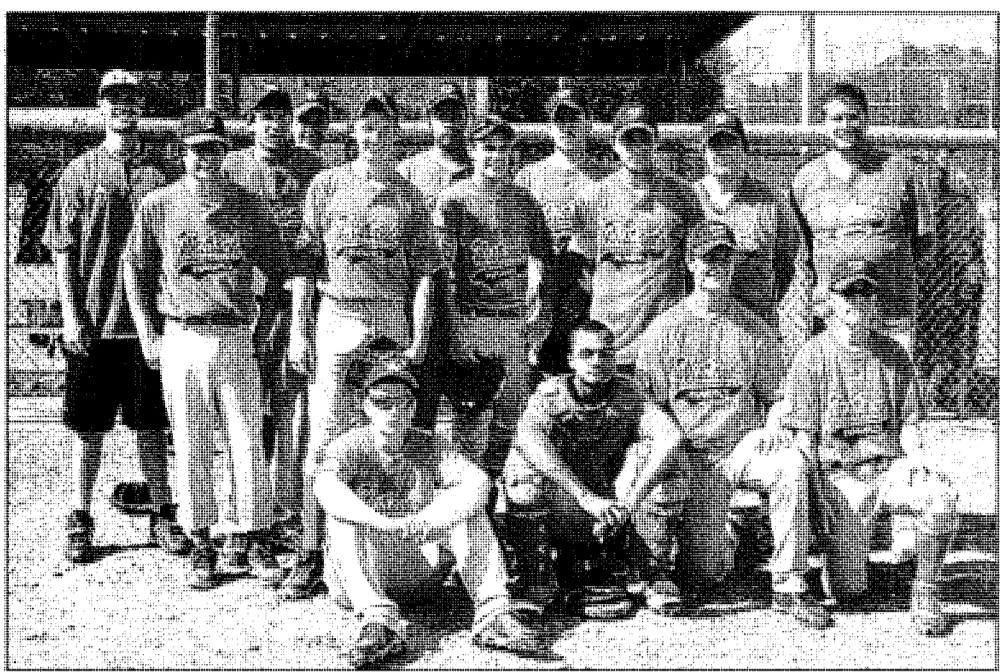
Madonna University and the City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will run a summer girls softball camp (ages 8-15) from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.,

Monday through Friday, Aug. 15-19 at Livonia's Bicentennial Park (Diamond No. 3).

The cost is \$200 (resident) or \$210 (non-resident). Participants should bring water and a lunch.

Registration forms are available online at www.clivonia.mi.us.

For more information, call (734) 466-2900.



Hawks champions

The Westland Youth Athletic Association Hawks capped a 13-4 season by defeating the Livonia Seawolves, 7-5, Saturday at Livonia's Bicentennial Park for the 16-and-under Colt Inner-City League championship. Members of the Hawks include (first row, from left): Chris Scheffer, Devon Spalding, Austin Hovermale, Austin Wilson; (second row, from left) Jeffrey Tromans, Tyler Dingman, Kyle Hunter, Alex Harris; (third row, from left) coach Steven Hovermale, Chase Bovia, coach Greg Hovermale, Marcus Washington, Ryan Schaffer, coach Joe Schaffer and manager Jeff Bovia.

15U Concealed Security off to quick series start

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

SANDLOT BASEBALL

So far, so good for the Concealed Security in the 15-and-under USSSA International World Series held in Crystal Lake, Ill. The Livonia-based team advanced out of its pool with a 5-0 record and earned a fourth-seed in the 24-team elimination double-elimination round tournament. Concealed won its fifth straight Monday with a six-inning (mercy rule) win over the Cleveland (Ohio) Hit Club as Kevin Nisun (Livonia Franklin) went 3-for-3 with four RBI and two runs score. Austin Stevens (Livonia Stevenson) added two hits, including a double and two RBI, while pitcher Zach Schmidtke (Dearborn Heights/Divine Child) was the winning pitcher. In Saturday's pool play open-

er, John Slater (Southfield) got the win in relief and drove home Nisun and Dee Jawad (Dearborn Heights) with the game-winning two-run singled in the top of the seventh to beat the Lake County (Ill.) Sidewinders, 7-6. Slater went 3-for-4 with three RBI and struck out four in 1.2 innings in relief of starter Alex Padilla (Romeo). Nisun also went 2-for-2 in opening-round victory. In Round Two on Saturday, Padilla went 2-for-3, including a grand slam and six RBI in a 13-2 victory in five innings (mercy rule) over Genoa City (Wisc.). Winning pitcher Kenny Miller (Lakeland) limited the Wisconsin team to three hits and struck out six. On Sunday, Concealed opened with a 5-2 win over

the Illinois Sparks as Slater went 3-for-4 at the plate and got the save in relief of Stevens, who allowed just two hits and struck out seven in five innings to pick up the victory. Nisun also added two hits. Stevens then came through with a pinch-hit 3-run triple as Concealed quieted the Illinois Thunder in six-inning mercy, 18-5. Lane Gusler (Woodhaven) was the winning pitcher, while Alex DeYonker (Franklin) closed out the win in relief. Concealed, which improved to 30-18 overall, received a first-round bye and was scheduled to meet the winner of the game between the No. 13 seed and No. 20 seeds. The tournament featured a field of 36 in six different pools including teams from Japan, Brazil and Sri Lanka.

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RU boys soccer

Redford Union High boys soccer conditioning sessions will be from 5-7 p.m. Monday through Thursday at Hilbert Middle School, and Fridays at the RU weight room. For more information, call RU boys varsity soccer coach Jim Gibbs at (313) 995-4234.

Home Run Derby

Once again, they'll be knocking it out of the park for the Miracle League of Plymouth. The second annual Dale Rumberger Home Run Derby is scheduled from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 6 at Salem High School's varsity baseball field. High school players from KLAAs teams who competed in 2011 have been invited to participate, along with players from Novi-Detroit Catholic Central and other schools in the area.

All proceeds from the event will be donated to the Miracle League of Plymouth to benefit ongoing maintenance of The Bilkie Family Field. The Miracle League of Plymouth was established in 2010 by the Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M. For more information about the derby, e-mail Barker at tcbarker114@yahoo.com. To learn more about Miracle League of Plymouth, go to www.miracleleagueplymouth.org.

Youth baseball tryouts

• Tryouts for 2012 Canton Cardinals travel baseball teams will be Sunday, Aug. 7, and Sunday, Aug. 21 at Heritage Park. On Sunday, Aug. 7 and on Sunday, Aug. 21, the following tryout sessions include: 8:30-10:30 a.m., 9-and-under; 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., 10-and-under; 12:30-2:30 p.m., 11-and-under; 2:30-4:30 p.m., 12-and-under; 4:30-6:30 p.m., 13-and-under; 6:30-8:30 p.m., 14-and-under. Players are encouraged to attend both tryout sessions per age group, but must attend at least one session to be considered for the team. The age group is determined by the player's age on April 30, 2012. For more information, contact Canton Cardinals baseball commissioner Alan B. Zidzik at (313) 805-2756. • Tryouts for the 2012 Motor City Chiefs Baseball Club, a 10-and-under team, will be at 7 p.m. Monday, Aug. 8 and 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 13 at UAW Local 735 Field, 48055 Michigan Avenue, Canton. The Plymouth-Canton based Chiefs, who welcome players from all communities, will play in the KVBSA as well local tournaments. If unable to attend tryout dates an evaluation can occur before Aug. 13. For more information, call (734) 377-3123; or e-mail motorcitybaseball@gmail.com. • Open baseball tryouts for the newly-formed 11-and-under Dearborn Heights Knights will be at 10 a.m. to

SPORTS ROUNDUP

noon Saturday, Aug. 6 and 6:30-8:30 p.m., Monday, Aug. 8, at Canfield Arena Field, located on Kinloch (south of Ford Road) between Beech Daly and Inkster, in Dearborn Heights. Players from all communities are welcome and you need to attend only one of two sessions. Arrive 15 minutes prior to each session. For pre-registration information, call head coach Brad Ebben at (248) 924-0489; or e-mail bebbenlatt.net. • Tryouts for the 11-and-under 2012 Canton Cobras will be from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 7, 14 and 21 at Massey Field, located at Plymouth and Haggerty roads, in Plymouth. The Cobras will play in the KVBSA along with two fall tournaments and eight spring and summer tournaments. For more information, call Jack Murray at (734) 968-5808; or e-mail murray6@wowway.com. • Tryouts for the 15-and-under 2012 Great Lakes Cardinals will be from noon-2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 21 at Massey Field, located at Haggerty and Plymouth roads, in Plymouth. The Cardinals will be a tournament team only with three-to-four tournaments scheduled following the high school baseball season. For more information, call Jack Murray at (734) 968-5808; or e-mail murray6@wowway.com.

MENOVCIK

FROM PAGE B1

"The running community is a great group of people, and I've made so many friends through running. I'm a very competitive person to begin with, and it provides me with the opportunity to compete. I love to compete with the best runners out there, and I don't shy away. I like to challenge myself and see where I stand against other runners. "Every weekend there's a race some place. I've done 32 marathons in nine years. That's what I focus on, but I

love doing 5Ks, 10Ks and half-marathons." Menovcik's means of recreation and even relaxation is a good training run after work. "I'll come home and put on my shoes and head out," he said. "I like to get out and run for an hour. On weekends, if I'm training for a marathon, I'll be doing some longer runs. "If I can put a race on the calendar, it motivates me to continue training even during the really hot days when you don't want to go out there. If I have a race coming up, it forces me to get out there." Menovcik added he made good progress in the Founders race in his come-

back from the injury. "The pace was a little slower than you would probably expect," he said. "Admittedly, I got a little impatient and went out and took the lead until Emery passed me. "I knew he was going to win, but I was very pleased with the way I was able to run the second half. It was very hot and everybody was trying to be a little conservative with the pace to try to save something for the second half. "It was a good experience, and I was very happy with the overall result, working my way back off the injury. It was a good next step to get ready for some future races."



Storm takes title

Livonia's Storm, a 10-and-under girls travel softball team, capped a stellar summer season by capturing a tournament recently in St. Joseph. Team members include (bottom row, from left): Madeline Schornack, Emily Paluk, Jenna McCann, Elena Wioncek, Maggie Bacigal; (middle row, from left) Kourtney Klatt, Camryn Cork, Maria Targosz, Elizabet McCann, Catherine Olchanski, Sarah Mesack, Jenna Kwiecinski; (top row, from left) coaches Joe Schornack, Elizabeth Bacigal and Bob Bacigal.

ROCKETS

FROM PAGE B1

"I'm disappointed the way the thing went down," Anderson said. "We had a lot of success and lost to just two teams — those games may have been ugly, but we got better as the season went along." Seven players return off last year's squad including starters Joslyn Massey (transfer from Detroit Renaissance), Erica Covile (transfer from Detroit Cody), Shakeya Graves (transfer from Detroit King) and Kaira Barnes, along with key reserves Abbey Wright, Stephany Brown and C.J. Hickerson. "Even though we didn't

have a freshman team, I allowed him (Kovatch) on my staff to get paid," Anderson said. "I thought it was underhanded the way the guy went about it. What can you do? We went 19-4. He knew the girls would be successful. The guy is doing it for selfish reasons." Anderson previously served as a boys JV coach and varsity assistant at Glenn for 10 seasons under both Joel Lloyd and Dan Young before replacing Mike Schuette (now the boys varsity coach at Wayne Memorial) for the 2009-10 season. "I thought I did a good job and my reputation speaks for itself," Anderson said. "I'm not happy with the decision and did not agree, but rules are rules. I'm so darn frus-

trated because I had a good rapport with the students and faculty. I always put John Glenn first." When asked about Anderson being unseated as varsity coach, Kovatch simply stated: "I have no comment." Kovatch said he has already put together a staff of assistant coaches which includes parents Lowell Massey (varsity) and Genesis Barnes (JV), along with Glenn girls varsity track coach and faculty member James Fitzgerald (freshman). Meanwhile, Anderson said he is not done coaching. "Maybe I'll be back with the boys," he said. "I still want to coach in some capacity. I love to coach."

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BURKHART, RICHARD C.

Age 84, Aug 1, 2011 of Canton. Beloved husband of Lucille. Loving father of Richard, Jr. (Judy), Sandra (Flem) Stiltner, Linda (Eric) Partridge, Edward (Margery) Burkhardt, Karen (Tom) Miller and Mary Ann (Greg) Ferrell. Proud grandfather of 14 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great grandchild. Dear brother of Ernest (Esther), Doris (the late Lou) Schoop, the late Homer (Lois), Paul (Pat), the late Edna (Lester) Cummings and William (Gayle). Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Visitation Wednesday 3-8 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 980 N Newburgh Rd (btwn Ford & Cherry Hill) Westland. Funeral Service Thursday 11 AM at the funeral home. Interment at Great Lakes National Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Crosswalk Community Church of the Nazarene 38600 Palmer Rd. Westland, MI 48186. To share memories please visit: vermeulenfuneralhome.com



BUSH, BARBARA J.

Of Plymouth, Mi age 65 passed away July 2011. She was born in Dearborn, Mi, the daughter of Clyde & Blanche (Lark) Thrasher. She grew up in Dearborn and met her husband Donald E. Bush at the Dearborn Youth Center. They dated for five years and married on June 11, 1966. Barbara attended Detroit Business College and worked as a legal secretary and as an executive secretary at ARA Food Service before becoming a co-owner in O. & D. Bush Jewelers, for 30 years. Barb raced Corvettes with her husband at local, state, and national level, participating in autocross and tracks racing across the country. She earned many club and regional championships. She was a member of the Corvette Club of Michigan, and the National Council Corvette Clubs, for 35 years and the legend Corvette Club. She is survived by her husband of 45 years, Donald Bush of Plymouth, Mi and daughter Tammy Cameron of Concord, N.C. and son in law Dave Cameron. Her brother Ken (Linda) Thrasher of Sterling Heights, Mi. A funeral service was held from the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home 280 South Main, Plymouth on Tuesday, August 2, 2011. Memorials may be made to http://www.pancan.org/ or mail to Pancreatic Cancer Action Network 1500 Rosecrans Ave Ste 200 Manhattan Beach, Ca 90266-3721 in Tribute of Barbara J. Bush. Entombment Glen Eden Cemetery. Share memories at: schrader-howell.com.

MIKA, VICTOR
 Age 65, July 28, 2011. Preceded in death by his parents, Stanley & Margaret. Survived by his loving siblings, Marge (Raymond) Gabel, Mike (Joyce), Tony, Stan (Nancy) and many nieces and nephews. Best friend of Wally and Sue Pociask. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Air Force. Memorial gathering Thursday 2pm until the Memorial service at 5pm at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster Rd., (between Ford Road and Cherry Hill). www.santeiufuneralhome.com



RUCKER, WILLIAM JAMES, SR.

Age 88, of Beckley, passed away Sunday, July 31, 2011 at his residence. Born July 1, 1923 in Ashland, KY, he was the son of the late John Garrett and Mildred Pratt Rucker. William was President and Chairman of the Board of Mt. Eagle, Proud Eagle and Northern Eagle Distributors. He was a member of the Beckley Presbyterian Church and a U.S. Army veteran of WW II. He was a Kentucky Colonel for 58 years and was looked upon as a Kentucky gentleman who wore a suit and tie everyday of his working life, lived by his word and did business with a handshake. He never believed in retirement and worked up until a year before he died. William had a love for thoroughbred horse racing and loved to attend the Kentucky Derby which he did for 60 consecutive years. He is survived by his wife to whom he was married for 55 years, Patricia Ann Johnson Rucker, son, William James Rucker, Jr. of Beckley; daughters, Cynthia Rucker Parkes of Winchester, VA, Catherine Rucker Parkes of Grand Rapids, MI and Carol Jo Rucker Butera of Dearborn, MI and 10 grandchildren. Funeral services will be 1:00 p.m. Friday, August 5, 2011 at the Beckley Presbyterian Church with Rev. Robin Debnam officiating. Friends may visit with the family at the church from 11:00 a.m. until service time on Friday. Pallbearers will be Bradley Parkes, William James (BJ) Rucker, III, Brian Rucker, Patrick Parkes and Chad Parkes. On line condolences may be left at www.cafeefh.com. The family suggests memorial contributions be made to Hospice of Southern West Virginia, P.O. Box 1472, Beckley, WV 25802 or The Beckley Presbyterian Church, 203 S. Kanawha St. Beckley, WV 25801. Arrangements by Calfee Funeral Home, Beckley.

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LEE, ARTHUR, J.
 Age 90, January 29, 1921-August 1, 2011. Beloved husband of the late Jeanne. Father of Michael (Shariene), Suzanne (Bill) Bowman, Gordon J. and Shirley A. (Peter) Santino. He is the grandfather of 8 and great grandfather of 5. WWII Navy Veteran and retired from Ford Motor Livonia Transmission. Visitation at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 W. Six Mile today, Thursday 4-9 pm and 10 am Friday before procession to Parkview Memorial. www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com.

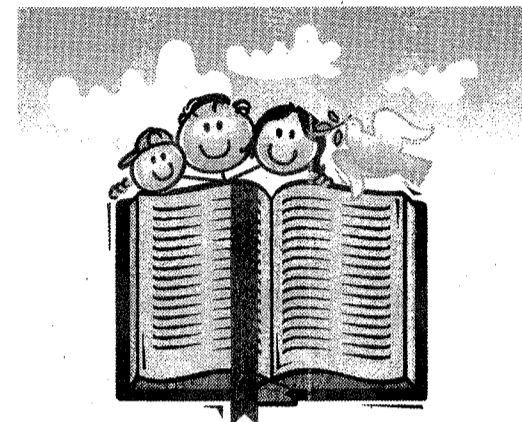
Vacation Bible School makes peace a priority

BY SHARON DARGAY
 O&E STAFF WRITER

The Rev. Karen Poole hopes to plant the seeds of peace through art, dance, drama, games and photography during Nardin Park United Methodist Church's annual Vacation Bible School.

The Farmington Hills church has offered Vacation Bible School for many years, but it's the first time Poole has directed the program — and she has added a few new wrinkles this summer.

"We've chosen not have a fee this year. This needs to be our gift to the community," she said, adding that church members sometimes enroll grandchildren in the program or invite friends.



She also created her own curriculum with a peace theme in lieu of purchasing a ready-made lessons, which the church had done in the past.

"It's because I'm an independent thinker and I believe peace

begins with ourselves as individuals," she said. "We live in a community that is multicultural ... we don't always take the same journey, but we need to respect each other."

Poole has planned a variety of projects to underscore scriptural references to peace and peacemaking and to spark discussion.

Youngsters will photograph scenes of peace, which will become a part of a collage or calendar and they'll decorate squares of material for a peace quilt. They'll also work in clay on personal totem poles and will create peace poles for their gardens.

"We may do a walking prayer from the sanctuary to the classrooms. Each time you take a step you say scripture such as 'Blessed are the peacemakers.' A woman in our church has a degree in dance and she will work with the children, along with music," Poole said. "On Thursday night we'll have sharing time with parents, neighbors, grandparents."

Students will make their own snacks and games will help participants learn to work cooperatively.

Classes also will support an overseas mission. Poole plans to offer a few suggestions and help youngsters decide on one project. Last year each student received a change purse made from a blue jean pocket to help them collect donations for the cause.

"I remember one boy last year said 'I brought my whole week's allowance and I didn't want to keep any of it.'"

She said Vacation Bible School drew about 60 children last year, but can accommodate approximately 100 youngsters. Sessions will run 9:15 a.m.-noon, Monday-Friday, Aug. 15-19 at the church, 29887 West 11 Mile. Call (248) 476-8860 or visit www.nardinpark.org to register.

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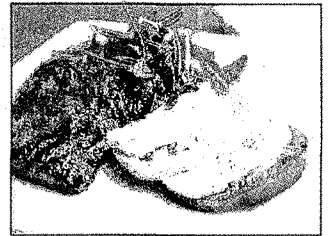
ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, August 4, 2011

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Jazzing it up

Local newcomers join seasoned musicians at annual festival

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Bill Scanlon and his fellow musicians in The Midnight Players will bring a youthful twist to the Plymouth Elks Lodge's second annual Outdoor Jazz Festival this month.

Scanlon, a Plymouth resident and a music major at Grand Valley State University, couldn't be happier knowing his group will share the stage with such local jazz heavyweights as George (Sax) Benson, Ron Kischuk, Judie Cochill, Jerry McKenzie and Johnny Trudell.

"It's really exciting to be able to meet these guys. We're really excited and I think we're ready for it," he said. "I hope I can show that kids today are not all just listening to hip hop and rock. There's a more diverse crowd in our generation."

"Johnny Trudell is going to be playing a tune with us. That's going to be great for us. I'm looking forward to meeting him."

Trudell and show announcer Paul Hunt of Redford are coordinating the festival, which will run 1-7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 14, at the lodge, located at 41700 Ann Arbor Road, west of Haggerty, in Plymouth.

Performers will include The Midnight Players, McKenzie's Just Jazz Group, Kischuk's Tartarsauce Traditional Jazz Band with Judie Cochill on vocals, George (Sax) Benson Quartet, the Johnny Trudell Quintet and the Gene Parker Jazz Quartet from Toledo, Ohio. Admission is \$10, which includes a beverage ticket and a food ticket. Audience members should bring their own blankets or chairs.

MUSICAL BARGAIN

"You can't go any place and get a concert from 1-7 and get a sandwich and drink for 10 bucks," said Hunt, a drummer who is retired from touring and club performances. He introduces performers at the Michigan Jazz Festival, held every July at Schoolcraft College in Livonia and along with Trudell also hires musicians for the monthly fourth Tuesday night jazz session held inside the Plymouth Elks Lodge.

"This (outdoor festival) is only the second one we've had. We are slowly trying to build it up," Hunt said. The festival drew approximately 400 jazz lovers last year, but organizers expect that figure to more than double this year. The indoor Tuesday night session always sells out a month in advance.



The Midnight Players will perform Sunday, Aug. 14, at the second annual Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780 Outdoor Jazz Festival.

"There's a lot of interest in jazz but the interest is in the older group. We try to get young people involved," Hunt said.

NEWCOMERS

Sally Pinchoc, who helps publicize the monthly jazz sessions at Plymouth Elks Lodge, extended an invitation to The Midnight Players after hearing Scanlon and Chris Tabaczynski of Northville play sax at Mass at St. Kenneth in Plymouth Township.

"I know these kids are good. I'm excited about that," she said.

"The thing that appeals to me about jazz is that it's American made. You have to be a huge team player to be in a jazz quartet, to know when to come in and take off on a solo. Everyone respects each other's position. To me, that's what's so awesome."

Members of The Midnight Players rehearse together regularly, but honed their skills in the jazz band at Detroit Catholic Central High School.

"We got to play at a lot of assemblies. We played one very big dinner auction every year and played the whole night. It was good experience," Scanlon



Gene Parker (left) on clarinet, Johnny Trudell on trumpet, and Ron Kischuk on trombone jam at Plymouth Elks' Outdoor Jazz Festival last year. They'll perform with their bands at the second annual show on Aug. 14.



George (Sax) Benson belts out a jazz tune with his quartet at the first annual Plymouth Elks Outdoor Jazz Festival last year.

said. "The music department packs a punch."

Tabaczynski is a junior at the school; Jordan Fanco of Livonia, a drummer, is in college; Dean Sansovich of Novi, pianist, will be a senior at Detroit Catholic Central this year; and Cameron Stapp of

Novi, the bass player, recently graduated from the school and will attend college this fall.

Scanlon hopes the festival helps open more doors for The Midnight Players.

"I would love for the band to be playing a steady gig every week."

Northville's Annual Sidewalk Sale

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Jacob Nothstine will show students how to take nature photos, like his piece, "Lunch Break," during classes Aug. 10 and 17, at Founders Park in Farmington Hills.



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AN ORIGINAL FILM / ORIGINAL PICTURES PRODUCTION A DAVID DUCKIN FILM STARRING JAMES VAN DER BEEK
"THE CHANGE-UP" LESLIE MANN, OLIVIA WILDE, AND ALAN ARKIN WRITTEN BY JOHN DEWNEY
DIRECTED BY DAVID DUCKIN PRODUCED BY JOE CARACCILOLO, J.R. ORI, MARMOR, JEFF KLEEMAN, JONATHAN KOMACK, MARTIN
PRODUCED BY DAVID DUCKIN, NEAL H. MORITZ WRITTEN BY JOHN LUCAS & SCOTT MOORE DIRECTED BY DAVID DUCKIN

RELATIVITY R RESTRICTED
MAY BE VIEWED BY SOMEONE UNDER 17 WITH PARENTAL ACQUAINTANCE AND SUPERVISION
A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

STARTS FRIDAY, AUGUST 5
CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR THEATERS AND SHOWTIMES

MOBILE USERS: For Showtimes - Text CHANGEUP with your ZIP CODE to 43832 (435491)

ART

Art & Ideas

Time/Date: Through Aug. 7; gallery hours are 1-6:30 p.m. Thursday, 1-7 p.m. Friday; and by appointment

Location: 15095 Northville Road, Plymouth Township

Details: "Ages of Art" is an intergenerational show that exhibits work by 24 artists who have taken workshops at the art studio and created at least one piece under the direction of Shaq Kalaj, artist-in-residence

Contact: (734) 420-0775

Northville Art House

Time/Date: Aug. 5-27, with opening reception 6-9 p.m., Friday, Aug. 5. Gallery hours are 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: "13 Ways to View a Blackbird and Other Thoughts in Thread," is an art quilt show featuring two groups of work by artists from across the Midwest

Contact: (248) 344-0497

Village Potters Guild

Time/Date: 6:30-9 p.m. Aug. 8, 11, 15, 18 and 25

Location: 340 N. Main, Plymouth

Details: Five-day tile-making workshop will cover modern, free-form tiles, glazing, relief tiles and carved tiles from plaster casts and is aimed at beginning, aspiring or experienced artists, 18 and older. Class size is limited. Bring ideas for a relief tile to the first class. Clay, glazes, plaster and tools will be provided. Cost is \$85

Contact: (734) 207-8807 or visit www.villagepottersguild.org

Walking photography

Time/Date: 6-7 p.m. Aug. 10 and 17

Location: Heritage Park, located on Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile in Farmington Hills

Details: In the two separate, one-session classes, Jacob Nothstine will offer insight into what it takes to produce great nature photographs. Class fee is \$15 for non-residents and \$10 for Farmington Hills residents

Contact: Register at <https://recreg.fhgov.com> or in person at the Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile. To learn more about Jacob Nothstine's photography, visit www.jfnphotography.com

COMEDY

Go Comedy!

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesdays thru Sundays

Location: 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale

GET OUT!

Details: Improv most nights. Open mic/jam session show for improvisers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays

Contact: (248) 327-0575; gocomedy.net

JD's House of Comedy

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings

Location: 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield

Details: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday

Contact: (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster.com

Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Mondays, open Mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local Legends; 8 p.m. shows

Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays

Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Dan Greuter with Martin Butler and Julie Lyons, through Aug. 6; Erin Jackson with Steve Bills and Amit Jain, Aug. 10-13; Andy Woodhull with Jeff Dwoskin and Justin Sullivan, Aug. 17-20; Dave Landau with Cory Latarski, Aug. 24-27

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

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle

Time/Date: Eric Hunter, Aug. 4-6; KT Tatar, Aug. 11-13; Geoff Tate, Aug. 18-20; Nathan Macintosh, Aug. 25-27; Michael Kosta, Sept. 8-10; James P. Connolly, Sept. 15-17

Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak

Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com

CONCERTS

Contact: (734) 455-1453

The Ark

Time/Date: The Steel Wheels, Aug. 4; Bruce Robison & Kelly Willis, Aug. 5; Riverfolk Festival Finale Concert with Bob Black & His Bluegrass Boys and Al Berard & Friends, Aug. 6; Jan Krist and Jim Bizer, Aug. 7; The Outside Track, Aug. 8; The Persuasions, Aug. 9; Taj Mahal Trio and The Luke Winslow-King Trio, Aug. 10; The RFD Boys, Aug. 12; Cris Williamson, Aug. 14; John Lee Hooker, Jr., Aug. 15; Katie Geddes, Aug. 16; Open Stage, Aug. 17; Sumkall, Aug. 18; Todd Snider, Aug. 19; Bill Bynum & Co., Aug. 20; Simon & Garfunkel Retrospective by AJ Swearingen & Jonathan Beedle, Aug. 21; The Rosie Burgess Trio, Aug. 23; Goitse, Aug. 24; Great Lake Swimmers & The Pines, Aug. 25; Suzy Bogguss, Aug. 26; Finvarra's Wren, Aug. 27; Brother Sun featuring Joe Jencks, Greg Greenway & Pat Victor and Jen Cass, Aug. 28

Location: 316 South Main, Ann Arbor

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

Please see **GET OUT!**, B8

Livonia rescue enters adoptable cats in show

Ann Grenier, founder of The Country Cat and The City Kitty, a Livonia cat rescue, will do just about anything to find homes for her adoptable felines. This weekend, she'll take all 22 of them to the International Cat Association (TICA) Cat Show in Lansing where they'll vie for ribbons, awards and the hearts of potential adoptive families.

She says anyone from Livonia, Plymouth, Canton, Garden City, Westland, Redford and Farmington who attends the show and adopts one of her cats, will receive the ribbons earned in competition.

"I will register their new kitty in the TICA — The International Cat Association — registry," she noted. "If someone does adopt, I can continue to show the kitty through the entire weekend and bring the kitty to them."

Her own cat, River, also a rescued feline, will receive an award for earning a ninth place in the Great Lakes Region Household Pet Kitten division for the 2010 show season.

The show runs 4-10 p.m. Friday, Aug. 5 and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 6-7, at the Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. The show will include 20 judging rings, vendors and more. Admission is \$3. www.glcacconsortium.org

Church gearing up for annual arts festival

Nativity Episcopal Church in Bloomfield Township is accepting applications from artists for its annual juried arts festival in September.

Artists may download an application form and guidelines from www.nativityartsfestival.org. Application fees are \$25 through Aug. 14 and \$35 from Aug. 15-Aug. 31. Painting, drawing, collage, hard and soft sculpture, clay, blown and panel glass, fiber, photography and graphics will be accepted for consideration. Work must have been created during the last three years.

Artists whose works are accepted into the show will listed on the festival Web site with a link to their own Web sites.

The Lakeland Society of Artists and the Polish Mission of Orchard Lake are co-sponsoring the festival, which will run Sept. 16-18. The church, located at 21220 W. 14 Mile, will be decorated as an art gallery. All pieces will be for sale.

The show also will include a gala opening reception on Friday, Sept. 16.

For more information Diane Wittinger at (248) 242-2347 or visit www.nativityartsfestival.org.

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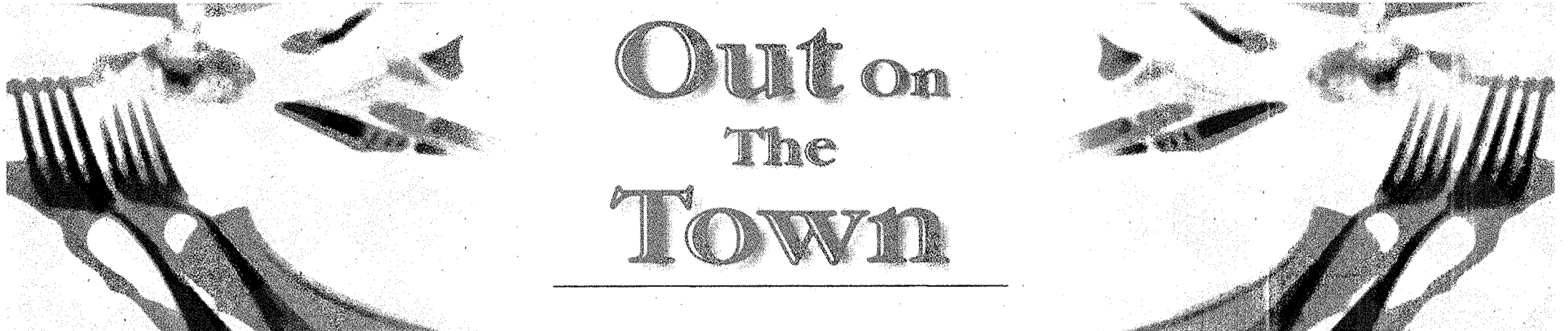
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SCHOOL BUS

GET OUT!

FROM PAGE B6

Heritage Park

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 4
Location: 24915 Farmington Road in Farmington Hills
Details: Free summer concert series, Stars in the Park, features Five Guys Named Moe
Coming up: Stewart Francke and band, Aug. 11; Arizona Son with Devin Scillian, Aug. 18; and Farmington Community Chorus, Aug. 25
Contact: (248) 473-1848

Kellogg Park

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Aug. 5
Location: Downtown Plymouth
Details: Those Delta Rhythm Kings
Coming up: Michael King & Friends, Aug. 12; Mass Transit Band, Aug. 19; Randy Brock Group, Aug. 26; Lady Sunshine and the X Band, Sept. 2
Family series: Noon, Wednesday concert series features Barbara Bailey Hutchinson, Aug. 10; Guy Louis, Aug. 17; and Beverly Meyer, "The Music Lady," Aug. 24
Contact: www.downtownplymouth.org for evening concerts; www.plymoutharts.com for noon concerts

Town Square

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Friday through August
Location: In the pavilion at Town Square in downtown Northville
Details: Free concert series includes Michael May and the Messarounds with jazzy blues, Aug. 4; The Crutches with top rock and dance hits, Aug. 12; Gia Warner with rock classics, Aug. 19; and Justine Blazer, rock/country, Aug. 26
Tunes on Tuesday: The family series of free concerts runs 10:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesday and features Saline Fiddlers, Aug. 9; Zippity 2Dads, Aug. 16; Imagination Theater, Aug. 23.
Contact: (248) 349-0203

Trinity House Theatre

Time/Date: Chrome Folk Bar-B-Q, Aug. 6; Jennie DeVoe, Aug. 12, Matt the Electrician, Aug. 18; Ana Egge with Jason Myles Goss, Sept. 9
Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia
Contact: (734) 464-6302, www.trinityhouse.org

DANCE

Moon Dusters

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 p.m. every Saturday; dance lessons 7-8 p.m.
Location: Livonia Civic Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia
Details: Singles and couples dance to music of the 30s, 40s and 50s; free refreshments. Dance



Kelly Stonebraker is Pippi Longstocking in the 8th Wonder Theatre production Aug. 5-13.

lessons cost \$6; dance and lessons are \$11; dance only is \$7 for guests, \$6.50 for associates and \$6 for Moon Dusters members
Contact: Joe Castrodale, club president, (248) 968-5197

FAMILY

Bakers Keyboard Lounge

Time/Dates: 2-5 p.m. Sundays
Details: Jazz for Kids Program
Location: 20510 Livernois Ave., Detroit
Contact: (313) 345-6300, www.bakerskeyboardlounge.com

Detroit Institute of Arts

Time/Dates: 2 p.m. Sundays
Details: Target Family Sundays, storytelling, performances, free with admission
Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit
Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org

Detroit Zoo

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Tuesday and Thursday-Sunday; 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Wednesday in July and August.
Location: I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak
Details: Admission is \$11 for adults 15 to 61, \$9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$7 for children ages 2 to 14; children under 2 are free

Wild Summer Nights: Concerts in the Main Picnic Grove run 6:30-8 p.m. and are free with regular Zoo admission. Admission prices are reduced to \$5 for all visitors after 5 on Wednesday in July and August. Guests may bring blankets, lawn chairs and picnic baskets. Food, snacks, beer, wine and soft drinks are available for purchase from Zoo concessions. The concert schedule is: Aug. 10, Jill Jack (folk); Aug. 17, Sun Messengers (Motown and R&B); Aug. 24, Straight Ahead (jazz); and

Aug. 31, The Verve Pipe (children's)
Contact: (248) 541-5717

Family Fun Fest Carnival

Time/Date: 5-11 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Aug. 4-5; noon-11 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 6 and noon-9 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 7
Location: Founders Park, located on Eight Mile, two miles east of I-275, in Farmington Hills
Details: Rides, games, food, pony rides, and a petting farm, along with special events held each day, including a variety of free entertainment acts on the Carnival stage. Admission and parking are free. Ride tickets cost \$1 each or an all-day wristband for unlimited rides is available for \$18. Discount coupons for the wristbands, for \$14 on Thursday or Friday and \$16 on Saturday or Sunday, are available at more than 200 merchants in Farmington Hills, at the Costco Center or at www.wadeshows.com
Contact: (248) 755-0433

Tiny Tot Olympics/Parksapalooza

Time/Date: 10-11:30 a.m. Friday, Aug. 5 is Tiny Tot Olympics; Parksapalooza runs 1-4 p.m.
Location: Heritage Park, west of Canton Center, south of Cherry Hill, in Canton
Details: Every child, 2-6, who participates in the pint-sized games, will be a gold medal winner and will have a chance to hold flowers and be recognized as an outstanding athlete. Parents may bring their cameras to capture the moment. The \$3 per child fee will be collected on site. Kids, 5-15, may participate in Parksapalooza's afternoon of games, contests and wild and crazy activities led by staff from the Supervised Playground Program. Parents are responsible for their children during the event, which will be held in the park amphitheater. Activity fee is \$5 per person



Five Guys Named Moe will perform Thursday, Aug. 4, at Heritage Park in Farmington Hills.

FILM

Main Art Theatre

Time/Date: 7:30-9:30 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 4
Location: 118 N. Main, just north of 11 Mile in downtown Royal Oak
Details: Royal Oak-based Regeneration Raw and its new Heal Yourself Institute will host a screening of the documentary "Food Matters," followed by a Q&A with David Wolfe, one of the film's stars and a world authority on raw foods and superfoods. Tickets are \$10; proceeds benefit Wolfe's nonprofit Fruit Tree Planting Foundation
Contact: (248) 470-4290

Penn Theatre

Time/Date: 7 p.m. and 9:15 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Aug. 5-6 and 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 7
Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth
Details: "Water for Elephants," all seats \$3
Coming up: "The Beaver," 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Aug. 12-13 and 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 14
Contact: (734) 453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

Redford Theatre

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Aug. 5 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Aug. 6
Location: 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Ave., in Detroit

Details: "Somewhere in Time," tickets \$5
Contact: (313) 537-2560

MUSEUMS

Charles H. Wright

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday
Location: 315 E. Warren Road, Detroit
Details: Heidelberg 25 through Nov. 27; Dance Theatre of Harlem, through Dec. 31 Regular museum admission is \$8 for adults, 13-61; and \$5 for youth, 3-12, and seniors, 62 and over. Members and children 2 and under are admitted free
Contact: (313) 494-5800

Cranbrook

Time/Date: 2 p.m., Thursday-Sunday
Location: 39221 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills
Details: Docent-guided public tours of Saarinen House, a rare integration of art, architecture, design and nature, depart from Cranbrook Institute of Science front desk. The tours are about 90 minutes long and take place rain or shine.
Contact: (248) 645-3200 for house tours; http://science.cranbrook.edu

Plymouth Historical Museum

Time/Date: Through Oct. 23
Location: 155 S. Main, just north of downtown Plymouth
Details: Rediscovering the Civil War
Contact: (734) 455-8940

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FOOD

Thursday, August 4, 2011

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HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor Sharon Dargay

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Comment online at hometownlife.com

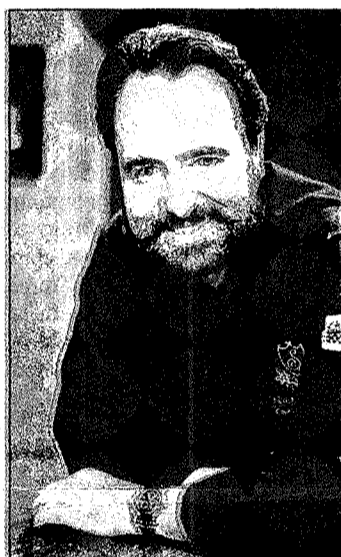


SAVOR the season

with grilled salads, fish, steak

Grilling can bring so much more to the table than basic brats and burgers. In these recipes, cookbook author and celebrity chef Nick Stellino uses a few key ingredients that add new dimensions of flavor to seafood, steak and even salad. He calls on olive oil and vinegars from Pompeian to make savory marinades and zesty seasonings that will make you truly savor the grilling season.

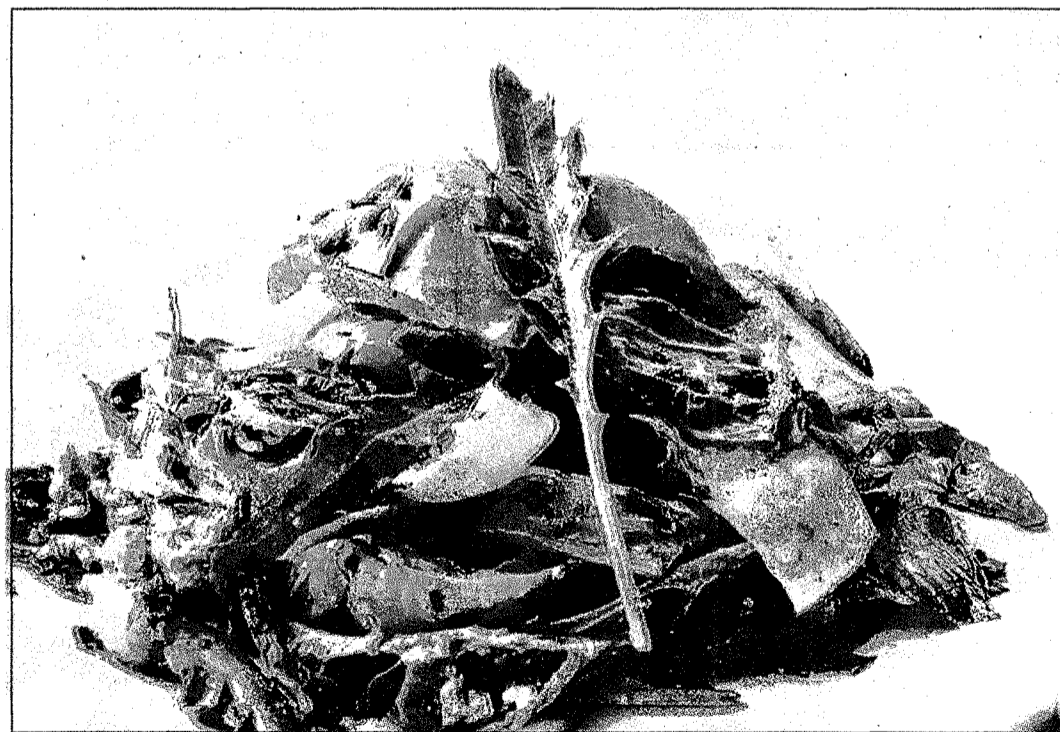
Olive oil, a key component of the Mediterranean Diet, is a great way to follow the 2010 USDA Dietary Guidelines for Americans, which urge people to cut back on saturated fats and recommend an increase in monounsaturated fats. For more of chef Stellino's recipes, as well as how-to videos, visit www.pompeian.com and www.facebook.com/Pompeian.



chef Nick Stellino

NICK STELLINO'S GRILLING TIPS

- Grease grates of grill with Pompeian Extra Light Tasting Olive Oil before heating.
- Pre-heat barbecue with cover down (high for gas) for 15 minutes.
- Never cook fish or seafood over direct heat on a grill (gas or coals), because it scorches the exterior while leaving the interior undercooked. Shut down half of gas grill (or move coals from one half of grill to the other side) and put fish/shrimp on cool side of grill. Cover grill to cook.



Grilled Salad with Goat Cheese

SKEWERED SHRIMP WITH BLACK BEAN-LEMON RICE

Serves 4

Marinade/Dressing:
 ¼ cup Pompeian Extra Virgin Olive Oil
 ¼ cup Pompeian Red Wine Vinegar
 3 tablespoons lemon juice
 2 medium garlic cloves, minced
 1½ teaspoons salt
 ¾ teaspoon coarsely ground black pepper

Skewers:
 24 large raw, headless, peeled shrimp, with tails on (about 1 pound)
 24 whole green onions, trimmed to 6 inches in length
 24 cherry tomatoes
 2 poblano chili peppers, seeded and cut into 24 pieces
 8 12-inch bamboo skewers, soaked in water

Rice:
 3 cups hot cooked brown rice

15 ounces canned black beans, rinsed and drained
 ¼ cup chopped cilantro
 3 teaspoons grated lemon zest

Whisk marinade ingredients in small bowl. Reserve ¼ cup mixture in separate bowl and set aside. Place shrimp in a resealable plastic bag, pour marinade over shrimp, seal tightly and coat well. Refrigerate 30 minutes, turning frequently. Remove shrimp from marinade (reserving marinade). Place shrimp on skewers, alternating with tomatoes, chilies and onions (folded in half). Preheat grill on high heat. Brush skewers with reserved marinade and cook 4 to 5 minutes on each side or until shrimp are opaque in center. Place remaining marinade in a small saucepan on the grill to heat slightly. Toss rice with black beans, cilantro and lemon zest.
 To serve: Top rice with skewers and spoon remaining marinade over skewers.

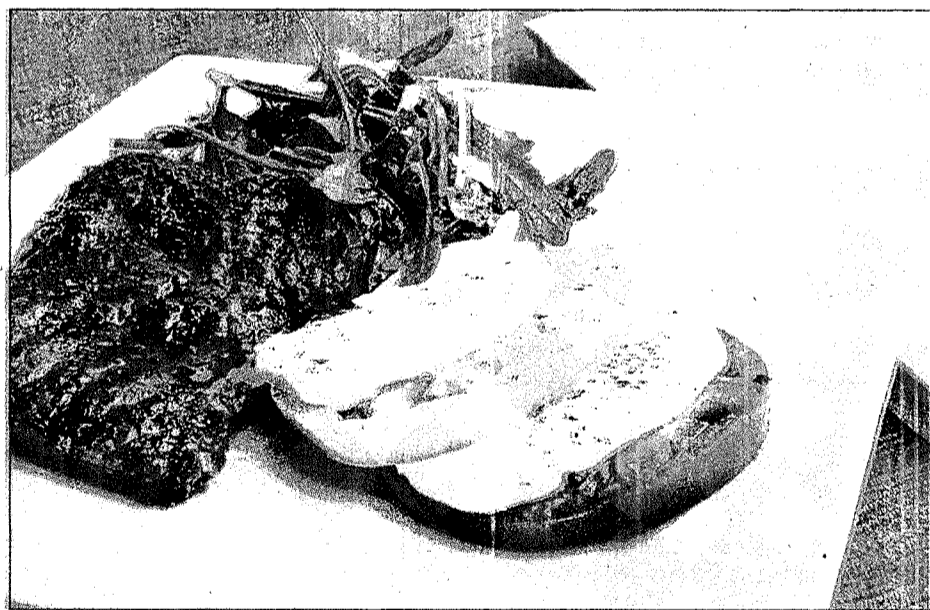
Skewered Shrimp with Black Bean-Lemon Rice

TOMATO, BURRATA AND ARUGULA SALAD

Serves 4 to 6

¼ teaspoon salt
 ¼ teaspoon pepper
 ¼ teaspoon dried oregano
 ¼ teaspoon sugar
 4 large tomatoes, preferably heirloom
 4 ounces baby arugula salad
 3 tablespoons Pompeian Extra Virgin Olive Oil, divided
 1 tablespoon Pompeian Balsamic Vinegar, divided
 6 to 8 ounces burrata cheese, cut into 4 pieces, or fresh mozzarella, cut into slices
 1 ounce shaved Parmesan cheese

Mix dry spices and sugar together in small bowl. Cut tomatoes into slices about ½ inch thick; place on a tray and sprinkle with the spice mixture on each side. Let slices rest and absorb the flavor for about 10 to 15 minutes. Dress arugula salad with 1½ tablespoons olive oil and ½ tablespoon vinegar.
 To serve: Place dressed salad in the middle of each plate; top with tomato slices, then with pieces of burrata or mozzarella slices. Drizzle each plate with remaining olive oil and vinegar. Top salads with shaved Parmesan.



Grilled Skirt Steak with Tomato-Infused Marinade and Tomato, Burrata and Arugula Salad.

GRILLED SKIRT STEAK WITH TOMATO-INFUSED MARINADE

Serves: 4 to 6

2½ to 3 pounds skirt steak
Marinade:
 5 garlic cloves
 ½ cup fresh mint, loosely packed
 1 tablespoon fresh thyme leaves
 1 cup fresh parsley, loosely packed
 1 cup fresh basil, loosely packed
 1½ tablespoons salt
 1 tablespoon fresh rosemary
 1 28-ounce can Italian-style peeled tomatoes
 ½ cup Pompeian Pomegranate Infused Balsamic Vinegar
 2 tablespoons sugar

To marinate meat: Place all marinade ingredients in food processor and process for 2 minutes into a smooth liquid paste. Place meat in a large resealable plastic bag and cover with the marinade. Seal bag and swish marinade around to make sure it coats all of the meat. Let the meat marinate in the refrigerator for at least 5 hours — preferably overnight — turning twice.

To cook meat: Preheat grill or broiler to high. Cook the skirt steak 4 to 6 minutes per side, according to your liking. Cover with foil and let it rest for a few minutes before slicing.

To serve: Cut steak into slices and serve with Tomato, Burrata and Arugula Salad.

GRILLED SALAD WITH GOAT CHEESE

Serves 4 to 6

2 large heads radicchio, cut in half
 2 large heads Belgian endive, cut in half
 2 red bell peppers, cut into quarters and seeded
 2 yellow bell peppers, cut into quarters and seeded
 6 tablespoons Pompeian Extra Virgin Olive Oil, divided
 5 ounces baby arugula salad
 8 tablespoons goat cheese, crumbled
 1½ tablespoons Pompeian Balsamic Vinegar

Preheat grill or broiler to high. Brush radicchio, endive and peppers with 4 tablespoons olive oil.
Cook on a hot barbecue or under the broiler for 2 to 3 minutes per side, until they start to color on each side. Place on a cutting board while still hot and cut into 1-inch pieces.

Place arugula salad and goat cheese in a bowl with the radicchio, endive and peppers; mix well until the cheese starts to melt.

Add remaining 2 tablespoons olive oil and balsamic vinegar; mix well and serve.

— Courtesy of Family Features

REAL ESTATE

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

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

PAGE B10 (*) Thursday, August 4, 2011

hometownlife.com

Alarm can be good investment, but shop around

The summer months are the perfect time for a vacation getaway. Unfortunately, they are also the perfect time for a home robbery. According to the FBI, July and August have the highest rates of burglaries. Better Business Bureau is advising homeowners, who are looking to secure their property this summer, to do their research when picking a home security system.

According to an Academic Study of Home and Business Security by Temple University, the Electronic Security Association says that homes without security systems are about 3 times more likely to be broken into than homes with security systems. (Actual statistics range from 2.2 times to 3.1 times, depending on the value of the home.) Losses due to burglary average \$400 less in residences with security systems than homes without alarm systems.

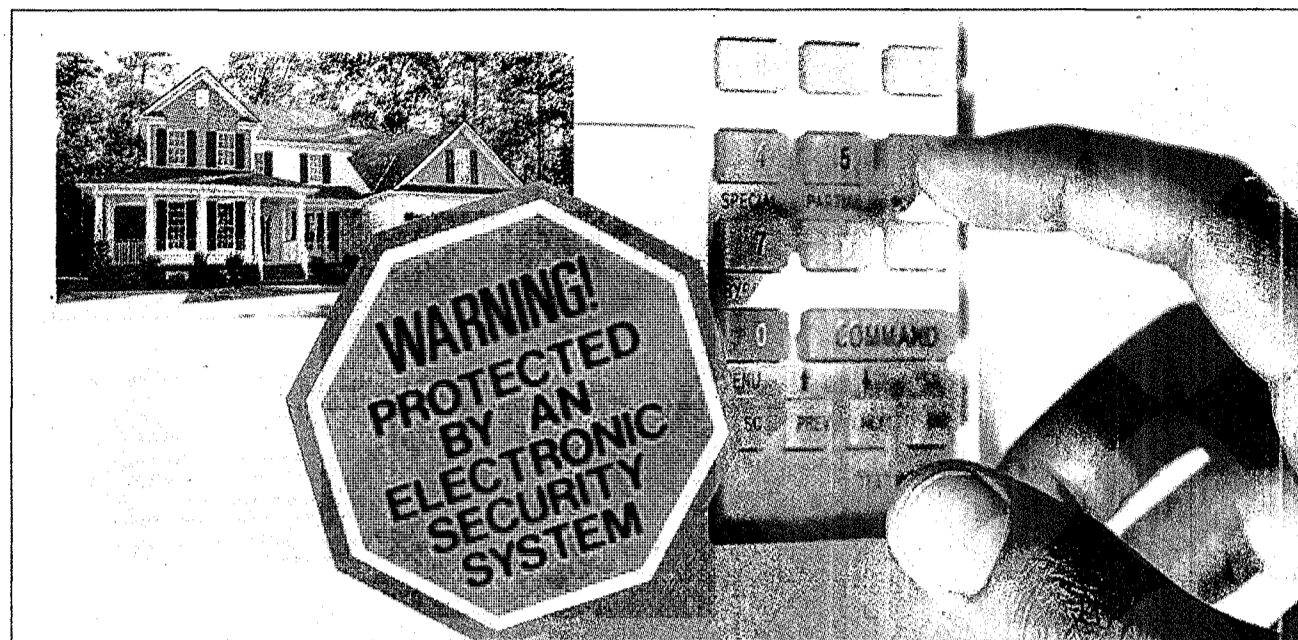
Although no system makes your home completely burglar-proof, a home security system can reduce your chances of being burglarized and give you some peace of mind. In 2010, BBB received nearly 25,000 inquiries from customers asking about burglar alarm systems.

"It's important to investigate the purchase of a home security system with the same care you would any major purchase," said Patrick Bennett, director of Community Relations of the Better Business Bureau Serving Eastern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula. "There are too many door-to-door salespeople selling home security systems out there that don't always have your best interest at heart."

BBB advises consumers to do the following when looking to invest in a home security system:

• Choose a professional installer. The best home security system will accommodate your lifestyle and specific values you want protected. Carefully consider your security requirements and budget. You may also get recommendation from the insurance company that covers your home. Deal only with reputable firms and check out the company with BBB first.

• Contact at least three companies before selecting an installer. Find out if they are properly licensed in your state



and if they screen employees before hiring. Make sure to check with the ESA website for a list of member companies throughout the United States who have agreed to abide by the National Code of Ethics.

• Ask about all charges up front. Prices for home security systems will vary, based on the level of protection and type of technology used, so be sure to compare apples-to-apples bids on similar systems. Do not forget to factor in the initial installation charge, as well as monthly monitoring charges. Also, talk to your insurance agent; some systems may qualify you for a discount on homeowner's premiums.

• Know the ins and outs of your contract. If your alarm system will be monitored, either by your installing company or by a third-party monitoring center, find out the length of the contract. Typically, monitoring contracts are between two to five years in length. What is your recourse if you are not satisfied with the services provided? Can you cancel the contract? What are your rights if your monitoring company is purchased or acquired by another alarm company? If the alarm sounds, does the company first notify you or the police? How soon? What happens if you can't be reached? Does the company have a

local security patrol car? Are there costs for false alarms — and if so, who pays? What's the early termination fee if you move? These are the types of questions you need to consider before you obligate yourself to a long-term contract.

• Insist that the installer "walk" you through your system until you fully understand how it works. This will prevent the most common problem: false alarms. False alarms are an indicator of the quality of the alarm installation and user education. Ask for a complete inspection of your property and an itemized written estimate. Review the sales contract closely to ensure you understand exactly what equipment and protection you will be provided.

• Beware of "Door Knockers." The BBB has received reports of "high pressure and fear selling practices" from door-to-door Home Alarm System salespeople. These salespeople were citing false police reports of recent burglaries that had not happened or are making claims that the resident's current alarm provider has gone out of business. Some home owners were misled into signing a contract for a new system, before canceling the contract on their existing system or they discovered that their current alarm provider was not out of business, resulting in their

having to pay for two different alarm systems at the same time.

Additional advice:
 • You do not have to let door-to-door salespeople into your home.

• If you are not interested, say "good-bye" and shut the door.

• Individuals should provide credentials and identification.

• They should be able to display proof of a city-provided neighborhood solicitation permit.

• Ask if the company is local, regional, or national!

• Do not be misled by false police reports.

• Do not be pressured into signing a contract — if the deal is good today it will be good tomorrow. Beware of claims of "limited offers" and that the company is ready to immediately install the system. Reputable companies let you compare bids and engage in a comprehensive review of your security needs.

• Be sure to completely read and understand any contract before signing, and remember your FTC, "right to cancel" a contract within 72 hours since it is signed at your home.

For more home tips you can trust, visit <http://easternmichigan.bbb.org/bbb-news/>.

Land use claims based on facts

Q: I will try to give you factual scenario of my problem. A and B owned adjoining waterfront lots which were originally part of a larger parcel subdivided by A's grandmother. After subdividing, the members of the A family regularly used a short path across what became B's lot to visit each other and to get to a beach and boat mooring area. No one in the family ever asked for or received permission from any other family member to use the short path. When B acquired their lot later, it was the first transfer of any part of the original parcel out of A's family. Now, B is claiming that A has no right to use the short path across their land. A is saying that they have a prescriptive easement which requires continuous use for at least a number of years under claim of right adverse to B. Who

do you think will win?



Robert Meisner

A: Ordinarily, when a claimant offers proof of continuous use with the owner's knowledge,

a presumption arises that the use of the land in order to obtain a prescriptive easement was hostile and under a claim of right which are requirements to establish a prescriptive easement. However, some courts have held that that presumption does not arise if the putative dominant and servient estates were owned within the same family during the period when the prescriptive acts occurred. In such cases, the courts have held that the comings and goings of family members, across property owned within the family, are by accommodation or permission and do not have the requisite adversity to support an imposition of a prescriptive easement by one family member upon another. The chances are A's claim will fail because she cannot offer affirmative proof of hostility, but each case depends upon its particular facts.

Q: Do you have any information on the status of residential construction and the costs of residential construction in Hong Kong?

A: Hong Kong is a highly densely populated city and depending upon the location, construction costs, as well as purchase costs, can be as high as New York or Paris and, in some instances, higher. The closer you are to the water, the more expensive the property is. If you are on a mountain top or a drive leading up to the mountain, the homes and/or apartments can cost over a million dollars for a one or two bedroom unit of less than 1,000 square feet.

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 \$5 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.

HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of April 25-29, 2011, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

City	Address	Sale Price
Canton	1973 Ashbourne Dr	\$405,000
	1855 Chateau Dr	\$287,000
	49274 Ivybridge Way	\$305,000
Garden City	399 Kings Way	\$164,000
	4599 Pond Run	\$163,000
	44975 Rector Dr	\$110,000
	8182 Trafford Ct	\$80,000
Livonia	18723 Bainbridge Ave	\$165,000
	14609 Blue Skies St	\$110,000
Northville	9101 Brentwood St	\$122,000
	16915 Canterbury St	\$245,000
	16822 Farmington Rd	\$95,000
	38749 Five Mile Rd	\$72,000
	9268 Gillman St	\$75,000
	36355 Hammer Ln	\$145,000
	9810 Harrison St	\$103,000
	48752 Freestone Dr	\$110,000
	135 Hampton Ct	\$215,000
	15797 Johnson Creek Dr	\$124,000
44433 Thornapple Ln	\$119,000	
Plymouth	11097 Chestnut Dr	\$160,000
	40623 Newport Dr	\$71,000
Redford	1181 W Ann Arbor Trl	\$95,000
	11704 Berwyn	\$90,000
Westland	11359 Columbia	\$58,000
	17685 Gaylor	\$55,000
Westland	20532 Gaylor	\$23,000
	18243 Lennane	\$114,000
Westland	18682 Lexington	\$60,000
	9242 Louis	\$92,000
Westland	34025 Cambria Ct	\$14,000
	37415 Cherry Hill Rd	\$225,000
Westland	35020 Donnelly St	\$90,000
	30889 Grandview Ave	\$70,000
Westland	28017 Mackenzie Dr	\$76,000
	36307 Manila St	\$110,000
Westland	1871 Stockmeyer Blvd	\$100,000
	806 Summerfield Dr	\$45,000

HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of April 18-22, 2011, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

City	Address	Sale Price
Beverly Hills	16011 Lauderdale Ave	\$226,000
	30851 Lincolnshire E	\$200,000
	16124 W 13 Mile Rd	\$78,000
Birmingham	1538 Buckingham Ave	\$505,000
	592 Catalpa Dr	\$450,000
	1250 Latham St	\$385,000
Birmingham	727 N Lion St	\$59,000
	625 Ridgedale Ave	\$383,000
	731 S Bates St	\$713,000
Bloomfield Hills	31785 Folkstone Dr	\$93,000

City	Address	Sale Price
Farmington Hills	310 Martell Ct	\$695,000
	2741 S Woodward Ave #41	\$45,000
Bloomfield Township	3060 Woodcreek Way	\$420,000
	3270 Chestnut Run Dr	\$590,000
Bloomfield Township	4495 Chisholm Trl	\$420,000
	4571 Grindley Ct	\$325,000
Bloomfield Township	630 Half Moon Rd	\$470,000
	1118 Hill Line Trl	\$325,000
Bloomfield Township	3824 Manchester Ct	\$486,000
	4900 Ranch Ln	\$223,000
Bloomfield Township	5053 Van Ness Dr	\$250,000
	8136 Barnsbury St	\$755,000
Bloomfield Township	3332 Benstein Rd	\$200,000
	2647 Crocker St	\$56,000
Bloomfield Township	3943 Dun Rovin Ct	\$240,000
	5565 Ford Rd	\$323,000
Bloomfield Township	536 Grand Traverse St	\$130,000
	31785 Folkstone Dr	\$93,000

City	Address	Sale Price
Farmington Hills	36545 Saxony Rd	\$150,000
	36219 Crompton Cir	\$235,000
Farmington Hills	27880 Kendallwood Dr	\$110,000
	29361 Laurel Dr	\$80,000
Farmington Hills	22280 Parklane St	\$233,000
	30496 Ramblewood Club Dr	\$155,000
Farmington Hills	28505 Rollcrest Rd	\$94,000
	30190 S Stockton Dr	\$67,000
Farmington Hills	38174 Saratoga Cir	\$116,000
	39359 Silverthorne Blvd	\$275,000
Farmington Hills	37373 Wellsley	\$375,000
	27184 Winterset Cir	\$255,000
Farmington Hills	Lathrup Village	\$109,000
	18131 Coral Gables Ave	\$109,000
Farmington Hills	401 Bennett St	\$98,000
	2198 Forest Dr	\$385,000
Farmington Hills	617 Shaw Ct	\$90,000
	647 Telya Rdg	\$220,000
Farmington Hills	43000 12 Oaks Crescent Dr	\$125,000
	27597 Albert St	\$45,000
Farmington Hills	50873 Alimafi Ct	\$50,000
	51098 Alimafi Ct	\$50,000
Farmington Hills	45327 Bartlett Dr	\$84,000
	22070 Clover Ln	\$230,000
Farmington Hills	25037 Davenport Ave	\$275,000
	51212 Luke Ln	\$45,000
Farmington Hills	25175 Sutton Ct	\$50,000
	58715 Castle Ct	\$40,000
Farmington Hills	10999 Fountain View Cir	\$70,000
	23680 Lyon Ridge Dr	\$61,000
Farmington Hills	23782 Prescott Ln E	\$61,000
	1173 Shetland Dr	\$180,000
Farmington Hills	54110 West Ct	\$30,000
	24503 Pierce St	\$80,000
Farmington Hills	8265 Eastway Dr	\$276,000
	530 Lakeside Dr	\$40,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Real Estate Career Seminar

Keller Williams Realty of Plymouth will hold a Career Seminar 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 18, at the office, 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. Attendees will learn about the \$50,000 income guarantee and the free pre-licensing course. For more information, contact Lesley Aiello at (734) 459-4700 or laiello@kw.com.

Foreclosures

A program on "Buying Foreclosures" will be presented by Linda Orleans, sponsored by Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland on Thursday, Aug. 11, 5:30-9:30 p.m. at Club Venetian, 29310 John R, north of 12 Mile, Madison Heights. Seminar free to members. \$20 nonmembers. Call (800) 747-6742. (www.REIAofOakland.com)

Study results

Results from the J.D. Power and Associates 2011 Home Buyer/Seller StudySM, recognize RE/MAX for providing the highest overall consumer satisfaction for both home buyers and home sellers. In last year's study, two different companies ranked the highest in each category, but this year home buyers and sellers both rated RE/MAX the highest.

"It all comes down to professionalism and a commitment to a premier level of customer service," said RE/MAX Chairman and co-founder Dave Liniger. "Because RE/MAX agents average more experience and training than other agents, they are better prepared to deal with home buyers and sellers in any kind of market. And, consumer preferences

tell the story ... nobody sells more real estate than RE/MAX."

This is the fourth annual study of home buyer and seller satisfaction with the largest national real estate companies, conducted by J.D. Power and Associates. For the home buying experience, three factors were considered: agent/salesperson, office and a variety of additional services. Four factors were examined for the home-selling experience: agent/salesperson, marketing, office and a variety of additional services.

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@addedvaluerealty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.

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